

Details at a glance

Parade starts: Noon.

On parade: 60 lodges with 40 bands.

Return parade: 4pm.

Mid-Down Twelfth at Ballynahinch

Ballynahinch is the venue for this year's Mid-Down Twelfth of July Celebrations.

The Brethren of Ballynahinch District LOL No. 17 will welcome their peers from Saintfield, Lecale, Comber and Castlewellan districts. It is anticipated more than 1,000 Brethren from 60 lodges will take part, accompanied by around 40 bands.

The main parade will leave from the Belfast Road, outside The High School Ballynahinch, at noon, with the hosts leading the way.

The parade route is Belfast Road, Main Street, High Street, Church Street, Church Road, Spa Road to the Demonstration field Woodlodge Park. The parade will pause briefly at the Arch and cover road with water from the Bovne River.

Joining Ballynahinch District Officers at the front of the parade will be the two main speakers for the day - Assistant Grand Master Wor. Bro. K. Harbinson and County Down Grand Master Wor. Bro. Richard Fleming. Grand Lecturer Robert Barr, Deputy County Down Master Kyle McIlwrath, County Down Grand Chaplain Victor Neill, and Wor. Bro. David Whiteford Coatbridge District LOL 22 from Scotland will also be in attendance. Ballynahinch District will have three Scottish Bands amongst its numbers,

Firhill Accordion, Pride of the Grange

Volunteers Flute and The Crown Accordion, as well as visiting Brethren accompanying each band. Ballykine Ladies WLOL 122 will also be part of the host district.

Ballynahinch district has been fortunate in past few years to have several lodges dedicate new banners. This year's Twelfth will be no exception with Magheraknock LOL 703 proudly having a new banner on parade. Platform proceedings will commence at 2.15pm with guest speakers and a religious service being conducted by Wor. Bro. Victor Neill.

There will be a range of entertainment including Highland dancers, and Lambeg drummers as parade enters

demonstration field. The usual catering village with various stalls and children's entertainment, such as rides, inflatables, face painting and more, will cater for everyone's needs. The return parade will start leaving Demonstration field from 4pm. In the lead up to this year's Twelfth, it is hoped to have local businesses get involved by way of having a competition for best dressed window display. The hosts are also having an exhibition and talk to be held in Ballynahinch Orange Hall with a historic talk being presented on Wednesday 10th July and exhibition of regalia and historic events on both 10th and 11th





The Orange Family in North Down will step out at Newlt is the turn of Ballynahinch to host the Mid Down Twelfth celebrations. Last year the parade was held in Comber, with the local district opening a new arch. Pictures courtesy of Spectator Newspapers.

Welcome from the District Master Wor. Bro. Andrew Graham

On behalf of the District Officers of Ballynahinch District LOL No.17, it gives me great pleasure to welcome all Brethren, Sisters, bands and spectators to Ballynahinch to join with us in celebrating the 334th anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne.

The 11 local lodges which make up No.17 District, and accompanying bands, are

looking forward to welcoming our neighbouring districts and hosting what is commonly known as the Mid-Down combine Twelfth. The Twelfth is always a great family day out and a chance for everyone young and old to catch up with friends. It is also a proud day for each and everyone of us on parade, and it is our chance to

show to all with confidence and our heads held high how important and strong our Orange culture and heritage are to us.

There is always a large crowd lining the streets of Ballynahinch which is a pleasure to see, but can I invite and encourage everyone to join with us in our platform proceedings at our Demonstra-

tion field where we also plan to have plenty of entertainment, stalls and catering. I would like to personally thank everyone who has helped in anyway with the arrangements for today and for your continuous support throughout the year. Wishing everyone a most enjoyable and glorious Twelfth!



