

Details at a glance

Parade starts: Noon.

On parade: 15 lodges with 15 bands.

Return parade: 3.30pm.



Family Twelfth in scenic Mournes

More than 1,100 Orangemen from Mourne District will partake in one of the most scenic Twelfth parades in Northern Ireland.

The Co Down seaside village of Annalong, with its magnificent backdrop of the Mourne Mountains and the Irish Sea, will host the Twelfth demonstration for the first time since 2017

The Mourne Twelfth Demon-

stration is a family event with the Lodges spanning the entire Kingdom of Mourne from the Silent Valley at foot of the Mournes to Cranfield overlooking the mouth of Carlingford Lough to Annalong. It is anticipated that more than 1,700 Orangemen, juniors and bandsmen and women will take part in this year's parade, cheered on by a crowd of more than 3,000 people. 14 of the 15 lodges will be accompanied by their own bands, adding to the special family atmosphere on the day. Among them will be some of the largest individual private lodges, with Ballyvea LOL 343a boasting 163 members and Kilkeel True Blues LOL 1034 with 108 members.

This year Glenloughan Loyal Sons of Ulster LOL 1914 will be parading with their new banner.

As is tradition, Kilkeel lodges will leave Kilkeel Orange Hall at 10.45am and walk the five-mile route to Annalong. They will meet their fellow brethren at the Grove Road, before the entire District parades through Annalong to the demonstration field. In the village, the procession will walk along the Shore Road, only a few yards from the sea.

Following lodge picnics, the religious service is due to commence at 2.15pm.

The guest speaker will be Rev Campbell Mulvenny, minister of Dervock Presbyterian Church.

The district will start their homeward parade at 3.30pm. The Kilkeel and country Lodges return to Kilkeel where they will parade to Kilkeel Orange



The annual Twelfth celebrations in Mourne District are recognised as a wonderful family occasion.

The parade will be held in Annalong this however, however as our pictures show, Kilkeel was the venue in 2023 with a great turnout of Brethren, Sisters, Junuiors and bands.

Pictures courtesy of Mourne Observer Newspapers.



