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Welcome

Dear Friends of HSC,



This is the 365th year since the birth of Hans Sloane and we want to celebrate it with a year-long programme of events to mark this significant milestone in history. Please join us as often as you can throughout the year to lend your support for our local man of note.

One of our aims is to make known the contribution Sloane made to science and society. Not only in the 16 and 1700s but in today's world also. As we draw together our programme we will highlight the Hans Sloane link.

While we will open again fully on 3rd March, we do have a limited programme of events in February including our Poetry Event opposite, English as a Secondary Language Classes and Saturday Science Club.

An Evening with local lad Caleb Harvey on Saturday 8th March will celebrate our full return for 2025.

For further information or to book any event:

- 1/ DM: Facebook or Instagram.
- 2/ Email: info@sirhanssloanecentre.co.uk
- 3/ Ring: 07896254153.
- 4/ Call in to the Centre.

If you would like to be on our mailing list then please email info@sirhanssloanecentre.co.uk.

Femina Culpa Poetry Event

Our first event of the year features poetry written by three Northern Ireland-based writers, Kelly Creighton, Linda McKenna and Emma McKerver. It is inspired by the stories of women and crime in 19th Century and the court cases of three working-class women.

When? Thursday 6th February (7- 8.30pm)

Cost? £5

How? Call in to the Centre, ring 07896254153, or book on Eventbrite using: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/femina-culpa-poetry-event-tickets1126301119969?aff=oddtcreator

Thanks

Stuart Nicolson, a Belfast based furniture restorer and antiquarian has repaired without charge many of the items in our museum, as well as offering us a recent donation of a Georgian gentleman's table c 1760.



He has repaired and restored heritage items belonging to many of Ireland's stately homes. We thank him for his continued

and valuable support

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 10am-12pm & 2-4pm.

Wednesday 10am-4pm

Saturday

10am-12pm & (often) 2-4pm

The centre may be open outside these hours or on request.

Please tel 07896254153.

Opening hours are due to volunteer availability. We welcome more volunteers to join our staff rota.

February Events

Femina Culpa Poetry Event: 6th Feb

There will be 15 min readings from each poet followed by a panel-style discussion of the work, research and collation of the collections.

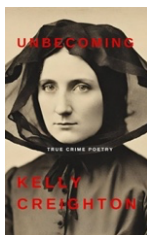
Kelly Creighton *Unbecoming* is about the Staten Island witch, Polly Bodine in the 1840s.

Linda McKenna *Four Thousand Keys* is inspired by the case of Elizabeth Dunham's trial in the Old Bailey for the theft of thousands of keys to a range of public buildings around London. Elizabeth was imprisoned first in Newgate before being sent to Bedlam.

Emma McKervey *Highland Boundary Fault* explores the love letters of Emma's great-grandparents which had been intercepted by a jealous village girl and resulted in a Sheriff's Court Case in the 1890s.

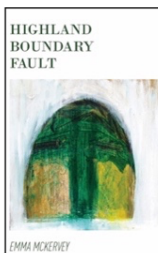
About the poets:

Kelly Creighton is an award-winning writer who has published 6 novels and a short story collection. *Unbecoming* is her second poetry pamphlet. She received her MA in Poetry Studies from the Seamus Heaney Centre, QUB.



2020.

Emma McKervey has worked for over 20 yrs as an Arts Facilitator. Her award-winning work is widely published, initially by Doire Press. She is currently working towards an MRes in the Seamus Heaney Centre at QUB, with Stephen Sexton as her supervisor.



ESL: Conversation Classes

Donna and/or Thomas will take these informal lessons, focusing on increasing vocabulary and improving conversational abilities.

When? Wed 12th February (12-1pm)

Cost? FREE

We look forward to meeting as many new people as possible – you will be most welcome. Please spread the word among any new residents.



Saturday Science Club: 22nd Feb



Science Club for Key Stage 2 & 3 children (approx age 7 -14) will recommence on Saturday **22nd February** from 2-3.30 pm.

This session will continue our work on the Periodic Table and children will be painting stones.

Upcoming Events

Periodic Table Talk: March 2025

by Mrs Janice Adgey BSc (Chemistry teacher).

This interactive talk will cover Mendeleev's organisation of elements into the periodic table as we know it. While it is aimed at Primary School children, those with a general love of Chemistry are most welcome to come along too.



Elizabeth and Donna have run a few workshops about the Periodic Table with our local P6 & 7 classes and the children will bring their own painted stone elements to "Show and Tell" at this final workshop.

An Evening with Caleb Hardy: Saturday 8th March

After an extremely popular session at our Christmas Music by Candlelight Event, Caleb is returning to the Hans Sloane Centre to introduce and sing his own songs.



If free, please do buy a ticket and come along to support this extremely talented local guy!

When? Saturday 8th March 2025 (7 to 8.30pm)

Cost? £10

How? DM or book on Eventbrite using:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/.../an-evening-with-caleb...>

We are delighted to support all local artists by giving them a platform to showcase their music and singing. So, if you are interested yourself or know of anyone, please encourage them to contact us or call into the Centre for a chat. We can work something out together.

Nature Week: Save Killyleagh's Natural Environment 14th -17th April

Bob Brown's excellent November talk on Hans Sloane and his contribution to Botany and plant records worldwide prompted a fascinating discussion about "what would Hans Sloane do if he were alive today?".



As a result, we will use his birth day to celebrate the conservation steps in progress locally and explore what more needs to be done to restore nature in the Killyleagh area.

The inaugural Nature Week will be from 14th to 17th April 2025 and we will post more about it in our March Newsletter.

Any brilliant ideas or suggestions would be very welcome, as would offers from potential speakers or sponsors for the event.

Artist in Residence: March

Kieron Black is Artist in Residence at Down Arts Centre until March 2025 and he is planning to offer some workshops at the Centre.

Kieron works in illustration, primarily book illustration as he is a published children's author, so his workshops are creative writing based.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for further details.

Teacher Training

We are delighted to announce that we are supporting a final year teacher in training from Stranmillis University College to run workshops and other primary level activities in April. This will mean that children of primary school age can benefit from more enrichment activities here!

Introducing our Little Hans Club

Little Hans will introduce science awareness activities for parents /guardians and 9 months to pre-school age children.

Little Hans is a small playgroup which will encourage young children to learn through child-led play in the outdoor environment – our patio area. Following in the footsteps of the young Hans Sloane, the children's explorative play will have a strong input of the natural world around us. We will start with four **FREE** sessions, funded by a donation from Killyleagh Masonic Lodge no 30. Dates will be confirmed for March and April very soon. Look out for the adverts!



Easter Egg-stravaganza: March/April

Join us for exciting Easter Egg painting classes for adults and children during March and April. To add to the egg-citement we hope to arrange a roll- your- egg competition down the Millenium Hill at Delamont



Further details will be in the March Newsletter.

If you would like to offer any creative activities, please DM us on Facebook or email.

Easter Egg Schools Competition

Given the connections between Sir Hans Sloane, chocolate and Killyleagh village, we will invite the children in Key Stages 1 & 2 in Killyleagh Integrated Primary School and Saint Mary's Primary School to participate in our first "Design an Easter Egg Competition." We will provide the template to the Schools – so you wont miss out!



British Science Week: 7th -16th March

This year's theme is '**Change and Adapt**'!

Changing and adapting plays a big part in science; you can find examples in every area of STEM*. Cities, towns and other areas where people live change and adapt as the world's population grows, plants and animals change and adapt to their surroundings to survive. Technology has changed exponentially and adapted to our new, busier lives (or have we changed as technology has developed?).

Details of all online and in-centre activities at Hans Sloane Centre will be given in our March Newsletter.



Book Club: Thursday 20th March

We are delighted to be starting a **FREE** monthly Book Club on **Thursday 20th March from 7.30 to 8.30pm** (although we expect that discussions will be continued in The Dufferin afterwards).

This will be run by Margaret McCann and will be very relaxed. We encourage everyone to give it a try! Margaret knows much about literature but also how to engage those who are not avid readers, so please don't be shy – you will be most welcome!



Our first book will be "Foster" by Claire Keegan. (currently £8.95 on Amazon)

Shloer and wine will be available for a small donation.

Internet Café

Due to funding from FIBRUS, we are delighted to offer **FREE** internet access.

Call down any time we are open and you can even make yourself a coffee while you work!

We can also offer use of laptops when trained staff are available to assist you get set up.

Computer or laptop problems! You need some homework, coursework or work preparation completed then please DM us on Facebook to arrange a time or call in to the Centre and we will do our best to accommodate you.



Ongoing Events

Workshops to support the Curriculum or for Science Awards.

We offer Science Workshops to Schools and Youth Groups, Scouts, GB, BB etc – if interested email info@sirhanssloanecentre.co.uk , ring 07896254153 or DM us on Facebook.

Workshop Examples

- 1/ Science of Butterflies
- 2/ DNA Extraction from Fruit
- 3/ Science of Bubbles
- 4/ Cells
- 5/ Solar System
- 5/ Hans Sloane: the Scientist and Chocolate Connection.



All Science Workshops are devised and delivered by a research scientist, Dr Elizabeth Crilly, and a research engineer, Dr Donna Hall.

Guided Tours and Talks

Talks include:

- 1/ Scientists of Ireland - from Hans Sloane to present day.
- 2/ Hans Sloane: A Modern Day Scientist?
- 3/ Hans Sloane: An Early Nutritionist?
- 4/ Hans Sloane's link to The British and Natural History Museums in London – Our Collection.
- 5/ London's Chelsea Physic Garden and A Botanic Garden in Killyleagh

Please email info@sirhanssloanecentre.co.uk or DM us on Facebook to arrange a guided tour and / or talk.

Tea/ coffee can also be provided if required.



Pre-Loved Book Sale

We still have a variety of paperback and hardback books for sale from 50p to £3.



Gift Shop

Our gift shop includes a variety of cards, t-shirts, prints of Killyleagh Castle, cushions, jewellery, soaps, glassware, wooden clocks & tea light holders, paintings and prints.

Call in anytime to browse our complete range. All profits from our gift shop go directly to our charity work.



Object of the Month

This beautiful 18th century Italian nativity figure of a shepherd would have graced a Neapolitan presepio, or manger scene.



Traditionally, Christmas cribs in Naples would have dozens of figures, as every tradesperson in the village was represented. Often modelled on real people, the Holy Family, kings and shepherds, to the butcher, the baker, fish monger and the candle maker. Our shepherd is now being restored. Back next Christmas!

Plant of the Month

The snowdrop (*galanthus nivalis*) is one of the first Spring flowers to appear in our botanic garden. It is a familiar indicator of the changing seasons and a sure sign that warmer weather is on its way.



Room Hire

1/ Meeting Room

Cost? £25 for first hr and £20/hr after that.
Accommodates? 12
Includes? wifi, kitchen & toilet facilities, heating, projector, chairs, desks, staff in attendance.



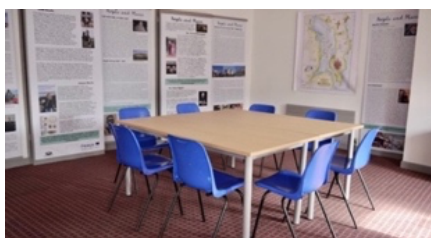
2/ Office

Cost? For 1 day/week = £45/month
Accommodates? 2
Includes? wifi, kitchen & toilet facilities, chairs & desks, secure lock.



3/ Training / Workshop Room

Cost? £25 for first hour and £20/hr after that.
Accommodates? 20 with desks or 30 seated.
Suitable for? Art/Craft classes, seminars, talks etc
Includes? wifi, kitchen & toilet facilities, heating, projector, chairs, desks, staff in attendance.



Facebook & Instagram

All activities are advertised on our facebook and Instagram pages:

www.facebook.com/sirhanssloanecentre

www.instagram.com/sloanecentre/?hl=en

Volunteering at HSC

Can you spare a few hours/week to be in the Centre to allow visitors to see our displays and view our gift shop?



For further information:

1/ Email: info@sirhanssloanecentre.co.uk

2/ Call: 07896 254153

Websites

(1) Discover Northern Ireland

This is the official NI tourism website.

(2) Trip Advisor

Why not give us a review if you've been to the Centre or attended any events?

(3) Sir Hans Sloane Centre

Our website is currently being updated and improved but ALL activities are now advertised under the "News" section.

<https://sirhanssloanecentre.co.uk/>

CEO & Founder

Dr Elizabeth Crilly MSc. PGCE, MInstP.

Trustees

Lorraine Lawson, Richard Cushnie & Martin Craigs

Company Number: NI666507

Charity Number: NIC107724