

Story-teller extraordinaire in Rathfriland library



The Hagstone Storyteller, alias Michael O'Leary, pictured with pupils at last Tuesday's storytelling session at Rathfriland Library. Primary schools in attendance included: Iveagh, St. Mary's, St. Colman's of Annacorney, Edendale, St. Paul's of Cabra, St. Patrick of Drumdreenagh, St. Patrick's, Hilltown and Glaskemore.

OVER one hundred children from a number of local schools enjoyed a memorable story-telling session in Rathfriland library last Tuesday.

Story-teller, Michael O'Leary from Southampton, better known as the Hagstone story-teller, had the pupils enthralled for over an hour telling tales of people and events from as far apart as Southampton to West Cork.

To add to the attraction, he had with him his box of artefacts and musical instruments which brought the session to life.

As a story-teller Michael has featured on BBC Radio N. Ireland, Radio Bristol and Radio Sallent. Anyone interested can contact their local library for details.

Mourne duo fined after disturbance

TWO bricklayers, one from Killeel and the other from neighbouring Annalong, appeared at court in Banbridge last week, following their involvement in a late-night disturbance.

Darren James McConnell of Harbour Road, Killeel, and Mark Andrew Thompson, from Craigdara Avenue in Annalong, each admitted a charge of disorderly behaviour.

The defendants, both 22 years old, were observed

actively taking part in a fight involving around ten people, at the Castlewellan Road/Church Square junction in Banbridge at 1.40am on 24 January this year.

Both men were arrested and taken to the local RUC station.

A solicitor for McConnell explained he had been at licensed premises with friends from Killeel and accepted that there had been some "horse-play" on a public street.

"After he was arrested, there were no further difficulties from him," added the solicitor.

He passed on his client's apologies to the local police.

Thompson was unrepresented.

The magistrate said he would give the men credit for their previously clear records and for the fact there were no reports of serious injuries or damage arising from the incident.

The defendants were each fined £100.