

# FUN AND MEMORIES

Ards and North Down has so much to explore in 2018. Make your time together extra memorable with the help of our seasonal Visitor Information Centres in Groomsport and Portaferry.



Cockle Row Cottages,  
Groomsport



Portaferry Visitor  
Information Centre



**Ards and  
North Down**  
Borough Council



# Visitor Information Services

**Take time to explore Ards and North Down!** Our staff in Groomsport and Portaferry can help you make the most of your visit. With their expert advice and guidance you can enjoy all that Ards and North Down has to offer. From walks and attractions to eateries and events; spending quality time together has never been so easy.



## Cockle Row Cottages, Groomsport

Cockle Row Cottages are restored fishermen's cottages dating back to the 1600s. They are set within the picturesque village of Groomsport, beside the harbour. The cottages are home to the VIC and a living history exhibition.

**Open:**

1 April  
(Easter Sunday)-  
9 September

**Weekends Only**

**April-May**  
11am-5pm

**Daily June-Sept**

11am-5pm

The cottages and their surroundings provide the perfect setting to spend quality time. The beautiful stretch of sandy beach is a stone's throw away, as is a children's playground and the village's eateries. From Easter Sunday to the second Sunday in September, Cockle Row hosts a programme of free weekend activities (information overleaf).

Main Street, Groomsport, BT19 6GH  
028 9127 2269 | [cocklerow@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk](mailto:cocklerow@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk)



## Portaferry Visitor Information Centre

Portaferry VIC is situated beside Portaferry Castle, overlooking scenic Strangford Lough. The VIC is a short walk from the village centre and is home to a gift shop.

**Open:**

30 March  
(Good Friday)-  
30 September

**Monday -**

**Saturday**  
10am-5pm

**Sunday**

1pm-5pm

Spend quality time together at our free entertainment which runs every Saturday in July and August. Or enjoy the local creative scene at our well established 'Art in the Loft' exhibition series. It showcases the work of an array of artists, craftspeople and designer makers from the borough and beyond. Contact the centre for more information.

The Stables, Castle Street, Portaferry, BT22 1NZ  
028 4272 9882 | [portaferryvic@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk](mailto:portaferryvic@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk)

# Portaferry VIC

Free Family Fun 2pm-4pm

## July

- Sat 7**
  - Tales of the Wild - Animal Road Show
  - Glitter Tattoos
- Sat 14**
  - Bricks for Kidz lego Workshop
  - Face Painting
- Sat 21**
  - Party Professor Science Craft Workshop
  - Balloon Modelling
- Sat 28**
  - Magician - "Doctor Funny and Bone Magic"

## August

- Sat 4**
  - Tales of the Wild - Animal Road Show
  - Balloon Modelling
- Sat 11**
  - Fancy Flower Crafts and Planting Seeds Workshop
- Sat 18**
  - Clayrazy Workshop
  - Glitter Tattoos
- Sat 25**
  - Party Professor Science Magic Show
  - Face Painting

## September

- Sat 8**
  - Captain Jack Nautical Knot Workshop
  - Wonderful Wildlife Crafts and Planting Seeds Workshop



## Exhibitions Art in the Loft

### All exhibitions are free

The Loft Gallery is located on the first floor of the centre, overlooking the stunning Strangford Lough.

### March / April

#### Saturday 31 March-Sunday 29 April 'Coast' (Monoprints)

An exhibition by printmaker Diane Cowan.

### May

#### Saturday 5-Saturday 26 'Connecting with the Land - An Artist's Journey from Donegal to Down' (Oil Paintings)

An exhibition by Artist Mary Feeney.

### June

#### Saturday 2nd June-Sunday 1st July 'On The Edge' (Mixed Media)

An exhibition by local ceramic artist Mary Pearson.

### July

#### Saturday 7 -Sunday 29 'Felt Alive' (Feltmaking)

An exhibition by Feltmakers North.

### August

#### Saturday 4-Sunday 26 'Linen Futures 2018' (Textiles)

An exhibition curated by Jane McCann and Cecilia Stephens.

### September

#### Saturday 1 - Friday 28 'Branta bernicla hrota' (Illustrations)

An exhibition by local illustrator, Adele Pound.

# Cockle Row VIC

Free Family Fun 2pm-4pm

## May

- Sat 5** • Bricks 4 Kidz workshop  
• Traditional crafts
- Sun 6** • Magic Show Aldo
- Sat 12** • Jumping clay workshop  
• Children's Crafts
- Sun 13** • Plant and Play gardening workshop  
• Children's Crafts
- Sat 19** • Clayrazy workshop  
• Children's Crafts
- Sun 20** • CSI Workshop
- Sat 26** • Mr Hulabaloo puppet show
- Sun 27** • Dr Funny Bone learn a magic trick [Limited numbers]  
• Glitter tattoos

## June

- Sat 2** • Traditional Crafts  
• Balloon Modelling
- Sun 3** • Magic Show Aldo
- Sat 9** • Mr Hulabaloo puppet show
- Sun 10** • Tales of the Wild Animal Roadshow  
• Sand Crafts
- Sat 16** • Jumping Clay workshop  
• Face painting
- Sun 17** • CSI workshop
- Sat 23** • Plant and Play gardening workshop  
• Glitter tattoos
- Sun 24** • Dr Funny Bone learn a magic trick [Limited numbers]  
• Children's Crafts
- Sat 30** • Party professor Science Workshop  
• Children's crafts

## July

- Sun 1** • Mobile Farm
- Sat 7** • Fizz Wizz Pop Magic show
- Sun 8** • Balloon Modelling  
• Crazy Golf
- Sat 14** • Aldo Magic Show  
• Children's crafts
- Sun 15** • Sand crafts  
• Jumping clay workshop
- Sat 21** • Bricks 4 kidz workshop  
• Children's Crafts
- Sun 22** • Children's Crafts  
• Dr Funny Bone learn a Magic trick [Limited numbers]
- Sat 28** • Plant and Play design a fairy garden
- Sun 29** • Children's crafts  
• Archery



## August

- Sat 4**
  - Crazy Golf
  - Crafts
- Sun 5**
  - Glitter tattoos
  - Sand Crafts
- Sat 11**
  - Party Professor Science workshop
  - Balloon modelling
- Sun 12**
  - Face painting
  - Mobile Farm
- Sat 18**
  - CSI Workshop
  - Children's crafts
- Sun 19**
  - Children's crafts
  - Plant and Play
- Sat 25**
  - Fizz Wizz Pop Magic Show
- Sun 26**
  - Mr Hulabaloo, puppet show

## September





- Sat 1**
  - Tales of the Wild Animal Roadshow
  - Traditional crafts
- Sun 2**
  - Re-enactments
  - Archery
  - Children's crafts
  - Music - Geordies Music Box

## October

Cottages Open: 11am-5pm  
Halloween fun: 1pm-4pm

- Sun 28**
  - Creepy crafts
  - Plant and play
  - Music-Geordies music box
  - Tales of the wild animal roadshow



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## **SIGN UP TO OUR E-NEWSLETTER!**

Keep up-to-date with all that is going on in Ards and North Down. Go to [visitardsandnorthdown.com](http://visitardsandnorthdown.com)

## **We have three Apps available to download for FREE**

- Bangor Christian Heritage
- Discover Ards and North Down
- Greyabbey Village Heritage Trail



### **Visitor information all year round**

#### **Ards Visitor Information Centre [Open all year round]**

31 Regent Street, Newtownards  
BT23 4AD  
028 9182 6846

#### **Bangor Visitor Information Centre [Open all year round]**

Tower House, 34 Quay Street  
Bangor BT20 5ED  
028 9127 0069

[visitardsandnorthdown.com](http://visitardsandnorthdown.com)

