The Society for Folk Life Studies

**Study day**

**Dunmurry and Kilwarlin, Northern Ireland**

**5 May 2018**

**This study day provides an opportunity to visit two interesting churches in Northern Ireland:**

**–The First Dunmurry (Non-Subscribing) Presbyterian Church and Kilwarlin Moravian Church.**

Dunmurry retains a strong village identity and is situated on the outskirts of Belfast. The church is the third structure to have been built on the site and was constructed in 1779. It is best described as a vernacular gem. The Moravian Church at Kilwarlin, originally built in 1755, is in a rural setting about ten miles away from Dunmurry.

**Programme**

11.00 **Assemble at The First Dunmurry (Non-Subscribing) Presbyterian Church**

23 Glebe Road, Dunmurry, Belfast, BT17 0PN

*Dunmurry is easily accessible by public transport, and the railway halt is a short uphill walk from the church. From Belfast City Airport, take the train from Sydenham for either Lisburn or Portadown (there are only two platforms, and trains for both Lisburn and Portadown depart from the same platform) for a journey of nine stops. From the International airport, there is a coach to Great Victoria Street. From there, the journey is four stops along the same line.*

11.15 **Visit to the church and grounds**

*In addition to being a building of very great interest, Dunmurry meeting-house contains some fascinating monuments, including one to a member of the Andrews family. Naval architect Thomas Andrews famously died on the Titanic, and the family were Ulster Unitarians. The church also features a magnificent window attributed to Tiffany, and the graveyard surrounding the church contains significant features. In the Non-Subscribing tradition, Communion usually takes place only twice a year, at the beginning of both May and November. The Dunmurry church retains an ancient form of Communion observance, and it will be possible to see how this is arranged as the Communion Tables will be in place during the Study Day. Anyone wishing to stay to join in the service on 6 May will be most welcome.*

12.15 **A short talk on the Irish Non-Subscribing tradition** **and Dr Henry Montgomery** of Dunmurry by the Revd Linda Ballard

*The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland is a small but significant denomination with a historical witness to liberal Christianity. Although a separate denomination in its own right, it has no exact parallel with any other church outside Ireland and may best be understood in relation to Irish Presbyterianism, within which tradition it had its origins and with which it still retains a deep affinity.*

12.45 **Visit to garden at Dunmurry**

*The Minister Emeritus at Dunmurry, the Very Rev W McMillan, is a noted botanist, horticulturalist and internationally renowned floral artist after whom Hosta Rev Mac is named. Over several decades, he has developed a magnificent garden at Dunmurry, with many rare species.*

*13.30 Lunch*

14.15 **Depart for Kilwarlin Moravian Church**

Kilwarlin Road, Hillsborough, Co Down BT26 6DZ. *Transport will be arranged*

14.45 **Tour of Kilwarlin Moravian church** by Rev Dr Livingstone Thompson

*The Kilwarlin Moravian Church was established in 1755. The present church building dates from 1835, when it was rebuilt by its remarkable Greek pastor, Basil Patras Zula, who also constructed a Battle Garden on the site to commemorate the Battle of Thermopylae. The story of Zula himself, the son of a Greek chieftain, and of how he came to be in Kilwarlin, is extraordinary, and a visit to the Battle Garden is a rare privilege.*

16.00 Return to Dunmurry (*Transport will be arranged)*

**End of study day**

**BOOKING FORM**

I/We wish to attend the Study Day at Dunmurry and Kilwarlin:

Name/s: ……………………………………….......................................................................................

Address: ………………………………………………………………..................................................

……………………………………………….........................................................................................

Telephone: …………………….....................E-mail: …………..…………………….……………….

I/We understand that the total cost of the conference will be £20 per person, to include morning tea or coffee, a sandwich lunch and transport between Dunmurry and Kilwarlin.

Please book ….. place(s) and I/we enclose the fee of £20 per person.

Dietary requirements: …………………………………………………………………………………

Mobility requirements: ………………….............................................................................................

***Please return this form with payment or notification of BACS transfer to:***

**Steph Mastoris**

**National Waterfront Museum,**

**Oystermouth Road, Maritime Quarter, Swansea SA1 3RD**

([steph.mastoris@museumwales.ac.uk](mailto:steph.mastoris@museumwales.ac.uk))

Please pay either

by **cheque** payable to *The Society for Folk Life Studies*

or

by **BACS transfer** to the Society’s bank account:

Sort code: 40-35-18 Account number:11226363

*(Please identify the transfer as ‘Study Day 2018 + [your surname]’)*