

CARNFUNNOCK COUNTRY PARK
EVENTS PROGRAMME 2017
Coast Road, Larne, BT40 2QG
Tel: 028 2826 2471



Website: www.midandeantrim.gov.uk/carnfunnock
Email: carnfunnock@midandeantrim.gov.uk

MARCH 2017

10.00am - 4.00pm • SATURDAY 25TH MARCH

WOOD CARVING DEMONSTRATION

Bring your ear muffs along, as you watch wood sculptor, Michael Rodgers carve a unique wooden squirrel for permanent display in the Walled Garden. Free event.

11.00am - 4.00pm • SUNDAY 26TH MARCH

GO WILD WITH WILLOW DEMONSTRATION

A unique opportunity to see the experts at Welig Crafts construct a special living willow dome. Come along to be inspired, just to watch or have all your "willow" questions answered. Free event.

APRIL 2017

2.00pm & 3.30pm sessions • SATURDAY 1ST APRIL

WILD IN THE PARK: SPRING INTO WILDLIFE

Join Debbie Doolittle and discover the amazing diversity of wildlife in Northern Ireland. Spend some time learning how to help injured or orphaned wildlife that may visit your back garden. Learn all about hedgehogs, owls and their friend Mrs. Fox plus get up close and personal with cuddly Easter bunnies!!

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note: not suitable for children under 5 years of age. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • SUNDAY 2ND APRIL

ART IN THE PARK: PEBBLE PAINTING (Drop in Activity)

Take an ordinary looking stone and transform it into a creepy crawly, a funny face or anything you like. Bring along a stone which reminds you of something else and **you're half way there!**

Price: £2.25 per child. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm & 3.30pm sessions • SATURDAY 8TH APRIL

WILD IN THE PARK: REMARKABLE REPTILES

Join 'Rep-Tails' for an exclusive display of reptiles and lizards - some of the **world's most misunderstood creatures**. Ever fancied getting up close and personal with an anaconda, python or even a Tarantula or Imperial Scorpion?! If so, come along and see an amazing collection of snakes, lizards, insects and amphibians and why they are needed in the wild.

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note: not suitable for children under 5 years of age. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

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SUNDAY 9TH APRIL

10.30am onwards • BIRDY BINGO

Take one of our free activity sheets for children and enjoy a family game of birdy bingo!

2.30pm • DIY BIRD HOMES

Spring is in the air and we're getting ready for this autumn's bird nesting season already! Many birds will enter nest boxes during the autumn and winter, looking for a suitable place to roost or perhaps to feed. Help build a bird box with the expertise of Park staff.

£5.00 per box to cover materials. Places limited to 8. Booking essential. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • **FRIDAY 14TH APRIL (GOOD FRIDAY)**

ART IN THE PARK: EASTER CRAFTS (Drop in Activity)

Why not come along to the park and make your own Easter craft, make an Easter basket and decorate or put your own design on an egg cup and then plant some cress seed in it or perhaps you would prefer to make an Easter egg mosaic coaster.

Price: £2.25 per child. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm & 3.30pm sessions • **SATURDAY 15TH APRIL**

ART IN THE PARK: **KID'S ROCKING ROCKETS**

Is it a plane? Is it a bird? No it's your rocket! Come along and build your own rocket before attempting launch! Will it fly? How far will it go? How high will it go? That's all up to you!

Price: £2.25 per child. Maximum 12 children per session. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear as you may get a bit wet! Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

SUNDAY 16TH APRIL (EASTER SUNDAY)

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

2.00pm-5.00pm • PARTY ANIMAL TIME!

Come and say hello to the wonderful Party Animals N.I. and their Mobile Micro Zoo while they visit Carnfunnock. **Come along and get a cuddle from "Big Daddy" or pluck up the courage to hold "Monster". From creepy crawlies to fluffy critters** there may even be a scaly friend or two. Lollipop the Teenage (Mutant Samurai) Meerkat will be making appearances and if the weather is good you may even get **to meet "Efue", the 13.5Kg Tortoise.** Free event.

KIDS EASTER EGG ROLL COMPETITION

2.30pm **Under 5's**

3.00pm **5-8's**

3.30pm **Over 8's**

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Bring along your own decorated hard-boiled egg (so you can identify it!) and take part in a traditional egg rolling race at the Visitor Centre. Various age categories **apply JUST don't forget to bring your own egg!** Free event. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

EASTER MONDAY 17TH APRIL & EASTER TUESDAY 18TH APRIL

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

10.15am-1.15pm & 2.00pm-5.00pm • **MAGICAL EASTER PARK HUNT (Under 10's)**

Malfoy the magical dragon has invaded Carnfunnock and is trying to destroy Easter by stealing all the Easter eggs. Our Easter bunny has enlisted the help of **the Park's** very own Fairy Queen, Zana, but they need your help as well!

Go on a magical quest around the lower park using your special map, which includes visits to our unique maze and Walled Garden, and obtain all the clues and stamps you need to win Easter treats.

Don't forget you'll need to find the Fairy Queen to write your Easter wish and post in the magical portal to keep it open until the dragon leaves. Then make your way to the Visitor Centre to hand in your sheet and collect your well-earned prize.

Price: £3.00 per activity sheet or buy 3 or more for 20% discount. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

11.00am onwards • **SCRAMBLED EGGS CONTEST (For families with children aged 8+)**

Come to the Visitor Centre to pick up your challenge and those who find the correct answers will be entered into a draw to win a giant fluffy friend and some eggs to share! All participants will win special Easter treats!

Price: £2.50 per quiz sheet. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

11.00am - 5.00pm • **MAGICAL EASTER CREATIONS**

Facetastic will be joining the fun with some unique themed face painting and tattoos! (*Charges apply*)

11.00am - 5.00pm • **SPOT THE BUNNY TRAIN RIDE**

Hop aboard the Family Fun Zone's miniature train, then keep your eyes peeled and count the bunnies as you ride around the track. All correct entries will be entered into a prize draw to win a family pass.

Price: £2.00 per person. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Family Fun Zone on 07745 570037.

10.00am - 4.00pm • **WEDNESDAY 19TH AND THURSDAY 20TH APRIL**

ART IN THE PARK: ARTIST DEMONSTRATION

Join local artist Janet Crymble, and watch her work her magic, as she transforms a storage container in Carnfunnock into a new woodland themed art piece. Free event.

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1.00pm and 3.00pm sessions • SATURDAY 22ND APRIL

SECRET AGENT TRAINING CAMP!

Do you have a naturally curious child or frustrated spy at home?? Then why not bring them to our secret agent training camp at Carnfunnock! They will receive some essential pre-training to fulfil a special mission. Expect to get a special secret agent name, secret coding, target practice and lots more fun!

Price: £5.00 per child. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is essential. Suitable for children age 6+. Maximum 20 children per session. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm • SUNDAY 23RD APRIL

BUG DETECTIVE

It's **'Woodlands Weekend'** so join Carnfunnock staff and become a bug detective as you hunt though the park to discover who lives under our rocks and trees! Get a magnified **look at a variety of creatures and insects that make most Mum's scream.** Discover why they have so many legs and eyes, what they like to eat and even identify them using different sections of their bodies!

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

1.00pm - 5.00pm • SATURDAY 29TH APRIL

WILD IN THE PARK: FALCONS AND FRIENDS

Join the Northern Ireland School of Falconry and see majestic birds of prey, including falcons and owls, in both static and dynamic flying displays. Put names and faces to those mysterious flying creatures that go screech and t'whit t'whoo in the night! Flying displays, with educational commentary, will take place at 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm. Free event.

SUNDAY 30TH APRIL

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

2.00pm-5.00pm • FARMYARD FUN

Say hello to the animals from Blackberry Farm while they visit Carnfunnock Country Park. Cuddle and play with friendly rabbits, chicks and ducklings or bottle feed the little lambs and goats. Free event.

2.15pm & 3.30pm shows • MR HULLABALOO PUPPET THEATRE

Be utterly amazed at the antics of Mr Hullabaloo and his interactive theatre. Mr Hullabaloo will entertain all the family with two spring-themed shows in the amphitheatre of our magnificent Walled Garden. Free event.

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MAY 2017

MONDAY 1ST MAY (BANK HOLIDAY)

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

It's hedgehog awareness week (1st-7th May) so just to celebrate these remarkable creatures we have some special events!

11.00am-5.00pm ● HEDGE HOGGING MAZE HUNT

Are you clever enough to find our Hedgehog, Tiggy and his friends lost in the Maze? They need to get back to their cottage in the woods with all the freshly washed **and ironed clothes for their bird and animal friends before it's** too dark. All successful finders will get a special prize! All children must be accompanied by an adult. Price: £2.50 per activity sheet or buy 3 or more for 20% discount.

12noon to 5.00pm ● HAPPY HEDGEHOGS

Did you know that hedgehogs are the only British mammals with spines? Debbie Doolittle will be bringing some of these special little creatures along to Carnfunnock and you can discover all about them! Learn what makes them happy, where they live, what they have for dinner and how to give them TLC when they need our help! Free event.

11.00am-5.00pm ● WILDLIFE CREATIONS

Facetastic will be joining in the fun with some unique animal themed face painting and tattoos! *(Charges apply)*

11.00am-5.00pm ● SPOT THE HEDGEHOG TRAIN RIDE

Hop aboard the Family Fun Zone's miniature train, then keep your eyes peeled and count the hedgehogs as you ride around the track. All correct entries will be entered into a prize draw to win a family pass.

Price: £2.00 per person. All children must be accompanied by an adult.
Contact: Family Fun Zone on 07745 570037.

2.00pm ● SATURDAY 6TH MAY

CARNFUNNOCK SUPERDOG (As part of National Pet Month)

Beginner dogs pay attention! Let's show everyone what you're made of. At only £1.00 per class, you can improve your athleticism on our fun obedience course or look your best and take part in our novelty dog show. Categories include: best pedigree, best non-pedigree, **saddest eyes, most like it's owner, most like to take home, waggiest tail, best fancy dressed, best rescue or even biggest ears.**

Facetastic will be joining in the fun with some unique doggy face painting and tattoos! *(Charges apply)*

All proceeds go to Dogs Trust & other animal charities, thanks to the Latharna Canine and Dog Training Club. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

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1.00pm - 5.00pm • SUNDAY 7TH MAY

WILDLIFE CSI

Do you have a budding detective in your house? If so then this will be right up your **street. Take part in Carnfunnock's specially designed crime investigation trail.** Will you discover who the culprit is?

Price: £2.00 per detective sheet. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00pm - 3.00pm • SATURDAY 13TH MAY

ART IN THE PARK: SUN - DAY ON A SATURDAY

It's sun awareness week! Come along and join in the fun in the sun with some sunny arts and crafts. Make your own sun dial and test it out in the sun dial garden in our walled garden or find objects to make your own shadow drawings.

Price: £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • SUNDAY 14TH MAY

CARNFUNNOCK FUNKY SPORTS DAY

Come along to Carnfunnock Country Park to celebrate National Children's Day and take part in our funky sports day for kids of all ages. There will be different age categories (4 - 7 years, 8 - 11 years and 12 years +) we will have all sorts of fun games and races to take part in, including spud & spoon race, sack race, 3 legged race, wheelbarrow race, welly boot throw competition, dribbling competition, limbo competition and much more!

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. (Sports Day subject to weather and ground conditions.) All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00 noon • FACE PAINTING WORKSHOP: TIGER TECHNIQUES AND BUTTERFLY BASICS

Attention all adults! Do you wish you were confident enough to paint your own **child's face for parties? It's International Day for Biological Diversity so join us for** a special face painting workshop and learn to paint your own little tiger or beautiful butterfly with the expert tuition of our resident face painters, Facetastic.

Price: £10.00 per adult. Places are limited so booking essential. All adults must be accompanied by a child model aged 5+, who is not allergic / sensitive to face paints. To book contact Brenda at Facetastic on 07801 893449.

12.00pm - 4.30pm • SATURDAY 20TH MAY

MAGICAL OWLS

Join the 'Owl Man' Don Scott as he brings his unique owls to Carnfunnock to celebrate Love Parks Week. Take the opportunity to get up close and personal to a **selection of owls from around the world including the World's Largest Owl**, the European Eagle Owl and the Great Grey owl from Lapland.

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Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

2.00pm • SUNDAY 21ST MAY

ROCKSHORE RAMBLE (LOW TIDE 13:50)

It's coming up to National Marine Week (23rd July - 7th August) so it's a great time to discover the world of rock pooling? Join Carnfunnock staff and seek out crabs from under rocks and get up close and personal with some of the marine life that lives on the famous Antrim Coast, including sea anemones, limpets and lots more. Meet at the Visitor Centre.

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

8.30pm • FRIDAY 26TH MAY

BAT NIGHT

It's European Bat Weekend so let Ricki Ayre of the NI Bat Group introduce you to some of Northern Ireland's cutest and fluffiest mammals - BATS! Learn about their fascinating lives before venturing outside into the grounds of Carnfunnock armed with torches and bat detectors, to seek out these flying wonders zipping overhead (weather permitting).

Price: £4.25 adult, £3.75 Child/Concession inc. Light refreshments. Booking essential. Wear appropriate clothing / footwear and bring torches. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Suitable for age 7+years only. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

10.00am - 1.00pm • SATURDAY 27TH MAY

BEELICIOUS - BIG BEE HOTEL CREATION

Raise awareness of our pollinator species and help restore and create habitats for them by building a big bee hotel within Carnfunnock!

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

2.30pm • SATURDAY 27TH MAY

DIY BAT BOXES

As part of Wild about Gardens Week, why not join our staff and build your own bat box that you can take home and put up on your house or a tree in the garden.

Price: £5.00 per box to cover materials. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is essential. Places limited to 10 boxes. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

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2.15pm, 3.15pm & 4.15pm • SUNDAY 28TH MAY

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

MAGIC SHOWS

Now you see it, now you don't, magic tricks to boggle your mind! With his bright blue suit and a suitcase full of silly, Louie the Entertainer, presents a hilarious sideways take on children's magic that the whole family will enjoy. Free event.

MONDAY 29TH MAY (BANK HOLIDAY)

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

1.00pm - 5.00pm • WILD IN THE PARK: FALCONS AND FRIENDS

Join the Northern Ireland School of Falconry and see majestic birds of prey, including falcons and owls, in both static and dynamic flying displays. Put names and faces to those mysterious flying creatures that go screech and t'whit t'whoo in the night! Flying displays, with educational commentary, will take place at 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm. Free event.

JUNE 2017

11.00am - 5.00pm • SATURDAY 3RD JUNE

PIRATE TREASURE HUNT

Ahoy thar ya lily-livered landlubbers!! Come along and be given a scrap of paper which will lead you around the grounds of Carnfunnock in search for hidden clues - the most correct answers will be entered into a draw to win the hidden treasure!
Will you be a scallywag or a gentleman o' fortune?

£2.00 per activity sheet. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • SUNDAY 4TH JUNE

SUMMER BAND CONCERTS BEGINS

Our summer programme of band concerts within the Walled Garden amphitheatre starts today with 1st Larne Old Boys Silver (2.00-3.00pm), East Antrim Seniors Accordion (3.00-4.00pm) and Magheramore Silver (4.00-5.00pm). Free event.

11.00am onwards • SATURDAY 10TH JUNE

LARNE HORSE AND PONY SHOW

Join Larne Horse and Pony Club for their annual show in Carnfunnock and enjoy an entire day devoted to the competing and showing of horses.

For entry fees or further information, please contact Lynda or Mark McCullough 07545 197235 or 07745 662874, or e-mail lmccullough091@gmail.com. Further information is available at www.larnehorseandponyshow.co.uk.

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2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 11TH JUNE

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Ballyduff Silver (2.30-3.30pm) and Ormeau Concert (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

7.15pm • WEDNESDAY 14TH JUNE

LARNE MOTOR CLUB AUTOTEST

The upper car park will be laid out in a series of tests to measure precision driving skills. Participation is open to all members of Larne Motor Club with designated areas for spectators.

Price: TBC. For all enquiries please visit www.larnemotorclub.co.uk

SUNDAY 18TH JUNE (FATHERS DAY / NATIONAL PICNIC WEEK)

It's both Father's Day and National Picnic Week so bring your picnic to Carnfunnock Country Park or treat your dad as Parklands Café offers discounts for Daddies and speciality 'Big Daddy' Burgers. Enjoy a full day of family fun including:

1.00pm - 5.00pm • WILD IN THE PARK: FALCONS AND FRIENDS

Join the Northern Ireland School of Falconry and see majestic birds of prey, including falcons and owls, in both static and dynamic flying displays. Put names and faces to those mysterious flying creatures that go screech and t'whit t'whoo in the night! Flying displays, with educational commentary, will take place at 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm. Free event.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Ballyclare Victoria Flute (2.30-3.30pm) and Killyglen Accordion (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

2.00pm & 3.30pm sessions • SATURDAY 24TH JUNE

WILD IN THE PARK: BIG BUGS!

See some seriously big bugs like giant snails, stick insects and tarantulas as 'Rep-tails' bring their exotic creatures to the park.

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking advisable. Please note: not suitable for children under 5 years of age. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 25TH JUNE

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Magheramore Silver (2.30-3.30pm) and Kellswater Flute (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

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2.00pm - 5.00pm ● THURSDAY 29TH JUNE

JUMP IN MUDDY PUDDLES DAY!

Did you know today was international mud day? Get your favourite wellies on and join us for some puddle splashing and mud cake making! Bring your mum, dad, grandparents, brothers and sisters along for some messy fun - JUST REMEMBER TO BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHES!

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

JULY 2017

1.00pm - 5.00pm ● SATURDAY 1ST JULY

TEDDY BEARS' BIG DAY OUT

Why not bring along your Teddy with a picnic to **the park for our Teddys' Picnic!** Mr Hullabaloo will be in the park with shows at 2.15pm and 3.30pm. (Free event) Then after you have had your picnic there will a Teddy trail hunt to see if you can find the Famous Teddies! Then bring your answers to the Visitor Centre to get a prize. Facetastic will also be joining the fun with some unique teddy bear tattoos. (*Charges apply*) You may even spot Bubbles the Carnfunnock Bear as you walk around the park having lots of teddy fun!

Price: £2.50 per activity sheet or buy 3 or more for 20% discount.

2.30pm - 4.30pm ● SUNDAY 2ND JULY

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from East Antrim Seniors Accordion (2.30-3.30pm) and 3rd Carrick Silver (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

10.00am - 3.00pm ● TUESDAY 4TH - FRIDAY 7TH JULY

NOTICE NATURE SUMMER SCHEME

Are your kids aged 8 to 11 years old? Would they like to be real nature rangers? Discover the wild side of Carnfunnock by taking part in various fun nature based activities.

The Notice Nature Summer Scheme will run for 4 days at a cost of £28.00 for the 4 day session. All those attending must wear appropriate clothing and footwear and bring a packed lunch. Maximum 16 participants. Application forms are available from Carnfunnock Country Park with places allocated on a first come first served basis. Booking is essential as places are limited. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm ● SATURDAY 8TH JULY

WILD IN THE PARK: FARMYARD FUN

Say hello to the animals from Ark Open Farm while they visit Carnfunnock Country Park. **Spring may be over but you'll still have the chance to see rabbits, chicks,**

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guinea pigs, goats and maybe even a donkey. Free event. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 9TH JULY

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Killyglen Accordion (2.30-4.30pm). Free event.

LOVE PARKS WEEK (FRIDAY 14TH JULY - SUNDAY 23RD JULY)

2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 16TH JULY

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Dummigans Accordion (2.30-4.30pm). Free event.

2.00pm • **MONDAY** 17TH JULY

ART IN THE PARK: FAIRY DOOR CREATION These small, magical and mystical doors can be found commonly at the bottom of trees but also on some household skirting. (Several have appeared in the Park!!) Some can even have a small space which can be filled with notes, wishes and gifts for the fairies. Come along and make your very own fairy door and see if you can attract fairies into your home or garden!

Price: £2.25 per child. Maximum 20 children. Suitable for children age 5+. Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00pm - 4.30pm • TUESDAY 18TH JULY

WILD IN THE PARK: MAGICAL OWLS

Join the 'Owl Man' Don Scott as he brings his unique owls to Carnfunnock to celebrate Love Parks Week. Take the opportunity to get up close and personal to a selection of owls from around the world including the World's Largest Owl, the European Eagle Owl and the Great Grey owl from Lapland.

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00noon - 5.00pm • WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY

DRAGON TRAIL

Collect your dragon map from the Visitor Centre and go on your quest to find hidden clues around the grounds of Carnfunnock. The most correct answers will be entered into a draw to win the treasure within the dragons nest. Will you have the luck of Falkor, strength of Saphira, wisdom of Draco or wit of Mushu to find all the **clues? On your walkabout you may even collide with Carnfunnock's very own mystical magical dragon Malfoy!**

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Price: £2.50 per activity sheet. Wear appropriate clothing. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

1.00pm - 5.00pm • **THURSDAY 20TH JULY**

ART IN THE PARK: MAKE YOUR OWN DRAGONFLY (Drop in Activity)

Do you think you could make your own dragonfly? Why not come along to this drop in session any time between 2pm and 5pm to showcase your own unique dragonfly making skills using various craft materials to celebrate upcoming Dragonfly Week (23rd - 31st July)!

Price: £2.25 per child. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is advisable. Suitable for children age 5+. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

11.00am - 4.00pm • **FRIDAY 21ST JULY**

ART IN THE PARK: CRAFTY KIDS

11.00 am - Make your own soap that you can take home and use. (Please note that these will have to be collected later that afternoon.)

12.30pm - Paint your own ceramic Frog Plant Pot to take home.

2.00pm - Design and make your own necklace, bracelet or ear rings.

Kids can either do just 1 or 2 events for £2.25 each or all 3 for £6. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking essential as max 12 kids per session. Suitable for children age 8+. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

1.00pm - 5.00pm • **SATURDAY 22ND JULY**

WILD IN THE PARK: FALCONS AND FRIENDS

Join the Northern Ireland School of Falconry and see majestic birds of prey, including falcons and owls, in both static and dynamic flying displays. Put names and faces to those mysterious flying creatures that go screech and t'whit t'who in the night! Flying displays, with educational commentary, will take place at 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm. Free event.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • **SUNDAY 23RD JULY**

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from East Antrim Juniors Accordion (2.30-3.30pm) and Ballyclare Victoria Flute (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

2.00pm or 3.30pm sessions • **SATURDAY 29TH JULY**

WILD IN THE PARK: SLITHERING SNAKES

Now's your chance to get up close and personal with some of Carnfunnock's slithery friends. Learn all about snakes, snake identification, different types of snakes, big snakes like anacondas and pythons, venomous and poisonous snakes like King Cobra, copperheads, coral snakes, rattlesnakes, corn snakes and more.

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking advisable. Please note: not suitable for children under 5

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years of age. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

SUNDAY 30TH JULY

7.00am • THE SUNRISE RUN

Organised by East Coast Athletic Club, in memory of their highly respected club member - Patrick 'Paddy' Campbell, the Sunrise Run is a 5k race/run (including walk) starting and finishing in Dixon Hall, Drains Bay with the main route around Carnfunnock Country Park. Registration will be taken on the day from 5:30am and will close at 6:45am SHARP so please arrive early. The 5k is open to everyone, so come along and run, walk or jog 5k and enjoy some breakfast afterwards! All proceeds will go to the Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke charity. Further details are available at www.eastcoastathleticclub.co.uk or ring Justin Maxwell on 07739 960393.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Ormeau Concert (2.30-3.30pm) and CWA Brass (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

AUGUST 2017

WEDNESDAY 2ND AUGUST (NATIONAL PLAY DAY)

12.00noon - 3.00pm • PLAY AT THE PARK - GATHERING DRUM CIRCLE

To celebrate, Playday - the National Day for Play - come to Carnfunnock and take part in a Drum Circle! **Join facilitator Joe from 'The Gathering Drum' to play 'in the moment' and put your beating and rhythm skills to the test in Carnfunnock's outdoor setting.** No rehearsal required just fun for all the family playing hand drums and percussion in a circle of people!

Free event. Maximum 35 people per session - each session lasts 25 mins approx. First come first served! Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • CARNFUNNOCK FUNKY SPORTS DAY

Come along to Carnfunnock Country Park to celebrate National Children's Day and take part in our funky sports day for kids of all ages. There will be different age categories (4 - 7 years, 8 - 11 years and 12 years +) we will have all sorts of fun games and races to take part in, including spud & spoon race, sack race, 3 legged race, wheelbarrow race, welly boot throw competition, dribbling competition, limbo competition and much more!

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. (Sports Day subject to weather and ground conditions.) Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00pm - 4.30pm • FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST

WILD IN THE PARK: INTERNATIONAL OWL AWARENESS DAY

Join the 'Owl Man' Don Scott as he brings his unique owls to Carnfunnock to celebrate international Owl Awareness day. Take the opportunity to get up close

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and personal to a selection of owls from around the world including the World's Largest Owl, the European Eagle Owl and the Great Grey owl from Lapland. Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

ALL DAY • SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST

BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT

Take part in this year's Butterfly Conservation Big Butterfly Count. Pick up your identification sheet at the Visitor Centre and take a walk around some of Carnfunnock's hot spots for seeing butterflies. All the results will then be sent back to Butterfly Conservation for them to record.

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from 1st Larne Old Boys Silver (2.30-3.30pm) and Dummigans Accordion (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

1.00pm or 3.00pm sessions • SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST

SECRET AGENT TRAINING CAMP!

Do you have a naturally curious child or frustrated spy at home?? Then why not bring them to our secret agent training camp at Carnfunnock! They will receive some essential pre-training to fulfil a special mission. Expect to get a special secret agent name, secret coding, target practice and lots more fun!

Price: £5.00 per child. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is essential. Suitable for children age 6+. Maximum 20 children per session. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 13TH AUGUST

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from East Antrim Seniors Accordion (2.30-3.30pm) and 3rd Carrick Silver (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

10.00am to 12.00noon • FROM MONDAY 14TH AUGUST TO FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

CHILDREN'S CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Unleash your inner author at Carnfunnock this summer with storyteller Vicky McFarland, from idea to print in just five days. Children will learn the skills of plotting, character and setting development, drafting, editing and redrafting before having their stories published and presenting them at an end of course book launch.

Price: £25.00 per child. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is essential. Suitable for children age 8-12 years. Maximum 12 children per session. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

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11.00am - 5.00pm • SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST

PHOTOGRAPHIC TREASURE HUNT

It's World Photo Day so time to get out and look at Carnfunnock from some wacky angles to find the answers to these clues in this special treasure hunt! All correct answers will be entered into a draw to win a special prize.

Price: £2.00 per treasure hunt. Wear appropriate clothing. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

Don't forget - since it is World Photo Day we'd love to see any park photographs published with the hastag #carnfunnock on our Facebook page or online!

2.30pm - 4.30pm • SUNDAY 20TH AUGUST

BAND CONCERT

Our summer programme of band concerts continues within the Walled Garden amphitheatre with performances from Ballyduff Silver (2.30-3.30pm) and Magheramorne Silver (3.30-4.30pm). Free event.

8.00pm • FRIDAY 25TH AUGUST

BAT NIGHT

It's European Bat Weekend so let Ricki Ayre of the NI Bat Group introduce you to some of Northern Ireland's cutest and fluffiest mammals - BATS! Learn about their fascinating lives before venturing outside into the grounds of Carnfunnock armed with torches and bat detectors, to seek out these flying wonders zipping overhead (weather permitting).

Price: £4.25 adult, £3.75 Child/Concession inc. Light refreshments. Booking essential. Wear appropriate clothing / footwear and bring torches. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Suitable for age 7+years only. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00pm - 2.30pm • SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST

TEDDY BEARS' PARTY TIME

- 12.00pm - 2.00pm disco and games
- 2.00pm - 2.30pm Teddy Bear Competition

Bring your favourite teddy for a fun filled afternoon of dancing, competitions and **much, much more!** **You'll be able to dance away in our Teddy Bear Disco and you'll even get a chance to meet Bubbles, the BIG bear who puts the 'fun' in Carnfunnock!** Competition categories include: biggest; smallest; most unusual; best dressed; fluffiest, cuddliest and most loved. Children are encouraged to bring **along their teddies for our in house "teddy" doctor to give them the once over and make sure they're feeling great.**

Price: £3.50 per child. Booking is essential as numbers limited (Max. 100 children). Ticket only - payment required in advance. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact:

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Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471. Facetastic will also be joining the fun with some unique teddy bear tattoos. (*Charges apply*)

SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • BAND CONCERT SEASON FINALE

Our summer programme of band concerts reaches its finale today. We have a special 3 hour event for your delight. East Antrim Seniors Accordion (2.00-3.00pm), 3rd Carrick Silver (3.00-4.00pm) and Killyglen Accordion (4.00-5.00pm) end the season in style for us. Free event.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • PARTY ANIMAL TIME!

Come and say hello to the wonderful Party Animals N.I. and their Mobile Micro Zoo while they visit Carnfunnock. For the perfect end of summer day out, why not get **a cuddle from “Big Daddy” or pluck up the courage to hold “Monster”**. From creepy crawlies to fluffy critters there may even be a scaly friend or two. Lollipop the Teenage (Mutant Samurai) Meerkat will be making appearances and if the weather **is good you may even get to meet “Efue”, the 13.5Kg Tortoise**. Free event.

2.15pm or 3.30pm shows • MR HULLABALLOO PUPPET THEATRE

Be utterly amazed at the antics of Mr Hullabaloo and his interactive theatre. Mr Hullabaloo will entertain all the family with two spring-themed shows in the amphitheatre of our magnificent Walled Garden. Free event.

MONDAY 28TH AUGUST (BANK HOLIDAY)

Please note: A fixed parking charge applies on entry to the park on bank holiday periods.

1.00pm - 5.00pm • WILD IN THE PARK: FALCONS AND FRIENDS

Join the Northern Ireland School of Falconry and see majestic birds of prey, including falcons and owls, in both static and dynamic flying displays. Put names and faces to those mysterious flying creatures that go screech and t'whit t'whoo in the night! Flying displays, with educational commentary, will take place at 2.00pm, 3.00pm and 4.30pm. Free event.

SEPTEMBER 2017

12.30pm or 2.00pm • SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

INCREDIBLE EXPERIMENTS FOR CURIOUS KIDS

Join in the fun with some slime making and exploding fountains, you might even get the chance to make volcanos with lava!

Price: £2.25 per child. Maximum 12 children per session. Suitable for children age 5+. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear as you may get a bit wet! Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

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2.30pm ● SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER

ART IN THE PARK: CLAY CREATIONS

Ever fancied making your own plant pot or **vase or..... well, anything! Why not join us and give it a try using special air drying clay.**

Price: £5.00 per child. Maximum 12 children per session. Suitable for children age 5+. Wear appropriate clothing. Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm ● SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

CARNFUNNOCK HISTORY HIKE

Join local historian, Dr. David Hume for a guided tour of Carnfunnock Country Park. Learn all about the buildings still here for all to see and the historical links to the Chaine family and Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon.

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Booking advisable due to restricted numbers. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm ● SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

FEED OUR BIRDS

Why not join staff and learn to make your own bird feeder using pine cones and yogurt pots or other natural materials. Hang them up in the Park and watch to see what birds will come along!

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm ● SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER (LOW TIDE 2.30pm)

BEACH CLEAN UP (Low Tide 2.30pm)

Join Park staff as they undertake a clean-up and litter survey of the shoreline in **Carnfunnock Bay and Tweed's Port** as part of Great British Clean Up week. **We'll** provide the litter picks, bin bags and gloves - all you need to bring is you! Meet at Carnfunnock Visitor Centre.

Free event but booking advisable. Light refreshments afterwards. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm ● SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

ART IN THE PARK: CONE PUPPET CREATION

Join Park staff and make card cone puppets by decorating them with wiggle-eyes and painting them to take home.

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Price: £2.25 per child. Maximum 12 children per session. Suitable for children age 5+. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear as you may get a bit wet! Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm • SATURDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

ART IN THE PARK: KIDS AUTUMN CRAFTS

Use leaves, pine cones, paint and your imagination to make autumn crafts that you can take home.

Price: £2.25 per child. Maximum 12 children per session. Suitable for children age 5+. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear as you may get a bit wet! Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

11.00am-5.00pm • GO NUTS MAZE HUNT

Are you clever enough to find our **native wildlife within the Maze? It's Red Squirrel Week** so in honour of our cuddly friends take part in a fun maze hunt to discover all you can about them! All successful finders will get a special prize!

Price: £2.50 per activity sheet or buy 3 or more for 20% discount.

BONKERS ABOUT CONKER'S CHAMPIONSHIP (Event subject to conker crop)

Are you bonkers about conkers and think you have what it takes to become this **year's Carnfunnock Conker Champion? Then come along and participate in our regular competition** with categories for children and adults alike.

Free event. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

10.00am - 2.00pm • SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

BUILD A DEN WORKSHOP

Join the Northern Ireland Survival School and learn to build your own shelter/den using branches, leaves and natural materials from within the Park.

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear as this is an outdoor hands on activity. Booking is essential as numbers are limited. (Maximum 20 participants.) All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

OCTOBER 2017

2.00pm & 3.30pm sessions • SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER (GRANDPARENTS DAY)

WILD IN THE PARK: MAGICAL MAMMALS!

It's World Animal Day on 4th October so join Debbie Doolittle as she introduces **some of Northern Ireland's most magical mammals. With special guest appearances** from Mrs. Fox and her friends, spend the afternoon with Debbie as she teaches all about these mammals and how you can help them.

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Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking is advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm & 3.30pm sessions • SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER

WILD IN THE PARK: CRAZY CREATURES

It's Biology Week (7th-15th October) so to celebrate the diversity of life on our planet come along and enjoy 'Rep-Tails' amazing collection of special creatures from reptiles to snakes to bugs!

Price: £2.75 per adult, £2.25 per child/concession. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking advisable. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please note: not suitable for children under 5 years of age. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.30pm • SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER

FUNGAL FORAY

It's UK Fungus Day so head out and about with members of the NI Fungus Group on a guided walk around the grounds of Carnfunnock. They will point out and talk about the various species of fungi growing in the Park. Please note the amount of fungi found is dependent on weather conditions.

Free event. Booking is advisable as places are limited. Wear suitable clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

2.30pm • SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER

SEED GATHERING DAY

Many plants and trees that you see in Carnfunnock are surprisingly easy to grow. Why not join our staff on a walk around the Park to collect various nuts, seeds and berries and find out how to plant them so that you can take them home to grow!

Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

10.30am & 12.00 noon • SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER

DIY HAPPY HEDGEHOG HOMES

It's national mammal week (23RD 29th October) and we all know everyone needs somewhere to live! So why not join Carnfunnock staff, to create hedgehog homes and encourage these night time creatures to visit your garden and enjoy somewhere safe to sleep and relax over the winter months.

Price: £5.00 per home to cover materials. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Booking essential as places limited, max 10 units. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

11.00am - 4.00pm • SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER

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SCAVENGER HUNT

Come to the Visitor Centre and get a scavenger Hunt sheet then head out into the Park and see if you can find all the items on the list and put them into your bag and bring them back to the Visitor Centre to get your prize. Free event. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

12.00 noon • SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER

LEARN TO FACE PAINT HALLOWEEN WORKSHOP

Attention all adults! Halloween is only a week or so away and we all know that the **ghosts and ghouls need some help to get ready. If you're in need of inspiration, to make your little monsters more menacing then come along to face painting training with our resident face painters, Facetastic.**

Price: £10.00 per adult. Places are limited so booking essential. All adults must be accompanied by a child model aged 5+, who is not allergic / sensitive to face paints. To book contact Brenda at Facetastic on 07801 893449.

7.00pm onwards • FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER

KID'S MONSTER MILE / ADULTS 5K MONSTER DASH

Organised by East Coast Athletic Club, the kids 'Monster Mile' will start at 7pm and the Monster Dash 5k will start at 8pm.

Registration for both events will be in the Games Field and opens at 5.00pm, closing 15 minutes before the start time. There will be ghoulishly good prizes for the best Halloween costume for both adults and juniors and autumnal post-race refreshments including toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate for all competitors!

Further details including entry fees and online registration are available at www.eastcoastathleticclub.co.uk or ring Justin Maxwell on 07739 960393.

1.00pm - 5.00pm • SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER

Enter another world this Hallowe'en at Carnfunnock Country Park. Prepare to see strange sights and the magical inhabitants as they prepare for all the spooky festivities on Saturday 28 October.

FREE. Car Parking within Carnfunnock Country Park will be pre-ticketed on a first come first served basis. Entry to the car parks will be for ticket holders only. Tickets cost £5.00 each.

12.30pm & 2.00pm sessions • SUNDAY 29TH OCTOBER

INCREDIBLE EXPERIMENTS FOR CURIOUS KIDS

Join in the fun with some slime making and exploding fountains, you might even get the chance to make volcanos with lava!

Price: £2.25 per child. Maximum 12 children per session. Suitable for children age 5+. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear as you may get a bit wet! Booking is essential. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471.

2.00pm - 5.00pm • TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER

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SPOOKY CREATURES

Join Party Animals NI, as they bring along a display of spooky creatures - see how brave you are with some of our favourite Halloween friends! Free event. Max 40 per session.

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2017

SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER TIL SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER

NATIONAL TREE WEEK

Local schools and interested parties will once again be invited to plant native tree and shrub species in Carnfunnock during National Tree Week. If you are interesting in bringing a group along, please contact Carnfunnock Country Park on 028 2826 2471. Free event.

REGULAR EVENTS

9.30am • **EVERY SATURDAY**

PARKRUN

Larne Parkrun is a FREE weekly 5km event for runners of all standards, which takes place in Carnfunnock Country Park starting from Drains Bay. **It's** not a race against other runners, but a timed run and it can really be whatever you want it to be, whether that's a jog for fun or run as part of a training plan. Taking part is easy - just register before your first ever Parkrun. For further information go to www.parkrun.org.uk/larne/