

Seven

## by Julie Magee

THE Royal Court Lincoln, who published Hotel, Portrush, the book, flew over provided setting for the the event on Wednesday (April 26) launch of North which was officially Coast Writers' hosted by Causeway second Anthology u3a. Spun Tales and Woven Words.' Guest speaker Steve Impspired

the from England to attend In this Anthology, a wide variety of writers from all along the

Guest speaker Steve Cawte, the Editor of Ballykelly to Press, Ballycastle, delighted

'spin their tales' and 'weave their words' in then, their own individual face-to-face and more voices, as the title recently on Zoom, the group has been going suggests. from

Fourteen of the 17 contributors, who were strength. able to attend, read a proved to be so talented, prolific and piece of their work to enthusiastic an enthusiastic that, last audience. North Coast Writers year, the publication of met for the first time on an Annual Anthology

Wednesday, January 9, was suggested. 2019, in Agherton Church

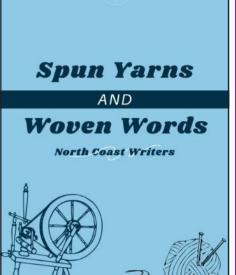
group members have Meeting weekly since already been published initially and six more are in the planning stages. second This

Anthology is for sale at No 6 Queen Street, strength to Coleraine and can also be purchased online The writers involved from Amazon. Portstewart

grandmother Mary Farrell, who edited 'Spun Tales and Woven Words,' said: "The individual Group wishes to thank Hall, Collections written by everyone in the North May 22 2024.

Coast community for their continued encouragement and assistance. In particular, Causeway

u3a are a constant source of support. "It is especially encouraging that the Group are already collating pieces for their Third Anthology to be published on May 19 next year, with another Launch at the Royal Court Hotel on



The book cover



Steve Cawte, and Mary Farrell, with the Second Anthology of North Coast Writers, Spun Tales and Woven Words. WK19-



Contributors with Mary Farrell pictured during the launch of the Second Anthology of North Coast Writers, Spun Tales and Woven Words held at the Royal Court Hotel. WK19-20TM

## 'Ahoy there' – return of Rathlin Sound Maritime Festival

some

or

2024.

so

Ballycastle

weather conditions,

visitors

are

The

nautical-themed

RATHLIN Sound Maritime donated to the University by Harry Festival is set to make a splash when it returns from May 26th -June 4th, with 10 days of exciting seafaring fun to look forward to.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council is working with Ballycastle Community Development Group and Rathlin Development and Community Association to bring you this hugely popular celebration, with a packed programme of activities on both dry land and at sea, inspired by the Rathlin Sound - the body of water between Rathlin Island and the mainland in Ballycastle.

talks, cookery demonstrations and lots of artisan produce at the Naturally North Coast and Glens Market, all of which celebrate the area's rich local history, culture, music and food.

Wes Forsythe from Ulster University will be presenting the Madill Archive Project, which is focused on traditional boats from around the Ulster Coast and beyond.

An archive of line drawings, photographs, interviews and reports Madill, a retired engineer from Portstewart

There will also be a demonstration of traditional coracle boat building by Valkyrie Crafts, exhibition of Old-Style Rope making by Traditional Rope Makers NI and Songs, Stories and Recitations of the Antrim Coast from Colin Urwin.

Colin Urwin. In addition, thanks to Causeway Coast Maritime Heritage Group, you'll forward to seeing get to see traditional fishing boats like drontheims and currachs take to the water, including the Colmcille, one of the largest vessels of its type in fun!" Northern Ireland.

In other programme highlights, look programme will be Visitors can look forward to live out for the blessing of the boats, music performances, dance displays, traditional rope making, maritime festival's website have-a- go activities, crafts, walks, themed children's crafts, colourful kite soon so please visit display, sand sculpture demonstration and a children's sandcastle competition for the latest updates on Ballycastle Beach.

Looking ahead to the festival, Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Ivor Wallace, said: "Rathlin Sound Maritime Festival is a celebration of Ballycastle and Rathlin Island's shared nautical heritage and serves as a fantastic showcase of the area's unrivalled tourism offering. "This popular festival first began 10

years ago and has become one of advised to follow the Festival's calendar, being enjoyed by thousands of visitors over the past decade.

highlights of our Borough's events Facebook (@RathlinSound MaritimeFestival) and

(@RathlinSoundMF) channels for up-to-date the most Twitter announcements.



Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, Councillor Ivor Wallace with Riley Morris and Maia Kinney, Head Boy and Head Girl of Ballycastle Integrated PS, at the launch of Rathlin Sound Maritime Festival 2023.