

# Musician hits the high notes

A SESSION musician who has played with some of the biggest names in Irish popular music realised his dreams today when he graduated from the University of Ulster.

Linley Hamilton, who has jammed with the likes of Van Morrison, received a Postgraduate Diploma in Cultural Management.

Through the course, the trumpet player learned the necessary skills to set up his Music Making Workshop which tours Northern Ireland bringing music into

the lives of young people.

Mr Hamilton explained his motivation.

"Like other session musicians, I find there is not enough work in Ireland to provide constant employment. I wanted to do something when the touring dried up and the workshop seemed a good idea.

"The course at the University of Ulster was very impressive. I learned how to bid for funding, how to set up a business with its own mission statement and vision and how to market it.

Mr Hamilton explained how young people benefit from the workshop.

"We show them what the real world of music is all about. We have all performed at the sharp end of the industry and can pass on our experience."

Course director at UU, John Thompson, said the diploma course, which can lead to an MA, is aimed at people working in the cultural and arts sector and provides them with the skills required to develop sustainable cultural organisations.