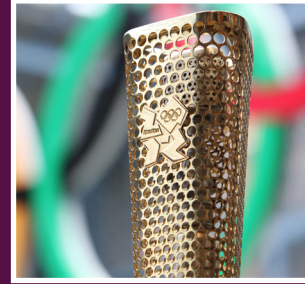




We go on patrol with the local neighbourhood police on Halloween night  
see pages 4-5



Olympic flame to come to district in build-up to 2012  
- see back page



## LADY GAGA'S SURPRISE TOWN VISIT

### Pop icon rehearses stand-out EMA performance at Iveagh Movie Studios

by MICHAEL SCOTT

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BANBRIDGE went Gaga after one of pop music's brightest stars rolled into town to rehearse for the biggest music event Northern Ireland has ever seen.

Lady Gaga and her entourage paid a surprise visit to the Iveagh Movie Studios on Friday to rehearse for the MTV EMAs, held on Sunday in the Odyssey Arena.

Details of the rehearsals are being kept secret by the cinema's management but Iveagh Movie Studios manager Giles Conlon said it was an honour to host the music icon.

He said, "We are very pleased to have been chosen to provide our facility to such a massive act and working with them was an amazing experience. The theatre was booked by The Linen Mill Film and Television Studios who were handling Gaga's location sourcing among other things while in the province.

"Despite being booked several weeks in advance the practice event was kept very secret to avoid any unnecessary security issues."

Giles said local people became suspicious early on Friday but he was able to keep things under wraps.

"Throughout Friday we were starting to get curious members of the public asking questions about the fancy coaches and trucks in our car park, and as the day went on trying to explain the monstrous music pulsat-

ing from Screen One became more and more difficult, but our main priority on the day was to play down anything that was going on to avoid any gathering of fans.

"Early on Friday morning the MTV crew began unloading the equipment for the performance into Screen One of the cinema before the band arrived to practice in the early evening. They stayed in Banbridge until shortly after 8pm."

Born Stefani Germanotta, Lady Gaga scooped four awards at the EMAs, which were being held in Belfast for the first time, including Best Female, Best Song and Best Video for Born This Way. She also won a Best Fan award - an honour for her supporters, who she calls "Little Monsters".

And as well as several costume changes she also performed her new single, Marry The Night, which saw her sing on top of a moon in her typical flamboyant style, surrounded by flames, before coming down to join her dancers on the stage during what was one of the highlights of the evening.

The show was watched by an estimated 1.6 billion people across the world.

Meanwhile Rumours that Lady Gaga called into see Fred Elliott and Joe Quail about a new dress for the awards ceremony appear to be unfounded.

Gaga ooh lala! Popstar Lady Gaga (left) paid a surprise visit to the Iveagh Movie Studios in Banbridge on Friday evening to rehearse for her performance at the MTV EMAs, which were held at the Odyssey Arena on Sunday evening. She is pictured here with some of the four awards she won at the ceremony.

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