

PEACE IV CROSSBORDER HERITAGE PROJECT



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council

Heritage Weekend Donegal

3rd & 4th August 2019

This was the first Heritage Weekend event to take place in Donegal on the 3rd & 4th August 2019.

Our host on the 3 August 2019 was Donegal GAP Heritage and History Group who organised a walk in the footsteps of the Spanish Armada to remember the 1300 crew who lost their lives in 1588 when the Spanish ships, the la Duquesa Santa Ana & La Girona sank off Loughros More Peninsula.



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Donegal Heritage Weekend



About the Programme



www.eurolink-eu.net

heather@eurolink-eu.net

[+\(44\) 02885549606](tel:+353904000000)



Stage 1 of the walk: Seskinmore/Kiltoorish to Sandfield (approx. 4.5km)
Stage 2 of the walk: Roechrow Road to Killybegs (approx 12.5km)

Participants from Mid Ulster and Donegal Heritage Forum joined members of the public to take part in the walk.

The walk ended at Killybegs harbour led by living history Spanish soldiers who had provided a Medieval Historical 16th century encampment in Ardara during the weekend.

A minutes silence was held at St. Catherine's Well Complex & Armada memorial stone to remember the 1300 who lost their lives at sea.



Donegal Castle, Donegal

On the 4 August 2019 the Heritage group had a tour of Donegal Castle which was the stronghold of the O'Donnell clan, Lords of Tír Conaill and one of the most powerful Gaelic families in Ireland from the 5th to the 16th centuries. On the 4 August 2019 the Heritage group had a tour of Donegal Castle which was the stronghold of the O'Donnell clan, Lords of Tír Conaill and one of the most powerful Gaelic families in Ireland from the 5th to the 16th centuries.



Medieval Village, Ballyshannon

The group then visited a Medieval Village at Ballyshannon hosted by the McGinley Clan. The medieval village took place in the playing fields of the Holy Family Primary School, Ballyshannon and included information stands, Local arts basket weaver, potter, Medieval weapons, Classical/Celtic harpist, display of medieval animals and stocks.



About the programme

The purpose of the programme is the provision of the research, management and facilitation of a bespoke programme that will engage and develop sustained linkages through shared heritage between Mid Ulster District Council and Donegal County Council and groups within these areas.

The shared heritage will focus on The O'Neill and clans of Ancient Ulster with significance for Mid Ulster and Donegal. The programme presents an opportunity for joint working between both Councils and local interest groups. The programme is not only focused on bringing people together from across the border but also people from different community and religious backgrounds; with the aim of seeking to make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society and developing sustainable cross border contacts.

This project is supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). The timeline for the delivery of the Programme is to commence June 2018 and complete May 2020.

Activities

1. Research into heritage of the O'Neill and clans
2. Development of a booklet and interactive app
3. Facilitation/ connection of local interest groups in Mid Ulster & Donegal
4. Heritage Weekends: 2 in Mid Ulster 2 in Donegal
5. Study Visits and workshops: 3 Mid Ulster Visits 3 Donegal Visits

Participants

Donegal History Forum Members

Ardara GAP Heritage + History Group
 Ballybofey and Stranorlat historical society
 The Colgan Heritage Group
 Cineal Eoghain Inishowen
 Cooley Cross Heritage Group
 Craoibhin an Tearmann (Termon)
 Culdaff and Cloncha Heritage Group
 Donegal GAP Heritage and History Group
 Donegal Heritage
 Fahan Heritage Group
 Lands of Eogain Group
 Leitir Corn Mill, Kilcar
 Kilcar Heritage Committee Coiste Oidhreachta Chill
 CharthaMcGinley Clan of Donegal
 Newtowncunningham & District Historical Society
 Oireas
 Rathmullan Historical Society
 Raymochy Historical Society
 Sliabh Sneacht Centre
 Ulster Local History Trust (UHT) Donegal Historical Society
 West Inishowen Historical Society

Mid Ulster History Forum Members

Aughnacloy and Truagh
 Ancient Clan O'Neill
 Broughderg Groups/ cookstown
 Cinéal Eoghain
 Caledon Regeneration Project
 Clans of Ulster
 Clogher Historical Society
 Donaghmore History Group
 Desertcreate Church of Ireland
 Eglis Historical Society
 Killeshial and Clonanesse
 O'Neil Country Historical Society
 Stewartstown and District Local History Society

The programme is open to all groups that have an interest in participating throughout the duration of the Peace IV Cross Border Heritage Programme between Mid Ulster District Council and Donegal County Council

The aim of engaging groups of interest in both areas is to identify O'Neill and Ancient Clans heritage linkages, gather local information and knowledge and develop sustained community linkages between Donegal and Mid Ulster.

