

FACING THE PAST – SHAPING THE FUTURE

OUR SHARED HISTORY

Thurs 9th Feb – Friday 10th Feb 2017

As part of Causeway Coast and Glens Good Relations programme, I would like to invite individuals to participate in an overnight study visit exploring some of the events that have shaped and influenced our shared history.

This project is aimed at those who work in local communities in the Causeway Coast and Glens area to challenge people from different community backgrounds on perceptions and perspectives on how history has impacted on communities today.

The project involves 2 days study visit (overnight residential) to places that are of historical importance and that remember events that have resulted in a history of commemorations.

The programme will involve a visit to The Somme Heritage Centre in Newtownards, Tour of Kilmainham Gaol and tour of Glasnevin Cemetery and Museum in Dublin.

Programme essentials

There is no cost to participate on the programme. However, if you wish to participate, you are required to share a twin room with another participant. **(Please do not apply to participate if you are not willing to share)**. Where possible we will try to accommodate sharing with someone you are familiar with.

All travel, accommodation, entrance fees and meals will be provided. Please tell us if you have any special dietary requirements when submitting your application.

Please be aware that there is a lot of walking / standing as part of each tour.

There will be one pick up / drop off point in Coleraine. You are required to make your own way to the pick-up point and will not be reimbursed for your travel to this point. Car parking is available at the marina car park.

Places are limited and depending on interest we may limit the number of people per organisation being offered a place.

A place will only be reserved for you when you receive a confirmation email that you have been allocated a place on the programme.

A draft itinerary is provided although may be subject to change!

Setting the scene

Somme Heritage Centre

The Battle of the Somme, also known as the Somme Offensive, took place during the First World War between 1 July and 18 November 1916 on either side of the river Somme in France.

The battle saw the British Army, supported by contingents from British imperial territories, including Australia, New Zealand, Newfoundland, Canada, India and South Africa, mount a joint offensive with the French Army against the German Army, which had occupied large areas of France since its invasion of the country in August 1914.

The Battle of the Somme was one of the largest battles of the war; by the time fighting paused in late autumn 1916, the forces involved had suffered more than 1 million casualties, making it one of the bloodiest military operations ever recorded.

Kilmainham Gaol

A guided Tour of the former prison, now a museum where many leaders of Irish rebellions were imprisoned and some executed in the prison by the British and latterly in 1923 by the Irish Free State.

When the Gaol was first built in 1796, public hangings took place at the front of the Gaol. There was no segregation of prisoners; men, women and children were incarcerated up to 5 in each cell. Kilmainham Gaol was decommissioned as a prison by the Irish Free State government in 1924.

Glasnevin Cemetery

This historical tour gives a valuable insight into this unique Victorian burial place and into the final resting place of the men and women who have helped shape Ireland's past and present. Glasnevin Museum is the world's first cemetery museum.

The cemetery itself contains historically notable monuments and the graves of many of Ireland's most prominent national figures. These include the graves of Daniel O'Connell, Charles Stewart Parnell, Michael Collins, Éamon de Valera, Arthur Griffith, Maude Gonne, Kevin Barry, Roger Casement, Constance Markievicz, Pádraig Ó Domhnaill, Seán MacBride, Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, Frank Duff, Brendan Behan, Christy Brown and Luke Kelly of the Dubliners.

On this tour you will encounter key historical figures from Daniel O'Connell, to Charles Stewart Parnell and Michael Collins. The Ulster Covenant, The First World War, The Easter Rising and The War of Independence have all been pivotal events in Ireland's history. From Royal Engineers and Irish Guardsmen to Irish Volunteers and political Statesmen, the tour seeks to explore the lives of people who were actively engaged in these historic events.

Draft Itinerary

Date	Time	Activity	Location
Thurs 09 Feb	8.30am	Assemble for bus	Cloonavin - Coleraine
	11.00am	Tour	Somme Heritage Centre
	12.30	Lunch	
	1.15pm	Depart for Dublin	
	3.45pm	Arrive Dublin	
	4.00 pm	Tour	Kilmainham Gaol
	6.00pm	Check in to hotel and free time	Hotel
	7.00pm	Dinner	Hotel
	8.30pm	Group session	Hotel
	9.30pm	Free time	Hotel
Fri 10 Feb	8.30am	Breakfast	Hotel
	10.15am	Check out	
	10.30am	Board bus	
	11.00am	Tour	Glasnevin Cemetery
	1pm	Depart Glasnevin	Bus
	1.45pm	Break for lunch	
	2.30pm	Depart for Coleraine	Bus
	4.45pm	Arrive Coleraine	

Places are limited and therefore if you wish to participate you should return the attached application form ASAP

Closing date for applications is Friday 20th January at 12 noon.

This programme is funded by Causeway Coast and Glens Good Relations Programme which receives financial support from the Executive Office's District Council Good Relations Programme.

