

# HERITAGE WEEK County Sligo

## EVENT GUIDE 22 - 30 AUGUST 2009

### Heritage Week in County Sligo

Every year millions of Europeans visit historical monuments and sites throughout Europe on European Heritage Days. These are a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union in which over forty countries participate each year.

In Ireland we celebrate European Heritage Days with a full week of events throughout Heritage Week. Heritage Week is co-ordinated by the Heritage Council with support from the Department of Environment, Heritage, Local Authority Heritage Officers and Fáilte Ireland. The main aim of Heritage Week is to foster awareness of our built, natural and cultural heritage thereby encouraging its conservation and preservation.

Contained in this brochure is a selection of events taking place for 'Heritage Week' in County Sligo. Participants are advised to confirm details of events in advance and a contact person has been identified for each of the events listed. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor events. In addition to the events listed, remember that County Sligo has many more heritage sites and museums/heritage centres that are open during Heritage Week so there should be something to suit everyone! For the most up to date list of Heritage Week events in County Sligo log on to: [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie)

### County Sligo Heritage Office

Established in 1999 by Sligo County Council, the County Sligo Heritage Office is committed to providing high quality advice on all matters relating to heritage. Central to the work of the Heritage Office is the promotion of interest, knowledge and pride in the heritage of County Sligo, and in so doing, increasing awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of the County's heritage for all. This is achieved through:

- Continued support for the County Sligo Heritage Forum
- The actions of the County Sligo Heritage Plan 2007-2011
- Collecting information
- Promoting best practice in heritage conservation and management
- Raising awareness and education
- Promoting partnership and participation
- Supporting integration and inclusion of heritage policy across all sectors

If you would like more information about Sligo's built, cultural or natural heritage, contact:

Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer, Heritage Office, Sligo County Council, Riverside, Sligo.

T: 071-9111 226 / F: 071 91 41119 / E: [heritage@sligococo.ie](mailto:heritage@sligococo.ie)

### A Series of Heritage Talks in Enniscrone

- Date & Time** Saturday 22nd August 10.00am - 1pm.  
**Venue** Diamond Coast Hotel, Enniscrone, Co. Sligo.  
**Details** Series of talks on the archaeology, historic buildings, geology and ecology of the area.  
**Contact** Enniscrone Community Development & Connacht Archaeological Services.  
T: 096 36746 or email: [info@connarch.ie](mailto:info@connarch.ie)

### IWDG Whale Watch Ireland 2009

- Date & Time** Sunday 23rd August 2pm - 5pm.  
**Venue** Mullaghmore Head (Layby), Sligo.  
**Details** IWDG Guided land based Whale Watch at Mullaghmore Head, Sligo.  
**Contact** Watch Leader Fiona Farrell T: 087-9542145 or see [www.iwdg.ie](http://www.iwdg.ie)

### Field Outing to O'Dowd Country

- Date & Time** Sunday 23rd August 2.15pm - 5pm.  
**Venue** Meet at Corballa R.C. Church carpark, Corballa, Co. Sligo.  
**Details** A visit through the history and historical sites of Easky, Kilglass, Rathlee, Lackan and Castleconnor.  
**Contact** Pat O'Brien, Sligo Field Club. T: 087-1304843 or email: [peobrien@gmail.com](mailto:peobrien@gmail.com)

### Music Event at Sligo Abbey

- Date & Time** Sunday 23rd August 3pm.  
**Venue** Sligo Abbey, Abbey St., Sligo.  
**Details** Music event. Music by Tucon.  
**Contact** John Torsney, Head Guide, Sligo Abbey.  
T: 071-91 46406

### Guided Tour of Coopershill House

- Date & Time** Tuesday 25th August 12pm - 4pm.  
**Venue** Coopershill House, Riverstown, Sligo.  
**Details** A guided tour of one of Ireland's finest Country House Hotels. Built in 1774. Architect Francis Bindon.  
**Contact** Simon O'Hara. T: 071-91 65108

### Bridges of County Sligo Preserving the Past for the Future

- Date & Time** Tuesday 25th August 8.15pm - 10pm.  
**Venue** Lecture Theatre A0004, IT Sligo, Ballinode, Sligo.  
**Details** Gary Salter, Chartered Engineer, Sligo County Council, will be giving a presentation entitled "Bridges of County Sligo, Preserving the past for the future." Lots of photographs relating to public road bridges that predate 1900 and the work involved in maintaining them.  
**Contact** Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer, Sligo County Council  
T: 071-9111 226 or email: [heritage@sligococo.ie](mailto:heritage@sligococo.ie)

## Visit Sligo Folk Park - Open Day

- Date & Time** Wednesday 26th August 10am - 5pm.
- Venue** Sligo Folk Park, Riverstown, Sligo.
- Details** Enjoy a visit to Sligo Folk Park free of charge. Discover the village street, Millview House and much more.
- Contact** Martin Mandrew, T: 071-91 65001 or email: sligofolkpark@eircom.net
- 

## Hazelwood House The Estate as part of the life of Sligo

- Date & Time** Wednesday 26th August 8.15pm – 10pm
- Venue** Sligo Education Centre, IT Sligo Campus, Ballinode, Sligo
- Details** A talk on Hazelwood Estate by Wendy Lyons.
- Contact** Beatrice McDonald. T: 071-91 45334
- 

## Bat Talk and Walk - Sligo

- Date & Time** Thursday 27th August 7pm - 10pm.
- Venue** Lecture Theatre A0004, IT Sligo, Ballinode, Sligo followed by a Bat Walk at Hazelwood, Co. Sligo.
- Details** A bat talk and walk in the company of Dr. Caroline Sheil. Please bring a torch.
- Contact** Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer, Sligo County Council.  
T: 071-9111 226 or email: heritage@sligococo.ie
- 

## Demonstration of Genealogical Research Techniques

- Date & Time** Friday 28th August at 11am and 2.30pm.
- Venue** County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Centre, Aras Reddan, Temple St., Sligo.
- Details** A demonstration of genealogical research techniques including using computer databases and the internet, reading records on microfilm, scanning old photographs, maps and family tree design.
- Contact** Adrian Regan, Manager, County Sligo Heritage and Genealogy Centre.  
T: 071-9143728 or email: info@sligoroots.com
- 

## Constance Markievicz - Lecture

- Date & Time** Friday 28th August 8.15pm - 10pm.
- Venue** Sligo Education Centre, IT Sligo Campus, Ballinode, Sligo.
- Details** Constance Markievicz - a lecture by Anne Haverty.
- Contact** Pat O'Brien, Sligo Field Club.  
T: 087-1304843 or email: peobrien@gmail.com
- 

## Demonstration of Genealogical Research Techniques

- Date & Time** Thursday 27th August at 11am and 2.30pm.
- Venue** County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Centre, Aras Reddan, Temple St., Sligo.
- Details** A demonstration of genealogical research techniques including using computer databases and the internet, reading records on microfilm, scanning old photographs, maps and family tree design.
- Contact** Adrian Regan, Manager, County Sligo Heritage and Genealogy Centre.  
T: 071-9143728 or email: info@sligoroots.com
- 

## Nature Detectives Afternoon at Hazelwood

- Date & Time** Thursday 27th August at 2.30pm (duration 2hrs).
- Venue** Meet at car park at Half Moon Bay, Hazelwood, Sligo.
- Details** A Nature Detectives workshop suitable for families and particularly 7-12 year olds. Activities will include Mini Beast Hunting, Tree Trail Challenge, Bird Spotting and Nature Art Gallery. Children must be accompanied by an adult. All equipment supplied. Facilitated by Martina Butler and Michael Bell.
- Places limited - Booking Essential.
- Contact** Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer, Sligo County Council  
T: 071-9111 226 or email: heritage@sligococo.ie
- 

## A Brief Tour of Temple House

- Date & Time** Thursday 27th August 2pm – 4pm. Adm €5
- Venue** Temple House, Ballinacarrow, Ballymote, Co. Sligo.
- Details** A brief tour of Temple House and a chat about its history and place in today's Ireland.
- Contact** Roderick Perceval. T: 071-91 83329 or email: enquiry@templehouse.ie
- 

## Guided Walk of Hazelwood

- Date & Time** Saturday 29th August at 3pm.
- Venue** Meet at car park at Half Moon Bay, Hazelwood, Sligo.
- Details** A guided walk of Hazelwood exploring the flora, fauna and history of the woodlands. Led by Beatrice McDonald and Paul Allen.
- Contact** Beatrice McDonald, T: 071-91 45334
- 

## Heritage Open Day at Annaghmore School House

- Date & Time** Sunday 30th August 10pm - 4pm.
- Venue** The Schoolhouse, Annaghmore, Co. Sligo.
- Details** Self guided tour of Irish Landmark Trust restored self catering property.
- Contact** Louise Wogan T: 01-6704733 or email: bookings@irishlandmark.com
-

## Comhar Cumann Bheann Fhada

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	Sunday 30th August 2pm - 4pm.
<b>Venue</b>	Banada Peace Gardens, Banada, Tourlestrane, Sligo.
<b>Details</b>	Seo turas treoirithe i ngairdini John Hume agus an choill. Ta cuid mhaith stair ag baint le seo.
<b>Contact</b>	Sean McEoin, Banada Development Agency T: 071-91 81562

## Dolly's Cottage - Open Day

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	Sunday 30th August 2pm - 5pm
<b>Venue</b>	Dolly's Cottage, Larass, Strandhill, Sligo. Free admission - donations welcome.
<b>Details</b>	Traditional music and storytelling in 200-year old thatched cottage. Join us by the fire with a cup of tea and a sample of traditional food.
<b>Contact</b>	Karen McCullagh, Strandhill ICA. T: 087-9177274

## A Field Outing to the Parish of Calry

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	Sunday 30th August 2.15pm - 5pm.
<b>Venue</b>	Meet at Calry RC Church carpark, Colgagh, Calry, Sligo.
<b>Details</b>	Field outing to some of the megaliths, cashels and early Christian sites of Calry. Led by Jim Foran.
<b>Contact</b>	Pat O'Brien, Sligo Field Club. T: 087-1304843 or email: peobrien@gmail.com

## Close up with Eagles

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	22 - 30 August inclusive 2.30pm - 4.30pm.
<b>Venue</b>	Eagles Flying / Irish Raptor Research Centre, Ballymote, Sligo. Admission Adult €9, child €5.50, family and group rates available.
<b>Details</b>	Get close-up with different types of birds of prey. Feel them flying over your head. Hold them on your bare hand, touch their plumage. Ireland's largest centre for birds of prey and owls offers unique experiences.
<b>Contact</b>	Lothar F. Muschketat, Eagles Flying. T: 087 - 2110538, or email: eaglesflying@utvinternet.com

## The Moylough Belt Shrine Exhibition Museum of Country Life, Turlough, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

The Moylough Belt Shrine, found in a bog in Sligo in 1945, contains a leather belt that was a relic associated with an unknown early saint. The belts or girdles of saints were regarded as potent relics having miraculous properties, and they were believed to be particularly effective in relation to problems of childbirth. Small tomb-shaped shrines were used as containers for the bones of saints, and the remains of a number of such shrines are displayed, along with two relatively complete examples found in the River Shannon and in Lough Erne. The Moylough Belt Shrine was found in Moylough, Co. Sligo by local man John Towey when he was cutting turf. The belt consists of four hinged sections made of bronze that contain fragments of a leather belt. The Shrine was decorated with silver, glass and enamel. The Moylough Belt Shrine dates from the eighth century and is one of the greatest treasures of medieval Ireland.

There are records of belt shrines in medieval Ireland which were used for oath swearing and curing illness. The Moylough Belt Shrine is the only known surviving example of a belt shrine in Ireland.

An exhibition of the Moylough Belt Shrine was opened in the Museum of Country Life, Turlough, Castlebar, Co. Mayo on the 26th June, 2008.

For further details contact Bernie Byron. T: +353 (94) 903 1773

## Landscape, Rocks and Fossils The Geological Heritage of County Sligo

Sligo County Council is hoping to meet the demand for its recently published book on the geological heritage of County Sligo following its recent coverage on RTE's Nationwide programme.

Cathaoirleach Councillor Gerry Murray, who also serves as Chairman of the Sligo Heritage Forum, welcomed the focus on Sligo's heritage and geology generated by the programme. 'This publication is a significant contribution towards valuing and understanding Sligo's landscapes and geological heritage.'

The project is a collaboration between the Geological Survey of Ireland, the Sligo Heritage Forum, The Heritage Council and Sligo County Council. The ground work for the project began in 2003, when Sligo County Council with the Heritage Forum and The Heritage Council, commissioned the Geological Survey of Ireland to undertake an audit of geological heritage sites in County Sligo. 'Landscapes, Rocks and Fossils - The Geological Heritage of Sligo' brings the main findings of that report to a wider audience. The initial audit was undertaken by Dr. Matthew Parkes and Claire McAteer. Their expertise and enthusiasm have revealed for the people of Sligo the secrets of a lesser known aspect of our beautiful county - its landscape and geology.

'Landscapes, Rocks and Fossils - The Geological Heritage of County Sligo' is available from the Heritage Office, Sligo County Council. To order a copy please contact Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer, Sligo County Council at Tel: 071-9111226 or email: heritage@sligococo.ie .



Heritage Week 2009 in Sligo is coordinated by the Heritage Office, Sligo County Council in partnership with the local community. Heritage Week is coordinated nationally by the Heritage Council. [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie)