



Programme Tours

1. Birth of Irish Presbyterianism
(Ballycarr, Carrickfergus and the scenic Sixmillwater Valley)

2. North Down and Ards
(Holywood, Bangor, Groomsport, Donaghadee and Grayabey)

3. Derry and Donegal
(Derry City, Monreagh and Ramelton)

Fascinating history, breath-taking scenery,
stunning locations ...
revisit the home of
your ancestors

BOOKING FORM

I would like to reserve _____ places at the *Return to the Cradle of Irish Presbyterianism* event.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Spouse/Travelling Partner's Name _____

The rates below are per person based on two people sharing a twin/double room. If you wish to room alone, there is a single room supplement of £180. The six night's accommodation begin on the night of 15 September with check-out on the morning of 21 September 2013.

FULL RATE £850 UK pounds (*\$1,365/\$1,335(CAN)/€1,054)
(For those who wish to take part in all aspects of the event, including the genealogical research days at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.)

NON-RESIDENTIAL £610 UK pounds (*\$979/\$955(CAN)/€805)
(For those who wish to take part in all aspects of the event, but will make their own accommodation arrangements. Non-residential participants will be expected to make their own way to the designated starting place each day.)

NON-RESEARCH £775 UK pounds (*\$1,244/\$1,215(CAN)/€960)
(For those who wish to take part in the event with the exception of the genealogical research days; ideal for travelling companions of full rate participants.)

SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT – I require single room accommodation. (Single Room Supplement Fee £180). Please charge the additional amount to my credit card or find payment enclosed.

ROOM SHARING – Alternatively if you are interested in sharing a room please tick this box. While efforts will be made to source room-sharing partners, participants should note this may not always be possible.

£ _____ **Total Amount Payable** (all booking fees plus any supplements). *Note all charges are made in UK pounds, dollar and Euro amounts are given for comparison only.

Payment (return with payment to address below) _____

Cheque Make payable to Ulster Historical Foundation. If in a currency other than UK pounds sterling, please add an additional \$7.50 (or equivalent) to cover the cost of conversion.
Expiry Date _____ Check Digits _____

Credit Card Please debit my American Express/Diners Club/Visa/Mastercard.
Date _____ Amount £ _____

Signature _____

Use code
'Presbyterian400'
for £20/\$30 off

Return to: Ulster Historical Foundation, 49 Malone Road, Belfast, BT9 6RY Tel: +44(0)28 9066 1988
E-mail: enquiry@uhf.org.uk www.ancestryireland.com

Return to the Cradle of
Irish Presbyterianism
16–21 September
2013



An Irish Family History Event With A Difference
www.ancestryireland.com/irish-presbyterianism

MAIN PROGRAMME

Return to the Cradle of Irish Presbyterianism is a family history event with a difference.

2013 is a very important year for Irish Presbyterianism. It is the 400th anniversary of the arrival from Scotland of Rev. Edward Brice, the first Presbyterian minister to settle in Ireland. Over six days you will discover the history of Ulster first-hand through excursions to some of the province's most historic sites, be assisted to carry out research for yourself, and listen to talks by acknowledged experts in their field.

The programme for the week includes a mix of lectures, research sessions, and outings to places of historical interest.

Day 1: Monday, 16th September

Welcome and introductions; talks on the history of Presbyterianism; registration at PRONI

Day 2: Tuesday, 17th September

Research at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland; evening visit to Sentry Hill

Day 3: Wednesday, 18th September

Outing to Carrickfergus, Ballycarry and the Sixmilewater Valley, as well as a visit to Kellswater Reformed Presbyterian Church

Day 4: Thursday, 19th September

Further opportunity to carry out research at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

Day 5: Friday, 20th September

Outing to North Down and the Ards with visits to Holywood, Bangor, Groomsport, Donaghadee, Ballywalter, Greyabbey and Newtownards

Day 6: Saturday, 21st September

Outing to Derry and Donegal with visits to the city of Derry, Monreagh and Ramelton

Research at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI)

On Days 2 and 4 participants will have the opportunity to carry out research into their family history at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI). In PRONI, Belfast has one of the best – possibly even the best – regional archives in the UK. Here there are centuries of records relating to the families of Ulster.

In March 2011 PRONI reopened after its move to new premises in Titanic Quarter, Belfast. The new building is spacious and welcoming. The search room and reading rooms have many more spaces for researchers than was the case in the previous building. There is also an auditorium for public lectures and an exhibition area.

No previous knowledge of research techniques or sources is necessary. The Foundation's experienced team of researchers will be on hand to assist participants to carry out their research. The great majority of the sources you will be using to research your ancestors will be found at PRONI.

More information on sources at PRONI and guidance on researching Presbyterian ancestors can be found on our website at: www.ancestryireland.com/irish-presbyterianism

Note: while the theme of this event focusses on Presbyterian history, participants researching ancestors of other faiths are welcome



TOURS

Outing 1: The Birth of Irish Presbyterianism

On this day we will visit the locations that mark the birthplace of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. These include Ballycarry, Carrickfergus and the scenic Sixmilewater Valley.

At Ballycarry we will learn about Rev. Edward Brice, considered the first Scots Presbyterian minister in Ireland, who settled here in 1613 and preached in the now-ruined church of Templecorran.

We will also be visiting St Nicholas' Church in Carrickfergus, the only parish church in the north of Ireland which retains substantial elements of its medieval fabric. In 1642 a group of Scottish army chaplains met in Carrickfergus. This is regarded as the inaugural Irish presbytery meeting, from which, in a formal sense, today's Presbyterian Church in Ireland descends.

We will then visit the beautiful Sixmilewater Valley, the scene of a major religious revival in the 1620s that had a major impact not only on this district, but across much of Ulster. Finally we will visit the picturesquely situated Kellswater Reformed Presbyterian (Covenant) meeting house.

Outing 2: Presbyterianism in North Down and the Ards

On this day we will visit North Down and the Ards, an area that boasts the Presbyterian heritage with compelling stories, fascinating characters and great locations. Places we will be visiting include: Holywood – where a former priory was used as a church by the settlers and where the Solemn League and Covenant was signed in 1644 and Bangor where Rev. Robert Blair was minister.

We will also be visiting Groomsport, a fishing port from where the *Eagle Wing* set sail for America in 1636, and Donaghadee, the main entry port for settlers arriving from Ulster in the 1600s. At Greyabbey we will see the magnificent ruins of a Cistercian abbey which were used as a church by the settlers in the early 1600s, and we will also visit Newtownards, the home of Sir Hugh Montgomery and the scene of his 'state funeral' in 1636.

Outing 3: Presbyterianism in Derry and Donegal

Our final day's outing will be to the north-west of Ireland and sites of interest in Derry and Donegal. For centuries Derry has been an important ecclesiastical site. Its famous walls were completed in 1618 and it is still possible to walk their full circumference. The present First Derry meeting house was built c. 1780 and was recently refurbished. The former Blue Coat School behind the meeting house has been renovated as a visitor centre that tells the story of the many ways in which Presbyterians contributed to the development of Derry over the last four centuries.

The Monreagh Heritage Centre is housed in a former Presbyterian manse and is located in the heart of the Laggan, a district in the east of County Donegal that has been shaped by waves of migration. The exhibition tells the story of the area, the history of Presbyterianism in the region, and the links that exist between east Donegal and the wider world.

The Old Meeting-House in Ramelton is believed to date from the late 1600s and is said to have been the Presbyterian church in which Francis Makemie worshipped as a child. He would go on to become a minister in America, where he died in 1708, and is regarded as the father of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.



GUIDES AND SPEAKERS

We have lined up a range of different speakers who will bring their knowledge and enthusiasm for their respective subjects to the programme. We hope that these lectures will provide participants with a greater understanding of Irish Presbyterianism and will be a basis for further learning during the week.

Valerie Adams (Librarian, Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland)
Subject: Sources for studying Presbyterian ancestors

Dr Robert Armstrong (Associate Professor of History, Trinity College Dublin)
Subject: Ulster Presbyterianism's first historians

Dr Allan Blackstock (Reader in History, University of Ulster)
Subject: First Presbyterian Church, Belfast, and the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church

Robert Campbell (Twelve Stones Media)
Subjects: The Sixmilewater Valley and early Irish Presbyterianism and Francis Makemie

Dr Bruce Durie (Genealogist, Author, Broadcaster, Lecturer)
Subjects: Tracking Back – Scottish records of the 1600s and Scots-Irish DNA – Is there a reliable way of determining ancestry from DNA?

Dr Patrick Fitzgerald (Lecturer/Dev. Officer, Mellon Centre for Migration Studies)
Subject: Presbyterian emigration from Ireland

Dr Andrew Holmes (Lecturer in History, Queen's University Belfast)
Subject: Presbyterianism in its transatlantic context

Professor Laurence Kirkpatrick (Union Theological College)
Subject: The history of Irish Presbyterianism

Dr Brian Lambkin (Director, Mellon Centre for Migration Studies)
Subject: Presbyterian emigrant experiences

Brian Mitchell (Genealogist, Derry City Council)
Brian will be joining us when we visit the city of Derry

Rev. Dr John Nelson (Ballycarry Old Presbyterian Congregation)
Subject: Rev. Edward Brice (d. 1636) of Ballycarry

Dr William Roulston (Research Director, Ulster Historical Foundation)
Subject: The Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland (also available to assist with research at PRONI)

Mark Thompson (former Chair, Ulster-Scots Agency)

Subject: Early Presbyterianism in North Down and the Ards

Dr Brian Trainor (retired Research Director, Ulster Historical Foundation)
Dr Trainor will be available to assist people trace their ancestors as he shares his experience of 60+ years in the archives



ACCOMMODATION

Participants will be staying at Corr's Corner Hotel Antrim, located just 15 minutes from Belfast, and will be provided with six nights' accommodation (checking in on the afternoon/evening of 15 September and checking out on the morning of 21 September). Additional nights either before or after the family history event can be arranged.

Corr's Corner is definitely a hotel that is full of warmth and character. Located where the suburbs of Newtownabbey meet the County Antrim countryside, the hotel boasts high quality accommodation. Each of the bedrooms at Corr's Corner Hotel is exquisitely decorated and tastefully furnished to the highest standards, persuading guests to come back time after time.

The standard rooms are modern, bright and spacious to provide a true feeling of calm and relaxation, equipped with satellite TV and radio; direct dial telephone; high-power shower; hairdryer; executive work station; tea and coffee making facilities and complimentary wifi access.

What's nearby?

Less than a mile from Corr's Corner Hotel is one of the jewels in Northern Ireland's tourism crown – Sentry Hill, a perfectly preserved Victorian farmhouse which we will be visiting on the evening of Day 2. This was the home of the McKinnays and their descendants from the late eighteenth century to the late twentieth century. It is now in the care of Newtownabbey Borough Council.



OTHER INFORMATION

FULL RATE: For those who wish to take part in all aspects of the family history event, including the genealogical research days at PRONI. The rate includes: 6 nights bed & breakfast, 5 evening meals, 6 lunches; transport during the event; talks and tours; entrance fees; research assistance by professional genealogists.

NON RESIDENTIAL: For those who wish to take part in all aspects of the family history event, but will make their own accommodation arrangements. Non-residential participants will be expected to make their own way to the designated starting place each day. This rate includes: 5 evening meals; 6 lunches; transport during the event; talks and tours; entrance fees; research assistance by professional genealogists.

NON RESEARCH: For those who wish to take part in the event with the exception of the genealogical research days; ideal for travelling companions of full rate participants. This rate includes: 6 nights bed & breakfast; 5 evening meals; 4 lunches; transport during the event; talks and tours; entrance fees.

ROOM SHARING: If you are travelling alone and are willing to share accommodation we will endeavour, if possible, to room you with a same-sex participant. If it is

not possible to do this or you would prefer a room of your own, there is a single room supplement (a straight fee to the hotel) of £180. If you have expressed a willingness to share a room and this is not possible, advance notice will be given should you wish to make alternative accommodation arrangements.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS & MOBILITY ISSUES: Delegates with any special dietary needs or mobility problems should advise us of their requirements on registering so that adequate provisions can be made.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: If you wish to cancel your booking before 30 June 2013 you are entitled to a 90% refund. Cancel after 1 July and before 23 August and you are entitled to a 60% refund. Any received after 23 August will be entitled to a 20% refund. Cancellations received due to medical conditions will be treated as sympathetically as possible.

PAYMENT METHOD: We use PayPal to securely process registration payments. Note: you do not have to have a PayPal account to pay via PayPal. Payment can be made in installments via the Foundation's online booking form. Cheques are also accepted.