

THE RING WALK

Cushendun



"The Big Ring"

Cushendun and District Development Association

"Promoting the People & Environment of the Cushendun Area"

Cushendun Caves



used as a location for filming

THE GAME OF THRONES

THE RING WALK

Start at the Public Car Park in front of Glenmona House



Glenmona House

Built 1834 for General Lord O'Neill. Passed through Michael Harrison to Mc Neill family. Ronald Mc Neill, Baron Cushendun, lived there part time and died there 1934.

Burnt down in 1922 by IRA. Rebuilt in 1924. Sold to the National Trust in 1953. Leased to a Health Authority and became a home for elderly gentlemen. Later used as a day centre until 2000's.

Presently run by Glenmona House Trust and the National Trust as a community venue.

- 1. Leave car park and turn left following the road around the Hurling Field*

Strand House

When Cushendun became a parish, the White family, who were the landowners built the Strand House as a residence for the new parish priest.

Later it became, for a time, the residence of the Church of Ireland rector.



It was sold to the National Trust in 1953. Vacant at present.

2. Turn left onto Glendun Road and follow the road through Mill Town.



(The road to the Right (Torr Road) leads to Castle Cara; Rockport Lodge; Shane O'Neill's Cairn)

3. On your RIGHT at the junction with Torr Road

Cushendun House



This was located in the field opposite the caravan park and was the oldest Mc Neill residence.

Burnt down accidentally in 1928 and never rebuilt.

Grounds and ruins believed by some to be haunted by Edmund (Long Eddy) Mc Neill.

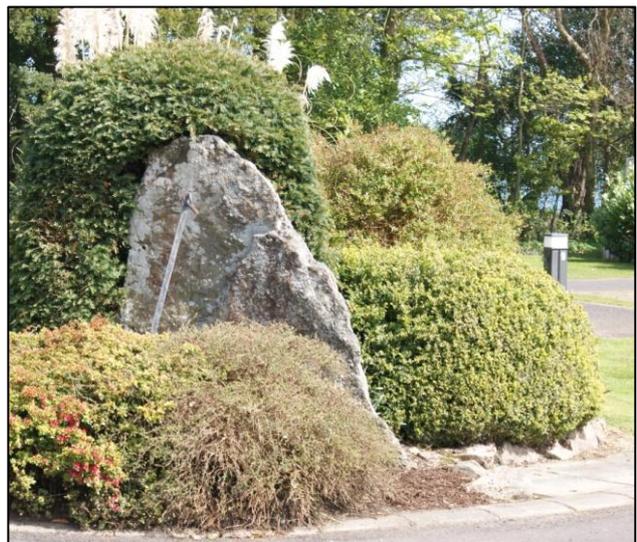
4. In the entrance to the Caravan Site on the left

The Standing Stone

Situated in entrance of Caravan Park grounds is one of several in the area.

Reputed to be over 6,000 years old.

Several ideas as to origins and uses of these standing stones.



5. Just past the Caravan site down a private lane

Glendun Lodge – Private Property



The 2nd building built by General O'Neill, after Rockport Lodge. Miss Ada Mc Neill, a cousin of Ronald Baron Cushendun lived in the house.

She was involved in the promotion of the Celtic revival and a founder member of the "Glens

Feis". She spent a great deal of time in Italy - a supporter of Mussolini. Died in 1959, aged 98.

Glendun Lodge was bought by the "English" family in 1959.

The Englishes -not connected to the McNeills, but related to the Whites of Broughshane.

House still in the English family possession. Damaged by fire in 1979 and restored.

6. Continue along Glendun Road, past junction with Knocknacarry Avenue

Mickey's Corner

James Laverty blacksmith lived and worked here. His son Michael continued to live here and gave the junction the name 'Mickey's Corner'.



Barrmean



Delargy's house (left hand side) was once owned by a carpenter who made coffins

St Patrick's Church, Craigagh – The Chapel

The present church stands, reputedly, on a Pre-Reformation site.

The original wooden church fell into disrepair and outdoor Mass 'Stations' were used.

Between 1804 -14 a church was built on the site.



The benevolent landlords (Whites of Broughshane) donated land and money to rebuild the church.

Work was completed in 1840 and Cushendun was created a parish in 1848. The church was renovated in 1944 and underwent a full restoration in 2010.

The Fuldiew Stone

In Craigagh Graveyard about 30 feet from the West/ Altar wall of the Chapel.

(Pamphlets telling the Fuldiew story in the Chapel).



The Gloonan Stone *(opposite the Chapel)*



The Gloonan Stone, a knee stone (at farm house entrance, opposite the Chapel) known also as St Patrick's well.

Various opinions as to its historic uses: links to St Patrick and the belief that water cures warts; ancient baptismal font; used to grind corn.

7. *Continue along Glendun Road*

The Mass Rock / Old Altar

(View on edge of Craigagh Wood – townland of Innispollen)

After the Chapel at Craigagh fell into disrepair, Mass was celebrated here probably for centuries, including during Penal Times.

This was one of various Mass Stations in the area.

There is an annual religious procession to the Mass Rock.



Craigagh Wood



Planted in the early 1840s by the landowners, the Whites of Broughshane.

Prior to this there were a number of 'Booley' houses (*Used, in the past, by local shepherds during the summer*).

Tom Mc Kernan of Kinune in Glendun moved his Smithy here in the 1830s when the Coast Road and Viaduct were being built.

8. Turn left onto Clady Road (if you continue straight on the Glendun Road leads to the Viaduct)

Sharkey's Mill

One of several scutch mills in the Cushendun area -no longer here.

The remains of two mill workers cottages are still near where the mill wheel was.



The water powered mill wheel was removed to Carnlough.

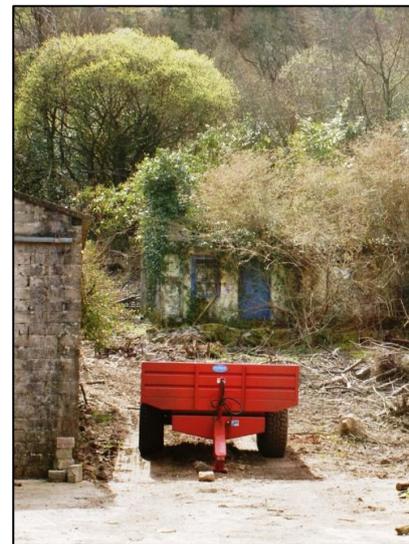


Photo of Old Mill Workers' houses (with permission)

Dunouragan

A clachan, which in the 19th and early 20th century boasted a clockmaker, a shop and a youth hostel.

Mc Cormick's homestead was one the earliest schools in the district.



Mc Peake's house was previously the property of Hyndmans who were nailers –sold to the Mc Gavock family in 1920s and rented by a Glenravel shoemaker in 1929.

Then purchased by Murray family and after that the Mc Peake family (present owners).

The Turn



(As it was in the past)



(Today)

There is little sign now of the old clachan that was here in the 1800s. On the Cushendun side there was a shoemaker and a blacksmith.

On the Cushendall side stood Mc Kay's Public House and Inn dating back to the beginning of the 18th century.

The single storey house at side was the 'brochan house' or soup kitchen built in 1846 to give famine relief (little needed in the Glens). The pub closed in the 1970s.

Dromore Cottage

On the Cushendall side of the Turn.

Dromore Cottage (once a school house- Turnley's School) was rented to the famous American poet Robinson Jeffers in 1929.



9. Turn left onto Knocknacarry Road

Straid



In the 19th century an area of local industry having a wheelwright, a bakery, a blacksmith and a shop.

Present home of Mc Neill family was the workplace of Willie Whiteford – a tailor.

Cloneymore

Now a B & B -(Mc Cormick' s) previously a shop (McNeills) and a Parochial House.



Cloney



Built by 1797, original owners had a tannery until 1838.

Then owned by Mc Keegans, until 1896, when it was purchased by Mc Sparrans (present owners).

Knocknacarry



Once had a police station, two shops, a smithy, a butcher's shop, a post office and a school.

10. Carry on along Knocknacarry Road, (Bear to the Right on leaving the village.)

Denis McKay's house

This has been a R.I.C. police station, with possibly one cell. Then changed to a Hotel known as Morrisons.

Later became Parochial House during the 1940s and 50s. The barn at the back used as an Oratory.



Presently a private residence.

11. Pass "Cave House Lane" (leading to The Caves; Cave House). Then walk across the bridge.

Cave House Lane

This leads to the Caves, formed millions of years ago, made of old red sandstone rock.

Recently gained international fame as one of the locations for **The Game of Thrones**.

The Cave House is beyond the caves – built by Crommelins between 1826 & 1832. This is Private property



Banks's Brae



So called as the Banks family lived here. The older house to the left belonged to McNeill's who had a bakery and a shop.

Sleans Ruined Church (over looking Cushendun)

Originally this was a Congregational Church. Inscription on gable wall, reads:

“Orthodox Congregational Meeting House 1833”.

Thought to have been built by the Crommelins. Tradition was employment in mill depended on attendance in Church.

It did not survive for very long. No record of ministers. It is now private property.



12. Pass Strandview, (which leads to the Cushendun Hotel and The Apartments)

The Apartments, replaced "The Bay Hotel" (built in 1936), in 1998. "The Glendun Hotel" (now vacant). "The Cushendun Hotel" (built in 1926). Previously the land housed Crommelins scutch mill, a ropeworks, a starch factory and warehouses.

Goat Sculpture



The sculptress was Deborah Brown, whose family lived in Belfast. They had a holiday house in Cushendun.

Another of Deborah's works (a shepherd and sheep) may be viewed at the Waterfront Hall.

The plaque reads "Sculptured by Deborah Brown and presented by her to the people of Cushendun. August 2002. A goat was the last animal to be culled in the foot and mouth outbreak in Spring 2001".

Cushendun Bridge



Built in 1860 to replace a wooden structure that was situated upstream at the bend. In a severe flood of 1903 the Southern arch failed and collapsed just after a local resident had crossed, repaired the following year.

No foundation in the modern sense. The bedrock being over 80 ft down.....

.....The site was excavated, a huge bed of “Tow” (A waste product of Flax processing) was laid and the bridge was built on this.

The deck of the bridge was refurbished in the 1980’s and again the deck was replaced in 2010. A footpath was created on both sides of the road. This was because the previous arrangement of a footpath on the Eastern side only, meant that the weight of heavy vehicles was being placed off centre, causing the structure to subside.

Cushendun Village

Sold by Ronald Mc Neill’s family to the National Trust in 1954.

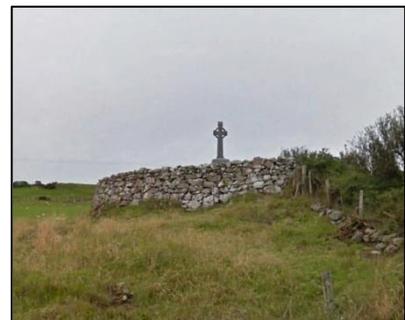


Old Church of Ireland



*(see CDDA Pamphlet
**‘A Walk Through
Cushendun 2015’**
for more details about
Cushendun Village
and
The Old Church)*

13. Walk along Warren and view the Old Church (left) Castle Carra; Rockport Lodge; Shane’s Cairn (At the far end of the beach)



14. FINISH Back at Glenmona Public Car Park

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We hope that you enjoyed your walk
and are happy to receive comments.

Compiled by a sub group of the

Cushendun & District Development Association

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"Promoting Cushendun – The Place and The People"



LOTTERY FUNDED

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