

# Summit to Sea

autumn/winter 2018

issue 1



## Help us secure funding

### up to £3.4m for the local area

The Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme has gained the support of Heritage Lottery, and many other partners, to prepare a five year programme of activities for an area extending from the Bann Estuary to Ballykelly.

Led on behalf of the local community by Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust, the project focuses on the area's outstanding landscape, WWI, WWII, and ancient history, and on improving access to outdoor recreation on land, sea and in the air. This first newsletter includes a welcome from the project Chair - Mr Roy Bailie (OBE), and tells you how you can share your ideas and vision for the area.

The project team will submit a 'second stage' application to Heritage Lottery in November 2019. If successful, there is potential for the community to share in up to £3.4 million for heritage based projects. The decision regarding whether to award funding will be made in London. We need your support to show Heritage Lottery what a huge difference this funding could make!

**Funding raised by  
The National Lottery**

and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



**LOTTERY FUNDED**



**Projects can be large  
or small, a one-off  
event, a long term  
feature, activity or  
change.  
Get in touch!**

**viaduct of old railway, Barmouth, Bann Estuary**

## Let us know your project ideas

If you have an idea for a project in your local area, please contact the project team or your local community representative (details on the back page) by the 7th of December 2018. Projects can be related to our heritage (defence, shared history), natural environment or landscape, or outdoor recreation. Ideally they will have community at their heart.

In early 2019 the team will assist with the development of detailed project plans for viable projects which will be assessed by Heritage Lottery. If successful, projects will begin from Spring 2020.



**Fungi at the Giant's Sconce**

**Martello Tower, Magilligan Point**

## Welcome from our chair

Greetings,

As Chair it's my pleasure to introduce the first newsletter for the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme, supported by Heritage Lottery.

From 'summit to sea' the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands project aims to help local communities unearth, explore and enhance the rich heritage and outdoor recreation potential of the area. Extending from Coleraine to Ballykelly the focus is:

- Defence Heritage
- Natural Heritage
- Outdoor Recreation

The coastal lowlands from Castlerock through Magilligan, Limavady and Ballykelly contain defence heritage sites of international importance, including pioneer radar sites at Castlerock and Downhill to an aerial combat training dome at Limavady Airfield (an early precursor to modern video games). The area has a wealth of heritage features and influences from pre-Christian hillforts to a series of 'base towers' erected to celebrate Ordnance Survey of Ireland - the most detailed mapping exercise ever carried out on earth in the 1830s. Did you know techniques and equipment developed by Colonel Thomas Colby at Magilligan went on to inform the mapping of India by Sir George Everest?

If you think of any habitat in the UK and Ireland, it is likely you will find an example in the Binevenagh area. The project wishes to work with local landowners to help identify how to help maintain farm productivity whilst reducing costs. A goal is to develop an application for the area to be awarded Northern Ireland's first UNESCO Biosphere status and put the area on the international map along with World Heritage Sites and Global Geoparks.

In the area, it is possible to enjoy a gentle stroll on one of the area's fantastic beaches, take part in an intense downhill mountain bike or surfing excursion or soar in a glider above Lough Foyle. Combining outdoor recreation opportunities with the area's natural qualities and highlighting the heritage of the area, the project can ensure visitors pause before traveling the Causeway Coastal Route or Wild Atlantic Way.

Keep in contact,  
Roy Bailie (OBE)



# Spanish Chestnut at Hezlett

## Nominee for tree of the year

In case you missed it, our local tree was in the running! Though we didn't scoop the title this time, we thought you'd like to know.

The charming Hezlett House, at the entrance to Downhill Demesne, was built in 1691. The house is now under the ownership of the National Trust, and its stories – a mixture of fact and legend – are fondly retold by staff and visitors alike. A wonderful Spanish chestnut grows in the grounds and legend has it that during the 1798 uprising against British Rule in Ireland, one of the early inhabitants, Samuel Hezlett (1753 - 1821), was threatened to be hanged from the tree by his half-brother Jack Hezlett for refusing to join the United Irishmen.

It's also said locally that the notorious highwayman Cushy Glen, who operated on the Murder Hole Road – the old coach road between Coleraine and Limavady and now more respectably called the Windyhill Road – was hung from the tree as a deterrent to other criminals, having been shot by a Mr James Hopkins in 1799.

## Apple Blackberry Hazelnut Cake

There are a wealth of blackberries on the bushes, and if you have an apple tree (if not, your local green grocer will have a fresh stock) put them to good use with any number of great recipes. They're a wonderful pairing. Here's a blackberry apple cake from BBC Good Food, with a nutty hint of ground almonds and a sprinkle of hazelnuts on top.

1. Heat oven to 160c/140c fan/gas
2. Butter a 22cm round loose-bottomed cake tin and line with parchment. Beat the butter and caster sugar together in a large bowl until it is light and fluffy.

Gradually pour in and beat the eggs, a little at a time, until you have used two-thirds, adding flour if it curdles.

Fold in the remaining egg, the ground almonds, and finally the flour, and combine everything gently.

3. Add two-thirds of the apples to the cake mixture and all of the blackberries. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin and smooth it out evenly. Scatter the remaining apples over the surface of the cake.

For the topping, sprinkle over the cinnamon, demerara sugar and butter. Bake for 50-55 mins or until a skewer comes out clean.

Remove the cake from the oven and scatter the toasted hazelnuts. When the cake is cool, dust lightly with icing sugar. Serve in slices.

**Apples in Ballycarton Wood,**

## INGREDIENTS

- 125g butter, softened, plus extra for the tin
- 125g caster sugar
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 50g ground almonds
- 100g self-raising flour
- 2 sharp apples, peeled and cored, each cut into 12 segments
- 100g blackberries
- For the topping
- 1 large pinch cinnamon
- 2 tbsp demerara sugar
- 25g butter, cut into small flakes
- 25g peeled and toasted hazelnut, roughly chopped
- Icing sugar for dusting





## Projects on the go ...

Invasive species have been identified by landowners and conservation charities as having a significant negative impact on the natural environment of the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands area. Left unchecked, it is likely that non-native invasive plant species will squeeze out native plants and the bugs and beasts that rely on them for food and shelter. The Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands project has been out surveying the extent of non-native invasive plant species and is working with Aulino Wann Associates to prepare an action plan for their identification and removal from key sites. So far, we have found 23 non-native species in over 420 locations. With the support of the local community it may still be possible to stop the spread of these plants and help our native plants and animals to thrive



## Himalayan balsam taking over a local watercourse



**Magilligan Martello Tower (Aerial Vision NI)**

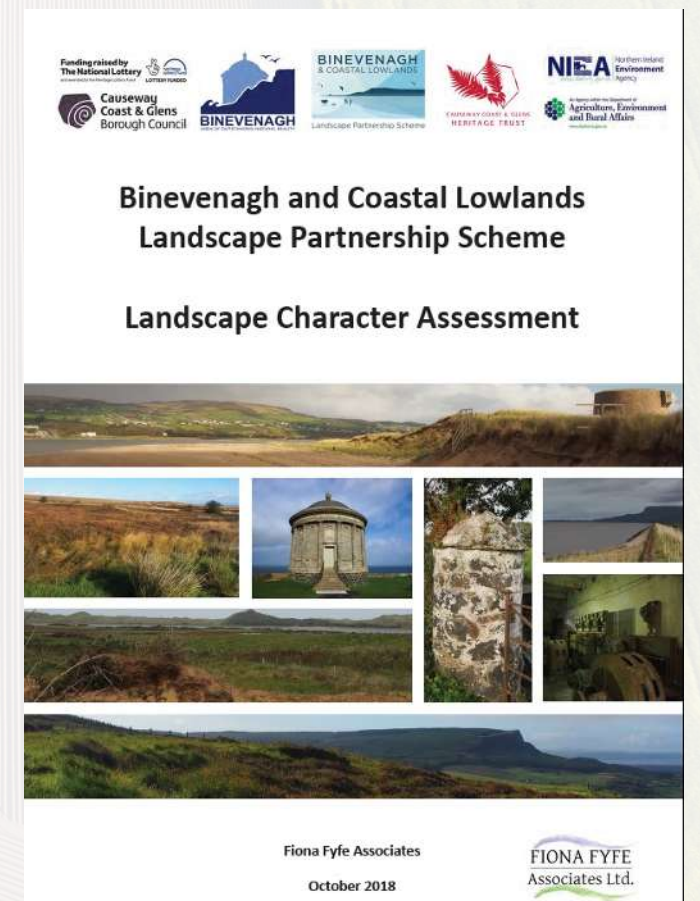


The Martello Tower constructed in 1812 to protect Ireland from Napoleon shares its heritage with similar structures around the UK and Ireland and globally. Plans are in development which could see the tower open on a more permanent basis, with real potential to recreate the gun carriage which was removed during WWII. The project is keen to work with HMP Magilligan and the Department of Communities to progress this project. With your support we could make this a reality



Defence heritage (particularly WWI, WWII and the Cold War) is a unique feature and force for positive change in the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands area. Ulidia Heritage Services has been working with the project team to identify some of the area's most important features and will assist in the preparation of projects which help protect and promote this largely h'idden' heritage. Check out this period graffiti from Coastal Command at Aghanloo Airfield (RAF Limavady). We'd love to give the local community and businesses an opportunity to guide locals and visitors around this wonderful series of sites. From the airfields at Ballykelly and Limavady to the WWII guns defending the entrance to Lough Foyle, there is plenty to explore and share

A key requirement of Heritage Lottery Landscape Partnership Scheme's is the delivery of an independent Landscape Character Assessment of the project area. The project team was pleased to team up with Fiona Fyfe Associates, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council and NIEA to undertake this exercise in early October 2018. The report and associated maps (available on our Facebook page) will be used to monitor the success of our potential delivery phase. Projects submitted to Heritage Lottery for assessment will be judged on whether or not they help to make a positive contribution to maintaining or enhancing the landscape of our special area. If you live in the Eastern or Western Binevenagh Slopes, Lough Foyle Alluvial Plain, Binevenagh Uplands, Castlerock Coast and Farmland or Magilligan Coast and Farmland, check out the report and provide feedback to the team on the most important aspects of your landscape.



### Lough Foyle Alluvial Plain (Aerial Vision NI)



# Project Contacts

## Fly Agaric mushrooms at Duncrun Fishing Lakes



### Aghanloo

Aghanloo Community Association

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### Ballykelly/Limavady

Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers

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### Castlerock

Castlerock Community Association

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### Coleraine

Causeway Rural and Urban Network

(please contact LPS office below)

### Magilligan

Magilligan Community Association

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### Limavady area

Limavady Community Development  
Initiative

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## Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership Scheme



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**Causeway  
Coast & Glens  
Borough Council**

