

White Walk Continued....

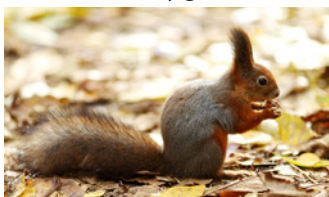
Turning left here by a small shop into Kilbride Woods; the lane was part of the former Shelton Desmone. Once at the end of this leafy lane the road to the right runs to a business park and beyond to Shelton Abbey, formerly the home of the Earls of Wicklow, but now an open prison.

Following the road to the left and back across the motorway, this stretch of the route affords some fine views of Arklow,



and passes the Monument. This striking pyramid feature was erected in 1776 as a vault for the Howard family or Viscounts of Wicklow, and described

by Sir John Betjeman as 'the largest burial pyramid north of the Alps'. Surrounding the structure are many graves to Arklow's seafaring, farming and merchant society of the Church of Ireland community. Vandalism has taken its toll of the memorials, but there is still plenty to appreciate.



BRIDGE HOTEL

FOOD
SERVED
DAILY

A small family run hotel with big character,
built in 1827 beside the Avoca river.

FREE
WiFi



Contact 0402 31666 Email bridgearklow@gmail.com
www.arklowbridgehotel.com | www.booking.com



ARKLOW
maritime
museum

On the River Front of the
Bridgewater Centre

Open 7 Days a Week
10am to 5pm

Special rate group bookings

Call 0402 91683



www.arklowmaritimeheritage.ie

Email: info@arklowmaritimeheritage.ie Mobile: 086 446 0784

ARKLOW TOURIST INFORMATION



Parade Ground, Main Street, Arklow

+353 402 32484

Email: arklowtourism@gmail.com

Produced by Arklow Walks & Heritage Company Ltd
in association with Wicklow County Council



Photographs by Brian King, Michael Kelly and Irene Sweeney
Text by Pat Power (Local Historian)

blueprint. 0402 24190



ARKLOW HERITAGE WALKS & TRAILS

Explore and discover
Arklow's Heritage



KYNOCH WALK
TOWN WALK
GLENART WALK

LOVE LANE WALK
SOUTH BEACH WALK
MONUMENT WALK



**START/FINISH
FOR ALL WALKS**
(Arklow Leisure Centre)
FREE CAR PARKING



ARKLOW WALKS

Moderate Pace / Continuous Walking

KYNOCH WALK

Route: Sky Blue
Distance: 3.3km
Grade: Easy
Time: 40 mins

TOWN WALK

Route: Pink
Distance: 6km
Grade: Easy
Time: 1hr 15 mins

GLENART WALK

Route: Green
Distance: 12.4km
Grade: Moderate
Time: 2 hrs 45 mins

LOVE LANE WALK

Route: Orange
Distance: 4.5km
Grade: Easy
Time: 1 hour

SOUTH BEACH WALK

Route: Red
Distance: 6.4km
Grade: Easy
Time: 1 hr 25 mins

MONUMENT WALK

Route: White
Distance: 7.8km
Grade: Easy
Time: 1 hr 40 mins

**START/FINISH
FOR ALL WALKS**

 Tourist Office

 Toilets

1: BLUE - KYNOCH ROUTE

The route heads towards the river bridge along Ferrybank and onto the North Quay and towards the marina. The route encompasses an area which once was the Kynochs Explosive & Munitions works (1895-1919). At its peak production during the World War I, 3,000 people were employed, but now little remains of the original factory. The path takes in part of the sea protection wall, which was installed in 1988 after storms washed away the sand dune system, and circles the Duck Pond, once the factory reservoir. Some fragmented ruins are to be seen at the far end of the pond. Twenty-seven workers were killed here in an explosion on September 21st 1917. Look for the explanatory panels as you walk the route.



2: PURPLE - TOWN WALK



Beginning at the Leisure Centre follow the route along Ferrybank and over the Nineteen Arches bridge and onto Arklow's old Main Street which still has many features of the past preserved in facades and shop front designs. Abbey Lane (to the left as you turn onto Main Street) was the site of a former Dominican Abbey, although all that exists now is an old cemetery. There are several lanes off of the Main Street that attest to Arklow's Viking origins.

Look for the Le Chef Café, the building was constructed from brick made in the Arklow Brick and Tile Company, as are several other houses in the town. The Old Ship Pub and Restaurant sports a ships figure head, The Village Belle. Mid-way along Main Street is the Town Park. It was also a former cemetery. Its foundation date is unknown, but the earliest memorial slab is from 1650 to the Maule-West family. Only the armorial crests survive on their gravestone. There are still 62 memorials set around the walls and on the ground. In times past the town stocks for punishing wrongdoers was located here. It was felt an exposure among the dead for a few days and nights



was good for morality and public manners. In 1798 several rebels were hanged here. There is a more detailed information board in the graveyard.



The core area of Arklow is centred on Parade Ground. The imposing Church of St Peter and St Mary (Roman Catholic) was designed by Patrick Byrne (1783-1864). A severe Italianate building with a beautiful interior it was dedicated for service in

1862. It is normally open to visitors. Close by the church stands a memorial to those who took part in the Battle of Arklow June 9th 1798. Fr Michael Murphy was an insurgent leader killed in the conflict. The side panels commemorate other United Irishmen leaders. In the grounds of the local Court House (1844) are the fragmented ruin of Ormond Castle. The first three generations of the Earl's of Ormond - Butler made their residence in Arklow. A castle stood here since the 12th century but only portion of a wall and a single tower remains. (Early 14th century.) Arklow castle served as the town's administrative and military centre for almost 600 years until finally destroyed during the Cromwellian Protectorate (1650's).

Proceeding along Upper Main Street leads to St Saviour's (Church of Ireland.) It was consecrated in 1899 and was designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield (1829-1899) with a possible input by Thomas Hardy the eminent English novelist who worked for Blomfield. It was one of the last privately endowed parish churches in Ireland being the gift of the Earls of Carysfort as a family memorial church. The church is generally open during the summer season and during service times. Further along the walk leads to Lamberton Gate and Arklow Town Football Club grounds.

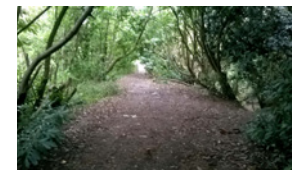


The walk route leads to St Gabriel's Cemetery. Opened in 1866 the older section of the graveyard tells much of the social history of Arklow in inscription and cemetery art. Look out for finely carved Irish-Celtic memorials to distinguished clergy and local dignitaries. The roadway from the graveyard is called Emoclew Road.

which is 'welcome' spelled backwards and takes its name from a former rectory house built c.1730. There are fine views of Croghan Kinsella Mountain and its wind farm from the road. Wexford Road is now evolving as Arklow's retail area. It was laid down in 1816 as the 'New Coach Road'. In 1798 it was little more than a cattle track and was the route the Wexford insurgents used to try to push their way into Arklow during a fierce battle in June 1798.

3: GREEN - GLENART WALK

Commencing at the Leisure Centre follow the road along Ferrybank, over the bridge and turn immediately onto the River Walk. Across the river are unspoilt marshlands with much fauna and flora, and hiding behind the trees is part of a railway embankment that brought ore from the Avoca copper mines many centuries ago. Leaving the built up area is the shady Upper Coombe or Coomie Lane with good views of Arklow Castle tower and its outlying surviving wall. In medieval days small ships came upriver this far to serve the castle with goods and armaments. Oliver Cromwell is said to have camped in its ruins for three days and nights in September 1649. The walk passes the railway embankment laid down 1862, which was a major earth moving project in its time. Arklow's fine G.A.A (Gaelic Athletic Association) ground lies between the river walk and Vale Road. For those who have never seen Irish traditional hurling or football, a G.A.A match can be a very exciting sporting event.



The route turns back onto the Vale Road and then crosses into the Ballyraine Campus and the path continues through to a Coillte forestry area. Here is the former demesne land of the Glenart-Carysfort Estate. The estate was built up over five generations from 1705 to 1906 by successive Earls of Carysfort (Proby family of Peterborough & Huntingdon) who were once landlords of all south Arklow and its town. The Proby Estate passed out of existence in 1944 and its mansion. The walks are through mature woodlands and retain many features of the once formal demesne of rustic bridges, cottages and river features. The focal point is Glenart Castle, currently closed to the public. Follow the forestry track around Poolahoney and return out onto Lamberton, then the Vale Road with it's view of the marsh and back down to the River Walk.

4: ORANGE - LOVE LANE WALK

From the Leisure Centre the path passes around the 'Duck Pond' and then onto Sea Road, Love Lane and returns along the Dublin Road. The route takes in old and new urban Arklow.



From the Duck Pond behind a tree girth garden is the imposing Kynoch Lodge which served as a company guest house and meeting rooms for the Kynoch explosive company between 1895 and 1922. Over a 25 year period of operations many British political and social visitors came. Now it is a private residence.

The Arklow Bay Hotel stands on the site of the factory hospital, sold for one pound in 1923 to become a town cottage hospital until the late 1950's. Along Sea Road from the old Coastguard



Station there is distinctive housing from private villas to the public housing schemes of St Patrick's Terrace and Beresford Terrace, built in 1914. No.3 St Patrick's Terrace is the birthplace of renowned artist George Campbell

(b. 1917). The route loops from Sea Road to Love Lane passing the imposing Seabank House (private) that was once the residence of Robert Hudson, agent to the Earls of Wicklow, and whose job was to administer and manage the 20,000 acre Shelton Estate.

Love Lane, leafy and rural, owes its name to a family called Love who worked the land locally, and not from the vision of lovers strolling hand in hand. Back along the Dublin Road Ticknock Bridge was the site of a corn mill that was there for 200 years and further along there is St Joseph's R/Church and then Arklow's Presbyterian Church, opposite which is the 'Dispensary Garden' at the site of Ferrybank's first medical dispensary (c. 1855).



5: RED - SOUTH BEACH WALK

The start of this route is on Seaview Avenue, where Arklow's indoor swimming pool, Leisure Centre, children's playgrounds and other recreational facilities are located. The Avenue was constructed in 1942 and nicknamed the Burma Rd after the infamous prisoners of war road of the World War II. The route

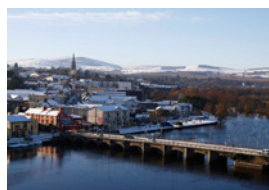


passes some old factory sites on the North Quay, Arklow Marine Services who are active builders of steel ships, the Arklow marina, sailing club, and Bridgewater shopping centre, where the

Maritime Museum is located. At the bridge the area to the right is Ferrybank, a constructed tougher (a causeway across marshy land) and Arklow's oldest man made structure. This area was not urbanised until the 1850's with the building of an ore yard and chemical factory, which began a long industrial tradition in Arklow, the last phases of which are still evident along this route. On the far side of the roundabout is a plaque commemorating Ronnie Delany (Melbourne 1956 Olympics 1500 mtr gold medallist), his birthplace. In the middle ages a chain ferry raft operated across the river here (hence Ferrybank) until a bridge was built in 1798. It is claimed to be the longest rubble stone bridge in Ireland.

South Quay leads to the harbour area. Union Lane is a cul de sac where soldiers were treated for wounds in the Battle of Arklow June 9th 1798. It was later the assembly place for applicants for the Rathdrum Union Workhouse. The stone clad quays were laid down in the 1840's as part of the Great Famine relief works when payment was one shilling per week and a loaf of bread per day for a family's labour.

A slipway and rails mark the location of the famed John Tyrrell & Son's shipbuilding yard where for over a century timber fishing boats were hand constructed. Across the river is the imposing office of Arklow Shipping and where the current generation of the Tyrrell shipbuilding family have their workshops. A fuller history of Arklow's ships and heritage is



on display at the Arklow Maritime Museum in Bridgewater Shopping complex.



The inner harbour (Built 1908) contains Arklow's now diminished fishing fleet and seasonal recreational boats. There is a Royal National Lifeboat Institution station here. It is the successor to the first ever R.N.L.I established in Ireland. The area around the inner dock was once the site of Arklow's famed pottery (1936 -1986) but is now an important pet food industry. Dock Road leads to South Pier and beach, a location good for sea fishing and beach walking. Part of the route abounds Arklow Golf Links, one of the best link courses in Ireland. The walk terminates at Arklow Rock quarry (Access to business only). The return route



is retraced back via Dock Road and through the streets of the old Arklow fishery area.

Modern housing has replaced the once warren of clay walled and thatched cottages that

flourished here but streets and laneways still follow in the sites and gardens of the traditional fishing enclaves. Enroute is Old Chapel Ground (See heritage signboard). This was the heartland of the old Fishing quarter and housed a Catholic church from 1776 to 1806.

Back across the bridge onto Ferrybank there is fine Methodist church constructed of Wicklow granite and houses from the first urbanisation of this area.

6: WHITE - MOMUMENT WALK

From the Leisure Centre the route goes to Dublin Road and runs in the opposite direction to the Orange route and eventually turns left onto Beech road, crossing the busy M11



and reaching Kilbride Church. The churchyard here has many interesting memorials to many of Arklow's past seafarers, and magnificent tombs of the Earls of Wicklow (Howard family). There are some handsome interior memorials and a fine stained glass window by Harry Clarke (1889-1931).

Continued overleaf...