

Battle of the Boyne
1690

Event Programme 2017



OPW

Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí
The Office of Public Works



OUR TEAM

IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING
THE BEST POSSIBLE
EXPERIENCE
FOR VISITORS

Welcome

Welcome to the Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre, housed in the 18th century Oldbridge House, located just outside Drogheda, in Co. Meath.

On 1st July 1690 (old calendar) King William III and King James II met here at the Battle of the Boyne. Over 60,000 troops were present on the day, the largest number of troops ever deployed on an Irish Battlefield. At stake were the British throne, French dominance in Europe and religious power in Ireland.

Today, the battle site and Oldbridge Estate has evolved to cater for the needs and interests of tourists, history enthusiasts, walkers and gardeners.

Our team is dedicated to providing the best possible experience for visitors, through the provision of a programme of events, including tours, workshops and theatre nights. So why not “chance your arm” on one of our seasonal events, and make your visit to the site one the whole family will remember.

The Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre was opened in 2008. Maintenance of the Victorian Walled Garden and grounds of the estate are ongoing, but don't “hold your horses” about visiting, as we have extensive walkways through the battle site/estate that link with the Boyne canal tow path and Greenway.

A Tea Room Pavilion in the Walled Garden provides “square meals” and light fare, including lunches, desserts, teas and coffees. Don't “keep a secret under your hat” about our recently opened Gift Shop. It stocks homewares, books, local crafts and foods..

OPW staff are always available to answer queries, so feel free to contact us by e-mail, telephone, or on Facebook. “Bite the bullet” and come and see how the military phrases from the time of the battle have made their way into everyday use.

We look forward to welcoming you to our heritage site.

Aisling Heffernan, Supervisor Guide

Battle of the Boyne Admission Charges

Adult	€5.00
Senior/Group	€4.00
Child/Student	€3.00
Family	€13.00

Explore Ireland's Heritage with an Annual OPW Heritage Card

The OPW Heritage Card provides FREE admission to all fee-paying, state managed OPW Heritage Sites located throughout the country* for one year, from the date of first use.

Adult:	€40
Senior: (60 Years and Over)	€30
Student/Child: (Valid Student ID required/Child 6-18 years)	€10
Family: (Max. 2 Adults and 3 Children under 18 years)	€90

*(with the exception of Muckcross Traditional Farms, Killarney)

Your Heritage Card is non-transferable and not replaceable if lost or stolen.

For terms and conditions of use, and locations/opening times of OPW heritage sites, please refer to www.heritageireland.ie

Heritage cards are available for sale at the Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre. Please ask at reception for more details.



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Living History Programme

Along with our ever popular musketry and cavalry displays, we have extended our programme to include 17th Century social living history and Victorian era events.

17TH CENTURY SOCIAL LIVING HISTORY

Have you ever wondered how the 60,000 troops at the Battle of the Boyne were fed, paid and medically treated? Why not visit our social living history, where you will meet a sutler, baker, basket maker, barber surgeon and more...

You can interact and ask questions about the 17th Century that bring the past to life.

***2nd Sunday of every month from March – September,
11.00am – 12.30pm, 1.00pm – 4.00pm***

Sunday 12th March

Sunday 9th April

Sunday 14th May

Sunday 11th June

Sunday 9th July

Sunday 13th August

Sunday 10th September

Admission charge through the Visitor Centre applies.



17th Century Social Living History



OVER

60,000
TROOPS

WERE PRESENT ON THE DAY,

THE

LARGEST
NUMBER

OF TROOPS EVER DEPLOYED
ON AN IRISH BATTLEFIELD

17TH CENTURY MILITARY LIVING HISTORY

Be transported back to the time of the Battle of the Boyne and learn all about the Baroque horses and the training of a Cavalry Trooper. Witness for yourself the skills of a well trained Musketeer and hear about the regiments who fought at the battle on the 1st July 1690.

**3rd Sunday of every month from March – September,
11am to 4.45pm. Demonstrations last approx.
20 minutes each.**

BATTLE SITE WALK

Why not join us our short walk from the Visitor Centre to Oldbridge Village and see the strategic sites important to the events on the day. Our soldier guide will bring history to life. Free of Charge.

**3rd Sunday of Every month from March – September.
Battle Site Walk, 2pm (Walk lasts 45 mins, clothing and
footwear suitable for uneven terrain should be worn)**

Sunday 19th March

Sunday 16th July

Sunday 16th April

Sunday 20th August

Sunday 21st May

Sunday 17th September

Sunday 18th June



Battle Site Walk

VICTORIAN LIVING HISTORY PROGRAMME

Step back in time on a tour of the basement of Oldbridge House and see how the servants worked below stairs. Our living history will show you the tasks the servants were expected to perform and will take you through the vaulted basement to bring history alive. FREE but booking required on eventbrite.ie. This event is facilitated by Time Steps Living History.

After your tour, why not enjoy some garden games, croquet, boules, hoops and tennis on the Back Lawn. Suitable for all the family. Parental supervision required.

**4th Sunday of every month from April – July
Tour Times 12pm and 2pm (lasts 1 hour)**

Sunday 23rd April

Sunday 28th May

Sunday 25th June

Sunday 23rd July



Victorian Living History

Education Programme for Schools

FREE EDUCATION VISITS FOR SCHOOLS

OPW operates a Free Educational Visits for Schools Scheme. This Scheme is generally available to school groups of either Primary or Second-Level pupils, as well as pupils attending special needs schools or special needs classes. These conditions are set out on www.heritageireland.ie

To book a tour of the Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre, call **041 9809950** or email **battleoftheboyne@opw.ie**

We also offer other FREE educational activities on site.

FREE WORKBOOKS AND TRAILS

Designed for school groups and families, they are available to download FREE from www.battleoftheboyne.ie

Tree Trail – answer questions about the ancient and interesting specimens of trees to be found at Oldbridge

Maths Trail – Learn as you go by using our Maths Trail to enhance students skills. Worksheets appropriate for different ages are available.

Educational workbooks – for primary and secondary level students can be downloaded and prepared by teachers in advance of their visit or used by families on the day of their visit.

VICTORIAN SCHOOL TOURS

Students will explore the life of a servant in Victorian times at Oldbridge. This event is facilitated by Time Steps Living History.

June 6th, 7th and 9th only.

VICTORIAN FARMING TOURS

Students will learn about the day to day tasks children were expected to perform on a Victorian farm. This event is facilitated by AgriKids and Woolly Wards Pet Farm.

June 12th, 14th and 16th only.

Limited availability for Tours, so book early.



Education Tours

Family Programme

EASTER MONDAY FAMILY FUN DAY

Wooly Wards Mobile Pet Farm. Puppet Show and Martin the Magician. Suitable for all the family.

April 17th, 2pm – 4pm

VICTORIAN FARMING WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN

Children will learn about the day to day tasks they would have been expected to perform on a Victorian Farm. This event is facilitated by Agri-Kids.

April 23rd 2.30pm

FREE of charge. Adult supervision required.

Booking through www.eventbrite.ie

PUPPET SHOW

Victorian Style puppet show in the Walled Garden.

May 28th, 2pm – 4pm

June 25th, 2pm – 4pm

July 23rd, 2pm – 4pm

Parental supervision is required for all children's events.

JUNE BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, FAMILY DAY

Picnic with the Drogheda Orchestral Collective
Bring along your oldest Teddy Bear and win a prize.

Toy Soldier Workshops for families

Booking through the Visitor Centre on 041 9809950.

June 5th, 2pm-4pm

FATHER'S DAY, COUNTRY PURSUITS AFTERNOON

Why not try your hand at archery in our walled garden, and get some tips from the experts on how to shoot a bow and arrow.

Vintage Fishing Float Making Workshop, 3pm

Learn the lost art of traditional float making with Ray Balfe.

June 18th, 2pm-4pm

Contact the Visitor Centre for booking 041 9809950

€5 cover charge applies for this workshop

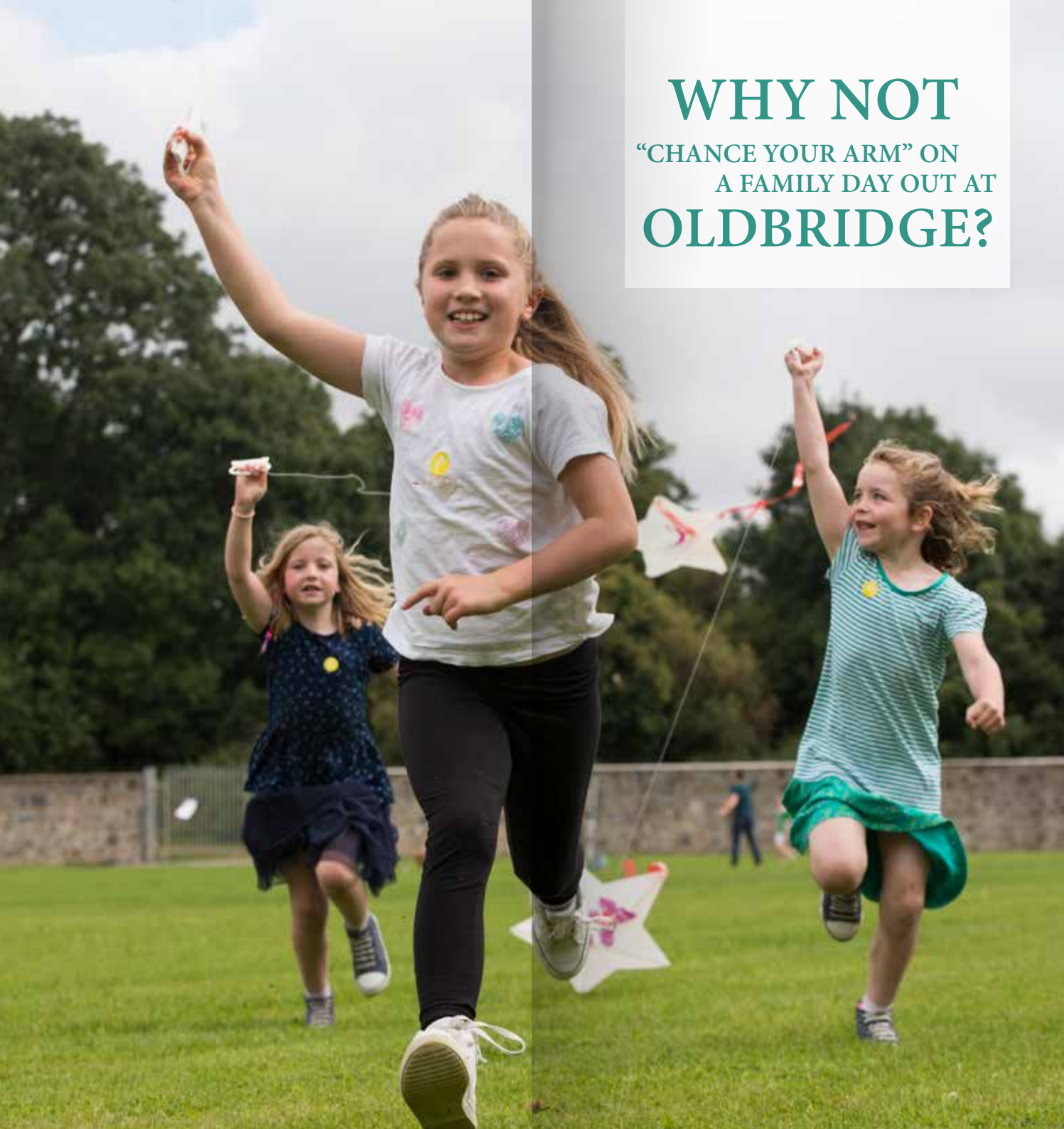
FAMILY FUN DAY

Wooly Wards Mobile Pet Farm and Martin the Magician.

July 30th, 2pm-4pm



Family Fun Day

A photograph of three children running happily in a grassy field. The child in the center is a girl with blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a white t-shirt with colorful patches and black leggings. She is running towards the camera with her right arm raised, holding a small white object. To her left, a younger girl in a dark blue patterned dress is also running, holding a string. To her right, another girl in a light green striped dress is running away from the camera, also with her right arm raised. In the background, there are trees, a stone wall, and a person walking. The sky is overcast.

WHY NOT
“CHANCE YOUR ARM” ON
A FAMILY DAY OUT AT
OLDBRIDGE?

Music in the Walled Garden

DROGHEDA BRASS BAND IN THE PAGODA MARQUEE

Drogheda Brass Band will be playing a selection of classic and contemporary music in our restored Victorian Walled Garden. Why not come along for an afternoon of music in beautiful surroundings. FREE Admission.

Sunday 7th May, 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 4th June, 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 6th August, 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 3rd September, 2pm – 4pm

MUSIC WITH THE DROGHEDA ORCHESTRAL COLLECTIVE

Bank Holiday Monday 5th June, 2pm-4pm

FREE Admission as part of our Bank Holiday Family Picnic

Friday 22nd September, 6.30pm

FREE Admission as part of Culture Night, with our Victorian Tea Party.

Booking through eventbrite.ie



Drogheda Brass Band

Arts Programme

VISUAL ART AT OLDBRIDGE ESTATE

Sculpture at Oldbridge - Sculpture in Context

As part of the Drogheda Arts Festival, the OPW are proud to present an exhibition of contemporary Irish Sculpture in our restored Victorian Walled Garden.

Opening on Wednesday April 26th, this exhibition will run until Wednesday 31st May

Open Daily 9am to 4.30pm

Admission FREE

Sunday 30th April, Artist's tour at 1pm

No booking necessary.



Sculpture By Michael Warren

THEATRE NIGHTS

Great Expectations - presented by Chapter House Theatre Company

Saturday 15th July

Tickets available from the Droichead Arts Centre Box Office at www.droichead.com or **041 9833946**

The Wind in the Willows - presented by Chapter House Theatre Company

Saturday 5th August

Tickets available from the Droichead Arts Centre Box Office at www.droichead.com or **041 9833946**

These are outdoor events, you are welcome to bring your own picnic and seating.

NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK 19TH AUGUST - 27TH AUGUST

National Heritage Week is coordinated by The Heritage Council and its aim is to build awareness and education about our heritage thereby encouraging its conservation and preservation.

There will be a programme of exciting events around the theme "It's in your Nature".

See our website / facebook page for more details.
www.battleoftheboyne.ie
www.facebook.com/battleoftheboyne

CULTURE NIGHT

To celebrate Culture Night, Oldbridge House is stepping back in time and hosting a Victorian Tea Party on the Back Lawn. Music will be provided by the Drogheda Orchestral Collective. FREE of Charge.

Friday 22nd September, 6:30pm
Booking through eventbrite.ie



Halloween

CANDLELIT TOUR FOR GROWN UPS

Are you brave enough to visit Oldbridge Estate at night??
Come and meet some of our spooky characters with tales that will make your blood curdle...

This event is outdoor, so please dress appropriately.

Saturday 28th October

Limited availability. FREE Admission.

Booking on eventbrite.ie

CHILDREN'S HAUNTED HALLOWEEN GARDEN

Join us in our haunted Halloween garden to hunt for clues and win a prize. Come dressed in your spookiest Halloween costume. This is an outdoor event so dress appropriately.

Sunday 29th October, 2pm – 4pm

FREE Admission, on a first come basis.



Halloween at Oldbridge

Christmas

OLDBRIDGE CHRISTMAS FAIR 2017

Our popular Christmas fair will take place in the Victorian basement of Oldbridge house. Alongside the wonderful food and craft stalls, we will have a live crib, Victorian Santa and seasonal music.

Sunday 3rd December, 11am – 4pm

CHRISTMAS FLORAL ART WORKSHOP WITH ROSEMARY MULCRONE

To book contact the Visitor Centre on 041 9809950

Sunday 3rd December, 2pm



Christmas at Oldbridge



Oldbridge Estate Walkways

Walkways

Optional self-guiding walks are available through the battle site and Oldbridge Estate. Use of these routes are free of charge, and parking is available in the main car park.

Visitors are advised to wear suitable footwear as the walks are on grass (except the Boyne canal tow path which adjoins the site, and is surfaced with gravel). Maps of the walkways can be seen on information panels at the site and are available at: www.battleoftheboyne.ie/Walkways

Gardens

The restoration of the Victorian Walled Garden has been completed, and is open to the public 7 days a week. There are gravel pathways throughout for ease of access. You will see vibrant herbaceous borders with perennial plants like those grown during the Victorian period.

The borders are also stocked with medicinal herbs similar to those used to treat the soldiers at the Battle of the Boyne. There is a historic garden exhibition housed in the Bothy, a unique sunken Octagonal Garden (the only known Octagonal Walled Garden in Ireland), Peach House and Apple Orchard, where the "Blood of the Boyne" heritage trees are cultivated.



Oldbridge Silver

Battle of the Boyne Gift Shop

The Battle of the Boyne Gift Shop is located in the Tea Pavilion. Among the lovely products stocked are books, pottery, artisan foods, children's toys, and Battle of the Boyne merchandise such as t-shirts, lapel pins, postcards, key rings etc.

2017 welcomes Deirdre McCullough of Oldbridge Silverware as new proprietor. She studied design while in Crawford College in Cork and graduated with a degree in Fine Art.

Deirdre is inspired by the surroundings of Oldbridge, including the Boyne River and Newgrange, and these influences are reflected in her work.

"There is a process when designing or painting, when starting a design letting it flow freely and then when it starts to come together there is a euphoria and excitement that tantalises the soul. This is the magic of designing and creating, it is raw, it is primal and it is fantastic."

Contact : 086 4539277

**The Gift Shop is open April – September,
Wednesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm.**

Tearoom Pavilion

The Tearoom Pavilion at the Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre is under the management of **Brambles Cafe Deli Ltd.**

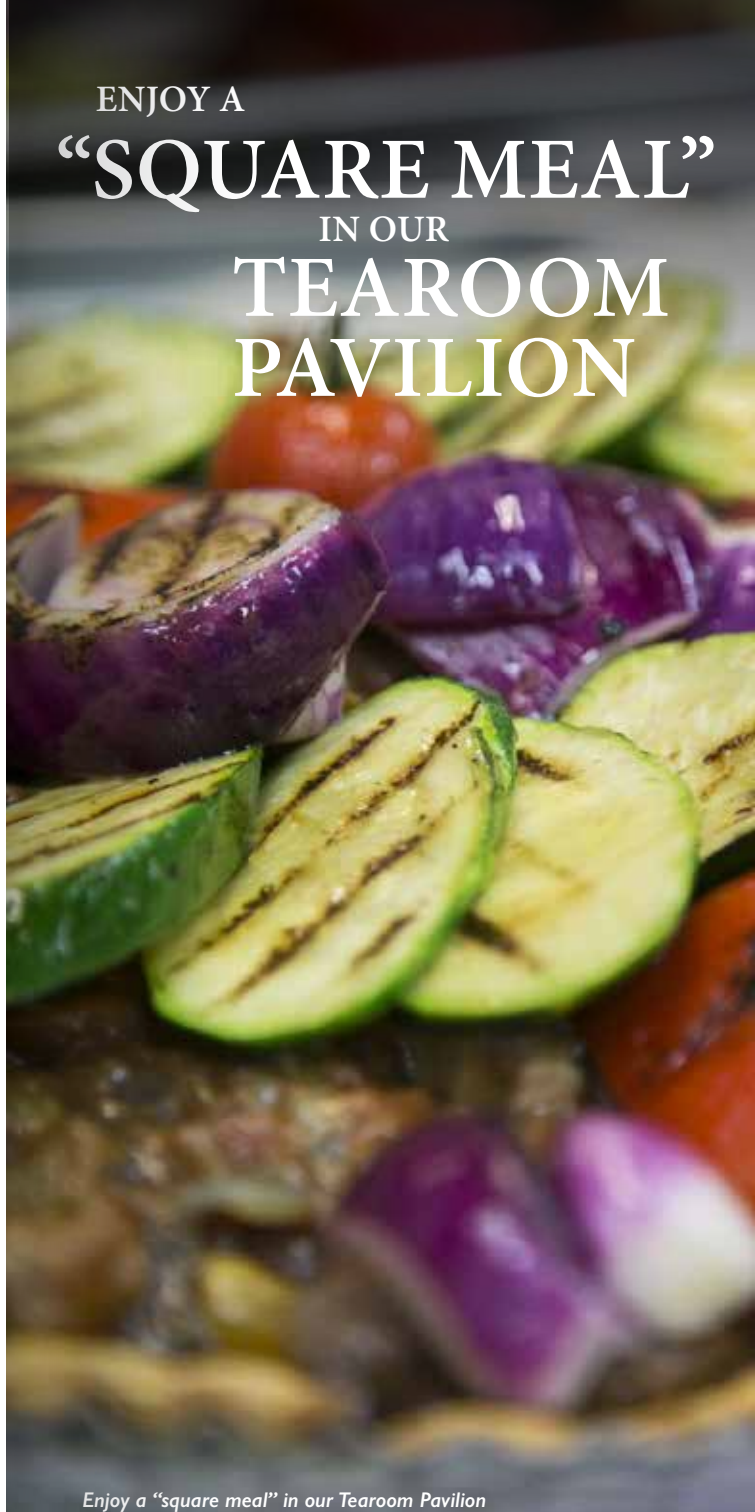
With its skirt of decking overlooking the Victorian Garden and Octagonal Garden, you can enjoy your refreshments inside or on the the contemporary outdoor furniture.

The emphasis is on quality nutritional food, complemented by an excellent wine/drinks list, specialty coffees and confectionery.

Group bookings must be made in advance on +353 41 9842921.



ENJOY A
“SQUARE MEAL”
IN OUR
TEAROOM
PAVILION



Enjoy a “square meal” in our Tearoom Pavilion

Photography & Filming

For requests and permission to undertake commercial photography or filming at our site, please contact

battleoftheboyne@opw.ie

Permission is subject to our site conditions and insurance etc.

Drones are not permitted to fly over OPW heritage sites.

Events / Outdoor Activities

If you would like to run an outdoor activity or event on the Battle Site, please contact our experienced staff, as permission must be sought in advance.

+353 41 9809950 **battleoftheboyne@opw.ie**

Health & Safety Information:

- River and canal adjacent to the site
- Grass cutting and machinery may be in operation throughout the year
- Walkways may be slippery when wet (suitable footwear is advised)
- Children must be supervised at all times.

Dogs

Dogs are welcome on the Battle Site. To help keep it a safe, healthy and enjoyable place for visitors, farm animals, and wildlife, please:

- Keep your dog on a lead at all times.
- Remember to pick up after your dog (dog bins are provided at various locations on the site).
- Don't leave your dog unattended (we provide drinking bowls and water on our tea pavilion decking).

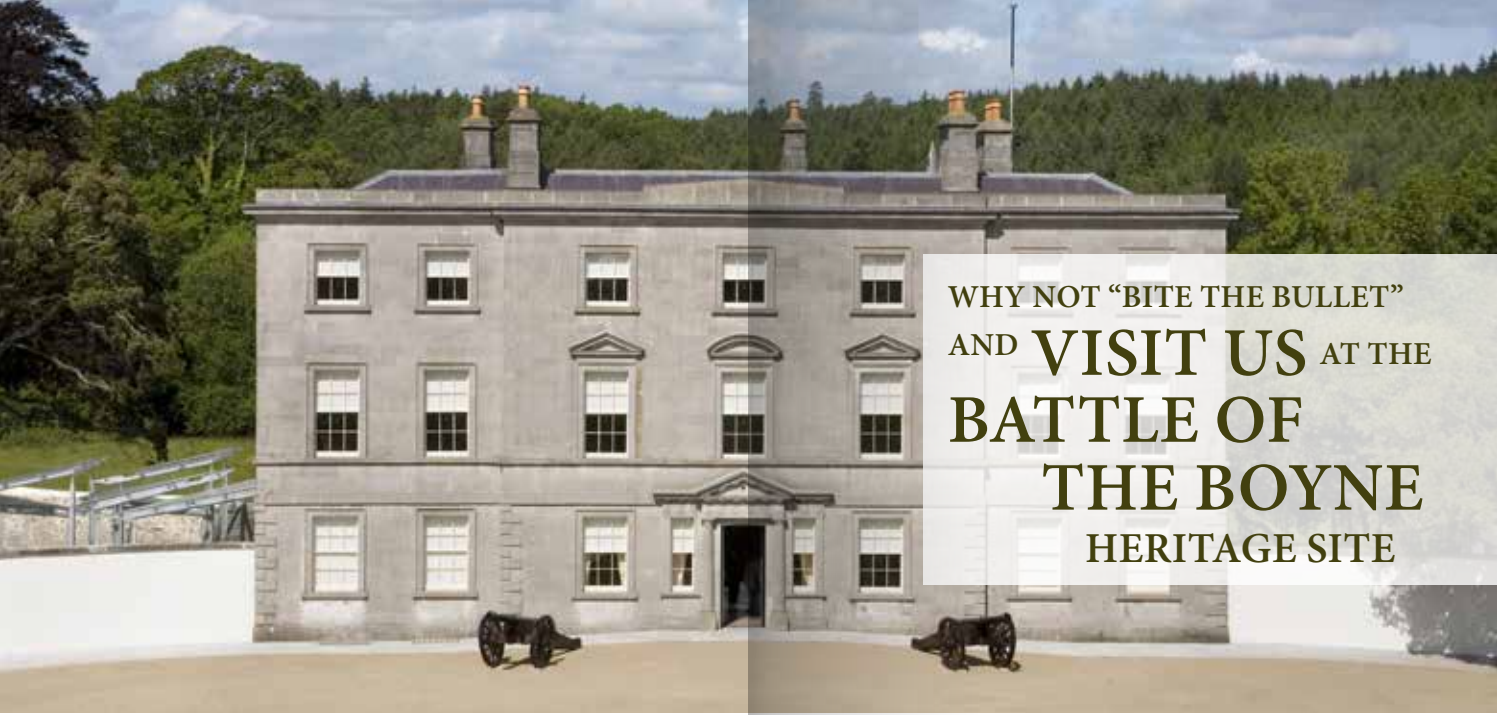
Accessibility

For visitors with limited mobility or buggies, the gardens are partially accessible on gravel pathways. The Visitor Centre is fully accessible. Please be advised, buggies cannot be left unattended. The following is not permitted on the site:

- Barbecues
- Overnight camping
- Alcohol
- Camp fires
- Cycling on paths/walkways

CAN YOU
“KEEP A SECRET UNDER
YOUR HAT”
ABOUT OUR VICTORIAN
WALLED GARDEN?





WHY NOT “BITE THE BULLET”
AND **VISIT US** AT THE
**BATTLE OF
THE BOYNE**
HERITAGE SITE

Contact Us

Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre

Oldbridge House
Oldbridge
Drogheda
Co. Meath
A92 CY68

Call: +353 41 9809950

 www.battleoftheboyne.ie

 www.facebook.com/battleoftheboyne

 battleoftheboyne@opw.ie

Find Us

(Exit 9 on M1 or via Donore Village)
44km from Dublin Airport
50km from Dublin Port
120km from Belfast International Airport

Latitude: 53.722910 **Longitude:** -6.414290

Bus Eireann Route:

100x from Drogheda Bus Station to Donore





Opening Hours

VISITOR CENTRE

1st May until 31st September
Monday to Sunday: 9am – 5pm

1st October until 30th April
Monday to Sunday: 9am – 4pm

WALLED GARDENS

1st May until 31st September
Monday to Sunday: 9am – 5.30pm

1st October until 30th April
Monday to Sunday: 9am – 4.30pm

*Please note that the exit gate closes 2 hours
after the Visitor Centre*

www.battleoftheboyne.ie