



Newsletter

Issue Number 2

September 2014

Joint North/South Exchange Visit

We had hoped and planned to organise a visit with our colleagues from the Ulster Federation to Cultra Folk Museum and the Somme Centre but we were unable to fulfil that commitment at this particular time. We will however put in on our plans for a future date. Apologies to those who were hoping to go on the trip.

Autumn Seminar — WWI — Sat. 11th Oct. 2014, Dundalk, Co. Louth

In keeping with the “Decade of Centenaries” this year’s seminar will be on the topic of WWI. The seminar will be held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth, and promises to be both interesting and challenging. The title “Hidden Histories — The Unfolding Story of Ireland in WWI” will examine the war’s impact on communities and people of the island of Ireland, and their response to wartime hardships. The Federation has assembled an excellent list of speakers who will talk about quite different and diverse topics associated with the Great War. All societies have been circulated with the details but if you require any further information or wish to book a place please contact Frank Taaffe, Ardreigh House, Athy, Co. Kildare, Tel.: 059 8638181. Mob.: 087 2424669. e-mail fbtaaffe@indigo.ie

“We need and value your support so please come along.”

Hidden Gems/Forgotten People — Display Panels

It is encouraging to report that our recently acquired set of display panels have been used to good effect by some local societies for their events. The Rathmichael Historical Society, County Dublin, put them on display during their annual week of presentations/talks. They were very well received with a lot of interest being shown by people in general and good positive feedback. They were also used during an exhibition organised by the South Kilkenny Historical Society during recent Heritage Week events and again were well received and created a lot of interest. Thanks to Richard Ryan, Rathmichael Society and Eddie Synnott, South Kilkenny Society for pioneering the way with our promotion of the Hidden Gems and Forgotten People Project. As already indicated we plan to have an official launch of the Display Panels in Dublin and Belfast before year’s end. Please note that the panels are available for local societies if they wish to avail of their use for any event or activity. Details from Larry Breen, 8 The Paddocks, Naas, Co. Kildare, e-mail larrybreen8@eircom.net Tel 087 984 1551.

U.K. — Visit Devon and Cornwall, April 13 to April 17, 2015

Next year’s annual visit will be to the southwest area of Devon and Cornwall with its beautiful and breathtaking scenery. This area holds some of Britain’s most forbidding moorland, dramatic coastline and a history stretching from prehistoric to modern times. It is richly populated with castles and stately homes, and presents the opportunity for an exciting and interesting trip. We will be based in Plymouth, one of Britain’s greatest seafaring cities. We plan to visit such places as Lanhydrock House, Dartmoor, Exeter, Penzance, St Michael’s Mount, St Ives, Padstow, and much more. Further details to follow but remember to put the dates in your diary.

Federation AGM — Friday, 8th May to Sunday, 10th May, 2015 — Kinsale Co. Cork

Next year’s AGM will be in the picturesque town of Kinsale, Co. Cork. The event will coincide with the one hundred and fiftieth Anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania which will be commemorated over the weekend. We have a package of two nights B & B with two evening meals in the Trident Hotel in Kinsale. Our hosts will be the Kinsale Historical Society who will help with the AGM and provide talks and historical tour during our stay. Further details will follow in what promises to be a really exciting weekend.

Local History Review — 2014

There is still a short time left to submit material for inclusion in this year’s Review. The response for articles has been pretty good but we would like some more society news from groups. Just a short report on a significant event or a short summary of the year’s activities would be fine and pictures are welcome. Please submit as soon as possible and by the end of September at latest.

Annual Membership Renewal — 2015

This year we are asking for the annual membership fee to be paid in January 2015. This will standardize things and allow us to better control the system. Renewal forms will be sent to societies in December 2014. Please note that it is also important to fill in the contact details on the renewal form as this ensures our data base is accurate and up to date and that you get all the communication from the federation.

Visit European Parliament, Brussels, the Battlefields of Flanders and The Somme.

We are investigating a possible visit to the European Parliament under the M.E.P sponsorship scheme. This would include an official visit to the parliament and guided tour. We would plan to extend the visit and visit some battle sites in Belgium and France. We would stay in the Irish College in Leuven as our base. Further details will follow when available.