



## CASTLETIMON HERITAGE TRAIL

### The Standing Stone 1,500BC

Only recently re-discovered in May 2013 this standing stone has been here for approx. 3,500 & may have been covered with brambles for a number of centuries. Local people say that there was originally two stones and one is in a ditch nearby. It is also thought that the missing stone is a "female" & the other a "male" & in the past cattle & horses where passed between them to make them fertile.



By The Pupils Of Brittas Bay National School 2013



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### The Ogham Stone C.4th Century

#### THE GIANT AND THE OGHAM STONE

Local people say that the Ogham stone was once picked up by the Castletimon giant and was thrown down the hill and the scratches on it were left by his finger nails. LEGEND ALSO SAYS..... There once was a man who lived near the Ogham stone who took it from its place to use it as a hob stone. The fairies got so angry he made his cutlery dance and jiggle. After a week of this he got so annoyed he took it back to its original place.

Ogham is the oldest form of writing in Ireland & is a mixture of old Irish & Norse. The translation is Neta Cari Neta Cagi which is thought to mean the nephew of Cagi whose land this was. There is only one other Ogham stone in Co. Wicklow.



Ogham Stone, Castletimon

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### Castletimon Graveyard

Castletimon church dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It was semi-ruined during the reformation & was used for secret catholic worship after this time. The graveyard contains the graves of many of the Byrne family & the oldest headstone that can be read is from 1720. Also buried here is William Duffy who died at 95years in 1741 making his birth date 1646. He would have seen Oliver Cromwell's army marching through this area.

Castletimon graveyard is of particular note & is well cared for thanks to a local resident. It is a good example of local families' headstones including the Byrnes & Delahunt's, one of which was the last to be buried here.

Some of the most remarkable headstones from 18th century Ireland were carved by Denis Cullen. Over 120 examples of Cullen's headstones are known and most of his work is in Co. Wicklow & Castletimon graveyard has a number of good examples. His work spans the late 1750s to about 1790 and he was particularly well known for his figurative carvings of the crucifixion of Christ.



The ruined church here has no designated saint but as part of recent research it has been discovered that there is a St. Kevin's well in the area which would identify this Church as his. Also the holy water font of this church can be seen outside Brittas Bay Church.

Also to the side of the church are unmarked grave mounds relating to burials of approx. 50 local residents who died from the worldwide flu pandemic of 1918.



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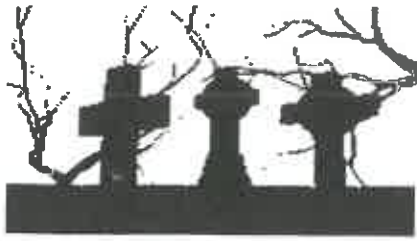
### The Mill c1850

There were three mills on Potters River;- at Barndarriag, Castletimon & Brittas Bay Bridge. They were used by local farmers to grind oats & corn.

The Castletimon/Bornagrew mill was owned originally by the Kent's family, who also owned Brittas Mill. Records show that in 1854 it was owned by Perrin & Nolan's of Wicklow town. They were corn & coal merchants & it is in the famine records that they were generous to the poor & starving of the Wicklow area during the famine years.

This side of Potter's river is the townland of Bornagrew which means the red field & this colour can be seen in the surrounding soils. It is also thought that the river never had a potter along its banks due to the lack of suitable clay in the area but there was a Mathew Potter Esq. in the area in the mid seventeenth century which more probably is the origin.

Also Castletimon ( Simon's Castle ) got its name from the Norman lord Simon de Birarz who settled here & built his castle by the river in 1232 & also later another as recently discovered at Castletimon house.



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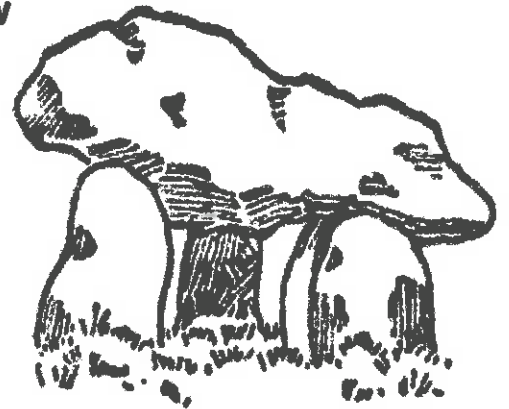
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### The Dolmen 1,500BC

Dolmens mark burial places, with large cap stones elevated at an angle & held up by huge standing stones. They date from c3500 & may also have been used for rituals. The dolmen is known locally as the druids altar or the princesses grave & is possibly the burial place of a female chieftain.

#### THE LEGENDS OF THE GIANT AND THE DOLMEN

Legend has it that a mighty giant threw the capstone at his brother giant of Ballinaclea hill but it fell short & landed in a field near the river ! His brother threw the pillar stones back & they landed near the cap stone making the dolmen.



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