

# **Donaghadee's Bloomin' Marvellous!**



**A floral guide to the town in  
summer 2021**

## **Introduction**

Donaghadee Community Development Association is a recognised charity which seeks to make Donaghadee a better place in which to live, work or visit. Composed entirely of volunteers, it organises events, undertakes projects of community benefit and lobbies local and central government for improvements to the town.

The Community Development Association is very conscious of the benefits of protecting and enhancing the local environment, not only giving residents a sense of civic pride but also attracting visitors. It has embarked upon a programme to develop floral displays and related environmental activity around the town and progresses this with the active support of Ards and North Down Borough Council, local traders, local clubs, churches, schools and residents.

## **Our town**

Donaghadee is located at Northern Ireland's closest point to Scotland and on most days the Scottish coast is visible to the naked eye.

It is steeped in history and is largely a product of the plantation of Ulster. Around 300 years ago, Donaghadee was one of the busiest ports in Ireland, carrying imports,

exports and passengers to and from Portpatrick in Scotland, less than 30 miles away. The current architecture reflects the occasional medieval and Jacobean remnants, with a core of late Georgian buildings and predominance of late Victorian and Edwardian buildings.

Its shorefront and iconic harbour offer fantastic opportunities for a quiet stroll or to capture that special moment in a photograph.



### **Entrances to the town**



As the saying goes, you never get a second chance to make a first impression and we have therefore begun the process of having welcoming displays at the entrances to the town. This year we are especially indebted to the Rotary Club of Donaghadee who

have taken charge of the displays at the Hightrees crossroads. This year long activity does much to lift a very busy intersection.



## Crommelin Wood

The Association's major environmental project is the restoration of Crommelin Wood. With financial support



from Live Here Love Here and the Co-op Community Fund we have been able to develop pathways and signage and to commence the process of replanting with native trees. This is carried out with the support and

assistance of volunteers, community organisations and our local schools.

The Association is encouraged by the increased use of the newly constructed pathways by locals, who appreciate the woodland environment and its unique contribution to enhancing the quality of life in Donaghadee and the surrounding area. This year we have secured funding to install a pier extending into wetland and offering an opportunity to sit and enjoy the tranquillity and beauty of the area. Future plans involve extending the project into the part of the woodland in private ownership and also to create a tree nursery.

## Window Boxes



The Association purchased 200 window boxes and invited streets to self-nominate for a supply of fully planted boxes which they would maintain. This initiative was only

made possible through the engagement of Killard House School whose pupils took charge of the planting.

Aside from bringing some colour to our streets this project has been highly successful for the schools and its pupils all of whom have special needs. Not only has the school made a positive contribution to the local community but the project has also represented a real learning opportunity for the pupils.



## Hanging baskets



Each trader in the town centre is invited to pay for the filling and maintenance of one or more hanging baskets. In total this year we have some 50 hanging baskets in the town centre. The

baskets are planted by our local garden centres and florists.

## Shorefront Containers

The Association invited individuals and organisations to take responsibility for the planting and ownership of the Council owned containers on the shorefront.



The response was terrific and all opportunities were quickly snapped up. Each bed bears a little sign indicating who has been responsible for the planting and maintenance.





### **Shorefront Maritime Displays**

A total of three boats have been placed at locations on the shorefront and planted out in eye-catching displays.

These boats have been planted and maintained by:-

Donaghadee Primary School – the boat on the green at the War Memorial;

Donaghadee Methodist Church – the boat at Harbour View Apartments

Donaghadee Rugby Club – the boat on the harbour.

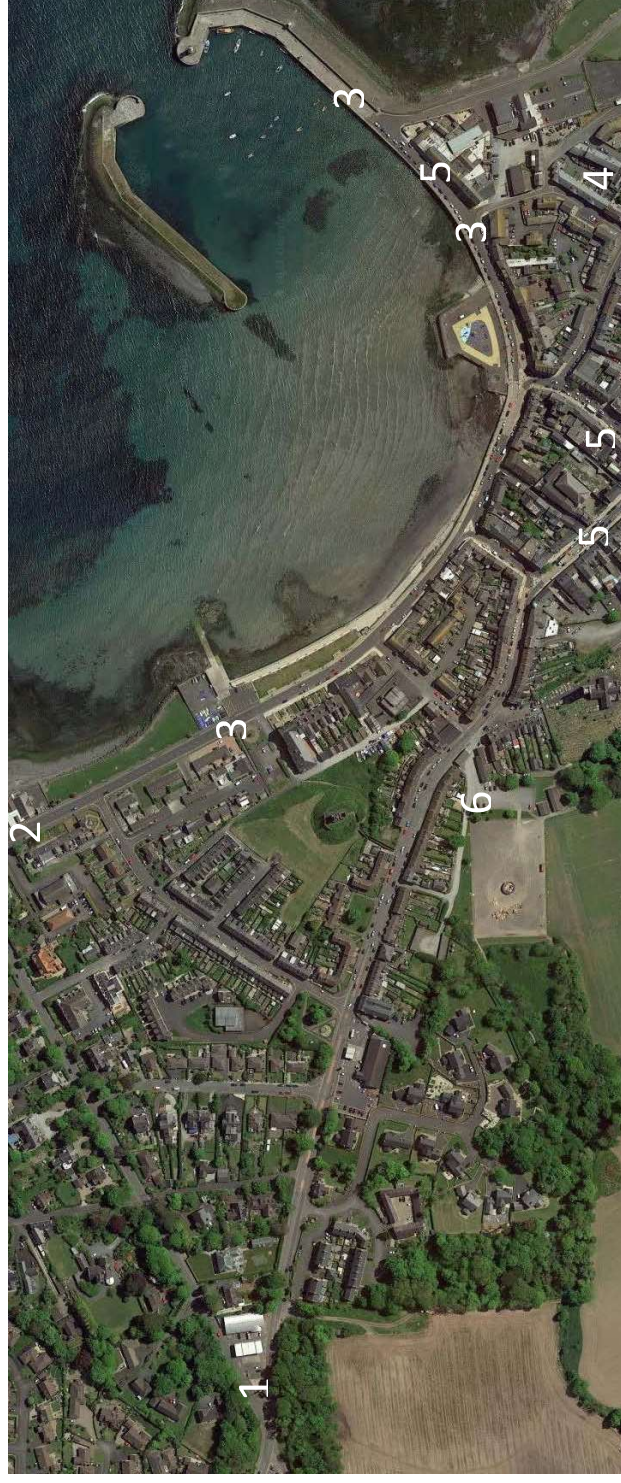
### **Council Planting**

In addition to supporting the community programme with finance, equipment, plants and advice, Ards and North Down Borough Council has planted out attractive



beds at Moat St/East Street, Killaughey Rd/Millisle Rd and planted wildflowers on the beds at Moat Entry

**Tour Map** (courtesy of Google Maps)





**Key**

<b>1.</b>	Rotary Club planting at Hightrees
<b>2.</b>	Seafront Containers along Shorefront
<b>3.</b>	Boats planted out
<b>4.</b>	Town Centre Street Window Boxes
<b>5.</b>	Hanging Baskets
<b>6.</b>	Crommelin Wood

## **Thanks**

All this would not have been possible without the support of all our participating individuals and traders.

Thanks are expressed to

### **Hanging Baskets**

Meadowbank Social Club, Pier 36, Harbour and Co, Captains Table, The Stormy Cup, Bow Bells, The Cabin, Coast, John Minnis, Saints and Sinners, Jim Devenport, Robins Nest, County Hardware, Pattons, Peter Irwin, Dunn's footwear, Rainey's, Shields, The Bridewell, Mauds, Wrights Butchers, Alex Easton, Home Sweet Home, Bailie Property and The Bull and Claw

### **Window Boxes**

Killard School and the residents of Beechfield Drive, Bow Street, Edward Street, Kinnegar Rocks, Manor Street, Meadowbank, Moat Street, The Parade and Seahill Park

### **Shorefront Maritime Displays**

Donaghadee Methodist Church, Donaghadee Primary School, Donaghadee Rugby Club

### **Shorefront Containers**

Gordon Semple, Gary Craig and Jenny Carmichael; Terry and Louise Angus; Ards Peninsula U3A; Alan Couser; Dee Runners; Donaghadee History Forum; Home Sweet Home; Norman Kirk; Live Love Yoga; Cara McConville; Patricia Nickell; Pier 36 and Harbour & Co; and Maxine Porter





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