

1. Blackhead Path: this lovely coastal path takes you on a bracing walk past the coves and sea caves on this rocky stretch of Belfast Lough's shoreline. There's a fairly steep climb up steps to Blackhead Lighthouse, with stunning views across the Irish Sea.

2. Whitehead Bandstand, Promenade and Lido: Whitehead Promenade is a wonderful place for a stroll. With the multi-coloured seafront on one side, superb views over Belfast Lough on the other and bracing sea air all around, it's a true feast for the senses.

3. County Antrim Yacht Club: Whitehead Sailing Club was inaugurated in May 1903 and since 1909, it has been known as County Antrim Yacht Club. The clubhouse has been enhanced many times over the years and in 2009, it celebrated its centenary.

4. Coastguard Station and Boathouse: The Coastguard Station and Boathouse were built in 1871. The Boathouse is now the property of the County Antrim Yacht Club and is one of the most historic buildings in Whitehead.

5. White Harbour & Nature Reserve: for years, White Head limestone was exported from White Harbour, for use in building construction and the making of cement and for agricultural purposes.

6. Churches & Architecture: Whitehead has a fine assemblage of historic churches. They reflect the wide diversity of denominations to be found in the town and most date from Whitehead's period of rapid growth in the late nineteenth century.

7. Whitehead Railway Station: the station is one of the best-known landmarks in the town. Whitehead is also home to the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland (RPSI), which has the only collection of working main line steam locomotives and the largest collection of coaches in Ireland.

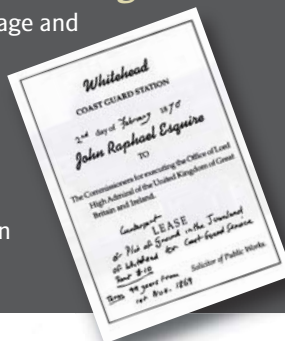
8. Castle Chichester: built around 1604 for an English soldier, Sir Moyses Hill, Castle Chichester was a fortified dwelling, built to provide protection for plantation settlers. By the middle of the 17th century, a sizeable village had grown around the castle.

9. Whitehead Diamond Jubilee Wood: this 60+-acre woodland has been planted in honour of Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee. A wonderful mix of 60,000 native trees, mostly oak and ash, it is a living, lasting legacy for future generations.

10. Whitehead Aerodrome: from 1915 to 1917, Whitehead was home to the first military aviation facility in Ireland. Huge airships operated from an airship station at Bentra, protecting the cross channel ferry and guarding incoming convoys in the North Channel from German submarines.

Your health and wellbeing

Exploring the Whitehead Heritage and Wellbeing Trail on foot is a stimulating and enjoyable way to help stay healthy. You'll see some fascinating places, learn some intriguing facts....and perform some useful exercise in the process.



Information

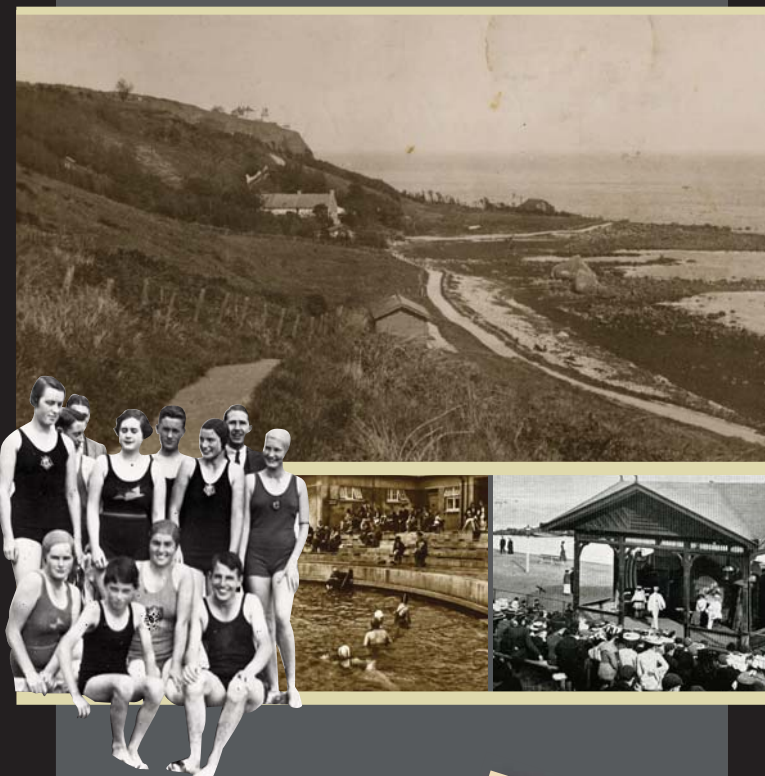
For more information about places of interest, where to stay and what's on in Whitehead, as well as the wider Carrickfergus Borough Council area, contact Carrickfergus Tourist Information Centre, Carrickfergus Museum & Civic Centre, 11 Antrim Street, Carrickfergus, BT38 7DG. Telephone: 028 9335 8049 Fax: 028 9335 0350 Email: touristinfo@carrickfergus.org Web: www.carrickfergus.org/tourism



Carrickfergus Borough



Whitehead Heritage and Wellbeing Trail



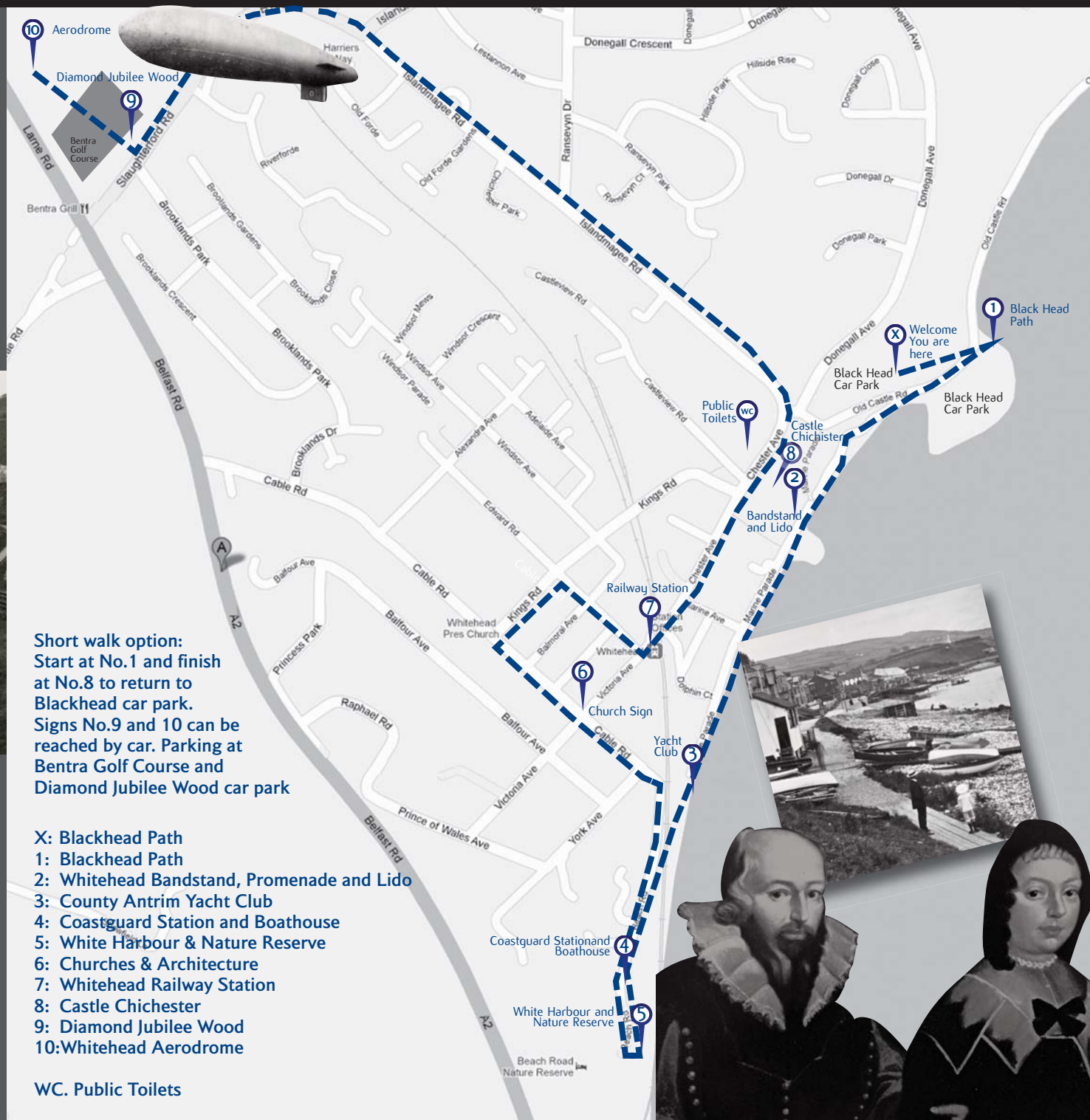
The Whitehead Heritage and Wellbeing Trail takes you around ten key points of interest in the town. There is interpretive signage at each point, with detailed information about that location. This leaflet is a summary of what you will find.



History of the town

The origins of Whitehead go back to the early 1600s, when a small hamlet grew around Castle Chichester - you can see the ruins of the castle in Chester Avenue. This settlement had its own quay, and traded with Scotland. But it was the arrival of the railway in 1862 that provided the stimulus for Whitehead to grow and take on its present-day character.

With rail travel, Whitehead became an important link between Larne and Belfast and people built homes in the area. The railway also encouraged day trippers and visitors to come to the town. Victorian entrepreneurs saw the potential of this trade, and so villas, hotels, cafes, churches, pathways and a seaside promenade were built. By the late 1800s /early 1900s, Whitehead had become a popular seaside resort.



Short walk option:
 Start at No.1 and finish at No.8 to return to Blackhead car park.
 Signs No.9 and 10 can be reached by car. Parking at Bentra Golf Course and Diamond Jubilee Wood car park

- X: Blackhead Path
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WC. Public Toilets

