Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site
Voted Ireland’s favourite heritage site for the past four years as well as being voted the site of greatest historical importance to Ireland.
IS PALACE ON RIVER BOYNE

As a place of prehistoric interest, Newgrange attracts visitors from all quarters of the globe, some of whom are seen entering the caves to hear Mrs. Hickey’s story of their archaeological history.

Inside the main chamber of the caves a party of visitors, aided by the custodian and guide, Mrs. Hickey, and with the help of candles, search for further sculptured decorations.
Mrs. Edna McFarland-Maloy, Omaha, Nebraska, U.S.A., makes a pictorial record of the writings on one of the hundred slabs which form the kerb surrounding the mound.

Mrs. Anne Hurst and Mrs. McGuinness are interested in the saucer-like stone where, it is said, the ancient kings of Ireland were cremated 2,000 B.C.
Problems

• Wear and Tear
• Traffic Congestion
• Litter
• Illegal trading
• Security Problems
• Inadequate facilities
Brú na Bóinne

- 1987- Boyne Valley Archaeological Park
- 1993 Brú na Bóinne listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site
- 1997 Visitor Centre opens
Importance of Site for Tourism

- Nearly 240,000 visitors in 2012
- Approx 135,000 to Newgrange
- 57,000 to Knowth
- Remainder to Centre Only (48,000)
Importance for Local Economy

- In 1996, 4 full time people working
- Presently OPW employs 30 full time including Guides, Storekeepers, General Operatives and Bus Drivers
- Tourist Information Office/Shop
- Tea Rooms/Cleaning Staff
- 37 permanent staff and 37 seasonal staff not counting maintenance staff at the sites
Local ties

• Special rate and priority booking for local B&Bs
• Exhibition space for local places of interest
• E.g. Ledwidge Museum, Boyne Currach centre, Millmount Museum
• Close co-operation with local tourism authorities and Fáilte Ireland
Craft in Action
Craft in Action
School Play
the Gathering
in the Centre
Sunday 14th July
3pm - 5pm

Fear an Ti: Shay White
Set Dancing & Céili

Special Lunch Menu

Free Admission. All Welcome

Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre
Donore, County Meath: 041 9880300
Photography Competition
Drogheda School Exhibition
Drogheda School Exhibition
Winter Solstice 1967

Over the course of the excavation, some of the many local site-stories would often tell the O'Kelly's of a tradition that the rising sun, or some unexpected light, would light up the three-spiral stone in the yard near the Anchor at Newgrange. Unfortunately, "no one could be found who had witnessed this but it continued to be
mentioned". The O'Kelly's of Newgrange had a tradition that there was a confusion with brooches and the well-known three-spiral alignment there.

Discussions are ongoing about the possibility that this tradition may have persisted into the minds of the local site-stories. The tradition would concern the "three-spiral solstice", and that people would use the day to align a passage of the local peoples' funeral migration.

Abundant evidence points to the fact that while Professor O'Kelly was on his journey, there were days before the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year.

Some may recall that Professor O'Kelly was on his journey while the sun was low in the sky. To his amazement, the rising sun would light up the three-spiral stone, causing the site-stories to wonder what it might be. To his amazement, the three-spiral stone would light up the annals, and the site-stories would wonder what it might be. It was thought that the three-spiral stone was lit up by the phenomenon, possibly a solar alignment or some sort of natural light.
Senior Citizens’ Christmas Party
Shindig
Historical Society Talks
The Mound of the Hostages.
New Insights into Old Excavations.
Dr. Muiris O'Sullivan

Wednesday, November 3rd.

Bru na Boinne
8 p.m.
Nature Rambles
Wildflower walk
Brú na Bóinne Football Team
Boyne Valley Walking Festival
‘Farming is the lynchpin of the tourism industry too. The fact that our country has such a beautiful appearance, the patchwork of field and greenery, is thanks to farmers. And the farmers are very proud of what they do’
Eddie Downey Cara magazine Sept 2013