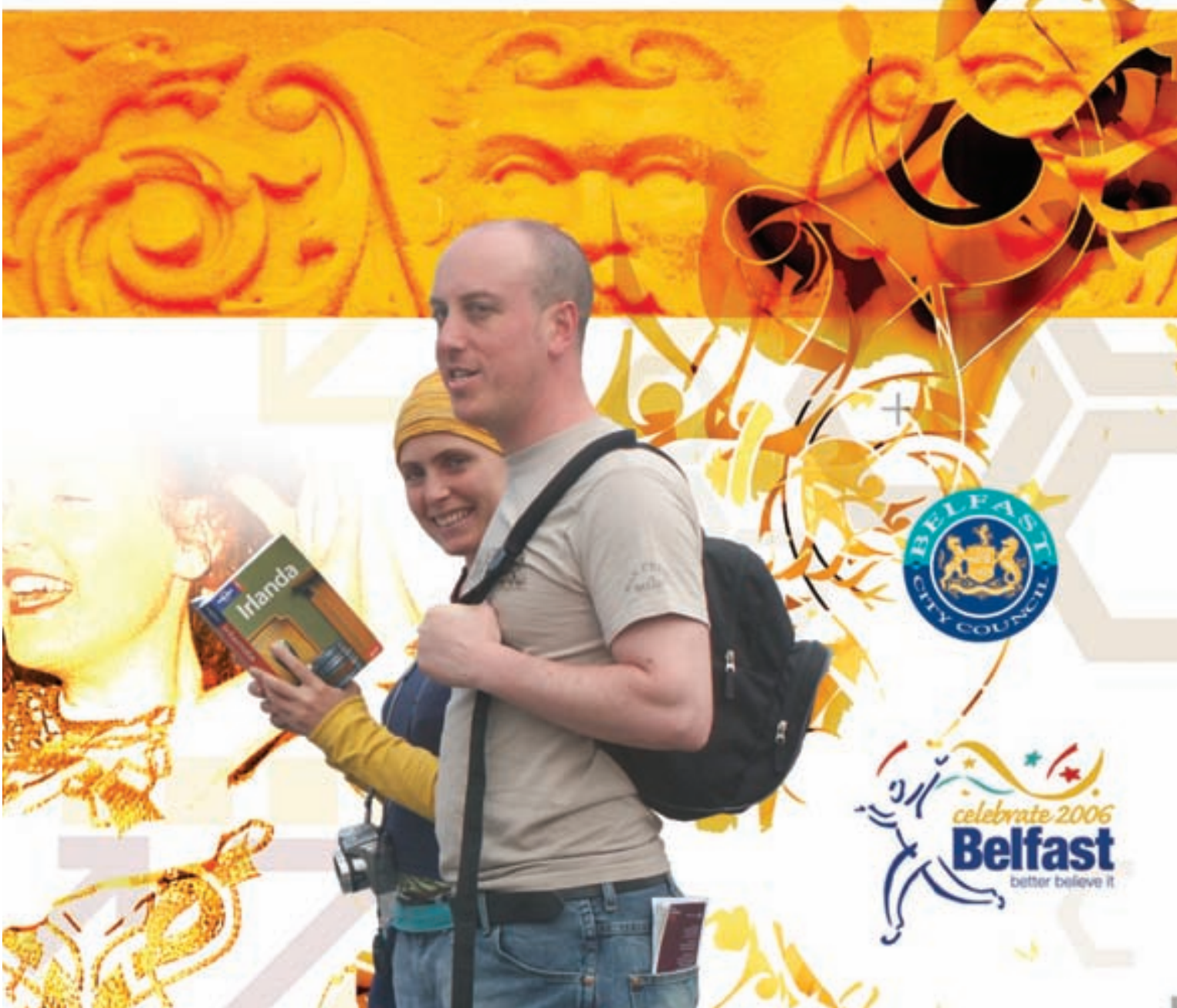
celebrate belfast presents

ceathrú gaeltachta

gaeltacht quarter



BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

celebrate 2006
Belfast
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fáilte
Welcome

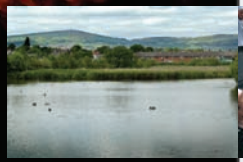
I bhfad siar a tharla ann Béal Feirste, seandún a stiúir áth ar abhainn an Lagáin. Uaidh sin a ainmniodh an baile, Béal Feirste, "béal átha na feirste"

Níl aon áit ar láidre beoga an oidhreachta náisiúnta sin ná feadh Bhóthar na bhFál, áit ar tháinig rath ar an Teanga Ghaeilge, a bheoigh réimse eispéireas cultúrtha de chuid an 21ú haois. Is é an ceantar seo an Cheathrú Gaeltachta.

Belfast dates back to an ancient fort which once controlled the ford across the river Lagan. In fact the name of the city is derived from the Gaelic Béal Feirste roughly translated as "the mouth of the sandbank"

Nowhere is this historical legacy more potent and vibrant than along the Falls Road where the Irish language has flourished, igniting a range of 21st century cultural experiences. This area is the Gaeltacht Quarter.

Stone carving
An Cultúrlann, Falls Road



Bog Meadows

West Belfast Festival

Political murals

Stain glass window, St. Mary's University College, Falls Road

Is aoibhinn leis an Cheathrú Gaeltachta fuaimeanna: an focal cainte, buille na filíochta, rithim an amhráin, siosarnach an leabhair á oscailt.

Éist le consain na Sasana i ndeabhaidh guaillí agus grinn le gutaí Alban agus Éireann, mar a mbíonn sléibhte agus ailtireacht i gcomhrá agus mar a nochtann an aimsir anallód ina steillbheatha láithreach. Seo Béal Feirste nuair is uathúla agus is uchtúla é.

The Gaeltacht Quarter is a place that delights in sounds: the spoken word, the beat of rhyme, the rhythm of song, the crackle of the opened book.

Listen as the consonants of England, jostle and jest with the vowels of Scotland and Ireland, where the mountains converse with the architecture and where the ancient past has emerged as a dynamic present. This is Belfast at its most unique and daring.

Aerial view of the gaeltacht Quarter

Sreabhann Bóthar na bhFál tríd an Cheathrú Gaeltachta; is craobhaibhneacha iad a cúlsráideanna agus a léanaí glasa a ghineann a lán dá carachtar agus dá cumhacht. Seo agat cuid de na nithe suimiúla a gheobhaidh tú sa chéad mhíle go leith.

The Falls Road surges its way through the Gaeltacht Quarter; its side streets and green spaces, tributaries infusing this great cultural gateway with much of its character and power. Highlighted on this page are some of the interesting things you will find along its first mile and a half.

Cultúrlann McAdam O'Fiaich

St Mary's University College

Irish Language Restaurant

Cumann Cluain Ard

Corner of Grosvenor Road and Beginning of Royal Victoria Hospitals decorative railings

Dunville Park

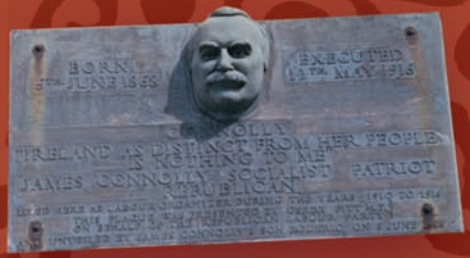
Clonard Street leading to Clonard Monastery

Eachtra Sóisialta

Social adventure

Tá mórán sa Cheathrú Gaeltachta don mhuintir sin a chuireann spéis sna daoine agus sna háiteanna a d'fhág lorg ar an stair. Cuirfidh tú scoth na haithne ar Shéamas Ó Conghaile, Bobby Sands agus Ó Donnabháin Rosa. Tabhair cuairt ar Mhainistir Chluain Ard inar tharla na comhchainteanna íogaire a thug an tsíocháin go dtí an Chathair agus a threoraigh i dtreo deiseanna daonlathacha úra í.

The Gaeltacht Quarter offers much to those who have an interest in the people and places that have shaped local history. James Connolly, Bobby Sands and O'Donavan Rossa will all become familiar to you. Visit Clonard Monastery where sensitive negotiations helped in the search for peace in the city.



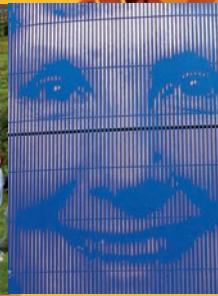
James Connolly Plaque, Falls Road

Guided tour of Cemetery

Milltown Cemetery

The International Wall

Blackmountain Walk



Royal railings

turas cathrach
city tours

Gabh ar cheann de thurais eagraithe an Cheathrú Gaeltachta, a chlúdaíonn dhá reilig iomráiteacha nó a lán dá suímh pholaitiúla, nó tabhair na Cnoic ort féin agus breathnaigh cuid de radharcanna iontacha na Cathrach.

Join one of the Gaeltacht Quarter's organised tours taking in two famous cemeteries, City Cemetery and Milltown Cemetery, or many of its political sites, or head up Divis Mountain and discover some fantastic views.

caorán cosanta
protected bogland

Má tá an Cheathrú Gaeltachta greanach uirbeach, taobh le Bóthar na hFál tá caorán cosanta, 'Tearmann Dúlra Chluain an Bhogaigh', an t-aon cheann sa chathair, ina bhfuil réimse éagsúil plandaí agus ainmhithe.

The Gaeltacht Quarter may be gritty and urban but alongside the Falls Road sits our only protected bogland 'The Bog Meadows Nature Reserve' with its diverse range of flora and fauna.

Bog Meadows

Buail isteach sa Chultúrlann, ionad ceannródaíoch cultúir agus ealaíon an Cheathrú Gaelachta, a bhfuil lonnaithe ann bialann ar dóigh, siopa leabhar agus féiríní, amharclann agus gailearaí. Rachaidh a beocht agus a spreacadh i bhfeidhm ort, san oíche go háirithe nuair is cosúil gurb í an ghealach amháin a thugann aird ar an am. B'fhiú go mór duit casadh isteach i gCumann Chluain Ard, cliabhán athbheochan Teanga an lae inniu in Iarthar Bhéal Feirste, áit inar bhunaigh dream díograiseoirí óga Gaeltacht Bhóthar Seoigh go mall sna 1960í. Is anseo gan amhras a gheobhaidh tú siamsa dúchais nuair is foirfe é, le ceol, craic agus céilí

Visit An Cultúrlann, the Gaeltacht Quarter's flagship culture and arts centre containing an excellent restaurant, book and gift shop, theatre and gallery. You will be struck by its verve and vitality, especially at night when only the moon seems to care about the time. Or why not drop in to Cumann Chluain Árd, birthplace of the modern language revival in West Belfast, from where a group of young language enthusiasts established the Shaws Road Gaeltacht in the late 1960s. Here you are assured of traditional entertainment at its very best with music, craic and ceilidh.

dance until dawn

bí ag damhsa go maidin

Siamsa

Entertainment

Féile an Phobail

Is iomaí deis siamsa sa Cheathrú agus an Chultúrlann ar thús cadhnaíochta le lánchlár ilghnéitheach ceoil, damhsa agus dráma ó cheann ceann na bliana agus a lán de na scórtha tábhairní agus clubanna ag tairiscint ceoil agus siamsa do na haíonna agus pátrúin gach oíche sa tseachtain; agus gan dearmad a dhéanamh ar ndóigh, d'Fhéile an Phobail, mórfhéile pobail na hEorpa, lena féilte Earraigh agus Lúnasa a thairgeann scoth deise do chuairteoirí tarraingt ar na rithimí a shainíonn an Cheathrú bheoga chruthaitheach uathúil seo de chuid na Cathrach.

There are a host of opportunities for entertainment in the Quarter with Cultúrlann providing a packed and varied programme of music, dance and drama throughout the year and with many of the scores of pubs and clubs offering music and entertainment for the guests of patrons every night of the week and of course Féile an Phobail, Europe's biggest community festival, with its Spring and August Festivals, provides a huge opportunity for visitors to tap into the rhythms which define this vibrant, creative and unique quarter of the city.

Ithe amuigh

Eating out

An Chultúrlann

Níl aon ghanntanas bialann beag agus siopaí beaga caife sa Cheathrú mar a bhfaighidh an cuairteoir béile éadrom, greim gasta nó cupán gasta caife, ach iad siúd a bheadh ag iarraidh béile ní ba théagartha, ní fearr rud a dhéanfadh siad ná tarraingt ar an Chaife Glas sa Chultúrlann, ina thimpeallacht uathúil atá Gaelach agus iltíreach araon, agus tá béilí le blas na hÉireann le fáil fosta ag Bia Beatha nó Teach an Ghleanna agus ag éagsúlacht mhór tábhairní agus áitreabh ceadúnaithe a riarann bia feadh Bhóthar na bhFál.

There are no shortage of small cafes and coffee shops in the Quarter at which the visitor can have a light meal, a snack or a quick cup of coffee, but for those seeking something more substantial they need look no further than an Café Glás at Cultúrlann with its uniquely Irish, yet cosmopolitan, ambience. Full meals with an Irish flavour can also be had at Bia Beatha or Teach an Ghleanna as well as at a whole variety of pubs and licensed premises which also serve food along the length of the Falls Road.

Spórt agus Fóillíocht

Tá flúirse deiseanna fóillíochta anseo sa Cheathrú. Gabh a spaisteoireacht i bPáirc Dhún Bhile nó Páirc na bhFál nó tabhair cuairt ar Shólanna na bhFál, na Carraige Báine nó Ard na bhFeá. Tá áit ar leith ag an spórt dúchais Gaelach i saol na Ceathrún, ionad baile chlubanna CLG Mhichíl Uí Dhaibhéid, Mhichíl Uí Dhuibhir, Sheáin Mhic Dhiarmada, Naomh Eoin, Naomh Gall agus Uí Dhonnabháin Rosa. Díreach taobh amuigh den Cheathrú tá Páirc Mhic Asmaint a tógadh i 1953 agus a ainmníodh in ómós don cheannaire Poblachtach Éireannach Sior Ruairí Mac Asmaint. Má tharlaíonn an bealach seo ag deireadh na seachtaine tú bí cinnte do shiúl a ghéarú ag gníomhaíocht ghéarchéimneach cheann de na cluichí ceannais.

Sport and Leisure

Leisure opportunities abound here in the Quarter. Take a stroll in Dunville or Falls Parks or visit the Falls Swim Centre, Whiterock or Beechmount Leisure Centres. Indigenous Gaelic sports feature heavily in the life of the Quarter, home to the GAA clubs of Michael Davitts, Michael Dwyers, Sean McDermott's, St John's, St Gall's and O'Donovan Rossa. Just outside the Quarter is Casement Park, built in 1953 and named after Sir Roger Casement. If you're passing here at the weekend be sure to set your pace racing by taking in the fast-paced action at one of the championship games.

Is tarraingt mhór fosta ag cuairteoirí í an teiripe miondíola agus siopaí agus caifí beaga agus siopaí beaga ceardaíochta, agus na hionaid mhóra miondíola, Ionad na Páirce mar shampla, ag tairiscint táirgí áitiúla agus brandainmneacha móra.

Retail therapy is also a big attraction for visitors with small local shops, cafes and craft shops and the bigger retail outlets such as the Park Centre offering local produce and big name brands.

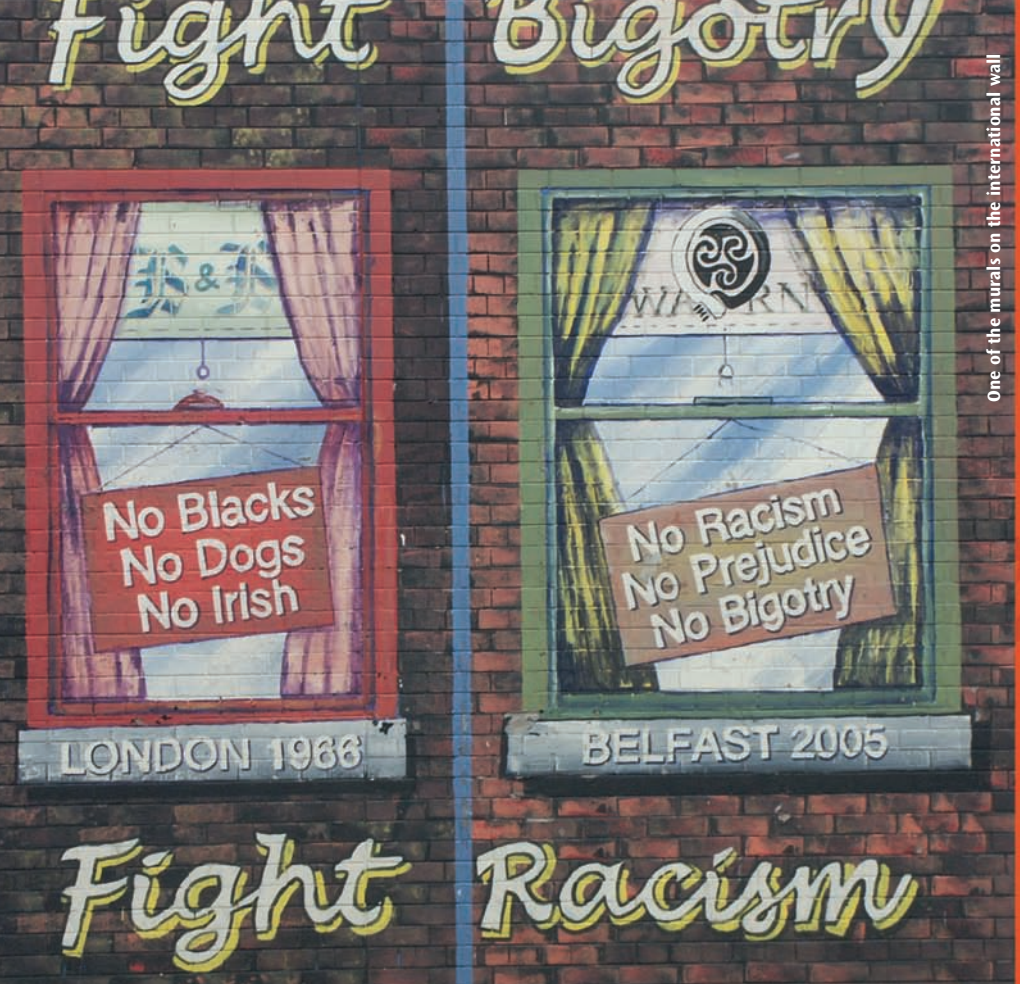
Ealaín agus Ceardaíocht

Arts and Crafts

McNaughton Hurleys

Cruinníonn ealaíontóirí agus oibrithe ceardaíochta i gcuideachta lucht cruthaitheachta eile sa Cheathrú Gaeltachta. Tá pobal cruthaitheach breis agus 20 oibrí ceardaíochta agus ealaíontóir i Muileann Mhic Conmidhe. Ar an réimse scileanna ansin tá péintéireacht, snoí adhmaid, miotalóireacht, ceirmeacht, seodra, déanamh troscáin agus déanamh masc. Glacfaidh na healaíontóirí uilig le coimisiúin agus bíonn a gcuid oibre ar taispeáint phoiblí ag a lán acu ag siopa ceardaíochta an tsuímh. Agus cleachtar go fóill ceird dúchais chruthú camán sa Cheathrú, agus ag Camáin Mhic Neachtain in ionad an Dá Spuaic tig turais a eagrú do chuairteoirí a bhfuil spéis acu i seanchluiche seo laochra agus gaiscígh Éireann. Sa Cheathrú fosta tá Leabharlann Carnegie na bhFál a tógadh i 1908 agus í maisithe taobh istigh le gnéithe breátha a dhear agus a rinne Rosamond Praeger, dealbhóir mná de chuid na háite.

Artists and craft workers cluster along with the other creative tendencies in the Gaeltacht Quarter. Conway Mill houses a creative community of over 20 craft workers and artists. The range of disciplines include painting, wood carving, wood sculpture, metal work, ceramics, jewellery, furniture making and mask making. All artists accept commissions and many have pieces of work on public display at the on site craft shop. The traditional craft of hurley making is also still practiced in the Quarter and at McNaughton Hurleys in the Twin Spires complex tours can be arranged for visitors interested in this ancient game of Ireland's warriors and heroes. The Quarter also houses the Falls Carnegie Library built in 1908 and decorated outside with some fine features designed and executed by local sculptress Rosamond Praeger.



One of the murals on the international wall

Múrealaín Urban art

Sa Cheathrú gheobhaidh tú ceann de na bailiúcháin múrealaíne is leithne ar domhan, agus turais eagraithe na múrphictiúr faoi choimirce Choiste na nlarchimí, turais a thig a áirithint trí Bhiúró Cuairteoirí agus Comhdhálacha Bhéal Feirste. Is iomaí sampla obair ealaíne breactha ar fud na Ceathrún á n-aibhsiú i 'dTrial Ealaíon agus Oidhreachta Iarthar Bhéal Feirste agus na Seanchille'. Tá ceann den chuid is taibhsí b'fhéidir le feiceáil ar ráillí Ospidéal Ríoga Victeoiria. Léiríonn an struchtúr ardteicneolaíoch léasarghearrtha seo cruthú ollmhór DNA, a dhúisíonn croí obair na n-ospidéal.

One of the most extensive collections of mural art anywhere in the world can be found in the Quarter, organised tours of the murals and their associated history are hosted by Coiste na nlarchimí and can be booked through the Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau. There are many examples of artwork dotted throughout the Quarter and highlighted in the 'West Belfast and Shankill Arts and Heritage Trail'. Perhaps one of the most impressive is located up on the railings at Royal Victoria Hospital. This high-tech laser-cut structure depicts an immense DNA formation, evoking the core of the hospital's work.

Foirfeacht Foghlama

Crann taca sa Cheathrú é an t-oideachas agus bhí ardmheas riamh anseo air. Ar fud na Ceathrún gheobhaidh tú na forais Ghaeloideachais, Gaelscoil an Lonnáin, Gaelscoil na bhFál, Bunscoil an tSléibhe Dhuibh agus Coláiste Feirste. Ar na forais oideachais eile dara leibhéal sa cheantar tá, Ardscoil Naomh Doiminic – alma mater Uachtarán na hÉireann, Máire Mhic Giolla Íosa – agus Coláiste Naomh Labhaoise. Sa Cheathrú fosta tá Coláiste Ollscoile Naomh Muire atá chun tosaigh i dtreanáil muinteoirí i dTuaisceart na h-Éireannn ó 1900 i leith.

Educational Excellence

Education is a mainstay of the Quarter and has always been highly valued. Throughout the Quarter many Irish Medium institutions can be found; Gaelscoil an Lonnáin, Gaelscoil na bhFál, Bunscoil an tSléibhe Dhuibh and Coláiste Feirste. Other second and third level institutions in the area are Coláiste Ollscoile Muire, St Dominic's High School Alma Mater of Irish President Mary McAleese and St Louise's Comprehensive College, one of the largest girls' schools in Europe. The Quarter is also home to St Mary's University College which has been at the forefront of teacher training education in the north of Ireland since 1900.