

Join Your Local Ireland **xo** Reaching Out Programme in County Kilkenny



Kilkenny LEADER Partnership is pleased to announce that we are delivering the Ireland Reaching Out Programme in Kilkenny. We are initially piloting the programme in two venues Castlecomer and Kilmacow with further venues to be announced in the Autumn.

Connect with your Parish Diaspora Abroad

Parish by Parish, let's connect with our people abroad!

An estimated 70 million people worldwide are of Irish descent. They, or their ancestors travelled abroad from parishes across Ireland and are now dispersed throughout the world. Many retain a sense of "Irishness" even though they may be many generations removed from Ireland. They have a contribution to make to our lives, as we have to theirs. Working with the Ireland Reaching Out (Ireland XO) programme in County Kilkenny, you can reconnect your parish with its Diaspora abroad.

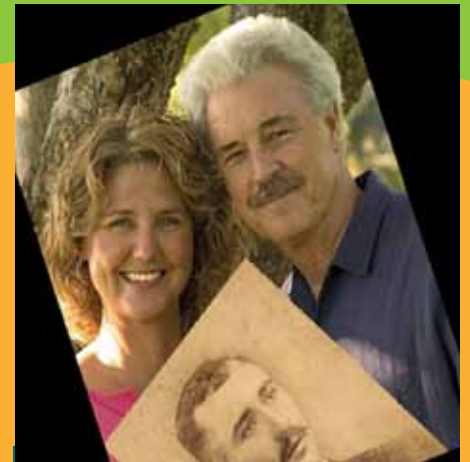
A Simple Idea – Reverse Genealogy

Instead of waiting for people of Irish descent to return to Ireland to 'trace their roots', we reverse this process. This involves local communities, largely through volunteer effort and with the support of Ireland XO, tracing the people who left their parishes and seeking to find them or their living descendants worldwide. The parish then 'reaches out' and invites them to become part of a new extended global Irish community, which will open up new opportunities for social, cultural and economic development.



Why should you get involved?

The Ireland Reaching Out programme offers an extraordinary opportunity for local parish communities to self-develop. It enables them to increase the number of people committed and engaged with their parish by inviting their Diaspora worldwide to connect and become involved in their place of origin.



What are the benefits?

>The programme helps the Irish abroad discover who they really are by reconnecting them with their ancestral parish, forming new lifelong friendships and bonds.

>Ireland XO provides an opportunity for people tracing their roots to directly link to local Irish Parish communities to whom they may be connected. When they visit, they will be welcomed and given assistance with their genealogical research.

>The programme is a platform for family, friends and neighbours to work together to advance their communities and support community involvement.

>Ireland XO creates a greater local appreciation of the rich heritage and tourism potential of every Irish parish.

>IrelandXO is a central resource, which provides an online web infrastructure, genealogy advice and training for local parishes in Ireland.

>The combined efforts of parishes enable the establishment of a global network of Irish contacts to be leveraged and engaged.

Ireland **xo** Reaching Out



Sign Up for Local Kilkenny Reaching Out Workshops & Training Programme

CASTLECOMER

> **Records Workshop –
An Introduction to Genealogy**
Monday 27th May 2013
(Discovery Park, Castlecomer)
1830 - 2130

> **Built Heritage Field Trip to Kilkenny &
Rothe House**
Saturday 8th June 2013
0930 - 1700

> **An Introduction to Web and Social Media**
Monday 10th June 2013
(Discovery Park, Castlecomer)
1830 - 2130

> **Event Management – Reaching Out Toolkit**
Monday 17th June 2013
(Discovery Park, Castlecomer)
1830 - 2130

> **Built & Natural Heritage Field Trip**
Saturday 22nd June 2013
(County Kilkenny)
1000 - 1600

> **Ancestral Tourism, Marketing & PR**
Monday 24th June 2013
(Discovery Park, Castlecomer)
1830 - 2130

KILMACOW

> **Records Workshop –
An Introduction to Genealogy**
Tuesday 28th May 2013
(Kilmacow Community Centre)
1830 - 2130

> **Built Heritage Field Trip to Kilkenny &
Rothe House**
Saturday 8th June 2013
0930 - 1700

> **An Introduction to Web and Social Media**
Tuesday 11th June 2013
(Kilmacow Community Centre)
1830 - 2130

> **Event Management – Reaching Out Toolkit**
Tuesday 18th June 2013
(Kilmacow Community Centre)
1830 - 2130

> **Ancestral Tourism, Marketing & PR**
Tuesday 25th June 2013
(Kilmacow Community Centre)
1830 - 2130

> **Built & Natural Heritage Field Trip**
Saturday 29th June 2013
(County Kilkenny)
1000 - 1600

NB: Participants will require to complete an application form to confirm their intention to attend these training sessions. Contact details are shown on the right hand side of the page.

About Ireland Reaching Out

Ireland Reaching Out (Ireland XO) is a non-profit voluntary and community-based charitable organisation, sponsored by the Irish Government, and set up for the benefit of the community in organising the Irish Diaspora worldwide. (Charity Number CHY19382).

How to Get Your Parish Involved

> The training programme is free so to receive an application for one of the two Pilot Schemes participants need to complete an expression of interest form available from KLP.

> Participants need to commit to the full training including field and desk research.

> Participants must commit to organising a parish 'Weekend of Welcomes' supported by KLP.

To book your place or for further details please contact: -

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