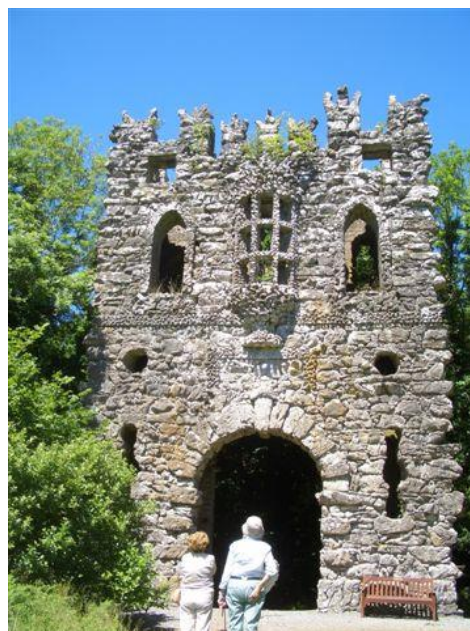


**A Day in County Westmeath
with the Follies Trust
Saturday 23 April 2016**



The day will begin in Belvedere, near Mullingar, where we are the guests of Westmeath County Council. We meet at 10am for refreshments; afterwards we will walk around Belvedere with Conservation Officer, Bernadette Solon. Belvedere, designed by Richard Castle, was built in 1740 and its famous follies by Thomas Wright were erected c.1750. This delightful estate has been widely admired – in 1942 Sir John Betjeman wrote

**“Oh gay lapped the waves on the shores of Lough Ennell
And sweet smelt the breeze amid the garlic and fennel
But sweeter and gayer that either of these
Were the songs of the birds in Lord Belvedere’s trees”**

Our second visit of the day is to Tullyally Castle, home of the Pakenham family. Here our guide, Sir Thomas, will show us the Castle, the gardens and the grotto which resembles a rustic belvedere and has an octagonal plan with a domed roof. At Tullyally we will have lunch prior to departing for Kilbixy.

The Malone mausoleum in Kilbixy churchyard is described by David Winpenny as ‘Ireland’s best example of a pyramid-topped burial vault’. In 1783 James Wyatt designed the Darnley mausoleum at Cobham in Kent. Though this mausoleum is on a smaller scale the design is attributed to Wyatt also.

This is a wonderful opportunity to visit fascinating parts of Co. Westmeath led by the Conservation Officer, Bernadette, who has recently joined the Follies Trust Committee.

The cost of this event is £25/€28 which includes lunch in Tullyally Castle and a personal tour by Sir Thomas Pakenham of both house and gardens. Please send a cheque (either sterling or euro) to Mr T.W. Atkinson, 100 Mullahead Road, Tandragee, Craigavon BT62 2LB or contact us through info@follies-trust.org.