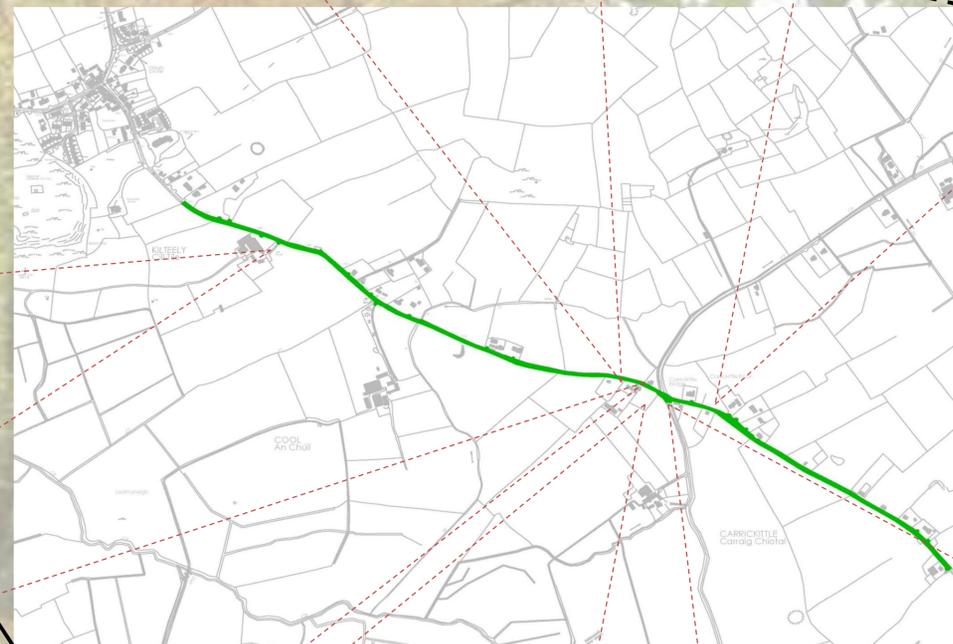
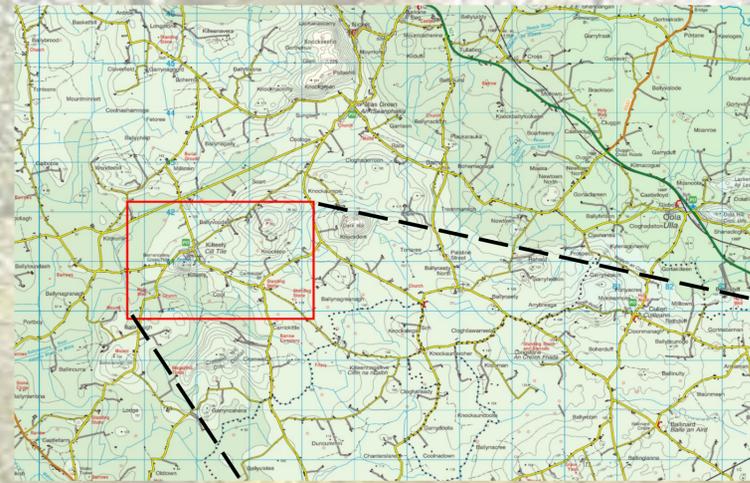


# Kilteely's Golden Mile 2015

## Slí an Dúlra Chill Tíle



### Kilteely's Golden Mile

Kilteely's mile is located on the L1154. It starts in the townland of Kilteely at (approximate grid reference 573115, 640965)<sup>1</sup>, passing through the townland of Cool and ends in the townland of Carrigkettle at (approximate grid reference 574425, 640388). This is a generally a flat walk on a 5m wide tarmac road with good visibility for the pedestrian and traffic is intermittent. The mile is part of the longer looped walk (7.5km) Kilteely-Carrigkettle-Knockroe-Kilteely and the local community has published an informative brochure on walking routes in Kilteely giving details of history along the way<sup>2</sup>. The community has also provided an information board in the village (across from the church) on the local walking routes. This mile has been a previous winner of the Golden Mile competition in 2008.

Taking this pleasant rural walk you find yourself walking past diverse roadside boundaries with well maintained stone walls, ditches, mature hedgerow and trees, new hedgerow and grass verges. This combination gives you a mature tree canopy at times and open views over ditches to the hills of Knockroe, Cromwell Hill and Knockderk, and further afield to the Galtees and the Ballyhoura uplands. Do take the time to stop at the viewing points signposted by the community along the way. This walk takes you along lovely, diverse, native hedgerows, with mature tree canopies with many native species such as hawthorn, willow, birch, beech, privet and elm. Trees and hedgerows are essential wildlife corridors for mammals, invertebrates and birds alike. From ground level to the canopy of the hedgerows you will find, beetles, woodlice, invertebrates, spiders and other insects, field mice, shrews, and birds such as blackbirds, thrushes, tits, robins, and finches. Butterflies, and bees seek the nectar of flowers by the roadside. At night bats seek the insects along the hedgerow and indeed use the hedgerow for navigation as sonar detection is best guided by the hedgerow and they avoid the open fields. The kestrel and the occasional barn owl hunt along the grass verge of the hedgerow. Thus, hedgerows are the necessary links between burrows and feeding sites.

In terms of built heritage this mile has many fine features, including extensive old stone walls which are well maintained, traditional wrought iron gates, vernacular rural houses (Cool House dated early 1800s) and cottages, some of which are very well maintained. Take a look at the historic six inch map (1829-1841) and you will see that there is no cross roads at Carrigkettle Cross as the L5171 (local known as the Derk Road) had not been constructed. It is a Famine Relief road and in the 25inch historical maps (1897-1913) you see that the road as it is today is indicated<sup>3</sup>. Close to Carrigkettle Cross you pass pre-historic recorded monuments listed under Record of Monuments and Places<sup>4</sup>. L1033-019 refers to a standing stone and L1033-022 refers to a castle at Carrigcastle Rock suggesting a Norman presence in this area. There are many protected monuments in the wider Kilteely and Carrigkettle townlands including enclosures, ring barrows, and a tumulus.

The community is commended for its long term vision for the enhancement of Kilteely through its Tidy Towns programme and its many community initiatives that are for the betterment of the community, biodiversity, local history and built heritage.

#### Useful links:

- [www.hedgelayers.ie](http://www.hedgelayers.ie)
- [www.invasivespecies.ie](http://www.invasivespecies.ie)
- [www.biodiversityireland.ie](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie)
- [www.nativewoodlandtrust.ie](http://www.nativewoodlandtrust.ie)
- [www.wildflowersofireland.ie](http://www.wildflowersofireland.ie)
- [www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie)
- [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)
- [www.maps.osi.ie](http://www.maps.osi.ie)

<sup>1</sup> [www.maps.osi.ie](http://www.maps.osi.ie)

<sup>2</sup> [www.facebook.com/Kilteelytidytowns](https://www.facebook.com/Kilteelytidytowns)

<sup>3</sup> [Maps.osi.ie/historical maps](http://Maps.osi.ie/historical%20maps)

<sup>4</sup> Refer to Record of Monuments and Places on [www.archaeology.ie](http://www.archaeology.ie)

