



An Chéibh Bheag

Beirt bhan láidre na mara *Two strong women of the sea*

Lile na hÉireann

Chaith an bhanríon Éireannach, Dymphna, a mhair i rith an 7ú haois, a saol gearr ag obair ar son Chríost. Bhí briseadh croí ar a hathair, Damon, i ndiaidh bhás a mná chéile, agus theastaigh uaidh Dymphna a phósadh. Lean sé í trasna na hÉireann chomh fada le hAcaill. Bhunaigh sí mainistir i gCill Damhnait. Theith Dymphna ó Damon, ach rug sé uirthi ar deireadh thiar thall sa Bheilg, agus bhain sé an cloigeann di.

Banríon mara Chonnacht

Ba iad mhuintir Mháille taoisigh mhairneálaigh iardheisceart Mhaigh Eo. Rinne siad a gcuid airgid ó earraí a thrádáil, a bheith i mbun píoráideachta agus cáin a ghearradh ar bháid a bhí ag seoladh trína n-uiscí. Thóg siad roinnt dúnta lena n-áirítear dún i gCill Damhnait chun an cainéal caol idir Acaill agus an mhórthír a chosaint. Rugadh Gráinne, an bhean ba cháiliúla ar fad de mhuintir Mháille, ar Chliara.

The Lily of Ireland

Seventh century Irish princess, Dymphna, devoted her short life to Christ. Maddened by grief after his wife's death, her father Damon wanted to marry Dymphna. He pursued her across Ireland to Achill where she had founded a monastery at nearby Kildavnet. Dymphna escaped but Damon finally caught up with her in Belgium and cut off her head.

The sea queen of Connacht

The O'Malleys were the seafaring chieftains of south-west Mayo. They made their money from trade, piracy and taxing boats sailing through their waters. They built a string of forts including the one at Kildavnet to protect the narrow channel between Achill and the mainland. Grace, the most famous O'Malley, was born on Clare Island.



Líníocht le Sam Hunter
Illustration by Sam Hunter



- 1 Tabhair cuairt ar shéipéal agus tobar beannaithe Naomh Damhnait agus ar chaisleán Ghráinne i gCill Damhnait.
Visit St Dymphna's church and holy well and Grace's castle at Cill Damhnait (Kildavnet).
- 2 Téigh chomh fada le Clíara más spéis leat dún eile de chuid Ghráinne a fheiceáil.
Cross to Clíara to see another of Grace's strongholds.
- 3 Caith tamall ag féachaint ar uiscí athraitheacha an Atlantaigh ó bharr na n-aillte taobh le teach solais Chliara.
Watch the Atlantic's changing moods from the clifftops beside Clíara lighthouse.



Caisleán Uí Mháille, Clíara
O'Malley Castle, Clare Island