

# Portrush Heritage Group



## Heritage Evening

Portrush Atlantic Hotel Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7:30pm



Dr Nic Wright



Corrstown



Nina Mc Neary



Antrim Gardens

Canon John Mc Kegney will introduce our speakers and all and everyone are welcome. The event is free to Heritage Group Members (£10 Annual Subscription) and for non-members there is a charge of £3. For enquiries please contact the Chairman on 07714033831

### Prehistory of the Causeway Area

Dr Nicholas (Nic) Wright

Nic is an experienced archaeologist who has worked on numerous sites across Northern Ireland, Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia and Australia. He holds a BA (Hons 1) in Classical Archaeology from the University of Sydney, and a PhD from Macquarie University which focused on the relationships between power, religion and culture in Syria in the period 301-64 BC. He is a fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society and now works as the Community Engagement Officer for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Museum Services. His presentation will look at the prehistory of the Causeway Area, from Ireland's first settlers through to the Bronze Age. The talk will also review a number of recent genetic studies which have used DNA uncover more of the story of prehistoric life in the north of Ireland.

### Antrim Gardens Discovery Project

Nina Mc Neary

Nina studied at University College Dublin where she Majored in Archaeology and then went on to do a Post Graduate Diploma in Gemmology at University College Galway. She is a Level Two Tour Guide and a successful local self employed businesswoman. Nina is currently the Project Manager of the Savage Dig Project for the Ballylough Living History Trust, Bushmills.

Nina is our Project leader on The Antrim Garden's Discovery Project which is funded under the EC Peace 1V Programme. In 2005 and archaeological excavation was undertaken at Antrim Gardens as a preliminary to the laying of a new sewer in Portrush. The dig report stated "Antrim Gardens is probably one of the few opportunities in Portrush to actually explore the Medieval Town and it is clear that further, and possibly more extensive, remains still exist within the area of the gardens". Nina's talk will outline what we seek to discover and also consider what other secrets Antrim Gardens holds.