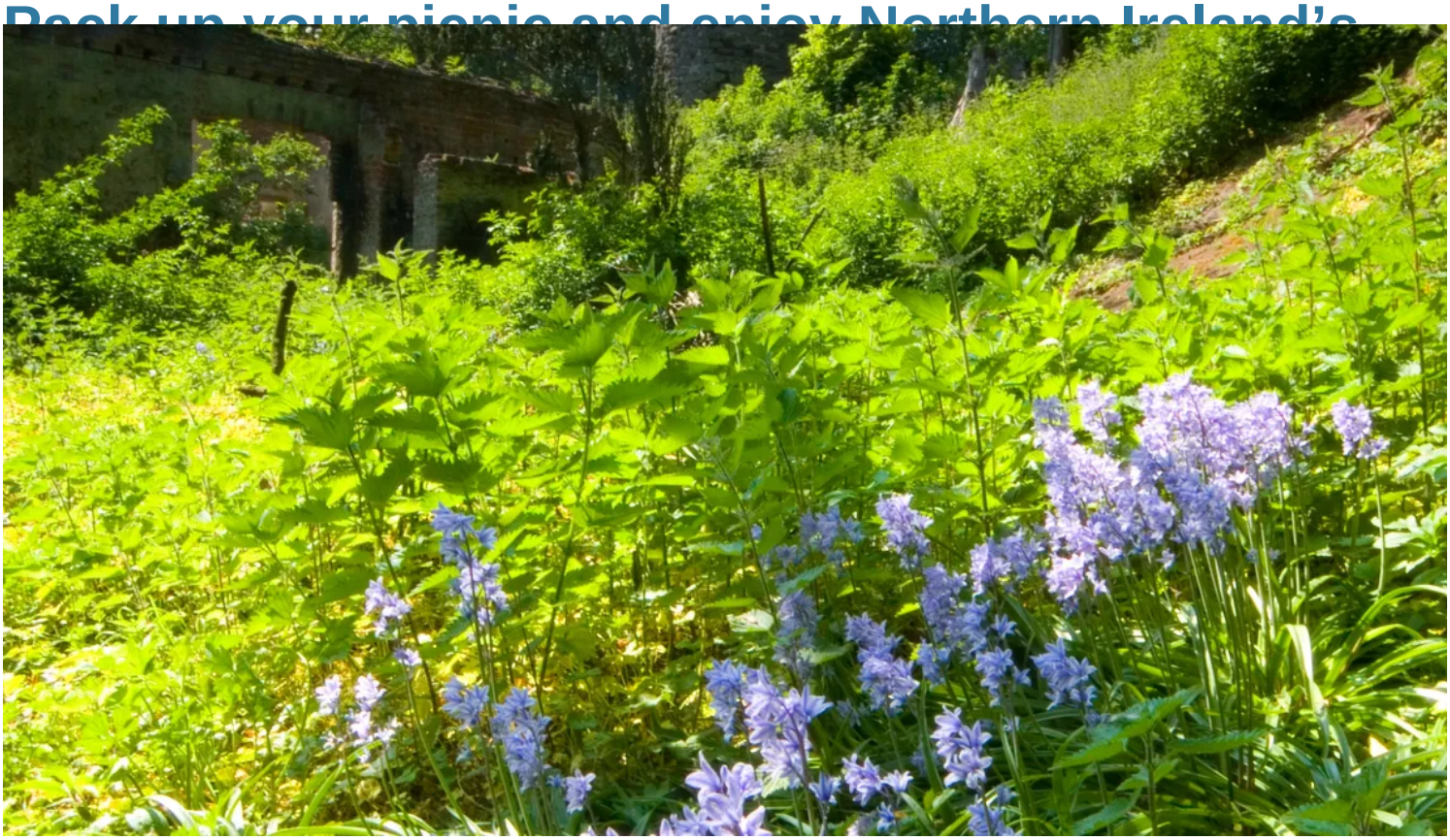
Pack up your picnic and enjoy Northern Ireland’s



Ram's Island in Lough Neagh

It's National Picnic Week, so why not pack up your hamper and head to one of our favourite HLF-supported locations to enjoy the stunning heritage on offer.

National Lottery funding has been helping to open up, conserve and protect Northern Ireland's landscapes, historic parks and wildlife since 1994, so whether you long to laze under a tree, trek through the mountains or enjoy a scenic drive, we've got a place for you.

Mourne Mountains and Slieve Gullion, County Down

There's no better way to work up an appetite than with a trek through the majestic Mournes. Enjoy views from the summit of Northern Ireland's highest peak, Slieve Donard, or marvel at the engineering feats of Silent valley and Ben Crom reservoirs.

At Slieve Gullion cyclists and walkers will love the extensive network of paths and trails while the Giant's Liar and Adventure Playpark will keep little ones entertained.

Tropical Ravine and Ulster Museum, Belfast

Explore an exotic paradise right in the heart of Belfast with a visit to the recently reopened Tropical Ravine. Restored to its Victorian glory the Ravine boasts a wide range of plants, some of which are thought to be 150 years old, interactive exhibits and even a waterfall.

Then visit the Ulster Museum and old favourites including Takabuti the Egyptian mummy and the Edmontosaurus skeleton, before enjoying your picnic in the beautiful surroundings of the Botanic Gardens.

Antrim Castle Gardens and Lough Neagh, County Antrim

The 400 year-old gardens are the perfect place to spend an afternoon, and there are plenty of spots, including formal gardens and ponds, to enjoy dining alfresco. It's also an ideal base to explore the wealth of heritage to be found around Lough Neagh, from crafts to water-based activities and guided tours.

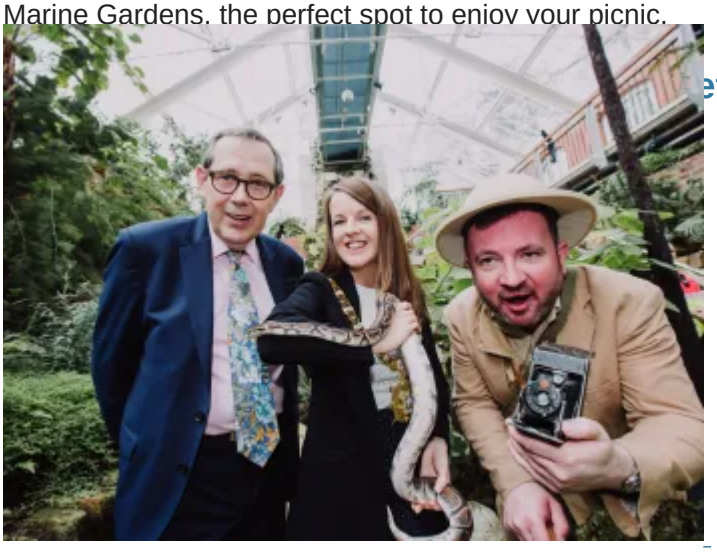
Enniskillen Castle and Lough Erne, County Fermanagh

Visit Fermanagh County Museum and The Inniskillings Museum, both situated in Enniskillen Castle, to learn more about Fermanagh's rich and diverse heritage before relaxing at one of Northern Ireland's most famous beauty-spots, Lough Erne.

Carrickfergus, County Antrim

Walk the medieval streets to view the town's remaining defensive walls which were completed in 1615, or visit Flame! Ireland's only preserved Victorian gasworks.

You can also learn more about the town's connections to the North Irish Horse and view the restored Churchill Tank in Marine Gardens, the perfect spot to enjoy your picnic.



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Sir Peter Luff, Chair of HLF, Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Nuala McAllister and Victorian botanist Ernest Henry Wilson(actor Jason Parks) at the official re-opening of Belfast City Council’s Tropical Ravine



Crome Estate, Lough Erne

Stunning Lough Erne area receives £2.6million boost