

TRADITIONAL IRELAND: HISTORY

by Richie Mullaney

<http://naukabezgranic.pl/podcasty/ireland/>

Hello this is Richie Mullaney, from Learning Without Borders. Here today to give you summary of Irish history.

We are going to start in the year 800 AD, when the Vikings invaded Ireland now the time before the Viking invasion life in Ireland was very peaceful most people are farmers, fisherman and monks. We didn't have a big army, great defense systems, or towering castles with big walls, it was mostly artists, goldsmiths, and blacksmiths, creating religious art and jewellery.

The Vikings invaded during a time where there was a lot of war in mainland Europe; the Normans and the Vikings were at war, France and England would soon be fighting too.

Ireland was the strange green little island, which is quite peaceful. The Vikings invaded... the plan was to continue to England, but a lot of them liked Ireland so much they decided to stay and they later became Kings and Lords of the land.

The Vikings built Dublin, Cork, Galway, Waterford, Wexford and Belfast which are still the main cities today, so the Vikings have gone on for a thousand years. The Vikings, surprisingly, also gave us the foundation for what was to become a civilised society.

They also taught us how to make weapons and defend ourselves as it was their land too.

However, in the year 1169 AD there is an invasion, a man called Strongbow was invited to Ireland with his armies by the king of Leinster, King Dermot. Now King Dermot betrayed other kings of Ireland and let Strongbow in with his armies, defeated the other kings, and then Strongbow betrayed Dermot and Strongbow took rule of Ireland, until such time that Strongbow himself was killed and then England ruled in Ireland, and Ireland was ruled from London.

When the British came into Ireland, they colonised us by sending primarily rich Lords who would build houses and rule over acres of land. They would command all the people underneath them to pay taxes to work the farmland

Like us <http://facebook.com/learningwithoutborders.eu>

Make friends with Richie at

<https://www.facebook.com/richieatlearningwithoutborders/>

and sometimes for very little money or no money at all. This went on from 1169 right up into the 1800s.

It was really only in the 1800s when things started to change; the end of the 18th-century brought several important leaders to Ireland.

The first I will talk about is Daniel O'Connell, we call him the Liberator or the emancipator of Ireland.

Born in Kerry, south Ireland, however educated in France. He lived in France through the French Revolution, and he was so shocked by the French Revolution, he didn't want to see anything like this happen in Ireland.

So, when he went back to Ireland, he wanted to liberate it not to the point of being free from English rule, but rather where Irish Catholics would not be pressurized to a point of fighting for their own freedom, like what was happening in France. So, becoming quite well educated studying again in London and moving to Westminster where he became politically connected...

As he gained in power a little bit he began to fight for Catholics in Ireland to have the right to vote in Ireland, at one point he held a rally which is said to reported the sea of 1 million people had come to hear him speak, these were the Irish Catholics showing their support, commitment, and gratitude to Daniel O'Connell because he was politically changing their entire lives and given them something they haven't had for a thousand years.

This also meant they could attend university, even Trinity College which was the sister college to Cambridge and Oxford.

This led to Oscar Wilde, Samuel Beckett, James Joyce these literary geniuses, changed the way the world viewed Irish Catholics.

It forced the people who lived in Britain and part of the British Empire to simply have a base level of respect which allowed us to slowly grow, and as the seas of War began to bubble once more in Europe and Britain therefore distracted we saw the chance to strike. And so we did...

Note: This is spoken English and spoken grammar, the script reflects the story telling style.