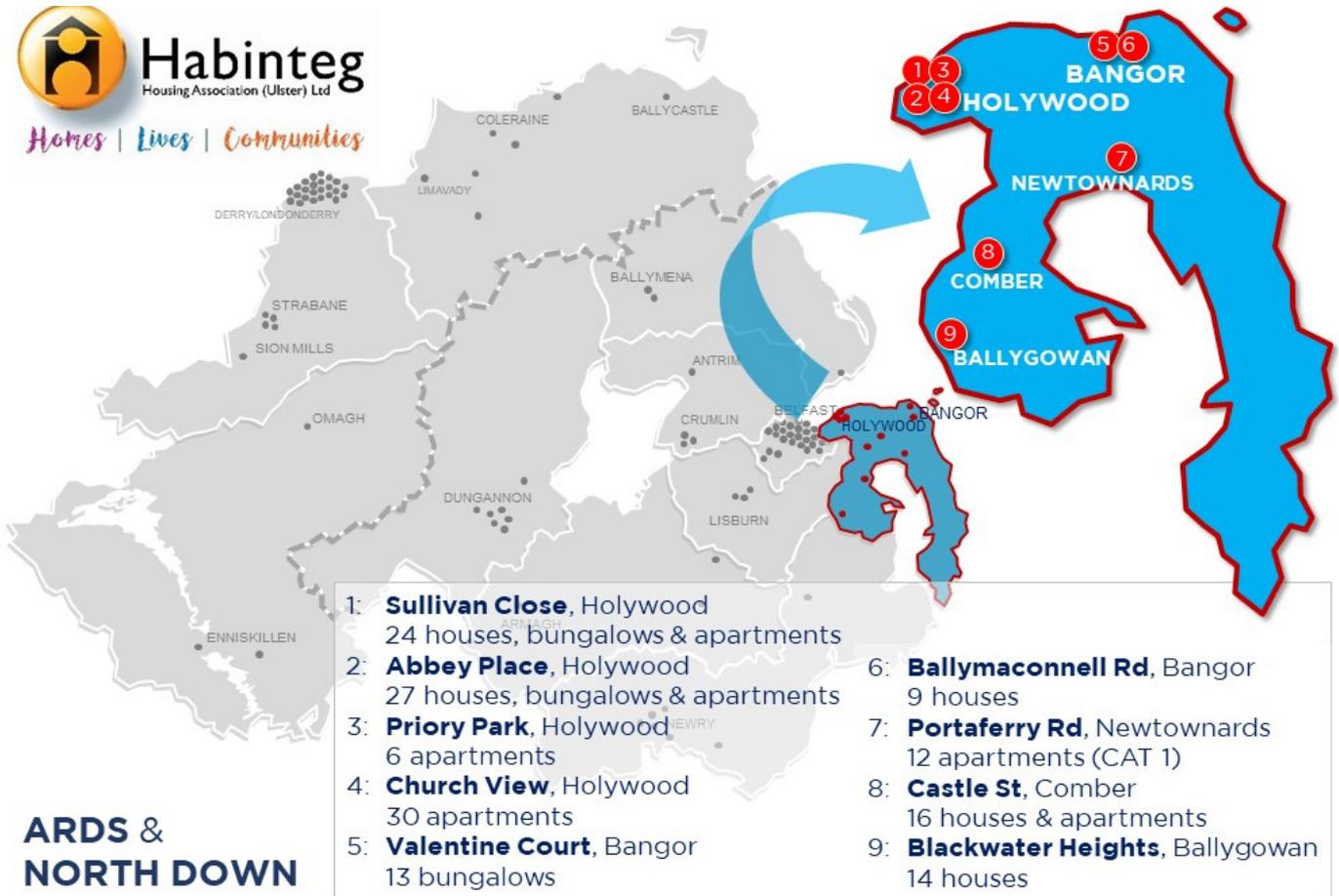


Showcasing Habinteg's Homes and Communities



ARDS & NORTH DOWN



Coastline @ Groomsport

There are 9 Habinteg schemes in Ards & North Down.

Habinteg head offices are also based in Holywood but will be moving later this year.



Things to see & do

Ards and North Down by Dave Maher (tenant)

This beautiful area really has something for everyone, the problem is deciding what to see and do. A good place to start is The Ulster Folk and Transport museum, easily accessible from Belfast.

Hollywood Country Park, with its beautiful beach is well worth a visit, or travel on to Bangor for a walk on the pier, or stroll around the shops. Paddle Boarding is also available at the Marina for the more adventurous.

The North Down Museum is close by, perhaps discover something of your ancestry there. Some artifacts from the nearby Bangor Abbey are on display here. The abbey was established in 558AD and at one point was home to Columbanus and up to 3,000 monks. It fell in to disrepair after many viking raids, but it is possibly one of the most overlooked attractions in Northern Ireland.

A short detour from Bangor will take you on to Donaghadee, a pretty little village where on a clear day you should be able to see Scotland in the distance.

A must visit in this area is the aquarium and seal rehabilitation centre at Exploris in Portaferry. From here a ferry is available to take you across Strangford Lough to the village of Strangford. The lough is one of the world's most important marine sites, home to over 2,000 marine species. Because of the massive tidal flow in the lough, a tidal energy research project, The Minesto Sea Kite, has been undergoing trials here for the last number of years.

If you're a history buff then the Somme Museum on the Bangor Road in Newtownards might be of interest.



Ulster Folk & Transport Museum





Donaghadee lighthouse

For those of you that enjoy life in the fast lane, why not try Eddie Irvine's Karting Centre on the Balloo Road in Bangor? If you need an excuse to go, drag the grandkids along and show them how it's done! It has one of the longest karting circuits available anywhere.

That is a very short roundup of what is available in this wonderful part of Northern Ireland. If you're lucky enough to live in this area, I envy you. If not, be like me and plan a visit this year.

This article was written by a tenant member of the Newsletter Editorial Panel, Dave Maher. If you have a relevant skill, or would just like to be involved in producing future tenant-led editions, then please get in touch by email: newsletter@habinteg-ulster.co.uk

Bangor Marina

