



## FIONN MCCUMHAILL AND THE LEGEND OF THE GIANT'S CAUSEWAY.

Stories are told of one great Irish Giant, Fionn MacCumhaill, a renowned warrior who lived close to the North coast of Ireland. From there he looked across the sea to Scotland where another giant called Benandonner lived. The two giants often traded insults with each other.

One day Fionn shouted a challenge to the Scottish giant Benandonner to cross to Ireland and fight him. Benandonner laughed at Fionn's fighting prowess. Fionn got enraged by this and tore large pieces from the cliffs; he worked for over a week pushing these into the ocean bed and made a sturdy causeway to Scotland. When he had finished he raced across to challenge the Scottish giant.

But as Fionn got closer and closer to the Scottish side, he realised Benandonner was much, much bigger than he had imagined! He ran back home across the causeway as fast as he could. Benandonner followed after him determined to put manners on the cheeky Fionn.

When Fionn arrived home he told his wife Oonagh what he had done. She thought quickly and shoved him in a bath with a couple of sheets over him and closed the door to hide him. Soon the Scottish giant arrived at Fionn's house and banged on the door. Oonagh answered and said that Fionn was away hunting but would return shortly. She asked Benandonner to come in and have a cup of tea. The tea arrived with a cake in which Oonagh had placed some stones. Benandonner took a bite and broke four front teeth. He thought to himself, "this Fionn must be very tough if he can eat bread like this!"

Then Oonagh asked him if he would like to see the baby. She pulled back the door and there sat Fionn, just like a baby in the cradle. Benandonner looked at Fionn and thought to himself, "if this is the baby, what must the father be like!" This thought frightened him; he quickly thanked Oonagh for her hospitality and ran back across the causeway to Scotland destroying it as he went. Today only the ragged ends of the causeway remain as a reminder of these great giants.