

HERITAGE OUTLOOK

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SUMMER/AUTUMN 2005



PROTECTING THE BURREN
the case for a new kind of National Park

EXPO 2005
The Ireland Pavillion in Japan

THE LANDMARK TRUST
combining architectural conservation and tourism

HERITAGE EVENTS • ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS • GRANTS PROGRAMME 2005



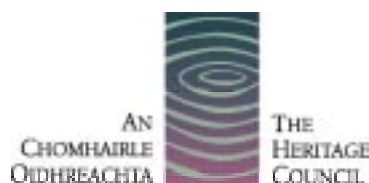
*The Heritage Council works to protect and enhance the richness,
quality and diversity of our national heritage for everyone.*

www.heritagecouncil.ie

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HERITAGE OUTLOOK

C O M M E N T

As this Council's term nears completion, following almost a decade of work, and we look forward to the appointment of a new Council in July 2005, it seems timely to look back at the origins of the current Heritage Council and some of its achievements to date.

The first seeds of the Heritage Council were planted in the 1960s. In 1963, the Local Government Act stated the importance of ensuring that the large and growing addition to our national infrastructure, required by the Second Economic Programme, was rationally planned. An Foras Forbartha was established in achieving this and in 1964 set up six committees, one of which was the Committee of Nature and Amenity, Conservation and Development. Certain issues were identified: the unrealised extent of heritage, the enormity of the problem when viewed on a national scale, the fragmented nature of State responsibility for various parts of heritage, the conflict between "development" and "conservation" issues at both central and local levels, and the "indivisible nature of the heritage from primary non-heritage activities and the frequency with which the heritage interest was relegated to a place of secondary or even lower importance".

In 1967 a report prepared for the Minister for Local Government stated "the immediate and most important need is for an independent grant-aided body, technically competent and broadly based and able to command widespread support". The report referred to this proposed body as the "Heritage Council" and its role would be to give leadership, provide specialist information, coordinate research, stimulate existing agencies, fill gaps in voluntary bodies and promote legislation.

The Arts Council had been established in 1951, and in 1988 the then Taoiseach, Charles J. Haughey, saw the need for a similar body with a heritage remit. In June of that year he invited Lord Killanin to chair the new body, the National Heritage Council, along with 14 members. The council met monthly and established six committees: Architecture; Archaeology; Natural Environment (including parks, gardens, and certain inland waterways); Museums; and Education and Promotion.

In the early years a number of milestones were achieved. For example, in 1989, the Council encouraged the handing over of the Botanic Gardens to the Office of Public Works and supported the initial restoration of the curvilinear glasshouses. It was also involved in the acquisition of Castletown House by the State, and in the extension of the National Museum to Collins Barracks. Major excavations in Waterford city were supported, as was the New Survey of Clare Island following on from Praeger's survey in 1910.

In 1995, the Heritage Council was established as a statutory body under the Heritage Act and Freda Rountree was appointed as its first Chair by the then Minister Michael D. Higgins. The Council's statutory functions include proposing policies and priorities for the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of the national heritage, and promoting education, knowledge and pride in, and facilitating appreciation and enjoyment of our heritage.

Amongst other things, the Council has, during its tenure, overseen the production of over 60 publications covering a cross section of heritage policy, the development of a Heritage Officer network throughout most counties in Ireland and the allocation of over 18 million in grant aid to hundreds of projects throughout the country. While it is still a relatively small body, with 16 full-time staff, it continues its original aims, to "give leadership, provide specialist information, coordinate research, stimulate existing agencies, fill gaps in voluntary bodies and promote legislation."

Ruth Delany Council Member 1995-2005

HERITAGE NEWS

WATER HERITAGE DAY

Following on the enthusiastic uptake of Water Heritage Day last year, the Heritage Council has decided to promote Saturday, September 10th 2005 as Water Heritage Day.

The purpose is to highlight the importance of water as part of our heritage. This will be achieved by hosting events in each county that focus on the heritage aspects of water: from its importance in providing wildlife and aquatic habitats to folklore, industrial heritage and archaeology. We also hope to run a series of 'Secchi Disk' tests in lakes and canals throughout the country. A Secchi disk is a simple device used to estimate the amount of light penetration in a water body. It is used in the routine monitoring of lakes as an indicator of how much suspended matter and algae is present in the water.

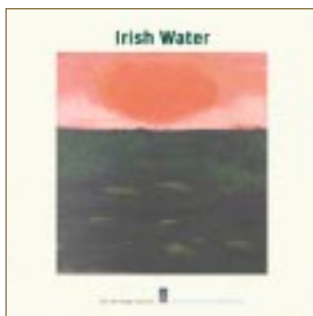
The success of Water Heritage Day is dependent on participation by interested groups and individuals and the Heritage

Council would be delighted if your organisation could join in by hosting an event or activity relating to any aspect of water heritage: for example, an ecological field trip along a river bank or beach, an exhibition on local holy wells or a talk on the traditional boats of the area.

The Heritage Council will offer support in the following ways: by providing publicity for events through its website www.heritagecouncil.ie; through national and local press coverage; posters on Water Heritage Day; leaflets on water; and by providing Secchi disks.

Please note that events can take place on any day during Heritage Week, 4-11th September inclusive. An information booklet about Irish water heritage is available through the Heritage Council.

To receive your free copy or for further details about Water Heritage Day, please contact Amanda Ryan at (056) 7770777, email: amanda@heritagecouncil.com



CLARE DESIGN AND CONSERVATION AWARDS SCHEME 2005

Clare County Council has launched an inaugural design and conservation awards scheme for the county. "The main objectives of the scheme will be to foster and reward excellence in the built environment and to raise public awareness of good design and conservation", said County Manager, Alec Fleming. The closing date for entries was April 8th 2005.

The award scheme is to be held on a biennial basis, with the 2005 awards relating to any building completed in Clare between 1st January 2003 and 1st January 2005. Nominations or submissions are open to any owner, designer, contractor, community group or member of the public. Senior Executive Planner, Gordon Daly, explained, "It is recognised that there are a number of excellent awards schemes at a national level in the area of architecture and it is not intended to compete with or duplicate these, but rather to reward at a more local level."

There are nine categories as follows: best new house in the countryside; best new house in a town/village; best new housing estate; best residential refurbishment and/or extension; best new commercial / public building; best conservation project; best new infill develop-

ment; best new shop front; best traditional shop front.

The assessment criteria will include the contribution to the quality of the built environment, build and workmanship quality, quality of professional design, functionality, sustainability, originality and innovation in approach.

The inclusion of a category for new housing estates is seen as particularly important in light of recent statements made by An Bord Pleanála. The Chairman of An Bord Pleanála, in launching its 2003 annual report, recently stated "too many developments coming before the Board still exhibited poor design standards. Lack of design quality at planning stage can result in developments that offer a poor living environment to future occupants and the general acceptance of aesthetic mediocrity"

The design awards scheme is one of a number of initiatives by the Council to improve design in the county. The Council launched a well-received *Rural House Design Guide* in 2003 and this document is presently being reviewed with submissions from the public being taken.

More information is available on www.clare.ie or (065) 6846529.

HERITAGE NEWS

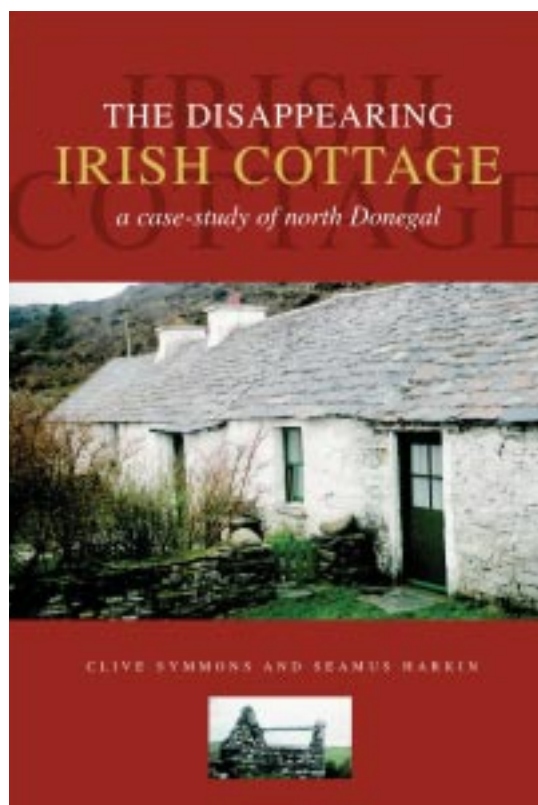
THE DISAPPEARING IRISH COTTAGE

In November, 2004, over 100 people attended the launch of *The Disappearing Irish Cottage: a case study of north Donegal* by Clive Symmons and Séamus Harkin in The Workhouse, Dunfanaghy, County Donegal. The book is an account of vernacular architecture in the Dunfanaghy-Creeslough area. Vernacular architecture has been described as "an architecture without architects" – alluding to the fact that traditional buildings were not based on blueprints or measured drawings but on traditional ideas and traditional building techniques. Many of these traditional buildings have been undervalued for a long time, even though, ironically, the traditional cottage is an iconic image of Ireland.

In recent years, concerns have been expressed about the abandonment, neglect, renovation and destruction of these traditional buildings in the landscape of Donegal. Although only 10 vernacular cottages are on the first Record of Protected Structures adopted by Donegal County Council in December 2003, their numbers will increase as more buildings of regional and local significance are added. Raising awareness of the importance of vernacular architecture as part of our built heritage is an essential first step to the preservation and conservation of these traditional cottages. The development of effective policy for the preservation of these traditional cottages relies on knowing the state of vernacular architecture in County Donegal.

Joseph Gallagher, Heritage Officer,
Donegal County Council

This publication received a publication grant from The Heritage Council under its annual Heritage Grants Programme. Copies of *The Disappearing Irish Cottage: a case study of north Donegal* are available from Wordwell publishers and local bookshops, priced €17.50.



ARCHIVES IRELAND RELAUNCHED



The Archives Ireland website has been relaunched thanks to a grant from the Heritage Council and can now be consulted at www.archives.ie. The website has a host of information on everything to do with archives and archivists in Ireland, including links to professional organisations, lists of service providers and information on archives, scanning, microfilm and storage.

A new addition to the site is listings of Irish Archives Repositories, along with brief descriptions of their holdings, contact information and links to their websites. If you would like to add your institution to the listings, please email info@archives.ie

LAUNCH OF 'DONEGAL MOTHS' WEBSITE

The new 'Donegal Moths' website, launched as part of the Donegal Biodiversity Project, contains over 12,000 records, 200 photographs, and maps for 350 moth species. The website also contains information on the best sites to see different species. The aim of the Donegal Biodiversity Project is to increase our knowledge of the fauna and flora of County Donegal through long-term scientific survey and research. There are probably about 400 different moth species in County Donegal and most can be identified from readily available guide books without specialist knowledge. Since the larvae of moths feed on a wide variety of trees and plants, they are a very useful indicator of biodiversity in a particular area. Simple light traps make it possible to catch large numbers of moths for identification. Once identified, they can be released unharmed.

Joseph Gallagher, Heritage Officer,
Donegal County Council

If you are interested in becoming involved in the project, records and digital photographs can be sent by email to Ralph Sheppard at: rsheppard@eircom.net or John Cromie at: john@skylark.ie.

The 'Donegal Moths' website can be viewed at: www.skylark.ie/donegalmoths and copies of the *Mapping the Moths of Donegal* brochure are available from Ralph Sheppard on (074) 914 7129 or by contacting the County Donegal Heritage Office on (074) 917 2576 or by email at: heritage@donegalcoco.ie.



NEW COMMUNITY AND HERITAGE GRANT SCHEME FOR WICKLOW

One of the central objectives to emerge from the County Wicklow Heritage Plan 2004-2008 was the need to promote and support heritage at a local level. In response to this, the Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council has teamed up with the Community and Enterprise section to develop Wicklow's first Community & Heritage Grant scheme. The inclusion of a Heritage category in this year's scheme is a reflection of the interest that exists amongst communities in carrying out heritage-related projects to enhance their local areas. The scheme will be open for applications from community-based groups and will focus on benefiting some aspect of local heritage, through either conservation,

collecting data, or increasing awareness and appreciation. Typically groups may find this a useful way of funding such initiatives as educational and school projects, ecological or bat surveys, conservation or research of built heritage, production of interpretive material or the development of training for their group or community. The scheme will be wide-ranging and aims to assist groups in their current activities, and encourage new projects. The maximum grant payable will be €1,500 and the application period runs from April 15th to the end of May 2005. For further details please contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, at (0404) 20191, email: dburns@wicklowcoco.ie.

GALWAY ECCLESIASTICAL TRAIL BROCHURE LAUNCHED



Galway Ecclesiastical Trail Brochure. Attending the launch of the Galway East Ecclesiastical Trail Brochure in the Synod Hall, Tuam, Co. Galway in March were (left to right): Dr. Peter Harbison, Frank Dawson, Director of Service Community and Enterprise and Chairperson of East Galway Ecclesiastical Heritage Steering Group; Karen Smyth, Galway East Tourism; Dr. Tony Claffey, Tuam Local Area Heritage Network; Claire Besnoe, Loughrea Local Area Heritage Network; Fr. Cathal Geraghty, Administrator Loughrea Cathedral; Noel Treacy TD, Minister for European Affairs; Marie Mannion, Heritage Officer, Paul Ridge, Director of Service for Planning and Economic Activity and Manager for Tuam; Sheena Doyle, Fáilte Ireland and Donal Guilfoyle, Fáilte Ireland.



Dr. Peter Harbison explains the rich ecclesiastical heritage of East Galway to the audience at the launch of the *Galway East Ecclesiastical Trail Brochure* in the Synod Hall, St. Mary's Cathedral, Tuam, Co. Galway, in March.

HERITAGE NEWS

PROMOTING ARCHAEOLOGY IN WICKLOW

The Wicklow County Council Heritage Officer, Deirdre Burns, is delighted to announce the availability of two new publications, a brochure and a school education pack aimed at increasing awareness of archaeological heritage in the county. *A Route through the Past* is a six-page brochure providing information on the archaeological discoveries made along the N11 as part of the Newtownmountkennedy to Ballinabarney Road improvement scheme. The finds are described townland by townland, with colour illustrations and images to aid identification. The brochure is a joint initiative between Wicklow County Council and Archaeological Development Systems Ltd (ADS), in association with the NRA, and came about following the success of an archaeological conference on this subject organised by the Heritage Office in 2003.

Accompanying the brochure is a schools activities pack designed to be used in conjunction with the brochure and containing six classroom

activities. The pack is suitable for senior classes at Primary School level, and Junior Certificate History and Transition Year classes at Second level. The classroom activities vary from worksheets and quizzes to guided visualisations and role-playing to explore current issues and debate around archaeological planning and investigation procedures.

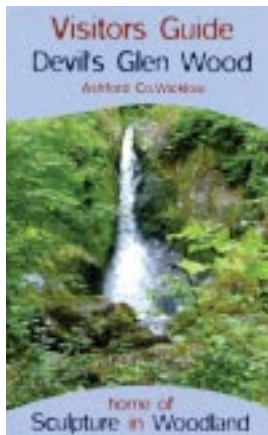
Copies of the publications may be downloaded from www.wicklow.ie, or are available by request from Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council, at (0404) 20191 email: dburns@wicklowcoco.ie.



NEW GUIDE TO THE DEVIL'S GLEN

The Devil's Glen woodland, located outside the village of Ashford, Co. Wicklow, is a unique place to visit, with a rich and varied heritage, containing a picturesque glacial valley and waterfall, a mixed woodland and diverse flora and fauna. It was once part of the Glanmore Estate, the family home of playwright J.M. Synge. The woodland had a chequered history, serving as a refuge for Irish insurgents in 1798 and as a popular tourist attraction in the 19th century, with Thomas Cook travel agency organising trips for overseas visitors.

In more recent years the woodland is home to 'Sculpture in Woodland', a collection of original outdoor sculptures featuring artists from all over the world. A partnership between Wicklow County Council, Coillte and Sculpture in Woodland has resulted in the improvement operations in the woodland over the last two years as



part of the NeighbourWood scheme, coordinated by the Forest Service. These operations involved, among other things, the development of two way-marked trails, interpretive panels and signage. The latest development in the NeighbourWood initiative sees the publication of a 16-page *Visitors Guide to the Devil's Glen*, crammed full of information on the natural, cultural and historical heritage of the woodland, with maps and walking information. The project has been supported by the Heritage Office as an action in the county Heritage Plan. The Devil's Glen is an example of a facility that can be enjoyed on many levels – whether interests lie in visual arts, geology, forestry, ecology, history, or just having a stroll, there is something here for everyone. The purpose of this guide is to encourage interaction with the woodland and increase enjoyment, knowledge and its appreciation. The guide is widely available at local shops and offices or by request from Derek Verso, Sculpture in Woodland, Coillte, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, Tel. (01) 2011132, www.sculptureinwoodland.ie. For further information on this project or other NeighbourWoods in Wicklow, please contact Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council.

NAME YOUR PLACE

The 'Name your Place' booklet aims to encourage the use of Gaelic names on new housing estates and business centres. It is a DIY placenames guide and is an ideal model for all whose duty it is to provide suitable names for housing estates and roads, such as local authorities and councillors. This is now necessary under legislation introduced by the Department of the Environment and Local Government, which has laid down a policy that all new building projects should have names based on the history, heritage or traditions of the area.

The booklet is a project of Cairdeas Logainmneacha Na Sionna and is published by Club na Sionna, the local branch of Conradh na

Gaeilge and is sponsored by Foras na Gaeilge. Cairdeas Logainmneacha na Sionna was set up in the early 1970s by Shannon Development Ltd. in conjunction with Club na Sionna and has successfully established the Gaelic naming of some 50 developments in Shannon town. The naming group's formula of user-friendly, simple-sounding Irish names has been in use for over 30 years, and this 60-page booklet is now available to any interested groups who want to promote the use of Irish placenames in new developments.



ST MARY'S CHURCH AND GRAVEYARD, KILKENNY CITY



The Heritage Council launched a conservation plan for St Mary's Church and Graveyard, Kilkenny City, in February. St Mary's Church is located off High Street in Kilkenny city. It was built in the early 1200s, was de-consecrated in the 1950s and has been used since then as a community hall.

The cemetery, which surrounds the church, is the burial place of members of the leading merchant and political classes of late medieval Kilkenny, as well as many of the citizens of Kilkenny since the medieval period. Prominent members of the Shee and Rothe families were interred in the cemetery in elaborately sculpted tombs. These tombs form one of the finest collections of 16th-17th century memorials in Ireland. As one element of the site, the tombs are of national importance as such Renaissance period

funerary sculpture clearly shows the wealth, status, spiritual beliefs and breadth of international contacts of the city's merchant princes.

Unfortunately, in recent years, the graveyard has become dilapidated and some of the tombs have been vandalised and badly damaged. The conservation plan seeks to preserve the tombs for future generations and to improve access to this historic site for the people of Kilkenny. It is hoped that this will be achieved through improved maintenance and management, conservation work, and potential re-use of the church building.

The conservation plan is the result of cooperation between the Heritage Council, the Church of Ireland, Kilkenny Borough Council and Kilkenny County Council, as well as the Trustees of St Mary's. Discussions are ongoing to implement some of the recommendations from the conservation plan. The Conservation Plan can be downloaded from the Heritage Council website.

Ian Doyle, Archaeologist, the Heritage Council.

WHO HAS DESIGNS ON OUR VILLAGES?

The future of Ireland's Villages - Durrow Castle, Tuesday June 28th.

The conference will look at what is currently happening to Irish villages and examine the effect of current development trends on our social and cultural assets.

Please see website for further details www.heritagecouncil.ie or contact Anne Barcoe on 056 777 0777.

Pictured on a recent visit by the Heritage Council to Cork city were: Ann Bogan, Senior Planner, Cork City Council; Niamh Twomey, Cork City Heritage Officer; and Mary Moylan, Assistant Secretary, Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government. Once each year the Heritage Council holds a meeting outside Kilkenny.



THE Burren

The case for a different kind of National Park



The Burren is a cultural landscape of inordinate importance. Human activity allied to a unique set of natural conditions has created a landscape like no other in north-west Europe. Signs of human occupation from at least 3,800BC to the present day are evident in the landscape, and the rich natural heritage is everywhere to be seen. Trying to separate the natural from the cultural heritage in the Burren is futile, it is one and the same thing. And the Burren's heritage is a consequence of, and has been largely maintained by, generations of low intensity livestock farming.

The once dominant position of agriculture as the primary economic activity in the Burren has changed to it being only one component of the local economy, and increasingly a part-time activity. This has disrupted the balance between livestock grazing and species richness, resulting in, amongst other things, encroachment of scrub on the ecologically valuable grasslands. Tourism and recreation have become much more dominant economic forces, and the trend towards people living in the Burren but commuting to employment outside the region has increased. This has generated a vibrant local community, which fundamentally is a positive thing, but it has also led to pressure for development. These changing circumstances

have not only socio-economic consequences, but also impact upon the manner in which the rich heritage of the Burren is managed and require us to address heritage considerations when planning to accommodate this change.

The introduction of more appropriate management in the Burren must begin from the starting point that the issue is much bigger than heritage; it is about influencing change; it is about appropriate decision making processes; it is about participatory forward planning; it is about realising local expectations; it is about keeping as many farmers as possible farming the land, and much more. In short it is an issue of good governance in the broadest sense.

Attempts have been made to grapple with management of aspects of the Burren. The Clare County Development Plan recognises the special environmental quality of the Burren and identified that the Burren is a visually vulnerable scenic landscape. The state has purchased 1,673ha in the south-east Burren, and declared it a National Park; another tract of 145ha at Keelhill is a National Nature Reserve. The remaining land in the Burren Uplands is privately owned and most is designated as Special Area of Conservation (SAC) in recognition of its internationally important status. There



The Burren National Park is 1,673 ha of state-owned land centred around Mullaghmore (left), in the south-east of the Burren. What is needed is a structure to provide strategic management for an area of c.63,000ha of north Clare.

have been various ‘strategies’ attempted. The *Tourism in the Burren – A Strategic Plan*, the Burren Monuments Strategy and the Burren Consultative Committee have all attempted, and failed, to produce any strategic action or planning for the Burren.

And they failed for one reason. There is no adequate management structure in the Burren that can plan and deliver strategic action for the area. The establishment of the state-owned National Park at Mullaghmore is a case in point. Here, the National Park is really just a nature reserve, and no matter how well managed the area is, it can never provide the kind of strategic influence which the wider Burren craves.

What is needed is a radically new approach to strategic planning, management and decision making in the Burren region, one that fills the void between the general policy context provided by the County Development Plan and the more

site-specific planning provided by the Local Area Plans. This could be achieved through the designation of all of north Clare, an area of c.63,000ha, from the Cliffs of Moher in the west to Corofin and Gort in the east and Kinvara to the north, a National Park, run by a special National Park Authority. The task of a National Park would be to reconcile national policies with local needs. It would straddle the area between ensuring that the needs and expectations of local communities are realised while also protecting this special place.

This National Park would acknowledge the landscape is a living landscape in which people work and live, and where certain types of economic development and tourism will be facilitated and even encouraged. The kind of National Park envisaged would fall under the ‘Protected Landscape’ management category defined by the IUCN (World Conservation Union). It defines a Protected Landscape as ‘*area of land, with coast*

The species-rich vegetation of the Burren supports a bewildering variety of insect life. Some, like the transparent burnet moth *Zygaena purpuralis hibernica* are found nowhere else in Ireland, but can be very abundant in the Burren.



Mountain avens, *Dryas octopetala*, is a spreading undershrub with white flowers. A rare plant usually found on high ground, the mountain avens is one of many noteworthy plants to have found a home in the Burren, where it is found almost down to sea level.

and sea as appropriate, where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant aesthetic, ecological and/or cultural value, and often with high biological diversity. Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection, maintenance and evolution of such an area'.

A landscape-scale National Park in north Clare would serve many purposes. It would be the appropriate scale for strategic planning and management and would draw in the necklace of villages on the periphery of the Burren to be part of, and benefit from the National Park. It would include the East Burren wetland complex, a truly magnificent, but often unheralded component of north Clare's natural heritage. And perhaps most importantly the designation of a National Park has huge marketing potential – National Parks are recognised world wide as special places and such a brand is a distinct advantage.

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The advantage of designating a large swathe of north Clare a National Park, including the special and not so special bits, is it allows for the introduction of a system of zoning upon which manage-



The spring gentian, *Gentiana verna*, is a small perennial, which flowers in the Burren in early summer. The flowers are vivid blue. It is a mountain plant over much of Europe so it is of interest to find it on short turf over limestone at low altitudes in west Clare. Because it is very common in the area it is often used as a symbol of the Burren.

ment policies and decisions can be based. It would provide a forum where residents and visitors, policy makers, academics and planners could input and ultimately determine the future direction of the Burren. People living in the Burren might regard this proposal with some anxiety, but if other National Parks in Europe are examined, the benefits to local communities can be substantial.

Take, for example, the 50,000ha National Park of Abruzzo, Latium and Molise in the Apennine Mountains, east of Rome, which started out as a 500ha protected site in the 1920s but has slowly expanded to its current size. In the 1960s it faced several threats from speculative development, economic decline and depopulation. By the early 1970s a master plan had been drawn up that aimed to bring the villages into the planning process and ensure that the creation of a National Park based on eco-development worked for them. Zoning the land was the obvious starting point, but the aim



The proposed National Park, run by a special National Park Authority, would encompass all of north Clare, an area of c.63,000ha, from the Cliffs of Moher in the west to Corofin and Gort in the east and Kinvara to the north.

The network of green roads and recently developed walking routes provide great opportunities for walkers and other recreational users to explore the Burren.



Tourism has now surpassed agriculture as the key economic activity in the Burren. A properly managed National Park could greatly enhance the economic opportunities for all of the villages on the periphery of the Burren.

was to keep it simple and flexible and it was also done in conjunction with local authorities. Agreements were made with villages, but powers remained with the Park Authority to override zoning where necessary to protect the integrity of the National Park. The ongoing expansion of the National Park with the agreement of its outlying residents and its current record of inward investment highlight this as a success story to emulate.¹

Zoning is at the heart of management of National Parks, and the reality is that a form of zoning already exists in the Burren, with the SACs identifying the most important natural heritage areas, development being encouraged in existing built up areas to cater for community growth while refusing one-off housing in rural areas, the protection of the coastal fringe, etc. What is missing is an overall system that ties all these designations and zones together in a coherent master plan for the entire region, and endeavours to treat the landscape as a dynamic entity where change and development can be accommodated. But this

change and development would work towards the overriding objective to maintain and hopefully enhance the special character of this unique landscape.

The use of zoning as a management tool will only be successful if the process has general community support and is followed through with strict decision-making to adhere to this overall strategy. The key to achieving this is through the establishment of a representative statutory National Park Authority to oversee management of the National Park. The objective of the National Park Authority would be the collaborative management of the Burren with the support and participation of the local community. Such a structure is necessary for not only is it a good thing to get the public involved in the decision-making process, it is a basic right of citizens to be involved. This right is enshrined in the Aarhus Convention (1998)², a convention signed by Ireland. If the National Park Authority was structured correctly and worked effectively, then this is one structure for delivering



The rich wildlife of the Burren has been maintained by centuries of extensive livestock grazing, and depends on continued farming for its maintenance.

¹ *European Models of Good Practice in Protected Areas*, IUCN (2004)

² *The Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental matters*

on participatory planning and collaborative management.

A model, *albeit* circumscribed, of how this structure might work already exists in Ireland. Wicklow Uplands Council was formed in 1996 with the objective to ‘... ensure community participation in the decision-making process affecting the future sustainable development of the Wicklow Uplands and to work towards full partnership with statutory stakeholders in the spirit of Local Agenda 21’. It is an organisation representing 30 non-statutory groups and individuals, divided into four panels: Farming and Property Owners; Economic and Tourism; Community and Recreational; and Environment. Though hindered in what it can achieve by not having received formal recognition by central and local government, it is an excellent model for how a National Park Authority could be constituted. Such a representative structure, given statutory powers and extended to include representatives of existing statutory bodies, would be the key to delivery of good governance in the Burren.

What is missing is an overall system that ties all these designations and zones together in a coherent master plan for the entire region

Traditionally National Parks in Ireland have had a well defined, but limited role. The model of National Park proposed for the Burren would require a radically different emphasis and approach, with a host of new functions coming within its remit. Its role should be to concentrate its work at the strategic management level, and to work with and empower local communities to provide as many of the services as possible, thereby percolating the benefits of the National Park designation down to communities that live within it. It should also seek to work in partnership with others for achieving stated objectives of the National Park.

This would require staff with very different skills to those traditionally associated with National Parks in Ireland. While there is a clear

The East Burren wetland complex is a truly magnificent, but often unheralded component of north Clare's natural heritage.



Tourism is a double edge sword. It can be the driving force behind the local economy, but it needs careful planning to ensure that the benefits of tourism are dispersed and pressures are not concentrated in ecologically sensitive areas, such as here at Poll Salach.

need to appoint staff with expertise in nature conservation management to a National Park, there is equally a case to be made for appointing teachers, tourism specialists and even business advisors to assist the proper development of the area. It would be all about bringing nature conservation into mainstream rural development.

Underpinning and informing all of the management within the National Park would be the establishment of a programme of scientific research and monitoring. Research is needed to fill some of the many gaps that exist in our knowledge of the ecology of the Burren and its relationship to, for example, the agronomic and hydrological



Development pressure is a natural consequence of a vibrant rural society, but planning to cater for this development in sensitive areas like the Burren is a considerable challenge.

systems. The delivery of the research programme might best be done through a partnership arrangement with third-level institutions, whereby the National Park would benefit from the results of the research and monitoring, and the academic institutions would benefit from having ongoing research and teaching opportunities, and an opportunity to influence management decisions for the Burren.

The Burren is of such heritage importance that it requires special care and management. The landscape-scale National Park would appear to be the most appropriate one for the Burren, but the detail of how it would work in reality could only be agreed following extensive discussion and consultation. The efforts needed to make this National Park a reality would be considerable, but it would be well worth the investment in time and resources. The Burren deserves this attention.

***By Dr. Liam Lysaght, Wildlife Officer,
The Heritage Council***

All images courtesy of www.burrenbeo.com

REMEMBERING THE 'Grass Roots'

Heritage Council member Nessa Dunlea considers her time with the Council and offers some advice for local heritage groups



The Heritage Centre,
Kilcullen, Co Kildare

I am a local heritage activist who was fortunate to have been given the opportunity to serve as a member of the Heritage Council. I had little or no knowledge of the Heritage Council and was very apprehensive at our first meeting. The first thing that struck me was the standard of expertise – the committed heritage specialists, among both the council members and the members of staff – that was available to us, the “grass roots” community groups.

the “grass roots” and the Heritage Council can work together to preserve, protect and enhance our heritage

Unfortunately, many of the small local heritage groups are not aware of the support system available to them from the Heritage Council. This has been addressed somewhat by the introduction of Heritage Officers into almost every County Council in Ireland, an initiative of the Heritage Council. These officers are vital as a link between the grass roots and the Heritage Council.



Nessa Dunlea is Chairperson of a small heritage group based in Kilcullen, Co Kildare, and has been a Heritage Council member for the past five years.

As Chairperson of a small heritage group in Kilcullen, County Kildare, a town where the population has more than doubled in the past two years, I feel that we have the responsibility

to preserve, protect and record our heritage so that our new residents can achieve a sense of belonging and ownership of where they have come to live.

I know that a lot of other small towns are in the same position so, be aware - get out there – gather that information and avail of the expertise and grants that are available through the Heritage Council. Call on your local Heritage Officers for assistance, whether for information, advice, or help in filling out grant forms – so that we, the “grass roots”, and the Heritage Council can work together to preserve, protect and enhance our heritage.

Now as my five-year tenure comes to a close, I know the incredible resource and expertise that is available to all of us from Heritage Council members and particularly the staff of the Heritage Council. I really enjoyed the experience of working with them and learning from them, and I wish them all continued success in the future.

By Nessa Dunlea



Landowner with neighbours and friends defend the banks of his bi-vallated ringfort in north Clare.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS ON PRIVATE FARMLAND *a new approach*

Michael Lynch, Field Monument Adviser in Co. Clare, and Ian Doyle, Archaeology Officer with the Heritage Council, describe a successful new partnership approach to the preservation of archaeological sites and monuments

INTRODUCTION

Ireland possesses a rich array of archaeological monuments in our countryside and in our urban centres. From the work of the Archaeological Survey of Ireland we know that there are approximately 120,000 known archaeological monuments in Ireland. In the countryside these monuments take the form of ringforts, castles, ring barrows, promontory forts, lime kilns, megalithic tombs as well as many other types of earthworks and other site types. While large numbers of such monuments were removed during the 19th century when population figures, and associated agricultural pressure, was much higher, we do still retain large numbers of archaeological monuments in upstanding and visible positions. In the later 20th century the destruction rate of monuments gained pace following the mechanisation and intensification of agriculture. Such archaeological monuments can be seen as an integral element of the rich tapestry that forms the Irish landscape and that provides a tangible link with a distant past in today's rapidly changing world.

The role of farmers as managers or custodians of this heritage resource is a critical one. Farmers are the day-to-day managers of the surrounding landscape and are the private landowners of the majority of archaeological sites in question. While such known archaeological sites are protected by the National Monuments Act 1930-2004, the Heritage Council, in partnership with Sligo and Clare County Councils, has been testing out a new parallel approach. This approach is based upon an archaeologist or Field Monument Advisor visiting archaeological monuments in farmland and meeting the landowner or farmer.

The objective of this advisor programme is to support landowners in the care of archaeological monuments in their ownership. The care



Remains of a megalithic (possibly chambered) tomb in west Clare.

which landowners have given and continue to give to heritage sites throughout Ireland has made a valuable contribution to the landscape we possess today. The primary objective is to identify and provide information on the field monuments of a given area to landowners and also to provide information to landowners on how best to care for sites in their ownership. A central tenet of the scheme as applied in Sligo and Clare has been that it is feasible to protect archaeological sites through improved awareness.

*the approach of building a good
relationship between the custodians of the
monuments and the Field Monument*

*Adviser will prove to be a most effective way
of protecting our archaeological heritage*

THE COUNTY CLARE EXPERIENCE

The pilot Field Monument Adviser programme for Co. Clare commenced in June 2004. The aim of this programme is to raise awareness of the vast archaeological resource in Co. Clare by advising landowners and occupiers on how to identify and manage the monuments on their properties. The initial area chosen for the project stretches from the west coast south of Lahinch, eastwards to Rath and Dysert O'Dea. This area is defined by three full Ordnance Survey map sheets (22, 23, 24 as well as part of sheet 25). These maps are at a scale of six inches to one mile and are the base map used for the creation of the Record of Monuments and Places. This is a list of known archaeological sites which are marked on the 6" Ordnance Survey maps. The different landscapes covered by this area include coastal areas with significant development, rural areas mainly of pasture with a limited number of known archaeological monuments and an archaeological landscape with some well-known National Monuments.

All the sites listed on the Record of Monuments and Places in the area will be visited and information on the sites will be passed on to the landowners and occupiers. New discoveries will be recorded and passed on to the Archaeological Survey of Ireland. To date, approximately 70 sites have been visited and most of the landowners were found to be interested in their monuments and all have been accommodating to the project. Many of the landowners were keenly interested and eagerly sought further information on their monuments. By providing this information to the landowners, their interest is increased, as is their awareness of the importance of the monuments to our heritage. Also the preservation needs and requirements are discussed. The indications to date are that the approach of building a good relationship between the custodians of the monuments and the Field Monument Adviser will prove to be a most effective way of protecting our archaeological heritage. As well as visiting monuments, the Field Monument Advisor has been speaking with farmers on training courses and with the representative farming bodies to promote the care of archaeological monuments.

A similar methodology has been implemented in County Sligo. Overall the Sligo and Clare schemes can be seen to be meeting an appetite for information about archaeological monuments in our countryside. The supply of such information to land managers is one element of a strategy to ensure the preservation of these sites. Given the amount of change predicted for farming in Ireland over the course of the next 20 years, schemes such as this may have a valuable role to play.

This scheme is funded by Clare County Council and the Heritage Council.

Michael Lynch, Field Monument Adviser, Leana, Killinaboy, Co. Clare, and **Ian Doyle**, Archaeology Officer, the Heritage Council



The remaining section of bank and fosse of an extensively eroded promontory fort in west Clare.

GALLERY

ESB Environmental Photography Awards 2004

2004 was the eighth year of the ESB Environmental Photography competition, which is open to Irish photographers, young and old, amateur and professional, as well as international entrants. Entries are submitted under a range of themes, including: Plant Magic; Waterworld; Life in the Wild; The World in our Hands; Wild World; and City Wonders. The awards were presented at a ceremony in the Helix, DCU, Dublin, on January 26th. Here, we look at a sample of the photographs shortlisted for this competition.



‘Who me?’

Amy Kelly (age 16), from Arklow, Co. Wicklow, was shortlisted in the Youth category.



‘Nature’s Art’

Gráinne McCarthy (age 13), Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo, took third prize in the Junior category.

GALLERY

ESB Environmental Photography Awards 2004



Leaping with Joy

Mike Brown, from Bandon, Co. Cork, took second prize in the Professional category.



Kestrel Twins

Philip Smyth, from Moycullen, Co Galway, was shortlisted in the Professional category.

GALLERY

ESB Environmental Photography Awards 2004



Waterworld

Michael Walsh, from Cork, was shortlisted in the Professional Category.



Out on a Limb

Joe McDermott, from Dunleer, Co. Louth, took second place in the Amateur category.

GALLERY
ESB Environmental Photography Awards 2004



Incoming Tide

Colman Culhane, from Co. Cork, took first prize in the Amateur Category.



Reclaimed

Lawrence O'Neill, from Athlone, Co. Westmeath, was shortlisted in the Amateur category.



Poser

Danny O'Brien, from Trim, Co Meath, was shortlisted in the Amateur category.



Guardian Angel

Michael Kelly, from Arklow, Co. Wicklow, was shortlisted in the Professional category.

THE HERITAGE COUNCIL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Through the Heritage Council's Grants Programme, we hope to encourage and enable people throughout Ireland to enjoy, record, conserve, restore and celebrate the distinctive qualities of their local heritage, their community and their environment. Applications are invited for imaginative and innovative proposals from organisations and individuals who wish to carry out projects that conserve Ireland's heritage and which match the Council's aims as set out in The Heritage Council Plan 2001-2005.

Since 1995, Council's grants have assisted hundreds of projects of varying scales from diverse fields, each contributing to our heritage at local or national level. We have sought to conserve and enhance the built and natural environment

by offering grants that reach across the heritage spectrum. The Heritage Council is part-funded by the National Lottery and during 2005 will allocate funding to seven grant schemes:

- ARCHAEOLOGY
- ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH
- BUILDINGS AT RISK
- LOCAL HERITAGE
- MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES
- PUBLICATIONS
- WILDLIFE

Below is a sample of just some of the grants awarded as part of the Heritage Council Grants Programme:

CELT - CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LIVING AND TRAINING

CELT has received funding from the Heritage Council under the Local Heritage Grant Scheme for the 'Weekend in the Wood's event'. This event has been run for the past number of years and is now attracting over 100 participants who come from all over Ireland as well as from other European countries. The whole ethos of CELT is centered on sustainable management of natural resources and this is brought about by such courses as Native Woodland Skills, River Ecology and Woodland Management. Awareness is further increased through guided walks, talks and videos. The group recently held their spring 'Weekend in the Woods' event which was held in Beakelly Woods, Tuamgraney, Co. Clare, and was a huge success. The weekend comprised 16 Traditional and Ecological Skills Training Courses, including dry stone walling and lime mortar walling, coppersmithing and basketry.

CARGIN CEMETERY

The Heritage Council funded the preparation of an archaeological and ecological survey on behalf of Cargin Cemetery Committee at Cargin Townland, Co. Galway, where there are remains of a medieval church, an enclosure and a Children's Burial Ground. The report is being used to inform further conservation works at the site, which are funded by the Heritage Council in 2005.

RUSH HILL HOUSE

Rush Hill House in Co. Roscommon received funding under the Buildings at Risk Register for repairs to the roof, stonework and windows. The

Heritage Council has been involved with the project since 2003. Rush Hill House represents a significant survival of a building type that is becoming increasingly rare in Ireland. The house, which is of the 'high' vernacular style, retains its original setting, which adds to this importance. The works carried out to the house to date have been done with sensitivity to the building's importance by the owners. Handmade glass was used to repair the windows and the re-rendering of the external walls was completed using a hydraulic lime mix. Aggregate was sourced from Agrigna, in Co. Leitrim, which provides a natural buff colour finish.

To learn more about The Heritage Council Grants Programme, please see www.heritagecouncil.ie



Rush Hill House undergoing repairs.



Clongowes Wood College Archives

Martin Bradley outlines the recent preservation work carried out on the archives of Clongowes Wood College



The Cricket Pavillion at Clongowes Wood College, Summer 1912.

Work on the archives of Clongowes Wood College has entailed listing material in a basic manner, repacking and reboxing for preservation and entering items on a database for quick reference. Part of this work involved basic conservation and cleaning work including removal of paperclips and treasury tags and repacking in acid-free boxes and folders. The archives are now held in a dedicated storage room that was fitted out with environmental monitoring equipment and archival-standard shelving as part of the general refit of the Castle, which took place in 2003, and there are exhibition facilities as part of the renovated Serpentine Gallery.

Clongowes Wood College was founded by the Jesuits in 1814 following the purchase of Castle Browne for the sum of £16,000 from the Wogan-Browne family. The purchase caused something of a stir at the time. John Gillard, writing in the *Hibernian Magazine* commented "*The magnificent edifice of Castle Browne in the county of Kildare, which cost over £26,000 in building, has been purchased by a party of Jesuits for £16,000. Ireland now stands in imminent danger. If Popery succeeds, our fairest plains will once more witness days worthy to rank with those of bloody Mary, and the walls of Dublin shall again become the lamentable bulwarks against popish treachery and massacre.*"

The Clongowes Archives holds a complete set of title deeds for the Castle and surrounding lands, the earliest of which is a lease dated 1st January 1605 (John Wogan Esq. and Judith Wogan to Lord Viscount Gormanstowne; lands at Rathcoffy, Kildare), and includes the important Conveyance of 4th March 1814, by which Reverend Peter Kenney S.J. took possession of the castle on behalf of the Jesuits.

Archives relating to the foundation, upkeep and administration of the school form the greater part of the collection and include:

student registers 1814 to present, and files for more recent pupils; accounts since

1814; journals of Prefects of Studies giving insights into the day-to-day running of the school, mainly 1818-1865; photographic albums of pupils / material relating to Clongowes' past pupils at war, including 'Clongowes Wood College War List' revised to January 1918, giving full details of all past pupils of Clongowes who served during World War I (approximately 800); and Clongowes Union (The Clongowes Wood College Old Boys Association) material, including complete runs of the annual publication *The Clongownian* from 1895 and material relating to the 1914 Centenary Celebrations.

The collection also contains considerable material of general historic interest including: autograph collections of prominent 19th/20th century figures; militaria from World War I and World War II; correspondence relating to famous past pupils, including James Joyce; and collections of Dublin newspapers from the 17th Century onwards.

In all, the collection is one of enormous social and historical significance: indeed, Professor Eunan O'Halpin, of Trinity College, has identified it as one of the most important collections of Jesuit Archives in Ireland.

The work carried out to date has ensured the physical conservation of the archives. However, plenty remains to be done. As the next step it is anticipated that the photographic collections, comprising glass plates, negatives and prints from the late 19th Century will be properly catalogued, scanned and made available as a research resource.

Martin Bradley is a professional archivist and freelance Archives and Museums Consultant. For more information see www.archives.ie/consult.html





THE Irish Landmark Trust

The Landmark Trust, which gets its core funding from the Heritage Council, was established in 1992 with the aim of rescuing historic buildings throughout the island of Ireland and giving them a productive end use that would safeguard their future survival. Thus, our properties, once restored, are let as self-catering holiday homes.

This use generates funds for the ongoing maintenance of the properties, and by providing an opportunity for people to experience living in a faithfully restored house, representative of a bygone way of life, it promotes a wider public appreciation of Irish built heritage. The Trust recognises that there is an important symbiotic relationship between tourism and heritage – sensitive conservation creates a special tourist attraction; tourism creates the financial viability for an old building; a steady flow of tourists supports a careful programme of care and ongoing maintenance. And so, an important historic building is preserved and given a sustainable sympathetic use with a long-term future.

HOW? As a charitable organization, the Trust seeks grants and fundraises to conserve these smaller buildings of architectural and cultural

significance, which are at risk of being lost through neglect or inappropriate intervention

PROPERTIES The Trust has restored 12 very different properties to date, including a lighthouse, castles and gatelodges. The properties, often situated in very remote and beautiful surroundings, are located throughout the island. Each property offers the opportunity to step off the established tourist trail and escape to a faithfully restored historic building, full of character and charm.

The following are indicative of the type of properties restored by the Trust.

WICKLOW HEAD LIGHTHOUSE

The Irish Landmark Trust's first project was Wicklow Head lighthouse (*above*). Established in September 1781, Wicklow Head's first light was actually part of a unique pair of lighthouses built at the same time. The second tower was lost many years ago. The Trust's tower survived a lightning strike in 1863, which destroyed the interior and the lantern. A dome was added in 1866 to secure the tower, which stood empty and unused until restored by the Trust in 1996.

TERMON HOUSE

Termon House, a striking restored 18th century Land Agents' House on the seashore near Dungloe, in the heart of the Gaeltacht area, is a holiday home with a difference. Built for the Marquis of Conyngham in the 1770s, the house represents a typical Donegal rural settlement as it was at the moment of abandonment in the mid-19th century. Local anecdotes paint a picture of absenteeism, land clearance, and emigration. A beautiful and unique defensive Famine Wall, built from beach boulders, still surrounds the house.



CLONMANTAGH CASTLE

Clonmantagh Castle, in Kilkenny, is of outstanding importance because of the collection of buildings spanning the period from the 12th to the 18th century. The complex includes a 12th century parish church, an early 15th century tower house, an almost intact boundary or bawn wall with a medieval dovecote, and an 18th century farmhouse. In addition, the tower contains a number of unusual architectural features such as a well-preserved Sheela-na-gig.



BARBICAN GATE

The most recently completed property, Barbican Gate, in the Glens of Antrim, was designed by William Morrison (1714-1838) and built in 1825. Romantic in appearance and setting, and approached by a bridge over the Glenarm River, the Barbican Gate is fashioned from coursed rubble basalt with red ashlar sandstone dressings. It comprises a high three-storey main block with a taller staircase turret to the west and a lower, two-storey wing to the east. Following restoration, this property now accommodates two people in comfort and style.



CURRENT PROJECTS

The Trust is currently working on the restoration of the mews building at the rear of No.63 Merrion Square. This building is an integral part of one of the most significant survivals of an 18th century Dublin townhouse within the classic Fitzwilliam/Merrion Square area of Dublin. Built in 1792/93 the mews house retains much of its historic character and fabric. The garden is one of the few surviving gardens in Merrion Square and most certainly the only remaining garden retaining a 19th century design and layout.

The Trust is also on site at Annaghmore Schoolhouse in County Sligo. The building is 19th century and is said to have been the school for the estate tenants' children. It is an L-shaped, one-and-a-half storey building, constructed out of a mixture of cut stone, rubble and blond brick and rendered with lime plaster. The Trust has completed work on 12 properties to date. Our long-term aim is to restore and open approximately 40 properties as holiday homes.



**By Suzanne Mulvaney,
*The Landmark Trust***

For more information or to receive a brochure for Landmark Trust properties, please contact:

The Irish Landmark Trust, 25 Eustace Street,
Temple Bar, Dublin 2.
www.irishlandmark.com Tel: 353 1 6704733
email: info@irishlandmark.com

Where are all the Banner Bluebells?

If you go down to the woods in May, you are quite likely to see some bluebells. The bluebell is one of our most well-known spring flowers. It is easily recognisable by the spike of blue bell-shaped flowers, from which it gets its name. The flowers can also occasionally be white or pink. Bluebells have long narrow strap-like leaves, about 30cm long and about 1cm wide. They are quite common in most of Clare and Ireland, however, they are declining in some places. This is mainly due to habitat removal. They are usually found in woodlands, scrub or hedgerows. The removal of those habitats often leads to the loss of bluebells. The Bluebell produces leaves and flowers when there is light available in wooded areas, before all the leaves grow in the canopy. After flowering, they die down and store their energy in a bulb, ready to grow again the following spring.

There are actually three different types of bluebell found in the wild in Ireland. The native bluebell is the most common in Clare, the Spanish bluebell, which has escaped from gardens, and a hybrid. The Spanish bluebell is now found growing wild in many parts of Ireland, including some parts of Clare. The Spanish bluebell threatens the native bluebell because it can cross-fertilize, producing the hybrid. In 2004, the Clare Bluebell Survey took place. The public were encouraged to send in records of

their bluebell sightings throughout County Clare. There was a great response, with almost 300 records received. These records have been collated and a leaflet produced. The leaflet includes a distribution map for bluebells in the county, showing people where they can go to enjoy the display. It also aims to raise awareness of woodlands. This project was made possible with funding from the Heritage Council, LEADER and Clare County Council.

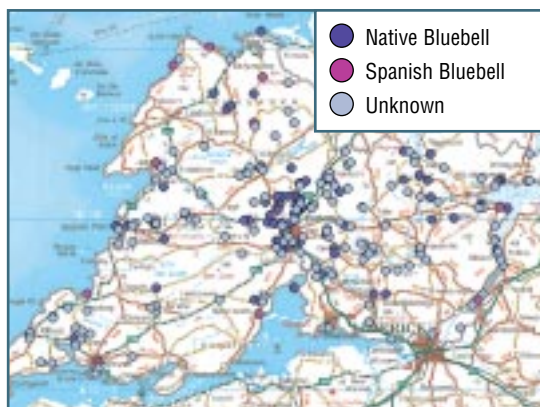


Our native bluebell.
(Photograph
www.Burrenbeo.com)

A bluebell woodland.
(Photograph
Sasha van der
Sleesen)



Distribution of bluebells in County Clare



By Elaine Keegan, Biodiversity Officer,
Clare County Council

We are seeking more bluebell records again this year. To record your bluebell sightings, please go to www.clarelibrary.ie and follow the Natural Heritage and Clare Biodiversity links, or contact Elaine Keegan, Biodiversity Officer, for a leaflet and recording form, through the Planning Section, Clare County Council, Unit 1, Westgate, Kilrush Road, Ennis, Co. Clare. Tel. (065) 6846456 or email: ekeegan@clarecoco.ie

Turning Japanese

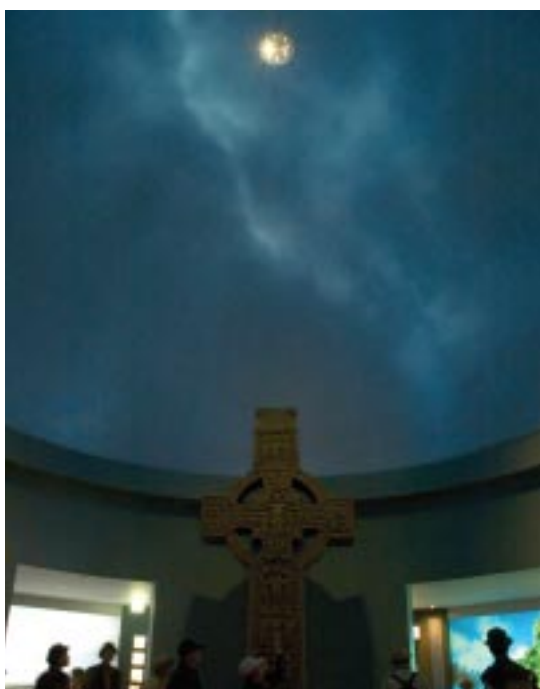
the Ireland Pavilion at EXPO 2005

The World's Exposition, EXPO 2005, opened in March and will run until September. A new international airport and a 'maglev' hover train are expected to bring 15 million visitors to the 160-hectare site near Nagoya in Japan. The theme of the EXPO is 'Nature's Wisdom – sustainable development and technologies for the 21st Century'.

The second themed zone, 'Word', contains a facsimile of the Book of Kells.



The domed ceiling has a dramatic planetarium style projection of the day-to-night cycle of the changing moods of Irish skies.



President McAleese opened the Ireland Pavilion at EXPO on her recent tour of Asia. It stands among those of 122 other nations and a range of Japanese corporations. The EXPO organisers provided standardised shell buildings and participating countries were free to devise their own front facades and interior schemes. The Office of Public Works coordinated the design, fit-out and management of the Ireland Pavilion in association with Japanese construction partners Asatsu-DK Inc (ADK) and Irish exhibition designers Martello Media Design.

Visitors to EXPO will be overwhelmingly Asian, and mostly from Japan itself, so the requirement was to engage with Japanese sensibilities and perceptions. Ireland receives relatively few Japanese visitors, compared with say England or Scotland, so Ireland's exact location and the differences from her closest neighbours are not well understood. The Ireland Pavilion is intended to promote awareness of Ireland's location, identity and accessibility from favoured Japanese destinations such as London, Paris and Milan. 'Irlando' charmingly transforms into the 'Land of the Loving Flowers' in Kanji ideograms. And, for a small and distant country, aspects of Irish culture, such as traditional music are surprisingly well known in Japan. Nonetheless the Irishness of popular international musicians, such as Van Morrison and U2, is easily lost in the miasma of Anglo-American global culture.

An early agreement was made to use the EXPO as an opportunity for the National Museum to restore the magnificent 19th century plaster casts of six of Ireland's finest high crosses that once stood in the rotunda of the National Museum. These replicas are a wonderful record of the state of the originals in the less polluted skies of the 19th Century. The seven-metre tall Monasterboice West Cross flanks the entrance. The replicas of crosses from Ahenny, Drumcliffe and Dysart O'Dea flank Monasterboice's massive Muiredach's Cross in the domed central rotunda of the Ireland Pavilion.

The rotunda was designed to work as both an exhibition and a reception/seminar space. The domed ceiling has a dramatic planetarium style projection of the day-to-night cycle of the changing moods of Irish skies. Irish cultural groups, such as the musicians and dancers from Bru Boru, have already performed in the pavilion on EXPO designated 'Irish National Day' on March 31st. The crosses were conserved and restored at Collins Barracks. The sheer



The replicas of crosses from Ahenny, Drumcliffe and Dysart O'Dea flank Monasterboice's massive Muiredach's Cross in the domed central rotunda of the Ireland Pavilion. Photos by Peter Whittaker.

scale and presence of the crosses only becomes fully apparent when they moved indoors. How they were shipped to Japan, in pieces, and threaded through and re-erected within the tight confines of a busy construction site is an epic story in itself.

The Ireland Pavilion attempts to convey an Ireland that has wild and rugged landscapes, bucolic countryside, ancient ruins as well as a dynamic modern economy

The challenge for the exhibition designers was how to use the crosses to signal the richness of both ancient and contemporary Irish culture in a manner that related to the official 'Nature's Wisdom' theme of the EXPO. However, the richly diverse imagery of the high crosses includes scribes, musicians, craftsmen, plants and animals. This allowed each in the circle of five, to be used as a symbolic sign post to each of the five themed areas – 'Spirit', 'Word', 'Light', 'Nature' and 'Music' – of the multimedia exhibition in the broad circular corridor that wraps around the outside of the rotunda. Here, a sequence of dark monolithic panels contain small object cases and video screens. These are separated with wider back-lit picture panels to suggest a Megalithic stone circle set into an Irish landscape.

The first zone, 'Spirit' relates to 'Nature's-Wisdom' and recalls how the Irish anciently sought enlightenment in wild places such as Skellig Michael and Glendalough. The second zone, 'Word' contains a facsimile of the Book of Kells. Beginning with the role of the Irish scribes in preserving western classical culture, it goes on to use LCD image sequences to show how Modern Irish literary traditions have branched out into live theatre and contemporary cinema. Japanese schoolchildren would be unaware that familiar creations such as Gulliver or Dracula were Irish inventions, still less that Hollywood icons such as Pierce Brosnan and Liam Neeson are also Irish. The third zone, 'Light', deals with design. Replicas of treasures of ancient Irish art such as the Cross of Cong, and St Patrick's Bell Shrine are contrasted with examples of contemporary painting, sculpture, architecture, craft, and fashion.

The 'Nature' area anchors the exhibition more firmly to the official theme of EXPO. Visitors can

enjoy an audio-visual projection on the ceiling whilst reclining on a bank of seats that use new audio-vibration technology intended for the car industry. The presentation gives a sweeping overview of the Irish landscape as it flies between environmental initiatives, such as the reintroduction of Golden Eagles to Donegal, landscape management in the Burren and the monitoring of dolphin populations in the Shannon Estuary.

Unsurprisingly, the most popular section of the exhibition deals with Irish music. Replicas of a Bronze Age horn and a medieval harp are displayed alongside contemporary 'traditional' instruments. Push-buttons allow visitors to hear and see on a large screen musicians ranging from medieval harpists and Uilleann pipers to Van Morrison and U2.

The exhibition closes with a slide show of scenes of everyday life to celebrate *Economist* magazine's judgement that Ireland enjoyed the world's best quality of life in 2004. The Ireland Pavilion attempts to convey an Ireland that has wild and rugged landscapes, bucolic countryside, ancient ruins as well as a dynamic modern economy, a lively contemporary arts scene, fashionable shopping, and so forth. It is perhaps in this area that the similarities and differences between Irish and Japanese experience are at their most illuminating.

In their rush to industrialise, it seems the Japanese had to exploit every square inch of the overcrowded flat coastal strips of their beautiful mountainous islands. No stream appears to be un-culverted, no padi field without a massive electricity pylon, no bamboo grove safe from overnight development into a car park, golf driving range or Expo site. Japanese wistfulness for Ireland stems in part from a yearning for something they appear to have lost – the traditional appearance of their own vernacular landscape. The implications for our own Celtic Tiger is clear. Can we learn from both their successes and their mistakes? Can Ireland match the quality of Japanese style, economic growth, transport and infrastructure investment without totally degrading our own culture, heritage and landscape?

Do we indeed possess the 'Nature Wisdom' required for the sustainable development promoted by EXPO 2005?

By Mark Leslie

Mark Leslie is an architect and is the Creative Director of Martello Media Design - Narrative Architects.



The walled garden at Belvedere House was restored under the Great Gardens of Ireland Restoration Programme through EU funding.

The Architecture Committee 2000-2005

*Heritage Council member
Primrose Wilson explains the work of
the Architecture committee*

During the past five years the Architecture Committee has worked to enhance and conserve Ireland's architectural heritage. Its achievements are due to the particular blend of skills among the members of the Committee, working with Architectural Officer, Mary Hanna, Grants Officer, Fionnuala Lynch, and other partners towards a common goal. In looking back at its term of office, the committee decided to highlight four very different areas in which the work of the Committee has provided particular benefit to architectural heritage.

BUILDINGS AT RISK

The Buildings at Risk programme requires owners to register their buildings as being at risk prior to submitting their applications for grant. The role of the Committee, once the officers have undertaken initial assessment, is to prioritise the cases and to ensure equitable treatment for all on the basis of the needs of the buildings. During the period 2000-2005, approximately 12.5 million was allocated by the Council to maintain and pro-

tect buildings at risk. After the decisions were made, the Architectural and Grants Officers worked to ensure that allocated funds were spent within the year and any under-spend in other areas of the budget were utilised. No grants were allocated unless work was to be undertaken to conservation standards.

MAYGLASS

Mayglass is an international case study in best practice conservation and the Committee is proud to have played a role in this important project. The farmstead at Mayglass was a building at risk with particular problems when first visited by Mary Hanna in 1998. By the end of 2000 the farmstead had been thatched and its contents had been removed, conserved and stored. But there were many decisions to be made about managing infestation, conserving outhouses and protecting it for the future. A German system, developed to solve the problem of wood-boring insects in Baroque altars, provided the solution to the first problem!

There was much local and national interest in visiting the building but issues including its fragile interior and lack of contents made only limited access possible. The education committee invited all Council committees to contribute their



The Farmstead
at Mayglass



The Care of
Stained Glass
Published by
The Heritage
Council.

expertise to the better understanding of Mayglass. There is archaeology on the site as well as natural heritage and its proximity to the sea as well as the reuse of ship's timbers in the roof structure made it of wider heritage interest than being just an historic building (though that was important too!). This exercise demonstrated in a practical way the importance of taking a holistic view of heritage. Mayglass can be viewed at www.mayglass-2000.ie

In 2003 A Wexford Farmstead was launched. This book, edited and compiled by Bobby Reeners, with essays by those most closely involved with the physical conservation and folklore is an invaluable insight to the social history as well as the thoughtful conservation of Mayglass. Through the years Leo and Eileen Casey, the owners of the farmstead, have maintained a patient and watchful eye on the comings and goings at Mayglass!

STAINED GLASS SURVEY

The Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland approached the Heritage Council in 1999 to request partnership funding for a diocesan survey by Dr David Lawrence. This first joint initiative proved to be so successful that it has continued for the past six years so that the stained glass in 10 diocese has now been surveyed and recorded. This is an invaluable resource for all who have the care of churches and for those who study and write about them.

The Architecture Committee were supportive of the project and allocated resources for it each year. However they were anxious that Dr Lawrence's knowledge should reach a wider audience and were delighted when he agreed to write *The care of Stained Glass*. This beautifully illustrated publication, launched in 2004, provides clear concise advice to custodians, conservators and photographers of stained glass. The Committee were conscious that Dr Lawrence was based in England and keen that he should impart some of his skills to an Irish practitioner. When an individual was identified to work alongside Dr Lawrence further funding was allocated to support the project.

SURVEY OF HERITAGE GARDENS AND DESIGNED LANDSCAPES

In 2001 the Architecture Committee convened a meeting of all interested bodies to discuss the possibility of including a survey of heritage gardens and designed landscapes as part of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH). We were delighted when Dúchas (as it

was then) agreed to manage and fund the project.

Phase 1 of the survey, which identified over 5,500 sites, is complete. This involved the desk search, county by county, of historical ordnance survey maps, public archives and published sources for references to historic gardens and designed landscapes. Phase 2 of the project, which will begin later this year, will be a preliminary evaluation of the sites identified in Phase 1 to determine their current survival status and their heritage significance. The information gathered in this Survey adds to the sum of knowledge about an important aspect of Ireland's heritage. We are delighted to have played a role in initiating the process and gratefully acknowledge the role of all our partners in this project. But particular thanks must go to all those involved in the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government.

The Architecture Committee has taken a long-term view and worked to ensure that Council's funding to this aspect of the built heritage is carefully targeted to areas of greatest need. By championing the use of conservation plans and reports, it has ensured that the buildings are properly understood before work starts. It was a pleasure to serve on the Architecture Committee and we trust that our legacy to future generations is historic places in good heart.

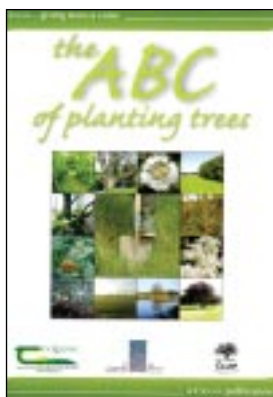
By Primrose Wilson



Primulas in the
woodland at
Lissadell House.
Photos courtesy of
Finola Reid

“BOOKS”

Through the Heritage Council’s Grants Programme, funding is allocated to seven grant schemes: Archaeology; Architecture Research; Buildings at Risk; Local Heritage; Museums and Archives; Publications; and Wildlife. These publications received funding through the Heritage Council Grants Programme:



The ABC of planting trees

CRANN, the NGO that aims to ‘re-leaf’ Ireland, have a new publication out, supported by Teagasc and The Heritage Council, called *The ABC of planting trees*. This 32-page full-colour booklet is a simple, no nonsense, step-by-step guide to purchasing and planting trees – be it a single tree for your garden or a woodland on your farm. Chapters cover: the right tree in the right place; good planting guidelines; good aftercare; turning your woodland into a wildlife haven; and discuss why it is important to plant trees.

An excellent table at the back of the book explains everything you need to know about choosing the right species, including soil preferences; height; growth rate; tolerance; biodiversity value; uses; the age the tree can reach; and attractive features. Everyone with a garden should read this booklet. Hopefully it will encourage the planting of native trees and shrubs.

The ABC of planting trees is available from CRANN at (087) 813 7997 or email: info@crann.ie.

Price: €5.

ISBN 0-9549293-0-6

A society grows great when men plant trees
whose shade they know they shall never sit in.

Ireland is the least wooded country in Europe.

– from *The ABC of Planting Trees*, published by CRANN



Berangers’ Rambles in Ireland

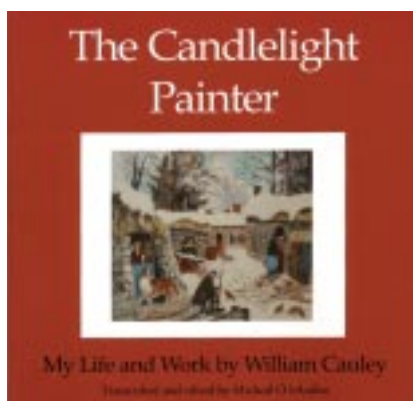
Edited, with text, by Peter Harbison

Gabriel Beranger was born in Holland around 1729, came to Dublin in his early twenties, and stayed here for the rest of his life, until his death in 1817. Today *Rambles Thro’ the County of Dublin and some others in Ireland* is written in the large and generous hand of Gabriel Beranger on the first page of a small, post-card-size album of watercolours, in the Royal Irish Academy. Along with a companion manuscript, these albums provide illustrations of scenery and ancient monuments in the Counties Dublin, Mayo, Meath and Wicklow, all done by Beranger, who, fortunately for us, copied them into these two albums, as his originals have since been lost.

These originals were executed originally on shorter and longer expeditions that Beranger had undertaken from his Dublin home, as we know from a variety of sources, including the dates that he sometimes attaches to his watercolours – County Dublin on various dates in the 1770s, Meath in 1775 and Mayo in 1779. This is a wonderful book that shows a range of Irish antiquities in the 1700s through the great artist’s eyes.

Published by Wordwell Ltd, 2004.

ISBN 1-869857-81-X



The Candlelight Painter – My Life and Work

by William Cauley

William Cauley is a Traveller who lives in Limerick. He is known as the ‘candlelight painter’ because he paints at night-time by the flicker of candles, in his caravan parked in the front garden of his house. Now aged 50, Willy has produced hundreds of paintings, mainly of nature and the Travelling life. In *The Candlelight Painter*, Willy Cauley remembers the Travelling life of his youth, his community’s customs, language and ways of earning a living.

The Travelling community have lived on the margins of Irish society for hundreds of years. Their culture, including their language, Cant/Gammon, has been much-maligned and little appreciated. This book is a small window through which we can see glimpses of a unique Irish culture, a culture with a long and proud history. The book is beautifully illustrated with some of the author’s paintings.

Published by A&A Farmar, 2004.

ISBN 1-899047-11-5

Our Own Devices – National Symbols and Political Conflict in Twentieth-Century Ireland

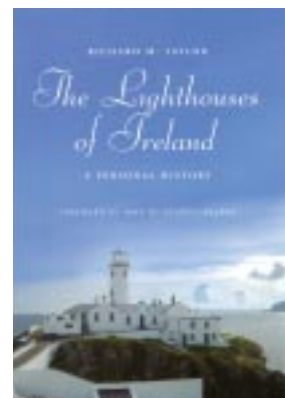
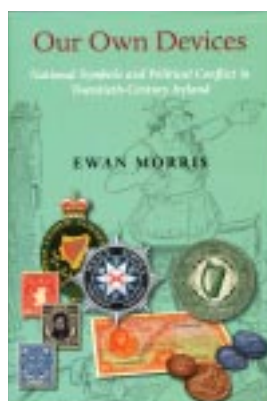
By Ewan Morris

National symbols have long been highly contentious in Ireland, and they remain so today. While there have been a number of studies which have examined the role of symbols in the contemporary conflict in Northern Ireland, as yet there has been no detailed study of debates about national symbols in 20th century Ireland. This book fills that gap, outlining the historical background to the continuing controversy about national symbols in Ireland and shedding new light on the deep political divisions which have marked Irish society throughout this century.

It focuses on the crucial period from 1922 to 1939 which saw the creation and consolidation of new governments in the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland. It also examines in detail the selection of official symbols of state by governments in both parts of Ireland, and public responses to those symbols. The book concludes by bringing the story up to date and relating earlier controversies about national symbols to current debates about the role of symbols in conflict and peacemaking in Northern Ireland. This study is a pioneering work in this relatively new area of Irish history.

Published by Irish Academic Press, 2005.

ISBN 0-7165-2663-8



The Lighthouses of Ireland – a personal history

By Richard M. Taylor

Foreword by John De Courcy Ireland

Lighthouses are associated with the romantic, the mystical and the tragic. Most people have heard of the Fastnet and Loop Head, but what about Rotten Island, Maidens or Straw Island? You may be surprised to learn that there are over 80 lighthouses on or off the coast of Ireland, many not easily accessible. The story behind this remarkable system of lighting our sometimes perilous coast is virtually unknown.

Richard Taylor was a lighthouse technician for 44 years, during which he visited and worked on all the lighthouses in operation at that time. He is uniquely qualified to write this personal history-cum-guide. He describes the lighthouses and their history and captures the unique way of life of the lighthouse keepers and their families, largely unknown and ignored until now and, with automation, sadly no longer extant. Often waiting many weeks at places like Blacksod or Valentia for the weather to abate, Richard got to know many lighthouse keepers and their families intimately. The result is a book embellished with anecdotes and hair-raising tales of getting to and from lighthouses and the time spent there, often weeks on end. A notable inclusion is a strongly-worded letter dated 9 August 1950 from the Principal Keeper, St John’s Lighthouse, County Down, to head office, urging the dismissal of one Brendan Behan from the position of painter.

“The great value of this book is that it is written by one who really knows what he is writing about, for he spent a lifetime in the lighthouse service and had personal experience, weeks at a time, of every single one of even the most remote and, to most people unheard of, lighthouses, down to a variety of harbour lights. There is not a dull moment in it,” John De Courcy Ireland.

Published by The Collins Press, 2004.

ISBN 1-903464-59-5



Landscape Design in Eighteenth-Century Ireland – Mixing foreign trees with the natives

By Finola O'Kane

This is a detailed and original study of eighteenth-century landscapes in and around Dublin, of the gardens in the region, and of the aesthetic, political and economic factors which persuaded their owners to create them.

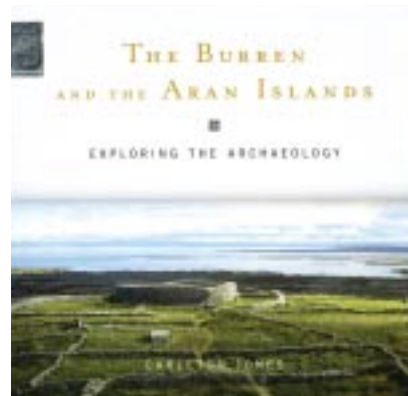
Unlike the architecture of eighteenth-century Ireland, or the familiar paintings of the West of Ireland, eighteenth-century Irish landscape design has received little attention. Finola O'Kane provides a stunning visual history of the demesne landscapes created by the extended ascendancy of Molesworth, Conolly and Fitzgerald at Breckdenston, Castletown, Carton and Frescati, underpinned by a persuasive analysis of what remains of the original landscapes today. For this reason alone her study will be controversial, given the continuing threat of urban development on these unique and priceless places.

The book includes an analysis of settlement history in the area from the late 1690s, European landscape design, economic and political influences of conquest in Ireland and elsewhere, as well as developments in methods and technology in horticulture. Dozens of previously unpublished maps, plans, watercolours and paintings illustrate the rich stream of research in the book.

As a major contribution to the study of the cultural landscape and to European garden history, *Landscape Design in Eighteenth-Century Ireland* will be indispensable to landscape historians and garden specialists alike.

Published by Cork University Press, 2004.

ISBN 1-85918-362 X



The Burren and the Aran Islands – Exploring the Archaeology

By Carleton Jones

Why does the archaeology of the Burren and the Aran Islands fascinate so many? Is it the evocativeness of this ancient landscape, which today seems so empty but where, around almost every turn, one comes across signs of people who have been here before us? Tramping across the rugged terrain one comes across the massive stones of a long-forgotten megalithic tomb, tilted skywards by people who have been dead for thousands of years, or a hidden medieval church hidden by ivy. One is brought face-to-face with the transience of a single human life and the impressive length of the human story in the Burren and Aran Islands.

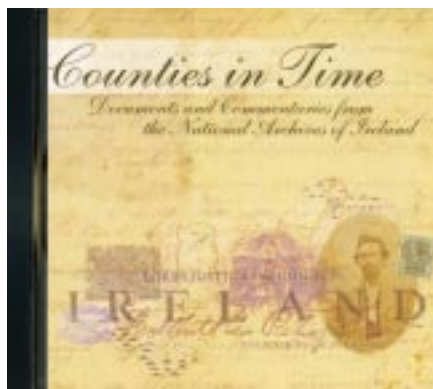
Designed to be read from cover to cover, or dipped into as you make your way around the sites, this book provides a chronologically ordered account of the people and their changing societies over 5-6,000 years. As an on-site guide, the book provides a detailed explanation of the key sites for each period. The locations of all sites are shown on the accompanying maps.

Carleton Jones' writing transforms the dry academic material of excavation reports and archaeological inventories into an engaging and understandable story. This is the first comprehensive study of the subject in over 70 years and no other up-to-date guide is available.

Published by The Collin Press, 2004.

ISBN 1-903464-61-8

CD-ROMs



Counties in Time – Documents and Commentaries from the National Archives of Ireland

Counties in Time aims to introduce a sample of the records held in the National Archives of Ireland to a wide audience. The records chosen exist, in nearly all cases, for the 32 counties of Ireland, and cover the period from the late 16th century to the mid-20th century. The National Archives is used extensively by local and family historians from all over the country and from abroad, as well as by political, economic, social and administrative historians. Local history is a growing area of interest for many people, and it is hoped that *Counties in Time* will alert them, and many others, to the rich archival heritage preserved in the National Archives.

Counties in Time contains a number of elements, including: The documents – there are scanned images for almost all of the documents, and transcripts for those that are difficult to read. There are 32 county histories, covering the period from the late 16th century to the mid-20th century, ranging in length from 5,000 to 7,000 words and each contains six or seven images. The timeline is a short chronology of Irish history since the 16th century, providing details on several key national issues that are referred to in the county histories. A glossary offers explanations of a number of frequently used historical terms. This is a well organised resource for the school and home library.

ISBN 0-9540750-0-5

HERITAGE IN SCHOOLS

The revised and updated Heritage in Schools directory for 2005-2006 has been issued to all primary schools in the country. The Heritage in Schools Scheme has continued to go from strength to strength, so much so that we have had to put a cap on visits for the year. While the scheme is solely aimed at the primary school sector, the directory provides a great resource for heritage specialists around the country, with contact details and accounts of their area of expertise that will be of use to libraries, community groups and other interested parties. There are over 130 specialists listed in the directory, by country and specialty. If you need someone to give a guided walk in the woods, a storyteller, or a crafts expert, this is where to find them.

For a full listing, see our website: www.heritagecouncil.ie or contact the INTO at (01) 8047700 to receive a copy of the brochure.



from Sweeney Astray [The Trees of Ireland]

The bushy leaf oak tree
is highest in the wood,
the forking shoots of hazel
hide sweet hazel-nuts.

The alder is my darling,
all thornless in the gap,
some milk of human kindness
coursing in its sap.

The blackthorn is a jaggy creel
stippled with dark sloes;
green watercress in thatch on wells
where the drinking blackbird goes.

Sweetest of the leafy stalks,
the vetches strew the pathway;
the oyster-grass is my delight
and the wild strawberry.

Low-set clumps of apple trees
drum down fruit when shaken;
scarlet berries clot like blood
on mountain rowan.

Briars curl in sideways,
arch a stickle back,
draw blood and curl up innocent
to sneak the next attack.

The yew tree in each churchyard
wraps night in its dark hood.
Ivy is a shadowy
genius of the wood.

Holly rears its windbreak,
a door in winter's face;
life-blood on a spear-shaft
darkens the grain of ash.

Birch tree, smooth and blessed,
delicious to the breeze,
high twigs plait and crown it
the queen of trees.

The aspen pales
and whispers, hesitates:
a thousand frightened scuts
race in its leaves.

But what disturbs me the most
in the leafy wood
is the to and fro and to and fro
of an oak rod.

By Seamus Heaney



Reproduced courtesy of
Faber & Faber.

From *The Thunder Murders – 101 Poems for the Planet*, edited by Alice Oswald. Published by Faber and Faber Limited, 2005.
ISBN 0-571-21854-7

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

My reason for writing to you is as follows. A man came on Radio Eireann 1 the other day stating that the water in the South East was very much improved. I couldn't agree with him. I live in Freshford and across the road from me is the Health Centre and the river Nuenna flows at the back of this building. The septic tank for Freshford village, built in the 1930s for a few houses, is still the same tank now for hundreds of houses and two nursing homes. As a result, all the overflow, plus loads of sewage, flows into the Nuenna; no fish live in the river now and it stinks. The river joins the Nore at Threecastles and continues down to Troyswood to be recycled into drinking water - recycled sewage. Very few people drink the tap water here. The Health Centre buy in 'Tipperary' bottled water.

I was a member of the Kilkenny delegation that met the EU delegation to explain how poor and how undrinkable the local supply from Troyswood was. We were barred from the County Council meeting with the EU. The EU members were astonished at the treatment we received, as were RTE, the *Irish Independent* and the *Examiner*. We explained to them that we were considered "troublemakers and cranks".

In 2003, I took a sample of the water from the supply tank in our attic to your office, to Troyswood, to the EPA, and to a shop window in Kilkenny. The result from the EPA was "Alum 1048/per and the safety level is 200/per". I then cleaned out the tank and six months later the bottom of the tank is covered in alum and the water stinks of chlorine. We don't drink it. Castlecomer, Clogh, Moneenroe and Ballyragget have trouble with their supplies too - not from Troyswood.

Any time an Engineer from Kilkenny County Council comes on local radio, he claims the water is drinkable - I'm positive he doesn't drink it. The radio station staff don't either.

I have travelled the banks of the Nuenna and the Nore. People on FÁS work would be glad of the work to clean the banks of the rivers. The Arigna river's banks are blocked with briars and bushes, etc, as they meet from both banks.

Freshford and most of Kilkenny are awash with spring wells. It would not be too difficult to harness some of those wells together to supply our towns and villages. It wouldn't take much to make spring water safe - at least it comes up clear and clean - not like the Nore. Have you noticed that most offices use bottled water not the local tap water. I wonder why?!

I think your heritage magazine should photograph what flows into the Nuenna here and show it on your magazine instead of showing lovely clear clean water all the time. I believe people are entitled to clear water, clean air and clean food, not food that is sprayed non-stop and loaded with all kinds of 'E's.

Yours faithfully,

Aodán Fullam, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny

The editor welcomes your letters, articles, poetry and comments. Please send submissions to: The Editor, Heritage Outlook, The Heritage Council, Kilkenny.
Or email: mail@heritagecouncil.com. Your feedback is most welcome. Please include contact details.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

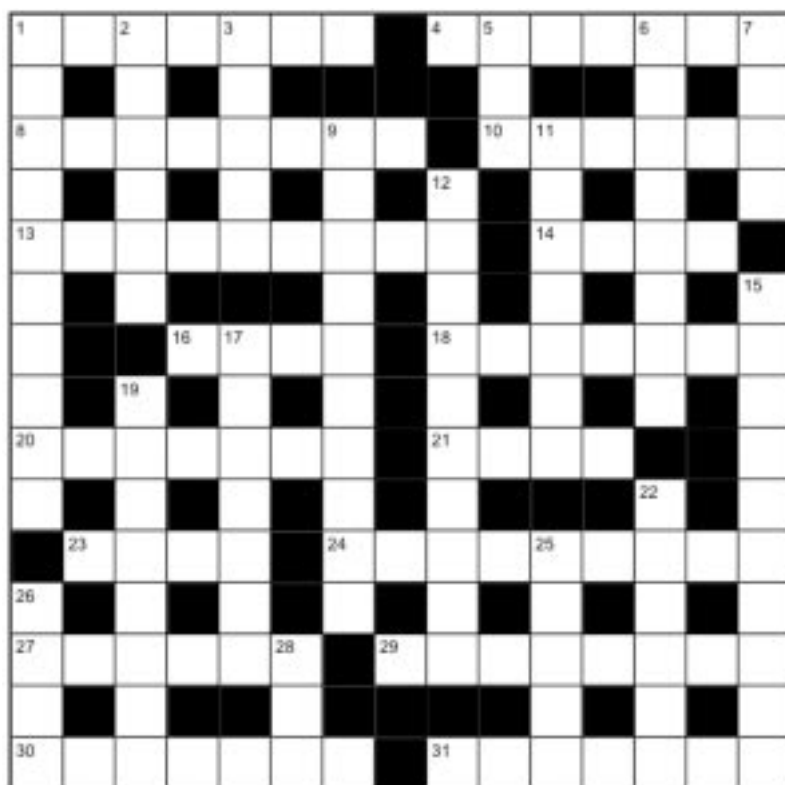
The Heritage Council is pleased to announce the following staff appointments:

Ms PAULA DROHAN, Chartered Accountant, to the post of Financial Controller.

Mr COLM MURRAY, Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Urban and Building Conservation, to the post of Architectural Officer.

Ms SHIRLEY KELLY to the post of Secretarial Support.

Local Authority Heritage Officers: the Heritage Council welcomes the appointment of new County Heritage Officers in Cavan County Council, Cork City Council and Louth Local Authorities.



Crossword No. 4

(compiled by Nóinín)

ACROSS

1. Science dealing with earth's history recorded in rocks (7)
4. And 18 Across. Gradual wearing away of island boundaries (7,7)
8. Substances thought in ancient cosmology to constitute the physical universe (8)
10. See 1 Down
13. Deeply upsetting dream (9)
14. His bite has a tang! (4)
16. Low-lying wet lands, usually between land and water (4)
18. See 4 Across
20. One must respect this apparition (7)
21. Maybe your Mum's sister likes tuna! (4)
23. Semi-aquatic salamander of Europe, N America and northern Asia (4)
24. Incapacitating (9)
27. Between or among (6)
29. Forebear or antecedent (8)
30. Related to islands or narrow-minded (7)
31. Blade of stone age man's hunting weapon (3,4)

DOWN

1. And 10 Across. Result of solar radiation trapped by the atmosphere (10,6)
2. Jittery and expectant (2,4)
3. Open and explicit (5)
5. A mineral but not for drinking! (3)
6. Relating to a topic of discourse or melodic subject (8)
7. Early plucked instrument (4)
9. Impermanence or ephemerality (10)
11. Type of maritime alarm (7)
12. Plant life (10)
15. Under threat of extinction (10)
17. Extended landed country properties (7)
19. Branch of biology studying variation and heredity in organisms (8)
22. Is this its own reward? (6)
25. A portion which could perhaps be put together? (5)
26. Sages or wise men (4)
28. Nation's favourite beverage (3)

To win a book voucher worth €50, please send your completed grid, plus name and address, to:

HERITAGE OUTLOOK
Crossword Competition,
Attention: Isabell
The Heritage Council,
Rothe House, Parliament
Street, Kilkenny, Co
Kilkenny.

Closing date: August 31st 2005

Congratulations to
Harry Murphy from Ennis,
Co Clare, who sent in the
winning entry to our last
crossword competition.

Answers to Crossword no. 3, Heritage
Outlook Winter 2004: ACROSS: 1.
Harebell; 5. golden; 9. describe; 10. sta-
men; 12. landscape; 13. gorse; 14. tidy;
16. mantles; 19. ditches; 21. mile; 24.
chair; 25. coastline; 27. treaty; 28. bul-
warks; 29. dryads 30. seasonal. DOWN:
1. huddle; 2. rising; 3. barns; 4. library;
6. octagonal; 7. demurely; 8. nonsense;
11. beam; 15. inherited; 17. educated;
18. strategy; 20. sect; 21. measure; 22.
citron; 23. teasel; 26. towns.

Notice Board

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND

Down Memory Lane: Childhood in the 1950s will go on exhibition in the National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History, Collins Barracks, Benburb St, Dublin 7, in 2006. Have you memories of growing up in the 1950s? Until May 8th, visitors to Country Life, Turlough Park, in Mayo, enjoyed this new and evocative exhibition that illustrates childhood in the 1950s, and in 2006 it is coming to Dublin. Aspects of childhood covered include Birth and Christening, Sleeping, Food and Drink, Health and Grooming, Schooldays and Leisure Time as well as indoor and outdoor traditional toys and games. Traditional rhymes and quotes about childhood memories have been gathered to complement the exhibition and it is illustrated with images from ordinary people's photograph albums. For further information please contact the National Museum of Ireland - Country Life, Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo; email: tpark@museum.ie, www.museum.ie

CRANN

Crann – an NGO founded in 1986 to increase the broadleaf tree cover in Ireland and to promote/develop Irish broadleaf resources - have a new publication out called *The ABC of planting trees*, please see 'Books' page 30.

Crann is holding its **AGM** on Saturday June 11th in Belvedere House, Mulligar, after a tree walk at 2.30pm. For further details, please contact Crann at (087) 813 7997, www.crann.ie, or email: info@crann.ie

IRISH PEATLAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Boggy events at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, Co. Kildare and other venues:

Booking is essential. Contact Mary Mulvey, (045) 860133.

MAY 21ST – 'A DAY ON THE BOG' course at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, Co. Kildare. The course will include an indoor workshop on learning how to take action for bogs, making bog models and an outdoor field trip to a natural bogland, where pond dipping, looking at turf banks, flora and fauna will be undertaken. 11am-6pm. Fee €75. Bookings to UCD Adult Education Centre on (01) 7167123 quoting reference number HN203.

MAY 28TH - OPEN DAY, PLANT SALE AND SALE OF WORK at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare 11am - 4pm. Events will include guided tours of bog exhibitions, guided tour of 'Flytraps' Exhibition and composting demonstrations. Funds raised go to the Save the Bogs Campaign. Contact Mary Mulvey (045) 860133. Volunteers and donations of goods welcome.

JUNE 18TH / JULY 9TH / AUGUST 13 - VOLUNTEER DAY at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre. Help us to create a centre of excellence for peatland education, conservation and research.



Road Bowling, Co. Tipperary. Copyright Hulton Getty



Conall Mac Gabhann enjoying the toys display at the 'Down Memory Lane: Childhood in the 1950s' exhibition at the National Museum of Ireland - Country Life

JUNE 20TH - VISIT THE ART GALLERY AT THE BOG OF ALLEN NATURE CENTRE and be inspired by the 'bog' work of Irish artists. All proceeds to the Save the Bogs Campaign. View a selection of art at www.ipcc.ie.

JULY 4TH-8TH – 'BOGS IN THE CLASSROOM' teaching course. IPCC, in association with Kildare Education Centre, will host a week-long training course on bogs for primary school teachers. Course will include field days to sites in the Bog of Allen, school gardening without the use of peat, composting, woodland invertebrates and earth education. To add your name to the interested list, call (045) 860133.

JULY 24TH – INTERNATIONAL BOG DAY. Join us for the launch of the Bog of Allen Habitat and Heritage Exhibition at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre. Illustrated talk followed by a guided walk over the bog. Programme starts at 2pm. Booking essential.

AUGUST 8TH - HOLIDAY FUN IN THE ENVIRO SHOP. Special promotion of bug boxes, wildlife identification charts, activity cards and bird callers. Catalogue available on www.ipcc.ie

IRISH WHALE AND DOLPHIN GROUP

MAY 6TH - IWDG ILLUSTRATED TALK on "Whales and Dolphins of the Irish Northwest" at Ceide Fields Interpretive Centre, Downpatrick, Co. Mayo. 7.30pm. Free event. All welcome.

MAY 20TH-22ND - IWDG WHALE-WATCHING COURSE, Tory Island, Co. Donegal. This weekend course will be led by Simon Berrow. Fee €80 (non-members). Bookings and enquiries to (086) 8545450, email: simon.berrow@iwdg.ie

JUNE 11TH-12TH - WORLD OCEAN'S FESTIVAL, Tramore, Co. Waterford, in association with the Irish Wildlife Trust and T-Bay Surf and Wildlife Centre. A weekend celebration on Tramore beach of free events, talks, and an exhibition of life-size whales. Ideal event for the family.

Notice Board

JUNE 17TH-19TH / JULY 8TH-10TH / AUGUST 5TH-7TH - IWDG WHALE-WATCHING COURSE, Cape Clear Island, Cork. Weekend course led by Pádraig Whooley. Fee €80 (non-members). Bookings and enquiries to (023) 31911, email: padraig.whooley@iwdg.ie

JULY 31ST – WHALE WATCH IRELAND 2005 is national whalewatch day. Now in its fourth year, this free event comprises guided land-based whale watches at 10 headlands throughout the four provinces. www.iwdg.ie

COHAB 2005 - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BIODIVERSITY TO HUMAN HEALTH

23-25 AUGUST 2005

The first international conference on the Importance of Biodiversity to Human Health will be held in Galway, at the Galway Radisson SAS Hotel.

For information about this conference, please see www.cohab2005.com

Or contact the COHAB Conference Committee at: COHAB 2005, Corporate House, Ballybrit Business Park, Galway. Tel. (091) 765640.

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA AND MASTERS DEGREE IN MUSEUMS PRACTICE AND MANAGEMENT

The Programme Development Board from the University of Ulster and Dundalk Institute of Technology are pleased to report significant progress in the development of the new postgraduate diploma and masters degree in Museum Practice and Management.

This course is being designed in response to the Heritage Council's study of training needs in the Irish museums sector, published in May 2003, and will contain modules on: Museums and Culture: Policies and Values; Museum Governance and Management; The Learning, Education and Communication Roles of the Museum; and Collections Care and Management. The course will be as flexible as possible, facilitating those working within the sector. It is envisaged that the course will commence in late January 2006.

BAT CONSERVATION IRELAND

MAY 27TH-29TH – BAT DETECTOR WORKSHOP, Slane Farm Hostel, Slane, Co. Meath. Bat Conservation Ireland presents a two days/night Bat Detector Workshop, designed for beginners/improvers, tutored by experienced Bat Conservation Ireland specialists. Registration fee of €130 includes all food, tutoring and two nights' accommodation, plus one year's membership of BC Ireland. For more details contact Tina Aughney at: tinaaughney@eircom.net, (086) 4049468 / Batline (046) 9242882 or see www.batconservationireland.org.

CHESTER BEATTY LIBRARY

Alfred Chester Beatty (1875-1968) retired to Ireland in 1950 and brought with him what was claimed to be the largest and most important private collection in the

world. By opening his library to the public in 1954 and eventually leaving it in trust for the public benefit, Chester Beatty hoped to encourage a greater understanding and appreciation of art and culture for growing generations.

MAY 26TH-OCTOBER 2ND – GARDENS OF EARTHLY DELIGHT. This unique exhibition of limited edition prints is a collaborative project between the Chester Beatty Library and the Graphic Studio Print Workshop. Irish and international artists were invited to explore the library's collection focusing on garden and related imagery, which express man's spiritual and physical need to create, cultivate and depict gardens. From the traditional symbolism and restraint of Japanese and Chinese gardens, to the symmetry and richness of the Koran-inspired Paradise gardens and the Christian gardens of medieval Europe, the common theme is the garden as terrestrial paradise, a refuge and a place of spiritual solace – a Garden of Eden. In all, 39 artists, including William Crozier, Elizabeth Blackadder, Christopher Le Bruin, and Carmel Benson, have made a limited edition print.

For further details contact the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2, Tel. (01) 4070750, www.cbl.ie



Conservator examining a mould-damaged
16th century Armenian Prayer Book.
Photograph courtesy of Chester Beatty Library.

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS IRELAND

CVI Holidays – Volunteers will be housed near the work site, with meals, transport and tools provided. Our projects span from one week to four weeks and volunteers must be a member of CVI. Membership is €25 and €18 for unemployed/students. Costs vary depending on the project, but are between €60 and €70 per week.

JUNE 13TH-17TH – DRYSTONE WALLING. Taking place in an An Óige hostel on the north coast of rural Donegal, CVI will be spending a week restoring an old dry stone wall which surrounds the hostel.

AUGUST 26TH- SEPTEMBER 3RD / SEPTEMBER 12TH- SEPTEMBER 24TH – WALLED STREAM RESTORATION, Donadea Forest Park, Co Kildare. We return to Donadea Forest Park to continue our work restoring a walled stream in this historic forest park using lime mortar and drystone walling techniques.

Notice Board

JULY 17TH-AUGUST 13TH – TRACK CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD RESTORATION, Nevada, USA. CVI and the Nevada Conservation Corps are teaming up to offer this great opportunity for an international exchange. There will be two projects during the month: track construction around Lake Tahoe, and closing off and re-vegetating old illegal roads in the desert. Participants are required for the full month's volunteering.

CVI will be running the following projects also during the summer and autumn, dates to be confirmed:

- Hedgelaying, Woodland Management and Mortar Walling, Lord Dartry's Estate, Co. Monaghan.
- Bush Regeneration on Valencia Island, Co. Kerry
- Track Maintenance in Sliabh Bloom Mountains, Co. Offaly and Laois

To take part in any CVI projects, please contact Conservation Volunteers Ireland, The Steward's House, Rathfarnham Castle, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14. Tel. (01) 495 2878, email: info@cvi.ie, www.cvi.ie

WICKLOW MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Education Centre (0404) 45656 ; Information Office (0404) 45425; email: wickloweducationcentre@duchas.ie

SUMMER LECTURES – All lectures on Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Education Centre, Upper Lake, Glendalough. Booking not required.

JUNE 16TH – IRELAND'S CLIMATE: PAST, PRESENT, AND TO COME, by Brendan McWilliams, *Irish Times* Weather Columnist.

JUNE 23RD – BRING BACK THE WOODPECKER: AN IRISH WILDLIFE TRUST REINTRODUCTION, by Conor Kelleher, President of the IWT.

JUNE 30TH – THE IRISH HARE, by Dr. Rebecca Jefferys, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

JULY 7TH – THE PEARL MUSSEL – IRELAND'S NEXT EXTINCTION? Dr. Evelyn Moorhens

JULY 14TH – ST. KEVIN IN LEGEND AND FOLKLORE – George McClafferty, Manager, Glendalough Visitor Centre, OPW.

JULY 21ST – THE CONSERVATION OF LAMPREYS IN IRELAND – Dr. Ferdia Marnell, Research Branch, NPWS.

JULY 28TH – WATCH OUT, RANGER ABOUT! - An Introduction to the work of a ranger and wildlife law. by Enda Mullen, District Conservation Officer, Wicklow Mountains National Park.

AUGUST 4TH – THE LIFE OF EDWARD WILSON OF THE ANTARCTIC – C.J. Wilson, Warden, Wexford Wildfowl Reserve.

AUGUST 11TH – THE RED GROUSE IN THE WICKLOW MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK – John Griffin, Wicklow Mountains National Park.

AUGUST 18TH – RECENT SURFACE & UNDERGROUND INVESTIGATIONS OF THE GLENDALOUGH & GLENDASAN MINES, by Dr. Martin Critchley, Chairperson, Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland.

SPECIAL INTEREST WALKS:

All walks (except July 24th) start at the Information Office, Upper Lake, Glendalough, at 2pm. All walks require advance bookings. Education Centre (0404) 45656 ; Information Office (0404) 45425; email: wickloweducationcentre@duchas.ie

June 12th – **WILDFLOWER WALK**

June 26th – **BUG WALK**

July 10th – **BOG WALK**

July 24th – **CLARA VALE WALK** (at Clara Vale Nature Reserve)

August 7th – **DRAGONFLY WALK**

September 4th – **BUG WALK**

September 18th – **TREE IDENTIFICATION**

BAT WALKS start at dusk at the Information Office, Upper Lake, Glendalough, on the following Thursdays: June 16th; July 14th; July 28th; August 18th.

DAWN CHORUS WALK with BirdWatch Ireland – join us at 5.30am at the Information Office on May 15th – Dawn Chorus Day. Followed by a birdsong workshop in the Education Centre.

RUT WALKS – a Rut Walk takes you onto open mountain to see deer. Hiking boots and warm clothes are required. Booking essential. Start at the Information Office, Upper Lake, Glendalough, at 11am, on the following Sundays: September 25th; October 2nd; October 16th; November 6th.

ECO-HIKE – CELEBRATE EUROPEAN DAY OF PARKS - take an eco-hike with a National Park Education Officer and learn about the environmental issues facing the Wicklow Mountains. Bring hiking boots, warm clothes and packed lunch. Starts at Information Office, Upper Lake, Glendalough, at 11am on May 21st. Booking essential.

NATURE RAMBLES – start at Information Office, Upper Lake, Glendalough, at 2pm on the following Saturdays (booking essential): April 2nd; June 18th; August 20th.

GLENDALOUGH SPRING CLEAN – Join us on April 16th to help make our world a better place. We shall be removing litter from the valley to celebrate Spring Clean Week. Meet at the Information Office at 2pm.

PEREGRINE WATCH – We hope to repeat last year's Peregrine Watch, and have telescopes trained on a peregrines' nest as the chicks are preparing to leave. Dates to be decided (by the peregrines) – probably July.

ART IN THE PARK for 7-12-year-olds on Thursday afternoons in July and August. Booking essential.

HERITAGE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 4TH-11TH – to celebrate Wicklow Mountains National Park will be running the following events: **SEPT 4TH BUG WALK**; **SEPT 4TH SAND DUNE WALK** at Buckrone Nature Reserve; **SEPT 11TH MAMMAL WORKSHOP** – A look at mammal tracks and signs, followed by a ramble. Booking essential.

HERITAGE COUNCIL STAFF

Anne Barcoe
P.A. to Chief Executive and Chairperson

Ian Doyle
Archaeologist

Paula Drohan
Financial Controller

Alison Harvey
Planning Officer

Beatrice Kelly
Inland Waterways/Marine Officer

Fionnuala Lynch
Grants Administrator

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www.heritagecouncil.ie

What is Heritage?

Under the National Heritage Act (1995), 'heritage' is defined as including the following areas:

- Monuments
- Archaeological Objects
- Heritage Objects
- Architectural heritage
- Flora and Fauna
- Wildlife Habitats - Landscapes
- Seascapes and Wrecks - Geology
- Heritage Gardens and Parks
- Inland Waterways

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The Heritage Council

An Chomhairle Oldhreachta

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www.heritagecouncil.ie

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