

Burrenbeo Trust Monthly e-Newsletter March 2010 (No. 39)

Burren News

BurrenLIFE to continue The National Parks and Wildlife service have issued a Request for Tender for a project team to deliver a new 3-year programme of Farming for Conservation in the Burren. The new Dept of Agriculture funded programme, the first landscape-based agri-environmental programme in Ireland, is based on the findings of the successful 5-year BurrenLIFE project www.burrenlife.com and is to be launched in the next month or two. The new programme, which supports farmers to actively manage the Burren's important habitats, will be a huge boost for the local economy, for farming and for heritage in the Burren.

Making a real difference The Burrenbeo Trust recently launched its exciting new Burren Conservation Volunteers programme at Slieve Carran Nature Reserve. Twenty individuals turned up brandishing saws and loppers to cut back hazel scrub in an area of rich-species grassland. This first action day for the volunteers



was carried out in collaboration with NPWS and led by Scientist Dr Sharon Parr. Next Day out for the volunteers is March 13th. Register at trust@burrenbeo.com

Left: Burren Conservation Volunteers from all over Ireland stand before a pile of hazel scrub.

Promote your business - reaching the Burren Diaspora

www.burrenbeo.com is Burrenbeo's independent information portal for the Burren. From March 1st 2009 - Feb 28th 2010 the site received over 3.2m hits and over 249,000 unique visits. If you would like to list your business on Burrenbeo, just become a member of the Trust and pay a €50 listing fee. To avail of this exclusive 2010 offer, or to advertise in Burren Insight just contact trust@burrenbeo.com



Burren Beo - the Burren alive. Newborn feral goat kids and lambs, a welcome sign of Spring

Burren Insight The 2nd issue of the Burren's only dedicated magazine - Burren Insight - will hit bookshelves in the coming weeks. The fantastic 70+ page colour publication features a wide range of information, images and articles from a wide array of contributors such as Trust Patrons Bishop Willie Walsh and Gordon D'Arcy, researchers such as Dr. Marion Dowd, Noel Healy, heritage experts such as Jesmond Harding (Butterflies), David Drew (Geology), Tim Dennehy (music), PJ Curtis (folklore) and many others. Also upcoming events, a Burren map, free competition and much more. To pre-order your copy contact trust@burrenbeo.com

Business in The Burren As the economic downturn and Government retrenchment threaten the viability of rural communities, the 2010 Burren Spring Conference examines notions of community, belonging, resilience and sustainability through the prism of the Burren. March 5th - 7th at the Burren College of Art. With Darina Allen, Fintan O'Toole - plus a Courtyard Market and an Ideas Marketplace. www.burrencollege.ie

Writing in the Burren. Burren creative writing weekend workshops will be held by Paul Clements in Ballyvaughan in May and early June this year. Based in the Hyland's Burren Hotel, open to all, no previous experience necessary. Dates: weekends of May 7-10, May 21-24 and June 4-7 www.paulclementswriting.com



Butterfly workshop in the Burren The National Biodiversity Data Centre and Burrenbeo are organising a Burren-based workshop for the Irish Butterfly Monitoring Scheme. This workshop is to train volunteers to monitor key Burren butterfly species. Monitoring will involve weekly walks and the number of butterflies seen will be counted. This will take place between April and September. Species to be targeted in county Clare include the Pearl-bordered Fritillary and the Brown Hairstreak. If you're interested in getting involved, the training workshop will take place on Sat. April 24th with Dr. Eugenie Regan at the Burrenbeo Trust Centre in Kinvara (10.30am- 4.00pm). No butterfly experience necessary. There are limited spaces so to register your interest please contact mwalsh@biodiversityireland.ie. For more information on the Irish Butterfly Monitoring Scheme, <http://irishbutterflymonitoringscheme.biodiversityireland.ie>

Shorts ...

Dates for your Burren Diary 2010: Burren Marathon Challenge Saturday May 22nd 2010

Burren Cycle - An Post Tour de Burren - Saturday June 19th 2010. Featuring the legendary Sean Kelly.

Farming and Biodiversity. A blog has been set up by Dr Danny Hunter of Biodiversity International to raise awareness of agricultural biodiversity in Ireland. <http://agro-biodiversity.wordpress.com>

Angels for Charity. The Burren Stained Glass Art has begun its 2010 Angel fundraiser in aid of the Doolin Search and Rescue. The angels are available for sale in local stores. www.burrenstainedglassart.com

Bring a bit of Italy to Doolin. There is a new Italian restaurant and shop has opened in Doolin, La Strana Coppia. For more information contact 087 - 746 5982 or go to <http://italianrestaurantdoolin.com/>



Spring in the Burren - hazel catkins (left) and hazel flowers (right)

Burrenbeo Trust Events Calendar for March 2010 (print and post!)

Mon. 1st - 7th March. Corofin. The 9th Corofin Traditional Festival will be launched at 8pm on the 1st. There will be workshops, classes and sessions throughout the week. More info: www.corofintradfest.com

Thurs 4th-5th March. Kinvara. Seamount school are staging *Meowsical* in Kinvara Community Centre at 8pm. Tickets available at the door. Come along and support this entertaining annual event.

Fri. 5th-7th March. Ballyvaughan. Burren Spring Conference - Sustaining vibrant businesses in the Burren. The Burren College of Art. 065 7077200.

Fri. 5th-7th March. Ennis. The Ennis Book Club Festival. Author visits, readings, lectures, workshops, walking tours and expos. With Joseph O'Connor; Paul Durcan; Thomas Lynch and more www.ennisbookclubfestival.com

Fri. 5th-7th March & 26th-28th Kilfenora. Cob-building workshops starting Fri 5th @ 6pm in the Boghill Centre. Sculptural and environmentally friendly building. For more info contact www.boghill.com

Sun. 7th March. Ballyvaughan. The Burrenbeo Monthly Walk for this month is hosted by Paul Gosling @ 2pm and is titled *Ballyvaughan; ruins and remnants on the brink of a bay*. Meet outside Monks Restaurant. Free for members and a €5 donation (minimum) from non-members trust@burrenbeo.com or 091 638096.

Sun. March 7th Carron Eagles Rock Walk - duration: 4hrs. Meet: Perfumery, Carron at 10.30am walk at 11am. On & off road with one climb. Leader: Kevin 086-3272472. www.ballyvaughanfanorewalkingclub.com

Sun. March 7th New Quay Flaggy Shore Walk. Duration: 2.5 hrs Meet: Linnane's Bar, Newquay. at 10.30am walk at 11am. All Road, Flat Walk. Leader: Joan Leigh 086-0886004. www.ballyvaughanfanorewalkingclub.com

Sun. March 7th Beagh. 10km Fundraising run and walk. In aid of the Beagh Community Centre. Contact Margaret on 087-9917961

Sat. 13th March. Burren The next Burren Conservation Volunteer outing will take place from 10-4.30pm. To register your name as a volunteer contact trust@burrenbeo.com or 091 638096.

Sun. 14th March Fanore Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. A unique community celebration. Assembling at Fanore Beach at 12.30pm. Contact Kevin on 086-3272472 for info.

Sun. 14th March Kilfenora Walk. Duration: 4hrs Meet: Vaughans Pub, Kilfenora at 10.30am walk at 11am. Description: All road. Leader: Patrick Keane 087-6441175. www.ballyvaughanfanorewalkingclub.com

Thurs. 18th March. Kinvara. The Burrenbeo Monthly Talk Series for this month is hosted by Anne Byrne @ 8.30pm and is titled *Missive Relations: Letters and Diaries of the Harvard-Irish Survey in Clare, 1930-1936*. This is free for members and a €5 donation for non-members. trust@burrenbeo.com or 091 638096.

March 21st: Ballyvaughan Walk. Duration: 2 hrs Aillwee Wood Loop. Meet: Logues Lodge at 10.30am. On and off road, green rd, flat walk. Kevin McCormack 086-3272472. www.ballyvaughanfanorewalkingclub.com

Tues. 30th March. Ennistymon. The North Clare Historical Society is hosting a talk on "Go n-éirí an t-ádh leat" with folklorist Catriona Hastings. 8.00 pm in the Courthouse Gallery in Ennistymon. 087 292 54 87.



*Lining up for Spring 2010: The first Spring gentians (*Gentiana verna*) should appear in the coming weeks. Please send your first gentian sighting report to trust@burrenbeo.com*

Burrenbeo Trust News & Updates (Contact trust@burrenbeo.com or 091638096)



Cafébeo, Kinvara. Cafébeo is now open Thursday - Saturdays 10.30-16.30. So do drop in, support the 100% non-profit conservation café and don't forget to ask for your 10% if you are a Trust member!

Burren Conservation Volunteers is a LA21-funded group set up by the Trust to tackle key conservation issues around the Burren. Next Outing March 13th All are welcome but must register beforehand.

Trust's Monthly Talk Thurs. 18th March 8.30pm Dr Anne Byrne *Missive Relations: Letters and Diaries of the Harvard-Irish Survey in Clare, 1930-1936* in the Burrenbeo Centre, Kinvara. Anne is a lecturer in Sociology at NUI Galway. This illustrated talk examines a

selection of the professional and private letters of the social anthropology strand of the Harvard-Irish Survey (1930-1936). These letters contribute to the historiography of the first visit to Europe in the 1930s of an American team of anthropologists and archaeologists engaged in a multi-disciplinary study of a 'modern' society. All welcome. Members free, €5 for others. The Burrenbeo Trust wish to thank **Peter Harbison** for his fascinating talk on *Relics and Pilgrimages in 12th Century Burren*. We hope to get Peter back again soon.

Eco-Beo 2010 This year, the Burrenbeo Trust hopes to work with young Burren enthusiasts from schools in Carron, Ruan, Ballinderreen and Northampton on its 10-module Heritage Education Course. More details later.

Trust's Monthly Walk Sunday 7th March 2pm. *Ballyvaughan - ruins and remnants on the brink of a bay*. Paul Gosling is an archaeologist who lectures on Built Heritage in the Department of Humanities at the Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. His research interests are focused on archaeological field survey which has resulted in the publication of two volumes of the



Archaeological Inventory. Directions: On entering Ballyvaughan from Galway direction, take a right at the T-junction continue for 300m until you reach Monk's restaurant on your left. Members free, €5 for others.

The Burrenbeo Trust wish to thank **Bill McInerney** for his walk on *The Story of a Famine Road* in February.

The Burrenbeo Trust's walks and talks programme 2010:

Walk	7th Mar	Paul Gosling	Ballyvaughan	Ruins and remnants on the brink of the bay
Talk	18th Mar	Ann Byrne	Kinvara	Stories and people of the Burren
Walk	4th Apr	S Ward/S Parr	Slieve Carron	Spring flowers
Talk	15th Apr	Ronan Hennessy	Kinvara	New perspectives on old stones
Walk	2nd May	Cillian Roden	Fanore	Searching for botanical ghosts

Need a venue? Having a meeting, a presentation, or workshop? The Burrenbeo Trust is offers the first floor of the Burrenbeo building to rent out. Hot drinks, lunch or finger food are available. Powerpoint facilities available on site. The Burrenbeo Trust is also available for introductory talks to groups or tours on the Burren.

Join the Burrenbeo Trust! We need your help

This e-newsletter is a free resource to those interested in the Burren but if you really want to make a difference, please become a Burrenbeo Trust member and your support will be invested directly in local educational initiatives, information dissemination and work on the sustainable future of the Burren.