



Burrenbeo Newsletter August 2008



Landscape Management initiative for the Burren?

A new landscape strategy initiative announced by the Heritage Council which initially focuses on the Tara Skryne valley aims to help protect some of Ireland's most special landscapes, including the Burren. Heritage Council chief executive Michael Starrett described the initiative as an important step towards the realisation of a national landscape strategy. "Landscape management is about accommodating change and development. It provides a much more holistic approach than the current model, to planning how we manage and develop the landscape where we live. It enables local communities to play an essential role in managing their own area, and has been very successful when introduced in other European countries." He said the project was about finding a successful model that could be applied to special landscapes across the State and a pilot was being planned for the Burren, details of which will be announced later in the year. See http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/news/tara_skryne.html

Gort and District Show 2008 Following on from a successful North Clare agriculture show in Corofin at the end of July, it's showtime for South Galway. Now in the 27th year of its current format, the Gort and District Show has become the towns biggest all day event, with thousands enjoying a family day out. This years Show will have over 200 individual classes including Home and Garden produce, Flowers, Handcrafts, Art, Photography, Poultry, Horses, Ponies, Donkeys, Cats and Dogs and a large children's section. See <http://www.gortshow.com/site.htm>.

South Galway gets its first 'Educate Together' school

Kilcolgan Educate Together Committee announced that a new Primary School will open in September 2008. It will serve mainly the wider South Galway area but no doubt the school will attract people looking for alternative education structures from parts of North Clare too. The new school will be located in Kilcolgan and enrolments for 2008 and other years are still being accepted. For further info on the new school, telephone Louise on 087 6355677 or Annette on 087 9888275 or visit www.southgalwayeducatetogether.com

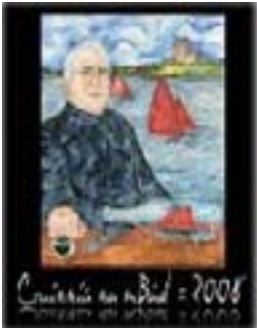
New Art Exhibition 'Due North' Opens at the Burren College of Art

'Due North' brings together a collection of very interesting Finnish Photography with a 'Northern' analytical and conceptual approach to photography. This new exhibition will be opened on August 9th at the Burren College of Art in Ballyvaughan by Finnish Ambassador Seppo Kauppila. The exhibition is mainly photographic, but also has an emphasis on modern art and artist-led creative exploration. This is an independent group exhibition organised in partnership by The Finnish Institute in London, Irish Arts Council, Burren College of Arts, Frame and Kuvataideakatemia. More info from www.burrencollege.ie also Jan Kaila - jan.kail@kuva.fi Martina Cleary - cleary_martina@hotmail.com



Bloody crane's bills and bird's foot trefoil

Things to do in the Burren this August
Cruinniú Na Mbad Festival 15th - 17th Aug 2008.



Unique Irish boats, the Galway Hookers, once the workhorses of the coast of Connemara and North Clare, will gather for a weekend of racing and celebration at Cruinniú na mBád (Gathering of the Boats) festival in Kinvara, Co. Galway. The festival will include a series of races for the four types of Galway Hookers: the Bád Mór, which is the largest vessel measuring between 35 to 44 feet in length; the second largest, the Leath Bhád, which has a hull length of roughly 32 feet; the Gleoiteog; and the diminutive Púcán. The Cruinniú also nurtures the culture that surrounds traditional boat building and racing so expect plenty of Sean Nós singing. www.cruinniunambad.com

Kilnaboy, 10-8-08 'Flower Power' in the Burren - A BurrenLIFE Project Field trip.

An interesting field trip called 'Flower Power -the Healing Properties of Burren Wild Flowers 'will be led by Vivienne Campbell. Vivienne is a qualified and practising medical herbalist. The walk will take place on Sunday, 10th August @ 2.30pm. The walk will last 1.5 to two hours and is free of charge. Meet at Kilnaboy. Further info at 065 708 9000 or 087 292 54 87 or on the BurrenLIFE Project website - www.burrenlife.com

Ballyvaughan: 11-8-08 Landscape & Nature Photography Workshop With Carsten Kreiger @ Burren College Of Art, Newtown Castle. Monday, August 11th Email: brid@burrencollege.ie www.burrencollege.ie. The main subject of this workshop is composition for landscape and nature photography. Carsten Kreiger is an award-winning German landscape photographer. His first book, "The Fertile Rock" was published in 2006.

Ennis: 17-8-08 Merriman Summer School 2008 The 41st Cumann Merriman Summer School is to be held in Ennis between the 17th and 23rd of August 2008. The theme this year is 'From Brian Ború to Patrick Hillery: Continuity and change in Irish history and society' Cumann Merriman was founded in honour of Brian Merriman, author of the eighteenth century Rabelaisian poem, 'Cúirt an Mheán Oíche' (The Midnight Court).

Burren Birds of Prey Centre - daily flying demonstrations for the month of August

This new centre showcasing birds of prey recently opened at Aillwee Cave and features daily demonstrations with hawks, falcons and owls. Three flying displays daily at the Burren Bird of Prey Centre run at the following times 12:00 noon, 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. until the end of August. www.aillweecave.ie

Lisdoonvarna: 29-8-08 Match Making Festival 2008. Opening Match Making Weekend: August 29/30/31. The Festival has been in existence for over 150 years, and is Europe's biggest singles Festival.

Cliffs of Moher: 'Kids Go Free' offer available for the month of August. Enjoy an evening at the Cliffs of Moher from August 1st to 23rd & Kids go FREE to Atlantic Exhibition after 6.00pm Open to 8.30pm. Up to 2 children go FREE with every adult & adult admission is €4.00. Facilities charge including car parking per car is €8.00 Contact Info: Geraldine 065 7086141 Email: geraldine.enright@cliffsofmoher.ie www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Ballyvaughan Saturdays Farmers Market. 10am - 2pm at St John's Hall Car Park. Fresh local baked goods, veg and Burren meat. Contact Tracey at 065 7076963 or ballyvaughanfarmersmarket@eircom.net

Burren Weekly walks with Ballyvaughan Fanore Walking Club

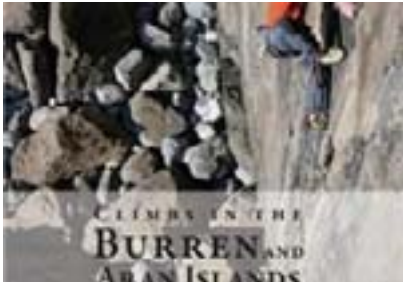
Ballyvaughan and Fanore Walking Club was founded in March 2006. The club provides members with an opportunity to meet and participate in walks. Members are affiliated to the Mountaineering Council of Ireland. (MCI) Guided walks taking place throughout the year. More info at www.ballyvaughanfanorewalkingclub.com/

New Quay Tuesday or Saturdays for month of August. 11am - 12.30pm. Children's Pottery Classes (ages 6 - 12 years old). Fee: €60 The Russell Gallery, Burrin, Co. Clare Tel: 065 7078185. www.russellgallery.net

Rockforest, Tubber. Rockforest Art School offers a variety of art courses for adults and children. To book phone (091) 633947 - 085 1532220, www.arttoheart.ie or email jole@arttoheart.ie

Burren Rock Climbing Guide Published

An eagerly anticipated guide to rock climbing in the Burren region has just been published. With over 15 years climbing in the region, the author Peter Owens really knows his stuff, packed full with superb images of



climbing in the Burren region, the guide book provides comprehensive and up-to-date information on all the rock climbing areas in the Burren and Aran Islands. With over 380 routes and 120 boulder problems, the guide book covers the entire range of climbing areas in the Burren region and is packed with detailed route descriptions, a wealth of interesting maps, fantastic images of climbers and full colour topos. The book is constructed with a sewn binding and a tough cover to withstand many years of use. Now available

online from www.mountaineering.ie and in outdoor shops around the country. RRP 20 euro.

Some flowers to look out for in the Burren this August Field scabious (*Knautia arvensis*), Greater knapweed (*Centaurea scabiosa*), Common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), Ladies bedstraw (*Galium verum*), Dropwort (*Filipendula vulgaris*), Devil's but scabious (*Succisa pratensis*), Grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*), Eyebrights (*Euphrasia* spp.), Wild thyme (*Thymus praecox*), Selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*), Yellow rattle (*Rhinantus minor*), Cats ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), Yellow wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), Common centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*), Carlina thistle (*Carlina vulgaris*), Squinancywort (*Asperula cynanchica*), Mouse ear hawkweed (*Pilosella officinarum*), Fairy flax (*Linum catharticum*), Fragrant orchid (*Gymnadenia conopsea*), St. John's wort (*Hypericum* spp.). **Below (l-r): Harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), Goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*), broad leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*).**



Celebrate Heritage Week 2008 in the Burren; August 24th-31st

The main aim of Heritage week is to promote awareness of our built, natural and cultural heritage and to promote Europe's common cultural heritage. In Ireland we celebrate with a full week of events throughout Heritage Week. Burrenbeo, BurrenLIFE, Clare Biodiversity Group and others based in and around the Burren offer an array of events throughout this special week. Most events are free (unless otherwise indicated). **See www.heritageweek.ie for further event details.**

Fanore: 24/8/08 *Finding & Exploring the Flora of Black Head with Stephen Ward* of Clare Biodiversity Group. Meet: St. Patrick's Church Fanore at 2pm. biodiversity@clarebiodiversity.ie Tel 065 6846459

Gort 24/8/08 *Galway People & Nature Project Present Biodiversity Family Day* Time: 1pm at Coole Park Visitor Centre, Gort. Nature walks and activities for young people, bird and bat box making, and the ever popular Biodiversity Puppet Show. Email: ncmarchant@gmail.com Telephone: 091-493863 or info@coolepark.ie

Kinvara 24/8/08 *History of Kinvara* Lecture by local historian Jeff O'Connell Time: 8.30pm at Johnstons Hall, Main Street Kinvara. Email: otoole.maeve@gmail.com Telephone: 087-7743671

Kinvara 24/8/08 *Gathering of Traditional Boats* with parade and races. Event Organisation: Meitheal na mBadoiri/Spiddal Boat Building Venue: The Quay, Kinvara Co Galway. Contact Jim Horgan. Tel: 091 592521

Dromore: 25/8/08: *Going Bats with Sinead Biggane* (NPWS). Meet at Dromore Woods at 9pm. Tel 065 6846459 or contact biodiversity@clarebiodiversity.ie

Slieve Carron: 26/8/08: *A Burren Pot Pourri : flowers, fungi, lichens and anything else that makes an appearance.* with Dr Sharon Parr of BurrenLIFE Time: 2.00pm A walk around Slieve Carron area 065 6846459

Kinvara 26/8/08 *The Living Burren with Dr. Brendan Dunford.* Free Illustrated talk on the remarkable heritage of the Burren Time: 8.30pm at Johnston's Hall, Main Street, Kinvara. info@burrenbeo.com

Gort: 27/8/08 *Open your Eyes to Nature* Time. 2:30pm to 4:00pm. Encouraging active nature activities for 5-12 year olds. Use of the senses. Coole Park/NPWS Venue: Coole Park Visitor Centre, Gort.

Kilfenora: 29/08/2008 *Fish populations of Lickeen Lake with Dr Fran Igoe of Shannon Region Fisheries Board* 7pm at the Burren Centre. Ph: 065 6846459 biodiversity@clarebiodiversity.ie

Kinvara 30/8/08 *Free Guided Walk of the Burren with Burrenbeo.* A 2-hour walk to explore the rich wildlife and cultural heritage of the Burren. Venue: Meet at Burrenbeo Resource Centre, Main Street, Kinvara, Co. Galway Email: info@burrenbeo.com Telephone: 091-638096 or call 087 1233744

Doolin 30/8/08 *High Cliffs and Deep Caves with Martin Mckeown.* Doolin Caves Car Park. From 10am to 6pm. Includes boat ride, cost 20 euro (adults), 10 euro (kids). Tel 065-6846459

Gort 31/8/08 *Family Walk* A guided walk remembering the Gregory's of Coole especially Lady Gregory Event Organiser Coole Park/NPWS Venue: Coole Park Visitor Centre Email: info@coolepark.ie Telephone: 091 631804

