

August

Bat Walk

Saturday 11th August,
Mountbellew.

Meet at the church car park at
sunset (9:40pm)



Silver-washed Fritillary

Knockmaa Nature Walk

Sunday 12th August 2pm

Located close to Caherlistrane between Headford and Tuam,
Knockmaa Nature Reserve is one of Galway's hidden gems.
Explore the archaeology and natural heritage including woodland,
heath, scrub and limestone pavement with the help of local experts.

People and Nature Photo Exhibition

Clifden – late summer*

Heritage Week

25th August – 2nd September

Events will be running all over the country throughout the week
(see www.heritageweek.ie)

Portumna Family Biodiversity Day.

Sunday 26th August, Portumna Castle and
Gardens and Portumna Forest Park, 2-5pm.

Nature walks, talks and children's activities and the ever popular
biodiversity puppet show will make for a fun and interesting
family day out in the beautiful and historic setting of Portumna. In
association with Coillte, OPW and the Friends of Portumna Castle
& Forest Park

*date to be confirmed



people & nature



people & nature

the galway county
biodiversity
project



Mute Swan

Contact us

If you have any queries about any aspect of the People & Nature
project, please contact the Project Manager....

Elaine O' Riordan

Applied Ecology Unit
Centre for Environmental Science

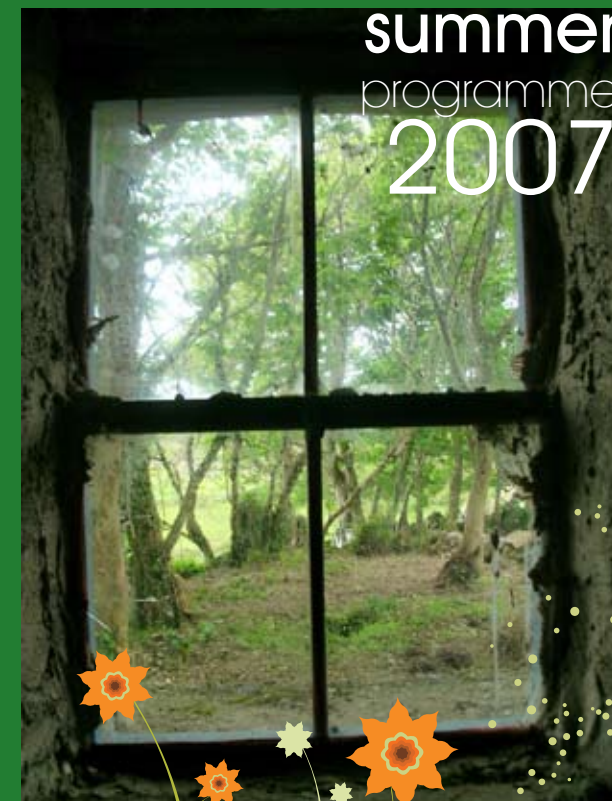
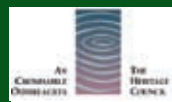
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Sponsors

The People & Nature project has been made possible through the
generous support of our sponsors. Their assistance is gratefully
acknowledged.



What is Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is the variety of life and its processes. Put simply, biodiversity is nature. This includes all the different living organisms such as plants and animals and their relationships with each other and their environment.

People and Nature - The Galway County Biodiversity Project

'People and Nature' is the theme of the Galway County Biodiversity Project. The project is an action of the Galway County Heritage Plan and is a joint initiative between Galway County Council and NUI, Galway with the support of Galway Rural Development, Galway County Heritage Forum and the Heritage Council. The aim of the project is to develop a local Biodiversity Action Plan to care for the biodiversity of County Galway and to encourage everyone to become more aware of and active in the nature and wildlife of the county.

Every year the People and Nature project organises school and community projects and a programme of nature events, activities and courses. All events are free of charge and open to everyone. We welcome suggestions for other projects or activities from schools, local groups and individuals, so if you have any ideas please let us know!

For further information, please contact the Biodiversity Project Manager, Elaine O'Riordan at 091 493863 or email elaine.oriordan@nuigalway.ie



The People and Nature photo competition

was held in 2006 and attracted a great deal of interest. The competition entries form an exhibition containing some stunning photographs depicting nature and wildlife in County Galway as well as some wonderful poetry. The exhibition will visit a number of County branch libraries over the summer months (details below) and it is well worth a visit when it is in your area. The winning photographs are featured in a set of six postcards available free of charge from the Biodiversity Project manager.

People and Bats

In association with the Galway Bat Group, discover the wonderful world of bats with a series of bat walks around the county with local bat experts.

Bat detectors will be available to borrow for people who would like to do a little bat survey of their own garden or a local park or river.

May

National Biodiversity Week: 20th – 27th May

Events will be running all over the country throughout the week (see www.noticenature.ie)



Bee Orchid

International Low Tide Day at Spiddal Beach

Saturday 19th May – 2pm

People and Nature in association with Coastwatch Ireland will be celebrating International Low Tide day with a fun sea shore discovery trip. Bring your bucket and spade!

Cooles Park Biodiversity Day

Sunday 20th May – 2pm

The new Biodiversity of County Galway poster will be launched.

Something for all the family including children's activities, nature walks, demonstrations and information and the Biodiversity puppet show with Your Man's Puppets.

A Brazilian biologist will lead a nature walk in Portuguese for our Brazilian community.

Healing Herbs Walk in Cow Park.

Saturday 26th May – 4pm.

Dr Dillis Clare will lead a nature walk through the beautiful flower rich grasslands of the Cow Park and highlight some of the flowers and other plants that have traditionally been used for healing in Ireland. Meet at the village green, Clarinbridge.

Connemara National Park Biodiversity Day.

Sunday 27th May.

Guided nature walk at 11am followed by family fun activities such as children's nature crafts in the afternoon. The new People and Nature poster will be launched by a special guest. So come along, enjoy the nature of Connemara National Park and make your own bat or bird box for your garden!

People and Nature Photo Exhibition

Loughrea Library 11th-24th May

June

Bat Walk – Friday 8th June Aughnanure Castle.

Meet at the castle car park at sunset (10pm)



Biodiversity for towns and villages.

Saturday 9th June, 2-4pm Community Hall, Abbey.

Especially for local groups involved in tidy towns or village renewal, this short seminar will show practical ways of incorporating wildlife into urban environments.

Wildlife Garden Workshop. Saturday 16th June. 10:30am. Rosscahill National School.

Wildlife gardening specialist Kay Synnott will lead the workshop which will cover topics such as designing your garden, planting for birds and insects, wildlife ponds, creating habitats for garden animals, school gardens, involving children in the garden.

People and Nature Photo Exhibition

Carraroe Library 26th May – 7th June

Cooles Park Visitor Centre 8th – 22nd June

July

Bat Walk

Thursday 5th July.

Thoor-Ballylee*.

Meet at the car park at sunset (10:20pm).

Biodiversity Talk.

Inishboffin.

Saturday 7th July Library /Community Centre 3pm.

Elaine O'Riordan will give an illustrated talk about Biodiversity in County Galway.



People and Nature Photo Exhibition

Inishboffin Library 7th - 21st July

International Bog Day Sunday 29th July

A local wildlife ranger will lead a guided nature walk on Clochar na gCon Bog in Indreabhan, Co Galway. A boardwalk enables us to see all the wonder of the bog without getting our feet wet! Meet at Seanscoil Sailearna at 2pm

* (to be confirmed)