

Burrenbeo Trust Monthly E-Newsletter July 2009 (Issue No. 31)

New publication to be launched Burrenbeo Trust will be launching the first edition of their bi-annual members magazine 'Burren Insight' in the coming weeks. The colour magazine will contain updates of current research projects in the Burren, book reviews, reports on the activities of the Burrenbeo Trust, upcoming Burren events and much more. The first edition of the magazine will also feature an exclusive report on the findings of a major new consultation project recently undertaken among 110 Burren farm families. This new magazine - a first for the Burren - will be distributed free to all members of the Burrenbeo Trust and will be available to purchase for non-members. Please contact trust@burrenbeo.com for more information.

The Burren Outdoor Education Centre based in Turlough in the Burren, are offering a number of outdoor activity sessions to the public this summer. All activities are organised by the staff at the centre who are qualified and experienced in all aspects of outdoor pursuits activities. Sessions include: Sea Kayaking on Thursday July 2nd at 2pm, Tuesday July 7th at 7pm, Tuesday July 21st at 6pm. Cost 20 euros, U18s 15 euros per session. Meet at Kinvara pier. Age 10 years and up. All special equipment provided. They are also organising a series of single half day adventure sessions: Mon 6th - Rock climbing, Tuesday 7th - Kayaking, Friday 10th - Caving. Times 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm. Cost 24 euro per person per half day, u18 20 euro per half day. Also, Adventure camps July 13-17 and August 10-14. Tel 065 7078066, email burroec@eircom.net or www.burrenoec.com

New restaurant for Fanore Vasco is a new café & restaurant that has recently opened in Fanore in the west Burren. An all-day restaurant with a large sea-view terrace, Vasco offers breakfast, coffees and cakes as well as a Mediterranean-style lunch and dinner menu. It has spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean, Aran Islands and surrounding countryside. The owners, Ross Quinn and Karen Mc Guinness, are keen to use the very best of local produce. More info and sample menus are available on the website www.vasco.ie

Big Day for St John the Baptist School in Ballyvaughan



Congratulations to Ballyvaughan NS on their recent treble celebration at the school. On Thursday June 25th last the School officially opened their magnificent new extension, raised their third Green Flag and also celebrated the graduation of 25 new Burren experts from their school (as part of the Eco Beo education programme).

Their special day was celebrated in glorious sunshine with an outdoor mass with Bishop Michael Drennan, followed by musical and dance performances from the children and a taste of Ballyvaughan provided by the parents and community. Congratulations to all those involved in this wonderful work. Commiserations to Fr Des Forde, PP for Ballyvaughan - Fanore who was unable to attend due to the recent death of his mother.

Burren Events for July 2009

- Ennistymon July 3rd** The Riches of Clare series will come to Ennistymon to the Courthouse Gallery from 1pm. Musicians include Conor Crimmins, Caitlin NicGabhann, and Damien O'Mhuiris. Free admission.
- Doolin July 4th** JJ 'Jack' McCormack will be showing his artwork for just one day at the Lightning Strike Gallery at the Doolin Saturday Market and Craft Fair. 10am-4pm in the Russell Brothers Community Centre.
- Ballyvaughan July 4th**. Concert by Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill at the Ballyvaughan College of Art at 8.30pm. Admission €22. For more info go to www.burrencollege.ie or www.denniscahill.com Bookings on 065- 7077200
- Tierneevin July 5th** Gordon D'Arcy - A walk in Garryland Woods. Burrenbeo Monthly Walk trust@burrenbeo.com
- Fanore July 5th** Ballyvaughan Fanore Walking Club: Caher Valley / Slieve Elva Walk. Duration: 4 Hrs. Circular Walk, One steep Climb, 60% off road. Leader: Michael Queally 086 0767776. Meet: Fanore Beach @10.30 am
- Kilfenora July 7th**. The Burren in 2020 - Political & Public Awareness - Your role & support. Talk by Ruairi O Conchuir and Michael McGrath: Burren Centre at 8.30pm. Free, all welcome. 065-7089000 or info@burrenlife.com
- Ballyvaughan July 12th** Bellharbour to Ballyvaughan 4 Hr, A to B Walk, 80% off road with a climb. Leader: Kevin McCormack 086 3272472. Meet: The Pier, Ballyvaughan @10.15am www.ballyvaughanfanorewalkingclub.com
- Ballyvaughan July 16th** Burrenbeo Trust Monthly Talk. Botanist Dr Grace O'Donovan will be speaking about the botany of the Burren. 8.30pm in the Burren College of Art. Info at trust@burrenbeo.com or 091 638096.
- Ballyvaughan July 17th** The Three Marriages - Reimagining Work, Self and Relationship. An evening with internationally acclaimed poet, David Whyte. Burren College of Art. 7 - 9pm. Fee applies. To book: 065- 7077200
- New Quay July 18th** Demonstration day for painting enthusiasts at the Russell Gallery. Learn to paint the Flaggy Shore with artist Frank Sanford in oil or watercolour, bring your own material.
- Fanore July 19th** Ballyvaughan Fanore Walking Club Walk: Ballyreen to O'Donoghues Pub. 3.5 Hrs. Circular Walk, 50% off road, Hilly. Leader: Martin Driscoll 087 9308047. Meet: O'Donoghues Pub, Fanore @ 10.30am.
- New Quay July 11th** Tir Solas - a new exhibition of paintings by artists Ruth Molloy and Ross Stewart opening at the Russell Gallery. Launch by Pádraic O'Maille at 6pm, runs to August 9th 065 7078185, or www.russellgallery.net
- Kilfenora July 20th - 24th** Gabrielle Roth's 5 Rhythms Summer School at the Boghill Centre, Kilfenora. Fee applies. Check out www.deorade.com for more information.
- Lisdoonvarna July 24th**. Riches of Clare 2009 Free Lunchtime Concert Series. Irish traditional music with Chris Droney, Michael Kelleher, Francis Droney & Aine McGrath. Pavillion Theatre, Lisdoonvarna. Adm.Free
- Ballyvaughan to July 22nd** *Burren Connection - A Special Place*. An exhibition featuring Manus Walsh, Christy McNamara, Keith Payne, Jim McKee, Emmet Kierans & Debi O'Hehir. Newtown Castle. Info @ 065- 7077200
- Tulla July 25th - 26th**. Fieldtrip looking for Charophytes in Co.Clare. Led by Cilian Roden. Meet at RC church in Tulla at 10 am Sat. and at the Heritage Centre Corofin at 10.30 am Sunday. Contact: 091 637621 or e-mail croden@iol.ie
- Ballyvaughan July 27th -31st**. Burren College of Art Summer Workshops. Watercolours with Martina Cleary. Cost: €350. For more information contact 065 7077200 or mail brid@burrencollege.ie
- Kinvara Every week** during the summer. Kids summer camps in the Kinvara Community Children's Centre. Mon-Fri full day or half day. For more information contact kinvaraccc@gmail.com or 087 2440256.
- Kinvara Every Wednesday**. Free guided walks in the Burren for Trust members and €5 minimum donation for non-members. General intro to the flora, fauna, geology & history of the Burren. trust@burrenbeo.com or 091 638096.
- Fanore All summer**. Kids summer surf camps from Mon-Fri, ages 8-16, all equipment provided. Contact Aloha Surf School on 087 21 33 996 for more information.



Burrenbeo Trust News & Updates

Trust's Monthly Walk: The next Burrenbeo Trust monthly walk will take place on Sunday July 5th with wildlife expert, Gordon Darcy. Gordon is the author of *The Natural History of the Burren* and other publications on diverse themes including stone walls and birds. Please meet at Tierneevin RC Church carpark at 2pm just 4km west of Gort. The walk will go to the beautiful Garryland Woods. For more information on this event, please contact trust@burrenbeo.com or phone 091 638096. June's walk was led by another wildlife expert, John Murphy and proved to be a very interesting and noisy afternoon looking up-close at a Tern colony on the shores of Galway bay.

Trust's Monthly Talk: The next Burrenbeo Trust talk is with Dr Grace O'Donovan and is titled 'You Don't Have to be Mad to be a Botanist in the Burren - but it helps'. Grace was a lecturer on plant ecology in UCC and UCD for 10 years before becoming a consultant ecologist 5 years ago. She first came to the Burren to carry out her doctorate in Mullaghmore on plant nutrient dynamics and has been attracted to the region ever since. Her presentation will take place on the 16th of June at 8.30pm in the Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan. All are welcome. June's talk was carried out by archeologist and Burrenbeo Trust patron Carleton Jones in the Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort. It was a brilliant presentation which pieced together, in extraordinary detail, life in the Burren in 2009 BC based on an array of evidence gathered at the site over the past decade and analysed using a range of cutting edge techniques.

Free Wednesday Walks: The Burrenbeo Trust continues to hold guided walks in the Burren every Wednesday from the 10th June-26th August. These walks give general information on the geology, flora, fauna, archaeology, history and culture of the Burren. Everyone is welcome. Meet at the Burrenbeo Resource Centre, Main st, Kinvara at 3.30pm to carpool. Free for Trust members and a €5 minimum donation for non-members. For more information email: trust@burrenbeo.com or phone: 087 9689486

Burrenbeo Resource Centre: The Burrenbeo resource centre and Café Beo in Kinvara are now open Tuesday - Saturday, 10am to 5pm, Sunday 11am-6pm. The Resource Centre contains loads of free information on the Burren - and acts as an office base for Trust Communications officer Brigid Barry. Upstairs at Café Beo, you can get the best cup of coffee in the Burren, and the best vegetarian dishes around. Free Wi-fi, full range of books and maps of the Burren, and right now an exhibition of Burren photographs taken by David MacDonald and Brendan Dunford.

Join the Trust! This e-newsletter is a free resource to friends of Burrenbeo Trust, but to become more involved in



Mountain everlasting/ Cat's paw (Antennaria dioica)

playing your role in the protection of the Burren, why not join us in the Burrenbeo Trust? Become a member of this non-profit charity and your resources and support will be invested directly in local educational initiatives (Ecobeo programme), information dissemination (via our resource centre, website, factsheets etc) and consultation on the sustainable future of the Burren (e.g. with Burren farm families). When you join as a member you receive an exclusive pack including an award-winning cd with over 200 images of plants and features that you would find in the Burren, a subscription to a bi-annual magazine on the Burren, Burren postcards, free entry into the Trust's monthly walks and talks amongst other things. You can join by calling 091-638096, e-mailing info@burrenbeo.com or on www.burrenbeo.com

Eco Beo 2009 – Congratulations to the new generation of Burren Experts!!

Burrenbeo Trust – Investing in Burren Communities



The Burrenbeo Trust are delighted to announce the recent graduation of 100 new Burren experts, future guardians of the Burren! These young experts have successfully completed an intensive 20-week course on the heritage of the Burren and are now well equipped for, and capable of, interpreting, communicating and helping to protect the heritage of their special home place.

Burrenbeo have been working since January 2009 with these young Burren residents in the communities of Ballyvaughan, Doolin, Lisdoonvarna and Tierneevin. The 'Eco Beo' course is a heritage education programme which opens up the Burren's vast and varied heritage to these primary school students and their parents and teachers.

Above: Lisdoonvarna NS students explore a wedge tomb at Creevagh in the Burren.

The theme of the Eco-Beo education programme is 'My Burren Heritage'. The main aim of the programme is to increase awareness and appreciation of the heritage of the Burren among the children who live in this special place, and thus to create a sense of informed pride, ownership and responsibility for this heritage among the future custodians of the landscape. The course offers each child a hands-on, fun learning experience fully consistent with the curriculum and each child amasses a huge bank of knowledge about the region.



Throughout the twenty week course, participants learned about various aspects of the Burren - its animals, plants, monuments, landscape and culture - through a series of colourful classroom presentations. This was complimented by weekly quizzes, e-newsletters and assignments. Professional course tutors, all of whom are experts in their individual areas, delivered each module.

Students were also taken on Burren field trips, where they could to put their newfound knowledge to the test.

The course was brought free of charge by the Burrenbeo Trust to the schools and students involved. Burrenbeo Trust would like to thank all those who supported this course, including the Burren Connect Project. Prizes for exceptional course work were sponsored by Aillwee Caves, Burren Centre Kilfenora and the Cliffs of Moher Centre.

Pix: (above) Prizewinners from Doolin NS with their graduation certs, with Geraldine Enright from the Cliffs of Moher and (below): Tierneevin NS 5th and 6th class students standing by Cahercummaun stone fort

