

## **Heritage Grants Programme 2008**

*County Clare, 18th Sept 07*

The National Heritage Council, is seeking applications for imaginative and innovative proposals from organisations and individuals who wish to carry out projects that conserve or promote the County's heritage. The 2008 Heritage Grants Programme will be advertised from 14th September 2007. An information pack will be available on request by post, by fax, by e-mail, by phone or in person at the Heritage Council offices, or can be downloaded from our website.

**<http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/grants/index.html>**

More than €2.3 million of National Lottery funding has been allocated to the following eight grant schemes for 2008.

- \* **Local Heritage**
- \* **Architecture Research**
- \* **Publications**
- \* **Buildings at Risk \* (please see note below)**
- \* **Museums & Archives**
- \* **Archaeology**
- \* **Unpublished Excavations**
- \* **Wildlife**

**The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 2nd November 2007 at 5pm.**

Announcing the launch of The 2008 Heritage Grants Programme, Ms. Congella McGuire, Heritage Officer, Clare County Council explained, *"The Clare Heritage Office regards the Community Grants Programme for 2008 as an essential opportunity to develop the role of communities in the preservation and promotion of our heritage. It is our intention that County Clare will again benefit considerably from the Programme."*

According to Ms. McGuire, *"We are all, in some way, custodians of County Clare's rich natural and cultural heritage. The aim of this grants programme is to encourage and enable people throughout the county to enjoy, record, conserve, restore and celebrate the distinctive qualities of their local heritage, their community and their environment. We hope to build on the wonderful range of projects that have been carried out on a voluntary basis by many communities throughout Clare over the past number of years."*

*"The Clare Heritage Office would be delighted to offer support and advice in order to assist community groups and individuals in their application for funding for projects", she added.*

Last year 13 voluntary/community groups and individuals received funding under the Community Grants Programme.

They included

***Oidhreacht An Chláir*** for 'Killernan Graveyard inscriptions',

***The Shannon Wetlands Group*** for 'Restoration of a wetlands site in Shannon Town',

***The Old Irish Goat Society*** for the 'Burren Feral Goat Project',

***Doonbeg Community Development Ltd*** for Phase One of the 'Doonbeg Bay Wildlife Project',

***Leon Committee*** for the 'Leon Walking Trail Guide - Data Collection',

***CELT (Centre for Environmental Living & Training)*** for the 'CELT Ecology and Traditional Skills Training Programme 2007',

***East Clare Heritage*** for 'A History of the O'Gradys of Counties Clare and Limerick',

***The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group*** for the 'Clare Whalelog 2007',

***Tuamgraney Development Association*** for the 'Tuamgraney Community Woodland' project, and the

***Lough Derg Angling Association & Lough Derg Subaqua Club*** for the 'Irish Pollan habitat survey'.

Meanwhile, interested groups or individuals are advised to refer to the Heritage Council Plan 2007-11

**[http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/publications/Strat\\_Plan\\_2007/index.html](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/publications/Strat_Plan_2007/index.html)**

and the County Clare Heritage Plan 2003-07

**[http://www.clarecoco.ie/Heritage/Heritage\\_Plan\\_2003\\_2007.pdf](http://www.clarecoco.ie/Heritage/Heritage_Plan_2003_2007.pdf)**

before submitting an application.

For further information contact the Heritage Council:

**056-7770777**

**[www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie)**.

Alternatively contact

**The Clare Heritage Office ~ 065-6821616**

**[cmcguire@clarecoco.ie](mailto:cmcguire@clarecoco.ie)**.

**Clare County Council's Mission is to pursue excellence through service delivery and inclusive partnership to advance the social, cultural, economic and environmental development of County Clare**

**<http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/grants/grants2008/grants2008.html>**