

## Burrenbeo Newsletter September 2007

### Minister for Food comes to Ballyvaughan to launch the Burren Producers Group

Newly appointed Minister for Food and Horticulture Trevor Sargent TD made his first official visit to Clare on Sept 18<sup>th</sup> last to launch the Burren Beef and Lamb Producers Group. At a well-attended reception in Grogan's castle Hotel - one of the local businesses who provide quality Burren meat to their customers - the Minister welcomed the efforts of the group in sustaining the Burren's long-standing reputation for quality meat production. If you want to get your hands on some of this unique quality product, and support farming for conservation in the Burren, please contact 065-7089000 or [burrenproducers@eircom.net](mailto:burrenproducers@eircom.net)

### New Rural recreation officer for North Clare

Minister for Rural Affairs Eamonn O'Cuiv recently announced the appointment of 11 Rural Recreation Officers in Ireland, one of who is earmarked to manage The Burren Way and other approved National Looped walking routes in the North Clare area. It's hoped the appointment of the new officer will represent a significant move towards further improving relationships between landowners, walking enthusiasts and tourism operators in the Burren and elsewhere in County Clare.

### Battle of the Burren

In the highly anticipated final of the Clare Intermediate Football Championship, local Burren rivals Michael Cusacks take on neighbours Ballyvaughan. This is the first intermediate final in 70 years for Ballyvaughan, while for Cusacks it's the third final in ten years. The derby match to determine the winners of the Talty Cup, is set to take place at Cusack Park Ennis at 3pm on Sunday Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. Best of luck to both sides.

### Some flowers still in bloom in the Burren this Autumn:

Though the flowering season is largely complete and the cattle are preparing to take to the hills, there are still remnants of the summers rich flora to be seen. Also, its a great time for blackberries and hazel nuts!

Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*), Herb robert (*Geranium robertarium*), Bloody cranesbill (*Geranium robertarium*), Mountain avens (*Dryas octopetala*), Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), Eyebrights (*Euphrasia* spp), Cats ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), Harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), Carline thistle (*Carlina vulgaris*), Common Heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), St. Johns wort (*Hypericum* spp.), Grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*), Devil's but scabious (*Succisa pratensis*).

(l-r) Bell Heather (*Erica cinerea*), Goldenrod (*Solidago virgaurea*), Common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*)



Five handy colour flora checksheets available now to download from [www.burrenbeo.com](http://www.burrenbeo.com)

## **Burrenbeo to deliver local Educational Programme**

As part of the new 'Environmental Protection of the Burren through Visitor Management Initiative', Burrenbeo will be running an educational project in a number of Burren communities over the coming school year. Titled 'My Burren Heritage' the ten-week course will explore all aspects of the Burren's rich heritage. Courses will run in local schools and will see a number of well-known local Burren experts sharing their knowledge of the region with the future custodians of this special place. This significant community initiative aims to foster a sense of informed pride, ownership and responsibility among the communities of the Burren for their rich heritage and environment, thereby contributing to a sustainable future for the Burren and its people. The course will kick off in the coming months. For more details, please e-mail [info@burrenbeo.com](mailto:info@burrenbeo.com)

## **Some new websites worth checking out ...**

Burren legend PJ Curtis recently launched his new website [www.oldforgebooks.com](http://www.oldforgebooks.com)

Amazing pictorial website of Ireland's flora, featuring many Burren flowers [www.irishwildflowers.ie](http://www.irishwildflowers.ie)

Find out what's happening in County Clare. Connecting communities. <http://www.clarefocus.ie/>

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Clarinbridge** Sept 30<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> Third Annual Community Arts Festival [www.clarinbridgartsfestival.ie](http://www.clarinbridgartsfestival.ie)

**Carron** Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup> High Nature Value Farming in the Burren. Dr. Brendan Dunford  
BurrenLIFE Heritage Education Programme. Cusack Centre, Carron at 8pm. For more information, please call 065-7089000 or 087-2925487

**Gort** Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> Charity Concert in aid of 'Tractors for Africa' featuring the Lismourahaun Singers.  
Venue: St. Colmans Church. Tickets 15 euro available at Gort Post Office or on the door.

**Lisdoonvarna** Sat - Sun October 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Mr. Lisdoonvarna and Queen of the Burren Competitions. Closing weekend of the Lisdoonvarna Matchmaking Festival.

**Carron** Thursday October 11<sup>th</sup> Thinking with stones - the Megalithic tombs of the Burren. Dr. Carleton Jones, NUI Galway. BurrenLIFE Heritage Education Programme. Cusack Centre, Carron at 8pm. For more information, please call 065-7089000 or 087-2925487

**Ballyvaughan** Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup> Fundraiser in aid of the Ballyvaughan National School Building Fund. 'Who wants to be a thousandaire?'. Venue: Burren Coast Hotel at 8.30pm

**Carron** Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup> A Burren Archive - Wildflowers, Monuments and Local History. Bill McInerney. BurrenLIFE Heritage Education Programme. Cusack Centre, Carron at 8pm. For more information, please call 065-7089000 or 087-2925487

**Carron** Thursday October 25<sup>th</sup> Unrecognised Riches - the Woodlands of Ireland and Clare. Dr. John Cross, NPWS. BurrenLIFE Heritage Education Programme. Cusack Centre, Carron at 8pm. For more information, please call 065-7089000 or 087-2925487

## **Support Burrenbeo**

Burrenbeo is a non-profit information and education provider dedicated to the sustainable future for the Burren and its communities. You can help us in this important work by promoting the Burrenbeo website

[www.burrenbeo.com](http://www.burrenbeo.com) and referring people to the range of quality accommodation and service providers listed on the site - businesses which support the non-profit work of Burrenbeo. We would also welcome any Burren news, info, articles etc to post on the website and are happy to promote free local and community events.

Also, please visit us at Café Beo in Kinvara. **Autumn Opening:** Wed - Sat, 10am - 7pm, Sunday 12 - 5pm.

Over the past 12 months alone [www.burrenbeo.com](http://www.burrenbeo.com) has had over 3m hits and 250,000 unique visitors.