

Sligo Heritage eZine

February 2008

ARCHAEOLOGY – ARCHITECTURE – BIODIVERSITY - LANDSCAPES - SEASCAPES - GEOLOGY,
HERITAGE GARDENS AND PARKS – PLACENAMES – FOLKLORE - TRADITIONAL CRAFTS & SKILLS,
MUSEUMS & ARCHIVES - LOCAL HISTORY - TRADITIONS.

Welcome to the first **Sligo Heritage eZine**, which has been compiled by the Heritage Office of Sligo County Council. The objective of the Heritage eZine is to encourage heritage activity and provide support for heritage initiatives in County Sligo. It is hoped that the monthly Heritage eZine will facilitate greater access to heritage news, events and information across the county.

If you are an organisation, community group or individual with an interest in Sligo's heritage, the Sligo Heritage Office is keen to hear about forthcoming heritage projects, news and events to include in the monthly Sligo Heritage eZine.

To have your event/news listed in the March 2008 **Sligo Heritage eZine** please forward your information, before the end of February, to heritageezine@sligococo.ie for inclusion.

Please forward to anyone you feel may be interested in the **Sligo Heritage eZine**.

If you wish to be removed from this monthly eZine please email to heritageezine@sligococo.ie with 'Remove' in the subject box.

Best Wishes
The Heritage Office, Sligo County Council

Heritage Office, Sligo County Council, Riverside, Sligo, Ireland
T: 071 9111 255 E: heritage@sligococo.ie
F : 071 9141 119 W : <http://www.sligococo.ie/Services/Heritage/>

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1. EVENTS

LECTURE - BIRD WATCH IRELAND (SLIGO BRANCH)

Sea Bird Monitoring in Ireland

Lecturer: Mike Trewby, BirdWatch Ireland.

Friday 8th February, 2008 at 8.15pm

Venue: Sligo Institute of Technology, Room A004

OUTING – BIRD WATCH IRELAND (SLIGO BRANCH)

Bird Watch Outing to West Sligo

Sunday 10th February 2008 at 12.15pm

Meet at Collery's Pub, Beltra

<http://www.sligococo.ie/Services/Heritage/>

LECTURE - TIRERRILL HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY LECTURE

Conservation and Wildlife

Lecturer: Robert Lundy, Conservation Ranger, NPWS

Monday 11th February, 2008 at 8.00pm

Venue: Ballinacfad Community Centre

LECTURE - NPWS (NORTH MIDLANDS REGION) EDUCATION UNIT

From Whaling to Conservation – Changing attitudes to whales and dolphins in Ireland

Lecturer: Dr. Simon Berrow - Co-ordinator of the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group

Tuesday 19th February 2008 at 7.30pm

Venue: Education Room, NPWS Offices, Ballinacfad

LECTURE - SLIGO FIELD CLUB

Excavations on the Rooskey – Dromod Bypass

Lecturer: Cathy Moore, Archaeologist

Friday 29th February, 2008 at 8.15pm

Venue: Sligo Education Centre, IT Sligo, Ballinacfad, Sligo

2. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

SLIGO LOCAL AUTHORITIES HERITAGE GRANT SCHEMES 2008

Sligo Local Authorities Conservation Grants for Protected Structures 2008

The purpose of the scheme is to assist the owner of a protected structure to undertake necessary works to secure the conservation of the structure. The scheme is not intended to assist in carrying out routine maintenance, alterations or improvements. Sligo County Council is now inviting submissions from interested parties seeking support for conservation works. Please note that the above grant scheme applies to both the County and Borough areas.

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2008

The Community Heritage Grants scheme is designed to involve communities in heritage and to support community based heritage activity in County Sligo. In providing such support, Sligo County Council seeks to promote interest, education, knowledge, and pride in the local heritage resource. For the purposes of this scheme, heritage is defined, as including the following: Monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects, architectural heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, landscapes, seascapes, wrecks, geology, heritage gardens and parks and inland waterways, place names, folklore, traditional crafts & skills, museums & archives, local history & traditions.

Applications are invited from Community Groups and Heritage Organisations, for grants for heritage projects which benefit or relate to at least one of the aspects of heritage listed above.

Heritage in Schools Grant Scheme 2008

The Heritage in Schools scheme operated by the INTO and The Heritage Council offers a panel of heritage specialists who will, at the request of a teacher, visit a primary school to work directly with the children. To facilitate the promotion of the scheme in County Sligo, the Heritage Office will be sponsoring a number of schools visits under the scheme during 2008, applications from primary schools are now sought.

Applications are now invited for the above grant schemes:

<http://www.sligococo.ie/Services/Heritage/>

Application forms and particulars for the above grant schemes are available on request from Barbara Dobson, County Sligo Heritage Office, Sligo County Council, Riverside, Sligo, Tel: 071-9111 255 or by email heritage@sligococo.ie. Alternatively forms can be downloaded from the heritage section of www.sligococo.ie/services/heritage.

Closing date for all three grant schemes is 5pm on Wednesday 13th February 2008.

Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government Civic Structures Conservation Grant - 2008

The Scheme will provide grants of up to a maximum of €50,000 in relation to restoration and conservation of the architectural heritage in respect of buildings which are in public ownership or open to the public generally which are considered to be of considerable architectural merit. In general applications are invited from local authorities, civic trusts and other not for profit organisations. It should be noted that buildings in use for public administration or which are in private ownership are not eligible for grant-aid. The approved work must be completed and claimed for by 14th November, 2008. Information and application forms can be downloaded from www.environ.ie.

If you have any queries in relation to the completion of the grant scheme, contact the Heritage Policy Section, Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government, 1 Ardcavan Business Park, Wexford. Telephone (01) 8883037, 8883036, 8883035. Email: heritagepolicy@environ.ie

Closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Friday 15th February 2008.

Heritage Council - Buildings at Risk Programme - 2008

The Heritage Council Buildings at Risk Programme seeks to safeguard buildings which are at serious risk, but are not yet in a ruinous state. At the present time, Council is considering essential roof repairs only for funding in 2009. A grant allocation can cover up to 50% of the project cost and can be used in conjunction with grants from other sources. For further details click on the following link:
http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/grants/grants2008/pdfs/BAR_2007.pdf

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 31st March 2008.

Heritage Council - Biodiversity Fund 2008

The Heritage Council is now seeking applications from community groups, individuals, NGOs, state bodies and businesses throughout the country for biodiversity projects. €700,000 is available for projects to be completed this year. Groups or individuals can apply for funds for projects that will protect, manage and enhance biodiversity in their area. Priority is given to those sites that contain habitats of special conservation importance or that support threatened or vulnerable species.

The Biodiversity Fund provides grants for capital works to support the conservation and enhancement of Ireland's biodiversity. Priority will be given to projects that assist the management of sites which contain habitats of special conservation importance in Ireland, or which support threatened or vulnerable species.

<http://www.sligococo.ie/Services/Heritage/>

Application forms are available from the Heritage Council in Kilkenny by calling 056-7770777 or by email from aryan@heritagecouncil.com or online from the Grants section of the Heritage Council website.

Closing date for completed applications is 15th February 2008.

3. HERITAGE NEWS

New Native Woodland and Neighbourhood Scheme Announced

Mary Wallace TD, Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, has recently announced the reopening of the Native Woodland Scheme and also the Neighbourhood Scheme under the new Forestry Programme 2007-2013.

The Native Woodland Scheme aims protect and expand Ireland's native woodlands by providing funding to landowners to carry out necessary works in existing native woodlands and to establish new native woodlands. Details of both schemes Terms and Conditions will be available shortly on www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service. Alternatively please contact:

Forest Service
Department of Marine and Natural Resources
Johnston Castle Estate
Co. Wexford
Tel: 053 60200 LoCall: 1890 200 223 Fax: 053 43834/5/6

BIRD ATLAS 2007-2011 – Mapping Ireland's and Britain's Birds

The Bird Atlas 2007-2011 is a joint project to map all of Ireland and Britain's birds during both the winter and the breeding season. It is a working partnership between BirdWatch Ireland, the British Trust for Ornithology and the Scottish Ornithologists' Club. It will allow us to assess changes in bird distributions since previous breeding atlases in 1970 and 1990, and since the last winter atlas of early 1980s. Atlases have been immensely important for furthering bird knowledge and conservation and Bird Atlas 2007-2011 is destined to set the agenda for the next decades of ornithology in Ireland and Britain.

Fieldwork will span four winters and four breeding seasons, starting on 1 November 2007, during which the whole of Ireland and Britain will be surveyed. To fulfil these objectives there are two complementary fieldwork methods which offer something for everyone, Roving Records and Timed Tetrad Visits.

To make the Bird Atlas a huge success volunteers are needed all across Ireland to get involved. So why not be one of 50,000 birdwatchers across Ireland and Britain helping to produce the biggest and best Bird Atlas ever. For further information see www.birdwatchireland.ie and follow links for 'our work' and on to 'surveys and projects'.

The 2007-2011 Bird Atlas is jointly funded in Ireland by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Heritage Council and the Environment and Heritage Service Northern Ireland.

Development of Second National Biodiversity Plan 2008 – 2012

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is currently co-ordinating the development of Ireland's second National Biodiversity Plan. The preparation and implementation of the Plan will be the responsibility of a range of Government Departments and Agencies.

Any organisation or individual wishing to make a submission on the development of the Plan is asked to submit it to the Biodiversity Policy Unit of the Department.

All submissions can be submitted in writing by email or post to:

Biodiversity Policy Unit, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Ely Court, 7 Ely Place, Dublin 2. Phone 01 888 3224/3248. Email: biodiversitypolicy@environ.ie.

Closing date for submissions is Friday 22nd February 2008.

4. CONFERENCES

Irish Museums Association Annual Conference 2008

New Approaches to the Museum's Engagement with the Local Community
Wexford, 29 February - 2 March 2008. Full details irishmuseums.org.

International Conference on Farming for Conservation – Co. Clare

A major conference on farming for conservation is to be held next month (March 2008). The conference will have as its special focus the preservation of the unique Burren district of Co. Clare. The conference will be held at the Falls Hotel in Ennistymon from 24-27 February.

Since 2004, the European Commission and the National Parks and Wildlife Service have funded and supported the Burren LIFE Project, which provides scientific research, advice and limited funding to farmers. This promotes environmentally sustainable farming and livestock practices, including scrub clearance and the repair of stone walls which, through the centuries, have played a role in assisting agriculture in the area.

For more information see www.burrenlife.com.

Heritage Council Seminar on Architectural Heritage Grant Schemes

The seminar will take place on 28th February 2008 in the Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. It is aimed at building owners, architects, thatchers, contractors, heritage/conservation officers/specialists and all those interested in the conservation of old buildings. The seminar will provide information and advice on the Heritage Councils Buildings at Risk Programme and the opportunities available under REPS 4 for traditional farm buildings.

There is no charge for attendance at this seminar, however, pre-booking is essential. Contact amanda@heritagecouncil.com by email before Friday 15th February 2008.

<http://www.sligococo.ie/Services/Heritage/>

5. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Certificate in Community Learning and Development - Histories, Heritage and Communities – Queens University Belfast

Public Achievement has announced that the 'Histories, Heritage and Communities' course, accredited by Queens University, Belfast, as a module of their 'Certificate in Community Learning and Development', is now open for applications. The course will be held at QUB across four sessions from 12.00pm – 4.30pm on the following dates:

- Monday 11th February, 2008
- Monday 18th February, 2008
- Monday 25th February, 2008
- Monday 28th April, 2008

The use of culture, history and heritage as a tool to engage and develop communities is becoming increasingly popular. Public Achievement has run innovative youth work programmes in a number of museums, and we are interested in the extension of this model to other work with young people, communities and heritage institutions. This module will allow students to explore the relationship between history, heritage and communities and to develop skills in ongoing evaluation and reflection required for such work.

If you are interested in applying for this short course, please contact Sean Pettis, Training Officer with Public Achievement on +44-2890-666948 or email sean@publicachievement.com. The total cost is £100 and can be taken as part of the overall Certificate, or as a stand-alone module.

See their [course outline](#) for details, also on the Public Achievement website at www.publicachievement.com. Starting date is 11 February 2008, fee is £100 for this module.

6. RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Monumental Beginnings: the archaeology of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road

On 6 December 2007 Dr Stefan Bergh, Dept. of Archaeology, NUI Galway, launched the first publication in the new NRA scheme-specific monograph series. Monumental Beginnings by Ed Danaher describes the results of discovery and archaeological excavation along the route of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road. Investigations in 2003 by Archaeological Consultancy Services Ltd and initial testing and excavation by Mary Henry Archaeological Services Ltd in 2001 resulted in the discovery of a number of significant prehistoric sites, including that of a causewayed enclosure dating to the Early Neolithic period, around 4000 BC. These discoveries add to the archaeological heritage of a region already well known for its upstanding monuments. An accompanying CD-ROM to the publication incorporates final excavation and specialist reports.

Monumental Beginnings: the archaeology of the N4 Sligo Inner Relief Road (NRA Scheme Monographs 1) is available from Wordwell Book Sales, Wordwell Limited, Media House, South County Business Park, Leopardstown, Dublin 18 (Tel: +353 1 2947860; email: helen@wordwellbooks.com), and through bookshops.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

INFORMATION SEMINAR

Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site Research Framework

11th March 2008, Conyngham Arms Hotel, Slane, Co. Meath,

The Bend of the Boyne, or *Brú na Bóinne*, is internationally renowned for its elaborate Neolithic passage tombs, containing the largest assemblage of megalithic art in Europe. The area has been an important ritual, social and economic centre for thousands of years and its universal value was recognized in 1993 when it was designated a World Heritage Site, only one of three on the island of Ireland.

In recent years there has been a growing international trend towards the use of research frameworks for World Heritage Sites, and while a considerable body of research has already been completed within *Brú na Bóinne*, many key research questions need to be addressed such as the dating and development of monuments, changes in the settlement record, and how perceptions of the complex changed through time. Related management issues, preservation, conservation and interpretation within the WHS can also be seen as key issues. Accordingly, the Heritage Council in collaboration with Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has begun drafting a Research Framework for the site, re-assessing key priorities and examining where future research should be directed.

This one-day seminar, highlighting current research within the WHS, aims to both inform and include the public in this process.

Bookings: Contact Ger Croke, The Heritage Council, Kilkenny, Tel: 056 7770777 or email Ger@heritagecouncil.com.

CONFERENCE

Wet, Windy & Wonderful

Future Opportunities for Outdoor Recreation in Ireland

An all-Ireland conference hosted by the Heritage Council and Countryside Access and Activities Network (NI) to be held March 12 and 13th, 2008 at the Lough Erne Golf Resort in Enniskillen Co Fermanagh.

Dr. Conor Murphy (ICARUS-NUIM) will give an overview of the latest climate change science and implications for Ireland. Topics to be covered include surfing, coastal recreation, coastal erosion, wildlife, inland waterway navigation, archaeology and recreation, impacts on coastal communities, uplands erosion with case studies of the Giants Causeway and experience of the Peak District.

Please contact CAAN (Belfast) for brochure and booking information.

Tel: 00 44-28-90-303930

Email: sylvia@countrysiderecreation.com.