

Sligo Heritage eZine

July 2008

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

Welcome to the **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 August 2008 **Sligo Heritage eZine** please forward your information, before the end of July, 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 ~~R~~Remove in the subject box.

Best Wishes
The Heritage Office, Sligo County Council

Heritage Office, Sligo County Council, Riverside, Sligo, Ireland
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1. EVENTS

BIRD WATCH IRELAND (SLIGO BRANCH)

[HTTP://WWW.SLIGOBIRDING.COM/](http://www.sligobirding.com/)

CLICK LINK ABOVE FOR AN UP TO DATE LIST OF EVENTS.

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SLIGO FIELD CLUB

JULY/AUGUST OUTING : YEATS INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

OUTING

Yeats International Summer School: A Visit to Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery

Leader: Martin A. Timoney

Date 30th July at 1.15pm - Meet at: Carrowmore Visitor Centre car park

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THE BIRD ATLAS 2007-11

The mapping of Ireland's and Britain's Birds continues

[Click here to download information \[PDF 224K\]](#)

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NATURE SURVEYS

Make sure the nature you see doesn't go unnoticed! Take part in one of the many nature surveys happening around Ireland. [Click here.](#)

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WHALE WATCH IRELAND 2008

Sunday August 24th

Why not take part in national whale watch day on Sunday 24 August by joining the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group on one of 16 land based whale watches from headlands around the Irish coast between 2 and 5pm.

This annual, all-island event, organised by the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group (IWDG) in association with Inis Clogne is free and for all. All the watches will be led by experienced IWDG personnel, who will show you how to identify some of the 24 cetacean species (whales, dolphins and porpoises) that can be seen in Irish waters.

Please contact your local organiser for further details of events in Sligo (Miriam Crowley 087-6171377) or visit www.iwdg.ie

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2. HERITAGE NEWS

THE MOYLROUGH BELT SHRINE EXHIBITION – MUSEUM OF COUNTRY LIFE, TURLOUGH, CASTLEBAR, CO. MAYO



The Moylough Belt Shrine, found in a bog in Sligo in 1945, contains a leather belt that was a relic associated with an unknown early saint. The belts or girdles of saints were regarded as potent relics having miraculous properties, and they were believed to be particularly effective in relation to problems of childbirth. Small tomb-shaped shrines were used as containers for the bones of saints, and the remains of a number of such shrines are displayed, along with two relatively complete examples found in the River Shannon and in Lough Erne. The Moylough Belt Shrine was found in Moylough, Co. Sligo by local man John Toweey when he was cutting turf. The belt consists of four hinged sections made of bronze that contain fragments of a leather belt. The Shrine was decorated with silver, glass and enamel. The Moylough Belt Shrine dates from the eighth century and is one of the greatest treasures of medieval Ireland.

There are records of belt shrines in medieval Ireland which were used for oath swearing and curing illness. The Moylough Belt Shrine is the only known surviving example of a belt shrine in Ireland.

An exhibition of the Moylough Belt Shrine was opened in the Museum of Country Life, Turlough, Castlebar, Co. Mayo on the 26th June, 2008 and was attended by members of the Toweey family together with the County Manager of Sligo County Council, Mr. Hubert Kearns, Cllr. Michael Fleming, Cllr. Seamus Kilgannon, Cllr. Gerry Murray, Siobhán Ryan, Heritage Officer, Sligo County Council and Bartley Gavin, A/DOS Sligo County Council. A number of education activities will take place in Autumn 2008 to complement the exhibition. Activities are free, but booking is required.

For further details contact Bernie Byron. Tel: +353 (94) 903 1773 - email: bbyron@museum.ie or visit: www.museum.ie/en/intro/country-life.aspx



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

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE OF COUNTY SLIGO LAUNCHED

Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Michael Finneran joined the Cathaoirleach Councillor Jude Devins and Mayor of Sligo Councillor Veronica Cawley for the launch of the Architectural Heritage of County Sligo at County Hall.

Read full story at: www.sligococo.ie/News

Or visit <http://www.environ.ie/en/Heritage/ArchitecturalProtectionandHeritagePolicy/News/MainBody,17713,en.htm>

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ANNAGHMORE HOUSE, COLLOONEY, CO. SLIGO

RIAI (Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland) awarded The Irish Landmark Trust a Conservation Award at the Irish Architecture Awards 2008. For further information please click the link below.

<http://www.irishlandmark.com/news/default.asp?NCID=0&NID=&NewsID=168>

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BALLYMOTE HERITAGE WEEKEND FROM THE 1ST - 4TH AUGUST 2008

For further information contact:071 91 83293 or 071 91 83378 email: jflanagan@gmail.com

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**HERITAGE WEEK 2008
24TH AUGUST - 31ST AUGUST 2008**

Heritage Week celebrates who we are and where we've come from. Heritage Week is part of European Heritage Days, a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union. Check the Heritage Week website now to see what events are planned for your local area!

<http://www.heritageweek.ie/>

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**ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
NEW ARCHAEOLOGY WEBSITE**

The National Monuments Service website (www.archaeology.ie) of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has been recently updated with detail from the Archaeological Survey of Ireland records. The descriptions of monuments contained in a number of published archaeological inventories have been uploaded to the website, including those for the Archaeological inventory of County Sligo.

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

MINISTER JOHN GORMLEY LAUNCHES REPORT ON STATUS OF HABITATS AND SPECIES IN IRELAND

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley T.D., today (19 May 08) launched a report on the status of habitats and species in Ireland. The report is the first such comprehensive compilation of the status of habitats, animals and plants in Ireland which have protected status under national and EU law. More info: <http://www.environ.ie/en/Heritage/NationalParksandWildlife/News/>

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NATIONAL BUTTERFLY MONITORING PROGRAMME FOR IRELAND

The National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) is co-ordinating a National Butterfly Monitoring Programme for Ireland. These animals are useful indicators of changes in our environment and biodiversity and, also, indicators of climate change. There is a severe lack of long-term data on Ireland's biodiversity and this programme will fill some of this gap, providing important information on the state of Ireland's butterflies.

There are 32 species in Ireland and they are relatively easy to identify. Monitoring butterflies by the transect method involves a fixed-route walk (45-60 minutes) with recordings being taken on a weekly basis during the summer. It is essential that the walk is a fixed route, as this enables direct comparisons and trends of butterfly occurrences on a year to year basis.

If you are interested in setting up a transect in your area, please contact Stefanie Fleischer at sfleischer@biodiversityireland.ie or Eugenie Regan at eregan@biodiversityireland.ie for more information.

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NATURE'S WEB NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2008

The **Spring 2008 Issue** of the **Nature's Web Newsletter**, an exciting newsletter for children, has been posted on the web. www.naturesweb.ie

The newsletter is produced by Sherkin Island Marine Station, Sherkin Island, Co. Cork, Ireland www.sherkinmarine.ie and sponsored by **PharmaChemical Ireland**.

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4. JOBS & TENDERS

NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICES

NATURAL SCIENTIST PANEL

The National Parks & Wildlife Service regularly requires the service on contract of scientists, in a wide range of disciplines relating to the conservation and protection of Ireland's flora and fauna and their habitats. Accordingly, NPWS maintains a panel of suitably qualified scientists.

For further information see <http://www.npws.ie/en/WorkwithNPWS/NaturalScientistPanel/>

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OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

The Irish Heritage Trust is a new charity, launched in 2006. It is acquiring historic properties, houses and gardens that will be open for everyone's enjoyment forever. Our first property, Fota House, Arboretum & Gardens, was acquired in December 2007.

We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic Office Administrator who will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the Irish Heritage Trust office in Dublin. He/she will be responsible for general administration, servicing the Board of Directors and supporting the CEO and team. A minimum of two years experience is required as well as a passion for culture and heritage. This is a full-time position for an initial one year fixed term contract, with a salary of circa " 28,000 per annum.

For a full job description please see www.irishheritagetrust.ie. The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday 11th July 2008 at 5.00pm. Irish Heritage Trust
4 Castle Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 475 0085 / Fax: (01) 475 0090

The Irish Heritage Trust is an equal opportunities employer.

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TENDER GIS DATASET

Cork County Council with the County Heritage Forum and the Heritage Council will shortly be inviting tenders from suitably qualified professionals to develop a GIS dataset containing information pertaining to all sites that have undergone licensed archaeological investigation or excavation under Ministerial Consent in the historic towns of Mallow, Macroom and Youghal. For more information, or to register your interest in this project contact Mary Sleeman or Sharon Casey, Cork County Council at 021 4818000

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**INVITATION TO TENDER
BRIEF FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES TO THE HERITAGE
COUNCIL**

[Click here to download details \[PDF 92K\]](#)

Closing date: 5.00 pm 16th July 2008

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**INVITATION TO TENDER
COUNTY CLARE WETLANDS SURVEY**

This is an action of the County Clare Heritage Plan.

This work involves detailed field survey of wetlands in Co. Clare in order to contribute to baseline information on the type, location, extent and distribution of wetland habitats in the county. This work will guide land use planning, conservation priorities and future research for wetlands in County Clare. An output of the study is the production of a guide book to the wetlands in County Clare.

[Click here to download details \[PDF 200K\]](#)

Tender proposals must be submitted by 15th July 2008.

MUC MHARA - IRELAND'S SMALLEST WHALE
2ND IWDG INTERNATIONAL WHALE CONFERENCE 19-21 SEPTEMBER 2008

FITZPATRICK CASTLE HOTEL, KILLINEY, CO DUBLIN

The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group are pleased to announce their forthcoming conference on Ireland's smallest whale - Muc Mhara or the harbour porpoise. The harbour porpoise is the smallest of all Irish cetaceans and the most abundant and widespread. Harbour porpoise can be seen in all Irish coastal waters including off Howth and Bray Heads and Killiney Bay/Dun Laoghaire in Co Dublin. The harbour porpoise is recognised within Europe as being a species of major conservation concern and hence is included on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive, which requires member states to designate sites for its protection. Despite this, little is known about their ecology and due to their small size and elusive nature its' conservation importance is often overlooked bookings will be taken from mid-March but you can register your interest in the conference by e-mailing us at conference@iwdg.ie

For those interested in staying at the Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel please contact them directly to arrange a booking at 01 230 5556 or by e-mail reservations@fitzpatrickscastle.com or on their website www.fitzpatrickcastle.com

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IRELAND'S FLORA
2ND ANNUAL RECORDER'S EVENT AT THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DATA CENTRE

Following on from last year's successful recorder's event 'Moths and Butterflies - tracking changes in the 21st Century', the National Biodiversity Data Centre will host the 2nd Annual Recorder's Event: 'Ireland's flora - documenting, tracking and protecting' on 26 and 27 August 2008. This year the Centre will also host a special 'Young Nature Detective' workshop as part of the main event which will be aimed at 10-15 yr olds. Numbers are restricted for both events so advance booking and payment is essential.

➤ **> Further information**

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EUROPA NOSTRA AWARDS

2008 (July) - **Call for Entries:** *Europa Nostra Awards* is looking for entries for this EU Prize for Cultural Heritage. See their [invitation](#) for details. For full details of the programme see their website at www.europanostra.org Contact them at +31-70-302-4059. Previous winners of the Awards include Trim Castle, the Ha'penny Bridge, Larchill Arcadian Gardens, Kylemore Abbey Walled Garden, Sligo Courthouse and the Palm House Complex at the National Botanic Gardens, Dublin.

The closing date for applications is 1 October 2008.

<http://www.irishmuseums.org/museumnews.html>

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**THE HUMAN SETTLEMENT HISTORY OF CLARE ISLAND, CO. MAYO,
C.4000 BC TO 1900 AD**

**Paul Gosling, *Member*, Department of Humanities,
Galway Mayo Institute of Technology**

25 September 2008

Lectures are held at 7.30 in the Helen Roe Lecture Theatre.

For further information visit: www.rsai.ie/index

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HOME & DRY
PROFESSIONAL ADVICE ON REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS

CONFERENCE:

“Quality Street” Mending Terraces.
Belfast, 28th November, 2008.
For further details visit: <http://www.homeanddry.info/>

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THE SOCIETY FOR FOLK LIFE STUDIES - ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Muckross House, Killarney, Republic of Ireland 18th – 21st September 2008
[Click HERE to download draft programme and booking form \[PDF 92K\]](#)

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