

Members

Annual Overview

2012

This year has been our most successful yet. Without our members we would not have been able to achieve a fraction of what we have, so THANK YOU for your continuing support.

Hopefully from the below overview, you will see what a fantastic investment your membership has been. Stick with us as there are many more great things to come!

Brigid Barry, Trust Coordinator

2012 - THE HIGHLIGHTS

Burrenbeo Trust has had a very successful year, adding new events to our existing programme; all carried out on a shoestring budget but with an outstanding amount of volunteer input (an estimated €120,000). With absolutely no source of core funding, we should all be proud of what we have achieved! Take a look at some of the highlights from this year....

Sustaining IRELAND'S LEARNING LANDSCAPE through Education, Information, Conservation & Advocacy

This year saw the graduation of 125 **Ecobeo Young Burren Experts**. This brings the number of local children who have graduated from this 16-week Burren heritage course to over 800.



Minister of Education, Ruairi Quinn TD, presents Ecobeo certs to new Burren experts.



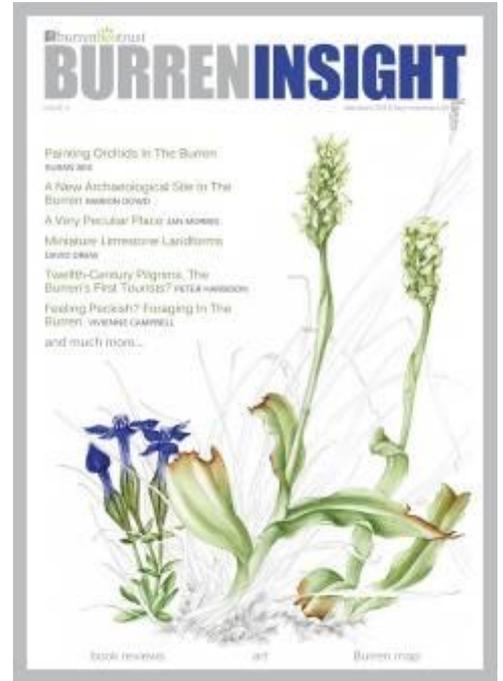
Renowned US place-based educator, David Sobel at Kivara farmers market. David was the keynote speaker at our Learning Landscape Symposium, which attracted over 100 national and international delegates.

Burrenbeo Trust organised a highly successful **Learning Landscape Symposium**, the first of its kind in this country on the theme of place based education. The event was titled 'From Apathy to Empathy': reconnecting people with place.



1,300 people attended our Monthly **heritage walks & talks** series this year.

We published the 4th issue of our highly acclaimed annual flagship magazine **Burren Insight** as well as a series easy-to-use **field guides** on the Burren's natural and built heritage.



We coordinated a highly successful **Burren Winterage Weekend** celebrating this unique Burren farming tradition. This was a community event which took place across the Burren, included 35 events and attracted an estimated 2,500 attendees.



Community cattle drove as part of the Burren Winterage Weekend.



We pulled together the **Kinvara Culture Night** which featured internationally renowned musicians.

We held monthly excursions for our 160-strong **Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers** and organised **Heritage and Conservation Management Courses** to upskill volunteers.



We hope to achieve even more in 2013 with your support!

ORGANISATION

Trust Coordinator

Brigid Barry

Communications Officer

Aine Bird

Programmes Officer

Kate Lavender

Fundraiser and New Media Editor

Ann O'Connor

Trust Secretary

Brendan Dunford

Trust Treasurer

Tom Kelly

Directors

Risteard Crimmins
Martin Hawkes (Chairman)
Mary Howard

Richard Morrison
Stephen Ward

Patrons

Tom Arnold
David Bellamy
Olive Braiden
Gordon D'Arcy
Michael Davoren
Mary Hawkes Greene
Seamus Heaney
Michael Houlihan

Carleton Jones
Mary Angela Keane
Michael Longley
Ann Madden Le Brocquy
Patrick McCormack
Ann O'Connor
Michael Viney
Bishop William Walsh

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Our total expenditure in 2012 amounted to €140,939.77. An estimated 90,000 of this amount was spent locally in accordance with our policy of supporting local providers.

Burrenbeo funded its work programme through a variety of sources; including grants, donations, membership fees and merchandise sales. Many of our funding sources have had their budgets cut, so getting grants and donations will prove even more challenging in 2013.

A full and complete audit of the 2012 accounts will be available at the AGM in 2013.

Funding in kind – THAT'S YOU!

Over the past 12 months, Burrenbeo Trust has undertaken numerous events and activities with an outstanding amount of voluntary input and payment in kind. From teaching on our Ecobeo course to editing our magazine, from coordinating a volunteer event to helping provide information in our visitor centre, from directing a music concert to providing refreshments at an event, from putting up keynote speakers in accommodation to leading walks, from delivering workshops to working on children's events....the list is endless! This year, we estimate that an c.€120,000* has been given to the Burrenbeo Trust in professional time! This is an extraordinary contribution by any standard, so thank you if you have contributed and if you didn't get around to it this year, don't worry, there will be plenty of chances in the coming year! Everyone has something to offer!

*Note the above guesstimate excludes the work of the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers.

MEMBERS OVERVIEW

As can be seen from the below table, there are 330 current memberships with the Burrenbeo Trust. 65% of these memberships are for more than one person (ie couple/family).

Membership breakdown

Year	2012
Active members by year end	330
Where do members have come from	% of
Burren residents	37%
Entire counties of Clare and Galway including Burren region	62%
National excluding counties Clare and Galway	20%
International	12%

FULL LIST OF ACHIEVEMENTS 2012

Below is a full outline of the achievements of the Burrenbeo Trust in 2012.

Education – Utilizing Ireland’s Learning Landscape

- This year saw the a new batch of **Ecobeo Young Burren Experts** graduating with the Minister of Education, bringing the number of local children certified under this 16-week Burren heritage course to over 800.
- We organised a highly successful two day **Learning Landscape Symposium**, the first of its kind in this country on place based education.
- We held a **Heritage and Conservation Management Course** for the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers to up skill interested parties to help with the future management of the region.
- We undertook a **Heritage Education Audit** on what exists in the Burren, what are the gaps and how these can be fulfilled.
- We provided **workshops and orientation sessions** for numerous visiting groups form universities, schools and adults at our Kinvara centre or out in the Burren.
- This will all help feed into an exciting **Learning Landscape Feasibility Study** that we are currently conducting to understand the full potential of the Burren as a learning landscape and how best to utilize it.

Information:

- Each month we organise a **heritage walks series** in the Burren, with a month-long of walks in May called **Burren in Bloom**, this year over 1100 people attended these.
- For six months of the year we hold **winter talk series** once month last winter, 350 attended.
- We published the 4th issue of our highly acclaimed annual flagship magazine **Burren Insight**, a magazine that is getting better and better.

- We organised the first **Walk with a difference** outing for service users.
- We also published a series easy to use **field guides** on the geology, archaeology, flora, fauna and habitats of the Burren.
- We send a free **monthly e-newsletters** to over 4000 people.
- We continue the development of our **online presence** and new media outlets including developing numerous **podcasts** demonstration the heritage work of the children and volunteers of the Burren.

Conservation:

- The **Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers** ran its first event in February 2010 with 19 people attending a scrub clearing event. Today, there are now 171 people on the volunteer email list. This year there were 230 attendances at 21 events by 81 volunteers.
- We held **monthly excursions** with the volunteers addressing key conservation issues and needs in the region, these also involve awareness raising and up skilling local individuals.

Advocacy:

- We coordinated a highly successful **Burren Winterage Weekend** celebrating the unique tradition of farming in the Burren, this was a community event spread through the region with 35 events and an estimated 2,500 attendees.
- We organised a **Limerick Gala Event** in April to profile the Burren and the work of the Trust to the Limerick audience.
- We organised **Kinvara Culture Night** in September to highlight the talent that exists in the area and connect the organisation with culture more.
- We continue to work as lead partners with other Burren agencies and the local authorities in developing a **Burren Community Charter** for the region. As part of this we organised a series of resource clinics for local community to help them deal with issues they face on the ground such on funding, planning issues and heritage.
- We continuously promoted the Burren in both **regional and national media** so it is at the forefront of peoples' agendas. Over the course of the year the Trust received a significant amount of media coverage. This included radio, television and print media. There has also been an increase in interactions with our various social media outlets. While most events received coverage, there were three that received significant amount – The shell midden dig in Fanore, the Learning Landscape Symposium and the Burren Winterage Weekend.

Local Economy:

- Burrenbeo Trust has a policy of using **local suppliers and expertise** with local expenditure of €90,000.
- We **promote local businesses** through its website, its business network, and gala events and whenever opportunities avail.
- Burrenbeo currently **employ** one full time, two part time staff and an on-going contractor, and leases a building in Kinvara.

- The estimated value of the **professional input** made by Burrenbeo core volunteers in 2012 (aside from the Burren Conservation Volunteers Group) was approximately €120,000.

We hope to achieve even more in 2013 with your input!

Finally meet the team....



Director, **Martin Hawkes**
@ *Ecobeo Graduation* June 2012



Director **Richard Morrison**
@ *Learning Landscape Symposium*, June 2012



Director **Dr Stephen Ward**
@ *A Walk with a Difference*, Mullaghmore, August, 2012



Director **Mary Howard**
@ *Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers Shell Midden Dig*,
May 2012



Director **Risteard Crimmins** (back right)
@ *Learning Landscape Symposium* opening night, Aug
2012



Trust Secretary, **Dr Brendan Dunford**
@ *Burren Winterage Weekend*, Oct 2011



Trust Treasurer, **Tom Kelly** (in yellow)
@ *Burren in Bloom*, Fanore Beach, May 2012



Trust Coordinator, **Brigid Barry** (far left)
@ *Limerick Gala*, April 2012



Communications Officer, **Aine Bird**
@ Burren Wild Child, Oct 2012



Programme Officer, **Kate Lavender**
@ Heritage and Conservation Management Course, Nov 2012



Fundraiser and New Media Editor, **Ann O'Connor** (left)
@ Kinvara Culture night, Sept 2012

Want to do more? Here is how you can help us

The Burrenbeo Trust is an inclusive organisation for anyone that wants to be involved. We survive on the generosity and help of our community. So what can you do to help?

- Let us know if you have some professional skills you may be able to volunteer that can help us.
- Make a donation to the Trust. Every little helps. You can ask it to go towards a specific programme or event and we will allocate it to that.
All donations over €250 are tax deductible so your money goes further.
- Ask your company or a business you know to sponsor a Burrenbeo programme or event (Burren Winterage Weekend, the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers or an Ecobeo school for example).
- Make introductions to further our charity's profile
- Join the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers

Or how do you think you can help? We would be interested to know. Contact us on trust@burrenbeo.com or 091 638096.

Thanks again for your support.

The Burrenbeo Trust Team