

Photo by Martin Kiely



burrenbéotrust | 

open your eyes to the living burren

Our Year in the Burren 2015

Photo by Ruairi O'Conchuir



Photo by Mary Comber



A YEAR WITH BURRENBEO TRUST 2015

The Burrenbeo Trust has had a very successful year adding new events to our existing programmes. We carried out 46 different programmes this year (38 in 2014).

We hosted one of the world's most influential supporters of environmental sustainability; continued to lead the drive for place-based education for teachers, adults and children; and held the first international Winterage conference in the Burren. All this and much more was carried out on a shoestring budget but with an outstanding amount of volunteer input.

Without support from the community we would not have been able to achieve a fraction of what we have, so THANK YOU for your continuing support.

If you are new to the organisation, we hope you will see from this report what a fantastic investment this organisation is, with many more great things to come!

Brigid Barry
Burrenbeo Trust Manager
December 2015



Photo by Sally Hayward

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

- We, in partnership with the Burren Life Programme, coordinated and hosted the visit of **HRH Prince Charles** to the Burren.
- We coordinated the 4th **Learning Landscape Symposium** which was completely sold out.
- We delivered two **Teaching Training courses** and facilitated further courses for trainee teachers, encouraging them to use local resources in their teaching and to bring students outdoors more often within the constraints of the curriculum.
- We carried out our very first Burren Wild Child for **visually impaired children** and further walks for visually impaired adults and wheel chair users.
- We developed a **Young Burren Ambassador Bursary Fund** in memory of Ann O'Connor Dunford.
- We coordinated the first **International Burren Winterage School** which was attended by 120 delegates from 15 countries which was followed by the successful Burren Winterage Weekend.
- We continued to deliver our ever successful **monthly walks** series, which, with the additional Burren in Bloom festival in May and the winter talk series, amounted to over 1000 attendees this year.
- We were shortlisted in the **Social Entrepreneur of Ireland Awards** - out of 230 charities we were the only environmental charity shortlisted.
- We received an all-time record number of applications for the **Ecobeo** course in schools demonstrating the demand for this place-based learning programme.
- We organised 19 different events for **Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers** with more than 200 attendances.



GOALS FOR 2016

The Burrenbeo Trust aims not only to continue and strengthen its current programmes but also to focus on the following:

- To highlight how learning in place, through place and about place is immensely beneficial for the individual and their community.
- To develop all our place-based learning and education models in such a way that they can be rolled out nationally.
- To update and continue to develop the Burrenbeo Trust as the main source of information on the Burren.
- To further develop our events so that they are often led by members of the Burren Community.
- To increase our emphasis on the Burrenbeo Trust Conservation Volunteers and their additional roles in promoting green health and in combatting social isolation.
- To expand connections with academic institutions and visiting groups regarding residential courses, research opportunities, volunteering opportunities and internships to maximise the significance of the Burren as a learning landscape.
- To continue to explore ways to make the Burren accessible to marginalised groups such as those with physical disabilities and various learning difficulties.
- To develop a strategy to become more engaged with some of the socio-economic challenges of the region in the belief that supporting communities, supports the environment.
- To explore and develop the community stewardship potential in all of our programmes.

'The Burrenbeo Trust was established to help open your eyes to the living Burren, to emphasise the fact that this is not a dusty heritage museum but a vibrant living landscape.'

What's in a term?

The term 'Environmental Stewardship' is widely used and understood in some countries, in particular north America, though less so in Europe and in Ireland. Defined by Wikipedia as 'the responsible use and protection of the environment through conservation and sustainable practices' it seems to go beyond the more familiar concept of 'conservation' which is often criticised for being rather 'sterile', to encompass active use and enjoyment of the environment.

The Burrenbeo Trust was established to help 'open your eyes to the living Burren', to emphasise the fact that this is not a dusty heritage museum but a vibrant living landscape. We work hard to support the stewards of the land – the farming community (those actively farming as well as the future farmers currently in school in the Burren) – and also to enhance people's connection with this place through a range of immersive learning programmes in this, the ultimate 'learning landscape'. This is because we truly believe that the people of the Burren are its ultimate stewards and we want to acknowledge and support them in this role.

Today, the Burren is recognised as a leading light for environmental stewardship in Ireland and beyond, thanks in no small part to the work of Burrenbeo Trust, the Burren Life Programme, the Burren Eco Tourism Network and others including the Burren College of Art and Burren Perfumery. So perhaps our vision for the Burren is possibly best captured by this concept of 'community stewardship'. We sincerely hope that you will join us in this journey.

**Brendan Dunford,
Trust Secretary, Burrenbeo Trust**

Photo by Martin Kiely



FULL LIST OF ACHIEVEMENTS 2015

Education, Information, Conservation, Advocacy &
Research, Local Economy & Organisation

Photo by Martin Kiely

1. EDUCATION

- Our five 2015 Ecobeo schools (Dorus NS, Boston NS, Tubber NS, Clouna NS, and Oranmore NS) completed their free, 20-week long Ecobeo course and all 110 participants graduated as Young Burren Experts, bringing the total number of graduates to 1050 over the last ten years.
- We ran our 4th Learning Landscape Symposium in February 2015 with numerous workshops designed for place-based educators and for people interested in connecting with their landscapes.
- Our Áitbheo course for Transition Year students in Gort Community College and Kinvara's Seamount Secondary School saw 40 Place Heroes graduating from a 10-week course focused on building a sense of place.
- We delivered two Teacher Training courses this summer working with 40 teachers on how to use your environment as a teaching tool in the curriculum.
- We continued to develop place-based education teaching resources including an online resource to allow teachers and parents to explore their heritage with their pupils and children..
- We continue to provide orientation sessions for numerous visiting groups from universities, schools and adults at our Kinvara office and at selected locations across the Burren.
- We carried out our second year of Burren Wild Child school tours, taking local school children out for a fun-filled day in the Burren, with the main focus being on learning

about their surroundings through games and activities. We worked with a total of 325 children through this.

- Both of the Burren Wild Child Summer Camps were completely booked out.

Learning in, from & about place

Education and learning is core to the work of the Burrenbeo Trust from the pioneering Ecobeo programme to the lifelong learning of the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers. The potential and impact of place-based learning is vast. Using local resources, ensuring relevant and effective activities and learning, fosters pride and encourages engagement in local communities with their landscape. For example: local field-names can teach Irish language and carry narratives of social history; the study of insects in their various forms can explain life-cycles; woodlands and mountains can be the source of artistic inspiration; the changing seasons build an appreciation for the biology of life; and trips to burial monuments bring the past to life: learning on a range of topics is possible.

This is a growing field in global education, one which we are proud to be the leading advocates for in Ireland. Along with delivering programmes locally, developing teaching resources and our training events including the Learning Landscape Symposium and the teacher training weeks will enable the reach and benefits of place-based learning to be felt much further afield. We look forward to continuing the move towards learning and education which focuses on the local, to the benefit of all, and expanding to a national level.

**By Áine Bird
Communications Officer**

EDUCATION: HOW TO GET MORE INVOLVED

As an individual

- You can encourage your local school to come on the Burren Wild Child outings for their school summer tours (during school term).
- You can attend the Learning Landscape Symposium (March 2016) or the Teacher Training courses (July & August 2016) to find ways to engage your audience more with their landscape.
- You can encourage friends and family you know with young children to attend the Burren Wild Child summer camps (July & August 2016)
- You can become a member of the Burrenbeo Trust to directly support the free Ecoceo programmes in the schools.

As a group

- Whether you are working with groups, young children, or with adults, we are able to offer tailor made lectures, fieldtrips and workshops around the Burren throughout the year that engage your audience in this landscape but also offer a way for them to engage with their own landscapes.
- Bespoke outings in the Burren can be developed for groups with physical disabilities or learning difficulties so that more are able to engage with this unique landscape.

As a business

- Ecoceo is totally free to the parents and schools each year but we have to raise €1500 per school to carry it out. However, the Young Burren Experts graduate from Ecoceo with a vast amount of knowledge about the natural, built and cultural heritage in their area, and we believe it is one of the best investments in the future of the Burren. You could sponsor a school's participation in Ecoceo.
- In this time of increasing disconnect from place and community due to globalisation, it is more essential than ever that as many children and adults continue to grow with a greater appreciation of their surrounding and environments both for their own green health and for the longevity of the environment. To establish place-based education and community stewardship models nationally, we need support to allow us to further these programmes.

' Whether you are working with groups, young children, or with adults, we are able to offer tailor made lectures, fieldtrips and workshops around the Burren throughout the year that engage your audience in this landscape but also offer a way for them to engage with their own landscapes.'



2. INFORMATION

- Our Burrenbeo Trust website continues to be the main source of information on the natural, built and cultural heritage of the Burren.
- We have now published over 100 issues of our free e-newsletter which is seen by more than 5,200 people monthly.
- The monthly heritage walks continue to be a resounding success, while the winter tea talks have kicked off in Gort this year in association with the Burren Lowlands Group.
- We coordinated our 10th Burren in Bloom festival which ran during the first half of May this year; over 500 people attended events throughout the Burren.
- Our informative field guides on the geology, archaeology, flora, fauna and habitats of the Burren continue to sell well throughout the Burren.
- We distributed podcasts on the work of our Burrenbeo Trust Conservation Volunteers, the Ecobeo course, the Winterage Weekend and more.

Discover new places and make new friends

Our regular walks, on the first Sunday of each month, are a great opportunity for the public to learn about the Burren from a variety of experts and often on land that would not normally be accessible. Whether we are looking at the flora and fauna, or the archaeology or the geology of the area, we are constantly reminded of the effect that people have had, and continue to have, on this unique landscape. We are very grateful to the landowners and farmers who allow us on their land – and often participate - and to the walk leaders who give their time so generously.

Whilst free for Burrenbeo Trust members, these walks welcome visitors and locals to the area to join in too. This can provide an opportunity for lively discussion and often allows us to supplement the expertise of our walk leader with local knowledge of the practices and folklore specific to the area. In addition to this knowledge exchange, the walks give us a chance to meet up with old friends and to make new ones – so come join us and find out.

**Richard Morrison,
Director, Burrenbeo Trust**

Photo by Martin Kiely

INFORMATION: HOW TO GET MORE INVOLVED

As an individual

- You can sign up for our free monthly e-newsletter to find out about the news and events that are happening in the region. You could then forward this newsletter onto your colleagues, your students, your friends and your family to keep them in the loop.
- You can become a member of the Burrenbeo Trust or encourage others to do so.
- You can encourage friends and family to come to our events.

As a business

- You could highlight the events that are happening in the Burren through your social media and website.



'The monthly heritage walks continue to be a resounding success. Whilst the winter tea talks have kicked off in Gort this year in association with the Burren Lowlands Group.'

3. CONSERVATION



- The Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers (BCV) organise monthly outings. Projects range from butterfly monitoring to clearing scrub around archaeological sites, from surveying old Mesolithic sites to rebuilding stone wall, and much more. All events have an important conservation impact and involve education and awareness-raising.



'...Farmers who want to protect butterfly sites, land owners who want to preserve archaeological sites, communities and families who come out to clean up our coastline etc., all volunteering to make a difference in the Burren.'

CONSERVATION: HOW TO GET MORE INVOLVED

As an individual

- Join the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers and get involved in the growing community activity of volunteering. This can be just because you wish to be in the outdoors and to put something back to the region. Or perhaps you are exploring a possible career in heritage or conservation and want an opportunity to get hands-on practical experience under expert supervision. Or you want to be part of a growing active community in the outdoors.

As a business

- Organise a bespoke team building day/week through the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers to encourage green health among your employees.
- Support a training event or equipment for the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers so that they can continue to work towards the future sustainable management of the Burren.

Life Long Learning

The Burrenbeo Trust Conservation Volunteers is conservation through education. For me, it has been a most enjoyable, rewarding and learning experience. I have met some wonderful people and made many new friends. Farmers who want to protect butterfly sites, land owners who want to preserve archaeological sites, communities and families who come out to clean up our coastline etc., all volunteering to make a difference in the Burren.

Our projects have been so varied, but for me, I became 'hooked' on archaeology. As a result, and with a little encouragement, I went on to study Archaeology at NUIG where I received a first class honours diploma. The learning for all volunteers continues on each of the projects with the knowledge and commitment of the many experts who have become involved with the BCVs.

**Mary Howard, Director,
Burrenbeo Trust**

Photo by Ruth Hanniffy

4. ADVOCACY & RESEARCH

- We coordinated the visit of **HRH Prince Charles** to the Burren.
- We coordinated the 2nd **Burren Winterage School** with 120 delegates from 15 countries, the first international school of this kind.
- We coordinated the overall **Burren Winterage Weekend** which involved a total of 23 different events throughout the region celebrating the ancient Burren tradition of Winterage.
- We created the first **Young Burren Ambassador Bursary** and held our first **Memorial Walk** in memory of Ann O'Connor Dunford.
- We are supporting a **PhD student** looking at the role that community groups play in encouraging community engagement with the Burren landscape and the resulting benefits, and we support a **Masters student** looking into the benefits of place-based education.
- We ran three successful **photographic competitions** on the themes of landscape, flowers and wildlife of the Burren.
- We continue to promote the Burren as a place of inspiration from which people can learn from their surroundings as per the Learning **Landscape Feasibility Study** which was launched in 2014.
- As lead partner with the **Burren Community Charter** we hosted an employee of ChangeX Burren for part of 2015.

- We **promoted the Burren in both regional and national media** throughout the year to ensure that it is at the forefront of peoples' agendas.
- The Burrenbeo Trust spoke at many **external events** promoting the community-led conservation including presenting to members of the Oireachtas, and to the Social Entrepreneurs of Ireland panel where we were shortlisted down to the final 20 from 230 organisations and were the only environmental charity shortlisted.
- We continue to work closely with **key local organisations** such as the Burren LIFE Programme, the Burren Geopark, the Burren Irish Farmers Association, the Burren Eco-Tourism Network and others.

ADVOCACY & RESEARCH: HOW TO GET MORE INVOLVED

As an individual

- Be an advocate yourself – spread the word by getting your friends and family involved in our activities, events and festivals.
- Make introductions to further our charity's profile.

As a business

- Organise or support a specific event as part of the Burren Winterage Weekend or as part of our other festivals.

'We coordinated the Burren Winterage Weekend which involved a total of 23 different events throughout the region celebrating the ancient Burren tradition of Winterage.'

Photo by Martin Kiely



ADVOCACY & RESEARCH



Photo by Martin Kieley

Bringing together the Burren community through innovative means

All but the most casual of visitors to the Burren will have heard of winterage and of booleying but few will have had any first-hand experience of where it happens, why it happens, when it happens or what it actually involves. Until...the cattle drive became a part of the Winterage Weekend Festival on the Burren and now anyone who wishes can participate in a farming ritual that has been maintained by Burren farmers for many generations.

Traditionally the event marks the beginning of winter but this year the last Sunday in October was more late summer than early winter. A long, long retinue of walkers threaded their way up the rocky slopes of Slieve Rua clad in a wide range of hiking attire, a remarkable sight in what is usually a deserted area of the Burren. Leading the way, and apparently wholly unfazed by the throng behind them, were the cattle. The followers were an eclectic mix of local farmers, townies, small children and more mature individuals. Everybody made it to the winterage pastures (and back) safely. Everybody returned well exercised and exhilarated. Probably the Burren had never seen a cattle drive quite like this before but as a way of bringing together the Burren farming community and Burren lovers from beyond it will be difficult to improve on, highlighting the key work of the farming heritage on this landscape.

David Drew,
Burrenbeo Trust Executive Committee

5. LOCAL ECONOMY & ORGANISATION:

- Burrenbeo Trust has a policy of using **local suppliers**.
- We **promote local businesses** through our website, our business network and wherever opportunities arise.
- We are building up a strong community of **members**.
- We currently employ 3 permanent staff, subsidise a PhD student and lease an office in Kinvara.

An inclusive organisation open to all

Burrenbeo Trust strives to connect people to their landscape through utilising the natural resources readily available on your doorstep in an educational and sustainable manner. Not only does the organisation aim to create passion, excitement and a greater sense of belonging within the local community, but the work of the Trust is heavily focused on sharing knowledge and building a community of communities nested within this unique and beautiful landscape. We can all learn from each other, share this space and make it accessible and enjoyable for everyone. Burrenbeo Trust works closely with local children, farmers, business owners, conservation volunteers, and organisations, whilst also interacting with teachers/educators, individuals with accessibility issues and visitors to the Burren. Encouraging these communities to experience, engage with, and learn from this iconic landscape is a vital part of what the Trust does.

Community is hugely important to Burrenbeo Trust! Since joining the Trust in September, I have been bowled over with how inclusive this charity is - truly valuing the knowledge of people on the ground and celebrating local community and heritage at every opportunity. By getting involved with Burrenbeo Trust, you become part of a wider community – sharing similar interests and visions for the future.

Elaine Williams,
Community Engagement Officer, Burrenbeo Trust

'We can all learn from each other, share this space and make it accessible and enjoyable for everyone..!'

Photo by Sean Tomkins

LOCAL ECONOMY & ORGANISATION: HOW TO GET MORE INVOLVED

As an individual

- Encourage friends and family to become a member of the organisation. This costs as little as €2.50-€5 a month depending on the membership type.
- Support our events as much as possible – come to our walks, talks, training events and community festivals.
- Let us know if you have professional skills you may be able to volunteer that can help us further our charity (ie marketing, fundraising, lecturing etc).
- Make a donation to the Trust – every little helps. You can ask it to go towards a specific programme or event and we will make sure it does. All donations over €250 are tax deductible so your money goes further.

As a business

- Become a business member. Rates are: Business Friend €180 (€15 a month), Great Business Friend €300 (€25 a month) or Gold Business Friend €600 (€50 a month). Through this you are feeding directly into the education and conservation work of the organisation. On our side, we will continue to support those that support us by publicising your business on the monthly newsletter and you can advertise any events that you have on that month in the publications. We will also include names and logos where possible on our bigger events.

For more information
on supporting any of the above contact
trust@burrenbeo.com
or 091 638096.

'Support our events as much
as possible – come to our
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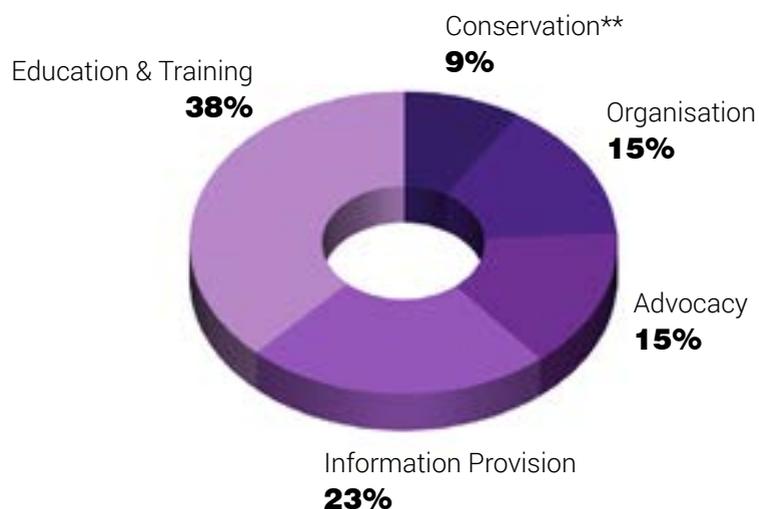
Photo by Martin Kiely

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Expenditure

Our total expenditure in 2015 amounted to €117,630.*An estimated €86,000 of this amount was spent locally in accordance with our policy of supporting local providers.

Expenditure was split between the following programmes in 2015



The expenditure in each of these areas was as follows:

- Wages & Inland Revenue (71%)
- External event costs i.e. speakers fees, venues, marketing (12%)
- Rent, electricity, heating, etc. (8%)
- Accounts, bank charges and insurance (5%)
- Stationery, postage, equipment (4%)

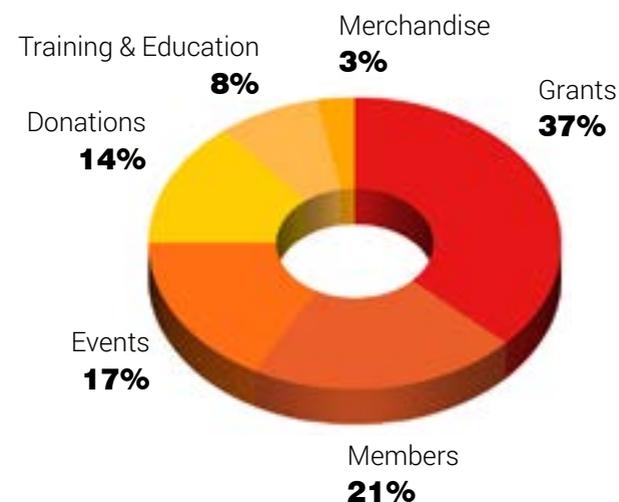
*This report was prepared in November and therefore figures have been projected until the end of December based on monthly averages.

**Conservation has the highest contribution in kind which is reflected in its lowest financial cost to the Trust.

Income

Our total projected income for 2015 was €116,000.* Burrenbeo funded its work programme through a variety of sources including grants, donations, events, 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 2016. The Burrenbeo Trust does not receive any core funding. It works hard to bring in the necessary funds to enable its survival.

Below is the breakdown of the different funding streams (% of income):



The expenditure within these areas breaks down as follows:

Grants (37%) In 2015 we applied for 28 different grants. We were successful with 12 applications. Grants ranged from €450-€20,000.

Members (21%) Membership fees bring in roughly 20% of the necessary income to fund the organisation.

Event Income (17%) Burrenbeo Trust runs various events throughout the year that have an entry cost i.e. walks, talks, Wild Child, Burren in Bloom, Winterage Weekend, etc. These all raise necessary funds for the Trust.

Donations (14%) Various businesses or individuals supported specific programmes within the Trust in 2015.

Training and education courses (8%) Burrenbeo Trust carried out school tours for 11 schools, held a symposium on place-based learning, and training courses for teachers bringing place-based education to the classroom.

Merchandise (3%) The sale of Burrenbeo magazines and field-guides.

* A full and complete audit of the 2015 accounts will be available at the AGM in June 2016.

WHO SUPPORTED US IN 2015

GRANTS & PROGRAMME SPONSORSHIP

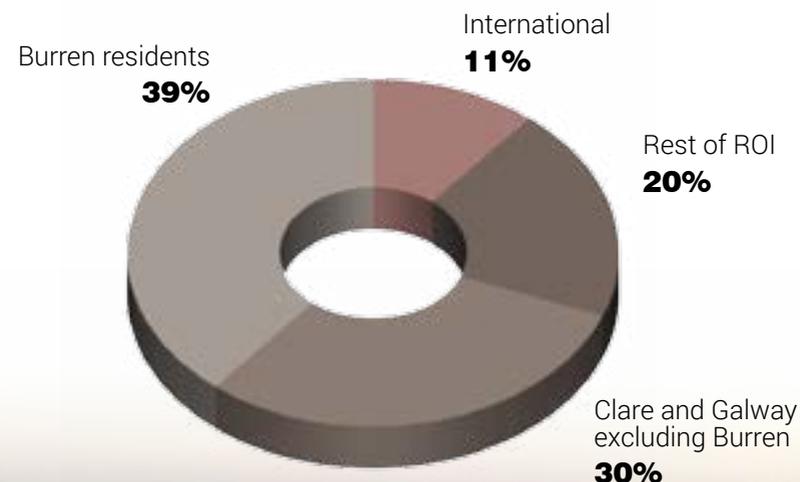
The funders listed below support the work of the Trust, either in lieu of advertising or funding a specific programme. Grant and sponsorship funding income by ranged from €200-20,000.



MEMBERS

Burrenbeo Trust is a membership organisation with a wide geographical spread. There are 357 current memberships with the Burrenbeo Trust. 148 of these memberships are for more than one person (ie couple/family/business).

Where do members come from (% of):



And of you – Our members & other supporters

A massive thank you to all our members and to others for continuing to support us in our work. Burrenbeo Trust undertook 46 programmes this year, many of which were achieved with an remarkable amount of voluntary input and payment in kind. We are so appreciative of the extraordinary contribution from the community. So THANK YOU!

A Burrenbeo Trust Membership is about giving not receiving

{Earth and sky, woods and fields, lakes and rivers, the mountain and the sea, are excellent schoolmasters, and teach some of us more than we can ever learn from books. John Lubbock, 1894.}

Your Burrenbeo Trust membership buys so much more than anything we could possibly offer to you. Not only does it contribute to the conservation of the Burren through our various programmes but it helps to ensure that the Burren will be treasured for future generations of people to take pleasure in and learn from.

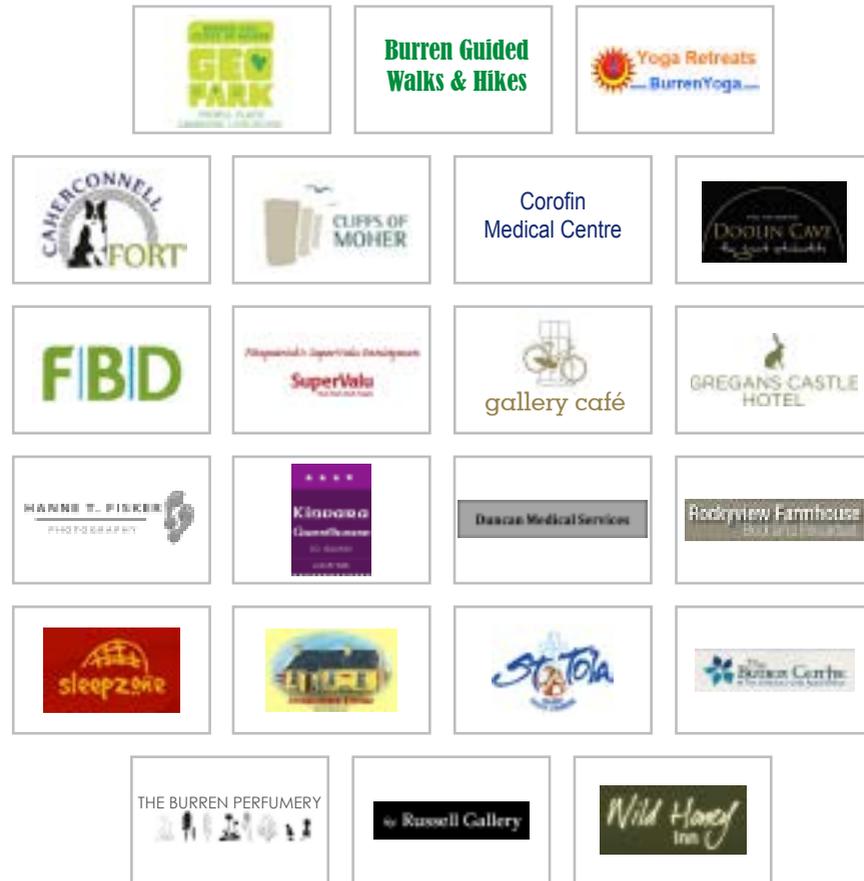
**Kate Lavender,
Programmes Officer, Burrenbeo Trust**

Photo by Geraldine Greene

ORGANISATION

BUSINESS MEMBERS

We encourage our subscribers and network to support local businesses that support us. Below is our list of 22 Burren business members from 2015:



Funding in kind

Over the past 12 months, Burrenbeo Trust has undertaken numerous events and activities which have involved a great deal of voluntary input and payment in kind. From guiding walks, coordinating volunteer events, helping provide information at events, providing refreshments, providing accommodation for keynote speakers, opening farms, delivering workshops to working on children's events....the list is endless! This year, we estimate that c.€153,000* has been donated 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 estimate excludes the work of the Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteers.

Photo by Pauline O'Dwyer



Trust Manager

Brigid Barry

contact: trust@burrenbeo.com



Communications Officer

Áine Bird

contact: communications@burrenbeo.com



Programmes Officer

Kate Lavender

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Community Engagements Officer

Elaine Williams

contact: elaine@burrenbeo.com

Trust Secretary

Dr Brendan Dunford

Trust Treasurer

Richard Morrison

Executive Committee

All of the above
Dr Sharon Parr
Dr David Drew
Mary Howard

Directors

Shane Casey

Sadie Chowen

Birgitta Curtin

Ristard Crimmins

Martin Hawkes (Chairman)

Mary Howard

Michael Davoren

Richard Morrison

Patrons

Tom Arnold

David Bellamy

Olive Braiden

Gordon D'Arcy

Michael Davoren

Julie Feeney

Mary Hawkes Greene

Michael Houlihan

Mary Angela Keane

Michael Longley

Ann Madden Le Brocquy

Patrick McCormack

Michael Viney

Bishop William Walsh

Founding Patrons :

Seamus Heaney*

Carlton Jones

Ann O'Connor Dunford*

*Deceased

CHALLENGES 2015

Our main challenges this past year were:

Securing **funding** to employ staff and carry out activities - an ongoing challenge. However, we truly believe that what we do in promoting the potential of the Burren as a learning landscape will help individuals connect with this landscape and their own landscapes and foster a sense of responsibility for it..

Maintaining **membership** and bringing in new membership. Being a membership charity means that we have created a community that supports our work in the Burren. However, it is very important to us that we nurture our members and expand our community through keeping our programmes strong and relevant.

Burrenbeo Trust has 46 programmes. With just 1 full-time and 3 part-time staff, we rely on the huge support from numerous dedicated volunteers. It is a challenge to find people to **share the load** with. However, we are an inclusive charity that is always open to new skills, ideas and to bringing new people on board to help with this.



A Dedication to Ann O'Connor Dunford (Burrenbeo Trust Co-Founder)

We would like to dedicate all that was achieved in 2015 to Trust co-founder Ann O'Connor Dunford who passed away earlier this year. Ann was passionate about the Burren, but also about children and education. She would, no doubt, be thrilled to see the Trust's place-based education programme's going from strength to strength.

Better still would be her appreciation of the emerging centrality of 'learning landscapes' to what the Trust is about. Using the Burren as an exemplar of place-based learning and, in the process making the local global, is an example of the kind of leverage which would have appealed to her vitality and sense of can-do. Helping others to make the connection to the natural world about them, a connection which came so instinctively to her, would have been a great source of joy.

Finally the Young Burren Ambassador Programme – empowering and inspiring exceptional Burren youth to spread the magical story of the Burren far and wide – is a fitting tribute to Ann's love of and dedication to a landscape that was a central passion in her life.

'Ní bheih a leithéid ann arís.'

**By Martin Hawkes,
Chairman, Burrenbeo Trust Board**

burren**b**eo**t**r**u**st

open your eyes to the living burren



The Burrenbeo Trust is an inclusive organisation for anyone who wants to be involved. We survive on the generosity and assistance of our community.

We hope to achieve a lot more in 2016
with your support

Photo by Andreas Riemenschneider

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www.burrenbeo.com