

## Learning Landscape Symposium 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> August, 2012

### Final Report for The Heritage Council

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Burrenbeo Trust held its inaugural Learning Landscape Symposium titled '*From Apathy to Empathy -Reconnecting People and Place*', bringing together leading international and national thinkers and practitioners who specialize in the theme of place-based learning.

With a keynote speech, 20 workshops and fieldtrips, the goal of the symposium was to provide an introduction to what place-based learning (PBL) is, what techniques are being used elsewhere and how PBL can be best applied to the Burren. See Appendix 1 for the timetable.

Workshop leaders included 20 leading PBL experts from the USA, the UK, nationally, and locally. Apart from these workshop leaders, there were 63 delegates, 13 recorders and coordinators, 2 collators of digital information, 5 Burrenbeo Trust staff, and 7 volunteers in the Trust centre totaling **110 people attending** the symposium in some format or another. See appendix 2 for everyone that attended.

Aside from the opening night, the two days of workshop were based either in Kinvara village or the Burren. Whilst in Kinvara, events were 100% community based – the venues were relatively informal to encourage engagement despite this being a formal symposium. Venues included the community centre, the village hall, the courthouse, the local hotel, two local family run pubs and the Burrenbeo Trust building. Accommodation and food was recommended in the village to help the local community benefit as much as possible for this symposium and to encourage interaction with the work of the Trust. The Burrenbeo Trust paid just under €5,000 into local businesses in food, accommodation, local bus hire, venue hire, with a further estimated €100 spent by each delegate in the area.

The event was well covered in the regional media (Clare People, Clare Champion, Clare FM and Galway Advertiser) and got a double page spread in the Irish Times in the Health Section. Overall the event was considered a success and it would be something that we would hope to build on into the future. This event would not have been possible without the help of the funding of The Heritage Council.

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## WHAT DID PEOPLE THINK OF THE EVENT?

*We had a wonderful week in Kinvara and we completely appreciated your care and conscientious attention during the week.* **David Sobel, Workshop Leader, USA.**

*I was very impressed at how well organised the conference was and how cheerful you all managed to remain through everything!* **Gordon MacLellan, Workshop Leader, UK.**



*I hope that Burrenbeo continues to go from strength to strength.* **Tony Kendle, Workshop Leader, UK.**

*Thank you so much for putting on the symposium. It was an honor to be involved and inspiring to meet so many wonderful people so passionate about the Burren.* **Gregory Traymer, Workshop Leader, USA**

*A huge congratulations to all the team on what was an extremely successful and enjoyable symposium (and those two things, successful and enjoyable, rarely go together on such occasions!).* **Nessa Cronin, Workshop Leader, NUI Galway.**



*Thank you so much for hosting and organising such a well-run, exciting and interesting symposium. I had a fantastic time, and was really knocked out by the calibre and choice of the workshops, and felt I went away energised and enlightened.* **Sophie Nicol, Workshop Leader, IRE**

*Just a note to congratulate you on a very successful inaugural Learning Landscapes Symposium! I was delighted to meet you and other Burrenbeo staff, as well as the other participants, who were an amazing and wonderful mix of people with the creativity, ideas and passion needed to change our worlds in positive ways for more sustainable futures.* **Karen Till, Workshop Leader, NUI Maynooth.**

*Thanks to you for a wonderful and extremely well organised symposium... I thought it was all fantastic and produced a wealth of information.* **Zena Hctor, Workshop Recorder, local heritage consultant.**

*I really enjoyed the talks and workshop I did get to and I am sure those who made it to the Burren will remember it for a long time to come. It was a pity I didn't have longer but I do feel I picked up some very valuable ideas in my short stay.* **Isabell Smyth, Heritage Council.**

*The workshop leaders I had selected were first class and extremely knowledgeable...the wealth of understanding and knowledge they had to share. I could have listened to each of them for days. I was moved, inspired and feel privileged to*



have been a part of the symposium. **Kevin Marshall, Delegate, USA.**

A truly unforgettable visit to the Burren. **Barry Flinn, Delegate, Ashoka Ireland.**

There was a really positive atmosphere throughout, the event was very well organised, with a great bunch of people involved. **Helen Lawless, Delegate, Mountaineering Ireland.**



*I think my lasting impression of the symposium was the 'holistic' nature of it... I came away feeling as though I had the opportunity to engage, learn and share ideas in a really multi-dimensional way; through creativity, social interaction, quietness and listening, stories, songs and poetry, action, involvement, intellectually and getting down and playing. I also loved the*

*cross-pollination of ideas or the threads that ran between the workshops. It reaffirmed for me the importance of the connections between people and place and of bringing back a value to empathy. It also reaffirmed for me the value of the work that I am engaged in and it was encouraging to meet people with similar views and ideas. **Karen Webster, Delegate***

## SO WHAT WAS LEARNT FROM THE EVENT...?

The below is an accumulation of what was extracted from the recorders' notes and delegates' comments after each workshop, and from people's communication since the event.

### **Place based learning (general)**

Common threads identified:

- Place Based Learning (PBL) is an essential part of creating a direct connection with a landscape, this then leads to a sense of respect and responsibility, and overall empathy for a place that is then crucial to its conservation and sustainable utilization.
- PBL can happen anywhere, in anyone's back yard – and that is an important point, to make it local. Both children and adults relate more to their local environment – this can then be applied to a global situation.
- When creating a local project, it is key to include the local community (the school children, the local businesses and tradespeople that are directly or indirectly involved in the project's subject matter), it has to be a specific, relevant and current issue that is affecting the community or else it will quickly lose spirit.
- When working with adults or children, they like to 'play' – all age groups have less opportunity to explore these days. When carrying out PBL try and make it informative but interesting and fun, open to discussion, ask questions to give the group a feeling of inclusion in the situation and get them looking around them at their situation to find the answers, this helps create a feeling that the individuals aren't hindered by structure thus comfortable to explore more by asking more questions. Asking questions gives the individual empowerment as it is outside structure and is creating further learning.



- The best form of PBL is to create situations that get people thinking and interacting within the group and the environment and not just one person lecturing. PBL is not about teaching but about sharing the environment, by sharing it you are creating a higher sense of empathy.
- In this day and age try and think more risk-benefit analysis instead of just risk-analysis as it can be hindering within PBL. Much of this consists of getting parents, community and teachers on board to minimize the risk factor or rather the fear of the risk factor.



### Place based learning (techniques)

Common threads identified:

- Interactive workshops with many games and mini-discussion groups were good for teaching a new subject area and getting the whole audience engaged in the message.
- If PBL is through games, these games can have an order to draw out the best in the audience, for instance 1) an icebreaker, 2) a method of introducing individuals, 3) a high energy activity, 4) an activity for developing creativity around the subject, then 5) one for thinking around the subject, and finally 6) one for reflection. This brings the individual through a cycle and an effective method of learning through fun. With games or even without games an enthusiastic educator will help equate to an enthusiastic audience.
- If working with children, try and see things from a child's perspective ie mapping miniature worlds. A successful PBL game with children focuses the attention and engages the imagination whilst giving factual information.
- Storytelling is a way for any age-group to open their imaginations and discover their environment. It is a good way to explore the surroundings and create a connection.
- If interacting with individuals that are disconnected from the natural environment it is important to find things that they can relate to, to then bring it back to the natural. For example biomimicry.
- Try and engage the individuals with as many of the senses as possible to get a full understanding of the immediate environment.
- There is a lot of power in bringing a PBL situation back to the local ie local placenames, local myth and legend, local history – this gives a lot more context and thus connection to what you are trying to demonstrate.
- If carrying out a PBL fieldtrip to explain a local situation – it is good to get as many sides of the story as possible. If the educator is not able to give more than one, get in local 'experts' to help, or ask the crowd to interact and share their knowledge.
- One access to the local community is through local history and heritage – ask questions, get a conversation going, bring children and elders together on a project. Get communication lines open.



### Developing the Burren as an ideal place for PBL

Common threads identified:

- When using any location for a focus of PBL – the local interaction and connection with the community is essential. This local interaction should run right through the project, including in the organization of a project. Much of the community in the Burren is open to PBL.

- What became clear from the different fieldtrips (workshops in the field) is the incredible story the Burren has to tell – the story of water and the landscape, farming and the landscape, the archaeology, the reasoning for the abundance of ecology etc. There are many unique stories in the Burren that are found nowhere else in Ireland or Europe. The key to PBL is the local story and the bonus the Burren has is that it is an extraordinary and interesting local story.
- In terms of finding a place to get people to connect with nature, the Burren offers many different properties that people are attracted to and get a sense of calmness from (the rock, areas of wilderness, the rich cultural input that equate a sense of community etc).
- While the overall theme of the symposium was to attract a wide range people that are involved in PBL, the attraction was also to be in one of the nation’s most inspiring landscapes and challenge the individuals to both learn on this site and engage fully with this place whilst learning lessons and techniques which can be adapted to their own place and its needs. The Burren was a selling point.



### **Future of Burrenbeo Trust education programme**

Common threads identified

- PBL is all well and good but it has to be relevant to the curriculum or it will not be picked up by the teachers as a viable way of teaching the children in the long term.

### **Workshop and symposium (interaction & effectiveness)**

Common threads identified:

- Well organized for a first attempt – seen as quite professional. Also the event was deemed as a very positive and inclusive event.
- The small workshops were considered a good way to interact with people and get the most out of the teaching that was being offered. The local venues and small location of Kinvara meant people had the chance to meet lots throughout the event.
- Although the group lunch was a great situation to mix up people, a more formal dissemination of the day’s activities at the end of each day would have been a good digester of the information provided. Though this may have been too much, perhaps a better record to be made available about the workshop straight after the work for delegates consumption.
- Some workshops could have had more people in them to optimize on the teaching quality available and encourage a higher level of workshop interaction.
- Within this symposium, it became obvious that PBL comes in many different formats from structured workshops to get ideas flowing in place connection and empathy, to gathering ideas from other countries/places that could be used and adapted in each individual’s own situation, to viewing actual PBL in the action through fieldtrips in the Burren. The combination of the three really demonstrated the full effect of PBL.

## **WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS TO CONSIDER...?**

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**What are the next steps and questions to consider for the work of The Burrenbeo Trust in relation to future organization of a similar event?**

What would be a good current project for the Burrenbeo Trust to get involved in that would capture the imagination of the local community? To get people thinking about their local community and environment.

How can the structure and organization of the Learning Landscape Symposium be improved in the future? Things to consider – time of year, size of workshops, length of the symposium, delivery of the message pre-event and collation of the information post-event.



Was Kinvara a good place to hold it?

Could the coordinators or recorders be briefed differently?

Would it still be a good idea to focus best practices and examples from other countries and other parts of the Ireland built into a Burren symposium? Was this a helpful outcome?

With limited infrastructure, what is the best way forward in utilizing the Burren and its PBL potential?

How can a symposium like this continue to feed into future Burrenbeo Trust events?

## APPENDIX 1 TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

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**Pre-Symposium Events: 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Aug** Daily Burren heritage walks (€5pp per walk)  
Sat 18th Aug @ 13.45pm with Michael Killeen – meet@ Ballycashen Cross  
Sun 19th Aug @ 13.45pm with Robert Cassidy – meet@ Cassidys car park Carron  
Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Aug @ 13.45pm with Harry Jeuken – meet@ Gortlecka Cross  
Tue 21<sup>st</sup> Aug @ 13.45pm with Pat Nagle – meet@ Slieve Carron Nature Reserve

### Wednesday August 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Pre-Symposium Event:** 11.30-2pm *A Walk with a difference*. At the Burren National Park.  
(A Heritage Week walk organised specifically for service users in conjunction with the Irish Wheelchair Association)

**Registration:** 10am-5pm Burrenbeo Trust Office, Main Street Kinvara  
Or 5.30-6.30pm Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan.

**Opening and Reception:** 6.30-7.30pm. Burren College of Art. Music, chat and canapés.  
Followed by Welcome Address

### **Session 1: The Importance of Place Based Learning 8– 9.30pm Burren College of Art**

Keynote presentation:

**8.00 – 9pm David Sobel:** *Place-based education: making school more like a farmer's market*

**9 – 9.30pm Discussion**

Afterwards: Traditional music is playing in Connollys Pub, Kinvara until late.

### Thursday August 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **Session 2: Workshops on International Best Practice in Place Based Learning 1. (9-12pm) Kinvara**

**v = Venue**      **c = Workshop coordinator**      **f = Workshop recorder**

**KW1. David Sobel.** *Childhood and nature: design principles for educators*

**(v) Johnston's Hall**

**(c) Aine Bird**

**(r) Sarah O'Malley**

**KW2. Gordon MacLellan.** *Wonder, delight and stories*

(v) Burrenbeo Trust (c) Paula Flynn (r) Declan Kelleher

**KW3. Katy Egan.** *Head, heart and hoof: developing environmental understanding (empathy) through human animal relationships*

(v) Courthouse (c) Ann Mullen (r) Holly Hunt

**KW4. Nessa Cronin & Karen Till.** *Learning journeys: mapping place and community through memory and imagination*

(v) Connollys (c) Zena Hctor (r) Mary Quealy

**KW5. Gregory Traymar.** *Flow learning: harnessing enthusiasm and concentration to experience your place in nature most effectively* (v) Community Centre seminar room (c) Kate Duncan (r) Jenny Morton

12-1pm Lunch in Kinvara Community Centre

### **Session 3: Workshops on the Burren 1 – reconnecting people and place. (2-5pm)**

1.15pm Bus departs for workshops in **Burren National Park** from Kinvara Community Centre

1.30pm Bus departs for workshop in **Slieve Carron Nature Reserve** from Kinvara Community Centre

v = Venue c = Workshop coordinator f = Workshop recorder

**BW1. Caro-lyne Ferris & friends.** *Learning through adventure (meet @1.30pm)*

(v) Burrenbeo Trust (c) Kate Duncan (r) Pete Hynes

**BW2. Gordon D'Arcy & Cillian Roden.** *Nature in its place*

(v) Burren National Park (c) Ann Mullen (r) Declan Kelleher

**BW3. Michael Gibbons.** *Prehistoric pilgrimage in the Burren uplands – modern myth or ancient reality?*

(v) Slieve Carron Nature Reserve (c) Paula Flynn (r) Zena Hctor

**BW4. Gregory Traymar.** *'Flow learning' in the field*

(v) Burren National Park (c) Aine Bird (r) Jenny Morton

**BW5. Pat Nagle & David Drew.** *Learning from the land*

(v) Slieve Carron National Reserve (c) Holly Hunt (r) Mary Howard

8-10pm *Bringing it all back home* – an evening of story and song. Hosted by **Eugene Lambe** with special guest **Moya Cannon**. Based in the Cellar Bar of Flatley's Pub.

**Friday August 24<sup>th</sup>**

### **Session 4: Workshops on International Best Practice in PBL 2. (9-12pm) Kinvara**

**KW6. Tony Kendle.** *Rediscovering place in a placeless society*

(v) Courthouse (c) Linda Morrison (r) Richard Morrison

**KW7. Jennifer Kramer.** *Preserving community*

(v) Community Centre seminar room (c) Aine Bird (r) Sarah O'Malley

**KW8. Katy Egan & Sophie Nicol.** *Design inspired by nature: exploring biomimicry together*

(v) Burrenbeo Trust (c) Paula Flynn (r) Stephen Ward

**KW9. Sean McDonagh.** *Ecology and Ethics*

(v) Greenes (c) Holly Hunt (r) Richard O'Donnell

12-1pm Lunch in Kinvara Community Centre

### **Session 5: Workshops on the Burren 2 – reconnecting people and place. (2-5pm)**

1.15pm Bus departs for workshops in **Burren National Park** from Kinvara Community Centre

1.30pm Bus departs for workshop in **Slieve Carron Nature Reserve** from Kinvara Community Centre

**BW6. Gordon MacLellan.** *Stories everywhere*

(v) Slieve Carron Nature Reserve (c) Paula Flynn (r) Kate Duncan

**BW7. Jane Stoneham.** *Techniques for place engagement*

(v) Burren National Park (c) Linda Morrison (r) Richard Morrison

**BW8. John Feehan.** *Water, landscape and learning*

(v) Slieve Carron Nature Reserve (c) Aine Bird (r) Mary Howard

**BW9. Patrick McCormack & Sean McDonagh.** *Journeying in the Burren*

(v) Burren National Park (c) Holly Hunt (r) Nessa Cronin

**BW 10. Eileen Hutton & Rob Ellis.** *Cyanotype photography – making pictures with the sun*

(v) Burrenbeo Trust (c) Jenny Morton (r) Jenny Morton

6.30-7.30pm Summary Panel Session – Burrenbeo Trust Centre

8pm Conference Dinner at The Pierhead Restaurant (must book this separately)

10.30pm Music in The Pierhead afterwards

**Post-Symposium Event:** Burren heritage walks (€5pp)

Sun 26th Aug @ 13.45pm with Frank O’Grady

Meeting point Ballycashen Cross (Kilnaboy-Lemaneh Castle Road OS51 253924)

## APPENDIX 2 BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS & DELEGATES

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### **CANNON, Moya** (IRL)

Moya is a leading Irish poet. Her 4<sup>th</sup> collection of poetry *Hands* was published in 2011. A winner of the Brendan Behan award and of the Lawrence O’Shaughnessy award, she has been an editor of Poetry Ireland Review and was 2011 Heimbold Professor of Irish Studies at Villanova University.

### **CRONIN, Nessa** (IRL)

Nessa is a Lecturer in Irish Studies at the Centre for Irish Studies, and Co-Director of the MA in Irish Studies at NUI Galway. She is Co-Director of the Ómós Áite: Space/Place Research Group and a member of the Centre for Landscapes Studies at NUI Galway. She is also a founding co-convenor of the Mapping Spectral Traces international network of artists, scholars and practitioners. Nessa’s interdisciplinary work focuses on Irish cartographic history, literary geographies and developing academic and community-based research in Irish Place Studies.

### **D’ARCY, Gordon** (IRL)

Gordon is a leading expert in Irish heritage. Gordon is a graduate in Environmental Science from Trinity College, Dublin. Author, artist, natural historian, lecturer and heritage trainer, he has a particular interest in the Burren, which he has researched extensively for many years and to which he leads field trips for students and visiting scholars. He has published many books and papers on wildlife including "*The Natural History of the Burren*" and "*Guide to the Birds of Ireland*". His most recent book is "*Ireland's Lost Birds*".

### **DREW, David** (IRL)

David lectured on hydrology and hydrogeology in Trinity College Dublin. His particular interest is in limestone (karstic) regions of Ireland such as the Burren and especially in the underground waters in these areas and is actively involved in research into the groundwater in the Burren and the adjacent areas of lowland limestone in Counties Galway, Roscommon and Mayo. He also has a keen interest in the environmental archaeology of the Burren.

### **EGAN, Katy** (IRL)

Katy Egan works as the Ecology and Sustainable Living Officer for Presentation Ireland, a faith-based NGO working towards a fairer, just and sustainable world. A background in ecology with a postgraduate in Environmental Education and Communication (Royal Roads University, Canada). Katy has since developed education programmes and workshops for a range of schools and organisations in Ireland including the NPWS, Kippure Outdoor Education, The Irish Wildlife Trust, P.U.R.E, Leave No Trace Ireland and Conservation Services. Recently Katy has become fascinated by

the links between how humans interact, perceive and treat animals both domestic and wild, and how it mirrors our relationship with nature as a whole.

**ELLIS, Rob (IRL)**

Robert Ellis is a graduate from DIT with a BA Hons Degree in Photography, and more recently from the University of Ulster with an MA in Photography. His photography deals with the notion of “home”, working with small rural communities, often relying on inherent or local knowledge to inform a sense of place. His work has been exhibited both at home and abroad, most recently he was selected by a panel to be included in a group show titled “Open Now” in the Gallery of Photography in Dublin. His work has been published in Prism Photography magazine and featured on La Lettre de Photographie in Paris, and also Aperture’s “What Matters Now” in New York.

**FEEHAN, John (IRL)**

John Feehan has recently retired from his post as senior lecturer at the School of Agriculture and Food Science at UCD, where he lectured in sustainable agriculture, resource management and landscape interpretation. He is well known for his award-winning television work on the natural and cultural heritage of the Irish landscape (in connection with which he has been described by Kevin Myers as ‘one of life’s great communicators’). He has researched and written extensively on many facets of Ireland’s environmental heritage and history, his published work including the definitive textbook on Ireland’s peatlands, as well as books on the environmental heritage and history of Slieve Bloom and of County Laois, the flora of Offaly and Ireland’s grasses. His *Farming in Ireland: History, Heritage and Environment* has been widely acclaimed. He was guest editor of *The Living Planet* supplement on ‘A Sense of Place’ in 2006.

**FERRIS, Carolynne (N IRL)**

Caro-lynn Ferris has worked as the Executive Director for Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland since it was established as the Countryside Access & Activities Network in 1999. Outdoor Recreation NI brings together representatives from a wide range of groups across Northern Ireland with an interest in, or involvement with, outdoor recreation. Caro-lynn’s professional background in outdoor recreation stemmed from her primary degree in Sports Science and Geography from Chester College, Liverpool University and a PhD completed at Queen’s University Belfast on ‘the management of recreation induced erosion in granite uplands’. She also trained to be a PE and geography teacher - a career that lasted 6 days! Away from work, Caro-lynn spends most of her time in the outdoors mountain-biking, fell-running and hillwalking. She is also a keen skier and dabbles in rockclimbing and surfing.

**GIBBONS, Michael (IRL)**

Michael Gibbons is one of Ireland's leading field archaeologists, a writer, broadcaster and mountaineer. He is a former director of local and national archaeological survey programmes. Other work has involved research on the pilgrimage tradition in Ireland. He spent three seasons as a field director excavating the summit of Croagh Patrick and climbing 2,510 feet to work every morning. Michael's work has taken him to such diverse places as the Negev Desert, Egyptian Sinai and Southern Greece. He has lectured throughout Ireland, at Oxford and Cambridge, Philadelphia's National Geographic Society and the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. He has been the focus of numerous TV and radio programmes on Connemara, the Aran Islands and the Irish Highlands. These include CNN, Robin Leech's Gourmet Getaway, SKY TV, RTE, UTV, TnaG, BBC Radio 4, and PBS. He worked as a researcher on the Irish in America series *The Long Journey Home*. He also presented a series of eight programmes for Irish television on the famine in Ireland. Eamonn de Buítléar, a leading landscape film maker, produced a documentary on Michael entitled *Connemara in Antiquity*. Recent print articles include *Forbes Magazine* and the *Sunday Telegraph*.

**HUTTON, Eileen (IRL)**

Eileen Hutton is an environmentally based artist currently living and working in Ireland. A PhD graduate of the Burren College of Art and National University of Ireland, Galway, her work has been exhibited in Washington DC, Boston, Italy, Finland and across Ireland including settings such as the Ballymaloe Cookery School and The Education Centre at Burrenbeo. She is currently collaborating with small migratory birds and honeybees to create sculpture that speaks to an active participation within the ecosystems in the west of Ireland

**KENDLE, Tony (UK)**

Tony has been the Foundation Director of the Eden Project in Cornwall since October 2001. As Foundation Director his responsibilities include strategic development of the meaning of the project, overseeing the education programme (schools and public), science outreach and horticulture. Prior to joining Eden he was a staff member at the University of Reading School of Plant Sciences. He has worked as a researcher and consultant, both in the UK and overseas, specializing in nature conservation, horticulture and the restoration of degraded lands.

**KRAMER, Jennifer (USA)**

Jennifer Kramer is Social Studies teacher in Guilford, Vermont. She is a graduate of Middlebury College and Antioch University New England. She was recently awarded the Vermont VFW Teacher of the Year Award for middle school civics education. She specializes in creating real world, place-based education projects that engage students in learning about and contributing to the history, economics, politics and cultural traditions of the community.

**LAMBE, Eugene (IRL)**

Eugene is a Burren based traditional musician, a uilleann pipes maker and folklore collector. He originally carried out his doctorate in plant ecology, then sailed around the world, before basing himself in North Clare where he has spent decades recording the oral history of the Burren region from characters that no longer exist but it has kept them, the age-old tradition for telling stories and their tales alive – tales that are both true and those slightly fabricated to make a good listen. He works with children and adults in the Burren region on keeping the cultural significance of storytelling and music sessions alive.

**MACLELLAN, Gordon (UK)**

As Creeping Toad, Gordon is a storyteller, environmental educator and creator of celebrations. Based in Derbyshire, he works across the United Kingdom working everywhere from inner city streets and suburban housing estates to nature reserves and national parks. He travels whenever he persuade anyone to fund it, with recent projects in USA and South Africa. Writing on environmental art, education and celebration, Gordon has written, contributed to or edited a number of books including *Talking to the Earth*, *Celebrating Nature*, *The Wanton Green* and Gordon's chapter in the forthcoming *Tales to Sustain*. *"I find great delight in the combination of people and nature: underneath all my other work there has always been the principle that all education and interpretation is really about helping people discover the world around them for themselves and in themselves."* Gordon MacLellan

**MCCORMACK, Patrick (IRL)**

Patrick is a story teller, poet and rural philosopher of renown. As an organic farmer on the edge of Mullaghmore in the centre of the Burren, Patrick has a strong sense of place for this unique local environment and a rare talent for sharing this.

**MCDONAGH, Sean (IRL)**

Fr. Sean McDonagh is a Columban priest who originally trained as an anthropologist and linguist. He is an outspoken critic of policies that allow for the systematic degradation of the environment linking

them to global poverty and the increased suffering of the poor. It was during his work with the indigenous T'boli people on the Philippine island of Mindanao in the 1970s and 1980s that his understanding of environmental issues and the relationship between faith, justice and ecology took hold. He advocates an 'ecological conversion' that environmental justice must be a core Catholic activity. He is the author of numerous articles and nine books including *Climate Change: The Challenge to All of Us*, *Greening the Christian Millennium*, *Care for the Earth* and *Dying for Water*. As one of the most highly respected and sought after environmental theologians, Fr. McDonagh illuminates the causes and consequences of issues such as global warming, genetically engineered food, water pollution, extinction of natural environments and the dangerous impact of modern patterns of production, distribution and consumption. He recently received a Partnership for Global Justice Award.

**NAGLE, Pat (IRL)**

Pat is a landowner in the Burren. His family have been farming the land for generations and he has many tales around this. He is part of the Farm Heritage Tours Coop and is currently participating in the Burren Farming for Conservation Programme. His land is on the edge of Slieve Carron Nature Reserve, and has a wealth of archaeology, geology and ecology on it.

**NICOL, Sophie (IRL)**

Sophie has a degree in Environmental Biology (UCD) and a PhD in marine ecology (UCD). Since completing her PhD, she has gained extensive experience in environmental education and increasing public awareness on environmental issues. Sophie was the Education Coordinator for Sonairte – The National Ecology Centre, and has worked with a number of organisations, such as the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, Global Action Plan, ECO-UNESCO, Discover Primary Science and Maths, The Heritage Council, and Kippure Estate Outdoor Education Centre, developing and facilitating educational programmes to primary and secondary school students on a wide variety of environmental topics. She also runs workshops and awareness events for the general public on the topics of ecology, biodiversity and climate change, aiming to inspire a positive relationship between people and their environment.

**RODEN, Cillian (IRL)**

Cillian is a freelance ecologist who specialises in botany. He has written many journal articles on the flora of the Burren. He has a diversity of interest and research experience of many areas of ecology. He lectures on natural history at the at GMIT. He has been working on the flora on the Burren for the last 20 years.

**SOBEL, David (USA)**

David Sobel is Senior Faculty in the Education Department at Antioch University, New England. He consults and speaks widely on child development and place-based education. He has authored seven books and more than 60 articles focused on children and nature for educators, parents, environmentalists and school administrators in the last 30 years. He has served on the editorial boards of *Encounter*, *Community Works Journal* and *Orion* and writes a regular column for *Community Works Journal*. His articles and essays have appeared in *Orion*, *Encounter*, *Sierra*, *Sanctuary*, *Wondertime*, *Green Teacher*, *Play Rights*, *Educational Leadership* and the *Harvard Education Letter*. He has written chapters included in *Father Nature; Stories from Where We Live-The North Atlantic Coast; Place-based Education in a Global Age*; and *The Child: An Encyclopedic Companion*. His most recent books are *Place-based Education: Connecting Classrooms and Communities* published by the Orion Society, *Childhood and Nature: Design Principles for Educators* published by Stenhouse and *Wild Play, Parenting Adventures in the Great Outdoors* published by Sierra Books. He was recognized as one of the Daring Dozen educational leaders in the United States in 2007 by *Edutopia* magazine.

**STONEHAM, Jane (UK)**

Jane is the Director of The Sensory Trust in Cornwall. The Sensory Trust makes places more accessible, attractive and useful for everyone regardless of age, disability or background. She has a background in Landscape Design and Management which led her interests into the connections with people and the environment. Her work mainly focuses on creating an inclusive approach to the planning and design of outdoor places so everyone with many different needs can enjoy outdoor experiences. Jane is co-author of '[Making Connections: a guide to accessible greenspace](#)', '[Easy Access to Historic Landscapes](#)' (for English Heritage) and '[By All Reasonable Means](#)' (for Countryside Agency).

**TILL, Karen (IRL)**

Karen is a Senior Lecturer in Cultural Geography at the National University of Ireland Maynooth and Director of the Space & Place Research Collaborative. Karen is also founding co-convenor of the Mapping Spectral Traces international network of artists, scholars and practitioners. Her geo-ethnographic research and curatorial work invites artists, practitioners, community leaders and publics to explore how creative practices might enable more responsible approaches to caring for places, particularly in urban settings. She is author *The New Berlin: Memory, Politics, Place* (2005), editor of the book/exhibition catalogue *Mapping Spectral Traces* (2010), and co-editor of *Textures of Place* (2001) and *Walls, Borders and Boundaries: Spatial and Cultural Practices in Europe* (2012), in addition to numerous book chapters and articles. Karen's book in progress, *Wounded Cities*, highlights place-based ethical, artistic and activist approaches that contribute to more socially just cities.

**TRAYMER, Gregory (USA)**

Gregory is the USA Director of *Sharing Nature*, Joseph Cornell's worldwide nature education organisation. He studied environmental education and outdoor leadership and has worked with many groups outdoors including the National Outdoor Leadership School, Outward Bound, and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. In 2007, Greg received the Environmental Education award from his college department, as well as the prestigious Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, a national honour for someone who has distinguished themselves in service to others and service to the community. Greg has been working with Joseph Cornell for over 5 years and is responsible for coordinating and leading Sharing Nature Workshops in North America. He is a keen advocate of the Flow Learning technique.

**Delegates**

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**Bromley, Clare**

clare.bromley@ahg.gov.ie

Clare is the Education Co-ordinator for NPWS in Donegal, responsible for running nature awareness programmes for schools and the general public. Her background qualification is in Youth and Childrens Work but has come to specialise in teaching children about nature and biodiversity. As a parent of two young children and with over 15 years of work with young people she is passionate about inspiring them to care for our environment.

**Butler, Martina**

martina\_butler@hotmail.com

Martina works in the environmental education area on a free lance basis, creating and presenting my own environmental education workshops, mainly to primary schools in the northwest region. She believes that she needs to constantly strive to enhance the learning experience that she provides and therefore, she and the pupils and teachers that she works with, would benefit greatly from the experiences and knowledge that she would gain from attending this symposium.

**Byrne, Claire**

cbmayo@gmail.com

Claire has put together a programme that involves looking at the 'big picture' under the loose umbrellas of sustainability, the environment and life-work balance. Looking through these lenses, the participants then tackle what they perceive are barriers to wellbeing in their community, including producing solutions to their voiced concerns. Getting in touch with nature and finding their place in community is a major part of the programme. Four pilot courses have been run successfully and she is now working on bringing it to a larger public audience.

**Caelys, Veerle**

Veerlecaelys@eircom.net

Veerle is planning a rural initiative. She is a resident of Burren.

**Cahill, Margaret**

[Margaret.Cahill@ul.ie](mailto:Margaret.Cahill@ul.ie)

Margaret Cahill has a keen interest in Irish wildlife and heritage and a particular passion for wildflowers. She is interested in learning more about the biodiversity of The Burren from the workshops.

**Cassidy, Aoife**

aoife@aoifecassidy.net

Aoife Cassidy is an ecologist and sustainable development consultant based in Co. Clare. She has worked extensively in the planning and heritage sectors, specialising in facilitating multi-stakeholder participation in planning processes. She is currently engaged in her most challenging project to date – the restoration of her ancestor's 100 acre farm in Co. Clare. She is also a mother shadowing a four-year old boy in his dream world in the fields of County Clare.

**Casey, Shane**

scasey@clarecoco.ie

Shane grew up in Blackhead, helping out on his family farm there. Having studied Agricultural and Environmental Science, and Rural Development in UCD, he now works with Clare County Council as Biodiversity Officer. In his role, he has the opportunity to engage with young people, and always try to emphasise that biodiversity is not just a science, but linked to our culture and heritage, and something we interact with daily, often without actually recognising it.

**Collins, Bernie**

bernie.collins@spd.dcu.ie

Bernie is a Lecturer in Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) in St. Patrick's College of Education, Dublin. The college provides courses for students who wish to become primary school teachers.

**Connolly, Patsy**

patsyconnolly3@gmail.com

Patsy was teacher and biologist before but has now moved to the Burren and is an artist.

**Costello, Katrina**

newhouse\_lahinch@yahoo.ie

Katrina owns an independent film and tv production company with her husband, based in Lahinch, Co. Clare. They recently produced a six part Irish ocean wildlife series for TG4, the first of its kind in Ireland. Our inspiration is our connection to the earth, landscape and the ancient farming culture. We are currently seeking funding for 'Landscapes of the Heart', a feature-length documentary film set in the Burren. The film will blend myth, culture, farming and living with nature into a unique Irish story about people and place.

**Coyne, Lill**

lill.space4healing@gmail.com

Lill is an INTO Heritage in Schools specialist in Primary School Gardens and Earth Education for 2 years: aside from a few one day workshops on energy, recycling and water she works with 2 primary schools on a more intense basis; one of those schools has just been granted a full organic licence by IOFGA. Currently also employed on a part time basis by the Meath VEC in the Back to Education programme as an Organic Horticulture Tutor, teaching FETAC accredited modules ranging from Level 3 to 5. Also currently completing 1st year of the MA in 'Ecology and Religion' at All Hallows College.

**Cronin, Jerry**

jerrytcronin@eircom.net

Educational Leadership Consultant and former Secondary School Principal. Currently assisting Limerick Diocese in developing new educational initiative in Limerick's Southside. Chair of (JMB's) National Curriculum Advisory Group. Director of Le Chéile Schools' Trust.

**Duffy, Margaret**

[me.duffy55@gmail.com](mailto:me.duffy55@gmail.com)

Margaret is a Burrenbeo Trust member who enjoys spending time in the Burren.

**Fagan, Sean**

[pioneerbushcraft@gmail.com](mailto:pioneerbushcraft@gmail.com)

Sean represents the emerging company Pioneer Bushcraft as the founder and head instructor. The company specializes in a brand of outdoor pursuits that offers a more immersive experience in nature with wilderness skills, navigation and camp-craft being the cornerstone services offered.

**Fuller, Janice**

[janicefuller@eircom.net](mailto:janicefuller@eircom.net)

Janice is a professional ecologist with a particular interest in communicating ecology, and making the link between biodiversity and community development.

**Gaj-McKeever, Ruth**

[ruthgajmckeever@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthgajmckeever@hotmail.com)

Ruth is a guide for the NPWS. The NPWS manages, protects and conserves the habitats and wildlife within the Burren National Park . It also provides information and promotes conservation through guided walks, an education programme and an Information Point in Corofin, all of which she is involved with. Her background is in Natural Science and she has an MSc in World Heritage Management.

**Gibbons, Kathleen**

[kbagibbons@gmail.com](mailto:kbagibbons@gmail.com)

Kathleen has had lifelong passion in working and teaching with nature. She has a keen interest in reconnecting with the natural world's ability to communicate its own language and knowledge to us...Nature as teacher/we the learners and listeners!

**Grant, Colm**

[colmgardener@gmail.com](mailto:colmgardener@gmail.com)

Colm has been working in Donegal Primary Schools as a specialist in the Heritage in Schools Scheme for the past ten years. He is keen to learn more from the inspirational speakers that have been brought together.

**Guest, Arthur**

[arthur@guest.ie](mailto:arthur@guest.ie)

Arthur is employed a voluntary community group called Tipperary Lakeside Development Company. He is involved in designing employability skills for young unemployed people and also interested in rural heritage tourism projects.

**Hannon, Stephen**

[stephen.hannon@gmit.ie](mailto:stephen.hannon@gmit.ie)

Stephen lectures on the Outdoor Education Degree in the Galway Mayo Institute of Technology at Castlebar. He has an interest in learning outside the classroom especially through journeys, adventure and through curiosity fueled explorations.

**Hogan, Rose**

[arosehogan@gmail.com](mailto:arosehogan@gmail.com)

Rose Hogan is an Environmental Educator who has both Irish and international (mainly East African) experience in establishing and managing native forest habitats (one in Moneen East, Ardrahan at the eastern edge of the Burren) and facilitating community-based natural resources management (CBNRM) programmes. Originally an agriculturalist, her Environmental Education studies with Rhodes University, South Africa focussed on contextualisation of the curriculum by, with and for wetland communities in Rufiji River Basin, Tanzania. She designs and conducts Communications, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) strategies and especially enjoys practising Experiential Learning methodologies.

**Keegan, Dolores**

[dolores1@eircom.net](mailto:dolores1@eircom.net)

Dolores works as a free lance educator in Organic gardening and environmental education. She is education co-ordinator (part time ) at Brigits garden, Roscahill, Co. Galway (Discover Primary Science centre) where they run 3 hour environmental education programmes for primary school children and special projects for transition year students also Summer courses for teachers. She is listed as a heritage specialist on the Heritage Councils "Heritage in schools" scheme and visit schools with a mix of gardening and bio-diversity. I am particularly interested in an outdoor, hands-on, creative approach to environmental education.

**Laheen, Mary**

mllaheen@eircom.net

Burrenbeo Trust member

**Lawless, Helen**

helen@mountaineering.ie

Helen Lawless works with Mountaineering Ireland, the national representative body for hillwalkers and climbers, as Hillwalking, Access & Conservation Officer. Helen's role is focused on two core objectives: securing continued access to Ireland's upland areas and crags, and promoting the conservation and responsible use of the mountain environment.

**Lewis, Carole V**

carole\_lewis@antiochne.edu

Carole's love of nature began, as a child, with outdoor adventures with her Dad. The impact and joy of these experiential learning adventures made Antioch University New England the school of choice for a MEd. She also earned an Autism Spectrum Disorders Certification from the Applied Psychology Department. Whether as a parent, grandparent, or an educator, Carole maximizes time spent in the wonder-full outdoors, feeling that one becomes who he/she really is when discovering his/her place and creating his/her place on earth. She kayaks, wherever and whenever, frequently with a child on her lap. Hearing a respected friend's stories of Ireland sealed the decision to attend this inaugural symposium.

**Lillis, Mary**

marylillis11@gmail.com

Mary has had a lifelong interest in the Burren and have spent many days and hours walking, reflecting and being renewed there. She is also engaged in Burren Retreats and feels this course will enhance both my personal experinece and my retreat work.

**Lynch, Michael**

Michael is the Field Monument Advisor for County Clare. He works very closed with the Burrenbeo Trust and carries out a lot of training with the volunteers.

**Lynch, Clodagh**

Clodagh is an archaeologist in the Burren. She has recently been managing the a dig in Fanore on Clare's earliest known mesolithic site.

**Marshall, Kevin S.**

naturelvr@mcttelecom.com

Kevin was born and raised on a small family produce farm and it is here where his appreciation and advocacy for the environment, open space, and wildlife began. He finds balance and am most at peace in the outdoors, especially if in the garden, trekking, or on the water kayaking.

**Martin, Jim**

Jimmartin81@gmail.com

Jim is interested in anything related to Biodiversity. He is involved in organising the Clare branch of the Irish Wildlife Trust.

**McCabe, Catriona**

info@greenbeeducation.com

Caitriona is an Education Officer of GreenBee Education in Wexford which specialises in environmental education for kids and work mainly in the south-east and north of the country. They work with schools, festivals, youth and community groups and engage in a broad range of work from children's nature workshops to community garden projects - (www.GreenBeeEducation.com)

**McGrath, Brendan** brendan@bmcgrathplanning.ie  
Brendan is principal of Brendan McGrath and Associates, a Burren-based planning consultancy. He is the author of 'People and Places: Landscape and Society in Contemporary Ireland', which is to be published in 2013.

**McGuire, Congella** cmcguire@clarecoco.ie  
The Heritage Officer for Co.Clare

**McHugh, Sally** mchughsg@gmail.com  
Sally is embarking on a Digital Media MA this year, with the intention of moving into the field of digital archaeology. She will be working towards digitising aspects of the Burren's rich heritage and unique environment.

**McNally, Brian** brendan@bmcgrathplanning.ie  
Brian is the managing director of McNally Growth Partners, which is a management consultancy business providing advice to entrepreneurs and start-up business owners.

**Morgan, Alun** a.d.morgan@exeter.ac.uk  
Alun taught Geography in Secondary schools in England and Wales for ten years before becoming Education for Sustainable Development Officer for Worcestershire County Council, a teacher advisory role. From 2002 he worked as Lecturer in Geography Education in the Institute of Education, London and in January 2009 he moved to London South Bank University in to take up the post of Director of the Education for Sustainability Program. Currently he is a Research Fellow at the Graduate School of Education, University of Exeter. He has a long standing interest in the educational importance of 'place' as an holistic concept which formed the focus of both his Master's and Doctoral research.

**Murphy, Sheila** sheilamurphy89@gmail.com  
As Head Guide in Burren National Park, Sheila provides free guided walks within the national park, along with an education programme for local schools. The information point is located in Corofin, Co Clare provides information on the management, flora and fauna of the national park for the public. She has a background in environmental science and environmental education.

**Ní Bhréartúin, Clíona** eco@kippure.com  
Cliona is the Environmental Education officer at Kippure Estate and Lodges in Blessington, Co.Wicklow. She carries out field studies, geography and ecology to visiting groups.

**Nicol, Sophie** sophie.nicol@gmail.com  
Sophie carries out place based/environmental education, her phd is in coastal marine ecology. Sophie's full biography is in the speakers section above.

**O'Donnell, Richard** moymore3@gmail.com  
Richard is a local government expert and Burren farmer with a keen interest in environment matters especially environmental theology, planning and environmental law.

**O'Leary, Gerry**  
Was a Director of a rural resources organisation. Currently in the Kerry His and Arch Society and the Killarney Nature Conservation Group.

**O'Neill, Anne** annearth.oneill@gmail.com  
Anne O'Neill is a BA hons fine art graduate of GMIT with a background in nursing, holistic practice, bodywork and yoga. She works with raw earth materials primarily clay and bog combined with still or moving image and sound. Anne is interested in what both connects and disconnects us with ourselves, with each other and with our environment. She is presently interested in re-immersing

herself in the landscape of her childhood to explore its significance in relation to sense of place and connection.

**O'Suillibhean, Daithi**

[daithisunnyeye@yahoo.com](mailto:daithisunnyeye@yahoo.com)

Daithi is doing work on the combination of aboriginal knowledge with contemporary ecological understandings in relation to place water catchment issues. He expressed great interest in the Galway workshop and has an undergrad degree but years of experience as a building surveyor working in relation to architecture and green buildings. He has worked for National Parks in Sydney Australia, working between aboriginal communities and city planners noting parallels and divergences in their thinking.

**Power, Rosemary**

[rosemary\\_power@eircom.net](mailto:rosemary_power@eircom.net)

Burrenbeo Trust member.

**Rogerson, Diana**

[adadiana@hotmail.com](mailto:adadiana@hotmail.com)

Diana is a homeopath and works with teenagers through art therapy. She is going to use this symposium to get ideas on how to bring children back to a sense of refuge.

**Seale, Catherine**

[catherine.m.seale@gmail.com](mailto:catherine.m.seale@gmail.com)

Catherine is a PhD Student, her research is in communications and systems in Irish agricultural extension programmes with a specific focus on the "greening" measures proposed under the new round of CAP post 2013. The research is funded by the Open University and Teagasc as a Walsh Fellowship.

**Silke, Zachary**

[zacharysilke@hotmail.com](mailto:zacharysilke@hotmail.com)

Zachary Silke is a Heritage in Schools specialist, local historian, and archaeologist. He is interested in perserving community and the cultural interaction of people and their local environment, and how the landscape has been imbued with meaning because of this interaction for thousands of years.

**Sykes, Jim**

[jimsykes@topmail.ie](mailto:jimsykes@topmail.ie)

Burrenbeo Trust member

**Walsh, Kathy**

[courthill@eircom.net](mailto:courthill@eircom.net)

Kathy is an independent researcher interested in and curious about the relationships within and between communities and the places and environment they inhabit.

**Webb, Richard**

[richard@playsafety.ie](mailto:richard@playsafety.ie)

Richard is a children's play consultant with Sugragh and RoSPA, a teacher of permaculture at DIT Bolton St. and past president of the Irish Landscape Institute.

**Webster, Karen**

[karenwebster.art@gmail.com](mailto:karenwebster.art@gmail.com)

Karen works as an arts facilitator, designing and delivering educational art programmes in national schools and providing CPD for teachers. She is particularly interested in the area where art and nature meet and am about to begin a Research MA - 'Adventuring through Art and the Outdoors', to explore the potential role of art to support integrated learning and creative development in an outdoor setting.

**Winslow, Mary F**

[marywinzlo@comcast.net](mailto:marywinzlo@comcast.net)

Mary is attending the symposium for personal edification. She studied biology for several years in college and have always had a love of and interest in nature. She fell in love with The Burren on my first trip to Ireland, and it's her favorite place to return to – its rugged beauty draws me in.

### **Symposium Organisers**

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**Barry, Brigid**

Brigid is the Trust Coordinator and only full time employee of the Burrenbeo Trust. She has a background in tropical conservation and environmental education. Prior to working for the Trust she was the Biodiversity Officer for Co.Clare.

**Dunford, Brendan**

Brendan is the Trust Secretary and a founder of the Burrenbeo Trust. He works as the Project Manager for the Burren Farming for Conservation Programme. He came to the Burren to carry out his doctorate on farming methods and conservation in the region and realized that there was a great need for creating awareness and appreciation of this amazing landscape if it were going to be sustainably managed into the future.

## Recorders

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**Hector, Zena**

Zena is a Heritage consultant and a practitioner of Heritage in Schools. She is on the Burrenbeo Trust Education Committee.

**Howard, Mary**

Founder of Burren Guided Walks and a Director of the Burrenbeo Trust.

**Hynes, Pete**

Founder of Aloha Surf School and on the Burrenbeo Education Committee

**Kelleher, Declan**

Former headmaster and on the Burrenbeo Education Committee.

**Morrison, Richard**

Richard is a Director of the Burrenbeo Trust and the Chair of the Burren Charter Project management group. Amongst other things, he manages all the information walks for the Trust.

**Morton, Jenny**

Keen advocate of ecoeducation in the Burren region.

**O'Malley, Sarah**

Sarah is carrying out a Phd in nature education in NUI Galway. She is on the Burrenbeo Trust Education Committee.

**Queally, Mary**

Teacher at Carron National School and on the Burrenbeo Education Committee. She is at the starting stages of a doctorate on nature education and the use of creativity throughout.

**Ward, Stephen**

Stephen is a botanist and a Director of the Burrenbeo Trust. He works with various organisations on creating profile around the ecology of the Burren including as a recorder for the BSBI, president of the British Lichen Society and part of the Limestone Pavement Action Group.

## Helpers

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**Byrnes, Martin**

Martin is a Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer.

**Duncan, Ailsa**

Ailsa is a Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer.

**Hawkes, Martin**

Martin Hawkes is the Director of the Burrenbeo Trust.

**Hawkes Greene, Mary**

Mary is the President of the Burren College of Art. Patron of the Burrenbeo Trust and on the Burrenbeo Trust Education Committee.

**Liberty Stewart, Emma**

Emma is a Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer

**Neelan, Clora**

Clora is on the Burrenbeo Education Committee.

**O'Connor, Ann**

Ann is the Burrenbeo's New Media Editor and Fundraiser. She is a founder and patron of the Burrenbeo Trust. Ann is in charge of the digital capturing of the symposium.

**Tough, Linda**

Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer. She has a background in aquatic sciences and publishing.

**Treacy, Aileen**

Aileen is a Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer

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**Coordinators**

**Bird, Aine**

Aine is the Communications Officer for the Burrenbeo Trust. Trained in science communications and has a background in botany. Aine was formally an educational officer for Glenveagh National Park.

**Duncan, Kate**

Kate is the Programmes Officer and Conservation Volunteer Coordinator for the Burrenbeo Trust. Kate was formally a geographer teacher. She is a keen caver and also works part time as an educator at the Burren Outdoor Education Centre.

**Flynn, Paula**

Paula is a Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer. She is currently a project manager for a publishing company but has a background in botany and a keen interest in all things outdoors and in the Burren.

**Hunt, Holly**

Holly is an outdoors consultant. Her background and studies have been in responsible tourism. She has spent many years organising sporting events that encompass the wilderness as well as guiding tours in different parts of the world.

**Morrison, Linda**

Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer.

**Mullen, Ann**

Ann is doing a masters in ecology. She has a strong focus on the habitats and the protection of rare butterfly species. She is a Burrenbeo Conservation Volunteer.

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**The Burrenbeo Trust is grateful for the support of The Heritage Council**

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The Heritage Council

