

Biographies & Workshop Details

Thursday 18 th March Afternoon Session (3.30 – 4.30pm)		
Contributor	Biography	Session Details
<p>W1: Aileen Lambert</p> <p>This is live webinar presentation with Q&A at the end.</p> 	<p>Bio: Aileen Lambert is a traditional singer, visual artist, traditional arts and public art curator with wide experience in a diverse range of practices and approaches. Aileen devises and facilitates traditional song projects with schools and communities of various backgrounds and ages with the support of local authorities, the Heritage-in-Schools Scheme, Music Generation and the Arts Council. These range from local song projects with community groups to innovative song research and composition projects with renowned traditional singers in association with partners such as the NLI and the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance at UL. The latter includes projects (devised and produced with her partner Michael Fortune of folklore.ie) such as <i>The 1916 Song Project</i>, <i>The Bird Song Project</i> and <i>Songs for Our Children</i>. In 2019 she recorded a solo album of traditional song from Wexford and Newfoundland entitled <i>The Wexford Lovers</i> and in 2020 she created thirteen online traditional song workshops for children for Cruinniú na nÓg which are available on YouTube. Aileen delivers workshops in Primary Schools as part of the Heritage in Schools Scheme and works as a Creative Associate with schools in the southeast as part of the Creative Schools</p>	<p>Title: Traditional Songs of Place, Landscape and Nature</p> <p>Outline: This entertaining and engaging presentation from Wexford Traditional Singer Aileen Lambert will focus on a selection of traditional songs which relate to place, landscape and the natural environment. Aileen will share her experience of working with traditional song in a variety of contexts and demonstrate the potential it has to connect singers, participants and audiences with the environment in various ways. These examples include traditional song walking tours, where a variety of singers perform local songs in sites relevant to the song, to workshops using newly composed songs such as ‘Na Bláthanna’ by Máire Ní Chróinín or ‘The Robin Song’ by Michael Fortune. The latter two songs were composed as part of a project called ‘Songs for Our Children’, which involved traditional singers writing new songs in the traditional style for young audiences and offer an approach to environmental education in a fun and engaging way.</p>

Programme. For further info see www.facebook.com/aileenlamberttraditionalsinger

Thursday 19th March Evening Session (7pm – 8.30pm)

Contributor

Biography

Session Details

W2: Manchán Magan

This is live webinar presentation with Q&A at the end.

Bio: Manchán Magan has written books on his travels in Africa, India and South America and two novels. He writes regularly for *The Irish Times*, presents *The Almanac of Ireland* on RTÉ Radio 1 and reports on travel for various radio programmes. He has presented dozens of documentaries on issues of world culture for TG4, RTÉ & Travel Channel. His book *Thirty-Two Words For Field* explores the insights the Irish language offers into the landscape, psyche and heritage of Ireland. www.manchan.com

Title: *The Keys to the Kingdom – unlocking the landscape of Ireland -*

Outline: Manchán Magan, author of bestseller *Thirty-Two for Field*, will talk about ways of exploring the landscape more deeply – methods of revealing hidden insights into our culture, heritage and psyche through the landscape. He will present a range of online resources that can empower us to understand our past, and to read the landscape in way that reveals the psychological and spiritual dimensions of our culture.



Friday 19 th March Afternoon Session (3.30pm- 4.30pm)		
Contributor	Biography	Session Details
<p>W3: Maura Brennan (3pm – 4pm)</p> <p>This is a live webinar with videos and a workshop element.</p> 	<p>Bio: Maura Brennan is an Educator, Weaver, Rites of Passage Facilitator and Apprentice Herbalist. <i>She is a trained Forest School Leader and Forest Therapy Guide</i> . With a background in primary school teaching, Maura founded Sli na Coille in 2016. <i>Sli na Coille creates nature based programmes for learning and wellbeing that inspire action in ecological restoration.</i> The Sli na Coille Programmes include The Acorn Project: Community Forest Restoration and Nature for Learning and Wellbeing Project with schools and Communities along the Nore; Weavers and Warriors : 8- 12 Year Olds Forest School; Small Worlds : 5 to 7 Year Olds Forest School; Wild Ways for Women : Nature Immersion weekends : Traditional Crafts, Foraging and Forest Therapy Retreat; and, Journey Home : Young Adults 9 month Rite of Passage in Nature. Maura learned to weave from a family of traditional weavers and herbalists in Peru in 2005/06. This experience reawakened her learning in traditional crafts and uses of plants. She has studied with weavers and herbalists all across Ireland. She is passionate about sharing traditional skills and using plants for food, medicine and crafts. She loves to work in collaboration with communities, organisations, schools, artists and individuals.</p>	<p>Title: Time with the Acorns: The Acorn Project : Initiating an Action Based Curriculum.</p> <p>Outline: The Acorn Project is a community seed saving and nature based learning programme along the River Nore that empowers communities to take action in ecological restoration through reconnection with their local wild spaces. This talk will explore the power of nature based learning to enrich the curriculum through initiating learner led action .It will discuss how an emergent curriculum based on our human relationship with nature can restore our connection to nature and the consequences for human wellbeing and ecological restoration.</p>
Friday 19 th March Evening Session (7.00pm – 8.30pm)		
Contributor	Biography	Session Details
<p>W4: Éanna Ní Lámhna</p> <p>This is a live webinar with videos and a workshop element.</p>	<p>Bio: Eanna is a botanist by profession and a zoologist by passion. She was responsible for much of the ground breaking species distribution mapping carried out by An Foras Forbartha in the 1970's and 80's. She has been a lecturer in sustainable development in DIT for over twenty years.</p>	<p>Title: Wild Places within our 5 k</p> <p>Outline: Éanna will be speaking about our local natural heritage and it's our growing importance in our lives now that we are confined to a 5km radius. Wildlife programmes in a way give a misleading message about the natural environment. Huge amounts of time and money have been spent making fantastic programmes</p>



She is publicly on the side of the environment as evidenced by her stint as President of An Taisce from 2004-2009 and currently as President of the Tree Council of Ireland. She is the author of several books including **Wild Dublin** - O'Brien Press and **Wild Things at School** - The Heritage Council. Her latest book **Our Wild World** will be published this March.

She has been broadcasting on RTE about wildlife since 1988 and has been the mainstay of the Mooney Goes Wild programmes since 1995. She has made several Wildlife Radio documentaries including one on the rainforest in Costa Rica and more recently, one on Rats. She currently has a regular wildlife slot on Virgin Media's Six o'Clock show.

She has one of the most recognisable voices on Irish radio. She is noted for her passionate and no-nonsense approach to environmental matters.

and somehow it can give the impression that these faraway places are the only important places in vital need of being conserved. Yet our local natural environment is absolutely vital such as our own peatlands for instance. We really cannot appreciate the very rare and wonderful if we don't even know the familiar and wonderful. People are beginning to realise this now and are coming to appreciate what is to be seen all around them when they really look. If you appreciate your natural surroundings you will see the value in them and wish to enhance and conserve them.

Saturday 20th March Evening Session (12pm – 2.30pm)

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>Biography</i>	<i>Session Details</i>
<p>W5: Mike McClure (12.00pm – 1.00pm)</p> <p>This is a live webinar presentation with Q&A hosted and facilitated by Burrenbeo Staff panellists.</p>	<p>Bio: Mike is the chairman of the European Network of Outdoor Sports (ENOS) and has been involved in a range of European Projects including leading the Watersports Enhanced Together (Get WET) project and as a key partner in the Benefits of Outdoor Sports for Society (BOSS) project.</p> <p>Get WET was a pan European Erasmus Plus project to encourage greater participation in Watersports. The project created a toolkit to assist with the development of watersports and was recognised by the European Commission as a “success story.” The BOSS project is a larger scale project to develop an agreed pan EU methodology and toolkit to measure the social benefits of outdoor sports in economic terms. Mike works for Sport</p>	<p>Title: Benefits of Outdoor Sports for Society BOSS project</p> <p>Outline: The Benefits of Outdoor Sports for Society was an Erasmus+ funded programme that set out to provide a mechanism to value the recognised benefits that we can get from outdoor sports in economic terms.</p> <p>This workshop will cover 3 distinct elements of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To highlight the findings from the research phase of the project and showcase the significant evidence of the range of benefits that can be gained from participating in outdoor sports. • The model that can be used to capture information on benefits for a project and how to value them.

	<p>Northern Ireland as the Active Outdoors Development Officer and is based at Tollymore National Outdoor Centre. His role involves liaising with local and central government agencies as well as National Governing Bodies of sport and clubs to strategically develop outdoor sport and recreation. He led a consortium that developed the NI Outdoor Recreation Action Plan which consists of 33 actions that provide the mechanism for developing Northern Ireland as a great place to be active outdoors. Mike is still a very active outdoor enthusiast – with his main passion being sea kayaking. He is a British Canoe Union level 5 Coach and has paddled and coached extensively throughout the UK and Ireland from the Shetlands to the Channel Islands. He has also led expeditions in Canada, America and Europe. Mike’s background is as an Environmental Scientist and he worked in the field of outdoor and environmental education for over 20 years. He is passionate about engaging people with Nature and communicating the importance of our fantastic ecosystems and wildlife. He believes that Nature has immense restorative benefits for people and while there is much evidence of this through the BOSS project – he puts this into practice through walking, cycling or paddling in natural settings every day.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples from case studies that went through this process. <p>The workshop will involve a certain amount of direct information but will also provide an opportunity for feedback, interaction and questioning.</p>
<p><i>Contributor</i></p> <p>W5: William Mc Elhinney (1.10pm – 2.10pm)</p> <p>This is a live webinar presentation with Q&A hosted and facilitated by Burrenbeo Staff panellists.</p>	<p><i>Biography</i></p> <p>Bio: William is a native of Inishowen, Co. Donegal. Over twenty five years ago his passion for all things seaweed began. Under the guidance of his late father, in law, John Edward Logue a fourth generation seaweed harvester, William learned on the White Strand, Malin Head, how to harvest and save seaweed. William, AKA The Seaweed Man, has presented widely on this topic, locally, nationally and internationally all with the humble beginnings of a</p>	<p><i>Session Details</i></p> <p>Title: William, The Seaweed Man, connects his story of place and food heritage through a food demo</p> <p>Outline: William, presents an online informative talk and cooking demo on his journey in promoting the wonders of seaweed. William will focus on this journey through place, heritage, folklore, sustainability and the health benefits of seaweed. William’s cooking demo will showcase the seaweed Carrageen Moss, through creating the dessert Crotal Flummery which was on the menu at Wild Strands Caife.</p>

	<p>food stall called Just Seaweed. His unique experiential Wild Strands Caife in Malin Head opened in 2018 was based on Seaweed and devised around sustainable practices advocating the principles of food sovereignty/food justice and used only local artisan and organic produce. He has devised and delivered Seaweed Courses and events around food, exploring Ocean Literacy Principles, Leave No Trace Principles, maritime heritage for community groups, Coast watch Ireland, Clean Coast and is a registered Heritage Expert for the Heritage in School Programme. He has delivered educational talks to groups from preschool to secondary schools and has been a guest lecturer for Maritime Tourism Course LYIT Tourism College.</p>	
<p><i>Contributor</i></p>	<p><i>Biography</i></p>	<p><i>Session Details</i></p>
<p>W5: Richard Mabey (2.15pm)</p> <p>This is an exclusive recorded essay reading by Richard Mabey, with closing comments hosted and facilitated by Burrenbeo Staff panellists.</p> 	<p>Bio: Richard, a journalist and broadcaster became a full-time writer in 1974 and is the author of some thirty books, including <i>The Cabaret of Plants: Botany and the Imagination</i> (2015), and <i>Whistling in the Dark: In Pursuit of the Nightingale</i> (1993), winner of the East Anglia Book Award, 2010, in a revised version entitled The Barley Bird, Beechcombings: the narratives of <i>Trees</i> (2007), the ground-breaking and best-selling “cultural flora” Flora Britannica (1996), winner of a National Book Award, and Gilbert White, which won the Whitbread Biography Award in 1986,. His memoir Nature Cure (2005), which describes how reconnecting with the wild helped him break free from debilitating depression, was short-listed for three major literary awards, the Whitbread, Ondaatje, and J.R. Ackerley prizes. His latest book is Turning the Boat for Home (2019). He writes for the Guardian,</p>	<p>Title: The Nature of Local Distinctiveness (Essay reading)</p> <p>Outline: Richard has composed a short essay piece and has generously recorded his reading to be played as a conclusion to this years Learning Landscape Online Symposium.</p>

New Statesman and Granta, and contributes frequently to BBC radio.

In the 1980s he sat on the UK government's advisory body, the Nature Conservancy Council. He has been awarded two Leverhulme Fellowships, and honorary doctorates by the universities of St Andrews, Essex and East Anglia. He was awarded a Civil List Pension in 2008 for services to literature, and made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2011. In 2014 he was a Visiting Fellow at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He is a past Director of the arts and conservation charity Common Ground, President of Waveney and Blythe Arts, Vice-President of the Open Spaces Society, and Patron of the John Clare Society. He lives in Norfolk, in the Waveney Valley with his partner Polly Lavender and has a boat on the Norfolk broads.