



Cabragh Wetlands Trust

Christmas News

This has been a year full of activity at Cabragh Wetlands. Thanks to the assistance and support of Tipperary Enterprise we spent some time during the year evaluating the role of Cabragh Wetlands and charting the course ahead. We were ably assisted in the task by Environmental Consultant Mieke Muylleert and this led to our producing a business plan prepared by Lorraine Grainger.

Our school programme continues and we had a big number of Primary School visits during the year. We believe that what we have to offer here makes a valuable contribution to environmental education particularly in the field of habitat studies. The Summer Camp, popular as always, was well attended and the feedback from children and parents is very positive.

Our Web site is up and running and well worth a regular visit. People visiting the site are from as far a field as China and the USA! Regular news, events and photos can be seen on our blog "The Snipe" Our web address is www.cabraghwetlands.ie

During the year we also produced a short DVD on the flora and fauna of the wetland, copies of which are available here at the Wetland at €10. It makes a lovely gift – recording as it does a local voluntary initiative in preserving a valuable resource. We thank all concerned for their support in bringing this fine snapshot of the wetlands to fruition. Ollie Delaney's editing is only topped by the amazing flight of the starlings captured by Seán Maher on video. We also have greeting cards on sale at the centre with photos of the flora and fauna of the wetlands.

We were selected by the Co Council to represent Tipperary in the Pride of Place Competition. We had work to do to prepare for the event as they send out judges to view the place. We did well and received a Certificate. The profile which such competitions offer is valuable.



Together with Ceoltas we hosted regular evenings of Music and Song. We even managed to dance on the carpet and we look forward to having a timber floor in the future!

During the year we initiated articles in The Tipperary Star, which if the feedback is anything to go by, are appreciated by many people. Thanks sincerely to the editor Michael Dundon for his generous support.

Our Open Day in July was well attended. Again we had Eanna Ní Leamhna who is always popular and never disappoints. Despite it being a very wet day it was enjoyable and informative. Thanks to all our loyal supporters for making this day such a success.



Bird Watch continue to use the Wetland as a bird ringing site, and they are putting together valuable information on the population and movement of birds. Rarities like the skua which Seán Maher found continue to surprise.

A huge loss to the centre is Marlene Harney who has returned to South Africa with her family. Marlene brought great energy and expertise to her work in promoting the wetlands. We were privileged to host a presentation to her of a beautiful painting of Cabragh Wetlands by Joe Gaynor on the 13th September. We wish Marlene, Durk and the boys success and happiness in their new home.



We also organized events in working with clay and stone during the year. Artists who conducted the workshops were Mary Scott and Philip Quinn. This was promoted by the Arts Officer of North Tipperary Co. Co. Thanks to all involved for a successful and fruitful event.



We want to streamline our membership and we request all membership fees to be renewed at this time. So may we give you a gentle reminder that your membership is due about now!

At this time our series of Winter talks have resumed. We hosted a selection of interesting topics all related to the environment. We believe that Cabragh Wetlands offers a valuable focus for environmental issues. Your involvement with us and your support is much appreciated. A list of talks is available on our website.

**Many thanks for your support and Happy Christmas,
From all at Cabragh Wetlands**

www.cabraghwetlands.ie