



# Wild Wicklow Week

**Celebrating Biodiversity in County Wicklow 18th - 26th May 2013**

## **Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Dawn Chorus Day Guided Walks 5.00 am**

All over Ireland people will be getting up early to join a guided walk and listen to the birds' songs, there are two Dawn Chorus outings taking place in County Wicklow. Adults & children are welcome but no dogs please. **Glendalough**, Upper Lake Information Office. 5.00am, Guided walk, followed by an optional Birdsong Workshop in the Education Centre. Hosted by Birdwatch Ireland & Wicklow Mountains National Park. For more information Tel: 0404 45425. **East Coast Nature Reserve**, Newcastle, 5.00 am: Meet at the entrance to the Reserve. Hosted by Birdwatch Ireland. For more information see [www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie)

## **Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Wetland Safari - Family Fun in Wicklow Town**

12 – 2 pm. Meet at the Parnell Bridge Wicklow Town, join this child friendly outing with the Irish Wildlife Trust to learn more about the wildlife along the Leitrim River. Featuring pond dipping, viewing tank, plant, bird and bug identification, art and fun activities. For more information [dburns@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:dburns@wicklowcoco.ie)

## **Mon - Fri Wicklow's Wonderful Wetlands Exhibition**

Come along to view this beautiful colourful exhibition from the IWT about the importance of Wetlands to our everyday lives and find out more about wetlands on your doorstep from the recent county survey 9.00- 5.00 County Buildings, Wicklow Town. For more information [dburns@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:dburns@wicklowcoco.ie)

## **Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Free Guided Walk at Avondale House and Park, Rathdrum**

Starting at 2.00pm. Contact Coillte T: 0404 46111

## **Tues 21<sup>st</sup> 'From Dippers to Lampreys- Wildlife in Wicklow's Rivers'**

Glenview Hotel, Glen of the Downs, 7.30 pm. Hear about the results of a recent study of Wicklow's rivers organised by the Heritage Office of Wicklow County Council. Featuring presentations by Donnchadh Byrne, Inland Fisheries Ireland and Alex Copeland from Birdwatch Ireland. For more information [dburns@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:dburns@wicklowcoco.ie)

## **Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Bioblitz 2013**

Wicklow Mountains National Park is competing in Bioblitz 2013 - recording as many species as possible in 24-hours! Come along to view this unique event, join in the recording, or take part in an activity courtesy of one of the many experts on hand. 9.00 – Opening Moth Traps; 10.00 Introduction to Newts followed by Newt Art; 12.00 Pond Dipping; 14.00 – Introduction to newts; 15.00 Butterfly Walk; Upland Bird Walk; Electro Fishing. For more information Tel: 0404 45425

## **Wicklow's Living Wetlands Photography competition**

Send us your images of WETLANDS under the following themes: *Scenic Beauty; Wildlife; Wetland Services; Wetlands and People* and be in with a chance to win a prize and feature in our Heritage Week exhibition. Closing date 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Organised by Wicklow County Council in partnership with Birdwatch Ireland. More information [dburns@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:dburns@wicklowcoco.ie) or keep an eye on the website for further details. Entries to [competitions@birdwatchireland.ie](mailto:competitions@birdwatchireland.ie)

## **Biodiversity Fund 2013**

Grant funding is now available from DAHG for small scale projects (max. €5000) to raise awareness of biodiversity. For more information and application forms [www.noticenature.ie](http://www.noticenature.ie) **Closing date 28<sup>th</sup> June**

### **Did you know?**

Biodiversity is the variety of plants and animals and the interactions between them. A healthy biodiversity improves our health and wealth. You can help. Keeping records of sightings of wild plant and animal species helps us to better understand our biodiversity and to identify trends. Here are some useful websites:

[www.biology.ie](http://www.biology.ie) to record your sightings of plants and animals, or to find out what others have seen in your area.

[www.noticenature.ie](http://www.noticenature.ie) for more information on biodiversity in Ireland

[www.birdwatchireland.ie](http://www.birdwatchireland.ie) to find out more about bird species, Wicklow branch events and to record your sightings

[www.countywicklowheritage.org](http://www.countywicklowheritage.org) to submit your articles, photos and stories about any aspect of Wicklow's heritage.

[www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie) under heritage/ biodiversity to view the County Wicklow Biodiversity Action Plan or contact

Deirdre Burns Heritage Officer, Wicklow County Council: [dburns@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:dburns@wicklowcoco.ie) for a free copy

*Wicklow Biodiversity Week events 2013 are dedicated to the memory of the late Eamon De Buitléar.*

