



**IRISH PEATLAND  
CONSERVATION COUNCIL**

Charity Number CHY6829  
RCN20013547

# Action for Bogs No.30



Photo: Bilberry © N. Madigan

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# National Biodiversity Week 2023



Images from left:  
The IPCC hosted a bogland bird talk on Lodge Bog and a butterfly walk to Lullymore West during Biodiversity Week 2023. Images © N.Madigan, T.Whyte, S.Doyle

Celebrating National Biodiversity Week 2023 on Saturday 20th May the IPCC hosted a walk and talk exploring bogland birds to Lodge Bog where participants learned about the different birds that use the bog. Back at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, some young peatland explorers went pond dipping, finding mini-beasts such as dragonfly nymphs, diving beetles and water boatmen. The insect-eating plants in the greenhouse were also

investigated, while a newt was spotted in the gardens. Later in the week, a butterfly walk to Lullymore West Nature Reserve was hosted on 23rd May. Participants learned about the IPCC's management of the site and observed the Marsh Fritillary, Ireland's only legally protected insect, as well as Brimstone, Dingy Skipper, Common Blue and Speckled Wood butterflies on the wing. It was great to also observe the Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth.

Féile an Dúlra continues this summer, why not join the IPCC at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre on 23rd July for International Bog Day. Learn more about upcoming events by following the IPCC on social media or visiting [www.ipcc.ie/events](http://www.ipcc.ie/events).

The Irish Peatland Conservation Council acknowledge and thank the Irish Environmental Network, the Heritage Council and Kildare County Council for their support.



## Large Heath Habitat Assessment



Image © S.Doyle

Throughout June and July surveys to monitor the population of the Large Heath butterfly on Lodge Bog are ongoing. Positive results are being recorded with the confirmation of the presence of the Large Heath butterfly on the reserve. This work is being co-ordinated by the IPCC's Conservation and Education Officers who's roles are supported by the Heritage Capacity Fund of the Heritage Council in 2023.

## Kildare County Council's Community Grant supports the IPCC



Image © N. Madigan

With funding support from Kildare County Council through their Community Grant 2023, the IPCC have purchased outdoor seating and pollinator friendly plants for the Bog of Allen Nature Centre wildlife gardens and volunteer equipment to assist in the management of IPCC's nature reserves.



## Species Focus



Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth at Lullymore West Reserve © S.Doyle

The Narrow-bordered Bee Hawk-moth (*Hemaris tityus*) is a day-flying moth that looks a bit like a bee! It is found on unimproved, damp grassland where it's larval foodplant, Devil's-bit Scabious, grows. Eggs are laid on the underside of scabious leaves, and the larvae develop from July to August, before overwintering as a pupa. Adults fly in May and June and hover as they feed on nectar from flowers such as Bird's-foot-trefoil.

## Wild Atlantic Nature Education Programme Launch

On 2nd June, the IPCC was at the launch of the new primary school education programme for Wild Atlantic



Image © N.Madigan

Nature LIFE IP. In attendance were Crannóg Búí National School, the Heritage Council and Minister Charlie McConalogue. The programme, which teaches children about blanket bogs, was developed by the IPCC in partnership with the Heritage Council.

## Community Engagement and Education Programme



Bogland information stand at Lanesborough library © N.Madigan



Ferbane Bog SAC © N. Madigan

May and June was a busy time for IPCC facilitating peatland educational visits both at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre and through outreach. At Mount Lucas Wind Farm the IPCC presented bogland workshops with primary schools across five days. The IPCC guided students from Gallen Community School to their communities newly opened boardwalk on Ferbane Bog SAC. An information stand

was held in Lanesborough Library as part of their Environment Week 2023 and the IPCC offered a peatland stand and talk during Newtown Forbe's Festival of Science. The IPCC also attended the Lough Ree Environmental Summer School Festival and facilitated a citizen science workshop and walk to Clara Bog SAC during the Clara Heritage Society Bog Trotters weekend.



The IPCC welcomed the announcement of the IPCC as a County Winner in the Heritage Category of the National Lottery Good Causes Award 2023.

## You can take Action for Bogs by taking any of these steps



Save an Acre of Bogland Support IPCC's mission to purchase endangered and unique peatlands. Purchase a symbolic share in 1/16th acre of bog and receive a certificate to commemorate your work in saving Irish bogs. **€45 (PC116)**

Help Restore a Bog. Stop damaged bogs leaking greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Your donation will be used to block drains, monitor water levels in bogs and undertake *Sphagnum* moss transplantation. **€50 (PC161)**



**STOP EMIGRATION OF WILDLIFE Save Our Irish Boglands**



Donation to the Save the Bogs Campaign. Donations to the campaign are used to make a planning observation in favour of bogs or to train volunteers. **€20 PC10**

Bog of Allen Nature Centre Visitor Pass. Receive unlimited access to the Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Gardens and Nature Reserves in Kildare. Pass valid for 1 year, for either 5 adults or a family of 2 adults and 4 children **€25 PC1138**



**Help Save Our Boglands  
JOIN IPCC NOW!**



Photo: © C. O'Connell

I would like to join as a Friend of the Bog (tick category)

- Single €40
- Joint/Family/Teacher €45
- Unwaged €27

I enclose my cheque/postal order payable to IPCC, or, please debit my Debit Card/Visa/Mastercard account for €.....

Card number.....

Signature .....

Expiry date .....

Security Code (last 3 digits above signature panel) .....

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms .....

Address .....

Tel: ..... Date of Birth: .....

Post to: IPCC, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare



**DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT....  
Be an IPCC Volunteer**



Photo: © P. Farrell

Take your first step to a career in conservation by volunteering on one of IPCC's nature reserves. Gain skills in bird and butterfly surveys, water table monitoring, site management and peat free gardening. Take action on climate change by getting involved in IPCC's conservation projects such as *Sphagnum* moss transfer. E-mail [bogs@ipcc.ie](mailto:bogs@ipcc.ie) or phone 045-860133 to get your name on our volunteer list.

**Bog of Allen Nature Centre**  
In the heart of the bog and with bogs in our hearts

**Enjoy**  
a trip down memory lane  
Tea in the Gardens

**Discover** Wildlife Gardens  
Folk Kitchen  
Bog Museum

**Explore**  
Bog of Allen Nature Trail

Guided tours and tea in the gardens for groups year round €10 per person. Group Discounts Available

Located on the R414 between Allenwood & Rathangan in Lullymore, Co. Kildare Tel: 045-860133  
E-mail: [bogs@ipcc.ie](mailto:bogs@ipcc.ie) Website: [www.ipcc.ie](http://www.ipcc.ie)

**A Love of Bogs  
Lasts Longer  
than a Lifetime**

**Giving in memory**  
a tribute to someone you love

For a free copy of our guide to leaving a legacy, please call Nuala Madigan on 045-860133, or write to IPCC, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare, R51 V293 or e-mail a request to us at [bogs@ipcc.ie](mailto:bogs@ipcc.ie)