



Action for Bogs

No. 21

Swan by John Burke Email: johnburkephotos@gmail.com



Restoring Girley Bog



IPCC staff and volunteers are working with the local community and other stakeholders to repair damage done to Girley Bog in the past. This year we have trained 11 guides who will lead tours to the bog for schools, held 6 work camps to take measurements of the slopes of the drains so that we can block them and met twice to help develop a management plan for the site.

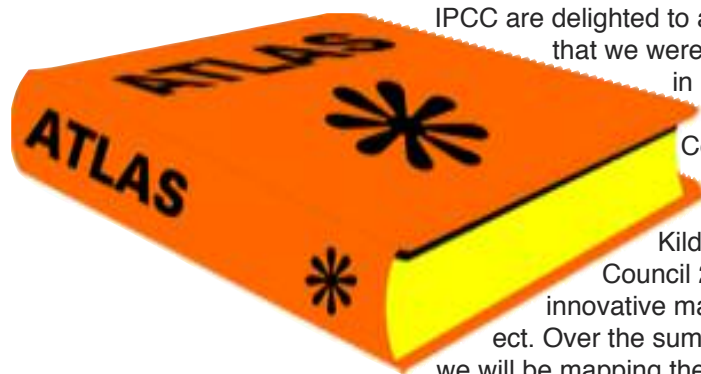
All year long we will be fundraising to help with the work to repair the bog. If you would like to get involved you can make a donation on line, support our raffle or donate your time. Please contact IPCC on email bogs@ipcc.ie for further information.

Award for Bog of Allen Nature Centre Veggies



IPCC's Peat Free Vegetable Growing project at the Bog of Allen Nature Centre aims to show visitors that you do not need to destroy bogs for moss peat to have great food. The project received an award from the AIB/GIY Get Ireland Growing Fund 2014. Already we have potatoes, strawberries, carrots and peas growing well in our potager. This award will allow us to extend the project to include fancy composting bins, growing fresh herbs and providing a conversation seat for visitors to the potager. Visitors are welcome to the potager year round. See www.ipcc.ie

Award for IPCC project to develop an Atlas of Heritage in Lullymore



IPCC are delighted to announce that we were successful in being awarded a Community Heritage Grant from Kildare County Council 2014 for an innovative mapping project. Over the summer months we will be mapping the natural,

cultural and economic heritage of Lullymore. The work will involve meetings with the local community and visits to the top sites. The maps will be uploaded to www.ipcc.ie before the year end. There will be talk on the Atlas and the Heritage of Lullymore on Sunday 24th August during Heritage Week. The event will take place in the Bog of Allen Nature Centre from 2-5pm. All welcome. Free entry.

World War I Sphagnum Moss Collecting



Many people have heard the story about the use of *Sphagnum* moss from the bogs as a wound dressing during WWI at home and at the front. Thanks to the research work of Clara Cullen (see image inset) which has been featured on BBC Radio World War One at Home series we now know a lot more about this activity that was very common in Ireland because of the abundance of bog moss in our bogs. Instructions were prepared by the Irish War Hospital Supply Sub Depot of the Royal College of Science in Dublin on how to collect, dry, sort and package the moss. Samples of the moss collected had first to be approved by the War Hospital before a consignment would be accepted. Retaining the sterile qualities of the moss were crucial in ensuring its suitability for use in wound dressings and the instructions were strict on cleanliness from collection to packaging of the moss.





Sundew

Sundew (*Drosera* species) is one of the insect eating plants found on Irish bogs. The leaf is covered in up to 200 red tentacles, each of which is topped by a drop of sticky glue. Insects are trapped in the tentacles and glue and the whole leaf curls up to digest the insect. When it opens again all that remains are the hard undigested remains of the insect bodies.

Raised Bogs: cutting allowed until 2017!



Cloncrow Bog freshly cut in 2014. Photo: E. Dunbar

The draft Raised Bog SAC Management Plan and the Raised Bog NHA Review were published by Government in January this year. IPCC were very disappointed to see the political decision included in these documents to allow turf cutting to continue on the Natural Heritage Area Bogs until 2017 under permit. Unfortunately this move seems to have unleashed a brown gold rush across the midlands. Cloncrow Bog NHA in Co. Westmeath was cut for the first time in years and on Monivea Bog SAC in Co. Galway, 11 diggers cut 80 plots of turf. IPCC have reported both events to the local Authorities concerned and to the Peatlands Council.



Northern Ireland Bog Snorkelling Championships 2014
11am-5pm, Sunday 27th July
Meet @ Peatlands Park, Dungannon, Co. Armagh
Northern Ireland Environment Agency
www.discovernorthernireland.com/Bog-Snorkelling-A1129



Lodge Bog Safari & Raised Bog Talk
2pm-5pm, Sunday 27th July
Meet @ Bog of Allen Nature Centre, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare
Irish Peatland Conservation Council
www.ipcc.ie or www.facebook.com/IPCC.ie



Story of Irish Bogs Talk & Guided Walk of Tóchar Daithí Bán Nature Trail
2-5pm, Sunday 27th July
Meet @ Ballycroy National Park Visitor Centre, Co. Mayo
National Parks & Wildlife Service
www.facebook.com/BallycroyNationalPark



Girley Bog Walk, Scavenger Hunt & Elderflower Cordial Tasting
10am-12 noon, Sunday 27th July
Meet @ Girley Bog Loop Walk Trailhead Car Park 8km south west of Kells off the N52 in Co. Meath
Kate Flood, Meath EcoTours
www.meathecotours.com



Bog Walk, Bog Memorabilia Expo & Irish Bog Bodies Slide Show
11am-4pm, Sunday 27th July
Meet @ Clara Bog Visitor Centre, Co. Offaly
National Parks & Wildlife Service
www.facebook.com/ClaraBog



Ballydangan Bog Walk
1pm, Sunday 27th July
Meet @ at Ballydangan Bog, signposted off the old Athlone to Ballinasloe road just after Naughtons Filling Station
David Fallon, Ballydangan

The bogs of Ireland are home to many important species of birds, insects and a wealth of unusual plants. Peat, water and plants have been growing together for 10,000 years to make a bog habitat. Exploitation of peat for fuel (turf and milled peat) has dramatically reduced the area once covered by peatlands in Ireland. International Bog Day is celebrated around the world on the last Sunday in July. This annual event has been designed to celebrate the beauty of bogs and to help make people more aware of peatlands, the services they provide for free and the threats they face. Further Information about bogs from: www.ipcc.ie

International Bog Day
Celebrating Beautiful Bogs

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 Catherine O'Connell on 045-860133, or write to IPCC, Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare or e-mail a request to us at bogs@ipcc.ie



Irish Peatland Conservation Council

Volunteer for a brighter future



Photo: C. O'Corcora

Join in with us

Find out how by contacting the IPCC today
Contact us today by calling 045-860133 or visit our website
www.ipcc.ie

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

Open all year to visitors

Fáilte

from the Irish Peatland Conservation Council

- Bogland Exhibition
- Guided Tours
- Wildlife Gardens
- Family Nature Activities
- Sweet-eating plants
- Nature Shop
- Refreshments
- Toilets
- Conference Centre
- Library
- Classroom
- Lullymore Biodiversity Trail Meeting Point
- Tourist Information Point
- Lodge Bog Nature Reserve
- Lullymore West Bog Nature Reserve

Individuals and Groups Welcome
www.ipcc.ie

Help Save Our Boglands JOIN IPCC NOW!



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