

Our Guest Speakers



Seán Ronayne, Ornithologist and wildlife sound recordist, is on a personal mission to record the vocalisations of every bird species in Ireland. For three years, he has travelled across bogs, mountains, remote islands and native woodlands documenting nearly 200 bird species, including those on the cusp of extinction. Seán shares his story and his unique, and often surprising, recordings of mimicry, distinct dialects, and birds never recorded in Ireland before. His journey reveals the beauty and importance of sound, and what listening can tell us about the state of our natural world.



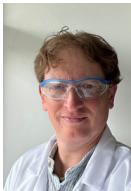
Dr. Aisling Lannin, having grown up in Myrtleville, is currently Head of Scientific Evidence and Evaluation at England's Marine Management Organisation (MMO). She has a PhD in fisheries biology and management, with extensive time working at sea on fishing boats and research vessels and in European fisheries laboratories. She managed a UK Marine Protected Area (MPA) and co-wrote an ecosystem based MPA management plan hailed as a UK exemplar. She has 15 years' experience applying UK Government marine and fisheries policy using interdisciplinary science.



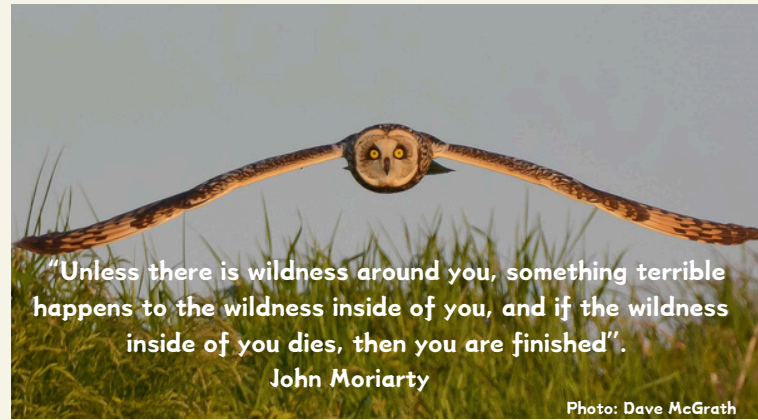
Donal Chambers is an environmental scientist, activist, food grower & head of Permaculture/ Sustainable Horticulture course at Kinsale College. He is Chair of Transition Town Kinsale a sustainability organisation which includes many initiatives such as Kinsale Community Energy Project, Zero Waste education, Biodiversity Promotion, Skills Shares, Repair Café and Kinsale Loves Bike. Donal is founder of social enterprise 'Regenerate' which is dedicated to rewilding and ecological food production.



Larry Staudt is a retired college lecturer and engineer specialising in wind energy and a founding member of The Irish Wind Energy Association. He attempts to marry scientific and spiritual thinking to find answers that satisfy both the heart and the mind. His hope is to contribute to the creation of a sustainable society, one that is aware of its purpose and achieves a spiritual/material balance." A musician who builds guitars, and a writer, his most recent book is 'That's Why I'm Here' Thoughts on the Purpose and Meaning of Life'



Dr Dara Fitzpatrick lectures in Analytical Chemistry in UCC & undertook research for his Ph.D. at Trinity College Dublin. He is director of a company currently working on an EU project to use solar energy to split water giving free Hydrogen as an energy source. A member and recorder for Birdwatch Ireland and for the Irish Wetland Bird Survey, he is also Chair of the County Nature Trust which has been involved with many projects including a management plan for various habitats and nest box installation for Barn Owls and Swifts.



"Unless there is wildness around you, something terrible happens to the wildness inside of you, and if the wildness inside of you dies, then you are finished".

John Moriarty

Photo: Dave McGrath

From an ecological perspective, the Tracton area is extraordinarily unique and valuable due to the diversity of its habitats. Its estuaries, marshland, rivers, streams, coastal heath, salt marsh, deciduous woodland, freshwater lake hedgerows and farmland sustain a wide variety of precious species, both native and migrant.

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Join us on our monthly outings.

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Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council



TRACTON NATURAL HERITAGE WEEKEND. Fri 23rd- Sun 25th August.



BIRDSONG

Photo Chris Maddaloni

OPENING 11AM, SAT AUG 24TH WITH SEÁN RONAYNE SHARING HIS JOURNEY & STUNNING RECORDINGS OF IRISH BIRDSONG



Weekend screenings of our beautiful documentary 'The Moth Man' in person with Ken Bond

**Tracton Arts and Community Centre,
Minane Bridge, Cork P17NP40**

A weekend of outings, activities exhibition, talks, workshops videos, a céilidh & street feast !



Fri

Aug 23rd



7.00pm Film "Bats of Ireland"
Inkwell Theatre. P17NP40. Adm Free.

Dr Dara Fitzpatrick presents this documentary on how to identify, study, appreciate and care for Irish Bats.

Tea/ Coffee Followed by

9.00pm Batwalk on the Millenium Walk Led by Dr. Dara Fitzpatrick. Walk from Tracton Arts Centre

Bats are vital to earth's ecosystems and equally crucial to agriculture, being important pollinators and feeding on insects. In Ireland, bats remain vulnerable to water pollution, increased artificial night lighting, habitat and hedgerow loss and pesticides.

A fascinating opportunity to learn more about bats so we can care for them !

Arrive early and view our exhibition upstairs. Inspiring, creative and thought-provoking art and craft exhibits



Sat

Aug 24th

10.15am Café open - Tea/ Coffee / Cake
Exhibition upstairs

11.00am Official Opening of the weekend with a stunning presentation of Irish Birdsong by **Seán Ronayne - Irish Wildlife Sounds. Inkwell Theatre. Tickets €7.00 Eventbrite. Accompanied children free.**

Short Coffee Break

12.15pm 'People, the Future and the Sea'
Dr. Aisling Lannin - Marine Biologist.

1.30pm 'Activism and Action for Biodiversity'
Donal Chambers - Course Co-Ordinator Kinsale College -Sustainability and Permaculture.

2.00pm. Free Children's Clay Workshop. Working with clay promotes calmness, focus, creativity and self awareness and boosts many life skills including resilience, with each child creating a piece that is completely unique to them.
Art Therapist- Sabina Nagle.

3.00pm Guided Walk Nohoval Cove Eco Farm. Ann Maria and Michael Desmond share their wonderful journey with farming for biodiversity. Adults €10 (includes pick your own bag of organic potatoes). Pay at Farm.

3.00pm The Moth Man Documentary on the life and fascinating work of entomologist Ken Bond
Inkwell Theatre. Adm Free.

8.00pm Ceilidh Mór
Ultan Walsh agus a chairde ceoil, with dancing ably directed by Fionnán Cogan, so come for the craic. No experience necessary !
Inkwell Theatre. Tickets €10. Pay on arrival. Accompanied children free.

10.00pm Close.

Sun

Aug 25th

10.30 am Cafe and Exhibition open

11.00am - 1.00pm Tracton Community Market with local food and crafts, tea, coffee, cake.
P17NP40

11.30am Guided walk on Murphy's Newfoundland Organic Farm. Aidan and Aishling share their experience of Korean Natural Farming and the benefits of putting life back into the soil. Donation at farm. Car share from Nohoval car park.

1.00pm 'Looking Towards Our Future' in conversation and song with **Larry Staudt., Author and deep thinker.**

What is our vision for a future society? What inner qualities are necessary? What activities will help advance this vision? Can we realistically be hopeful, and if so how can we bring hope to others? **Inkwell Theatre**

2.00pm Free Children's Art Workshop. A freely imaginative artistic exploration using natural materials to make hanging mobiles, butterflies, dragonflies etc. Will encourage children's creativity, powers of observation, and connection with the natural world. **Visual Artist Nano Culliton.**

2.30-4.30pm Outing with Ted Cook
'The soul and science of the forest.' Intriguing and inspirational as usual, Ted takes us through Tracton Woods (Car share from Minane Bridge car park at 2.15pm) **Donation.**

5.00pm The Moth Man Documentary on the life and fascinating work of entomologist Ken Bond.
Inkwell Theatre. Adm Free

6.00pm Béile le Chéile. Tracton's first *Street Feast* in celebration of community. Bring your favourite dish to share with family, friends, neighbours and visitors. Everyone welcome!