

INFORMATION


- Individuals and families are welcome. No experience required. Please dress appropriately for outdoor activities and bring your own refreshments.
- No dogs at events please.
- For further details contact the Heritage Office in Offaly County Council on **057 9346839** or email **heritage@offalycoco.ie**
- Please email **heritage@offalycoco.ie** if you would like reminders about events or if you would like to be notified about other Offaly heritage events.

Please submit your records to the National Biodiversity Data Site. This centre collates and monitors national information but also keeps your records for you!
www.biodiversityireland.ie/record-biodiversity/
 or download the Biodiversity Data Centre Free App.



Offaly County Council
 Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fáilil

The Offaly Naturalists' Field Club Programme is an initiative of the Offaly Heritage Forum.

 www.offaly.ie/heritage

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
 The Heritage Council



OFFALY NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB

Event guide 2018



Event Guide 2018

SATURDAY 14 APRIL

Bumble Bee Workshop

11am–4pm: Scoil Mhuire, Kilcruttin, Tullamore

Booking: Mary Droogan, maryandluc@gmail.com

Leader: Dr Tomás Murray, National Biodiversity Data Centre

SATURDAY 21 APRIL

Hérons on the Lake at Birr Demesne

11am–1pm: Telescope on the lawn to view heronry during the nesting season. Entrance fee applies (group rate €7 adult). Bring binoculars if to hand.

Leader: Tim O'Rourke

THURSDAY 26 APRIL

Ravens of Connemara

8pm: Teach Lea, Boora

Speaker: Dermot Breen, Conservation Ranger with Connemara National Park

SUNDAY 6 MAY

International Dawn Chorus

4.30am: Meet at Birr Demesne Courtyard

Entry fee kindly waived. Café will be open afterwards.

Leader: Alex Copland, BirdWatch Ireland

TUESDAY 8 MAY

Dusk Chorus

8pm: Meet at the Old School House, Geashill

Leader: Ricky Whelan, BirdWatch Ireland

SATURDAY 12 MAY

Foraging in Clara, 'Nibbling On Nature'

11am: Meet at Clara Bog Visitor Centre Car Park, 3–4 hour forage. Bring lunch.

Leader: Alison Delaney, Forager

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY

Pollinator Walk & Talk with Tidy Towns Committee

7.30pm: Meet at Old School House

Geashill Winner of All-Ireland Pollinator Award in 2017 Tidy Towns' competition

Leader: Pat Foley, Geashill Tidy Towns

SATURDAY 19 MAY

Cavemount Wetlands

10.30am–12.30pm: Meet at Rhode National School

Focusing on the developing cutaway habitats and wildlife of Cavemount Bog, a former Bord na Móna industrial peat production site, and plans for cutaway rehabilitation.

– rough ground that could be wet in places.

Leader: Mark McCorry, Bord na Móna

TUESDAY 22 MAY

Dining with Dippers

as part of National Biodiversity Week and to celebrate International Biodiversity Day

6pm: Meet at the Camcor Park adjacent to the weir.

Bring picnic (optional)

Leader: Alex Copland, BirdWatch Ireland

TUESDAY 19 JUNE

Swifts and Birds of the Shannon Callows

& Launch of Stephen Heery's 6th Mid-Shannon Bird Report 2012–2016

8pm: Clonmacnoise Visitor Centre (courtesy OPW)

Launch, talk and walk (bring binoculars)

Leader: Brian Caffrey, BirdWatch Ireland

SATURDAY 30 JUNE

Mossfield Farm – Fen & Juniper Wood

11am–2pm: Meet at Tesco, Birr

(Please note no early departures due to location).

Bring refreshments, sturdy boots and suitable clothing for the weather.

Leader: Fiona Devery

FRIDAY 17 AUGUST / SATURDAY 18 AUGUST

Mushroom Stones of the Clonmacnoise Area

Friday 8pm: Lecture in Ferbane, Mary Ward Community Centre.

Saturday 11am: Meet in Shannonbridge. Bring refreshments.

Book with heritage@offalycoco.ie

Leader: John Feehan

MONDAY 10 TO FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Where have all the flowers gone?

The world of seeds, fruits and cones

Leader: John Feehan

BOOKED
OUT!

SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER

Foxes and Badgers – Talk & Walk

7–9.30pm Meet at Kinnitty Community Centre

Leader: Noel Bugler, NPWS Ranger

SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER

Mongan Bog Mosses

Mongan Bog is one of the most important raised bogs in the country and is part of *The Living Bog Restoration Project*.

10.30am: Meet at Clonmacnoise Visitor Centre car park.

Bring lunch, wellies and hand lenses if you have them.

Leader: George Smith, Bryophyte recorder for Offaly

SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER

Wintering Birds

11am: Meet at Bird Hide at Boora

Leader: Alex Copland, BirdWatch Ireland

