

# Antrim Coast & Glens View

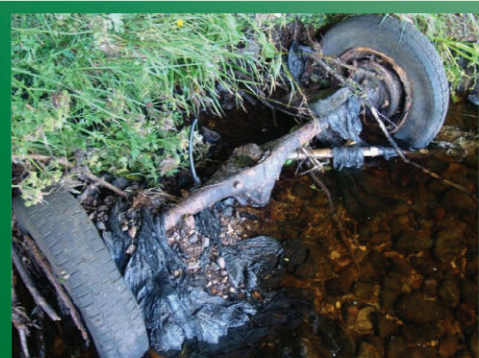
The Newsletter for the Antrim Coast and Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Issue Seven

spring/summer '09

## Thoughtless Disposal

### Diminished Sustainability



There has been much success in developing the status and sustainability of the Glens area as a serious contender for a globally competitive tourism market.

The achievements of Ballycastle angling club are an excellent example of sustainable success that can contribute hugely to the tourism market. With the support of DCAL and the Rivers Agency a first class salmon restoration project has been successful in re-establishing an almost defunct Atlantic salmon run. A successful hatchery was established in 1995 and essential habitat improvement works ensured the salmon's success.

It is disappointing to see so much rubbish still coming down the river. Silage wrap and general waste tipping are often witnessed. The invisible pollutants such as silage itself, slurry and human sewage are more damaging. Litter, fly tipping, and pollution all conspire to negate the successes. A minority still have an attitude of "I'll just dispose of waste as easy as I can" without a thought where rubbish may end up. Whilst the support for habitat restoration projects is to be commended action is needed to target irresponsible polluters that act with diminished responsibility towards the environment.

*Brendan Kerr*  
[www.naturallivingassets.com](http://www.naturallivingassets.com)

## 2009 International Year of Natural Fibres



Rodney Magee, Broughshane Primary School, Picture This! 2008.

The main goal of the International Year of Natural Fibres is to raise the profile of these fibres and to emphasise their value to consumers while helping to sustain the incomes of the farmers. In addition, the International Year will:

- promote the efficiency and sustainability of the natural fibres industries;
- encourage appropriate policy responses from governments to the problems faced by natural fibre industries;
- foster an effective and enduring international partnership among the various natural fibres industries.



[www.northernwalking.com](http://www.northernwalking.com)

**Sunday 26th April** Antrim Hills Way (10 Mile)  
**Saturday 2nd May** Rathlin Island Tour (5 Mile)  
**Sunday 10th May** Moyle Challenge Walk (12/20 Mile)  
**Sunday 14th June** Slemish Trail (8 Mile)

## World Ocean Day – 8th June 2009

World Ocean Day is an opportunity each year to celebrate our world ocean and our personal connection to the sea.

e: [info@ccght.org](mailto:info@ccght.org)

w: [www.ccght.org](http://www.ccght.org)

t: (028) 2075 2100

## The Chairman's View



*Ald Harry Connolly*  
Chairman, Antrim Coast and Glens AONB Management Group

Welcome to the seventh issue of the Antrim Coast and Glens View. Although only a small part of the Antrim Coast & Glens AONB lies within the Borough of Ballymoney it is

important to recognise and value ownership of this very special landscape. Ballymoney was recently represented in the Picture This! Schools Photography Competition along with schools from Ballymena, Larne and Moyle District and Borough Councils. Over 120 children participated in this very successful competition which helped to raise awareness of the Antrim Coast & Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

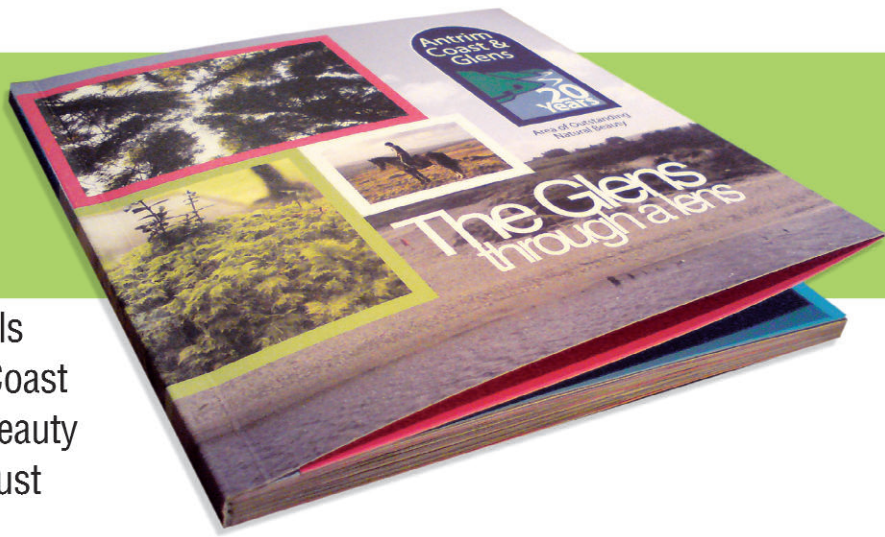
The photographs bear testament to the success of the competition and to the cultural, natural and built heritage of the area. 2008 saw the launch of the Antrim Coast & Glens AONB management plan, in 2009 the management group hope to implement and co-ordinate many of the recommendations within the plan. Unfortunately due to Ballymoney Borough Council's withdrawal of funding from the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust I regret that I am unable to continue as Chairman of the Management Group but I wish the new Chair, the Trust and the Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Management Group success in the future.

If you wish to be kept informed on progress with all the projects carried out by the Antrim Coast and Glens AONB Management Group please contact the Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust offices. I hope you will enjoy this issue of the Antrim Coast and Glens View.

*Harry Connolly*

# Launch of the Glens through a Lens

Following the recent Picture This! Schools photography competition in the Antrim Coast and Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust launched 'The Glens through a Lens' on Tuesday 16th December in the Braid Museum, Ballymena. The book was produced and launched to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the designation of the Antrim Coast & Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. 2008 also celebrated the launch of the Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Management Plan.



The Glens through a Lens' contains more than fifty photographs which were taken in various sites in the area including, Cushendun, Glenarm, Carnlough, Glenariff and Ballycastle. The images represent and highlight the natural, cultural and built heritage of the area. Joe McFadden said *"The advantage of photography over a drawing or painting competition is that it eliminates the "I can't draw!" belief that inhibits some children. The children produced a wide range of creative images which collectively make a very interesting visual record of the area."*

Commenting on the book and competition, Alan Turner said *"Picture This! is a fine way to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the designation of the Antrim Coast and Glens AONB and it is fitting that the upcoming generation should be the contributors."*

The book will be available throughout Tourist Information Centres in the area.

**To receive a copy contact Carole at the Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust (028) 20752100, 18 Main Street, Armoy, BT53 8RQ or email at [carole@ccght.org](mailto:carole@ccght.org)**



Speaking at the event, local MLA, Declan O'Loan said:

*"The Glens through a Lens' is a superb illustration of the photographs taken by primary school children in or on the outskirts of the Antrim Coast & Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It highlights the beauty of the area and the importance of protecting this outstanding region. The Antrim Coast and Glens AONB is one of nine Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Northern Ireland and it is important that we promote the area in July 2009 when the National Association of AONBs hosts its annual conference in the Coleraine campus of the University of Ulster."*



# Breen Wood - Special Area of Conservation

Breen Wood Nature Reserve in the Antrim Coast & Glens Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is an example of an oak woodland which may be native. Ancient gnarled and stunted oak trees form most of the canopy, along with downy birch, hazel, and holly, but in damper areas there is alder, including one with a girth of over six metres.

On the drier upper slopes, the ground is swathed with great wood-rush, along with bilberry, and scattered bluebells. Near the streams there are colourful displays of lesser celandine and wood anemone in spring. Ferns and mosses thrive in the damp conditions of the gullies, and Breen is the only place in Northern Ireland at which a rare moss, *Hylocomium umbratum*, has been recorded. The ponds and damp gullies are a haven for newts and dragonflies, and buzzards can be seen circling above the forest canopy.



Most of the native forests were lost because of the pressures of agriculture and industry. The reason that Breen Wood survived is not known. However, local people point to the name of the wood. It means "Fairy Palace" in Gaelic and may have been applied to an earth fort or rath which was once located there. Since it was very unlucky to interfere with land associated with the fairies, this may have been why Breen Wood was spared, while the woodland around it was destroyed.

# Who's who?



**Chairman, Ald Harry Connolly, Ballymoney Borough Council**  
*Resigned from CCGHT and Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Management Group from 1st April 2009*

Harry has just completed his second term as Chairman of the Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Management Group. As a resident of Magherahoney and a previous forest manager in Altarichard Forest this is an area he knows well and values.



**Vice Chairman, Joe McFadden, Regional Tourism Partnership**

Joe, an artist who uses the natural and built environment as a source for much of his paintings and illustrations, is a member of the environmental committee in Cushendun and feels strongly that "the only things you should take from the environment are photographs and the only things you should leave behind are your footprints".



**Cllr Roy Craig**

Roy has been an elected member of Larne Borough Council since 1997. He has served as Mayor and since retiring as a local publican he now devotes a lot of his time to serve the people of the Borough. He has a keen interest in the landscape of the area and in tourism in Northern Ireland.



**Sonya Crawford**

Sonya has worked in Countryside Access for over 18 years, the last five with Ballymoney Borough Council. She is involved with NIEA to ensure public access for recreation and protected area management can co-exist.

# Great local food at a venue near you



If you're on the lookout for a treat in the Causeway Coast & Glens area this spring and summer, then news that Menu of Moyle is back should make your mouth water! For the third year running, this highly popular local food competition will see many restaurants, pubs, coffee shops and cafés throughout the Moyle area strive to impress with their locally-inspired dishes and the many culinary delights presented on their 'Menu of Moyle'.

The Menu of Moyle Competition 2009 begins on Monday 13th April (Easter Monday) and runs until mid-September, and with three categories 'Restaurants', 'Pubs & Inns' and 'Coffee Shops & Cafés' in the contest there's bound to be something to suit any pocket or preference.

Menu of Moyle encourages local eating establishments to showcase their creative skills by offering imaginative, locally-inspired dishes featuring as much local produce as possible - so, when you dine in a participating Menu of Moyle restaurant, coffee shop, café or pub, you can expect a truly enjoyable, local dining experience.

Wherever you are in Moyle this summer, be it Ballycastle, Bushmills, Cushendall or even Rathlin Island, you can be sure that not too far away, a local cook or chef will be making their bid for culinary glory - so next time you fancy a bite to eat be sure to look out for the distinctive Menu of Moyle logo displayed in the windows of our many competing establishments!

Log onto the website [www.menuofmoyle.com](http://www.menuofmoyle.com) to find out more about Menu of Moyle, the competing establishments and what they're offering on their Menu of Moyle 2009. Then after dining in a competing restaurant, café or pub, why not return to the website and tell us about your experience? Your comments will be taken into account by our team of incognito judges when they're choosing the 2009 Menu of Moyle winners!

*Enjoy your meal!*

### The rock

Tom Kerr, Glenann Primary School, Cushendall



## Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Posters



The latest in our series of posters include these fantastic images taken by pupils in the Picture This! Antrim Coast & Glens AONB 2008 Schools photography competition.



### Glenarm Estate

Kim Glass, Broughshane Primary School



To receive a copy of the posters for your school or office, contact Maxime at the CCGHT office. Tel: 20752100 / maxime@ccght.org

## Valuing Our Environment

### NAAONB conference

The eleventh annual conference of the National Association of AONBs will be held, for the first time in N. Ireland, at the University of Ulster in Coleraine from the 7th to the 9th of July 2009. For more information on the conference or on the National Association of AONBs check out the website [www.aonb.org.uk](http://www.aonb.org.uk) or contact Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust staff on 02820752100 [info@ccght.org](mailto:info@ccght.org)

## Competition



Patrick Sharpe, Glenann Primary School, Cushendall, Picture This! 2008

Where in the Antrim Coast & Glens AONB was this photograph taken?

Email your answer to [info@ccght.org](mailto:info@ccght.org) or post it to the CCGHT office before 31 August 2009 to be entered into our competition to win one of our framed Antrim Coast & Glens AONB posters.

## Congratulations!

The winner of the competition 'Halloweve: A Glensman speaks' featured in the sixth issue of the newsletter is Anne McCambridge from Cushendall. Anne correctly identified the poet as John Hewitt (28 October 1907-22 June 1987). His collections include *The Day of the Cornrake*: poems of the nine glens (1969)

### Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust

For more information on the Antrim Coast and Glens AONB check the Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust website: [www.ccght.org](http://www.ccght.org)

Tilly Molloy's  
18 Main St  
Arnoy, Ballymoney  
Co. Antrim, BT53 8RQ

t: (028) 2075 2100  
f: (028) 2075 2101  
e: [info@ccght.org](mailto:info@ccght.org)

Trust Director  
Helen Noble

Heritage Manager  
Maxime Sizaret

Office/Communications  
Manager  
Carole O'Kane

Administration Officer  
Debbie Storey

Administration Officer  
Tierna McAlister

[www.ccght.org](http://www.ccght.org)

### Antrim Coast & Glens AONB Fact File

Date of designation  
1988  
Area  
70600 ha

Photographic credits:  
Moyle District Council  
Kevin McGarry  
Picture This! 2008

Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust provides a secretariat service for the Antrim Coast and Glens AONB. The Trust is grateful for support from the following organisations:



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