



Issue 4



October 2010

CCR Alive Digital Tourism Experience

A contract for the production of an online and mobile platform supporting interpretive solutions along the Causeway Coastal Route has been let by CCGHT to ENTEC Studios Ltd. The CCR Alive project is part funded by the Northern Ireland Tourism Board through the European Regional Development Fund under the European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme for Northern Ireland. The overall aim is to co-ordinate and centralise digital interpretive development along the Route and to advance overall sustainability through unifying the digital offer to visitors. The project will help market the CCR as a 'world class experience' before, during and after the visitor's journey. Over the next few months all the current interpretive materials will be gathered and used to develop an interactive and innovative means to enjoy the North Coast. Filming will also take place to explore the hidden gems that we have to offer. It is envisaged that CCR Alive will be live at the end of November 2010 and will enhance the other

interpretive projects relating to the CCR.



A new addition!

The Heritage Manager, Maxime and his wife Judith had a baby boy on the 6th August. Congratulations to both of you and big brother, Smokey, on the birth of Darby from everyone at CCGHT.



IUCN Conference, Durham

Maxime Sizaret, Heritage Manager, attended an IUCN UK conference in Durham at the end of September: "Investing in Peatlands: the Climate Change". The conference looked at the role of peatlands as a carbon store and at the real opportunities for new investment in peatland restoration to support emissions reductions. Network and learning opportunities offered at the conference will help the Trust in the development of a LIFE+ project on peatlands in the Causeway Coast and Glens area.

Trust Director's Report

2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity and as we fast approach the end of the year it is a good time to reflect on what has been achieved and to look to where we go to. After ten years of concerted effort to half the loss of biodiversity, it is apparent that traditional approaches to nature conservation are not the only answer. AONBs use an integrated approach to delivery and by their essence seems well placed to act as leaders to deliver the next round of biodiversity targets. So what are we doing to play our part in this internationally co-ordinated programme?

Well, as a Trust we have fundamentally changed our approach to the delivery of our services moving to an ecosystem services delivery approach and adopting a 3 year Strategy and Business Plan that reflects this. The 3 AONB management plans certainly look at an integrated approach that relate very heavily on supporting our landscapes in order that they, in turn, can support us. As a Trust, a key element is to raise awareness of the unique and special qualities of our landscapes. Our project work reflects this. It is about engaging with people, young and old, and supporting local businesses and farming communities to encourage a vibrant and sustainable local economy.

You will see within the Activity Newsletter that the projects that we are currently involved in very much support our landscapes and those who live, work and enjoy them.

Heleen Noble

Trust Director



Europarc Conference 2010

The Trust Director attended the 2010 Europarc Conference in Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo Lazio e Molise in Italy in early October. As this is the International Year of Biodiversity, the EUROPARC conference considered this important theme with workshops, excursions and speeches on the topic "Living together. Biodiversity and Human Activities: A Challenge for the Future of Protected Areas".



NEW CCGHT DIRECTOR

CCGHT is delighted to welcome Mr Bill Harpur, former Principal of Ballycastle High School to the Board of Directors. Mr Harpur's experience of environmental management stems from practical involvement in agriculture.



Director's Workshop

Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust has arranged to host a Director's workshop in the Bushmills Inn on the 26th and 27th October 2010. Topics for discussion include the future of the Trust, the role of the director and National Park status for the Causeway. All Board members are required to attend.



A revised edition of the Causeway Coast AONB leaflet has been produced with resources from the NIEA raising awareness budget. The revised leaflet was launched at the Eco Show in Belfast.



Nature of Art Competition

World Oceans Day took place on Tuesday 8th June and CCGHT took this opportunity to organise a 'Nature of Art' competition with two local schools in Binevenagh AONB who were part of the Green Coast Clean Coast Campaign. This competition involved designing a beach poster of Downhill Beach, stretching up to Mussenden Temple, using only household waste items and recycled materials. The schools involved were Bellarena Primary School and Ballyhackett Primary School. All entries were judged prior to World Oceans Day, and the winners were presented with their prizes by the Mayor of Limavady at the time, Cathal Ó'Hoisín. All prizes were Eco-friendly art gifts. CCGHT set up a Nature of Art exhibition and displayed the posters in venues across the Binevenagh AONB, including Benone Tourist Complex and Limavady Library.

CCGHT Updates

Junior Ranger Training

Sarah, our Sustainable Development Officer, is taking part in a Junior Ranger Training Programme entitled 'Tools for Implementing a Youth Ranger Programme' from 12th-14th October, at Losehill Hall in the Peak District National Park Authority. This course will introduce the elements required to plan and implement a junior ranger programme effectively, focusing on

key elements of Ranger activities such as navigation, interpretation, conservation and bushcraft.



RESERVES—NOT JUST RAINY DAY MONEY
CCGHT Office Communications Manager attended a workshop in Belfast organised by NICVA and CO3. The workshop provided information on producing a Reserves Funding Policy and discussed the legal implications of redundancy and Directors' responsibilities. For more information or for the presentation notes contact Carole.

Causeway Coast & Glens Junior Rangers

Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust has submitted an application to Heritage Lottery Fund for £49,000 to pilot a Junior Ranger Programme in the Causeway Coast & Glens area.

If successful, the programme which will kick off before the end of the year, will engage secondary schools and youth clubs across the Causeway Coast & Glens area. Up to 30 young people between the ages of 13 and 18 will be selected to create a network of young rangers participating in nature protection across the Binevenagh,

Causeway Coast and Antrim Coast & Glens Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. These pilot rangers will experience and learn about local crafts, industries and skills. Through workshops, presentations and field visits they will develop a knowledge in the heritage of their area and a sense of pride and ownership. They will learn to identify species of flora and fauna, read maps, use digital cameras and produce web and newsletter bulletins informing the public and other Junior Rangers across Europe of their current

projects. This pilot project has the potential to grow and produce an army of ambassadors for the Causeway Coast & Glens area. CCGHT is excited about this project and we hope to receive good news from HLF by the end of October 2010.



Causeway Coast AONB

CCGHT is still working on securing additional resources to undertake the review of the Causeway Coast AONB Management Plan alongside the review of the World Heritage Site (WHS) Management Plan and to service the WHS Management Group. In the mean time, CCGHT has started the process to formally review the Causeway Coast AONB Management and will organise a series of consultations between the end of the year and early next year.

The Blue Flower of Dunluce

(meadow cranesbill) is an iconic species for the north coast, so where better to establish a meadow project than at Dunluce Castle. CCGHT are currently developing a project with NIEA to create a meadow area where the Blue Flower of Dunluce can flourish for years to come.

A Butterfly Safari project is being developed in partnership with Butterfly Conservation which would take the visitors on a butterfly tour throughout the 3 AONBs stopping off at excellent butterfly spots along the way, with two events in the

summer months to engage with the community and tourists alike. Funding is being sought as a part of the Causeway Connections Interreg application.



CCGHT Updates

NIEA Marine Days

CCGHT took part in the very successful NIEA Marine Days which took place at Portrush Coastal Zone, with over 5,000 people attending the weekend event. Visitors took part in a range of activities including bird watching, rock pooling, marine themed arts and crafts workshops and guided geology walks. Everyone was kept entertained by live music and entertainment.

Our very popular stand went a long way to raising awareness of the 3 AONBs and CCGHT, Rachel

arrived with a car load of information and promotional materials and left with nothing, a very good sign!



Castlerock Walkfest

CCGHT volunteered to assist Castlerock Community Association with a family/toddler walk in the area on Saturday 18th September as part of the Walkfest Weekend. The event was extremely well organised but unfortunately the weather was abysmal. Lots of seasoned walkers turned up for the challenging walks but we didn't manage to tempt any families from the comfort of their hearths for the family walk. On the plus side we were commended for providing an excellent showcase of photographs and literature. We intend to contact schools to investigate interest in organising the walk on another date.



SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

CCGHT is working towards the application to be awarded the EU Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas. On the 15th September, CCGHT held its first Sustainable Tourism Forum at the Armooy Community Association in Armooy at 2.30pm. This meeting was attended by a whole host of individuals and organisations involved in tourism management and development within the Causeway Coast and Glens area. Members included Alive Surf School, Antrim Glens Cottages, Translink, Bushmill's Distillery, Downhill Hostel, Lucille's Kitchen, River Bush Salmon Station, Rathlin Island Community Association, Sustainable NI, Causeway Coast and Glens Ltd as well as representatives from Limavady Borough Council, Coleraine Borough Council and NITB in attendance. A EUROPARC consultant, Barry Ferguson, gave a presentation to the members on the EU Charter and the reasons why this Charter is a valuable asset to the area. Sarah, the Sustainable Development Officer, gave a presentation on the timeline and structure CCGHT will adopt in order to ensure CCGHT meets the December 2010 deadline for application.

The Draft Sustainable Tourism Strategy and Action Plan 2010-2015 is currently being drafted. The Sustainable Tourism Forum will play a crucial role in steering this Strategy to ensure it is the best it can be. CCGHT hope to host 3 workshop evenings in late November to allow for local tourism businesses and local residents to feed into the draft strategy.

Dutch Study Visit

Wednesday 10th November 2010 will see the arrival of fifteen Dutch entrepreneurs to the North Coast for a two day visit. The stay will involve visits to each of the three AONB's, each day meeting with local representatives and local business owners to get an insight into the sustainable products and services the Causeway Coast and Glens region has to offer. The purpose of this visit is very much an exchange of ideas and views of running and supporting businesses in protected areas. Some of our stops include Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, Glenariff Forest Park and Gortmore viewing point. The Causeway Coast and Glens has the potential to become a truly sustainable tourism destination, and this visit will give us the opportunity to showcase tourism products and services we have to offer.

CCGHT has produced a new Sustainable Tourism Leaflet. Contact Sarah to receive your copy!



Binevenagh AONB

'The peoples vision is that in 2030...Binevenagh is a rich mosaic of sweeping landscapes with stunning views where natural, built and cultural heritage is appreciated, conserved and enhanced; where people live work and relax; and where visitors are welcomed and contribute to a vibrant rural economy. It is a place where the highest environmental quality is seen as a key economic driver and where all economic activity is in harmony with maintenance of the landscape.'

The suite of Binevenagh AONB documents will help guide us to deliver this vision. These documents are now available on the CCGHT website to download, in addition there are paper copies of the summary document available from the CCGHT office.

Castlerock Community Association (CCA) are moving forward with developing their Coastline Centre, which when opened will, among many other functions for the community, promote and provide information relating to the AONB. Through this project and the village beautiful project CCGHT are forming a strong partnership with CCA.



Antrim Coast and Glens AONB

- A project has been developed in partnership with the Glens Red Squirrel Group to develop a Red Squirrel Safari, leading people through the glens and stopping of along the way at red squirrel hot spots. In addition material will be developed to create a Red Squirrel Road Show to take to local events. A funding application has been submitted to the Big Lottery Community Wildlife Fund to deliver this project.
- Rathlin Island has recently started the process of creating a Local Biodiversity Action Plan and CCGHT were delighted to help in the process, the first meeting was held in September and a public event is due to be held on the island at the end of October.
- A new pre-application has been submitted to Heritage Lottery for the revised Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme, this time we are hoping to be granted special dispensation to extend the eligible area to include all nine glens. Over the coming months we will be working on the full application and which will be submitted in February 2011.



Any Other Business

18 Main Street, Armoyle, Ballymoney BT53 8RQ

Phone: 02820752100
E-mail: info@ccght.org



ccght.org

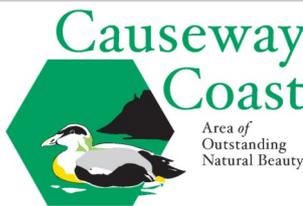


CAUSEWAY COAST & GLENS
HERITAGE TRUST

Secured 2010/11 Core Funding:

Ballymena Borough Council	£11,000
Larne Borough Council	£11,000
Moyle District Council	£11,000
Coleraine Borough Council	£11,000
Limavady Borough Council	£11,000
NI Environment Agency	£109,000

2010/11 is the final year of the 3-year NITB/CCGHT Service Level Agreement



National Association of AONBs

The National Association of AONBs conference took place in July 2010. This year's conference, entitled 'Landscape and Nature for All' was hosted by 3 AONBs – Kent Downs, High Weald and Surrey Hills – and a French Parc Naturel Regional - des Caps et Marais d'Opale in Hythe, Kent in July 2010. The focus was very much on the International Year of Biodiversity and the themes for the conference included:

- Marine and water
- Community engagement/education including ecotourism
- Climate change and forestry
- Biodiversity and the European Landscape Convention

With the conference being based in Kent, and building on the entente cordiale, AONB colleagues took the opportunity to experience life in a French Regional Nature Park as part of one of the site visits.

A conference report will be produced and available shortly on the NAAONB website www.aonb.org.uk

First Économusée in the UK

Designer Jewellery in Ballymena, is due to be launched on Wednesday 17th November as the first Économusée in the UK. Contact Sarah at CCGHT for more details. (Launch will be by invitation only due to limited space.)

Eco Show

CCGHT took part in the ECOSHOW Live event at Kings Hall, Belfast from 8th-10th October 2010. CCGHT were given the opportunity to occupy a stand within the ECO Information zone on all 3 days of the event. CCGHT saw this event as a great opportunity to raise awareness for the 3 AONBs, the work the Trust are involved in and to network with other sustainability organisations. CCGHT also gave a seminar each day on Sustainable Tourism, presented by Sarah, the Sustainable Development Officer and Helen, the Trust Director. This presentation highlighted the aims of the CCGHT, our commitment to sustainable tourism within the Causeway Coast and Glens area, as well as highlighting the key benefits of adopting the EU Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas to local tourism businesses. CCGHT used the ECOSHOW event as a useful platform to encourage visitors to sign up to their E-Bulletin, as well as signing up those interested in occasionally volunteering for the Trust.



ENE – Economusée Northern Europe Project

Feasibility Study

CCGHT, as part of the ÉCONOMUSÉE Northern Europe Project, had to conduct a Feasibility Study which assessed the practicability of Scullion Hurls to serve as an ÉCONOMUSÉE. Nestled in the heart of the North Antrim village of Loughguile, where hurling is the life blood of the community, you find Scullion Hurls. CCGHT brought on board Harper Tourism, Helen Keys Business Support and Hamilton Architects to conduct the Study. The study looked at the enterprise and the surrounding environment, the history behind the craft of hurling, the tourism product and the surrounding area, the financial aspect of the business as well as assessing the site and providing mock up designs of what the workspace could look like as an ÉCONOMUSÉE. The study was unanimously approved by the Project Steering Group when they met in Greenland in September 2010. Scullion Hurls will now begin its journey to conversion into an ÉCONOMUSÉE.



Greenland

Sarah, our Sustainable Development Officer, attended the 7th Project Steering Group Meeting in Nuuk, Greenland for the ÉCONOMUSÉE Northern Europe programme from 17th-22nd September 2010. This meeting brought together the lead partners from each of the countries involved, including Iceland, Norway, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Canada and the Faroe Islands. During the PSG Meeting, CCGHT received approval from the Steering Group for the Feasibility Study of Scullion Hurls to serve as an ÉCONOMUSÉE, and so work can now begin on their conversion. The group also attended a Craft International Seminar which gave the group the chance to understand what is involved in phase II of the project. Sarah visited the potential ÉCONOMUSÉE in Nuuk, Greenland. This workshop, called 'Kittat' makes the traditional Greenlandic costume used by locals for weddings, communion, funerals, graduation and birthdays. The group were given the chance to take a boat trip through the Fjords around Nuuk, soaking up the local culture and traditions of Greenland, including fishing and seal hunting.



STUDENT PLACEMENTS

Laure Steer, a French student on placement with CCGHT over the summer, has now completed her time with us and is pursuing her studies in Chicago. Laure has spent some time preparing a Carbon assessment of the peatlands within the Trust AONBs. The thorough assessment will be used later this year as CCGHT is developing a peatland project under LIFE+ in collaboration with North Pennines AONB.

Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust is grateful for support from:

