

THE

ISSUE SEVENTEEN WINTER 2019



GLENS OF ANTRIM

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE HEART OF THE GLENS LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

Heart of
the Glens

Landscape Partnership Scheme



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WELCOME TO THE SEVENTEENTH ISSUE

THE HEART OF THE GLENS BEATS ON UNTIL MARCH 2020, WITH MUCH TO SHARE, CELEBRATE AND ENGAGE.

The landscape partnership was successful in getting an extension to continue to deliver existing and new projects in partnership with local people and communities across The Glens. The extension of time allows the team to build better foundations for legacy, beyond the funding that's left.

So much has been achieved through the landscape partnership since it began in 2014 with more events, training and volunteer opportunities still to come.

We would like to introduce our new Programme Manager Teresa O'Hare, who previously worked on the Landscape Partnership in Lough Erne Co Fermanagh. In this issue there is lots to tell you about our ongoing projects and the forth coming events as we share our heritage experiences, continue to develop skills and increase our knowledge about the built natural and cultural heritage of The Glens.

To keep track of the our Heritage programme of events please like our facebook page and visit our website www.heartoftheglens.org and don't forget to tell a friend!! Watch out especially for the Lottery celebration events where a lottery ticket will gain free access to some amazing events this winter. All events are on a first come first serve basis and most are bookable on Eventbrite and also through our facebook page.



STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

TERESA O'HARE - PROGRAMME MANAGER



A native of Co Down, of hill farming stock; she has been volunteering and working in community-based heritage projects since 1983. Prior to coming to work in The Glens; Teresa worked on the development of the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership, co-writing the Landscape Action Plan that is now being delivered across the 500km2 area. Teresa is a postgraduate of Ulster

University School of Environmental Science, a teacher of environmental studies and eco-tourism and is passionate about built, natural and cultural heritage. Teresa owns Orchard Acre Farm an award winning eco based tourism destination in Fermanagh.

ANN-MARIE LAVERTY - FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION OFFICER



Ann-Marie welcomes the challenges of managing the financial aspects of the development and delivery of the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme. Preparation of financial reports and administration are overseen by Ann-Marie to ensure up to date records are maintained for all projects undertaken.

LAURA MCAULEY - OUTREACH & VOLUNTEER PROJECT OFFICER



Laura graduated from Queens University in Belfast with a BSc (Hons) degree in Geography. Having worked on the Heart of The Glens LPS programme for over 5 years. Laura is responsible for community engagement, volunteering and communication, for getting local residents, community groups, schools and special interest groups involved in their landscape. As well as the

aforementioned she is also responsible for organising events and workshops that promote and raise awareness of the unique heritage of the Landscape Partnership Scheme. Developing social media, writing regular press releases, newsletters are also part of her day to day duties. Laura has a keen interest in biodiversity and the environment and isn't afraid to get stuck in with the practical conservation and enhancement aspects of the projects. Being a Glens woman herself she is keen to get involved in the day to day running of the projects and ensure that they are seen through to the end. Her personal connection to The Glens has helped her to provide valuable advice to the team and help the scheme to be a success.

JAMIE LAVERTY - LPS PROJECTS ASSISTANT



Jamie is the newest member to the team and is excited to be on board. Brought up in Stranocum, he knows the local area well. Jamie has a strong background in community and voluntary work, he brings his wealth of experience to the Landscape Partnership Scheme. He is excited to work closely with the people of The Glens to help continue the legacy of this scheme.

INSTALLATION OF NEW INFORMATION PANEL AT RONAN'S WAY, GLENDUN

Ronan's Way is one of a series of walks created through the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme. Ronan's way takes you through the farmland of the McAuley family along the spectacular landscape and views of Glendun. Ronan's Way is located on the McAuley Farm, a stretch of land in memory of the late Ronan McAuley, a true Glens man who had a dream that more people would explore and enjoy Glendun and the exquisite views of the land that he called home. Teresa O'Hare Programme Manager of the Heart of the Glens spoke about the project and noted that her team was delighted to have been a part of the project from the very start and she was proud to be here on Saturday 19th October 2019 to mark the final piece of the jigsaw with the installation of the signage at the start of the trails. Attended by a great number of Ronan's family, friends and members of Heart of the Glens team; the event was recorded by the BBC. The trails are already proving a popular choice with visitors, locals and groups. Heart of the Glens will continue to work with the McAuley family to help with the development and maintenance of the trails which honour Ronan in such a unique way. Ronan's daughter, Natalie and her Cousin unveiled the panel. Then finally Paula the widow of the late Ronan McAuley read the following poem in memory of Ronan as a dedication during the unveiling of the panel:



Every footstep you tread raises a lifetime of memories,
This land underfoot is alive with the laughter and the life
of Ronan,

It's teeming with the dreams of a young Glensman,
It's a dream not yet fulfilled...

Fulfil your dreams always...

Walk Ronan's Way.

Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us
every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved,
still missed

and very dear.

In loving memory of Ronan McAuley, a beloved father,
husband, son, brother, cousin and friend.

For further information on Ronan's Way: <https://discovernorthernireland.com/Ronan-s-Way-Cushendun-P66300/>

CREGAGH WOOD VOLUNTEER WORK

Some of our heritage helper volunteers took part in some managed decay and preservation of the blacksmith's cottage in Cregagh Wood in Cushendun during July and September. With great effort from our volunteers we were able to uncover the old fires from the forge and stabilise some of the stone walls that were on the verge of collapse. With the help and guidance of our expert stone waller Johnny O Loan we were able to restore and stabilise some of the stone walls to help preserve the building for years to come.

If you are interested in getting hands on with activities like this get in touch with Laura on 028 2075 2100 or email laura@lps.ccght.org.



CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS HERITAGE HELPERS

Join our volunteer network and help care for The Antrim Glens and their rich heritage.

We will meet regularly to take on a range of heritage challenges to suit different interests, ages and abilities.

The volunteer action could be giving a heritage building a facelift, doing essential repairs to an ancient site, helping organise public heritage events, conducting species surveys, photographing habitats or working in the wildflower meadows.

What we will do to help you become a volunteer

- Assistance with transport
- On-site training
- Access to heritage training and events

No skills or expertise necessary, just bring yourself.



Typical heritage activities may include tree planting, habitat restoration, built heritage restoration and repair, litter picking, woodland management and much more.

The heritage helpers will work with heritage and community groups, business and corporate to name but a few.

Volunteer activities can be just a few hours to a whole day.

Contact our Volunteer Officer Laura at laura@lps.ccght.org or call 028 2075 2100

Everyone welcome!



VOLUNTEER WITH US

CORPORATE

Your staff can benefit from volunteering in the community.

*Develop staff communication, leadership skills and team work

*Being outdoors helps your mental health and physical well being

Our volunteering is a great way to deliver team building whilst doing good at the same time. Not only does volunteering improve the image of your organisation, it can also help to promote your business.

COMMUNITY

Would a day's volunteering help to galvanise people in your community?

We are keen to work with all local community groups, such as Women's Institutes, men's sheds, scouts, Duke of Edinburgh, sports groups, youth clubs, angling clubs to name a few.

There are many benefits to volunteering in your local community

- Opportunity to get out of the house and meet new people
- Give back to your community
- Provide you with new skills to advance your career
- Good for your mind and body
- Gives you a sense of purpose and satisfaction
- Boosts your confidence
- Have some fun
- Accredited training opportunities such as REC First Aid, Hill & Moorland Leader Award, Heritage Tour Guide Training etc.
- And much much more!

GOING SOLO

We are happy to assist with individuals who want to get involved in heritage activities. All ages and abilities are welcome and CCGHT will work hard to enable volunteers to participate. Whether you have a disability, lack of transportation or time constraints, have health issues or feel that you aren't fit enough, we have many roles where you can become a heritage helper.

Just lift the phone or drop an email to Laura at Laura@lps.ccght.org or call 028 2075 2100

ccght.org | heartoftheglens.org
02820752100



RATHLIN BIG BEACH CLEAN

We had a great event in partnership with The SURF Project, Rathlin Community development Association and DAERA back in August where we took a group of teenagers from all over the world on a trip to Rathlin Island to carry out a beach clean of the south shore. We managed to fill a trailer load of rubbish and several other bags to include mostly plastic bottles, lids, and old fishing rope that had washed in from the sea. We had Gary Burrows from DAERA Marine & Fisheries Division on hand to tell everyone about the marine life on the Island and the impact marine litter can have on the wildlife. We were even accompanied by a few of the local seals who kept an eye on us all day!



TRADITIONAL MUSIC & DANCE FESTIVAL – CEOL NA NGLINNTI

Ceol na nglinnti got off to a great start in the Marine Hotel on the 23rd April with the launch of a CD made by three generations of local musicians. Local primary schools participated in Sean nos dancing workshops and also showcased their dancing alongside various groups from the CD.

A series of workshops were held by tutors including singing by Niall Hanna, Uileann Pipes by Patrick O Hare, Concertina by Tony O Connell, harp by Louise Kelly to name but a few, which enabled students to gain a wealth of new tunes, steps, and song techniques. Many old dances such as stacks of barley, shoe the donkey, clap dance have been revived and were danced at the grand finale Ulaid concert.

All in all, a fantastic festival which captured some of the musical history of the area and created a lasting legacy for traditional music and dance in The Glens of Antrim.

Check out the Ceol na nglinnti facebook page for more information about the Traditional Music and dance festival. Interview is available on the link below.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=331393184116562&id=249187925190750&sfnsn=mo



REC FIRST AID TRAINING

We had 2 very successful REC first aid training programmes in July and October ran by the very experienced Ciaran Kinney. This training was catered specifically for first aid in the outdoors and was very hands on. Ciaran covered every scenario possible and even things you wouldn't think possible, but his experience has proven different. Participants got hands on experience in dealing with casualties in an outdoor setting at Breen Wood in Glenshesk through all types of weather and are now better informed on what kit is needed for their first aid boxes.



TOUR OF DUNGONNELL WATER TREATMENT WORKS

As part of our annual volunteer programme we organised a tour of Dungonnell treatment works building in Cargan and also a tour of the dam works on the Garron Plateau in partnership with NI Water and RSPB.

This was a fantastic day for all finding out about the whole process from installing dams on the plateau to the processing and cleaning of the water which comes off the mountain, for us to be able to drink safely. Many thanks to Derek McKane from NI Water for a fantastic tour of the Treatment works site and also thanks to Darren Houston from RSPB for the tour of the dams on the Garron Plateau.



VOLUNTEER THANK YOU DAY

As a big thanks to all our volunteers who have contributed their time and skills to the LPS programme over the past 5 and a half years we have organised a boat tour from the Crannagh to Mountsandel Mesolithic site in Coleraine. The trip will take place on Wednesday 11th December and will include lunch. Spaces are limited and open to all who have volunteered with us over the years. If you are interested in coming along, please get in touch with Laura on 028 2075 2100 or email laura@lps.ccght.org.



TRADITIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Over 2500 people took part in this year's Glens Storytelling Festival, organised by Antrim Glens Tourism in Partnership with Heart of The Glens LPS. An exciting programme of events took place throughout the Causeway Coast and Glens and Mid and East Antrim Council coastal areas from October 23rd to 27th. New venues this year included The Old Church Cushendun, Glenariffe Community and Recreation Centre, Ballycastle Golf Club, The Gobbins, Whitehead Railway Museum, Glenarm's Bridge Community Hall, Glenarm Castle tearoom and Ballygally Community Hall.

Storytellers returned to Laragh Lodge, Rathlin Manor House, Slemish Barn, Londonderry Arms Hotel and Cushendall Golf Club. As part of the Taste the Island promotion specialised food and story events took place in Ballycastle and Glenarm while forest story walks took place in Glenariffe and Glenarm.

Visitors from all over Ireland were joined by guests from Germany, Switzerland, England, Cork, Colorado, Kentucky, and Australia to enjoy the festival as well as picking up tips for telling stories themselves. The latest crop of 12 storytellers, who recently completed their Open College Network Level 2 accredited training in oral storytelling joined in events, ensuring the sustainability of this traditional artform.



NETTA JOHNSON

The life story of the remarkable Netta Johnson, told alongside a celebration of piping music, took place in Carnlough's Heritage Hub on Saturday 12th October.

The sold-out event was attended by Guest of Honour Rev Violet Johnston (Netta's niece), The National Lottery Heritage Fund Committee Member Jim McGreevy, local heritage enthusiasts and piping music lovers from across the province.

The remarkable story of her life, which spanned 74 years, was narrated by Mary Watson from the Carnlough Community Association. And what a story! Born on the 11th July 1878 in Belfast, Miss Johnston, as she was known to all but close family, was a successful businesswoman, running her own shop, an accomplished musician, sought after music tutor and church organist for Ardclinis Church of Ireland Carnlough – these were just a few of the highlights told on the night.

Netta was described by those who knew her as having considerable strength of character, yet refined, cultured and dignified; but she was also somewhat of an eccentric. Her interest in music was wide and varied and her love of the pipe organ led her down the path of uilleann pipe playing. She had her own specially designed pipes made by O Mealy in Belfast and the original pipes were on open display at the event, by way of loan from Museums NI. She was also known to carry a sword, concealed in a walking stick.

On the night, her life was celebrated in music with performances by several female pipers, including Jane Walls, Marie Kinney, Maeve McCann and Louise Mulcahy. The evening finished with a wonderful legacy to the cultural heritage of Netta and her unique human story with the announcement of a piping tuition scholarship available to a young person from The Glens through the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership. This was presented by Jim McGreevy from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Jim McGreevy (The National Lottery Heritage Fund) said, "Netta was an incredible character and it is fabulous to celebrate her story and the associated musical heritage of The Glens. Women's heritage and stories are often overlooked so we were delighted to see this project that highlights not only Netta's love of culture but also the inspiration she provided to others. It is thanks to National Lottery players that we can support the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership project."

Teresa O'Hare Manager of the Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership said

"It has been a pleasure to help the Carnlough Community shine a light on their Netta and assist them to further develop the rich story of Carnlough's heritage. The Glens and Causeway Coast has a remarkable built, natural and cultural story to tell. Tonight's celebration event and scholarship legacy demonstrates clearly how a partnership approach can bring sustainable heritage tourism to an area. By attracting the culturally curious visitor to spend time being immersed in rich local heritage stories (such as Netta), we have the potential to grow economically whilst safeguarding our heritage for future generations."





TRAIL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING

In partnership with the Mourne Heritage Trust we delivered 2 fantastic trail construction and maintenance courses at Fair Head just outside Ballycastle. Part one of the training involved a webinar which outlined the general issues; principles, valuing sensitive landscapes in context of drivers (e.g. tourism, rural regeneration, health and well-being), capital vs revenue, constant effort, game changers, stakeholders, and resources required. It also covered practical issues including surveying, choosing the right approach, practical techniques, machinery, hands on, light touch, materials, tools, surfacing, drainage, landscaping, problems that may occur, personal kit, and the need to review work. The second part of the training programme involved a trip down to the Mourne Mountains, specifically along Glen River to see the different types of path work that was completed right up onto the Saddle. The third part of the training involved 3 days of practical hands on work at Fair Head. The path work was carried out very efficiently despite the weather proving to be difficult on some of the days.



HILL & MOORLAND TRAINING

This is the second time we have offered the Hill and Moorland Leader Award training in The Glens of Antrim and it proved to be highly popular yet again being fully booked. The course was designed for people who want to lead groups in the hill and moorland areas of the UK and Ireland. This accredited course is a wonderful opportunity to gain the required skills to feel confident about taking people out walking.

The training took place over three days from Friday 4th - Sunday 6th October 2019 and participants were definitely pushed to their limits with torrential rain and winds for most of the weekend. Big thanks to Bren Whelan for delivering another fantastic training programme and also to Ciaran Kinney for providing additional support.

HERITAGE TOUR GUIDE TRAINING

We are currently underway with our Level 2 heritage tour guide training which is due to finish in December 2019. Our second and final Level 3 heritage tour guide training will be commencing in December 2019 and will run until Spring 2020, spaces are limited. If you are interested in taking part in this training, please contact our office on 028 2075 2100 and keep an eye on our social media pages.



The training includes tour guiding skills, customer care, itinerary development, practical sessions and feedback, and first steps to creating a business.

The course will focus on the following themes:

- Industrial Heritage in The Glens of Antrim and CCGHT area.
- Game of Thrones in Glens and CCGHT area
- Upland and Coastal Biodiversity
- The Gaelic Culture, Heritage and Mythology of The Glens of Antrim
- Geology of The Glens and CCGHT area, including Drifting Apart Storyline (to be supplied by CCGHT)
- Elder faith and religious sites of The Glens of Antrim
- Farming History of The Glens of Antrim
- Maritime History of the Glens of Antrim and CCGHT area



GIS & QGIS TRAINING

This 8 week programme was delivered in partnership with Queens University Belfast and taught participants about the different online mapping resources there is, how they can help them with their particular work and how to use them. All participants were able to fully participate in the programme using their own laptops to gather their own data and input into the GIS systems. We had people from local Councils, National Trust, University students and individuals with a keen interest in the subject taking part in the training.

HERITAGE SKILLS TRAINING

We have had a number of heritage skills training programmes over the past few months. We had the wild harvesting and cookery in September by the very knowledgeable Glenn White and also the hedge chair training also delivered by Glenn White, a man of many talents! As usual Glenn delivered a fantastic training programme in partnership with the national trust in Cushendun, and everyone went home with their own chair made out of materials you would find in a hedge.



We organised another hedge laying training sessions on Thursday 15th - Saturday 16th November at Watertop farm. This time the training was on a one to one basis as we thought people would benefit more on a personal level.

UPCOMING EVENTS

To ensure we have enough refreshments please let us know you are coming. Register with laura@lps.ccght.org. You can also get in touch through Facebook and Twitter and our website www.heartoftheglens.org. Keep an eye on our social media pages and also our website for further updates and upcoming events.

TRAINING

Thursday 5th December
6.30pm - 8.30pm
Cushendun Old Church Centre

Wreath making workshop – Under guidance by Programme Manager Teresa O'Hare, a hobby willow basket weaver herself, you will make a stunning personalised wreath, that will be a talking point around your home. We will use ivy, willow, holly and other natural materials to create a unique piece. No previous skills are required. The work is a bit strenuous on the hands, fine gardening gloves are useful, but not essential. You can of course bring extra Christmassie or floral embellishments to suit your taste. Cost: £20pp. Book via **Eventbrite**

Saturday 7th December
10.30am - 3.30pm
Cushendun Old Church Centre

Peg Loom Weaving workshop – Have a go at the ancient art of peg loom weaving with sheep's wool under the expert guidance of Brenda Fraser from Co Antrim. Participants can expect to create a colourful wall hanging or small matt. Bring added embellishments if you like, but Brenda has simply lots of textures, colours and wool types. Cost: £25pp Book via **Eventbrite** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/peg-loom-weaving-tickets-65032503970>

Thursday 12th and Friday 13th December
9am - 4pm.
BNG Training Centre 76
Cushendall Road, Ballycastle

Level 2 Award in Chainsaw maintenance and cross-cutting - This training is accredited by City & Guilds This training covers carrying out maintenance of chainsaw and cutting system and cross cut timber using a chainsaw. Candidates are required to bring their own PPE and chainsaw. The course involves some level of physical sessions so you need to have at least a minimum level of fitness. Suitable for over 16s. Cost £55pp Spaces are limited so please book asap to avoid disappointment. Book via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/level-2-award-in-chainsaw-maintenance-and-cross-cutting-tickets-83948338741>

Saturday 14th December
9am - 5pm
Sean McBrides Farm,
Fair Head car park

Farm First Aid training – Ciaran Kinney will deliver this 1 day farm specific first aid training. You will get hands on experience dealing with a casualties you may come across on a working farm. This training is free of charge. Spaces are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Contact us on 02820752100. Cost: FREE Book via **Eventbrite**

Wednesday 8th January
9am - 4pm BNG Training Centre
76 Cushendall Road, Ballycastle

Level 2 Award in the Identification of Invasive and Injurious Species Training course - If you are looking to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in the control of non-native invasive and injurious species then this is the course for you. This training is FREE. Spaces are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Book via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/level-2-award-in-the-identification-of-invasive-and-injurious-species-tickets-83952150141>

January 2020 Dates to be confirmed
9am - 4pm
BNG Training Centre 76
Cushendall Road, Ballycastle

PA1 & PA6 Spraying training - This qualification will give you the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge of the safe use and application of pesticides. Suitable for over 16s. Cost is £25 per day. To register your interest contact laura@lps.ccght.org or call 028 2075 2100.

VOLUNTEER EVENTS

Saturday 11th January TBC
10am Drum Wood, Cargan

Tree Planting day & Winter Tree id – CCGHT in partnership with the Woodland Trust are having a tree planting event at the fantastic Woodland Trust site Drum Wood in Cargan, Glenravel. If you want to come along to plant some trees and find out how to identify trees during the winter by our HoTGLPS Manger Teresa O Hare contact Laura on **028 2075 2100** or email laura@lps.ccght.org



All the staff at Causeway Coast & Glens Heritage Trust and Heart of The Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme would like to wish all the people of the Glens of Antrim a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

*The National Lottery Heritage Fund supports Landscape Partnership Schemes.....

*The Heart of The Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme has been delivering a wide suite of heritage projects across the Glens of Antrim since 2014. In partnership with communities, businesses. Schools,

ABOUT THE HEART OF THE GLENS

The Heart of the Glens Landscape Partnership Scheme is made up of 21 exciting different projects over five years and covers a large area from Ballycastle to Glenarm. This Scheme is focused on and for the benefit of the communities and beautiful landscape of the Glens.

- TO CONSERVE AND ENHANCE THE BUILT, NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE
- TO ENGAGE AND INSPIRE COMMUNITIES
- TO IMPROVE ACCESS AND LEARNING IN THE AREA
- TO OFFER HERITAGE SKILLS AND TRAINING

Heart of the Glens
Landscape Partnership Scheme

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