

Aerial Vision NI, Whooper Swans over Binevenagh

Summit to Sea

Winter/Spring 2019

Issue 2



**Funding raised by
The National Lottery**

and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



LOTTERY FUNDED

Historic Downhill Demesne

Save the dates and have your say!

Public meeting – Peter Thompson Hall,
Castlerock, Mon 18th Feb, 7:00-9:00pm

Drop in sessions – Bishop's Gate, Downhill
Demense, Thursday 21st Feb, between 10:00
am and 6:00 pm

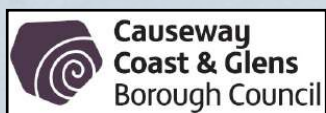
Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI) has been appointed to produce a Spatial Masterplan for Historic Downhill Demesne. Between January and the end of March 2019, ORNI will be working with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, National Trust, Forest Service and the local community to develop a coordinated plan for enhanced management of the Historic Demesne.

The project will review the history of ownership and management of the historic estate, establish current patterns of visitor use and outdoor recreation activities which take place, and will review connectivity between the different parts of the historic estate and nearby settlements, beaches and public transport.

Moving forward, the plan will determine if there is capacity to accommodate a more diverse range of outdoor recreation activities within the estate and will present a five-year action plan to provide a shared and improved outdoor recreation product within the historic demesne.

Please feel free to get in contact about this project by contacting Fiona Milne at ORNI on 02890 303 939 or

fiona@outdoorrecreationni.com



**"We received
over 65 project
proposals totaling
over £4.5 million"**

Fantastic response to 'Call for Proposals'

Between September and December 2018, the Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands Landscape Partnership held an open call for project ideas for the area.

The team would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who contributed project ideas. In total we received over 65 project proposals totaling over £4.5 million. Obviously, our budget won't allow us to realise all projects in full, but we hope to be able to incorporate elements of all proposals into the overall scheme.

The team and partners have begun to prepare full detailed delivery plans for those projects

selected to proceed.

An up-to-date map of the projects in planning stage is available at

<http://bit.ly/locationsofprojects>

Your response has helped us to demonstrate to Heritage Lottery Fund (NI) that their support is truly valued and required in the Binevenagh area.



*Ponies in Binevenagh Nature Reserve
R. Donaghey*



"We welcome the opportunity to assist recreation providers to develop unique experiences"

Eider on the Bann Estuary, S. Dunbar

S. DUNBAR

Birds on the Bann - Wildlife Boat Tours of the Binevenagh Area

Back in 2015, as part of an initiative to encourage recreation providers to extend their services and encourage sustainable access to the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), our parent organisation, Causeway Coast and Glens Heritage Trust (CCGHT), teamed up with interested local providers to test out some such events including Stand-Up-Paddleboarding (SUP) Geology tours, Coasteering & Marine Life Tours or Historical Canoe Tours on the Lower Bann to name but a few.

One of these successes has been the wildlife boat trips with 'Causeway Lass' which now operates a range of tours across the North Coast and beyond. In our area the most popular trip has been 'Birds on the Bann' which departs Coleraine Marina sailing down the Lower Bann taking in the natural beauty, heritage and

wildlife along the way – most notable are the thousands of migratory birds that call the Bann Estuary home each winter and pass through on spring and autumn migration. Although the focus is on birds and the 88 species recorded so far, including Kingfishers, Peregrine Falcons and uncommon gulls, we have regular sightings of marine mammals with Common and Grey Seals; with Otters and Harbour Porpoise on occasions, and many happy customers.

We have been delighted with the success of the trips and their continued popularity year on year, opening up an area of the Binevenagh AONB not normally accessible to the local community

and visitors, some from as far as Tasmania and French Guiana. We have also had many repeat trippers, particularly

photographers who love this unique insight into the special landscape with on-board expertise about birds and wildlife, industrial and maritime

heritage and much more. The Binevenagh and Coastal Lowlands LPS team will continue to support the Causeway Lass in this venture and would welcome the opportunity to assist other recreation providers to develop unique experiences that promote and provide access across our area.



Seal in Bann Estuary. S. Dunbar

S. DUNBAR

Seal in Bann Estuary

Birds of Binevenagh

Which can you identify?



s	s	h	s	o	i	e	k	r	t	i	o	e	s	d
a	t	w	t	c	b	r	e	o	i	r	a	s	f	h
n	i	e	i	t	a	d	m	t	l	e	s	o	i	n
d	o	n	o	l	s	e	s	w	a	d	k	c	a	j
e	f	e	y	h	l	t	p	u	t	y	v	a	a	h
r	a	k	a	l	i	l	a	r	r	h	m	t	n	c
l	s	n	i	t	o	g	r	e	y	h	e	r	o	n
i	k	u	l	e	t	d	r	m	a	g	p	i	e	i
n	g	a	m	e	a	d	o	w	p	i	p	i	t	f
g	o	w	n	a	r	e	w	e	s	h	a	g	n	d
c	n	n	i	a	h	n	h	t	i	o	a	f	i	l
b	a	w	l	g	r	e	a	t	s	k	u	a	b	o
g	u	l	s	s	e	h	w	n	k	m	c	j	o	g
e	a	r	n	a	t	o	k	t	i	a	a	h	r	s
m	c	u	r	l	e	w	n	n	n	y	n	p	h	n

Words to find:

coal tit, curlew, gannet, goldfinch, great skua, grey heron, guillemot, jackdaw, jay, magpie, mallard, meadow pipit, redshank, robin, sanderling, shag, siskin, skylark, sparrowhawk, wigeon.



Photo credits

Grey Heron, I Love North Coast

(all others CC0 Public Domain):

Sanderlings, Wigeon and Curlew, L. Mallette

Gannet, K. Arnold

Goldfinch, S. Brown

Robin, V. Kratochvil

Shag, P. Moir

Landscape Character Assessment

Our Landscape Character Assessment, undertaken in conjunction with Fiona Fyfe Associates, has been finalized, and is available to read in full here:

<http://bit.ly/BinevenaghLCA>

If you'd rather read solely about the area in which you live or most frequent, click on the map link (see sidebar).

As we further develop our project proposals, we'll be using the Landscape Character Assessment to help guide us in shaping the projects to make a positive contribution in the landscapes as defined in the report.



Landscape Character Areas

Defence Heritage Assessment

Our Defence Heritage Survey, facilitated by Ulidia Heritage Services, is also now complete. We've been working to identify defence features in our area, and as with the Landscape Character Assessment, we will be using this report to help shape the project proposals in order to preserve, improve, and facilitate access to some of these historic sites.

Would you like to learn more? Follow the link below to the full report:

<http://bit.ly/BinevenaghDHsurvey>

Carrowreagh Quadrant Tower, J. O'Neil

Interactive Map







Find your landscape character area, click on the link for more info

<http://bit.ly/binevenaghLCMap>



The Plastic Challenge: Single use plastics

Go for a walk and you will encounter things like plastic bottles, coffee cups and straws. These often aren't or cannot be recycled and sometimes end up in our rivers and oceans. Here they can enter the food chain so if you like fish you may well be eating plastic too. There are alternatives.

	Plastic straws	Coffee cups and lids	Plastic bottles	Cling film	Disposable wipes	Plastic vegetable & fruit bags
						
The issue	<p>Plastic straws are used on average for 20 minutes & can take hundreds of years to break down. Millions of straws are used each week in the UK.</p> <p>Straws suck!</p>	<p>2.5 billion disposable coffee cup and lids used each year in the UK – very few are or can be recycled. This results in 25,000 tonnes of waste and lots of litter in our countryside, on our streets and beaches and in our oceans</p>	<p>Plastic bottles take at least 400 years to break down. In our Borough as many as 10 million bottles a year are not recycled.</p> <p>Bottled water sales are growing year on year</p>	<p>Cling film is a single use plastic which will end up in landfill. There are some concerns around chemicals used in its production and what happens when it comes into contact with hot foods in particular.</p>	<p>Disposable wipes cost a lot of money, especially for parents of babies and young children.</p> <p>They cause problems when discarded on beaches or flushed down toilets.</p>	<p>We use huge quantities of these and most are discarded on returning home from the shop.</p> <p>They end up in landfill or causing litter problems on land and in the oceans</p>
The alternatives	<p>Use your lips; most of us do not use straws at home.</p> <p>Get reusable straws.</p> <p>As a last resort, ask your local café if they would consider using paper straws.</p>	<p>Bring a reusable cup, some cafes offer discount.</p> <p>Ask for a proper cup don't accept disposable</p> <p>Encourage cafés to use compostable single use cups.</p>	<p>Use a refillable bottle; it's cheaper and better for the planet.</p> <p>Keep an eye out for the H₂O on the go stickers in local businesses. They will be happy to refill your bottle.</p>	<p>Use reusable containers with lids to store food.</p> <p>Use glass or ceramic containers to reheat food, cover with a plate if necessary.</p> <p>Use sandwich wraps or lunch boxes</p>	<p>Use cloth alternatives, either home-made or purchased.</p> <p>Cloth alternatives can be less damaging to sensitive skin and can save a lot of money.</p>	<p>Buy loose items, not everything needs to be in a bag.</p> <p>Make your own produce bags from net curtains.</p> <p>Purchase ready-made produce bags.</p>



Time to tackle beach waste

We all love our landscape, and we have particularly splendid beaches. We see increasing waste on the coastline and in the estuaries. Richard organised a litter pick for a week in December, and these images here show just some of what was collected in those few hours. A week later, there were seven bags of new rubbish washed up. There are often items that we, and the many volunteers who regularly help keep our beaches clean, find - fishing nets, fencing material, large household items, dog poo (in plastic bags and loose), nappies, wipes, sanitary items,



barbeques, food packaging and a myriad of bottles.

Some of this is washed in from the sea, but much is left on the beach. The impact this rubbish is having on our aquatic life has been well documented. Plastics in our oceans are a particular concern as aquatic life regularly consumes, or is ensnared in plastic waste. Eco Watch, in their

International Coastal Cleanup, noted that this past year was the "first in which all ten of the top 10 items collected were made of plastic." Food wrappers and containers, drink bottles, and grocery bags are some of the most often collected beach waste.

What can you do? Firstly, think about ways to reduce the waste you produce, and make sure you collect and bring home (or put in a bin) everything you bring with you to the beach. Bring a rubbish bag and pair of gloves or litter pick with you each time you go, and dispose of what you find. Get a group of friends together for a litter pick, or join an organised one. We, or the Council, can provide bags, litter pickers and vests and Council will collect the rubbish when you've finished! Did you know that the Point Bar has litter pickers you can use while on your walk, and a plastic collection bin to make it even easier to pick as you go? Call in and ask. If you have bulky



items you no longer need and want them collected, give the Council recycling centre a ring, there's only a £5 charge for up to 3 bulky items. Alternately if you have recycling or rubbish that doesn't fit into your bin, you can bring it to the recycling and disposal centres yourself. Limavady recycling and rubbish site (Ballyquin Rd) is open Mon-Sat from 8:00 - 5:30; Freehall Road in Castlerock from 8:30-3:45. Check out the link below for more information.

Let us know your ideas, or if you want to join or organise a cleanup.



Project Community Contacts

Aghanloo

Aghanloo Community Association

aca31@outlook.com

Ballykelly/Limavady

Roe Valley Ancestral Researchers

Matthew Ferguson

028 7776 4429 / 07565 659 444

rvaresearchers@gmail.com

Castlerock

Castlerock Community Association

028 7084 9303

castlerockcommunityassociation@gmail.com

Coleraine

Causeway Rural and Urban Network

(please contact LPS office below)

Magilligan

Magilligan Community Association

alice.conn@gmail.com

Limavady area

Limavady Community Development
Initiative

028 7776 5438 / recycle@lcdi.co.uk

Oral History event with Magilligan
Community Centre and Museum Service



Get in touch directly with us at:

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Landscape Partnership Scheme**

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