



# Offaly Naturalists'

## FIELD CLUB

### PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

### 2011



Offaly County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



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

[www.offaly.ie/heritage](http://www.offaly.ie/heritage)



## INFORMATION

Individuals and families are welcome. No experience required. Please dress appropriately for outdoor activities and bring your own refreshments.

For further details please contact the Heritage Office of Offaly County Council on **057 9346839** or by email [heritage@offalyco.co.ie](mailto:heritage@offalyco.co.ie)

Please email the Heritage Office if you would like reminders about events or if you would like to be notified of other heritage events.

No dogs please.

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## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2011

**SATURDAY 9 APRIL**

### **A Botanical Adventure in Bloomville**

**11am:** Bloomville, near Geashill. Entry through the SW gate (near the railway bridge). Good for all the family. Those who haven't visited before, e-mail bloomfettes@eircom.net or send a postcard for directions. Indoor space available for picnicking afterwards, if wet. (Tea/coffee provided.)

**Host and Leader:** Christopher Fettes, Bloomville, Nr Geashill

**SATURDAY 16 APRIL**

### **Bird Ringing Demonstration**

**9am to 11am:** Manley's Nurseries, Monasteroris, Edenderry. Call 087 6744946 for directions. This is a great opportunity to see birds up close and learn more about the process and purpose of ringing.

**Host and Leader:** Declan Manly

**SUNDAY 15 MAY**

### **Dawn Chorus**

**4.30am:** Clonbeale, Rath

**Host:** Stephen and June Powell

**Leader:** Jamie Durrant, BirdWatch Ireland and Stephen Powell

**SATURDAY 21 MAY**

### **Ballycon Wetlands Walk**

**2-4pm:** Meet at Ballycon workshop carpark.

From Tullamore direction, go through Mountlucas and turn right at crossroads. Workshop is 2km on the left.

**Leader:** Tom Egan, Bord na Móna

**SATURDAY 4 JUNE**

### **Exploring the Flora of Birr Town**

**2pm:** Meet at Oxmantown Mall

**Leader:** Fiona Devery

**SATURDAY 11 JUNE**

### **Orchids and Sedges**

**11am for all day trip:** Clonfinlough near Clonmacnoise.

Meet at the Maidin Geal Restaurant, Fербane.

Bring wet gear and packed lunch.

**Leader:** Fiona Devery.

**SATURDAY 25 JUNE**

### **Blackwood Coillte Nativewood Site**

**2-4pm:** Meet at Mucklagh village at the National School.

**Leader:** Stephen Heery

**SATURDAY 2 JULY**

### **Lough Boora Eco Cycle**

**11am:** Guided 8.5km Ecocycle around the Parklands.

Numbers limited, booking essential. Bring packed lunch.

Email [heritage@offalycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@offalycoco.ie)

**Leader:** Mark McCorry, Bord na Móna

**MONDAY 4 – FRIDAY 8 JULY**

### **The Ins and Outs of Eskers, their Geology, Flora and Fauna**

**9.30am – 3.30pm daily:** Fербane Community Centre.

Places limited. €100 per person. Booking essential with [heritage@offalycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@offalycoco.ie) or 057 9346839.

**Leader:** John Feehan

**MONDAY 18 – FRIDAY 22 JULY**

### **Summer Kids Club at the Mill**

**10am to 3pm daily:** Summer school programme for 7-11 year olds at Belmont Mills. €85 per child. Email Aoise O'Dwyer at [baoise@yahoo.com](mailto:baoise@yahoo.com) for further information and bookings.

**SATURDAY 30 JULY**

### **Moth Night**

**9.30pm:** The Pavilion at Lough Boora Sculpture Park

**Leader:** Alex Copland, BirdWatch Ireland

**FRIDAY 26 – SUNDAY 28 AUGUST**

### **Upper Carboniferous and Exploration into Laois**

**Friday 8pm:** Kinnitty Community Centre. Introduction talk with field trips on Saturday and Sunday. Booking essential for field trips – [heritage@offalycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@offalycoco.ie) or call 057 9346839.

**Leader:** John Feehan

**SATURDAY 24 SEPTEMBER**

### **Wildlife Walk Observing General Ecology**

**12 noon:** Meet at the Ridge of Capard signposted from Rosenallis. Suitable for families.

**Leader:** Jason Monaghan, NPWS Ranger

**SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER**

### **Wintering Birds at Boora**

**11am:** Meet at Boora Bird Hide

**Leader:** Alex Copland, BirdWatch Ireland

**SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER**

### **Autumn Foray at Killaun Bog Trackway**

**11am:** Kinnitty Road, Birr

**Leader:** John Feehan

**Clara Bog Visitor Centre** is open to all and is free. Open Monday to Friday 10am – 5pm and 7 days a week in the summer season.

