

# Bealtaine Living Earth Festival

## Programme of Events

### SATURDAY 16th

#### Brian Ború Eco-Heritage Talk

19:00-19:30 & 20:00-20:30

(Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Tony McLoughlin & Grace O Sullivan, Waterford Estuary Cruises

**Meet:** Waterford City Marina opposite Reginald's Tower  
Step aboard the Brian Ború, a 56 foot traditional sailing ship for a talk about the fascinating biodiversity along the Suir River Estuary. Learn how this old fishing vessel was reclaimed and hear about upcoming eco-heritage discovery cruises throughout the summer. Places are limited so booking is essential. Please book through Eleanor Reade, WIT School of Science, ereade@wit.ie or 051 302037.

### SUNDAY 17th

#### Seaweed Gardening

11:00-12:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Marie Power, Irish Wildlife Trust

**Meet:** Kilfarrasy Strand, Co Waterford

A guided beach walk, exploring edible sea-weeds and Irish shore-life with Marie Power, author of "The Sea Garden: A Guide to seaweed cookery and foraging."

[www.theseagardener.ie](http://www.theseagardener.ie)

#### Rocky Shore Eco-Tour

11:00-12:30 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Sinéad Cheevers, Oceanics Surf School & Marine Education Centre

**Meet:** The Red Cottage, Tramore, Oceanics Surf School

Become Rockpool Explorers as you peer into the many tidal habitats and natural touch pools with your Oceanics Guides. This exploration of Tramore's rocky shoreline is hands on Science and Nature where you can enjoy outdoor science in a fun and interactive way.

[www.oceanics.ie](http://www.oceanics.ie)

#### Red Trail Guided Walk of JFK Arboretum

15:00-16:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

**Meet:** Flagpoles, JFK Arboretum, New Ross

A guided walk suitable for families. This is a fun, informal way of experiencing the botany and wildlife of this area of the park up close.

[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

### MONDAY 18th

#### Fascination of Plants Day Guided Walk

15:00-16:00

(General Public)

**Presenter:** JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

**Meet:** Flagpoles, JFK Arboretum, New Ross

Celebrate Fascination of Plants Day with this guided walk for adults that will explore many of the everyday uses of the plants of the park.

[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

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Fascination of  
Plants Day  
May 2015

### TUESDAY 19th

#### Medicinal Uses of Plants Eco-Walk

15:00-16:00 (General Public)

**Presenter:** JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

**Meet:** Flagpoles, JFK Arboretum, New Ross

Guided walk focusing on the medicinal properties of the varied plant life in the park. Why not come along and learn a little more about some of the plants found in everyday life, many of which have hidden qualities.

[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

#### Growing Your Own Food for a Healthy, Happy You

18.30-19.30 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Michael Kelly, GIY International

**Meet:** Ardkeen Library, Waterford City

GIY Founder and author of "GROW COOK EAT" Michael Kelly will talk about a typical growing year in his own garden in Dunmore East. Learn about the GIY movement which was founded in Waterford in 2009 and now supports over 65,000 people annually who grow their own food at home, school or work.

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

#### Woodland Mammal Walk

20:00-22:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Andrew Harrington, Waterford City and County Council

Denise O Meara, MISE, Waterford Institute of Technology

**Meet:** Portlaw Wood, Co. Waterford

A walk in Portlaw Wood hosted by the Mammals in a Sustainable Environment (MISE) Research Group from Waterford Institute of Technology. Learn the tell-tale signs of Ireland's native mammals with ecological experts.

[www.miseproject.ie](http://www.miseproject.ie)

[www.waterfordcouncil.ie](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie)

### WEDNESDAY 20th

#### Nature Trail of JFK Arboretum

15:00-16:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

**Meet:** Flagpoles, JFK Arboretum, New Ross

This informative nature trail is open to the public and will take in the beauty of the arboretum as well as showcasing some of the science behind the plants.

[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

#### Birds of Ireland Dusk Walk

20:00-21:30 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Eric Dempsey, Birds Ireland

**Meet:** Bandstand, People's Park, Waterford City

A dusk walk with author and broadcaster Eric Dempsey. Eric is well known from the Mooney Show and for his many books about the birds of Ireland. He will introduce the common birds of the city and demonstrate how to identify them through their calls.

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

### THURSDAY 21st

#### Treasures of the Earth

19:00-21:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Tina Keating, Copper Coast Geopark

**Meet:** Garter Lane Gallery, O Connell Street, Waterford City (beside Delaney's Florists)

A presentation by Tina Keating Copper Coast Gemmologist hosted by Garter Lane Gallery. This introduction to the fascinating world of gemstones will demonstrate why some are prized more highly than others and how similar looking gems can be distinguished from one another. Afterwards, participants will have a chance to use some of the equipment involved such as microscopes, spectrometers and diamond testers.

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

#### Irish Whale and Dolphin Group Public Lecture

20:00-21:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Deirdre Slevin, Irish Whale and Dolphin Group

**Meet:** Greyfriar's Municipal Art Gallery, Waterford City

This public lecture hosted by the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, Waterford City and Council and Greyfriar's Municipal Art Gallery will showcase the important and fascinating research undertaken by the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group.

[www.waterfordcouncil.ie](http://www.waterfordcouncil.ie)

[www.iwdg.ie](http://www.iwdg.ie)

### SATURDAY 23rd

#### Native Woodlands Citizen Action Afternoon

12:00-14:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** Rebecca Doyle, Native Woodland Trust

**Meet:** Native Woodland Trust Community Woodland, Gracedieu, Waterford City

Come along and plant a tree to make your mark on this developing woodland. Learn about caring for young trees and the importance of protecting our ancient woodlands.

[www.nativewoodlandtrust.ie](http://www.nativewoodlandtrust.ie)

#### Botanical Art Workshop

13:00-15:00 (General Public)

**Presenter:** Lynn Stringer

**Meet:** Waterford Institute of Technology, Main Campus

Learn the basics of botanical drawing and painting with experienced and noted botanical artist Lynn Stringer.

[www.lynnstringer.net](http://www.lynnstringer.net)

#### Guided Walk of JFK Arboretum

15:00-16:00 (Families/General Public)

**Presenter:** JFK Arboretum Staff, Office of Public Works

**Meet:** JFK Arboretum, New Ross

Explore the surroundings of the park with an experienced guide and learn about the plants and wildlife that make up this important park.

[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

### SUNDAY 24th

#### Giant Mosaic Creation

14:30-17:30

**Presenter:** Sinéad Driver & Tina Keating,

Copper Coast Geopark

**Meet:** Annestown Shore, Co. Waterford

Help construct a giant mosaic using natural materials found on the shore. Learn about the importance of beach cleaning and biodiversity through a fun artistic creation.

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

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[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

All events are FREE.

For more information please  
visit [www.livingearth.ie](http://www.livingearth.ie)

