ERGS ECO-UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2022 | EDITION #1



Foxes, Fall and Flying the Nest.

October/November are the Peak months of Dispersal, A.K.A Flying the nest for most of our Red Foxes here in the UK. Which got me thinking more about our school-house Cuilcaghs cunning mascot. But more importantly ways to get more of us out and appreciating our regions scarlett scavengers. Observing wildlife from a respectful/safe distance is one of the best ways to get excited about researching more about any animal yourself. So if you are up for tracking down the local fox yourself or simply following it's footsteps on a weekend walk. Considering the following "Pawprint patterns": a fox's print is generally more elongated than that of a dog and its pads all of the ~same size. Also if a series of tracks can be traced foxes will be more purposeful than the wandering of a domestic pet with fox prints creating direct paths. Have an Fantastic Fox watch and consider one of the Red-Fox Reads below.(available to order from your nearest public Libraries-NI)



Junior school:

Pax by Sara Pennypacker The animals of farthing wood by Colin Dann

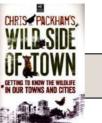
Middle-Ground: RSPB Foxes Spotlight by Mike Uwin

Senior years:

Wildside of Town by Chris Packham Foxes Unearthed by Lucy Jones

Caring for our Neighbours this November

November is generally the start of hedge and tree trimming season. However, I would encourage anyone helping out in the garden this Winter to keep any excess logs, twigs and leaves in an corner of your garden. To create an appreciated home for creepy crawlies, but also to support your local hedgehogs who need to reach their 600g weight before hibernation this month. We're also coming into the time of the year for feeding our feathered friends. But don't forget to Clean those feeders and bird bathing stations to prevent the spread of nasty diseases like trichomonosis. Just remember to clean any equipment outdoors using separte disinfectant/utensils. Moving that bird table about can also be a good idea to prevent the accumulation of droppings underneath with bird baths being particulary at risk of dropping build up so clean regularly:)







Nature News Keep up to date

On Halloween night this 31st of October 2022. Perhaps the most frightening Trick or Treat of the evening was the UK Governments failure to meet it's legal deadline for setting it's first batch of Environmental targets under the Environment Act 2021. During "Prime Minister Questions" Rishi Sunak stated the government had a "clear plan to deliver" on the provisions of the act. Yet this april the governments UK Energy security strategy included the promise to issue new licences in the North Sea for Oil/Gas drilling. We should remain hopeful as the UK has made significant progress in areas like renewables, becoming a world leader in Offshore Wind. Living in Fermanagh it can often feel difficult to get your voice heard, particularly with an devolved Stormont. But we can still vote "with our feet"- from secondhand shopping in one of Enniskillens amazing little Charity shops to getting comfortable with arranging the next trip we make using public transport or the old peddle power.

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Last Year as part of National Tree Week in the UK. Belfast City council pledged to plant 1 Million Native trees across the city by 2035. While we all can't make that promise this year-as we enter the festive season there are more sustainable ways to gift give that can reduce the Carbon-footprint of your Christmas this year. The Woodland Trust is one service that offers Tree dedications/certificates from £20 to give to friends and family. With your tree planted in a location of your choice in NI or Mainland Uk.

Whats on in Fermanagh?

Correl Glen- A Native Woodland (National Tree Walk)
26 November 10:00am-12:00pm
For your £5 Ticket. Join the Geoparks guide Helen for an educational expedition. Discovering more of the trees lining the Steep Banks of the Sillees river and hear the Folk stories Surrounding them.

Lets Talk Trees with Dr Kate Crane Cladagh Glen Nature Reserve 27 November 12:00pm-1:00pm(Adult only) and 2:00pm-3:00pm(All ages) For £5 Join Dr Crane for a guide through the ancient woodlands learning more about the areas landscape and Biodiversity.

Cuilcagh Mountain Jeep Safari
11 December 11:00am-1:30pm
Meeting at Killykeegan Carpark and for your £5 ticket Join Guide Ben to chat about the Geology and History of the area from the Gravel track at the base of the Cuilcagh board walk.



Farther Afield & Online...

Nature Positive NI Launch Event Banana Block Belfast 15 November 7:00pm

Join the RSPB NI as they launch their exciting new campaign with Keynote speaker Megan McCubbin. Who you might recognise in her work as an Wildlife Presenter for the popular BBC Series AutumnWatch. And the best part booking your place is completely FREE.

Tracking Pine Martens- Wildlifetrusts Online Webinar

24 November 7:00pm-8:00pm

Our schools Loughshore site has been no stranger to Pine Martens in the past. Join Stuart Edmunds co-ordinator of The Shropshire Pine Marten Project, for this FREE online webinar to learn more about our Schools elusive resident.

Bringing our Urban Landscapes back to Life- Green Minds Online Webinar 30 November 6:00pm-7:00pm



Are you interested in studying Urban Planning or Sustainable Architecture at Uni. Well this talk led by Harry Barton-Chief executive of the Devon Wildlife Trust might be for you. With some inspiring examples promised of where rewilding our Urban spaces has already been achieved.

BBC Spotlight- Exposed: Hunting with Dogs

BBC I-Player

Fox Hunting in Northern-Ireland is an Hot-topic sparking debate across our country's rural communities. Why not take a look at the issue from the lense of the impact sport hunting has on our wildlife in this 30min doc.

BBC AutumnWatch BBC I-Plaver

The beloved series has returned to BBC-2 since Tuesday October the 25th at 8:00pm. An ideal cosy evening watch the show offers intimate viewings into the secret lives of British Wildlife.

