

# CORK NATURE NETWORK ANNUAL REPORT 2019



A company limited by guarantee with no shares

Registered Address:

An sabin, Ballinvoher, Castletownroche, County Cork

Charity number: 21602

Charity Registration Number: 20103200

Company number: 560881

2019 Directors

Katherine Wallace (Resigned April 2019)

Will O'Leary (Appointed February 2019)

Aideen Kane (Resigned September 2019)

Cian Gill (Resigned January 2019)

Louise Maher (Appointed January and resigned December 2019)

Brian McElligott (Appointed Sept 2019)

Tara O'Donoghue (Appointed Sept 2019)

Company Secretary

Grainne Keogh (Appointed February 2019 and resigned November 2019)

Gill Weyman (Resigned February 2019)

Rosiane Benick (Appointed November 2019)

Bank account:

AIB, Ballincollig, County Cork and Mallow Credit Union

Accountants | Daniel J. Coleman & Co., Bishopstown, Cork



Registered Office: An sabin, Ballinvoher, Castletownroche, County Cork.

Company N°560881 / RCN. 20103200 CHY 21602

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

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## CORK NATURE NETWORK WELCOME

•  
GILL WEYMAN  
Chairman

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I am delighted to introduce this annual report for 2019. Cork Nature Network is a registered charity operating in Ireland to raise awareness on the need for wildlife protection. I would like to extend a huge warm thank you to all our many volunteers to thank them for their commitment and enthusiasm, without them we could not operate.

Cork Nature Network is now becoming recognised as an active organization. Our activities have continued to be attended with being booked out and we are delighted that there is this interest in our natural world.

We have three successful projects. Beaumont Quarry, Cork Otters and Green Spaces and have been present at many seminars and conferences and organised our own conference in May on Natural Flood Management. This seminar was instigated by the Otter project and the need to protect riparian habitats.

We have attended a number of seminars and national conferences and given talks to local community organisations. We have worked with companies and been involved with school projects. Cork Nature Network will continue to grow and I look forward to the future development of the organisation and hope that our success continues over the forthcoming years.



## SUMMARY OF THE ORGANISATION'S PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

The aim of **Cork Nature Network** is:

- To benefit the community of Ireland by promoting and encouraging the conservation of wildlife and habitats by educating and increasing the awareness of the need for conservation.
- To promote nature conservation.
- To educate and increase awareness of the need for conservation.

*The following are summaries from our directors on progress in 2019*

### Valerie Soma (Website Officer)

In 2019, the hosting provider of the website was changed to a Europe based company instead of a US one. This resulted in an increase of the speed of the website. At the end of 2019, a new site template was bought which was easier to customize. The layout started to change. But the biggest changes were done later. **Cork Nature Network** started publishing blog posts. Finally, Mail chimp was used to send group emails to members giving a more efficient and professional look to the newsletters

### Brian McElligott (Health and Safety Director)

No accidents or injuries were reported by or to CNN in 2019. In addition, no other health and safety incidents or near misses were reported. Whilst this is always a welcome outcome, there is potential that this is partly due to under-reporting of minor incidents. To mitigate against this, a full review of CNN's health and safety policies, procedures and reporting mechanisms was commenced at the end of 2019, for implementation in 2020.

### Tara O'Donoghue (Activities Director)

A total of 28 events were organised in 2019 with a total 838 attending. The number of events were slightly lower than 2018 but numbers were 614.

The events included a member's event which was the wolf event. During Cork Harbour week a children's marine workshop was held in Blackrock Castle. A number of events were held by **Cork Nature Network** and its new branch West Cork during Heritage Week with the final event being the Beaumont Quarry Picnic.

**Cork Nature Network** also hosted the film *The Call of the Forest* in Blackrock Castle.

Month 2020	Event no	Numbers	Month 2020	Event no	Numbers
January	2	41	August	9	293
February	1	12	September	1	25
April	5	164	November	2	109
May	3	32	December	1	12
June	3	150			
July	1				
Total events 28					
Total tickets 838					





## LIST OF EVENTS IN 2019



Marine workshop



Wolf talk



Lichen walk

## PROJECTS

### Beaumont Quarry

Cork Nature Network held 4 cleanups in 2019 and began a trial in Ballincollig Regional Park to eliminate Winter Heliotrope. This involved testing m2 areas with different techniques from regular cutting to covering totally. A nature day was also held in 2019 funded by Cork City Council. A picnic was held during Heritage Week with music by the *Lost Ghecko* with bug hunts. A great day was had with around 30 attending the event.



Nature day in Beaumont Quarry



Beaumont Quarry



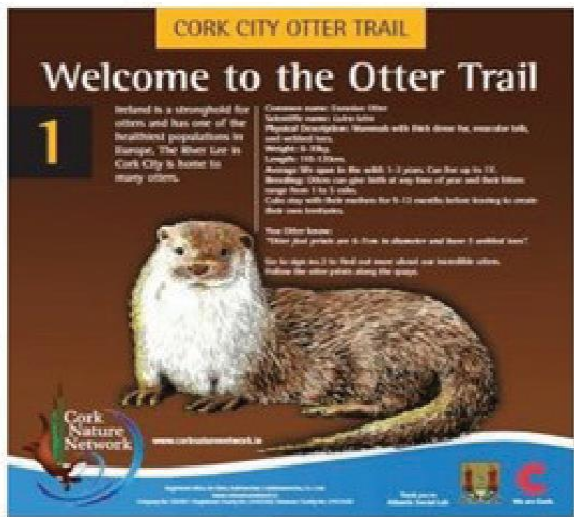
Picnic with the Lost Ghecko



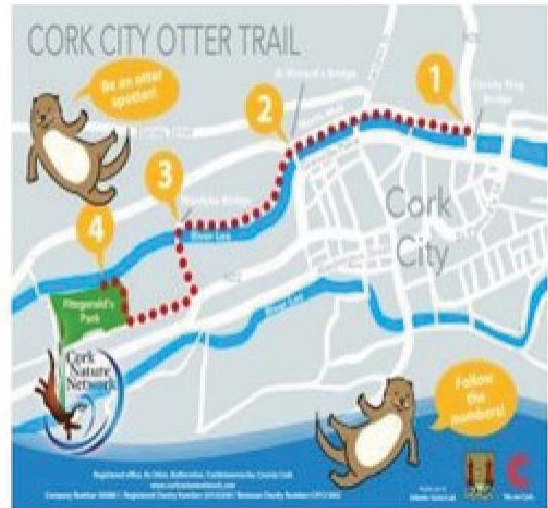


## Cork Otters

In 2019, **Cork Nature Network** developed an Otter trail. This is the first of such a walk in Ireland and runs from opposite the opera house in Cork City finishing in Fitzgerald Park. Four signs have been placed on a wall along the route and the map is online at [www.corknaturenetwork.ie](http://www.corknaturenetwork.ie).



The first sign of the Cork otter Trail



Map of the Cork otter Trail

## Green Spaces



Cork Nature Network is working with Cork City Council and Green Spaces for Health to manage a wildflower meadow and a roadside verge at Park Owen and Langford Row.

In 2019, we organised the cutting of the meadow, recording of species and assisted with clean ups.



## Other activities

**Cork Nature Network** had their first Tus placement with Sean Barry who came from Avondhu Development. He started in January 2019 and took on the role of Administrative officer. A grants team were also put into place which had a huge impact on our work.

Three volunteers attended the National Biodiversity Conference in February which was funded by Green Spaces and Cork City PPN. A representative from **Cork Nature Network** also attended an Environmental Protection Agency event for Cork Nature Network as part of the membership with SWAN.

During 2019 Cork Nature Network gave a number of talks. These included a talk on Nature Conservation to University College Cork campus radio and talks on pollinators to Castletownroche Tidy Towns and Skibbereen Tidy Towns. **Cork Nature Network** representatives attended an Environmental Law conference, a tourism conference and a seminar by creative Ireland seminar in Mallow. Ken Bond also attended a Dark Skies meeting on behalf of **Cork Nature Network**.



Dark Skies meeting



Biodiversity Action Plan training

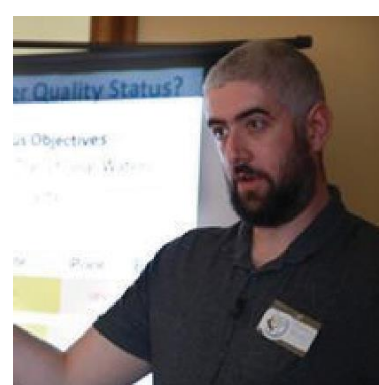
**Cork Nature Network** secured funding from Lush to run a seminar on Natural Flood Management. This was a very successful seminar organised by Cork Nature Networks Communication Officer John Armstrong. Professor Chris Spray gave a presentation on the experiences of putting in Natural Flood processes in Scotland. This was supported by a presentation from Dr Mary Bourke from Trinity College on her research and experiences with natural flood management in Donegal. Other presentations included Pascal Sweeney, Tony Nagle, Dr Paddy Sleeman and John Armstrong. The seminar was recorded with presentations shown on our website and our YouTube channels.



Professor Chris Spray



Dr Mary O'Rourke



Kieran Murphy





First aid training was taken up by four members of **Cork Nature Network** in Bishopstown. Those attending the training would then be available to assist at our events.



Seafest 2019

**Cork Nature Network** stalls in 2019 included a stall as part of SEAFEST where we had a great location in the festival and a stall at Fota Wildlife Park for Native Species Weekend. In September **Cork Nature Network** attended the Climate Strategy event in City Hall.

**Cork Nature Network** ran an event in North Mon primary school in partnership with Blizzard Entertainment. A sensory garden was developed by **Cork Nature Network** in the school followed by a talk on Otters from Cork Nature Networks Education team.

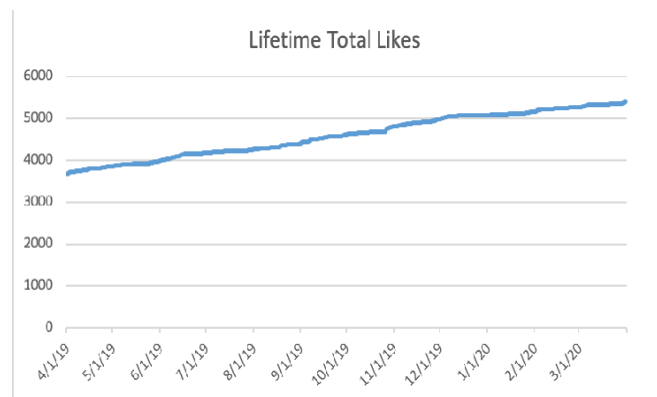
## SOCIAL MEDIA

### Cork Nature Network Facebook

The impact of **Cork Nature Networks** main Facebook page can be measured by the number of page Likes. These are in constant growth. In September the Facebook page reached 5000 likes.

This was celebrated with a prize of bird boxes. It was found that competitions and such interactive events increase the page likes and thus an increase an awareness of **Cork Nature Network**.

Other social media pages included the Facebook Project pages of Cork Otters and Beaumont Quarry plus, the twitter and Instagram pages.



### Membership

In December 2019 membership was 111 an increase of 20 from 2018. It is anticipated that this will continue to grow.

### Branches

**Cork Nature Network** (West Cork) organised a series events in Clonakilty during Heritage Week 2019. A wildlife gardening workshop, bat walk, two Eco grief workshops, a storytelling and a writing workshop around the theme of nature, an anaerobic digester demonstration, a minimal waste workshop (Twig), and 'Connecting the Dots', a meeting that brought together past and present environmental groups as well as politicians and activists from around West Cork to talk about topics such as ecocide, CAP, EU environmental policy, Extinction Rebellion, Eco grief, the Clonakilty greenway, the need for collaboration.





## Summary

In 2019, **Cork Nature Network** continued to grow as an organisation. New volunteers and a Tus placement resulted in an additional project called Green Spaces, continued management of Beaumont Quarry and an otter trail for Cork City. A seminar on Natural Flood Management also brought the need to the public domain on how river basins can be managed for wildlife. **Cork Nature Network** were also invited to participate in national events such as SEAFEST. A test project was also undertaken on local biodiversity action plan training. In addition, our social media team expanded and with a new activities manager our profile has continued to increase.

**Cork Nature Network would like to thank the many volunteers who became part of our vibrant team and for the huge amount of work that is being undertaken.**

### Funders:

Local Waters and Community Office

Local Agenda 21 funds. Kieran McCarthy ward fund Cork County Council Blizzard

Entertainment

Cork City Council

Fota Wildlife Park



## ACCOUNTS

### Cork Nature Network CLG

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 €	2018 €
Income		23,640	13,236
Expenditure		(17,813)	(8,537)
Surplus for the financial year		5,827	4,699
Total comprehensive income		5,827	4,699

### Cork Nature Network CLG

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	2019 €	2018 €
Income	23,640	13,236
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Health & Safety Training	1,200	1,290
Insurance	515	475
Project Production costs	14,260	4,698
Printing, postage and stationery	41	69
Advertising	774	1,012
Legal and professional	20	20
Accountancy	800	800
Bank charges	110	80
Depreciation	93	93
	17,813	8,537



# Cork Nature Network CLG

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 €	2018 €
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Surplus for the financial year		5,827	4,699
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		93	93
		<u>5,920</u>	<u>4,792</u>
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in debtors		(750)	-
Movement in creditors		(5,878)	3,454
		<u>(708)</u>	<u>8,246</u>
Cash (used in)/generated from operations			
		<u>(708)</u>	<u>8,246</u>
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(708)</b>	<b>8,246</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year</b>		<b>14,517</b>	<b>6,271</b>
		<u>14,517</u>	<u>6,271</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13,809</b>	<b>14,517</b>
		<u><u>13,809</u></u>	<u><u>14,517</u></u>

