

[View this email in your browser](#)



Community
Wetlands
Forum

*Inspiring Communities to Enjoy, Manage and Protect Their Wetlands
for the Present and Future Generations*

Autumn 2026 Newsletter

Welcome New Member

Greetings to all members and supporters of the Community Wetlands Forum! We hope you had a productive summer and Successful Heritage Week Events 2026 .

We would like to welcome the new CWF members:

Green Sod Ireland www.greensodireland.ie A land Trust that Protects and its Biodiversity , currently owners of Meenletterbale Bog 29 Acres , Co Donegal gifted by Sisters of Mercy .

Welcome to the Community Wetlands Forum! We remind all new and current members to use the CWF logo.

We are delighted to issue our first edition of **Community Matters** to have such distinguished contributors and we are seeking articles for our next issue from Membership and Stakeholders

IN THIS ISSUE



President
Catherine
Connolly's
Message



Minister
Christopher
O'Sullivan's
Message



Restoration
Mindset
for Midland
Wetlands



Shared Island
Initiative
Peatland
Programme
(SIIPP)



Are Irish
Raised Bogs
Growing
Again?



Farming
in the
Midlands
and
Wetlands



Cloughjordan
Community
Development
Association and
Schoaboy Bog



Community
Wetlands Forum

Community Matters

Issue 1
Quarter 3, 2026



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta
agus Fiadhúlra
National Parks and Wildlife Service

To Read this first edition please press here

<https://heyzine.com/tip-book/4450d18968.html>

Dates for your Diary .

Sept 30th Online Succession Planning Event

Oct 21st Wed CWF 8pm -online catch up -link in whats app

Oct 27th Tues CWF 11am online catch up

Succession Planning Sept 30th 8-9pm Living Legacy Jennifer McConnell

Following a successful Pilot Course with 6 CWF members we will run a second course if demand exists with revised format 2 1/2 Days and 4 Online sessions with Workbook to help your group develop its plan

Zoom Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99083971774?pwd=Yv1pDAEaRu2nM63XE3luwhcaqv0nr.1>

Meeting ID: 990 8397 1774

Passcode: 147434

Funding Opportunities

<https://www.ourcommonknowledge.org/meithealmakers> Deadline Oct 5th

Catchment Support Fund 2027

Please click on the link below to join in on the Information workshop on the 30th of October:

[Catchment Support Fund 2027 - Information briefing for Community Groups in advance of CSF Launch on October 12th 2026](#) | [Join meeting in Teams](#) | [Microsoft Teams](#)



The image is a promotional banner for the Catchment Support Fund 2027. At the top, it features the logo of Seirbhís Bainistíochta Abhantraí (River Basin Management Service) and the text 'Seirbhís Bainistíochta Abhantraí River Basin Management Service'. Below this, the title 'Catchment Support Fund' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, green font. Underneath the title, it says 'Administered on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage'. The main content of the banner is a Microsoft Teams event card. It shows a purple Teams icon, the date and time 'Wednesday, 30 September, 1:00 pm', and a 'Forthcoming' status. The event title is 'Catchment Support Fund 2027 - Information briefing for Community Groups in advance of CSF Launch on October 12th 2026'. The description below the title states: 'On Wednesday 30th September 2026 the River Basin Management Service (formerly LAWPRO) will be hosting an online (via Teams) briefing session for Community Groups in advance of the launch of the Catchment Support Fund on the 12th of October next. The purpose of this briefing is to provide information to prospective CSF applicants in relation to the details of the fund and also to highlight any changes from 2026.'

The Heritage Council is pleased to announce that Expressions of Interest for the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 are now open.

The scheme supports community and voluntary groups and non-governmental organisations undertaking projects that protect, conserve, celebrate, understand and share Ireland's heritage.

New for 2027, the scheme introduces a two-stage application process designed to make it easier for groups to apply. At Stage 1, applicants submit a short Expression of Interest outlining their project idea. Shortlisted projects will then be invited to submit a full application.

The Expression of Interest stage allows applicants to submit an outline of their project idea without the need to prepare detailed budgets, quotations or supporting documentation at the outset. This helps groups explore project ideas and receive feedback before investing time in a full application.

Funding is available for projects under five themes:

Heritage at Risk

Biodiversity & Nature Restoration

Traditional Skills & Conservation

Digital Heritage, Access & Storytelling

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Funding available:

Minimum grant: €800

Maximum grant: €25,000

Key Dates

Expression of Interest Deadline: 16 October 2026 at 5.00pm

Stage 1 Results: Early November 2026

Full Application Deadline (shortlisted applicants only): 15 January 2027 at 5.00pm

An online information webinar will take place on 28 September 2026 at 12 noon.

For full details, guidance documents and application information, visit the Community Heritage Grant Scheme webpage.

For further information, contact grants@heritagecouncil.ie.



An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta
agus Fiadhúlra
National Parks and Wildlife Service



Community
Wetlands
Forum

Community Wetlands Forum

www.communitywetlandsforum.ie

Registered Irish charity number 20207016