

EXPLORING NATURE



dlr Biodiversity Events

June–August 2015

An action of the DLR Biodiversity Plan

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE





© BirdWatch Ireland

Saturday 6th June

Life in a Pond

11am–12.30pm. Cabinteely Park. Meet in the main car park.

Come along to this family event and join us as we explore life living in the pond, using nets and buckets we hope to find water scorpions, water beetles, tadpoles and many more interesting pond creatures.

Leader: Andrew (Mouse) Fleming, OWLS

Booking required: Contact Andrew on 087 3299936

Friday 19th June

Cabinteely Bat Walk

9.30pm. Cabinteely Park. Ireland is home to nine species of bat, an important mammal that consumes large quantities of insects each night. They are nocturnal hunters, and while not blind, they rely on high-pitch ultrasonic noises to fly around in the dark. Join bat conservation Ireland on a bat walk and enter the mysterious world of bats.

Leader: Paul Scott. **Booking required.** Contact dublinbatgroup@gmail.com and info@batconservationireland.org

Saturday 20th June

An evening Nature Walk

7pm–8.30pm. FitzSimons Wood. Meet at the main entrance in Kilcross Estate.

Join us for this family event as we stroll around the wood listening and looking out for wildlife. There are many species of wildlife living in the woodland, we may be lucky to see one during our stroll.

Leader: Andrew Fleming (Mouse), OWLS.

Booking required: Contact Andrew on 087 3299936

July

Tuesday 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th July

Seabird watching at Coliemore Harbour

6.30pm–8pm. Coliemore Harbour.

Join us for seabird watching every Tuesday evening in July with Bird-Watch Ireland experts on hand as we observe the breeding Terns and other sea birds. No walking required.

Leader: Members of BirdWatch Ireland, South Dublin Branch. **No booking required.**

Saturday 4th July

Sand Martins and Coastal Birds at Shanganagh

10.30am. Shanganagh Cliffs. Meet at Shankhill Dart Station.

Join us as we visit the Sand Martin Colony as we observe them and other birds feeding along the seashore. Please note walking boots are recommended.

Leader: Members of BirdWatch Ireland, South Dublin Branch.

No booking required

Saturday 4th July

Mini beast hunt

2pm–3.30pm. Killiney Hill. Meet at the notice board in the main car park.

Discover mini beasts that crawl, fly, wiggle and scuttle. Then take the bravery test and hold a spider in your hand. A fun event for children that like insects.

Leader: Claire (Turtle) Patten, OWLS. **Booking required:** Contact Claire on 086 1995659

Saturday 11th July

Discover Rock Pooling

2pm–4pm. Sandycove Beach. Meet at the rock area of Sandycove Beach.

Come along and take part in discovering life that live within the rock pools. Starfish, crabs, who know what we'll find. Bring along any nets or buckets you have to get up close and personal with sea life. This event is for the whole family.

Leader: Claire (Turtle) Patten, OWLS

Booking required: Contact Claire on 086 1995659

August

Saturday 8th August

Dún Laoghaire Intertidal Ecology

11am–.30pm. Dún Laoghaire. Meet at the sailing boat sculpture beside the Dart Station in Dún Laoghaire. The Shoreline in Dún Laoghaire is a combination of rocky shore, sandy beach and harbour, which all have their own assemblage of inhabitants. There's a nice selection of seaweeds, molluscs, crustaceans, polychaetes and birds, so lots to see! This is an easy walk but bringing raingear and willies is advisable.

Leader: Laila Higgins

Booking: Contact Laila Higgins on 086 3284279 or laila.higgins@gmail.com

Sunday 16th August

War of the Beach Sculptures

11am–12.30pm. Killiney Beach. Meet in the main car park off station road.

Come along and join a team before setting off along the beach in search of unusual items to make a beach sculpture/monster. Legs, arms, webbing, the imagination can go wild. The winning team wins the bragging rights (and sweets) for being the best beach sculpture team of 2015. A fun event on the beach for the whole family

Leader: Andrew Fleming (Mouse), OWLS.

Booking required: Contact Andrew on 087 3299936

Tuesday 25th August

Teddy Bears Picnic

11am–12.30pm. Cabinteely Park. Meet in the main car park.

Bring along your favourite teddy and join the owl leaders as they take a stroll through the wood before sitting down for a picnic and a story.

Leader: Andrew Fleming (Mouse), OWLS.

Booking required: Contact Andrew on 087 3299936



August

Friday 28th August

Marley Park Bat Walk

8.15pm. Marley Park. Meet in the main car park (off Grange Road).

Ireland is home to nine species of bat, an important mammal that consumes large quantities of insects each night. They are nocturnal hunters, and while not blind, they rely on high-pitch ultrasonic noises to fly around in the dark. Join bat conservation Ireland on a bat walk and enter the mysterious world of bats.

Leader: Tina Aughney. **Booking required:** Contact dublinbatgroup@gmail.com and info@batconservationireland.org

Sunday 30th August

The Birds of Cabinteely Park

10am–12pm. Marlay Park. Meet in the main car park. Join us on a stroll around Cabinteely Park observing the different bird species. Experts will be on hand to regale you with numerous interesting facts.

Leader: Members of BirdWatch Ireland, South Dublin Branch. **No booking required**

Sunday 30th August

Dún Laoghaire Intertidal Ecology

5pm–7.30pm. Dún Laoghaire. Meet at the sailing boat sculpture beside the Dart Station in Dún Laoghaire.

The Shoreline in Dún Laoghaire is a combination of rocky shore, sandy beach and harbour, which all have their own assemblage of inhabitants. There's a nice selection of seaweeds, molluscs, crustaceans, polychaetes and birds, so lots to see! This is an easy walk but bringing raingear and willies is advisable.

Leader: Laila Higgins.

Booking required: Contact Laila Higgins on 086 3284279 or laila.higgins@gmail.com.

Further Information

Many events require pre-booking so please contact the event leader where stated.

For enquiries please call Dean Eaton (Asst. Environmental Awareness officer) 01 204 7900 or email deaton@dlrcoco.ie

Individuals and families are welcome. Please dress appropriately for outdoor activities and the weather on the day.

Events have been organised by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in association with a variety of charities, clubs and individuals whose primary interest is natural history and nature conservation. All events will be led by experienced naturalists from these organisations.

These events have been organised by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in association with the following organisations:



OWLS (Outdoor, Wildlife, Learning and Survival)

OWLS is a fun club for children and families to discover more about nature. The club delivers a range of activities in local parks to raise awareness and understanding of the natural world. For more information visit: www.owls.ie



BirdWatch Ireland (South Dublin Branch)

BirdWatch Ireland is a conservation organisation dedicated to the conservation of wild birds and their habitats in Ireland. Their work includes extensive research and surveying, conservation projects, preparing and advocating policy and raising awareness. For more information visit: www.birdwatchireland.ie



Bat Conservation Ireland is a charity dedicated to the conservation of Ireland's bats.

The organisation promotes the conservation of bats by disseminating education materials, giving talks and leading bat walks, carrying out nationwide surveys and monitoring of bats. For more information visit:

www.batconservationireland.org