



Celebrating our Farming Heritage

# Burren Winterage School 2018

*Farming for Nature*

25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018

Gort & Kinvara, Co. Galway

## Pre-conference event on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October:

**9.30am -4pm** Teagasc National Agri-environment conference  
*From Burren Beginnings to Locally Led EIP's*  
Venue: Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort.  
Entry free but booking required - see  
[www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/national-agri-environment.php](http://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/national-agri-environment.php)

## Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 7.30-10pm Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

**6pm – 7.30pm** Burren Winterage School - Registration & Welcome

**7.30- 9.30pm** **Session 1:** HNV LINK – sharing European innovations

Chair: James Moran (Galway Mayo Institute of Technology - GMIT)

Presentations: High Nature Value (HNV) Landscapes from across Europe (Sweden, France, Romania, Croatia, the UK) present a brief insight into their region, some HNV innovations that have worked for them, and the challenges that they most urgently need to address in future. See [www.hnmlink.eu](http://www.hnmlink.eu) for more information.

*Followed by a chaired discussion and a drinks reception.*

## Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 9am-5pm Starting from Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

**9am-10am** Welcome and Field Trip Briefing. (Registration desk also open)

**10am- 5pm** **Session 2: HNV Field Trips to the Burren and Slieve Aughty regions**

*Visits to two 'locally led' agri-environment schemes, both of which include a results-based payments approach*

Leaders: Burren Programme – Sharon Parr [www.burrenprogramme.com](http://www.burrenprogramme.com)

Hen Harrier Project – Caroline Sullivan [www.henharrierproject.ie](http://www.henharrierproject.ie)

*Includes coach transfers and lunch in Gort (1-2pm). All delegates will have a chance to visit both projects.*

## Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30 – 9.30pm Gort Livestock Mart, Gort

**7.30pm -9.30pm**

### **Session 3: Farming for Nature Innovation Fair**

*A hands-on look at innovations in animal health, breeding and nutrition as well as discussion and demonstrations on the use of new technologies in managing livestock on high nature value farmland.*

Chair: Michael Davoren (Burren Farmer)

Themes: Livestock breeding and management for rough pastureland  
Animal nutrition – supplementary feeding options to optimise foraging  
High Tech solutions to livestock management on HNV farmland  
*and much more...*

**10pm - late**

Farming and nature - songs from the land  
*An unforgettable night of songs at Whelan's Pub, Shanaglish, Gort.*

## Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 9am – 5pm Kinvara Community Centre, Kinvara

**9 - 11am**

### **Session 4: Farming for Nature: the broader context**

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Annabelle Williams (RISE Foundation) – *A Safe Operating Space for Livestock Farming in Europe*  
Kevin Hanrahan (Teagasc) – *Brexit: Potential Implications for High Nature Value farmers*  
John Sweeney (NUI Maynooth) – *Winners and Losers in Agriculture as Climate Changes.*  
Liam McHale (Irish Farmers Association, Brussels Office): *Global trade deals, evolving CAP discussions and the potential impact for HNV farmers*

**11 – 11.30am**

Tea & Coffee Break

**11.30 - 1pm**

### **Session 5: 'Understanding farmers' views about things.'**

Chair: Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)

Speaker: Frank Vanclay, Department of Cultural Geography, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

*Followed by a Q&A with Frank Vanclay and a panel of invited guests, chaired by Dr. Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)*

**1- 2pm**

Lunch provided at Merriman Hotel, Kinvara.

2 – 3pm

**Session 6: Farming for Nature – Stories from the land**

Chair: Brendan Dunford (Burren Programme)

Format: *Five short films on farming for nature followed by a chaired Q&A session with some 2018 Farming for Nature Award Nominees*

3.15 – 4.45pm

**Session 7: Networks for Nature**

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Fabrice Gouriveau (HNV LINK Project) – *HNV-Link: Networking for High Nature Value farming innovation*  
Liam Lysaght (National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)) – *How the work of the NBDC can support farming for nature.*  
Tilman Disselhoff (European Land Conservation Network- ELCN) - *Farmers and conservation organisations as partners – lessons from two continents*

4.45 - 5pm

**Conference Summary and Close**

*Brendan Dunford, James Moran, Michael Davoren*

7 - 8pm

Community event featuring children's art competition  
*Includes music, wine reception and light refreshments*

8 - 9:30pm

Bord Bia National Farming for Nature Award 2018  
Visit [www.farmingfornature.ie](http://www.farmingfornature.ie) for more information  
Compere: Ella McSweeney  
Guest Speaker: Mairead McGuinness (MEP)

9.30pm

Option to enjoy – and participate in! - entertainment in local hostelrys

**Post-conference events:**

**11am - 4pm Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

The Annual Burren Winterage Cattle Drive  
The Burren Food Fayre

**Additional Event (tbc):** HNV LINK and ELCN delegates' Closing Workshop

*Review of learnings over the Burren visit and planning of next steps*

Time and venue tbc, subject to delegate availability