

Copper Coast Geopark, Ireland

Progress Report: September 2007– March 2008

Actions from Copper Coast Geopark Management Team:

1. Running of the Copper Coast Geopark (CCG) centre, information point and bistro at Annestown (up to Dec.07)
2. Twinning visit of Bunmahon (CCG) to Strohn (Vulkaneifel Geopark) (Sept.07)
3. Lismore Primary school fieldtrip with Sophie Preteseille (Oct.07)
4. Tipperary CBS Abbey Secondary School fieldtrip (geographical investigation) with Sophie Préteseille (Oct.07)
5. 3rd year Civil Engineer Students from University of Limerick on fieldtrip with Sophie Préteseille (Oct.07)
6. Mexican Day at the Bistro (Oct.07)
7. Fish cooking demo at the Bistro and book launch by local chef (Nov.07)
8. Community meetings in each of the CCG Villages held (Oct-Nov.07)
9. Printed CCG 2008 calendar (Nov.07)
10. Flower arrangement course (Dec.07)
11. Christmas Market (Dec.07)
12. CCG Centre provided as cinema for Irish premier of the life and works of New Zealand Artist Edith Collier incorporation with The Art Yard- Waterford (Dec.07)
13. CCG office & information outlet opened in Bunmahon (Jan.08)
14. Weekly Copper Coast Geopark News column in local newspapers
15. Presentation given by Mike Sweeney about the CCG at the 1st meeting of the Geopark Forum Ireland (Feb.08)
16. Visit of Fenor Bog by mature students from Waterford Institute of Technology with Copper Coast local guide Rita Byrne (Feb. 08)
17. Article feature in of the Earth Wise magazine of the British Geological Survey (issue 25)
18. Completed ownership of Church for new centre (Mar.08)

19. Clonmel VTOS Secondary School fieldtrip (geographical investigation) with Sophie Préteseille (Mar.08)

Actions from other bodies beneficial to Copper Coast Geopark

1. Heritage Week 25th August –2nd September: Geology walks
2. Nomination of CCG for the County Waterford Community & Voluntary (CWCV) Awards 2007. Short listed for same. Certificate Issued (Nov.07)
3. Two communities from CCG were nominated for CWCV awards in different categories, both received top awards and one was the overall winner (Nov.07)
4. National TV coverage on RTE 1 “Eco-eye programme”, Sophie Préteseille interviewed about the geology of the area, why it is a Geopark and Fenor Bog was explored (Feb.08)

Actions to promote the EGN:

1. EGN corner with library available to the public for consultation.
2. Notice board with maps of all EGN members.
3. Pull ups permanently on display.
4. EGN leaflets in different languages on display and available.
5. All schools in surrounding area notified of “Meet your Geopark competition”.
6. CCG website with links and information on all EGN members’ websites.
7. Information stand and items for sale at community markets.
8. Presentation given by Sophie Préteseille about the EGN to the Irish branch of the Open University Geological Society AGM (Feb. 08).