

THE BURREN QUARTERLY

ISSUE NO. 4

SHAREHOLDERS MAGAZINE - THE BURREN VISITOR CENTRE




THE BURREN
VISITOR CENTRE

50 years of
The Burren Visitor Centre
VILLAGE FAIR

Sunday 14 September | from 1:00pm
Kilfenora Village Square

Live Music & Dancing
Crafts & Market Stalls
Food Vendors
Competitions
Kids Activities
and more...

MORE DETAILS
www.theburrencentre.com



THIS ISSUE



HELLO

Well, it has taken us a while to come down off the high that was our 50th Anniversary Celebrations last month.

An absolutely wonderful day was had by all, and we give such thanks to our amazing community for giving their time offering stalls, and games, and food, and live music and incredible dancing.

We also give thanks to all those who attended, who laughed, and cried and danced with us as we paid tribute to all those who have been part of the story of this amazing place along the way.

As such, this newsletter is filled with just a few of the very many wonderful pictures taken on the day.

And of course, here's to another 50 years!

Georgie

DONATIONS UPDATE

As reported earlier in the year, in line with our ethos of inclusion and accessibility as a social enterprise, since April 2025 we have removed the ticketed entrance fee for the Exhibition, opting for a 'pay what you can afford' donation based system instead which encourages all visitors to the Centre to engage with the exhibition, not just a small percentage.

This has been a wonderful success and a great hit with our visitors.

Georgie will be discussing more on this concept and giving detailed feedback at the AGM.

TRIPADVISOR TRAVELLER'S CHOICE

We are delighted to report that our continued improvements in customer service, offerings and visitor experience mean that this year we have been awarded a Tripadvisor Traveller's Choice Award, placing us in the top 10% of places to visit worldwide based on the reviews received this last year.

This is an incredible achievement for the Centre and gives us a foundation to build on in 2026.





Winner 2025



Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice™ Awards 2025

The Burren Visitor Centre

Reviews from millions of Tripadvisor travellers place this winner in the **top 10%** worldwide.

**Top
10%**



We hereby give notice that our annual AGM
will be taking place on
Thursday 13th November 2025 at 8pm
in the Kilfenora Ceili Band Room
at the Burren Visitor Centre

The link is provided to the 2024 AGM minutes on this email.
Any rectifications to these minutes must be received in writing
by end of day Monday 3rd November 2025 please.

There will be spaces on the Committee to fill at the AGM.
Again, any nominations for these spots should be received by end of day
on 3rd November. Nomination forms are provided on our website.

Welcome to the
Burren and Cliffs
of Moher UNESCO
Global Geopark



**THE
BURREN
VISITOR
CENTRE
IS ITS
PEOPLE**



arts **FEATURE**
boireann

Apple Brook

Apple Brook, where cider flows
As summer ebbs away
Where swallows dart the dwindling feast
I ask them, “Can you stay?”
“Oh no,” they say. “The days are short,
And we must take our flight.
O’er the sea to Valdereave,
To everlasting light.”

I’m saddened that they’re leaving
And I quite believe they see;
So they tell me that the apple brook
Will winter sing to me
And they’ll be back to nest in eaves
And teach their young to fly
Just here down at apple brook
Below the summer sky.

I shed a tear at apple brook
This everlasting night
They ask me, “Come to Valdereave,
To everlasting light?”
“If I had wings, I would, “ I said,
But then again I look
“I think I’d miss the seasons clock
Here at apple brook.”

Poem, by James Douglas, Kilfenora
published 2022 Living with the Poet



COMMUNITY IS MUCH MORE THAN BELONGING TO SOMETHING; ITS ABOUT DOING SOMETHING TOGETHER THAT MAKES BELONGING MATTER



The Burren Visitor Centre is, as we all know, a not-for-profit social enterprise. As such, we rely on grants for funding many of our projects and equipment expenses.

Alongside the CSP program, which part funds our staffing, and which we have just been rewarded for the next two years, we have also been awarded a number of other grants this year, for which we are truly grateful.

SICAP: €2500: funded part purchase of our new FaemaUp Coffee Machine
LOCAL ENHANCEMENT: Clare Co.co: €500: funded purchase of new TV for Ceili Room
DAY TO DAY: Clare Co.co: €198.97 towards oil costs for Winter 2025
BILL SLATTERY: €1000 funded new signage at Lemenah
POWER UP (APPEAL): funded €4000 towards energy costs
INCREASED COST OF BUSINESS (APPEAL): funded €4469.84 towards business rates

DECISIONS still PENDING:

AS DARRAGH DID Community Fund: €2500 for Winter Wellbeing Project

TOWN and VILLAGE: Rural Affairs: €356,000 for Vital Roof Repairs and Solar Panels

WINTER OPENING HOURS

WED-SUN 9.30AM-3.30PM



THE BURREN
VISITOR CENTRE
TEA ROOMS

BRUNCH

SERVED 9.30-3.00

IRISH BREAKFAST

€14

Two Fried Eggs, Two Sausage, Bacon Rashers, Two Pudding, Grilled Tomato, Two Toast and a Pot of Barry's Tea or an Americano (1,3,12)

BURREN BREAKFAST

€12.50

Two Fried Eggs, Two Sausage, Bacon Rashers, Grilled Tomato, Two Toast and a Pot of Barry's Tea or an Americano (1,3,12)

VEGGIE BREAKFAST

€12.50

Two Fried Eggs, Veggie Rashers, Veggie Pudding, Grilled Tomato, Two Toast and a Pot of Barry's Tea or an Americano (1,3,6,12)

EGGS ON TOAST

€6.50

Two Fried Eggs on Toast (1,3)

BIG BRUNCH TOASTIE

€9.50

Sausage, Bacon Rashers, Egg, Cheese & Tomato Toastie with Ketchup or Brown Sauce (1,3,7,12)

LUNCH

SERVED 11.30 - 3.00

SOUP & BREAD

€6.50

Fresh, homemade, seasonal soup, with Irish brown bread (1,7,9)

SOUP & SALAD

€10.50

Fresh, homemade soup, with potato and green salads and Irish brown bread (1,7,9)

TOASTIE, TAYTOS & SALAD

€10.50

Choose a toastie from the deli, served with relish, potato and green salads and a bag of Taytos (1,3,7,9,12)

SOUP & TOASTIE

€11.50

Choose a toastie from the deli, served with a bowl of fresh, homemade soup (1,3,7,9,12)

SOUP, TOASTIE & SALAD

€14.00

Homemade Soup, toastie from the deli, potato and green salads. (1,3,7,9,12)

QUICHE & SALAD

€10.50

Choose a quiche from the deli, served with relish, potato and green salads (1,3,7,9,10,11,12)

ALLERGENS: 1. Gluten / 2. Crustaceans / 3. Eggs / 4. Fish / 5. Peanuts / 6. Soy / 7. Milk / 8. Nuts / 9. Celery / 10. Mustard / 11. Sesame / 12. Sulphites / 13. Lupin / 14. Molluscs

Midweek Music



THE BURREN
VISITOR CENTRE
TEA ROOMS

**BRING YOUR
INSTRUMENT
OF CHOICE**

Kilfenora
Wednesdays
from 11am



**Ceol
timpeall
na Boirne**
Music
around
the Burren

Le tuischtaí na
Boirne í...
Tom Cooney / Bhang / Bhang
Chris Hagan / Bhang / Bhang
Conor / Bhang / Bhang
Bhang / Bhang / Bhang / Bhang
David / Bhang / Bhang / Bhang
/ Bhang / Bhang



Still Life Saturdays



THE BURREN
VISITOR CENTRE
TEA ROOMS

**ARTIFACTS
& OBJECTS
FOR DRAWING**

Kilfenora

10AM - 2PM



MANAGEMENT RESTRUCTURE

As previously reported, the Management Team at the Burren Visitor Centre has been expanded to provide more capacity and drive our Strategic Plan.

As such, we are delighted to welcome Majella McGuane, who was appointed to the role of Operations Manager at the beginning of the month.

Majella's previous roles include Cafe Manager at glór for the past 5 years, Hospitality and Facilities Manager at Limerick Greyhound Stadium, and General Manager at the Leeson Inn Hotel in Dublin. She also has experience of Business Coaching SME's and as such brings a wealth of experience to the Centre where she will be out on the floor on a daily basis overseeing the day-to-day running of the Centre, with responsibility for Staff, HR and Health & Safety.

Please say hello, and make her feel welcome to the Burren Community.

Georgie's role has now pivoted to concentrate on implementing the short and long term Strategic Plan for the Centre, while overseeing project management, grants, funding, tourism strategy, marketing, reporting and finance.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2026

The Strategic Plan for 2025 will be reviewed at the AGM:

Our key goals were:

1. To enhance ourselves as a virtual Burren Visitor Centre via digital connectivity and marketing, website, socials, google analytics, etc.
2. To enhance customer experience through experiential approaches that align with our vision and unique narrative.
3. To collaborate and communicate with shareholders, community groups, Failte Ireland, BEN, Clare Coco, and other local businesses to strengthen the role of The Burren Visitor Centre as the Gateway to the Burren and to encourage ongoing improvement of infrastructure and enhancement of tourism in North Clare.
4. To plan for and deliver the 50 year Anniversary celebrations in 2025.
5. To repair and upgrade the Burren Visitor Centre premises for work efficiency and facilitation, customer satisfaction and longevity.
6. To enhance The Burren Visitor Centre as an educational resource and centre of learning through revised educational policy and links with academia: school, college and university links and visits, temporary exhibits, public lectures, events programme, etc.
7. To improve visitor numbers partaking in the 'Burren Exhibition'.

The Strategic Plan for 2026 will be presented at the AGM:

The key goals are:

1. To enhance **customer experience** through expansion of the Digital Story Trails to offer experiential approaches across the Burren region, e.g. Poulabrone Dolmen, that align with our vision and unique narrative.
2. To **market and grow** the guided Kilfenora Village Walk as an option with tour operators.
3. To **repair and upgrade** the Burren Visitor Centre premises, e.g. roof repairs, for longevity.
4. To **enhance hospitality services** at The Burren Visitor Centre via a new branding initiative of **Burren Pantry** and Tea Room.
5. To improve **visitor engagement** via branding, marketing, signage and improvements to front façade of the Centre.
6. To enhance **customer experience** through expansion of the Online Shop.
7. To **research and consider** our own range of publications under imprint of St Fachnan's Press.
8. To **merchandise and distribute** for the UNESCO Global Geopark.
9. To enhance **community experience** through a programme of engaging Winter Events.
10. To enhance The Burren Visitor Centre as an **educational resource and centre of learning** through revised educational policy and links with academia: school, college and university links and visits, temporary exhibits, public lectures, events programme, etc.



OFFERS



PLEASE SHOW VOUCHER AT TILL TO RECEIVE DISCOUNT

SHAREHOLDER VOUCHER

**MEAL DEAL
TOASTIE
TAYTOS
AND TEA
€12**

SHAREHOLDER VOUCHER

FREE
Pot of Tea
with any Slice of
Homemade
Fruit Tea Cake

SHAREHOLDER VOUCHER

10% OFF
Emerald Isle
Jumpers
(until Dec 31st)

SHAREHOLDER VOUCHER

**BUY ONE
GET ONE FREE**
Tea & Scone
Combo
(Weekends)

SHAREHOLDER VOUCHER

**BUY ONE GET
ONE HALF PRICE**
Soup & Bread
(until Dec 31st)

SHAREHOLDER VOUCHER

10% OFF
Homemade
Jams and
Preserves



Thank you for your
continued support

The Burren Visitor Centre

THEBURRENCENTRE.IE



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