

Press Release
06/10/16

The Lough Erne Landscape Partnership team wants to hear from you!

Lough Erne is renowned for its meandering waters, mosaic of islands, wet meadows, billowing hedges, Christian heritage, plantation castles, thatched dwellings, engaging people and extraordinary traditions. With support from the Heritage Lottery Fund the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership [LELP] has been established to implement a series of projects and initiatives that will protect, conserve, raise awareness of and celebrate the built, natural and cultural heritage of Upper and Lower Lough Erne and the surrounding land. The partnership is led by RSPB and includes Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, Waterways Ireland, Fermanagh Rural Community Network, Upper Lough Erne Region, Ulster Architectural Heritage Society and the National Trust.

Barney Devine, the recently appointed LELP Programme Manager is looking forward to his new role. "HLF has supported ninety partnerships across the UK including seven in Northern Ireland. Landscape partnerships are an exciting way of bringing together organisations engaged in preserving and protecting the natural, built and cultural environments. £2.7m has been set aside by HLF to support the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership to deliver a unique range of strategic and community based activities and projects centred round the lakes from Spring 2018 – 2023".

Teresa O'Hare, LELP Communities Engagement Officer, has been busy meeting with groups across the landscape area about project ideas they may wish to take forward into the five year HLF funded programme. "Fermanagh has an extensive number of heritage groups engaged in activities unique to this area. Models of partnership working and approach to sustainability are key components of the LELP programme. When we discuss project ideas with groups we also consider how projects and groups can network and collaborate with others to achieve maximum benefit of the funds available from HLF, as well as how they can progress into the future".

As the end of October is the target date to receive outline project proposals from groups LELP is hosting a number of support events. The next event for interested built heritage groups is on **Wednesday 19th October at 7.30pm in the Barrack Store, Castle Museum, Enniskillen.**

The evening is designed to give groups information about the aims of LELP and to explain its ongoing commissioned audits of the landscape areas' built heritage, showcase other successful landscape projects from Northern Ireland and consider how LELP project outcomes can be more effectively achieved by working collaboratively.

Heritage Groups wishing to attend are invited to bring along their information materials, books, banners, videos etc for display. To book a space please email; info@lelp.org.uk or call Leza Cleary LELP Finance and Administration officer on 02866327109

Other events will be posted on the LELP website where outline submission forms can also be accessed www.lel.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

Heritage Lottery Fund

From the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife, we use National Lottery players' money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about.

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Ends