

SUNDAY 21st MAY 2017 | CLOUGHJORDAN ECOVILLAGE

NATURE & COMMUNITY

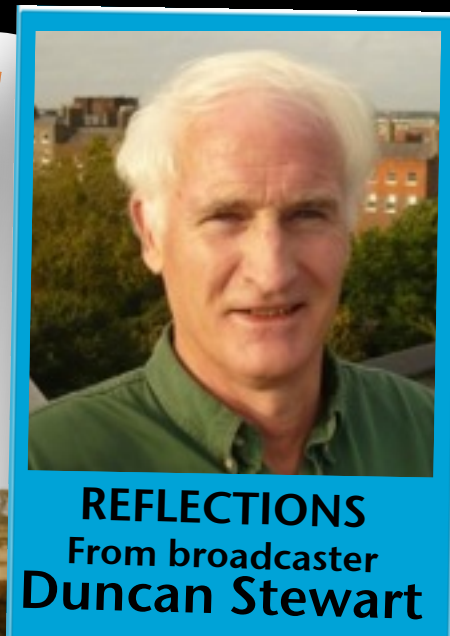


13.30 - 15.00 - Starting at the Community Amphitheatre - FREE EVENT

A talk with ecologist and RTE's "EcoEye" presenter Anja Murray will be held in the stunning location of the new outdoor Community Amphitheatre in Cloughjordan ecovillage. This will be followed by a guided tour of the biodiversity and tourism elements of the project. Participants should be prepared for an outdoor event, waterproofs and sturdy shoes are recommended. Cloughjordan Ecovillage has been recognised as one of Europe's most successful projects modelling the transition to a low-carbon society. It features a biodiversity trail, allotments for growing food, a community farm and apiary, research gardens and a community woodlands. Also the new Bredne-Beara Walkway (BBW), Ireland's first Heritage National Waymarked Trail linking the Beara peninsula with Leitrim, comes through the Ecovillage.

This event is organised by the Education Group at Cloughjordan Ecovillage

REWILDING RURAL REGENERATION & ECO-TOURISM TALK & PANEL DISCUSSION



15.00 - 16.30 - WeCreate Enterprise Centre - FREE EVENT

'Rewilding' aims to end intensive human management of habitats and allow them to re-generate naturally. This could mean the creation of large new areas of native woodland and forest, and new wetlands on cutaway bog, offering significant economic opportunities in marginalised rural areas. In this TED style talk writer and journalist Lenny Antonelli will look at what rewilding is and how it differs from traditional habitat conservation. He will explore its potential to create new eco-tourism enterprises in rewilded areas, based around walking, hiking, mountain biking, nature-watching and other adventure activities, as well as local craft and food industries centred around local nature and wildlife.

This event is organised by Cultivate Living and Learning

The panel discussion will explore the opportunities of developing sustainable eco-tourism enterprises centred on 'rewilding' project areas, with a particular focus on the midlands. The panel will include Lenny, Anja, Ricky Whelan, a director of the Abbeyleix Bog Project and others. Broadcaster Duncan Stewart will close the session with his reflections on 'rewilding'.

For further details or to book a place contact Davie at learning@thevillage.ie or on 0505 56061

These free events are supported by Notice Nature and the Irish Environmental Network, and held in association with the Cloughjordan Community Development Committee's 2017 National Biodiversity Week Programme. For more details see www.thevillage.ie For the full programme of this year's Cloughjordan Biodiversity Week see www.cloughjordan.ie