

## Contact Details

The Blackwater liaison contact for each club within the region is as follows:

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**Derrynoose Walking Club - Marian Corvan**  
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**Dungannon & District Rambling Club - May Walker**  
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**Washingbay Walking Club - Mary O'Neill**  
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**Clogher Valley Walking Club - Rowena Bailey**  
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**Knockatallon Rambling Club - Paddy Sherry**  
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**Clontibret Walking & Heritage Club - Thomas McSkane**  
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**Blayney Ramblers - Nick Hore**  
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For more information about walks development projects or any of the events please contact the Cross-Border Walks Development Officer, Caledon Courthouse, 42 Main Street, Caledon, Co Tyrone BT68 4TZ Tel: +44 (0) 28 3756 9104 Mob: 0 (00353) 8725 98291 Email: dpurdy@monaghancoco.ie

Further details on each of the events will be available nearer to the time of each event at [www.visitblackwaterregion.com](http://www.visitblackwaterregion.com) Registration in advance is essential for some of the events. It is helpful in all cases if you can let us know if you hope to attend as this helps where transport and refreshments are being provided.

## Walking Info

Most of the walks in this programme are grade 2 or 3 and leaders will be considerate of different paces – nobody will be left behind! The walking festivals include a range of walks including grade 1.

It is important that you choose a walk that is suited to your level of fitness.

Grade 3 – suitable for all walkers (3-6miles/5-10km)

Grade 2 – requires a moderate level of fitness (6-8miles/10-12km)

Grade 1 – requires you to be physically fit and capable of long distance walking (8- 12miles/12-20km) and challenging terrain such as open bogland.

### Safety First

Competent guides will lead and sweep all of the walks: please respect their instructions and do not go ahead of the leader. Where part of a route follows a public road: walk no more than two abreast, on the right, facing oncoming traffic. Whilst every effort will be made to make the events safe and enjoyable, it should be recognised that walking in the countryside carries risks. Those taking part in any of the walks must take some responsibility for their own safety.

Note: Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

### Footwear and Clothing

Suitable, sturdy, comfortable footwear and waterproof clothing should be worn on all walks. Denim jeans are not suitable – they will become very heavy when wet, are slow to dry out and provide poor insulation. Boots are required for off-road walking. Bring a change of clothing.

### Refreshments

Most of the events include some light refreshments at the end of the walk. However you are advised to bring a snack and water as there will be short breaks en route. Food and water are essential on the longer walks.

### Cost

Some of the events on this programme are funded by the EU INTERREG 111A Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland until the end of June 2008. There will be no charge for fully-funded events. The clubs that are hosting events after June are receiving no funding support and may charge a small fee to cover after-walk refreshments. The Caledon Estate Walk and the Branny Ramble are being funded independently of this programme in support of a charity and you will be asked for a donation.

### Leave no Trace

Many of the walks include routes over private property, farmland and forestry to which access has very generously been permitted. Please take your litter home, respect wildlife and be considerate of other people and their property.

[www.thepixelfactory.co.uk](http://www.thepixelfactory.co.uk) - 028 8772 6963



# Blackwater Rambling Programme 2008



The Walks Development Programme is supported by the EU INTERREG 111A Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland



Project part financed by the European Union

**Border Action**  
Poal and Combat Poverty working in partnership

## Welcome . . .

to Blackwater Regional Partnership's walking events programme for 2008. This is a cross-border partnership made up of the three council areas of Armagh, Dungannon & South Tyrone and Monaghan.

The first Blackwater Rambling Programme was delivered in 2007 as part of a new range of programmes designed to support cross border community activity and interaction; a programme supported by Border Action through the INTERREG 111A Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland. The 2007 programme brought together all of the walking and rambling clubs in the partnership area and attracted over 1000 attendees to the events. The clubs are once again coming together and each offering to host an event that will allow you to further explore the places and meet the people of the Blackwater basin.

We invite you to walk with us on this journey and enjoy the best of what this region has to offer in terms of landscape and hospitality. These walks are all open to the general public - you do not need to be a member of a walking club.

You do not need to be super-fit to enjoy walking. People walk for different reasons: to enjoy wonderful scenery, to explore different parts of the country, to feel at one with nature, for fresh air, health and fitness, for companionship - whatever the reason you will benefit in every way from the experience.

Walking is not just a physical but also a very social activity. There are a number of proactive walking clubs within the Blackwater region, each of which have their own club programmes offering a range of walks and social occasions throughout the year. Every walk is led by competent guides and new members are always welcome and looked after.



## Events Programme . . .

DATE	EVENT	REGISTRATION TIME AND PLACE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF EVENT	HOSTED BY:
Sunday 13th April	Clontibret heritage walk	Clontibret Community Centre 10.30am	An exploration of the built and natural heritage of the Clontibret area, including Castle Shane and the Heritage & Wildlife centre (€5 entry fee). After-walk refreshments at Clontibret Community centre	Clontibret heritage & walking club
Saturday 26th April & Sunday 27th April	'Boots n Bogs' Walking Festival	Church hall, Main St, Clogher Sliabh Beagh Hotel, Knockatallon 11am & 12pm both days	A range of walks allowing you to enjoy the open bogland and forest tracks of the Sliabh Beagh hills of north Monaghan and the neighbouring forests and lush landscape of the Clogher Valley. Good craic and warm hospitality in the hills. Two distances/grades offered each day. See separate festival leaflet/website for details.	Knockatallon Rambling Club and Clogher Valley walking group
Saturday 10th May	'Three Estates' Walking Festival Caledon Estate walk (£10 donation to St John's Church repair fund)	Caledon Courthouse 12.30pm (both days)	Three Counties and three Estates in close proximity - an opportunity to experience late spring on the estates; the wild garlic, bluebells and rhododendron along with all the ecclesiastical, industrial and architectural heritage that this unique area has to offer. See separate festival leaflet/website for details.	St John's Church, Caledon Caledon Regeneration Partnership
Sunday 11th May	Tynan Abbey & Castle Leslie Estate walk			Caledon, Castle Leslie & Tynan Abbey estates Glaslough Development Assoc
Sunday 1st June	The Ulster Way- St Patrick's Chair & Well to Aughnacloy	McCreehy's Mill, Aughnacloy 12.30pm	A new section of the Ulster Way that will link it to the Sliabh Beagh Way; taking in the Peoples Millennium Woods in Derrygorry and Favour Royal and St Patrick's Chair & Well. After-walk refreshments in Clara Hall. Approx 7 miles	Truagh Development Partnership and Aughnacloy Development Association
Sunday 8th June	The Branny Ramble	US Grant's ancestral homestead, near Ballygawley 2.30pm	Explore the country lanes around the homestead and the fine views from Branny hill fort. BBQ and entertainment included. Donation to Cancer Research.	Killymaddy Tourist information centre 0044 28 8776 7259
Saturday 14th June & Sunday 15th June	Launch of the Knockatallon looped walks	Sliabh Beagh Hotel, Knockatallon 12.30pm & 2.30pm	A celebration of the completion of this eagerly awaited set of four looped walks complete with waymarking and walking cards. Distances and terrain to suit everyone; ramblers and families all welcome. After-walk refreshments at the Sliabh Beagh Hotel. See separate leaflet/website for details.	Blackwater Regional Partnership Natural Resource Tourism and Knockatallon Rambling Club
Sunday 22nd June	The Monaghan Way-Carrickaduff to Castleblayney	Derrynoose Community Centre 11.30am	Explore the varied landscape and terrain of another section of this long-distance waymarked way along with after-walk hospitality at Derrynoose community centre.	Derrynoose walking club
Sunday 27th July	The 'Hills and Braes' of Armagh City	The Palace Demesne 10.00am	An 8-mile trek of this historic city taking in such delights as Folly Glen, the Observatory and Planetarium, the two Cathedrals and a lunchtime picnic on the Mall.	Armagh rambling club
Saturday 23rd August	Dungannon parklands	Tesco carpark 10.00am	An urban walk with a countryside experience through the extensive lands that make up Dungannon Park and other lesser known parklands. Picnic by the lakeside.	Dungannon & District Rambling club
Sunday 21st September	Clogher Valley walk	Cavanakirk, Clogher 2.00pm	Different distances; all guaranteeing beautiful views of the lush landscapes of the Clogher Valley followed by a sample of its produce.	Clogher Valley walking group
Saturday 11th October	Loughshore trail	Washingbay Centre for Healthy Living 10.30am	Enjoy the flatter landscapes and bog ramparts of the Lough shore where the River Blackwater ends its journey and some after-walk hospitality at the Washingbay healthy living centre.	Washingbay walking club
Sun 21st December	Mulled wine in Knockmany forest	Lower Knockmany Forest carpark 12.30pm	Finish the year with festive cheer in the beautiful Knockmany forest, Clogher.	Knockatallon and Clogher Valley walking clubs