

2009 Booking Form

Please fill out one form per delegate (photocopy as necessary)

Delegate Rate	€140.00 pp
IRL Members	€100.00 pp
Dinner & Rural Awards only	€55.00 pp

Special diet requirements – please specify

Delegate Fee Includes: All Documentation, Tea and Coffee, Reception, Lunch, Dinner & Guided Tours

Name: _____

Group: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is payment: € _____

Please return with payment to:

Maria Pettit
Irish Rural Link
Moate Business Park
Clara Road
Moate
Co. Westmeath
090 6482744
info@irishrurallink.ie

CEO's welcome

This year's Irish Rural Link conference will focus on a vision of how rural people can come together to build resilient rural communities. Communities themselves need to take the lead role in shaping their own futures.

The difficulties being experienced by agriculture, construction and traditional manufacturing demonstrates the need to build and diversify the rural economy. It is useful to remember the role of communities in the last recession where they formed into partnerships, which in turn accessed the resources and skills of agencies based at local and national level.

Anyone passionate about rural development & rural resilience should visit Dunhill Ecopark to witness what can be achieved when people join together to rise to the challenges they face and work to build a sustainable social, environmental and economic future.

I look forward to seeing you in Waterford!

Seamus Boland, CEO Irish Rural Link



Minister Eamon O'Cuiv opening IRL annual conference 2008

IRL would like to acknowledge the help and support of

The Board & Staff of Dunhill Ecopark
www.dunhillecopark.com
www.irishrurallink.ie



Irish Rural Link
Nasc Tuaithe na hÉireann



Rising to the Challenge

Revitalising Rural
Communities

7th and 8th May 2009

Hosted by:
Dunhill Ecopark, Dunhill
Co. Waterford www.dunhillecopark.com

The Majestic Hotel
Tramore, Co. Waterford



Rising to the Challenge

Revitalising Rural Communities

Once again Irish Rural Link is offering an AGM which combines project visits, information sessions, networking and good fun.

Join us in Dunhill, Co. Waterford for a two-day Conference which will celebrate community working for community.

The Dunhill Experience offers delegates an insight to the work of the organisation. Delegates will be taken on tour of the surrounding area to view projects, such as

- Dunhill Enterprise Units
- Copper Coast trail
- Inventors Village
- Equality & Diversity Unit
- Wetlands & Biogas Digester
- Mahon Falls

There will be a Q&A session to discuss the projects and explore opportunities.

The tour will conclude in Dunhill Ecopark with a group discussion facilitated by Michael Kenny, Centre for Adult Education, NUI, Maynooth.

Irish Rural Link (IRL) – the national group campaigning for sustainable rural communities – provides a voice for Rural Ireland. IRL, formed in 1991, is a national network of organisations and individuals.

The network provides a structure through which rural groups and communities can articulate their common needs and priorities, share their experiences and present their case to policy makers at Local, National and EU level.

Programme - Thursday 7th May

12p.m.	Registration & Light Lunch Dunhill Ecopark, Dunhill, Co. Waterford
1p.m.	Tour of Ecopark Hub of Innovation & creativity Grass Roots Tourism Eco-lodge Equality & Diversity unit Inventors Village Wetlands & Biogas Digester Enterprise Units Q&A Bus departs for Copper Coast Tour Mahon Falls
4.30p.m.	Return to Dunhill Ecopark Tea & Coffee Review of afternoon & facilitated discussion, Michael Kenny, NUI Maynooth
6.00p.m.	IRL AGM Majestic Hotel, Tramore
8.00p.m.	Launch of 'IRL – TRAINING' in Hotel lobby
8.30p.m.	Dinner – followed by IRL Annual Awards – Guest Speaker: Ciarán Lynch, Tipperary Institute



IRL Conference project visits 2008

Visit to Bruree Foods

Rising to the Challenge

Revitalising Rural Communities

Conference - Friday 8th May

9.30 – 10.00a.m.	Registration
10.30a.m.	Conference Opened by Mr. Martin Cullen T.D. Minister for Arts, Sport & Tourism
10.55 – 11.45a.m.	Panel Discussion Chair: Mairead Lavery, Irish Farmers Journal Overview: Mairead Lavery Panel: Sennan Cooke, Dunhill Ecopark Seamus Boland, CEO Irish Rural Link Eoin McLoughlin, Comhar
1.00 – 2.00p.m.	Questions & Answers Wind up: Michael Kenny, Centre for Adult Education, NUI, Maynooth.
2.00p.m.	Annual Conference Ends
2.00p.m.	Light Lunch

Please note the 9.30a.m. start on Friday

Transport will be provided for all visits on Thursday

Registration fee must accompany booking form

Don't forget an umbrella!



Mountain Bike trail



Visiting Village of Tradition