



REPORT

Green Foundation Ireland joins with Farming for Nature in inviting you to a

FARM WALK

hosted by Donna Mullen



Venue: Golashane Nature Reserve, Tierworker, Kells, Co Meath
(Eircode: A82 VE86)

Saturday 11 September 2021
14:00 – 16:30

This event is part of BurrenBeo Trust's [Farming for Nature](#) Farm Walks

Farm Walk

This farm walk at Golashane Nature Reserve near Kells in County Meath, our first person-to-person event since COVID, was hosted by GFI's Chair, DONNA MULLEN.

Farming for Nature, which was established in 2018, is an independent, not-for-profit initiative which aims to support high nature value farming in Ireland.

These farm walks are an opportunity for the Farming For Nature farmers to showcase their contribution to nature and good farming practices on their land.

*This event was part of BurrenBeo Trust's
[Farming for Nature](#) farm walks*

ABOUT OUR HOST

Donna Mullen:

Chair of Green Foundation Ireland, Donna is an environmentalist and works as an ecologist, drawing up nature trails and sustainability plans. Her work involves spending many happy hours surveying buildings for bats, and she helped draw up the guidelines on bat surveys for the Heritage Council (Traditional Farm Building Scheme). She is a founder member of both Bat Conservation Ireland and the Irish Environmental Network, and has also served on the board of the Irish Wildlife Trust.



ABOUT OUR FARM WALK

We were lucky to have glorious weather as people arrived for the walk and talks. We started with our usual tea and cakes, and **Donna Mullen** gave a talk about the bats on the farm. Seven species of bats have been found here, and we went into the large barn to see the bat box projects, and look at a little soprano pipistrelle which was tucked into a box.

Next we looked at the cage where we had just released red squirrels, and we spoke about soft releases and the work done by Wildlife Rehabilitation Ireland.

Then it was off to the forest, with some discussion on ash dieback. We visited the pine marten box where **Brian Keeley** spoke about pine martens and the way in which they are helping in the return of the red squirrel.

After this, it was time to visit our artificial badger sett. Some of the people visiting had helped in building it several years ago. We then looked at the barn owl box, and all too soon we finished up by going back for more tea and cakes!

With approximately 30 people attending, it was really inspiring to see so much enthusiasm for farming for nature.



Green Foundation Ireland

24 September 2021