



Information letter for those to whom fracking matters and (some) updates on the website FFI
contact: ineke@frackingfreeireland.org visit: www.frackingfreeireland.org

Thanks to all for the contribution

Upcoming events

On Thurs. night 8th Dec. Carrick Against Fracking will be having an open evening in Burkes Bar Bridge st. Carrick on Shannon at **8pm**. All welcome, refreshments with tea and coffee available.

We will discuss our progress so far, meet new people and share ideas for the future. For info call John on 087 909 3 909

We are manning a stand in **Sligo** in the week before **Christmas**. It will be on O Connell Street, the main thoroughfare, outside McGarrigles Pub, (the manager of the pub is providing a canopy, lights, and table) and we will have literature on fracking, badges, and info stand, and letters to Pat Rabbitte, and a special festive card for people to sign and send to their own TD's, (basically, instead of "Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel", it will read, "No wells, No Wells, No Wells, No Wells" (with a gas flare instead of a star. If anyone would like to volunteer a few hours, or add some material, stickers, etc, please get in touch with Northwest Network against Fracking at youthmardingo@gmail.com or phone Meg on 0863840254.
peace everyone

Launching flags on Saturday

Love Leitrim Group Cordially invites

.....
To the Prize giving
Presentation to the winners at 2.00pm
At Manorhamilton Library, Main St.
Manorhamilton

On **Saturday 10th December 2011**
contact: Liz lizejbyrne@eircom.net

The Love Leitrim Manorhamilton Group has a stand at the above exhibition for a week from

Friday 9th. We have information on fracking and T shirts, hi-viz jackets and stickers for sale

LSC Christmas Open Art Exhibition

You are cordially invited to the opening of the LSC Christmas Open Art Exhibition from 11am to 7pm Friday 9th.

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served from 1pm, and why not visit the Farmers Market next door at the Bee Park, which is open until 2pm.

We have a huge selection of art work for sale at reasonable prices made by artists based in the North West, including hand-blown glass Christmas decorations, jewellery, paintings, etchings, sculpture and much more.

The Show is open Monday to Saturday 12pm to 4pm but closed Sunday, until 23rd December.

We hope to see you on the 9th.

Happy Christmas from the Board and Staff of LSC.

Leitrim Sculpture Centre
New Line
Manorhamilton
Co Leitrim

www.leitrimsculpturecentre.ie
Telephone: 071 985 5098

LSC acknowledge the financial support of the Arts Council.

LOVE LEITRIM, MANORHAMILTON GOT THE ANSWERS! Table Quiz – report by Nuala

Heraghty's Manorhamilton was the location for Friday night's very successful fundraising quiz organised by the Love Leitrim Manorhamilton Group.

15 teams battled it out for first place and, even after a tie breaker round it was impossible to separate the top two teams.

The next stage was sudden death with the two team captains Mary McInerney and Diarmuid Drummond flying the flag.

'On my own' were the final winners, team members were: Pat Mawn, Sean Rooney, Mandy Mawn and Diarmuid Drummond, runners up were: Olivia & Eddie Mitchell, Cecily Gilligan and Mary McInerney. Mary Daly, quiz mistress supreme, ensured it was a thoroughly enjoyable night.

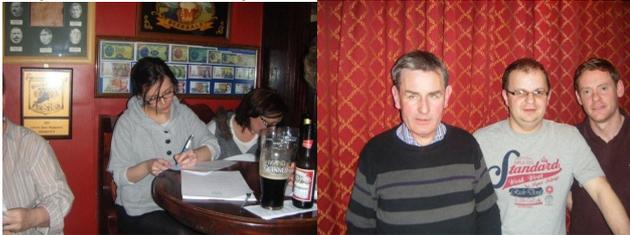
Prize for best team name went to 'Its far from fracking we were reared'. Prizes for the night were kindly donated by local businesses and individuals: Daily Fresh Vegetable shop, Centra, McMorrows butchers, Heraghty's Pub, Alan McCluny - Leitrim Pottery, Liam Kelly, Dervish, Mairead Higgins, Sheila O'Keeffe, Patricia McNulty, Linda Bell and Charlie Easterfield.

Many thanks to all those who supported the event and volunteers Bernie Farrell, John Bell, Loreta Meehan and Jamie Gorman. Thanks too to Bernie and Tom Heraghty for hosting the event and Kieran Fox for supplying the sound system.

The amount raised on the night was E538.50 and will be used to promote awareness of Hydraulic Fracturing in the area. For further information on Hydraulic Fracturing (fracking) visit www.what-the-frack.org or www.frackingfreeireland.org and come along to the exhibition of local art in the Sculpture Centre Manorhamilton where there will be an information stand on fracking **from Friday 9th Dec.**



Captains and Mary



On my own



punters and teams



Teams and volunteers



volunteers

Please add to your master list
dee-gallagher@hotmail.com

Fracking song received via Web FFI(good song!)

From: Dave Craggs dave-southport@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Fracking song

Message Body:

Hi I wondered if you would like to put our song/video up on your site , it has been made in conjunction with REAF. the link to the youtube video is, http://youtu.be/4TmPqB0a_qw

or I can send you a file or cd. Thanks Dave .

Fracking song - THE END.wmv **When are they gonna learn.** (Fracking Hell)
THE END. A rock band from Southport UK, Helping REAF with their Struggle against Fracking. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TmPqB0a_qw&feature=youtu.be

Thanks for viewing our video, More music from The END, coming soon, please watch this space. Thanks again. Dave. any one who wants to get in touch please drop me a line at davestrider@hotmail.co.uk

davestrider0169

County Leitrim Council Meeting- moratorium on fracking

Report by Des Guckian. dgucks@yahoo.com

Just want to record the following. John Cronogue, Brian Rooney and I attended the meeting of Leitrim Co Council where they agreed to contact Minister Rabbittee to ask him to impose a five year moratorium on fracking. The motion was

proposed by Cllr Gerry Dolan (Ind). His speech lacked the fire he displayed at various public meetings on fracking. Cllr Francie Gilmartin (FF) formally seconded and the Chairperson immediately declared it carried.

There was no debate at all.

It was a pity we did not get a chance to hear what, for instance, the FG position is. I see no reason to feel complacent. I felt they were a cunning and cowardly lot. They will not have a say if it comes to permission being given, but someone should have put a strong argument against fracking and Cllrs should have shown leadership. No doubt some of them would reassure Tamboran of their full support -- for a consideration.

Sincerely. Des Guckian.

Writings to politicians....

From: jrib4@hotmail.com

To: mike@mikenesbitt.co.uk

Subject: Hydraulic Fracking Motion in Northern Ireland Assembly

Date: Tue, 6 Dec 2011 23:56:51 +1100

ATTN: Mike Nesbitt

My name is Jessica Burns and I am currently watching a live stream of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Having read the 'Briefing for Medical Professionals on the Potentially Harmful Effects of Hydraulic Fracturing ("Fracking")', I can only assume that you did not. As I am viewing a live stream I cannot quote your statement verbatim, however, it was to the effect that General Practitioners in Fermanagh are encouraged to blindly write their politicians without having conducted their own research.

Page 10 of the briefing clearly states "**If, having read this briefing and having done your own research**, you feel there is cause for concern or the need for more information, then as the advocates of public health we urge you to write to our politicians".

Furthermore, the cover letter emailed to the General Practitioners along with the template letter states in the 10th paragraph, "**If having read this paper and having done your own research**, you feel there is cause for concern or the need for more information, then as advocates for public health we urge you to please write to/email our politicians".

I can only assume that your misinformation was either intentional, or wilfully ignorant. You have, in parliament, cast a slur on the integrity of the doctors of Fermanagh by implying that they would put their names forward in support of a cause that they do not believe to be true. Not only is this a discredit to Fermanagh's medical

practitioners, but your comments were not related to the issue of the safety of fracking and trivialised the concerns presented to you by the community.

It would be a great service to your constituency to ensure that the statements you present are in fact correct, as Straw Man arguments are really no argument at all. Please ensure that you actually read information presented to you in future as I have no doubt it will shape your opinions for the better in each situation.

Jessica Burns

.....and gas company (see former newsletters for full story)

Richard

It's two weeks since we spoke and I was just back on your website hoping you had plugged some of the gaps. But I was disappointed. Still exactly the same.

Your website really puzzles me. I can't figure out if you have the information and haven't gotten round to displaying it or you just don't have the info. For example, I would have thought you would have had a management team in place by now? How can you run your operations without one? I would be a bit worried about that one.

I hear the local communities have been vociferous in voicing their concerns but you haven't recorded any. Maybe you felt they weren't worth recording? At least that what your blank 'Local Issues and concerns' sections says to me. It just doesn't look good.

One more thing. I saw somewhere that David Falvey is a director but he doesn't appear on your list under 'Board of Directors'. Maybe I got that wrong.

Finally, if your website problems stem from not having a web content manager on your books, I can assure you there are plenty of well-educated and very able people in Fermanagh, Leitrim, Roscommon, Cavan, Donegal and Sligo. If you already have one, they're clearly not up to the job. So I'd advise you to sack to him/her and take on a local youngster.

Regards

Majella Mccarron majella.mccarron@gmail.com

SOME 'OLD' CORRESPONDENCE - licence NI

Meg Rybicki youthmardingo@gmail.com

page 33 of that report I have just sent you the link to states:

LICENCES

Petroleum licences are granted for an initial period of five years but can be renewed for a further term of five years. If it is demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the Department, that commercial quantities of oil or gas are to be found in the licensed area a final 30 year term may be granted (subject to at least half of the original licence area being surrendered). Licences can be issued for areas up to 350 sq km; licensees are required to carry out agreed work programmes and to report on these to the Department. This information can be kept confidential, if a company so requires, for up to ten years but after that it becomes publicly available

ROYALTIES AND COMPENSATION TO THE FORMER OWNERS OF PETROLEUM RIGHTS
Under the 1964 Act and the 1965 Regulations on royalties a 7.5% royalty is payable on all petroleum 'won and saved'. This is passed to the former owners of the petroleum rights by way of compensation.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Petroleum (Production) Act (Northern Ireland) 1964.

On 11/28/11, Meg Rybicki <youthmardingo@gmail.com> wrote:
I could only find a pdf from 2005, so will keep searching, this is what I found from DETI and it has some interesting maps, could be used in a presentation or similar.
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/gsni/minerals/downloads/DT1%2008%200043196%20%20Mineral%20&%20Petroleum%20Exploration%20&%20Development.pdf>

On 11/28/11, Majella Mccarron majella.mccarron@gmail.com wrote:
I just spoke to John White, Head of Minerals & Petroleum Branch (DETI)
And he is claiming there was Public Consultation re: granting Tamboran license. Says it was advertised in various local papers - though what precisely was advertised I don't know as he couldn't get off the phone quick enough and told me I should write to him. But it'll take weeks before he'll get back to me if at all.

Does anyone know anything at all about these press ads. They may well exist - maybe tucked in with the obituaries. I need to know this quite soon.

Tyler, you did a great job on Friday marching to the DETI - that was quite a spread in the Irish News. I see for the first time a letter from FFAN in

the Impartial Reporter. That was great. And the Fermanagh Herald want to interview Sr Majella. Finally getting some media attention

Majella

What I'm looking for are ads in local papers e.g. Belfast Telegraph, Irish News, Impartial Reporter

The DETI are claiming they carried out a Public Consultation by placing ads in local papers.

Updates on the FFI web

Northern Ireland Places Fracking Moratorium Pending Environmental Assessment



Northern Ireland's Assembly has approved a Green Party/Alliance motion for a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, pending an environmental assessment.

The vote passed by 49 votes to 30, with the Ulster Unionist Party abstaining.

The Democratic Unionist Party voted in opposition. Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster told the assembly that motion was "fundamentally flawed."

The Minister reiterated that the licences that had been issued to date were not for fracking but Jesk-bound research into the potential for hydraulic fracturing and sought to reassure the assembly that she had "full confidence" in Northern Ireland's planning process and other regulatory frameworks to deal with the issue.

The motion stated "the process of fracking can cause serious well blowouts, which put both workers and local communities at risk; considers that the production of hard-to-reach fossil fuels is not
<http://www.naturalgaseurope.com/northern-ireland-places-fracking-moratorium>
(Web FFI: Irish press/Fermanagh-NI)

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Special Report: Gas Drilling Brings Stress, Social Ills

By John Gever, Senior Editor, MedPage Today
Published: December 05, 2011

Neighbor pitted against neighbor. Brother against brother. Father against son.

Those phrases, often used to describe how the Civil War affected local communities and families, are now being applied to a contemporary upheaval – the lucrative development of gas resources in the Marcellus Shale region of the northeastern U.S.

Out-of-state money and workers are flooding into rural communities where economic prosperity had been a distant memory. With them, according to sociologists who have been studying the Marcellus boom, have come disruptions to

<http://www.medpagetoday.com/PublicHealthPolicy/EnvironmentalHealth/30010>

Received from Meg: 'this article a little ambiguous but look at the very last paragraph (Web FFI: political issues/research – fracking and our health)

Other news

Business Economy UK Companies Politics & Policy UK Small Companies London 2012 Olympics

December 7, 2011 8:32 pm

Wikipedia probes edits by Bell Pottinger

By Tim Bradshaw and Jim Pickard

Wikipedia, the online user-generated encyclopedia, has suspended 10 accounts associated with Bell Pottinger, the firm at the heart of a [dispute over lobbying industry ethics](#), on suspicion there may have been a breach of its editing rules.

Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia, told the Financial Times that it was conducting an internal investigation into changes made to the pages of Bell Pottinger's clients in a case which has roused controversy over the methods used by lobbying companies to influence opinion.

More

The website, which is among the world's most popular online destinations, is investigating whether Bell Pottinger employees broke its

Bit off topic, but worth to mention, Fair play to Wikipedia!

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/0d13cc7e-2104-11e1-8a43-00144feabdc0.html?ftcamp=rss>

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- PetroChina has discovered shale gas in China's Sichuan province, confirming that the energy-hungry country is sitting on vast reserves of this unconventional fuel source
- In the Netherlands the companies who were intending to frack in the East part of the country has withdrawn, reason unknown
- An earth quake of 5.4 in Nijmegen, (NL) close to Xanten in Germany and travelled unto the far north (Groningen) west (Rotterdam) and south (Province Limburg) (a few weeks ago)
- Prof. Wubbo Ockels (a former astronaut) held a lecture in Tilburg oppose to fracking and stressing for renewable energy
- We should invite him to Ireland, instead of listening to prof. De Pater (pro fracking) who met Pat Rabbitte in November
- I (Ineke) received from Pat Rabbite a standard answer – explaining which stage we are in and no licence is given - on my letter in which I stressed for renewable energy and a ban on fracking. Sure, he did not read the letter, will have to write another one.

OVERVIEW OF GROUPS/NETWORKS

Carrick Against Fracking

Meetings every week (Thursday) in Burke's Bar, Bridge street

Contact: John Cronogue jcronogue@gmail.com tel: 087 909 3 909

West Cavan: Shannon-Erne Protection-Alliance

Contact: Tom Hyde toseitheachain1@eircom.net

Ardcarne Against Fracking

Meetings every Monday in a pub in Cootehall

Contact: Leah Doherty (doherty.lea@gmail.com) 087 7409102 / 071 966 7360

Love Leitrim - Manorhamilton -

Weekly meetings on a Thursday at the Bee Park, Manorhamilton, 8pm.

chair: Bernie Meehan bernimeehan77@gmail.com
Contact: Dervilla Keegan (dervybird@hotmail.com)
086 165 7424

Kiltibrid Antifracking Action Group -

julieanngale@eircom.net

Sligo/Glean

Contact: Kate Wilson tulipsandoysters@eircom.net

North West Network against Fracking

www.facebook.com/pages/North-West-Network-Against-Fracking

by Meg Rybicki youthmardingo@gmail.com
0863840254

Ursula Shweiger islandview12@yahoo.ie

Magdalena Jozwiak gajesia@gmail.com

Meetings on Thursdays at 9 pm in O'Donnell's pub, main street **Cliffoney, co.Sligo**

contact: Meg Rybicki youthmardingo@gmail.com 086
3840254

DULBIN CONTACT

Dame Street Outreach coordinator:

-Lee Page leepage100@gmail.com

Tommy Foster

tommy.j.foster@gmail.com

Talamh task group - research/legal group

contact: talamhactiongroup@gmail.com

Telephone information/tree service is available.

- contact John and Val Bailey: **071 9643989**

bailey.john45@gmail.com

contact Brigit Beemster: **071-9163669**

brigitbeemster@hotmail.com

Kinlough, co.Leitrim

Meetings Wed at 8 pm Community Centre/ local Pub?

kinloughnofracking@gmail.com

Paul Soffe psoffe@yahoo.co.uk

Brian Sweeney sweeneymusic@yahoo.com

Lucy Cooke lucyman123@googlemail.com

Ballinagleragh

Gearoid lynch.gearoid@gmail.com

Bawnboy Glen

Keadue Cara Crewdson caracrewdson@hotmail.co.uk

Ballinamore Joan, Tracey

Joan Walsh joanw2006@eircom.net

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=518359759> (Joan)

Geevahh

Tiffany Budd tiffanybudd79@gmail.com

julieanngale@eircom.net

Ballyshannon

Sonya andraiocht@hotmail.com

conservation/tamboran/south fermanagh/Donegal

COUNTY CLARE

County Clare contact details:

West and East Clare:

clarefrack@gmail.com

Veronica Miriam Quilligan:

90035950@umail.ucc.ie;

East Clare alisrob@eircom.net

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/No-Fracking-ClareLimerick/241082045932097>

Blogs:

<http://www.facebook.com/nofrackingcavan>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Carrick-Against-Fracking/246513672047924>

<http://www.facebook.com/WhatTheFrack>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Stop-Fracking-Fermanagh/133710973389744>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/North-West-Network-Against-Fracking/279444575416522>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/No-Fracking-ClareLimerick/241082045932097>

Groups

fracking-ireland@googlegroups.com apply for membership to Charlie Williams charlie2williams@gmail.com