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# NEWSLETTER

## Spring 2011

### Chairman's Message

A **Special General Meeting** of Donegal Woodland Owners Society Limited will take place on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011 at 8pm in Jacksons Hotel Ballybofey**. The outcome of this meeting will guide DWOSL into the future. It is vital to have as many members as possible present. There are 3 items on the Agenda - the DWOSL Energy Supply Contract, the 2011 DWOSL Leader Grant application and the Donegal Forest Fires of 2011.

May 2011 will be remembered for the fires that spread throughout upland areas. Donegal forests were badly affected with 1,000 hectares burned. About 40% of these forests are in private ownership and 60% in public ownership. The hill fires covered vast areas. One fire travelled over 15 miles and others had a fire front of over 3 miles. It is unprecedented in Ireland for fires to travel such distances. Around Dungloe 20,000 acres of land burned and 7,500 acres around Glenties. On the Bank holiday weekend the Donegal Fire Service received 466 calls. Lives were put at risk, property damaged and destroyed, wildlife killed and forests ruined.

Dry weather and strong winds made fire fighting difficult and dangerous. Why were there so many fires? How many people will be held accountable for such destruction? Forestry fire insurances cover, in these areas (for those who have it) are increasing by up to 40%. New clients who are seeking forest fire insurance in these areas are not, at present, being given quotes until the insurance companies see their exposure to recent claims.

Upland areas are being turned into fire prone zones. The creation of special areas of conservation and protection, destocking, and farmers being paid to be less productive, are all contributing to this. Sheep numbers in Ireland have fallen from 5.2 million to just over 2 million. Rural dwellers, hill farmers and forestry owners now face the growing threat of being burned out. With the present land use policy, fires in these areas will only get worse. When the rain came, it helped to put out the fires. How many thousands of tons of fine ash and silt are now being washed into Donegal's rivers and lakes? Upland management policy needs to change.

Have your say at the Special General Meeting on 02-06-2011.

John Jackson, Chairman DWOSL



### Report from the AGM of Donegal Woodland Owners Society Limited On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, at The Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town

The A.G.M. was opened with Mr John Jackson addressing the meeting and introducing the DWOSL forester Meike Siebel and the Available Services to DWOSL members. Mr John Jackson stated that "Our trees don't know recession, just growth. We now live in a very challenging climate, lets all treat this natural resource with due respect. Farm foresters want to invest in and fast-track this sector".

DWOSL firmly believe that Farm Forestry must double Ireland's forest cover by 2030, thereby creating sustainable jobs throughout Ireland, while feeding the growing demand from our timber processing industries. With our tree growth (competitive) advantage, farm forestry is also providing a vital range of ecosystem services and producing very valuable home-grown energy.

DWOSL members are convinced that now is the time to grow this proven, labour intensive industry, rooted in Ireland, for the benefit of Irish citizens and the environment.

40 members attended, 35 members sent their apologies. Also in attendance were Mr. Martin Regan, Forest Service, Mr. Steven Meyen, TEAGASC and DWOSL Forester Ms. Meike Siebel. Minutes and Accounts were adopted. 3 committee members were re-elected onto the DWOSL Committee.

Mr. Martin Regan spoke of the importance of having up-to-date inventory figures available as a private forest owner in order to base management decisions on. He stated that aerial photographs of individuals forests can be provided by the forest service over a 3 year time span. Mr. Regan stressed that it is the individual's responsibility to conduct such inventories or get professional help. He explained inventory practices to give DWOSL members an overview of the involved work. He commented on recent changes of the Afforestation Grant Rules and confirmed that Road Grants are still available for plantations that will be ready for thinning within two years.

Steven Meyen gave a practical view on how to successfully manage and thin a woodland in order to achieve maximum benefits in return.

Main topics of discussion included timber harvesting and rising timber demand, the wood energy market and details of the proposed ESCo and LEADER project of the DWOSL, forest machinery and training. Thanks was given to all present for their loyalty and commitment. A meeting with the Minister Simon Coveney, Agriculture, Marine and Food, with responsibility for Forestry, is being arranged.



Left Picture: At the 4th Annual General Meeting of the Donegal Woodland Owners Society Limited in Donegal Town.  
 Right Picture: (L to R) John Coyle, Secretary; Raymond Treacy, Vice Chairman; John Jackson, Chairman; Steven Meyen, Teagasc Forestry Development Officer; Martin Regan, Forest Service; at Podium.

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL?

It was agreed at the 2010 AGM to make the renewal date for membership of the Donegal Woodland Owners Society Limited the last day of March each year. **ANY QUERIES PHONE ADMIN DWOS 086 0410809**

## 2011 Elected Committee Members

### NORTH DONEGAL

*Treasurer* Leslie Edwards 086 1036216  
 Charles Doherty 086 8220247

### SOUTH DONEGAL

*Treasurer* Hugh McGarrigle 086 8094103  
*PRO* Richard Dobson 087 6852153

### WEST DONEGAL

*Secretary* Thomas Becht 087 2625590  
 Daniel O'Donnell 087 2142207

### EAST DONEGAL

*Vice chairman* Raymond Treacy 087 2441354  
 Michael Mullin 087 6774367  
*Chairman* John Jackson 086 8175056  
 Keith Stewart 086 6006468  
 John Coyle 086 8206714



Elected Committee: (back row, from L to R) Richard Dobson, John Coyle, Leslie Edwards, Charles Doherty, Thomas Becht, Hugh McGarrigle; (front, L to R) Daniel O'Donnell, Michael Mullin, Meike Siebel, John Jackson and Raymond Treacy (Keith Stewart absent from photo)

Committee members meet every month on the third Monday evening. If you have any query or concern that you feel should be discussed during those meetings please feel free to get in contact with your local committee member (field officer).

The committee members function as Safety officers in their region. The committee is divided into the following sub-committees, which have additional meetings throughout the month:

- Thinning sub-committee: Leslie Edwards, Thomas Becht
- Business sub-committee: Raymond Treacy, John Coyle, John Jackson, Thomas Becht, Charles Doherty.

**NEW Buy & Sell Section on DWOSL WEBSITE: [www.donegalwoodlandowners.com](http://www.donegalwoodlandowners.com)  
DWOSL Members are welcome to email their items to: [forester.dwosl@gmail.com](mailto:forester.dwosl@gmail.com)**

## **ESCo (Energy Service Company) – Update**

by Thomas Becht, Committee Member

The DWOSL-Business-Subcommittee has developed a detailed model to simulate and calculate:

Finance, Revenue, Savings and Wood Fuel Quantities for the proposed Esco-Contract between Donegal County Council (DoCoCo) and Donegal Woodland Owners Society Ltd (DWOSL).

For altogether 6 Public Service Buildings in Co. Donegal, the detailed data of this calculation model will be available to all of our members during a Special General Meeting on Thursday, the 2nd June, 8pm, at Jacksons Hotel, Ballybofey, where all our present members will have to make the decision whether DWOSL will go ahead with the proposed ESCO-contract together with Donegal County Council or not.

The Aim of this article is to inform, and to prepare you to make an informed decision. Detailed results will be available on the evening of the Special General Meeting. While we can not supply the detailed information in this newsletter article we would like to introduce you to this problematic with a calculation model of a “fictitious” building similar in size to a Public Service Building in Co. Donegal.

During the Special General Meeting, after viewing the detailed data, a discussion of the proposed ESCO-Contract should take place. After that, we all should be able to decide between the following three possibilities:

- DWOSL does not want to enter an ESCO-Contract with Donegal County Council.
- DWOSL does not want to enter an ESCO-Contract with Donegal County Council but would like to supply the wood-fuel to a third party ESCO-Company which supplies energy to Donegal County Council.
- DWOSL does want to act as an ESCO-Contractor to Donegal County Council.

As we are in recessionary times and probably will be for a long time, this decision will affect our long-term future dramatically. The economic situation in which we are at the moment could be a chance to develop our organisation into a main player in the Bio-energy market of Co. Donegal if not in Ireland. On the other hand, borrowing approx. €300,000 to buy into the machinery and hardware could expose us to the risk of failure.

The decision is with us..... We do have the raw material growing in our forests....

But we still do have to grow our organisation into a size, which will be capable of handling such an amount of timber and money.

In order to prepare you for the decision on the night, the following table gives you a summary of data for a fictitious building with a yearly oil consumption of approx. 25550 litre oil at 0.65 €(excluding VAT) per litre oil. This Oil-Bill has to be replaced with wood-fuel from DWOSL. Also DWOSL has to provide the wood boilers and auxiliary hardware. The existing Oil-boilers will act as a backup system and DWOSL has to take the operation and maintenance cost into account. At the same time our overall cost has to stay 10 % below the cost of oil.

This is achievable. We will operate a small profit. However, the DWOSL members will have a market and a guaranteed price for the standing timber. Also we create Employment. Such a building will consume approx. 90 cubic meter of timber per Year. This represents three lorry loads of timber; staying here in Donegal and not exported as cheap raw material. The employment will be created in harvesting, extracting, haulage, yarding, supplying and firing of the wood fuel.

The table is subdivided into:

1. Capital Cost -- Cost of wood boiler and auxiliary hardware
2. Fuel Cost -- Cost of harvesting, extracting, yarding etc
3. Operating Cost of Heating Station -- maintenance and labour
4. Travelling & Transport Cost -- man & timber on the road
5. Total Cost to DWOSL
6. Savings compared to Oil Heating (Public Service Building)
7. Profit for DWOSL

<b>Fictitious PSB</b>	<b>Assumptions:</b>	4.3 kW per kg of pine/spruce-wood			
		1 tonne wood = 1.5 cubic meters (solid wood, not stacked)			
kwh demand per year:	Years	Kw annual	litre oil	Price	Fuel Cost
	10	255500.00 =	25550 @	€0.65	€16,607.50

			Comments:
<b>Capital Cost</b>			
HV100 heating station installation cost	€60,000.00		1. The cost of Heating Station shall include the building.
Building	€0.00		2. The Capital Cost has to be borrowed in form of a 10 year loan.
total capital before grant		€60,000.00	3. It is expected to secure grant aid between 30 and 50 %. To bridge the time from grant application to grant payment, we hope to secure terms of credit with the boiler supplier.
./. Grant received in %	30.0%	€18,000.00	
total capital after grant		€42,000.00	
bank interest %, mthl. Repayment	6.0%	€466.29	
repayment cost per year		€5,595.43	
installation cost per kwh in €	€0.021900		

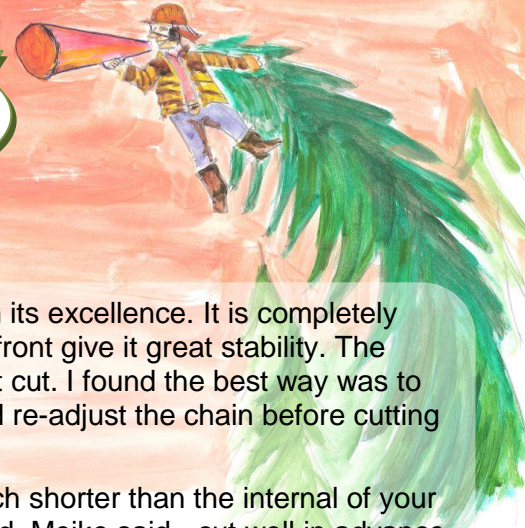
<b>Fuel Cost</b>			1. The annual oil consumption of the building is converted into Kw/h (1 litre oil = 10 kw/h) heatloss of the building.
kwh per kg wood fuel	4.3		2. The annual heat loss of the building in Kw/h is converted into tons of timber (1 Kg timber = 4.3 kw/h).
dried wood needed in tons	59.418605		3. Tons of timber are converted into volume (1 t = 1.5qbm)
conversion to solid qbm * 1.5	89.127907		4. Cost per qbm for felling, extracting and cross cutting can vary between 12.00 € and 40.00 €.
harvesting&processing cost per cbm	€32.50		
total fuel cost per year		€2,896.66	
fuel cost per kwh in €	€0.011337		

<b>Operating Cost of Heating Station</b>			1. The annual volume of timber used has to be broken down into amount of fills(stoking) of the gasification boiler with holding capacity of 0.72 qbm.
No. of Fills @ .72 qbm stoking volume (=0.6)	149		2. The time estimate for one "firing up" is 45 minutes.
time per fill in hours (incl. maintainance)	0.75		3. An hourly rate is applied to quantify labour cost for fueling.
labour cost per hour	€13.00		
operating cost per year		€1,448.33	
operating cost per fill	€9.75		
operating cost per kwh in €	€0.005669		

<b>Travelling &amp; Transport Cost</b>			1. Transport cost is substantial in the overall costing, therefor availability of timber as close as possible to the PSB is essential.
travelling cost (diesel+maint.)per km €	€1.00		2. Labour Cost is based at 13 € per hour.
travlling distance in km	15		
labour cost per travelling distance (50km/h)	€3.90		
cost for total travelling for all fillings		€2,807.53	
cost for one filling	€18.90		
travelling cost per kwh in €	€0.010988		

			Comments:
<b>TOTAL COST to DWOSL</b>			
total cost annual	Kwh	annual	
		€12,747.95	
total cost per kwh in €	€0.049894		
Capital Cost	%	43.89	----> More then one third of the cost is capital cost.
Fuel Cost	%	22.72	----> Timber Fuel Price is the least cost.
Operating Cost of Heating Station	%	11.36	----> Operating & Travelling Cost is more then one third of the overall cost.
Travelling & Transport Cost	%	22.02	
<b>Savings to DoCoCo:</b>			
Cost of Heating Oil per year:	Kwh	annual	
	€0.065000	€16,607.50	
Offered price: % below Oil price	10.00%		----> The target of saving 10% of the overall oil cost is achieved without any capital cost for DoCoCo.
Total Cost for DoCoCo at offered Price:	€0.058500	€14,946.75	
<b>Profit to DOWSL:</b>			
Total Cost for DoCoCo at offered Price:	Kwh	annual	----> While there is little profit achieved for DWOSL, as we are a non profit CoOp, the Forest Owner has a guaranteed price per qbm timber and employment is in felling, extracting, processing and boiler-operation is created.
	€0.058500	€14,946.75	
Total Cost for DWOSL for Heat Production:	€0.049894	€12,747.95	
Profit DWOSL:	€0.008606	€2,198.80	

### Shouting from the Tree Tops



## Firewood

Eric Morrow

I bought a "metal horse" from John and I must compliment the originators on its excellence. It is completely galvanised, very robust but an easy lift and the telescopic extensions at the front give it great stability. The photographs show it well loaded and the wonderful way it holds after the last cut. I found the best way was to mark with spray paint using a specimen - then cut the sides alternatively and re-adjust the chain before cutting the centre.

I had a surplus of timber from recent road making. John said - cut them 3 inch shorter than the internal of your woodburner which will give you maximum benefit from the timber and so I did. Meike said - cut well in advance and stack in single file. I think she meant outside covered with plastic but I used a redundant cubicle house to advantage. For a while I felt like the boys who ended up carrying the donkey but they were absolutely right and the timber is mighty in the woodburner.



**The Sawhorse is available for purchase through:**

<http://www.donegalwoodlandowners.com/BUYSELL.htm> or phone ADMIN: 086-0410809

## Harvesting Firewood

Clive Evans

Having woodlands and having firewood is not necessarily a hand-in-glove affair for, as in all aspects of farming, it involves a great deal of organisation and hard work! I speak from an aching back and tired arms!

In the townland of Letterfad I have a conifer woodland of about 25 hectares, 19 of which were planted some twenty years ago and for the main part have done well. I did not thin any of the plantation – advice on this

issue has been ambivalent to say the least over recent decades as we all know. A harvesting road was constructed in 2007 using the path of an old farm road but during the work, a goodly number of trees were damaged and left at the roadside. In due course, with direction from TEAGASC, the Forest Service and the Woodland Owners' Society, inspection paths were cut every 100 metres enabling close inspections within the woods. This work was done by Keith Stewart and his team at the recommendation of the DWOSL: afterwards they cut and collected the damaged trees from the roadside and in two full loads, delivered it to my farm in Bruckless.



Here it was blocked and split by Leslie Edwards with the large firewood machine owned and hired out by the DWOSL. This work was carried in a most timely and efficient manner – it amazed me how

much wood could be processed in the time. Between 9.00am and 5.00pm with a short break for lunch, both loads were reduced to two piles of split firewood which, when stacked in the sheds, measured eleven cubic metres and thirteen cubic metres respectively – sufficient firewood for my family for two years.

The splitting operation went very smoothly but not without spasmodic interruptions from awkward blocks and occasional jams all of which were dealt with efficiently by Leslie who made constant adjustments with the splitter and the powerful chainsaw (the chain had to be changed in the course of the day).

This machine obviously needs careful handling to be efficient/safe and would be beyond being operated by an unskilled hand. Anyone contemplating hiring this machine should be advised that the operation needs proprietor support in terms of lifting the timber on to the belt. In my case, it was my son, daughter and son-in-law who worked all day

feeding timber into the mechanism: my grandchildren contributed by sweeping up and piling up loose blocks! It was made into a family event and, later, we all basked in the satisfaction of seeing so much ecological fuel, all seasoning and waiting to be burnt!

In conclusion, I record my appreciation of all the work done on the ground both via the advice from our forester Meike Siebel, the forest work by Keith, and the cutting/splitting work done by Leslie. The experience gained is important for my assessment of what needs to be done in management and use of my woods. It is part of my learning curve.



## Thoughts on Forest Fires

Dear Members. My wife Jackie, a Bundoran native and I returned here to live in 1978. The kids are long gone and we now reside on the outskirts of the town. We have a small acreage of mainly broadleaves. They would be rated low risk with regard to fire, but we are never complacent from that point of view and are always vigilant during dry spells. Being city born and bred I was never really aware of the night sky until we moved to Donegal which is virtually free of light pollution. Through the years this has made me more aware of the sky above. One is now blasé regarding meteor showers, the odd comet, man-made objects and assorted weather patterns.

During the recent fires I was standing at my kitchen window watching the smoke drifting across Finner Camp, it was coming from the Knather region of Ballyshannon, where incidentally an elderly resident was lucky to escape the fire. As I watched I was thinking of the Icelandic eruption last year; when a helicopter came into view. Now, this is not an unusual sight but the water bag hanging from it was.

A man made object dropping water from the sky in Ireland, now that is unusual. Around this time I was talking to a friend of mine from Portnoo and on one of those evenings he was on the high ground, trying to get home, when he had to stop because of a traffic build-up. Not a man to be easily put off, even he, became quite concerned at the close proximity of the fire to the vehicles, but he managed to get home.

During the following week or so he was astounded at the concerted efforts of all in the community, of every age group, in dealing with this very dangerous problem. It seems nature can galvanize the human being whereas our social and political system appears to have difficulty in this endeavour. It is now incumbent on the authorities to instigate a strategy for dealing with this problem in the future. No doubt those same authorities will give many reasons why they can not act, the first argument will be an economic one. If such a scenario

does arise, well this is just not good enough and should not be accepted by the communities whose very lives and livelihoods are under threat. It is incumbent on these communities to lobby and lobby hard their local representatives, of every hue, to get immediate action in train. We have watched the rain fall steadily. This past week, as it does so, it is very easy for people not involved, to forget the devastation caused by these occurrences. The committee of the DWOSL has been working very hard in recent years in confronting this problem, and will continue to do so.

Happy growing. Richard Dobson



## Enclosing and Extinguishing a Forest Fire

Members present: Phil, Joe, Thomas, Leslie, John and many other volunteers and the Fire Service

Location: a 350 acre Forest, on the back road to Glenties from Ballybofey, in private ownership.

The forest fire tried on numerous occasions to cross a small river that runs along the forest perimeter, but on all occasions was beaten out, thus creating a burnt fire belt running downwind of the forest. As night fell, winds died down but it was too dangerous to go into the forest and tackle the burning areas. A small team stayed up all night and prevented the fire from spreading outside the forest. At 6am it was safe to go into the forest to try to extinguish the fire along its face. This proved dangerous and fruitless because the fire would relight behind the beaters in their escape path.

A detailed forest fighting plan was agreed by all at the forest edge.

When wind conditions were correct, two chainsaw operators cut a brash path/escape route along the edge of the fire. Behind these men, five beaters would put out any fires and keep up with the chainsaw operators. Behind the beaters another team of beaters would keep fires from reigniting along the entire escape route. A fire brigade crew also worked and marked the escape route with tape. A backpack sprayer was used to put out any lingering smoking areas. A fire tender was on site along with a tractor and water tanker. The volunteer fire fighters had 4 walkie-talkies, one with the fire brigade, one with a spotter on a hill overlooking the forest, one with a runner making sure the escape route was safe at all times and one with the person responsible for carrying the petrol and oil for the chainsaw operators.



Within 4 hours the fire was contained and extinguished. 80 acres (approximately) of the forest was destroyed. A neighbouring forest was saved. If that fire had spread out to surrounding lands, many forests would have been endangered.

Check it out on <http://www.vimeo.com/23391605>

## My Experience with a Forest Fire

Charles Doherty

My neighbour rang me to say we had a fire on our farm. I immediately rang around my neighbours and the fire brigade. I then went to get the firebeaters that I bought from the DWOSL. Within 15 minutes we had 7 people and 4 firebeaters at the fire site. We managed to contain the fire until the fire brigade came and put out the fire.

Points from my experience:

- The fire was spotted and alerted immediately
- We had FIRE BEATERS on hand to fight the fire
- We had people on hand at short notice
- Because of the fast response of the people involved we managed to put out the fire quickly
- If we had been 15 minutes later the fire would have gotten out of control and would have been very difficult to put out

Conclusions:

- We as forest owners need to be vigilant, prepared, and have the proper equipment to put out forest fires.
- Time is of the essence.
- There must be good communication between forest owners and the fire brigade.



**Firebeaters are available for purchase through:**

<http://www.donegalwoodlandowners.com/BUYSELL.htm> or phone ADMIN: 086-0410809

## Wildlife Survey

Currently the National Biodiversity Data Centre is researching issues of the mammals we have in the country, both on land and in the sea, and is seeking contributions from us all. Their website is:

[http://mammals.biodiversityireland.ie/index.php?page\\_name=home](http://mammals.biodiversityireland.ie/index.php?page_name=home)

A good example of local significance in this respect is the appearance of the red squirrel in our woods – the Wildlife Service reports that this is the first known record of this animal in this region. Pine marten are now not uncommon. But what about the Irish hare, otter and the shrew? Or even the humble field mouse, badger and stoat? What about the changes we have seen in marine life – whales, seals and others? Other changes are afoot here too and we owe it to our successors to take note both of the good and the not-so-good developments.

One of the primary aims of this initiative is to encourage recording of the commoner Irish mammals, so that a comprehensive picture of their distribution is achieved by 2015. This will then provide a baseline against which future changes to distribution can be tracked. Contributions may be sent directly on to the website or can be made by contacting Clive Evans, 074- 9737071 and at [bruc@iol.ie](mailto:bruc@iol.ie) who will pass on the information.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### RASLRES Wood Energy Seminar – Building Local Wood Heat Markets

14<sup>th</sup> June 2011, 1:30 pm, Villa Rose Hotel, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal

RASLRES is a European bio-energy project led by the Western Development Commission. RASLRES goes to the heart of the local community by using local resources and supporting local people to develop renewable energy projects and in turn creating jobs and enterprise opportunities for rural communities. RASLRES is funded by the INTERREG IVB - Northern Periphery Programme. Our project partners are from Sweden, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Faroe Islands and Finland.

This workshop brings together industry experts to investigate how to build local loops of demand and supply in the wood heat market. It is of specific interest to farmers, foresters and fuel processors. It will inform potential users on key issues for developing a wood energy project and discuss experiences in the region to date. A key element of the workshop will be the presentation of a report, which was carried out in partnership with the SEAI and Teagasc, on the potential of energy crops in the Western Region.

- 13:30 Registration and Light Lunch
- 14:00 Welcome - *Ian Brannigan WDC*
- 14:10 Wood energy resources, markets and building local loops - *Bernadette Phelan, WDC/RASLRES*
- 14:30 Energy crop potential in the Western Region - *Mike Wilson, Heritage Futures Ltd*  
Fuel from forestry and issues for developing a fuel supply business - *Paddy Donovan, DARE Ltd*  
Business Case Study: Rural Generation Ltd - *Christine Hutton, Business Development Manager (Heat/Energy) and Chris Johnston, Business Development Manager (Waste Management)*  
Co-operative Case Study: Donegal Woodland Owners Co-op – *John Jackson, Chairman*
- 16:00 Break
- 16:15 Market demand for woody fuels and potential users - *Steve Luker, Steve Luker & Associates Ltd*  
Lessons from regional audit: best practice in project development - *Fred Tottenham, Navitus Ltd*
- 17:00 Panel Discussion with Questions & Answers
- 17:30 Woodboiler user perspective: *Tommy Gallen, Owner Villa Rose Hotel will provide a site visit of their boiler*  
**Demonstration of the SEAI Bioenergy GIS available until 6:30pm**

Please save the date in your diary. For further information on the RASLRES project log on to [www.raslres.eu](http://www.raslres.eu)

**While this workshop is free of charge, registration is required. To register please call the WDC office at 094-9861441 or email [info@raslres.eu](mailto:info@raslres.eu)**

**For upcoming DWOSL Field Days & Seminars!**  
**Check out our WEBSITE: [www.donegalwoodlandowners.com](http://www.donegalwoodlandowners.com)**

Donegal Woodland Owners Society Limited cannot accept any responsibility for opinions or information contained in this Newsletter  
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