Inspiring People: The Archaeological Record of Peatlands and Community Engagement

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Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
A PROVOCATION...

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AREN’T SEXY...

WHAT IS?

ARCHAEOLOGY...DAMN RIGHT…!!

YOU (WE) NEED TO THINK OF WAYS TO BETTER UTILISE THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD TO ENGAGE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES WITH PEATLANDS…THIS CANNOT BE LEFT TO THE HE SPECIALISTS NOT IN YOUR LIFE/PROJECT
The Archaeological Record of Peatlands...
INDIRECT ENGAGEMENT:
The ‘enchanted’ of the archaeological record...creating/thinking/connecting to peatland landscapes, past and present
The Ballachulish ‘Goddess’ Iron Age alder wood figure (discovered Ballchulish Moss 1880) Now in NMS...
Re-crafting the Goddess....

Ballachulish,
August 2017...
The recrafted Goddess on Ballachulish Moss...
DIRECT ENGAGEMENT: Involving communities in investigating and researching their local peatland environments...
Hatfield and Thorne Moors; IOA&HC Landscape Partnership

Bringing Direct and Indirect Approaches together…
Project Wildscape

November: Re-making the Hatfield Neolithic timber trackway…
a community centred event…. 
BUT...we might feel we have the ethical highground...

“The seasonal turf harvest and in more recent times, the mechanical conquest of the peatlands, have woven the bogs into the Irish psyche…”

(Feehan and O’Donovan, 1997)
From Gearey and Fyfe (2016)
Pallasboy Project: Mark Griffiths, Brian Mac Domhnaill, Cathy Moore, Orla-Peach Power, Gavin Mac Gregor
Wildscapes: Nicki Whitehouse, Henry Chapman, Kim Davies, Jane Bunting, Michelle Farrell, Nika Shilobod, IOAHC volunteers...