

Editor's Page

Strange Sightings Over Cape Clear



A wonderful thing about living near the sea is that you always have amazing sunsets. Here is a picture of a large cloud formation over Cape Clear, one of Sherkin Island's neighbouring islands, that I took one evening. It was a spectacular sight!

This cloud is a typical Cumulonimbus cloud with an "anvil" shape and is the type of cloud that brings rain and thunderstorms. Cumulus means "heaped cloud" and nimbus means "rain", so cumulonimbus is a "heaped rain cloud". This cloud forms when a cumulus cloud meets a continuous column of rising warm air. The icy "anvil" section on top indicates that the cloud has stopped growing vertically because the air has become stable above the anvil top. When a cumulonimbus has reached this stage, the base is usually dark, with rain, hail or snow falling.

Why not start a book club?

Why not start a book club with your friends by swapping your favourite nature books and then comparing interesting facts you have learnt.



Photos © Audrey Murphy

Special Visitor

Each evening over the winter and autumn I've been having a little visitor to my house. 'Rua' as I have nicknamed her (not sure if it is a boy or a girl but I think maybe a girl!) is a cute little fox that appears when no one else is around! The Irish name for fox is Madra Rua, (which translate as Red Dog). She wanders around the house and on one occasion climbed in the bathroom window to use the toilet! Yes, it's true! Even though I don't feed her, she still comes around for a nose! She doesn't get too close but is happy to have her photo taken!

SEAFOOD RECIPE Smoked Salmon and Pasta



What you need:

200g pack of smoked salmon - cut into ribbons
200g fresh linguine
1 small onion - chopped

250g of mushrooms - sliced
170 ml cream
Fresh basil
A little oil
Salt and freshly milled black pepper

What to do:

Under the supervision of an adult, heat oil, lightly fry onion until transparent. Add mushrooms and cook for 3 minutes. Add cream, simmer gently for 2-3 minutes to reduce, season. Meanwhile, cook pasta for 8-10 minutes, drain well. Add smoked salmon and torn basil leaves to sauce, combine pasta and sauce. Serve with salad and garlic bread.

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Welcome to the Spring Edition of Nature's Web!

Dear Reader,



Sherkin Island Marine Station is delighted to welcome you to the Spring issue of our newsletter *Nature's Web*. We hope to bring you this exciting newsletter every season to keep you up to date with news and trivia from the environment! There will be topics from around the world and articles on how we can make a difference. This spring we have included what to look for at this time of year, what you can do to protect the environment and many interesting articles on life in the natural world. We would love to hear your views and comments and suggestions for future articles. Have a good read!

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