



- [RTÉ.ie](#) | [News](#) | [Sport](#) | [Business](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Television](#) | [Radio](#) | [RTÉ Aertel](#) | [Performing Groups](#) | [RTÉ Guide](#) | [About](#)
- [Mobile Edition](#) | [Fashion](#) | [Food](#) | [Motors](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Travel](#) | [Property](#) | [Shop](#) | [Weather](#) | [Live TV](#)

Search Web 
Search RTÉ.ie

**RTÉ radioplayer**

Listen To Latest Programme

- [Home](#)
- [Important](#)
- [About The Show](#)
- [Meet The Team](#)
- [Archive](#)
- [Podcasts](#)

## Friday, November 18th 2011



- [Mooney Cam](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Documentaries](#)
- [Factsheets](#)
- [School Watch](#)
- [Eye On Nature](#)
- [Competitions](#)
- [Books](#)
- [Recipes](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

### Dr Darach Lupton - Oman Botanic Garden

When most of us think of the Middle East, particularly the likes of Saudi Arabia, the picture we get in our heads is one of a landscape dominated by extreme desert conditions - a complete contrast to the lush, fertile soil we are used to here in Ireland.

Obviously, gardening and horticultural activities are hugely popular over here, but you'd be forgiven for thinking that they would face insurmountable challenges across that part of the globe, the Middle East.

One Irishman is determined to prove that assumption wrong. His name is Dr Darach Lupton, and he has just become the leader of the botanic team at the State Botanic Gardens in Oman.... or to give it its full name, the Sultanate of Oman.

He joins Derek on the line.

For more information: [Click Here](#)

### PHRONIMAS

We interview marine biologist Kevin Flannery about his bizarre discovery



**SAVE  
TIME  
WITH  
FASTER  
SPEEDS**

of PHRONIMAS on a beach in Ventry, Co Kerry. These deep-sea organisms are acknowledged to have inspired the creatures in the Alien movies because of their practice of burrowing into their victims.

### Frog Fungus



A deadly fungus is causing havoc among frog populations across the world. Thankfully, it hasn't reached Ireland, but it has shown up in the UK. On today's program, Ferdia Marnell from the National Parks and wildlife Service outlines the dangers from the fungus. Pictured here is the Scarlet Frog of Venezuela, which may have been one of the victims of the fungus.

### Ultrasonic Water

We also interview Professor Tim Leighton, inventor of a revolutionary device which sends an ultrasonic signal



through water, dramatically boosting its ability to clean! This will have fantastic implications for the environment, as less water will be needed to do the same amount of work. It has particular applications for industrial cleaning.

### Albatross - Longline Fishing



Many species of albatross are under threat because of longline fishing across the world. This fishing method is principally practised by Spanish and Japanese fishermen. Dr Orea Anderson, policy officer for the Global Seabird

Programme, joins the team to discuss her recent research into this disturbing trend.  
Pictured here is the black-browed albatross.

### **Wild and Slow Festival - Philip McCabe**

Wild and Slow Festival culminates this weekend Macreddin Village, Aghrim Co. Wicklow.

If you haven't heard of it, this festival is organised by Slow Food Ireland, and it celebrates all that is good about Irish food --- fresh produce, local producers, great organic foods, and so on.

It's on all weekend and our own Philip McCabe will be there talking about..... what else.... Bees!!

He'll be giving two talks.... One tomorrow, Saturday 19th at 6.00pm .... The other on Sunday 20th at 3pm.

Those talks will be in The White Room, at Macreddin Village, Aghrim Co. Wicklow, and Philip has cleverly called his presentations:

"The Sweetest Thing" - Three generations of bee keeping, production of wild honey and the state of the honeybee not just in Ireland, but internationally.

There will also be tastings of honeys both from home and abroad and an insight into its traditional medicinal properties.

For more information: [www.wildandslow.com](http://www.wildandslow.com)

---

© RTÉ 2011

RTÉ Commercial Enterprises Limited, Registered in Dublin, Registration Number:155076.  
Registered Office: Donnybrook, Dublin 4, Ireland.

Terms & Conditions - TV Licence - Contact Us - Sports photos provided by Inpho Photography