

# About Corncrake

Encouraging the Arts in Fermanagh and neighbouring counties.

## **The Call of the Corncrake**

Why should a drab bird like the corncrake be the mascot for an Arts magazine? Corncrakes were once abundant in Fermanagh. They started to disappear here, as elsewhere in Europe, when mechanised farming disturbed their nest sites. Now at last they are perhaps making a comeback.

The corncrake is a summer visitor that returns each year, if it can, to the same unremarkable spot, and by its presence makes that place special. Artists too, whether writers, painters, photographers or musicians, claim their own ties with this area. Some are here by accident of birth or circumstance, some by choice, and some by both. Like the corncrake, they need a safe and welcoming place to brood on their ideas until they hatch and grow, ready to take wing throughout the world.

Corncrake the ezine will help to provide that space. Here you will learn what other artists are working in the area, what inspires them, what opportunities there are available to practice and perfect your own craft.

The Corncrake has perhaps the least melodious call of all the birds. It is rasping and monotonous, and you might think it would not matter to you if it should be heard no more. Perhaps not, but it matters mightily to the corncrake. He calls because he must. And, as an old man who lived far up on the back of Cuilcagh once said, on a silent summer night he's quare good company.

### **Contact**

