



## ecos – millennium environmental centre BALLYMENA, NORTHERN IRELAND

Completed July 2000

Owner - **Ballymena Borough Council**

Core Design Team - **WDR & RT Taggart**: Architects, Landscape Architect, Civil & Structural Engineers

Visitor Centre, Parkland, Environmental Information Library and Offices

Site Area - 67 hectares

Gross Floor Area of Building – 2987 m<sup>2</sup>

Building Population – Visitor Centre, 600 (at Peak Periods), Offices – 45, Library – 50

Annual Operating Energy – 464 MJ/ m<sup>2</sup>

Annual emission of CO<sub>2</sub> – 92 kg/m<sup>2</sup>,

of which 66 kg/m<sup>2</sup> is avoided by use of on-site renewable generation

**ecos** communicates some of the most important environmental issues facing society, and brings the concept of sustainable development to the public in a way that is tangible, understandable and exciting. It aims to symbolise the growing importance of sustainability and make connections between global issues and our own lives and experience.

The project was originally conceived in 1973 as a town park for Ballymena, but the scheme was reviewed with the appointment of **WDR & RT Taggart** in 1995. Its landscape architecture division developed the concept of a visitor centre where the building, displays and surrounding landscape would be integrated to communicate a central theme of environmental sustainability.