

**A cordial invitation from the Conference Manager**

To discover the MAGIC of Connemara, where shall I take you? The secret places for *Erica erigena*, white *Calluna*, or *Erica cinerea* 'Ted Oliver'? Will you climb Mweelrea, the Twelve Bens or the Maamturks? Maybe you would prefer a pint of Guinness by a turf fire in the pub with the local *craic*, smoked salmon, Connemara lamb, music and dancing? Whatever you fancy, it is here in Connemara!

*Céad míle fáilte*

*Susie Kay*



To reserve a place please complete this form and send it, with your individual booking deposit of £5 per person (NB this administration fee is not refundable. UK cheques only, please\*) to

CONFERENCE MANAGER

c/o Tippitiwitchet Cottage, Hall Road, Outwell, Wisbech PE14 8PE, UK.

NAME(S) (please print clearly)

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

I / We require a SINGLE  DOUBLE  TWIN  room {please tick}

I / We require a VEGETARIAN  GLUTEN-FREE  or OTHER DIETARY §

§ please specify \_\_\_\_\_ menu

I / We expect to travel to Connemara by air  own car  rail/bus

\* The Administrator & Conference Manager will provide further advice about payment on request.



CONNEMARA  
ANNUAL GATHERING : SEPTEMBER 2015



# Connemara 10–14 September 2015

A chance for a wonderful company of heathers ... and good *craic*



Twenty years ago The Heather Society held a very successful annual gathering in Dublin with an excursion to Connemara. Previous visits by the Society were in 1968 and 1983. In 2015 we plan to hold our Gathering in Leenane, the village at the head of Ireland's only fjord, Killary Harbour. It is a celebrated place. In 1834, Henry Inglis wrote that the mountains were "*lofty enough, and rugged enough, to verge upon sublimity ... and the bouquet of heaths, was reserved for the wild bee.*" Little has changed! Come, join us, and enjoy that bouquet. It's too good to be left to the Irish bees!

### Estimated cost

4 nights bed & breakfast, 4 dinners and all excursions and gratuities

**UK£ 300.00** per person

**NB** travel\* to and from Leenane is **not** included



### Leenane Hotel

The Leenane Hotel is said to be the oldest coaching inn in Ireland. The hotel is situated on the shore of Killary Harbour and its facilities includes warm seaweed baths. All the rooms reserved for Heather Society members will have sea-views and en suite facilities. Local produce is served in the dining room, including freshly caught wild salmon.



\* Flights are available from UK to Ireland West Airport (Knock) **NOC**; local onward travel to Leenane can be arranged for delegates arriving at **NOC**. Rail services are available to Westport and Galway from Dublin, Limerick or Ennis (for Shannon Airport). Please indicate overleaf your possible travel arrangements.



St Dabeoc's heath with ling

We have included an **extra day** with visits and excursions to

- Roundstone Bog
- the renowned Victorian walled garden at Kylemore Abbey
- Killary Harbour

Talks included will be on

- local history and folklore
- plants and wildlife of Connemara

Following the Society's AGM on Sunday morning we will offer our guests a chance to explore Killary Harbour either

- ... on the *Connemara Lady* catamaran, or
- ... on foot along the "Green Road", an ancient track, from Leenane along the southern shore of the fjord.



Cross-leaved heath



Mackay's heath

There are at least eight different wild heathers in Connemara, including Dorset heath, the hybrid Stuart's (or Praeger's) heath, Irish heath and bell heather. We can see all of them in the wild, although the Irish heath, being a spring-blooming shrub, won't be in flower.

