

Plan to join us for a trip of a lifetime to the Isle of IONA - the week of June 24 - 28, 2013. Please study the information below and then let Christina know if you are interested. Participants will be selected in the following manner. Based on a first come, first served basis, we will take the IHTP Graduates first, IHTP Finishing Students second, IHTP Current Students third, IHTP PREP school students next, spouses and sig. others, next and interested people last.

As of this writing Dec. 1, 2011, we have 38 people who have indicated they may be interested in attending and have signed up tentatively. There are 50 beds in the hotel. This Conference will be a combination Therapeutic Harp Conference with lectures in the morning and time for exploration of the island in the afternoon. It may be possible to engage Fionntulach to help lead us in the Sacred tradition of the Ceile De for a couple of days.

After reading the material, would you please indicate whether or not you would prefer a 3 day conference or go for a full 4 day conference? I would prefer that people have the experience of the 4 days because there are so many special places on the island but if people feel that the costs are too high, then the hotel has a customer wanting to take our last night and I need to give them a reply soon if we will keep our full 4 days and 5 nights or go to 3 days and 4 nights. So, if you can respond to me with your thoughts, that will help me.

EICSE *Divine Inspiration on Iona*

EICSE - Divine Inspiration at the Brink of the Waters

In Alwyn Rees' CELTIC HERITAGE, *"The thin line between opposites has essentially the same significance as the dangerous bridges that lead to the citadels of the other world... Irish poets deemed that the brink of water was always a place where eicse - 'wisdom', 'poetry', 'knowledge' - was revealed."* Rees extends this concept to the juncture between two seasons, or to a plant like mistletoe, which is neither a shrub nor a tree. To nimbly jump back and forth between this world and another would not be as spiritually significant as being aware of this supernatural juncture.



Greetings!

This is going to be such a wonderful time. What better place to bring the healing qualities of our therapeutic harp conference than to be on the Isle of Iona and be in the absolute centre of

healing on the planet! Our conference which usually runs 2 days in most years will be leisurely this time spread over 3-4 days - allowing us time for integration, for exploration of the island while incorporating the profound callings of why we are here on this planet.

Fionntulach, a leader in the Ceile De tradition, (may be able - tentative schedule at this point) to guide us a couple of days in the Sacred Ceile de Tradition that was the forerunner of the early Christian settlements by St. Columba. If able to be with us, she will be guiding us into that thin place between the veils!

WELCOME - The St. Columba Hotel offers superb food and warm, friendly service in an environment of relaxation and comfort. Comfortable sun lounges and restaurant provide glorious panoramic views, in ever changing colors over the Sound of Iona to the Ross of Mull and the mountains beyond. An open fire warms the inner lounge.



St. Columba Hotel with organic gardens



The entrance to the hotel



The lounge in the hotel



The grounds outside the hotel



Delicious food with Veg. options



The sea view from the rooms

ISLE OF IONA - The famous Inner Hebridean island is only three miles long by a mile and a half wide. The ferry from the Isle of Mull to Iona takes approximately five minutes. Even before the Christian era, Iona was considered to be a place of special spiritual significance - there are said to have been over 300 standing stones on the island. Today it is most famous for the coming of the passionate and renegade St. Columba from Ireland in 563 AD. The Saint founded a small Celtic monastery here, and for 34 years, carried on his work of introducing Christianity to the Scottish mainland until his death in 597 AD.



Castle on the way to IONA



The Holy Well on top of Dunn I



Old Celtic Crosses



The ancient stone circle – The Hermit's Cell

The Benedictine Abbey was built in the 12th Century, but fell into ruin after the Reformation. The buildings have now been restored.



The Abbey



Inside the Abbey



The Nunnery



Oran's Chapel

There are many explanations of the origin of the word "Iona", and some think it is derived from I-shona, the Blessed or sacred Isle. It is also curiously significant that the Hebrew word for Dove is "Iona", the Latin 'Columba'. Optional Trip - Local boats sail twice daily to the Isle of Staffa where you will find Fingal's Cave. Wildlife including whales, dolphins, porpoise, basking sharks, seal pups, puffins and many other sea birds are often sighted on these trips.



Isle of Staffa



Fingal's Cave

Within walking distance of the hotel are a wonderful choice of beaches, mainly of white sand, others with multi-coloured pebbles and shells. It is hard to leave the island without a pocket full of treasures. Expect to enjoy sand dunes, rock pools, beach-combing and excellent swimming, when the sun shines, in crystal clear turquoise water. Packed lunches may be ordered in advance and bikes are available to hire on the island.

FINANCES

The prices include a per person accommodation for 5 nights, full Scottish breakfast, delectable evening dinner, taxes and leadership by featured speakers.

Arrival: Monday 24th June 2013 (check in - they aim to have rooms ready at 1 p.m.)

Departure: Saturday 29th June 2013 (check out by 10 a.m.)

Nights: 5

The following prices are in GB pounds. On the last payment on departure, your finalized bill will reflect any change in the equivalency over the ensuing months (if you have pd in US\$ or Euros). All rooms have bathrooms - some with showers, some with tub/shower.

There are:

7 single room(s) with sea view £750. per person per 5 nights

2 single rooms(s) on the back side £690. PPP5N

2 family room(s) with sea view (twin/double bed in room) £690 PPP5N

1 twin or can be a double with sea view £690 PPP5N

3 double rooms(s) with sea view £690 PPP5N

6 twin(s) with sea view £690 PPP5N

1 Superior room with sea view 770.00 PPP5N

4 twins(s) back £640 PPP5N

1 family room back (twin/double bed in room) £640 PPP5N

I will be giving you a few tips on airline situations once we have communicated.

The above package price **excludes** the following: Lunches - but you will be so full that you'll only want to get something at the little market or you can purchase lunch on your own. All travel expenses including your airfare, trains, ferries and buses.

You will want to get to Glasgow to get your train to Oban. There are 2 ferries with a bus ride across Mull. You can expect these estimated costs. As time draws closer, I will help you with the details of making the connections. It is likely you may need to have one night hotel in either Glasgow or Oban and I can advise a good clean reasonable place if you need it.

Estimated Ferries and Trains based on 2011 prices

Train from Glasgow to Oban Return Fare (RT) £32.50

Oban - Craignure Ferry Return Fare (RT) £7.55

Bus across Mull Return Fare (RT) £10.00

Fionnphort -Iona Ferry Return Fare (RT) £4.10

TOTAL approx. extra transportation charges £55.00 - £65.00 (with increase allowance for 2013).

Schedule of Payments

1. Contact me no later than February 20, 2012 with your 1st, 2nd and 3rd rooming preferences and I will assign single rooms, twin rooms, double rooms in the order you get back to me.
2. 30% of your payment is due by September 1st, 2012 - non-refundable
3. the next 30% of your payment is due by November 1, 2012 - non-refundable
4. the remaining 40% is due by May 1, 2013 - non-refundable

Refund policy: Each payment is non-refundable on the due date. In the event that Fionntulach or Christina Tourin are unable to conduct the workshops due to any cause outside of their control, including but not limited to death, injury or any other force majeure, the trip will not be cancelled and all attendees will be entitled to a 50% refund for each presenter of the seminar fees only.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please make your commitment by February 20th, 2012. Let me know if you are seeking a roommate or contact someone you recognize from the email list below. This is indeed an event you'll remember for a lifetime and who knows - perhaps your heart will call you back to Iona often!

Blessings,
Christina (Tina) Tourin

The list is in order of notification of interest - then status listed next to the name. As you can see, there is still room to sign up if you think you might be doing the trip. The sooner you think you might be able to make the trip, the better to let us know. Then if you can't come, we will start giving spaces to people on the waiting list. There are other programs of therapeutic musicians who are eager to be on this list but we are waiting until we hear from the IHTP family.

<p>Barbara Crowe and Ross - instructor Estelle Day - graduate Beatrice Rose - graduate Rachel Christenson - graduate Laurence Marie - graduate Judy Byron - graduate Carolyn Worster - graduate Cynthia Golfus - graduate Dana Mosser - graduate Jan-Joy Sax - graduate Bambi Niles and Rex - graduate Julie Ann Smith - graduate Gail Coon - graduate Carol Johnson - graduate Ann Bolton - graduate Margaret Bell - graduate Barbara Carr - finishing student Jane McCabe - finishing student Anke Arkesteyn - finishing student Margaret Stephens and spouse - graduate Maya Hasan - current student Rebecca Folsom-Wertz - current student Jennifer Tucker - current student Kevin Roddy - finishing student</p>	<p>continued</p> <p>Shannon Schumann - current student Tara Muma - current student Callie Bates - current student Irene Ryding - current student Doron Peisic - current student Marie Wabnitz - current student Jan Mulrooney-Kuhn - graduate Gricel Salazar-Lewis - interested Bay Dean and partner - interested Frances van Dorn - current student Sheila Allen - interested RuthiE Neilan - interested Cheryl Angela - finishing student Carolyn Ashburn - interested Irene Sunn - interested</p>
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Here are some additional photos of our group of 2009!

