

## Barry Raftery Conference Booking Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**The cost to attend the conference is €15 per person. Please select a payment method (please tick):**

Cheque (made payable to Longford County Council)

Invoice

Payment on day

Any special dietary requirements?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Will you be availing of the shuttle bus to Athlone?

Yes:  No:

Would you like to be placed on a mailing list for future WHI news & events?

Yes:  No:

Please send booking forms (1 per person) to:

Barry Raftery Conference  
C/O Longford Heritage Office  
Longford Library HQ  
Town Centre  
Longford

OR email: [heritage@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:heritage@longfordcoco.ie)

Call (043) 3340731/ 0868133205/

Image of Prof. Raftery from [www.ucd.ie](http://www.ucd.ie)



### About Barry Raftery:

Professor Barry Raftery was a respected Irish archaeologist with a long and distinguished career. He held the post of Professor of Celtic Studies in UCD until his retirement in 2007. Prior to this, he was the Professor of Archaeology, also at UCD. He had a number of areas of interest, in particular wooden trackways and associated features. Prof. Raftery led the excavation of what is now known as the Corlea Trackway in the 1980s. The findings of this were published in 1996 as 'Trackway Excavations in the Mountdillon Bogs 1985-1991'.

Prof. Raftery sadly passed away in August 2010, leaving behind an impressive legacy and contribution to archaeology in Ireland.

*This conference has been organised by Wetlands Heritage Ireland, in partnership with the County Longford Heritage Office*

### Wetlands Heritage Ireland:

WHI was founded to preserve and promote the natural and cultural heritage of the wetlands of Ireland.

By engaging in innovative projects in association with partner organisations and key stakeholders we aim to:

- Boost tourism
- Create employment
- Benefit the regional economy.

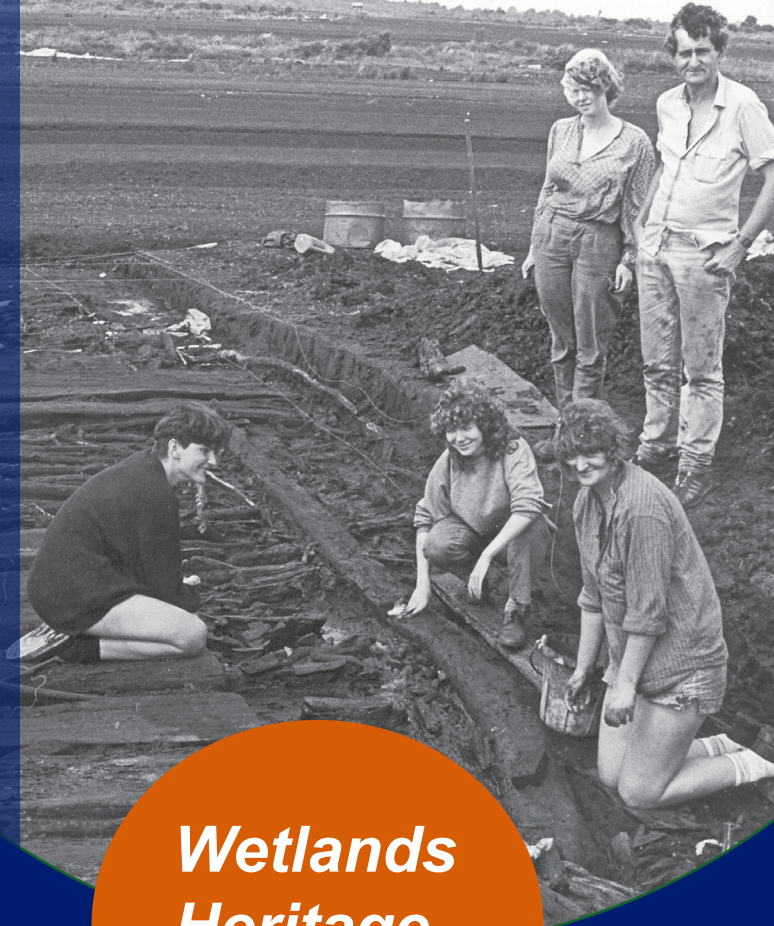
**For more information, please contact:**  
[wetlandsheritageireland@gmail.com](mailto:wetlandsheritageireland@gmail.com)



An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta  
Department of  
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht



Funding for this event has been kindly provided by the Dept. of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht Environment Fund



## Wetlands Heritage Ireland

# Prof. Barry Raftery Memorial Conference 9th June 2012

**Ballymahon Library &  
Corlea Trackway Visitors Centre  
County Longford**

# Conference Programme - 9th June 2012

## 09.30am Registration + Membership Desk Tea/Coffee on arrival

Goldsmith Room, Ballymahon Library,  
Ballymahon, Co. Longford.

## 10.00 Opening of the conference by Minister Brian Hayes, TD, Minister of State for Public Service Reform and the Office of Public Works.

## 10.15 Dr. Aidan O'Sullivan, UCD School of Archaeology

*Tales of Trackways from Pagan Celtic Ireland:  
what did Barry Raftery discover on the Corlea  
Iron Age Road and why is it important?*

## 11.00 Conor McDermott, UCD School of Archaeology

*Around and beyond the great Iron Age road*

## 11.45 Prof. John Feehan

*Looking for footprints, listening to echoes.*

## 12.30 LUNCH

2.00pm Gerry Ryan, Bord na Móna, Director  
of Land & Property and Group Secretary  
*Bord na Móna Strategic Plan - A New Contract  
with Nature*

## 2.45 Harry Hall, Wetlands Heritage Ireland *We have a dream!*

## 3.30 Open discussion forum

## 3.45 CLOSE CONFERENCE

## 3.50 Bus departs for afternoon session at the Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre, Kenagh

## 4.00 RECEPTION IN CORLEA TRACKWAY VISITOR CENTRE

- **Paddy Egan, Local Historian**
- *My memories of Barry Raftery*
- **Photographic exhibition**
- **Excavation Reunion**

## 6.00 Bus departs to Ballymahon

## 6.15 Bus departs Ballymahon for the Athlone Train Station.

- Train to Dublin departs at 7.04pm.
- A train for Galway departs at 7.32pm
- Bus Eireann coaches also depart from  
Athlone.

## Note:

- Trains for Dublin and Sligo and a range of  
Bus Éireann coaches also depart Longford  
Train Station.

# Speakers' Profiles

## Chair - Fred Carney

- Mr. Carney worked in London for Rethink, a UK charity, as Director of Training. He is now a tour guide with the OPW & was based at Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre. In 2008 he & his colleagues formed The Corlea Project, which developed into Wetlands Heritage Ireland. He is currently the Chair of WHI.

## Chair - Alf Monaghan

- Mr. Monaghan has a background in the Middle East, where he acted as an advisor to governments on economic development. His time there sparked off a deeper interest in the links & influences between that area & Ireland - many of which are now 'lost'.

## Dr. Aidan O'Sullivan

- Dr. O'Sullivan is a Senior Lecturer in UCD, whose research focusses on early medieval Ireland with a particular interest in early medieval landscapes, settlement & economy. He also has a strong academic interest in wetland archaeology across the world.

## Conor McDermott

- Mr. McDermott is a past Director of the former Irish Wetlands Archaeological Unit & is currently with the UCD School of Archaeology as a Laboratory and Field Officer.

## John Feehan

- Mr. Feehan recently retired as Senior Lecturer in the School of Agriculture & Food Science at UCD. He has authored a number of acclaimed publications, including *Farming in Ireland: History, Heritage and Environment*.

## Gerry Ryan

- Mr. Ryan is the Director of Land & Property and the Company Secretary for Bord na Móna, where he oversees 80,000 hectares of BnaM lands, which are mainly located in the Midlands.

## Harry Hall

- Mr. Hall is an active member of WHI with a strong interest in the natural, archaeological and cultural heritage of Ireland's peatlands. He is also involved with a number of other community groups, including the Royal Canal Amenity Group.

## Paddy Egan

- Mr. Egan is a local historian and author, who possesses an in-depth knowledge of the history and environment of Longford's peatlands and the Corlea Trackway.