The Irish Association of Suicidology
19th Annual Conference

In association with Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group

Cherish the Young
‘Suicide Prevention and Young People’

8th & 9th October 2015
Killashee Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare
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         | 'Looking beyond young men as ‘the problem’ - Opportunities for effectively engaging with young men':  
         | Dr. Noel Richardson, Director, Centre for Men's Health, Institute of Technology Carlow |
| 14.20  | Presidential Address                                                  |
|        | Michael D. Higgins – Uachtarán na hÉireann                           |
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| 16.50  | Panel Discussion                                                      |
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| 19.30  | Conference Dinner                                                    |
FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2015

08.30 Registration / Coffee
09.30 Welcoming Delegates
09.45 Theme: ‘Bullying - an Old Problem with a New Edge’
Internet based Peer and Stranger Bullying - How worried should we be?:
Dr. Conor McGuckin, Assistant Professor in Education (Educational Psychology),
School of Education at Trinity College Dublin
10.20 Theme: ‘Filicide: Families and Suicide-Homicide - What should we know and is there something we can do?’
Filicide: Mental illness in people who kill their children: Dr. Sandra Flynn, Research Fellow,
Centre for Mental Health and Safety, University of Manchester
10.55 Theme: ‘The Kildare Experience’
History of Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group: Mr. Greg Fogarty, PRO, KSBSG
11.10 Coffee Break
11.30 Dr. Michael Kelleher Memorial Lecture – KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Suicide is not a rational act – but what is it, and what can we do to prevent it?:
Prof. Dr. med Konrad Michel, Senior Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist,
University Psychiatric Hospital, Bern, Switzerland
12.30 Lunch
13.45 Theme: ‘Psychological insight into the young person’s mind’
Reflections on the meanings of suicide for our young people:
Dr. Margaret Boyle Spelman, Clinical Psychologist, Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist & Lecturer,
Trinity College & University College Dublin
14.20 Presentation by Winner of IAS Research Excellence Award
14.35 Theme: ‘Resilience - What makes Young People Stronger and Better Able to Cope?’
Can the internet empower young people to deal with life’s inevitable challenges?:
Mr. Ian Power, Executive Director, SpunOut.ie, Ireland’s youth information website
15.10 Coffee Break
15.25 Translating Ireland’s New National Strategy for Suicide Prevention ‘Connecting for Life’:
Mr. Gerry Raleigh, Director, National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP)
16.00 Panel Discussion
16.40 Closing Address
Dr. Justin Brophy, Chairperson IAS
Evaluations Forms
17.00 Close
It is a great honour for the Irish Association of Suicidology that our patron Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland has agreed to address the nineteenth annual conference of the Irish Association of Suicidology ‘Cherish the Young’: Suicide Prevention and Young People on October 8th, 2015. The President, over the years in public life, has always been a champion on social issues that affect those on the margins of Irish society who are most prone to suicide and suicidal behaviour. The conference promises to be topical, informative, interactive and as ever enjoyable. Our previous conferences have set out to cover all aspects of suicide and suicide prevention and it is fitting that this year we should revisit suicide prevention for young people. The issue of suicide and suicide prevention in young people is forever topical, especially so, as our country ranks high in its suicide rates among our European Partnership. Concentrating on youth suicide prevention is important. However it does not ignore or diminish the tragedy of suicide in other age groups. Rather, a comprehensive suicide prevention programme for children, adolescents and young adults geared to the promotion of positive mental and life skills prepares them with the tools to face and overcome all the problems and difficulties that they will encounter in their lives and thus also decrease suicide in later years.

As ever the conference, in keeping with the aims and objectives of the IAS, is geared to bring together every one who has an involvement and interest in suicidology to share their knowledge and learn from each other. To this end we have a range of experts from different disciplines and voluntary organisations from home and overseas to share their experiences. The Annual Awards for young researchers in all aspects of suicide has become an important part of our conference and the interest that it has for delegates attending the conference has grown each year.

It is appropriate and timely that this conference is being held in Kildare. We are pleased that the conference is so actively supported by the Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group and we pay tribute to the Group for its dedicated work since its foundation in 1997. Over the years since then it has been a leader in developing support for persons bereaved by suicide and is a model that deserves replication throughout the country.

The conference offers a unique opportunity for networking and creating alliances between the different groups involved in suicide prevention and the support of persons who are suicidal and not least people who are bereaved through suicide who have so much to teach us. On behalf of the IAS I have great pleasure in welcoming you to the conference and hope that you will leave enlightened and feeling supported and valued in your work in suicide prevention.

John Connolly
Honorary Secretary, Irish Association of Suicidology
The Irish Association of Suicidology (IAS)

The Irish Association of Suicidology (IAS) was founded in 1996 by Dr John Connolly, the late Dr Michael Kelleher, and Mr Dan Neville TD. The IAS has been working with community, voluntary and statutory bodies since its inception to inform, educate and promote positive suicide prevention policies throughout the island of Ireland.

The IAS prides itself on being a forum where all organisations can come together and exchange knowledge regarding any aspect of suicidology which is gained from differing perspectives and experiences. In our opinion no group, voluntary or professional has a monopoly of wisdom or expertise about suicide. Suicide prevention is everybody’s responsibility and requires coordinated action by all parts of our society. Through its conferences and publications, the IAS highlights various aspects of suicide and endeavours to influence public policy and insure that positive action is taken to provide adequate strategies to combat this tragic problem in our society.

The objectives of the 2015 Conference are to:

• Hear the Presidents insights and reflections on the importance of working towards suicide reduction
• Gain a better understanding of suicide and self harm in young Irish people in schools, college and other settings
• Have a knowledge of what the emerging trends and initiatives in suicide prevention are in Ireland
• Increase awareness of cyber bullying and how to contain and manage the impacts
• Create an awareness of the opportunities and importance of interagency cooperation
• Have a knowledge of Ireland’s new suicide prevention strategy
• Avail of the opportunity to network and learn from like minded peers and professionals
Irish Association of Suicidology
5th Annual Award for Early Career Suicide Researchers

The Irish Association of Suicidology (IAS) is pleased to announce the 5th Annual Award for early career suicide researchers. Since its foundation in 1996, the IAS has strived to create a platform for researchers both nationally and internationally in which to present their work. The IAS has, to date, hosted 18 Annual Conferences and publishes a Newsletter promoting research on topics related to suicidology. This annual award creates an excellent opportunity for new researchers starting out in their careers to showcase their work and to receive advice from expert researchers.

The event is targeted at those currently enrolled as a full-time or part-time undergraduate or post graduate student; recent graduates; or persons who have, within the past two years, commenced work as a researcher. The IAS Research Award Committee review all of the submissions and shortlisted applicants will present their work in an oral presentation at this Research Masterclass.

The winner will be selected from the presentations and will present their work again on the 9th of October to all conference delegates. The research reports of the runners up will be published in the IAS Newsletter during 2015 and 2016 and in the conference proceedings.
Programme Thursday 8th October 2015

09.00  Registration / Coffee for IAS Masterclass

10.00  5th IAS Research Excellence Award
       For Early Career Suicide Researchers
       Presentations by shortlisted candidates

12.30  Lunch / Adjudication

13.30  Afternoon Registration

13.30  Welcoming Address
       Dan Neville TD, President of IAS

13.45  Theme: ‘Self Harm in Young Adult Males: What is happening, Why and What to do?’
       ‘Looking beyond young men as ‘the problem’ - Opportunities for effectively engaging with young men’
       Dr. Noel Richardson, Director, Centre for Men’s Health, Institute of Technology, Carlow

Abstract: In Ireland, the rate of death from suicide is five times higher in young men than in young women. However, those subgroups of young men who are at the highest risk of suicide and self-harm are often those least likely to seek help or access support. Practitioners and service providers frequently approach young men as ‘a problem’ to be solved, which arises out of fear and confusion about how to effectively engage with young men and further alienates young men from services. Drawing on the findings from recent research reports (‘Young men and suicide’ and ‘Engaging young men project’ http://www.itcarlow.ie/research/research-centres/mens-health.htm), this presentation will review the factors underpinning the high prevalence of suicide and self-harm among young men in Ireland and will consider opportunities for effectively engaging with young men. There will be a particular focus on tracking the key triggers and transition points in young men’s lives that predispose them to higher risk of suicide, as well as citing evidence of best practice in terms of ‘what works’ in engaging with young men. The presentation will conclude with some reflections on how service providers can be supported to engage more effectively with young men in relation to emotional and mental health issues.

14.20  Presidential Address
       Michael D. Higgins – Uachtarán na hÉireann

15.20  Coffee Break
15.40  

**Theme: ‘Earlier Identification and Intervention of ‘at-risk’ Individuals in Schools and Colleges’**

**Identification of ‘At-Risk’ individuals in Schools**
Dr. Jimmy O’Connell, Counsellor, Psychotherapist and Teacher, St. Peter’s College, Dunboyne

*Abstract:* It is internationally accepted that one in five teenagers have mental health problems which need to be addressed through professional intervention. The mental health issues and problems which are part of teenage experiences are manifested not only in their home environment but also in the schools they attend. Teenagers spend most of their week in schools. The school therefore is a key environment in which to identify mental health problems and to provide an integrated intervention system. In order to identify and provide intervention for young people at risk, it is imperative that the schools become a major part of this strategy. How this is achieved will demand an insight into how schools can be a key partner, and a commitment on the part of government and organisations working with young people to work with schools and understand how the school that the teenager attends can be part of a wider national mental health strategy.

16.15  

**Intervention for ‘At Risk’ individuals in 3rd Level Colleges**
Dr. Declan Aherne, Clinical Psychologist and Head of Counselling, University of Limerick

*Abstract:* Approximately 10,000 young people attend our student counselling services nationwide every year. The thought of suicide is more on the mind of these young people than ever before. This requires a rigorous yet balanced approach to managing risk assessment and intervention support when working in the context of a psychological based primary care mental health service. This paper draws on thirty years experience of dealing with at risk young people and reflects on the learnings acquired over that time. Specifically, the presentation will outline how a stepped care model of service provision is provided and within that context how at risk students are dealt with. The likely contributing factors to student suicidal ideation and planning will be examined with reference to the most up to date theoretical frameworks on this topic. Recommendations for the provision of appropriate prevention services in this area are put forward.

16.50  

**Panel Discussion**

17.10  

**Closing remarks / Evaluation Forms**

17.25  

**Close of Day One**

19.00  

**Pre-Dinner Reception**

19.30  

**Conference Dinner**
Programme Friday 9th October 2015

08.30  Registration / Coffee

09.30  Welcoming Address

09.45  Theme: ‘Bullying - an Old Problem with a New Edge’
Internet based Peer and Stranger Bullying - how worried should we be?
Dr. Conor Mc Guckin, Assistant Professor in Education (Educational Psychology),
School of Education at Trinity College Dublin

Abstract: Just when we were getting used to the fact that bullying happens in even the
best regulated schools, along came cyber bullying. Despite similarities in characteristics,
cyber bullying is even more insidious than “traditional” bullying with its 24/7 potential,
anonymity, and rapid escalation.
The issue of suicide as a consequence of cyber bullying is repeatedly raised. However,
the question remains - “Are all reported cases of suicide that are linked to cyber bullying
underpinned by fact?”. In the absence of fact, we rely on unhelpful speculation, doing
nothing but injustice to school pupils, teachers, schools, families, and communities.
This presentation explores the central issues related to bullying and suicide. It is argued
that a great many of the reported cases of cyber bullying and suicide are not underpinned
by fact, causing undue distress to families, schools, and communities. Where there have
been cases of death by suicide, warning factors may have been there - but perhaps not
acted upon. The issues in relation to cyber bullying and suicide are real and potent. But,
with a sensible and mature approach, everyone with an interest in the positive growth and
development of children and young people can make a contribution.

10.20  Theme: ‘Filicide: Families and Suicide-Homicide - What should we know and is there
something we can do?’
Filicide: Mental illness in people who kill their children
Dr. Sandra Flynn, Research Fellow, Centre for Mental Health and Safety,
University of Manchester

Abstract: Most child victims of homicide are killed by a parent. This presentation will
describe findings from the large population study of filicide in the UK, with a detailed
description of perpetrators who have killed their child or stepchild. We examined the role
of mental illness in these incidents and the characteristics of patients who had been under
the care of mental health services.
297 people were convicted of committing a filicide, and there were 51 cases of filicide-
suicides between 1997 and 2006, an average of 35 perpetrators a year. Most offences
were committed by fathers. Of the mothers who committed filicide, two thirds had a prior
history of mental disorder, and half were experiencing symptoms of mental illness at the
time of the offence. The most common diagnosis was affective disorder. Despite over a
third of offenders overall being mentally ill at the time of the offence, a relatively small
proportion had been under the care of mental health services before the incident. In
the majority of cases, people who killed their own child were not mentally ill.
However, our findings highlight parents with severe mental illness and young mothers
require careful monitoring by mental health and other support services.
10.55 **Theme: 'The Kildare Experience'**  
**History of Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group**  
Mr. Greg Fogarty, P.R.O., KSBSG

**Abstract:** This presentation will provide a brief overview of the history of the Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group, (KSBSG) which was founded in 1997. The issues and concerns in the community that lead to the foundation of the group will be discussed in detail. As with all initiatives the reasons and motivations that lead to the foundation of the group will be of interest.

The aims, objectives and mission of KSBSG will be outlined. The selection of its members, the funding for training those members and the initial start-up are discussed. The development and changes in KSBSG that have occurred over the past eighteen years since its foundation as the group has gained from experience and training are outlined. The courses and public meetings, the ongoing training, the funding of the group and changes in personnel are addressed. Finally it will look at where the KSBSG is today and what the future holds for the group and other voluntary groups in a changing Ireland.

11.10 **Coffee**

11.30 **Dr. Michael Kelleher Memorial Lecture – KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
**Suicide is not a rational act – but what is it, and what can we do to prevent it?**  
Prof. Dr.med Konrad Michel, Senior Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist, University Psychiatric Hospital, Bern, Switzerland

**Abstract:** Suicide is not a rational act – but what is it, and what can we do to prevent it? Suicide is a complex phenomenon, and we have learnt that there is no simple cause – effect relationship that can explain why people take their lives. In 1981, Maris wrote: “Suicide cannot be prevented until it is properly conceptualized”. Have we come any further in our concepts of suicidal behaviour? I believe we have. We know something about the neurobiology of suicide, genetic and epigenetic factors associated with impaired impulse regulation and decision-making.

What interests me most is the question how we can translate these insights into effective therapies. Our group in Bern has developed a therapy model based on the concept of suicide as action as opposed to a psychiatric disorder. Considering that long-term factors related to suicidal behaviour are difficult to influence, the focus of this brief therapy is on establishing a therapeutic alliance with the suicidal patient in order to develop and establish personalized safety strategies.

In this lecture I shall review relevant concepts of suicidal behaviour and discuss how they can be translated into therapy practice. This will be followed by a short overview of the therapy protocol and the results of a recently completed two-year follow-up randomized controlled study.

12.30 **Lunch**
**Programme Friday 9th October 2015**

13.45  **Theme: 'Psychological insight into the young person’s mind’**  
**Reflections on the meaning of suicide for our young people**  
Dr. Margaret Boyle Spelman, Clinical Psychologist,  
Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist & Lecturer, Trinity College & University College Dublin  

*Abstract:* In this paper I look at the meaning of suicide for the young person considering it. This is done by examining case examples and the thinking of D.W. Winnicott (1896-1971).

14.20  **Presentation by Winner of IAS Research Excellence Award**

14.35  **Theme: 'Resilience - What makes Young People Stronger and Better Able to Cope?’**  
Can the internet empower young people to deal with life’s inevitable challenges?:  
Mr. Ian Power, Executive Director, SpunOut.ie, Ireland’s youth information website  

*Abstract:* Every generation faces its own set of challenges, and the current generation of young people is no different. Many of these challenges are perennial, but issues like unemployment, social isolation, body image, substance abuse, misogyny, bullying, sexuality, identity and racism appear to be particularly acute and are severely affecting the mental health of young people in Ireland. This presentation will explore whether young people can use the internet as a catalyst to improve our ability to cope and strengthen our state of wellbeing or if it exacerbates our problems. Using Irish research and case studies, benchmarked against international examples of best practice, we will examine if the internet is a help or a hindrance.

15.10  **Coffee Break**

15.25  **Translating Ireland’s New National Strategy for Suicide Prevention**  
‘Connecting for Life’  
Mr. Gerry Raleigh, Director, National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP)  

*Abstract:* ‘Connecting for Life’ sets out an all of society approach to suicide prevention. This presentation addresses the steps we will take as a community to reduce the tragedy of suicide among our young people.

16.40  **Closing Address**  
Dr. Justin Brophy, Chairperson IAS  
**Evaluations Forms**

17.00  **Close**
Conference Speakers

Dr. Konrad Michel

Konrad Michel, M.D., is a psychiatrist and psychotherapist at the outpatients department of the University Psychiatric Hospital, Bern, Switzerland, and in private practice. He has been a collaborator of the WHO / EURO Multicenter Study on Suicidal Behaviour. He has conducted several clinical research projects focusing on the role of general practitioners in suicide prevention, and on aspects of the patient – therapist relationship. Together with Ladislav Valach, Konrad Michel has developed a model of understanding suicidal behaviour based on the theory of goal-directed action and narrative interviewing. He is the initiator of the Aeschi Working Group, a group of clinicians and researchers dedicated to improve clinical suicide prevention by developing and promoting patient oriented models of understanding suicidal behaviour. Together with David A. Jobes he edited the volume “Building a Therapeutic Alliance with the Suicidal Patient” (APA Books), based on the “philosophy” of the Aeschi Conferences. In cooperation with Anja Gysin-Maillart he developed a specific brief therapy for suicide attempters, ASSIP (Attempted Suicide Short Intervention Program). The original manual of this highly structured 4-session therapy was published in the German language in 2013. The translation in English was launched by Hogrefe in June 2015.

Dr. Declan Aherne

Dr. Declan Aherne is a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist and has been Head of Counselling at University of Limerick (UL) for the past 29 years. He has seen numbers attending this service rise dramatically in the past number of years, with almost 1,000 students attending this psychology-based primary mental health care facility in the last academic year. He oversees an innovative stepped care service that incorporates a screening and risk assessment process as well as a full range of interventions from psycho-educational classes, to individual therapy and through to psychiatric consultancy. Declan is a founding member and on the current executive of the Irish Association of University and College Counsellors (IAUCC). Declan is a Director of Oakwood psychological services, Limerick. He has numerous articles published including papers on student suicide and student stress.

Greg Fogarty

Greg has been involved in the Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group, (KSBSG) since its inception in 1997. KSBSG was one of the first such groups formed in Ireland at a time when there was little interest in suicide and support for the bereaved in particular. He was one of the original eighteen people selected by the group to train as counsellors to support persons bereaved by suicide. Following training he worked with clients, groups and individuals in need of support, help and understanding following bereavement. In recent years he has concentrated on being the Public Relations Officer of the KSBSG. He is a retired member of An Garda Siochana after thirty five years of dedicated service. As a member of An Gardai he had first-hand experiences of the tragedy of suicide and its impact on families, friends and communities.
Conference Speakers

Dr. Sandra Flynn
Sandra Flynn is Research Fellow at the Centre for Mental Health and Safety at the University of Manchester. The Centre examines suicide and homicide in patients and the risks from parental mental illness. She is a lead researcher for the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness, a UK-wide study that aims to improve the safety of mental health care. Her research interests focus on family violence and mental illness. She completed her doctorate at the University of Manchester on homicide-suicide and the role of mental illness.

Dr. Conor Mc Guckin
Dr. Conor Mc Guckin is an Asst Professor in Education (Educational Psychology) with the School of Education at Trinity College Dublin. A Chartered (British Psychological Society: CPsychol) and Registered (Psychological Society of Ireland: Reg. Psychol., Ps.S.I.) Psychologist, Conor is a Chartered Scientist (CSci) with The Science Council. He is an Associate Fellow of both The British Psychological Society (AFBPsS) and The Psychological Society of Ireland (A.F.Ps.S.I.). Conor has a history of involvement in, and management of, collaborative national and international research projects. A Visiting Research Fellow of Glyndŵr University (Wales), he acts as an International Expert (Psychology) to Portugal’s Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT: Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia). Conor works within the Inclusion in Education and Society (IES) Research Group in the School of Education (TCD). Conor’s research interests are in the areas of psychology applied to educational policy and processes, the psychology of education, bully/victim problems among children and adults, and special educational needs.

Dr. Jimmy O’Connell
Dr Jimmy O’Connell is working as a counsellor/psychotherapist and teacher in St Peter’s College Dunboyne, Co. Meath. He has spent many years as a teacher and administrator in secondary schools in Ireland. He has also worked in The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, USA as a school-based counsellor in their mental health partnership with the Baltimore City School Board. Jimmy is particularly interested in adolescent mental health and completed his doctorate on school based counselling as a support for the mental health of adolescents. He is also on the Jigsaw Meath Schools Project steering committee.

Gerry Raleigh
Mr. Gerry Raleigh is the Director of the National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) since 2012. The NOSP is part of the Mental Health Division of the Health Service Executive, the Irish public health service. Mr. Raleigh has considerable experience in managing primary and community care services and has worked extensively in mental health and disabilities with a particular interest in working with NGO partners in the area of mental health promotion and suicide prevention. Mr. Raleigh is a trained Psychiatric Nurse and holds a B.A in Healthcare Management and a Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resources.
Conference Speakers

Ian Power
Ian is Executive Director of Ireland’s youth information website SpunOut.ie, a website which empowers young people with the information they need to live happy, healthy lives. Around 80,000 young Irish readers visit the site each month. Originally from Waterford, Ian studied at University College Cork (UCC), where he served a term as deputy president of the students’ union. In 2010, he moved to London to work at a sixth form college in Hackney where - under the leadership of a visionary principal - he established ‘Raising Aspirations’, a programme to get more young people from poor backgrounds into good universities.

Ian has a particular interest in the area of juvenile justice and holds an advanced diploma in the subject from the King’s Inn and a professional fellowship in the rule of law from Boston College. Ian is president of the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) and a board member of the National College of Art & Design.

Dr. Noel Richardson
Dr. Noel Richardson is Director of the National Centre for Men’s Health at the Institute of Technology Carlow, with responsibility for men’s health research and training. He has extensive experience in the area of men’s health at a research, policy and advocacy level. He is the principal author of the first ever National Policy on men’s health, which was published in Ireland in 2009. He has worked as a policy advisor on men’s health at the Department of Health in Ireland since 2005. He is also co-author of the first European Union report on men’s health, published in 2011. He completed a doctoral thesis on men’s health in 2007 and has a number of peer-reviewed and other publications in men’s health. He has presented at international conferences on men’s health and is a board member of the Men’s Health Forum in Ireland and the European Men’s Health Forum.

Dr. Margaret Boyle Spelman
Dr. Margaret Boyle Spelman is a registered clinical and counselling psychologist, a psychoanalytic psychotherapist, and an organisational psychologist. She has worked for three decades as a clinical psychologist in the Irish Health Services and has been in private practice as a psychologist and psychotherapist since 1998. Margaret has been an Executive Member of the Irish Forum for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, a Board Director for the Irish Council for Psychotherapy and Vice-Chairperson for the Psychoanalytic Section of the Irish Council for Psychotherapy. She is a Faculty member for the MSc. at TCD and the professional training of the Irish Institute of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy. She has Masters degrees in psychology from the three Dublin Universities and has completed her PhD at the Centre for Psychoanalysis, University of Essex.

Amongst her publications are two books, Winnicott’s Babies and Winnicott’s Patients and The Evolution of Winnicott’s Thinking, on the work of D. W. Winnicott and an edited volume with Prof. Frances Thomson-Salo of the University of Melbourne.
CPD ACCREDITATION

College of Psychiatry of Ireland – 10 Credits  
Psychological Society of Ireland – 8 Credits (4 per day)  
*A Certificate of Attendance will be provided to all Delegates after the Conference*

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of IAS is €40 per year. It is also possible to avail of ‘Organisational Membership’.  
This entitles organisations to include 3 members for the discounted price of €100.  
Membership includes discounted rates to the IAS Annual Conference and other events as well as a periodic newsletter. There will be a facility to join or renew IAS membership at the Conference. This will be available at the registration desk.

PATRON OF IAS

Michael D Higgins, Uachtarán na hÉireann

Funding and Support

The IAS wish to acknowledge the funding and support provided by The National Office for Suicide Prevention

We would also like to acknowledge the following who have helped us with fundraising for the Conference

- Brady Family Ham, Timahoe, Co. Kildare  
  - Fire Restaurant & Lounge, Dawson Street, Dublin  
  - Killashee Hotel, Naas  
- LIDL Ireland GMBH, Kildare  
  - Select Hotels of Ireland  
  - Ski Club of Ireland, Kilternan, Co. Dublin  
  - Whites Hotel, Wexford

Printing & Design sponsored by Celtic MEDIA PRINT
Killashee, Naas, Co. Kildare is located just 30 kms from Dublin City Centre & just 2kms outside of Naas Town.

Set amidst acres of historic & intriguing gardens, walk ways & parkland, with magnificent views over the Kildare countryside. A hotel that is timeless, natural & elegant where we understand space, fun & food. From family time to fun time, meetings to events and the gym to the spa, Killashee is the ideal retreat to relax & unwind for you & yours.

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