

# Pabhsaeir Inis Meáin

## Wildflowers of Inis Meáin



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Gach ceart ar cosaint

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## Foinsí - Sources

Tá an t-eolas sa leabhrán seo faoi Inis Meáin bunaithe ar obair pháirce a cuireadh i gcrích ar an oileán in Aibreán - Bealtaine 2024 ar son Pleanáil Teanga Inis Meáin. Is ó bhéaloideas a bhailigh an taighdeoir Aedín Ní Thiarnaigh, agus ó na foinsí seo thíos a tháinig an chuid eile den eolas.

Information pertaining to Inis Meáin in this booklet is based on fieldwork gathered on the island in April - May 2024 on behalf of Pleanáil Teanga Inis Meáin. Additional information came from folklore gathered by researcher Aedín Ní Thiarnaigh and from the following sources:

## Leabhair - Books

*Collins Complete Guide to Irish Wildlife* (2004)

*Díolaim Luibheanna* - Nicholas Williams (1993)

*Dúlra Oileáin Árann* - Con Ó Ruairc (2011)

*Ireland's Wild Plants, Myths, Legends and Folklore* - Niall Mac Coitir (2006)

*The Wildflowers of Ireland, A Field Guide* - Zoe Devlin (2014)

*Wild Plants of The Burren and the Aran Islands* - Charles Nelson (1999)

### Réamhrá an taighdeora



Ba phribhléid é tabhairt faoin taighde seo ar Inis Meáin agus é de sprioc againn saibhreas teanga agus saibhreas flóra an oileáin a shníomh le chéile agus a cheiliúradh.

Tá a cháil amuigh ar Inis Meáin mar útóipe don Ghaeilge le fada an lá. Toisc an t-oileán a bheith scoite amach go stairiúil ón gcuid eile den tír agus den saol, tá oidhreacht bheo le brath anseo ar dheacair teacht ar a leithéid áit ar bith eile. Más amhlaidh an scéal ó thaobh na teanga de, is fíor é ó thaobh na bithéagsúlachta de freisin agus an t-oileán ina thearmann do réimse leathan flóra agus fána.

Mar is eol do chách a leag cos ar an oileán creagach seo riamh, is uathúil agus is speisialta an áit í. Iarracht atá i 'Pabhsaeir Inis Meáin' blaiseadh beag den uathúlacht sin a chruinniú le chéile, a chaomhnú agus a roinnt leis an saol mór - ó phabhsaeir go puiteacha.

Níl ach líon teoranta bláthanna sa leabhrán seo i gcomparáid leis an réimse leathan plandaí a fhásann go fiáin ar Inis Meáin. Tugadh tosaíocht anseo dóibh siúd a raibh suntas ag gabháil leo ó thaobh an tseanchais, nó ó thaobh na bithéagsúlachta de.

Gabhaim buíochas ó chroí le gach duine a thacaigh leis an togra seo: na hagallaithe áitiúla a roinn a gcuid ama agus cuimhní go fial liom, gach ball pobail a líon isteach ceistneoir bhéaloideas na bpabhsaer, scoláirí agus foireann Scoil Náisiúnta Inis Meáin, Aisling Nic an tSíthigh a chuir comhairle orm i ndáil le cúrsaí luibheolaíochta, Orlaith Breathnach a roinn a cuid taighde béaloidis féin agus a comhairle liom go flaitiúil, Éadaoin Ní Dhomhnaill a chuir comhairle orm i ndáil le cúrsaí litríthe agus canúna, agus dar ndóigh na maoinitheoirí Pleanáil Teanga Inis Meáin agus Oifig Bithéagsúlachta Chomhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe, nach mbeadh an leabhrán seo ar an bhfód ina n-éagmais.

Tá súil agam go gcuirfidh 'Pabhsaeir Inis Meáin' oiread gliondair oraibh a léamh agus a chuir sé orm é a scríobh.

Le meas,

**Aedín Ní Thiarnaigh**

### Researcher's foreword

Our goal for this project was to create something that would celebrate the richness of both the local language and heritage of Inis Meáin together with the island's remarkable flora.

Inis Meáin has long been heralded as a stronghold for the Irish language. The remoteness of the island, which led to its being set apart from the rest of the world in many ways for years, has resulted in the preservation of a rich living heritage unlike any other. As true as this is for the language, it is also true for the flora and fauna that call Inis Meáin home.

As anyone who has ever set foot on this rocky island knows, Inis Meáin is a unique and special place. 'Pabhsaeir Inis Meáin' is a humble effort to preserve and to promote some of that uniqueness to the wider world - from blossoms to blackberries.

This booklet contains a limited selection of flowers from the vast flora of the island. Priority was given to those flowers with local names and traditions, and those of particular value in terms of biodiversity.

I give my heartfelt thanks to all who supported this project: the local interviewees who shared their time and memories so generously with me, each member of the community who filled in our flower folklore questionnaire, the staff and students at Scoil Náisiúnta Inis Meáin, Aisling Nic an tSíthigh for her advice on the botanical aspects of the project, Orlaith Breathnach who shared her own folklore research and wisdom so freely, Éadaoin Ní Dhomhnaill who advised on local dialect and spelling, and of course our funders Pleanáil Teanga Inis Meáin and Galway County Council Biodiversity Office, without whom this booklet would not exist. I hope that 'Pabhsaeir Inis Meáin' brings as much joy to those who read it as it has brought me to write it.

Regards,

**Aedín Ní Thiarnaigh**



## Sceach airní - Blackthorn - *Prunus spinosa*



Tugtar ‘sceach airní’ ar an bplanda seo in Inis Meáin agus ‘draighean’ in áiteacha eile. Thugtaí ‘cosán’ ar an adhmaid a bhailítí ón tom le dó sa tine i rith an gheimhridh. Fásann deilgní ar an sceach a bhíonn an-phianmhar má théann siad isteach sa gcráiceann; nimh san adhmaid is cúis leis.

Fásann airní ar an gcráobh sa bhfómhar agus dhéantaí ‘fíon’ astu fadó. Mheasctáí na hairní le huisce i mbuidéal agus chuirteá faoin talamh é ar feadh roinnt seachtainí go dtí go n-ólfaí é. Ní raibh alcól ceart sa bhfíon seo, ach píosa spraoi a

bhí ann don aos óg. D’ítí na hairní ón gcráobh freisin nuair a bhídís bog. Tá croí san airne a bhrístí le cloch chun croí beag eile a nochtadh a raibh blas almóinne air. Tá méid beag ciainíde sna síolta seo ar chúis leis an mblas, mar sin níor cheart an iomarca dóibh a ithe!

Bíonn go leor pailneoirí ag brath ar an sceach airní idir chuileoga, smeachain agus eile. Thairis seo, beatha d’éanacha a bhíonn sna hairní.



Blackthorn is known as ‘sceach airní’ (sloe bush) on Inis Meáin. The wood was once gathered as fuel for the fire and sloe berries were a treat for children who would eat them when ripe. Sloes were mixed with water and buried for a number of weeks in glass bottles to create a local ‘wine’. Sloe seeds were broken open and the smaller inner seed within eaten as a treat. These seeds have an almond-like flavour, due to trace amounts of cyanide found within, and should only be eaten sparingly. Many pollinators like flies and bees depend on the blackthorn, with the berries providing a vital food source for birds.

**3** Faoi bhláth: Márta - Aibreán. Faoi thoradh: Deireadh Fómhair - Samhain.

In bloom: March-April. In fruit: October - November.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Sabhaircín - Primrose - *Primula vulgaris*



Níor úsáideadh an focal Gaeilge ‘sabhaircín’ go dtí le roinnt blianta anuas ar Inis Meáin. Ba mhinicí a thabharfadh muintir na háite ‘na primroses’ orthu roimhe sin agus ba chomhartha iad go raibh an geimhreadh ag teacht chun deiridh.

Bhailíodh daoine na pabhsaeir agus chuirfeá i gcrúscáí iad ar altóir na Maighdine Muire sa teach agus sa séipéal. Is féidir na bláthanna a ithe agus d’úsáideadh gasúir na bileoga fadó chun an cúr a bhaint de bharr an bhainne lena ól. Thugtaí ‘copóga cúr’ ar bhileoga sabhaircíní mar gheall air seo.

The Irish word ‘sabhaircín’ is a relatively recent addition to the island vocabulary. Prior to this, people on Inis Meáin would refer to the flowers using the English word ‘primrose.’ The flowers were a sign that winter was coming to an end. Primroses were collected to decorate May altars in honour of the Virgin Mary. The flowers are edible, and the leaves were used by children long ago as a makeshift spoon to scoop the fresh cream from the top of the milk bucket. The leaves were known as ‘copóga cúr’ (foam leaves) for this reason.

**4** Faoi bhláth: Feabhra - Bealtaine.

In bloom: February - May.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Bainne Bó Bleachtáin - Dandelion - *Taraxacum vulgaria*



Tugtar ‘bainne bó bleachtáin’ ar an bpabhsaer seo in Inis Meáin mar gheall ar an mbainne a thagann as cois an phlanda nuair a bhristear é. Bhí an-cháil ar an ‘mbainne’ seo mar leigheas ar fhaithneacha fadó.

Thugadh daoine eile ‘pabhsaer buí’ air, agus bhíodh an-spórt ag gasúir leo. Tugtar ‘clog’ ar an gcloigeann tar éis dó dul chun síl. Dhéanadh gasúir trí shéideog ar an gclog ag iarraidh na síolta a bhaint, agus deirtí gurbh ionann an méid síolta a bheadh fágtha agus an t-am a bheadh ann (mar shampla: trí shíol = trí a chlog).

\*Is fiú a lua go bhfuil bláth eile ar an oileán a dtugann roinnt daoine ‘bainne bó bleachtáin’ air chomh maith (euphorbia). Fásann sé cois cósta agus d’úsáidte ar na faithneacha é freisin.



The dandelion is widely known on Inis Meáin as the ‘bainne bó bleachtáin’ because of the milky juice the stem produces when broken. This ‘milk’ was highly regarded as a cure for warts. Others knew the flower simply as ‘pabhsaer buí’ (yellow flower) and it was a great source of fun for children who would blow three times on the dandelion clock in order to tell the time (the remaining number of seeds being equal to the hour. E.g. three seeds = three o’clock). It is worth noting that the name ‘bainne bó bleachtain’ is also used by some islanders to refer to another plant (*Euphorbia*), which grows later in the summer, in coastal areas of the island, and was also used in the treatment of warts.

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Faoi bhláth: Márta - Deireadh Fómhair.

In bloom: March - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Slaiseanna - Alexanders - *Smyrniium oleracum*



Plandaí fíor-choitianta ar thaobh na mbóithre is iad na slaiseanna. Bhítí á dtabhairt do chaoirigh agus do bheithigh mar bheatha fadó san earrach sula mbíodh an féar fairsing. Ní maith le roinnt feilméaraí anois iad mar go scaipeann siad chomh héasca. Bíonn siad á dtarraingt as na buailte.

Tugadh slaiseanna isteach go hÉirinn ón Meánmhuir na céadta bliain ó shin mar luibh chócaireachta. Is féidir an planda ar fad a ithe agus bíonn boladh agus blas soilire air. Nuair a bhíonn sé críonnaithe, bíonn síolta dubha air a mbíonn blas láidir piobair orthu. Is uaidh na síolta seo a thagann an t-ainm ‘lusrán grándubh’ a thugtar ar na slaiseanna in áiteacha eile.

Alexanders is a common roadside plant on the island. It was given to sheep and cows as fodder long ago in early spring before grass was plentiful. Many farmers now dislike the plant as it spreads easily, and is often removed for this reason. The plant was originally brought to Ireland from the Mediterranean hundreds of years ago as a culinary plant. The entire plant is edible, with a taste and smell akin to celery. The fiery black seeds are an excellent substitute for whole black peppercorns. For this reason, another Irish name for the plant is ‘lusrán grándubh’ (flower of the black grain).

Faoi bhláth: Feabhra - Meitheamh.

In bloom: February - June.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

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## Gairleog Fhiáin - Babbington's Leek - *Allium ampeloprasum var. Babingtonii*



Tugtar 'gairleog fhiáin' go háitiúil ar an bplanda ard seo a fhásann taobh leis na claíocha, ach cainneann atá ann i ndáiríre. Tá blas láidir gairleoige ar na bileoga fada a fhásann ó mhí Aibreáin amach, agus ar an rúta in íochtar a bhfuil cruth oinniúin air agus a d'ití fadó. Fásann bláth aoibhinn bándearg air sa samhradh.

Bíonn na beithigh fiáin ag an bplanda seo. Chuirfeadh sé go mór isteach ar dhaoine fadó dá n-íosfadh an bhó go leor den ghairleog, mar d'fhágfaí blas láidir gairleoige ar an mbainne!

Tá tuairim ann gur thug na manaigh an planda go hOileáin Árann i dtosach mar luibh chócaireachta, agus go mb'fhéidir go bhfuil gaol aige le hainm an tséipéilín 'Cill Cheannannach' (ar a dtugtar 'Cill Cheanainn' go háitiúil) mar go bhfásann go leor den phlanda timpeall ar an tseanreilig. Ba dheacair an scéal seo a chruthú, áfach.



Known locally as 'gairleog fhiáin' (wild garlic), this tall flower is actually a type of leek. The long leaves which grow from April onwards taste strongly of garlic, as does the edible onion-shaped root beneath the plant. In the summer, a striking pink flower blooms on top. Much to the displeasure of many islanders, the local cattle love the taste of Babbington's Leek, which would lend a strong garlic flavour to their summer milk! There is a theory that the plant was introduced to the Aran Islands by monks and that it may be connected with the name of the oratory 'Cill Cheannannach.' The small church ruins are locally pronounced 'Cill Cheanainn,' similar to the Irish word 'cainneann' for this leek. Although the plant does grow in abundance at the site, the connection would be difficult to prove.

Faoi bhláth: bileoga ó Aibreán - Meitheamh, bláthanna ó Mheitheamh - Iúil.

In bloom: leaves from April - June, flowers from June - July.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Coll - Hazel - *Corylus avellana*

Fásann coll sna scoiltreacha ar na creaga in Inis Meáin. Fásann caitíní buí agus pabhsaeir bheaga bhándearga ar an gcrann ó Eanáir go Feabhra agus tagann cnóite orthu sa bhfómhar. Bhítí ag ithe na gcnóite seo ar an oileán. D'úsáidítí cloch leis an taobh amuigh a bhriseadh agus d'ití an cnó milis taobh istigh.



Tá adhmaid coill láidir agus solúbtha agus bhaintí an-úsáid as ar an oileán fadó: le maidí siúil a dhéanamh, le scoilb a dhéanamh agus le potaí gliomach a dhéanamh, mar shampla. Uaireanta mura mbeadh dóthain ag fás ar an oileán, thabharfaí coll isteach as Conamara.

Hazel grows in the grikes of the limestone pavement on Inis Meáin. Yellow catkins and tiny pink flowers grow on the tree from January to February followed by hazelnuts which ripen in the autumn. These edible nuts would be broken open with a rock and enjoyed as a sweet treat. Hazel wood is strong and flexible and was widely used on the island long ago; to make walking sticks, scallops for thatching, and lobster pots, for example. Sometimes extra hazel was brought in from Connemara if needed.

Faoi bhláth: Eanáir - Feabhra Faoi thoradh: Meán Fómhair - Deireadh Fómhair.

In bloom: January - February In fruit: September - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Nóinín Beag - Daisy - *Bellis perennis*



Ba chaitheamh aimsire coitianta é sa samhradh in Inis Meáin, slabhra nóiníní a dhéanamh. Chuirte poll i gcois an nóinín, chuirte nóinín eile tríd agus dhéantaí é seo arís agus arís eile go dtí go mbíodh slabhra déanta le cur faoin muineál.

Making daisy chains was a common summer pastime in Inis Meáin. A hole would be made in the stem and another daisy strung through. This was repeated until the chain was long enough to be worn around the neck.

Faoi bhláth: Márta - Deireadh Fómhair.

In bloom: March - October.



## Nóinín Mór - Oxeye Daisy - *Leucanthemum vulgare*

Thugtaí nóiníní móra isteach leis an teach, nó an altóir Mhuire, a mhaisiú. Deirtear go dtabharfaí 'na géabha bána' mar leasainm ar an nóinín mór in Inis Meáin uair amháin mar gheall ar pheitil bhána an phabhsaeir agus an ciorcal buí ina lár, ar gheall iad leis na dathanna a bhíonn ar ghé.

Oxeye daisies would be used to decorate the home and the May altar. It is said that these daisies once had the nickname 'na géabha bána' (the white geese) on Inis Meáin because of their white petals and yellow centre, similar to the colours of a goose's beak and feathers.

Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Meán Fómhair.

In bloom: May - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Saighdiúir - Ribwort Plantain - *Plantago lanceolata*

Bhaineadh 'chuile dhuine taitneamh as an gcluiche a d'imríte leis na saighdiúirí. Phiocadh beirt saighdiúir an duine, agus dhéantaí iarracht an cloigeann a bhaint de shaighdiúir an duine eile. An chéad duine a bhaineadh an cloigeann den saighdiúir eile, bheadh an bua aige.

Tugtar 'slánlus' ar na saighdiúirí in áiteacha eile sa tír agus bhíodh antóir orthu mar luibh leighis. Tá frith-hiostaimíní sna bileoga, a bhfuil rian easnacha iontu, a leigheasann pian ó aon chineál cealg (ó smeach, ó chleabhar, nó dó neantóige, mar shampla). Níl le déanamh ach an bhileog a phiocadh, a changailt i do bhéal, a chaitheamh amach agus a chuimilt ar an áit a bhfuil an chealg.



Great fun was had playing with ribwort plantain stems, known as 'na saighdiúirí' (soldiers). Two children would pick a stem each and take it in turns trying to whack the head from their opponent's stem. Whoever knocked the other's 'soldier' head off first was the winner. Ribwort plantain was widely known in other parts of Ireland as a healing herb. It is often called 'slánlus' (health plant). The leaves, which have the tell-tale ribs referred to in its English name, contain antihistamines and ease pain from any type of sting (bee, wasp, nettle etc.). To use the leaf in this way, the leaves must be chewed, and the pulp applied to the affected area.

Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Deireadh Fómhair.

In bloom: April - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Sic Salún - Wild Strawberry - *Fragaria vesca*



Cuireann an sic salún tús le séasúr na dtorthaí fiáine ar an oileán. Fásann na torthaí beaga blasta seo ar thaobh na róidíní agus baineann óg agus aosta taitneamh astu. Bhí cleas ar an oileán le cois saighdiúra nó sop láidir féir a úsáid leis na torthaí a bhailiú.

Chuirteá poll beag sna torthaí sa gcaoi go bhféadtaí iad a chur anuas ar an gcois nó sop, go dtí go mbeadh 'stropa sic salún' lán le tabhairt abhaile.

Wild strawberries, known as 'sic salún' on Inis Meáin, mark the beginning of the wild fruit season on the island. These tasty berries grow on the roadsides and are enjoyed by young and old alike.

A local trick for collecting the berries was to string the fruits along a stem of ribwort plantain or strong grass. When the 'stropa sic salún' (strap of strawberries) was full, it would be taken home to enjoy.



Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Meitheamh Faoi Thoradh: Meitheamh - Iúil.

In bloom: April - June In fruit: June - July.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Neantóga - Stinging Nettle - *Urtica dioica*



Bíonn fainic ar 'chuile dhuine i leith na neantóga mar gheall ar an dó pianmhar a ghabhann leo. Fágann an dó bológa ar an gcráiceann agus ba mhínic é ina bhagairt ar ghasúir ar an oileán go ndófaí leis na neantóga iad dá mbeidís dána nó mímhúinte! An leigheas a bhí ar an dó seo ná sú ón gcopóg rua a chur air. Bhíodh an dá phlanda ag fás in aice a chéile go mínic.

Thugtaí neantóga bruite mar bhia do na muca ar an oileán. Bhítí á mbruith freisin le sú a dhéanamh astu a bhíodh á ól ag daoine mar leigheas ar shlaghdán agus ar scornach tinn. Bhí sé seo ceaptha a bheith an-fholláin, go háirid dá ndéanfaí an sú go luath san earrach nuair a bheadh na neantóga úr.

Bíonn go leor féileacán ag breith uibheacha ar na neantóga: an t-aimiréal dearg, an chamóg agus an ruán beag, cuir i gcás.

People were wary of the stinging nettle due to the painful sting and rash they caused when in contact with skin. The threat of being stung with nettles was a common one on the island used, to keep children on their best behaviour (though seldom if ever followed through with!). If stung, the juice of the 'copóg rua' (dock leaf) was said to be a cure. Nettles were boiled and fed to pigs on the island. They would also be boiled to extract a juice which was taken as a cure for a cold, flu or sore throat. It was thought to be particularly effective if made in spring when nettles were fresh. Many butterflies, such as the red admiral, the comma and the small tortoiseshell, lay their eggs on the stinging nettle.

Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Meán Fómhair.

In bloom: April - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Sceach Gheal - Hawthorn - *Crateagus monogyna***



Fásann an sceach gheal go híseal ar na creaga in Inis Meáin agus sna buailte áit a bhfuil foscadh ann. Fásann bileoga beaga glasa uirthi san earrach sula dtagann sí faoi bhláth agus d'ití na bileoga óga seo fadó. D'ití na sceachóirí freisin, a thagann ar an sceach sa bhfómhar. Ba bhreá leis na gasúir bhunscoile dul amach á mbailiú agus á n-ithe

ag am lóin fadó. Bheadh lán a bpócaí de sceachóirí acu ag filleadh ar an seomra ranga agus amanta, bhíodh gasúir ag caitheamh croíte na sceachóirí timpeall an tseomra nuair a bheadh cúl droma ag an máistir scoile leo!

Bhaintí cuid den sceach gheal in Inis Meáin uaireanta le húsáid mar ghlúin sa gcurach. In áiteacha eile sa tír chreid daoine go raibh baint ag na síoga leis an gcrann seo agus bhíodh faitíos ar dhaoine roimpi dá bharr, go háirid dá mbeadh crann aonair i gceist. Tugtar 'crann Bealtaine' ar an sceach gheal in áiteacha eile, mar go dtagann na pabhsaeir áille bhána faoi bhláth i mí na Bealtaine.



Hawthorn grows on the limestone pavement and in some sheltered fields on Inis Meáin. Small leaves grow on the plant before it comes into bloom. These were eaten on the island long ago, as were hawthorn berries which ripen in autumn. Children would collect 'sceachóirí' (haws) at lunch time and return to school with their pockets full of berries. Throwing the uneaten seeds around the class was a common way for the children of Inis Meáin to cause mischief when a teacher's back was turned! Hawthorn was sometimes

used on the island to make parts of the currach. In other parts of Ireland, the tree was associated with the fairies and was greatly feared, especially in the instance of a lone hawthorn tree. Sometimes the hawthorn is known as the 'crann Bealtaine' (May tree) as its flowers bloom in May.

**Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Meitheamh. Faoi thoradh: Meán Fómhair - Deireadh Fómhair.**

**In bloom: May - June. In fruit: September - October.**

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Pabhsaer Siogán - Irish Saxifrage - *Saxifraga rosacea***



Deirtear go mbíonn siogáin ina gcónaí faoin bpabhsaer seo agus gur tugadh 'pabhsaer siogán' air in Inis Meáin dá bharr. Cé go bhfásann an pabhsaer go fairsing ar thaobh na róidíní agus sna buailte ar an oileán, is annamh a fhásann sé in áiteacha eile. Ní fhásann sé ach i gcorr-áit in iarthar na hÉireann, in áit amháin sa mBreatain Bheag, i gcúpla áit san Íoslainn agus sna sléibhte ar mhór-roinn na hEorpa. 'Mórán gaelach' a thugtar ar phabhsaer siogán i nGaeilge chomh maith.

Ants often nest beneath Irish Saxifrage, hence its island name 'pabhsaer siogán' (the ant flower). Although this plant is abundant on roadsides and fields on Inis Meáin, it is an exceedingly rare find elsewhere. It grows in only a few places in the west of Ireland, in one known location in Wales, in a few spots in Iceland, and in the mountains of Europe.

**Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Meitheamh.**

**In bloom: April - June.**

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Pabhsaer Naomh Iósaf - Cowslip -**  
*Primula veris*



Ceaptar go dtugtar ‘pabhsaer Naomh Iósaf’ ar an mbláth seo mar go dtagann sé faoi bhláth tar éis Lá Fhéile Naomh Iósaf ar an 19 Márta. Pabhsaer eile é seo a phioctáí go minic leis na tithe agus na haltóirí Muire a mhaisiú. Tá gaol aige leis an sabhaircín agus fásann hibrid den dá phlanda ar an oileán chomh maith, a bhfuil cois ard cosúil leis an bpabhsaer Naomh Iósaf air, ach a mbíonn pabhsaeir mhóra ar nós sabhaircín air.

In áiteacha eile in Éirinn dhéantaí tae as an bpabhsaer Naomh Iósaf a bhí ceaptha deacrachtaí codlata agus imní a leigheas, agus bhailtí na bláthanna go minic le scaipeadh ar thairseach an tí agus an chró Oíche Bhealtaine mar chosaint i gcoinne na síoga.

It is thought that the cowslip, known locally as ‘pabhsaer Naomh Iósaf’ (St Joseph’s flower), is so named as it comes into bloom shortly after St Joseph’s feast day on the 19 March. It was another favourite used to decorate houses and May altars in spring. Cowslips are related to primroses and a hybrid of these plants, known as the false oxlip, is also common on Inis Meáin. It has a tall stem, similar to the cowslip, and large flowers like the primrose. In other parts of Ireland, cowslip tea was used as a treatment for insomnia and for anxiety, and the flowers were often collected to scatter around doorsteps and windowsills on May Eve to protect the home against the fairies.

**Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Bealtaine.**

**In bloom: April - May.**

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Pabhsaer na Maighdine Muire -**  
**Germander Speedwell -** *Veronica chamaedrys*



Fásann pabhsaer na Maighdine Muire go fairsing sa bhféar ar an oileán. Meastar gur bronnadh an t-ainm seo air mar go mbíonn sé ag fás go tréan i rith mhí na Bealtaine, mí na Maighdine Muire. Tugann corrdhuine an t-ainm céanna ar an gceadharlach Bealtaine. Meastar gur ar an veronica chamaedrys a bhí an t-ainm i dtosach áfach, agus gur tugadh ar an gceadharlach é freisin ó bhí an dá bhláth gorm agus iad faoi bhláth ag an am céanna.

Germander Speedwell, locally named ‘pabhsaer na Maighdine Muire’ (Virgin Mary’s flower), is widespread in grassy places on the island. It is thought to be so named as it is abundant during the Marian month of May. This name is also given by some locals to the spring gentian. It is thought that the name was originally attributed to the veronica *chamaedrys*, and became confused with the spring gentian which is also blue, and blooms at the same time of year.

**Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Iúil. In bloom: April - July.**

**Ceadharlach Bealtaine - Spring gentian**  
**-** *Gentiana verna*



Is dóigh gurb é an ceadharlach Bealtaine an pabhsaer is cáiliúla ar Oileáin Árann agus sa mBoireann. Fásann sé ar an oileán i roinnt buailte timpeall ar an Róidín Mór, ar Bhóthar Mheairt agus ar Chinn an Bhaile, i measc áiteacha eile. Ar nós an nóinín, dúnann na petil le luí na gréine.

The spring gentian is possibly the most famous flower of the Aran Islands and the Burren. On Inis Meáin it can be found in some fields around an Róidín Mór, Bóthar Mheairt and Cinn an Bhaile, among others. Like the daisy, the petals close as daylight fades.

**Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Bealtaine.**

**In bloom: April - May.**

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Pabhsaer Bealtaine - Early Purple Orchid -**  
*Orchis mascula*



Tugtar ‘Pabhsaer Bealtaine’ ar an bpabhsaer seo in Inis Meáin mar go bhfásann sé go fairsing ar na creaga agus sna buailte ó mhí Bealtaine ar aghaidh. Thugtaí isteach sna tithe é leis an sabhaircín agus pabhsaer Naomh lósaf don altóir Mhuire go minic, ach ní fhéadtaí an pabhsaer Bealtaine a choinneáil istigh níos faide ná lá mar go dtagadh boladh bréan uaidh ansin.

Tugtar ‘an magairlín meidhreach’ ar an bpabhsaer seo in áiteacha eile agus cheap daoine gur afraidíseach, nó leigheas torthúlachta a bhí ann. Bíonn an

nasc céanna le haithint i roinnt teangacha eile, ag dul siar chomh fada le Sean-Ghréigis.

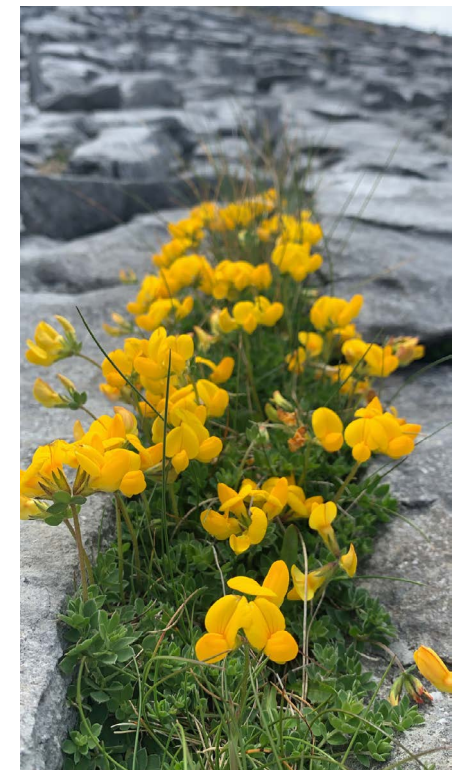
The early purple orchid is known as the ‘pabhsaer Bealtaine’ (May flower) on Inis Meáin as it is particularly abundant on the limestone pavements and in fields at that time of year. It would be picked along with primroses and cowslips to decorate the home and the May altar, although the orchid would almost always be thrown away after a day or so when it would develop a strong, unpleasant smell. The flower is commonly known in Irish as ‘an magairlín meidhreach’ in other parts of Ireland. Translating literally to ‘the merry testicle’, this name refers to the round roots of the flower which were believed to act as an aphrodisiac and a fertility aid. This connection can be found in many other languages, including Ancient Greek.

**Faoi bhláth: Aibreán - Meitheamh.**

In bloom: April - June.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Pabhsaer an chuach - Bird’s foot trefoil -**  
*Lotus corniculatus*



Nuair a osclaíonn an bláth ar phabhsaer an chuach in Inis Meáin, glactar leis mar chomhartha go bhfuil an chuach ag teacht go dtí an t-oileán. Bíonn an bláth seo fairsing ó mhí Bealtaine ar aghaidh, tráth a mbíonn an chuach le cloisteáil go mion minic ar an oileán. Tugtar ‘crobh éin’ ar an bplanda seo in áiteacha eile mar gheall ar na faighneoga a mbíonn cuma coise éin orthu.

Is planda fíorthábhachtach é seo ó thaobh na bithéagsúlachta de. Bíonn an gormán coiteann ag breith a cuid uibheacha air agus soláthraíonn sé go leor neachtair agus pailín do na smeachain freisin.

When bird’s foot trefoil blooms on the island it is taken as a sign that the cuckoo is on its way to Inis Meáin. The flowers are abundant on the island in May when the cuckoo’s call is a regular feature of the Inis Meáin soundscape. The English name ‘bird’s foot’ comes from the seed pods, which look like a bird’s claw. An important plant in terms of biodiversity, the common blue butterfly lays its eggs on this plant and it also provides nectar and pollen for bees.

**Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Meán Fómhair.**

In bloom: May - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Crobh dearg - Bloody cranesbill -**  
*Geranium sanguineum*



Cé go bhfeictear an pabhsaer bándearg seo i mbeagnach 'chuile bhuaile agus 'chuile chreig ar an oileán sa samhradh, ní cosúil go bhfuil ainm áitiúil air atá in úsáid go forleathan. Tugtar 'crobh dearg' ar an bplanda in áiteacha eile mar go dtagann dath geal dearg ar na bileoga nuair a bhíonn an planda críonnaithe agus cruth 'crobh' orthu. Tagann an t-ainm Béarla 'bloody cranesbill' ón bhfaighneog, a bhfuil cruth goib éin uirthi agus spota beag dearg ar nós fola ar an mbarr.

Despite growing in almost every field and limestone pavement on the island, there doesn't seem to be a commonly used local name for this plant. It is known as 'crobh dearg' (red claw) in Irish in other areas due to the claw-shaped leaf which turns red as the plant develops. The English name 'bloody cranesbill' refers to the seed pod, which resembles the long bill of a crane and has a red tip, as if dipped in blood.

**Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Meán Fómhair.**

In bloom: May - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag

ar an

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**Pabhsaer aille - Sea Thrift -** *Armeria maritima*



Tugtar 'pabhsaer aille', 'pabhsaer barr aille' nó 'na blátha craige' ar an bpabhsaer seo in Inis Meáin. Fásann siad go fairsing ar an gcósta gar do Thrá Leitreach, agus ar na hailltreacha.

Sea thrift is known locally on Inis Meáin as 'pabhsaer aille' (cliff flower), 'pabhsaer barr aille' (clifftop flower) or 'na blátha craige' (rock flower). It grows in abundance on the coast road by Trá Leitreach and on the cliffs.

**Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Iúil. In bloom: May - July.**

**Seileastram - Wild Iris -** *Iris pseudacorus*



Fásann an seileastram áit a bhfuil talamh fluich ar an oileán. Tá ceangail idir an pabhsaer seo agus an séasúr iascaireachta. Tá seanráiteas ann: "Nuair a bhíonn pabhsaer ar an seileastram bíonn an ballach leis an gcloch." An chiall a bhí leis seo ná go mbeifí in ann dul ag iascach den charraig ón uair a mbeadh an planda seo faoi bhláth.

Yellow flag grows in wet places on the island. The flower was connected with the fishing season and an old phrase was: 'when the iris comes into bloom, the wrasse will be at the rock.' This meant that when the flower was in bloom, the rock-fishing season could begin.

**Faoi bhláth: Meitheamh.**

In bloom: June.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag

ar an

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**Trom - Elder - *Sambucus nigra***



Fásann an crann troim i gcorr-áit a bhfuil foscadh ann ar an oileán nó mar thom ar na creaga. Bhíodh sé á rá ag daoine gur bhain mí-ádh leis an gcrann, agus dá mbuailfí gasúr le maide troim, nach bhfásadh sé ón lá sin amach! Bhaineadh feilméaraí in Inis Meáin úsáid as craobhóga folmha troim leis na gamhna fireanna a choilleadh. Chuirte 'sprae gorm' ina lár agus cheanglaí na craobhóga de na gamhna.

Tagann bláthanna bána ar an gcrann go luath sa samhradh agus caora dubha air sa bhfómhar. D'úsáidte na bláthanna agus caora araon le blas a chur le deochanna in áiteacha eile.

Elder trees grow in some sheltered places on the island and occasionally as shrubs on the limestone pavement. It was believed to be an unlucky plant and it was said that if a child was struck with a stick of elder, that they wouldn't grow any further from that day on! Farmers on Inis Meáin used the hollowed-out rods of elder for the castration of male calves. The rods were filled with a chemical known locally as 'blue spray' and fixed to the calf. Elderflowers bloom in early summer and elderberries ripen in the autumn. These were both traditionally used in other parts of Ireland to make tasty drinks.

**Faoi bhláth: Meitheamh - Iúil. Faoi thoradh: Meán Fómhair - Deireadh Fómhair.**

**In bloom: June - July. In fruit - September - October.**

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Rós Fiáin - Burnet rose - *Rosa spinosissima***



Bíonn an rós fiáin, nó an 'rós bán' mar a thugann daoine air freisin, go fairsing ar na creaga in Inis Meáin. Tugtar 'dreancán' go háitiúil ar an gcrabhbhealgneach ar a bhfásann sé agus d'úsáidte an focal céanna le cur síos a dhéanamh ar dhuine cantalach!

'Briúlán' a thugtar ar an gcineál róis seo in áiteacha eile agus tagann mogóir dubh air ag deireadh an tsamhraidh. Fásann rós eile, 'an fheirdhris,' in Inis Meáin chomh maith ach níl sé chomh coitianta. Bíonn níos lú deilgní air agus mogóirí dearga a thagann orthu siúd. D'ití na mogóirí seo in áiteacha eile mar go bhfuil go leor vitimín C iontu.

Is breá le smeachain an rós fiáin mar go mbíonn go leor neachtair agus pailine ann. Is minic a fheictear an chiaróg ghlas ar an rós seo freisin.

The burnet rose is a common sight on the limestone pavement in Inis Meáin. Its spiky stem is known by many locals as a 'dreancán' - the same word often being used for a cranky, prickly person! A black rose hip develops on the burnet rose. Another wild rose, the dog rose, also grows on Inis Meáin but is less common. It has fewer thorns and red rose hips. These were commonly gathered and eaten elsewhere due to their high vitamin C content. Bees love the wild roses due to their high nectar and pollen content. The rose chafer beetle is another common visitor to these flowers.

**Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Lúnasa.**

**In bloom: May - August.**

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Féileog - Honeysuckle -  
*Lonicera periclymenum***



Fásann an fhéileog ar chlaíocha agus ar na creaga sa samhradh in Inis Meáin agus is breá le 'chuile dhuine an boladh álainn a thagann uaithi. Is san oíche is mó a bhíonn an boladh seo le fáil; is cleas é seo de chuid na féileoige chun pailneoirí oíche a mhealladh chuici. Bhailítí na bláthanna seo go minic ar an oileán leis na tithe a mhaisiú. Phiocadh roinnt gasúir na bláthanna leis an neachtar a ól astu freisin. Is mar gheall air seo a thugtar 'honeysuckle' ar an mbláth i mBéarla.

Honeysuckle grows on stone walls and on the limestone pavement in summertime in Inis Meáin and its sweet smell is beloved by all. This aroma is noticeably stronger in the evening; an evolutionary trick developed by the plant to attract night-time pollinators. The flowers were often gathered on the island and used to decorate the home. Some children would also collect the flowers to suck the 'honey' from them. This is the source of the flower's name in English.

Faoi bhláth: Meitheamh - Meán Fómhair.

In bloom: June - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Deostán - Thistle - *Cirsium spp.***



Fásann cúpla cineál deostán in Inis Meáin. Tugtar 'deosadán' ar an bplanda seo ar an oileán chomh maith, agus 'feochadán' a thugtar air in áiteacha eile in Éirinn. Fiaile nó salachar atá sa deostán agus bíonn feilméaraí á nglanadh as na buailte. Nuair a bhíonn an deostán críonnaithe, tagann cloigne air a ghreamaíonn d'éadach agus de chlúmh. B'obair mhór í na cloigne seo a bhaint de na beithigh agus chuiridís go mór isteach ar fheilméaraí. Ábhar spraoi a bhí iontu do ghasúir áfach, a chaitheadh na cloigne seo ar a chéile nó a chuireadh ar bhrollach an gheansaí iad agus a thugadh 'breastpins' ansin orthu.

Bhaintí creatlach an deostáin mhóir fadó nuair a bhíodh sé críonnaithe le 'stocaide' a dhéanamh as. Uirlis a bhí anseo a chrochtaí cois tine agus a chuirte stocaí, caipíní agus éadaí fliucha eile ag triomú air. Bhíodh sé seo i go leor de na tithe in Inis Meáin agus tá seanstocaide le feiceáil cois na tine i dTeach Synge fós.

A variety of thistles grow on Inis Meáin and are known locally as 'deostáin' or 'deosadán'. The plant is seen as a weed and farmers clear it from the land. When the thistle matures, a prickly burr grows on top which sticks to clothes and to fur. Removing these burrs from animals was a nuisance for farmers. However, they were also a source of great fun for local children who would throw them at each other. A regular trick was to stick a burr on the chest of one's jumper, when it would then be called a 'breastpin'! Tall dried out thistle stems and branches were used to make an instrument called a 'stocaide.' This would be hung by the fire and socks, caps and other wet things were placed on its hook-like branches. These were a common feature of houses on Inis Meáin long ago. An old 'stocaide' still hangs by the fireplace in Teach Synge.

Faoi bhláth: Iúil - Deireadh Fómhair.

In bloom: July - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Bleachtphiseán - Purple milk vetch -**  
*Astragalus danicus*



Ní fhásann an bleachtphiseán áit ar bith eile in Éirinn ach amháin in Inis Meáin agus in Inis Mór. Is planda faoi chosaint é agus tá sé ainmnithe san Ordú um Flóra (Cosaint) in Éirinn. Dá bhrí seo, tá sé in aghaidh an dlí an planda seo a ghearradh, a bhaint, nó damáiste ar bith a dhéanamh dó d'aon turas. Fásann sé ar an mbóthar gar do Thrá Leitreach agus i gcorr-áit eile ar an oileán.

The purple milk vetch is one of Ireland's rarest plants, found only in Inis Meáin and Inis Mór. It is included in the Irish Flora Protection Order, meaning it is illegal to cut, pick, or to purposely damage it in any way. It grows on the roadside by Trá Leitreach and in a small number of other locations.

**Faoi bhláth: Meitheamh - Iúil.**

In bloom: June - July.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Milíní - Fuchsia - *Fuchsia magellanica***



'Milíní' a thugtar ar an tom seo in Inis Meáin mar go mbíodh daoine á bpiocadh agus á mbrú leis an 'mil,' an neachtar, a bhaint amach astu. Chuirfí an braon meala ar an láimh agus d'óltaí é. 'Deora Dé' a thugtar ar na milíní in áiteacha eile mar deirtí gur anuas ó neamh a tháinig siad nuair a bhí gorta ar domhan uair amháin, agus gur bheathaigh an mhil sna bláthanna na daoine a bhí thíos leis an ocra.

Fuchsia is known as 'milíní' (little honeys) on Inis Meáin due to the tradition of picking the flowers for their nectar. The 'honey' would be squeezed from the flower onto the hand and licked off. In other Irish-speaking areas these flowers are known as 'deora Dé' (God's tears). It was said that they fell from heaven during a time of famine and the people who were starving were able to survive on the honey from the flowers.

**Faoi bhláth: Iúil - Deireadh Fómhair.**

In bloom: July - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

**Méaracán - Harebell - *Campanula rotundifolia***



Is mór an spóirt é na méaracáin a fheiceáil faoi bhláth ar an oileán i dtreo dheireadh an tsamhraidh. Tugtar ‘méaracáin táilliúra’ agus ‘méaracáin ghorma’ orthu freisin - ‘chuile ainm ag tagairt don chosúlacht idir an bláth agus an méaracán a chaitheadh an táilliúir fadó agus é ag fuáil. Ba mhinic le gasúir spraoi a dhéanamh leo, á bpiocadh agus á gcur ar bharr na méar.

Harebells in bloom are a beautiful sight on the island from late summer onwards. Known as ‘méaracáin táilliúra’ and ‘méaracáin ghorma’ (tailor’s thimbles, blue thimbles), all names refer to the flower’s similarity to this quintessential tailor’s tool. Children often played with the flowers, placing the upturned petals on their fingertips like thimbles.

**Faoi bhláth: Iúil - Meán Fómhair.**

In bloom: July - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag

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**Crúibíní - Stone bramble - *Rubus saxatilis***



Ar Lá Mhic Dara (16 Iúil) go traidisiúnta a bhailítí agus a d’ití crúibíní in Inis Meáin. Fásann na torthaí beaga blasta seo ar roinnt chreaga ar an oileán agus amach ó dheas go háirid. Tá creig áirid a dtugtar ‘Creig na gCrúibíní’ uirthi fiú. Dhéantaí milseog speisialta leo: na torthaí a mheascadh le bainne agus siúcra agus a ithe as cupán nó babhla beag. ‘Sú na mBan Mín’ a thugtar ar an bplanda céanna i nGaeilge in áiteacha eile.

Crúibíní’ (stone bramble berries) were traditionally gathered and eaten on Inis Meáin on the Feast of St MacDara (16 July). These tasty berries grow on certain limestone pavements, particularly on the south of the island. One local field even bears the name ‘Creig na gCrúibíní’ (the Crúibín Crag). The berries were mixed with milk and sugar in a cup or bowl and eaten as a special dessert.

**Faoi bhláth: Bealtaine - Iúil Faoi thoradh: Iúil.**

In bloom: May - July In fruit: July.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag

ar an

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## Airgead Luachra - Meadowsweet - *Filipendula ulmaria*



'Airgead luachra' nó 'airgead lóchrainn' a thugtar ar an mbláth seo in Inis Meáin. Fásann sé áit a bhfuil talamh fliuch. Is cosúil gur 'airgead luachra' a bhí ar an bplanda i dtosach, ós rud é go bhfuil an t-ainm céanna fairsing in áiteacha eile den tír agus tagairt á dhéanamh san ainm don dath airgid atá ar bhun na mbileog. Is dóigh nár chualathas an t-ainm i gceart ag pointe éigin agus gur athraigh 'luachra' go 'lóchrann' agus daoine den tuairim gur tagairt a bhí san ainm do na bláthanna geala bána.

Bíonn boladh milis ó na bláthanna seo agus in áiteacha eile d'úsáidte iad le blas a chur ar dheochanna. Luibh leighis a bhí ann freisin chun pian a mhaolú agus tá a fhios againn anois go bhfuil aigéad ar leith sa bplanda, a oibríonn ar an mbealach céanna le haspairín.

Meadowsweet grows in wet places on Inis Meáin and is known as both 'airgead luachra' (silver rushes) and 'airgead lóchrainn' (shining silver). It is likely that 'airgead luachra' was the original name, common also in other parts of Ireland. It refers to the silver base of the leaves. 'Airgead lóchrainn' likely developed from mispronunciations of this name over time, with people thinking that 'lóchrann' (shining light) referred to the bright blossoms. Meadowsweet has a pleasant smell and was traditionally used in other areas to add flavour to drinks. This healing herb also contains salicylic acid, the active ingredient in aspirin, which explains its use as a painkiller.

Faoi bhláth: Meitheamh - Meán Fómhair.

In bloom: June - September.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

## Fraoch mór - Heather - *Calluna vulgaris* spp.



Fásann dhá chineál fraoigh ar na creaga in Inis Meáin: fraoch mór agus fraoch cloigíneach. Bhaintí fraoch go minic le scuaibíní a dhéanamh don teach: leis an luaith a ghlanadh ón teallach, mar shampla. Is suimiúil go ndéantaí seo ar fud na cruinne, ní hamháin ar Inis Meáin. Tagann an t-ainm Laidine don fhraoch mór, 'calluna,' ón bhfocal Gréigise le haghaidh 'scuabadh' fiú!

Baineann feilméaraí leas as an bhfraoch ar an oileán fós. Ceanglaíonn siad beart beag fraoigh le róipín agus úsáidtear é sin le sprae a chroitheadh ar na fataí.

Two types of heather grow on the limestone pavement in Inis Meáin: ling and bell heather. Heather was often used to make little brushes for the home: to sweep the ashes from the hearth for example. It is interesting that this was done not only in Inis Meáin, but all over the world. The Latin for heather, 'calluna,' even stems from the old Greek verb for sweeping! Many farmers on the island still use heather. Little bundles are tied with string and used to spray the potatoes.

Faoi bhláth: Iúil - Deireadh Fómhair.

In bloom: July - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag  ar an  /  /

### Dris - Bramble - *Rubus fruticosus*



'Puiteacha' a thugtar ar na sméara dubha in Inis Meáin agus bíonn an-tóir ar na torthaí dubha blasta seo sa bhfómhar. 'Sméaraí' a thugtar go háitiúil ar na sméara dearga sula mbíonn an toradh aibí. D'ití na torthaí ón gcraobh ach ní íosfaí i ndiaidh Oíche Shamhna iad mar deirtí go ndéanfadh an púca a chuid uisce orthu an oíche sin!

D'íosfadh gabhair bileoga na ndriseacha ach go ginearálta, níor thaitin an tom le feilméaraí mar go scaipfeadh sé chomh héasca. Dhéantaí beart den dris um Shamhain fadó a chuirfí ar rópa agus a

d'úsáidfí chun an simléar a ghlanadh. Deirtí go raibh sé seo á dhéanamh le go mbeadh an simléar deas glan do Dhaidí na Nollag!



Blackberries are known as 'puiteacha' on Inis Meáin and are picked and enjoyed each autumn. The red, unripe berries are known locally as 'sméaraí'. The blackberries were eaten straight off the branch, but never eaten after Halloween as the 'púca' was said to urinate on them that night! Goats would eat the bramble leaves but in general the plant was disliked by farmers because it spread so quickly. Brambles were gathered in November to clean the chimney. A bundle of the plant would be attached to a rope and pulled up and down the chimney to dislodge soot. This was said to be done so that the chimney would be nice and clean for Santa's visit at Christmas.



**31** **Faoi bhláth: Meitheamh - Lúnasa Faoi thoradh: Lúnasa - Deireadh Fómhair.**  
In bloom: June - August In fruit: August - October.

Fuair mé an bláth seo ag

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# Pabhsaeir Inis Meáin

## Wildflowers of Inis Meáin



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council