

PRESS RELEASE

13<sup>th</sup> October 2010-10-12

Neil & Noreen Harrington, owners of Virginia's Guesthouse in Kenmare, received the "Hosts of the Year 2011" Award from Georgina Campbell, respected Food Expert & Travel Writer, at The Bord Bia Headquarters in Dublin yesterday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

Georgina chose Neil & Noreen for this prestigious award based on her following observations:

"Everybody loves Neil & Noreen Harrington's guesthouse in the centre of Kenmare, and the main reason is Neil & Noreen themselves, and the loving care they devote to every aspect of their business. A friendly atmosphere prevails throughout from the moment of arrival, and everywhere there are little signs of care & attention, from the well tended window boxes that create a good first impression, to the signs of freshly painted bedrooms and landings that show this well cared-for house as a constant work in progress. Rooms are on the neat side but have very comfortable beds – and guests love the sense of TLC that pervades the house. A nice touch is the provision of tea, water and coffee facilities in a separate room also containing a well stocked library for book swaps. And these excellent hosts ensure that breakfast is a lovely experience, with everything of the best quality and many excellent choices, including free range eggs and unusual options including pear with grilled bacon & blue cheese on toasted homemade bread. Neil and Noreen are interesting & friendly hosts, so each guest feels especially welcome, but in no way intrusive – and, best of all, perhaps, in a town that can be expensive to visit, their reasonable, customer-friendly rates offer extremely good value for money.

On receiving the award, Noreen commented: "We are thrilled to have received such a recognition from Georgina. Neil and I run a simple, unpretentious, family-run house, but we do work very hard to ensure that our guests experience a warm welcome, comfortable accommodation & a very lovely breakfast, at a reasonable price"

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