

## Oliver Goldsmith's Life

- 1728 Born at Pallas, near Ballymahon, Co. Longford on Nov 10th.
- 1730 Family moved to Lissoy, Co. Westmeath.
- 1734 Attended Village School under Thomas Byrne.
- 1741 Sent to School at Edgeworthstown.
- 1744 Entered Trinity College, Dublin as a sizar.
- 1749 Took Bachelor of Arts Degree.
- 1751 Rejected for orders by the Bishop of Elphin.
- 1752 Went to Edinburgh University to study medicine.
- 1754 Arrived at Leiden, in Holland to continue studies of medicine.
- 1755 Left Leiden and took Degree of Bachelor of Medicine at Louvain.  
Travelled on foot in France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy.
- 1756 Landed at Dover and settled in London.
- 1764 "The Traveller" published.
- 1766 "The Vicar of Wakefield" published.
- 1768 "The Good Natured Man" published.
- 1770 "The Deserted Village" published.
- 1773 "She Stoops to Conquer" published.
- 1774 Died April 4th and buried in The Temple.
- 1985 Goldsmith Summer School Founded
- 1999 Memorial erected in Ballymahon.
- 2004 Goldsmith's Grave Redicated

## For further information please contact:

Anne Tully (Secretary), Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford  
(045) 71448

## Accommodation

For accommodation visitors may contact  
Midlands East Tourism, Mullinagar  
(044) 48650

## Map of Goldsmith Country



## OBJECTIVES

- To develop a deeper insight into the writings of Oliver Goldsmith
- To promote Goldsmith Country as a major tourist attraction

## GOLDSMITH SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

**Chairman:** Seamus McCormack  
**Secretary:** Anne Tully  
**Treasurer:** Niall Nally  
**PRO:** Arthur Conlon

John O'Donnell, Albert Horan, Joe Farrell, Sean Ryan,  
William Dowler, Cecil English (Old Athlone Society),  
Teddy McGoey, Fergus Kennedy, Anne Collins,  
Dr. Pat Kelly, Willie Flanagan,  
Chris Wheatley (Catholic University of America),  
Chris Connolly, Martin Murray, Marion Canavan,

# Twentieth Annual Goldsmith Summer School

June 4<sup>th</sup> - June 6<sup>th</sup> 2004



**Theme:**

**"Goldsmith in London"**

(A comparative look at the Irish experience of London in recent times vis-à-vis the latter half of the 18th century)

## PROGRAMME

Admission Fri. & Sun. €5.00 Admission on Sat. €10.00

### Friday June 4th

#### Rustic Inn, Abbeyshrule

Chair: James Downey

(James Downey is chief editorial writer of the Irish Independent. In 27 years with the Irish Times he held many important positions including Political correspondent and Deputy Editor. He was Ireland's European journalist of the year in 1996.)

8.30 pm

#### Official Opening of Summer School by Mr. Larry McCluskey

(Larry McCluskey is CEO of Co. Monaghan VEC. He is a member of the Arts Council. He has been deeply involved in all aspects of Drama and is a highly renowned adjudicator on the festival circuit. He has produced many plays, recently enjoying great success with the Gateau Theatre Group in Monaghan.)

9.00 pm

#### Keynote Address by Jonathan Moore

*"Writers, Rebels and Religion  
A partial History of the Irish in London"*

Jonathan Moore is a senior lecturer in Irish Studies and an academic leader with responsibility for marketing and recruitment at London Metropolitan University. He has published extensively on Irish History and Politics in books, journals and newspapers and is a regular contributor for many publications and broadcasters including the BBC World Service and Sky News. He was editor of Irish Studies in Britain 1988-1991 and British Editor of the Irish Literary Supplement 1988-1991.

Oliver Goldsmith arrived in London from Ireland in 1750, taking a well worn path that millions of Irish have taken before and since. The experience of The Irish in the English capital has been characterised as a history of exploitation, poverty and anti-Irish racism. This is however only part of the story. The Irish have indeed often been victims but they have also been successes and above all their history represents a multi faceted journey. Peasants and beggars they may sometimes have been but also writers, scholars, priests, musicians and politicians. This lecture will explore some of the contradictory, fascinating and diverse experiences that have fashioned the Irish in London. Goldsmith and many others have played key roles in developing an Irish cultural tradition in London. The world of literature in London would have been a far poorer place but for Goldsmith, Wilde, Behan, Shaw. The Irish influence on the development of Westminster politics, particularly the Parcellites and Fenians cannot be overstated. This lecture will hopefully lead to a debate about the huge contribution that the Irish have made to the growth of London and the huge contribution that London has made to the shaping of the Irish.

### Saturday June 5th

#### Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon

Chair: Albert Horan

4.00 pm

#### Sally Mulready

Sally Mulready has been working with Irish Pensioners in London for the past ten years. Founder of the London Irish Elders Forum, she has been the driving force behind the Irish Pensioners Movement in Britain that has been largely instrumental in raising awareness of the conditions of Older Irish people in London and in other large British cities with aging Irish populations. In 2003 she secured the first ever Prime Ministerial Reception for Irish Community leaders held at the House of Commons, where the Prime Minister Tony Blair paid tribute to the historic contribution made by the Irish to the economic, social and cultural life of Britain. Based at the London Irish Centre, she is a Development Co-ordinator for the Camden Elderly Irish Network an organization that provides advice, support and information to very vulnerable Irish pensioners who frequently live alone, in poor inadequate housing. She is a Local Labour Councillor in the East End London Borough of Hackney and is Chair of the Councils Licensing Committee. She was a leading campaigning figure in the fight for the release and exoneration of the Birmingham Six. In 1995 she co-wrote a book on the life and imprisonment of the oldest of the Six, Hugh Callaghan. The book, "Cruel Fate" is now regarded as a classic of its time and rumoured to be used as a reference book by many influential British Barristers and High court judges. Sally Mulready is now an Advisor to the Home Office on the needs of Miscarriage of Justice Victims. Sally's mother comes from West Cork and her father is from Granard, Co Longford.

Her lecture will discuss the Conditions of Older Irish people in Greater London, a generation that left Ireland, who made their homes in Britain and who contributed to the social economic and cultural life of Britain over several decades.

6.00 pm

#### Refreshments

8.00 pm

#### Dramatised Readings of Goldsmith's Essays Presented by Michael Conlon.

Michael Conlon is a well known actor with the Bog Lane Theatre and has appeared in many of their most notable productions.

Produced by Ruairi Stafford.

Lighting by Michael Farrell

9.00 pm

#### Poetry Reading by Des Egan

Des Egan was born in Athlone, and now lives in Newbridge. Since 1987 he has been a full-time writer. He has published 18 Collections of Poetry; two of Prose and two translations of Greek Plays. In 1983 he received The National Poetry foundation of USA Award. In 1987 he was first Poet-in-Residence at University College, Dublin. In 1997 he was conferred with a Doctorate of Letters at Washburn University, Kansas, USA. In 1998, he was appointed to The Cultural Relations Committee of the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and his *Poetic Scaife* was awarded the prestigious Bologna Literary Award.

### Sunday June 6th

11.30 am

#### Tour of Goldsmith Country commencing at Goldsmith's memorial in Ballymahon

(Booking 090 - 0132474)

3.30 pm

#### Pallas, Abbeyshrule

Chair: Pauline Devine

Pauline Devine is a noted children's author. A former journalist she now conducts writing workshops and is children's fiction reviewer for the Irish Times.

#### Poetry Reading by children from schools in Goldsmith Country.

#### Joe's Cheese and Wine

#### Poetry Reading by Noel Monahan

Noel Monahan has won several awards for his work. In 2001 he won the prestigious SeaCat National Poetry Award, organised by Poetry Ireland. Also in 2001 he won the RTE, P.J. O'Connor Award, for his play, Broken Cups. In 2002 he won the ASTI Achievements Award for his contribution to literature at home and abroad. Other awards include The Allingham Poetry Award and The Kilkenny Prize for Poetry. The Funeral Game is Noel Monahan's fourth collection of poetry. Opposite Walls was published in 1991, Snowfire in 1995, and Curse of The Birds in 2001, all published by Salmon Publishing.