

Objectives

*To develop a deeper insight into
the writings of
Oliver Goldsmith*

*To promote Goldsmith Country as
a major tourist attraction.*

Goldsmith Literary Festival Committee...

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

*Sean Ryan,
Joe Farrell,
William Dowler,
Cecil English,
Teddy McGoey,
Anne Collins,
Dr. Pat Kelly,
Willie Flanagan.*



Twenty-Third Annual

Goldsmith

International Literary Festival

June 1st - June 3rd 2007



Theme:

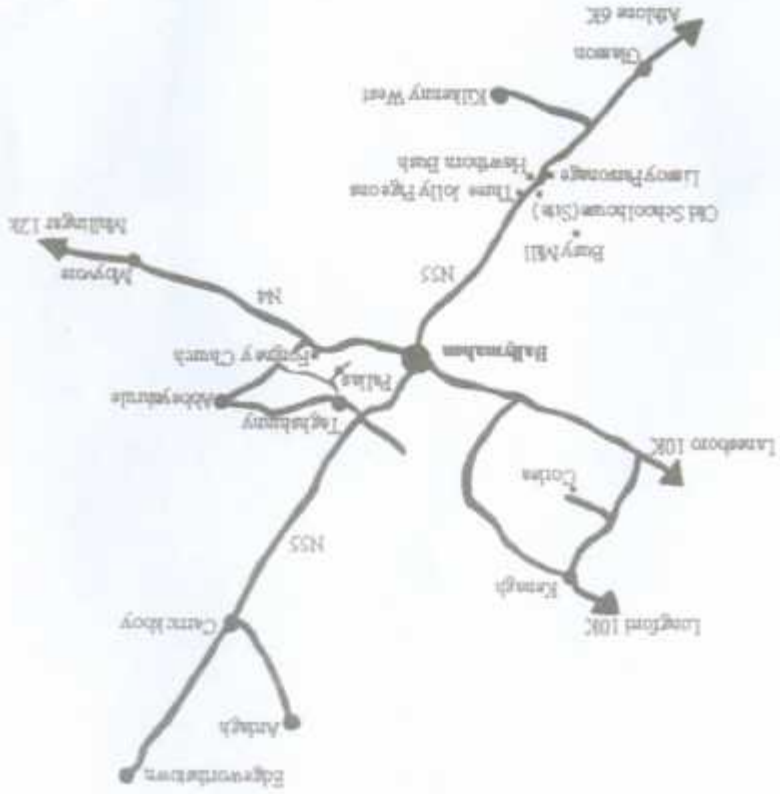
*"From Deserted Village
to Global Village"*

*Oliver Goldsmith - the original
citizen of the world.*

Oliver Goldsmiths Life...

- 1725 Born at Tallas, near Ballymahon, Co. Longford on Xao 10th
- 1730 Family moved to Lissoy, Co. Westmeath
- 1734 Attended Village School under Thomas Bayrne
- 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 Swoops to Conquer published.
- 1774 Died April 4th and buried in The Temple.
- 1985 Goldsmith Summer School Founded
- 1999 Memorial erected in Ballymahon.
- 2004 Goldsmiths Grave Rededicated

Map of Goldsmith Country



Midlands East Tourism, Mullingar (044) 9348650

For accommodation visitors may contact:

Accommodation

Arthur Conlon, Ballymahon, Co. Longford (086) 871 6763

Anne Tully (Secretary), Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford (043) 71448

For further information please contact:



3.30pm: Pallas, Abbeyshrule

Chair: Anne Collins

Poetry Reading by children from schools in Goldsmith Country.

Goldsmith Children's Poetry Competition sponsored by Bank of Ireland

Prizes presented by Breda Sullivan



Breda Sullivan was born in Athlone in 1945. She has published two poetry collections, *A Smell of Camphor* (Galway, Salmon Poetry, 1992); and *After the Ball* (The Cliffs of Moher, Salmon Poetry, 1998). She has won numerous awards for her poetry, including that of the Kerry International Summer School (1995); Boyle Arts Festival (1996); The Edgeworth Prize; and the National Women's Poetry Competition (1998). She lives in Streete, Co. Westmeath.

Jean O'Brien was born and lives in Dublin. She has published widely in Magazines, including; *The Irish Times*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Fortnight Magazine*, *Gown*, the *Steeple*, *Trinity Workshop Poets*, *Tandem*, *Chapman*, *Agenda*, *Irish Studies Review* (UK), *Interim and Visions* (USA). Her work has featured on RTE Radio 1 "The Poets Chair", *The Arts Show*, "The Darkness Echoing", "The Enchanted Way", Lyric FM, Anna Livia and various local radio

stations. She was the administrator for the National Poetry Competition and a founding member of Dublin Writers Workshop and was involved with it for many years. She has published collections of poetry: *Working the Flow* (Lapwing 1992), and *The Shadow Keeper* (Salmon 1997). *REACH* (Lapwing) and *Dangerous Dresse* (Bradshaw Books) 2005.

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Readings of winning entries

Poetry Reading by Breda Sullivan

Musical Interlude - *Joe's Cheese and Wine*

Goldsmith International Poetry Competition

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8.30pm: The Rustic Inn, Abbeyshrule

Chair: Kevin Kidney



Kevin Kidney is the Failte Ireland General Manager for the East & Midlands region comprising Louth, Meath, Kildare, Wicklow, Longford, Westmeath, Laois and North Offaly. This body is responsible for the marketing, development and servicing of tourism in the region. Kevin has a background in managing companies at board level, mostly in the private sector.

Official Opening by The British Ambassador



Mr. David Reddaway took up his appointment as Ambassador to Ireland on 25 August 2006.

He was born in Ottawa, Canada, in 1953. He was educated at Oundle School and at Cambridge University, where he obtained his BA and MA in History and rowed in the University Lightweight Crew. Before going up to Cambridge, he worked as a volunteer teacher in Ethiopia.

David Reddaway joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1975.

In 1988, David Reddaway was posted to New Delhi, dealing with India's external relations. He left at short notice in 1990 to reopen the British Embassy in Tehran on the restoration of diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and spent three years in Tehran as Chargé d'Affaires. In 2002, David Reddaway served as the United Kingdom's Special Representative for Afghanistan, with the personal rank of Ambassador. From 2003-6, David Reddaway was British High Commissioner to Canada.

David Reddaway's interests include skiing; tennis; trekking; watching international rugby; and Persian carpets and art.

David Reddaway married Roshan Firouz in 1981. The Reddaways have two sons (23 and 10) and a daughter (19).

Keynote Addresses by:



Declan McCormack
Oliver Goldsmith,
William Bulfin:
an odious comparison.

Born and schooled in Athlone Declan McCormack is an English and History graduate of University College Cork.

He has written extensively on literary, historical, media, travel and sporting matters (as well as the Eurovision Song Contest!) for a wide variety of publications including the *Irish Independent*, *Sunday Independent*, *Sunday Tribune*, *Evening Herald*, *Westmeath Independent*, *New York Daily News*.

He has co-penned a number of TV documentaries and has had a number of short stories and two comic playlets published in national newspapers. History is however one of his abiding passions and he has a specialist knowledge of the history of racism and of terrorism in Ireland and worldwide. Some years ago he wrote a satirical history of Ireland which was serialised in the *Athlone Voice*. He is currently working on a number of histories as well as a self-styled 'big sprawling ambitious novel'. Declan was asked last year to become Director of the Goldsmith Festival and accepted with alacrity because of his personal attachment to the Midlands, his admiration for Goldsmith's literary achievements (which he considers undervalued) but more so because of Goldsmith's 'good-natured' reputation.

Declan is married to his UCC sweetheart Helen and they have two children one of whom is an English and History graduate of Goldsmith's alma mater, Trinity College.

Declan lives in Dublin where he supports Midland causes and roots for Athlone Town FC and Westmeath from afar.

10.30pm: Music & Refreshments

3.30pm: Pallas, Abbeyshrule

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10.30pm: Music & Refreshments

He has played concert with many jazz groups in the Nottingham area, where he has lived since 1964. He runs Shoestring Press.

7.30:

The Three Jolly Pigeons (Ceol agus Craic)

Aidan Heavey Collection. He is widely published in the areas of local history and genealogy his Athlone in old photographs (Gill and MacMillan) and Lough Ree Ballymahon. Sites to be visited include Pallas, Forney, the Busy Mill, the Parsonage, Kilkenny West, the Hawthorn Bush, the Schoolhouse and ending at Athlone and has two adult children.

5.00:

Prof. John Lucas

"Goldsmith as Citizen of the World"

John Lucas is Professor Emeritus at the Universities of Loughborough and Nottingham Trent. He is author of many scholarly and critical works, including studies of Dickens, John Clare, Arnold Bennett, Ivor Gurney and several books on English poetry, Romantic and Modern writing. His translations of the poems of Egils Saga are and Everyman Modern New and Selected Poems (2000) and The Long and the Short of it (2004).



These days he continues this direct approach in all sorts of public places where people can be met and believes in keeping an open mind about what a TV or radio programme will turn out to be about. He describes his philosophy of broadcasting as "leap before you look".

2.15: Goldsmith Historical Tour

Tour of Goldsmith Sites

Begins at Goldsmith's Statue in Ballymahon. Sites to be visited include Pallas, Forney, the Busy Mill, the Parsonage, Kilkenny West, the Hawthorn Bush, the Schoolhouse and ending at Athlone Library.

Athlone Library

Unwilling of the

Aidan Heavey Collection

Featuring poetry readings by children from St Mary's Primary School, Grace Park Road, under the direction of their teacher Evelyn O'Callaghan. Children from many different ethnic backgrounds will read poetry in many languages including, Chinese, Russian, Polish, Czech and Irish.

Talk on the Collection by Gearoid O'Brien



Seavard O'Brien

is a native of Athlone. He is a Senior Executive Librarian with Westmeath County Library Service and Librarian of the

11.30am: The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon

Chair: *Dave O'Connell*

"Multicultural Ireland - Is there a limit to tolerance?"

Dave O'Connell

is Editor of the Westmeath Independent. Dublin, was a student at University College Dublin, a post-graduate at Cambridge University and now lives in London. A historian and prize-winning biographer (the James Talbot Memorial Prize for Victor Gollancz: a biography), her recent non-fiction books include True Brits: inside the Foreign Office; The Pursuit of Reason: The Economist 1843-1993 and The Faithful Tribe: an intimate portrait of the loyal institutions (shortlisted for the Channel 4 political book prize) and Newspermen: Hugh Cudlipp, Cecil Hammsworth King and the glory days of Fleet Street. In the mid 1970s Ruth wrote Patrick Pearse: the triumph of failure, which won the National University of Ireland Prize for Historical Research in 1978 and since 1977. During the 28th Dail, Brian Lenihan was Chairperson of the All-Party Oireachtas Committee on the Constitution which considered changes in the abortion laws. He was also a member of the Committee on Procedure and Privileges.



He was first elected to the Dail in April 1996 in the by-election caused by the death of his father, Brian who had been a deputy in Dublin West since 1977. During the 28th Dail, Brian Lenihan was Chairperson of the All-Party Oireachtas Committee on the Constitution which considered changes in the abortion laws. He was also a member of the Committee on Procedure and Privileges.

He is a son of Brian Lenihan, former Taoiseach and a Minister in various portfolios who was a Dail deputy for Roscommon-Letcham 1961-73 and for Dublin West 1977-95. He is a brother of Conor Lenihan, Dail deputy for Dublin South-West and a nephew of Mary O'Rourke who was a Dail deputy 1982-2002 and who held various ministerial posts. He is a grandson of Patrick Lenihan, Dail deputy 1965-70.



Ruth Dudley Edwards

Sometime academic, teacher, marketing executive and civil servant, Ruth Dudley Edwards has been a freelance writer since 1979.

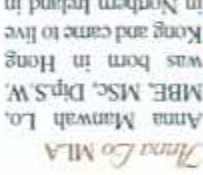
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Taddy O'Sorman

is a radio and television broadcaster with RTE.

Paddy was born in London in 1957 and grew up in Cogh in Co Cork. He now lives in Dublin. His broadcasting style is characterised by a direct approach to people to hear their stories and life experiences rather than the use of spokespersons and experts. This approach in all sorts of public places where people can be met and believes in keeping an open mind about what a TV or radio programme will turn out to be about. He describes his philosophy of broadcasting as "leap before you look".



Anna Lo MIA

MBE, MSc, Dip.S.W. Anna Manwah Lo was born in Hong Kong and came to live in Northern Ireland in 1974. She has over 20 years' involvement with the Chinese community in Northern Ireland and is currently the Chief Executive of the Chinese Welfare Association. A trained social worker, her previous experience included working in a health and social services trust and Barnardos. She was a founder member of the NI Council for Ethnic

Minorities, a commissioner for the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland, the first chair of the South Belfast Partnership Board and the South Belfast Racism Roundtable. She currently sits on various equality committees including the OPMDPM Race Forum and Belfast City Council Good Relations Panel. Anna was awarded an MBE in 1999 for services for ethnic minorities in Northern Ireland.

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