

35TH ANNUAL
GOLDSMITH
INTERNATIONAL LITERARY FESTIVAL

OBJECTIVES

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

IMPORTANT DATES ABOUT OLIVER GOLDSMITH :

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| 1728: Born at Pallas Ballymahon, Co. Longford. | 1755: Left Leiden and took degree of Bachelor of Medicine at Louvain. Travelled on foot in France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy. |
| 1730: Family moved to Lissoy Co Westmeath | 1756: Landed at Dover and settled in London. |
| 1734: Attended Village School under Thomas Byrne. | 1764: "The Traveller" published. |
| 1741: Sent to School at Edgeworthstown. | 1766: "The Vicar of Wakefield" published. |
| 1744: Entered Trinity College Dublin as a sizar. | 1768: "The good Natured Man" published. |
| 1749: Took Bachelor of Arts Degree. | 1770: "The Deserted Village" published. |
| 1751: Rejected for orders by the Bishop of Elphin. | 1773: "She stoops to Conquer" published. |
| 1752: Went to Edinburgh University to study medicine. | 1774: Died April 4th and buried in the Temple aged 45. |
| 1754: He arrived in Leiden, Holland to continue studies of medicine. | 1999: Memorial erected in Ballymahon. |
| | 2004: Goldsmith's Grave Rededicated. |

GOLDSMITH LITERARY TOUR STOPS

Ardagh, Forgney Church, The library, Old Schoolhouse, The Busy Mill, Lissoy parsonage, Kilkenny West Church, Hawthorn Bush, The Alehouse, The Three Jolly Pigeons.

GOLDSMITH LITERARY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Chairman: Seamus McCormack (087 6189506)

Secretary: Willie Flanagan (087 9713130)

Treasurer: Niall Nally

PRO: Arthur Conlon

Anne Tully, Joe Farrell, Ursula McGoey, Sean Ryan, Tom Seery, Donie Keyes, William Dowler, Claire McCormack.

www.olivergoldsmithfestival.com

Produced with Financial Assistance from:

Forás Éireann



Longford County Council



Westmeath County Council



Udarás Áitiúla Éireann
Local Authorities Ireland



Irish Public Bodies (IPB)



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



35TH ANNUAL
GOLDSMITH
INTERNATIONAL LITERARY FESTIVAL

31ST MAY – 2ND JUNE 2019



Theme: "Ask me no questions and I'll tell you no Fibs"
Tony Lumpkin – "She Stoops to Conquer" 1773. Journalism, News and Democracy.
Grub Street in the 21st Century

FRIDAY 31ST MAY | The Rustic Inn, Abbeyshrule, Co. Longford. | Adm. €10

- 8.15pm** Innyside Singers Recital
8.30pm Official Opening by Tom McGuire, Head of RTE Radio 1
8.50pm Special Guest
9.00pm **Speaker:** Willie Kealy, Former Deputy Editor, Sunday Independent – “The Decline of Print and the Future of Good Journalism”
10.00pm Musical Entertainment by Tony Dunne, Jim Mulkerrins and friends

SATURDAY 1ST JUNE | Goldsmith Room, Ballymahon Community Library | Adm. €10

- 11.00am** **Chair:** Cian McCormack
 “Press Freedom or a Free Press”
Speakers: Professor Brian O’Neill, Peter Feeney, Press Ombudsman
1.00pm **Chair:** Denise Canavan
 “The Digital Onslaught – What Future for Print Journalism”
Speakers: Grainne NiAodha, Dave O’Connell
5.00pm Site of George Conways Pub – Adjacent to Ballymahon Community Library
 Dramatised performance of excerpts from “She Stoops to Conquer” performed by members of the Bog Lane Theatre.
5.30pm Goldsmith Literary Tour (See over for details) Adm. €10.
8.30pm The Three Jolly Pigeons
 Traditional/Folk music and Ballad Seisiun with P.J. Shanagher

SUNDAY 2ND JUNE | Goldsmith Reading Room, Ballymahon Community Library | Adm. €10

- 12 noon** Goldsmith Miscellany
Chair: Sean Ryan
Speakers: Brendan Farrell, Dr. Mel Farrell, Neil Moxham, Patrick Eibhear O’Hanlon, Dr. Shelley Deane

☞ Musical Interludes by Claire Sheerin, Donie Keyes and Padraig Campbell ☞

SUNDAY 2ND JUNE | Pallas (Birthplace of Oliver Goldsmith) | Free Event

- 3.30pm** **Chair:** Anne Tully
Readings: Poetry readings by the winning entrants of the Goldsmith Poetry competitions.
Adjudicators **Adult:** Noel Monahan **Schools:** Mary Melvin Geoghegan
Poetry Readings by Noel Monahan
 CHEESE & WINE SPONSORED BY JOE & CHRIS FARRELL, PALLAS.
 ☞ Music by Gerry Bohan ☞



Tom McGuire is Head of RTE Radio 1. From Longford, he was educated at St Mel’s College, Longford and St Patrick’s College, Maynooth. His career as a journalist began in 1990 with Radio Kerry, where he was employed as a current affairs presenter and as Head of News. In 1993 he joined RTE in its Cork studios where his roles included those of radio presenter, radio producer and reporter on the ‘Nationwide’ television programme. He won the PPI Documentary of the Year Award in 2004 for ‘The Siege of Jadotville’. Among his production credits are the ‘Grassroots’ series on local government and the RTE Radio 1 series ‘The Constituencies’. He has been head of RTE Radio 1 since 2014.



Willie Kealy has been a newspaper man for the past fifty years, a period that encompasses the heady days of hot metal and record circulations and the present apparent decline of the print business at the expense of the internet and social media. Much of his time in the media was spent in one senior editorial role or another with the Sunday Independent in the INM group. Throughout all that time the Sunday Independent was the best selling and most commercially successful newspaper in Ireland - a position it maintains to this day, despite the downward trend in the industry. His main concerns today are the media’s future business prospects, and the continuing role of journalists and how they must adapt to change while never deviating from first principles.



Cian McCormack is an award-winning reporter with RTE News and Morning Ireland. He won News Reporter of the Year in the PPI Radio Awards three years in a row in 2011, 2010 and 2009 for national and international stories. Cian has travelled extensively abroad covering current affairs and sporting events. In recent years, his ‘Ireland by Bike’ series has become a main part of Morning Ireland’s summer schedule. He shoots, edits and produces stories for RTE’s Television News programmes. Before joining RTE, he spent four years writing for local titles including the Nenagh Guardian and Tipperary Star and for national newspapers including: The Irish Times, Irish Examiner, The Irish Independent, The Sun, The Star, The Mirror and the Sunday World.



Professor Brian O’Neill has published extensively on media literacy, policy making and public interest issues in media and communications, in particular those related to children and youth. He is Director of Research, Enterprise & Innovation Services for the three member institutions in the TU4Dublin alliance. Brian provides academic and administrative leadership and support for the research communities in DIT, ITB and IT Tallaght and develops and promotes research and entrepreneurship. He is a member of Ireland’s Internet Safety Advisory Council and is national coordinator for EU Kids Online, the EU’s Safer Internet Programme. He was appointed as an Independent Assessor to the ICT Coalition for a Safer Internet for Children and Young People in 2013. He is a member of Council of Europe’s Expert Group on Digital Citizenship Education.



Peter Feeney became Ireland’s Press Ombudsman on 01 September 2014, following the retirement of Professor John Horgan. He had previously served as an independent member of the Press Council of Ireland, since October 2013. As RTE’s Head of Broadcast Compliance and Freedom of

Information Officer he managed for over ten years RTE’s processes in dealing with complaints to the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland. As FOI Officer he handled over one thousand requests from journalists and members of the public for records held by RTE and simultaneously advised RTE programme-makers on their own use of FOI to obtain records. He was from 1990 to 1997 Editor of Current Affairs Television in RTE. Before joining RTE he lectured in politics in the University of Ulster. He left RTE at the end of 2012.



Denise Canavan is Producer and Journalist with The Joe Finnegan Show on Shannonside Northern Sound radio broadcasting news, views and current affairs to the midlands, west and border counties. From Ballymahon, she is a past pupil of Mercy Secondary School, Ballymahon. An honours graduate of the Bachelor of Arts in Journalism at DCU, Denise has also recently graduated with a further degree in Business, Enterprise and Community Development through AIT. She has worked in a variety of media outlets over the last 13 years as a broadcaster, producer, digital and print journalist covering news, business, local and national politics, current affairs and rural issues.



Gráinne Ni Aodha has been a journalist with TheJournal.ie for two years, covering general news mostly, but with a special interest in politics. She has previously worked as a reporter for Raidió na Gaeltachta and as a freelance journalist for the business section of the Irish Times. Last year, she won the Law Society’s Justice Media Award for Newcomer of the Year for her “highly detailed and balanced” coverage of the Supreme Court case on defining the unborn. The judges said “she demonstrates a skill and insight that is highly commendable at such an early stage in her career”. Gráinne is from Roundwood, Co. Wicklow.



Dave O’Connell is Group Editor of the Connacht Tribune, a role he has held for the past twelve years. A graduate of journalism at the College of Commerce in 1983, he started with the Connacht Tribune that year before moving to the then-Cork Examiner in 1989. He was News Editor there before becoming editor at the Westmeath Independent in 2001 – a role subsequently expanded to Group Editor with the Westmeath Examiner Group, covering the Westmeath Examiner, Westmeath Independent and Offaly Independent. A regular presenter and contributor with RTE, he currently shares the weekly regional newspaper review slot on Drive time with John O’Connor. A native of Oughterard, Co Galway, he is married to RTE journalist Teresa Mannion and they have two sons, Cian and Tom.



Noel Monahan has published seven collections of poetry including *Where The Wind Sleeps*, *New & Selected Poems*, was published in May 2014. His literary awards include: The SeaCat National Award, The Hiberno-English Poetry Award, The Irish Writers’ Union Poetry Award, The William Allingham Poetry Award and The Kilkenny Poetry Prize for Poetry. In 2001 he won The PJ O’Connor RTE Radio Drama Award for his play *Broken Cups*. His work has been translated into Italian, French, Romanian and Russian. His most recent plays include: *The Children of Lir* and *Lovely Husbands*. His poetry was prescribed text for the Leaving Certificate English Course 2011 and 2012. Noel Monahan is co-editor of Windows Publications and he holds an M.A. in Creative Writing.