



An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta
Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

CLÁR Public Meeting in Limerick

Following the inclusion of additional parts of County Limerick in the extended CLÁR Programme as announced in April 2006, Éamon Ó Cuív T.D., Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs will hold a public meeting to discuss the programme.

Date: Friday, 15 September 2006

Time: 08.30 p.m.

Venue: Devon Hotel, Templeglantine, Co Limerick

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais/Programme for Revitalising Rural Areas) is an investment programme designed to tackle the problem of depopulation decline and lack of services in rural areas. The programme targets areas with an average population loss of 35% per county between 1926 and 2002. CLÁR schemes cover a wide variety of developments such as village, housing and schools enhancement, electricity conversion, roads, water supply, sewerage disposal, health, coastal, sports and community projects.

The areas targeted under the CLÁR Programme are: Parts of: Counties Carlow, Cavan, Clare, Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Longford, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Roscommon, Sligo, Tipperary, Waterford, Westmeath, Wicklow and all of County Leitrim

DVD pays tribute to Jerry

By AINE FITZGERALD

A NEW DVD based on the life of Limerick-born novelist Jerry O'Neill who founded the Sugawn Theatre in London is to be launched in the city by the Mayor of Limerick Cllr Joe Leddin, to mark the contribution of the Limerick writer to Irish literature.

The event heralds a series of commemorative ceremonies which are taking place in London to celebrate the life and times of the playwright who was originally from Henry Street and who died in 1999.

"We wanted to mark the contribution Jerry made to the Sugawn because the theatre was to the forefront in promoting Irish plays in

London when it was not popular," said journalist Doris Daly who will be in Limerick for the Mayoral presentation at City Hall on September 25.

Author, playwright and publican, Jerry O'Neill was the driving force behind the Sugawn Theatre in Islington North London where he was landlord of the Duke of Wellington pub.

He retired to his wife's home place, Kilkee in County Clare where he wrote the award winning novel Bennett and Company.

Initially Mr O'Neill started the Sugawn Folk Kitchen and later converted an old wheelk stall at the rear of the premises into the theatre.

The first British performance of Hugh Leonard's Da was staged at the Sugawn and the theatre became a meeting point for the creative Irish in London until the 1980s when Jerry O'Neill became a full time writer and retired to Kilkee in County Clare. His dark gritty atmospheric novels led to him being described as the laureate of the London Irish.

Mr O'Neill's contribution to the Sugawn has now been recorded on a Limerick produced DVD, A Tribute to Jerry O'Neill, which features the recollections of his friends from those days—actress Treasa Ni Fhatharta, painter Bernard Canavan and writer and journalist Doris Daly.



Limerickman Jerry O'Neill

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