

Accommodation

Prince of Wales Hotel

Tel: 090 6476666 ****Conference rate available**

Web: www.theprinceofwales.ie

Raddison Blu Hotel

Tel: 090 6442600

Web: www.radissonblu.ie

Sheraton Hotel

Tel: 090 6451000

Web: www.sheratonathlonehotel.com

Hodson Bay Hotel

Tel: 090 6442020

Web: www.hodsonbayhotel.com

Shamrock Lodge Hotel

Tel: 090 6492601

Web: www.shamrocklodgehotel.ie

See also www.athlone.ie for B&Bs etc.



**** The Prince of Wales Hotel offers a special conference rate of €70 for a single person B&B and €125 for 2 people sharing (B&B). Please refer to the conference when booking:**



British Army in Strokestown 1919. Photo: copyright: L. Byrne.

Registration Form *

Conference fee €35.00

Conference dinner €30.00

Please sign me up for ...

Conference fee x ____ persons € _____

Dinner x ____ persons € _____

I enclose payment for ...Total € _____

*** Limited to first 100 PAID applications received.**

**Conference fee includes conference pack,
tea / coffee and light lunch.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Car reg. number: _____ **

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Cheques made out for the required sum and made payable to The Old Athlone Society **MUST** be returned with this form to:

Ms. FIONA BROWNE,

Secretary - The Old Athlone Society,

N.I.B. Building,

Northgate Street,

Athlone,

Co. Westmeath.

**** Car Reg. Number is essential if you wish to bring it into
Custume Barracks.**

Email: midlandconference@gmail.com



The Old Athlone Society

THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE IN THE MIDLANDS

A conference organised by
The Old Athlone Society to mark the
90th Anniversary of the end of the war



Irish Volunteers at Coosan 1915.

Custume Barracks, Athlone

26 November 2011

**To be followed by a Conference Dinner
in The Prince of Wales Hotel**

**The famous armoured car
'Sliabh na mBan' and a contemporary
Peerless armoured car will be on
display during the day**

Schedule

- 09.00 **Registration.**
- 09.30 **Welcoming address & opening of conference.** Dr John Keane, President, The Old Athlone Society.
- 09.40 **Keynote address.** Dr Margaret O'Callaghan.
- 10.30 **Coffee break.**
- 11.00 **Forsaking Nationalists for Republicans: watershed elections in the midlands, 1917-20.** Dr John Burke.
- 12.00 **The geography of revolution - the case of County Longford, 1917-21.** Dr Marie Coleman.
- 13.00 **Lunch break.**
- 14.00 **The War of Independence in Westmeath and South Roscommon.** Ian Kenneally.
- 15.00 **Afternoon tea.**
- 15.20 **'..he goeth before them; and the sheep follow him' the role of GHQ organisers and the Offaly IRA's War for Independence 1918-21.**
Philip McConway.
- 16.20 **Understanding British military operations in Connaught and the midlands during the War of Independence, 1919-21.** Dr William Sheehan.
- 17.00 **General discussion & close of conference.** Dr Harman Murtagh, President, Military History Society of Ireland.
- 19.00 **Conference dinner. Prince of Wales Hotel.**

Speakers

Dr Margaret O'Callaghan teaches politics and history at Queen's University, Belfast and has previously taught at the Universities of Cambridge and Notre Dame. She is the author of numerous essays on aspects of British high politics and the state apparatus in relation to nationalist and unionist political formations in Ireland from the late nineteenth century to the revolution. She co-edited with Mary E. Daly "1916 in 1966; Commemorating the Easter Rising" (Royal Irish Academy, 2007). Her current research focuses on propaganda wars in the Irish public sphere and print media and the politics of Irish literature.

Dr John Burke, a native of Athlone, is author of "Athlone in the Victorian Era" (Athlone: Old Athlone Society, 2007). His second book, an assessment of Athlone's political development during the period 1900-23, is scheduled for release in 2012.

Dr Marie Coleman lectures in Irish history at Queen's University Belfast. She is the author of "County Longford and the Irish revolution, 1910-1923" (2003) and "The Irish Sweep: a history of the Irish hospitals sweepstake, 1930-1987" (2009). Her current research focuses on the position of revolutionary veterans in independent Ireland and she is also writing a textbook on the Irish revolution, due for publication in 2013.

Ian Kenneally is currently completing a PhD in history at NUI Galway. He previously studied history at UCC and has contributed to a number of studies on newspaper history. He is also the author of "The paper wall: newspapers and propaganda in Ireland 1919-1921", "Courage and conflict: forgotten stories of the Irish at war" and "From the earth, a cry: the story of John Boyle O'Reilly".

Philip McConway is currently completing a PhD thesis in TCD on the Civil War in Leix, Offaly and North Tipperary. A committee member of Offaly Historical & Archaeological Society (OHAS) he is a contributor to its journal "Offaly Heritage". He has previously lectured to the OHAS and Birr Historical Society on loyalism, the National Army, and the IRA in Offaly during the Irish revolution.

Dr William Sheehan is currently an associate lecturer with the Open University and a research supervisor on the MA in Military History and Strategic Studies at NUI Maynooth. He has taught at Mary Immaculate College, Griffith College Cork and University College Cork. His publications include: "A hard local war: The British Army and the Guerrilla War in Cork 1919-21" (The History Press, 2011), "Riotous assemblies: riots, rebels and revolts" (Mercier Press, 2011), "Hearts & mines: the history of the 5th Division in Ireland, 1920 to 1922" (Collins Press, 2009), "Fighting for Dublin: the British battle for Dublin 1919 - 1921" (Collins Press, 2007) and "British voices from the Irish War of Independence" (Collins Press, 2005).