

# **The Parish of Clontuskert**

## **Glimpses into its Past**

The launch of the publication, *The Parish of Clontuskert - Glimpses into its Past*, will take place in Gullanes Hotel, Ballinasloe on Friday October 16th, 2009, at 8 pm.

*"The book portrays Clontuskert as a dynamic and ever-changing place that has a long and varied heritage. It shows that symbiotic relationship that exists between the people and the place in which they live and have lived."*

**Marie Mannion**, Heritage Officer with Galway County Council.

The parish of Clontuskert is situated in the East Galway countryside to the south of Ballinasloe. It is bordered to the east by the river Suck and to the west by the parish of Aughrim. The boundary on the north meets Ballinasloe parish while the parishes of Lawrencetown and Kiltormer define its southern limits. The main roads from Ballinasloe to Portumna and Kiltormer divide the parish from west to east into three sections.

The permanent structures such as the hundred ringforts, numerous souterrains, the Augustinian Priory of St. Mary, the Church of St. Mathew in Glan, the grand Canal, Lismanny house out-buildings, the schools, houses and farm buildings are all legacies of past generations that have left their mark on the landscape of Clontuskert.

### **The Clontuskert Heritage Group**

The Clontuskert Heritage Group is a scholarly group of eighteen members from varying backgrounds who have dedicated over four and a half years to researching and writing the publication, *The Parish of Clontuskert - Glimpses into its Past*.

The group was founded in 2005 out of a collective desire to preserve as much of the recorded heritage of Clontuskert as was feasible, before it was lost forever. The group scoured Estate records, Famine Commission reports, Church records and Army records, in addition to wading through countless newspapers, sourcing photographs and interviewing many people.

By publishing the book, the group hope to raise an awareness of Clontuskert's rich cultural heritage and to facilitate parishioners in researching the history of their own families. The Heritage Group extends its gratitude to all who assisted in the publication of the book, generously giving their time and expertise while providing information maps, photographs, access to archives and financial assistance.

*The book is available in Hardback at €30 / Softback at €20  
Cost of postage & packing: G.B. & Europe €9; Rest of world €14*

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