



# *Laughter in Paradise: G. K. Chesterton and Humour*

A Conference of the Australian Chesterton Society  
at Campion College Australia, Sydney,  
Saturday, October 21, 2017, 8.45am - 5.00pm

“A good joke,” wrote G. K. Chesterton, “is the closest thing we have to divine revelation.”

Humour played a crucial part in the life and thought of G.K. Chesterton. He saw it as not only adding to the enjoyment of life but illuminating its meaning and significance. Various Christian beliefs, such as the Fall of Man, acquired new meaning when understood in the light of human laughter.



This conference will explore various aspects of Chesterton’s humour, including Chesterton and the Marx Brothers; Christian Humour in writers throughout the centuries; Chesterton’s favourite Shakespeare comedy, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*; and political cartoons in the age of Chesterton. A special paper will also be presented on Hilaire Belloc’s humour.

Speakers will include:

- ◆ Stephen McInerney, *Christian Humour in the Writings of Chaucer, Dante, Cervantes and Chesterton*
- ◆ Karl Schmude, *A Night at the Uproar - Chesterton and the Marx Brothers*
- ◆ Gary Furnell, *Spirited Comedies: Merriment and the Mystical*
- ◆ John O’Halloran, *Hilaire Belloc as a Comical Companion - Some Readings*
- ◆ Richard Scully, *Political Cartoons in the Age of Chesterton*



VENUE:  
Campion College Australia  
8 - 14 Austin Woodbury Place  
Old Toongabbie NSW 2146

COST:  
\$65 - includes lunch  
\$25 - Student concession

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Contact Karl Schmude - email: [kgschmude@gmail.com](mailto:kgschmude@gmail.com)  
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