

# irish women's

irisleabhar mná na hEireann



# newsletter

photograph by Joanne OBrien/Format, one from last year's Irish Women's conference. See inside for details of the next one coming up.



# Islington Women &

# Mental Health Project

Caxton House,  
129 St. John's Way,  
Lon N19  
Tel; 281 2673

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The Irish Women 's Centre & Islington Women & Mental Health Project are holding an open meeting to discuss the stresses & strains that effect the health of Irish women living in London.

We will be discussing how immigration can cause a sense of loss & displacement which can often lead to depression & loneliness. Racism & P.T.A. harassment can put tremendous pressure on our mental health & can erode our self - confidence.

By Irish women coming together we hope to validate our experience & to realise our own Strengths & resources.

The meeting takes place at Caxton House at 7.30pm Wed July 10th.  
129 St John's Way,  
Lon N19 3RU

All Irish Women Welcome. Creche is free.

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ADD ADD ADD

IRISH WOMEN PAINTERS AND DECORATORS.

PAPER-HANGING, PAINTING, TILING ETC.  
REASONABLE RATES. CLEAN EFFICIENT WORK.  
FREE ESTIMATES GIVEN. RING LESS 249-769  
(EVE)



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**STOP TERRORISING THE IRISH COMMUNITY!!!**  
**ABOLISH THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM ACT!!!**

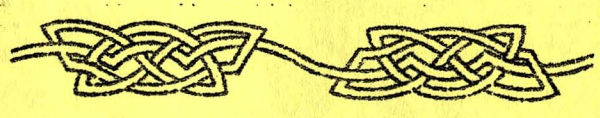
**PUBLIC MEETING.**

**7.30 PM. WEDNESDAY JUNE 26TH.**

**AT**

**THE RED ROSE.**

**129, SEVEN SISTERS ROAD.**



**SPEAKERS INCLUDE.**

**JEREMY CORBYN MP.**

**CHRIS SMITH MP.**

**DR. MAIRE O SHEA.**

**ORGANISED BY**

**ISLINGTON BRANCHES.**



**I.B.R.G.**

**&**

**Troops Out  
Movement**







## Medical Aid for Palestinians

Registered Charity No.263670

(formerly Palestinian Medical Aid)

8 Durweston Street, London W1H 1PH Telephone: 01-486 1492/3

# URGENT APPEAL

## SABRA AND SHATILA 85



**1982** - Israeli Invasion, Sabra and Shatila massacre

**1983** - Invasion of Palestinian camps in Tripoli

**1985** - Another Sabra and Shatila

**1986** - WILL SABRA AND SHATILA STILL EXIST?

## YOU CAN HELP...

**Donations are desperately needed to buy  
Medical Supplies**

Send cheques payable to: M.A.P.

8 Durweston Street

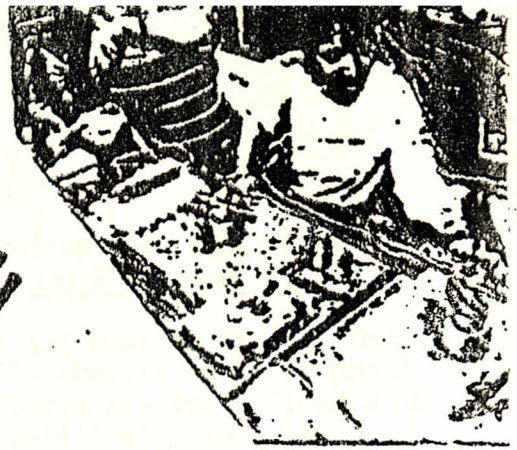
London W1H 1PH

**Please Act Now: TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE**



# TRAINING PROJECT

(LONDON NEW TECHNOLOGY NETWORK)



invite you to their open day  
Thurs, July 4th.

2pm - 7pm

86-100 St Pancras Way,  
(off Camden Road),  
London NW1.

If you are interested in microelectronics/new technology you may find this open day a great chance to see computers from the inside, find out a bit about how they work, and what sort of training you need to become technicians - repairing, servicing and assembling computers and computer-based equipment.

London New Technology Network offers a six month training course in microelectronics for women-only. Trainees receive a training allowance, and there are good creche facilities on the premises. If you think you may be interested in doing the course, please come along. Women from ethnic minorities, disabled women and single parents are positively encouraged to apply.

On July 4th there will be displays of equipment, videos, information about women's training in new technology, and a chance to talk with instructors and trainees about the course and see some of the work they've done. Unfortunately wheelchair access to the building is poor, but possible.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Phone Miss Mary on 4823816  
or write to Women's Training Project,  
c/o London New Technology  
Network,  
86-100 St Pancras Way,  
London NW1

**ESF**  
funded

**GI**  
fun



CAMPAIGNS : UPDATE ON THE Maire O Shea Campaign,

The National Petition will be handed to the Attorney General on 24th June, after a press conference. Petitions must be returned no later than 20th June.

A day of action on 1st July was called - the day the committal Hearing starts. The Campaign have called for a day of Action calling for Maire's charges to be dropped to coincide with the Committal Hearing.: Suggestions are public meetings, Pickets of Police stations, Home Offices, Town Halls. Leafleting and petitioning can also take place at the same time and will continue.

A National Demonstration was called for sometime in October, calling for the dropping of Maire's charges. A Demonstration sub-committee was set up - Anita (Birmingham,) Tony (London), Basil (Oxford), Phil (Manchester). The demonstration was agreed to be held in Birmingham or London.

OBSERVERS SHOULD BE IN COURT ON THE THREE DAYS OF THE COMMITTAL HEARING AND THE CAMPAIGN RECOMMENDS THAT AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLY BE AT THE COURT. The case will start at 9.45 am and people should be at the court by 8.45 am because of security checks.

A short 7-10 minute video will soon be available on Maire's case.

THE COMMITTAL HEARING WILL BE IN LIVERPOOL.

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THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AGAINST THE GILGICK RULING:The Gillick Ruling

means that under 16's now can't get any medical treatment including advice and treatment on contraception, unless they get their parent's consent, except in an emergency or if the courts get involved.

Under 16's now have no right to confidential medical treatment.

Parents now have the right completely to control the bodies of their children until they're 16, unless a court intervenes.

This prevents the freedom of choice for under 16's to make decisions on important matters affecting their own bodies and lives.

DHSS is appealing against the ruling, probably in June.

THE EFFECTS OF THE RULING:

Unwanted pregnancies to under 16's will increase.

Some young women may try to get a backstreet abortion. This could cause serious illness, sterility or even death.

Incest - girls who have been sexually abused by a man in the family must get their parents permission before they can go for help.

People under 16 who may have VD, may be scared off from going to a clinic to get treatment.

Parents will be able to force under 16's to have an abortion, against their will.

Some schools have banned sex education because the law on giving advice is so confusing.

ON SUNDAY 23rd JUNE THERE IS A NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE GILGICK RULING  
Assemble: Lincoln Inn Fields, London WC2 1L on Holborn Tube. to march to Jubilee Gardens.

For more information ring the Co-ordinating Committee on 405- 4801.

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THE CO-ORDINATING  
COMMITTEE  
AGAINST THE  
GILGICK RULING  
11, 12, 13, 14  
LINCOLN INN FIELDS  
LONDON WC2 1L  
TEL: 01-405 4801



" Irish Women Living in England"

The first planning meeting to organise the above conference was held on 12th June. More ideas and help are needed to make the conference a success. Please come to the next planning meeting on Wed. 26th June at 7.30 pm 52/54 FEATHERSTONE ST. If you cannot make that meeting either, write in with ideas or phone the London Irish Women's Centre on 609-8916. You may not agree with some of the ideas already discussed so make a date for the 26th and give your suggestions.

NOTES OF MEETING:

Date of Conference 21st September  
Venue Caxton House, 129 St. John's Way, N19  
Funding Application for £3,675 has been made to the EMU of the GLC. An application will be made to the Arts & Recreation Section of the GLC to fund the cultural events in the evening. Failing this we may have to fundraise or charge a fee.  
Theme Various options were discussed. It was felt that in some way it should lead on from the last conference. Finally decided on "Irish Women Living in England".  
Structure More time for discussion groups: less time for speakers. After a general introduction, it was decided that there should be two speakers. Some topics for speakers were suggested: PTA, Anti-Irish Racism, Strip-Searching, a personal account of a woman's experience of living in England, a brief resume of how Irish women have organised/campaigned so far in England - ANY OTHER IDEAS???.  
Publicity: Posters and leaflets will need to be designed within the next 3 weeks - CAN YOU SUGGEST A DESIGN? A decision on the poster will have to be made at the next meeting.  
Creche Will be needed for daytime and evening. Also volunteers will be needed to help. Do you know anyone who will volunteer?  
Social Theatre and musicians, followed by a ceili.  
Theatre suggestions: Shiela Flitton performing a one woman show  
Music Suggestions: Macallá Mary Bergin.  
Suggestions on singers: Mary Black  
Transport Have the LIWC mini-bus but may need another. Will need lots of volunteer drivers, Do you know any women who might drive?  
Discussion Suggestions - (a) Irish language discussion group (b) Women writers  
Groups (a) Set dancing (b) music (c) health ANY MORE??  
Exhibitions Suggestions (a) Travellers (b) Armagh Group (c) Belfast EXposed (d) History of the Irish in Britain ANY MORE??  
Videos One room could be set aside for videos/films throughout the conference WHICH VIDEOS??  
Stalls If you want to book a stall contact LIWC  
What Do We Want From The Conference: Report pamphlet like last time ?? Magazine of Irish Women's Writings??

Women are needed for the creche, to drive the bus, to lead discussion groups, to book exhibitions and boards, to book musicians, to get videos and equipment, to organise the stalls. There is a very tight time scale so please come on Wed, 26th 7.30 at 52/54 Featherstone St, EC1. Access details enclosed.



**Women's harvest brigade to**

# **NICARAGUA**



**open meeting/social  
for women**

**slides**

**food**

**music**

**discussion**

**info**

**drink**

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Last year most of the cotton and coffee harvest went unpicked; the people had to leave the fields to defend their borders against *contra* attacks. Nicaragua has sent out a call for volunteers to go there to work for short periods, who will tell others about Nicaragua when they return.  
Come to the meeting and find out what you can do to help

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**venue: Kentish Town  
Women's Centre 169  
Malden Rd, NW5 (Chalk  
Farm tube, Gospel Oak  
overground, 24 and 46  
bus)**

**date: July 11**

**time: 7.30:**

*for more information  
call Annie 359-8982*



WEST AFRICAN BOOKS FESTIVAL ,WOMEN'S DAY  
Hansbury Library. St John ST London EC1 Angel Tube

7.15 Arrival, opening, welcome

Workshop 1

6.30-7.30 IMAGES AND PRESENTATIONS OF WOMEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT IN BLACK LITERATURE AND ARTS. Lauretta Ngogobo, Abenaa Amoafi & Kwapong Iddi

7.30 - 8.00 Discussion & break

8.15 -8.30 MUNIRAH (Black women Poetry & Drama Group)

Workshop 11

8.40 -9.30 ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF AFRICAN WOMEN Iyamide Hazeley  
Mameisia Macfoy  
Shamis Dirir

9.30- 10.00 Discussion & Break

10.15 HARMONY BLACK THEATRE GROUP

10.35 -11.00 Refreshment & Social. Admission £2 & £1 (Music, Bar & African food)

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Saturday 27th July: WOMEN, RACISM & HEALTH - a conference organised through the GLC Women's Committee. Venue is COUNTY HALL between 10.00 am & 5.00pm. There will be stalls , workshops and papers.

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HANLEY CROUCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, The Laundry, Sparsholt Road, London N19 will hold a street festival in Wray Crescent Open Space , Saturday 3rd August Stalls, Music etc. For more details ring 263-1067

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SATURDAY 22nd JUNE . TACKLING RACISM IN HOMELESSNESS CONFERENCE. in County Hall. Areport will be compiled afterwards which will help to formulate GLC Policy on housing and could influence other housing bodies. If you wish to attend please contact Steve Brennan or Anne Cooke on 633-4262

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ON SUNDAY 22nd September, The GLC Women's Support Unit in conjunction with a steering group, which consists of members of health, caring and disability organisations, will hold a conference for people who care in the home for friends and relatives with disabilities or terminal illness. The programme for the day includes Race < Caring - for black < ethnic minority carers, Caring for people of A DIFFERENT ETHNIC ORIGIN,, CARING FOR CHILDREN, PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DISABILITIES, CONFUSED ELDERLY PEOPLE, CARING FOR PEOPLE WITH TERMINAL ILLNESS. Professionals will take a low profile in the morning. In the afternoon there will be geographically based workshops, for carers to exchange information with others who live in the area: and for professionals who work in the caring sphere. There will be stalls exhibitions etc. Can you pass on this information as much as possible to all women you know who are carers in any way .

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Exhibition  
computing  
Further details  
Contact



THEATRE... Theatre.

The Old Red Lion, St. John's St, N1 (837-7816) Angel Tube.

"Letters Home" by Rose Leiman Goldenberg. A dramatisation of the letters between poet Sylvia Plath and her mother - the portrayal of a mother/daughter relationship. 8.00 pm Tues to Sat. Ends 22nd June. £3.50 Concessions £2.50.

Soho Poly, 16 Riding House St. W1 (636-9050).

"Amid the Standing Corn" by Jane Thornton, directed by Carol Hayman. New play based on first hand accounts and observations about the Women Against Pit Closures movement during and after the miners strike. Ends July 6th. £3.00 Concessions £2.20 + membership. Starts 8.00.

Oval House, 54 Kennington Oval SE11 (735-2786) Oval Tube.

From Thursday 20th "Forever". Lesbian cabaret presented by Parker & Klein and the Hard Corps. Starts 8.30 £1.80.

Kings Head, 115 Upper St, N1 (226-1815) Angel Tube. Opens Wed.

"Mr Joyce is Leaving Paris" by Tom Gallacher. 8.00

Duke of Wellington Theatre, Balls Pond Road, N1 (249-3729).

"FAMINE" by John Dunne. 8.00 pm £3.00 Concessions £1.50. A play set during the Great Hunger 1845. Directed by Sue Glenster. The story of two families where each member represents the opposing forces to British rule in Ireland. Two brothers, who, although sharing a belief in the republican cause, differ in their methods to achieve their ends. There's a daughter, whose need to escape the privations of her life leads her to consider becoming a nun. The father who is separated from his family because of his romantic ideal of rebellion, and the mother who gives her views on the injustices of the world - in the midst of the potatoe famine and absentee landlords.

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**JOBS... JOBS.... JOBS... JOBS....**

"RELAY" - the London based, bi-monthly magazine about radical and community radio seeks three workers:

- (1) FULL-TIME CO-ORDINATOR, responsible for researching articles, overall editing and general co-ordination of Relay.
- (2) Part-Time design/PRODUCTION WORKER (17 and 1/2 hours per week)
- (3) PART-TIME ADMIN WORKER (17 and 1/2 hours per week) responsible for the promotion and distribution of the magazine, and to help co-ordinator with research.

Worker will work as a team. Based in Islington. Women and people from ethnic minor groups encouraged to apply. Salary £10,765 p.a. and pro rata. GLC funded until March 1986, possible till 1987.

For further details send large SAE to RELAY, c/o 9 Wickham Rd, SE4 1PF. Closing date 27th June. Interviews 4th and 5th July. Starting date as soon as possible after that.

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Harringay Women's Training and Education Centre. is looking for a CARPENTRY TUTOR, a PLUMBING TUTOR and an ELECTRICS TUTOR (4 days at 97,500 P.A.) TO JOIN A PREDOMINANTLY BLACK COLLECTIVE OF 10 WORKERS. They also need Adult Education Tutors, both day and evening to teach: plumbing, carpentry, electrics, computing, English, technical drawing, setting up co-ops, technician skills. Further details on 801 6233/4, Closing date 15th JULY 1985. Address is: Former Somerset Lower School, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17.

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