

Irish women's

DAUGHTERS
OF EIRIA



newsletter

LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CENTRE MAILING,..... NEWS...VIEWS..EVENTS...COURSES.....

Since our last newsletter before the summer, work of refurbishing our premises has taken place: the work taking longer than originally scheduled by the builders but now almost complete. Because we've not had enough funds to decorate the building inside (costs of labour alone estimated at £5,000 and taking roughly 5 weeks), WEBB Builders, a women's training centre in West London have offered their trainees to do this work. This is of untold help to us. They will begin work as soon as possible. However, the 3 workers will move in on 29th November while painting is still in progress.

Our opening day is set for the 1st February, 1986 - Brigid's Day (Celtic Goddess)
There will be more about this later but we will have an afternoon of music, dancing, singing, food, videos, and generally a day of celebration. So keep your diaries open for that Sat.

The second Irish Women's Conference to be held in London took place on Sept. 21st. More than 300 women attended. Dorothy Fergus from The London Irish Women's Centre opened the conference by tracing the progress, developments and setbacks Irish women have had in the past year. Maire O Shea spoke about her experience living in this country for the past 30 years. Margaret O Neill about her horrific experience of the PTA. The remainder of the day consisted of discussion groups on variety of topics of concern to us. Charabanc, the Belfast Women's Theatre Group gave us of their rich talents during lunch. In the evening the Hairy Mary's, an Irish women's dance troupe, gave up a wonderful performance including a sketch about Britain's role in Ireland. Many women sang and the rest of the evening we danced to the music. A report from the conference will be soon available with papers, workshop reports etc.

In the meantime we have 700 books available to hire from our library and are in the process of cataloguing these. After the 1st Dec. it will be possible for women to borrow books and a list will be available at the centre. OUR NEW PHONE NUMBER WILL BE 249 7318. The Irish Women in Islington will continue at the old number 609 8916 .

We look forward to as many women as possible using the centre.

LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CENTRE, 59 Stoke Newington Church St. London N16,
TEL: 249 7318.

CALENDER OF EVENTS: EVENTS.... EVENTS..... EVENTS..... EVENTS.... EVENTSEVENTIS.

Thurs, Oct. 31st. "The Black and the Green" - as part of the ongoing season of films put on by Camden Troops Out and Islington Troops Out "Ireland on Video", - this one is about a visit by a Black American Delegation to Northern Ireland and shows how the group came to terms with the contradictions between their political pacifist view and the reality of the Irish political situation.

Greenland Rd Community Centre, NW1 8.00pm Free. Tea & Coffee available.

A workshop on "Women and Dependency". This is a two day event for women who work in drugs and alcohol field and for women interested in health issues. The workshop will cover a wide range of issues including women's legal (including alcohol) and illegal drug abuse, problems faced by women of different cultures when they seek help with dependency problems and the stereotyping of women users in the media and in drug advertising.

The workshop will relate all these issues to women's position in society. Women of different cultures are particularly welcome to these workshops which will continue on Fri. Nov. 1st.

Costs: £2.50 UB40. £10 women payin for themselves. £20 Women paid for by an org.

Leaders are Devora Wolfson (D.A.W.N. London)

Juliette Small (Alcohol Counselling Service)

Sat. Nov. 2nd. March Against Apartheid. Assemble at Hyde Park between 12.00 and 1.00pm: Tower Hill or Kennington Park 12.30 pm and 1.30pm.

Rally at Trafalger Square 3pm.

This will be the largest ever demonstration against apartheid in Britain. The streets of London will be filled with people demonstrating their anger at the British government's refusal to join the rest of the world in applying sanctions to South Africa.

Britain is South Africa's biggest investor. British companies fuel and arm the South African police and army. Without such support the apartheid system, already in deep crisis, would begin to collapse. The apartheid regime could not continue it's war against neighbouring African states, it's illegal occupation of Namibia, and it's racial tyranny within South Africa.

So boycott all South African goods. Don't bank with Barclays. Join the Anti-Apartheid Movement and come on the March on Sat NOV 2nd.

Community Radio Association, THE National umbrella Organisation for all community groups working around community radio, have an all day meeting open to all members. It is hosted by the Union of Turkish Workers at the, Turkish Community Library, 3rd and 4th Floors, 391 City Road, London EC1. 883 3627 Starts at 10.00 am.

WOMEN AND POLICING CONFERENCE - 9.30 - 6.00 at County Hall, York Road,

London SE1. (nearest tube, Waterloo on Northern Line).

Morning workshops include: Women and Prisons, Domestic Violence, Police Response to Women protesting, Racial Attacks, Portrayal and policing of older Women, Policing of Lesbians, The PTA.

Afternoon Work shops are: Women and Community Safety, Effects of Rate Capping and Abolition - the future?, Sexual Offences, Immigration, Nationality and Deportation, Policing of Irish Women, Policing of Irish Women.

Interpreters, signers, creche available. Lunch and access facilities. Admission is FREE. For more information contact 633 4178

Sunday NOV 3rd.: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BHOPAL, at County Hall, SE1 from 10 - 6.00 pm, Speakers from India, USA, Germany and UK. For more information contact Bhopal Victims Support Group 843 2333

Monday Nov. 4th: Women organising in Bombay and Madras Sujata and Kalpagam, two activists will share their experience of working with Trade Unions and Women's Organisations. Taking place at 7.15 at 54 Featherstone St, London EC1, 1st floor meeting room. Women only. Access. Organised by Wiser Links 341 4403.

Monday NOV. 4th WOMEN & TRADE UNIONS: TUC Education in the South West have organised courses for women trade unionists. Some are short courses and some are general courses. The short courses are on issues women may want to take up at their work and in their union.

SHORT COURSES:

Nov 4/5 th ----- Women and Pensions at TUC Congress House, WC1 Course NO. USC 015

Nov 4/5th ----- Women and New Technology (USC 016) TUC Congress House, WC1

Nov 11/13th----- WOMEN AND RACISM TUC Congress House. WC1 (USC 017)

Nov 19/20th----- EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE, Polytechnic of the South Bank, London SE1 (USC 014)

Nov 19/20 th ----- CHALLENGING SEXUAL HARASSMENT (USC005) TUC Congress House, WC1

GENERAL COURSES: These courses cover:

1. The needs of women at work and in the Union.
2. Improving union organisation and tackling problems at the workplace
3. The job of the Union Rep.

FIVE TUESDAYS: from NOV 12th 'at WEA, Tavistock Square, WC1 (USC002)

FIVE FRIDAYS at Middlesex POLY, Wueensway FROM NOV 8th (USC 004)

The TUC regularly runs courses for women. They are run by women tutors and are friendly and informal. If you need a special course organised for you then the TUC can often help. If you wish to attend any of these, ask your employer to give YOU PAID RELEASE, and get help from your union officers if necessary. You have legal rights if you are a union rep, otherwise your union can negotiate release. Ask other women if they would like to attend as well.. For forms write to:

FOR FORMS WRITE TO Stephen Grinter, Regional Education Officer, TUC Education Department, Congress House, Great Russell St. London WC1B 3LS

Wed, Nov 6th: Evening course begins this Wed and continues each Wed evening for women and the building trades: at 42 Braganza St, Kennington London SE17 (nr. Kennington Tube). TLEA Rates. Fully accessible. The courses will cover -estimating house construction, legislation, setting up a business and lots of other things. Contact Cath 272 4193 or JULIA 735 4598 for more information.

Fri, NOV 8th: Black and Ethnic Minority Women parents and carers are invited to attend a workshop on HEALTH AND PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, at Shacklewell Community Centre, 1 Shacklewell Lane, E8. Starts at 7.30 pm.

This is organised by the Black and Ethnic Minority Women's Childcare Working Group at the GLC women's Committee. This group consists of women parents and carers from various communities.

Saturday NOV 9th: DEMONSTRATION IN BIRMINGHAM IN SUPPORT OF MAIRE O SHEA.

Assemble at 11 am at Sparkhill Park; Park Road, (by Stratford Road A 34)

Rally 2 pm Digbeth Civil Hall with:

Geraldine Egan (Pres Birm Trades Council), Christine Crawley (MEP), Jeremy Corbyn (MP), Cllr Sheena Clarke, Helen John (Greenham Peace Women), speakers from ASTMS, IBRG, IWA, AA and Miners Wives group,

Buses leave from Kings Cross at 8.30 am (junction with York Way) and will return to London from Birmingham leaving at 4.30 pm. Cost £5 Waged and £3 unwaged. Tickets from Maire O Shea Support Committee, (London Area) c/o IBRG, Box 3, 136 Kingsland High St. E8 Tel 250 1293.

It is vital that everyone supporting the campaign to be present at the demo in Birmingham. The final date is now set for the 14th January 1986 and is to be held in Manchester. As the date approaches it is important that the campaign gathers momentum: leaflets, posters, badges, videos, petition forms etc are available from the above London address.

The Defence Fund still needs more money to raise the £50,000 needed to pay legal costs since Maire has been refused legal aid. Donations can be sent to: Maire O Shea Support Committee, c/o 448 Stratford Rd, B11 TEL; (021)773 8683 or get in contact with the London Branch at above address and Phone no.

The National Council of Civil Liberties would like to hear from you if you have been arrested under the TA. Information is strictly confidential.

Contact them at 2 Tabar St. London SE1 4TA Tel (01) 403 3888

MONDAY NOV. 11th: Meeting of the Irish Radio Group, Interchange, 15 Wilkin St, London NW5 (British Rail Kentish Town West on North London Line) and entrance at Prince of Wales Bus 7.00 pm Full disabled access.

TUESDAY NOV. 12th: Meeting of the Irish Women's Discussion and Study Group around Mental Health. Tonight the topic is "THE EFFECT OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ON OUR HEALTH" introduced by Brid Greally Takes place at Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, London N19 at 7.30 pm Creche facilities.

This group has recently been formed and over the coming months it will discuss particular aspects of being Irish which affect our Mental Health: growing up in Ireland: growing up Irish in England: the effect of religion, poverty and imperialism: and the mechanisms we have used to survive such as self depreciation, an awareness of our history and culture. our sense of humour.

We will do this by talking about our lives, reading novels and theoretical articles and perhaps writing something as a group. We will also cover feminist approaches to mental health and what we can draw from that.

more information can be obtained from : Islington Women and Mental Health on 281 2673 and London Irish Women's Centre on 609 8916 .

THURSDAY NOV 14th: "Get OUT of That Garden": Next film to be shown in the series 'Ireland on Video'. Made in 1984 by Anna Liebschner, this film gives an account of the 'troubles' up to 1981, from the perspective of a Northern Irish catholic woman, Mary Nellis, from Derry. It is interspersed with newsreel from this period. 8.00 pm Greenland Road Community Centre, London NW1 FREE. Tea and Coffee

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NOV 16/17th: OLDER WOMEN'S HEALTH FESTIVAL, (Pensioners Link) at Finsbury Health Centre, Norman St London EC1 3PU. 10.00- 4.00 pm.

Workshops, stalls, exhibitions, discussion groups, information, entertainment. Fully accessible, Transport available to and from the event for women with disabilities. Food from different countries. Topics will include, mental health, sickle cell anaemia, Old Age, Health Resources, alternative medicine etc.

For more information please contact Pam Wright, Older Women's Project, Pensioner's Link, 17 Balfe ST. London N1 278 5501 (Old Tube Tube)

SATURDAY 16th NOV. "IRISH COMMUNITY AND TRAVELLERS" Conference. at Caxton House, 129 ST John's Way, N19. Fully accessible with toilet. From 1.30 - 6.00.

Speakers: Nan Joyce from Dublin and representatives of Minceir Misli (Travellers Organisation). Frank O Neill (Hackney IBRG), Mikeen McCarthy (London Roadside Travellers) Other speakers from Local councils and the GLC.

Workshops include 'Campaigning and Community Organisation, Youth, Racism, Travelling Women, History.

Exhibitions, Bookshop, Stalls, Videos all afternoon.

Tea and refreshments available.. Creche.

Music during afternoon tea break. Travellers songs and music. SOCIAL IN THE EVENING with music by "PERSONS UNKNOWN". £1 admission charge.

Sponsored by the GLC Ethnic Minorities Unit and by those who attended the traveller workshop at the second London Irish Women's conference

WED. 20th Nov. ISLINGTON IRISH PENSIONER'S CLUB will have a social at the Victoria Pub on the Holloway Rd. (Junction of Liverpool Rd) £1 Ad. Crannog. 7.3

Sat. 23rd Nov. CEILI MOR from 8.00 to 12.00 midnight at the Glyndon Community Centre, Raglan Road, Plumstead. Organised by the Irish in Greenwich Project. Tickets £1.50 (members) and £2.00 (non members) available from the Project office on 855 7191 and Jimmy Doyle on 853 4139.

WED. 27th Nov. BENEFIT DISCO FOR THE DUNNES STORES STRIKERS AT CLAUDE'S DISCO, THE ENTERTAINER, BALLS POND ROAD, LONDON N1. (5 mins walk from Dalston Junction). WOMEN ONLY. Toilets are not wheelchair accessible. Help available at door for disabled women (One Step at entrance). Admission: Waged £2, and Unwaged £1. Additional donations accepted to support the strikers. Women only. nearest tube is Highbury & Islington, then 30 bus. 8.00 - 12.00pm

Thurs, Nov 28th. TWO WOMEN FROM THE DUNNES STORES STRIKERS WILL TALK AT : THE GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOM, 52/54 Featherstone St. London EC1. (nearest tube is Old St -Northern Line). AT 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Women Only Full Disabled access and toilet.

The Dunnes Stores Strikers are a group of workers, mainly women, who are refusing to sell South African goods in protest against the Apartheid Regime in South Africa. They have been on strike now for the past 16 months against all odds and hardships. Show your solidarity with the Black struggle in South Africa and come to support these women (2) while they are in London.

The Dunnes Stores Solidarity Committee which has just been set up has arranged for these women to come over to London for the week beginning Nov 25th for a whole series of talks and benefits, as well as our one. All details have not yet been finalised but they will speak at various venues. See City Limits for details nearer the time and/or ring 348 3354 .

Sat. 30th Nov. OLDER WOMEN'S DAY in Catford. 9.30 - 4.00 pm at the CALABASH CENTRE, 26 George Lane, Catford SE13. Workshops and entertainment all day: videos, complete free lunch. For more details ring: Lewisham & Deptford Women's centre on 692 1851 or Lewisham Pensioner's Link on 691 0938.

Wed, 4th Dec. Benefit for the Irish Radio Project at the Camden Irish Centre, Murray St. NW1 (Kennedy Hall). 7.30 til late. Traditional Irish music, dancing, and singing. COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS. Help with wheelchairs. Toilet not wheelchair accessible. Ring Olga 609 8916 for more details.

at 14th Dec. BENEFIT FOR THE "DEFEND THE CLINICS CAMPAIGN" in Dublin - the campaign that has been set up to stop the attempts of right wing groups in Ireland to close the Well Woman and Open Line Counselling centres (see details in press release further on in this newsletter). The support campaign in London which is led by The Irish Women's Abortion Support Group, have organised this benefit. MUSIC by 'Ginger & Spice' AT CAXTON HOUSE, St John's Way, N19 £3 High Waged. £2 Low Waged. £1 UB40. Fully accessible with toilet. 8.00 -late. Bar facilities.

COME AND SUPPORT THESE WOMEN.

Sat. 1st Feb. 1986. BENEFIT for "Defend the Clinics Campaign" at Islington Town Hall with music by the Guest Stars. (Upper St. London N1). Admission charges Waged £3 and £2. Unemployed £1. nearest tube Highbury & Islington and Angel (Northern Line and Victoria Line). Organised by IWASG.
From 8.00 - 12.00 pm.

Sat. 1st Feb. 1986. from 2.00 - 6.00 pm. OPENING DAY FOR THE LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CENTRE, at 59 Stoke Newington Church St, London N16. Music, Dance, singing, food, creche, videos, etc. Come along to launch the first centre for Irish women in London. More details later.

Sunday, 2nd Feb. 1986 'BLOODY SUNDAY' demonstration to take place in London. Organised by the Co-ordinating Committee for British Withdrawal From Ireland. The committee seeks the sponsorship for as many individuals and groups as possible who support the call for self determination for the whole of the Irish people and political and military withdrawal from Ireland. The demonstration will mark the anniversary of Sunday 30th January, 1972, when 14 unarmed people were shot dead by British troops at a civil rights march in Derry.

If you wish to show support go to the march and sponsor the demonstration by writing to the Secretary, (Miriam James), CCFBWI, c/o Box 551, London SE5 8JJ.

COURSES

WOMEN'S MOTOR MECHANIC WORKSHOP has vacancies for women's car mechanics course starting January '86. The women's motor mechanics project is a training workshop set up by and for women offering 6 month part-time courses in car mechanics to women in the Greater London area. No qualifications needed. The course is free and expenses are paid, e.g. fares and childcare costs. Hours are 10am to 4pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and 10am to 1pm on Fridays. Applications are particularly welcome from ex-prisoners and women with criminal records, black women, Asian women, and ethnic minority women and single parents. To apply phone 582 2574 for an application form, or write to: Women's Motor Mechanics Workshop Ltd, Bay 4R, 1-3 Brixton Rd. London S.W. 9 6DE.

Women's back to work Course. Courses are available to women who are over 25, and have been unemployed for six months or more. Learn how to make jewellery and window blinds. Learn computing, light engineering, taxi driving, enterprise skills, typing, carpentry, photoprocessing. All classes are free of charge and last for 14 weeks. Child minding facilities are available. For more info phone Cheryl Gibson on 251 6037.

There is a programme of courses available for women at the South London Women's Centre, 55, Acre Lane, Brixton, London S.W.2 Phone 274 7215.

Tuesday 10a.m. to 12p.m Simple Dress making.

2pm to 4pm Jewellery making.

Wednesday 2pm to 5pm Massage and relaxation.

Thursday 10 to 11.30 Keep fit with dance

2pm to 4pm Video course

Friday 10.03 to 12.30 Craft courses.

Creche and disabled access.

Seltec offers a Foundation year as an introduction to a two year (part-time) TEC course in Electronics designed to suit the hours of women not wishing to study full-time. The 1yr foundation course is designed for women over 25, who have no formal qualifications, but are interested in learning basic electronics, and gaining a qualification in this area. For more info phone Shirely Lewis 692 0353 Ext 360
Eddie Coode 692 0353 Ext 354.

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Courses continued.....

Brent Women's Centre offer courses in the following:-

Massage Tuesday 11.30 - 1.00

Home Maintenance Friday 11am - 1.00pm.

Computing Tuesday 1pm - 3pm. and Thursday 7.03 -9.30

Assertiveness Thursday 7.30 - 9.30

English as a second language Sat. 11.30 -1.30 and Monday 2.30 - 4.30

Women and health group and women and loss either divorce, separation or berevment.

For more infor. contact B.W.C. 232 Willesden High Rd. London N.W.10 2NX

Phone 459 7660.

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Hammersmith Unemployed centre offers a course in basic woodwork for women.

190 Sheperds Bush Road.

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Child Sexual Abuse Preventive Education Project are running awareness training courses for two days on the 13th/14th November. For more info contact the project at Southbank House. Black Prince Road. London SE1 7SJ. Phone 587 1611.

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A new course on women's lives will be starting on the 5th Nov.'85. This will be a discussion group. It will be held at Wesley House, 70 Great Queen St. W.C2.

For more info phone 430 1076.

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Women's Education in Building (W.E.B.) have vacancies on courses in the following:- plumbing, bricklaying, electrics, painting and decorating and carpentry.

The courses are for beginners, you don't need to have any experience, except for the carpentry corse. They are due to start in Jan. and will last for six months. They provide a weekly allowance as well as childcare facilities, there is a nursery for children under 5. The courses are for women over 25. Black, ethnic and working class women are encouraged to apply. For more info and an application form phone or write to WEB builders, 12 Malton Road. London W10.. Phone 968 9139. Closing date 6th December '85.

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Notices. Notices..... Notices.....

WOMEN WON'T BENEFIT! What do the Government's plans for social security benefits mean for women? Islington Council's Women's Committee meeting on Monday 11th November, at Town Hall, Upper St N1½ at 7.30p.m, will be discussing these issues. There will be speakers from Child poverty Action Group, a video, an exhibition and a chance for discussion. For more info ring 226 1234 ext.3233/4.

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Notices continued.....

Hariney Women's Centre, 40, Turnpike Lane, N.8 organises socials for lesbians or women who think they may be lesbians. The first Thursday of every month. 8p.m. til late. Starting November 7th, Entrance 50p-£1. Ring centre for more details 889 3912.

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Conferences.

Racial Harassment, Time to Act. A conference organised by the G.L.C. and the Racial Harassment Bill Group. On Sunday 17th November '85 9.30- 5.15pm. at County Hall, London S.E.1 For more info ring 633 6020.

Hackney Anti-Deportation Campaign have organised a conference called 'organise Against Deportation and all immigration controls on Saturday 16th November at Hackney Town Hall, Mare St. London E 8. For more phone Tricia Bohn at 226 9143(w) or 833 0131 (h). or Amanda Pearce 317 9636.

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An Irish women's poetry evening has been planned for January 21st '85. The poets include Deidre Shanahan, Catherine Byron and Evangeline Paterson. For further information ring 607 1154.

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Conference on Unemployment and the Irish Community is due to take place on Saturday 9th Nov' 85 from 10.0 a.m to 4.30 pm at Kilburn Square Comm. Centre, 9, Brondesbury Road, N.W. 6. To reserve a place your place 624 9991.

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Irish women and Mental Health Discussion and support group will be meeting every second Tuesday. Tuesday 26th Nov. the discussion will be on growing up in rural Ireland and the effect that this has on mental health. Other themes that will be discussed in the future are, second generation women, imperialism, poverty, anti Irish racism etc. For more details ring Brid on 609 8916 or (LIWC) 281 2673. (Islington Women and Mental Health).

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"SECOND GENERATION EXPERIENCES", a TAPE MADE BY THE Irish Video Project, and presents the views of young second generation Irish people about aspects of growing up in London. 20 mins long. Hire £12. Purchase £30. VHS or U-Matic. Ring 692 0231 for details.

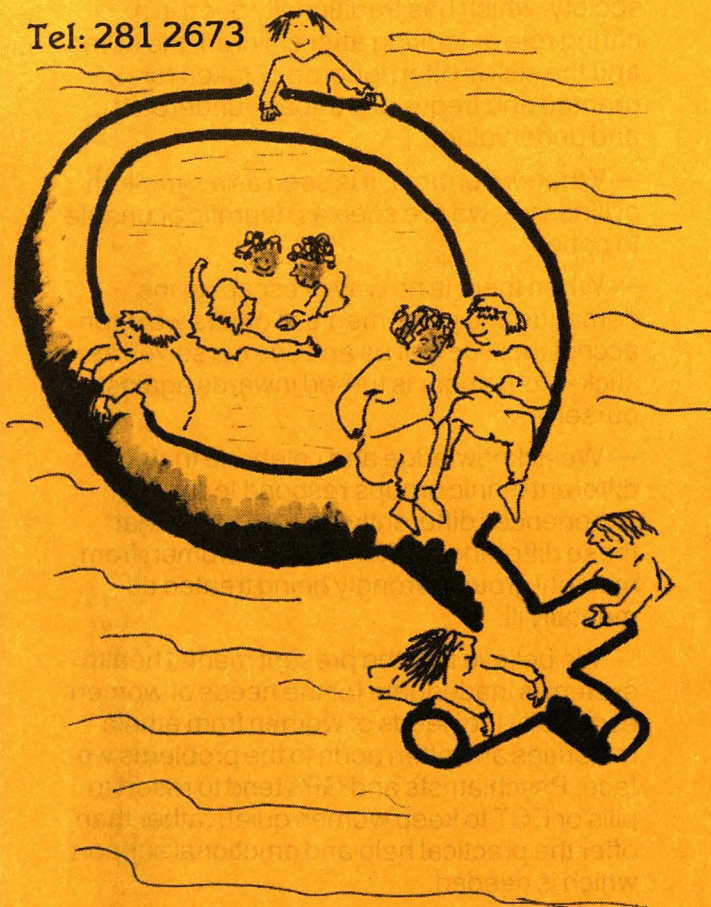
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Anne Doyle from Camden Women's Aid would like more Irish women to get involved in the Management Committee of the centre. Ring Anne on 485 3856/5 for more details.

Islington Women and Mental Health

Caxton House
129 St. Johns Way
London N19

Tel: 281 2673



Women's Helpline: 281 2345
Mon 6-9pm Thurs 2-5pm

HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED

— Fill in the address slip and put yourself on our mailing list.

— If you have time to spare, join the management collective. The collective meets fortnightly to make policy decisions and to see that the work of the project is carried out.

— Join or start a sub-group on a specific issue you are interested in.

— Join or help start a self-help/support group around your experience — e.g. having survived the psychiatric system, depression, problems with tranquillisers etc.

— Offer help as a professional — there are various ways in which professionals can help — in an advisory capacity, or by sharing their skills in training workshops for volunteers or for women recently out of hospital.

— Come to an open day — suggest a topic for discussion.

We have applied for funding to help women's groups from ethnic minorities to write leaflets in their own language. Contact us if you are interested in helping.

Recent Issues.

"The Waters Edge" by Maire McGrory, a collection of short stories by a woman born of Irish parents in Liverpool (Toxteth) in 1953. Seventeen stories about growing up Irish, and Catholic, and a woman. Religion played it's powerful role in the community: childhood dreams: the conflict for a child being Irish at home and English at school: the humiliation of being patronised by the middle classes and many other themes are explored and developed in this timely, well written book. An apt turn of phrse and an imaginative look at a way of life make this book a must for everyone.

Available at all good bookshops. Published by Sheba Feminist Publishers.

"The Liberation of Margaret McCabe " by Catherine Brophy (Wolfhound Press)
Catherine Brophy is Dublin born, who has worked as a builders laborer in Turkey, a circus in Yugoslavia, in a canteen in London and as a seamstress in Vienna and as a teacher in Mexico. This is influenced by all these experiences, full of wit and humour. Hardback only yet and available from Wolfhound, 68 Mountjoy Square, Dublin * &7 sterling.

"Necessary Reasons" by Maeve Kelly. Maeve Kelly has already shown those of us who have already read her previous work, that she is a writer of high quality. (I've even heard some to claim that she is the best Irish woman writer they have read in English). This new book is set in West Clare and describes the life of Eve Gleeson married to a doctor many years older than her. Unfortunately it's available again only in hardback from Michael Joseph Ltd., 44 Bedford Square, London WC1 at £9.95. 240 pages.

"The Far Side of the Lough" by Polly Devlin. This book consists of stories about growing up on the shores of Lough Neagh. Poly's previous books have been very successful. This book is for children of all ages. Published in aperback by Methuen £1,75, 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4.

"The Hounds of Morrigan" by Pat O Shea. (Oxford University Press). A first novel set in mythological Ireland where Morrigan was queen. Also a book for children Pat O Shea is from Galway and has lived here (in Manchester) for 30 years Hardback at £9.95. Oxford University Press, Walton St, Oxford, OX2 6DP.

"Mad Puppetstown" and "Two Days in Aragon" by Molly Keand. These are two novels from Molly Keane's early days of writing when she worked under the pseudonym of M.J. Farrell. They were originally in 1931 and 1941 respectively. Polly Devlin writes the introduction to both. Available in all good bookshops at £3.95 each. Published by Virago.

"The Irish Signoria" by Julia O Faioileain. Published by Penguin. Issued last year in hardback. Julia O F. is daughter of Sean O Faioileain. This book is an Irish love story set in Tuscany. £1.95 and available at most bookshops.

"My Story" by Joanna Hayes Published by Brandon Press. Costs £3.95. Available at good bookshops. This book is Joanna Hayes own account of the events which led to her confessing (April 1984) to the murder of a baby which forensic tests later showed could not have been the child of her and her lover: how 4 other members of her family made statements to the police implicating themselves in the crime: details of the long and arduous tribunal which was set up to investigate the methods and behaviour of the police involved in this case (in practice it was more like Joanne herself and her family who were under investigation, not the police). The report from this tribunal has been released but sold out before it went to print and now is being reprinted.

"Travellers" by Nan Joyce. Nan Joyce will be one of the guests to speak at the Travellers conference on 16th Nov. at Caxton House. She first became widely known when she made an appearance on the Late Late Show in Ireland 4 years ago. Nan has campaigned over the years for travellers rights. She points to the special position of women travellers and describes her own life history and views. (Gill and Macmillan)

All these and many many other books will be available for loan from the London Irish Women's Centre Library which will be in operation from the end of this year. More than 800 titles will be available, fiction and non fiction, Irish writers and women writers, history, health, training, religion, reproductive rights, art, politics, economics etc. In addition more than 200 LP's and cassettes of Irish music will be available for hire. The cost of stocking this library has come from Islington Women's Committee. In order to borrow books women will have to become members of the library and they then can order books by phone.

For further details contact 609 8916.



CAMPAIGNS... CAMPAIGNS.... CAMPAIGNS....

JUSTICE CAMPAIGN FOR IRISH PRISONERS IN BRITAIN, c/o Camden Neighbourhood Centre, Greenland Rd. London NW1.

The campaign works on : providing support to Irish political prisoners and their families: lobby in support of prisoners rights in British jails: provide accomodation to relatives of prisoners visiting Britain: work towards the release of prisoners framed by the British police: work with organisations in Ireland and Irish organisations in Britain, to bring about an effective campaign against the PTA, because of the way the act is used against th e Irish community and it's use to imprison innocent people.

There is at the moment an urgent request for names and addresses of people willing to accomodate relatives visiting prisoners. The accomodation should be as support-ive as possible, often relatives have gone through interrogation themselves, travelled long distances and are trying to cope with the experience of visiting someone they love and care for in prison.. Sensitivity and encouragement are needed. If you can help in this area please ring 263 2386.

The campaign are also working for the release of the Guildford 4, Paul Hill, G. Conlon, P. Armstrong, and Carole Richardson, all innocent people who were imprisoned in 1974 for the Guildford and Woolwich bombings. This camapign should be underway by December. Donations and fundraising are very welcome. Ring the above no. if you wish to lend some help.

The camapign are also trying to co-ordinate a system by which Irish groups will supply one prisoner with a parcel each week, each one consisting of about £5 worth of books, food, newspapers, toiletries etc. Ring above number if you would like to get involved in this.

*** STOP THE STRIP SEARCHES CAMPAIGN SPEAKING TOUR - RELATIVES OF ARMAGH PRISONERS FOR TWO WEEKS BEGINNING MONDAY 18th November. The following is a date list of speaking events.**

Monday 18th : 2.30 pm House of Commons - a Press conference: Speakers and meeting with women MP's, Eila O Dwyer and Martina Anderson who were held in Brixton Prison under the PTA, and relatives from REPUBLICAN WOMEN PRISONERS IN ARMAGH JAIL.

Monday 18th. 5.30 pm MEETING WITH MP'S (London)

Monday 18th. Reception at Camden Town Hall followed by meeting with London Labour councillors.

TUESDAY 19th. AM. Reception with Labour Party National Women's Committee
7.00 pm Public meeting in Brent. Ring Ellen Reynolds for more details
on 903 1400 X 8257(BRENT WOMEN'S COMMITTEE)

WED. 20th. TOTTENHAM Town Hall, Town Hall Approach, London N15 (808 1000).
Moselle Rooms.

thursday, 21st. AM. Meeting with Labour Party Front bench team in the House of Commons

7.00 pm Meeting in Camden Town Hall, Bidborough St, Kings Cross. (PUBLIC)
Ring Judy Watson (Camden Women's Committee for more details) 278 4444 X 2738

THURSDAY 21st PM Meeting at Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton, More details on 733 - 3783 or 761 1911.

FRI 22nd afternoon : Meeting at County Hall, York Rd. SE1.

7.30 PM Public meeting at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn WC1

For relatives of Armagh prisoners and women from Brixton. plus Clare Short MP.

Sat 23rd Have not received details of events for today PLEASE ring Sarah

Roleoffs on 930 0715 .

Sunday 24th Highbury Roundhouse, 71 Ronalds Rd. London N5. Public meeting with relatives speaking. Ring Irish women in Islington Group on 609 8916 for more details.

Outside London

Mon. 25th Sheffield: Tues. 26th Birmingham: Wed. 27th Matlock, Derbyshire (Labour Party Women's Section): Thurs. Nottingham: Friday 29th Basildon:

Ring Sarah Roleoffs on 930 0715 for more details

THE UNITED CAMPAIGN AGAINST PLASTIC BULLETS was formed on 6th SEPT, 1984, at an open meeting called after the death of Sean Downes, killed by a plastic bullet fired at close blank range by a member of the RUC in August 1984. He was the 15th person to die, seven of them children, after them being struck with these lethal weapons. The campaign is organised by the relatives of those killed and injured, with the backing of several political parties, human rights groups and others. Their sole aim is the banning of plastic bullets. Despite the fact that at least 10 court cases for compensation, the victims were found to be totally innocent persons and that plastic bullets had been fired at times when they were uncalled for and unjustified, only one member of the security forces has been charged in connection with the deaths. A video is available for sale . VHS £30

Contact the campaign : c/o Claire O Reilly, 20 Monagh Crescent, Belfast 11

and a London group at 25 Horsell Rd, London N5 Tel; 607 9615

WARRIOR POLICING CAMPAIGN, Top.Floor, 248-250 Lavender Hill, SW11 Tel: 223 8655

2 women, one Irish, one African, have recently started working at this campaign on a project on women and mental health, particularly police sectioning. If you have any experience in this area please contact Jill & Busie.

Any information will be treated with the strictest confidence.

The Campaign has organised a women only social for Thursday Nov. 8.00 -11.00 pm at York Gardens Community Centre, York Rd. SW11. All women welcome. Fully accessible.

If anyone is interested in forming a pressure group about school clubs, holiday schemes etc in Catholic schools, please contact the London Irish Women's centre on 609 8916. We have had an enquiry from women interested in this.

ACTIVITIES.....ACTIVITIES.....ACTIVITIES.....

The Irish Radio User's Group, now known as GLOR GAEL, along with other ethnic groups, is applying for one of the two community radio licenses to be issued by the Home Office soon. The application is being handled by an umbrella organisation called SPECTRUM Radio. Upon successful acceptance of the application each user group will have 7 hours broadcasting per week. Transmission will be on medium wave and will cover a wide area: Acton, Kingsbury, Mill Hill, Southgate, Palmers Green, Walthamstow, Stratford, Peckham, Clapham, Fulham, and all points within that circle. It is essential that the group has a full and active membership. Already there are many women involved. All those interested should contact OLGA at 609 8916. Next meeting is on Monday 11th Nov at 7.30 at INTERCHANGE Kentish Town, London NW5 (nearest train is British Rail -North London Line AND Kentish Town West stop). Courses in broadcasting are being arranged for the Spring term, with a view to demystifying the skills involved in making and presenting radio programmes, and will include all the stages such as interviewing, using equipment, editing, narrating etc). In the meantime there are some courses for those interested: The Breakaway Project at Interchange, run by Neil Catford will give one day per week for one month, training course. Nominal fees of free for unemployed. This course will give the basics for producing programmes and all the rest is practice after that. Ring 267 9421 for more details. Goldsmiths College run regular courses (10 week) Ring 692 7171. Also Islington Adult Education Institute will begin one starting in January. Ring 609 8916 or 262 6180. All ideas and suggestions for programmes and content are welcome, therefore a full attendance at the meeting on the 11th is essential.

ON WEDNESDAY 4th DECEMBER THE IRISH RADIO GROUP HAVE ORGANISED A FUND RAISING EVENT TO BE HELD AT THE CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE, (Kennedy Hall) starting at 7.30 pm. Bar facilities. MUSIC BY VARIOUS TRADITIONAL MUSICIANS, SINGERS AND DANCERS. INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE WORK OF THE GROUP TO ESTABLISH SOME SORT OF BROADCASTING SERVICE FOR THE IRISH COMMUNITY IN LONDON. THIS BENEFIT IS TO RAISE MONEY TO HELP THE GROUP FORM A COMPANY (a stipulation by the Home Office). DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A GOOD NIGHT OUT. The toilets are not wheelchair accessible. Help available at door. Ring Olga for further details of admission charge(s) and musicians. 609 - 8916

THE FOWLER REVIEW AND HOW IT WILL EFFECT US

The government is currently reviewing the social security system. The new proposals, presently at the stage of a green paper called "The Reform of Social security", or more commonly known as the Fowler reviews, have very serious implications for women and people from ethnic minorities. The proposed changes will make life much harder for the vast majority of people who receive any state benefits and will almost certainly effect everyone at some stage in their life. As it is the present social security system is far from adequate to deal with the growing number of people who use it. The government has abs forbidden any increased spending and has ruled out any improvements, infact the proposed changes will actually reduce most peoples benefits or reduce their rights to them. Since 1979 alone it is really easy to see the evidnce that the government has redistributed at least £2 billion from the poor to the rich in the form of cuts in benefits and cuts in taxation for the rich.

The main ways that these proposals, if they become law will effects the lives of women are briefly set out below:-

1) Child benefit. The present rate of child benefit ~~has~~ fallen well behind the rising cost of living. There will be no significant increase in the rate paid to bring it up to a realistic level.

2) Family Income Supplement. The governmnet intends to replace the current F.I.S. with a Family Credit scheme. This money will not be paid by Giro but by employers through the wage packet. What it will ineffect constitute is state subsidised low pay. Family credit will be calculated on the net earnings from the evidence of the last 13 wage slips, (at present it is only 5).

The result of this will be that if a family comes to England and does manage to find part-time work they will not be entitled to claim any 'top-up' money for the first 13 weeks. Also these apymnts, when finally made will be subject to six monthly reviews. Full-time work will be taken as 24 hours a week instaad of 30hrs. Probably the worst effect these changes will ~~have~~ on mothers of two parent families is that because the benefits will be paid through tax relief it will be most likely be paid to the man. The vast majority of people support the way that F.I.S. is paid at present form i.e. usually to the woman through a giro. These changes will reduce a woman's finacial freedom wothin the family and probably most women will not see the half of it. The government does not make any proposals as to how the money will be paid during wage disputes when there si no wage packet. At present only half of those people who are entitled to F.I.S. claim it. Without any doubt the take up of family credit will be even less. The way the money will be paid is very complicated. A person has to apply to the D.H.S.S for the benefit but

it is paid by tax relief and will be the responsibility of an employer. This will almost definitely reduce the take up rate even further as people will have to disclose details of their personal circumstances to their employer. Also smaller employers will probably be reluctant to take on the extra paper work this will involve. How the self employed will get family credit is yet unclear. Who knows what will happen if someone tries to change their job within the six months and what the procedure is for people who have more than one part-time job no one knows! At present F.I.S. is an automatic passport to free school meals and welfare foods, i.e. anyone who is entitled to F.I.S. is automatically entitled to free school meals for their children, however it will now only be people on Supplementary benefit who will get them.

3) Maternity benefits. The present maternity grant is going to be abolished. Instead a grant will be paid out of the new social fund. This will be a pool of money that will be used for all maternity grants and all 'one off' payments. This will be a limited amount of money which once it has been allocated cannot and the fund is empty then no more requests will be granted. In other words don't move or have a baby at the end of the financial year because the chances are there will be no money left in the fund for you. At present it has only been said that women on family credit will be entitled to the grant, who else will be entitled no-one knows, this grant is also going to be means tested so many women who need the money won't get it. Also an important group that will not be eligible for the grant is girls under sixteen who are not entitled to income support or family credit.

4) One-Off payments. At present you can get a 'one-off' lump sum payment to cover numerous things e.g. moving, setting up your first home. These payments as it is are very small and not really sufficient to cover the cost of these items. However the new proposals will get rid of these payments altogether and replace them with a system of discretionary grants or loans. These will be allocated out of the social fund mentioned above and will be paid back by weekly deductions from your benefit. It is people with disabilities that these discretionary loans will probably hit the hardest. The government intends to do away with the weekly additions that people are entitled to to bolster their income e.g. special heating allowance, special diet allowance, mobility allowance. People with disabilities will also be effected in terms of their pension as they often have a history of sickness and so may find it difficult to secure a private pension.

5) The Death Grant:- The current extremely inadequate death grant is going to be replaced by provision, (yes you've guessed it) the social fund. This loan will only be paid to people who are assessed, rather arbitrarily as not being able to meet "reasonable" funeral costs. When the money is given the state will have powers to recover the money from the estate of the deceased or from

the claimant herself. The Green paper states "responsibility will rest clearly on the individual and on the family to save and insure for this contingency".

Retirement. This green paper proposes to do away with SERPS, (state earnings related pensions). Everyone will be required to contribute to an occupational or private pension. The minimum contributions are to be 4% of earnings with employers meeting at least half. This will particularly effect people who have been outside the British labour market until very late in their working careers. Immigrants to Britain and women who have been bringing up children will get a particularly raw deal. These proposals, if they become law will force many more old people onto inadequate means tested benefit. It is quite clear that the people the government want to hit the hardest are women and pensioners from ethnic minorities. As mentioned earlier with the phasing out of additional benefits, e.g. heating, and the abolition of help with water rates, pensioners will be hit very hard by these proposals.

7) Housing benefit. The government has announced cuts of £500 million in housing benefits. It is estimated that at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of all households will lose some benefit. Many of these will be pensioners. Everyone, even those on the so called 'poverty line' will have to pay at least 20% of their rates. Rents will still be paid but though households will receive 100% help with their rent they will only receive help with 80% of their rates. The new regulations related to boarders has had a lot of publicity and has temporarily been made illegal, however when the government irons out a few legalities it will be reintroduced again. This rule puts a restriction on the length of time that single homeless under the age of 26 can remain in bed and breakfast for a restricted length of time. This varies depending depending on where you live, i.e. if you live in London you have to move on to a new 'district' after 8 weeks, if you live on the coast you will have to move on after 2 weeks or forfeit your benefit. There are also rumours that they are going to introduce a limit on how long someone would have to have been in the country for before they are entitled to sign on, though no definite limits have been stated. Already young Irish people have been offered their fare home when they have gone to sign on at the D.H.S.S.

At present the proposed legislation is at the stage of green paper. A white paper setting out the final conclusions will be published in the near future.

Legislation is expected later this year with the aim of bringing in the new structure in April 1987. The proposed cuts will effect everyone right across the board. Write letters to Norman Fowler at DHSS, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, SE1 6BY, and write to your local MP, House of Commons, London SW1 and explain exactly what you think of the proposals.

It is a sad statement when we have to spend most of our energy and time defending inadequate services instead of campaigning for improved benefits.

!!!!NEW CLUB FOR WOMEN!!!!NEW CLUB FOR WOMEN!!!! NEW CLUB FOR WOMEN!!!!!!!!!!!!

A new club for women on Saturday evenings is opening on 23rd Nov. Organised by the women who run "Claudes" disco at The Entertainer on Wed evenings. It is called 'Amazon' at New Merlin's Cave, Mangeny St, (off Kings Cross Rd), London WC1. 'Ranking Arne' will be appearing live on the opening night. 8.00 - 1.00 am
Entrance £2 Nearest tube Angel and buses from Kings Cross 277/30.

GROUPS... NEW GROUPS... NEW GROUPS

Attention all Irish women - the Irish in Grenwich Project is in the process of setting up up a WOMEN'S GROUP and a GIRL'S GROUP. The first meeting is on the 7th Nov, (Thurs). Open to all girls and women, all ages from very young to very old. You don't have to be Irish or of Irish descent to join. Any interested are welcome to come along. We hope that as a group we can get together and do things which are interesting and exciting for us. Here are some suggestions of the things we could do as a group..... holidays in Ireland..... religion... traditional Irish music..... discussions about things.....eg loneliness etc.. isolation.... emmigration.... visits to exhibitions...videos....poetry...short stories...classes...typing....dancing,....cooking...entertainment....conferences...support...ideas... etc etc.etc.

Please remember that it will be your group so come along and do as you please. Contact SARAH on 855 7191 for more information. Meetings will take place on the 2nd floor (office of the Irish in Grenwich Project) 115-123 Powis St, Woolwich. ALL WOMEN WELCOME..... PASS THE WORD AROUND...

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

LETTERS

The following is a statement from the workshop on women and disability held at the recent Irish Women's Conference.

"We are from the workshop on Women and disability. We are very angry and very hurt. We were asked to come today and run a workshop. No one turned up. Irish women do not think disability is an issue. Disability is not out 'there' somewhere - any of you can become disabled and probably will as you become older frightening to think of becoming disabled - have you ever asked yourself Why. Is it to do with attitudes like yo'rs to marginalise disability: parcel it off in a closet which reads "that's not to do with me", or "I've got more important things to think about". I'm glad you have that choice. What about Irish disabled women Living in England - presumably that's not important or an issue. How dare you presume from your priviledged position as able-bodied women, to believe that women with disabilities do not merit political thought or energy. As Irish women with disabilities, we are ashamed of the lack of solidarity by our so-called Irish sisters here today."

Pat Rock,

Cathy Gillespie

THEATRE... THEATRE... THEATRE... THEATRE

15th and 16th November: "You Gotta be Kidding" A dazzling display of the pitfalls of parenting and the miracle of motherhood.... Fran decides to have a baby and finds herself at the fair with Mr. Wonderful, Victoria Gillick, and a large white rabbit. A warm, witty, musical lookat wanting - and not wanting- children. at the Tom Allen Centre, Grove Crescent Rd, London E15. for more details ring 555 7289 (double bill with Little Women). starts at 8.00 pm

21st, 22nd and 23rd "You Gotta be Kidding" Starts at 8.30 pm. Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, London SW11. For more details ring 223 8413. Spare Tyre

Fri and Sat 15th & 16th NOV. : Monstrous Regiment + Cockpit Theatre Summer project present "Point of Convergence" directed by Chris Bowler. 8.00 pm.

21st - 23rd GAY SWEATSHOP IN "Raising the Wreck" by Sue FrumIn (Thurs & Fri)
This play uses storytelling and song to trace the hidden stories and histories of these women. Women who were forced by the restrictions of their time to cross-dress and disguise themselves as men, or to openly rebel in order to lead a life of piracy. This was a time when the seas and rivers were men's domain and women little more than whores and chattels for men's delight on shore.

Gay Sweatshop has been in operation since 1975. The company is run by a collective of women and men and is committed to an equal distribution of work opportunities. This Autumn celebrates their 10th anniversary.. If you wish to contact them - c/o The Drill Hall, Chenies ST, London Wc1 7EL.

FILMS... FILMS... FILMS... FILMS.....

London Film Festival has begun; National Film Theatre, South Bank, London SE1
TEL: 437 4355.

Several films are of particular interest to women from the 17th Nov. - Dec 1st.
17th (Sun) 4.00 pm showing of super 8 and 16mm work by 'new' women film makers selected and introduced by Tina Keane and Cordelia Swann.

24th (Sun) at 4.00 pm : 16mm screenings by American film makers from New York, Boston, Chicago and San Fransisco.

1st Dec. (Sun) 4.00 pm. a programme of films by German women film makers.

Throughout the festival there will be a number of films by women directors from Europe and America. Ring details on 437 4355.

COUNSELLING CENTRES IN DUBLIN THREATENED.....

The only two organisations in Ireland who offer unbiased pregnancy counselling in Ireland are being threatened with closure.

The Well Woman Centre (tel dublin 789511) and Open Line Counselling (tel dublin 787160) are being taken to court charged with 'offending the Irish constitution' and 'conspiring to corrupt public morals'.

The well woman centre offers a comprehensive service on all aspects of women's health. In 1984 they were used by 70,502 people. About 800 of these people received unbiased pregnancy counselling.

Open Line counselling offers a service which specialises in helping women who are pregnant.

The action against these two organisations is a direct follow on from the constitutional amendment of September 1983 which made abortion in Ireland illegal under any circumstances. This gave a lot of power and encouragement to dangerous right wing elements within Irish society. These people went so far as to pose as clients with unwanted pregnancy. They were offered non judgemental counselling in good faith by both the Well Woman Centre and Open Line Counselling. Now the counsellors are being taken to court!

It is estimated that about 10,000 women per year come to England from Ireland for abortions. The need for abortion has always existed and will not go away. Until the Well Woman Centre and Open Line offered unbiased counselling, women had no opportunity to think through their options in advance. Nor did they have any guarantee of safe treatment on arrival in Britain.

The real issue is the right for women to discuss pregnancy and be referred to a country where abortion is legal, should they want it.

The relevant court hearing will happen before the end of this year. The legal costs are estimated at £20,000. If the action is successful, both clinics face restriction, if not closure. Help defend this invaluable service by making a donation, however small,

to 'The Irish Womens' Abortion Support Group (IWASG), ALLIED IRISH BANK, 633-635 HOLLOWAY RD. LONDON N19. A/C NO. 40069037.

For more information contact us at the Irish Womens Centre, tel. (01) 609 8916.

End of Press release. Dated London 23rd September 1985.

IRISH WOMEN WRITING

A group of Irish women living in London is interested in compiling and publishing a collection of writings (fiction, poetry etc.) by Irish women living in Britain. If any other women are interested in helping with this project eg collecting material, printing etc or making contributions, please contact Joan 263 7263 or Margaret 582 2790 and we will arrange a meeting to discuss the idea.

The childworker in The London Irish Women's Centre will be organising a Baby & Toddler Group in the centre on Tues & Thurs mornings. More inf. from Imelda on 609 8916 & 249 7318

Welfare Advice sessions will start at the centre in January for Tues, mornings and Thursday afternoons. Prior to this women can make appointments or drop in to the centre. For more info. contact Rae on 609 8916 & 249 7318

The Common Thread is a collective of working class women who aim to produce a collection of writings. They wish more women to get involved in this endeavour. You don't have to be a writer (published or otherwise) to be in the group. If you are interested please contact Kate, 9 Bridge Ave. London NW6. This is open to working class women only.

Video courses... video courses : U- Matic Video Course by Women in Sync: on 9th & 10th Nov and 16th & 17th Nov 1985: 30th Nov - 1st Dec and 7th & 8th Dec. 1985: AND 11th & 12th January and 18th & 19th January 1986. Creche will be available

On completion of course women can work on Women in Sync productions. Ring 278 2215

ISLINGTON TO HAVE IT'S OWN IRISH CENTRE SOON?

The Irish in Islington Project was founded in 1983 to ensure that the Irish community obtains a fair share of resources and to combat anti-Irish racism. The Project is funded by the GLC and employs two full-time workers based at Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, London N19 (near Archway).

Our main priority is to help to set up an Irish Centre for the local Irish Community. Some funding has been agreed, but we need premises and more money.

Islington Council has set aside £50,000 towards the cost of the Centre, and will be paying for two full-time workers.

The GLC has agreed to contribute towards the cost of the Centre and we will be meeting them soon.

The Centre would house a day centre for the Irish Pensioners' Lunch Club; an advice centre; a drop-in centre for the rapidly growing number of unemployed Irish people as well as providing meeting places for local Irish social and cultural groups. YOU can help to make these plans a reality by writing to your local councillor and Margaret Hodge (Town Hall, Upper St N1) requesting their full support and by writing to Councillor John McDonnell (GLC County Hall SE1).

P&P Irish in Islington Project 129 St John's Way N19

CLASSES... CLASSES... CLASSES... CLASSES...

The London Irish Women's Centre runs classes for women : here are the details
Monday eve. 6.30 -8.30 pm Irish Traditional music class given by Siobhan O
Donnell, at Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, London N19. Come along and enjoy
yourself and learn to play tinwhistle, flute or any other instrument you fancy.
The centre are interested also if any women are willing to form a traditional
Irish music ceili band now or at any time in the future, or are interested in
forming a group to organise regular social ceilis.

Thurs eve. Irish Dancing class given by Imelda Redmond, at the Whittington
Community Centre, Yerbury Rd, London N19 7.30 -9.30 pm. A wonderful chance to
learn Irish dancing which would be put into use at the ceilis.

Also in January we hope to have a Women in Irish History class, an Irish
Literature class and an Irish language class.

The Literature class will be led by Sabina Sharkey. The course will cover poetry
drama, and fiction from various Irish authors.

The History class will be led by Jean Cross and will concentrate on modern Irish
history and the role that women played in all aspects of Irish society -
the republican movement, trade unions, the church, education etc

The Irish language class will cover an introduction to the Irish language.

At present the only one that has been verified by the Adult Education Institute
is the literature class. Please ring the centre 249 7318 for more

Siobhan O Neill (254 7057) runs a whole range of classes in the Irish language
throughout London. The list is as follows.

Mons. Hackney AEI Woodberry Secondary School, Woodberry Grove, N4 805 5555
7.15 -9.15. Drama, poetry, and song. For people with the basics of the Lang.

Tues. at Hugh Myddleton Centre, Sans Walk, EC1 (Clerkenwell Green). Central
AEI 388 7106) Intermediate 6 15- 8.15.

WEDS. Same venue Beginners.

Thurs, Latchmere School, Latchmere Rd, SW11 (Battersea & Clapham AEI 223 5876)
beginners and near beginners. 7.15 - 9.15.

Fridays: Camden Irish Centre 50 Camden Square, NW1 Beginners 6.30 -8.00 pm
Intermediate 8.00 -9.30 pm 485 0051

Sats: from 10.00 to 12.00 am for children at the Camden Irish Centre.

If you would like more details of these classes ring Siobhan on 254 7057. Cost £1 pa.

Other classes : Sorcha No Mhuineachain runs set dancing classes every Thurs
7.30 -9.30 at the Camden Irish Centre , Nw1 £1 per night.

The Irish in Islington Project, 129 St John's Way have an Irish music class
on Mondays 7.30 -9.30 at Caxton House. Session afterwards in the bar. Tutor is
Elaine.

Their Irish language class is held on Thursdays 7.30 - 9.30, at the Islington Adult
Education building at Archway, N19 Ring 281 3225 for more details. Open to all

STANDING ORDER FORM

Your Bank

Your name

Your address

Your account number

Please arrange for £5 to be paid on the _____ day of each month (or nearest working day) starting on the ___/___/___ for six months to:

IWASG
Allied Irish Bank
633/635 Holloway Road
London N19
Account Number: 400 690 37

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