

2/10/89

FIFTH LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

For many Irish women in London, one of the most important events in the annual calendar, is the Irish Women's Conference. This year the conference will take place on Sun. 26th Nov at the Albany Centre, Douglas Way, Deptford, SE8. ALL Irish women, without exception are invited to attend for a day and an evening of sharing and celebrating. The Irish women's conference is the only opportunity for Irish women of all backgrounds and experience to come together to exchange information, share experience and formulate campaigns and strategies for work in the future. Traditionally, the feeling of community at the conferences has been very strong. It is an event with the unique <sup>effect</sup> of invigorating and strengthening women who attend.

This year it is hoped that more women than ever attend. A slightly different format has been arranged - feedback from previous conferences indicated that women would prefer more time devoted to workshops and less time to speakers. This will give women the opportunity to carry out discussions in depth.

The morning session will have 3 main speakers: a speaker from The Falls Rd Women's Centre, Belfast, a speaker from the Republic of Ireland and the 3rd speaker, Bernadette Hyland is chair of the Irish in Britain Representation Group. Shorter talks in the morning will focus on Education, Irish lesbians, Travelling women. The remainder of the day is given to workshops: emigration, housing/poll Tax, two workshops on Northern Ireland - one of these focussing on women's feelings about and experiences of Northern Ireland: second generation Irish women: older women: lesbians: Irish language: travellers: women with children and others.

The conference will finish at 5.00. From 6.00 onwards workshops will be held (free) in relaxation, set dancing. Irish women writers will read from works. Britspeak - a theatre Co. from Belfast, and The Confused Sisters - a cabaret act from Belfast will perform. From 8.00 - 10.00 The Sheelas will lead a ceili and from 10.00 - 11.00 Viv Acious and her disco will complete an evening of nonstop entertainment. A creche all day is free. Charges are £10.00 high waged, £6.00 waged and £2.50 unwaged. This cost covers cost of <sup>conference, an</sup> entry to the evening's entertainment. The evening events are open to all women - charges £5.00 and £2.50.

Please ring the London Irish Women's Centre for more details  
01 249 7318 Tues. Weds. Thurs.