



CULTURE
CONFIDENCE
AND PEACE



Discussion and Ceilí

Thursday July 28th

7:30pm - midnight

Camden Irish Centre

Murray Street, off Camden Rd.

London NW1





This event forms part of activities leading up to the following demonstration.

MARCH FOR BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FROM IRELAND



August 14th marks the 25th anniversary of the re-deployment of British Troops onto the streets of the North of Ireland. On 13th August people in Britain will demonstrate for British withdrawal from Ireland and the right of Irish people to self determination.

SATURDAY 13th AUGUST

assemble at Kennington Park
(Oval Tube) 12:00 noon





Cultural expression and political expression have often been separated, both in the Irish community in Britain and within Ireland. Often those who take part in cultural events, particularly in Britain avoid political discussion,

partly because of the fear attending any involvement in politics and partly because of a desire to avoid difficult issues which might cause divisions among Irish people. Those who are involved in political discussion often feel isolated from cultural activities.

In fact, the political aspirations and the cultural expression of a people are inextricably linked and it has often been true that cultural expression is one of the ways in which a people resists oppression.

Despite the last 25 years of repression, Irish culture has developed and blossomed both in Ireland and Britain, as part of the resistance in the six counties and as part of the growth of confidence of the Irish community in Britain.

In the field of music alone the range extends from the traditional playing of Liam O Fliinn to the rock music of U2 and from the sean-nós singing tradition to Mary Black.

At this event speakers will discuss how such cultural expression has links to the continuing desire of the Irish people for self-determination.

There is a change in the atmosphere at the moment, brought about by the Hume-Adams initiative and underlined by the revelations of the British government's talks with the Republican movement. It is now time for debate to take off and flourish in the same way that language and music have - if the British media can discuss Ireland's future, so can the Irish community.

So come along and have your say..... and enjoy the music and dancing too.



This event combines discussion on the link between cultural and political expression and the current search for peace.

Following the discussion there will be an evening of music and dancing.

7:30 - 9:30 Discussion

Speakers:

Barbara de Brún,

Sinn Fein, Belfast

Ken Livingstone, M.P.

Gerry Mac Lochlainn,

Director Roger Casement Irish Centre, Islington

Mary Mason,

25th Anniversary Demonstration Committee

**9:30 - 12(midnight)
Ceilí with live music. Bar**

Venue: Camden Irish Centre

Murray St off Camden Rd.

London NW1 (disabled access)

Admission: £3 (concessions £1.50)

This event has been organised in conjunction with the 25th Anniversary Demonstration Committee, which comprises the following organisations:

The Troops Out Movement, the Irish in Britain Representation Group, The Labour Party Irish Society, Women and Ireland.

Contact: 071 609 1743 / 081 985 3625





" This year is the 25th anniversary of British troops being deployed on the streets of the six counties of

North-East Ulster. It is time for Britain to allow the people of Ireland, the right of national self-determination, a right Britain has claimed it has fought two world wars to maintain but still denies its closest neighbour.

This event will be considering not just the political aspects of Irish Reunification and independence after centuries of English colonialism; it will concentrate on what decolonisation actually means.

National and social freedoms are not two separate and unrelated issues; they are two sides of one great democratic principle, each being incomplete without the other. And national freedom, as recognised by all fundamental Human Rights charters, implies the right of the national group to the maintenance and free expression of its culture of which language is the highest form of expression.

Language - with its attendant culture - are products of many centuries of human thought, vehicles of all the wisdom, poetry, legend and history which is bequeathed to a people by their forebears."

Peter Berresford Ellis
Historian

