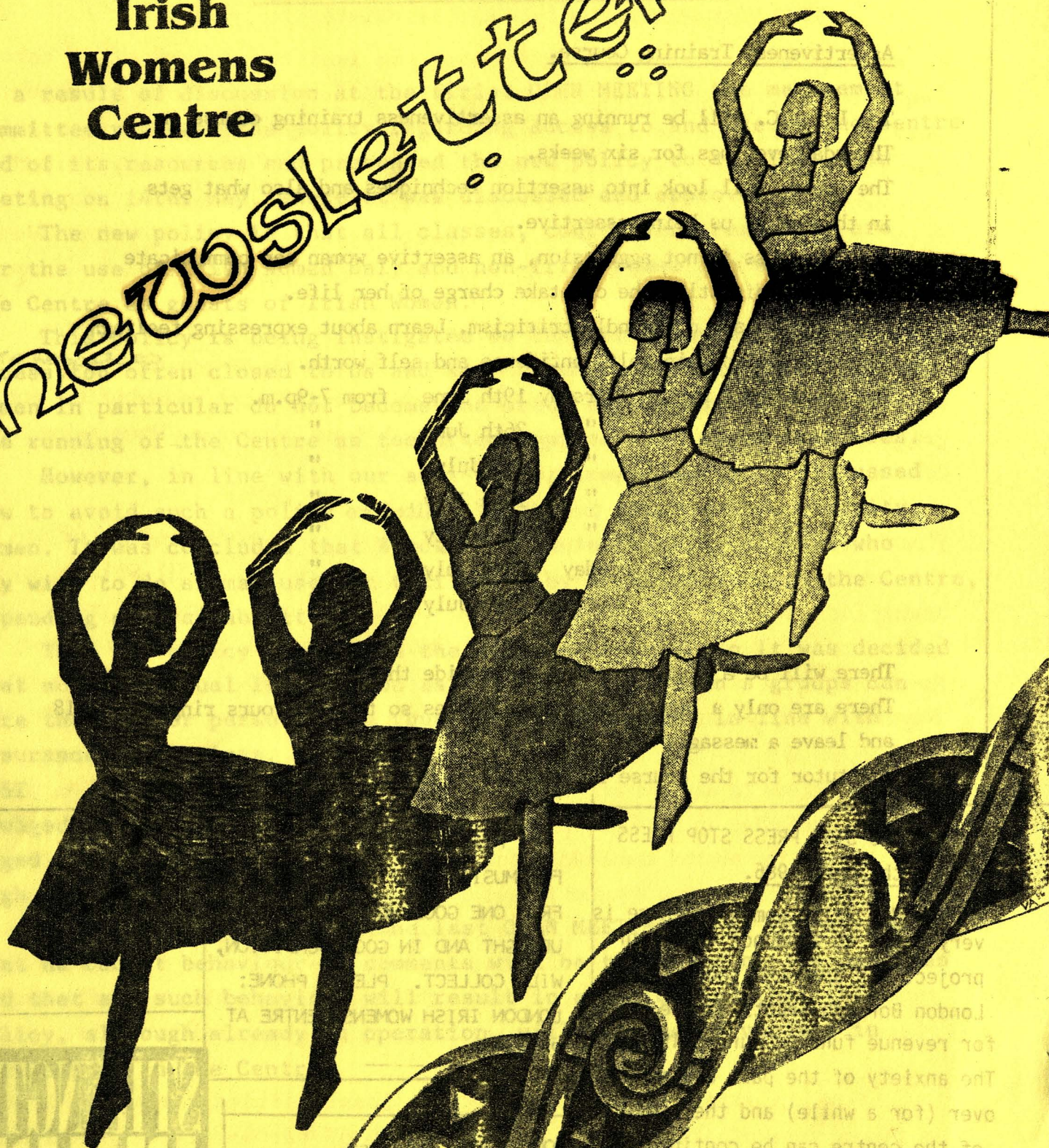


**London
Irish
Womens
Centre**

newsletter



June 86

Assertiveness Training Course.

The L.I.W.C. will be running an assertiveness training course on Thursday evenings for six weeks.

The course will look into assertion techniques and also what gets in the way of us being assertive.

Assertiveness is not aggression, an assertive woman can communicate freely and directly; she can take charge of her life.

Learn how to say no & handle criticism. Learn about expressing feelings. Help yourself to gain self confidence and self worth.

The course will run on Thursday 19th June from 7-9p.m.

"	26th June	"
"	3rd July	"
"	10th July	"
"	17th July	"
* Tuesday	22nd July	"
	Thursday 24th July	"

There will be a creche running along side the course.

There are only a limited number of places so to book yours ring 249- 7318 and leave a message.

The tutor for the course is Jackie By.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS
Date 10th June, 1986.

The London Irish Women's Centre is very happy to announce that our project was approved today at the London Borough Grants Scheme Comm. for revenue funding during 1986/7.

The anxiety of the past 6-9 mths. is over (for a while) and the services

of the centre can be continued in full for the coming year.

LIWC.

PIANO NEEDED

FOR MUSICAL IRISH FAMILY.

FROM ONE GOOD HOME TO ANOTHER.

UPRIGHT AND IN GOOD OCNDITION,

WILL COLLECT. PLEASE PHONE:

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE AT
249-7318

WOMENS MAILING LIST

MICROSYSTER ARE COMPILING A LONDON WOMENS MAILING LIST. IF YOU WANT YOUR GROUP TO BE INCLUDED ON THIS, CONTACT MICROSYSTER ON 430 0655 OR THE LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE ON 249 7318 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND QUESTIONNAIRE.

**STRENGTH
PRIDE
86**

4-28 June: Hackney Lesbian Strength and Gay Pride - a week of entertainment, discussion, action

NEWS FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As a result of discussion at the first OPEN MEETING the management committee reviewed the policy regarding access to and use of the Centre and of its resources and presented the new policy to the last open meeting on 14th. May, where it was discussed and approved.

The new policy is that all classes, courses, and resources are for the use of Irish Women only and non-Irish women are welcome in the Centre as guests of Irish Women.

This policy is being instigated so that Irish Women can have ^{to resources} access, too often closed to us and so that white middle class English women in particular do not become the prime user group or take over the running of the Centre as too often happens with other resources.

However, in line with our anti-racist commitments we discussed how to avoid such a policy excluding Black and other ethnic minority women. It was concluded that Black and Ethnic minority sisters who may wish to do so may use the facilities by arrangement with the Centre, depending on availability.

This new policy applies to the minibuses as well. So it was decided that now individual Irish women as well as Irish women's groups can hire the van for personal use (but not for removals) in line with insurance regulations.

COST
unwaged £5 full day £2.50 half day
waged £10 " " £5 " " £5
high waged £15 " " £7.50 " " £10

Finally as discussed at the last OPEN MEETING it is now agreed that no racist behaviour or comments will be tolerated on the premises and that any such behaviour will result in ejection and that this policy, although already in operation, will be clearly visible in notice form in the Centre.

NEWSLETTER SUB-GROUP - UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that since you last heard from us we have 'aquired' three additional members. Viv Acious, who is no stranger to working on the London Irish Womens Newsletter and who was responsible for the design and lay-out of the last issue, has officially joined our ranks, as has Claire O'Mahony, long active on womens issues in Cork, and last but definately not least, Joan Neary who who has been a contributor to the Newsletter has joined the Newsletter Sub-Group.

In keeping with the aims of the Sub-Group and with the policy discussed at the first open meeting, production of the Newsletter is now the responsibility of the sub group. We have decided to try a system whereby a different member of the sub group 'volunteers' to act ac Co-ordinator of each issue. Maureen O'Hara being the Co-ordinator of this issue.

Finance and format are two areas which we are currently investigating and we see them as being interlinked. Regarding the former, we are not, you'll be happy to hear, asking for a subscriptionyet. However it may soon come to that as production costs are high and funding uncertain. We are also presently engaged in costing the Newsletter as it now appears and investigating the cost-effectiveness of a different format. If any women have any good ideas on the subject we'll be glad to hear them.

Disables Access is another area we have been working on and there is more on this subject, including an SAD Code elsewhere in this Newsletter. Bearing in mind that this is only the second issue which the sub group has produced we are pleased with the response from women, however we would welcome a lot more letters and contributions. The more we hear from you the more lively and interesting the Newsletter will be and Your comments and contributions will not only make the Newsletter more lively and interesting to read, they will also make it the forum for expressing and reflecting the views of London's Irish womens community, which it has the potential to be.

We are optimistic about developing the possibilities for the future which the Newsletter offers, however much of our energy at present is necessarily devoted to actual production of each issue. We would very much appreciate help with typing, duplicating, compiling or transport. So if you'd like to earn our eternal gratitude, phone the Centre before the next issue and we'll get back to you. No experience or skills are necessary as 'on the job' training will be given.

DATES LIST

- 21 JUNE FEMINIST BOOK FAIR
SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS OF EVENTS.
VARIOUS LOCATIONS AND TIMES.

CENTREPRISE,
SISTERWRITE &
LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE.

SATURDAY 12 JULY IRISH WOMEN IN HISTORY SEMINAR
TO EXAMINE THE POLITICAL ACTIVITY
OF WOMEN IN IRELAND IN THE 70s.
SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS, OR
PHONE JEAN 249 7318)

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 2-5 pm
59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST.
N. 16.

TUESDAY 17 JUNE LIBRARY SUB GROUP MEETING.
SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 7.30 pm
59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST.
N. 16.

WED. 11 JUNE CHILDCARE SUB GROUP MEETING.
SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 1 pm
59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST.
N. 16.

WED. 11 JUNE CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE GROUP.

MONDAY 16 JUNE ARTS AND RECREATION SUB GROUP MEETING.
SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 6.30.
59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST.
N.16.

FRIDAY 13 JUNE BOOK LAUNCH OF RITA KELLY'S 'THE
WHISPERING ARCH AND OTHER STORIES'
AND READINGS BY RITA KELLY AND JENNEBA SIE

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 7.15. pm
59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST.
N. 16.

SATURDAY 21 JUNE WOMEN AND MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
ORGANISED BY ISLINGTON WOMEN MENTAL
HEALTH PROJECT. PH (281 2673)
DETAILS IRISH POST & CITY LIMITS.

CAXTON HOUSE, ST. JOHNS WAY 10 am -
ARCHWAY. 6 pm.

THURS. 12 JUNE IRISH WOMEN AND MENTAL HEALTH GROUP
MEETING. PH BRID, (249 7318) FOR
DETAILS.

LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE, 7.30 pm
59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST.
N. 16.

TUESDAY 24 JUNE CEILI WITH THE SHEELAS & CALLER FOR
IRISH LESBIANS & FRIENDS.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON PUB, 8. pm
BALLS POND ROAD,
(NR. DALSTON JUNCTION)

SATURDAY 14 JUNE WHITTINGTON PARK COMMUNITY FESTIVAL.
LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE HAVE STALL.

PH. 272 1847 FOR DETAILS

SATURDAY 28 JUNE CHILD POVERTY ACTION GROUP DAY CONFERENCE FOR DETAILS CONTACT: CPAG 1,
WORKSHOPS INCLUDE 'WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE MACKLIN ST. WC2 (242 3225)
'WELFARE STATE', 'IN JOBS BUT STILL POOR' &
POVERTY IS A TRADE UNION ISSUE', & 'WHO'S
EVER HEARD OF LOCAL ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGIES ?'

10 am -
4 pm.

TUESDAY 10 JUNE	TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT PUBLIC MEETING 'THE NUCLEAR THREAT TO IRELAND'	HACKNEY TRADES & LABOUR CLUB, DALSTON LANE E8.	
WED. 11 JUNE	FREE COFFEE AFTERNOON FOR IRISH WOMEN IN GREENWICH. IRISH BOOKS FOR CHILDREN, MUSIC ETC. PLUS CRECHE. PH. SARANAN 855 7191 x 30	CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DEFIANCE WALK, WOOLWICH CHURCH ST., SE 10.	1.30 - 3.00 pm
WED. 11 JUNE	CAMDEN IBRG MEETING	CAMDEN IRETH CENTRE, MURRAY ST. NW1.	8 pm
THURS. 12 JUNE	NEWHAM PENSIONERS BENEFIT SOCIAL, OPEN TO ALL AGES ! IRISH MUSIC.	PRINCESS ALICE PUB ROMFORD ROAD, FOREST GATE E 7.	8.30 pm
MONDAY 16 JUNE	STRIP SEARCH CAMPAIGN MEETING	CROMER ST. WOMENS CENTRE, KINGS CROSS WC 1.	7.30 pm
TUESDAY 17 JUNE	NEWHAM IRISH PENSIONERS MEETING	DURNING HALL, EARLHAM GROVE, FOREST GATE E 7	2.30 pm
THURS. 19 JUNE	GREENWICH IRISH WOMENS MEETING	CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE, DEFIANCE WALK, WOOLWICH CHURCH ST. SE 10	7.30
WED. 25 JUNE	FREE COFFEE AFTERNOON FOR IRISH WOMEN IN GREENWICH.	CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE DEFIANCE WALK, WOOLWICH CHURCH ST., SE 10	1.30 - 3.00 pm
WED. 25 JUNE	CAMDEN IBRG MEETING	CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE, MURRAY ST. NW 1.	8 pm
WED. 25 JUNE	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE. CRECHE BOOKABLE. ACCESS DETAILS IN NEWSLETTER.	LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST. N. 16 PH. 249 7318	7.30 pm
WED. 25 JUNE	DISCO, MIXED. D.J. VIV ACTOUS	CHATS PALACE, BROOKSBY WALK, HOMERTON, E5	9 pm
FRIDAY 27 JUNE	TRADITIONAL IRISH AND COUNTRY & WESTERN EVENING WITH: SHEELA NA GIG, HAIRY MARYS AND DEE ORR GOES COUNTRY. ALL LESBIANS WELCOME.	CHATS PALACE, BROOKSBY WALK, HOMERTON E5 HACKNEY.	8 pm
WED 1 JULY	IRISH WOMEN AND HOUSING MEETING EXPLORE OUR PARTICULAR HOUSING NEEDS, DRAW TOGETHER OUR PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE AND THE EXPERTISE OF IRISH WOMEN WORKING IN THIS FIELD. DETAILS IN THIS NEWSLETTER, OR PHONE RAE, (249 7318).	LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST. N 16.	7.30 pm
TUESDAY 8 JULY	DUNNES STORES STRIKERS SOLIDARITY GROUP MEETING. PHONE CENTRE FOR DETAILS. (249 7318).	LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE 59 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST N 16.	7.30 pm
WED. 25 JUNE	SHEELA NA GIG & HAIRY MARYS PERFORMING. Details 249 7318	HARE & HOUNDS, UPPER ST. NI.	

HACKNEY LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE, & THE LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE PRESENT:

Tuesday 24 June

8 O'CLOCK

CELIDH

for Irish Lesbians & their friends

MUSIC by the SHEELAS

CALLER: DOROTHY

AT

DUKE OF WELLINGTON

BALLSPOND ROAD,

Dalston

(ACCESS 249 3729).



Friday 27 June

8 O'CLOCK PROMPT!

TRADITIONAL IRISH
and
COUNTRY & WESTERN
EVENING

with SHEELA-NA-GIG

the HAIRY MARYS

DEE ORR GOES COUNTRY

AT

CHATS PALACE
BROOKSBY WALK
HOMERTON E.9.

(ACCESS: 986 6714)

Creche.

ALL LESBIANS WELCOME

FUN TO BE HAD BY ALL!!!!

SATURDAY 26 JULY WOMEN'S MARCH AGAINST MALE VIOLENCE.
ORGANISED BY NETWORK OF WOMEN,
'CAMPAIGN OF WOMEN AGAINST MALE VIOLENCE'
CONTACT N.O.W. C/O 86 NORTHCOTE AVE,
SOUTHALL, MIDDX.

HYDE PARK, SPEAKERS CORNER.

SATURDAY 4 -
MONDAY 6 JULY

CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION OF IRISH CHILDREN
IN BRITISH SCHOOLS, CONTACT RICHARD
POLLOCK, SHERBROOKE TEACHERS' CENTRE,
ROSALINE ROAD, SW 6.
IF THERE ARE ANY OTHER WOMEN INVOLVED
IN EDUCATION OR JUST INTERESTED IN THE
CONFERENCE, WHO WOULD LIKE TO TALK ABOUT
INPUT WE COULD PUT INTO THIS CONFERENCE,
PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF THE SPECIFIC NEEDS
OF GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN, CONTACT:
MAUREEN O'HARA ON 341 3374

I.L.E.A. RESIDENTIAL
TRAINING CENTRE,
DEPTFORD, SE.

FRIDAY 8 -
MONDAY 11 AUG.

TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT DELEGATION TO
BELFAST.

CONTACT DELEGATION
ORGANISING COMMITTEE:
P.O. BOX 353 LONDON
NW5 4NH..

ACCESS DETAILS FOR LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE PRINTED IN
NEWSLETTER. CRECHE & SIGNER BOOKABLE FOR ALL EVENTS AND
CLASSES AT, OR ORGANISED BY THE LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE.
PHONE THE CENTRE ON 249 7318 IF MORE DETAILS REQUIRED.

For the Newsletter

LONDON IRISH LESBIAN GROUP.....First meeting!!!!!!

The first meeting of the London Irish Lesbian Group was held on L
Friday 30th May at the London Irish Women's Centre. The meeting was
attended by eight first and second generation Irish women. We had a
lively discussion about a range of topics ranging from "coming out" to
family politics, catholicism & lesbianism, isolation, class, racism etc.
The next meeting has been arranged for Friday 4th July at the London
Irish Womens Centre, 59, Stoke Newington Church St, Hackney, London
N16. Tel: 249-7319. There will be a social with food and drinks after
the next meeting and a chance for women to talk and get to know each
other outside of the group setting.

EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR.....

21st JUNE -----LESBIAN PRIDE MARCH. The new London Irish Lesbians group
are making our own banner so we can take our own place
and space at the march. So all Irish lesbians look out
for us...for details about the March contact the London
Irish womens Centre

WATCH OUT IN THE NEWSLETTER, CITY LIMITS ETC for INFORMATION ABOUT ALL
EVENTS TAKING PLACE DURING LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK. (JUNE 21ST to JUNE 28th)

The SAD code



1. PARKING: outside entrance; less than 50yds away; more than 50 yds away



2. PUBLIC TRANSPORT: bus numbers; tube station; rail station; less than 50yds away; more than 50yds away; over 1/4 mile



3. ENTRANCES: level; ramp with/out handrail (state left/right); steps (how many) with/out handrail (left/right)

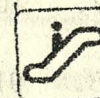


4. DOORS: width (measure when open); heavy/light; revolving; opening inwards/outwards



5. INSIDE BUILDING: 1 Ground floor level: steps with/out hand-rail (state no. of steps & position of handrail); steep steps, shallow steps, curved steps

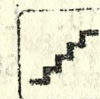
2 Give same details for any other floors being used.



6. LIFT: width of door when open; dimensions; controls (flush/protruding & height from ground; doors (automatic/manual; heavy/light)



7. TOILETS: width of door when open (wash area/cubicle); dimensions of cubicle/turning distance for wheelchair; doors opening inwards/outwards; toilets



8. DIMENSIONS OF PREMISES: distance from entrance to each room used.



9. FLOOR SURFACES: slippery/carpet/smooth (noting any differences)



10. LIGHTING: bright/dim/flexible (eg movable lamps)

11. SEATING: hard/soft; high/low; fixed/movable; extra seating on request for women with disabilities

12. HEATING: warm/cool; variable



13. PARTICIPATION: sign language interpreters; braille; tape; large print; induction loop; finger spelling; lip-speakers; note-takers/overhead projection



14. HELPERS: transport provided; meeting and escorting; general help (give name and phone no.)

15. CRECHE: on premises/elsewhere (USE ACCESS CODE); run by women/men; ages accepted; hours open; girls-only/mixed.



16. FOOD AND DRINK: food available/not (vegan/vegetarian); help with carrying food; drinks available/not; alcoholic/non.



17. SMOKING: not/allowed: restrictions in any.

18. STRUCTURE OF ACTIVITIES: formal/informal meetings/frequency of breaks, if any.

How to Use the Code

There are eighteen headings, they are numbered to help you not to leave anything out. Take each one in turn and pick out the relevant information.

e.g.

1. PARKING outside entrance.
2. PUBLIC Transport 73 bus less than 50 yards away; Angel tube over 1/4 mile away, no rail.
3. ENTRANCES steps with handrail both sides, steep steps...etc

ACCESS TO THE LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE

1. **PARKING:** Single Yellow Line outside entrance.
2. **PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** Buses; 106, 243, 147, 76, less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile southbound, more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile northbound, 73 outside entrance, north & south bound.
B.R. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
3. **ENTRANCES:** Street-level.
4. **DOORS:** 30", Light door, opening inwards. All inside doors 30".
5. **INSIDE BUILDING:** Reception Area, Creche, Kitchen & Toilet on ground floor.
18 steps, fairly steep, to first floor; 8 to second & 8 to third.
6. **LIFT:** None.
7. **TOILETS:** Toilet on Ground Floor: Door 30"; 2 horizontal hand rails 37" off ground 24" long; 1 Vertical hand rail 12" off ground, 39" Long.
8. **DIMENSIONS OF PREMISES:** Distance from Main Door to Reception Area & Kitchen, immediate entrance from street.
Distance from Main Door to Creche, 24' 6"
Distance from Main Door to Toilet, 18' 4"
9. **FLOOR SURFACES:** Carpet and Tile.
10. **LIGHTING:** Bright.
11. **SEATING:** Hard & Soft; High & Low, all Moveable.
12. **HEATING:** Warm, controlable.
13. **PARTICIPATION:** Tapes of meetings & Seminars available. Signers available for meetings if booked in advance.
14. **HELPERS:** Transport provided with wheelchair lift, phone Centre to book.
15. **CRECHE:** On premises, ground floor, mixed to 11 years, then girls only. Staffed by women. Bookable for all events & classes at centre, and for those organised by the Centre elsewhere.
16. **FOOD & DRINK:** Tea/Coffee, light refreshments available; help with carrying food available.
17. **SMOKING:** Allowed on premises, not at events if objections made.
18. **STRUCTURE OF ACTIVITIES:** Informal, breaks as requested.

Urgent message to: all lesbians & gays-read this

Deidre O'Reilly

a lesbian, who lived in Fellows Rd. Hampstead, was brutally murdered during the early hours of 10th / 11th MAY 1986.

The lesbians and Policing Project - LESPOP - a legal advice, support, research and education service - run by Lesbians - would like to contact ANYONE who knew Dierdre or any of her friends.

West Hampstead Police Station have already made an appeal to "members of the Gay Community" to come forward with any information that will help them in their "investigation" of Dierdre's murder.

They say that they "do not want to pry", but that they are investigating her "wider circle of friends" in order to "build up a picture" about her / her lifestyle / the events leading up to her death.

They have already visited known Lesbian and Gay clubs in London, and will probably visit a lot more besides.

In the past, when Lesbians or Gay men have been murdered or raped or assaulted, the Police have used crimes like these to justify their information - gathering exercises into the Lesbian and Gay Communities - even though they know that the perpetrator of the crime is **not** likely to be Lesbian or Gay...

IN THIS CASE THINGS ARE LIKELY TO BE NO DIFFERENT - Why are the police investigating us instead of looking where they should be. Will they catch the murderer once they have finished their fishing expedition into our Communities? We already know that the answer to that question is very likely to be NO.

LESPOP would like to hear from anyone who has been questioned / - thinks they are likely to be questioned / or anyone who is thinking of going forward to the Police..

We too would like the murderer caught - but equally urge people to be aware of answering questions / giving them information that may have serious implications for other people ... or even yourself.

If you are not sure of what your rights are if you are arrested, or have had any hassle from the police...

PLEASE CONTACT US WE HAVE A 24 Hour TELEPHONE LINE - IF YOU PHONE AND GET OUR ANSAPHONE PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE... IF IT IS AN EMERGENCY... AND YOU CANNOT CONTACT US DIRECT... PLEASE PHONE LONDON LESBIAN AND GAY SWITCHBOARD - 24 HOURS.

If anyone knows of anyone who cannot read the printed word then please pass this information onto them... ditto to people who may not have read this notice.

Please also send this notice around on mailing lists etc. that you may have access to.

LESPOP:

LONDON LESBIAN+GAY SWITCHBOARD

01-833-4996

01-837-7324

ALL CALLS TREATED IN CONFIDENCE

SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

If you have attended a police station VOLUNTARILY to assist them with their enquiries. THEY CAN ONLY HOLD YOU THERE IF YOU HAVE BEEN ARRESTED.

*****IF YOU ARE ARRESTED*****
REMEMBER - you have the right to know why and what they are charging you with - ASK THEM

AND THE RIGHT TO:

TWO TELEPHONE CALLS : 1) To contact your SOLICITOR.

2) To let the person of YOUR CHOICE KNOW OF YOUR WHEREABOUTS - BOTH when you are first detained AND EACH TIME that you are moved to another police station. These phone calls should be made on your behalf if they do not allow you to do so yourself.

IF YOUR SOLICITOR IS NOT AVAILABLE DEMAND TO SEE THE DUTY SOLICITOR

OTHER RIGHTS THAT YOU HAVE ARE :

- * To medication if you have to take it regularly - eg if you are diabetic etc.
- * To a SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER if you are deaf.
- * To a police officer of the same sex being present if you are strip searched or intimately searched.
- * To food / blankets / pen and paper.
- * To a copy of your Custody Record.
- * To see a DOCTOR if you are injured.
- * To a Language interpreter if english is not your first language.
- * To a parent / guardian / other responsible adult being present if you are a Juvenile / have Learning Disabilities.
- * To a copy of the Codes of Practice of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act - This is basically a guide to what you are entitled to under the present laws .
- * You may be finger printed and photographed - ASK WHY - and for a copy of the record.

*****IF ANY OF THE ABOVE RIGHTS ARE REFUSED ASK WHY AND NOTE THEIR REPLY *****

SOME IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER:

- * Try not to make a statement / sign one they have written for you without your solicitor being present.
- * When they take your property away make sure that YOU SIGN FOR ONLY WHAT IS YOURS and that you do so DIRECTLY UNDERNEATH the last item that is listed.
- * You do not HAVE TO answer any questions - Use your discretion.
- * The only information that you really have to give them is your NAME and ADDRESS - this is so that you can be granted bail.
- * TRY NOT TO BE PROVOKED BY THEM.

IF YOU SEE SOMEONE BEING ARRESTED

- * MAKE A NOTE of the numbers and letters of the Police officers present. AND what they are doing AS WELL as what the person being arrested IS AND WAS doing - You may well NEED TO BE A WITNESS FOR THAT PERSON IN COURT.
- * Try to find out which police station they are being taken to.
- * Make sure that either you or someone else phones a Solicitor / Emergency Helpline /
- * If you have a camera try to take photo's of what is going on - without getting arrested.

AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN RELEASED - If you have recieved any INJURIES - get them dealt with as soon as possible AND PHOTOGRAPHED - you may want to complain / use the photo's as evidence. Try to WRITE DOWN everything that you remember or get someone else to. Sign and date these notes as they may be admissible in court. If you have not spoken to a solicitor do so soon. LESPOP / GALOP / LESBIAN AND GAY SWITCHBOARD have contacts with sympathetic solicitors.

GALOP's N° 15: 01 278 6215

REPORT FROM THE 2nd OPEN MEETING OF THE LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CENTRE: 14th May.

More than 20 women attended. Chair - Ellen Reynolds. Welcome extended by the chair: purpose and role of the open meetings outlined by the chair (see elsewhere in mailing).

Brid Boland gave verbal report/update on the funding situation of the centre (see elsewhere in newsletter for more details).

The first discussion that took place was on the policy of who could use the centre.

The Management Committee outlined the new policy on use of the centre:

- old policy was that classes, courses etc were for Irish women only: non Irish women welcome as guests of Irish women, but non Irish women could use the resources of the centre.

New policy is: that all classes, courses and resources are for Irish women only but non Irish women are welcome as guests of Irish women. However in line with the centre's anti-racist policies of forging links with Black and other ethnic minority women the policy about who uses the centre could be more flexible as regards these groups.

This policy was discussed in detail and approved. Some points raised in discussion were:

- should groups who are a mixture of Irish and non Irish women and working around Ireland and Irish women's issues, and who's aims are not in conflict with those of the centre, be allowed to use the resources? It was suggested that these groups be welcome to use the centre, providing that the Irish women in the group took responsibility for the use of the resources and for booking the room etc.

The danger of groups having token Irish women members in order to use the centre's resources was raised. It was decided that where there was confusion about a group using the resources then the matter should go to the management for final responsibility to for the decision.

It was suggested that a diary of user groups be kept and that a list of resources available at the centre for the benefit of groups. New mini bus policy was discussed - it is now for the use of Irish women only. Irish women can now hire the van for personal use but not for removals.

SUBGROUPS A verbal report was given by a member of each group (see update in newsletter). There was a suggestion to form a Finance Subgroup - a date would be set for a meeting to be advertised in the next mailing. Through this the question of subgroups applying for funding for themselves was raised. It was decided that all proposals of this nature must be first of all ratified by the management of the centre.

AGM

A brief outline of the main responsibilities of the Management Committee was given to the meeting by Sabina Sharkey. The length of time a woman can remain on management was discussed - according to the present constitution this was for a period of three years. Present management members offered to give advice and support to the new committee elected at the AGM. It was stressed that this would happen only if requested by the new committee.

It was suggested that the policies of the centre should be available to all women who come into the centre. It was pointed out that general policies are available to women but that it was impractical to make available all policies on every aspect of the centre's resources. However it was suggested and agreed that a statement in large lettering be publicly visible in the centre to the effect ~~that~~ racist and sexist behaviour would not be tolerated in the centre.

SOUTH LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S GROUP - letter.

A copy of the letter from the South London Irish Women's Group to the Management Committee was distributed to all women at the meeting - a discussion took place on issue raised - that of the recommendation that any one of three women from that group could have rotating attendance at the centre's management meetings, and that this could also be the case with other Irish women's groups in London.

The general consensus of the meeting was that this was not a good idea, because: (1) problems with Company House when the centre would become a company.

(2) any number of mutations could happen which would render the management committee ineffective.

(3) difficulties with such a management committee employing workers

The idea of whether or not group representation on the management committee was a good thing was discussed.

The Management Committee noted the points raised at the discussion and would write a reply to the group.

Finally, it was suggested that perhaps the meetings could be rotated to different areas of London. It was decided that this would be up to the new management committee to decide.

ARTS AND RECREATION SUB GROUP

We presently have thousands of pounds worth of P.A., Video, and Radio equipment at the centre and this will increase when our insurance cover is extended, it will also include Photography equipment.

Effective use of this equipment by Irish women could be far reaching not only in terms of the confidence it could give to the Irish womens community in London, but also in relation to ensuring that we are effectively able to counteract the misrepresentation and negative coverage which the media have consistently subjected us to in the past

It also means that we will be better able to record our own progress and to ensure that the achievements of Irish women in London cannot be overlooked or written out of history as Irish women have been in the past.

An obvious medium where we could have considerable effect is that of Community Radio. The Irish Radio Group have been allotted 1 hour per week on Spectrum Radio, which could be broadcasting by September. It is vital that Irish women make their voices heard and have some controll over programme making and broadcasting. Already one Community Radio Course had taken place and there is a waiting list of women who are anxious to aquire the skills necessary to make and broadcast Radio Programmes, on future courses.

Courses in P.A. and Video have also taken place and it will be up to the Arts and Recreation Sub Group to ensure that future courses are organised and run smoothly. The Sub Group will also have to ensure that the equipment is managed properly and adaqetly covered by insurance at all times, especially if it is to be moved around, though this will require investigation by the sub-group.

It would also be up to the Sub group to organise any Art Exhibitions or cultural events which may be held at the centre in the future.

Hopefully some of the women who have already completed Radio, P.A. or Video courses will become involved in the sub-group. The first meeting will be held at the London Irsih Womens Centre, 59 Stoke Newington Church St., N 16. at 6.30 ON MONDAY 16 June, and all interested women are invited to attend.

THE LIBRARY SUB-GROUP

The library at the London Irish Womens Centre now contains over 1,000 books. These range in subject from Prose to Politics and include History, Health, Education, Employment, Literary Criticism, Geography, Mythology, Current Affairs and Sexuality. There is also a substantial Fiction section, Irish language books and childrens books. The Music Library contains over 200 L.P.s of Irish music and tapes, both of Irish music and for learning the Irish language.

This collection is probably unique in London and will be of tremendous value to Irish women in London for years to come. This is where the Library Sub-Group comes in. We would like to build up a comprehensive cataloguing system to ensure that things run smoothly and efficiently once the library is open for borrowing, and it is the responsibility of the Library Sub-Group to see that this is done. Cataloguing has already been started, but much remains to do.

Members of the sub-group are asked to give time on a regular basis as this is the only way we are going to be able to complete the cataloguing and open the library as the resource it has the potential to be.

Once the library is open it will be up to the sub-group to see that it stays that way, this means arranging borrowing times and making sure a librarian rota is worked out to ensure that someone is in attendance while the library is open. It will also be the responsibility of the sub-group to keep the collection up-to-date and generally to look after the books and records, see that they are being stored properly and that they are not being abused. Because of the uncertain funding situation for the centre, the sub-group may have to do some fund-raising in the future to keep the library open.

Membership of the library sub-group is open to all Irish women in London who are prepared to give the commitment outlined above. You don't have to have library experience to join the group, though, it is very welcome. Commitment is of greater value.

The Childcare Sub-group.

The childcare subgroup was set up at the centre with two main aims in mind:

- 1) to ensure that good quality childcare be available at the women's centre all the events that are put on and to expand on the existing provisions to cater for older children e.g. holiday playscheme and girls club.

- 2) To act as a pressure group to raise the issue of the position of Irish children within the education system and play provisions. To raise the awareness of people who work with children to the needs, (even the existence) of Irish children and to emphasise the importance of their cultural background.

The group meets approximately once a month during the day. There is always a creche and transport to the meeting.

It is a very interesting group and the developments are exciting so if you are interested why not come along to the next meeting.

The group is open to all 1st and 2nd generation Irish women who either have children, work with them or just have an interest in helping out.

Reportback from the Childcare Sub-group

The Childcare sub-group met for the second time on Wednesday 7 May at the London Womens Centre. At the first meeting it was decided that the group like to organise an Irish Festival for children during the summer. Our application for funding was put into Hackney Council and copies of it were circulated at the meeting. An application to "Help a London Child" also went off to buy some equipment so that children with physical or mental disabilities would have use of the Centre.

The group then went on to discuss what role it could play in getting recognition for Irish children within the education system. Some of the women who were at the meeting had been involved in this campaign for sometime and had already approached a number of schools in their local area and had run successful assemblies which had resulted in an increase of confidence for the Irish children and a greater awareness and understanding of Irish culture by the other staff.

From this the group decided to organise a sort of teach-in where the women's experience of this type of work could run workshops around this. Organisations well underway, IEA councillors, teachers and parents were to be invited.

Reportback from Childcare Sub-group continued.

unfortunately a few weeks later and advertisement for an educational conference was announced for the same weekend and so we have had to shelf ~~this~~ plan, but just for a few months.

The next meeting of the Childcare Sub-group will be meeting on 11 June '86 at the London Irish Womens Centre, 59 Stoke Newington Church Street, N 16, at 1.00 pm. There will be a creche available. New members are very welcome. For more information or if you are interested in the group but can't make the meeting, please ring Imelda on 249 7318.

HISTORICAL EVENTS

On Saturday 24 May another in our series of Irish Women in History Seminars was held at the Centre. Though Ann Rossiter was 'billed' as the Speaker, she spoke only briefly from her prepared paper in order to allow as much time as possible for discussion on the theme of the political activity of Irish women in London in the seventies.

Of the twenty or so women who attended, most had been politically involved in London at the time under review, and as they recounted their personal experiences it became increasingly clear that there is a need for much, much more discussion on this topic. Hopefully the seminar will have been the start of a process whereby the history of these women is recounted and recorded.

The seminar itself was recorded and a tape will be available at the Centre when edited. Ann's paper is also available at the Centre and will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Even those of us who weren't around at the time had a most interesting and stimulating afternoon and, as with the first history seminar the talking continued over refreshments.

The next Irish Women in History Seminar will be held at the London Irish Womens Centre, 59 Stoke Newington Church St. N 16 on Saturday 12 July from 2 - 5. This time the focus will be on Ireland as invited speakers will talk on Feminism in Ireland in the Seventies, again the emphasis will be on discussion and interested women are very welcome. A creche is bookable in advance and there is wheelchair access.

Letters

Dear Siobhan,

Not all of us have been in the position to make the choices that you have been able to make, women change and part of that changing means that there are many women living as lesbian feminists who have children. Those children were not born out of the sort of personal freedom that you talk about. As a second generation Irish woman who has lived within the working class Irish community in London, I fulfilled the expectations of that community, getting married and having children. I am now a lesbian mother of three.

You have the right not to have children, but you do not have the right to make criticisms of women who have children, either through choice or lack of choice. You have the right to give your opinions on childcare, but to choose to give the examples of the areas of schooling and discipline does seem to point to some lack of understanding as to the essential needs of loving, caring and playing within childhood. You most of all do not have the right to assume that a lesbian mother doesn't have the energy to put into lasting loving relationships with her lover, friends and children. My lover and I have six children between us, all are under seven years of age and we don't seem to have any problems.

You have the right to expect an understanding response from a feminist workplace about helping your lover through a crisis, but why use the condescending language of "little Rita is sick and I'll not be in today", in order to raise the issue of equal status for the demands of your life. Your letter raises in me more of the same feelings of discomfort that I have felt as a lesbian mother when I have revealed in a lesbian environment that I am a mother of three male children. I found your letter oppressive and a long way from opening equal dialogue on the contradictions involved in rearing children.

TINA MCKINLEY

I came to the Centre a few weeks ago to work in a creche at the Open Meeting. No children came so I sat in on the meeting.

I was really surprised to find out just how much was going on at the Centre, what a wide range of facilities were available and how well equipped the Centre is.

I've been going to the Centre for a few months, in the Mothers and Toddler group. At the beginning there were only a few of us. Now the group has really taken off and why wouldn't it? The creche is lovely, clean and well equipped and there is a really good atmosphere. This is the first all woman place that I've been in where mothers and children are really welcome.

I'm really glad the Centre is here as it has so much to offer me. Mothers need this kind of support and Irish mothers deserve the chance to have their children mix and grow up with other Irish children.

I intend to get more involved in the Centre because of its potential and also because I'm made welcome even with my noisy child on tow.

PATRICIA MORIARTY

As a recent arrival on the London scene, I feel, like I am sure most of you have felt at some stage, bewildered and in awe of this vast cosmopolitan city.

As a result of this I have, over the past number of weeks looked to the London Irish Womens Centre for a 'sense' of Ireland. This little part of Ireland in the centre of London is carrying out amazing work, not only in helping people like me to find companionship, but also in standing up and being heard on issues which are both controversial and important to Irish women, thus helping us to feel less isolated in our views, and so creating a confidence that otherwise would be unlikely to surface. The courses which the Centre is running, such as the Video one that I am doing strengthen this confidence even more by giving ordinary Irish women the chance to learn valuable skills and to put them to work for our own good.

I feel that the Centre has great potential, and is still only in the early stages of its growth. It would be a terrible shame if, after all the effort that has gone into making it the only centre of its kind in London, it did not secure the financial backing and the support necessary to develop this potential, for all our sakes.

GERALDINE KELLY

Dear Women,
I left the 1

Dear Women,

I left the last Women's Centre open meeting feeling in a bit of a muddle- What is the role of the Centre? What do women want from it? What are we prepared to put in?

I don't have any answers, but feel that it is very easy to get tied up with managing and maintaining the building and thats a lot of work too. Now that the struggle to get the Centre is over its more difficult to be clear about what we want to do with it. I don't know what I want or expect, and I'd be interested to hear what other women's thoughts and ideas are.

JOAN NEARY.

IRISH WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

SPONSORED SWIM

Open Line Counselling (DUBLIN) which provides non-directive pregnancy counselling is under threat of closure. It has existed on a shoe-string for many years and is now in dire-straits. We said that we'd try and raise some money towards their bills - it won't be enough to keep them going - but an expression of solidarity towards them.

Open Line has never had any kind of grant-aid, but managed to survive on fund-raising and the fees which the women who use them pay. But increasingly the women who use the service are poor and cannot pay fees, and the service is faced with closure as a result.

So we're planning a SWIM for SUNDAY JULY 6th. ---- at CLISSOLD ROAD BATHS in HACKNEY ---- the time has yet to be confirmed.

IF you would like to swim or to sponsor someone to swim please phone one of us for more information and the forms.

MARGARET 582 2790

CLARE 340 3459

JO 806 8635

BARBARA 734 3071 or 985 9091

JOAN 263 7263

Throughout the trial of Martina Anderson and Ella O'Dwyer, the two Irish women charged with conspiracy to cause explosions in the UK between the 2nd and 22nd of June 1985, the Irish Prisoners Appeal (IPA) have held pickets of the Old Bailey in protest at the strip searching of both women. On the first day of the trial, Tuesday 6th May, the picket was disbanded by the City of London police and the picketers were threatened with instant arrest in the name of a ruling by the Commissioner banning all pickets in the vicinity of the Old Bailey i.e. the police said it was against the law to picket. At the next picket on Monday 12th May all the picketers (19) were arrested for obstructing the footpath and were taken to Snow Hill police station where they were held for 3½ hours. They were released without charge and nobody accepted a caution. However, on Monday 19th May all the picketers were again arrested and one woman was charged with obstruction of the footpath and obstruction of a police officer in his duty. The woman's trial will be on July 25th so Irish women should support her. At the latest picket on Wednesday 28th May the police cautioned the picket but no arrests were made. After a 20 minute protest the picketers decided themselves to disband.

The next picket is on Monday 2nd June and there will probably be more depending on how long the trial lasts; as much support as possible is needed on the pickets; but if Irish women feel they cannot take the risk of getting arrested then there are plenty of other ways of giving support; e.g. donations, leafletting etc; ring IPA on 737 4144.

The trial has now moved into the defence and at the minute fingerprint evidence is being discussed. If you want to go to the court let the IPA know as you can help by queueing for the relatives.

The IPA are also going to organise some more fundraising benefits but these are not finalised yet.

Republican women prisoners from Armagh Gaol have now been moved to Maghaberry, a new high security prison near Long Kesh. Despite the high security the women are still being strip searched thus making the NIO's claim that strip searching is done for security reasons a lie. Strip searching is used to try and break the spirit of Irish Republican women and is torture and sexual harassment.

The London Armagh Women's Group (LAWG) which has been in existence since 1980 is co-ordinating the Stop the Strip Searches Campaign (set up in March 1983) which is campaigning for an end to strip searching of women in the 6 counties; we need support from Irish women so please come along to the Campaign meetings.

The London Armagh Women's Group is made up of both Irish and non Irish women. It is a campaigning and educational group; our broad politics are British withdrawal from Ireland and the re-unification of Ireland and we campaign specifically on strip searching.

We can provide speakers on the political situation in the six counties and on strip searching for meetings and conferences. We have an extensive bookstall, a 75 panel exhibition on women and Ireland and a number of videos on Ireland which can be hired.

We can be contacted c/o 52-54, Featherstone Street,

London EC1

STOP STRIP SEARCHES NOW!

A Chairde,

we were glad to see the letter 'Room for Whom?' in the last NL concerning access to the LIWC. As Irishwomen who live in South London this is an important issue for us.

In a sense we could complain loudly about how far away the centre is for us, and we do, but the fact of its existence is as important to us as to the Irishwoman who lives close to it. This is a centre for Irishwomen ALL all over London and we will travel there with certain expectations. The main one being that we will not have to worry about being given priority as Irishwomen in our centre!

We in London face particular problems as Irishwomen. Not only do we face the isolation common to all women, but we also face judgements being made upon us as Irishwomen by British women. eg.. "How can any woman live in Ireland - no contraception, no abortion, no divorce - you're so oppressed".

We are always having to defend ourselves. We get it in the street, the workplace, the dolequeue, the B+I Line, Sea link, British Rail. Everywhere we go we are reminded that we are immigrant aliens, we are 'welcome' as long as we make no big deal about being Irish and keep our mouths shut about Ireland.

It seems clear to us that we have no responsibility to provide the local community with access to the centre's resources.

We also saw in the NL the minutes from the Childcare Sub-Committee. Here again if the group is open to non-Irish women and kids, then Irish women and kids are placed in the same position as they would be in any women's centre, ie having to fight for space.

How could such a group, with conflicting interests become a - "point of campaigning or a pressure group that looks into the needs of Irish children in schools and play provisions"

We recognize this area as vital, and we assert the right of first and second generation Irish women to have undisturbed space for unobstructed action!

Apart from being a physical space, the Centre has specific resources. As far as we are concerned whether or not these are available on any terms to non-Irish women is not debatable - they are for Irishwomen. What does need discussion is how best to get these resources to as many Irishwomen as possible across London.

Please don't call it 'teach na mBan' - the London Irishwomen's Centre.... if it isn't.

Is muid le meas,

SOUTH LONDON IRISHWOMENS GROUP.

IRISH WOMEN IN ISLINGTON GROUP

Tel: 609 8916

I.W.I.G

press coverage
and abroad Ir
inquisit

THE IRISH WOMEN IN ISLINGTON GROUP IS COMPILING A HANDBOOK/INFORMATION DIRECTORY FOR IRISH WOMEN IN LONDON.

IF YOUR GROUP, OR YOU YOURSELF, HAVE INFORMATION WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY, PLEASE SEND IT INTO US IMMEDIATELY.

THE ABSOLUTE DEADLINE IS FRIDAY 27TH JUNE.

The Directory aims to provide information on local voluntary and statutory services by to and for Irish women and general information on welfare, health, childcare, social services, education, employment, housing, recreation and cultural services. We hope it will contain information that will be of interest to all Irish women here, and to those newly arriving, and that it will reflect the diversity of Irish Women in London.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND INCLUDE ACCESS DETAILS.

OUR ADDRESS:

IRISH WOMEN IN ISLINGTON GROUP,
25, HORSELL ROAD,
LONDON N5.

G I R L S G R O U P

From 1 July the London Irish Womens Centre will be organising a girls group which will meet every Tuesday between 7 - 9 pm.

We hope eventually to get funding from Hackney Youth Office to pay for a Youth Leader to run the group. However until the group becomes established it will have to be run on a voluntary basis. If you are interested in getting involved in the group or you know some girls who would like to be part of it, contact Imelda, (249 -7318).

IRISH WOMEN IN HARINGAY

Irish women who are interested in nominations for the Womens Committee in Haringay in September, should contact 881 3000 ex 3879 for further information.

FEMINISM AND ANTI-IRISH RACISM

Press coverage of Ireland in the last year has focused heavily on women. Both at home and abroad Irish women's lives have been heartlessly scrutinised. A malicious inquisition into our private lives has been the order of the day. In Britain this has meant that the inherently anti-Irish racism of the British media has voiced itself again.

As a recent immigrant to London I have been asked many questions about what it's like for women in Ireland. These questions are usually prefaced with the catalogue of horrors that have been reported about Ireland such as the Kerry Babies Tribunal, the Eileen Flynn case, the cases of teenage pregnancies which have ended in death, the abandonment of children, all under the shadow of the Moving Statues. These and other stories are not myth, but grim reality. The problem is not the misrepresentation of reality, but the lack of any context in the reporting, the almost smug superiority adopted by the tellers (especially the British ones) of these tales. To hear such people speak it would seem as though Ireland is as backward as ever and all it needs is a good old dose of British colonialism which would grant us divorce, abortion, etc. as soon as we'd want it.

Conveniently ignoring the long struggle in which British feminists had to engage to obtain certain of their demands, this very superior position fails or possibly refuses to recognise the nature of the relationship between the Roman Catholic church and the Irish people. Speaking of the Ulster Plantation in her book The Price of My Soul, Bernadette Devlin says:

"The hatred between colonized and colonizer was underlined by the difference in their religion, and the Irish were persecuted not only for being natives but on the basis of being Catholics as well!"

It is for this reason that Catholicism has not been identified as an oppressor but as a means of maintaining a positive identification for the Irish people. This is why the Catholic church is such an enormous feature in the lives of Irish people and why they refuse to give it up so easily.

When English feminists here flippantly suggest that all we need is to relinquish the mantle of the Catholic church and adopt the liberal social gratuities that Britain offers they do not know what they are saying. Catholicism in Ireland is a far more pertinent reality in the lives of Irish women than is understood by British women. The contradiction between what Irish women now see as their needs and their devotion to a religion which denies these needs, is a matter for serious consideration and not flippant dismissal.

When we discuss the situation of Irish women we would do well to bear this dialectic in mind.

Claire O'Mahoney.

PRESS RELEASE.....

The recently formed Campaign for Better Travel Conditions Between Britain and Ireland (CBTCBBI) is currently undertaking research into existant travel conditions between the two countries.

The campaign was formed by various groups and individuals within the Irish community in Britain, in response to the alarming nature and number of complaints received from people travelling between Britain and Ireland.

Of the complaints received the main areas of concern were seen to be;

Air Travel.

- Exorbitant air fares and general poor quality of service in view of money paid.
- Scheduled flights that too often do not leave on time.
- Invalidity of guaranteed standby tickets.

Land and Sea Travel

- Lack of coordination between land and sea travel organisations.
 - Long cold waits for Ferries and Coaches.
 - Long train journeys in unheated slow trains, with no buffet facilities.
 - Insufficient seating arrangements on trains.
 - Inadequate bus services between ports and city centres in Ireland.
 - Lack of reasonable facilities at ferry terminals, particularly for Mothers and Babies, and no consideration for Children.
- This latter complaint is an area of great concern considering the long delays that frequently accompany ferry services.
- Inflated Duty Free prices on ferries in comparison to their European counterparts.

The campaign invites all those who feel that they have suffered hardship inconvenience or exploitation, to use the campaign as a forum to relate their experiences by writing to:

CBTCBBI
c/o CAIRDE na nGAEL
2, WINDMILL LANE
LONDON E.15.

THE A.G.M. OF THE LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE

is on

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE at 7.30 p.m.

at

THE LONDON IRISH WOMENS CENTRE

59 Stoke Newington Church St. N 16

The Annual Report and previous year's accounts will be presented, and a new Management Committee will be elected, (5-9 members). Women wishing to stand for election have to have at least 3 nominations from women on the Newsletter mailing list. Nominations have to be in Writing and sent to: The Secretary, London Irish Womens Centre, 59 Stoke Newington Church St. N 16 OAR, nominations must arrive by Wednesday 11 June at the latest.

The present Management Committee are as follows:

Dorothy Fergus	(Secretary)
Ann Gilmartin	(Chair)
Jean Byrne	(Treasurer)
Sabina Sharkey	
Ellen Reynolds	
Eilish Dowds	
Margaret Walsh	

We have a comprehensive written list of the full responsibilities of a management committee. Please ring the Centre and leave your name and address if you would like a copy sent to you. Or ring Sabina Sharkey (A member of the present Management Committee) if you would like to talk about what it is like to be on the Management Committee.

LET'S HAVE A GOOD TURN OUT !

Refreshments Available. Please ring in advance if Creche required.

ISLINGTON TRAINING CENTRE

WOMEN

NOW

COULD BE YOUR BIG CHANCE.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A JOB IN A MANS WORLD ?

WOMEN OVER 25 WANTING TO RE-TRAIN OR LEARN NEW SKILLS

NO QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

NOW

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN OFFERS A

FREE 1 YEAR COURSE - 20 HOURS A WEEK

FREE TRAVEL

FREE CHILD CARE

BENEFITS NOT AFFECTED

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN:-

JEWELLERY, LIGHT ENGINEERING, UPHOLSTERY, CARPENTRY
RING CHRISTINE AT KINGSWAY-PRINCETON COLLEGE ON 253 5710

STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS OR TAXI DRIVING
PHONE HILARY AT PROJECT FULLEMPLOY 251 4083

BUILDING TRADES, FINANCE & ACCOUNTS ELECTRONIC SERVICING
PHONE SANDRA ON 609 9981/2 AT NORTH LONDON COLLEGE.

RECRUITING

NOW

FUNDED BY LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON & EEC SOCIAL FUNDS.

ALTARE

ALL LONDON TEACHERS AGAINST RACISM AND FASCISM

Panther House, Room 216, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP

Telephone : 01-278 7856

SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY AND THE POLICE

SATURDAY JUNE 14th 10.30am - 4.30pm

A CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS WHY AND HOW TO IMPLEMENT
ILTA POLICY OF NO COOPERATION WITH THE POLICE.

Speakers: Rehana Minhas, Anna Sullivan, Barnor Hesse, Cilius Victor, Michael Vance and others. *Workshops:* Banford Students, Newham Youth, Black Parents, Primary, Secondary, and others.

Sponsors: Inner London Teachers Association, Lewisham Action on Policing, Wandsworth Policing Campaign, Greenwich African Caribbean Educational Resource Unit, Hackney Police Committee Support Unit, West London Teachers Association, Birley High School Manchester, Inner London Black Teachers Group, Socialist Teachers Alliance, Rank and File '83, Westminster Teachers Association, Lambeth Teachers Association, East London Teachers Association, National Convention of Black Teachers, Southwark Teachers Association, Hackney Teachers Association, All London Teachers Against Racism and Fascism.

**NORTH WESTMINSTER SCHOOL
NORTH WHARF ROAD. W.2.**

Zeynep That really
happened to me ---
by Zeynep Hasbudak &
Brian Simons

THE TRUE STORY OF ZEYNEP'S FIGHT AND THAT OF HER FRIENDS AND
TEACHERS AT WILLIAM PATTEN INFANTS SCHOOL AGAINST DEPORTATION.

"Often moving, at times funny and a darn good reading book for infant level readers"....."Zeynep tells the story behind the story - of the tension, the fear, the crying and also of the strength received from the tremendous and sustained campaign". "The book is also about children taking action. Something that Fleet Street slammed the campaign for. But if you happen to believe that children can grasp and feel issues, and have the will and resources to speak out against injustice, then you will find the book positively uplifting." CITY LIMITS May 15-22
100pp lavishly illustrated. ISBN 0 9509673 1 9 Price £2.50 Plus 75 pence p&p from ALTARE.



Lesbian Link

Invite you to the

GRAND OPENING

of the first Lesbian Only Centre in the Country

On Saturday 31st May
from 12-5pm

at: Unit 1, Ground Floor, Stonebridge House,
16/18 Granby Row, Manchester.

For more information contact:

228 0408 daytime, or 236 6205 7-10 pm Mon-Thurs

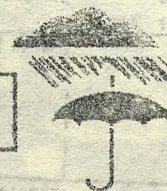
Access Details

Parking: outside entrance and more than 50 yds; Public transport: buses and train station more than 50 yds away; Entrance: 2 steps; Inside Building: approx 4 ft level, 4 steps no rail, approx 7 ft level, 2 heavy doors open outwards, approx 16 ft level, single door opens inwards; Flooring: carpet; Heating: variable; Seating: variable; Lighting: variable, some fluorescent; Helpers: general help available; Crèche; Food/drink; Smoking: allowed.

Wheelchair access is being investigated.

Assistance will be available.

CO-OP WORKER



LESBIAN WORKER : Wanted to co-ordinate and administrate
Lesbian and Gay short life Housing Co-Op in Hackney .
20 hrs. p.w. flexitime . £4.00 per -hour + expenses .
Experience in accounts and administration preferred .
Applications from ethnic minority and working class women
positively encouraged .

Send C.V. and personal statement marked " Co-op Worker "
To : 38 Mount pleasant ,
London ,
WC1 XOAP .
Closing date : 9 June 1986

HACKNEY LESBIAN and GAY PRIDE WEEK

June 20 - 28

Lesbian
Strength
March

Venue	Contact/Organiser	Friday 20th	Sat 21st	Sun 22nd	Mon 23rd	Tues 24th	Wed 25th	Thurs 26th	Fri 27th	Sat 28th
Hackney Show - Cabaret tent FREE	Arts & Ents - 739 7600 ext. 491		Hackney Show							
Rio	Helen Brown - 739 7600 ext. 496			Films afternoon Women only + WEFT transport	Films (ave) + films for older women? afternoon	Films (eve) + films for school-age young people? in afternoon	Films (ave)			
Crown & Castle	Katrina Duncan - 739 7600		Cabaret?							Cabaret?
Duke of Wellington	Jean - 249 3729			Parker & Klein & Miriam Margolis		Irish lesbian evening. Women only. Transport Res: 249 7318		Older women's night with Maggie Ford. Women only Transport		
Shackwell Lane FREE	Helen Brown - 739 7600 ext. 496			Sisters in Song Crèche Transport						
C L R James Library FREE	Helen Brown - 739 7600 ext. 496						Sheba and Centerprise writers doing reading. Women only. Transport		Tom Wakefield & friends. 7.30 - 10.30 pm	
Chet's Palace	Marion/Lesley - 986 6714	Lesbian line benefit - checha							Country and Western; Sheba no-gigi Merry merys Crèche. Transport Women only	Touch and Exposure + Crotch
Hoxton Hall FREE	Viv - 359 8671									Children of Lesbians party 11.04 - 7.00pm Frankfurt Theatre. Viv's disco & transport
Fire Station FREE	Katrina Duncan - 739 7600 Jacqueline Zars - 241 0842				Common thread Women only transport crèche and signer	Readings for all women by Jewish women				
Hackney Town Hall? FREE	Margaret Page - 533 1499								Days conference	
Stoke Newington Town Hall - FREE	Arts & Ents - 739 7600 ext. 491							Pearl Divers Jan Penford & Carol Grimes Bolsi & Mc Bernard Paddon		



GLÓR GAEL RADIO

FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL OPEN DAY RESPONSE TO OUR GENERAL MEETINGS HAS BEEN GOOD. THE EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS AT SPECTRUM HAVE NOT YET BEEN FULLY SOLVED AND THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HAVE DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH ADVERTISING THE POSTS ANEW, (SEE ADVERT). IF HOWEVER YOU WOULD LIKE TO

BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN THE GROUP AND WOULD LIKE TO MEET OTHER USER GROUPS AT SPECTRUM, THE NEXT SPECTRUM MEETING IS OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ALL USER GROUPS. IT WILL BE HELD AT INTERCHANGE (ON JUNE 5TH, AT 7PM)

FURTHER INFORMATION ON EITHER GLOR GAEL OR SPECTRUM CAN BE HAD FROM OUR CONTACT NUMBER: 603-8916. ASK FOR OLGA. THE NEXT GLOR GAEL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT INTERCHANGE, ON JUNE 11TH, AT 7.30PM. AS ALWAYS ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING INVOLVED WITH THE GROUP ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

INTERCHANGE IS AT 15 WILKIN STREET, KENTISH TOWN, LONDON NW5.

SPECTRUM RADIO

A leading contender for North London's first community radio licence invites applications for the following posts. An ability to work with people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds is essential.

Office Co-ordinator. (Full-time).

To be responsible for the day-to-day running of Spectrum Radio.

Salary: £11,700 p.a.

Facility Technician. (Part-time).

To be responsible for all technical and maintenance work in the studio.

Salary: £5,460 p.a. for 17½ hours per week.

Fundraising and Development Worker. (Part-time).

To be responsible for fundraising and organisational development work with Spectrum User groups.

Salary: £1,460 p.a. for 17½ hours per week.

Four Community Development Workers. (Part-time).

To encourage the full participation of minority groups represented within Spectrum. Different languages required.

Salary: £3,822 p.a. for 12½ hours per week.

All posts are subject to a three month probationary period.

Spectrum Radio is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Please contact:-

Spectrum Radio,
Interchange,
15 Wilkin Street,
London NW5 2NG
Tel. 01-267-9421, x 127 or 129.

Closing date for applications is June 6. Job descriptions and application forms available from above address.

Jobs:

ALL POSTS ARE FUNDED BY CAVENDISH COUNCIL AND GLAM.

MUMTAZ SUNITI

FRIDAY
JUNE 6
7PM



The aim of the exhibition is to show how complex the lives and expectations and the experience of Asian women are. We want to create nana chaubi (many different pictures) and we want to do that in a way that is determined by and controlled by ourselves.

The group who compiled the exhibition - Manjula Mukherjee, Vibha Osbon, Amina Patel, Mumtaz Karimjee - will talk about the exhibition, joined by local women featured in it.

Exhibition on in the coffee bar from May20 - June7th

This will be a mixed event; children welcome.
Food and drink available.



GWEN GOODMAN, was born in the Caribbean and now lives in England. Through her work she wishes to portray the unifying force that love and peace can create. Her poems portray her feelings of life and the English system. She is a member of both Tottenham and Wood Green Writers' Workshop and Hackney Writers' Workshop.
SAVITRI HENSHMAN, a proof-reader and community worker, was born in Sri-Lanka and now lives in Stoke Newington. A collection of her poetry 'Flood at the Door' is published by Centerprise.

SATURDAY 14 JUNE

FEMINIST

BOOK

FORTNIGHT

PROGRAMME OF FREE EVENTS AT:

CENTERPRISE

136, KINGSLAND HIGH STREET, DALSTON, E8

ACCESS: THE BASEMENT AND GROUND FLOOR (WHERE THE READINGS WILL BE HELD) ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. THERE ARE STEEP STAIRWAYS TO THE FIRST FLOOR WHERE THE TOILETS ARE.

WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM C.L.A.A.

BLACK WOMEN POETS READING FROM THEIR WORK

MARSHA PRESCOD, was born in Trinidad and now lives England in the 1950's, where she now lives and works. 'Land of Rope and Tory' - her first collection of poetry - analyses the situation of Afro-Caribbean peoples in Britain and Africans in the Diaspora.
MAUD SULTER's first collection of poetry - 'As a Black Woman' - is an assertion of self, of womanhood, loves, blackness, Afrikaness, consciousness and celebration.

From 7p.m. till 10.30p.m.
Bar, tea and coffee

A CELEBRATION OF DIFFERENCES

WOMEN AND WRITING

HOY McCORRY, was born in Liverpool to working-class parents of Irish origin. Her work is published by Sheba - The Water's Edge, and other stories' (1985)

SUNITI NAMJOSHI, was born in India and has worked in India and Canada. She has published numerous poems, fables, articles and reviews. Her latest book is 'Aditi and the One-Eyed Monkey' (Sheba).

PAULINE WILTSHIRE, was born in Jamaica and now lives in England. Her autobiography, 'Living and Winning' is published by Centerprise and won the Socialist Book-Fair's best popular history/autobiography prize in 1985.

JOSEPHINE ZARA, is an older Jewish woman living in East London. She is a member of Hackney Writers' Workshop, and has several pieces of work published.

From 7p.m. till 10.30p.m.
Bar, tea, coffee

Women Only.

SATURDAY 7 JUNE

