

# NATIONAL IRISH STUDIES CONFERENCE MANCHESTER 1997

Organised by  
**Manchester Irish Education Group.**  
( reg Charity no. 1000876)

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Date: **Saturday 15 March 1997**

Time: **9.30 am. - 4.30 pm.**

Venue: **Manchester Town Hall, Albert Sq. Manchester M60 2 LA.**

Cost: **£20 ( £17.50 concessions ) including registration , lunch, teas/coffee**

*In addition to speakers and workshops there will be a bookstall, displays, exhibition, Irish market, licenced bar and music. As this conference is part of Manchester extensive Irish festival there are a large number of Irish concerts, gigs, do's and hooleys on the Saturday evening and a huge St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday.*

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There will be two main presentations at the conference:

1. **Seán Ó Duinn** - Writer, and lecturer in Irish Heritage Studies at the University of Limerick. This leading scholar of Celtic spirituality will speak on "Sacred Sites, myths and legends" and their relationship to Christianity.
2. **Kino Films** will present a film entitled "Eighty-One" ( from the series "Short Cuts") which won the Best Short Film category at the Valencia film festival 1996. The film follows the progress of a French film company making a documentary about two families - one Catholic and one Protestant - during the Troubles. A spokesperson associated with the film will speak and answer questions.

There will be a wide range of **Workshops** to choose from; please select from the list overleaf.

## **Programme**

- 9.30 Registration ( tea/coffee will be served)
- 10 00 Welcome
- 10.10 Guest Speaker: **Seán Ó Duinn** " Sacred Sites, myths and legends"
- 11.00 Workshop session one. ( See list of choices over )
- 12.15 Buffet Lunch and opportunity to visit the Irish Market and licenced bar.
- 1.30 **Kino Films** will present a film entitled " Eighty-One"
- 2.30 Workshop session 2 ( list over )
- 3.45 Plenary session ( tea/coffee will be served )
- 4.30 Farewell.

**Manchester Irish Education Group**



## Workshops and presentations

There is a wide range of workshops. Please select three and order them according to preference on the attached form. We will do our best to accommodate your choices but cannot guarantee places at specified workshops.

- No.    Tick    Please note your choice of workshops in the boxes in the boxes provided.
- |    |                          |  |
|----|--------------------------|--|
| 1  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>The art of the Seanchaí</b> by Fr. John Ahern. A look at the traditional story tellers of Ireland by a native Irish speaker from County Kerry.  |
| 2  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Researching the Irish in Nineteenth Century Manchester</b> by Mervyn Busteed. University of Manchester. A look at materials available for the study of Irish migrants in mid 19th C. Manchester and his recent research.            |
| 3  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Which dialect is it?</b> By Professor Emrys Evans University of Manchester. An overview of the Irish Gaelic dialects from a distinguished scholar of the Irish Language   |
| 4  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Irish studies in secondary schools - one school's experience.</b><br>Declan Gorman is currently running an Irish Studies course at St. Thomas Aquinas High School M/C.  |
| 5  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>The Great Famine: Interpretation and responses.</b> By Peter Gray University of Southampton. Writer and advisor to <i>History Ireland</i> . A look at interpretations by historians and the State's response to the Famine.         |
| 6  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Starting a Writers Group.</b> Rose Morris Cultural Officer of the Irish World Heritage Centre will introduce Alrene Hughes of the M/C Irish writers group and Seán Body, poet and editor of <i>At the End of the Rodden</i>         |
| 7  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Irish women; heroines and writers.</b> Anna Martin will look at the role Irish women have played in Irish history, nationhood and literature.   |
| 8  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Famine Fever - a study of its effects in Manchester after 1840.</b> Professor Frank Neal, University of Salford will discuss his research and new book on how the famine affected Manchester.                                       |
| 9  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>White Boys of Kilkenny.</b> Caoimhghín Ó Brollacháin will present his prize winning essay from the Listowel Writers festival about the agrarian struggles in Ireland and one of the secret societies.                               |
| 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Rí na nDúl - finding God in nature; Irish Folk Prayers; a Celtic interpretation of the Liturgical Year.</b> Fr. Seán Ó Duinn will continue to develop the themes from his main presentation.  |
| 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Visit to John Rylands Library.</b> Conducted by Janet Wallwork. An opportunity for a private tour and chance to see, close up, priceless Irish books and manuscripts.   |
| 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Developing and examining the Irish language.</b> The work of ITÉ ( Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann or The Linguistics Institute of Ireland). Kate Thompson will introduce Ni Mhaonaigh and Eoghan Mac Aogáin from ITÉ in Dublin. |