

IRISH IN BRITAIN HISTORY CENTRE

76-82 Salusbury Rd London NW6 6NY Tel. 01-624 7438

THE HISTORY GROUP

The Irish in Britain History Group got together in 1981 after a successful weekend workshop. Our main aim is to discover more about our historical experience in Britain. We hold monthly meetings at the Irish Centre in Camden Town where we invite guest speakers along to help us unfold the history of the Irish in Britain. New members are always welcome to come along. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

AN IRISH ARCHIVE

Last year we achieved one of our main aims when we were able to set up an archive in the new Irish Cultural Centre in Kilburn. We are now collecting old books, films, manuscripts and photographs as well as all other items of memorabilia which throw light upon Irish life in Britain through the years. Items we have already received include photographs, old concert programmes, newspapers and club records. For example we have two original copies of 'The Irish Leader', an Irish community newspaper produced in the 1950's.

REMINISCING IRISH LIFE IN LONDON

The Irish have been settling in London for centuries but much of their story remains untold, eg. the history of the Irish as workers, Irish women and emigration. We feel that the building up of a community history based upon interviews with Irish people who have been here for many years might fill in some of these gaps and we are currently working on a reminiscence project with local Irish groups and Pensioners' Clubs. This project gives a voice in history to the many Irish people who came to live in Britain this century and it provides a useful resource for the 'second generation' Irish who are interested in studying their history.

If you would like to know more about the archive or the project you can contact us at the address below. And if you have anything which you think should be in the archive Maureen Hartigan (Project Worker) will be pleased to hear from you.

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