



IRISH CENTRE 'OPEN IN OCTOBER'



Work is now well under way on Haringey's own Irish Cultural & Community Centre. The Council funded Centre is situated in the old St. Katherine's School buildings in Pretoria Rd., Tottenham.

Mairin Higgins, Chair of the Centre's Management Committee, told 'Irish Voice' that "it is expected that the Centre will open in mid-October".

FULL STORY AND PICTURES ON PAGES 7 & 8.

SANDS REMEMBERED



Marchers in Holloway Road

A large march set off from Finsbury Park on 27 June in commemoration of Bobby Sands MP who died on hunger-strike 6 years ago. The demonstration which was organised by the Bobby Sands Commemoration Committee, attracted the support of many Irish people, including IBRG delegations from Haringey, Hackney, Lewisham, Islington and Camden. Many local people came out of the pubs in Holloway Road to show their support for the march, which finished off with a rally in Whittington Park, Upper Holloway.

New Irish Rep for Women's Committee

Irish women in Haringey will be represented by a new face when the borough's Women's Committee next meets. IBRG member Mairin Higgins, who is also the Chair of the new Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre's management committee, topped the poll in a recent ballot. The previous incumbent, Pat O'Meachair, did not stand for election this time round. (For more news of interest to Irish women, turn to page 12)

In the park a number of speakers addressed the rally including representatives from Sinn Fein and the IRSP as well as Black, Asian and Womens groups. There were no incidents on the march, which was well stewarded by the organisers. On 8 August there will be another chance to march on Irish issues along a similar route. (see pages 15 and 16 for more details)



Irish Liason Unit Operational at last

Haringey Council's long awaited Irish Liason Unit has come into existence with 2 staff already in post, to be joined by 3 others in the near future. Haringey Council took a policy decision to establish an Irish Liason Unit back in 1985.

The decision to set up such a unit was taken following a long period of lobbying undertaken by Irish community representatives and organisations in the Borough. The Council took a decision to set up the Irish Liason Unit as a policy unit, the objectives of which would be firstly to work in an advisory capacity within Haringey Council by providing policy advice on all matters relating to the Irish community, and secondly to provide advice and support to the Irish community in Haringey in relation to developing facilities for the benefit of the community.

It is hoped to realise the first objective by working with relevant council services, and by helping to develop policy and advising on the most effective way of implementing this policy and delivering services. The Unit will further be responsible for ensuring that reports on issues affecting the Irish community are prepared for submission to the main committees of the council. It is hoped to realise the second objective by developing close co-operation with the numerous Irish community groups in the borough, and officers of the unit will seek to establish and maintain good working links with these groups.

The unit will consist of 5 workers each with a specialism in one of the following areas:

*Housing

*Education

*Social Services

*Community Affairs

*and a Senior Admin. Officer.

To date 4 appointments have been, and 2 of these officers are now in post. They are the Unit Co-ordinator also with responsibility for Social Services, Seamus Taylor, and the Senior Administrative Officer, Pat O Meachair. It is hoped that they will soon be joined by 2 other workers-Mary Connolly, who will be responsible for Housing issues, and Eithne O Flynn, who will be responsible for community affairs. It is planned to make the appointment of the education specialist at a later date.

At present the unit is housed temporarily at Woodall House, Bracknell Close, N22, and the telephone number is 881 5098. However, this is a very temporary location and the unit hopes to move to permanent premises at Green Sides House, Station Road, N22 in the very near future.

Progress in Haringey Education

Although the Irish Liason Unit education worker has yet to be appointed, work has already started on introducing an Irish dimension into Haringey schools. Haringey IBRG workers in conjunction with Multi-cultural Curriculum Support Group, have held 2 teacher training courses recently. In addition, IBRG have been working with particular schools such as St. Thomas More on this subject. And in July, one of the IBRG workers addressed a conference of some 40 support teachers on the needs of the Irish.

election '87

The Irish Angle

Some notable fighters on behalf of the Irish in Britain were elected to Parliament on June 11. Locally Bernie Grant was elected as MP for Tottenham. During his time as leader of Haringey Council, Mr. Grant presided over the establishment of the Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre and the Irish Liason Unit and over the last few years he gave great encouragement to many Irish groups and activities.

Also renowned for his support of the Irish community is ex-GLC leader Ken Livingstone, now returned as MP for Brent East. The Irish community will be watching closely to see if Ken displays the same interest in Irish issues at Westminster as he showed at County Hall.

In Sunderland, Birmingham 6 campaigner Chris Mullin won with a majority of over 12000. Mr. Mullin is the author of the book 'Error of Judgement' on the case of the Birmingham 6 and his election will strengthen all the campaigns on behalf of Irish prisoners in Britain.

Former Haringey Councillor and prominent United Ireland campaigner Jeremy Corbyn was returned in North Islington with the largest Labour majority in London. It was interesting to note that the 4000 supporters (mainly Irish) who voted for ex-MP Michael O'Halloran in 1983 seem to have almost all voted for Mr. Corbyn this time, reflecting the MP's high profile on Irish issues.

In the 6 counties the only change was the defeat of Unionist MP Enoch Powell in South Down. In West Belfast Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams held his seat despite concerted attacks against him.



Bernie Grant greets last year's SF delegation

Locally it was difficult to raise Irish issues during the campaign. None of the local candidates saw fit to answer an IBRG questionnaire sent to them regarding their attitudes on a number of Irish issues. And although they were all invited to a small meeting with Irish pensioners, only Labour's Barbara Roche and the Alliance's Douglas Eden of the major parties turned up.

However, Irish community organisations working with the local Labour Party organised a very successful election rally for Bernie Grant just before he was elected. All Irish organisations in the area were present at a packed meeting in Chestnuts Community Centre. Speaker after speaker from the various groups

present emphasized the close ties between Bernie and the Irish Community in Haringey.

Bernie in his speech said that he saw many similarities between the Irish and Black experiences. It is not so long ago he said when 'No Blacks, No Irish' notices were to be seen throughout London. He went on to say that he was committed to the re-unification of Ireland and would ceaselessly campaign for this. He would also campaign on civil rights issues like the Prevention of Terrorism Act, strip-searching and securing justice for the Guildford 4, the Maguire family and other prisoners. He also promised to hold a regular surgery in an Irish venue like the Irish Centre so as to make himself easily available to Irish people. He also promised to meet local Irish groups at regular intervals. Following his speech Mr. Grant received a standing ovation and the well wishes of the large crowd for the election campaign.

Prejudiced Papers a Threat to Democracy

When Irish people or issues were reported in the papers during the election campaign we were presented in the usual negative way. Irish people were depicted as either potential bombers or as social security 'scroungers'.

Labour's attempt to raise the issue of the anti-Irish PTA met with the usual accusations from leading Tories and the popular press that Labour was "soft on terrorism". A decent and fair press is the foundation of a healthy democracy. The fact that it is now impossible to have a balanced debate on serious issues in the British press is surely a greater threat to democracy than 'terrorism' has ever been.

Have a look at the selection of articles below. Is this a fair representation of the Irish in Britain and our interests?

Labour in muddle over IRA

By PAUL WILENIUS
Home Affairs Correspondent

A NEW split appeared in Labour's ranks yesterday this time over the IRA.

Terrorists' 'licence to kill' under Labour

A LABOUR government would be soft on terrorists and could make it easier for them to operate in

**£545 A WEEK!
IRISH FAMILY
COSTS US**

A BAREFOOT Irish mother told last night of her family's life of luxury in a London hotel—paid for by us all.

Irishmen held in Maggie alert

MRS THATCHER was at the centre of a major security scare yesterday when two Irishmen dodged police outriders and slipped into her heavily-armed motorcade.

Their car was spotted by a police helicopter as it moved out of a side road and joined the Premier's cavalcade after a rally at Wembley, north London.

A green VW Polo had been seen three times

and an alert had been issued by police sharpshooters on the roof of the International Conference Centre.

Then, as Mrs Thatcher's escorts moved out the helicopter crew saw the car moving in to the middle of the motorcade. Almost immediately, police cars forced it into a lay-by.

Apparently, the occupants—both Irish—insisted that they wanted a glimpse of Mrs Thatcher.

The Leading Lady - Page 13.

Letters

Irish Sections

Dear Editor,

We are a group of Irish Labour Party members in Haringey who have come together to form an Irish Section. Our aims are to increase the influence of the Irish in the Labour Party and campaign for the Labour Party within the Irish community.

Since you wrote an article on us last year we have expanded greatly. We now have Irish Sections in Brent, Hackney and Islington as well as our own. We have contact people in many London areas, building up towards forming their own Sections. We plan to have Irish Sections throughout Britain. Peter Archer, who was Neil Kinnock's shadow cabinet colleague dealing with N. Ireland, welcomed us as 'sensible people whose aims he fully endorses'.

We have campaigned with other Irish organisations in Haringey for the successful election of Bernie Grant one of our sponsors and a good friend of the Irish. We intend to work closely with Irish community organisations on a wide range of local concerns and national aspirations.

Above all we are hoping to bring large numbers of Irish people into the Labour Party so that our collective voice is heard and heeded in the Party and in politics in general. We are conscious that individuals in the Party can achieve little so we are calling through your columns to all those interested in any aspect of Irish community life to come and join us.

Seamus Carey,
PO Box 164,
London N15 5EF

The Guildford Four

Dear Editor,

It is now 13 years since Carole Richardson, Gerry Conlon, Paul Hill and Paddy Armstrong were picked off the streets and given life sentences for the Guildford and Woolwich pub bombings. Although totally innocent of all charges they are still in prison which is where they will remain unless we fight to establish their innocence.

We must put pressure on the Home Secretary to re-open the case. He claims he needs new evidence on matters of substance to re-open the case. However, the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 section 17 states that he can refer a case to the Court of Appeal "if he thinks fit". There is no mention of new evidence or matters of substance. Write to Hurd at the Home Office asking why he does not use his powers in a case where any rational person can only conclude that these four people are totally innocent. There was no forensic, identification or other corroborating evidence against the 4, only their own statements-statements which contained over 100 contradictions, taken after they were brutalised mentally and physically, and which were retracted in court. In addition the 'Balcombe Street' unit when captured in 1975 told the police they were the bombers and gave the police information that only the real bombers could know.

Also write to the Irish government and Irish Papers demanding that the Extradition Agreement not be signed until the British government ensures that justice in this case and others is seen to be done, for these people are living proof that Irish people do not get a fair trial in Britain.

Tom Barron,
Nightingale Lane, N8.

opinion

Reclaim Roundwood!

The Roundwood Festival took place on Sunday 5 July. The London Irish Festival is held annually at Roundwood Park Brent in the heart of the Irish community. It is a hugely successful event attracting crowds of 50-70,000 people for a wide variety of stalls and events. It is a cultural and social event attended by the working class Irish community. It has the atmosphere of a Fleadh-cheoil, a provincial Hurling final, St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Galway Races all together at one time.

There are some criticisms which need to be made on the direction of the festival. For years the extremely politically motivated committee has banned and censored certain Irish community groups from partaking in the festival. The IBRG, the leading Irish community organisation in Britain, has been denied its rightful place at the festival. This year IBRG members took their banner on the parade under the risk of arrest. It is a fine thing to take pride in being from Galway, Kerry or Donegal, but we must also take pride in being Irish in Britain. Other groups who have been prohibited are the Brent NALGO Irish group, Irish Dissent and Prisoners Groups. This exercise in political discrimination is to be deplored.

The Irish it seems must have their festival enclosed in a park under the watchful eye of their colonial masters. A march the previous Saturday in Holloway Road drew thousands of police to monitor it. It is time the Irish Festival was brought onto the streets like the Notting Hill Carnival.

We need to share our culture with other communities: it's time to open the gates and parade down the Kilburn High Road without being outnumbered by police. Like Moses we have been too long in the desert

it is time to celebrate the culture and liberation of our people.

One of the further faults of the festival is the high cost of stalls-£100 to £200- which prohibits many excellent local community groups in London from taking part e.g. the London Irish Women's Centre and the various Irish Projects, from taking part. It is a contradiction that money raised for charity should be taken from other voluntary groups. The festival needs to be opened up to the Irish community and be more accountable to that community.

Brent Council are to impose equal opportunity conditions upon the free letting of Roundwood Park next year. It is hoped that the festival committee will become more representative of the community and more in tune with the community including the Irish born in Britain.

So let us have the Pogues, Christy Moore, more variety, a better range of music, theatre, craft, stalls, culture, sports, dance and activities for children.

Let us get rid of the 'one day Irish' and make it an occasion for the every day Irish; after all, it should be our festival.

write to us

If you've got a point of view why not write to us?

Send your letter or article to:

The Editor, Irish Voice,
Haringey IBRG,
Hornsey Library,
Haringey Park, N8.

feature

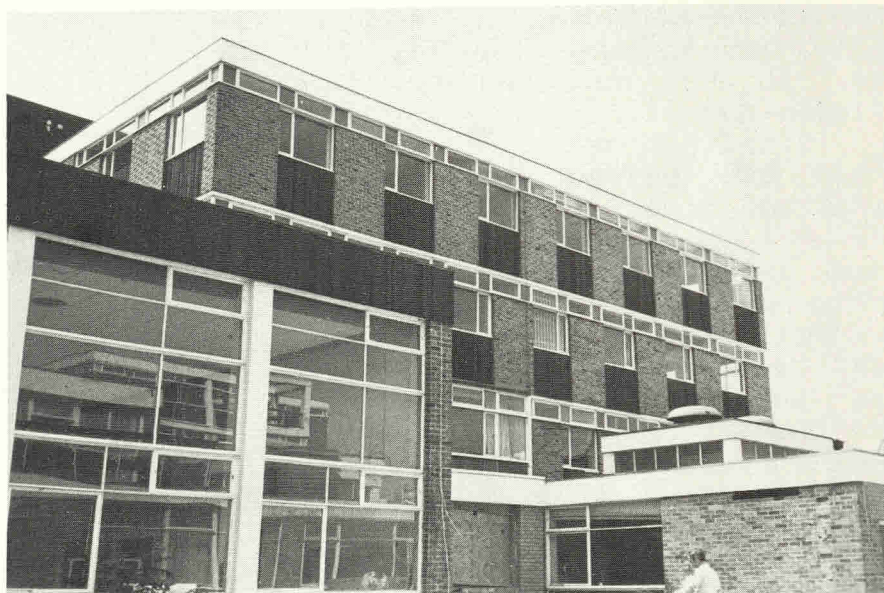
IRISH CENTRE

it's up to you!

The pictures on these pages give you some idea of just how much potential Haringeys new Irish Cultural & Community Centre has got. But community centres are about people more than buildings and the success of the Centre depends on you, the local Irish community. "Whilst the Centre will offer many facilities it should be stressed that we see our employees as facilitators", says Mairin Higgins the Chair of the Management Cttee.

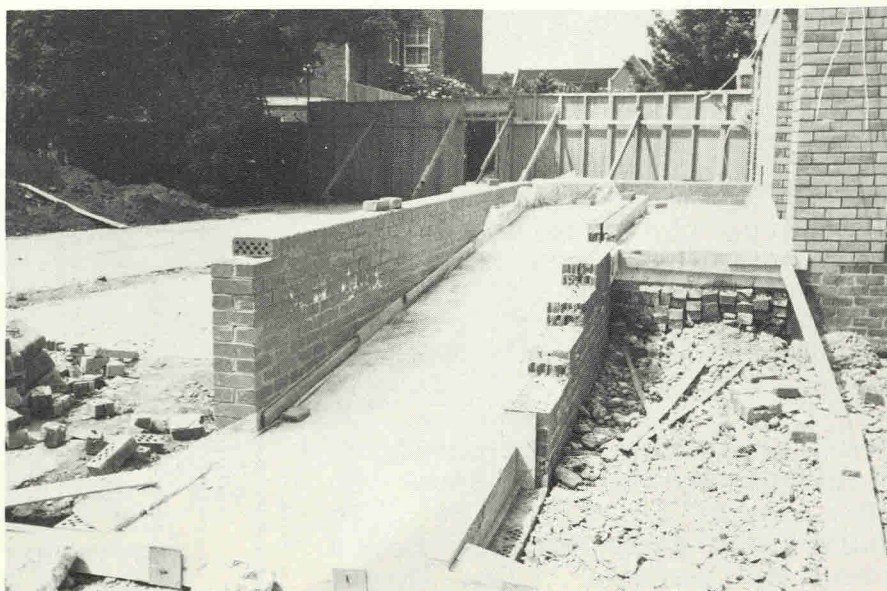
Demands

"We want the Irish community to come to us with ideas" Mairin explains. "We want them to make demands and offer to become involved. Those people who come with ideas, needs etc. will have the Centre they want. Those who do not get involved or take any interest will have a fantastic centre which I hope they will enjoy but it may not offer that special course, group or whatever they want".



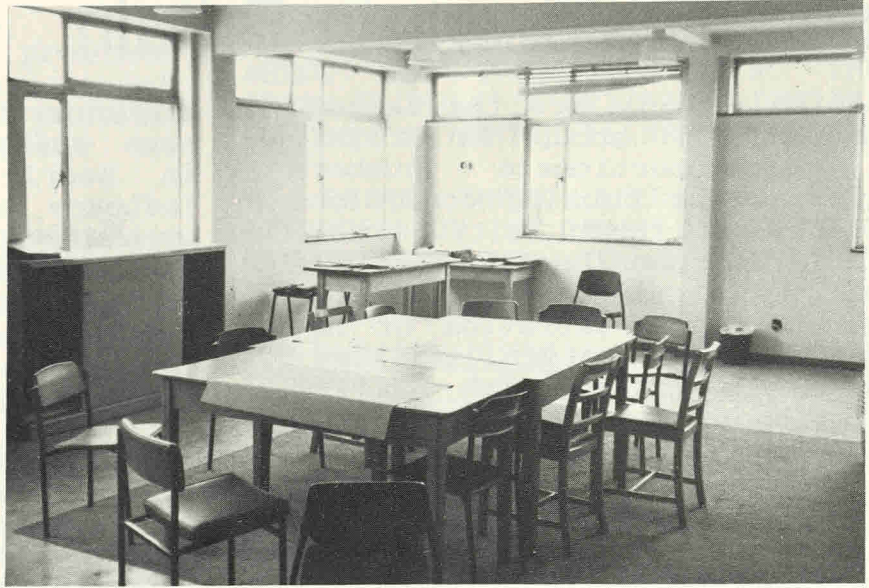
ABOVE-the main building

BELOW-an important feature is access for the disabled



Education

Already some people are coming forward and putting their demands. It has been agreed that one floor of the building will be dedicated to Irish women and another to Irish youth. Extensive education provision is intended to include a wide variety of courses. Contacts have been made with Social Services with regard to setting up a lunch club for Irish elderly.

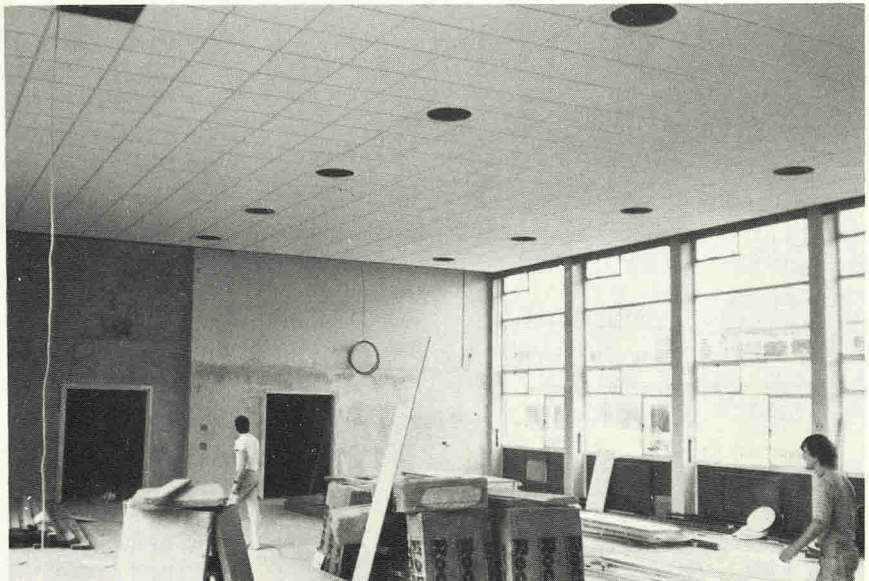


ABOVE-one of the many classrooms

Design

Committee members and others have emphasised that the design of the Centre should reflect a positive image of Irish culture. Celtic designs are to be included on some floor surfaces and discussions are continuing over murals and pictures.

BELOW-work in progress on the main hall.



Talent

An entertainment programme including acts from Ireland has already been lined up. But rather than just providing a venue for big names it is hoped that the Centre will encourage local talent. For example, a number of people are keen on establishing regular Ceili sessions.

Access

Many traditional meeting places have effectively shut out sections of the community by failing to cater for their particular needs. So the new Centre must be accessible. This

means not just physical adaptations for the disabled but also creche facilities for women with childcare responsibilities.

The future of the Centre is what you make it. To get involved phone 885 3490

pensioners

Irish Pensioners in Britain

The Irish elderly are the largest ethnic elderly group in Britain with disproportionate numbers living in poor housing conditions in deprived inner city areas. Many Irish pensioners live in extreme social isolation, accentuated by the frustration of not being able to return to their families in Ireland due to the high price of bus and train fares both to and in Ireland.

'CENSUS STATISTICS'.

The 1981 National Census Analysis indicates a major imbalance of age distribution in the Irish born community;

- 58% of the Irish community were aged 45 years or over in 1981.
- 22% of these were of pensionable age.
- Marriage status figures reveal that; 16% of Irish Males over the age of 45 are single, and 12% of Irish Females.

-These latter statistics compare with a British National average of 9% for both males and females over 45 years of age.

SOME OF THE PROBLEMS.

The traditional occupations of both Irish men and women have led in later years to situations of financial and social vulnerability aggravated by isolation, disability or loss of spouse.

For men in the building trade, exploitation and poor working conditions have often resulted in premature ageing, early retirement and occupational injuries. The 'lump' system widely operational in the building industry has resulted in a poor take-up of Welfare Rights, due to a lack of knowledge of entitlement, or through a reluctance to approach

statutory bodies. Women similarly have suffered from exploitation in poorly paid manual/service industry employments. Many give up their jobs on becoming married and are subsequently dependent on a meagre pension in later life.

PENSIONERS IN BRITISH SOCIETY.

In the wider context of British society, pensioners are by far and large the poorest section. Some points to note are;

-The British pension is the lowest in Europe, £39:50p for a single person and £63:25p for a married couple.

-All pensioners have to pay full standing charges on gas and electricity supplies, with the result that 1 MILLION pensioners a year are at risk from Hypothermia and that 40,000 more pensioners die in winter than in summer.

-In 1981, 5.9 million of 8.8 million pensioners lived within 40% of the supplementary benefit line. It is currently estimated that there are 1.1 million pensioners living below the line.

-Britain spends less on Health and Social security per capita, than any other E.E.C. country with the exception of Greece.

-The 1988 Social Security Act (will come into effect April 1988) by moving the emphasis away from entitlement and replacing it by a social fund and restricted community grants will inevitably result in greater hardships and bureaucratic battles for pensioners

Given the prevailing political attitudes towards pensioners and public spending generally

Irish Pensions

The Haringey IBRC office has dealt with several enquiries regarding individuals rights to pensions from Ireland.

All pensioners living in Britain are eligible for the statutory British pension. However some Irish born pensioners may still be entitled to an additional Irish pension. Below is a summary of the conditions that need to be satisfied in order for a person to apply for an Irish pension.

1) Insurance or employment in any E.E.C. country, may be taken into account when applying for an Irish pension.

2) This applies to people who had been employed and paid insurance in Ireland after 1953. In order to qualify for a retirement pension under the Social Welfare Acts a person would require to have a yearly average of at least 24 contributions paid or credited between 1953 - and the year of their retirement. Insurance paid prior to 1953 cannot be taken into account.

3) A person who does not qualify under the above condition, can have their claim examined under E.E.C. regulations which allow for a combination of Irish and British contributions to be considered for pension assessment purposes.

4) Anyone wishing to claim such a pension should do so by writing to the address given below about FOUR MONTHS before they reach the age of 65. If the claim is made retrospectively then the backdated arrears are normally only payable for a 3 month period before the original date of claiming.

For those wishing to claim, or who think that they may be entitled to a pension from Ireland, the address to write to is:

THE DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE,
D'OLIER HOUSE,
D'OLIER STREET,
DUBLIN 2,
IRELAND

Photocopies of the relevant details concerning Irish Retirement Pensions are available from the Haringey IBRC office, to personal callers or those sending a standard S.A.E.

Local Advice

Wood Green Advice Bureau.
Civic Centre, Room 41,
High Road, N22 4LE
888 0152.

Turnpike Lane Advice
16 Turnpike Lane
N8 OPT
888 4233.

Tottenham Advice Bureau
290 High Road
N 15 4AJ
808 6555

Hornsey Advice Bureau
Town Hall
The Broadway
N8 8JT
340 3626.

Haringey Action Group on Alcohol.
counselling service
Haringey Community Health Council
332 High Road, N 15,
808 9684.

Gamblers Anonymous 24 hour
352 3060.

Womens Health Centre,
Annexe C, Tottenham Town Hall
N 15, 801 3152, Mon-Fri 10-5

Irish women

Irish women and the new Irish Centre

One of the features of the new Irish Centre in Pretoria Road is going to be a women's floor. This is in line with most of the modern community centres. For all kinds of reasons women are calling for space.

Many older women whose lives have centred for years around husbands and children feel useless when their children grow up, marry and start families of their own often far away. A night out at the pub isn't what many of these women see as enjoying life. Often when these women re-enter the job market they find that the skills they had before becoming housewives are now out of date. Thus you find many older women working in jobs well below their ability.



What the Irish Centre is hoping to do through its women's floor is to encourage these women with all their advice and all their experience to come together to form friendship groups, pass on knowledge, reassure younger women and share skills.

The community appears to give women's groups a low profile but there are a lot of Irish women who could give a lot and get a lot out of setting up a women's group. It would interest some women to go to Well Woman health talks or to get advice on entering the professions either directly or through access courses to higher education. Some women would be interested in listening to someone explain how to go about setting up their own business or starting a play or after school group. It would be of interest to some women to join a discussion about coping with children during exams or going through difficult periods in their lives. Some women would welcome the chance to talk about going through the change of life whilst others would like to meet women newly retired or about to retire. Large numbers of women are unemployed or are single parents and would welcome meeting up with other women in the same position.

What a long list of ifs and maybes! Do any of these appeal to you or would you like to offer help and advice to other women? Would you see yourself as the type of woman who could set up a womens group? If the answer to any of these questions is yes or if you had any ideas while you were reading this then please get in touch with Roisin at the IBRG office or Bridie at the Haringey Irish Centre (885-3490) and we will be delighted to meet you and talk.

the irish arts workshop

ON THE NEED FOR AN IRISH ARTS WORKSHOP IN HARINGEY.

1/. THERE IS A CHRONIC UNDERFUNDING OF IRISH ARTS GROUPS IN THIS COUNTRY, AND HARINGEY IS NO EXCEPTION. THUS THE FORMATION OF AN IRISH ARTS WORKSHOP, FUNDED FOR EXAMPLE BY HARINGEY COUNCIL, THE GREATER LONDON ARTS COUNCIL, OR THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WOULD GO SOME WAY TOWARDS ALLEVIATING THE CURRENT DEPRIVATION THAT IRISH ARTS, AND ARTISTS, HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO.

2/. THE WORKSHOP, AS AN UMBRELLA ORGANISATION FOR IRISH ARTS AND ARTISTS, WILL HOPEFULLY INCREASE THE PROFILE AND THE ACTIVITIES OF IRISH ARTISTS AND PERFORMERS IN HARINGEY, AND WILL THEREFORE BE IN A POSITION TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY FUNDING WHICH THE IRISH ETHNIC POPULATION OF HARINGEY DESERVE IN TERMS OF THE ARTS; BUT WHICH, AS A LARGE ETHNIC GROUP, THEY HAVE SO FAR LACKED.

3/. THE WORKSHOP WILL STRIVE TO PROMOTE AND PUBLICISE IRISH ARTS AND ARTISTS IN HARINGEY, AND LIAISE WITH OTHER IRISH ARTS ORGANISATIONS IN AND OUTWITH THE BOROUGH.

4/. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES TO HELP LAUNCH THE IRISH ARTS WORKSHOP WILL BE MADE TO :---

- a) THE BOROUGH OF HARINGEY AND RELEVANT COUNCIL DEPARTMENTS.
- b) THE IRISH CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTRE.
- c) HARINGEY ARTS COUNCIL.
- d) THE GREATER LONDON ARTS ASSOCIATION.
- e) ANY OTHER RESOURCING BODIES (INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR).

TO ALL PARTIES, FOR EXAMPLE ARTISTS, WRITERS, TECHNICIANS OR PERFORMERS; TO THOSE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN WORKING ON THE PROJECT; AND TO WELL-WISHERS IN GENERAL; PLEASE CONTACT THE CO-ORDINATOR,
IRISH ARTS WORKSHOP,
101 DUCKETT RD.,
LONDON N.4 1BL

To advertise your vacancy FREE telephone Haringey IBRG 348 3351x1432

Project Co-ordinator

Cairde na nGael (Newham & District friends of Ireland) is an Irish community group based in the London Borough of Newham. Our orientation is towards serving the needs of the Irish community in Newham. We wish to appoint a PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR to oversee the development of the project.

The project co-ordinator shall be responsible to the management committee for the development of the project. Responsibilities include co-ordination of the project's various activities, production of bi-monthly newsletter with outreach worker, general office administration, promotion of project in the community and recruitment of new members. The Co-ordinator will also be expected to have some experience in fundraising and welfare advice.

Experience more important than qualifications.

Salary: £10,251. 25 days holiday.

Write or phone for application to Cairde na nGael, 2c Windmill Lane, Stratford, E15. (Tel: 519 5089)

Closing date 14 August 1987

Teacher of Irish

An Irish Language teacher is required part-time from September for adult education classes in Islington. Salary in accordance with ILEA rates. For further details write to or telephone Catriona Scanlon, Irish in Islington Project, 131 St. John's Way N19 Tel: 281-3225.

Bar Organiser

The General Management Committee of the Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre plan to open the Centre in October. As well as a concert hall, restaurant, library and youth, education and women's projects, the Centre will have a well equipped and attractive bar. To run this part of our exciting new venture we are looking for someone with enthusiasm, experience and proven ability. The salary will be £12,000 per annum.

If you are interested please write for details to Bridie Rooney, Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre, Pretoria Rd., Tottenham N17. Tel: 885-3490

Closing date 14 August 1987

meetings

Haringey IBRG- meet every second Tuesday at 7.30 in Tottenham Community Project, 628 Tottenham High Road N17. For details of the next meeting phone the IBRG office on 348 3351 extension 1432.

Haringey Irish Association- will be holding meetings for members only on Sunday 20 September and Sunday 8 November. The November meeting will be the AGM. Meetings are held at the Haringey Irish Community Care Centre, 72 Stroud Green Road N4. For further details write to the secretary, Bill Aulsberry, c/o 2A Brabant Rd. N22.

Islington IBRG- meet on the second wednesday of the month at 8.00 at Eastgate Building, 131 St. John's Way N19. For more information contact the Irish in Islington Project on 281 3225.

The Stop the Strip Searches Campaign meets regularly at the Women's Centre, Cromer St. King's Cross. For details contact Liz Tully, c/o 52-54 Featherstone St. EC1.

The Irish Research Group-meets to discuss research into the history, conditions and needs of the Irish in Britain. The group will be meeting on 21 September, 26 October, 16 November and 7 December in room 101, The Marlborough Building, 383 Holloway Rd., N7. Topics will include Irish Women in London and new data on the Irish in London. For more details contact Mary Hickman or Alan Clinton at the Polytechnic of North London Irish Studies Centre, 607 2789.

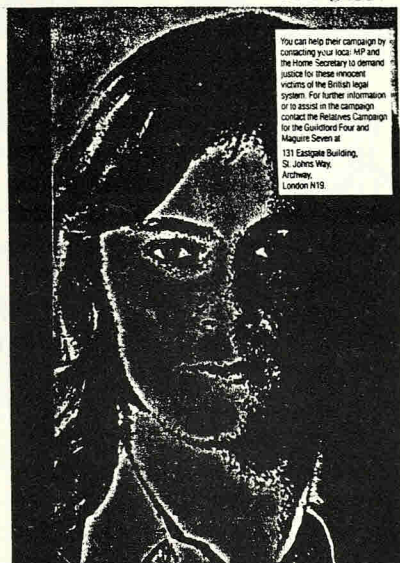
A Conference on Irish Prisoners-will be taking place at the Haringey Trade Union Centre, Brabant Road N22 on Saturday 19 September from 10.00 to 5.00. The Conference is being organised by Haringey IBRG and will be followed in the evening by a social. For more information ring the Haringey IBRG office on 348 3351 ext.1432.

Haringey Labour Party Irish Sections meet regularly and exist to promote Irish interests within the Labour Party. For details contact The Secretary, PO Box.164, London N15 5EF.

The Irish in Britain History Group meet in the Camden Irish Centre on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30. For details ring 624 7438.

 *To list your meetings FREE ring us on 348 3351 ext 1432 *

GUILDFORD

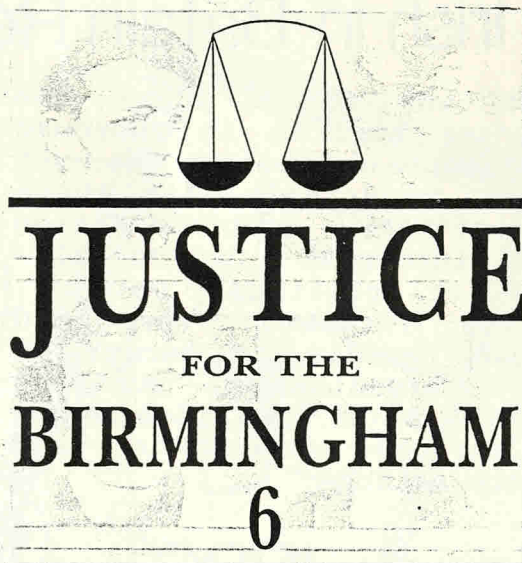


You can help their campaign by contacting your local MP and the Home Secretary to demand justice for these innocent victims of the British legal system. For further information or to assist in the campaign contact the Relatives Campaign for the Guildford Four and Maguire Seven at 131 Eastgate Building, St. Johns Way, Archway, London N19.

PAUL HILL

FOUR

Four innocent young people remain in prison after 12 years, the victims of a tragic miscarriage of justice. Their heartrending story demands action to redress this wrong.



*"Freedom and exoneration is their right . . .
Innocence and justice their plea . . ."*

CONTACT:

London Campaign Group for the Birmingham Six, c/o MATSA Office,
23 Compton Terrace, Islington, London N1

IRISH FREEDOM MOVEMENT

ANTI-INTERMENT
MARCH

**FREE IRISH
PRISONERS
OF WAR!**

Central London,
Saturday 8 August
01-729 0414

TROOPS OUT NOW!

Demonstrate!

There will be a picket mounted at the end of Downing Street on Saturday 1 Aug 2.00-4.00pm in support of the rights of Irish prisoners. For details ring the IBRC office 348 3351 x1432.

The Irish Freedom Movement march on August 8 will now start from The Islington Town Hall, Upper St. N1 at 1.00pm and end with a rally in Whittington Park. For details ring Fiona Foster on 729-0414.

I.B.R.G. page

The Irish in Britain Representation Group

The IBRG was formed after the 1981 Hunger Strikes in response to a widespread feeling amongst the Irish in Britain that there was no effective representation of our interests in social, cultural or political matters. Since its formation the IBRG has grown rapidly to become an effective organisation pursuing the interests of the Irish Community through democratic and legitimate methods.

The IBRG's main concern is the representation of the Irish in Britain with regard to affairs in Britain, but we are also naturally concerned about events in Ireland. The IBRG is non-party political - it is not committed to any particular political philosophy whether Socialist or Tory.

Haringey IBRG

Established in 1983, the IBRG's Haringey branch has maintained an active role in the community campaigning for a fair share of resources for the Irish in the borough. Our work has included:

■ Organising public meetings

■ Successful social events

■ Actively campaigning against anti-Irish racism e.g. the dispute with various shops over their sale of anti-Irish books and posters.

■ Working for the abolition of the Prevention of Terrorism Act e.g. by helping to organise the Haringey PTA conference and a national lobby of Parliament on the issue.

■ Successfully campaigning for Haringey's own Irish Centre.

■ Liaising with local libraries on the purchase of Irish books and tapes.

■ Working with local schools and the education department to promote an Irish dimension in Haringey schools; producing our own report on the subject.

■ Campaigning for the rights of Irish prisoners in Britain.

Members of the branch have also participated in local and national conferences on subjects including homelessness, education, welfare, unemployment Irish youth and unemployment. Haringey IBRG employs 2 full time and one part-time workers who research, campaign and advise on provision for the Irish in Haringey.

How to join

Fill in this form and return it to the address below:

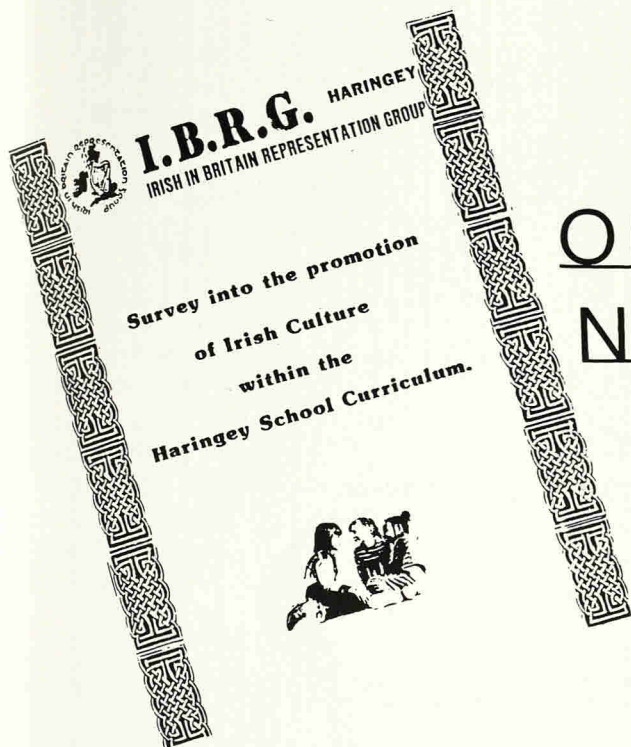
I wish to join the IBRG. I agree to abide by the Group's rules and Constitution. I enclose the appropriate membership fee (£2 waged, £1 unwaged).

Name:

Address:

Return to: Haringey IBRG, Hornsey Library, Haringey Park N8.





OUT
NOW!



Haringey I.B.R.G.'s first ever annual report is currently available from the Haringey I.B.R.G. office at Hornsey Library.

Documenting the project's work through it's first full year of funding by Haringey Council, it is hoped that the report will be easy to read and of some interest to those wishing to find out more about the I.B.R.G.'s work.

While detailling some of the social, cultural and political aspects of the projects work, the report also illustrates the past difficulties and frustrations that the project has faced and it's future aspirations.

The report is available FREE to all personal callers, as is the Haringey IBRG educational document ; ' A Survey into the Promotion of Irish Culture and Traditions within the Haringey School Curriculum

If you are unable to call, please send a large SAE (31p) to;

IRISH IN BRITAIN REPRESENTATION GROUP (HARINGEY)
c/o Hornsey Library
Haringey Park
London N8
Tel. No. 01 348 3351 Ex 1432



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The views expressed in 'Irish Voice' are not necessarily those of the IBRG.

If you would like an article, letter or advert considered for publication in the next issue contact IBRG at Hornsey Library, Haringey Park N8 or phone 348 3351 ext. 1432.

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