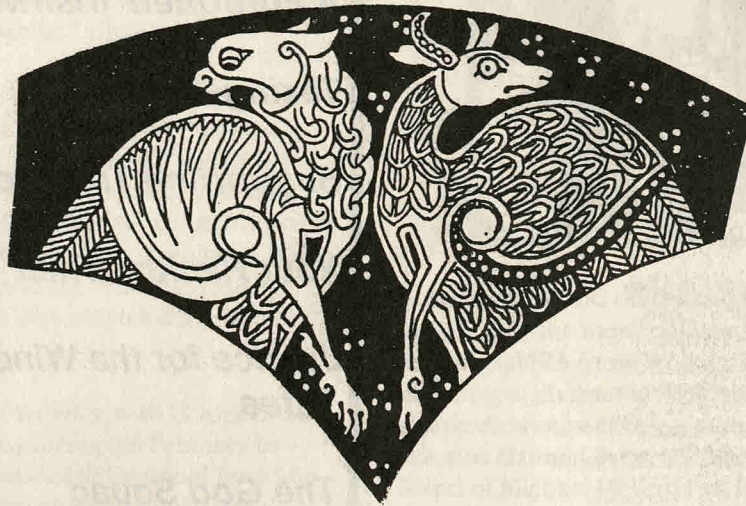


**FREE!**



# **IRISH VOICE**

**HARINGEY'S IRISH COMMUNITY MAGAZINE**  
**Issue No 6 Jan - March 1990**

**Winchester Three**

**Judith Ward**

**Travellers**

**Poll Tax**

**Construction Safety**



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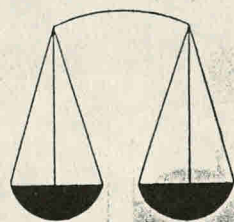
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SHIRLEY REGAN: 272-9230/7594  
HELEN READ: 365-426



# JUSTICE

FOR THE

# BIRMINGHAM

## 6

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

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

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The Irish Voice is produced by the Haringey Irish in Britain Representation Group. The views expressed in articles in the newsletter are those of the authors.

We welcome contributions from anyone, whether it be written material, cartoons, drawings, poetry etc. Our next issue will come out in Spring 1990 so if you have something to contribute or if you want to publicise the activities of your group, contact us at the address/number below. If you have any comments to make or want to raise a certain issue, why not write us a letter which we may then publish? We hope that you will use this newsletter as your voice in Haringey!

Haringey IBRG c/o Hornsey Library,  
Haringey Park, Crouch End, London N8.  
Tel: 348 3351 ext 1432.

## A Forgotten Irishwoman

Judith Ward is the longest serving woman prisoner convicted on Irish political charges in Britain. Arrested in February 1974 following the M62 coach bombing in which nine soldiers, a woman and two children were killed, she has now been in jail for fifteen and a half years.

Judith is an Irishwoman reared in Stockport, who at the age of sixteen went to Dundalk in Ireland to work at a riding school. At the age of twenty one she joined the WRAC but later went AWOL and returned to Dundalk. There she tried to join Sinn Fein but was turned down. In August 1973, a month after her return to London, a bomb exploded at Euston Station and she was arrested after shouting abuse at the police. She was released without charge.

In February 1974 Judith was working with Chipperfield Circus and left their winter quarters on 6 February to travel to Ireland. She was arrested at Liverpool ferry and put under intense questioning about the M62 coach bombing, which had happened on 3 February. After days of sustained questioning she confessed to planting the bomb and she was subsequently charged with both the M62 and the Euston Station bombings. Dr Frank Skuse, the forensic scientist who was later to carry out the controversial tests on the Birmingham Six, carried out tests on her which proved positive. Dr Skuse was retired suddenly in October 1985 on grounds of inefficiency following a TV program questioning the tests he had carried out on the Birmingham Six. Like the Birmingham Six, Judith Ward was arrested on her way to Ireland after a bombing incident in Britain. This highlights the risks any Irish person takes in travelling home at such times with increased harassment at ports and pressure on the police to be seen to be doing something.

The trial of Judith Ward took place at Wakefield Crown Court in October 1974. The Guildford bombings took place during the trial and the media was baying for blood. At her trial, Judith denied the statements she had made to the police claiming that they had been made under severe pressure. She produced witnesses Jimmy Chipperfield and employees at the circus to prove that she was 200 miles away at Chipping Norton at the time of the bombing. There was no identification or finger print evidence against her. The only evidence was her own confession which she denied and Dr Skuse's test which has now been discredited.

The evidence for the Euston Station charge was based on forensic tests taken four months previously, which the police claimed were positive. This raises the serious question as to why the police released her after the Euston incident, if they had such strong evidence.

Judith is now 39 years of age serving her sixteenth year of imprisonment. In 1977 the Home Office removed her from the top security Category A classification. The IRA claimed responsibility for the bombing but denied that Judith Ward had any connection with the organisation.



At her trial an RUC officer said he had questioned Judith in 1972 and she then confessed to giving information to the Official IRA (now Workers Party) which had aided its bombing of civilians at Aldershot barracks. The RUC clearly did not believe her story and did not charge her. She also claimed in her statement to have been the girl friend of Michael McVerry, an IRA volunteer shot by the British Army in November 1973. At her trial she went further and claimed that she had been married to McVerry in the Pro Cathedral in Dublin in August 1973. McVerry's family, associates and former girlfriend all deny that he had any association with her and there is no record of the supposed marriage ever taking place.

*It is clear that the confessions Judith Ward made to the police contained many false claims and contradictions. Why then did the prosecution service, the judge and the jury all accept them as serious evidence against her?*

Judith Ward was just one of the eighteen innocent people taken from the Irish community in 1974 and wrongfully convicted. She has been largely forgotten because she is an Irish woman, a second generation Irish woman and because she was convicted on her own. We must never forget that she was sent to prison because she is one of us and despite the pressure from the British state that we should remain silent, we must take up her case with great urgency. The questions raised by the release of the Guildford Four are all too evident in the case of Judith Ward.

She is an **INNOCENT** Irish woman who along with the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four and the Maguire Seven stand as monuments against the atrocities of injustice imposed on the Irish community by the then Labour Government. These cases were the corner stones of the PTA, brought in to break the Irish community in Britain and to batter us into political silence. You must fight Judith Ward's case now by writing to your MP, to the Home Officer, the Irish Embassy and the newspapers to demand the release of this Irish woman.

**Padraig Mac Rannall**

# Taxing Times

On 7 November 1989, 1,000 people packed into Hornsey Town Hall to protest against the Government's Poll Tax, calling for it to be made unworkable by mass defiance and non co-operation. It was announced that 40,000 Haringey residents were still courageously refusing to return their 'Community Charge' registration forms, despite repeated requests, threats and harassment.

The real battle begins after next April when every Haringey adult over 18 years will be expected to cough up an extortionate **£642** per year each! This figure, the highest in the country, has been forced on Haringey as the Government continues it's war against the welfare state. All working class inner city boroughs have been similarly hit in this attempt by the Government to force the poorest to pay the most for the services we need.

## **There are three main types of Poll Tax:**

*The Business Rate* - this will hit small businesses and will benefit large corporations

*The Short Term Hostel Rate* -paid by the landlord or by each resident daily

*The Community Charge* - for every adult over 18 years (previously only householders were expected to pay, based on the value of their property)

There is a complex rebate system (up to 80%), generally depending on a household's income and savings. However the rebate has to be applied for and the take up rate for such claims is notoriously low. Another worrying factor is that partners will be deemed 'jointly liable' for each other's bills.

## **Who will be worst hit?**

Everyone not paying rates at present will be worse off as they will have to find money for this extra tax. Particularly hard hit will be people in the following groups:

- Low paid workers and the unwaged
- Households with extended families (a household with four adults will be expected to pay over £2,500 per year)
- Private tenants who will have to challenge their landlord to lower their rent- some chance!
- Women who are often low paid or unwaged
- Young people who may be forced out of the home and who are often low paid

- Black, Irish and other minority ethnic households who are often forced to live in overcrowded conditions and who may miss out on claiming rebates

- The elderly, many of whom live on a very low income

- People with disabilities who are often also low paid or unwaged

## **Irish people and the Poll Tax**

Like the other ethnic minority communities in Britain, the Irish will be especially hard hit by the Poll Tax in terms of ability to pay and because of the monitoring of people's movements necessary for the proper operation of the Tax.

Irish people in London have a very low rate of home ownership and a large majority of the young Irish and the elderly live in private rented accomodation, where conditions are notoriously bad and there is often overcrowding. It is unlikely that tenants will be able to persuade landlords to reduce the rent after the imposition of the poll tax.

Many Irish people find work in the lowest paid areas of employment and a large number of young Irish are unemployed. The Tax will be yet another financial burden on these people and many may decide to avoid registering for elections as they know that information from the electoral register will be used by the Poll Tax office. This means that many Irish people will lose their vote in Britain.

## **Sinister**

The Irish community is already subjected to harassment and monitoring under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) under which many thousands of people each year are stopped and questioned. The controls and monitoring under the Poll Tax is yet another attack on the civil liberties of people in Britain and must be viewed with particular concern by Black and Irish people in Haringey who know already the effects of police/state harassment.

Under the Poll Tax all adults will be expected to register where they live at all times. The aim is for every home to have a designated 'responsible householder' (i.e. informer) to regularly provide details of all occupants to the Poll Tax office. This information will be available to all Government Departments and will be available for sale to others. Poll Tax officials now have draconian new powers and a horde of snoopers to investigate all records held on individuals and all Government computerised systems will soon be unified. The Government, through the use of these powers and the expected imposition of ID cards for all is laying the foundations for an effective police state.

### Can it be avoided?

Yes, members of religious orders, (look out for quick conversions here), sentenced prisoners (except for convicted Poll Tax defaulters!), people living on the streets and the severely mentally disabled will be exempt from paying the tax.

But if MILLIONS refuse to co-operate....the Poll Tax is DOOMED!

Half the people in London initially refused to return the registration forms by the due date. Even now, over six months later, nearly one in four people have not registered. This despite the fact that officials are trying to use previously confidential sources of information. (As I write, workers in six D.S.S. offices in South London have gone on strike refusing to pass on information about claimants.)

Meanwhile, in Scotland where the first bills were sent out last April, a third of the population has refused to pay or has defaulted. Local authorities admit that they are virtually powerless to do anything but harass the odd one or two defaulters.

This could mean up to 8 or 9 million non-payers next year in England and Wales leading to the defeat of this hated measure.

*It is interesting to note that the Government has not dared to introduce the Poll Tax in the North of Ireland, where the 1981 census forms were burned en masse. In fact, due to opposition, no country in the world has yet been able to effectively impose a Poll Tax, a 'Tax on Life'. The last, failed attempt in Britain was in 1381, provoking the Peasant Revolts which stormed and besieged central London.*

### Local Campaigns

Anti-Poll Tax campaigns are springing up in every part of the country. Locally the Haringey Anti-Poll Tax Union, who organised the huge Town Hall meeting, brings together all the local campaigns in Tottenham, Green Lanes, Hornsey and Wood Green and South Hornsey as well as helping groups to develop in every ward and on every estate. Half a million leaflets have been given out in the last year. We are asking people to become street reps (400 so far) and workplace reps so that by next April there will be an organised presence throughout the borough, promoting solidarity and defiance.

We are calling on all residents to refuse to pay and for no-one to co-operate with Poll Tax officials. This way we will defeat the Tax and greatly strengthen our confidence and solidarity. We are calling on all residents to refuse to pay and for no-one to co-operate with Poll Tax officials. This way we will defeat the Tax and greatly strengthen our confidence and solidarity

as a community, so that we may stand up together against all forms of oppression and hardship.

### What you can do

- \* Volunteer to be a local street or workplace rep
- \* Contact your local campaign. Get your tenants association, trade union or community group to affiliate to Haringey Anti-Poll Tax Union (HAPTU). We can provide speakers.
- \* Sign the local "I Won't Pay" pledge. Make it your New Year resolution! (3,500 have signed so far)

### Dave Morris Tottenham Against the Poll Tax

#### Contacts:

Tottenham Against the Poll Tax (TAPT) 72 West Green Road, London N15.  
802 9804  
Hornsey and Wood Green APT, Box 40, Reading Matters, The Mall, High Road, London N22.  
South Hornsey APT, c/o 9 Oxford Road, London N4  
263 2847



Saying no to the Poll Tax 1381

*Poll Tax: The Peasants Revolt*  
Design by Mary Baker  
Peasants' Revolt Drawing by Cliff Harper from  
A TAX ON ALL THE PEOPLE: THE POLL TAX  
CPAG Pamphlet 1987 £1.95

# Supporting Travellers in Haringey

The Haringey Travellers Support Group was started in 1983 by a group of people living in the borough, community workers, social workers and Irish community activists who were concerned about the plight of a group of Irish Travellers living in Tottenham. The Travellers were living on a site which did not include such basic amenities as running water, electricity or sanitation - all services which have been taken for granted by the settled community for years now.



The Support Group campaigned on this issue and works to ensure that the Council fulfils its legal and moral obligation to provide all relevant statutory services to Travellers. These services include permanent site provision, social services, environmental health, housing, civic services and access to education and health care. In working towards the provision of these services the Support Group constantly has to fight against the deep rooted and all-pervasive anti-Traveller racism that exists in the borough.

Some progress has been made on site provision: Haringey now has one permanent site which accommodates 12 families, two temporary sites accommodating another twelve families and it notionally has a non-harassment policy towards Travellers stopping on unused and unplanned Council land. However, it is only the permanent site which has proper water, electricity, sanitation and rubbish collection. On the temporary sites, 6 families have to share one cold water stand pipe, share portable toilets and have no electricity. Travellers who stop on the roadside get portaloos but little else and despite Haringey's non-harassment policy they are often forcibly moved on and out of the borough, as happened to an Irish Travelling family at the beginning of September 1989.

## Racial harassment

This family, who had lived in the borough for over two years, were hounded out by racist mobs incited by certain Tory councillors and because of the failure of Haringey Council to resist anti-Traveller racism. Having been moved around the borough a number of times the Travelling family concerned were subjected to harassment and racial abuse by local residents, refused service in shops and were intimidated by hostile crowds where they stopped. Haringey Council's response to this was to ask the police to use the Public Order Act to move the family on. Whatever happened to Equal Opportunities? What about Haringey's commitment to combat racism? Not relevant when it comes to Travellers!

## Police Raid

Travelling families in Haringey face other forms of prejudice and discrimination, not least from the Police and the D.S.S. In July of this year a large scale dawn raid was launched on the Wood Green Site involving over 100 Police Officers with dogs, cameras and video cameras. They were apparently there to 'escort' officers from the D.S.S. who were supposedly checking on alleged fraudulent claims. The site was completely sealed off for two hours with no-one allowed to enter or leave.

Police officers charged into caravans disturbing families with young children, including several children with disabilities. Both adults and children were manhandled, arrested and then taken to various police stations. People were also moved from one station to another, leaving relatives and friends unaware of where they were being held. Benefit books, including Child Benefit allowance books were removed but to date no-one has been charged or appeared in court because of this raid.

*People may wish to reflect on the similarities between this raid and those carried out in the North of Ireland.*

So, while there has been some progress made in the last six years, there is still a long way to go and the need for an effective and campaigning Travellers Support Group is still very much there. We will continue to campaign on issues around anti-racism, on promoting, with Travellers, the culture of Travelling people and on ensuring that Haringey Council does properly fulfil its legal and moral obligations. What is needed above all is enough properly serviced sites, to meet the needs of all Travelling families.

## Martin Tucker

*The Haringey Travellers Support Group meets on the first Monday of each month at 6.00pm at the address below. If you want more information you can contact the Group on 272 9230 or write to them at 72 Stroud Green Road, London N4.*

If you want to show your support for Travellers in Haringey then please complete and send off the form below to your local councillor or to Toby Harris, Leader of Haringey Council.

Please send to: MEMBERS ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, LONDON N22

Dear Councillor

I/We are concerned about the lack of permanent sites for Travellers in Haringey. I/We believe that all the people of Haringey have the right to the provision of decent accommodation with basic amenities. I/We ask therefore that you undertake to provide sufficient permanent sites as a matter of urgency.

Yours Sincerely

Name .....

Address .....

# Your Health - Their Wealth!

## The Construction Safety Campaign

160 building workers were killed in Britain last year. In the last ten years, accidents on sites have killed over 1500 workers. Bronchitis, cancer and other diseases caused by dust and lousy working conditions have led to the deaths of about 40,000 more. Even the HSE admits that at least 500,000 workers were sufficiently badly injured to be off work for three days or more.

It is not the site managers or agents who are suffering because of unsafe working conditions. A plasterer is three times more likely than the boss to die early from lung cancer. Site accidents and the deaths resulting from them are in the majority of cases due to the negligence of management. This negligence should be regarded as criminal and those responsible should be prosecuted in the Crown Court and imprisoned. NO EMPLOYER HAS EVER BEEN IMPRISONED IN THIS COUNTRY FOR CAUSING THE DEATH OF A WORKER. Instead they are fined an average of £400.

*Andy Higgins, local Trade Unionist and Construction Safety Campaign activist, reports on the recent activities of the CSC:*

On 19 October 1989 the recently formed Construction Safety Campaign (CSC) organised a lobby of parliament. The 800 workers and their supporters took this action in order to highlight the death and serious injury to workers on unsafe sites and to point out the need for new laws to ensure that employers who ignore the safety of their workers serve prison sentences.

Of those 160 deaths, 36 were in the London area and of these 36, 9 were unnamed. In other words, they were working under false names or with no identification at all. It suits the lump labour sub-contractors or 'Labour Only' merchants if workers have false ID, as it means that no proper trade union organisation will take place. This means bad working conditions, low wages, no holidays etc. The scramble for ever higher profits excludes all other considerations, including the rights of workers to proper representation.

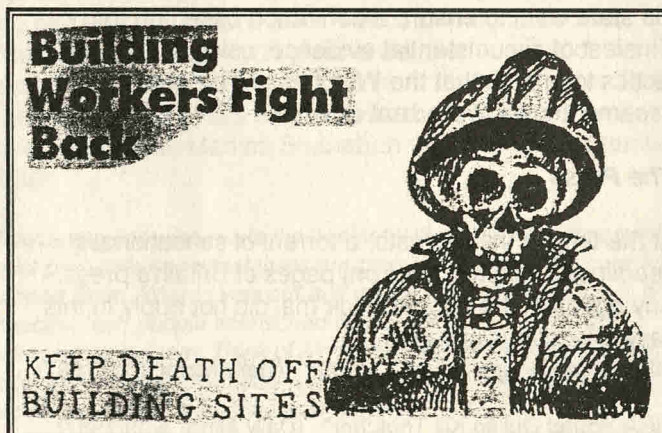
Many young Irish workers find their way into the building and construction industry in Britain. They come into what is a very hazardous and potentially dangerous environment. (After 40 years working on building sites I still get spasms of fear passing some London building sites) Some of the bigger sites have 100 or more sub contractors, making Trade Union organisation very difficult. The CSC encourages all building workers,

young and old, to join their appropriate trade union. The largest building trade union is UCATT which has branches in Haringey and Hornsey, in Finsbury Park, Wood Green and Tottenham. My own branch is at the Community Project on Tottenham High Road.

The CSC aims to unite building workers of all unions and those workers who are not unionised to campaign on the major issue of site safety. To do this we need the widest possible support. We must ensure that all workers, in the building and in other industries, understand the forces (profit making) which lead to the atrocious death and injury rate in the construction industry. So far we have called public meetings, produced and distributed leaflets and we have picketed sites where deaths have occurred. We have attended Coroners' Courts and with the relatives we have highlighted the reasons why these deaths have occurred.

We can send you leaflets about the campaign and about safety on sites and can provide a speaker at your meetings. If you want more information or would like to join the Campaign, you can contact us at the address below:

**Tony O'Brien, Construction Safety Campaign, 72 Copeland Road, London SE15 Tel: 732 3711**



### HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

- TOILETS AND WASHING FACILITIES WITH HOT WATER
- PROTECTIVE CLOTHING FOR WORK IN RAIN, SLEET, SNOW OR HAIL
- SUPPLY OF CLEAN, FRESH DRINKING WATER
- TRAINING AND INFORMATION ON HAZARDS
- HEATED SHELTERS
- PLACE TO DRY CLOTHES
- PLACE TO EAT AND HEAT FOOD

**IF A WORKER DIES ON SITE - STOP THE JOB!**

**REFUSE LOUSY CONDITIONS ON UNSAFE SITES!**

# Justice for the Winchester Three

The PTA

To receive a sentence of 25 years, one would assume a prisoner to be guilty of some heinous or barbaric act. To be found guilty of conspiracy to murder, one would assume that something would be used by the guilty one to commit that murder. To be tried in public in a society which proclaims itself to be civilised, one would assume that the maxim "innocent until proven guilty" would apply.

Reasonable assumptions do not apply when dealing with Irish people charged with offences in Britain. For political charges treatment involves the use of extraordinary powers including the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), press manipulation, direct intervention in trials and the brutalisation of suspects.

To deal with all such cases would take volumes. One particular case is that of three young Irish people, Finbar Cullen from Maynooth in Co. Kildare, John Paul McCann and Martina Shanahan, both from Dublin. On 30 August 1987 Finbar and Martina were arrested in a field in Wiltshire belonging to Tom King, then Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. John Paul was arrested at a campsite in Somerset on the same day. Fourteen months later each was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment, having been found guilty on charges of conspiracy to murder Tom King and conspiracy to murder, with persons unknown, persons unknown. What is most disturbing about this case is the lengths to which the state went to ensure a conviction based on the flimsiest of circumstantial evidence, using a variety of tactics to ensure that the Winchester Three, as they became known, were sent down.

## The Press

At the time of their arrests, a torrent of sensationalist headlines spattered the front pages of Britain's press. Any notion of the right to a fair trial did not apply in this case. Headlines included :

" IRA Bomb Drama at Tory's Home" (Daily Mirror 1/09/1987)

" IRA Squad Out To Kill Thatcher" (Daily Mirror 5/09/1987)

" IRA Try To Kill King" (Today 1/09/1987)

" Ray Guns To Guard Queen - Beam Seeks Out Hidden Bombs" (Today 2/09/1987)

" Hunt For New IRA Super Bombs" (Today 7/09/1989)

There is no need to elaborate on the objectivity of this type of headline nor on the effect in prejudicing public opinion as to the guilt of the accused. In most countries, such prejudicial reporting would lead to a case being thrown out of court or at least charges being brought against newspapers for contempt of court. Even in Britain, were the defendants not Irish on political charges, such media coverage would not be tolerated by the judiciary.

Another weapon used was the infamous PTA, a draconian piece of legislation directed almost exclusively at the Irish community, allowing for detention without charge for seven days. A police officer at the trial said that had the defendants not been Irish, they would probably not have been arrested - it would have been assumed that they were trespassers or poachers. However, having volunteered to go to the local police station, they were eventually charged under the PTA. The seven days detention period allowed under the Act gave the authorities time to concoct a case. In a normal situation people arrested on such flimsy evidence would be released without charge. Later in the case, the PTA was used to detain relatives and friends of Martina Shanahan and to exclude from Britain Deirdre Whelan, her sister.

Martina, John and Finbar were charged on the seventh day of their detention with conspiracy to murder Tom King and were later charged with conspiracy to murder with persons unknown, persons unknown. They were remanded in custody and spent thirteen months in jail before trial.

## Strip Searching and Isolation

The treatment of Martina Shanahan during this time warrants highlighting. She was completely isolated in Risley Remand Centre for seven months, until evidence of damage to her physical and mental health was presented at the committal proceedings in March 1988. Until then, her only human contact was with prison staff and with her family and friends on visits. No contact was allowed with other prisoners and exercise consisted of one hour's walking per day in a yard 25 ft x 6 ft. Throughout this period she was subjected no less than fifty times to the sadistic and degrading violation of her body known as strip searching..

A High Court Judge was given medical evidence that this treatment was leading to a deterioration in Martina's health and that if it were to continue she would not be in a position to defend herself at the trial. As a result conditions improved somewhat, with some association with other prisoners allowed although the situation remained far from ideal. A further brutal blow at this time was the arrest and detention for four days of Martina's sister Deirdre and brother Patrick, along with a friend. All were released without charge but Deirdre, with whom Martina is very close, was served with an exclusion order, deporting her from the U.K. and barring her from returning. It was not enough to deprive Martina of her liberty; she is now also deprived of even limited contact with her sister, indefinitely.

The charge of conspiring to murder persons unknown was thrown out by the magistrate at the committal proceedings due to lack of evidence, but the defendants were sent for trial on the charge of conspiring to murder Tom King.



However, the Crown reintroduced the persons unknown charge when the case went to trial. This was to broaden the scope of the trial to enable the admission of additional innuendo as evidence to help boost the prosecution's chances of framing the Three as IRA members on a bombing mission. Thus, rather than dealing with one specific case, (where there was significant lack of evidence), the trial was now dealing with an infinite number of plots to murder an infinite number of unknown people with an infinite number of unknown people! Clearly, the range of innuendo admissible as so called evidence was much wider than if only the case dealing with Tom King was to be heard.

### The Trial

From the start, the trial was loaded against the defendants. The location chosen by the prosecution was Winchester, home to seven regiments of the British Army and a Conservative stronghold. The jury were vetted by the Special Branch, despite it not being a requirement of the law. The beginning of the trial coincided with the return of the Conservative Party Conference to Brighton for the first time since the bombing in 1984. Articles about that bombing and about the trial of the Three were placed side by side in the press. Headlines continued to cast the defendants in a guilty light.

The coup de grace was however delivered by Tom King himself. On the day that the defendants elected not to give evidence and to rely on their lawyers' speeches and the lack of evidence, Tom King held an unscheduled press conference to announce a decision that the right to silence was to be abolished in the North of Ireland, saying that it had been manipulated by the IRA. The inference could not have been clearer, yet even then the Judge Swinton Thomas refused to abandon the trial.

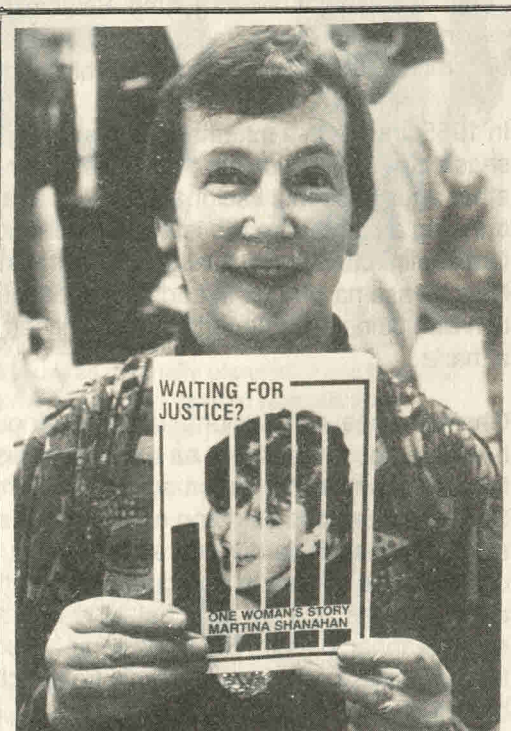
On being sent out, the jury found it impossible to reach an unanimous verdict. The judge then said he would accept a majority 10-2 verdict. When this did not lead to a result, he said the jury as a group had a responsibility to reach a verdict. This amounted to telling some jurors that they should go along with a majority verdict even if they did not agree with it. Eventually the jury found with a 10-2 majority that the Winchester Three were guilty on both counts and on 28 October 1988 they were sentenced to 25 years imprisonment each.

By comparison, in November 1988 a UDR soldier was convicted of passing information including police and military car registration numbers to a loyalist paramilitary group. The sentence in this case was six months.

No evidence was ever found linking the Three to the IRA, no weapons or explosives were found, no agreement to kill was recorded or found. The prosecution's evidence was entirely circumstantial and their case relied on the inferences which could

be drawn from it. Yet another gross miscarriage of justice perpetrated by the British, this case shows the extent of power the authorities have should they want to unjustly imprison young Irish people.

The release of the Guildford Four gives us hope and most importantly it gives hope to the prisoners. As a result of pressure mounted for years, the system found it could no longer sustain such an injustice. In this case, as in others, pressure is essential. You can start by making others - friends, workmates and relatives - aware of the case.



Mary Cullen, mother of Finbar Cullen, at a recent meeting on the Winchester Three

You can write to public representatives both here at home. You can buy the Winchester Three Campaign's booklet, 'Waiting for Justice' which gives a detailed resume of the case and is available price £1.50 from the Winchester Three Campaign. Finally, any contact with the prisoners themselves is very welcome. Martina Shanahan wrote on 23 September 1988:

*"Maybe anyone who reads the booklet will realise how important it is to let prisoners know that there are people out there who care and support them. When I was out and about I thought many times of the innocent Irish people imprisoned over here and I'm sorry now I never wrote to them. Think of all the people who say 'Ah, Well, my letter won't amount to much' - if all the people who said that actually wrote, wouldn't that be truly wonderful. "*

### Roger Smith

**Winchester Three Campaign**  
**c/o Grass Roots**  
**1 Newton Street**  
**Manchester 1**  
**Lancashire**

You can write to the Winchester Three at these addresses:

Martina Shanahan P37693	John McCann T68272	6 July
HMP Durham	Finbar Cullen T68273	1 October
Old Elvet	HMP Frankland	
Durham	PO Box 40	
DH1 3HU	Finchale Avenue	
Birthday 28 April	Brasside	
	Durham DH1 5YD	

Leabhar e seo gur choir a leamh. Beathaisneis i ina n-insionn an t-udar duinn faoina tharla do tareis bais a dtuismitheoiri nuair a bhí se ceithre bliana d' aois.

In 1955, cailleadh a mhathaire le h-aipse agus cupla seachtaine ina dhiaidh sin thainig an t-udar ar chorp a athar agus e crochta i sciobal feirme ar a raibh conai orthu ag an am. Cuireadh isteach in ndilleachtlann e faoi choimirce mna rialta, ait a bhfuair se an droch-ide. Nios measa na sin nior ligeadh do labhairt faoina athair le h-aon duine agus nior insiodh do i gceart riamh ceard a tharla.

Ghoill an sceal ar fad chomh dona sin air gur buaileadh breoite e agus in ainneoin na mblianta in oispideil, fagadh e gan usaid a chosa ag aois a deich mbliana. Sa leabhar, insionn se duinn conas mar a bhraith an sceal don leanbh de reir mar a bhí se ag dul trid. Ni chuireann se millean ar aon duine, ce go bhfuil se thar a bheith tuillte ag a lan sa sceal. Ni chuige sin a scriobh se an leabhar, deir se. Ni iarann se ar an lucht leitheoireachta ach go nglacfaimis freagracht as saol na bpaisti ata inar measc.

Ta se do-chreidte gur tharla a leithead de rud d' aoinne riamh, ach tharla agus ni amhain don udar. Tharla se chomh maith do na ceadta mile daoine eile a togadh i ndilleachtlanna ar fud na tire. Ta a lan scealta faoin ndroch-ide a bhfuair paisti fado cloiste againn cheana agus is minic a dheinimid neamhni doibh ag ra nach dtarlodh a leithead inniu. Ach nil aon laghdu taghta ar an ndroch-ide a tugtar do phaisti agus is doigh liom go bhfuil ceact le foghlaim ag gach duine on leabhar seo.

Mar a duirt me cheana, ba choir e a leamh agus ba choir freisin machnamh a dheanamh ar an leitheoireacht sin. Foilsiodh i dtosach e roimh Nollag seo chaite agus cuireadh an-fhailte roimhe sa mbaile, in Eirinn. Ta se ar fail anois ar £3.95 agus ta se ar dhiol go forleathan ar fud Londain.

## Noirin Ni Riordain

Ta 'The God Squad' ar fail sa siopa GREEN INK, 8 Archway Mall, London N19.

## 'Is sinne pobal na streachailte Claochaionn an cultur s'againne'

## 'We are the people of struggle Ours is the culture of change'

*On 14 August 1989, the people of Derry took to the streets to commemorate twenty years of resistance to British occupation. A locally based group, 20/20 Vision, created a 100 foot banner for the march which featured images from the struggle. We reprint here their manifesto in Irish and English.*

### 20/20 VISION MANIFESTO

Nuair is luachmhaire paisti na buamai  
Is leann siad ar gcuid leabhar fein  
Nuair is luachmhaire an bhean na obair  
Is ni prionsuina ata inar gcuid tithe  
Nuair nach guachfaidh an choir i gcollini  
No nach siulann coimthigh armtha ar na sraideanna  
Nuair is linne na bailte is na goirt fein  
Tuigfidh muid ansin an bhri ata le saoirse.

Go dtige an uair sin beidh ologon is ochlann ar dtire  
Ina n-amhran crionnachta duinn, filiocht fheirge is dochais.

Go dtige an la sin nochtaimis ar gcuid smaointe ar bhallai arda lethna  
Neamhchlaonta, neamhchinseartha a bheas ar mbreitheamh is ealain.

Ach eistigi, dean damhsa dar gceol, diol ar gcuid beatha  
Tabhair aire  
Is sinne pobal na streachailte  
Claochaionn an cultur s'againne

When children are more valued than bombs  
And we write the books that they read  
When women are more valued than work  
And our homes are no longer prisons  
When justice no longer huddles in cells  
Nor strangers crouch armed on our streets  
When we own our own cities and fields  
We will know the meaning of freedom.

Until such time, the cries of our cities and the groan of our land  
Will be our songs of wisdom, our poetry of anger and hope.

Until such time, our watchful murals and graffitied thoughts  
Will be our street newspaper, our uncensored judgement and art.

But while you dance to our songs and mark our lives  
Read our lips:  
We are the people of struggle  
Ours is the culture of change.

# Videos...Videos.. Videos

Both the press and broadcasting media in Britain have a shameful record of reporting on Ireland and Irish people. Racist stereotypes, misleading or false information and an hysterical approach to news from Ireland ensure that the reading and viewing public in Britain get a distorted view of our people both here and at home.

One positive way of challenging people's perceptions about us is to present an alternative view on whatever medium we have access to. Our experience to date, particularly in television, has often been that on the rare occasions when we are invited to participate in programmes, our contributions are edited in such a way that they are less powerful or are excluded altogether. While we must maintain pressure on the existing mainstream media to allow us a voice, we must also provide alternatives ourselves.

A cheap and easy way is for us to show videos of and about ourselves. The Haringey IBRG has a small library of videos which are available for hire by groups. If you are in a tenants', students' or women's group, a trade union or political organisation and you want to inform people better about Ireland and Irish people why not organise a video showing? If you are not in any particular group but could provide an audience for a showing, we can sort out a venue etc. Just contact us at the number below. The hire rate is £5.00 for groups but if you have very little or no funds please do not be put off as we can work out a concessionary rate.

The following is a selection from our library. You can contact us for a full list on 348 3351 ext 1432 (ansaphone available).

## **BUILDING FOR OURSELVES**

This thirty minute colour film, made in 1987 by Activision with the Haringey IBRG, looks at the experience of the Irish community in Haringey.

## **SECOND GENERATION EXPERIENCE**

Irish Video Project 1984 Colour  
What is it like to grow up Irish in London? This 20 minute film features interviews with young second generation Irish people who talk about their identity and experiences of being Irish in London.



## **MOTHER IRELAND**

Derry Film & Video 1988 Colour 52 mins  
Banned from television under the media ban in 1988, this film has since probably got more exposure than if it had been shown by Channel Four as originally planned! It is a powerful film featuring interviews with Irish women who talk about 'Mother Ireland' and what this image has meant for them. Mairead Farrell, murdered by the SAS in March 1988 in Gibraltar, Nell McCafferty, Miriam James, Bernadete McAliskey and others are featured.

## **SUSPECT COMMUNITY**

Irish Video Project 1986 Colour 50 mins  
The Prevention of Terrorism Act, introduced as a 'temporary measure' in 1974, was made permanent in March 1989. Paul Hill of the Guildford Four was the first person detained under the Act and like many others he has condemned it. Featuring interviews with Irish people arrested, interrogated and detained under the Act and then like thousands of others subsequently released without charge, this film examines the workings and effects of the Act.

## **IRISHMEN - AN IMPRESSION OF EXILE**

Forum Television 1965 Black and White 50 mins  
Irish men, many of them from the rural West of Ireland, recount their impressions and experiences of England, where they work on the construction of the Victoria Line Underground and the M1 motorway. This is a haunting film which arouses anger at the harsh conditions of work, the racism and exploitation by contractors and subbies and above all the sense of exile and loneliness in a hostile place. There is also however a strong sense of a culture and history which is maintained in music, song and dance when Irish people gather together in pubs and clubs.

## **Halloween in Haringey**

Halloween in Ireland brings many of us memories of great craic. Eating the barm brack and hoping to get the ring or coin wrapped in greaseproof paper hidden inside....Getting wet and frustrated trying to eat chunks out of apples floating in buckets or hanging on strings...dressing up to knock on doors and collect loads of sweets, nuts and fruit....Enjoying the unusual freedom of taking to the streets and roads on a dark wintry night.

Halloween in Haringey was celebrated by children at the Irish Centre with just as much fun although there was no Trick or Treating. Over 120 young ones packed into the centre to attend a party organised by the Haringey IBRG with the Haringey Irish Community Care Centre and the Irish Centre itself. There was dressing up, face painting and drawing, games, a treasure hunt and a disco as well as food and drink. The disco was definitely the most popular activity with many of the children very anxious to show off their skills on the dancefloor and most of them getting a lollipop in recognition of their talents. I am not sure that they were all that impressed with our generosity but I know that a great day was had by all, including the adult helpers, many of whom were spotted with a lollipop in their mouths as the day drew to a close.

The fact that such a large number of children came to the party (we even had to turn some away) shows that there is a great need for and interest in activities for children in our community. It was certainly the event we got most fun out of organising all year and we hope that in the future we can work with other Irish groups to put on more events.



The IBRG would like to thank all those who came and helped on the day, parents, workers and management members at the Centre, women from the Haringey Irish Women and Children's Group and all the others who ensured the day was such a success. Go raibh maith agaibh go leir.

# Haringey Irish Women's Group

The Group began in October 1987 as a drop-in facility at the Haringey Irish Community Care Centre in Stroud Green. With a high number of Irish women and children living in Bed & Breakfast accomodation in the Finsbury Park area the group proved particularly valuable to those newly arrived from home. It's aim was to provide an opportunity for Irish women to meet, plan activities, exchange knowledge of services and resources and offer support to each other outside of the meetings. Now, having outgrown Stroud Green, the group has moved to the Women's Floor at the Irish Centre in Pretoria Road, Tottenham.

The group is co-ordinated by workers from both centres but discussions about developement, activities, outings etc. are made within the whole group with the workers only taking responsibility for faciliating these decisions.

The Irish Centre is currently funding Creche workers for the group which has use of a fully equipped creche at the Centre. With continued fundraising it is hoped that we will be successful in maintaining the separate child care facility to enable women time for themselves so they can pursue activities of their choice.

So far we have done pottery, jewellery making, batik, aerobics, massage and self defence. During the summer months we have organised outings for women and children alike. For the future, we plan a party and a visit to a panto for children at Christmas, a meal out for ourselves and workshops planned include ones on photography, relaxation and herbal medicine.

*All Irish women are welcome to come and join the group. You can come by yourself or take a friend and the group meets at the Irish Centre every Wednesday from 1.00pm to 3.00pm . Further details from Shirley Regan on 272 7594 or from Helen Read on 885 3490.*



*Enjoying the craic at the Women's Group*

## LONDON IRISH WOMEN'S CENTRE

59 Stoke Newington High Street, London N16  
Tel : 249 7318

Drop - in access times: Tue/Wed/Thur 11.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Welfare Advice Sessions: Tue 10.30am - 12.30 pm Please ring for appointment if possible

Telephone advice and information: Tue/Wed/Thur 11.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 5.00pm

Women's Counselling Session: Thur 2.00pm - 4.00pm Please ring for appointment

*The following groups can also be contacted through the Centre:*

*Irish Lesbian Network:* Meets at the London Lesbian & Gay Centre, 67/69 Cowcross Street EC1 7.00pm - 9.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month.

*Irish Women's Housing Action Group:* Meets monthly. Contact the Irish Women's Centre for details.

*Irish Women with Children Group:* Meets at the Irish Women's Centre Tues/Thurs 11.00am - 1.00pm.

*Video na mBan - Irish women's video production group:* Meets and works at the Centre and welcomes new members. Phone for details.

*Irish Lesbian Line:* Open Wed 7.00pm - 10.00pm

Telephone 01 923 4539 24hr ansaphone

*Courses and Classes in:* Video Radio Photography Irish Language Massage Dance Women in Irish Mythology Women in Irish Literature Creative Writing. Phone Centre for details.

Want to become a member of the Centre? This entitles you to use the facilities and attend classes at the Centre, vote in elections for and stand for the Management Committee and you will receive up to date mailings on activities at the Centre.

The Centre needs your support!

Individuals: Waged £4.00/Unwaged £1.00      Groups: £5.00

Please return this slip with your subscription to London Irish Women's Centre, 59 Stoke Newington Church Street, London N16 0AR. Cheques made payable to London Irish Women's Centre.

Name..... Date.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

Borough of Residence..... Amount.....

# Contacts... Contacts... Contacts

Haringey IBRG meets every two weeks on Thursdays at the Haringey Irish Centre, Pretoria Road, Tottenham, London N17. Contact 348 3351 ext 1432 for details.

**Haringey Irish Cultural and Community Centre,** Pretoria Road, Tottenham, London N17 off White Hart Lane. Classes in Irish language for adults and children, in Irish music and dance including set dancing, Karate, Computing, Irish History, and Aerobics. Contact the Centre on 885 3490 for more details and a copy of their free monthly programme of events. The Centre also houses an Advice Service - contact Helen or Fran on 365 1125 for details

or for advice on any issue. There will be a Youth Club at the Centre from early Spring - contact Mike at the Centre for details.

**London Women and Ireland Group** meets regularly at 52-54 Featherstone Street, London EC1. An anti-imperialist women's group which campaigns on issues related to the war in the Six Counties. Also involved in the organisation of the annual Women's Delegation to Belfast and Derry. Write to the Group for details.

**Troops Out Movement** campaigns for troops out of Ireland and self-determination for the Irish people. Haringey branch meets regularly every two weeks. Contact Troops Out office on 6091743 for further details.

**Repeal the PTA Campaign** meets regularly and works for the abolition of the racist Prevention of Terrorism Act. Contact Mary Connolly at the Irish Liaison Unit, Haringey Council for details on 881 5098.

**Action Group for Irish Youth** promotes the interest and welfare of emigrant Irish Youth in London and publishes the 'Guide to London' for young Irish people. The Guide is an excellent practical handbook with information on housing, employment, social welfare, services for women, Travellers, lesbians and gays. It has addresses and contact numbers of advice agencies etc. and the recent revised edition can be had from the AGIY at 5-15 Cromer Street, London WC1H 8LS, tel 278 1665. (Haringey IBRG has a limited number of copies available free. Contact the office on 348 3351 ext 1432 for details.)



**Haringey Irish**



**Community Centre Ltd.**

72 STROUD GREEN ROAD, LONDON N4  
Telephone: 272 7594 / 9230

**The Centre is open:**

Mon - Thurs 10.00am - 5.00pm

Friday 10.00am - 4.30pm

Lunch break 1.00pm - 2.00pm

Luncheon Club over 60 or disabled

Mon/Tues/Fri 12.30pm - 4.00pm

Tel 263 4194 Residents of Haringey subsidised

Tea Dance Last Thurs of month, Haringey Irish Centre.

**Homeless Drop in Daily**

## EVENTS

**No More Bloody Sundays** - March for British Withdrawal from Ireland - Saturday 27 January 1990 - Assemble Hyde Park 12 noon Rally Kilburn with speakers Sinn Fein, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Guildford Four Campaign, Refugee Forum. Details of creche etc. 609 1743.

**St Patrick's Day march for Justice** Saturday 17 March 1990 in Islington. Join us to march for freedom for all our prisoners and justice for our community. Details from the IBRG office on 348 3351 ext 1432.

**International Women's Day Delegation to Belfast and Derry** - 8 March - 12 March 1990. Registration forms available from London Women and Ireland Group at address above. Forms must be in by Friday 2 February 1990.

**London Irish Players** are seeking new members to cast four plays by Brian Dempsey, which they hope to enter for the Southgate Drama Festival in March 1990. They also run a 'Creative Writers Workshop', chaired by Brian where aspiring writers are encouraged in the art of writing plays, poetry, short stories and the novel. The workshops run at the Haringey Irish Centre, Pretoria Road, Tottenham, London N17, 7pm-9pm Wednesday. The Theatre Workshop runs on Mondays, same time and place.

**Irish Information Partnership,** 11 Campion Road, London SW15 6NN, publishes data on the conflict in Northern Ireland and Anglo-Irish affairs, including statistics on the PTA, Strip Searching etc.

**Homelessness Monitoring Group** is an umbrella organisation of advice agencies, law centres and health workers who pool and gather information on the issue of homelessness. Contact them at 5 Britannia Street, Kings Cross, London WC1X 9JT, tel 837 1436.

**Brent Irish Advisory Service,** advice and welfare centre and publishers of the Irish in Britain Directory which is a comprehensive list of Irish welfare, political and cultural organisations in Britain. Copies of the Directory and a list of other publications available from BIAS at 296 Willesden Lane, Willesden, London NW2 5HW, tel 4549 6286.

**Information on Ireland** publishes books and pamphlets on anti-Irish racism, plastic bullets and a range of issues to do with the war in the Six Counties, censorship etc. A full list of their publications can be had from them at PO Box 958, London W14 0JF.

**Haringey Travellers Support Group** meets first Monday of each month. Contact 272 9230 for details.

**London Travellers Forum** works towards the building of a Travellers Community Centre in London and campaigns against anti-Traveller discrimination and for the democratic, civil, political and human rights of Travellers. Contact Steve Cauley, London Travellers Forum, 5 Britannia Street, Kings Cross, London WC1X 9JT.

Coilin Conneely, Rossaveel (upper), Ballynahown, Galway, Ireland, a traditional Irish singer has produced a cassette of Gaelic songs suitable for learners. Called 'Sheal ag Tarraingt Fheamaine' (A While Drawing Seaweed) it can be had from Coilin at the above address for £6.

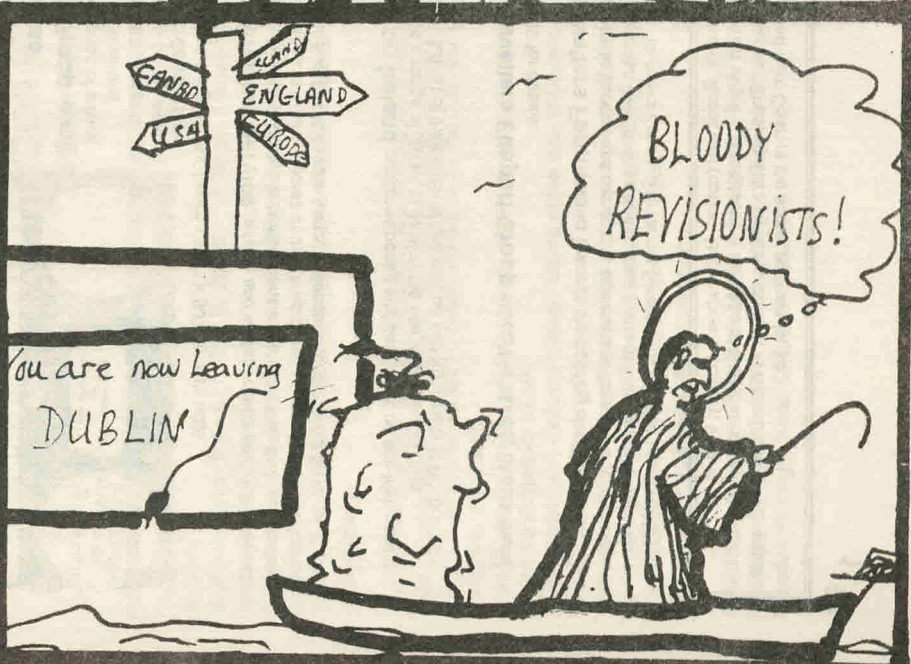
THE ADVENTURES OF S<sup>t</sup> Patrick INTO CONTEMPORARY IRISH HISTORY.



Some time Later, after, having, mistaken, Leinster House, for the Zoo, St, Patrick finds himself among more familiar animals.



Making good his escape, With the Contents of the Reptile house in his odd sack, St Patrick sets sail for Holyhead. Will he be picked up under the British Pets Transportation Act?



WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT?

# JOB FAIR FOR THE IRISH COMMUNITY

SOCIAL WORK

CIVIL ENGINEERING

TEACHING

INFORMATION

ADVICE

HOUSING

LEGAL SERVICE

ADMIN WORK

SATURDAY 27th JANUARY 1990  
SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING  
40, CUMBERLAND ROAD  
WOOD GREEN, N22

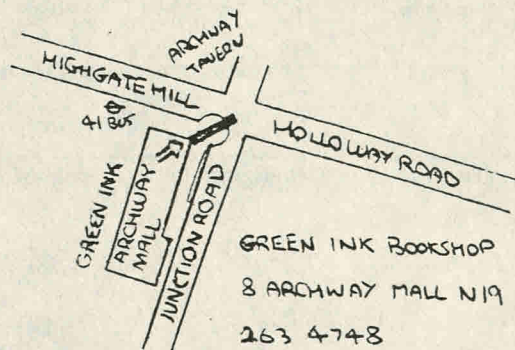
11 am — 4 pm

THE IRISH COMMUNITY ARE ONE OF THE LARGEST ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS IN THIS BOROUGH. THEY ARE SIGNIFICANTLY UNDER-REPRESENTED IN CERTAIN AREAS IN THE COUNCIL AND WE WISH TO ENCOURAGE APPLICATIONS FROM THIS COMMUNITY. IF YOU ARE NOT SEEKING A JOB AT PRESENT, BUT WISH TO BE INFORMED OF FUTURE VACANCIES FOR YOURSELF, FAMILY OR FRIENDS, PLEASE COME SO THAT WE CAN RECORD THIS FOR FUTURE ACTION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION RING: 881 5098

## green ink Bookshop

Green Ink Bookshop stocks a wide variety of books about Ireland and the Irish. Situated in Archway Mall N19, the bookshop is close to Archway Tube Station and the 41 Bus-stop. The shop is open from 10.00-6.00 Monday to Saturday. Why not pay it a visit?



GREEN INK BOOKSHOP  
8 ARCHWAY MALL N19  
263 4748

STOP STRIP-SEARCHES!

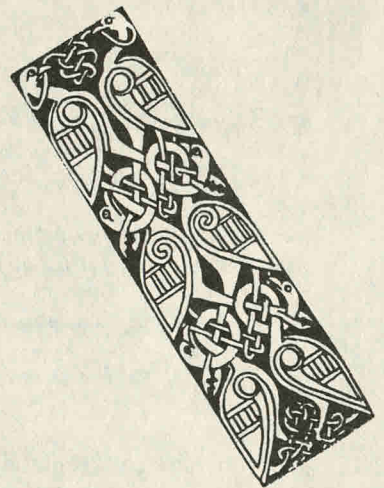
La  
Tóirnáisjunta  
Na mban

International  
Women's Day 1990

Women's Delegation  
To Ireland  
March 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

STOP STRIP-SEARCHES!

Contact London Women and Ireland Group, 52-54 Featherstone Street, London EC1 for further details and registration forms. Forms must be in by Friday 2 February 1990 at the latest.





# Irish in Britain Representation Group

The Irish in Britain Representation Group (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 and political matters. Since its formation, the IBRG has grown rapidly to become an effective organisation, pursuing the interests of the Irish community in Britain.

Although primarily concerned with affairs in Britain, we are also interested in and concerned about events in Ireland. We are a non-party political organisation.

The Haringey IBRG was set up in 1983 and since then we have maintained an active role in the community, campaigning for a fair share of resources for the Irish in the borough. Since 1986 we have been funded by Haringey Council and we have one full time and one part time worker. Our work has included:

- Organising conferences on education, including one on the Irish language
- Organising exhibitions on cultural and political issues
- Challenging anti-Irish racism in the media
- Organising an annual St. Patrick's Day march calling for justice for the Irish community in Britain and the release of our framed prisoners
- Campaigning for the repeal of the racist Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA)
- Running video showings
- Organising Irish language classes
- Working with other groups locally to campaign against anti-Traveller racism and against 'No Traveller' signs and to fight for proper provision for Travellers in Haringey
- Organising public meetings, benefits and dayschools with other groups about the war in the Six Counties
- Monitoring the British press and doing a report on our findings

We are quite a small group of people who meet regularly on Thursdays at the Haringey Irish Centre, Pretoria Road, Tottenham, London N17. We always welcome new members - if you are interested in getting involved in any of the above types of work, or if you have ideas for new areas of work, get in touch by writing to us at the address below or you give us a ring at the Haringey IBRG Project's office.

Membership application form. Please return to Haringey IBRG, c/o Hornsey Library, Haringey Park, Crouch End, London N8. 348 3351 ext 1432

Name..... Telephone.....

Address.....

I would like to join the IBRG and enclose the appropriate fee:  
 £2.00 waged  £1.00 unwaged

I agree to abide by the constitution of the IBRG Signed.....