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# London Met celebrates 30 years of Irish studies

PICTURES BY MALCOLM MCNALLY

THE Great Hall, London Metropolitan University in Holloway, North London was the venue for a celebration of 30 years of its Irish Studies Centre.

The evening included an exhibition, a film screening and a lecture by Professor Shaun Richards and among the guests present were Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn and Irish Ambassador Dan Mulhall, as well as former staff and students of the Irish Studies Centre.

Founded in 1986, the Centre acts as a central point for Irish Studies. It was the first of its kind in Britain and promotes Irish Studies through teaching, research, archiving and community liaison.

Dr Tony Murray, Director of the ISC, said: "I am very

proud to be celebrating this special anniversary of the Irish Studies Centre.

"Over the last 30 years, we have conducted ground-breaking research into the Irish community in Britain, run innovative courses such as the Irish Writers in London Summer School and contributed to the Northern Ireland Peace Process by providing a platform for inclusive dialogue with all the parties involved. In addition, the Archive of the Irish in Britain which is housed here is an academic and community resource with a global reputation.

"The Irish Studies Centre will provide an invaluable centre of excellence for students and scholars for many years to come and promises to play a key role in British-Irish relations in the post-Brexit era."



SHAKE ON IT: Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn and Dr Tony Murray, Director of the Irish Studies Centre, London Metropolitan University Buy this photo DSC\_2512



A TOAST: Jo Skinner, Head of the School of Social Sciences at London Metropolitan University, Jonathan Moore, former Irish Studies lecturer at ISC and Denise Byrne, one of the first Irish Studies graduates Buy this photo DSC\_2501



ARTISTS: Gavin McAlinden, Director of London Irish Rep, artist Eileen Murray and poet Cahal Dallat Buy this photo DSC\_2531



MULTI-MEDIA: Artists Nicola Lane and Theresa Pateman put together the 2004 exhibition 'Slice of Ireland', a multi-media exhibition based on the lives of Irish pensioners in Kilburn. The Irish Studies Centre acquired the exhibition for its archive Buy this photo DSC\_2539



ALUMNI: Sarah Morgan and Jonathan O'Dea are pictured here. Both were students at the Irish Studies Centre and Sarah went on to become Deputy Director of the ISC from 1997 - 2002 Buy this photo DSC\_2522



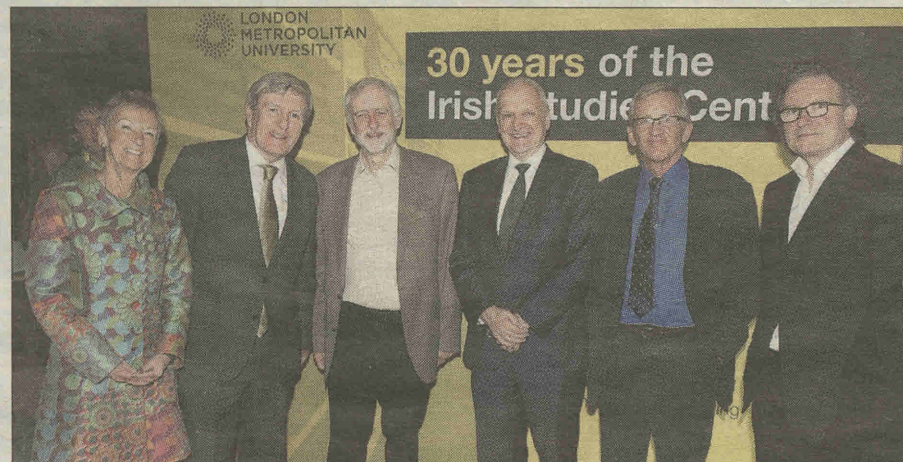
OLD FRIENDS: Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn is pictured with old friend Doris Daly Buy this photo DSC\_2506



COUNTY SET: Mary Allen from the Council of Irish County Associations is pictured with Ruaidhri Dowling from the Irish Embassy Buy this photo DSC\_2543



MEET UP: Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn is pictured with Jonathan O'Dea, a former student at the Irish Studies Centre Buy this photo DSC\_2515



VIP GROUP: Professor Dianne Willcocks, Board of Governors, London Metropolitan University and one of the founders of the Irish Studies Centre, Irish Ambassador Dan Mulhall, Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, Professor John Rafferty, Vice Chancellor, London Metropolitan University, Professor Shaun Richards and Dr Tony Murray, Director of the Irish Studies Centre Buy this photo DSC\_2510



THE WRITE STUFF: Irish Post Listowel Writers' Week competition winner John O'Donoghue is pictured with photographer Joanne O'Brien Buy this photo DSC\_2521

EXHIBITS: Jackie Harnett-Glanville and Ivan Glanville are pictured at part of the exhibition featuring the Irish Post's coverage of the birth of the Irish Studies Centre. Jackie was one of the first intake of Irish Studies students and went on to work as Administrator of the ISC in the mid 90s Buy this photo DSC\_2526