Connolly Association

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Dear Friends, Supporters, and Members,

We in the Connolly Association can be proud of our past, as Derek Warfield, leader of the folk group, the *Wolfe Tones* said recently, "The Connolly Association is one of the few political organisations that have stood the test of time, they have lived through the rough times and never wavered in their campaign to end partition, or in their efforts to enhance and assist the well being of the Irish in Britain".

Our greatest strength is our unfaltering commitment to a united and independent Ireland and our ability to continually take political action, which moves us one step closer towards our goal. Our single greatest challenge now, is that we once again organise and utilise our strengths to step up our campaign to persuade those in government and power of the need for rapid and immediate movement to secure the success of the Good Friday Agreement.

This is the task we set ourselves. We know that the volunteer workers in the CA already do an unbelievable amount of campaign work, much of which goes unnoticed by the public and often for very little reward except for the satisfaction of knowing that their action has moved the case for a united and independent Ireland forward. But we need more active members who can contribute and participate in the work that needs to be done

To meet this challenge we must be more professional in our approach, we must lobby more MPs and influence the decisions makers, we must organise more public meetings, sell more papers and extend the bookshop hours.

Our dilemma is that:

- We have members from Cornwall to Caithness, but not in sufficient numbers.
- We have our paper, the Irish Democrat, but we do not have enough readers.
- The Four Provinces Bookshop, one of the few Irish Bookshops in Britain, with as many books in stock as a Belfast or Dublin bookshop but it does not have enough customers.

Do you want to help? Do you want to play a part in the shaping of a united Ireland?

If so, all we ask is that you to ring the office as soon as you get this letter and offer to help in whatever way you can. There is a role for you in the Connolly Association ... Will you join with us in helping to shape the future?

Yours Sincerely

Jim Redmond

For and on behalf of the Connolly Association Executive Committee