

AN  
**PHOBLACHT**  
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING  
POLITICAL WEEKLY



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IT IS always striking how even the most straightforward events can dramatically illustrate the instability of the six-county state. And this week the visit of 130 Americans is proving that once again.

The leader of the delegation, Noraid's PRO Martin Galvin, has been barred from the North by the British, and now they fear the publicity of his awaited defiance of that ban.

Another member of the delegation has been deported already on arrival in Belfast.

For those not on the tour Britain's fear of scrutiny bears its own clear message — they have a lot to hide.

Those Americans on the tour have been seeing exactly what that is. The repression on the streets and the economic and social desolation are part of that, but so also is the unfailing resistance of the nationalist people.

That resistance was well demonstrated by the open appearance of armed IRA Volunteers in Der-

ry on Wednesday to deliver their own message to the visitors.

But the Dublin government has also put its own weakness and collaboration on view, echoing the British by declaring that Americans interested in the plight

of the Northern nationalists are not welcome in the twenty-six counties either.

That message too will have travelled back to the United States and will have added to the understanding of Irish-Americans

there and consequently boosted further support for the republican struggle.

For it is only republicans who are not afraid to let anyone view the realities of Britain's presence in Ireland.

# Getting the message

**FOR FULL STORY**  
—see page 5

**13th Anniversary  
of Internment**

**March  
and Rally**

Speakers from Noraid, Sinn Fein and Troops Out Movement

**Sunday 12th August**

**BELFAST**

**Assemble 2pm Dunville Park**

**March to Busy Bee**



## OPINION

# Fiscal mugging

THE HALVING of food subsidies by the Coalition government has been described by Sinn Féin as an act of 'fiscal mugging' against the more than one million people in the twenty-six counties who are living below the poverty-line.

The rise in the prices of the most basic food-stuffs — bread, butter and milk — is a crushing blow in itself but further attacks are planned by the Coalition for next month. Already, cuts in children's allowances and taxation of social welfare payments are being suggested.

The arrogance of Garret FitzGerald and Alan Dukes in flying out to holidays in the sun, leaving their civil servants to announce the crippling news, is indeed a gesture of their contempt for the people affected.

But what is perhaps even more contemptible is the obvious fact that none of this uncaring cabinet of muggers actually realised that there would be a major outcry in the wake of the announcement.

So well have they padded their own comfortable lives with salary increases, expenses, perks and subsidised meals that they cannot understand the reality of the poverty which they bring to those they rule.

Dick Spring, the leader of the Free State Labour Party, left 'in charge' to face the music actually suggested that the increase in butter would not affect the working classes because they could not afford to buy it anyway.

Why should he care anyway? He and his cronies now have their eyes on the ministerial pensions which they will get after four years of service. And then perhaps a defection to Fine Gael before the next election. And if not, then haven't they all good well-paid jobs to go to outside of politics?

As unemployment continues to rise, the boot is well and truly being put in against those with jobs, forced to take wage-cuts in real terms, and those without. The working class, which bears no responsibility for the present economic disaster, is being forced by its capitalist masters to pay for it.

Those in the Labour Party like Michael D. Higgins, who pretend to express horror at these continued assaults, yet also provide feeble excuses, are just as guilty as those most directly involved.

Also announced was the abolition of the Land Commission.

Although, because of lack of political will, this instrument of land redistribution had not been allowed to function efficiently, it was, for the small land-starved farmer, the only hope of acquiring a holding of economic size.

Its abolition, therefore, is another signal of the Coalition's intention to further accelerate the EEC policy of sweeping the small farmer from the land to make way for the large rancher.

Available land will now go to the highest bidder. And the introduction of land-leasing schemes will leave those who fight to survive, once again at the mercy of landlordism.



# 'Budgie' starts singing



BY JANE PLUNKETT

THE preliminary hearing against 47 people charged on the word of loyalist RUC perjurer William 'Budgie' Allen, underway since Monday, August 6th, in Crumlin Road Courthouse, has been punctuated by courtroom protests by relatives and by the defendants themselves which on Tuesday led to the magistrate ordering the public gallery to be cleared.

For most of the hearing, only 46 of the accused have been in court. One defendant, 64-year-old Agnes Calderwood, fainted at the start of the case on Monday and has been excused appearing until the final day of the preliminary enquiry, probably next week.

In this latest mammoth show-trial, which has apparently been mounted to present a veneer of 'fairness' to a strategy which is directed primarily against nationalist opposition to British rule, the accused face a total of 227 charges. These relate to incidents including four sectarian killings committed between August 1979 and May 1983, several attempted killings, and alleged plots to bomb a Sinn Féin office, the Falls Road Library and two social clubs and a chapel in the nationalist Ardoyne area. Twenty-eight men are charged

with UVF membership.

Allen himself is currently serving a 14-year sentence for UVF-related incidents including an attempted killing, to which he pleaded guilty, having agreed to implicate others in exchange for a short jail term plus, on his release, resettlement and substantial cash.

## GROOMED

Allen, aged 22, began his evidence on Monday, smartly groomed and dressed in a light grey suit. For much of the hearing he has appeared confident, smiling and grinning.

On Tuesday morning, the father of loyalist Stanley Millar Smith was hustled from the public gallery after he unsuccessfully appealed to Allen to retract his evidence as his own son did last February. Later that day, one of the de-

fendants produced a photograph of his three children and told Allen that their futures rested with him.

He then threw his court papers in the air and swore at the magistrate. As relatives of the defendants jeered and shouted, Allen was rushed from court, apparently in tears, as Magistrate Basil Melvor ordered the RUC to clear the packed public gallery. Two slight scuffles followed, but throughout the week the RUC have been notably restrained with their fellow loyalists and there has been no repeat of the brutal courtroom attack by the RUC which led to the collapse of the recent Kirkpatrick preliminary enquiry.

The case continued on Wednesday with few interruptions. It remains possible, though, that the magistrate could yet terminate the hearing, which would give the DPP the opportunity to swiftly return all 47 defendants for trial through the Bill of Indictment procedure, as they eventually did in the Kirkpatrick case.

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# THE FUTURE FOR LOYALISM

BY PETER ARNLIS

**OFFICIAL UNIONIST MP Enoch Powell** last weekend warned that the **British and Free State governments** planned to set up, before the end of the year, a London-Dublin parliamentary tier consisting of elected representatives of the Stormont Assembly and Leinster House.

He also said that 'traitors' could be found in the Assembly who would go along with the plan. The DUP, to whom he was incredulously referring to, dismissed the allegation and accused the Official Unionists of being more likely to sell out.

Paisley's DUP have attacked their unionist rivals for not wholeheartedly supporting the Assembly, for calling for limited administrative devolution and for a Bill of Rights (instead of full-blown devolution of governmental powers), and for, moreover, preferring integration with Britain to the limited devolution called for in the Official Unionist document *The Way Forward*.

Powell appears to be attempting to curtail the British government's as-yet-undeclared official response to the Dublin Forum report and any substantive move it may be considering making. He is also, in his own blimpish way, lobbying for integration and, with references to 1912, warned the British government that it would forfeit "its right to their loyalty if it put them in a Dublin parliament".

## OBJECTIVE

Apart from such threats of belligerency loyalists have no coherent idea of what their objective would be if they were 'forced', as it were, or nudged by Westminster towards something as modest from the republican point of view as this parliamentary tier.

Their paranoia would have them believe that it was the slippery slope to a 'united Ireland', whereas to republicans it would represent a shrewd attempt by Britain to undercut the struggle and stabilise the situation in its interests.

Some years ago, Paisley suggested that they would fight for 'independence'. Not so long ago Official Unionist Harold McCusker, recognising the demographic supremacy of nationalists west of the Bann, said they might have to go for repartition.

Where would finance come from for the new state?

Would Tory extremists and right-wing army elements back them in their resistance in a re-run of Randolph Churchill's 'Orange card' and the Curragh mutiny. In what numbers would the RUC and UDR desert and become a loyalist paramilitary army, and how united would unionists be — given their business interests — if hope of success was limited and republican resistance solid? Against such political turmoil could the Free State have a singular response and how would it involve itself?

## RELEVANT

These are questions not just for loyalists but for republicans, and though they will only become relevant as positive political change is forced from the British as a result of the armed struggle, they need examining now.

A large number of loyalists, without reference to rationale, would have the power and resources and the desire not just to threaten civil war but to start one, in order to blackmail a British government and reverse a commitment of withdrawing. In the near future loyalists are likely to misinterpret and violently act (via UDA/UVF sectarian assassinations) on a sophisticated British attempt to refine and stabilise the union.

As, for example, London would be doing in granting some crumbs to Dublin and the SDLP as part of their anti-IRA counter-insurgency strategy.

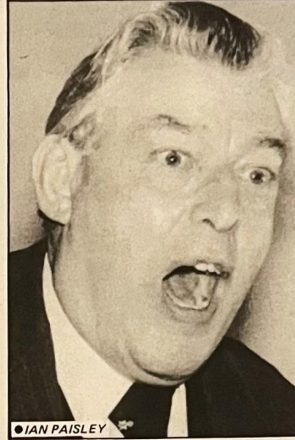
## TASK

However, apart from the last referred to, those other scenarios are several stages and years away from the present.

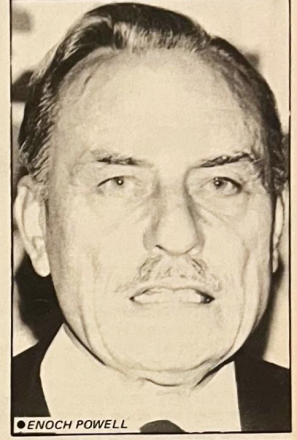
The immediate task in the North is to continue to consolidate the republican base for a struggle aimed at inflicting political defeats on the British (that is, destabilising British rule) by a combination of armed struggle and political advancement until Britain's will is sapped.

The task in the twenty-six counties is to match the successes of the struggle in the North by continuing to build an effective and relevant organisation and to help consolidate a national base for the defence of our struggle for a free Ireland and a socialist republic.

British backing for loyalism, and Free State backing for Britain, remain the major obstacles in our path, with loyalists being the most volatile of the three.



● IAN PAISLEY



● ENOCH POWELL



● UDR and RUC men to desert?

WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...WAR NEWS...

# DERRY GRENADE ATTACK

**ONE RUC man was seriously injured and several others were hurt in a grenade attack in Derry on Monday evening, August 6th.**

In a statement outlining what happened, Derry Brigade said:

"On Monday, August 6th, at approximately 5pm an ASU spotted two RUC landrovers cruising back and forward at Rossville Flats. Aware that a number of petrol bombs had been cached at the entrance to the

flats the Volunteers realised that the RUC had obviously seen them.

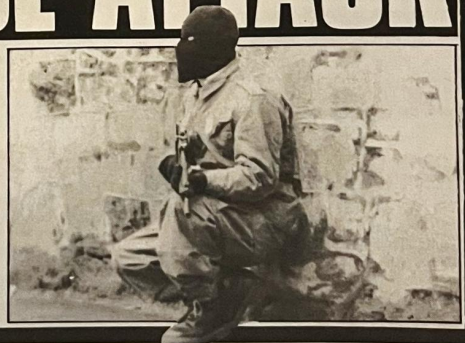
As the landrovers pulled up and the occupants of one approached the cache a Volunteer tossed a grenade into their midst. A number of RUC personnel were injured, one still seriously ill in Altnagelvin

Hospital with leg and neck injuries.

In a blind panic, the remaining RUC men fired in the region of 30 shots all around the Rossville Street area."

## DENIAL

Derry Brigade has denied any involvement in the kidnapping of two Derry children at the weekend and the subsequent robbery of a security firm in the city.





# Gardai remove pickets

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

**STRIKING** busworkers from Phibsboro CIE garage in Dublin picketed the Ringsend garage on Tuesday morning, August 7th, to highlight their six-week-old dispute. They were forcibly removed by gardai after they lay down at the entrance to the garage. A shop steward for the striking busworkers said that the picket at Ringsend was part of a new campaign of disruption as the Phibsboro strike was becoming a forgotten issue.

The strike at Dunnes Stores in Henry Street, Dublin, is continuing. Ten workers, members of the IDATU (formerly IUDWC) are refusing to handle South African produce on sale in the store.

Some of the picketers outside Radio Nova in Dublin were physically attacked last week by scabs passing the picket to go to work. Six journalists, members of the NUJ, have taken a case to the Employment Appeals Tribunal, claiming unfair dismissal, and in the case of two journalists, redundancy payments. A debate arose at the Employment Appeals Tribunal about whether the contract between the journalists and Nova could be considered, as Nova was operating illegally.

The case has been adjourned for a High Court ruling on the issue.

A one-day strike by 500 shop assistants in Waterford on Saturday, August 4th, was in support of a 15 per cent pay claim lodged by the IDATU. Union organiser Jim O'Connell said that shop assistants in Waterford were earning up to £12 less than those in other cities.

The strike by 50 workers at Nenagh Chilled Meats in County Tipperary is continuing after talks at the Labour Court failed to resolve the dispute.

The National Engineering and Electrical Trade Union has informed the Electricity Supply Board that union members at Poolbeg power station in Dublin will go on strike from Monday next, and are consulting with members around the country on the question of extending the strike.

A picket was placed on the Poolbeg station by 50 shift workers after the sacking of 11 workers who were in dispute with the ESB over work practices.

Dockers at Dublin port have re-imposed their work-to-rule after talks at the Labour Court broke down on Tuesday, August 7th. The deep-sea dockers, members of the MPGWU, are all employed by the Dublin Cargo Handling Company which is owned by the Dublin Port and Docks Board.

The dockers had lifted the work-to-rule for a week for negotiations with Dublin Cargo Handling but re-imposed it when the company refused to offer more than a



Striking Phibsboro busworkers highlight their six-week-old dispute by picketing Ringsend CIE garage



ESB shift workers picket the Poolbeg power station in support of 11 sacked colleagues

3 per cent pay rise in the face of their demand for 15 per cent.

In Whiteabbey, County Antrim, 110 workers at the Abbey Meat Packers factory were sacked last weekend after they began an overtime ban in support of a colleague whose wages had been cut by £10.

Following a partial lock-out on Monday, August 6th, the other 350 workers at the plant came out on strike on Tuesday.

Workers believe that management (who have stated that those sacked may apply individually for their jobs back) are attempting to impose a general wage cut and to smash union organisation in the plant.

The suspension of workers at Hansons Clocks in Sligo led to a strike at the factory. 160 workers have now been laid off by the company.

Lough Gill Plastics, also in Sligo, who supply the clock factory, say that 30 jobs

are at risk there because of the lay-offs at Hansons.

Imported flour, which has taken 20 per cent of the Irish market, is stated to be the main reason for the imminent closure of Bolands Bakers in Dublin. Bolands is owned by the Barrow Milling Company, which also owns Corcoran and Company, the mineral water factory in Carlow.

A receiver has been appointed, and there is doubt whether the companies will continue to trade until they are sold. 500 jobs are at risk in the Dublin and Carlow plants.

Two more Winstons stores will close next week, in Waterford and Clonmel, with the loss of 28 jobs. The three remaining shops, two in Dublin and one in Kilkenny, will stay open only while existing stocks last.

Community care workers at the Department of Health are continuing their blacking of directors of the Community Care Service. The dispute is over the government's insistence that directors of the service must be medically qualified.

Phil Flynn, general secretary of the LGPSU which represents most of the workers, said on Thursday, August 2nd, that the situation came about because of the Coalition government's refusal to review the requirements for appointments to the top jobs. He pointed out that a director's role was managerial and not medical.

Premier Dairies, the biggest milk supplier in the twenty-six counties, is seeking 600 redundancies.

Premier propose to close two of its five Dublin milk depots and to contract out the distribution. The contracts will be offered to Premier's present milk delivery workers, who are not included in the 600 redundancies sought.

They will be offered the opportunity to 'buy' their milk round, and will then be considered to be self-employed.

## Enforced holiday

AS Garret FitzGerald and Alan Dukes flew out on holiday and food subsidies were halved, it was also announced that another 1,135 people had joined the dole queues in the twenty-six counties during July.

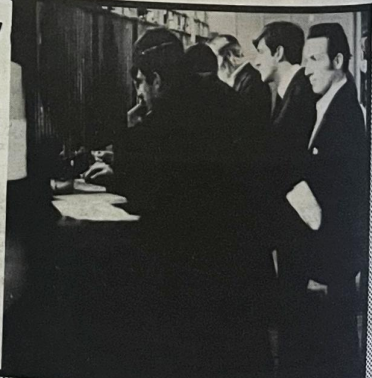
Official figures now put the total jobless at 212,009, over 20,000 more than in July last year.

In the six counties, the number of people unemployed rose by 2,379 last month to 121,636, the highest-ever July total.

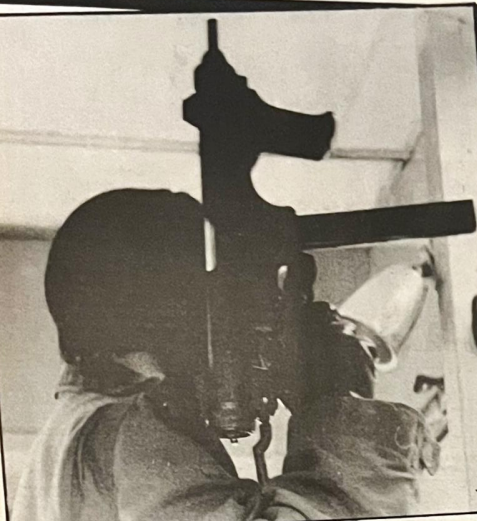
These figures exclude 3,669 young people who left school in June and who have signed the

unemployment register but, under British government regulations, are denied state benefits until September.

Also excluded, as usual, are 10,850 people on the largely cosmetic so-called Youth Training Schemes, plus about 10,000 adults on similar schemes and many thousands of married women and others entitled to state benefits.







# IRA GREETSS NORAIID VISITORS

**ARMED IRA VOLUNTEERS** greeted the Noraid delegation to Ireland when it arrived in Derry on Wednesday this week.

Despite RUC checkpoints throughout the city, two IRA Volunteers armed with Magnum revolvers and a sub-machinegun boarded the buses carrying the delegation as they passed through Creggan Drive.

On each bus a Volunteer read a short statement from the Derry Brigade IRA promising to continue the war against the British occupation forces and reminding the delegation of the IRA's grenade attack in the Bogside earlier this week in which an RUC man was seriously injured.

Delegates cheered and clapped the Volunteers as did local people who were in the area.

And later, as the delegation passed through the Rossville Street area, they saw local youths hijack three buses in William Street.

The tour of Derry city on the fourth day of their Irish visit followed earlier tours through West Belfast on Monday and South Derry on Tuesday.

The delegation assembled in Dublin on Sunday last, beginning its tour with a visit to Kilmainham Jail, where they were shown the prison museum by Joe Cahill.

Afterwards, they proceeded in three buses to the border at Killenear near Newry. There, media interest in the tour, heightened because of the exclusion of Noraid PRO Martin Galvin, brought journalists and TV crews to meet them.

Although Galvin was not pres-

BY JACK MADDEN

ent on the buses, an impromptu press conference was held on the roadside with Rich Lalor, spokesperson for the delegation, reading a statement from Galvin in which he announced his intention to travel North in the near future.

The statement read:  
"The British do not have any right to be in Ireland, much less to exclude anyone from any part of Ireland. I intend to be in the North of Ireland in the near future and further intend to be there after the British terrorists are out of Ireland."

"In attempting to exclude me, the British have made a major blunder, and generated more at-



● Noraid delegates pass Fort Pegasus on the Whiterock Road during their West Belfast tour

tention to the indefensible nature of British rule in Ireland.

"If they persist in their blunder they will only succeed in compelling me to use the ban in creating more attention to, and opposition to, British rule in Ireland."

Throughout the week, press speculation has mounted on whether Galvin will cross the border and if so where. Nor have the RUC taken any chances. Three separate roadblocks faced the delegation between Killen and Newry and at the third of these checkpoints, away from the glare of the media, they searched the buses and provided an unwanted escort from Newry to Lisburn.

Several statements condemning the exclusion of Martin Galvin were issued earlier this week and last week by the Irish American Labour Coalition and by 11 members of Congress who said:

"We consider this decision (to exclude Martin Galvin) to be ar-

bitrary and to be another effort by the British government to oppose an open and free dialogue on the issue of Northern Ireland among concerned individuals and organisations from the United States of America.

"We call upon your government to reverse this decision and permit the entire delegation to commence their trip as scheduled."

After being billeted with nationalist families throughout Belfast, the delegation returned to An Sean Mhúileann Social Club in West Belfast where they were officially welcomed by Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams, who said that while the British, the loyalists and the Free State government might not welcome the visit "the ordinary oppressed nationalist people of the six counties certainly do".

Following Adams' welcome, a lecture on the northern legal system and the show-trials was

delivered by Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane.

Next morning, led by Tom Hartley of Belfast Sinn Féin, the delegation went on an extensive tour of West Belfast, beginning at the Falls Road Sinn Féin Centre and continuing through Divis Flats, Beechmount, Springfield Road, Whiterock Road, Ballymurphy and Turf Lodge.

Besides pointing out local historical landmarks, Hartley gave impromptu talks on the role played by each community to combat British oppression.

Nor did the delegation miss the visible signs of this social and military oppression as they passed through each area. Helicopters flew overhead and in a number of areas British army and RUC patrols passed close by and were clearly annoyed at the scrutiny of the visitors.

The Belfast tour ended with a visit to the Republican Plot in Milltown Cemetery.

Continuing to South Derry on Tuesday, the delegation met members of the families of hunger-strikers Francis Hughes, Tom Elwee and Kevin Lynch. They were joined by veteran republican Kevin Agnew, who gave a guided tour of the South Derry area.

Here, as in Belfast, the delegates stayed with local families and were entertained at specially-arranged functions.

When they left South Derry to travel to Derry city on Wednesday morning, they were again confronted with the hostility of the RUC who mounted five separate checkpoints in the Burntollet area, boarding the buses in each case.

The tour will continue through other areas of the six counties, ending in Belfast at the weekend.

## AMERICAN DEPORTED

A MEMBER of the Noraid delegation who arrived in Belfast's Aldergrove Airport on Monday, August 6th, was immediately deported back to the United States by the British Home Office.

Thomas Gallagher, a welder who works for the US government, booked through the *Irish People* for the Belfast tour. He was met by four RUC men and two immigration officers

when he got off the plane and taken to a small room and interrogated. His passport had already been taken from him.

He was asked to identify people in family photographs he was carrying, and every name and address on a mailing list for postcards was copied, as were all his personal papers.

He was then locked in a cell where he was held for 13 hours, without food.

Eventually an immigration officer and a British Home Office official came in and told him he was being deported and would have to pay the fare of 367 dollars. Gallagher refused to sign any of the travellers cheques he had with him, but he was put on a British Airways plane for New York.

No explanation was given for singling Gallagher out for deportation.



# Belfast abduction

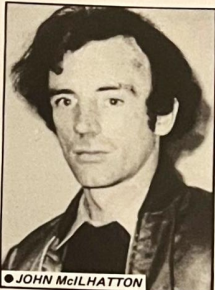
BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

A MAN who has been the object of RUC harassment since surviving a loyalist assassination attempt six years ago has told of a bizarre ordeal at the hands of RUC men last weekend.

John McIlhatton (29) was the victim of a loyalist attack in Antrim in 1978, when he was shot in the arm, head and chest. As a result of his injuries, he spent 14 months in hospital, had two plates inserted in his skull and has recurrent epileptic fits. Two of the three loyalists who took part in the shooting were identified but no charges were brought against them.

On Friday night, August 3rd, McIlhatton suffered an epileptic fit close to the City Hospital in Belfast. He managed to make his way to the casualty department, passing by several RUC men standing in the lobby, and received medication.

As he was leaving at 3.15am on Saturday morning, the RUC men grabbed him, flung him face down into the back of their landrover and brought him to



● JOHN MCILHATTON

an area close to the Hightown Road, a once-favourite dumping ground for the victims of loyalist assassins in the '70s.

There, he says, he was ordered out, beaten, threatened with a rifle and revolver and ordered to climb over a barbed-wire fence and lie face down in a field.

The RUC then drove off and McIlhatton eventually reached a phone-box from which he called an ambulance and was taken to the Mater Hospital suffering from cuts and bruises.

# Ballymun man beaten

and it was therefore no longer valid.

KICK

At this stage, Whitley was grabbed by the two gardai and pushed into a cell. After some time he fell asleep and was then woken up with a kick on the back. Two more gardai again grabbed him and threw him into a squad car, kicking and punching him.

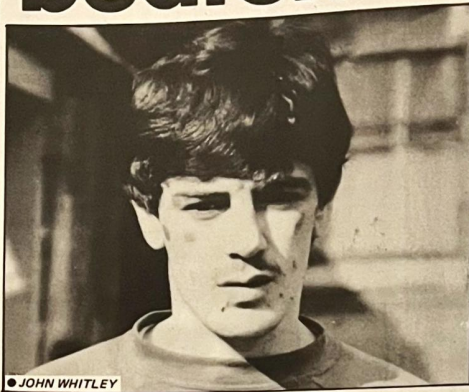
While in the car, one gardai twisted his arm right up behind his back and shouted abuse at him about members of his family. They told him he was being taken to the Bridewell, where he would spend the rest of the night.

Just as the squad car got to Ballymun Road, it stopped, the door was opened and a gardai jammed Whitley's head out, inches from the footpath. He says he does not remember exactly what happened then:

"I was lying on the floor of the squad car, my arm still twisted behind my back and my head was being forced down towards the footpath. I must have passed out at this stage. When I got to the Bridewell I realised my face was badly battered."

ACTION

Whitley was released from custody at noon on Tuesday and immediately went to see a doctor and a solicitor. He says he has lodged an official complaint with the gardai and is considering legal action against those involved.



● JOHN WHITLEY

BY MAIRE DE BARRA

ON Monday night of this week, a young man from Ballymun received cuts and bruises on his face and body after being assaulted whilst in the custody of gardai from Ballymun garda barracks.

At approximately 10.30pm, John Whitley from Poptintree, Ballymun, got off the 36A bus in Ballymun, having come from town after a few drinks with friends.

As he walked towards his

home, he met two uniformed gardai outside the local barracks who informed him that there was a summons inside which contained charges against him. When he went inside, he explained that the charges on the summons were already dealt with in court

# Loyalist bottle

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A NORTH BELFAST nationalist required 17 stitches to a neck wound after he was the victim of a savage attack by loyalists in the city centre on Wednesday night last, August 1st.

At 10.30pm, Patrick Curoe (32) and his wife Joanne were walking up High Street on their way home to the Unity Flats

area. The couple reached the search barriers and then, according to Patrick:

"There were about nine fellows standing there drinking and singing loyalist songs. We were just walking past and one of them rammed a glass in my throat. Four UDR men, with rifles, just stood there and laughed and said, 'Come on, bleed, you Fenian bastard!'"

Curoe fell to the ground, bleeding profusely. His attackers coolly walked off in the direction of the Shankill Road,

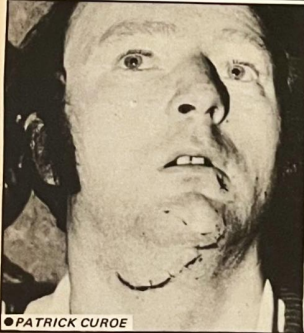
unimpeded by the UDR whom, Curoe believes, had identified him as a nationalist to their fellow loyalists.

Subsequently, Curoe discovered that £33 of the family's supplementary benefit, which he had been paid that day, had 'disappeared' during the attack.

After a considerable delay, Curoe, accompanied by his wife, was taken by ambulance to the City Hospital, where his wound required 17 stitches. He was released at 2am the next morning.

Then, ordered by the RUC despite the late hour, Curoe went to make a statement on the incident to Musgrave Street Barracks, where an RUC man attempted to justify the UDR's non-intervention on the grounds that they are a 'political' force.

Curoe is still receiving out-patient treatment for his injuries.



● PATRICK CUROE

# Twinbrook terror

BY JANE PLUNKETT

MEMBERS of a Twinbrook family were illegally confined under 'room arrest' for nearly three hours on Tuesday morning, August 7th, while the RUC and British army ransacked their home.

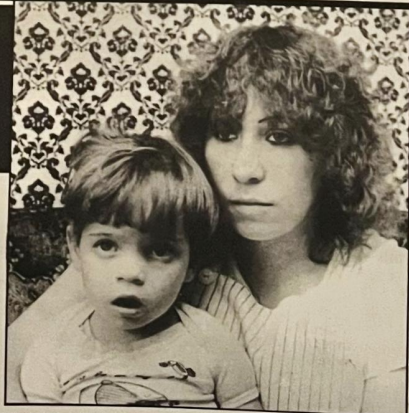
The Guiney family's frightening ordeal began at 5.35am when a large Brit/RUC force surrounded their Thornhill Crescent home. Without producing a search warrant, two RUC men rushed into the house, bringing with them a metal detector, a tool-kit and an Alsatian dog.

During the raid, Thomas Guiney (26), his wife Rose (21), their two young children John Paul, aged four, and two-year-old Ciara Louise, as well as Thomas's sister Angela, were illegally imprisoned in their living-room by two British soldiers. Thomas Guiney's insistence on the family's right to supervise the raid effectively was

contemptuously dismissed by the RUC, who refused to allow more than one person out of the room at a time. According to Rose Guiney:

"They were out in the kitchen and up in the bedrooms at the same time. If they had hidden something out there, we wouldn't have seen, there was only one of us out. It was no use arguing with them over it."

During the three-hour 'search' the raiders rummaged through drawers containing the women's underwear and read personal letters. A bath panel and a drawer were broken and wallpaper was ripped from the wall of the cloakroom. British soldiers also



● (Left) Rose Guiney with her mentally handicapped son John Paul; (right) the damaged central heating system



left. Rose Guiney was exhausted:

"I was wrecked, very nervous. I've never been raided before. There was so many of them, that's what frightens you. It's more like their home than yours when they are in."

pulled out piping from the gravity-feed central heating system, which will require expert repair.

During the constant banging as Brits lifted floorboards, four-year-old John Paul, who is mentally handicapped, began shaking

continuously and became so distressed that the RUC, evidently determined to continue their harassment, but fearing serious repercussions, allowed a relative of Rose Guiney to be sent for to take the child from the house.

At 8.30am, the raiders finally



# STOP STRIP-SEARCHING

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

REPUBLICAN PRISONER Sinead Moore was maliciously detained for an extra four hours before she was released from Armagh prison last Friday, August 3rd. Without giving any explanation to either her or her relatives, who had been waiting outside the gates since 8.30am, she was held until 1pm and only released when pressure was exerted on the NIO.

Sinead Moore (26) from Lenadoon, West Belfast, was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in 1977, took part in the 'no wash' protest and subsequently lost remission totalling two-and-a-half years. Over those years, she, like her other comrades in Armagh, has weathered the storms inflicted by successive prison regimes but in an interview with *AN* she outlined the more subtle repressive policy of Prison Governor Murtagh - the man responsible for the introduction of strip-searching in November 1982. She said:

"Murtagh is into psycho-analysing prisoners. He tries to acquaint himself with their weak points, going to the extent of reading their letters and getting to know their personal problems. For example, he told me to one woman that her father was ill because of her in order to make her feel guilty. He then dangles carrots in front of their noses, such as parole.

## SPYHOLES

"He also comes into the prison at random, even at night. Once I was in my nightdress and he had been standing look-

## 'A straightforward humanitarian issue'

ing through the spyhole at me, I didn't know he was there until he shouted through, I was left wondering - had he watched me undress or had he just arrived?"

Indeed there is very little privacy for the women. They are monitored by warders from early morning and throughout the night. Every movement is written down in a journal, every piece of snatched conversation between them is recorded by the screws.

"When you go to the toilet the bathroom door's not allowed to be closed; there's a Screw in the association room with you, watching TV. You just can't speak freely, they're even sitting behind you at mass."

These petty rules, which have often been connected or twisted by Murtagh to suit his own perversity, have been implemented with a vengeance - any breaches by the women have resulted in heavy loss of remission, privileges and solitary confinement.

But the most alarming development in Murtagh's regime has undoubtedly been the degrading strip-search policy. For Sinead Moore, the prospect of knowing she would be strip-searched on release had been to the forefront of her



• SINEAD MOORE

mind since her release was confirmed a full year ago.

## STRAIN

For months, she explained, she had observed the effects strip-searching had had on remand prisoners, the strain on their faces, the lost sleep and worry they

lived with from one week to the next preparing for the next search.

"I'd only to go through the experience once and that was bad enough but for the women on remand, they live with that feeling the whole time."

Three Screws were present while Sinead was undressing, one looked over the semi-drawn curtain into the small cubicle. As she handed out her clothes, each item was thoroughly searched and its colour written down.

"The Screw stood there and stared me up and down, going over every part of my body - it wasn't a clinical impersonal glance - she scrutinized my body and ordered me to turn around as if I was a cow in the market. I wouldn't turn, so in she came to the cubicle and actually put her hand on my shoulder. Imagine it, you're standing there stark naked, what can you possibly have? She walked round the back, touching me the whole time and leaned over to examine my back.

## DIGNITY

"They leave you standing there naked for as long as they possibly can. It just makes you feel very bitter. They try to make you feel isolated, vulnerable, but you still have your dignity: that's what goes through your mind, if you didn't you would go under.

"This is a straightforward humanitarian issue which I feel all organisations, women's groups included, should take up, no matter what their politics or views. If there were more people, for instance like the MPs who spoke out against strip-searching recently - then I believe the practice would be stopped.

"If people don't keep highlighting this and agitating in whatever way they can, then I fear strip-searches will carry on."

# Armagh protest at Open

AN effective protest was staged at the Carrolls Irish Open Golf Tournament in Dublin on Saturday, August 4th, when Rose Dugdale of Dublin Sinn Féin held up a 'Stop Strip Searches in Armagh Prison' banner on the 18th green.

Bernhard Langer, who later won the competition, was just about to play when Rose made her dramatic appearance, after climbing over a fence, dropping six feet onto the golf course and then jumping over a ditch.

She was arrested under Section 30 and held in the Bridewell for 24 hours before being released without charge.

Over 1,000 signatures have been collected on a petition to stop the strip-searching of women prisoners in Armagh. The petition is part of a campaign launched last week by the Stop the Armagh Strip Searches Committee, who

have also had meetings with trade unionists and representatives from women's groups to expose the harassment of the prisoners.

A photographic exhibition, including a reconstruction of a strip-search, was shown in O'Connell Street on Saturday afternoon, August 4th, and a recently-released prisoner, Linda Quigley, spoke about strip-searching and the conditions in the prison.

The exhibition was taken to Ballyshannon to be shown at the Folk Festival on Sunday, August 5th, where visitors to the Festival expressed horror at the treatment of the women prisoners.



• Rose Dugdale puts a hair in one of the establishment's wads of slime; (inset) she is hustled away by embarrassed guard



• Signing the petition at the photographic exhibition in O'Connell Street, Dublin



# THE BATTLE OF

**FIFTEEN YEARS AGO**, on August 14th 1969, British troops were deployed on the streets of Derry city after a three-day battle between the people of the Bogside and the RUC.

Besides the arrival of British soldiers, the Battle of the Bogside marked a turning-point, with the RUC suffering an embarrassing defeat and the need for an alternative to the tired politics of the old Nationalist Party becoming even clearer.

But what did the Battle of the Bogside mean for the Republican Movement? In this article, *Jack Madden* records those heady days as they are remembered by five republicans in Derry today.

BY JACK MADDEN

**AS CHAIRPERSON** of the Derry Citizens Defence Association (DCDA), which organised the defence of the Bogside in August 1969, Sean Keenan was one of only a handful of republicans in Derry at the time.

Indeed, less than a dozen families maintained the republican tradition in the city, an unpopular minority in the bastion of the Nationalist Party.

Until the events of October 5th 1968, when the RUC attacked a civil rights march in the city, Derry was far from revolution. A single RUC man could safely patrol the entire Creggan estate of 16,000 people and when the first plate-glass window was shattered on the night of October 5th, both the rioters and the RUC stood momentarily in shocked silence at this unprecedented destruction.

By July 1969, all this had changed as the RUC mounted regular expeditions into the Bogside, attacking nationalists. Rioting was now part of life and, with the approach of the annual Apprentice Boys parade on August 12th, the need for an organised defence of nationalist areas became clear.

Nor could the leadership of the Republican Movement at that time be relied on to help in organising such a defence. Sean Keenan recalls a public meeting which he had arranged in Derry the night Sammy Devenny was beaten to death by the RUC.

Both Tomas Mac Giolla and Sean O'Connell, leading members of the Workers Party today, attended this meeting, but says Keenan:

"Trouble began just as the meeting was about to start. The RUC came pouring down and O'Connell and Mac Giolla disappeared."

## ATTITUDE

This desire to steer clear of trouble was even more obvious in the attitude of the then IRA Chief of Staff, Cathal Goulding, when he was visited by Keenan on the eve of the Battle of the Bogside:

"I told him that we needed some help in the Bogside and that the kind of help that we needed was guns. His words were, and this has never been made public, 'I

couldn't defend the fucking Bogside. I have neither the men nor the arms to do it.'"

"A few days later he made a statement that he was sending units into Derry and West Belfast, but there was a rumour going around at that time that they had sold whatever arms they had or gave them away to the Free Wales Army. So he was probably thinking of kitchen units. We got nothing."

But with the formation of the DCDA in July 1969, preparations were already underway for the defence of the Bogside. Just days before the Battle of the Bogside, the efficiency of this defence was helped from an unlikely quarter. Sean Keenan explains:

"I was at the Roger Casement Commemoration the day before the battle. There was an awful lot of newspaper correspondents, the BBC and what-not about. They all knew that something was going to happen on the 12th and we did a kind of deal with them. If they wanted to get taking pictures they would give us two-way radios. They did and so we were in touch with all the different areas right through the battle."

## RIOTING

Present at the outbreak of the rioting on August 12th was Mitchell McLaughlin who joined the Republican Movement three years earlier, in 1966, and is now Sinn Féin organiser in Derry:

"A platoon of riot-clad RUC men were positioned at what was known as the Five Lumps in Waterloo Square. They were stoned unmercifully for about an hour and a half which was totally at variance to all previous confrontations. Normally they would have taken the initiative. When we



Despite far superior weaponry, the RUC were routed by the nationalist community in the Battle of the Bogside, August 1969

reflected on this afterwards, it became clear that this stoning would be the excuse used for an all-out onslaught on the Bogside."

These RUC men were protecting the Apprentice Boys parade which, despite warnings, had been allowed to pass along the Strand Road, dangerously close to the Bogside. But, as McLaughlin points out:

"It would be very wrong to suggest that the Battle of the Bogside happened because the RUC insisted on having a go. The confrontation was carefully prepared by both sides. It was a bit of a set-piece. For a full month before, the air was full of speculation about how it would go. You had people who were afraid and you had young people particularly who were spoiling for a fight."

Although he accepts that for republicans the Battle of the Bogside "was an opportunity not to be missed", Mitchell McLaughlin dismisses the idea floated by the British and the unionists that it had been part of a plot laid by republicans to overthrow the state:

"Within the greater family of nationalists in Derry, republicans were a tiny ineffectual minority. Nonetheless, it is true that republicans would never have been satisfied with reforms and would always have been in the position of confronting the state, in whatever form."

## BATTLE

Even though Mitchell McLaughlin fought as a young republican in this battle, and marched as such on civil rights demonstrations throughout the six counties, he adds:

"We didn't have a brief. There

was no-one saying 'do this which will cause this to happen'. We were running around doing our own thing. The Citizen Defence Committee definitely had an overview of the situation in controlling the Battle of the Bogside, but we fought the whole thing without any reference to what they were doing."

"They had stocks of petrol bombs but it didn't matter to us. We would have stolen their petrol bombs to do our own thing. We were probably as much a thorn in their side as the 'B' Specials and RUC."

Roving bands of young rioters engaged the RUC at different points around the Bogside, but as often as not they were confronted not only by the RUC but by the Peace Corps, a group which had grown out of the civil rights stewards who were firmly controlled by middle-class nationalists like John Hume and Michael Canavan.

According to one man who was a member of the Peace Corps and who asked not to be named:

"The Civil Rights Movement in Derry had been hijacked by the upper and middle classes and what they were out to do was to defuse. I was part of that and at that stage I just didn't realise it."

"We operated out of Watts Distillery in William Street and had badges and cards to identify ourselves. The stewards were all picked as heavies, ex-boxers and things like that. We were actually out to hammer what we thought were the hooligans into the ground."

"And when they started arresting people it wasn't people like myself. It was the ordinary young fellows, and that was different."

They were hooligans. I believed they were hooligans and they deserved it."

Even as the platoon of RUC men were being stoned in Waterloo Square on August 12th, the Peace Corps were present harassing the young 'hooligan element' as 'traitors' who would get the Bogside destroyed.

## CS GAS

One of the most horrific aspects of the Battle of the Bogside was the use of CS gas by the RUC.

According to Mitchell McLaughlin:

"Once they started bringing up the jeeps, the RUC fired salvo after salvo of tear gas into the crowd. You literally couldn't see where you were going. Then suddenly they shot forward in their jeeps and were in behind the crowd. They piled out wearing their gasmasks and must have lifted about a good dozen rioters. That was the only time it worked for them because it was the first time."

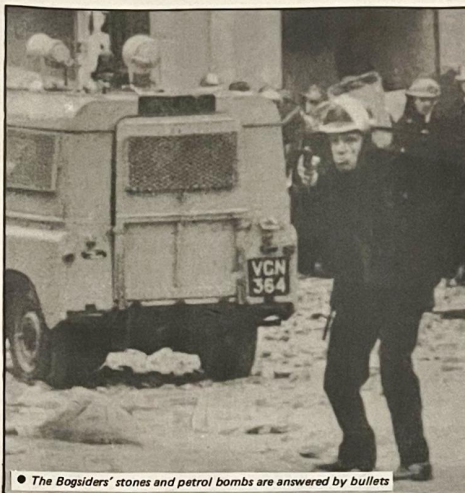
Rags soaked in vinegar were used to counteract the gas which covered the Bogside throughout the Battle. It was only when the wind shifted and carried the gas back towards the 'moderates' in the suburbs that objections were raised about it.

Although the hardest fighting was on the ground along the fringe of the Bogside, the main stumbling block to the RUC was the use by rioters of the roof of Rossville Flats. According to Sean Keenan:

"People ask who thought of putting boys up on top of the



# THE BOGSIDE



● The Bogside's stones and petrol bombs are answered by bullets



● A Bogside with petrol bomb



● An RUC man with CS gas gun

high flats with petrol bombs. Nobody thought of it. It was just something that developed over the first couple of days and only for it the RUC would have overrun the place."

Mitchell McLaughlin adds: "It wasn't that they were hitting them so accurately. From eight floors up there was no way they could throw petrol bombs with pinpoint accuracy and for every 100 thrown less than five would have hit their target. But it seemed to be a psychological block for the RUC."

## RALLIED

As the RUC were joined by the 'B' Specials and loyalist mobs, the entire community rallied to the defence of the Bogside. In the words of Sean Keenan, then a university student and now Sinn Féin PRO in Derry:

"It was probably the only time that the whole of Bogside and Creggan — and you have to include Creggan in this — were actually behind what was happening."

Agreeing with this, recently-released POW Tommy Collins, who was a young teenager at the time, adds:

"People who might have been on the sidelines realised how bigoted and how much under the influence of the Orange Order the RUC were. Our family had been brought up to think of the RUC as Z-car types who were OK."

"This changed in stark terms because I remember — we lived in Rossville Flats at the time — all the women on our balcony, the 8th, throwing bottles. The RUC were trying to arrest a fella down in our big car-park and the wom-

en, including my mother, throwing bottles down on top of them."

Besides this practical help, the community rallied to give moral support to the rioters. Spectators lined the streets to provide such encouragement. The former Peace Corps man remembers how hilarious such encouragement could be:

"You would have 500 people rioting in William Street and a thousand people spectating. The RUC were getting beat into the ground, but if an RUC man started throwing a stone the crowd would shout 'Ah, look at you! dirty bastard'. And do you see if an RUC man threw a petrol bomb, that was the crime of the century. And they were getting hit with maybe 600 every hour."

## INCIDENTS

There are countless humorous incidents from the Battle of the Bogside, as in most situations, and Mitchell McLaughlin recounts one such incident when he, along with Roddy Carolan, cornered an RUC man who produced a pistol:

"He began firing at us and Roddy said 'It's all right, they're blanks'. I thought that he should know and so we went on pelting him with stones until there was a shout behind us that someone had been shot."

"It was a fella called McCaul and he'd been hit in the foot by this RUC man. Luckily he was a bad shot or my republican career might have ended early. Anyway, next day McCaul's sock was auctioned on William Street."

As the international media homed in on the Bogside, the 'characters' emerged and so too did the foreign students, veterans

of Paris and elsewhere, who came along to help. Seamus Keenan remembers their role:

"There was a lot of jokes going about that the battle had been orchestrated by French and German revolutionaries. There were some of these idiots hanging about, wearing berets and things like that, but I think the Derry people showed these 'revolutionaries' how to conduct a battle, because those people hadn't a clue."

Whether Derry could have withstood the RUC onslaught without help it is impossible to say, but on the second day of the battle, Sean Keenan contacted Frank Gogarty of the Civil Rights Movement, asking him to bring out the nationalist people throughout the six counties. This he did, and from Enniskillen to Belfast, people rioted 'to take the heat off the Bogside'.

## HELP

Other efforts to win help from the twenty-six counties proved less successful. On Sunday, August 10th, a meeting was held in Foyle Harps Hall at which a motion was passed to ask the 'Irish nation' for help in the inevitable fight. According to Sean Keenan:

"Later that night, Paddy Doherty, who was on the Defence Committee, and myself, met John Hume and Eddie McAteer in the Catholic Club in Derry. They

made an appointment for us to meet Jack Lynch the following morning, but when we arrived in Dublin he wasn't there."

"His private secretary sent us from Leinster House to the Free State Department of Foreign Affairs. But the head of that, now President Hillery, wasn't there either, and his secretaries told us that any decisions would have to be taken at Cabinet level."

When the battle was underway, Lynch made his famous speech on television, promising not to 'stand by' while the Bogside was attacked. Sean Keenan remembers:

"Old people and young people, but especially old people, were coming away from their televisions and coming out into the streets talking about it with tears rolling down their cheeks. They were saying 'At last we have somebody in Dublin who is prepared to do something'."

But besides field hospitals along the border, no practical help arrived, even after Keenan did meet Lynch who promised to provide gas-masks.

"But the gas-masks never arrived."

## STANDSTILL

The Bogside fought on, however, and by August 14th they had beaten the RUC to a standstill. And as British troops moved

in and the RUC withdrew, most people celebrated behind the barricades. There were some, including active republicans who did not share this sense of jubilation.

Along with a dozen or so other rioters, Mitchell McLaughlin had engaged the 'B' Specials at a point on Derry's walls known as 'murderers corner' from which the British army subsequently shot several Bogsideers. He recalls:

"There was a changeover and the Brits suddenly appeared at the wall. It didn't mean a thing to us and the battle went on. People came running up shouting 'It's over, it's over', that the RUC had been chased by the Brits and we had won. One of ours answered that 'It's only started'. We didn't see any contradiction in carrying on. Nor did the Brits. They weren't shouting at us, 'Why are you stoning us?'. They just took us on and were throwing stones back again."

Similarly, Seamus Keenan remembers being "nearly lynched" for saying that the British army were the enemy. Within a short period, all of this was to change as the Brits were increasingly seen as an oppressive force. But what of the immediate aftermath of the Battle of the Bogside in relation to the Republican Movement in Derry?

Mitchell McLaughlin reckons that "If anything, the republican position suffered". He adds:

"What you had was an apparent victory — we beat the RUC — but when the British marched in, people like John Hume were telling us that it was an historic victory and things would never be the same again. You had republicans saying that this was the start of it but they weren't being heard."

## HOSTILITY

This view is supported by Tommy Collins who, coming from a non-republican background, did not feel this hostility to the British army and recalls:

"People were looking for an alternative to the Nationalist Party and they saw John Hume as the alternative. They could not see, and I could not see, that John Hume was an opportunist. And if the Republican Movement was a viable alternative, people did not see it as such."

All of this was to change as IRA Volunteers such as Eamonn Lafferty died at the hands of the British army and after Bloody Sunday, but in the interim the Republican Movement had first to sort itself out.

Returning to Trinity College, Dublin, after the summer 'holidays' in 1969, Seamus Keenan joined the college Sinn Féin cumann:

"They were all sitting about, talking about Mao, Marx and Lenin which was all great, but I was sitting there for about half an hour when I asked 'Is there any talk about Ireland here?' They all ended up Sticks."

This drift from the republican position was also clearly seen by Sean Keenan who, after the Battle of the Bogside, thought:

"The time was never more right for the revolution. The revolution was actually on and they couldn't even see it."

It was this failure by the Goulding/Mac Giolla faction in the Republican Movement to provide support for the beleaguered people in nationalist areas such as the Bogside which was to prove the central reason for the split later that year.



# Kevin Lynch commemoration



A COMMEMORATION to mark the third anniversary of the death on hunger-strike of INLA Volunteer Kevin Lynch, was attended by a large crowd in Dungiven, County Derry, last Sunday.

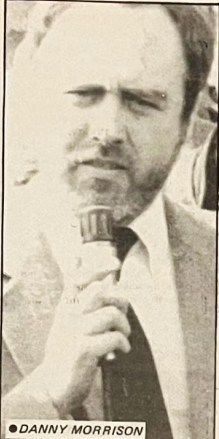
The parade, which included three bands and a group of wreath bearers, silently marched through the town to the sound of a drum-beat. Relatives of several other of the hunger-strikers' families were also in attendance, and walked in the parade which was led by members of the Lynch family.

Messages of sympathy and solidarity were read out at the monument to Kevin Lynch and Kevin McQuillan of the IRSP read out a statement from the organisation. The main speaker, Danny Morrison, Sinn Féin elected representative for Mid-Ulster, was then introduced. Commenting on the sacrifice made by the hunger-strikers, he said:

"What those men did was to redeem with their own lives our struggle, which was at a low ebb."

Morrison, who had met Kevin Lynch in the prison hospital with the remaining hunger-strikers, continued:

"Those were the saddest sev-



● DANNY MORRISON

en months of our lives and yet how hard it must have been for

each man to have continued in the face of British intransigence. And how hard it must have been for young Kevin Lynch when the proof of that intransigence was six dead hunger-strikers, six huge funerals and in their wake, major political repercussions which had not brought the Brits to their senses and to the negotiating table.

"Yet Kevin Lynch and his comrades continued with their strike knowing that the fruits of victory lay in their sacrifice."

Morrison also paid tribute to Kevin Lynch's family in their courage and determination, standing and suffering alongside him throughout the dark days.

He concluded:

"With their support, he was able to cope with the agonising and tortuous battle for life against an enemy without compassion, against an enemy which, while heartless, remains vulnerable to the ongoing struggle of our people, remains vulnerable to the determination of Volunteers inspired by Irish republicans like Kevin Lynch."



## HEROIN MARCH

ABOUT 100 people marched on the homes of two local pushers in Bray on Tuesday, August 7th. The protest was organised by the Bray committee of the Concerned Parents Against Drugs Campaign, and was led by chairperson Phyllis O'Reilly carrying a placard depicting 'King Heroin', a skeleton with a crown of syringes.

She expressed disappointment at the small turn-out, but pledged that the committee would continue to march on the drug-pushers until Bray was free of heroin.

On Wednesday, August 8th, the first march organised by the Sallynoggin Concerned Parents Committee took place. About 400 people assembled at the top of Sallynoggin Hill and marched around the area warning drug-pushers to stop their dealing or leave. After a meeting in the car park at the Deerhunter pub, the march went to Dun Laoghaire to deliver a last warning to a pusher in Smiths Villas, York Road.

# ANOIS IS INNIU

LE TUARAISCEOIR SPEISIALTA

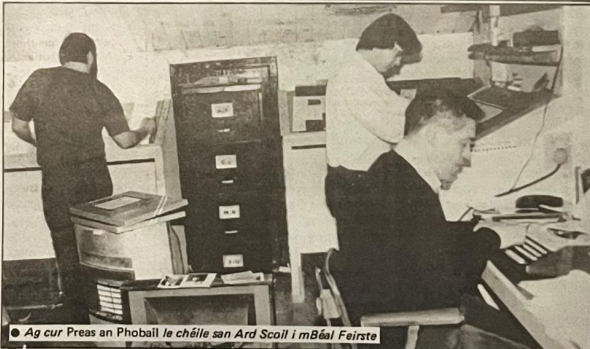
CEANN de na gealltanais ba thuisea a thug Aire na Gaeltachta agus Roinn na Gaeltachta nuair a dh'fhógair siad go raibh an deontas a íoctar le *Inniu* ó 1948 i leith le stopadh, chomh luath agus a chuirfí an deontas nua méadaithe ar fáil do Ghael-Linn chun *Anois*, nuachtán nua Domhnaigh a thabhairt ar an saol, ná go bhféachfaí chuige go gcuíteofaí an fhoireann dhíograiseach a chaith a saol ag gabháil den pháipéar agus nach raibh oiread is pinsean acu, i ndeireadh na mblianta fada a chaith siad ar thuarastál íseal.

Tá an chuma ar an scéal go bhfuil moill nach beag déanta ag Roinn na Gaeltachta ar an bplé a bhaineann leis an gnó seo agus cé go bhfuil *Inniu* le scor i gceann cúpla seachtainí, tá an éiginnteacht chéanna ag baint leis na socrúithe don fhoireann agus a bhaineann le soláthar deontais agus córas bainistíochta an pháipéir nua. I dtéarmaí praiticiúla, níl ach irisoirín leana amháin ag *Inniu* le bliain go leith anuas, ó uair a cailleadh Ciarán Ó Nualláin go tobann, agus d'íorigh Breandán Ó Cathasaigh as a phost mar thuairisceoir.

Ar Thárlach Ó Uid, an tEagarthóir, a thit tromlach na hoibre eagarthóir-eachta ó shin. Tá 67 mbliana síanaithe aige, agus tá sé gan pinsean cé go bhfuil sé ag obair le *Inniu* ó 1949 i leith. Tuigtear d'ádh go bhfuil Roinn na Gaeltachta sásta i bprionsabal é a chéiteamh i ngeall ar a dhíríocht shaolín don Ghaeilge, cé gur mó an fonn atá ar mhaolrathas na seirbhíse poiblí cnaphuim (nach mbeadh níos mó ná an meid a thuilleann go leor stáitseirbhísh in imeachta bhliana nó dhó) ná pinsean sáúil a chur ar fáil. Géilltear i gcás Uí Uid, ar a laghad, go bhfuil dualgas mórálta an-mhór i gceist.

### CEISTEANNA

Ach cad mar gheall ar an gcuid eile den fhoireann? Tá Seosamh Mac Dónaill, Bainisteoir fógraíochta, fós faoi bhun aois



● Ag cur Preas an Phobail le chéile san Ard Scoil i mBéal Feirste

## PREAS AN PHOBAIL

TÁ RÚN ag Preas an Phobail, an nuachtán seachtanúil Gaeilge a bhí i sáinn le tamaillín anuas éacht stairiúil a chur i gcrích Dé Luain, 13 Lúna-sa nuair a fhoilseoidh siad an chéad eagrán de pháipéar laethúil Gaeilge.

LÁ an taimn a bheas ar an nuachtán úr agus ag an tús beidh sé ar fáil i mBéal Feirste amháin. Dar le heagarthóir Phreas an Phobail, Gearóid Ó Cairealláin, éireoidh go geal leis an nuachtán úr.

"Bunafodh Preas an Phobail an chéad uair le nuachtán laethúil i dtéanga na tíre seo a chur ar fáil ach níor éirigh linn ariamh an pleán sin a chur i bhfeidhm", ar seisean.

"Anois tá sé ar ár gcumas nuachtán a chur ar fáil ón Luan go dtí an Satharn gach seachtain. Beimid ag iarraidh an

rachairt a mheas sa chéad choicis agus má táimid sásta le sin beimid á sholáthar in aghaidh an lae go buan."

Creideann an tUasal Ó Cairealláin go mbeidh an scéim ag brath go hiomlán ar na daoine agus dreamanna eag-sula i mBéal Feirste atá báidil leis an teanga.

"Ní bheidh pobal Gaelach ann," ar seisean, "go dtí go mbeidh áiseanna cosúil le nuachtán laethúil, seirbhís cheart chraolta agus mar sin de ar fáil. Seo an chéad chéim sa treo sin."

an phinsin, cé go bhfuil sé beagnach cinnte go bhfuil sé ró-shéan le bheith ag súil go

bhfaigheadh sé post nua ag an tráth seo da shaol. Béal Feirste, 15.08.84

shaol le obair na Gaeilge ó tháinig sé aduaidh tar éis an Chogaídh Mhóir; bhí sé ina Thimire le Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge sar a ndeachaigh sé ag obair le *Inniu* sna 1950í. Ach tá beirt den chúigear clainne a thóg sé le Gaeilge i dtuaisceart chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath fós ar scoil agus ag brath air.

Is cosúil go bhfuil rún ag Séamas Ó Cathasaigh, Bainisteoir *Inniu* agus FNT, lúf isteach feasta le obair FNT amháin agus foirbairt a dhéanamh ar an gnó foilsithe leabhar. Tá clár forbartha foilsitheoireachta réidh ag FNT de réir dealraimh do leabhair i nGaeilge agus don chloí-theach atá acu i gCathair na Mart i gCo. Mhaigh Eo mar a bhfuil nuachtán áitiúil, an *Mayo News* á reachtáil acu ar bhonn trachtálach chomh maith.

Ní léir cén rath a bhéas ar an mbeast seo ach is cosúil go gcinneadh FNT Máire Uí Nualláin (baintrach Ghearbáid Uí Nualláin) — an duine is sinifí den triúr cuntaírfí oifige atá ag plé le *Inniu* freisin — ar an bprá-rola, go fóill ar aon chaof. Maidir leis an mbeirbhan eile atá aon oifig, cainteoirfí duchtas as Camus agus Acaill faoi seach, níl de shocrú déanta dóibh ach gur thug Gaeil-Linn geallúint do Roinn na Gaeltachta go mbeadh bainistíocht *Anois* sásta agallamh a thabhairt dóibh dá mbeadh sé i gceist fóin-tailce a líonadh ar fhoireann an pháipéir go luath.

### FOSTAÍOCHT

Níl cinnteacht ar bith go mbeidh fóin-tailce ann áfach, dir bíonn ualach éadórach ar fhoireann oifige Ghaeil-Linn freisin agus is cosúil go bhfuil dothan sa i gcas scéimeanna eile faoi láthair — go háirithe scéimeanna oideachasúla a bhíonn ag síl le linn na scoilbhliana — le dóthain fóirne a bheith ar fáil d'obair sheolta *Anois*.

Beidh tionchar mór ag dúnadh *Inniu* ar fhostaíocht chéad-díreacha i gCathair na Mart, i gCo. Mhaigh Eo chomh maith, ach is beag ar fad an plé atá déanta ag Roinn na Gaeltachta ná go deimhinn ag Aire na Gaeltachta, ar an scéal seo.

Ní fios an deontas a bheas ar fáil ag *Anois* ach is cinnte go mbeidh sé cuid mhaith níos mó ná iomlán an airgid a bhíodh le caitheamh ag Roinn na Gaeltachta ar *Inniu* agus *Amárach*, agus i gCo. Mhaigh Eo, airgead Roinn na Gaeltachta a chaithear go hiomlán i mBailte Átha Cliath feasta.

Ní bheidh an pholasáí eagarthóir-eachta ag *Anois* mar nach mbeidh aon eagarthóir le fáil sa pháipéar. Gaeil-Linn atá freagrach as an gcomhlach a bhunofaí leis an nuachtán a rith ar airgead an chéad-díreacha a bhéas piosa mhaith níos airde ná iomlán an airgid a bhíodh le caitheamh ag Roinn na Gaeltachta ar *Inniu* agus *Amárach* tréith.

Ní gá d'fhéigirfí Gaeilge a úsáid cé go n-ais-treofar 'cóp' bhéirfí go Gaeilge má thionnail an fogroir. Tá rálla ann freisin go n-áiríodh an páipéar ag cloí leis na cineálacha ríochta tréith Phobail.



## Apology demanded

A Chara,

In a recent issue of this paper, one of your correspondents availed himself of the courtesy of your letters columns to abuse and insult a respected life-long republican who, among other things, was known for his republican principles and who also was one of the founders of the Muintir Wolfe Tone (Wolfe Tone Society), which was responsible for starting the Civil Rights Movement in the six counties. Nevertheless, your correspondent referred to me as a member-on-the-ditch.

A number of older republicans came together to discuss this strange attack on Uinseann Mac Eoin, the architect, and we decided to write you, and others, to complain formally and to request a published apology to Uinseann similar to that published on a similar occasion when Sean Cronin was likewise insulted.

I am against censorship as, indeed, I am required to be as a member of the NUJ, but I would not regard censorship as deterring gratuitous insults to respected republicans. If a point has to be made, logic will be found always more efficient and effective than abuse.

It should not be understood from this protest that I am in agreement with Uinseann concerning the sacking of the unfortunate teacher. The way to end such sackings is to shed our own educational institutions.

Have another look at the Sinn Féin cultural policy.

Dáan Breathnach,  
Dun Laoghaire.

AP/RN editor Kevin Burke writes: The letter referred to would appear to be that from Patrick O'Brien (*Mála poist* July 26th). Had it contained pure abuse and insults I would have banged it. In fact, it was an interesting reply to Uinseann Mac Eoin's letter which itself was written in a somewhat icy style with the word 'perverts' being thrown around by him.

The following week (*Mála poist* August 2nd) Mac Eoin showed himself well able to take as good as he gave and look after himself. Swapping insults certainly livens up this page and, within reason, I am all in favour of it, unless it is against someone who is not in a position to defend themselves. I do not find that republicans, old or young, are so formal and pompous in verbal debate, why, then, should I restrict them in this letters page.

Finally, one correction. This paper has never insulted Sean Cronin and has therefore had no reason to publish an apology to him.

## Seamus Shannon

A Chara,

A short time before Seamus Shannon was taken out of Portlaoise Prison last Tuesday to be handed over to British forces by so-called Irishmen, he had a surprise visit from chief screw John Keavney who shook the hand of Seamus Shannon saying "Sorry Seamus, I am really ashamed to be associated with this, it makes me ashamed to be called an Irishman today."

What an insult from the chief architect of the brutal

# mála poist

## THE DUBS AGAIN

Dear Editor,

Congrats to your sports correspondent, John Joe King, for writing what most people believe, namely that the Dublin team compensates for what it lacks in skill by rough tactics. One of your Dublin letter writers contrived in last week's AP/RN to equate the whole national sporting culture with the Dublin team!

The same writer actually applauded Caffrey's sending-off foul on "Ben 'the garde' Tansy" thereby indicating that Dub supporters don't deny their team's tactics; indeed they glorify them. Can we now expect support for dubious tactics against such as Kerry's John Egan if Dublin and Kerry reach the final because Egan is a garde? The real Heavy Gang are alive and well in the Dublin team, it appears.

This is the real nub. With all due respect to Galway and Tyrone, the expectation is that Dublin will face Kerry in the final. Even the blindest Dub supporter knows that if such a contest is confined to sheer footballing skill, then Dublin will get the '78 and '79 treatment again.

Or maybe Dublin's psychology has developed to

treatment meted out to the prisoners in Portlaoise.

It was this toady and other top officers like Stackpole, Egan, Brennan etc. that delegates of the P.O. Association's annual conference were referring to, when they stated:

"If Hitler was looking for recruits today he would find plenty among the senior staff in Portlaoise Prison."

Seamus Shannon was further insulted to learn that all 123 of his fellow republican prisoners had been strip-searched - some of them had been beaten - because they dared to bang their cell doors in protest when they learned Seamus Shannon was to be extradited.

The person responsible for ordering this strip-search was John Keavney.

Joe McDonagh,  
Sinn Féin POW  
Department,  
Dublin.



SEAMUS SHANNON

## Singing rebels

A Chara,

On Tuesday, July 31st - the last day of my holidays in Carlingford - I decided to join a Sinn Féin protest at the



The Dub Dubs - the real Heavy Gang?

the point whereby they can only win if they have their backs to the wall with at least one of their players sent off - for resisting an "illegal arrest" as one of your letter writers put it last week.

As for Christy Burke's letter on the same subject, all I can say is that if he is having

problems with the 'law and order' mob in RTE and the political establishment refusing to deal with him, then I won't talk to him either if he persists in pandering to Dublin chauvinism for an extra vote!

A Killorglin Journalist  
exiled in Dublin.

Newry/Dundalk border against the extradition of Seamus Shannon to the North.

There was really not a large turnout, but I was delighted when I saw two bus-loads draw to a halt and learned they were from the New Lodge Road.

I just couldn't believe my ears when I heard they had not come to join the protest, but to carry on to watch their idols, Glasgow Celtic, play football in Dundalk.

I learned later that a bar in Dundalk owned by a Belfastman - another Scottish supporter - was invaded after the match, and of course the singing rebels started with *The Boys of the Old Brigade*, *God Save Ireland*, *Billy Reid*, etc.

Sinn Féin supporter.

## Book resource

A Chara,

I wish to let your readers know that the Prisoners Book Resource, which has been in operation since 1982 as the Felons Book Resource, now hopes to expand and coordinate its activities so that all prisoners will have access to newspapers, magazines and books to help continue their education and alleviate the hardship and boredom of the prison regime.

If relatives and friends would bring requests for books to their POW Departments, it would enable us to procure these as soon as possible, and have them sent in to the jails. The co-operation of all is necessary for the success of this very important service to the prisoners.

Anyone wishing to know more about the Book Resource should enquire at their local POW Department, or

contact us directly at the address below.

Ellis Heaney,  
An Rún,  
Prisoners Book Resource,  
26 Clarendon Street,  
Derry.



ZOLA BUDD

## Zola Budd and Zulu blood

A Chara,

The graves of Soweto schoolchildren rumble in dismay; the spirit of Biko recoils in abhorrence. Mandela's chains bite painfully into his wrists. A sigh of protest escapes from the lips of the South African oppressed. What is happening? To find the answer we must look to Britain's lack of the 'Midastouch'.

Gold itself has always been a problem for the black person in South Africa. Not so much the substance itself, but the insatiable greed of people relentlessly pursuing it. Black Africans have been

forced to live a miserable existence in dark mines for a pittance of a wage trying to extract gold for the white man's coffers. Indeed Britain slaughtered many in South Africa in a bid to obtain as much gold as possible for herself, and once again it is Britain and gold which are presently causing more problems for the blacks of South Africa.

Glory by proxy! This is what Britain is providing in electing to become the hand-maiden of apartheid. Strange it seems for the cocky, confident, arrogant Brits to display a lack of confidence in their own athletes. Not so strange is their solution - that of dipping their corrupted hand into the abyss of racist immorality. Go for gold - your souls are sold! Sure what's another mark against you? Especially when its only a black one.

Now that the Olympic fever has hit us - like cholera to anti-racists - the question in many people's minds probably is whether sport should be kept distinct from politics? On a more romantic dimension, of course it's nice to see a young 17-year-old appear from nowhere and pose a threat to the sporting elite of the world. It's a dream we have all shared in one form or another as children. But in terms of social reality the dream becomes a nightmare and is anything but romantic.

South African blacks have, for many years, been subjected to institutionalised violence of the worst possible kind. Words like 'Biko', 'Mandela', and 'Soweto' are indelible imprints on many minds as perennial testimony to the naked oppression of the white-controlled state. Banned from virtually all walks of political life and regularly prevented from meeting together, an obvious outlet for them has been sporting activity.

Black sporting bodies have grown in stature and in international prestige. Steve Biko, who was murdered in a South African police cell, once said that if apartheid in sport could be broken the rest would follow much easier, as the white psychology would suffer a massive jolt.

It is easy to say or demand that sport and politics should be kept separate when sport is little other than a recreational activity. But when sport becomes the only potent form of cultural and political expression left open to a down-trodden and oppressed people, it is very much political.

'White South Africa' should be given no recognition whatsoever, either through proxy or other means. Let the hideous aberration die from lack of moral fibre and support. Miss Budd may pound the tracks of Los Angeles in bare feet, but the reverberations will echo and magnify themselves in her home country - a bare foot in Los Angeles is a jackboot in Soweto.

There should be little doubt that South Africa will claim Budd, if victorious. If so they will enhance the image of their brutal regime and weaken the effect of black sporting activists and anti-racists. So it's worth bearing in mind, if you happen to be cheering Zola, that your cheer will be urged to suppress the will of the oppressed in the mines, shanty towns and gutters of South Africa. 'Black is Beautiful'.

Anthony McIntyre,  
H4, Long Kash.

## Imeachtaí

'ONE MAN'S WORD'

A Video on Paid Perjurors  
4pm daily  
From Thursday 9th August  
to Saturday 11th August  
Just Books  
7 Wintertown Street  
8.30pm Monday 13th August  
Community House  
185a Ormeau Road  
BELFAST

BUS FOR BELFAST  
ANTI-INTERMENT WEEKEND  
Leaves No. 5 Blessington Street  
12 noon Friday 10th August  
Returns Monday 13th August  
Taille €6 return  
Phone Lucilla at 747611 to book

THOMAS McELWEE  
ANNUAL COMMEMORATION  
2.30pm Sunday 12th August  
Ballymacombs Road  
BELLAGHY  
County Kerry  
Prominent speaker

GOS/GAUCHRAN  
COMMEMORATION  
3pm Sunday 12th August  
Assemble Market Square  
March to Dowdallshill Cemetery  
DUNDALK  
Prominent speaker

UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL  
TO LIAM O LIDEADHA  
(Liam Liddy)  
Speaker: Daithi O Conaill  
3pm Sunday 12th August  
ARAGLIN  
County Cork

PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY  
& PUBLIC MEETING  
4pm Sunday 12th August  
The Chieftain Lounge  
Park Street  
MONAGHAN  
Speaker: Linda Quigley  
(ex-Armagh POW)  
Organised by Armagh Stop the Strip-  
Searches Campaign

STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHES  
CAMPAIGN MEETING  
8pm Tuesday 14th August  
Theatre Bar  
Talbot Street  
DUBLIN  
Speaker: Linda Quigley

MARCH FOR  
BRITISH WITHDRAWAL  
1pm Saturday 18th August  
Speakers Corner - Jubilee Gardens  
LONDON

INCHICORE AGAINST  
THE BILL  
Open-air Sing-song & Disco  
8pm Sunday 19th August  
St Michael's Estate  
INCHICORE  
Dublin

BALLYMUN '84  
Music by Christy Moore & Friends  
Sunday 26th August  
Shangan  
BALLYMUN  
Free Event

BALLAD SESSION  
Music by Paddy's Dream  
& guests  
8pm Monday 27th August  
The Hunting Lodge  
Ballyfermot  
DUBLIN  
Taille €1.50

SINN FEIN  
NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE  
10.30am Saturday 1st September  
CIE Hall  
Marlborough Street  
DUBLIN  
Everyone welcome

DANCE  
Friday 28th September  
Jackson's Hotel  
BALLYBOFEY  
County Donegal  
Organised by Sinn Féin







# Widow faces eviction



A 75-YEAR-OLD WIDOW, Rose Clarke, has barricaded herself into her cottage at Rathbraughan, County Sligo, and says she will not leave her home.

Rose Clarke has been living in the house for 40 years, but an eviction order was granted at Sligo District Court by Bernard Mullen of Ballinac who is building an estate of 165 houses beside the cottage. He claims that work is being held up on the final eight houses by her refusal to leave, as he wants to demolish the house.

Mrs Clarke says that she has been intimidated by Mullen for the last two years. Her garden wall has been knocked down and

the garden bulldozed, and Mullen's foreman began hammering on the gable wall at 6 o'clock one morning threatening to demolish it.

Rose Clarke is determined to stay in her home and says if it is knocked down, she will be in it.

Sinn Féin in Sligo, pledging their support for Mrs Clarke, said:

"It is disgraceful the way the law is used against defenceless people."

# ASBESTOS DANGER

ASBESTOS, which has been identified as causing incurable cancer, was left lying on the street in a Dundalk housing estate recently.

The scrap asbestos sheeting had been removed by McParland Contractors, Dundalk, during repair work to houses in the new Aghameen estate. Residents, to their horror, found their children playing with this highly dangerous toxic material. Scaffolding left unattended has also been a danger to local children, and one child has already been injured requiring hospital treatment.



Child playing with asbestos, Dundalk

## REMEMBERING THE PAST Internment 1971

BY PETER O'ROURKE

THE introduction of internment without trial in the six counties in August 1971, instead of smashing the IRA, proved to be a costly tactical failure for the British.

It was the Free State government led by Jack Lynch which paved the way for the introduction of internment in the North. While Brian Faulkner had been considering its introduction for some time, it was Lynch's indication the previous December that he was considering the reintroduction of internment in the South, in response to an alleged plot to kidnap diplomats, that finally reassured Faulkner that it could be introduced in the six counties without arousing much opposition.

Internment began at 4am on Monday, August 9th 1971, with British army raids on nationalist areas of Belfast and in other parts of the North. Men and youths were dragged from their beds, bundled into armoured cars and taken away. Women beat dustbin lids on the pavements to warn the community that British soldiers were in the area.

A total of 342 people, all nationalists, were detained without charge during the first 24 hours of internment. Within days it became apparent, es-

pecially when 116 of the detainees had to be released, that most republicans had escaped the first net which had been cast wide and recklessly.

The internees, initially held at Crumlin Road Jail and on the British prison ship, the *Malstone*, were later transferred to the compound of huts at Long Kesh, outside Belfast, and Magilligan prison camp, near Derry.

Internment, and especially reports of the torture of internees, produced an immediate and violent response throughout the North, in which 22 people died in the riots of the next four days. In Derry, the Bogside and Creggan became 'no-go' areas and a huge rent and rates strike was called by the nationalist community.

Within several weeks of August 9th, it became apparent that internment, instead of smashing the Republican Movement, had resulted in a dramatic upsurge in armed struggle, with the nationalist population rallying behind the IRA to an extent not seen since the Tan War.

★★★★★★★★★★

## BEANNACHTÁI

CAMPBELL, Robert. (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings to our son and brother, Fat. Thinking of you on your special day and every day. Love from Gail, Mary and sisters Kathleen, Marian, Josie, Theresa, Sadie, brothers Christy, Bap, Liam and Tony, nephews, nieces and family circle, Belfast, Newry and England.

CLARKE, Seamus. Since the Irish Sweepstake I didn't win, I have to write you through APRN, and hope the message is printed correctly, 'cos I can't deliver it to you directly. Happy birthday! Much love from Maureen, USA.

DUFFY, Liam. (Long Kesh). Happy birthday, darling. The miles mean nothing. We are together for your birthday. Loving you, Marilyn. UTP.

DUFFY, Liam. (Long Kesh). Happy birthday, Duffs. We are taking very good care of her for you. Love from Trisha, Siobhan, Elizabeth, Megan and Maureen. UTP.

HEGARTY, Ian. (H3). Greetings to Ian, hope you are well and take care. I'm right. From Mum, Peter, Colin, Tom, Loretta, Martin, Bernie, Liam and Cynthia.

KELLY, Jimmy. (Portlaoise). Loving greetings to you on your birthday, Jimmy. Wish we could all celebrate it together. We will drink your health anyway. God bless from Amanda, Ma and Charlie. xxx

KELLY, J.J. (Portlaoise). I'm thinking of you, comrade, on your birthday. Have a good day. You remain in my prayers. From Joe Collins.

KELLY, J.J. (Portlaoise). Congratulations and best wishes for your birthday. See you soon. Regards from Adrian and your club-mates.

WHELAN, Joe. (Portlaoise). A very happy birthday and all our love. We are missing you very much. See you soon. Love, Deirdre and Alan. xxx. UTP.

WHELAN, Joe. (Portlaoise). A very happy birthday to my son, Joe. Lots of love from Maureen.

WHELAN, Joe. (Portlaoise). Birthday wishes to our brother Joe. You're catching up on us now, but we won't let your secret out, though. From Dessie and Marie, Michael and Madeline, Thomas and Monica, Pat and Marion and Nora and Tony and from all their families.

★★★★★★★★★★

★★★★★★★★★★

## IRIS

AUGUST 1984  
ISSUE NUMBER 8

The republican magazine

OSALEEN  
GERALDIN O'LAN  
CRAWFUR.

## Now on sale

THE LATEST issue of *IRIS*, the republican magazine, has just been published and contains a special focus on women in the republican struggle.

Among the articles in this issue are interviews with Sinn Féin women and former women prisoners as well as articles on health, culture and other features.

In addition, the magazine presents a detailed analysis of the harmonisation of the political and military struggle and a full review of IRA operations so far this year.

*IRIS* is available from the usual republican outlets at £1 sterling or IR£1.20 or directly from *IRIS* Distribution, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast (plus 50p p&g).

## APPEAL

STOP THE ARMAGH STRIP-SEARCHES CAMPAIGN URGENT APPEAL

The campaign is in urgent need of funds to cover printing costs and travel expenses. Please send any donations, no matter how small, to: Stop the Armagh Strip Searches Committee, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1



## Irish Lesson 89

THE pronunciation given in brackets is as near as possible to the sound.

CH is sounded as in LOCHERNE.  
D and T before A, O and U are thick, spoken with the tongue pressed against the upper front teeth.  
DH and GH are like a G far back in the throat almost a gargle.

déan (dayn) — do

déin (den) — do

ná déin (naw dayn) — don't do

ná déin (naw dayn) — don't do

oachtanna (kyochturnuh) — lessons

glór (glóre) — noise

raic (rack) — a row, commotion

tabhair (towir) — give

ná tabhair (naw towir) — don't give

docht te (dyuch te) — a hot drink

uachtar roite (lochtur roe-iteh) — ice-cream

seacláid (shoklawid) — (a) chocolate

mar gheall air (mur yowl err) — about it.

Déan do cheachtanna anois — do your lessons now.

Ná déan raic mar gheall air — don't make a row about it.

Tabhair docht te don bhfeir bocht — give the poor man a hot drink.

Tabhair uachtar roite don mbuachaill — give the boy an ice-cream.

Ná tabhair seacláid riann do pháiste óg — don't ever give chocolate to a young child.

Ná déan glór, tá an múinteoir ag teacht — don't make noise, the teacher is coming.

PHRASES

1 — Déan gar dom (dayn gor dum) — Do me a favour.

2 — Ná tabhair an sásamh dó (naw towir un sawsaw dó) — Don't give him the satisfaction.

3 — Ná déan eachtra mór as (naw dayn eachtruh mór as) — Don't make a big thing of it.

4 — Tabhair iasacht dom (towir easucht dum) — Give me a loan.



# REVIEWS

TU

## Full coverage

BY SIOBHAN O'MALLEY

"AT LEAST this year we don't have the tons of lard teetering on the edge of the pool, not able to move till they get into the water," said TV sports commentator Mike Morris on BBC's *Good Morning Britain*.

He was making a sporting non-political comment on the absence of East European swimmers at the Olympics. The guest on Thursday's programme was Sharon Davies, former British champion swimmer, who rejoined that she would have thought "mountains of iron" would be more apt than "tons of lard".

are over, there will be programme after programme of repeats of "great moments of the games".

This is an infringement of sport-haters' rights and serious consideration should be given to a campaign of non-payment of TV licences until this hysteria ends.

Play for Today on BBC1 on Tuesday, July 31st, was *The Cry*, an adaptation of a story by John Montague. It is set in a small Northern town in the late '50s but, in the context of what is happening and has happened in the



● The 'B' Special — the military arm of the Unionist Party — now replaced by the equally obnoxious UDR

North, it could have been 100 years ago.

Peter Douglas was brought up in the town but is now working in London as a journalist. On his first night home he sees a local youth being beaten up by the 'B' Specials. His reaction is to do nothing, it is no longer something that affects his life, but an argument with his father

goads him into writing an article about the incident.

He insists that news coverage can do more to change the political situation than physical resistance, and his father challenges him to prove it. His attempts to interview witnesses, the victim, or the local RUC inspector are met with fear from one side and arrogant dismissal from the other,

and he abandons the article.

The fact that this is how it was and that such attitudes are still common only emphasises the play's message. When the play was filmed, the camera crew were the target of hostility from people in Stralstown in Antrim where it was set.

They deliberately disrupted filming by walking in front of the cameras, and a local

councillor, former head of the local 'B' Specials Association, wanted to know if the actors playing the 'B' Specials were Catholic or Protestant.

It has been proved that bottle-feeding of babies in the Third World has caused disease and death. BBC2's *Open Space* on Thursday, August 2nd, showed a film made by the Baby Milk Action Coalition which strongly criticised the high-pressure advertising campaigns launched by companies such as Cow and Gate and Nestlé.

Even in Western countries, disease and malnutrition in babies have been directly linked to bottle-feeding. This programme showed how much higher the risks were in countries where mothers had no safe water supply and no instruction on the sterilisation of water and utensils.

They also castigated the seeming reluctance of health workers in Third World countries to encourage breast-feeding and inform mothers of the benefits such as natural immunisation.

## Life in a bowl

BY EDDIE STACK

STUCK as ever for choice, your correspondent decided to check out a movie that has been doing the rounds for some time now. Ignored by most of the highbrows that make up the nation's critics, *Rumble Fish* has become that rare thing, the cult movie, i.e. a film with a small and dedicated following who return time and time again to keep the film running when more obvious commercial films have bitten the dust.

*Rumble Fish* is a decidedly good film but a decidedly odd one. It's even odder when you consider it's directed by the same man who made the smash hit *Godfather* pictures, Francis Ford Coppola, one of cinema's most suicidal film moguls. In fact, the Francis Ford Coppola story is worthy of a film in itself, the story of a cinematic kamikaze pilot who, with millions in the bank, ends up mortgaging his house not just on one film but on two when his production costs have wound up bigger than the debt of Brazil and Mexico combined.

If Mr Coppola had the same business morality of say, a Sylvester Stallone, he would be making *Godfather — Part 69* by now, but he got off that particular gravy train and spent all his millions building his own film studio, Zoetrope. After that, it took just one massive flop, *The Star-Crossed One from the Heart*, to put him back on

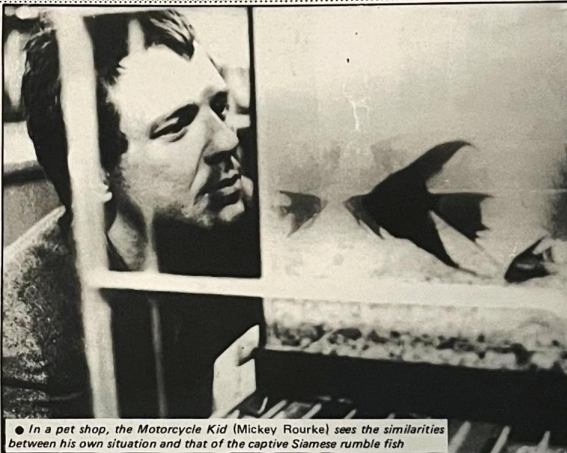
### FILM

Skid Row. In fact, picture, if you can, the agony of a man who has spent £20,000,000 of his own money on a film that the company he works for has decided not even to release. That's what happened to *One from the Heart* initially and it is one of the reasons that Coppola can now only get work on small budget projects.

Enter, therefore, *Rumble Fish*.

### TALENTS

However, *Rumble Fish* makes clear that while Coppola's millions have long left him, his talents have not. The film is based on a novel by cult youth writer S.E. Hinton who previously worked on Coppola's *The Outsiders*. Hinton specialises in themes based around America's ganglands where savage gang-fights are the highlights in the



● In a pet shop, the Motorcycle Kid (Mickey Rourke) sees the similarities between his own situation and that of the captive Siamese rumble fish

wasted lives of ghetto teenagers. Hinton is no shock horror exploitation writer though. Beneath the framework of the pressure-cooker atmosphere on the New York streets, his characters have warmth and depth trying to come to terms in their own way with the sordid world that fate has left them in.

In *Rumble Fish*, Rusty James begins as the new gang leader following the sudden departure of his legendary brother, the so-called Motorcycle Kid.

Ferocious as a fighter he

may be, but Rusty hasn't the brains to convince his gang that he is the natural successor to his brother, particularly as street smarts can often make the difference between life and death. Rusty's home is effectively a broken one, with his mother missing, presumed dead, and his father an alcoholic. All he clings to is the image of his brother as someone worth following to the end of the earth. When the Motorcycle Kid does return, we realise immediately (Rusty does not) that he has psychiatric problems.

However, he still remains the best fighter around, even if he does unconsciously try to tell Rusty that street-fighting is for suckers and that he is wasting his life here in the ghetto in the interminable ritual that is pool-shooting, drinking, woman-chasing and street-fighting.

### METAPHOR

As a story outline *Rumble Fish* sounds fairly straightforward, but in its treatment of it, Coppola gives *Rumble Fish* a rare depth and menace.

For example, the film is shot in black and white with the stunning exception of two Siamese fighting fish who float in their bowl in living colour. These are the rumble fish of the title who will only fight each other in captivity. It's not hard to see that they are a metaphor for the characters in this film, who only fight themselves in the cage that is the life they lead, and it is the Motorcycle Kid's last wish that his brother frees the rumble fish by taking them to the river.

Also helping to make *Rumble Fish* an unusual film is the photography with its intense close-ups and its use of high-speed film, where day turns to night on the big skyscrapers in the blinking of an eye.

The film is dotted with symbols and flights of fantasy: there are clocks in nearly every scene, whether on the walls of cafes or schools, always emphasising the point that time is passing quickly and there is no 'better life' just around the corner. In a moment of sheer poetry, we see the spirit of Rusty James ascend from his shattered body where it goes on a sky-bound tour of the town, where Rusty can see the reactions of his friends to his recent death.

*Rumble Fish* therefore treats a commonplace theme in an uncommon way. While it might strike some people as being too arty or obscure, I'd say it was worth a visit.

# Cuimhneachán Uí Chonaire

LE MARCAS Mac DIARMADA

LÉITEAR an cnuasach seo agus gheobhfar amach an scoth agus an t-olc a bhain den Chonaireach, in Éirinn agus i Sasana. Séard atá romhainn léargas speisialtúil ar neach ar leith, ar a scolaoicéat agus ar a dhrochshaoil ach go háirithe ar an uafas litríochta a tháinig uaidh mar scríbhneoir Gaeilge.

Mar chomórán a chéid sin a bheartaigh Rialtas na Gaeil-tachta ar shraith léachtaí cuimhneacháin a chraoladh fí Phadráic. Teist shamplach is ea an méid sin ar fhídnas Uí Chonaire mar fhear litríochta. Tugtar spleachadh ar a shaothair, ar agus ar a thábhacht leis, ar a shaothlucht. Dfól suime agus ábhar machnaimh ar scríbhneoir agus an náisiún Gaeilach an tsraith i gcoitinne.

### LEABHAR

Déantar an t-ábhar thuasluaite a fhorbairt ar dhóigh atá iontach suimiúil ar fad. Meabhraítear ar a liosta saothair, ar a d'iompar an t-ualach uilig chun go gcuirfí an obair i gcrích, mar shraith raidió agus mar leabhar áris againn.

Déantar trácht ar na coranna a chuir litríocht na Gaeilge di ó saoladóir Phadráic i 1882, cuirtear an Phadráic a

teanga dúchais — tá corradh agus fiche leathanach ar an liosta sin.

### ÁISLING

Orthu sin a d'ullmhaigh saothar don cnuasach, tá an tSúir Eibhlín Ní Chionnaith, Áisling Ní Dhonnachadha, Padraigín Riggs, Declan Kirber, Seán Ó Conghaile. Ba é Tomás Ó Ceallaigh, Leas-Chomhairle Raidió na Gaeil-tachta a chéadcheap an tsraith, a d'iompar an t-ualach uilig chun go gcuirfí an obair i gcrích, mar shraith raidió agus mar leabhar áris againn.

Déantar trácht ar na coranna a chuir litríocht na Gaeilge di ó saoladóir Phadráic i 1882, cuirtear an Phadráic a

d'éag i dTeach na mBocht i Londain i gcoinne leis an scríbhneoir Gaeilge a raibh spiorad ann, fíis roimhe agus aisingheal na saoirse ina pheann. Foghlaimneofar go raibh a linn coranna i saol an údair, trioblóid bhocht chun leanstán den saol, ach lean sé agus scríobh sé go beo, bocht.

Murach é, go deimhin, a chaitheamh a shaoil le soláthar scothlitríochta, a tannas, prós agus beagán próisde, é forleathan i scóip agus maith i gcarachtaracht, ní thiofadh nualitríocht na Gaeilge ón ré dhórach ar ór ná ar airgead.

### SCATHÁN

Níl mé chun trácht anseo ar a chúrsa liteartha, ar an

"deoraíocht", ar chearta an duine, ar Shean Phadráic i mbéal na ndaoine — óir sin atá in "léachtaí Cuimhneacháin" Scathán ar a linn féin atá i bprós Phadráic, mar atá ag Seán Ó Riordáin, ach tá lomchlaí an tsaoil anseo, cor síos ar an chine dhaonna, go macánta, beathafóch agus go hionraidiúil.

Theastaigh uaidh a bheatha a thabhairt, i dtír, é ag scríobh i nGaeilge — ach in Éirinn neamhspleách, gan gailiú, áit nach mbeadh feidhm le Béarla Westminster. Nárbh é an Piarasach, go cinnte, a dírt go raibh sé de dhualgas ar chuille Ghaeilscríobh i nGaeilge?

Tá deáshampla i scríbhinn Uí Chonaire: Oideachas a bhí agus scríobh i nGaeilge, rud a thug an Piarasach, Rialtas Ó Seachnasaigh, Máirtín Ó Cadhain agus a lán a thug a n-uile neart ar son na haislinghe céanna.

Ba é "Cló Chonamara" a chuir an leabhar ar fáil; dream fídnach, díograiseadh iad féin. Níl ach cúpla púnt ar an leabhar — sladmhargadh agaih! Ceannaigh é!

Is gaeilte é teach an Piarasaigh inniu.

Agus teanga an Bhéarla ag lechnú,

Ól gcoinneaf a thír mar a theach,

Ba dheise an t-inniu i ag brathnú;

Ach tíochnaigh ís nár tháinig fós,

Fíneoidh teoil agus lofaidh cónra, Cé go bhfuil Gaeil bsaite atá beo, Tá an Piarasach beo is Ó Conaire. (Johnny Chóil Mhaide Ó Coisdealtba)

Phadráic Ó Conaire — Léachtaí Cuimhneacháin (eag. Gearóid Denver). Cló Chonamara £2.



## SPORT

## REVIEWS



● Galway's Michael Connolly leads a counter-attack, closely marked by Offaly's Brendan Keeshan, Joachim Kelly and Tom Connolly. Offaly went on to overwhelm Galway by 4-15 to 1-10

# Breaking through

BY JOHN JOE KING

THE County of Offaly is a shining example to us all. Not amongst the bigger counties in the country in size of geography or population and without any tradition of GAA success, it broke through in football in the '70s to become an established force.

Now in the '80s it has done the same in hurling, making the centenary final in worthy style and looking more than able to repeat that famous 1981 triumph.

Last Sunday in Thurles, Offaly comprehensively beat a Galway team by 14 points. And don't let anyone tell you that Galway were past their best, they did their damndest, but a very good side was overwhelmed by a superb one.

Offaly's strength is visible in every department — Eugene Coughlan and Pat Delaney in defence, forwards Padraig Horan and the exciting Joe Dooley, and above all, brilliant midfielder Joachim Kelly, the best of his kind in hurling today.

Which all goes to show what coaching can achieve in changing the face of sport, yet another argument for the GAA to launch a national coaching scheme with plenty of finance — the only guarantee of a solid future for both hurling and football in these days of multi-sport.

## MISMATCH

The attendance of less than 20,000 at the Thurles semi-final was disappointing, but what can we make of the mere 2,000 at Croke Park for Cork's mismatch with Antrim?

If boxing rules applied, this semi-final would have been stopped early in the second half to save Antrim from further punishment. Having

held out for the first half with a creditable performance, almost the whole Antrim side threw in the towel when Cork moved up a gear in the second half. It is so sad that, having won the disputed right to a place in the last four, Antrim did not even bother to train for this outing in a serious manner.

Coaching again was the key, obviously, and a missed opportunity for a great boost to the game in the North.

## OLYMPICS

Last week I had written about the Olympics before withdrawing in favour of controversy.

Had my original words been printed I would now, a week later, be feeling somewhat embarrassed by my enthusiastic optimism.

Apart from some remaining track events, the Irish challenge has, as I write, faded. But some of the points I wan-

● Antrim's Michael Carlin (left) gets the better of this tussle with Cork's Jimmy Barry Murphy, but Antrim collapsed after a brave first-half performance. The final score: Cork 3-26, Antrim 2-5

ted to make remain as valid as ever.

First of all, there have been many creditable Irish performances and some bad luck. But what galls me is the lack of detailed attention given to our sportsmen and women by RTE.

I'm not looking for the kind of nationalistic hysteria which the British and US commentators go in for, but the RTE team in Los Angeles could have made much more of Irish representatives, supplying us with background information, interviews and so on in place of some of the totally uninteresting coverage of unimportant volleyball first rounds and the like.

## SPIN-OFF

After all, if these Olympics have any benefit, it is in the sporting spin-off back

at home. There is much of importance in looking at how the Irish participants arrived there.

The lack of training facilities which necessitates sporting emigration to the States; the unemployment of many of those involved; the pomposity in Irish athletics of the kind that refused Eamon Coughlan accreditation to the team; the all-Ireland nature of some sports as against others; the lack of government funding in the light of the very high sporting involvement as represented by the Community Games; the very positive effects internally and externally of a sporting profile — I could list scores more topics for serious examination in the context of these Olympics.

And there is plenty of material for lighter stuff too. Personal background and experiences of people who have

been unknown to most of us before appearing in Los Angeles; the number of Irish names cropping up in other countries' representatives — and so on.

## NAUSEA

Instead, we have the stale relay of much uninteresting film, repeated ad nauseam. The approach is just a technical one with the occasional shout of 'come on our boy' when we have a representative.

Just not good enough. Sport is a very important part of our life and culture; treating it as the same empty spectacle as the 84 grand pianos playing George Gershwin or whatever, is to fall in to the same crass idiotic commercial vacuum that has ruined the 1984 Olympics in general.

# A question of survival

BY RORY O'MORE

LAST SUMMER saw the death by commercial strangulation of the weekend music festivals that blossomed briefly and died out all across the country, including Lisdoonvarna itself.

Ballyshannon, however, has bravely stuck it out until this year. Unfortunately, the crowd size didn't do justice to the music and next year's folk festival must be in the balance.

Still, those that made it there made the best of it and it was far from a disaster.

The one-off concerts and one-day events are obviously the formula that is working now. And let's face reality, if you got to Slane and Cork, who else can you borrow money off for a trip to Donegal?

\*\*\*  
The strength of the O'Carolan Harp Festival in Keadue, County Roscommon, this week however, is proven by the fact that it has survived its opening ceremony.

Of all people to invite — the Coalition Minister for Industrial Dislocation, John 'Shotgun' Bruton!

This boring bumbling idiot informed us that the famous 17th century Gaelic harpist played most of his numbers in praise of the British occupier and that we would do well to follow his example if we

wanted to boost the tourist industry.

Talk about the blind leading the blind!

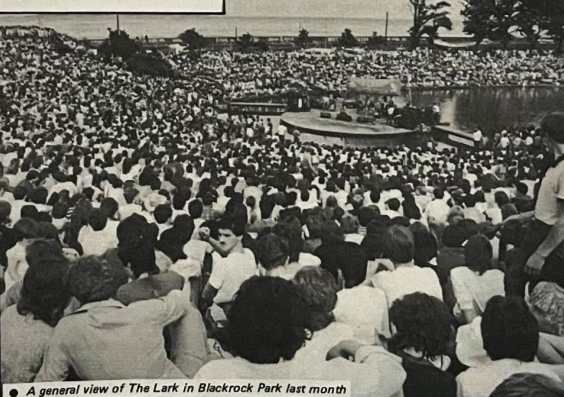
However, those of us that weren't harpist got down to the task of becoming half-pissed and events moved on in proper Gaelic celebratory order.

Excellent music, incredible 'Irish' musicians from overseas, and no closing time. Plenty of everything in fact.

\*\*\*  
And for the penniless — next Sunday in Raheny's St Anne's Park in Dublin there is something especially for you.

The second of this year's 'Larks in the Parks' comes to you, courtesy of *Irish in Dublin* magazine and a crowd of wasters out in Donnybrook whose name escapes me just now.

The thing about it is that it is free. The other thing about it is that there seems to be a big secret about the numerous bands appearing at it. At least I haven't come across any publicity about it yet and why should I go looking for it after the weekend I've just had?



● A general view of The Lark in Blackrock Park last month

Still it's definitely on, and if it's half as good as the first one in Blackrock Park, then its certainly value for money.... even if it is free.

\*\*\*  
Arriving on these shores at the end of September for concerts in Belfast, Galway and Dublin is that second generation Irishman Elvis Costello.

In the seven years of his career to date, Costello has

rocked, punked, country and westerned, sulked, drank and rocked again. Always he has been brilliant and never more so than on his latest album *Goodbye Cruel World*.

As ever, his inspired lyrical constructions are the focal point of the Costello enigma. "There's a man going round taking names no matter who you claim to be. As innocent as babies, a mad dog with rabies, you're still a part of some conspiracy."

The last track *Peace In Our Time* strikes that particularly apt note in a haunting melody and continues:

"Just another tiny island invaded when he's got the whole world in his hands. And the Heavyweight Champion fights in the International Propaganda Star Wars. There's already one spaceman in the White House what do you want another one for?"

From the album a single, *The Only Flame in Town*, is to

be released and supplying the harmonising vocals on this is Daryl Hall of Hall and Oates fame.

\*\*\*  
In the Middle Ages in Italy, people were accustomed to seeing their problems enacted and played out in religious plays, the so-called 'mysteries'. Often, however, the players transformed them in such a way that beneath the veneer of religiosity appeared the concrete reality of the lives people lived. In this way the plays became comic mysteries.

The 13th century original texts have now been transplanted into contemporary, popular, political theatre and the 1982 Theatre Company have created an evening that is fast, funny and furious by employing their skills as clowns, acrobats and storytellers.

Here you will see God the Father as a ruthless autocrat, Jesus Christ as a leftist, the wedding feast of Canaan as the "worst party I've ever been to" and a supporting cast of cripples, comen and clowns.

I would certainly recommend it to the assorted Dalys, Paisley, Smyth and the rest.

Comic Mysteries, played by the 1982 Theatre Company, is described as "dirty, disrespectful and dangerous". It is also great crack.

You can catch it at the Conway Mill on Belfast's Falls Road on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 14th and 15th. Waged £2; unwaged (the majority) £1.

## O'MORE'S ALMANAC



# BURKE'S AT THE BACK

By Kevin Burke

# Crock of gold

I have heard plenty of stories of Newry shopkeepers putting up their prices to cheat the bargain-hunting shoppers from the South who flood across the border each weekend. The latest twist, however, takes some beating.

An eight-year-old Southern visitor, on Bank Holiday Monday this week, entered a sweetshop in Newry's Hill Street with £1punt. The woman behind the counter changed this to 80p sterling before selling a drink and sweets which came to 52p sterling.

She then gave her innocent customer 28p change in Southern currency, thus costing the child an extra 7p and making an extra 5p profit in sterling.

The name over the shop involved in this currency swindle was 'The Leprechaun'.

Somebody (whether it is the owner of the shop, Lennie Gallagher, or one of his staff) seems to have discovered their own crock of gold!

★★★

Now here's a strange thing.

Gerry McCann is manager of the Stickies' Lagan Social Club in Friendly Street in Belfast's Markets area. He has also been the Workers Party's unsuccessful candidate in elections in the area.

Gerry McCann also holds a gun licence granted by the RUC which allows him to legally own a shotgun, a .25 handgun and a Smith and Wesson .38 Special along with 25 rounds of ammunition for each.

Very strange indeed.

★★★

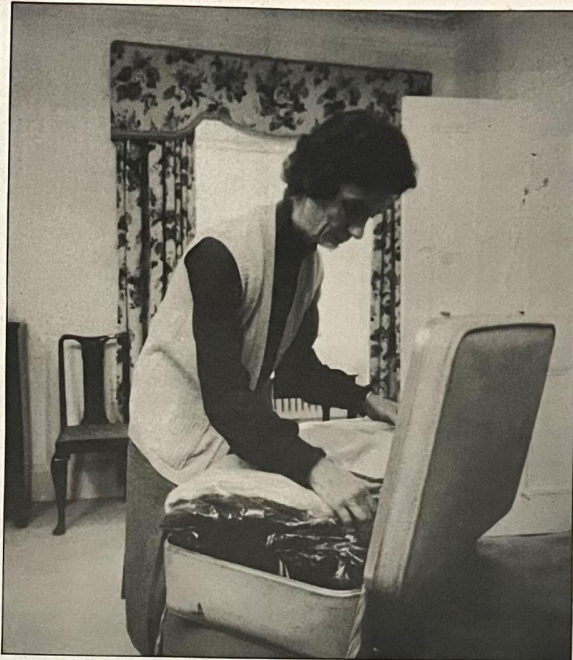
Michael Haines was sentenced to life imprisonment in England on a charge of murdering his wife. At his trial, Paul Hilsdon, a lodger in his home, claimed that Haines had confessed the killing to him.

The jury, who found Haines guilty, were told that Hilsdon had a record of violence, dishonesty, drug addiction and alcoholism. They were not told that he was also a paid police informer.

In the London Court of Appeal last week, three British judges cleared Haines of the murder and agreed that had the jury known this about Hilsdon "they would not have hung a dog on his evidence".

★★★

Understanding and compassion were the order of the day when Ballymena UDR soldier Leslie Smylie, aged 35,



● Some people never believe a word that British politicians say and, therefore, are not wholly convinced that the Prior years are almost over in the North. But our intrepid photographer was able to come up with some convincing evidence when he snapped Mrs Jane Prior (above) busily packing in the Stormont bedroom...

found himself in court last week charged with stealing two combat jackets and a 9mm magazine, which he passed on to the local UVF through another UDR stalwart named Alistair McKendry.

Michael Matthews, for the DPP, was at pains to point out that the RUC were satisfied that Smylie, a 'part-time' member of the UDR at the time of the thefts, was not involved with those to whom he supplied the aforementioned items.

Resident Magistrate Arthur Jack, agreeing that there was nothing sinister in his actions and commending his service to the community, imposed a conditional discharge with costs of £18.73.

Meanwhile, the UDR brass in Ballymena had already passed their own judgement on Smylie's value and told the court that they have now engaged his services

as a 'full-time' member of the gory regiment.

★★★

Every country's athletes arriving at the Olympic village in Los Angeles were welcomed with a ceremony which involved their national flag and national anthem.

Everyone except one that is. And you can guess who.

The officials accompanying the Irish squad dispensed with the anthem and decided to use the Olympic flag instead of the Tricolour.

The reason whispered was "so as not to offend Northern members of the squad".

★★★

On Tuesday, July 31st, a nine-man RUC patrol returned to their Carrickmore barracks, entering by the back gate. But when eight were inside the gate was locked from within.

The straggler who was left outside quickly became panic-stricken and ended up throwing stones at the lookout post to attract attention.

Eventually, he was allowed inside and no doubt hastened to the stores for a change of undergarments.

★★★

Where would you find an unsavory creep to match the Coalition's Minister for Health Barry Desmond?

His latest obnoxious performance is in connection with the Colin McStay Liver Transplant Appeal which he has dismissed as a waste of time whilst the child's parents have hailed it as a life-saver.

When it was obvious that the fund would reach a figure well over what was required for the Pittsburgh operation, Desmond announced that he would make up any shortfall required.

He is now boasting of this in specially inserted newspaper advertisements, attempting to smear the McStays and bragging of the few hundred pounds he spent for a trip to a consultant in London by the McStays. In fact, he wanted the sick child to travel by boat and train rather than fly, to cut the cost.

But, while begrudging the few hundred pounds to save a life, Desmond has spent over £2,000 on the adverts in an attempt to save his face.

★★★

The DUP's Peter Robinson has not allowed his success at presenting Noraid's Martin Galvin with a publicity coup to distract him from the unceasing vigilance required to defend the boundaries of sectarian apartheid.

Robinson's latest protest is at a plan by the Northern Ireland Civil Service Sports Association to stage the final of a Gaelic football tournament for its members at the Stormont sports grounds on the Newtownards Road.

Robinson stated: "We wouldn't expect people in Andersonstown to play cricket so those people who want to play GAA should choose some other part of the province."

But what if people in Andersonstown want to play cricket? Is Robinson going to stop them?

★★★

On the eve of the Twelfth, loyalists lit their bonfires as usual untroubled by petty restrictions, such as proximity to property or the like.

Earlier in the evening, the television news programmes had carried friendly advice on how not to mar the enjoyment by doing an accidental 'Seawright job' on little Sam and Willie.

A somewhat different approach to this month's commemorative bonfires - prepared for the eve of internment.

On Wednesday morning, Brits and RUC moved onto a large open wasteland in Newtown, North Belfast, to remove firewood gathered for the night's signal of resistance, using a heavy digger and three lorries.

Experienced political observers did not consider that it was the safety of local youths which was at the back of this early morning activity. But the fact that a Masonic Hall once stood on the site could have something to do with it.

Symbolism can go just a bit too far.

★★★

The BBC's coverage of the Olympics is as entertaining as ever but Harry Carpenter, the boxing commentator, reached whole new depths during one contest.

Forgetting, conveniently, that almost all the 'British' contestants now seem to be of West Indian origin, he was sneering at one representative from a West Indian country which, he claimed, shouldn't bother sending anyone to the Olympics as they were so obviously outclassed.

As though he had overheard Carpenter, the West Indian boxer shot out a right and floored his opponent, ending the fight.

★★★

A bonny baby, glamorous granny and fancy dress competition was held, with a record number of contestants, in Divis Flats on Sunday, July 29th.

Judging the proceedings? A well-known, bearded, West Belfast MP, who attempted to award 50 first prizes and afterwards pleaded to doctrinaire Sinn Féin ideologues that it was the "most dangerous situation I ever got involved in".

Don't you believe it, these guys will do anything for your vote.

