

CLOWNS NEWS

Issue No3 . Aibreán 97 .

“DRUGS”

A growing concern.

Our society today is over-come by a growing Drugs problem, the streets have become flooded with vast amounts of Drugs. Although “Hard Drugs” such as Cocaine and Heroin are available, the most common substances our youth are subjected to are “Cannabis,” “Ecstasy” and “LSD”.

The reason for the large increase in Drug abuse over the last years is the lack of education given to the youth on the dangerous effects of these “KILLERS”. It may seem ok when you’ve had your first “E” or “TRIP” but you never realise how reckless, stupid and dangerous you’ve been till it’s too late.

All Drugs have different effects on you, most of them long term :

“CANNABIS”, Also known as “Hash”, “Blow” or “Marijuana”. This Drug remains in the brain and reproductive organs for up to 3 weeks after a single “Joint”, Cannabis slows down the brains ability to think and remember things. Long term use can trigger mental illness such as Schizophrenia and Depression, prolonged use of Cannabis can cause psychological dependence and therefore make it difficult to control or give it up. Although there is nothing in Cannabis itself which causes people to try other Drugs, users are more likely to experiment with other Drugs. The smoke from Cannabis alone has more Cancer-causing chemicals than any cigarette, hence increasing the risk of throat and lung Cancer.

“ECSTASY or MDMA”, This drug has many different street names such as “E”, “XTC”, “Disco Biscuit” and “Denis the Menace”. This suicide pill is used at Raves and such, it gives increased energy enabling the user to dance all night, it causes Dehydration, Increased heart rate, High blood pressure and

can bring on Asthmatic and Epileptic fits, also effecting Diabetics. Long term effects of use include Insomnia, Lethargy, Anorexia and Weight loss, it may also cause Psychiatric problems and tests have revealed the possibility of Brain damage.

“LSD or TRIPS”, is a Hallucinogenic Drug with unpredictable effects, it acts on the central nervous system to produce changes in perception and mood, in some cases it may cause Panic or even Suicidal feelings, which can recur without warning for months or even years after taking the Drug. With prolonged use it may even cause an Irreversible psychotic state mimicking Schizophrenia.

Education alone should be enough to deter our youth from Drug Experimentation and Abuse, if all the dangerous effects were better publicised therefore our youth would know what they’re getting themselves into before they started experimenting.

More information on Drugs Abuse is available from your local clinic , Doctor’s surgeries, the library and the Sinn Féin office, Dublin St., Monaghan. These leaflets include information for both parents and children.

“It’s your life so have the courage to say “NO” to Drugs”

“YOUR CHOICE” “YOUR LIFE”

ADVICE & HELP

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS AT THE FOLLOWING TELEPHONE NO.’S

DEBBIE.....52224,

PAT51729,

PETER.....52041

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MEMORIAL UNVEILED

On the afternoon of Easter Sunday a group of local people, republicans and visitors from the Roddy Mc Corley society unveiled a memorial to John Mc Donald, the memorial reads:

*"In proud and loving memory of
John Mc Donald
1937 - 1996
Nationalist
Cumann Na Phoblachta"*

An oration was delivered by John Kearns, former Sinn Féin organiser, London. He delivered a wide ranging oration which dealt with John's many activities on the behalf of the exiled sons and daughters of Ireland in London, and his work of humanitarian relief for the families of republican prisoners at home and overseas down the years. He especially thanked those who had travelled from England, Belfast, Antrim and indeed from many other parts of Ireland. He expressed his fervent hope that in years to come, the fine memorial just unveiled by John's sister Christine Greenan would be a focal point for local republicans to gather around.

Election '97

Vote Ó Caoláin

You have a choice in this election.

If you believe that a new direction is needed in Irish politics and that our representatives should

- ⇒ Actively pursue a lasting peace
- ⇒ Confront social and economic injustice
- ⇒ Work for an inclusive democratic all Ireland republic that will cherish all its citizens equally

then you should seriously consider voting for your Sinn Féin candidate.

By electing Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin

- ⇒ YOU can help break the mould in Irish politics and challenge the

complacency of those who hold power in our society

- ⇒ YOU can strengthen the demand for a new and credible peace process
- ⇒ YOU can ensure that this constituency is at the very centre of Irish politics during the life of the next administration

Remember, your vote can make a difference!

YOU CAN HELP,

Election workers are required in all areas. If you would like to assist in the Sinn Féin campaign, we would be glad to hear from you, either through your local councillors in Clones or by contacting:

Constituency office:
21 Dublin St., Monaghan
and at
Sinn Féin,
P.O. Box 27, Cavan
or by telephone 047 - 82917

Vótáil Sinn Féin

HOUSING NEEDS A GROWING CAUSE OF CONCERN.

Councillor Debbie Moore expressed concern at the slow pace of completing the local housing list and indeed the overall failure of the county manager and his team to address the housing needs of Clones and District.

Housing needs vary in our area from small units to the need for larger houses for growing families.

While welcoming the housing development that has taken place, she noted that all of it was many years behind schedule and called upon the council to identify suitable housing land

Contributions and Criticism to this Newsletter are always welcome

ANTI-SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Street Lighting:

Sinn Féin wishes to express their concern at the continued vandilisation of public utilities around the town, such as Street lighting, Public seating, Dustbin holders and local telephone boxes, all provided at public expense and for the benefit of the local people.

Monaghan and 1798.

Next year sees the 200th anniversary of the 1798 rebellion. Although chiefly remembered for the great set-pieces of Wexford, Antrim and Down, Monaghan also played its part in the events of that historic year. In fact two of the most important events to do with the Monaghan area happened the year before in 1797.

On the 16th May 1797 four members of the Monaghan Militia were executed outside Belfast for being United Irishmen. (A fine banner depicting this event can be seen in Monaghan Museum). In Enniskillen, on the 12th October 1797 three young men from Clones-Roslea area were executed for their involvement in arms raids on behalf of the United Irishmen. These are only two incidents in the rich local history of that era.

Already, communities throughout the country are organising events to mark the bicentenary of 1798. The Dublin government has set-up a 1798 committee to oversee the commemoration throughout the country. Even the Orange order has shown an interest in being part of the celebrations. However people cannot leave it to the Dublin government to look after the commemoration. (The

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75th anniversary of the 1916 rising passed with hardly a word from the politicians). Arrange committees in your area, research local events, contact museums and historical societies, involve all religious persuasions ("the common name of Irishmen")

MAYDAY DANCE

FRIDAY 2nd MAY

Creighton Hotel

Clones.

Dancing to: "Justice"

Late Bar

Admission: £5.00

Clones Easter Commemoration

The Easter commemoration this year was well attended and the proceedings were chaired by cumann chairperson Councillor Debbie Moore C.U.D.C. The Easter Oration was delivered by Caoimhghn O Caoláin

-Councillor O Caoláin began "My dear friends; a chairde uilig. We are the voice of an idea that has echoed through the centuries of our nations story. We are the voice of an idea that has and continues to inspire men and women of goodwill to stand up to injustice, to oppose the exploitation, imprisonment and oppression of peoples the world over. We are the voice of an idea that cannot be conquered, You are the voice, you and I will be heard.

Ba mhaith liom ar dtús mo bhuiochas a gabhail do Coiste Cuimhneachan na Poblachta ar an cuireadh a thabhairt siad dom bheith i bhur lathair ag an comoradh seo, Cluin Eois, comoradh aon bhliain ochtu Eiri Amach na Caisce 1916.

I wish to record my appreciation to the Republican Commemoration committee for appointing me to

deliver this oration today in Clones, on this 81st anniversary of the Easter rising of 1916. This is a great honour for me.

I am reminded of a Sinn Féin led demonstration in Clones some years ago when Garrett Fitzgerald visited as leader of Fine Gael seeking re-election, and a young girl in her school uniform carried a very telling message. Her poster read - if Fine Gael is the answer, then it must be a very silly question. That young girl is today a young woman. I am pleased to note that she is here in Clones today. Maith thu Deirdre.

Our primary objective in the short term is to rebuild the peace process. We have been and will be its central force, its powerhouse. It is past time that Irish nationalism in all its expression took its responsibilities seriously. It was and has been the singular absence of any serious intent on the part of parties and politicians here to face up to their responsibilities to the nationalist community in the Six Counties that led many to the view that the political path was the road to betrayal and sell-out.

Sinn Féin alone has offered redemption of the past failures of nationalist politics on this island. A growing section of the electorate will register their acceptance of this fact, both north & south, in the coming weeks and months. In Cavan & Monaghan we are confident this will be sufficient to translate into an historic breakthrough. Our success in this constituency will have a profound impact throughout the length and breath of the island and internationally. We have laid the basis of our case before the electorate over many years. We can have confidence in ourselves and in our communities. We are on the threshold of a new and exciting challenge. We are up to that challenge. As your candidate in the upcoming General Election I pledge to face that challenge with all the courage at my command and look forward to serving this constituency as its first participatory republican

T.D. since the imposition of partition. We and Sinn Féin are here to stay.

In its long litany of crimes against the Irish people, few would dispute the view that the British governments ill-treatment of Irish political prisoners rank among the most reprehensible. Throughout the centuries, barbarity and inhumane conditions went hand in hand as the twin lot of our unfortunate brothers and sisters caught up in the British prison system. In more modern times, from the "in chains" O'Donovan Rossa to the expecting Roisin Mc Aliskey and indeed our own Brian Mc Hugh, we see that nothing has changed. The British Home Secretary Micheal Howard demonstrates a capacity for vindictiveness rarely matched in any comparable democracy. But if you want to look at real vindictiveness in the face you don't have to travel to Britain. The recent arrest and imprisonment of Sean Kinsella of Redhills and Clones is an injustice of monstrous proportion. Having served in excess of 21 years in prison in Britain, Sean has spent the last 12 months living openly in our midst. His homecoming and his appearance here on this spot last Easter Sunday met with warmest applause. Sean has spent the greater part of the last year helping to care for his aged mother who is in ill-health. The disgraceful headlines that spoke of Sean's arrest as re-captured have caused serious hurt and upset for his family, his friends and all who would wish him peace in life after his long years of suffering. Let Minister for Justice, Nora Owens, stand forward and explain and justify Sean's arrest and re-incarceration. This shameless deed has exposed once more the real nature of this anti-republican coalition.

From this platform today, on behalf of you all here gathered and the growing thousands who cry out for justice in his name, I demand the immediate release of Sean Kinsella.

Sinn Féin is committed to the achievement of a democratic and

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peaceful settlement of the age old divisions that have denied the people of this island the opportunity to reach their full potential, either economically, culturally, socially or politically, not only since partition but for generations before. We seek to rebuild a consensus within Irish nationalism that will bring the necessary dynamic to a new Peace Process. An important element in the search for this consensus is the clear need to address the still, in some cases, bitter division that maintains between Irish nationalism and Irish republicanism. Today, I wish to make a small but important gesture that is intended to aid that reconciliation. Today, we commemorate and honour our Patriot Dead. There are some among our number and countless more beyond whose parents and grandparents took the opposing position to our forebearers during the tragedy of the civil war. Just as many took that stance out of allegiance to a personality as did from conviction. They were comrades once and all made a significant contribution in the years of struggle that directly followed from the Easter Rising of 1916 to the all too sad "parting of the ways". Let us salute the achievements of all those Irish men and women united in common bond during those years. Let us say here and now on this eve of the 200th anniversary of 1798 and the United Irishmen that we recognise and appreciate their contribution in those years and look forward to a new unity of purpose, that embraces not just nationalist and republican Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter too.

One certainty is that Sinn Féin, confident in its task, confident in its analysis and above all, confident in you, will be there. we are the voice of an idea and we will be heard.

Go raibh maith agaibh.

MAYDAY

LECTURE

TRADE UNIONISM

&

REPUBLICANISM

SPEAKERS:

Brendan Hodgerts ATGWU

&

Caoimhghín O' Caoláin

Friday 2nd May '97

8pm

CREIGHTON HOTEL

All Welcome

ARD FHEIS

The 91st Ard fheis took place in the Hillgrove hotel Monaghan on Sunday 20th and saw a large attendance of Delegates and Elected representatives including Delegates and Councillors from Clones.

Among the motions dealt with on the day was one from the Clones Cumann calling for the immediate release of Sean Kinsella.

In the election to the Ard Chomhairle your local Councillor Pat Treanor was returned.

Siopá

Sinn Féin

Straid Atha Cliath.

Muineacháin

Wide range of Books, C.D's & Crafts.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

047- 82917

JOIN SINN FÉIN

Sinn Féin is dedicated to forcing a british withdrawal from the occupied six counties, the reunification of our country and the establishment of a 32-county democratic socialist republic.

If you would like to join Sinn Féin contact your local Councillor or talk to your local Sinn Féin activists.

Published By CUMANN TONY AHEARNE, SINN FÉIN, CLONES

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