AFRI DOOLAGH WALK

Afri’s 7th annual Doolough walk will take place this year on Saturday 7th May. It will be led this time by Arun Gandhi, founder/director of the Ma Gandhi Institute for the Study of Non-Violence and who is a grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, and by representatives of the Society of Friends (Quakers).

The Louisburgh to Delphi Lodge walk, past Doolough (in Co Mayo) commemorates the famine-time walk in 1949 of 400 people who trudged the 10 miles in search of relief from the Poor Law guardians. They were refused. Many perished and were drowned on the way back.

Afri (Action from Ireland) is an organisation working on local and international peace and justice issues. Among other things it tries to draw links between the causes of the 1940s famine in Ireland, where food was still exported, with poverty and famine on a world scale today.

Contact: Afri, ‘The Cottage’, 63 Harold’s Cross Road, Dublin 6, phone 01-496 6830 or 496 6791 (fax 496 6388).

VIGIL OF HOPE DOWNING STREET DECLARATION STUDY DAY

The Vigil of Hope group in Belfast is organising a study day on the Downing Street Declaration, on Saturday February 26th from 10 am to 4.30 including lunch. Venue is the Ulster People’s College, Adelaide Park, Belfast. If you’re interested in attending please contact June Campion at Belfast 768906 or 767780 by 19th February.

CNW/PUBLIC MEETING WITH JOHN PAUL LEDERACH IN BELFAST

CNW/Conflict Mediation Network will have John Paul Lederach, respected practitioner and theorist on mediation, visiting in late March. There will be a public meeting on Friday 25th March during the day, details yet to be finalised. Given the response and the content of his public meeting talk last March, this will be one to get to. Contact: Clare Morrison, CNW, Room 304, Bryson House, 28 Bedford Street, Belfast BT2 7BN, phone 0232 - 438615.

SEMINARS ON CONFLICT

The Centre for the Study of Conflict, Coleraine, has organised a series of 3 seminars, open to the public, with free admission and refreshments, on the social impact of the Northern Ireland conflict. The first seminar, on ‘Sport and Conflict’, has already taken place. The next is on Friday 25th February, on ‘Housing and Conflict’, with Martin McLaughlin and Prof Fred Bool. The last is on ‘Women and Conflict’, taking place on Friday 25th March, with Grace Fraser and Prof Valerie Morgan plus a speaker from the voluntary sector. They all run from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm in the Members’ Room of the Linen Hall Library, Donegall Square, Belfast. Suggestions are welcome for the next series of seminars. Contact: Ciarán O Neillán, Centre for the Study of Conflict, University of Ulster, Coleraine BT52 1SA, phone 028 7026541.

PAX CHRISTI ANNUAL PEACE MASS

Pax Christi’s annual Peace Mass takes place for the first time in Belfast on Sunday 27th February 1994 at 10.30 am in the Sacred Heart Church, Glenview Street, Oldpark, Belfast. Celebrant will be Bishop Dermot O’Mahony, president of Pax Christi Ireland. The theme is ‘Peace and the family’. All are welcome to the mass and to a cup of tea afterwards in the adjoining hall.

WORK WITH REFUGEES IN EX-YUGOSLAVIA

I-Voluntary Service is recruiting volunteers to work with refugees in both Croatia and Serbia. Minimum period of service 3 weeks. Details are sketches at present but further information from George Thomson, IVS, 122 St Victoria St, Belfast 2, phone 23247.
PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL

Peace Brigades International (PBI) supports initiatives for peace and nonviolent social change in situations of conflict throughout the world. PBI volunteers work as part of an international team to provide nonviolent protective accompaniment for individuals and organisations under threat because of their work for human rights and social justice.

PBI teams currently work in Guatemala and Sri Lanka and with indigenous peoples in North America. They are also investigating possibilities for PBI projects in Colombia, Chad and Haiti.

PBI is developing an Irish support group to recruit volunteers and raise funds in Ireland for the work of the various PBI projects. There are currently PBI support groups in about a dozen countries in Europe, as well as North America, Australia and New Zealand.

PBI meets monthly at the Coislahan offices, 61 Lower Camden Street in Dublin. The next couple of meetings are on Mondays at 6.30pm; March 7 and April 11. For further information ring Christine (077 228) or Donna (077 1688) in Dublin, or Iain Atack in Belfast (0222 - 312853).

Ed: There will be a speaker/workshop leader from PBI at the INNATE observing conference in Belfast on Saturday 26th March.

ETERNAL FLAME OF PEACE

An eternal flame of peace coming from a quartz glass candle holder is seeking a home in Northern Ireland, symbolising peace and harmony in the future. This expensive item, given anonymously from Germany, may go to Omagh or Enniskillen. It is intended as a symbol of hope rather than a memorial to the dead, as has tended to be the case with similar items elsewhere. Contact: Martin Drury, c/o 41 Glandore Avenue, Belfast BT15 3FD, phone 026 - 777092.

FOR/FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION

The FOR office will now be staffed by its secretary, Anne Wilson, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 - 12.30. FOR, 268 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 6DG, phone 0232 - 660194.

CHURCH AND PEACE

The Church and Peace English-language conference, "Put on the whole armour of God - towards a peace church militant!" will take place at the Amersham Centre, near Bath, England, on the weekend of 9 - 11 September 1994. Further details about this, or to link in with Church and Peace in general, Alan Wilkie, 10 Thomson Road, Currie, Midlothian EH14 5QP (phone/fax 031 - 449 3695). Alan Wilkie has been appointed part-time Church and Peace worker in Britain.

INTERNATIONAL CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS MEETING

The detailed report on the ZOOM 1993 meeting in Turkey is available from INNATE. The 1994 meeting will take place in Colombia where the contact address is: C.O.G.; A.A. 25024; Santafe de Bogota, D.C.; Colombia; ph. +57-1-2873650. It may be organised to dovetail with the War Resisters International Triennial taking place in Brazil in December 1994.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR YOUR NEWS ITEM.

INNATE - OBSERVING / NETWORKING

Booking forms for the INNATE conference, "Observing; a new response to community tensions" are now available from the INNATE Belfast address/phone. This takes place on Saturday 26th March and will include information on INNATE's mediator-observer model as practised in Northern Ireland, and on work by PBI (see above) and EMRA (the Ecumenical Monitoring Programme on South Africa). (Booking forms are included with Nonviolent Daily News for those who receive it as a mailing).

INNATE BELFAST NETWORKING MEETING - Thursday 3rd March at 3 pm in Carrymala House, 8 Upper Crescent, Belfast 7. All interested welcome. Queries to Belfast 647108.

This newsletter is produced by INNATE, an Irish Network for Nonviolent Action Training and Education, 16 Ravenstock Park, Belfast BT5 5DA, phone 0232 - 647106.