



NONVIOLENT NEWS

Nonviolence and campaigning news from INNATE



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EUROPEAN PEACE UNIVERSITY - IRELAND

The European Peace University - Ireland was jointly launched on April 15th by Albert Reynolds TD in Dublin and Declan Bree TD in Dromahair, Co Leitrim where it will be based at Breffni Lodge. It will offer postgraduate courses in peace, security, development and conflict resolution and will be part of a federation of European Peace Universities. Courses will commence in September in Breffni Lodge which will provide seminar rooms, library facilities and offices. EPU-Ireland is modelled on the existing Stadtschulaining centre in Austria. Training programmes in peace keeping and peace building for civilians will be on offer for those interested in taking part in missions under the auspices of the UN and other agencies.

EPU-Ireland is controlled by an officially recognised charitable trust. Academic coordinator is Dr James Skelly. Ruth Kenny Walsh is secretary general. Prof David Coombs of Limerick and Dr Stephen Ryan of Magee are co-scientific directors. Address: European Peace University - Ireland, Dromahair, Co Leitrim. Tel and Fax 353-1-667 0216. E-mail: epu@iol.ie

GLENCREE

The Third Glencree Summer School takes place from 26 - 28 August on the theme "Healing the wounds of political conflict - Forgiveness in the peace process", with an official opening by President Mary Robinson; further details from the Glencree Development Office, Exchequer Chambers, 19/23 Exchequer Street, Dublin 2. Phone 01-662 0355 / 679 7148 or Fax 01-679 8004. Glencree are organising a series of Sunday afternoon talks - a Glencree Open Forum starting at 3 pm on Sunday 12th May and running every week for 6 weeks, looking at different aspects of peace, conflict, pluralism and reconciliation. Details from address above; if attending please confirm attendance to the Glencree Centre for Reconciliation, Glencree, Co Wicklow, Phone 01-282 9711. Glencree have a 'work/study' weekend from 1st - 3rd June, cost £15, with manual work on the Centre and some study sessions/workshops on peace-making. The sponsored walk in aid of Glencree takes place in Powerscourt Estate on Saturday 25 May.

IRISH CENTRE FOR THE REHABILITATION OF TORTURE SURVIVORS

Following meetings during 1995 with a wide spectrum of health organisations, Rescue Trust made the decision to establish the Irish Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Survivors (ICRTS). A considerable number of asylum seekers have experienced physical and/or psychological tortures; they need specialised treatment which has not been available in Ireland. Financial and other support of various kinds is needed. Contact: ICRTS, c/o Rescue trust, Capel Chambers, 119 Capel Street, Dublin 1; Ph/Fax 01-872 2371.

IVS VOLUNTEERS

International Voluntary Service (IVS) require adult volunteers, preferably with experience to work as leaders on its Teenage Workcamp Scheme this summer. Camps take place both locally and internationally for 2 weeks and provide the opportunity for young people to do voluntary work, meet others across the sectarian divide and other cultures and have some crack. Contact Nigel McKinney at IVS, 122 Great Victoria Street, Belfast. Phone 01232-238147, Fax 01232-244356, e-mail: georget@lvsni.dnet.co.uk

AFRI FAMINE WALK from DOOLOUGH to LOUISBURGH

AFRI / Action from Ireland's 9th annual famine walk from Doolough to Louisburgh, Co Mayo, takes place on Saturday 4th May at 1.30 pm. The theme this year is "Famine, Land and Fair Trade" linking the Land League and the work of Michael Davitt (in the 150th anniversary of his birth) with the situation of a banana plantation in Belize, Central America, today. Sponsorship and support for AFRI's work and projects is welcome. AFRI, Second Floor, 16 Harcourt Road, Dublin 2. Tel 01-478 5100 / 478 5141; Fax 01-478 5142.

SONAIRTE - NATIONAL ECOLOGY CENTRE

Sonairte (from the Irish for 'positive strength') was founded in the late 1980s on the banks of the River Nanny near Laytown in Co Meath. Its aim is to show schools, the public and business, practical ways of living in harmony with the earth and avoiding damage to the environment; it does this through the promotion of ecological awareness and education in areas such as sustainable living, organics, conservation and alternative technology. The Centre is open to visitors from March to October, and to group visits throughout the year. The site includes a 2 acre walled organic garden and a nature trail overlooking the river, alternative energy exhibits and a hundred-feet tall wind generator, a lecture/exhibition hall, a coffee shop, children's play room, eco-shop etc. Sonairte runs a wide variety of tours and courses for schools and adult groups. This summer there'll be environmental summer camps for 8 - 13 year olds (10 am - 3.30 pm daily Monday - Friday) running during July; fee £40 for a week. Day courses coming up include one on solar collectors and systems with Jim Kenny on Saturday 15 June (course fee £35 inc lunch). Details of these and school tours available on request.

You are invited to join EcoFriends Ireland, the official friends association of the National Ecology Centre; membership gives free unlimited entry, a quarterly newsletter and other benefits. Membership is £12 per individual, £15 family, £8 unwaged, and £20 overseas.

Sonairte / National Ecology Centre, The Ninch, Laytown, Co Meath. Tel 041 - 27572 / 27854, Fax 041 - 28130.

PAX CHRISTI ROUTE

The International Pax Christi Route this year takes place in Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Croatia, Serbia/Vojvodina/Kosovo. This year's route focuses on the rights of different peoples living within one state and will interact with different ethnic communities and human rights and youth groups etc. Applications need to be made by 20th May and the participation fee is 250 DM inc meals, lodging and transport during the route (not travel there). There's a choice of walking, cycling or city routes though central events all take place in Hungary. Details and booking in Ireland: Pax Christi, 52 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6. Tel 01 - 496 5293.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

IFOR/International Fellowship of Reconciliation and IPB/International Peace Bureau have produced a 20-page action packet for this day on 24th May. It includes profiles of women's groups, suggestions for action and contacts. Photocopies available on request from INNATE (16 Ravensdene Park, Belfast BT6 0DA, Ph/Fax 01232 - 647106) or contact IFOR, Shelley Anderson, Spoorstraat 38, 1815 BK Alkmaar, Netherlands, Phone + 31 - 721 - 512 3014; Fax 515 1102 or ifor@gn.apc.org

FAIR TRADE / TRAIDEIREANN

11th May is European Fair Trade Day with a focus on Irish consumers, politicians and local authorities, organised by the Association of Fair Trade Shops in Ireland which is a 32 county network working on a European level via the Network of European World Shops (with over 2,500 across Europe). Details: Paddy Howe, Midlands Development Education, 0502 - 61185, Fax 61590 [Source: KADE at 068-28155].

Traidéireann, the Irish importer of fair trade products have moved away from mail order and now concentrate on supplying shops throughout the island, and will also sell to school groups who can place orders of £100 or more. Help can be provided by persuading retailers to stock fairly traded / Traidéireann products. Traidéireann, Abbeyfeale Post Office, Co Limerick. Tel/Fax 068 - 31865 [Source: Green Newsletter #68].

AMNESTY CAMPAIGN ON CHINA

Amnesty International (AI) launched a campaign in March which will run until September regarding China; the situation in China reflects almost all the issues AI works on, ranging from torture, prisoners of conscience, political prisoners and the death penalty. China is featured in the April edition of the Irish section's magazine. Volunteer opportunities with AI includes the need for people to pack envelopes on an irregular basis in Dublin. Amnesty International, 48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2. Ph 01 - 677 6361 / Fax 01 - 677 6392.

ECPCR

The Third European Conference on Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution takes place from October 12 - 16 in Varna, Bulgaria and will be publishing a quarterly newsheet which will be updated monthly on the Internet. Addresses from INNATE or the usual suspects.

INNATE NETWORKING

A Belfast-based networking meeting takes place at 7.30 pm on Thursday 16th May in Quaker House, 7 University Avenue; this will plan a follow up to the "What's going on?" seminar as well as general net-working. Details/Queries: INNATE at 01232 - 647106. All interested very welcome.