

In the **25th** year of the redeployment of British troops in Ireland

## REGIONAL WEEKS OF ACTION

Regional weeks of action are been organised by TOM branches.

In **Liverpool**, a street leaflet has been planned for May 14th and they are hoping for a strong contingent on the May Day March.

The **Manchester TOM** are working with other local organisations and some of the events planned include film and video showings, public meetings highlighting the case of Irish political prisoners, exhibitions, social, a display at Frontline Books and street events including a day of action on 24th April in the city centre.

Ann Bradley (Relatives for Justice) has been invited by Newcastle Trades Council to speak at the Newcastle May Day Rally. **Tyneside TOM** working with Women and Ireland will be organising a number of community activities and meetings with Ann Bradley during the week.

**Sheffield and Chesterfield TOM branches** working with other groups in Sheffield, as part of Sheffield Ireland Links, have planned a series of activities starting with half day conference Women, Ireland and Culture, organised by Women and Ireland on 17th April. The Connolly Association have organised a public meeting with Peter Beresford Ellis on 22nd April. A "Breaking through the Censorship" video evening has been organised for the 26th April. On May 2nd we are building for a large contingent on the Chesterfield May Day Rally and Chesterfield TOM will also be organising a public meeting for the same day with Mitchel McLaughlin, a Sinn Fein Councillor from Derry. The local Bookshop have agreed to have a display of books about Ireland and to finish everything off there will be a Social evening on Saturday 7th May featuring the **CLARIFICATION CABARET**.

The **Midlands 25th Anniversary Fortnight of Action** will be from Monday 9th May - Friday 20th May, speakers will be over from Ireland and a series of public and other meetings are planned in Birmingham, Leicester, Redditch, Coventry and Nottingham

In the **Southern Region, London, Bristol and Brighton branches** are planning their fortnight of action from Wednesday 1st June to Sunday 12th June. Events planned include a picket of the Army Recruitment Office in the Strand with a second picket to be arranged at Blackheath Recruitment Office. A Public Meeting with speakers from Ireland is planned for Conway Hall on Thursday 2nd June with similar meetings taking place in Brighton and Bristol. An exhibition with TOM posters and photographs is to be held at Centreprise. There will be a social at the Roger Casement Centre on Saturday 11th June. A number of other activities are still to be arranged including lunchtime meetings with student audiences and linking in with activities planned by other organisations.

**MIDLANDS TOM DELEGATION TO BELFAST**  
AUGUST 11 - 15 1994.

There are only 30 places and all places will be for people who have not been before, (apart from stewards)  
Cost £25 unwaged, £55 low waged, £85 high waged. Contact Birmingham TOM, PO Box 817, Camp Hill, Birmingham, B11 4AF

### Other TOM Activities

In London TOM members organised a leafleting and presence on the TUC anti-racist demonstration

As with many other branches, TOM members successfully leafleted the film 'In The Name of the Father', at Leicester Square.

London TOM also held a street exhibition outside Brixton Tube selling the TOM Magazine and handing out leaflets.

There will be a regional day school for the Midlands on Saturday 23rd April, Union Club 10 - 5.30. In the morning there will be a discussion on the demand "Negotiate Now for British Withdrawal" and in the afternoon skills workshops looking at press work, speaking to a motion, using the radio and discussion on 25th anniversary work.

Birmingham TOM are planning a "Celebrate St. George's Day with TOM" social on Sat 23rd April with traditional music and international songs of struggle and protest.

On Saturday 30th April, Birmingham TOM will be joining in with the May Day march and Rally, there will be a TOM contingent on the march, a TOM stall and speaker at the rally.

**PLEASE SEND  
INFORMATION FOR THE  
NEXT NEWSLETTER TO THE  
T.O.M. OFFICE**

BM T.O.M.  
LONDON  
WC1N 3XX

# TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER



MARCH /APRIL 1994

No. 25

## TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1994

### PEACE THROUGH BRITISH WITHDRAWAL

14th/15th May

LEICESTER

This years TOM Annual Conference will take place in Leicester. With the important and most significant political developments that have taken place over the past year the Annual Conference will provide an opportunity for us to assess the current position and make the necessary decisions for the forthcoming period.

With plans for the 25th Anniversary of British troops being redeployed onto the streets of Ireland already in action; August 13th demonstration in London; regional weeks of action; national conference for the Autumn, we need to use all our resources and ideas to ensure the success of all these events. Our internal organisation, to maintain the position that the Troops Out Movement plays within the withdrawal movement, will also be discussed and debated at this years' Annual Conference. Looking beyond the plans for the 25th anniversary, several branches have submitted resolutions concerning next years Bloody Sunday March and the August delegation. All resolution have now been circulated - all amendments should be received by 23rd April.

The Annual Conference is open to all TOM members and it is important that there is good representation from all our TOM branches and from our individual members. As well as the business, discussion and debate the Leicester TOM branch, who are the hosts to this years conference, will be putting on a *wild social* on the Saturday evening. Elections will also take place at the Conference for the TOM Steering Committee and Magazine Group.

On a more practical note, in order to help with the organisation could all branches please phone through the numbers and names of people from their branch who they expect to attend the conference and whether accommodation is required on the Saturday night. If child-care is required it is important that the TOM office is informed as soon as possible. Registration fee will be £8/£6/£4 which includes food for the two days. A pooled fare will operate

The Conference agenda, resolutions and details of the conference venue and how to get there are now available from the TOM Office.

Troops Out Movement  
Self-determination for the Irish People as a Whole



# REPORT FROM 1994 SINN FEIN ARD FHEIS HELD IN DUBLIN FEBRUARY 1994

The Ard Fheis had a packed agenda with 115 motions in all. There was strong evidence of party unity and a genuine recognition that much progress had been made by the republican movement.

**Elections.** Sinn Fein's success in the last years local elections was noted where Sinn Fein won extra seats and increased its share of the nationalist vote to 36%. The role Sinn Fein has to play in the 26 counties was highlighted, as was the need for the party to build a strong base as in the 6 counties. The need to do work around the European elections was discussed and election candidates introduced.

**Peace Process :** There was strong support for the 'Irish Peace Initiative' i.e. the Hume/Adams talks and there was praise for both John Hume and Albert Reynolds. The role of Britain in fuelling Unionist intransigence was stressed. Motions reaffirmed SF policy of peace through national self-determination and also congratulated Gerry Adams and the SF leadership on their handling of the peace process. Britain's failure to clarify the Downing Street declaration was widely condemned. There was no motion calling for a definite acceptance/rejection of the Declaration. There was much more emphasis on the Hume/Adams dialogue which was recognised as a real basis for peace. Motions passed included a call for an end to collusion, the immediate scrapping of the Diplock Court system and a full investigation into the 1974 Dublin/Monaghan/Dundalk bombings.

**Culture :** Condemnation of Patrick Mayhew's insistence that the British Government 'have no plans for a bilingual society' and a call for Irish in the 6 counties to be at least on a par with the treatment of Welsh in Wales.

**Economy :** Condemnation of the failed economic policies North and South of the border which have resulted in mass unemployment. Calls to highlight the social and economic costs of partition. condemnation of tax amnesties and the profiteering of the banking sector.

**Environment :** Total opposition to Sellafield and the THORP nuclear reprocessing plant.

**Extradition :** Importance of the campaign against extradition and welcome for refusal to extradite Joe Magee and his subsequent release.

**European Union :** Undemocratic and anti-worker. While recognising it's political reality, SF opposes any further erosion of sovereignty by the EU

**Censorship :** Lapsing of S31 welcomed and condemnation of British Censorship. Gerry Adams welcomed RTE and addressing British TV broadcasters said "your day will come"

## FUNDRAISING FOR THE TOM

### THE FLEADH READING PHOENIX...

WITH THE MUSIC AND FESTIVAL SEASON ON ITS WAY, IT'S A MUCH NEEDED OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT.

For those of you who are new to the idea, the Troops Out Movement organises people to work for the Workers Beer Company (WBC) as servers in beer tents at various festival and music events around the country. Some of the events for this year include the ANL Rally, Brockwell park, London ( 28th May), London Fleadh, Finsbury Park (11th June), Phoenix Pop Festival (14-17 July), and Reading Festival(26-29 August).

Everyone working gets paid an hourly rate for their work, this money is then paid to your organisation - the Troops Out Movement. Many other organisations from the Trade Union and Labour movement, campaign and political groups also provide servers for the WBC and all benefit in the same way.

The work will normally involve a 6 hour shift each day. For the festivals a free camping area, meal vouchers, toilets and showers etc are all provided - and of course entrance to the event is free. Free transport is available from London (for out of London events), or people can make their own transport arrangements. Further details of work requirements and other details will be sent once your place has been secured. The two main things people need to know at this moment in time are that you don't need previous bar work experience, but you do need to be prepared to work hard when you are on shift, be honest and reliable.

The work we do for the WBC is an important part of our annual fund raising programme. In the past nearly everyone who has worked for the TOM, whether they are members or supporters have been absolutely brilliant and the TOM team have a good reputation within the WBC. There have been some problems in the past we would hope to avoid this year, so we are asking everyone to fill in a brief registration form which is available from your local TOM Branch, or by phoning the TOM Office 071-609-1743.

## AUGUST 20th : MARCH FOR BRITISH WITHDRAWAL FROM IRELAND

### SPONSORSHIP

Over the next few weeks the initial list of sponsors for the march needs to be built on . Over the years many different people, groups and organisations have supported the arguments for British Withdrawal from Ireland. In order that this march is given the status and support it demands branches at a local level need to be drawing up their own lists of people/groups to contact in their area.

### PUBLICITY

The initial leaflet for the march has now been produced and is .available from the TOM Office. branches need to ensure that publicity for the march is distributed as widely as possible in your area. All branches should be keeping a diary of any public meetings, events, socials, benefits, conferences happening in their area where the leaflet could be distributed.

### MOBILISING

All TOM branches are asked to form a local mobilising committee, this could be with groups who are organising around the weeks of action, or maybe groups we have worked with for Bloody Sunday. There may be some individual TOM members/supporters in your area who haven't been too active in your branch recently, who may be prepared to help with organising for the march.

## MONEY

THIS MARCH WILL NOT HAPPEN WITHOUT MONEY. ALL BRANCHES ARE ASKED TO SPONSOR THE MARCH AND TO INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE FUND RAISING EVENT IN THEIR PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS TO HELP RAISE SOME OF THE MONEY NEEDED.

### MUSIC, BANDS, THEATRE...

The March Organising Committee are looking at different ideas to create a visual impact on the march. This will include images that highlight various aspects of British injustice and oppression in Ireland during the past 25 years. If you have any ideas on this theme then please contact the TOM Office.

## LOBBY PARLIAMENT

In the 25th year of the redeployment of British troops in Ireland

## WEDNESDAY 27th APRIL

On the 27th April the Troops Out Movement is organising a lobby of parliament. For any TOM members or supporters who want to take part you will need to write to your local MP as soon as possible. A model letter is available from your TOM Branch or from the TOM office. The letter needs to request a meeting at 2.00pm on Wednesday 27th April at the House of Commons. Send the letter to your MP at the House of Commons and also send a copy to their local office. (Any constituent can arrive at the house of Commons and fill in a form on the day requesting to see his/her MP. But there is obviously a risk that the MP might not be available.)

Local TOM branches will be putting out press releases to the local media so if you are interested in taking part, or would like to know more please let your local branch know as soon as possible. Further details and directions will be sent out nearer the time.

CONTACT THE T.O.M. OFFICE TEL. 071 609 1743