



NONVIOLENT NEWS



Nonviolence and campaigning news from **INNATE**

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LAW OF THE INNOCENTS / CAIN ADAMNAIN; 1300 YEARS ON

An important church synod was held in the year 697 at Birr (Co Offaly) which led to the enactment of Cain Adamnain (Adamnan's Law, also known as the Law of the Innocents). This law aimed to protect women, children and other noncombatants in war and is of considerable significance not just in the western European islands but even more widely, an early measure to try to protect potential victims. Adamnan was abbot of Iona and a member of the same family as St Columba; his mother Ronnat had been instrumental originally in making him think of the situation of women at the time. A celebration is taking place in Birr ('Birr Thirteen Hundred') to mark this anniversary of Cain Adamnain including lectures, discussion, music, worship, a pageant and fireworks. The programme runs from 26 - 29 June this year. Details are available from; Rev Irene Morrow, Birr Thirteen Hundred, Ardagh, Cappaneale, Birr, Co Offaly. Phone 0509 - 20185.

WORLD CONGRESS ON VIOLENCE AND HUMAN COEXISTENCE

Dublin, 17 - 21 August 1997, sees this large scale congress taking place focusing on a wide range of issues on the topic. It is an international event bringing together NGOs, community workers, academics, professionals, human rights and youth organisations to discuss problems of violence and to look at the possibilities for solutions and how these can be implemented for a more peaceful future. It is organised by a team from the Department of Sociology in UCD with Dr Don Bennett as chairperson. Three hundred papers are expected and there will be additional workshops. Topics include culture and violence, racism, explanations of violence, gender, violent and non-violent behaviour, structural aspects, specific regions, victims, the future. The fee for participants is IR£100 (£90 up to end of May) or £15 for students/unemployed (accommodation can also be arranged). Details; Jessica Bates, Dept of Sociology, UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4. Fax: 01 - 706 11 25. Email: Jess.Bates@ucd.ie WWW: <http://www.ucd.ie/~congress/congressindex.html>

TRAINING FOR CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION / MEDIATION NETWORK

The Mediation Network for Northern Ireland (MN) plans a series of training events beginning in late September 1997 through to the spring of 1998. Some will be open to all who apply, others by application and selection. Programmes on Basic Conflict Awareness Skills for Community and Family will be available both during the day and at weekends, and this is a prerequisite for entry to all the other MN programmes. Staff from MN are also available to run courses for organisations and community groups and happy to work in a collaborative way in the design of these courses.

Please note the Mediation Network has moved! From 6th May its new address is: 128 Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 7BG. Phone and fax are the same; Ph. 01232 - 438614. Fax 01232 - 314430.

CHURCHES' PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

'Miaow' said the cat(alogue) from the Churches' Peace Education Programme, a new 1997/98 resources catalogue (36 pages A5). It lists many new publications plus half price offers (e.g. 'Power to heal' now only £8.25, 'More power to heal' only £5.25). Catalogue available from Churches' Peace Education Programme at either N Ireland or Republic addresses; 48 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast BT9 6AZ; Phone 01232 - 862992; e-mail: icpep@unite.co.uk or 189 Booterstown Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin; Phone 01 - 288 5021. Or visit web site for latest publications; www.unite.co.uk/customers/icpep

AN CRANN / THE TREE

An Crann aims to help people to tell and to hear the stories of the 'Troubles' using a variety of different ways including written testimonies, paintings, photos, songs etc. It aims to piece together the story of the Troubles in human terms and in a sympathetic and compassionate way; it will hold all contributions in trust to become a living museum. It invites any individuals or groups to contribute. An Crann was founded in 1994 and since the start of 1997 has had an office in central Belfast; contact Damian Gorman and Margaret Madden, An Crann/ The Tree, 10 Arthur Street, Belfast BT1 4GD. Phone 01232 - 240209. Fax 01232 - 240219. Leaflet enclosed for most people receiving this as a mailing.

DOOLOUGH FAMINE WALK

The 10th annual Doolough (Co Mayo) Famine Walk organised by Afri (Action from Ireland) will take place on Saturday 24th May beginning at 2 pm from Doolough (shuttle buses will run from Louisburgh to Doolough between 12.30 and 1.30). Walk leaders are Dino Rai from East Timor, Rakiya Omaar from Somalia, Fr Brendan Forde, Don Mullan and Liam O Maonlaí. This is the original famine walk; the theme this year is 'Remember....1847-1997. Famine is political. Remembering is taking action for justice now'. Sponsorship on the walk supports Afri's work at home and abroad. Afri, Grand Canal House, Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6. Phone 01 - 496 8595 / 496 8610. Fax 01 - 496 8592.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT

The International Women's Day for Peace and Disarmament is on 24th May. The IFOR/International Fellowship of Reconciliation and IPB/International Peace Bureau have produced a 26-page A4 pamphlet, edited by Shelley Anderson and Tracey Moavero, focusing on women's struggles against violence and for peace around the world with a special focus on Burma. Available from IFOR, Sportsraat 38, 1815 BK Alkmaar, Netherlands, phone +31 72 5123014, fax 5151102, E-mail ifor@gn.apc.org Web: <http://www.gn.apc.org/ifor/> or IPB, 41 rue de Zurich, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland, phone +41 22 731 6429, fax 738 9419 E-mail ipb@gn.apc.org Web: <http://www.itu.ch/ipb> or INNATE can copy it for you (address at end of this newsheet). IFOR also has a Women Peacemakers Program designed to help women develop their skills for conflict resolution and prevention - details from IFOR address.

WOMEN AND PEACE PACK

The PPU/Peace Pledge Union in Britain has produced a Women and Peace resource pack for teachers and students (a 'packed' 28 pages A4). It includes many ready-made cross-curricular ideas for use in the classroom. Sections include history, women in war, choosing peace. There are one or two niggling simplicities or errors in relation to Ireland on a page featuring the Peace People but the pack as a whole is very useable. Available price UK£10.50 plus £1.50 p&p from; PPU, 41b Brecknock Rd, London N7 0BT. Phone 0171 424 9444.

MEATH PEACE GROUP

This group was formed in April 1993 after a peace rally in Siane with the aim of promoting peace in Northern Ireland through fostering understanding, mutual respect, trust, cooperation and friendship, and raising awareness and debate. It has organised public talks, vigils and rallies, schools programmes, an exhibition and research. Contact; Julitta and John Clancy, Meath Peace Group, Parsonstown, Batterstown, Co Meath; Phone 01 - 8259438; Fax 8259125.

A CALL TO RECONCILIATION - Peace Walk

A peace walk is taking place from Belfast to Strokestown (famine museum) with the theme of reconciliation and unity, 150 years after the famine. Associated with Dick Keogh, it starts at Fredheim, Peace People House on Saturday 24th May, going via Moira (same day), Portadown 25th, Armagh 26th, Monaghan 27th, Clones 28th, Cavan 29th, Kilcogy 30th, Longford 31st May, arriving Strokestown (Co Roscommon) Sunday 1st June with a closing ceremony at the famine museum. Details from Peace People Belfast/01232 - 663465 or Aileen Collins at 044 (Republic) - 61457.

DE EXPEDITIE; Non-violence, Buddhism and conflict resolution

De Expeditie nonviolence training centre is running an English-language training on Non-violence, Buddhism and Conflict Resolution in Amersfoort from 19th - 22nd June with Stella Tamang (of the Bilkapa Project in Nepal), Abiel Hertzberger and Magda van der Ende. Cost: NLG 150 - 350. Details from INNATE or contact directly; De Expeditie, Schimmelpenninckkade 30, NL 3813 AE Amersfoort, Netherlands. Phone +31 33 4753001.

EUROPEAN PEACE CONGRESS; OSNABRÜCK, Germany, 29-31 May

Held on the 350th anniversary of the Peace of Westphalia, this will focus on European centres of crisis and conflict, organised with support from 40 members of the peace, human rights and conscientious objectors groups and associations. Sponsors include Anne Carr of Women Together (Ph. Belfast / 01232 - 315100). Contact; Peace Congress Osnabruck '98, Postfach 4124, D-49031 Osnabrück, Germany. Ph. +49 541 - 260 650; Fax 260 680; E-mail PeaceCongress1998@t-online.de Web: <http://www.dfg-vk.de/peacecongress1998>

INNATE Belfast Networking Group's next meeting: Monday 12th May at 7.30 pm in Quaker House, 7 University Avenue, Belfast. Anyone welcome; Queries to Rob at Belfast 647106.

Yes, folks, we've run out of space again, we'll have to do research on fitting more into two sides....

Nonviolent News is produced about 11 times a year by INNATE, an Irish Network for Nonviolent Action Training and Education, 16 Ravensdene Park, Belfast BT6 0DA, Phone/Fax 01232 - 647106; your news welcome. Deadline for next issue; 30th May. Subscriptions; £5 minimum or enquire for further details. Enquiries welcome about Nonviolent News or resources on nonviolence available through INNATE.