

This list of events and dates relating to the Cork Gay Collective was put together because we realised that we had forgotten a lot of what happened and when.

We have kept copies of leaflets (L) we have made. Reports (R) of meetings magazines and newspapers articles contain a lot more information and where we have them they are mentioned. We have also kept minute books, copies of correspondence, photos and tape recordings.

A list such as this leaves out many of the more important underlying and surrounding changes: internal ones such as the groups strength or external ones such as increasing unemployment. But this list should provide the basics for an analysis of what happened and why so that we can learn from our experience.

If there are any mistakes or omissions we would like to hear from you.

BACKGROUND

Churchfield Combat Poverty Project - RESOURCE CENTRE

Womens Collective

Contraception Action Programme

I.G.R.M. disco etc. opened 1977 at 4Mc Curtain St. and closed 1978

Hills becomes first bar where gay people are welcomed. Oliver organises fund raiser for D. Norris court case there.

1980

Early in the year we begin meeting in upstairs of Heaphys

Resource Centre idea pursued with Womens Collective Labour Youth etc. Fail to get lease on building.

ART + LIVING IN THE FUTURE. JENIE ON LATE LATE (17.12.80) (WIDE)
Phoenix Club re-opens at 4Mc Curtain St. in May and we meet there instead.

High Court decides that laws criminalising gay men are not unconstitutional (11.10.80)

Cathal and Kieran go on local radio.

We organise Gay Sweatshop two night performance in Granary (19 & 20 Oct.) Leaflets and exhibition arranged.

Cathal is Pres. of U.C.C. S.U. and their handbook has positive gay information. Shock headlines in Echo (30.10.80)

Leaflet and lobby Labour Party Annual Conference in Connolly Hall. Fail to get emergency motion on High Court decision. Meet with Brendan Hallagan, Mary Robinson and Michael D. Higgins.

To try to overcome destructive split between NGF/IGRM we organise national meeting at

Glencree Centre Wicklow. A national Conference is recommended by this meeting (30.II.80)

(L) (R).

U.C.C. Gay CSociety set up after debate on the issue at Philosophical Society (29.II.80)

Refused recognition by college authorities but continues to meet (C.E. 10.2.81)

Locked out of No. 4 because we refuse to join IGRM become a sub-committee and so take sides in split (Dec. '80) We meet instead in Students Union. Group is Art. Ger

Laurie Cathal Martin Kieran Joe Tony

20 min. documentary on Local radio (Nov)

1981

MARTIN & CATHAL HARASSED BY POLICE
Collective agrees policy statement (25.I.81) see poster. JOIN IGA/ICCL

We meet (14.I.81) and decide to go ahead with Conference

Others invited to next meeting.

IGRM decide not to get involved as a group

Oliver becomes chairperson as 'honest broker'.

Continuous hassles over such things as women only workshops

CRECHE FOR WOMENS FORUM STRAPPE
First National Gay Conference Connolly Hall May 15 - 17. Huge success. (L? R? video,

audio tape, newspapers of 18.5.81) Barry Prothero from NCCL chairs plenaries.

Gaym Collective poster, manifesto and history.

Gay banner on H Blocks march in Cork

Disagreement about 5 demands in Collective, possibility of split. Conference decides not to vote on these motions.

First gay pride leafletting in Daunt Sq. (23.6.81/L.)

I.C.T.U. Conference in City Hall leafletted (9.7.81)

Lesbians and Gays Against H Blocks Armagh planning meeting 5.9.81 T.C.D.

'Glad to be Gay?' article in Flac File by John Meaney Aug/Sep. '81.

Collective meets to discuss future incl. possibility of Centre (10.9.81)

1982

Womens Centre opens in Dublin (march)

Liz Noonan stands as lesbian feminist for Dail (L)

Kincora becomes an issue

Charles Self found murdered in his flat (21.1.82)

Witch hunt of gay men follows. Gay Defence Committee formed and pickets Pearse St.

Carda Station. Good newspaper coverage.

Irish Gay News (Jan.)

Interim Conference organised by us in Dublin (13.2.82) After heated argument

it was agreed that there should be equal nos of women and men on the new organis!

Committee (R)

Catholic Bishops and Paisley oppose decriminalisation in North (I.T. 27.2.82)

In March work begins on renovating 24 Sullivans Quay and organising the Quay Co-op. (L) (2)

Donal Dave Kieran Art. Laurie Tony. Opens May Day .

Gay rights motion proposed by Kieran at a.g.m. of Cork Branch of LGPSU. Passed overwhelmingly (30.3.82) Later adopted by the Union nationally (C.E. 14.5.82)

Gay Rights At Work " Banner on May Day March

Gay Conference June 18-20 TCD. Right to Choose motion agreed. (R)

Leafletting Gay Pride Princes St. (L)

I.G.N. June '82.

Tony Art Kieran go to belfast and leaflet ICTU Annual Conference where gay rights ~~not~~ motion is passed (9.7.82)

S.F. and P.D oppose ban on gays in Derry pub (Derry Journal 23.7.82)

First Anti Amendment public meeting in Cork, Central Hall (14.7.82) We get heavily involved, weekly meetings, leafletting in Daunt Sq. etc. ~~until~~ 7.9.82

Dublin Gay Collective set up

Lesbian Conference Dublin Oct 29/31.

Articles n by Dublin and Cork gay Collectives in Galton

Gays Against the Amendment (L)

8.9.82 John Roche murdered in Munster Hotel (SERIAL REPORT C.E. 10/15/82)

10.9.82 Declan Flynn murdered in Fairview Park

BR. Paul votes to change N.I.R. anti-gay laws 28.10.82

29.10.82 SUPREME COURT FINDS AGAINST NICKY KELLY.

1983

Laws in N. Ireland changed ~~early~~ 83

Go to Belfast to help set up organising group for next Conference (22.1.83)

Henry MC Larnons killer given suspended sentence (I.T. 1/2.4.83)

Declan Flynns killers given suspended sentences (I.T. 9.3.83)

Large Cork group goes to Dublin for Fairview March (19.3.83) (L)

Supreme Court decides that anti-gay laws are constitutional (29.4.83)

Strong demand for "fuck the Supreme Court " badge.

Outta Control April/MAY NO.37

All Ireland Lrsbian and gay Conference Belfast 4 @5 June (L)

Campaign for the Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men launched in Liberty Hall (4.5.83) (L)

First major lesbian gay pride march in dublin to g.p.o. (L)

first issue of 4 Quare Times

mass canvassing for anti amendment campaign organised from co-op. ~~within~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~organised~~ ~~throughout~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~

Kieran interviewed for Examiner 3.8.83

Referendum Day Sep.7

Involvement in post-amendment network

CRLGM initiates meeting to organise opposition to Criminal Justice Bill (17.12.83)

Lesbian group begins to meet in co-op. (Nov.)

Hurlingham Centre (L)

Womans Right to Choose Newsletter Nov. '83 includes lesbian/gay rights as part of its demands

Collective begins to meet again

"Save Sodomy from Ulster" Outta Control Dec. 83

Troops Out has features on gays in the North

Consenting Adults in Granary (Nov.)

1984

PEOPLE AGAINST REPRESSION AGREE ON OPPOSITION TO SECTION 30 O.A.S. ACT, ANTI-GAY LAWS
We speak at a no. of meetings in U.C.C. late '83 and early '84 + CJB.

European Parliament votes in favour of lesbian/gay rights

Kieran and Donal on national radio about this and Eileen Flynn Case and Sunday World attack on women bus workers.

Employment Appeals Tribunal decides against Eileen Flynn (17.10.2.84)

Activists meeting of CRLGM in SFX Hall (R) (25.2.84)

Cork issue of Quare Times

Cork meeting of CRLGM (14.4.84) (R)

organise talk on STD in No. 4

Lesbian and Gay Community Project meetings April onwards. Youth, information/
befriending, social and building groups set up (L)/(R)

Joint info. stall with lesbians at St. Francis 26 and 27 May (L)

Lesbian gay rights workshop at LGPSU Conference in Bundoran (L) (May)

Lesbian/gay banner outside Co-op for week

joint leafletting and stall with lesbians

Cathal attacked on Dublin march

Collective banner on CJB march in Cork (July)

Workshop organised at ICTU Conference Waterford (R/L) Trade Union Group meets

Dieirdre and Joan attacked while carrying lesbian banner on Womens post-referendum march (IT. 16.7.84)

Co-op bookshop organises lesbian/gay mail order service

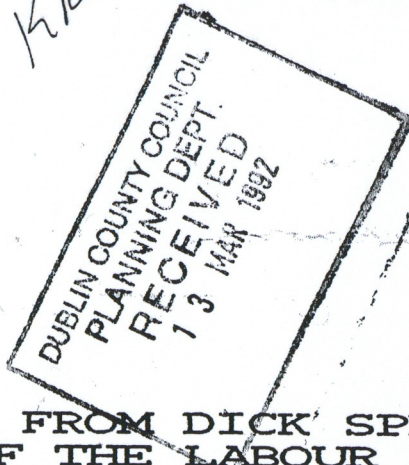
Article in LGPSU Reporter (Oct.)

Leafletting as part of CJB day of action (Sep) Joe speaks at public meeting

Letter replying to Anti gay Kincora reporting (C.E.15.9.84)

Gay Information Cork .

Kieran L...



**INVITATION FROM DICK SPRING TD
LEADER OF THE LABOUR PARTY**

**To a Briefing meeting on the
Labour Party's Equal Status Bill
9 March 1992**

The Party Leader, Dick Spring, TD, invites you or a representative to a Briefing Meeting to discuss the Party's Equal Status Bill, 1990. He will be accompanied by:

Mervyn Taylor TD, who has moved the Bill in the Dail;
Cllr Niamh Bhreathnach, Party Spokesperson on Womens Affairs; and
Mairead Hayes, Chairperson of the Labour Womens National Council.

This meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 25th, at 7.00pm in Room 226, Kildare House.

The vote in the Dail on the Party's Equal Status Bill will take place at 8.30pm on March 25th. The Labour Party would also like to invite you to the Public Gallery in order to see the vote being taken. It is therefore essential you contact the Labour Party Press Office at tel:789911 ext:494 to confirm your attendance, in order that we know the numbers for the Public Gallery.

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RSVP: 789911 ext494

Quay Coop - A Personal View

I got involved with the coop because as a gay person living in the city I felt it was vital both for me and for other gay people to have a ^{Place} where we could meet and work etc. without the pressures and constraints of heterosexist society or of the commercialised gay scene

I also felt that ~~Colk~~ was a very tightly controlled city in terms of ~~gender~~ access to the media, meeting places, information and little work was apparently being done to break this monopoly. There were issues on which no work was being done (e.g. flat dwellers) and the groups that did exist seemed to be small isolated and lacking even the basic necessity of a suitable meeting place.

I felt that if the groups and individuals working for basic changes in the status quo could get together then the combined resources could provide for the facilities which we separately lacked. The linking together of different groups would help us get a better perspective on the forces trying to control and manipulate us. With such a centre it would be much easier to organise alliances on particular issues as well as to develop new action groups. The lack of successful challenges to the power structure monopoly in the city seemed to leave many people cynical and apathetic. A successful centre would break this psychological barrier by showing what could be done. The coop would in a sense be a symbol and a morale boost for everyone working for change.

The cooperative idea was important because I was becoming more involved politically and so increasingly alienated from the system and the concessions it demanded. It seemed to be a choice of either "keeping your good job" or being exploited in a more blatant way, by going on the dole or taking a part time job. To either continue paying unfair rents or mortgage yourself to a building society. To take part in consumer society or to do without. But a housing coop should be possible. It should be possible to organise an alternative way of earning money which made sense to you. A good quality of life does not have to depend on being consumerist.

I felt that my politics and my personal life should not be at odds. I saw the coop as a way of working on the possibilities of "new ways of living, working and sharing our resources"

Lieran

For
(1982)