

## C. Desmond Greaves (1913-1988)

C. Desmond Greaves, whose work and writings inspired the foundation of this Weekend School, was one of Ireland's leading labour historians. He was author of *The Life and Times of James Connolly*; *Liam Mellows and the Irish Revolution*; *Sean O'Casey: Politics and Art*; *Wolfe Tone and the Irish Nation*; *History of the Irish Transport and General Workers Union: The Formative Years*; *The Irish Crisis*, and two books of verse, *Four Letter Verses and the Mountbatten Award* and *Elephants Against Rome*.

Desmond Greaves opposed the application of Britain and Ireland in 1961 to join the supranational European Economic Community (EEC). He believed that in the era of the EU and the near-global domination of Transnational Capital, the most important political task for democrats and the Labour Movement was to join in an international campaign in defence of the Nation State as the fundamental locus of political democracy and the only mechanism which history has evolved for imposing social control on private capital. He saw this as applying James Connolly's views on the national question in present-day circumstances.

Desmond Greaves believed that the peaceful way to end the partition of Ireland was to secure maximum equality between Nationalists and Unionists in the Six Counties, thereby removing any rational basis for Unionism as an ideology that justified domination over Nationalists and opening the way for Northern Unionists to rediscover in time the political implications of the common Irishness they share with their Nationalist fellow countrymen and women.

As an activist in the Connolly Association, London, and editor from 1948 to 1988 of its monthly newspaper *The Irish Democrat*, he pioneered the idea of a campaign for civil rights as the way to shatter Unionist political domination, which was taken up by the 1960s Northern Civil Rights Movement.

### BOOKINGS AND ADMISSION

Full school €25  
Individual sessions €10  
Students/unwaged half-price



### ENQUIRIES

Kevin McCorry, School Director  
4 Mulrankin, Bridgetown, Co. Wexford  
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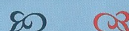
### DESMOND GREAVES SCHOOL WEBSITE

[www.greavesschool.ie](http://www.greavesschool.ie)



### BOOKSTALL

Books and pamphlets on Irish history and politics will be on sale at the Weekend School, provided by Connolly Books, 43 Essex St., Dublin 2.



### HOW TO GET THERE

The Ireland Institute, 27 Pearse Street, is along the north side of Trinity College in the centre of Dublin. It is the former home and family business place of the 1916 leaders Patrick and Willie Pearse. The Weekend School will be held in the new hall at the back of the building.



## 32nd DESMOND GREAVES SUMMER SCHOOL 2022

*Two days of political thought and discussion  
on Friday & Saturday, 9-10 September 2022,  
at the Ireland Institute, 27 Pearse Street,  
Dublin 2, beside Trinity College*

### TOPICS

*The Left and EU Supranationalism  
The Life and Work of Desmond Greaves  
Ireland North and South Today*

# THIRTY-SECOND DESMOND GREAVES SUMMER WEEKEND SCHOOL 2022

FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 7.30pm

Opening message to the School from Mick Lynch, General Secretary of the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers (RMT), Britain, and member of the Connolly Association

## 1. The Left and EU Supranationalism

Will Podmore, author of *Brexit: The Road to Freedom, British Foreign Policy since 1870, Sovereignty for What?* and other books; British trade union activist

**CHAIR:** Patricia McKenna, barrister, plaintiff in the 1995 Supreme Court fair referendum action which held that it was wrong for the Government to spend public money in a one-sided fashion in referendums.

SATURDAY (morning) 10 SEPTEMBER 11.00am

## 2. The Life, Work and Times of C. Desmond Greaves – a biographer's perspective

Dr Michael Quinn, author of *Irish-Soviet Diplomatic and Friendship Relations 1917-1991*, who is currently working on a biography of Desmond Greaves

**CHAIR:** Declan Bree, former TD, Mayor of Sligo and Chair of Sligo County Council; lifelong socialist political and cultural activist

SATURDAY (afternoon) 10 SEPTEMBER 2.30pm

## 3. Ireland North and South Today – political perspectives

Dr Karen Devine on how the State's foreign, defence and security policy options are narrowing as the EU moves towards closer integration and militarization. Dr Devine lectures on International Relations and EU affairs at Dublin City University and is a former Fulbright scholar.

Dr Ray Bassett on the importance of the consent principle to the Good Friday Agreement dispensation and to the future of Anglo-Irish relations. Dr Bassett is a former Irish diplomat and participant in the Northern peace process. He has written the book *Ireland and the EU Post-Brexit* and undertaken studies for the Politeia and Policy Exchange think-tanks in Britain.

Dr Ian Malcolm on what issues of cultural identity rights are particularly important in the country today. Dr Malcolm is a commentator providing the Northern Ireland Unionist perspective on current politics; he is an Irish language teacher and lecturer.

**CHAIR:** Eoin O Murchú, journalist, broadcaster and campaigner for Irish sovereignty

### AFTER SCHOOL SESSIONS

Those attending the Weekend School are invited to meet for a chat and drink after each session at the Trinity City Hotel, which is just a few doors from 27 Pearse Street.

## THE DESMOND GREAVES ARCHIVE

The School Committee is glad to announce that since the last Greaves school, pre-Covid 19, a significant number of Desmond Greaves's works have been put on the internet and may now be read there and downloaded at [www.desmondgreavesarchive.com](http://www.desmondgreavesarchive.com) They include such previously unpublished items as his two-million-word "Journal", which will be an important source for students of Irish and British history in our times, and his fascinating "Table-Talk", which is presented under the title *Insight, Ideas, Politics*. The site also includes three of Desmond Greaves's books, *The Life and Times of James Connolly*, *Wolfe Tone and the Irish Nation* and *The Irish Crisis – the Northern Civil Rights Movement* – as well as his more important articles and pamphlets. Further material will be added during the coming year.