

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 three books of verse, *Four Letter Verses and the Mountbatten Award*, *Elephants Against Rome* and *By the Clock 'Tis Day*.

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

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DESMOND GREAVES SCHOOL WEBSITE

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.



33rd DESMOND GREAVES SUMMER SCHOOL 2023

Three days of political thought and discussion on Friday to Sunday, 1-3 September 2023, at the Ireland Institute, 27 Pearse Street, Dublin 2, beside Trinity College

TOPICS

*In Defence of the Nation State
A critical look at the Good Friday Agreement
Fianna Fail, Sinn Fein and Contemporary Republicanism
Causes and Consequences of the Ukraine War*

THIRTY-THIRD DESMOND GREAVES SUMMER WEEKEND SCHOOL 2023

FRIDAY EVENING, 1 SEPTEMBER, 7.30pm

1. *In Defence of the Nation State*

Thomas Fazi, Rome-based political analyst, co-author of *Reclaiming the State: A Progressive Vision of Sovereignty for a Post-Neoliberal World, 2017*, and *The Battle for Europe: How an Elite Hijacked a Continent and How We Can Take It Back*, 2014

CHAIR: Dr Karen Devine, Lecturer in EU policies and politics, DCU; author of numerous articles on Irish international relations, neutrality, gender and education policy; frequent contributor to TV and radio

SATURDAY MORNING, 2 SEPTEMBER, 11am

2. *The Good Friday Agreement: A Critical Examination*

Prof. Patrick Murphy, Saturday columnist with the Irish News; former Director of the Belfast Institute of Further and Higher Education; author of *We Shall Overcome*, an early history of the Northern civil rights struggle, published by NICRA in 1978

Mairin Hurdall, Freelance broadcaster; frequent contributor to the Irish language media; producer of radio documentary *Cá Bhfuil an Éire Dhearg?*; of East Belfast trade union background

CHAIR: Dr Catriona Crowe, former head of special projects, National Archives of Ireland; Hon. President, Irish Labour History Society; former President, Women's History Association of Ireland; writer and broadcaster

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 2 SEPTEMBER, 2.30pm

3. *Fianna Fail, Sinn Fein and Contemporary Republicanism*

Micheál MacDonncha, Sinn Fein Dublin City Councillor since 2014; Dublin Lord Mayor 2017-2018; author of centenary history of Sinn Fein, *A Century of Struggle*

Mick O'Reilly, former Irish Secretary of the ATGWU, now UNITE; author of *From Lucifer to Lazarus, a Life on the Left*; committee member of the Greaves Weekend School

Éamon Ó Cuiv, TD for Galway West since 1992; former Deputy Leader of Fianna Fáil and Government Minister

CHAIR: Deaglán de Bréadún, political analyst; Irish News columnist; author of five books on public affairs, two in English, three in Irish

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 3 SEPTEMBER, 2.30pm

4. *Causes and Consequences of the Ukraine War*

Philip O'Connor, political analyst and historian; regular contributor to the *Irish Political Review*; authority on Germany

CHAIR: Catherine Connolly, Independent TD for Galway West; Leas-Ceann Comhairle of the Dáil since 2020 and the first woman to hold this position

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 WEBSITE

The School Committee is glad to announce that all but the final volume of Desmond Greaves's two-million-word Journal, an important document for Irish and British historians, is now on the Greaves Archive website at

www.desmondgreavesarchive.com

The final volume, No.38, will be put there during the coming year, when the entire Journal will be deposited in the National Library. Also on the web-site is Greaves's Table-Talk, which is presented under the title "Insight, Ideas, Politics", and some of which bears comparison with the table-talk of Johnson, Coleridge and Goethe. The full file of the monthly "Irish Democrat"/"Irish Freedom", 1939-2004, which Desmond Greaves edited for forty years, is now being put on this web-site – an important source for Irish and British historians.