

## 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 €6  
Students/unwaged half-price



### ENQUIRIES

Kevin McCorry, School Director  
4 Mulrankin, Bridgetown, Co.Wexford  
Tel.: 086-3150301; 053-9175843  
E-mail: post@greavesschool.com



### DESMOND GREAVES SCHOOL WEBSITE

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



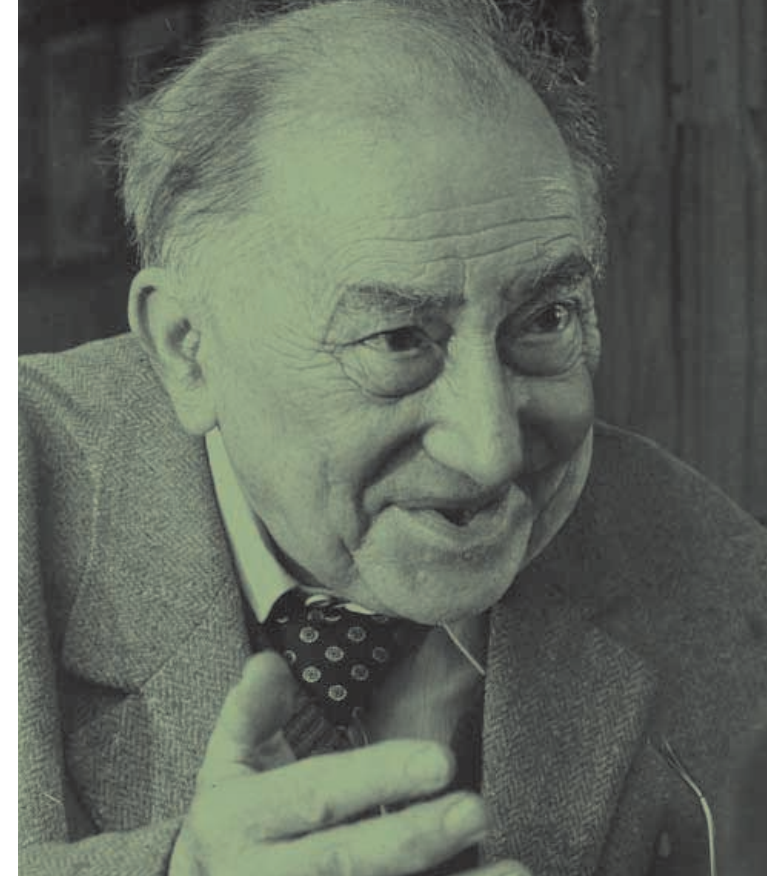
### BOOKSTALL

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.



## 31st DESMOND GREAVES SUMMER SCHOOL 2019

*A weekend of political thought and discussion  
from Friday to Sunday, 6-8 September 2019,  
at the Ireland Institute, 27 Pearse Street, Dublin 2,  
beside Trinity College*

### TOPICS

*Brexit, Ireland and the EU*

*1919: a decisive year for the modern world and Ireland  
1969-70: an historical turning-point North and South  
History and politics of Ireland's climate change crisis  
EU militarization v. Irish neutrality*

# THIRTY-FIRST DESMOND GREAVES SUMMER WEEKEND SCHOOL 2019

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 7.30pm

## 1. *Brexit, Ireland and the EU*

**Will Podmore**, author of *Brexit: the Road to Freedom, British Foreign Policy since 1870* and other books; British trade union activist; Head Librarian, University College of Osteopathy, London

**Dr. Karen Devine**, Lecturer in International Relations and specialist in EU affairs, Dublin City University; former Fulbright scholar

*CHAIR: Dr Ray Bassett*, former Irish diplomat and participant in the Northern peace process, author of studies on Brexit and Ireland for the *Politica* and *Policy Exchange* think-tanks in Britain

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 11.00am

## 2. *1919: a decisive year in World and Irish history*

**Donal Fallon**, historian and regular contributor to the media on Irish history, society and popular culture; co-founder of the award-winning social history website *Come Here to Me*, a selection from which has been published by New Island Books; author of biography of John MacBride in the *16 Lives* series

**Ruán O'Donnell**, historian, University of Limerick; authority on Irish republicanism; author of numerous books, including *Patrick Pearse* in the *16 Lives* series, of which he was commissioning editor for the O'Brien Press

*CHAIR: Catriona Crowe*, Ireland's premier archivist; former head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland and manager of the Irish Census Online Project; contributes regularly to the broadcast and print media on cultural and historical matters; member of the Royal Irish Academy

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2.30pm

## 3. *The years 1969/1970 as an historical turning-point North and South*

**Owen Bennett**, writer and political analyst, Desmond Greaves School Committee

**Eoin O Murchú**, former political editor, Raidió na Gaeltachta; longtime campaigner for Irish sovereignty

*CHAIR: Louise O'Reilly* TD, Sinn Fein TD for Dublin Fingal since 2016, formerly trade union organizer with SIPTU

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 11.00am

## 4. *History and politics of the climate change crisis in Ireland*

**Patricia McKenna**, former Green Party MEP for Dublin; plaintiff in her 1995 constitutional action before the Supreme Court which established that it was wrong of the Government to spend public money in a one-sided fashion in referendums; now a practising barrister

**Professor John Sweeney**, Maynooth University Geography Department; author of scientific papers and books on climatology and climate change in Ireland; contributor to reports of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007; President of An Taisce, the National Trust of Ireland

*CHAIR: Michael Quinn*, author of *Irish-Soviet Diplomatic and Friendship Relations 1917-1991* (Iontas Press, Maynooth 2017); interested in Desmond Greaves's views and writings on ecology)

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2.30pm

## 5. *EU Militarization v Irish neutrality*

**Clare Daly** MEP, former TD for Dublin North; recently elected independent MEP for Dublin; longtime campaigner on peace issues

**Niall Farrell**, peace activist, Galway Alliance Against War

*CHAIR: Joe Murray*, Coordinator Afri (Action from Ireland), concerned with human rights, peace, global justice and sustainability issues

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

*Bar-food and meeting place at the*

*Trinity City Hotel,  
(a few doors from 27 Pearse Street)*