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UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

Being in the room

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

This week I was kidnapped. I was in Belfast at the James Connolly Visitors Centre on the Falls Road.

Gerry Adams was there to meet with a group from Baldwin Wallace University in Cleveland. He asked that I bring up a box of books to their meeting room. The room was packed and I made my way to the front. I left the box down and was talking with Richard McAuley. As we were chatting Gerry asked the group to form a circle which turned into a series of semi-circles. I was trapped with no way out to the door on the far side of the group!!

There was only one thing to do, I made myself comfortable. For an hour, Gerry spoke and took questions from the students.

Gerry detailed his political life as a series of events. Becoming politically aware in 1964 when the RUC twice raided the Falls Road offices of an election candidate for flying an Irish Tricolour. All on the demand of Ian Paisley. He outlined key events, the years of conflict, the hunger strikes, the rise of Sinn Féin, and the Good Friday Agreement.

By 2007 Ian Paisley was working alongside Martin McGuinness of Sinn Féin to lead a power-sharing government in Stormont. An unimaginable event in 1964 when Sinn Féin was banned and the North effectively a single-party sectarian state. We have

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Gerry remarked that the biggest mistake that the British Government made was to hand control to the military instead of seeking a political way forward. Generals do not make peace they seek a military victory. It took almost 30 years of conflict for the primacy of politics to be asserted and a peace agreement reached.

The US was central to the Good Friday Agreement. In 1994 Bill Clinton granted a visa for Gerry Adams to travel to the US and appointed George Mitchell as Envoy to the North. The British government objected and the then British Prime Minister refused to take a call from the President. For the first time, the US developed a policy on peace in Ireland that was independent of British policy. This created a space for peace to grow.

This was not a nostalgic lap of honor discussion. The students wanted to know what the future held and what lessons could be applied to other areas in conflict. The obvious connection was with Gaza. The Israeli government is seeking a military victory. The generals are in charge. There is no independent American Foreign policy approach, the arms keep flowing and the scope of the conflict is widening. The death toll in Gaza builds and Israel stands accused of genocide by the international courts.

All of this can and should be ended and a peaceful political way forward agreed. Ireland demonstrates what is possible with political will.

Ciarán

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

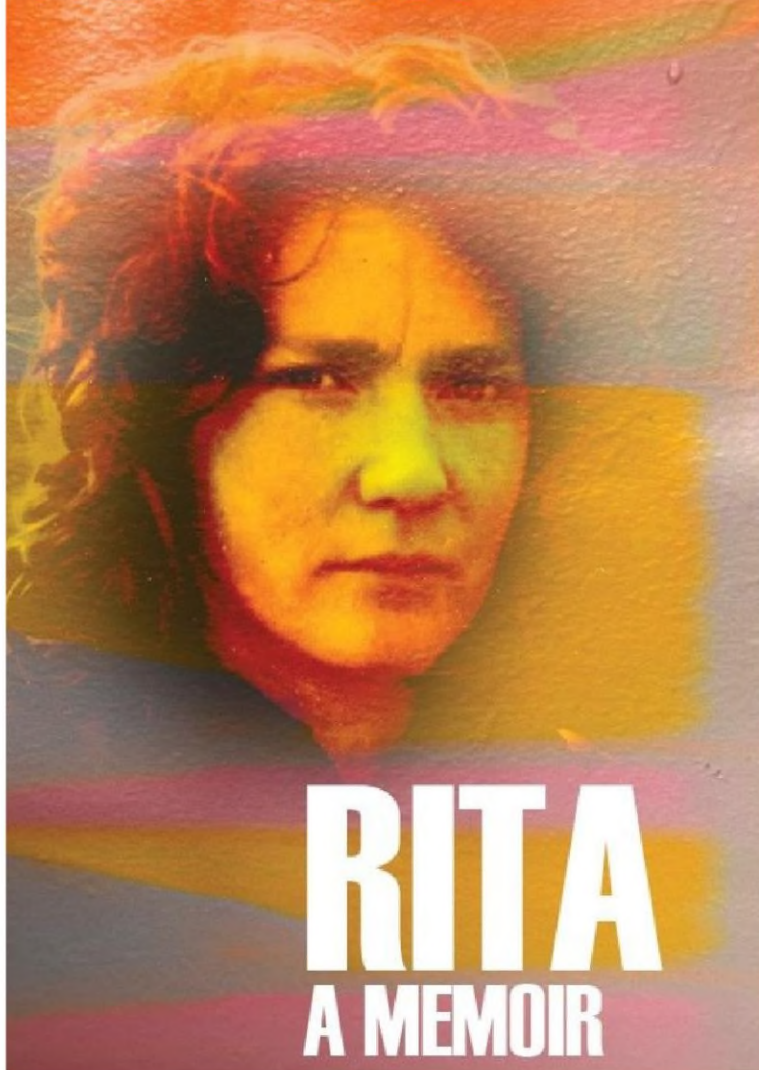
Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

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BOOK LAUNCH NEW YORK



Rita O'Hare led an astonishing life. She was imprisoned three times—in Armagh Jail (twice) and Limerick Prison; survived being shot and gravely injured by the British Army; became a writer, editor, Director of Publicity, and Sinn Féin's representative in Washington. Nelson Mandela referred to her as his 'little warrior'. Of all republicans she was the longest 'on the run'.

But above all she was devoted to her beloved partner Brendan, to her four children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Rita is the memoir she was writing at the time of her death in March 2023.

Friday, Sept. 13, 2024

Bobby Van's

135 W 50th St, NY, NY

5:00pm

Books will be available,
guest speakers & more.



The British government needs to get involved in the conversation about constitutional change in Ireland

by Declan Kearney

Four weeks have passed since the Westminster General Election.

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largest political party in the north of Ireland; now leading decisively in representative terms and share of the vote, within the regional Assembly, local government and elected MPs.

The seven Sinn Féin MPs elected constitute the largest MP group of any party in the north with a 4.2% increase in overall share of the vote.

Sinn Féin's overall position as the largest party in Ireland was consolidated. Our MPs abstain from the Westminster parliament because of its ongoing illegitimate claim of jurisdiction over this part of Ireland. That political position was strongly endorsed by 27% of the electorate.

The reality is that the British parliamentary system has no interest in the north. That is illustrated in the legacy of successive Tory administrations which has resulted in austerity, systemic underfunding of public services, the catastrophe of Brexit, and, the most recent 'Amnesty Law'.

The election of the new Labour administration provides an opportunity to fundamentally change British government policy towards Ireland, and to reset relations between Britain and Ireland.

The realignments created by this election reflect a popular demand within the northern electorate for something better, as well as a growing view that the economic and social progress required to deliver on the priorities of local workers and families will only be introduced beyond the limits of partition, and through a process of constitutional change.

In the days following the election, both domestic and international media commented extensively on how the strengthened Sinn Féin vote would add political impetus to the desire for Irish unity.

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Support for a united Ireland is now stronger than ever before. This momentum has been driven by Brexit, the indifference of English politicians, and, the economic and political failure of partition.

[FULL STORY HERE](#)

Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2024 Dinner

Sinn Féin MLA Ciara Ferguson will be the special guest at the 2024 Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation Dinner which will be held on September 12, 2024 at Bobby Van's, 135 W 50th St, New York, NY.

Visit <https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/upcoming-events> for more details and to register.

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The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2024 Chieftain's Dinner NYC

Save the Date
September 12, 2024

**Special Guest Speaker: Ciara Ferguson,
MLA – Sinn Féin**

Date: September 12, 2024

Location: Bobby Vans

Address: 135 W 50th St, New York, NY 10020
b/n 6th and 7th Ave

**Cocktail hour from 6-7 pm, sit down 3
course dinner 7-9 pm**

Check our website:

<https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>

Tickets - \$250

Sponsorships - \$500

Email Marty Glennon at: mglennon@abgllaw.com



August Video Update

Sinn Féin Representative to North America Ciarán Quinn discusses recent events in Ireland, the joy and celebration of the diversity of Irish Olympians, upcoming events in the United States and more.

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‘British government’s merry-go-round of delays must end’ – Kelly

Sinn Féin MLA Gerry Kelly has said it is time for the British government to finally grant a public inquiry into the murder of Pat Finucane.

The North Belfast MLA was speaking after the British government asked the Court of Appeal for more time to provide a response to the court’s earlier ruling.

Gerry Kelly said, “Geraldine Finucane and her family have fought with courage, dignity and determination for over 35 years now to establish the full extent of what happened to her, her husband and their family.

“This further delay by the British government is yet another attempt to hold-up and delay delivering full truth and justice to the Finucane family.

“The new British government now has a real opportunity to demonstrate its willingness to deal with the past, and to meet the needs of victims and families. This chance must be grasped in good faith.

“The latest round of the British government’s merry-go-round of delays must be its last.

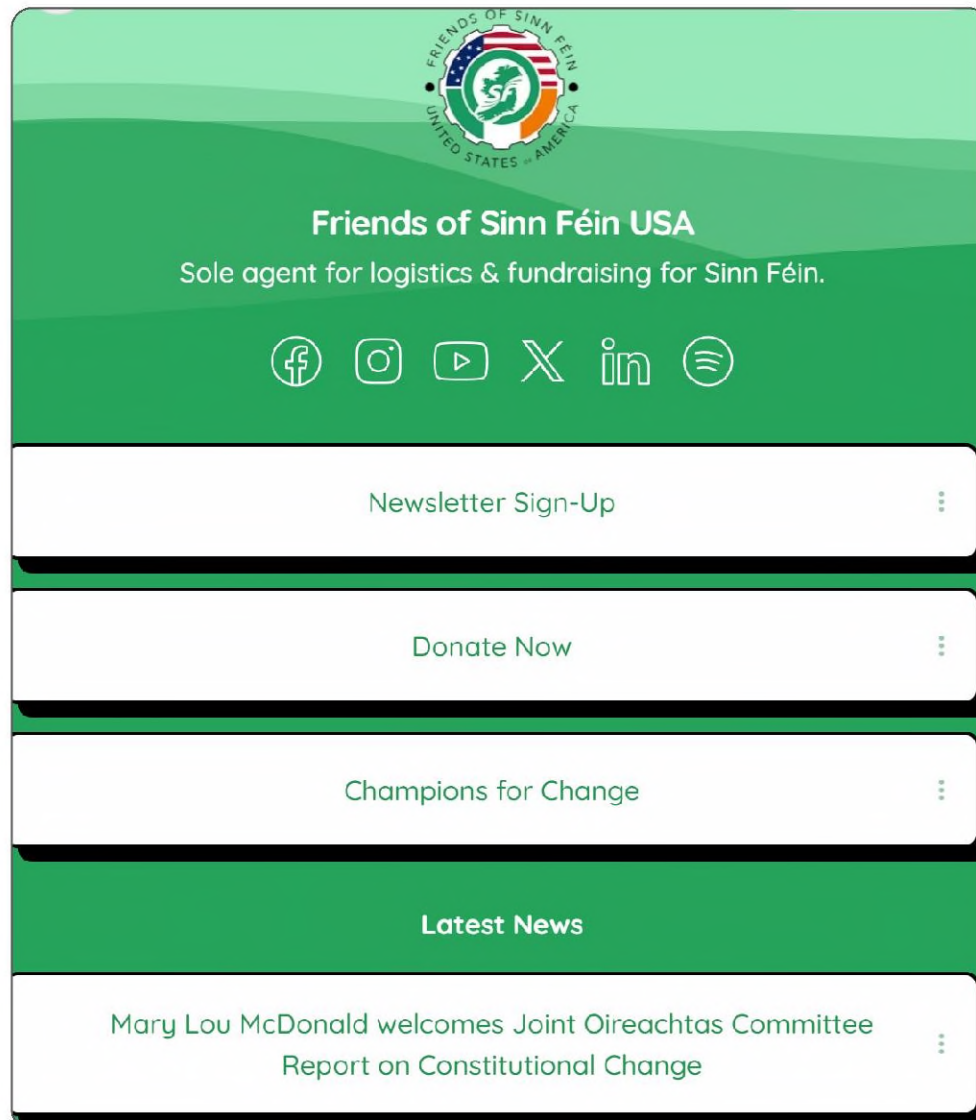
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Labour government made over twenty years ago and initiate a public inquiry which meets the standards of Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

“There can be no more delay or blockage to truth and justice for Pat Finucane’s family.”

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2024 Chieftain's Walk NYC

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2024 Chieftain's Walk NYC

Walk for Reunification

Date: September 15, 2024

Location: Irish Hunger Memorial,
Battery Park City

Address: 290 Vesey Street, New
York, NY 10281

Get ready for an unforgettable day as we come together to honor the beloved Martin McGuinness and raise awareness for his Peace Foundation. This year, we're walking for the reunification of Ireland, and we want YOU to be part of this incredible journey!

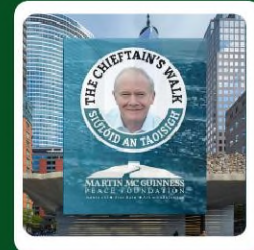
Register Now:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2024/91998/2024-martin-mcguinness-chieftains-walk-nyc>

Check our website for more information

<https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>

Email Marty Glennon at: mglennon@abgllaw.com



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