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UNITED STATES UNITED IRELAND

Letter from a Train - Continuing the work

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

I'm back on the road again or to be correct on the train, leaving New York for Washington.

In New York, we hosted a launch of Rita O'Hare's Memoir, attended the Martin McGuinness Foundation Walk for Irish Unity, and met up with friends and supporters. Both Rita and Martin were formidable Irish Republican leaders. They paid a heavy price for their political beliefs: enduring jail, time on the run, arrest, and intimidation. Shot and left for dead, Rita carried the scars of her activism.

They were unrelenting. Yet they never carried any bitterness. They acted not out of recrimination but hope for a better future. An united Ireland that would be a home for all. At the events, stories were shared and the sound of laughter filled the air. It was not an occasion for sadness but a celebration. It was a community remembering. Many thanks to all of those who came out to remember Rita and to support the work of Friends of Sinn Féin.

Rita and Martin loved to listen to people's stories. Their relationship with the US was more than political. It was of friends with a shared love of Ireland. The US and Canada for them was a place where hope and opportunity met and progress was made.

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they had been denied. A peaceful and democratic pathway to Irish Unity.

Both knew that the road ahead would contain many twists and turns. The focus was always to keep moving forward.

In the months ahead we face elections in the US and in Dublin. We now have a new government in London. By the start of next year we will have a new administration, a new Congress and possibly a new government in Dublin.

In the South of Ireland the election has to be held before March. The timing is in the hands of the government. A kind of home team advantage. We in Sinn Féin have a job of work to do to persuade voters to break from the past, that real change is possible and to elect a government that has a vision and a plan for a new and united Ireland.

A government in Dublin will plan and prepare for Irish Unity. That is what a Sinn Féin led government would do. That is what a Sinn Féin led government will do.

The US will be central in the next chapter in our history, the securing and the winning of Irish Unity referendums as provided for in the Good Friday Agreement.

The opportunity that we now enjoy is the legacy of a generation of leaders that included Martin McGuinness and Rita O'Hare. The only fitting tribute to them is to continue their work and build a new and united Ireland.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

Friends and colleagues gather in NY and DC for Rita: A Memoir book launches

Friends and colleagues gathered in New York on Friday to share memories of Rita O'Hare.

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and dedication to the cause of Irish peace, justice, and unity.

Dozens of people met at Bobby Van's to get their hands on a copy of the book and to swap stories about Rita's time and work in the United States. People traveled from all over the tri-state area to be a part of the event.

Rita served as Sinn Féin's Representative to the United States for more than 20 years and made many friends and strong connections along the way.

In New York, Joe Smith, a longtime friend of Rita's, hosted the event and many people spoke about some of their favorite stories. Marty Glennon, Rosaleen Doherty, Deirdre Freerick, P Smith, Cairan Staunton, Sean Downes, current Sinn Féin Representative to North America, Cairán Quinn, and many others shared memories and Jenny Glennon did a reading from the book.

In Washington, DC, Sinn Féin Representative to North America Ciarán Quinn hosted the event. Representative Richie Neal, President Emeritus of LIUNA Terry O'Sullivan, former Congressmen Joe Crowley and Bruce Morrison, longtime friend of Ireland in Washington Billy Tranghese, Friends of Sinn Féin Executive Director of Friends of Sinn Féin Greg O'Loughlin and others spoke about Rita's impact and connections in Washington.

Books will be available for purchase online soon.

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Chieftain's Walk USA: A Day of Solidarity for Ireland's Reunification

By Brendan McGovern

On Sunday, September 15, 2024, advocates of peace and unity gathered for the annual Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation's Chieftain's Walk, an event rooted in the powerful aspiration of Ireland's reunification.

Participants from across the United States and Ireland, united by a shared vision for a peaceful and united Ireland, walked in tribute to Martin McGuinness's enduring legacy. Their shirts bore the message of reunification, symbolizing their collective commitment to this crucial cause.

The day's proceedings began at 10:00 a.m. at the Irish Hunger Museum in Battery Park City, where attendees assembled before embarking on a march along the Westside Greenway by the Hudson River. The spirited sounds of traditional Irish music, performed by Billy & Jacinta, filled the air with patriotic fervor.

Their performance of both the Irish and American national anthems emphasized the deep bond between the Irish diaspora and the ongoing pursuit of Irish unity.

A series of stirring speeches followed. Marty Glennon and Ciarán Quinn, Sinn Féin's North American representative, delivered impassioned remarks that underscored the importance of the reunification movement. Their words honored the sacrifices made by those, like Martin McGuinness, who dedicated their lives to this cause. The speeches electrified the crowd, imbuing the gathering with a renewed sense of purpose and determination.

Among the participants were Martin McGuinness's nephews, standing alongside supporters from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Rhode island, Kentucky, and Ireland. While the event allowed moments of reflection, it was ultimately a rallying call for continued action and solidarity. The shared sense of unity and purpose present throughout the day echoed the growing momentum for reunification.

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People's Assembly: Diaspora Cleveland, Ohio

The Commission on the Future of Ireland and Friends of Sinn Féin will host a People's Assembly in **Cleveland, OH on Tuesday, October 8, 2024**.

Join us for a conversation with Dáire Hughes, Sinn Féin MP for Newry and Armagh. He will provide a briefing on the effort, progress, and next steps.

A Q&A and discussion will follow.

Tickets are free and limited, and registration is required.

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THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Tuesday, October 8th, 2024
Cleveland, OH
West Side Irish American Club

Featuring Dáire Hughes, MP

A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.



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UM THODHCHAÍ
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People's Assembly: Diaspora Columbus, Ohio

The Commission on the Future of Ireland and Friends of Sinn Féin will host a People's Assembly in **Columbus, OH on Thursday, October 10, 2024.**

Join us for a conversation with Sinn Féin Representative to North America Ciarán Quinn. He will provide a briefing on the effort, progress, and next steps.

A Q&A and discussion will follow. Tickets are free and limited, and registration is required.

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