

Are Special Interest Groups Undermining Democratic Government in Ireland?

17ú Scoil Gheimhridh Cholmcille *Clár an Deiridh Seachtaine*

Venue: Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartan, Church Hill, Letterkenny

Friday, 24th February 2006
Dé hAoine 24ú Feabhra 2006
Oiche Ghaelach

5.00 p.m. **Clárú** – Registration Tea/Coffee
7.00 p.m. **Fáiltiú** – Reception *Ceol Ghaelach*
7.30 p.m. **Cathaoirleach: Mairéad Uí Gallachóir**, Dún Lúiche

Oscailt Oifigiúil: An tAth Michéal Mac Suibhne,
Conallach na bliana

Comh. Enda Bonner, Comhairle, Co. Dún na nGall
Téama: “An Comhairleoir agus na Brúgrúpaí”

8.40 p.m. *Béile*

Saturday 25th February 2006

9.00 a.m. **Registration** Tea/Coffee
9.30 a.m. **Chair: Cllr. Terence Slowey**, Chairman Donegal, V.E.C.

Topic: “The Investigation of Public Wrong-doing”
Colm Mac hEochaidh, Barrister, Four Courts Dublin

Topic: “Communities, Groups Rights and Democracy in Northern Ireland”

Dr. Dominic Bryan, Dir. of Institute of Irish Studies, QUB

Discussion

11.20 a.m. *Tea/Coffee*

12.00 a.m. **Chair: Cllr. Lynn Fleming**, Mayor of Derry

Topic: “Have Special Interest Pressure Groups any Role in Irish Society?”

Sen. Mary O’Rourke, Leader Seanad Éireann

Discussion

1.15 p.m. Lunch

17ú Scoil Gheimhridh Cholmcille *Weekend Programme*

Contd. Saturday, 25th February 2006

2.30 p.m. Guided Scenic Walk (Bring Boots) or Visit Tourism Facilities

5.00 p.m. Reception/Music

6.00 p.m. **Chair: Mr. Martin Egan**, Colmcille Heritage Trust

Topic: “The Rise and Fall of Tribunal Culture”

Mr. Paul Cullen, Journalist, Irish Times

Discussion

7.15 p.m. Conference Dinner

Sunday, 26th February 2006

10.40 a.m. Tea/Coffee

11.20 a.m. **Chair: Mr. James Boyle**, Colmcille Heritage Trust

Topic: “Balancing Genuine Concerns with Vested Interests”

Mr. Vincent Lynn, Senior Engineer, Donegal Co. Council

Discussion

1.00 p.m. Close of Conference
Lunch

Martin Egan, Secretary

Gartan

Church Hill

Letterkenny

Co. Donegal

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