

# 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, 24<sup>th</sup> 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 Brúgrupaí”*

8.40 p.m. *Béile*

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 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, 25<sup>th</sup> 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, 26<sup>th</sup> 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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