

Belfast Summer School 2014

Greening the EU in the context of the Euro-sceptic Debate

at Queen's University Belfast

Friday 6, Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 June 2014

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

(last updated on 31 May 2014)

FRIDAY 6 JUNE 2014

7:00pm / REGISTRATION

7:30pm to 8:00pm / RECEPTION

Tony Gallagher (*Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University Belfast*) will welcome participants and officially open the Summer School.

8:00pm to 10:00pm / A European history for the 21st century

This summer marks 100 years since the beginning of WWI and 70 years since the Normandy landings. The EU was largely born as a result of these conflicts and to prevent any re-occurrence of such wars again. WW1 and WW2 are normally seen through a national lens, but these events were of crucial importance for Europe as a whole. How do we remember them, and how important are they for building a 21st century Europe?

CHAIR: Nuala Ahern (*Chair of Green Foundation Ireland*).

SPEAKERS: Erica Meijers (*Editor-in-Chief of De Helling, the quarterly journal of Bureau de Helling, the Dutch Green Foundation*); **Philip Orr** (*Historian and Playwright*), who will cover the role of WW1 and WW2.

10:15pm onwards / ENTERTAINMENT in Dukes at Queens Hotel

Abie Philbin Bowman is the Longest Name in Irish Comedy. His satirical one-man shows have toured from Pakistan to Sweden and from London's West End to Hollywood, Los Angeles. Abie's sharp mind and unique perspective have also made him a popular voice on British and Irish television and radio. His work has been covered by the *New York Times*, *Le Monde* and *BBC News*. *TIME* magazine hails him as "a rising star". Abie has also performed at both our previous Summer Schools which were held in Carnsore, County Wexford.

Other elements of the Entertainment Programme will be updated here in due course.

SATURDAY 7 JUNE 2014

10:00am to 10:15am / TEA and COFFEE

10:15am / Rethinking the UK relationship with the EU – Introduction

Peter Emerson (*Director of The de Borda Institute*) will present an outline of the possibilities and benefits of employing a multi-option poll to complex situations, such as the issues being covered by this morning's session. Peter will invite participants to take part in a multi-option poll following this morning's session and will explain how he will operate this pioneering exercise.

10:30am to 12:30pm / Rethinking the UK relationship with the EU

As Euro-scepticism grows in England and across the EU, what are the implications for the UK and Ireland? What will happen in any forthcoming referendum on the EU membership in the UK? How does the EU need to change to overcome the negatives and enhance the positives? We will also look beyond these islands to discuss what future exists for other Member States which are outside of the Eurozone.

CHAIR: David Phinnemore (*Professor of European Politics and Head of the School of Politics, Queen's University Belfast*).

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS: Maggie Chapman (*Councillor and Co-Convenor of Scottish Green Party*); **Jean Lambert** (*MEP, English Greens*); **Maria Wetterstrand** (*Cogito, Sweden*).

12:30pm to 2:00pm / LUNCH

2:00pm to 4:00pm / How do we make a greener and more socially responsible EU?

What kind of social and ecological Europe is possible and desirable to urgently address concerns which have arisen across Europe about the direction the EU is following? How to create an alternative Green Vision of a functioning EU to which its citizens can give allegiance?

CHAIR: Lee McGowan (*Senior Lecturer in Comparative Politics, Queen's University Belfast*).

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS: Hiltrud Breyer (*MEP, German Greens*); **Patricia McKeown** (*Regional Secretary of UNISON, Northern Ireland*); **Alex Warleigh-Lack** (*Professor of EU Politics at the School of Politics, Surrey University, UK*).

4:00pm to 4:30pm / TEA and COFFEE

4:30pm to 6:00pm / WORLD CAFÉ: Energy Future for Europe – Fracking to Fusion?

The Ukrainian crisis has highlighted the EU's dependency on imported fossil fuels. Will changing this dependency require exploitation of shale gas and nuclear energy in the EU or are there real renewable alternatives?

FACILITATOR: Stiofán Nutty (*Director of Educational Programmes at GFI*).

SPEAKERS: Stefan Andreasson (*Senior Lecturer in Comparative Politics, Queen's University Belfast*); **Ross Brown** (*NI Green Party*).

6:00pm to 7:00pm / FILM – Northern Ireland première of "Creating a People's Europe"

INTRODUCED BY: John Gormley (former Irish Minister for the Environment 2007-2011).

This film, produced by Bandit Films, is a project of the Green European Foundation for the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament. It is realised with the support of the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the financial support of the European Parliament.

Followed by Q & A.

7:00pm / DINNER

9:30pm to late / ENTERTAINMENT in Dukes at Queens Hotel

Tommy Sands, the County Down singer, songwriter and social activist (who performed and held a workshop "Music as a Campaigning Tool" at our Summer School 2012 in Carnsore, County Wexford), has achieved something akin to legendary status in his own lifetime. From the pioneering days with the highly influential Sands Family, bringing Irish music from New York's Carnegie Hall to Moscow's Olympic Stadium, he has developed into one of the most powerful songwriters and enchanting solo performers in Ireland today.

His songwriting, which drew the admiration of the late Nobel Poet Laureate, Seamus Heaney, as well as the father of folk music, the late Pete Seeger, has prompted respected US magazine "Sing Out" to regard him as "the most powerful songwriter in Ireland, if not the rest of the world". His songs, like *There were Roses* and *Daughters and Sons*, which have been recorded by Joan Baez, Kathy Matthea, Dolores Keane, Sean Keane, Frank Patterson, Dick Gaughan, The Dubliners and many others, have been translated into many languages and are currently included in the English language syllabus in German secondary schools.

Voca Loca (Belfast women's a capella singing group).

The Major Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band was formed in 1957 and is currently based in Ballyclare, County Antrim.

Other elements of the Entertainment Programme will be updated here in due course.

SUNDAY 8 JUNE 2014

10:00am to 10:30pm / TEA and COFFEE

10:30pm to 12:00 noon / WHAT DO WE LEARN FROM BELFAST?

What do we learn from Belfast in terms of conflict resolution successes that can be transposed to other EU regions, etc.

DISCUSSION: John Barry (Professor in Politics, Queen's University Belfast) and **Benoît Lechat** (Editor-in-Chief of Green European Journal of Green European Foundation).

Followed by Q&A.

12:15pm to 2:30pm / OPTIONAL EXTRA: Tour of Belfast's Milltown Cemetery

Author and local historian **Tom Hartley** (who is also former Sinn Féin Lord Mayor of Belfast 2008-2009) unravels the complex story of Belfast's privileged and poor through the graves of its citizens in this highly-praised walking tour. The charge for this optional tour will be Stg£5 per person and will be approximately two hours long.

4:15pm to 5:45pm / OPTIONAL EXTRA: Screening of "Bay of All Saints" (USA – Director: Annie Eastman – 1hour, 14 minutes)

This is part of the **UK Green Film Festival** and will take place in the **Queen's Film Theatre (Screen 1) at 20 University Square – Admission: Stg£6.50** (concessions available).

INTRODUCED BY: John Barry (*Green Party Councillor and Professor in Politics, Queen's University Belfast*).

In Bahia, Brazil, generations of impoverished families live in palafitas, shacks built on stilts over the ocean bay. When the government threatens to reclaim the bay in the name of ecological restoration, hundreds of families are about to lose their homes.

Bay of All Saints is a lyrical portrait of three single-mothers living in the water slums during this crisis. Their individual stories of poverty unfold through visits from Norato, their big-hearted refrigerator repairman, born and raised in the palafitas. As these women rise to fight for their future, they begin to see the bay in a whole new light.

The **UK Green Film Festival**, sponsored by Friends of the Earth, comes to the Queen's Film Theatre for the first time as part of its 2014 tour. It is the UK's annual environmental film festival and is now in its fourth year. Over a single weekend, throughout the UK, the Festival screens some of the very best films from around the world, exploring some of the big environmental issues of the day. Films that inform, that entertain, that challenge, and inspire.

"Our aim is simple. We want to help people understand their impact on the environment, and what they can do to reduce it. Film has the power to do that; to provoke thought, to inspire, and to entertain. That's what the UK Green Film Festival is all about." – John Long, Festival Co-Founder.

6:00pm / END OF SUMMER SCHOOL
