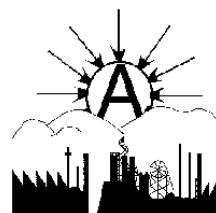


FREE!

WORKERS SOLIDARITY

Twenty Four years of Irish Anarchist News

Number 101 January - February 2007



Who Needs To Tighten Their Belts?



Average Nurses Annual Wage: €56000

Finance Minister Biffo Cowens Wage: €270000

Union leaders, employers and the government will soon be sitting down to negotiate a new pay round as part of the Towards 2016 'partnership' agreement. It doesn't take a crystal ball to see that the bosses will be insisting on wage increases of no more than a few percent. They will troop into TV studios to tell us that anything better is - take your pick - impossible, irresponsible or unaffordable.

TDs will happily join in, and this time government ministers can put on the poor mouth. Sure, haven't they just deferred their latest rise. Of course that's easy when you are already getting pay packets it would take a forklift to move. Brian Cowan has seen his own Tain-aiste's salary increased from €95,000 in 1997 to €228,000 in 2007. But that hasn't stopped him droning on about the "dangers of wage inflation".

As for 300,000 public sector workers who actually do the work in hospitals, schools, depots and offices; what are

they to get? Only 15 of the 109 grades examined by the Benchmarking Body will get increases, and some of those are for the princely sum of 1%.

Let us not forget the government, last Spring, told nurses that they did indeed deserve a substantial rise but this could only be dealt with through benchmarking, that it was "the only show in town". What did it deliver? A slap in face, with zero percentage awards for many nursing grades.

Continued Inside...

Inside

CHANGE ALL OF THIS LATER ON, YEH?

NEWSPAPER OF ANARCHISTS IN IRELAND

Solidarity and Betrayal - Two Sides of a Dispute

In early December classroom assistants in the North returned to work after a series of strike actions which had gone on since September. This action by the classroom assistants showed in stark form the two faces of the trade union movement. On the one hand there was the tremendous bravery and solidarity shown by the workers themselves in standing up to attempts to bully and harass them back to work. On the other hand was the duplicitousness and skulduggery of some trade union bureaucrats who not alone did their best to undermine the dispute but actively worked with management and politicians to betray the workers.

This dispute had its origin in "job evaluation" discussions which had dragged on for the past 13 years. Fed up with the lack of progress, classroom assistants who are members of the Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance trade union voted by a 93% margin to take industrial action. When NIPSA members took to the picket line, they received tremendous support from the general public and from the parents of the special needs children with whom they work. Unfortunately, classroom assistants who are members of 3 other unions (UNISON, GMB and T&GWU/Unite) did not join the industrial action.

Not alone that but after the first one-day strike in late September, the leadership of the GMB trade union came out on the side of management and in a move designed to undermine the strikers 'accepted' the management claim that classroom assistants' pay should be calculated on the basis of a 36-hour week. This was the issue at the core of the dispute and would lead to effective pay cuts for the workers involved.

NIPSA members continued their industrial action and their fight for improved working conditions. The Minister for Education in the Northern Assembly, Sinn Fein's Caitriona Ruane, attacked the strikers and – in a deliberate attempt to appeal to public sympathy – expressed her 'disappointment' that 'the most vulnerable in our society' would be effected by the action.

In a display of two-facedness that should have made even the most duplicitous

Classroom assistants' solidarity; union leaders' betrayal



of politicians wince with shame and embarrassment, Sinn Fein's education spokesperson Paul Butler MLA on 26th September declared on the SF website "Across the north Sinn Féin representatives have been standing shoulder to shoulder with classroom assistants in supporting their demand for their jobs to be graded and remunerated properly" while by 15th November the same Mr. Butler was declaring "I do not believe that the planned industrial action by classroom assistants will achieve anything except to create more hardship for children, parents and classroom assistants." Strikers' placards which had compared Ruane to Maggie Thatcher in her attitude to the strikers, drawing parallels with Thatcher's attacks on the miners' trade union, obviously hit a sore point.

Management tried further tactics to undermine the strike including sending a letter to the parents of pupils in special schools and learning support centres inviting them to send a family member to accompany a child with special needs to school – in other words to scab on the strikers. It is to the credit of the families of the children involved that this invitation was treated with the contempt it deserved and ignored.

However due to the political machinations of the other union leaders the NIPSA strikers were forced to call off their action in early December. At a Joint Negotiating Council meeting on 30th November the leaderships of GMB and UNISON joined forces with the employers to force a 'settlement' on NIPSA despite the majority of classroom assistants being members of NIPSA. This 'settlement' fails to meet the just demands of classroom assistants with regard to contractual rights, working conditions and pay. The treachery and mean-spiritedness of the employers, politicians and the leadership of GMB and UNISON cannot take away from the bravery and courage shown by the strikers. 17 days of industrial action is not an easy thing to do, with bills to pay and families to feed. The solidarity shown to each other and the goodwill towards the striking workers from the families of the children with whom they work will however stand to them in the future and when round two of this battle comes along, Caitriona Ruane and her politician mates might find that life in Stormont ain't all a bed of roses.

Gregor Kerr

Thinking about Anarchism;

Religion



Anarchism has traditionally been hostile to all religions because by their very nature they tend to be authoritarian. A supernatural creator who sets the rules is naturally considered to be the ultimate source of authority and if one did exist, it would, in the words of Bakunin, be necessary to abolish it. But a creator doesn't exist, so we are left with the more mundane task of spreading the good news that values aren't handed down from on high, but emerge from human society.

Socialists of all stripes are materialists. This doesn't mean we're greedy for money or crazy for the latest fashions. It just means that we think that the world started off quite simple, i.e. matter, and gradually evolved into more complex forms, such as animals. We see the world from the bottom up and try to understand the causes of events in natural terms. Some simple examples: disease isn't a form of possession by demons; it's a virus or bacterial infection. Crime isn't just committed by evil people; it's partially the result of social pressures such as poverty and lack of opportunities.

Religion looks at the world from the opposite point of view. Everything is top down. First you've got an unimaginably smart creator who was bored enough to make humans fairly smart and then down the long chain from animals to bacteria. When humanity was first coming up

with answers to tricky questions such as "why does it rain; what happens when we die? what causes events", they came up with quite a good answer. Since minds are responsible for causing events, a very great mind must be the ultimate cause of everything and, in particular, the cause of stuff that they didn't know much about, such as the weather, death etc.

It was a good answer and a valuable one too. It got humanity on the scientific path of seeking proper causes for events. That the answer happened to be completely wrong doesn't invalidate its historic importance.

Nowadays, religion has been superseded by science as a means of understanding the world. Science explains successfully what religion can't. Unfortunately, most, if not all, of the world's religions have failed to keep up. They still keep to their doctrines of creation and resurrection, of prophecy and visions. There are naturalistic reasons for this too; the desire to maintain an institution's power and passivity amongst others.

Worse, religion's retreat in the face of science has left it holding not only absurd dogmas, but extolling the only means of believing in them: faith. This is simply belief without evidence and it's a dangerous drug because in effect it means handing over your brain to a priest, rab-

bi, or imam. That is, handing it to somebody who advocates the greatest absurdities.

Anarchism is a vision of self-activity. Letting other people do your thinking for you will come home to roost in the end. Soon there'll be edicts justifying exploitation and the necessity of rulers. The Catholic Church just last month felt the need to yet again decry the socialist vision for a free and equal society. The faithful are supposed to line up against their own interests. Naturally, they will only do this if they concede the right of the church to do their thinking for them.

Happily, this is less and less the case in Ireland. About 15% of the population are non-religious and many of the nominal Christians pay heed to apostles of Christ in name only. The litany of child abuse scandals, idiotic teachings on contraception, and blatant sexist treatment of women has combined with a better educated and more affluent population to reduce their influence.

Just as science has replaced religious explanations, so too have ethical ideologies such as socialism replaced superstitious teachings as the cutting edge of social justice. After all, if something is the right thing to do, it remains so whether or some god thinks it is or not. If by some tiny chance a creator does exist and has a direct line to the religious people in this

world, it still doesn't matter. As the cruel and bloody history of religion testifies, the gods are probably a lot less ethically inclined than the rest of us.

No, if we want a free and just society, there's no point in putting your faith in superstition. That's got to come from human endeavour, and depressing as the world may seem with daily stories about war in Iraq and hunger in Darfur, in many cases things have gotten better. We've seen, for instance, massive changes in the winning of women's and workers' rights, and on the other side, the end of the divine right of a thieving aristocratic elite to rule in the last two hundred years.

It's true that many of the gains are relatively limited to Europe, but this is a long struggle and if life can improve on one continent it can improve on them all. In any case, the rise in living standards is connected to the questioning by working people of the eternal religious platitudes. Workers, acting in solidarity, and in favourable conditions, will progress towards a rational and libertarian socialist society.

James O'Brien

Agree? Disagree? Let us know, send a letter to P.O. Box 1528, Dublin 8 or wsm_ireland@yahoo.com.

The 3rd annual Anarchist Bookfair will be held this year on the 15th of March in the Teachers Club. But it's not all books! There will be a variety of meetings on campaigns that anarchists are involved in and on current events/issues. A social for Saturday night will be confirmed soon. Watch this space!

**More info:
www.wsm.ie/bookfair**

Corrib Gas - Is Non-Extraction The Answer?

In response to growing discussion of 'zero growth' ideas among some environmentalists, Alan MacSimoin asks Is non-extraction the answer?

In recent years, with climate change dominating headlines regularly, it has become popular among some environmentalists to propose non-extraction of fossil fuels as a viable way to reduce the effects climate change. But if this idea was taken up what would be the result? Less oil & gas being processed means what is available will rise in price. That's the logic of capitalism. And having to pay even more for home heating and cooking is not going to change the habits of the wealthy but would have a big impact on most of our pockets.

Making things even more expensive than they are at present will not exactly endear environmentalists to most people.

What is needed is a plan that deals with the root cause of the problem, which is the system that puts the profits of the few before the welfare of the many. A regular and reliable free public transport system would be a great way to reduce car usage. A rebuilding of the once extensive rail networks would lessen our dependence on air and road travel.

How about an end to the 'market logic' where goods (cars, washing machines, fridges, etc.) are deliberately designed to only last so long, so that we have go

out and buy new ones every few years. Or stopping the massive diversion of resources to military use? I don't think this can be done on a big enough scale under capitalism. A system based on endless accumulation of wealth does not take a long view, it knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.

This doesn't mean we just sit on our hands until a majority agree with overthrowing our rulers. Some useful changes can be achieved, like a switch to low energy light bulbs or changing the building regulations to force builders to insulate to a very high standard.

But this will not be enough and the working class will be expect-

ed to pay the bill (as we already see with the bin tax, and as will happen with proposed carbon taxes). A revolutionary change to a system which is run by the majority in their own interests is the only guarantee of sorting out climate chaos.

If a rich minority can buy their way out of the worst effects of climate change, why should they get too worried about the rest of us? They certainly don't show much concern for those of us depending on a crumbling public health service or even about the needless deaths of so many in the less developed countries.

Alan MacSimoin

Slaving your life away just so you can make ends meet; having no say in the major decisions that affect your life; criminal politicians and businessmen plundering the country. Try to do something about it and they'll lock you up. Yes..



Porsche has given a bonus to its entire full-time staff. The 11,000 people who actually build cars got €5,200 each. The six person management board, none of whom has ever built a car, awarded themselves a whopping €113 million.

While Irish government ministers lobby the US Congress for citizenship for 50,000 Irish illegal immigrants, people in the same situation in Ireland are being told by those very same politicians to leave the country.

On the 17th December, the Institute of Public Health reported that 18% of people in the Republic are living in fuel poverty - literally in the cold. Many thanks to the governments past and present then for giving away €51bn worth of natural gas in the Corrib gas field to corporate giants Shell, Statoil and Marathon.

In the past few months, nearly 100 Burmese refugees have been resettled in Co. Mayo. At least they'll have an easy time adjusting to any cultural differences. The Gardaí in Rosport are doing their damndest to keep up with the good example shown recently by the Burmese military regime.

Putting The Gardai Under The Spotlight

Over 200 people packed into the Royal Dublin Hotel on Dublin's O'Connell Street in early December for a public meeting on the topic 'Democracy and Policing: How accountable are the gardai to the Irish people?' The meeting was addressed by

- Larry Wheelock whose brother Terence died in suspicious circumstances in Store Street Garda Station in Dublin over two years ago (see 'Something Rotten in Store Street' in WS99, www.wsm.ie/news_viewer/2829)

- John Monaghan from Rosspoint in Mayo whose community has been under constant garda siege as a result of their resistance to Shell's attempts to force an unsafe pipeline and refinery on them (a story which has been well documented in Workers Solidarity)

- John Maloney from Crumlin, Dublin whose son John died in suspicious circumstances after his arrest by Gardai from Rathfarnham Garda Station in Dublin (for details see www.indymedia.ie/article/75337)

- A statement was also read on behalf of the Rossiter family from Clonmel, Co. Tipperary whose 14-year-old son Brian died after being found unconscious in a Garda cell.

The meeting heard speaker after speaker from the floor recount their stories of garda brutality and unaccountability. In giving people the forum in which to begin to address these questions the meeting served a very useful purpose.

As anarchists, we know that it will always be impossible under capitalism to hold the gardai accountable in any meaningful way. The police force in any state is there to protect the status quo and will do whatever is necessary to do so. In situations such as that in



Rosspoint, the cops will always be there to defend the multinational company rather than to uphold the rights of ordinary people.

Anybody who has ever attended a picket or a protest will probably have had the experience of having their name and/or their photograph taken – even though there's supposed to be a right to peaceful protest. However, it is important that meetings such as this one are held and it's important that communities and individuals are empowered to stand up to the abuses of power which occur on a daily basis.

It is for the same reason that the demands of campaigns such as those of the Wheelock, Rossiter and Maloney families for independent inquiries into the killings of their loved ones are important for all of us. If the state can be forced to concede an inquiry in any of these cases and if the individual gardai

responsible can be held even partly to account, it will mean that all of us will feel more able to confront such abuses.

Just as it is impossible to have 'accountable gardai' in any meaningful way without a complete change in the power relationships in society, neither is it possible for the state to ever be truly neutral or 'independent'. Any inquiry which the state is forced to concede in these cases will of course be limited and the different organs of the state – politicians, gardai and judiciary – will always cover up for each other. But the demand for an inquiry into each of these deaths – and all unexplained deaths in garda custody – is one which it is important that all of us should not alone support but actively campaign for. Putting them under the spotlight of publicity makes them think twice about their behavior.

Water charges for schools?

After a month of fooling around, the government has finally declared that they will implement water charges for schools, backdating them to 2007. These charges come as a serious blow to Irish schools, which are already among the worst funded in the OECD. In many schools, funding does not cover basic requirements such as computers or gym equipment, forcing them to fundraise among parents of students.

The Greens have the cheek to try and pass this off as an environmental tax, to encourage less water usage, but this is total nonsense. It's private companies who will be implementing the metering and charging, meaning that the tax will actually be about governments subsidising their friends in the private sector, rather than schools.

The government would like to hold their hands up and declare that they have no choice, but it's them who signed up to the privatisation agenda that they are now implementing. Teachers and parents of students should not stand for this, motions are already being prepared for the INTO's conference to refuse to pay these charges, we should all support this stance against the government's attack on education.

You couldn't make it up!

Remember the good old days - before the election - when the Green party used to be in favour of the anti-war cause and used to support the searching of CIA 'rendition' planes passing through Shannon? Remember how the Greens used to believe that the reason why the then Fianna Fail/PD government wouldn't sanction the searching of these planes was because they were in George W Bush's pocket?

Well - apparently the Greens were wrong all the time. Now that they themselves are part of that government they've realised the real reason why the Irish state won't challenge the US war machine on this issue. Green Party Councillor Brian Meaney, a member of Clare County Council has discovered that the State can't afford the resources it would take to search these planes because they have to spend too much money minding the U.S. warplanes which pass through Shannon. "The antics of the anti-war movement through incursions into the airfield have ensured that funding that could support a programme of searching suspected rendition flights at Shannon has been diverted elsewhere", according to the astute Cllr. Meaney (Source 'Irish Times, 22nd Dec. 2007)

By the way recent figures have shown that between March 2003 and September 2007 1,059,382 US military personnel have passed through Shannon on 8,698 flights.

Anarchism and the Workers Solidarity Movement

November saw WSM members gather for their national conference. These take place twice a year and all members can attend, submit motions and vote. The National Secretary reported that membership had increased by 25%. Although we are still a small organisation this was encouraging, as was the increased circulation of Workers Solidarity. A report is available at www.wsm.ie/news_viewer/3156.

The closing weeks of 2007 saw WSM members who have been working with the Wheelock family's campaign for an inquiry into the death of Terrence after his arrest by gardai from Dublin's Store Street station help organise a public meeting, which saw 200 people fill the ballroom of the Royal Dublin Hotel.

As the hawks in Washington made noises about targeting Iran, we helped to set up the Hands Off the People of Iran

campaign. This opposes any US attack on that country and also supports trade unionists, women and progressives in their fight against the theocratic regime in Tehran. At November's Irish Anti-War Movement protest in Dublin Iranian exile Yasmine Mather was invited to address the crowd on behalf of HOPI, and on the same day a teach-in about Iran was held. So far four political organisations (Irish Socialist Network, Working Class Action, Socialist Democracy and the WSM) and as well as individuals have joined this new grouping.

Cork WSM hosted a public meeting in the Metropole Hotel where Leiser Peles from Israel talked about the Anarchists Against the Wall organisation. This unites Israelis and Palestinians fighting against the Israeli government's building of an apartheid wall running along the length of the country. About 40 attended the meeting. In Dublin

the WSM's Jack White branch in Cabra/Stoneybatter organised a party, which raised €450 for AATW.

If you would like to know about WSM events in your area, subscribe to the Ainriail email list (ainriail-request@struggle.ws), or send us your mobile number and we'll text you.

Workers Solidarity is distributed at events and door-to-door in parts of Belfast, Bray, Cork, Derry, Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Maynooth, Portstewart, Sligo, and Wexford. If you can take 20 (or more) and give them to friends or pop them through neighbours' letterboxes, send us your name, address and how many copies to send. If we want anarchism to become the most popular idea for making the world a better place, we have to let people know about it. Joining the growing number of readers who also distribute this paper is a good start.

The most high profile of public sector bosses is HSE boss Brendan Drumm, who gets a basic salary of €363,000 for running down the health service. When all benefits are added in, Mr Drumm actually costs us €453,000 a year, which is another slap in the face for nurses.

Drumm isn't even the highest paid semi-state chief executive. That honour goes to Pádraig McManus of the ESB. Although they can't pay their Polish workers in Moneypoint, the ESB are able to treat their CEO to a record-breaking salary of €495,227, including all those little extras, such as pay-related performance bonuses.

Bord na Mona boss John Hourican, pocketed €365,000. RTE's director general Cathal Goan got €360,000, and An Post's new boss, Donal Connell, earns €358,000.

Although Bord Gais saw an 8% drop in profits, CEO Gerry Walsh was rewarded with of a package of €322,000.

Maybe the "competitive" and "energetic" private sector is different? When SLP/UTU went looking at the pay packets of some very senior businesspeople last year what did they find? Pathetically small wages? Increases you would need a magnifying glass to see? Not quite.

David Drumm of Anglo-Irish Bank got a 28% increase, taking him to €3,015,000 a year. Liam O'Mahony's pay at Cement Roadstone jumped by 38% to €2,656,000. Tony O'Reilly got a 24% hike from Independent Newspapers, giving him €1,817,000 a year for a very part-time job, as he draws wages from lots of his other companies.

And then there is Eamon Rothwell. This is the man who makes Scrooge look like an especially generous Santa Claus; the man who turned Irish Ferries into a modern version of the slave ship, with workers on less than half the minimum wage. This apostle of a low pay economy got a 51% increase, bringing his annual pay cheque to €1,001,000.

Strange isn't it? Most politicians and employers want us to be 'moderate' and 'sensible' when we are looking for a pay rise. If they had their way we would keep "tightening our belts" until we eventually cut ourselves in half.

That same need for "moderation" never applies to the rich. No calls for a profit freeze, no restraint in directors' fees and dividends. OK, it's not strange, it's actually the way it's supposed to be. Bosses are not charities, they want to make as much profit as they possibly can. The system works well for them.

They will always want to reduce the wage bill and increase exploitation, profits and their power; whereas the any workers with sense wants less exploitation and increased wages. Those are the opposing interests which lead to class struggle.

IBEC, the Irish Farmers Association and the government know which side they are on. They fight hard for their people, the people of property. We need to fight harder for our own interests. Instead of being suckered into 'partnership' agreements which keep wage rises low, we should be looking for a lot more, we should be arguing and organising for action and this is the year to do it.

Latest report from Stormont assembly claims that more than 100,000 children are living in relative poverty and 44,000 living in 'severe' poverty.

According to the latest Housing Council waiting lists for social housing in the north are at their highest in 30 years.

According to the latest report by the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, fine dodgers make up over 59% of people sentenced to prison everyday (Irish News, 12 Dec 2007)

Revolt Video
Video Activist Collective
revoltvideo.blogspot.com

Anti-War Ireland
Democratic anti-war organisation with branches in Belfast, Cogh, Cork, Dublin and members elsewhere.
www.antiwarireland.org

Justice for Terence Wheelock
Died after being injured in Garda custody 087-6221218
larrywheelock@hotmail.com



Winter issue with an anarchist analysis of the Irish health service, what's happening in Turkey, a look at 'left communism', community organising, and more. Send €2 for a copy.

The Train That Crashed Through Anti-Condom Laws

With women's control over their own fertility still denied in Ireland North and South, Ciaran Murray drags up a story from the not so distant past, where direct action, literally got the goods.

There is no doubt that with the waning of the power of the church in the South of Ireland there came a decrease in support for its influence on legislation and thus an increase in basic civil liberties as the population of the country boomed and Ireland moved into a new era. But, as Ireland began to find its feet in a changing world, some of the most basic human rights were still being denied to its citizens. Despite the fact that there is a long record of women's involvement in the turbulent history of this country, the ability of women to make decisions regarding their own bodies was still out of their control.

Issues like abortion and birth control were the focus of women's campaigns throughout the Western world in the latter half of the 20th Century. Unsurprisingly though, the Irish campaign was held back by the restraining Catholic ethos of the country. Then, in 1968, a Papal Encyclical, entitled "Humanae Vitae" banned artificial contraception, and with it, the freedom of women to choose if and when they wanted children. It was a restriction of the basic rights of woman over her own body. Enough was enough.

In February 1969, the Irish Family Planning Association was formed and the first family planning clinic opened in this country. In 1970, the IFPA began to give talks on contra-

ceptives to women's groups. But "unnatural" contraception and the promotion of such remained illegal. Doing so could lead to prosecution under the 1935 Criminal Law (Amendment) Act.

In 1971 The Irish Women's Liberation Movement brought the issue to public attention when 47 women went by train to Belfast. On their return to Dublin they challenged the customs officers at Connolly train station to arrest them for illegal importation of contraceptives, a crime in the eyes of the government and one punishable by a prison sentence. The embarrassed customs officers allowed the women to pass. These women forced onto the largely unwilling and disapproving Irish public a frank discussion about women's sexual and political rights.



Contraceptives remained illegal in the Republic until 1978 when, after increased public discussion about women's rights, and defiance of the law by student unions and family planning clinics who persisted in illegally selling condoms, the Health (Family Planning) Bill was finally published, allowing contraception by prescription. It was still illegal to buy condoms over the counter, and in one well publicised case, the IFPA was fined £500 for selling condoms in the Virgin Megastore in Dublin. It wouldn't be until 1993 that all the restrictions regarding the

sale and supply of contraceptives were removed. Winning this battle shows that though the struggle is long, we have won battles in the past through direct action, and will continue to do so in the future.

Just as the fight to legalise contraception is part of the struggle for woman's right to choose, that fight is also part of a wider struggle to re-define what sort of lives women are able to lead. The struggle for women's liberation is the struggle against capitalism and the state; as

well as a struggle against sexist institutions and ideas. Women will not be free until they have complete control over their own bodies. In defending the right to choose, anarchists are defending the right of people to make choices about how they live their lives. And until society is free of the burden of capitalist exploitation and authoritarianism, personal freedom and the ability to make those choices will always be limited.

Ciaran Murray

Contacts

Anarchist Groups

Workers Solidarity Movement
Publishes this paper
PO box 1528, Dublin 8, Ireland
www.wsm.ie
wsm_ireland@yahoo.com
corkwsm@gmail.com

Organise!
Publishes "Working Class Resistance"
PO Box 505, Belfast, BT12 6BQ
http://organiseireland.blogspot.com/

Revolutionary Anarcha-Feminist Group
Anarchist Women
P.O. Box 10785, Dublin 1
www.ragdublin.org

Libertarian Networks
Networks and collectives with a libertarian ethos in which anarchists are involved

Indymedia Ireland
Irish Branch of Global Media Collective
The place to find Irish campaign news.
www.indymedia.ie

Barracka Books
Radical Book Store
61 Barrack Street, Cork City
Cork Autonomous Zone

Social Space
61 Barrack St., Cork
centraladminzone@gmail.com

Seonra Spraoi
4 Mary's Abbey Dublin 7
www.seonraspraoi.blogspot.com

Activist groups
Shell to Sea
Website of campaign to move Shell's pipeline offshore from Co. Mayo
www.shellloosa.com

Hands Off the People of Tran
Network campaigning for solidarity with Iranian trade unions and the women's rights movement. Opposes both the Islamic regime and any Western invasion.
www.hopoi.org

Alliance For Choice
Network of campaigners abortion rights
theallianceforchoice@eircom.net

Choice Ireland
Pro-choice action group
choiceireland@gmail.com

Residents Against Racism
Campaign against racism & deportations
Meets every Friday at 7pm in the Teachers Club, 36 Parnell Square in Dublin
www.residentsagainstracism.org