



We would like to welcome guests and delegates to this year's celebrations, and we hope you have a great time during the weekend.

RED FLAG DAY ONE

VENUE: Railway Bar 3 Railway Street, Navan, Co. Meath, C15 A585.

Friday 30th May

There will be a Meet & Greet

20:00 Opening of the Festival

20:30 **Red flag** documentary will be shown. Networking

RED FLAG DAY TWO

Saturday 31st May

VENUE: Balreask Arms function room

Transport from Newgrange to Balreask from 9:30

SESSION 1

10:30 - 11:30

1. Author Catherine Howe

'Ireland and English Chartism.' A brief outline: the talk takes in the history of Chartism with a focus on the relationship between Feargus O'Connor, Chartist leader, and Daniel O'Connell, Ireland's Liberator. Their mutual antagonism arrested Chartist advance in Ireland and turned O'Connor into an exile.

Bio

Catherine Howe attended Corona Drama School from 1962-5 and played roles in, amongst other shows, *Dr Who*; *Z-Cars*; *The Wednesday Play*; *Theatre 625*. In 1969 she signed her first music publishing deal and went on to write songs for seven albums, including *Harry* recorded in 1975 for RCA and for which she received an Ivor Novello. In 1990 she gained a degree in History with Religious Studies from the Open University and began to write books on social history. These books are *Holyoake's Journey 1842*; *Halifax 1842*; *London Story 1848*; *59 Greek Street, the home of the Theatre Girls' Club*. She is a mother and grandmother.

SESSIONN 2

11:45 – 13:00

2. Author Luke Dineen



"Ideology of Larkin"

This session will focus on the ideology that underpinned Jim Larkin's life and actions as a labour organiser and leader. It will outline what specifically informed Larkin's ideological beliefs, how his views changed over time and why these changes occurred.

Bio

Luke Dineen is a labour and social historian who has written, spoken and presented extensively about the history of the Irish labour movement, especially the history of labour in Cork during the Irish Revolution. In 2019, he was conferred with a PhD in modern Irish history from the School of History, UCC. His thesis was a comparative analysis of the roles the labour movements in Cork and Derry played during the Irish revolution. He is the author of publications on Irish labour history, including articles on the 1921 Cork Harbour Soviet, the 1923 Cork general lockout, the 1909 Cork general lockout, and the Derry general lockout of 1924; a chapter in the Bread Not Profits: Provincial Working-Class Politics During the Irish Revolution (Dublin, 2022); and a comprehensive biography of the Connect Trade Union. He currently works as a civil servant for the Department of Justice.

LUNCH 13:00 – 14:15 (soup and sandwiches)

SESSION 3

14:15 – 15:30

QUESTION TIME. 'The Onslaught of the Far Right'

Dedicated to our founding member, Tommy Grimes with particular focus on

Moderator: Leonie Cooper, London Assembly Member

Panellists:

- **Maria White**, SF Group Leader on Meath County Council.
- **Luke Dineen**, Labour and Social Historian.
- **Steven Gillan**, GS, Prison Officers Association UK and a member of the TUC executive.
- **Eilish Balfe**, BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Education and Care, and a SIPTU activist.

15:30 Adjournment



KELL's

TRANSPORT TO KELLS

Transport will leave the **Balreask** at **16:45** and **Navan Town Centre** **17:00**

Kells County Council opening art exhibition at 18:00

SESSION 4

19:00-20:30

VENUE: **St Vincents Hall, Kells. 'The Onslaught of the Far Right'**. Part two.

1. Author and campaigner **Matthew Collins**
2. Director of INAR – the Irish Network Against Racism **Shane O'Curry**

Bios

Matthew Collins is a well-known anti-fascist campaigner from Britain. Between **1987 and 1993, he was chairman** of the London branch of the neo-Nazi **National Front**.

Born in London to Irish parents, he was one of **many** second-generation Irish who found their way into the violent world of Britain's **far-right and anti-fascist** scene.

There was a shock for his Nazi colleagues, however: Collins had an epiphany **in 1989**, and—unbeknownst to anyone but a tiny handful of trusted colleagues—he began passing information to anti-fascists.

Formerly active in the **NF, British National Party, and Combat 18, Collins's actions all but** destroyed the NF, and he played a significant role in the **dramatic first exposure** of Combat 18's self-declared **'terror machine'**.

Now one of the UK's leading researchers into the **extreme far-right, his extraordinary life and research have** been published in three books. But perhaps the escapades of **'the fat James Bond'** are better known **from** the Netflix drama **The Walk-In, where Stephen Graham played Collins—bringing down the terror group National Action** by foiling their plot to murder a British **MP**.

Shane O'Curry has been active in human rights organisations in Ireland, north and south, since 1997, specialising in ethnic conflict and hate incident monitoring. He is the Director of INAR – the Irish Network Against Racism- where he works with Network members to coordinate common network policy responses to racism. Shane has made policy submissions addressing structural, cultural and institutional racism at a national level as well as to the EU, OSCE, ECRI and UN. He is co-author on a recent Policing Authority report on the policing of minorities in the republic of Ireland.

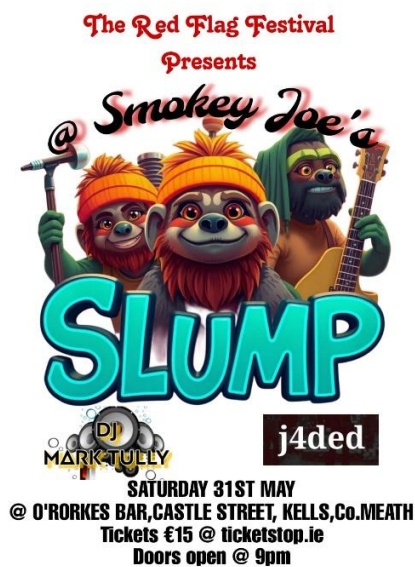


SESSION 4

21:00 until late

Music Arts Festival

VENUE: O'Rorkes Bar, Kells



Sponsored by Red Flag Festival organisers 'Community event'

***RETURN TRANSPORT TO NAVAN FROM
HEADFORT ARMS BUS STOP 23:50hrs***



RED FLAG DAY THREE

Sunday 1st June

Transport will be arranged from Navan to arrive in plenty of time at Crossakiel for the start.

Time of transport will be announced on Saturday before the close of the sessions and will leave from the Balreask.

Jim Connell Monument Post Code A82X201

15:00 March and Monument

Supporting bands; **Navan Samba Band and the ICU Band**

Joint Co-ordinators?

Wreath Laying for all deceased comrades

Speakers

- 1 Kay Kearns** Meath Council of Trade Unions
- 2 Steven Gillan** General Secretary **Prison Officers Association Bio**, Steve Gillan General Secretary Prison Officers Association since 2010. Lived and brought up in Greenock, Scotland. Emigrated to Australia in 1972 with parents and returned two years later living in Leixlip County Kildare for a year before moving to Essex where I have remained ever since. Been a trade unionist (socialist) all my working life. Found guilty of contempt of court in 2019 for challenging anti trade union legislation.

Niamh Parsons sings **Bread and Roses**

- 3 Mick Whelan** General Secretary of **Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (ASLEF)**

Annie Galligan sings **The Red Flag**, version "O Tannenbaum"



The People's Flag is deepest red,
It shrouded oft our martyred dead,
And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold,
Their hearts' blood dyed its every fold.

Chorus:

Then raise the scarlet standard high.
Beneath its shade we'll live and die,
Though cowards flinch and traitors sneer,
We'll keep the red flag flying here.

(chorus)

It waved above our infant might,
When all ahead seemed dark as night;
It witnessed many a deed and vow,
We must not change its colour now.

(chorus)

It well recalls the triumphs past,
It gives the hope of peace at last;
The banner bright, the symbol plain,
Of human right and human gain.

(chorus)

It suits today the weak and base,
Whose minds are fixed on self and place
To cringe before the rich man's frown,
And haul the sacred emblem down.

(chorus)

With head uncovered swear we all
To bear it onward till we fall;
Come dungeons dark or gallows grim,
This song shall be our parting hymn.

(chorus)



McCabes Bar

There will be food laid on and traditional music. Transport will leave from Crossakiel for Navan 20.00.

Bus service from Kells to Crossakiel

<https://assets-us-01.kc-usercontent.com/db136e73-39a4-0017-c8cc-5f063ce7fc95/e199c3d8-e48e-4a75-abfd-2ffc8e6088dd/timetable-187-feb25.pdf>

Monday 2nd June

- Airport Transport: Arranged for those who provided arrival and departure times
- Bus Information: Timetable available
- Organising Team: Available for additional questions.

Please feel free to reach out to a member of the organising team for further assistance.

Christy McQuillan, Brian Collins, Jim O'Brian (retired), Alan Grimes, Seamus MacBride, Paul McDonnell, James Joy, Rhonda Donaghey.

<https://redflagfestival.com/>

Note: This itinerary is subject to change. Please refer to the most recent updates provided during the festival.

You can join the WhatsApp group to gain information and share experiences and photos if you wish.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/LBAWK4dmjoxFuHyebJVPif>