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*At the heart of the community*

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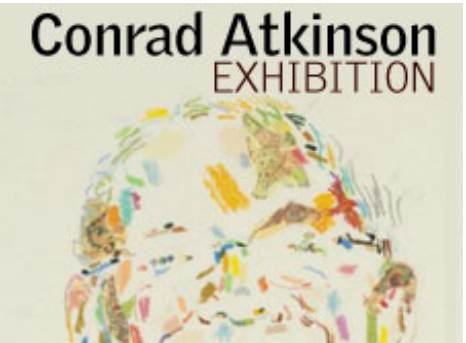


06 August 2007

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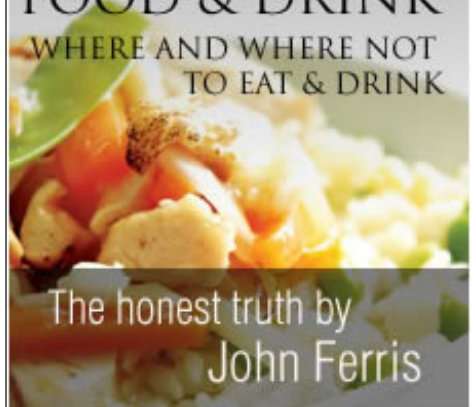
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**FOOD & DRINK**  
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The honest truth by  
**John Ferris**

## Headlines

# March for Truth will highlight collusion

by damian mccarney

West Belfast MP Gerry Adams is calling on the West Belfast community to show their support to families bereaved through state violence by wearing a black ribbon at this year's annual August march.

The national march takes place next Sunday, August 12, in Belfast with 'March for Truth' as its theme. Sinn Féin hope that thousands of marchers wearing black ribbons will help to highlight the issues of collusion, British state violence and subsequent cover-ups which resulted in thousands across the North being killed, injured or bereaved - and denied justice.

The West Belfast MP is urging people to come out in their thousands in support of the many families who are campaigning for truth through groups such as Relatives For Justice.

"During over three decades of conflict successive British governments employed shoot-to-kill operations, rubber and plastic bullets, counter-gangs directly run by MI5 and others, as well as the various unionist paramilitary organisations to wage a war of terror against the nationalist and republican people.

"Thousands were injured, over a thousand people killed and many families were forced to flee their homes," said Mr Adams.

The Sinn Féin President said that collusion and the use of counter-gangs were an integral part of British policy.

Downing Street

"The decision to pursue this approach was taken at the highest levels of the British state and in some instances the orders to kill came directly from Downing Street and were subsequently publicly defended by British Ministers.

"In recent time a series of reports by the Ombudsman's office and by international jurists into scores of killings have exposed the extent to which British intelligence, MI5, the UDR and the RUC Special Branch managed the death squads, provided information,

weapons, and training in the use of those weapons.

"I am appealing for people to demonstrate their support and solidarity with all of the victims and their families by attending the march on August 12 and by wearing a black ribbon on the day," said Mr Adams.

Mr Adams' words were echoed by Relatives For Justice.

"Recent political decisions not to prosecute members of the RUC Special Branch and British Military Intelligence for directing pro-state death squads is but one of a series of continual examples of a British government policy to conceal the truth about their dirty war throughout the island of Ireland which has claimed over a thousand lives," said Relatives for Justice spokesperson Mark Thompson.

Mr Thompson called on families to assemble outside the Relatives for Justice office, 235a Falls Road, at 1pm to walk to the City Hall where the rally will commence at 3pm. More information on the rally is available by ringing Relatives for Justice on 9022 0100 or visiting their website [www.relativesforjustice.com](http://www.relativesforjustice.com)

**08/03/2007**