

RIC EDINBURGH REPORT TO NATIONAL FORUM, 13.1.18



**Catalan Solidarity, Spanish Consulate, 11th November
an Scottish Parliament, 21st December**

RIC- Edinburgh Assemblies

i) 13.9.17- Catalonia and the Struggle for Self-Determination

Speakers - Quim Arrufat, International Coordinator for the Popular Unity Candidacy (direct Skype link), Luke Stobart, London journalist who has lived in Barcelona for 13 years

Facilitator - Pat Smith

23 people attended. The full report of this meeting can be seen at:-

<http://radicalindyedinburgh.blogspot.co.uk/2017/10/catalonia-and-struggle-for-self.html>

The questions and answers were recorded and can be seen at:-

<http://independencelive.net/event/1118>

ii) RIC-E sponsored Special Assembly, Wednesday, 27th September - The UK, Brexit and the Road to Self-Determination.

This meeting was jointly organised with Haymarket Books.

Speakers - Sean Mitchell, author of *Struggle or Starve - Working Class Unity in Belfast's 1932 Outdoor Relief Riots*

Neil Davidson - author of *Scotland After Brexit*, published in *Jacobin*

Facilitator - Eileen Cook

Neil's article can be seen at:-

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2016/07/scotland-independence-referendum-brexit-nicola-sturgeon>

iii) 5.10.17 - The Arms Trade

This meeting was jointly organised with the Campaign Against the Arms Trade (Edinburgh), CND (Edinburgh), Stop The War (Edinburgh), Women's International League for Peace (Scottish Branch)

Speaker:- Andrew Feinstein author of *Inside The Arms Trade*

Facilitator - Niina Ollanketo (CAAT)

iv) 29.11.18 - Informal Meeting

Signe Askersjo, a researcher from Sweden, had asked to speak to RIC activists. 11 people attended the meeting for a wide-ranging discussion of experiences of the Indy Refl campaign.

Future Edinburgh Assemblies

Wednesday, January 24h, 19.00, Augustine Church

Contesting the Edinburgh City Council Cuts

Duncan Smith (Chair of City of Edinburgh UNISON)

Susan Rae (Green councillor)

RIC-Edinburgh Organising Meetings

- i) Monday, 4.9.17**
- ii) Monday, 11.10. 17**
- iii) Monday, 4.12.17**

Activities RIC-Edinburgh has been involved in since last National Forum

i) Catalonia Solidarity demonstrations

25.9.17 - Edinburgh demo at Spanish Consulate - about 150 people attended

1.10.17 - National demo at Spanish consulate, about a 1000 people attended, A report can be seen in *The Nationa lat*:-

http://www.thenational.scot/news/15569236.More_than_1000_Scots_gather_to_show_support_for_Catalonia/

11.11.17 - Edinburgh demo at Spanish Consulate - about 200 people attended

21.12.17- Solidarity with people of Catalonia on election day at Scottish Parliament - about 50 people attended

RIC-Edinburgh banner was present on all demos. Allan Armstrong, RIC-Edinburgh speaker at Scottish Parliament demo

- i) Anti-SDL protest in Perth, 10.9.17**
- ii) Edinburgh World Justice Festival, 30. 9.17**
- iii) Resisting The Violence of Austerity - An evening of Politics, Music and Conversation, Out of the Blue 6.10.17**

iv) **Unison March & Rally, Pay Up Now - Scrap The Cap demo, 7.10.17**

v) **Let There Be Light - Defend Edinburgh Central Library against the Developers, 7.12.17**

see article by RIC member, Ray Burnett

<http://bellacaledonia.org.uk/2017/12/05/reclaim-the-city/>