



**scoil spraoi**

Scoil Spraoi is the Seomra Spraoi educational working group. This is our first event. We hope you like it...

[more details/get involved seomraspraoi@gmail.com](mailto:seomraspraoi@gmail.com)



**seomra spraoi**

The Seomra Spraoi collective was started three years ago with the intention of setting up an autonomous social centre in Dublin. We reckon we've been pretty successful...

Since our humble beginnings we have occupied three different spaces of our own. Our move to Mary's Abbey in July 2007 saw a huge surge in activity and an expansion. Over 20 groups held regular meetings or events there, with hundreds of people using the space. Our time in Marys Abbey was cut short in January 2008. After a month of bureaucratic dealings with the landlord, fire authority & police the collective decided to terminate the lease. From this experience we learned a lot...

We keep on learning. The collective is highly organised, with around 30 people managing the social centre, via working groups, and an open meeting of the collective every Thursday.

[www.seomraspraoi.blogspot.com](http://www.seomraspraoi.blogspot.com)



**europa wide days of action**

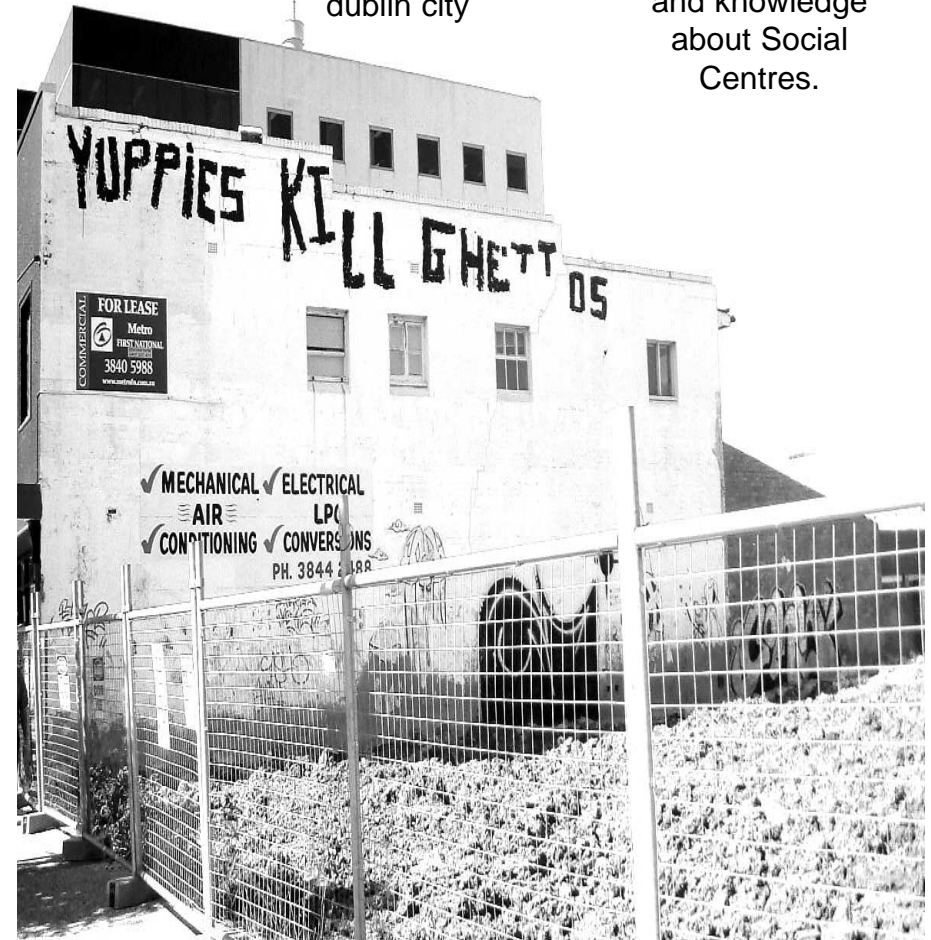
The Social Centres Gathering is part European wide weekend of discussion & action in defence of free spaces. We want to make autonomous spaces and social centres more visible as a political movement. We want to develop interconnections and solidarity between social centres and autonomous spaces. We want to keep linking our spaces with new people and new struggles, and support the creation of autonomous spaces in places where there has not been a history of this kind of action. <http://april2008.squat.net:8080/>

**scoil spraoi**  
presents:

# social centre gathering

11-13th april 2008  
dublin city

a space to share our experiences and knowledge about Social Centres.



by sharing our ideas & making them collective we can sharpen our tools, develop our ideas; create new forms of non-hierarchical and anti-capitalist organisation. Through collective discussion debate & action we create communities of resistance...

## About the gathering

Social Centres have been an important and stable development of the social movements. Social centres create space for meetings, workshops, benefit gigs, not for profit cafes, libraries, internet access, craft activities, bicycle workshops, self-defence training: the list goes on. What more can we use them to do? What forms of collective activity do they make possible? What forms of resistance emerge from such a social space? What are their limitations?

*We have part of the answers to these questions in our collective experiences. This is a chance to share, discuss and debate those experiences.*

### Fri 11th 7pm

Introductions, short presentations, films, food & social...

### Sat 12th 10am

Workshops, & presentations, & discussion...

### Sun 13th 1pm

Action & social

### kids activities

### Accommodation available

### Venue:

### 13 Newmarket Square

### Dublin 8

Opposite  
Dublin Food  
Co-op

check [indymedia.ie](http://indymedia.ie)  
for full timetable &  
location map...

## some areas of discussion...

### Democracy and participation in social centres

How can we increase democratic participation in social centres?

### From autonomy to bureaucracy and back

Can Irish social centres remain truly autonomous in the face of bureaucratic challenges? How do we raise finances without being limited or diverted in our aims?

### Developing social centres in Ireland

What ways can we support each other in creating social centres and other spaces?

### Social centres as a catalyst for revolution

Can social centres act as a tool to dismantle capitalism?

### Avoiding the ghetto. Increasing accessibility

How can we broaden the appeal of social centres and not just serve the needs of the familiar activist scenes?

### Social centres as places of popular education

In what ways can we tap in to the full potential of social spaces to share and develop skills; inspire and create amongst each other?

### If the Kids are united...

How do we make our social centres safe, fun & engaging for children? Are social centres a space towards a positive socialisation for our kids?

### From shaky ground to safer spaces

Can we make social centre spaces free from oppression? How do we deal with behaviour and language that perpetuate oppression?

### Creating spaces beyond the social centre

How can we create temporary autonomous zones? What role can social centres play in campaigning and taking action to reclaim spaces?

