

## Roots of Reconciliation Residential Course 2009



23 – 28 August 2009

Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation,  
Glencree, Co Wicklow, Ireland

Partly funded by the  
**European Union's PEACE III Programme**



*Committed to peacebuilding and reconciliation  
within and between communities*

## About the course

This five-day, residential course draws on facilitators' and participants' experiences as well as extensive Glencree reconciliation practice on the islands of Ireland, Britain and beyond to reflect on the humanization of enemies after violent political conflict. Bringing together practitioners and theoreticians this participatory, experiential learning course is not about acquiring technical peacebuilding skills, but instead aims to offer an opportunity for real sharing and reflection on a core reconciliation challenge, namely humanization between deeply divided people. Specific themes to be explored include

- Meanings and dynamics of "humanization" vs. "dehumanization"
- Facing fears, taking risks
- Dealing creatively with difference
- Cultivating sustainable co-operative relationships
- Forgiveness, Mercy, Justice, Truth.

The course takes place in the historical setting of the Glencree Centre, surrounded by beautiful Wicklow hills.

## Who should attend

The course is aimed primarily at:

- practitioners in the fields of peace and reconciliation,
- individuals who have lived in societies in conflict
- students and scholars.

Numbers will be restricted to a maximum of 18 and we will try to ensure a good mix of practitioners and those from more academic backgrounds.

## Approach used

The course will combine accessible reflection and experiential learning, drawing on personal experience, life stories and lessons learnt from reconciliation practice. Sharing of experiences and interactive group discussions will be combined with outdoor, nature-based activities. Daily yoga sessions will also be on offer.

## Facilitators



### **Wilhelm Verwoerd**

Former researcher on the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa; programme co-ordinator of the Survivors and Former Combatants Programme at Glenree (since mid-2002), with an emphasis on cultivating the Sustainable Peace Network; Irish Peace Centres Sustainable Relations Project Co-ordinator, June 2008.



### **Alistair Little**

Former loyalist political prisoner; experienced reconciliation worker in Northern Ireland, Ireland, the Balkans, South Africa, with an emphasis on in depth sharing of personal histories/stories; co-founder of and co-facilitator within the Glenree Sustainable Peace Network; Irish Peace Centres Fieldworker.



### **Don Browne**

Former republican political prisoner; experienced yoga teacher and Reiki master; peace worker; leading participant within the Glenree Sustainable Peace Network since early 2004, co-facilitator since 2006.

## Feedback from previous courses

*'The mix of discussion and activity helped us move from our usual comfort zone into a place where we could hear, really hear and share others' stories of journeys ongoing and begun, of personal struggle, achievement and vulnerability.'*

*'Facilitators and participants allowed for such an open level of access. The personal and the larger issues always related and enriched each other in a very complimentary way for learning and personal development.'*

*'I valued the human, holistic, "roots" approach to reconciliation, also the participation of persons directly involved in the conflict and their testimonies.'*

*'The yoga was fabulous...and the outdoor walks a great bonus, if not a vital aspect...'*



## Price

There will be no cost for participants from Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland Border Counties or those affected by the Troubles in Great Britain. For international participants the cost will be Euro 850.

## Location

Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation,  
Glencree, Co Wicklow, Ireland

## Course Dates

23 – 28 August 2009

Starts with late afternoon arrival Sunday and ends with lunch Friday

## Booking Form

Title and Name

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Address

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Telephone

Email

Dietary or other special requirements

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Organisation/Company (optional):

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**Payment** (Please include course title with payment)

### Credit Card

I authorise Glencree to charge my contribution to my:

Visa  MasterCard  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card:

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Card Number:

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Expiration Date:

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Signed:

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### Bank Transfer

**Account:** Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation:

**Account Number:** 33203069

**Sort Code:** 93-10-47

**Bank:** Allied Irish Bank, 100-101 Grafton St., Dublin 2

### Cheque

Please print this form and post it with a cheque made payable to the Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation

### Where did you hear about the course?

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- I would like an invoice.
- Please include me on your database to receive information and announcements from the Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation. Note: we do not release personal data to any third party.

Authorising signature:

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Date:

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## Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation

The Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation that is devoted to peacebuilding and reconciliation in Ireland, North and South, Britain and beyond. Our aim is to empower participants to understand and be curious about different perspectives, articulate their own opinions clearly, move beyond violence and have the confidence and capacity to respond to conflict effectively.

The Roots of Reconciliation course is part of the Irish Peace Centres project, which is a partnership between The Donegal Peace Centre at An Teach Bán, The Corrymeela Community, Cooperation Ireland and the Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation.

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