

17 December 1997,

Mr Adrain Langan,
Auditor,
Trinity College Historical Society,
Trinity College,
DUBLIN 2,
Republic of Ireland.

Thank you very much for your letter of invitation to address the Historical Society on 6 February next, on the subject "Solving the Irish Question".

I am honoured by your invitation, and am happy to say that I am able to accept. I look forward to being present, and indeed to meeting you on that occasion.



College Historical Society

FOUNDED 1770

President: DR. CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN

Auditor: ADRIAN LANGAN

Treasurer: DONAL KANE

Corr. Sec.: PADRAIC LYONS

TRINITY COLLEGE

DUBLIN 2

IRELAND

Telephone c/o 608 2351

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Lord Alderdice of Knock,
House of Lords,
London SW1A 0PW.

December 9th, 1997

Dear Lord Alderdice,

I write to you as Auditor of the 228th Session of the Historical Society of Trinity College, Dublin to invite you to address the Inaugural Meeting of this year. As you may remember the Historical Society is the oldest undergraduate debating society in the world tracing its roots to the debating club founded by Edmund Burke in 1747, the 250th anniversary of which we have been celebrating this year. In that time, it has counted amongst its members such notables as Sir Edward Carson, Wolfe Tone, Oscar Wilde and Mary Robinson.

As next year marks the 200th anniversary of the 1798 Rising, it is anticipated that the Opening Meeting will play a large part in marking this unique occasion. Every year the Auditor delivers an Inaugural paper and I have chosen the title, "*Solving The Irish Question*". Within the rubric of this paper I intend to examine the present situation in Northern Ireland and consider the potential for a resolution of the conflict, as well as the difficulties in achieving that resolution.

My paper would be followed by a panel of four speakers, hopefully drawn from the differing strands of opinion. Speeches are usually 15-20 minutes in duration.

I feel that you are the ideal choice to speak at this Meeting. Your presence would guarantee the success of the evening and would be the highlight of the Hist session and indeed the student year in Trinity. The meeting is scheduled for the sixth of February, 1998, at 7.30pm.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours Sincerely,

Adrian Langan,
Auditor, 228th Session.



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Rt. Hon. The Lord Alderdice of Knock,
Party Leader,
The Alliance Party of Northern Ireland,
Headquarters,
Belfast,
BT17 1HE.

December 9th, 1997

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Yours Sincerely,

Adrian Langan,
Auditor, 228th Session.

ALD2-12/10/11/1/94

Trinity Alliance

The Dublin University Alliance Organisation

Box 12, The Atrium
Trinity College, Dublin 2

Tel. c/o (01) 608 2351 Fax. c/o (01) 677 8996
e-mail alliance@ducsc.csc.tcd.ie

The President,
Rt. Hon. The Lord Alderdice of Knock,
55 Knock Road,
Belfast,
BT5 6LB.

December 10th, 1997

Thus far, Trinity Alliance have held three public meetings and a number of private meetings. Two of the public meetings featured invited guests- Stephen Farry and Lembit Opik. The latter meeting in particular was a huge success for the society.

Currently at around thirty-five members, including fifteen party members, the society has found a niche incorporating roles as a representative of the party for Dublin members as well as providing a forum for our Friends. Central to our existence is our belief that the Alliance view must not go unrepresented in Dublin. Contacts made amongst the the youth branches of Fine Gael, Fianna Fail and the PDs will in time to come prove useful for the Party.

Our profile is continuing to develop. As you might expect, the first concern to address is the perception we are a unionist party. Clearing setting out our liberal ethos has been our objective, but key to this is the need for publicity to drive the message home.

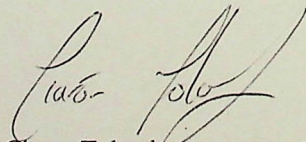
As I mentioned to you in August, Trinity Alliance would be delighted to invite you to one of our meetings in Hilary term. However, as Pro-Treasurer of the College Historical Society, it has come to my attention that you have been invited to the Annual Inaugural on the sixth of February.

Trinity Alliance have come to the conclusion this presents a better opportunity for putting across the Alliance case in Trinity than we as a new and much smaller society could provide, as it allows for both a larger and more diverse audience, and at a more prestigious event.

Inaugural meetings are usually media-covered events with attendances in the region of five to six hundred invited guests (Deputies, Ambassadors and the like), college staff and students. The platform thus available would be of considerably more advantage to the reputation of the party and Trinity Alliance than if we hosted an event ourselves.

I urge you to accept, if possible, the College Historical Society's invitation. A more full report on our activities will be forwarded to you soon. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,



Ciaran Toland,
Director

*President: Lord Alderdice of Knock
Vice- President: John Cushnahan MEP*