

Final Campaign Message from Jean MacColl



December 2009

Dear friends,

October 11th was a great success. I think Claire surpassed herself and would like to thank her and all those who worked to make the day such a success. I would like to thank everybody for their letters of support and understanding since we decided, sadly, to close the campaign. As the Mexicans were closing the case we had no alternative. No-one had disputed the testimonies of the Gonzalez family and Cen Yam. Wealth and power is a formidable weapon. It needs courage to stand up and be counted but as one resident told me, "I have a wife and children to feed. You don't argue with Dons."

I have been heartened by all the e-mails you have sent me and hope you will understand that I cannot reply to them all. At a bad time they cheered me up. Yes, we have done our very best and I am grateful to all the committee for their hard work. Fred for his human rights knowledge, Alan for the website, Charlie for all his photographs, Philip for handling the finances, Leni for her media expertise and Denise for taking all the minutes. Claire, of course with her annual "function", and the Pogues, who supported the campaign magnificently and helped to raise a lot of money to keep us going along the way.

However, I am not giving up entirely. I am joining forces with several worldwide organisations to make life safer for tourists abroad. The JFK campaigners have been asked to help because of their high profile. Although I no longer have a committee officially, the ex-committee have said they will support my endeavours to make the world a safer place for tourists.

Then, of course, we have the memorial. I had hoped to have heard from our campaign lawyer Demetrio as to how far we have got with it. As soon as I hear I will let you all know. Meanwhile I have asked a friend to place flowers on the spot where the accident happened off shore. I hope other people will follow this lead especially on December 18th each year.

Thank you once again for your support. We have wide media interest. I am doing two Irish radio interviews and another with an Irish newspaper. You will have seen the Guardian page.

I will keep working for Justice for Kirsty MacColl and other people on the international scene. If a chink appears in the Mexican case, we'll be back.

Meanwhile have a Happy Christmas. Let's raise a glass to each other and to Kirsty.

The family join me in their love and thanks,

Jean