**Anti Racism World Cup 2012 launched in style in Na Croisbhealaí Cooperative cafe.**

The launch party for Anti Racism World Cup 2012 was held last week in Na Croisbhealaí Cooperative Café in Belfast city centre with progressive musical talent on display from local musicians, Colum McIntyre, and Ska-Reggae band, Aggressors BC. The launch helped whet the appetite for what promises to be a spectacular music and football festival in west Belfast from the 20 – 22 July.

Teams and travellers registered to attend from England, Scotland, Germany, Palestine, The Congo and Cuba and many more from across Ireland are set to travel to the three day festival which will be held in Donegal Celtic Football club.

The annual event, now in its 6th year, brings together people from near and far who are taking a stand against Racism, Fascism and Imperialism and gives local and international participants a chance to share their experiences through sport, music, debate and more.

**Music for everyone:** Over the course of the Friday and Saturday nights we will hear the music from local trad, punk, rock, ska and reggae bands in two rooms of music to cater for all tastes, all finished off by the return by popular demand of the hugely successful Very Specials on Saturday night.

**Football:** On Saturday we will hold a 24 team 7 a side world cup tournament to put the Euros to shame. Who will you be cheering for?

**Family fun:** Running alongside the football will be a free family fun day including inflatable’s, mini soccer tournaments, climbing walls, archery, face painting and all the sweets you can eat.

**Discussion and debate:** There will be plenty of craic over the course of the weekend but with racism on the rise and worrying shifts to the right in politics across Europe, there will also be a chance to discuss the past, present and future of anti racism, anti fascism and anti imperialism. We will hold two public discussions on the history of fascism in Ireland and also on the role played by Belfast people in the Spanish civil war. The travelling Palestinian team will also talk of the experiences of living with the ongoing Israeli occupation. There will also be political tours provided on Sunday focussing on the life and times of the Belfast Brigadistas who fought and died in Spain.

With something for everyone; the activist, the music mad, the sports fanatic, and families alike – this year’s event promises to be the best yet.

See you there