

# SEFF NEWSLETTER

*Supporting Victims and Survivors, Strengthening Communities*

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**Seff Lisnaskea**  
**Seff Victims**

**November 2017 - Issue 134**



**The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service**



**SEFF**  
SOUTH EAST FERMANAGH  
FOUNDATION

Dear Member,

SEFF continues to push forward in our quest to best represent the innocent victims and survivors of terrorism and 'other Troubles related criminal violence' but also to make our contribution within the wider community and land of which we share together.

We have been successful in a funding bid for a Health and Wellbeing Caseworker to be positioned in Great Britain. This individual will now be recruited over the next month-six week period and will work closely alongside Yasmin Wright (our existing Advocacy Support Worker)

We also have received excellent news within the last week, following a successful application, The FACT Project has been granted a further 12 months of funding which will take the Project through until end June 2019.

This funding is crucial and will help us to properly strategise a follow-on community-based Project.

We now have copies of SEFF's most recent DVD 'A Patchwork of Innocents' within the Office. This double DVD contains footage of SEFF's Annual Service held in Fivemiletown Methodist Church back in early October 2017 plus a short Film which includes interviews with those involved in the making of the Memorial Quilt. The DVD's are priced at £10 or £12 (inc of Postage and Packaging)

Over the last two weeks there have been a significant number of Remembrance-related events and SEFF has sought to play its part - the 30th Anniversary of Enniskillen, SEFF's own Act of Remembrance and the Ballygawley Bus Bomb (1LI) and UDR Remembrance event which took place on the Ballygawley-Omagh road.

There remains considerable and understandable hurt amongst the Enniskillen families in the way in which the Memorial issue has been handled, our concern remains with the bereaved families and we have written to RC Archbishop Eamon Martin and Monsignor McGuinness encouraging their intervention. There should not be controversy surrounding the Memorial, it is the very least that should be delivered for the families concerned. It is about the respectful honouring of the dead, those who were murdered through terrorism. All Christian Churches and wider civic Society should uphold that most basic of needs those left behind have - to have their loved one's appropriately acknowledged.

The next monthly Member's meeting will take place on Wednesday 22nd November 2017. We will have Canon Ian Ellis present as our Guest Speaker (Ian is the former Editor of the Church of Ireland Gazette) and has been extremely supportive to us on victim/survivor related issues for many years. Ian's address promises to be highly informative and we encourage members to come along in strength.

**Kenny**

## JANUARY CULTURAL WORKSHOP

*Justice, Forgiveness, Reconciliation -  
A conversation with Rev Peter McIntyre (Clogher Valley Free Presbyterian Church)*

Wednesday 10th January 2018 @ 7.30pm, SEFF Offices

Q & A session to follow.

**The SEFF Office is open Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm for general office business**

If you require support or help with completing DHSS or other Welfare forms **Tina** will be available to assist with this service. As much as is possible, Tina will be in the office on **Tuesdays from 10am - 5pm**. However, if you require help outside these times, please contact the office, leave your name and number and someone will contact you to arrange a suitable time.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CLASS & TUTOR	DATE, TIME & DURATION	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	COST
<b>Art Class</b> <b>Tutor:</b> <b>Ruth Elliott</b>	Monday 15th January 2017 7.30pm—9.30pm 6 weeks	Enjoy some relaxation and therapy through this Art Class which will use a variety of techniques including paints, pencil and charcoal.	SEFF Office, Lisnaskea (Unit 2)	£20 per person
<b>Sewing Class</b> <b>Tutor:</b> <b>Sonia Johnston</b>	Monday 15th January 2017 7.30pm—9.30pm 6 weeks	Come along and learn how to make some basic pieces eg. Cushions, bags, aprons, patchwork pictures, doorstops and more.  This class involves machine sewing so feel free to bring your own machine if you prefer.	SEFF Office, Lisnaskea (Conference Room)	£20 per person
<b>Yoga</b> <b>Tutor:</b> <b>Genny Brown</b>	Tuesday 16th January 2017 7.30pm—9.30pm 6 weeks	Some light relaxation and exercise	SEFF Office, Lisnaskea (Conference Room)	£20 per person
<b>Genealogy</b> <b>Tutor:</b> <b>Frank McHugh</b>	Thursday 18th November 2017 7.30pm—9.30pm 8 weeks  Includes 6 classroom based sessions and 2 trips to PRONI (Belfast) and National Library (Dublin)	Learn how to research and create your family tree. Research your family history over this 8 week course.  Participants need access to internet in order to research, this is available within SEFF offices but if possible if you can bring your own laptop / device as we only have limited numbers of laptops.	SEFF Office, Lisnaskea (Unit 2)	£40 per person (£20 for the course £10 per each trip which includes transport & a meal)  We ask that you commit to the entire course as much as possible.
<b>Jiving</b> <b>Tutor: Rodney Noble &amp; Sandra Noble</b>	Thursday 18th January 2017 at 8pm (Provisional Date) 6 weeks	Learn some jiving moves to the latest country tunes.	Garrison (Hall TBC)	£15 each or £25 per couple

## Expression of Interest

If interested in attending any of the above activities we ask that you phone the office **ASAP** on 028 677 23884 to let us know.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB 2017/2018

DATE	LOCATION	DATE	LOCATION
<b>Saturday 2nd December 2017 at 10am</b>	Donn Carragh Hotel	<b>Saturday 6th January 2018 at 10am</b>	Miller's Coffee Shop
<b>Saturday 3rd February 2018 at 10am</b>	Donn Carragh Hotel	<b>Saturday 3rd March 2018 at 10am</b>	Miller's Coffee Shop

## No more conning innocent victims

Stormont is apparently unable to rise from the ashes because of 'red line' demands from Sinn Féin/PIRA.

Innocent victims and survivors of terrorism do not have red lines but have a robust message for the UK government.

We will not be giving blind support to legacy structures in the absence of key issues being dealt with transparently.

In the aftermath of the collapse of the Hyde Park trial, when the accused John Downey was able to wave an On The Run (OTR) assurance letter, the previous Secretary of State Teresa Villiers then moved to claim on the floor of the Houses of Parliament that the letters had no value.

She said that they offered no basis to prevent the future arrest and prosecution of those in possession should evidence be available.

At that time we urged for the letters to be rescinded by Parliament, but they weren't.

Unless and until a future case concerning an OTR would come before the courts, the veracity of Ms Villiers' comments would not be tested.

They have not yet been tested in court, but recently Gerry McMonagle (now mayor of Donegal) was part of a walkabout with the new Taoiseach of the Republic of Ireland, Leo Varadkar, in Londonderry.

The arrangements were publicly advertised.

In 2012, the DUP MP Jim Shannon named Mr McMonagle in relation to the murder of Strabane man Lexie Cummings.

Mr McMonagle has not commented on claims that he received a comfort letter from the government as part of the OTR scheme.

Was he arrested for questioning when in this jurisdiction? No.

We have also witnessed over the last year the failure to even bring in Dublin-based lawyer Kieran Conway (who talked publicly about being involved in several PIRA terrorist acts within England) or Gardaí cited in the Smithwick Tribunal Report as being responsible for serious criminal breaches and actions.

It is being rumoured that the NIO will launch a public consultation on the proposed new legacy structures as per the Stormont House Agreement.

It is being suggested in the new structures that only those cases yet to be reviewed by the HET, which had got up to 1987, will be entitled to an HIU investigation.

How does the state and the various protagonists to a Stormont deal think it acceptable that some families get a review of their loved one's case, which amounted to a desktop review often poorly conducted, and then the post 1987 victims are entitled to a full investigation which supposedly carries full policing powers?

The UK government, the NIO, The PSNI, the DPP, PPS, Garda Síochána, DFA and local politicians all need to grapple with these issues.

We appeal for confidence building with victims, the first part of which must be the UK government's rescinding of the OTR letters.

A message must be sent that those onside with the SF/PIRA project are not immune from prosecution.

## SEFF's Christmas Children's Party

For 2yr olds to P7 age **ONLY**

**Please ring SEFF Office  
with the name & age of your  
child/children or grandchildren  
who would like to attend.**

**Kids can enjoy time in the soft  
play area, bouncy castle and  
of course a special visit from  
Santa Claus. Refreshments  
will be served.**

**Saturday 9th  
December 2017**

**@ 2.30pm  
In Castle Park  
Centre  
Lisnaskea**

**Register names by 5pm on  
Thursday 30th November 2017 on  
Tel: 028 677 23884**

## **MEMBER'S CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT**

**Wednesday 13th December**

**8pm**

If you are interested in attending the SEFF Member's Christmas Party Night please call the office by 5pm on Friday 9th December to book your place. This is for catering purposes

**Donations for a Raffle on the evening  
would be gratefully received and can be  
left into the office before the evening.**

**The Valley Hotel  
Music by  
Wee Tom**



# FACT NOVEMBER 2017 UPDATE

The days are getting short and the nights long as we begin to prepare for Christmas and with this in mind we have just had a wonderful workshop hosted by Harry Emerson where the participants made lovely festive wooden snowmen.

Everyone really enjoyed it and a big thank you for all your lovely comments. The class was very enthusiastic so much so I think it would be very remiss of us if we did not try fit in another in the new year, funding permitting.

Apologies to the disappointed folk who didn't get on this one but we are already creating a list for the next one.

We have also completed our Community Pharmacy Partnership Programme in Lisbellaw in partnership with the local pharmacist Corina Collum, Cruise and Alison Forbes Healthy Eating from (SWAP). This was a well attended programme consisting of six sessions on our wellbeing and the feedback has been excellent.

We are hoping to have another programme in Fermanagh and one in Armagh in the New Year. Many thanks to all who attended and to all the agencies concerned

We are in the midst of finishing off this year's programme and creating a new and special one for Spring 2018. Please do not be afraid to volunteer your knowledge and suggestions for next year events as it is your involvement that makes this project invaluable.

Also a reminder for the fruit pruning class at Colebrooke on the **Tuesday 12th December** facilitated by Dougal followed by coffee and mince pies. If you are interested in getting advice on pruning your trees by an expert gardener followed by coffee and seasonal mince pies. Contact the office on 028 677 22615. We would love to see you there.

Classes continue in the Armagh Area. We have met with choir tutor and organised practice sessions, to be ready to perform at the Winter Warmer at Armagh City Hotel in January 2018.

The FACT Project is funded through The Big Lottery Project: Reaching Out Connecting Older People and you can contact us on 028 677 22615 at the Fermanagh office, find us on Facebook or check out [www.factni.com](http://www.factni.com) for more details of all existing and past programmes.

**FACT** is on Facebook so friend and like us to spread the word.



Jenny & Gladys

## **'Celebrating South Fermanagh's Cultural Diversity' Project Update**

As I write this update we are preparing for the next workshop on Monday 20th November on the topic of the Burning of Lundy when we will be having a visit from our funders from the Northern Ireland Executive

We are looking forward to exploring this subject, and then going down to Londonderry on Saturday 2nd December to experience the real thing.

For the younger folk we are heading to Dublin on Saturday 25th November 2017 to Dublin to experience more history of the past.

We conclude this year's events with an intergenerational night in Castlepark Centre with a music workshop including Ulster Scots and Irish music. This promises to be a fitting ending followed by supper.

Please come along if you like good music as we have some very talented musicians coming. Please contact the office if you wish to attend for catering purposes (Tel: 028 677 23884)  
**Jenny**



## IVU presents its' case to Republic of Ireland committee

On Thursday 9th November 2017 Innocent Victims United presented Evidence to the Good Friday Agreement Implementation Committee which operates within Dail Eireann (The Republic of Ireland Parliament)

We were joined by Austin Stack and David Kelly (members of the Innocent Victims and Survivors Coalition who are Rol-based victims and survivors)

We have consistently stated that any new Legacy process must contain the following:

1. A commitment from all to work to ensure that the violence of the 'Troubles period' never be repeated.
2. An acknowledgement from all stakeholders (terror organisations and both States) that in the context of Northern Ireland and irrespective of real or perceived grievances, there was never justification for the criminal taking of life in the advancement of or defence of a political objective.
3. Victim centred - where belatedly the needs of victims/survivors are put front and centre of proceedings, that we move beyond an appeasement process of perpetrators.
4. An open and transparent public debate on what constitutes a 'victim/survivor' in the context of 'The Northern Ireland Troubles.' The current definition of 'victim' is at the root heart of the abyss to which these issues have descended. IVU has engaged with victims groups, individual victims and survivors, Church leaders, political leaders, academics, the GAA, Orange Order and a plethora of other community and voluntary sector based organisations and in those discussions there was universal recognition that the current definition of 'victim' as laid out in the N.I 2006 Order is morally defunct. The definition of 'victim' is at the root heart of the failed policies which have been developed on victims and survivors issues.
5. That there must be a genuine pathway for victims/survivors to pursue justice, truth and accountability whether they are victims of terrorism or victims of actions committed by individual members of the security forces and there must be the means for real outcomes to be delivered.
6. Steps taken by both the UK and Republic of Ireland Governments to send out clearly a message that no-one is beyond the reaches of the law, that there is no-one who is protected. As an example this means the legal rescinding of letters of comfort provided to circa 200 Republicans.
7. Legislation introduced by both the UK and Republic of Ireland Governments which commits each State to providing "full disclosure and full cooperation" around matters concerning Troubles related events and crimes.
8. Equitable access to support services for victims/survivors wherever they happen to live across the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. This requires a collaborative approach from Dublin, London and Belfast as well as the adequate resourcing of future service provision across the areas of; Health and Wellbeing, Advocacy, Welfare, Compensation and Restitution-based packages etc.

We also provided our analysis on the Coronial Inquest system, Historical Investigations Unit, Information Commission for Information Retrieval, Pension/Top up benefit for the seriously injured, Oral History Archive, Mental Trauma Service and Implementation and Reconciliation Group. Members of

IVU and IVSC answered questions which came from Committee members in an honest and robust manner.

We must lead by the Truth and continue to challenge those who would seek to deny justice, truth and accountability, those who seek to rewrite the history of over 40 years of a terrorist campaign. **Kenny**



## SEFF's Remembrance Events - November 2017



This year's Act of Remembrance was held on Friday 10th November 2017 where over 80 people gathered at SEFF's Memorial in the grounds of the Church of Ireland in Lisnaskea for a short service facilitated by Rev. Alan Irwin.

Afterwards folk came back to SEFF Office where Joan Anderson (whose parents were murdered in the Enniskillen Poppy Day Bomb) and Martyn McCready (whose father was a Protestant civilian was murdered in Belfast) shared their testimonies.

On Wednesday (15th November) after a session with Alexander Bailie from Help for Heroes Band of Brother & Band of Sisters we held a further evening of testimonies where Noel Downey (survivor of a under car booby trap bomb carried out by PIRA terrorists in Lisnaskea) and Mark Kelly (who was seriously injured as a result of a loyalist terrorist bomb in Belfast) spoke about their life changing experiences. Pictured on the evening below - left to right: Noel Downey, Eric Brown (Chairman, SEFF), Alexander Bailie, (Help for Heroes) Mark Kelly and Kenny Donaldson (Director of Services, SEFF).

Thank you to all who supported these important Remembrance events.



### Complementary Therapies

We are now taking names for Q4 covering the January - March 2018 period.

**The treatments on offer, with 5 sessions of either:**

- Massage (Therapist: Sandra Johnston)
- Aromatherapy (Therapist: Gordon Hayhurst)
- Reflexology (Therapist: Gillian Johnston)
- Physiotherapy (Therapist: Nicola McCullagh Daley / Mark Hoy)
  - Indian Head Massage (Therapist: Gordon Hayhurst)
  - Hopi Ear Candle Therapy (Therapist: Ruth Watson)
  - Health Kinesiology (Therapist: Marilyn Robinson)

please contact the office to register your interest on 028 677 23884 or 677 22242.

**£40 contribution for 5 sessions -**

**it is possible to pay £20 at the beginning & £20 at the end of treatment sessions.**

**\*\*WHEN TAKING UP ANY OF THESE SESSIONS YOU ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE MONITORING FORMS AND PAY ½ OF THE MONIES BEFORE SESSIONS COMMENCE, OR YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVAIL OF THESE TREATMENTS**





## SEFF comments re. Enniskillen Poppy Day Bomb 30th Anniversary

On 8th November 2017 30 years passed since the Enniskillen Poppy Day Massacre where 11 innocents, to be followed by a 12th 13 years later were murdered by PIRA terrorists. The next day the Lambert family also remembered Adam's 30th Anniversary, stolen from them through the actions of loyalist terrorists, aged 19 years murdered in a retaliatory action in a supposed case of mistaken identity.

The resilience and dignity of the Enniskillen families has been a constant over three decades but has others behaviour towards them been as honourable? How do Sinn Fein/PIRA check out on this, not only at the

point they bombed those gathered to respectfully remember those stolen to War but in their positions and actions since? Or what about the UK Government in its' continuous appeasement of terrorism or its' refusal to stand by and support victim's legitimate rights for compensation from Libya for its' PIRA sponsored terrorism. Or what about the criminal justice system inclusive of the Police who have failed the families via a catalogue of mistruths which has left many feeling despondent and deeply hurt.

And then there are others who surely need to look long and hard at themselves in the run up to this substantive anniversary, have they behaved honourably in best ensuring that the dignity of the innocents impacted by the horrors of that day is best acknowledged or have they hid behind the curtain of process and bureaucracy as a means not to do the right thing by those who actually should be the focus of their concern?

Enniskillen and the intent of Tullyhommon were arguably the most heinous crimes committed over the years of the terrorism campaign, in this Country there had always been an inbuilt respect given to the remembrance of those who have left this life, that has been sacrosanct. The actions of 8th November 2017 represented new depths of humanity being debased. The continuing failure to bring to account those responsible for Enniskillen is not merely a failure of Government, of the criminal justice system, it is a failure and indictment of all those within the community who hold information concerning events of that day but who have refused to present that information. It is late but there is still time for people to do the right thing.

### **BEFRIENDING NOVEMBER UPDATE**

Hi All

As we get closer to the festive period, please spare a thought for any neighbours or friends that may not be in a position to enjoy the celebrations this year and offer your support if needed. The Befriending Team will as usual be working away helping those in need that are on our radar. We are almost at our limit and are still interested in seeking out a few more volunteers in certain geographic areas to help out. If interested, please leave your name with the staff and we will make contact with you.

#### **Coffee Mornings:**

**November 2017** – we were hoping to bring the Action Cancer Big Bus down to SEFF in November but we had found out the Bus was under refurbishment. The new date is Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February so watch out for the contact details in our January newsletter so you can phone up and make an appointment with them.

**Christmas Coffee Morning:** we have had to change the date of this so please note the new date **\*\*Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017\*\***. Join us for a fun morning and of course a wee glass of mulled wine and a mince pie or two.

Regards

The Befriending Team



### ***Your new Board for 2017/2018 are:***

Eric Brown (Chairman)	Ernie Clarke (Asst Treasurer)	Rodney Doherty
Trevor Watson (Vice-Chairman)	Joy Graham	Robert Morrison
Norman Kirkpatrick (Secretary)	Wesley Armstrong	Roderick Noble
Harriett Kirkpatrick (Asst Secretary)	Norman Anderson	Shane Laverty
Sally Haire (Treasurer)	Jimmy Egerton	Debbie Carson

# Topics & Dates of Interest

## South Fermanagh Junior Boys & Girls Lodge

invite you to join them in Enniskillen District Hall (D.V.)  
for a

## CHRISTMAS TREE Extravaganza

on Sunday 26th November 2017  
from 1.00 p.m. ending in the evening  
with a Praise Service at 7.00 p.m.



Refreshments served

Donations and collection for funds

Maguiresbridge Market House Cultural Group

## Annual Country Gospel Concert

in Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen  
on Friday 12th January 2018  
at 8.00p.m.

Compere: Gary Wilson      Music by: Country Harmony  
Artists: The Benn Sisters, Boxcar Brian, Crawford Bell  
Billy McFarland and Calum Smith

Tickets: £10.00

Market House Culture Group  
and  
Maguiresbridge LOL 450

Are hosting a screening of a film launched by the Orange Order

## "Strong to Survive"

"A powerful and emotive short film showing the human cost of republican terrorism and the quiet resolve of victims....."

In Market House, Maguiresbridge  
On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017  
At 7.30pm

There will be a chance to discuss the film over a cup of tea afterwards  
Everyone Welcome but please be aware the Film contains graphic scenes and therefore may not be suitable for young children

The Orange Order

## Maguiresbridge Market House Culture Group



## Christmas



## Coffee Morning

## & Cake Sale



Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2017



In The Market House

Main Street, Maguiresbridge



From 10:30am – 1pm



## SEFF's Upcoming Fundraising Events

### BURNS NIGHT

Thursday 25th January 2018  
Fivemiletown Royal British Legion

### RICKETY WHEEL

Saturday 10th March 2018  
Fivemiletown Royal British Legion

### Bag Packing in Tesco in the New Year - date to be confirmed.

More details to follow on the above events.