

SEFF NEWSLETTER

Supporting Victims and Survivors, Strengthening Communities



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

SEFF Monthly Meeting for March will take the form of a Talk from renowned Journalist Ruth Dudley Edwards and will be held in The Archdale Hall, Lisnaskea, starting with refreshments from 7pm onwards (open to members and non members)



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.

Remember Norman

Kirkpatrick is also now available to assist you with Appeals/Tribunal Representation work.

Dear Member,

It's the crazy month of March which sees the closing down of one financial year and the opening of a new year and programme.

When visiting the SEFF office over the next fortnight please accept our apologies in advance if you sense staff are more rushed than usual, unfortunately it's just the nature of this time of year.

On Monday a delegation of SEFF members will meet with the new Secretary of State, Karen Bradley MP for a discussion around legacy issues. The meeting will take place in Stormont House, Belfast and a full report of that meeting will be carried in next month's Newsletter.

I want to commend the efforts of Jenny Ferguson within the Celebrating South Fermanagh's Cultural Diversity Project as the Project comes to its 'conclusion'. This has been a challenging piece of work at SEFF with well over 100 younger and older people participating in a cultural diversity-themed Project with our neighbours linked to the Carrosyl Community Association (also based in Lisnaskea)

Please remember folks to use our core services at SEFF, our Counsellors have availability to take on new referrals and Tina/Norman within the Welfare/Tribunal Appeals side of the organisation also have scope to take on new work.

Be assured of the highest levels of confidentiality at all times.

Our work continues in Great Britain and we

have just come through a new re-brand of the service. The GB outreach service is aptly to be known as **The LIVES Project (Liberating Innocent Victims Empowering them to Succeed)** Over the coming period we will be striving to increase the resources and support services that we are able to offer GB victims/survivors.

Within the April Edition of the Newsletter there will be a page dedicated to upcoming fundraising initiatives designed to raise costs associated with Project Common Bond 2018. SEFF are again sending young people to the U.S - Zara Ferguson, Sophie Carson, Annberra West and Melissa Keys will be our standard bearers this year. We have circa £2,800 to raise to cover airfares, please support the upcoming fundraising initiatives or you may send donations to SEFF for this specific purpose if you would wish to support this worthy initiative.

I reiterate, please do make a special effort to come along to our meeting on Wednesday night (see details at top of page) We need your support!

The next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th April 2018 from 7.30pm onwards in SEFF offices and we will have Canon Mark Watson (newly installed in Maguiresbridge) as our Guest speaker.

Easter is a special period in the Christian calendar, yes there is sadness that Jesus' life was sacrificed for our sins but there is also immense joy and hope to be found in Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

This Easter let all of us consider the true message and not simply view the period as an opportunity to indulge in chocolate eggs and have time off School or work.

Kenny

SEFF HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Monday 2nd April - Easter Monday

Tuesday 3rd April - Easter Tuesday

Monday 7th May - May Day Holiday

Monday 28th May - late May Day Holiday

SEFF
1 Manderwood Park,
1 Nutfield Road,
Lisnaskea
Co Fermanagh
BT92 0FP
Phone: 028 677
23884 /
028 677 22242
E-mail: info@seff.org.uk
Website: www.seff.org.uk



Seff Lisnaskea
Seff Victims

March 2018 - Issue 138

European Victim's Day 2018

Rajaa Berezag, Anthony and Marie O'Reilly and Paul Donley courageously shared testimony in how they/their family were impacted by terrorism related events.

The event was extremely powerful with a large number of MLA's, academics, clergy and other policy makers joining victims/survivors.

This was the 7th Annual event held in Stormont, sponsored by Jim Allister and with co-sponsors; Patsy McGlone MLA and Mike Nesbitt MLA.



Left: Rajaa Berezag

Whose father Zaoui was seriously injured in the 1996 Canary Wharf bombing committed by PIRA terrorists. Two men were murdered in the attack - Inam Bashir and John Jeffries.



Right: Anthony and Marie O'Reilly.

Anthony's sister Geraldine (aged 15 years) was murdered alongside Patrick Stanley (aged 16 years) via the Belturbet bomb in 1972, committed by loyalist terrorists.



Left: Paul Donley.

A former RUC Officer who was caught up by in a number of terror incidents and had colleagues murdered.

Muscular Dystrophy Coffee Morning



We held a very successful Coffee Morning on Wednesday 7th March 2018 in aid of Muscular Dystrophy and in support of Tanya Harron's Skydive. On the morning approximately £300 was raised for Tanya and her team. We wish her well with her skydive which takes place on Saturday 24th March 2018.

The event was held in connection with the recent death of Tanya's Mum and Tommy's wife - Annie Forster.



The Tribute to Innocents Memorial Quilt Exhibition

The Exhibition was launched on Tuesday 6th March 2018 in The Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Stormont to over 200 attendees.

12 Memorial Quilts were displayed remembering almost 900 individual innocents murdered over the course of 'The Troubles' by republican and loyalist terrorists.

Partner groups for the Memorial Quilt Exhibition

South East Fermanagh Foundation, Lisnaskea
Castlehill Foundation, Portadown
MUVE Project, Cookstown
South and East Tyrone Welfare Support Group, Moygashel
MAST, Kilkeel
South Down Action for Healing Wounds, Rathfriland
West Tyrone Voice, Newtownstewart
FAIR, Markethill

The key messages of the Memorial Quilts are:

1. Violence was futile and totally unjustified.
2. Those remembered were wholly innocent.
3. The legacy of those represented will live on amongst those left behind.

Ordinary men, women and children from right across the community were treated as collateral damage during 'the Troubles,' and this continued within the concessions granted terrorism and its' political annexes within The Belfast Agreement, and subsequent agreements (both overt and covert) This continues to exist to this day due to the justice, truth and accountability deficit being borne by innocent victims/survivors of terrorism. The rest of Society once again expects victims and survivors to assume the role of collateral damage and to accede to the drive for political amnesty to be granted for pre 1998 terrorist and other criminal-based offences committed over the period referred as; 'The Troubles.'

SEFF's Memorial Quilts are now on their travels again and will be displayed in Liverpool University for the next month for a prestigious exhibition marking 20 years since The Belfast Agreement.

The message of the Memorial Quilts within the exhibition is profound - the unfinished business of victims and legacy related issues.



MAST
Mourne Action for Survivors of Terrorism



The Castlehill Foundation

We welcome reports of victim papers but still have concerns about legacy structures - IVU

In recent days there has been fresh speculation that a paper was passed over the duration of recent talks between the DUP and the provisional movement. We give a cautious welcome to the statement made by the DUP leader, Arlene Foster. She stated that a paper had been exchanged with Sinn Féin on the "treatment of innocent victims".

The proposed parameters of the Historical Investigations Unit (HIU) and Independent Commission on Information Retrieval (ICIR) will not deliver anything tangible for the overwhelming majority of innocent victims of terrorism.

We have asked for a commitment that in meeting the fundamentals of equality that all cases, irrespective of whether or not they'd previously been reviewed by Historical Enquiries Team (HET) would have an investigation. We also continue to ask that government examines housing the coronial inquest system within the new HIU structure. The legal advices we have obtained states that this is possible so why does it remain external from the new HIU structure?

In short it is better to develop no further legacy structures (HIU, ICIR or Implementation and Reconciliation Group - IRG) unless there is a means to deliver for the innocent.

Crucially we have lobbied for a statement of wrongs to be signed up to by the proscribed terrorist organisations, UK and Republic of Ireland states. If achieved, then this would act as the foundation stone for further sustainable progress to occur.

We are however unclear as to the content and obviously we are aware that no formalised agreement was made on such proposals by the DUP, the provisional movement and the UK government.

Innocent Victims United (IVU) has campaigned vociferously since the development phase of Eames-Bradley, pointing out the justice deficit experienced by innocent victims/survivors of terrorism and calling for legacy processes which will genuinely hold terrorism accountable.

We have campaigned for public debate around the need for change to the government's definition of victim which has caused and continues to cause huge distress to the innocent. We have campaigned for resolution to the former Libyan regime's sponsoring of PIRA terrorism, the stand-off on pensions for innocents who were seriously injured and we have also urged for more robust legislation concerning the glorification of terrorism and a will to prosecute once breaches are made.

And we have implored the government to fully implement the mental trauma based service previously committed to which has saw little meaningful progress.

If these issues were within those papers then we welcome efforts made to advance them and if they weren't then we ask, why not?

Equality of access to justice pathways essential - IVU

Kenny Donaldson, Spokesman for Innocent Victims United stated: "Following the collapse of the recent political talks process Gerry Kelly of SF/PIRA claimed that the Provisional Movement had received a commitment from the UK Government that they would release monies for legacy inquests and that the NIO legacy consultation would not include statute of limitation for security force members. The UK Government has confirmed that these commitments were pending an overall agreement being reached between The Provisional Movement and the DUP".

"We have consistently stated our opposition to Statute of Limitations on the grounds that we do not believe the military (particularly Home Service) wish in any way to be equated with terrorists. We are clear as are those tens of thousands who served within the security forces with honour and integrity that where there were breaches of the code and criminal-based activities committed by individual members of the security forces that they should be held accountable".

"We certainly won't be holding any store in the words of a convicted terrorist and who was responsible for being the lead conduit for his 'Army's' statute of limitation, otherwise known as OTR Assurance letters. These letters must be legally rescinded by the UK Government or there is very real prospect for an abuse of process argument to be successfully mounted in a future case concerning a recipient of an OTR letter".

"As an organisation we are also clear that we support all innocents from across the community who pursue justice, truth and accountability but we are clear there must exist equitable pathways with equitable levels of resource which means that all can advance their objectives".



FACT FEBRUARY 2018 UPDATE

As I write this the clock will soon be going forward an hour and we will soon see longer days and shorter nights which will encourage us all to get out and about after such a long winter.

We recently held a consultation event in Corick House Hotel, the purpose of this was to tease out new ideas for future funding. The event was well attended by Fermanagh and Armagh members, this helped the consultant to put together information to use for future funding applications which we are hopeful it may be possible to keep the FACT Project in operation past 2019. Feedback from the event touched on many issues but in particular the need to assist the membership when considering the cut backs in our public finances.

We are in the midst of completing and posting out the FACT Newsletter, it is packed with lots of variety and familiar classes like wood turning, up cycling, flower arranging and chair exercises to name but a few.

There is a selection of walks taking place across the two counties along with swimming lessons being introduced. We are also very happy to announce a new deal that you can partake in the Armagh City Hotel and the Killyhelvin Hotel for their health clubs. This is only a sample of what is happening so please make sure you get a glance at the News letter if you are a member.

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. Check out 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.

Happy Easter **Jenny & Gladys**

'Celebrating South Fermanagh's Cultural Diversity' Project Update

As I write this we are nearly at the completion of this project, it has been an extremely busy time but the rewards are evident.

We have had a very successful inter-generational workshop with over seventy participants attending the Castle Park Centre on Thursday 8th March. We enjoyed watching the Irish and Ulster Scots dancing and listening intently to how both languages had such a chequered history. This was delivered in a balanced way by our two tutors and we thank them for the time and effort they put into preparing for the event. After the talk participants took part in some dancing with Breda, this was good as the young and older people got to dance together.

The younger participants of the project have been to the Share Centre for a night of sport which was enjoyed by all. The older participants went to Enniskillen on St Patrick's Day for the parade and then went for tea in Carrybridge.

A two day respite trip to Londonderry/Derry and Donegal has been arranged for Monday 26th - Tuesday 27th March 2018 with a workshop to be facilitated on the Monday evening. This workshop will tease out ideas for the future of the project and a booklet will be published in April giving information on the content of the entire programme from beginning to end.

We are hoping to be able to secure further funding to continue this worthwhile project.

Many thanks for all the encouraging comments that have come my way and to the support from membership and staff alike.

Jenny Ferguson - Project Coordinator



Complementary Therapies

We are now taking names for Q1 of the new financial funding year covering the
April - June 2018 period.

The treatments on offer are as follows (5 sessions) of:

- **Massage** (Therapist: Sandra Johnston)
- **Aromatherapy** (Therapist: Gordon Hayhurst)
- **Reflexology** (Therapist: Gillian Johnston)
- **Physiotherapy** (Therapist: Nicola McCullagh Daley)
- **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.

£25 contribution for 5 sessions -

****WHEN TAKING UP ANY OF THESE SESSIONS YOU ARE REQUIRED**

TO COMPLETE THE MONITORING FORMS AND

PAY THE MONIES BEFORE SESSIONS COMMENCE,

OTHERWISE YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVAIL OF THESE TREATMENTS

Allotments Update

In recent times SEFF have received word of a number of opportunities that will benefit the Allotments site and the tenants.

Firstly we have been successful with an application to the PEACE IV Growing Communities project and are one of 12 community gardens across Fermanagh and Tyrone who will participate in the project- the purpose of the project is to bring people together, to gain knowledge and learning and there is also some opportunity for capital investment.

The other news is from the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens who are helping us to organise a day at the allotments to make a new compost area and to learn about how to use the area to get the best results. Also on this date we will have some new top soil and manure to help people replenish their allotments and get organised for the incoming year.

The date for this event is Saturday 14th April 2018 - (time to be confirmed)but if you would be interested in attending please phone the office on 028 677 23884 for more detail.



Also to note that we do have availability and a number of allotments which are free for this tenancy year (2018/2019), the cost is £30 per allotment or £50 for two, again if interested please phone the office on 028 677 23884.



BEFRIENDING MARCH UPDATE

Hi All,

It's hard to believe we are coming towards the end of March and will soon be heading towards summer. Befriending is busy as usual and we are hoping to source some more training for befrienders but we have no dates as yet. We continue to look very closely at what we can do within our budget and sometimes have to restrict what we offer but we try to help as many as we can.

We had a very successful Coffee Morning for Muscular Dystrophy and Tanya and the family want to thank everyone for their support. We have a few dates coming up now for our Coffee Mornings so please note the dates and come along.

Recycling Coffee Morning - Thursday 19th April 2018 from 10:30am to 12 noon. A speaker will be coming along from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to speak about recycling.

Elderly Abuse Coffee Morning - Thursday 17th May 2018 from 10:30am to 12 noon. A speaker will be coming to talk about Elderly Abuse and the new charity set up with support and a helpline to call if you feel you, or anyone you know, is being abused either physically, emotionally or financially.



Air Ambulance Coffee Morning - Thursday 14th June 2018 from 10:30am to 12 noon. Gary Wilson from Air Ambulance NI will be coming to talk about all the good work our new air ambulance does.

Regards,

The Befriending Team

Morning SEFF Calling Update

At Morning SEFF Calling we care, and hopefully that call once a week from us can make a little bit of a difference to the lives of those engaged with the Project. If you know of anyone that would welcome that weekly call please get in touch with the SEFF office and leave a message with either Mandy or Joy and we will endeavour to get in touch. Again, because of the increase in users of this service **we appeal to anyone who can spare two-three hours per week to act as a volunteer to register your interest to Mandy or Joy in the SEFF Office on 028 677 23884. Full training will be provided.**



Best wishes to you all from Anna and Rita at Morning SEFF Calling.

SEFF's Walkers & Talkers

We are hoping to get our Walkers & Talkers Club revived over the next few weeks. We are currently contacting all those who are known to us that have completed the walk lead training and hope to be able to run a weekly walking club.

If you have your walk leader training we would be interested in speaking to you so give us a call on 028 677 23884.

We plan to meet with all walk leaders in April to put together a schedule of dates and venues for upcoming walks so watch this space and we will hopefully have more news next month.



Topics & Dates of Interest

GALLOON PARISH CHURCH

AUCTION

CHURCH HALL

NEWTOWNBUTLER

SATURDAY

7th APRIL 2018

12.00 NOON

GENERAL ITEMS, BOXED LOTS PLUS
PART CONTENTS OF LADY'S
RESIDENCE INCLUDING FURNITURE,
DUTCH CLOCK, DELPH, CHINA, GLASS
OVER 500 Lots. No Fees. No VAT

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

HALL OPEN 11.00 am

EVERYONE WELCOME



Are you interested in having an Allotment & growing your own produce?



Plot per year is £30 with a reduction should someone wish
to take two plots- the cost will then be £25 per plot

Contract period:
01/02/15 to 31/01/16

- ✓ Three polytunnels
- ✓ Tool shed complete with equipment
- ✓ Garden bench
- ✓ Picnic table
- ✓ Rotavator

Potential opportunities
for training
programmes and
partnership with other
garden/allotment sites



Thirty-one plots
and a double
compost plot

Tangible economic,
social and health-
based therapeutic
benefits

Further information?

Contact the SEFF Office
ASAP on 02867723884 or
02867722242 or
info@seff.org.uk

Community Allotments site on the Brookeborough Road, Lisnaskea

Call to Members

We are always looking for new ideas from you, the members, remember SEFF is your organisation.

A new financial year is fast approaching and whilst we have an indicative Programme in place for 2018/2019 there nevertheless is some scope for variance based on evolving needs.

Maybe there is a course you would like to see offered in SEFF or a new respite or someone coming in to give a talk to our Members on a particular subject matter.

Please contact the SEFF office ON: 028 677 23884 / 677 22242 and ask for Mandy or Joy who will be glad to hear from you.

Mark your Calendar

SEFF is celebrating our 20th

Anniversary

on 5th October 2018

With a Black Tie, Gala Ball, in the

Killyhevlin Hotel.

If you are interested in attending it will be by
ticket only.

Tickets will be on
sale in April.

Contact the Office

028 677 23884 if you are

interested in attending this event and we will
take your details.