

SEFF NEWSLETTER

Supporting Victims and Survivors, Strengthening Communities



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service



APRIL MEMBERS MEETING
WEDNESDAY 25th APRIL 2018 from 6.30pm

Guest Speaker: Mark Ewing
(Regional Outreach Officer, Action on Hearing Loss)

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,

I hope you enjoyed some early Summer
sun in recent days, although admittedly I
think England has been enjoying the best of
it.

On Wednesday/Thursday I was in
attendance in a lecture at Liverpool
University (it was 28 degrees in the city)

SEFF's Memorial Quilts have been on
display for some three weeks as part of an
Exhibition marking The Belfast Agreement ..
20 Years On.

The Quilts made for an extremely important
inclusion as they remind policy makers and
civic society at large as to the failures of the
last two plus decades in addressing the
core needs of victims/survivors.

Within exchanges I was able to deliver a
message that victims/survivors have been
treated as 'collateral damage' by the
political and peace processes and that now
is the time for innocent victims to be
appealed and to have their needs acted
upon.

SEFF has been extremely busy in the last
month as we strive to close down one
financial year and open another. It has been
pleasing in recent times that we have been
offer support services in areas like West
Tyrone and South Down (areas where
groups were not funded under the VSS
latest funding cycle, 2017-2020)

Whether groups are funded or not there
without question remains a need for victims/

survivors to be supported in these areas
and we will strive in the coming months and
years to meet these challenges in
partnership with others.

Please engage with this Newsletter and
read carefully details of the various
programmes and activities on offer, we
require your support and also your efforts
on promoting the services to other
members plus those who could be
members of the organisation, who have
been the innocent victims and survivors of
terrorism.

Next monthly meeting:
(Please feel able to attend both elements of
the evening)

From 6.30pm onwards on Wednesday 25th
April 2018 we will have Mark Ewing from
Action on Hearing Loss speak about a
range of services available to ex military
veterans. We strongly encourage good
attendance for this meeting.

The monthly meeting then follows
at 8pm with folk present from The Glencree
Centre for Peace and Reconciliation who
will speak to us about the work of the centre
but also opportunities for SEFF members to
become involved with future work
programmes.

Anything we do with Glencree will be on the
basis of the continued protection of our core
ethos on terrorism and criminal violence,
the organisation will not meet with those
who justify, glorify or explain away the use
of terrorism or criminal violence in be
furtherance of or defence of a 'political'
objective.

Yours,

Kenny

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

SEFF Holiday Closure

Monday 7th May -

May Day Holiday

Monday 28th May -

late May Day Holiday

April 2018 - Issue 139



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.**



SEFF's Counselling Team

SEFF have a team of Counsellors in place who are located across various areas in order to be able to meet the needs of our members within Northern Ireland. Please see information below on each Counsellor, their contact details & the area they cover. If you would prefer to speak to someone in the office about accessing Counselling we can then make a referral on your behalf.

Helen Murphy MBACO (Accred)

Location: SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea. Counselling sessions are offered on a Friday

MOB: 07510068382

Anna Frith FdSc Counselling BA MBACP NCS (Accred)

Location: Locations throughout Fermanagh and Clogher Valley). Appointment times agreed with recipients.

Mob: 07928457660

Susanne Roleston BSc. Dip (HE) MBACP (Accred) UKRCP

Location: Banbridge—Appointment times agreed with recipients.

MOB: 07835898470

Ruth Wilson DipHE Counselling EMDR 1&2 MBACP (Accred)

Location: Cookstown, Moygashel and Rchhill. Appointment times agreed with recipients.

MOB: 07912439345.

If interested in receiving Counselling then please contact SEFF on 028677 23884 or a Counsellor (relevant to your area) directly on the numbers above.

Morning SEFF Calling Update



Hello to all from Morning SEFF Calling. It is really uplifting to see that stretch of daylight in the evenings now and the rise in temperature. Spring is a reminder that the dark depressing days of winter are over.

Over the past few months and weeks some of our SEFF members have had to contend with the pain of bereavement. Our deepest condolences go out to those who have recently been bereaved. Just like the seasons unfortunately the circle of life goes on.

Morning SEFF Calling offers our members a listening ear, a means of communication once per week with someone who can provide this service. Just talking with either Rita or myself may help to provide a free, friendly, confidential, impartial and non-judgemental forum where one can be encouraged to vocalise concerns about something that could well be causing stress. Sometimes it is a lot easier to voice one's worries to someone outside their circle of friends or family.

So, if you wish to, or know of someone that may find this form of communication to be of help to them please do not hesitate to leave a message with the SEFF office and we will endeavour to contact you to arrange a day and time that will suit you. We are available each Monday and Thursday morning.

Anna and Rita Morning SEFF Calling



MAY RESPITE

BALMORAL SHOW

(IN BALMORAL PARK, SPRUCEFIELD)

Thursday 17th MAY 2018

Bus departing from SEFF Offices at **8.30am SHARP.**

Cost is £25 per person which includes transport, ticketed entry to the Show & a 2 course meal in Viscounts Restaurant, Dungannon on the way home.

If interested in attending please phone the office to **REGISTER** your interest by **5pm on Friday 27th April 2018.**

BEFRIENDING APRIL UPDATE

Hi All, It's always good to get recognition for something you do in life & it was really lovely that our Befrienders were invited to a celebration of Befriending recently in Omagh where Befriending all across Northern Ireland was showcased & acknowledged as the highly skilled & efficient service it is. The SEFF Team put on a display of how our Morning SEFF Calling service works so thank you to the two volunteers who played out their roles brilliantly. Due to last minute spaces becoming available we got the opportunity to take along a few SEFF members & some of our Management Board who were available at the drop of a hat & we even got our photos taken with UTV's Pamela Ballantine which was a lovely surprise. Some of our Befrienders received their Befriender Training certificates and those that took part in Safeguarding training received those certificates also. We left the event feeling very happy and with full tummies after a lovely meal, even the heavy rain on the way home didn't dampen our spirits.

We hope everyone enjoyed our Recycling Coffee Morning, it was full of very useful information so a great big thank you must go to Anthea from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council. Please note the dates of our next two coffee mornings & if you are free, do come along for the chance to learn something new.

Elderly Abuse Coffee Morning - 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 - 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



SEFF's Walkers & Talkers



As mentioned in the previous Newsletter we are working on getting SEFF's Walkers & Talkers Club up and running again for the Summer months. We are going to start with a weekly walk taking place every Wednesday in May as outlined below.

We hope to get a group of people together who will take part in the weekly walk and to build on this week by week. We have a number of trained walk leaders in place who will be present at each walk so please do come along and get some light exercise—it's not only about the exercise though walking as a group is also great for your social life hence the name 'walkers and talkers'.

Any queries regarding the below dates or the information provided please give us a call to the office on

028 677 23884.

WEDNESDAY 2 nd MAY 2018	11AM	COLEBROOKE	MEET AT THE CHURCH CARPARK
WEDNESDAY 9 th MAY 2018	11AM	ELY LODGE	MEET AT CAR PARK BESIDE THE RIVER
WEDNESDAY 16 th MAY 2018	11AM	BELLANALECK	MEET AT THE LAKE CARPARK
WEDNESDAY 23 rd MAY 2018	11AM	CASTLE ARCHDALE	MEET AT TEAROOMS CARPARK IN COURT-YARD
WEDNESDAY 30 th MAY 2018	11AM	KILLYFOLE	MEET AT CARPARK

REMEMINDER

RENEWING SEFF Membership 2018/19

We are fast approaching the new membership year at SEFF; **1st July 2018**. We would like, where possible that as many of you renew your membership through a **Standing Order** process so that you don't need to be reminded each year to pay your fees and therefore you won't miss out on the chance of attending our respite and activities if you are no longer a member.

If you cannot do **STANDING ORDER** through your bank, we accept payments for subscriptions by either cheque or cash.

*If you wish to set up a **standing order** please obtain a standing order mandate from your bank and then call the office and we will give you the required bank details for SEFF needed to complete the form. If you are in doubt whether you have a standing order set up already, please call the office and we can check for you.*

Regrettably we cannot do card payments over the phone or in the office.

Since the introduction of our membership some of your details may have changed ie: address/mobile/ phones/ postcodes etc, please call the office to update these!

Membership fees are as follows: £10 per adult renewing in the household.

Post primary school age (12 - 16 yrs old) is £5 each and under 11's are free.

August will be the last month that we will send out SEFF newsletters to all those on the current 2017/18 membership database before we implement the updated 2018/19 mailing list.

We would appreciate if you could pay membership fees before **31st July 2018** and if possible that you would also sign up for gift aid if you are paying tax on your income, if you have not already done so.

Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Ulster-Scots Summer Schools 2018

We are hoping (subject to funding being secured) to run SEFF's annual Ulster-Scots Summer Schools over the July—August period. With this in mind we would like to make an appeal for Leaders to help us out at these events.

Through the Ulster Scots Agency we are able to offer a small remuneration to all leaders who help out at the events.

Previous experience with youth is not essential but would be advantageous.

All leaders will require an ACCESS NI check (enhanced check including a check of the barred list for working with children). To complete this mandatory check we will need leaders to complete the enhanced Access NI form and we will also be required to carry out a full identity check—more information on this can be provided.

Where possible we would also like our leaders to be trained in child protection (Keeping Children Safe training) —please see info opposite on an upcoming course SEFF are running (via the FACT Project).

If you are interested or know someone who would be free over the Summer months and would be able to lend a hand ask them to give us a call ASAP on 028677 23884.



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE (CHILD PROTECTION) TRAINING

**We are running a Keeping Children Safe course on
SATURDAY 30th JUNE 2018**

10am—4pm

SEFF OFFICES, LISNASKEA

Cost is £10 per person and includes lunch.

This is an accredited course—please note it is good practice to renew your child protection training every 3 years.

If interested in attending this course please phone the office on 028677 23884 to register your interest.



GB Update: Respite Event, Northallerton

The new Great Britain based branch of SEFF is now called Liberating Innocent Victims and Empowering them to Succeed, or the LIVES Project. This branch supports GB based victims and survivors who live in England, Scotland and Wales.

Over a sunny weekend in March, 18 SEFF members who live in areas around Great Britain, all travelled to the beautiful Best Western Manor Hotel in Derwent, Northallerton. A relaxing weekend stay in a beautiful location, where members could meet one another and make connections with others, this marked the first respite event by SEFF GB. Some had travelled for over five hours to attend!

Upon arrival, members were able to utilise the hotel's large indoor swimming pool, the spa and gym equipment, or to go for a walk around the sunny forest, which surrounded the hotel. In the evening, members were treated to a three-course dinner and heard the stories of other survivors. Some survivors had never met other survivors, and this was a great opportunity to speak to others about their experiences, and to realise that they are not alone in having been affected by the Northern Ireland Troubles or an associated incident.

The following day, members were invited to attend the nearby open-air Beamish Museum, set in the form of a small town, which tells the story of England during the 1820's, 1900's and 1940's. The sun shined for us all weekend and it was an emotional, educational, inspiring and uplifting weekend for all, with ages of attendees ranging from 15 years old to 75 years.

The LIVES Project appreciate the healing effect that social support and events such as this can have on victims of trauma, and hope to host further events for members, with more attendees and over two nights.



Quilts Exhibition, Liverpool



On Wednesday 18th April the LIVES Project travelled to Liverpool, where SEFF's Memorial quilts were exhibited at the Victoria Gallery and Museum. The exhibition of the quilts was part of a series of events hosted by the University of Liverpool to mark the 20th anniversary of the *Belfast/Good Friday Agreement*. The unique physical and digital exhibition was called ***Agreement: A People's Process***.

A number of visitors engaged with us and we had the honour of remembering those innocent victims, represented by each unique and colourful patch, which have been creatively and thoughtfully produced by outstanding SEFF volunteers in Northern Ireland. Each person at the exhibition who took the time to look at the quilts was astounded by the creativity of our volunteers. There was also a common theme in the

response from academics and professors who stated that the quilts 'humanise the statistics' and make us remember innocent victims for who they were.

We were also addressed by Ambassador O'Neill who spoke on the subject entitled ***"Believe A Further Shore Is Reachable From Here": The Good Friday Agreement Twenty Years On***. The Ambassador of Ireland to the UK spoke extremely optimistically about the Good Friday Agreement and highlighted its' successes in establishing and maintaining peace. However, we would have liked to see this optimism balanced with a realistic perspective of the Good Friday Agreement, which does not address the needs of innocent victims and where twenty years later we are witnesses to a political stalemate in Northern Ireland.



FACT APRIL 2018 UPDATE

As I write this article the days are getting longer and hopefully the weather is on the up. It has been a long winter, thankfully, we have lots of fun filled days with our different activities taking place. Our new Spring Newsletter is out and has been delivered to our membership and the uptake for all our classes has been huge.

We are encouraging our membership to get more involved in their health and well-being thus our direction more into exercise as well as our very popular course *Managing the Challenge* which is being run by the Health Trust in Cleenish Hall. We are also completing walks right across the two counties We hope to step this up when summer finally arrives and walk weekly with the Walkers and Talkers. Gardening, iPad Classes and Exercise as well as upcycling and flower arranging are all on going. If you know of anyone that would like to avail of these please don't hesitate to contact the office and speak to us. We hope to have more volunteer drivers trained up in the near future so we will have transport for those that are not able to drive.

Fermanagh and Armagh membership are going to Kildare in May for an overnight stay visiting the Irish National Stud and Japanese Gardens as well as some retail therapy. Members who have their names down will have received their letter of offer, and could we just remind folk to have their payment made by the end of April to secure their place. This will be a great trip so don't miss out!

Many thanks to FACT Choir who recently sang at the South Fermanagh Cultural Diversity Project Celebration Night. We are hoping to get the choir some more dates for their calendar in the coming months. Spread the word that FACT Choir are available.

We have been working extremely hard to get as much feedback from membership and we would like to thank the folk that have been involved with this. We are very grateful to you for taking the time to full fill all that has been asked of you.

We hope to plan for the next quarter so if any of the membership have any suggestion or ideas please contact us as after all it is your project. Happy Spring, Gladys and Jenny

SEFF hosts renowned Journalist Ruth Dudley Edwards



Renowned Journalist and Commentator Ruth Dudley Edwards was guest speaker to a gathering of well over 100 SEFF members/supporters.

Ruth has been a constant source of encouragement to the group down the years and her writings very much are in sync with our position on terrorism and criminal violence and the need for proper recognition and support to be provided for innocent victims/survivors of terrorism.

In her regular Belfast Telegraph column Ruth wrote as follows in the days after she attended our meeting:

Extracts from her article on SEFF

Brave little Co Fermanagh group punching above its weight in the fight for victims' rights.

All decent people should stand with organisations like SEFF as they battle for justice, writes Ruth Dudley Edwards.

Last week I was in Lisnaskea, headquarters of the South East Fermanagh Foundation (SEFF) - which was formed on that terrible day - with an audience of more than 100 engaged, articulate and steadfast people.

In south-east Fermanagh during the Troubles, in little towns, the IRA mercilessly slaughtered neighbours who were police or members of the Ulster Defence Regiment.

Of the 112 murders, 11 were in Lisnaskea. The IRA justification was usually that it was attacking an imperialist uniform. The reality was that it was mostly motivated by vicious sectarianism.

Volunteer Recognition Event

Our thanks goes to Ruth & Richie Gault who recently attended a Volunteer Event on behalf of SEFF in Newtownabbey.

Ruth & Richie are just two of many volunteers within SEFF who help out with the Befriending Service and other areas of our work.

We would like to say thank you to all volunteers for the work they do

and the time they give to SEFF—because without you the work we undertake would not be possible!



‘Celebrating South Fermanagh’s Cultural Diversity’ Project

The ‘Celebrating South Fermanagh’s Cultural Diversity’ Project has just finished up at the end of March, it has been a great success. On Thursday 22nd March 2018 we held a very successful celebration event in the Killyhelvin Hotel. The participants of the project along with other guests enjoyed a varied programme on the night with an opening address from SEFF’s Chairman Eric Brown who explained the aims and objectives of the programme. This was followed by a detailed report by myself. We then had some light entertainment from the FACT choir and Ulster Scots and Irish dancers. The younger and older participants also spoke on what they had taken away from the project and how much they had enjoyed getting to know more about each other's culture in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

There was also a presentation of a framed picture of the collage that was created as part of the project by the participants, the images within the collage include all the trips & subjects which were covered. A myth busting flyer was also created within the youth element of the project, it also looks at all the different topics & visits that were part of the programme & helps to bust the myths that are so often heard & believed today. This flyer will now be sent out to all the schools & colleges in Fermanagh.

We finished off our night with an inter-generational theme where the older and younger folk danced together and each participant was presented with a keepsake.

The feedback from this night has been very good from everyone and I would like to thank the staff in SEFF who helped me put it together and also to the board members who took time out of their busy lives to come along .

The trip to L’Derry/Donegal was able to take place due to good housekeeping on the finance side of the project and so we set



off on Monday 26th March to arrive in Londonderry to take part in a tour of Derry Walls. This was enjoyed immensely by all the participants as the weather was very kind on the day. After this we travelled on to our hotel, we had dinner followed by a workshop facilitated by Maureen Hetherington from the Junction. A lot of topics were covered in this short workshop but the general consensus was that all of us wanted more of the same. The night continued on with lots more fun and we found out that we have a lot of talent in our group. The following day we went to Doagh Famine Village to enjoy hearing more about the old traditions of our land, this brought up a lot of memories for people. We finished off the residential with a meal in the Silver Birches in Omagh.

The success of the project has cemented our belief that the project has a future and we now eagerly await the outcome of our funding application to deliver a second phase. The application is currently being assessed and we hope to have an answer in the coming months.

On a personal note I have enjoyed coordinating this project and I would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers.

Jenny



Lifetime Achievement Award for Roy



We would like to congratulate SEFF member Mr Roy Kells MBE who recently received a lifetime achievement award from the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland. Roy received the award at this year's Orange Community Awards which were held in Lisburn on Friday 23rd March 2018.

Roy, the Chairman and Director of SD Kells is also a former County Grand Master with over 65 years service in the institution. The current Grand Master, Edward Stephenson said on the night of the Awards Ceremony, 'This is a well-deserved recognition for Roy's entrepreneurial prowess, as well as his contribution to the provision of employment and the local economy generally, not only in his native Fermanagh but across Northern Ireland. His brave and selfless service in the UDR is to be admired, all the more so giving the harrowing attempt on his own life...he is a

most deserving recipient of this award.' Well done Roy from all of us at SEFF!!!

VOLUNTEERS needed for Twelfth of July Charity Collection

We have recently received great news that SEFF have been named this year's Official Charity of Benefit for County Fermanagh Grand Lodge and therefore we are on the look out for volunteers to help with the street collection on the Twelfth of July this year in Brookeborough.

We will be organising a rota basis where people can volunteer an hour of their time at any stage throughout the day—if you are available to help out please contact the office on 028677 23884 and let us know, we would love to hear from you.



SEFF's WELFARE & BENEFITS SERVICE UPDATE



We are aware that a vast number of SEFF members who are in receipt of DLA (Disability Living Allowance) are still awaiting the transition to PIP (Personal Independence Payment).

Tina Grimsley (SEFF's Welfare Officer) along with Norman Kirkpatrick (SEFF's Appeals Officer) are available to meet with people and provide guidance around the various steps of the process and to ensure you have the information you need going forward. Please contact us before you start the

process as this can have an adverse effect on your claim.

Are you currently in receipt of any of the following:-

JSA Income Based, ESA Income Based, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Housing Benefit (Rental)

Universal Credit has been rolled out in Fermanagh and this will affect you. It will see a number of people lose their benefits or have their benefits capped.

It has to be realised that Universal Credit works differently from the benefits it replaces. Before making your claim you need to know:

Universal Credit will be paid twice a month, although you may request a monthly payment you will be expected to make your claim online with your own personal email account.

You will receive a single payment for your household if your Universal Credit includes an amount for rent, it will be paid directly to your landlord - however, subject to certain conditions, you will be able to opt out of direct payments and arrange to pay your landlord yourself. The application has to be completed in one step it can't be saved to finish at a later time.

If you are told to change over to Universal Credit please contact the SEFF Welfare Workers on 028677 23884 for assistance and make an appointment or if it just advice you wish feel free to speak to either Tina Grimsley (SEFF's Welfare Officer) or Norman Kirkpatrick (SEFF's Welfare Appeals Officer).

IVU Update: Victims Commission has answers to give

It is no secret that Robert McClenaghan has a terrorist conviction, a cursory check on Google would reveal his terrorist past which of course can be corroborated with official records including his being convicted in a court of law for carrying explosives, serving 12 years of a 20-year prison sentence.

The issue is not that Robert McClenaghan was appointed onto the Victims Forum, however morally wrong that is, the reality is that the current definition of victim provides cover for that appointment to happen on the basis that Mr McClenaghan's own Grandfather was murdered in the McGurk Bar attack, and previously Forum member Michael Culbert; who served 16 years for the murder of a Police Officer, the rationale for his appointment to The Forum was that his relatives were said to have "burned out of their Bombay street home in Belfast in the early days of The Troubles".

In the Commission's flawed efforts to reflect a communal victim-hood narrative they have used the current definition of victim as justification for appointing people like Robert McClenaghan and Michael Culbert. However the outworking of such appointments is that a message is being sent that there is no differentiation between those who have been humanly wronged by others actions but who remain lawful in their response and others who engaged in terrorism and criminal violence either before, during or after themselves being wronged.

For the record we acknowledge that Mr McClenaghan had an Uncle murdered by loyalist terrorists within an attack on McGurk's bar and this was wholly unjustified and wrong.

It is of great concern to many that Robert McClenaghan was appointed against a backdrop of The Victims Commission claiming that they were unaware of neither his terrorist conviction nor his wider involvement in PIRA terrorism. No criminal background checks are felt appropriate to conduct into those being considered for appointment despite the fact that the Forum is comprised of vulnerable adults, many of who suffer trauma-based conditions. It is also a matter of record that the Commission had become aware of Mr McClenaghan's terrorist conviction several months ago and questions require answering around why no additional action was felt appropriate at that point in protecting other Forum members?"

The Commission's response to Mr Nichols' resignation was that; "All panel members are required to meet the definition of a victim in the 2006 Victims Order (NI) - which makes no distinction between victims and perpetrator - but they are under "no obligation to disclose any other information" other than their religious background. "All members were made aware of the inclusive nature of the forum... and that the nature of the role may mean engaging with individuals who they may perceive as representative of those who caused hurt or harm.

This is not a credible response. It is interesting to note that those members on this current Forum and who have served on previous Forums who have been members of the security forces or whose loved one's were members and were murdered have been fully open and transparent about their background.

In light of the potentially criminal claims and admissions made by Robert McClenaghan within the 'When the War ends' documentary, we call upon The Victims Forum to suspend Mr McClenaghan, surely there is a duty of care to other Forum members which must be upheld. If no steps follow then this is confirmation that a hierarchy of 'victims' is at play - those with terrorist and criminal convictions are effectively being afforded 'special category status.'

Enough is enough; there must be a re-examination of the definition of victim, whilst the current definition remains victim's policy will forever be contaminated by equivalence issues - perpetrators and the innocent from across our community. And innocents like Mr Nichols will continue to be failed.

IVU Update: Account for your wrong and retribute

There has been considerable response to the recent public initiative by 'loyalists' concerning criminality and the future approach to be taken by the leaderships of the UVF, RHC and UDA.

Innocent Victims United has repeatedly raised its' concerns over the on-going stranglehold that loyalist terrorist organisations have within communities which they claim to represent.

The UDA, UVF, RHC and others remain proscribed illegal organisations, therefore it is odd to suggest that those who now engage in individual-based criminality will be expelled from one of these illegal organisations. This means that there remains membership structures with membership lists, the law of the land is supposedly in place to prosecute such individuals.

The difficulty for 'loyalism' is that the UK and Republic of Ireland Governments empowered the Republican Movement through appeasement with its' political annex - Sinn Fein being the core beneficiary. 'Loyalists' don't have any substantive political support so some within their leaderships will feel that they must seek to re-calibrate in order to remain relevant and be considered partners going forward with 'The Establishment.'

Let's be clear, we in IVU support any effort to permanently remove terrorism and criminality from this Society and we acknowledge that there are people within 'loyalism' and indeed 'republicanism' who were involved in terrorism and other criminal violence but who do want to now make a positive difference and they should be encouraged in their efforts to retribute for wrongs they have previously been part of administering.

Critical in all of this is 'loyalism' and also 'republicanism' assuming ownership for the wrongs it committed over the years of 'The Troubles' and yes there also needs to be acknowledgement from both the UK and Republic of Ireland States for criminal breaches and also failures to act against terror. Only when we have an open, transparent and generous approach to 'The Past' which is based upon humility and concern for innocents impacted by the violence inflicted can we begin to build the type of Society that there exists potential to do so.

We acknowledge and welcome the references within the combined statement issued by the 'loyalist' groupings which re-states remorse for the violence inflicted by its' members. Those words must also be followed up with actions. The PROVOS and their sister organisations aren't even yet out of the blocks, they remain wedded justifying their campaign of ethnic and sectarian murder.

The criminal justice system has been 'bastardised' in the quest to placate terrorism and criminality within our land for many years, the rule of law needs reinstated and must be administered equitably across the board.

Topics & Dates of Interest

M5M
5 Mile Run
5k Walk / Run



Friday 18th May
Start Time: 7pm
 Registration from 5:30pm in
 Maguiresbridge Primary School

ENTRY FEE **£12**
 SPECIALLY COMMISSIONED MEDAL
 CHIP TIMING
 REFRESHMENTS

MRC SPONSORED BY **Frazer's Nisa** **SUSSEX SIGNS**



Project Common Bond 2018

Fundraising Coffee Morning & Draw

Saturday 26th May 2018

Unionist Hall, Enniskillen

10.30am—12pm

Contact Jenny Ferguson on 028677 22615 for more information or to donate prizes towards the raffle.

Co. Fermanagh Grand Orange Lodge

Steak BBQ & Dance

Friday 18th May 2018 @ 8.00pm in

Fawney Orange Hall

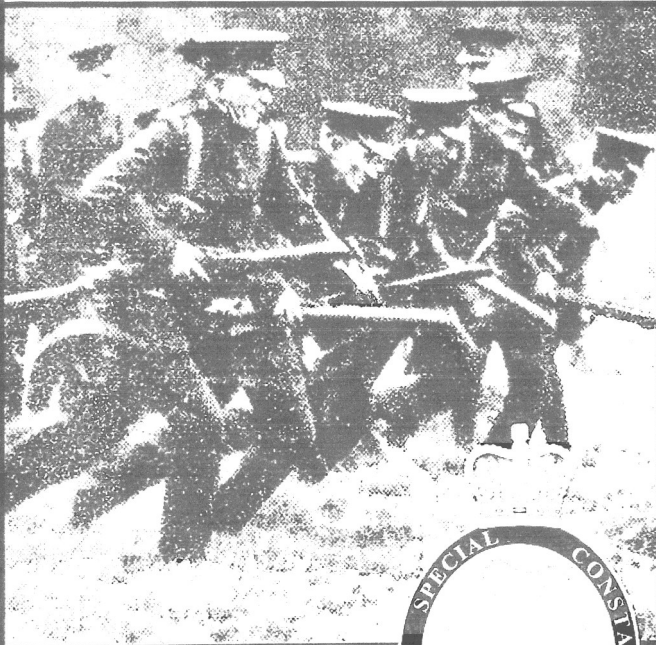
Music by

Gordon Fitzpatrick

*Ticket £15.00
 God Save The Queen*

Brookeborough District Lodge

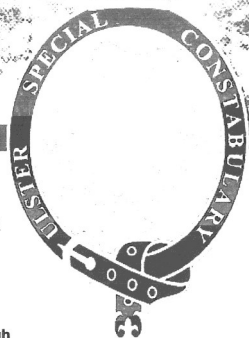
Invite you to a presentation by Quincey Dougan



"THE B-MEN"

A presentation on the formation and evolution of the Ulster Special Constabulary

Venue: Brooke Memorial Orange Hall, Brookeborough
 26th April 2018 @ 8.00pm. FREE Admission. All Welcome



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.

We hope tickets will be on

Sale soon as we await confirmation of details.

Contact the Office

028 677 23884 if you are

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