

SEFF NEWSLETTER

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November 2016 – Issue 122



Seff Lisnaskea

Seff Victims



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service



SEFF
SOUTH EAST FERMANAGH
FOUNDATION

Dear Member,

I want to first say a few words of thanks to all those who have in any way assisted the organisation over the last number of weeks in the lead up to Remembrance. We had a very successful trip to London and we should recognise our MP (Tom Elliott) for his efforts in personalising that experience. At home I want to also thank all those involved in SEFF's Act of Remembrance at our own organisational Memorial.

But I reserve my special thanks to the very many people within SEFF who came forward to participate in the following Projects in recent times; the Drama Group, the Youth Choir and the team that constructed the new GB/RoI-themed Memorial Quilt "Terrorism knows NO Borders".

At this time a message that I also wish to convey is this. Within SEFF there are no cliques, and no favouritism is shown to any individual victim or survivor over another - that will NEVER change. All members are valued and we operate a policy of making our services open to all who are the innocent victims and survivors of terrorism and 'other Troubles related criminal violence.'

A number of new Projects will commence within SEFF in January 2017 and we ask for your involvement and support, the Management of SEFF will continue to do all it can to best meet your individual needs as innocent victims/survivors of terrorism.

The Chairman, Board and I would appeal with as many of you as possible to turn out on Wednesday 23rd November 2016 @ 7.30pm for our monthly member meeting. (Details below)

As we approach the Christmas season we would like to wish you and your family a blessed & peaceful Christmas and Holiday season as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Let us all be good neighbours and friends to one another. Christmas can be extremely difficult for many who are without those whom they love. **Kenny**

MEMBERS CONSULTATION

Wed 23rd November 2016 @ 7.30pm

A new application process is opening for the Victims and Survivors Programme on Thursday 24th November 2016 and as part of this we will be putting together a new programme of services and other activities.

In order to do this and to satisfy the needs of you, the members we would like your input so please come along to the November monthly members meeting and let us know your thoughts and ideas.

Christmas Holidays

Office Closure

**The SEFF Office will
close at 1pm on Friday
23rd December 2016 and
will reopen at
9am on Tuesday
3rd January**



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.

Benefit Changes - PIP to replace DLA

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is a new benefit replacing Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for people aged between 16 to 64 years. PIP and DLA cannot be claimed at the same time.

PIP has been designed to help towards some of the extra costs arising from having a long-term health condition or disability that is expected to last for 12 months or longer. It is assessed on how a person's condition affects their daily life, not the condition they have.

DLA will remain for children up to the age of 16 years, both for existing or new claimants. Existing claimants who were aged 65 years or over on 20 June 2016 will continue to receive DLA provided they continue to meet the eligibility criteria.

PIP was introduced in Northern Ireland on 20 June 2016.

If you are aged between 16 to 64 years you can no longer make a claim to DLA, instead you should make a claim for PIP. If you are an existing DLA claimant aged 16 to 64 years and your benefit is due to come to an end or if you report a change in your care or mobility needs, you will be invited to claim PIP.

If you are aged between 16 to 64 years and have an indefinite or lifetime award for DLA, you will be randomly selected for assessment and invited to claim PIP. This will happen over a number of years between 12th December 2016 and end December 2018.

The SWITCH Project (SEFF's Welfare Information and Community Health Project) has a dedicated Officer Tina Grimsley who is available to answer your queries and to guide you through the new process. Remember don't panic, SEFF also has the ability to represent those at Tribunal who are unsuccessful in applying for benefits. Please call Tina on: 028 677 23884 for 677 2242 or further information.

January Cultural Workshop

DATE: Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 7.30pm

LOCATION: SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea

THEME: Mental Health & Trauma

SPEAKER: To be confirmed

**MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB 2016 / 2017**

SEFF's Men's Breakfasts continue with the next one on Saturday 3rd December 2016 in the Donn Carragh Hotel, Lisnaskea.

Breakfasts begin at 10am and the cost will be £3 per Breakfast.

As with previous years the venue will rotate between two locations (Donn Carragh Hotel and Miller's Coffee shop both based in Lisnaskea) every month. Please see dates and venues below:

DATE	LOCATION	DATE	LOCATION
Saturday 3rd December 2016 at 10am	Donn Carragh Hotel, Lisnaskea	Saturday 7th January 2017 at 10am	Millers Coffee Shop, Lisnaskea
Saturday 4th February 2017 at 10am	Donn Carragh Hotel, Lisnaskea	Saturday 4th March 2017 at 10am	Millers Coffee Shop, Lisnaskea

SEFF BEFRIENDING OCTOBER UPDATE

Hi All

Hard to believe we are nearing the end of another year and plans are afoot for roasting the turkey and wrapping the presents, and we are barely over Halloween, it seems to get earlier every year.

Please check out all the dates in the newsletter and come along to some of our events in the coming months, there is a great selection of things going on, something for everyone no doubt.

Our next Coffee Morning date for your diary is Thursday 24th November where we are having a Health and Well Being themed coffee morning running in conjunction with the Action Cancer Big Bus visit, call in for a cuppa if you are free.

The next date is our Christmas Coffee Morning on Thursday 8th December from 10.30am – 12.30. We are planning to have someone along to do some Christmas crafts to get us in the mood.

Hope to meet up with some of you somewhere along the line.

Regards

The Befriending Team



Action Cancer Big Bus returns to SEFF DATE FOR DIARIES



The Action Cancer Big Bus is coming to SEFF on **Thursday 24th November 2016** from 10am - 3.30pm.

To Book your appointment you can do so using the online booking system at www.actioncancer.org or by phoning 028 90 803344 and quoting the code **QAW-970**.

The day will take the usual format of a Health & Wellbeing day where members will be invited to come into the office for refreshments and to engage with various organisations present who will be advising how they support the health and wellbeing needs of the community.

The 'Morning SEFF Calling' Project

Autumn is now upon us and the evenings are getting darker! It's hard to believe that **Morning SEFF Calling** is one year old. Time has flown and our client list continues to steadily grow. With this increase we have had discussions on adding another day, a Wednesday evening, to make it 3 days for **MSC**, from 6.30pm-9pm may benefit our members. With this additional calls, more volunteers to join Rita and myself are required, if you have any free time and are interested in helping with **MSC** please call the SEFF office and let the staff know.

If you know someone who is interested in using this service or if you are receiving regular calls please don't be afraid to tell us your thoughts or ideas for improvements if you feel we need too.

Regards **Ann Townsend**

Please phone the office to register your interest on 028 677 23884.



COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES 2016-17



WE ARE NOW TAKING NAMES FOR COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES FOR THE COMING NEW MONTHS. WE PLAN TO RUN THESE IN NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER 2016,

IF INTERESTED IN AVAILING OF 5 SESSIONS OF MASSAGE, (**HOT STONES ARE AVAILABLE**)

AROMATHERAPY,
REFLEXOLOGY,

PHYSIOTHERAPY OR INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE, HOPI EAR CANDLE THERAPY (NEW) 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 COME INTO THE OFFICE TO COMPLETE THE MONITORING FORMS AND PAY ½ OF THE SESSIONS BEFORE SESSIONS COMMENCE, OR YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVAIL OF THESE TREATMENTS**

SEFF IN LONDON—REMEMBRANCE WEEKEND 2016

SEFF held a range of meetings and events in London last week connected with the dedication and launch of its' new Project; 'Terrorism knows NO Borders' with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office ref Libyan compensation for PIRA terrorist victims and the MOD in respect of the case for the Pension for War Widows who remarried be restored to them after previously having been withdrawn.

Then on Friday night well over 100 people attended a special event held in the Churchill room, sponsored by Tom Elliott MP where the new Memorial Quilt which remembers circa 170 victims of terror across Great Britain and Republic of Ireland were honoured.

A Book and DVD project which included testimonies from around 23 victims/survivors was also launched with the Foreword written by Lord Norman Tebbit.



Director of Services Kenny Donaldson stated: "From Wednesday 9th - Monday 14th November, 75 members of SEFF were present in London for a range of events marking Remembrance but also to raise the profile of victims needs particularly but not exclusively within Great Britain".



"SEFF reps met with senior officials within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office where we discussed Libyan compensation for PIRA terror victims. We were extremely robust in our message that it is not credible for the UK Government to cease say that it cannot proceed on the basis of fighting for PIRA victims via a State On State engagement. The reality we advised is that Gadaffi's actions in arming PIRA was as a result of his deep hatred for the UK State and Government and therefore the terror was committed State on State then equally so victims of that terror should have their needs so addressed".



"We also held a very positive meeting with senior officials within the MOD concerning those widows who he their War Widipes Pension withdrawn were they to have remarried between 1973 - 2005. We challenged the gross inequality this represents and challenged the MOD's willingness and ability to show humanity to those who have lost so much already. As part of the meeting a short DVD was shown which included testimony from those widows affected and widows were also involved in the face to face meeting with the officials".

"The Reception held in the Churchill room on Friday night was very powerful and the courage shown by David Kelly and Neil Tattersall in addressing MOs, Lords, Policy makers, fellow victims/survivors and others was immense".



"The Project titled; 'Terrorism knows NO Borders' is designed to be thought provoking .. Terrorists work across borders with one another in terrorising the world and its' people. SEFF is committed to playing its' part in building an alliance of innocent victims/survivors (who have been brutalised by republican or loyalist terrorism or the proven criminal-based actions of individual members of the security forces) The last few days has provided us with the means to take further steps down this road but much more work remains to be done - we are acutely aware of this reality," concluded Mr Donaldson.

The group also attended the RBL Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall on the Saturday afternoon and went to Parliament for a tour before returning home on Monday evening.



SEFF'S

MEMBER'S CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT

Wednesday
14th DECEMBER 8pm

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

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

The Valley Hotel
Music by Wee Tom



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TRIP

Saturday 26th November 2016 departing from SEFF at 9am
The Buttercrane Shop-

ping Centre & The Quays in Newry
Then on to Newcastle to visit the quirky craft shops

Before stopping for a meal at the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle on route home.

Cost £15p.p

Call the Office to reserve your seat

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
attending

on Saturday 3rd
December

@ 3pm

In the former Lisnaskea
High School Premises

Call the Office to give staff names and ages
of
children attending by 5pm on Friday 25th

World War I Respite Day

RESCHEDULED: Saturday 21st January 2016



**Cavan County Museum,
Ballyjamesduff**

Departing from SEFF at 9am

The visit to Cavan County Museum will take in the World War I Trench Experience which is well worth seeing. There will also be time to look round the rest of the museum. Morning refreshments and lunch will be included.

There will be an opportunity in the afternoon time to spend a few hours in Cavan town before returning back to SEFF at approximately 5.30pm.

If interested in attending please contact the office ASAP.



SEFF's Advocacy Service

The AflV advocacy service can only be as good as you, the members, can make it. The engagement of victims of terrorism with the service is not only necessary, it is essential. We continue to advocate on your behalf whilst constantly challenging those who would denigrate the memory of our loved ones who gave all. This was a difficult week for many, including myself, when attending Westminster Abbey, the Festival of Remembrance in Belfast and a service for those young soldiers who were slaughtered near Ballygawley in 1988. We are expected to 'move on' whilst those who damaged and destroyed our lives reap the benefits of their evil harvest. This short term gain by them will not last, and with your support we will regain the rightful position of good over evil. I believe the King James Bible, Galatians Chapter 6, verse 7, says, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

I was part of a small delegation that attended meetings in Westminster last week. I made a short presentation at a meeting in Portcullis House on Wednesday 9th November, and amongst those who were in attendance was Lord Norman Tebbit, a man who is deeply affected by terrorism. He remains a steadfast advocate for the work that SEFF is doing, contributing to a recent SEFF book, and was quoted in Friday's Belfast News Letter as saying, "The Peace Process that developed was wrong and it has led us to where we are today. Terrorists have never acknowledged that they were wrong and in the absence of that, how can victims ever be expected to forgive?"

He is only one of many whose support is both invaluable but absolutely crucial as we fight for our rights in a warped society. Unfortunately, we will not regain the morality of that which is honest and ethical easily, and must be prepared to challenge those in authority to 'do the right thing.' A good friend of mine, Billy Matchett, has written a revealing and absorbing insight into the fight against the IRA and their attempted destruction of our country. He is another who is not prepared to accept the advance of revisionism, giving a fascinating insight as to what really took place. Those who attempted to destroy us yet now govern us, are put in perspective in his book entitled "Secret Victory, The Intelligence War that Beat the IRA." I don't expect this will be a bestseller or in demand for An Phoblacht readers, it tells us what sort of people Sinn Fein/IRA really are.



We attended further meetings on Thursday 10th with the MOD and at the Foreign & Commonwealth offices making rigorous presentations on behalf of army widows and those affected by Libyan sponsored terrorism in the UK. There were a number of families in attendance who were extremely vocal and effective in promoting their respective cases. It was wholly apparent of the absolute necessity of self-advocacy in situations such as this. The effect of widows and others affected by Libyan weaponry being present in person makes the case much stronger. We do not underestimate the challenges that lie ahead, but the seat of central government were prepared to listen to our views.

I continue to assemble a dossier of HET reports that universally appear unfit for purpose. Please continue to engage with AflV and if you are in receipt of a HET report and are unhappy with the contents, arrange to visit the AflV office, or I can call out and see you.

Kind Regards, Ken & Matthew

Email: ken.funston@seff.org.uk

Email: matthew.gault@seff.org.uk

General Email: advocacy@seff.org.uk

Direct Landline no: 02867729076

Ken's Mobile: 07834488635

Remembrance Events in SEFF

SEFF's Act of Remembrance - Friday 11th November 2016



SEFF's Act of Remembrance was held up at the Memorial in the grounds of the Church of Ireland, Lisnaskea on Friday 11th November 2016 at 11am.

We had an excellent turn out and everyone came back to the office afterwards for soup and bread which was very welcome considering the cold weather.

This year we used figurines as opposed to Wooden Crosses, each individual honoured on SEFF's Memorial had a figurine painted with their name on it. Family members then used these to lay during the Act of Remembrance.

Thank you to all who took part in the short service, to all those who helped with the figurines project and everyone who attended on the day.

Remembrance-themed Seminar - Wednesday 16th November 2016



On Wednesday evening SEFF held a Remembrance-themed seminar where we had Paul Toombs and Sammy Heenan present giving their testimonies, both men lost their fathers due to Terrorism. On the same night we also distributed framed photographs of SEFF's Memorial Quilt to family members. For anyone who was unable to attend on the night we ask you to call into the office to collect your framed picture.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Sammy and Paul for sharing their experiences, matters which are so incredibly personal to each of them. Feelings of anger, hopelessness developing into depressive feelings but we also thank each for sharing the transformative message of HOPE brought about through their conviction to give their lives to Jesus Christ.

No longer do they carry the burden alone, each confirmed that their load is now lighter - it has not gone but Sammy and Paul both indicated that they are committed to ensuring that it will not ever again weigh them down to the point of feeling that quitting might be the best option.

As Paul said; if in turmoil, rest a while but DO NOT QUIT.

How true are those words for all of us irrespective of the circumstances which brings our lives into turmoil ...

SEFF holds successful AGM

SEFF held its' AGM in the former Lisnaskea High School Gymnasium on Thursday 20th October 2016. Well over 100 members of SEFF from across County Fermanagh and beyond were present for an evening where they were both informed and also entertained.

Chief Executive Officer of The Victims and Survivors Service, Margaret Bateson was guest speaker and also presided over the Election of Directors to SEFF's 2016/2017 Management Board.

Post the completion of the AGM, the inaugural Performance of SEFF's new Drama 'Waiting' occurred, written by Playwright Jonathan Burgess and performed by members of SEFF. The performance was very well received with further performances occurring in Enniskillen and Lack respectively.

There then followed contributions from two bands named or renamed after those who were murdered by PIRA terrorists. The Matt Boyd Memorial Pipe Band, Pomeroy and The Constable Norman Anderson Memorial Flute Band, Larne.

The following individuals were appointed as Directors at the AGM:

Eric Brown
Trevor Watson
Norman Kirkpatrick
Harriett Kirkpatrick
Sally Haire
Ernie Clarke
Wesley Armstrong
Nina Kelly-Kleine
Norman Anderson
Rodney Doherty
Jimmy Egerton
Joy Graham
Rodney Noble
David Grmsley
Robert Morrison



At the first meeting of the new Board the following were then elected as Officers:

Eric Brown (Chairperson)
Trevor Watson (Vice Chairperson)
Norman Kirkpatrick (Secretary)
Harriett Kirkpatrick (Vice Secretary)
Sally Haire (Treasurer)
Ernie Clarke (Vice Treasurer)

*** Subsequently David Grimsley resigned from the Board due to personal reasons and commitments.





FACT NOVEMBER 2016 UPDATE

Our last walking event was held on a beautiful day in October with a lunch in the Ardhowen after a walk around the grounds of Castle Coole Estate.

"Beyond Words" Project by Cruse Bereavement in association with the Stroke Association and FACT hosted workshops where beautiful memory boxes were created to preserve mementos of a loved one.

For all those historians out there, an Ulster Scots course will be held on Wednesday 23 and 30 November in Springfield Hall from 11.30 to 1.00 pm followed by a light lunch. Dancing in Cleenish will finish on a celebratory note with a tea dance on Monday 28 November at 10.30 am. Cleenish Mothers Union will be providing a light lunch and booking is essential. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND without booking in.



A cider making workshop was held on Monday 24 October at Colebrook Kitchen Garden. A large number of apples were received and a new chopping machine made the process much more streamlined than last year.

Our FACT choir are busy practising and we look forward to their debut performance at the FACT Winter Warmer in January. Its not too late to join in please contact Yvonne at the office for more details.

The **FACT** Project is funded through The Big Lottery Project: 'Reaching Out Connecting Older People' and you can contact Sharon on 028 677 22615 at the Fermanagh office for more information or showe_fact@hotmail.co.uk

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

Please note the Lisnaskea office opening hours are 9am-3pm.

SEFF's DRAMA, 'WAITING'

'Waiting' allows us to present the experiences of borderland victims/survivors in yet another way, a way which engages people from across the generational, religious and political divides. To date the Drama (which lasts some 25 minutes) has been performed in Lisnaskea, Enniskillen and Lack, County Fermanagh but we hope to bring the Drama to other venues in the New Year when new funding is in place.

The Drama 'Waiting' which was written by Playwright Jonathan Burgess is very powerful and accurately reflects the challenges presented to borderland communities in how they engage (or don't engage) with Government against the backdrop that there are those elected who were directly and also indirectly responsible for their loved one's murder(s)" The cast of the Production are all SEFF members and are aged from 14-65 years, a number of whom were and are directly impacted by terrorism. We say a huge thank you to all who committed to this Project along with Playwright Jonathan Burgess.



Topics & Dates of Interest

 **Invitation**
Galloon Parish Church
Newtownbutler

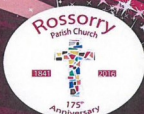
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
Saturday 10th Dec: 10am-5pm
Bring your friends and family to view the Christmas Trees on display and listen to the Christmas music. Then join us for a warm mince pie, tea/coffee.
Voluntary donations to the New Organ Fund

Sunday 11th Dec: 7pm
Carol service with guest singers and musicians
The church will be open from 6pm for guests to view The Christmas trees on display.

  *The LORD is my strength and my song*
Exodus 15:2

Festival of 175 Christmas Trees
to celebrate 175 years in
Rossorry Parish Church, Enniskillen

Joy to the World
'Join us in our Celebration'
Musical entertainment & refreshments will be provided throughout the weekend
for more information please contact:
175trees@gmail.com
028 6632 9889



Thurs 24th Nov - 7.30pm Opening Ceremony - viewing until 9.00pm
Fri 25th Nov - 10.00am - 9.00pm
Sat 26th Nov - 10.00am - 9.00pm
Sun 27th Nov - 2.30pm - 6.00pm, Closing Carol Service - 7.30pm

PLEASE NOTE: SEFF will have a Remembrance-themed Christmas Tree on display at each of the above festivals so please if you can try to support these events.


SEFF Merchandise

ITEM	PRICE
SEFF's Annual Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving 'Carrying forward the Torch of Remembrance' held in Colaghty Col, Lack in early October 2016.	£10
I'll Never Forget (Book and DVD)	Book £7 (Can purchase both for £15) DVD £10
For God and Ulster - The Vow of those who reject violence (Book and DVD)	Book £8 DVD £10
Remembering those who had NO CHOICE (SEFF Documentary Film/DVD in response to Bobby Sands '66 Days' Film)	£10
SEFF's Memorial Quilt booklet - 'Their Legacy lives on' ...	£3
Terrorism Knows NO BORDERS (Book, DVD and Memorial Quilt booklet)	Book £10 (Can purchase both for £20) DVD £12 Memorial Quilt Booklet £5
SEFF badges.	£2 per badge or 3 badges for £5
SEFF ties and scarves.	Tie £15 Scarf £15
J.I.V.T Ltd Book.	£3
J.I.V.T Ltd DVD - 'Justice denied to the innocent'	£10
Widows Mite badges (To support our Advocacy Service Justice Fund)	£1 per badge
Youth DVD - 'The Past cannot be the future'	£10

Maguiresbridge Market House Cultural Group

Annual Country Gospel Concert
in Killyhevin Hotel, Enniskillen
on Friday 13th January 2017
at 8.00p.m.

Compere: Gary Wilson Music by: Country Harmony
Artists: Crawford Bell, Benn Sisters, Tony Kerr,
Eugene O'Doran, Calum Smith

 Ticket: £10.00