

SEFF NEWSLETTER

1 Manderwood Park,
1 Nutfield Road,
Lisnaskea
Co Fermanagh
BT92 0FP

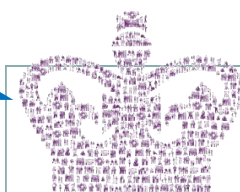
Phone: 028 677 23884 /
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February 2017 – Issue 125

Seff Lisnaskea



Seff Victims



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service



SEFF
SOUTH EAST FERMANAGH
FOUNDATION

Dear Member,

Hard to believe that we're nearly two months in to 2017 already but as we all know, time waits for no-one.

We've had a very busy spell at SEFF over the past few weeks with a number of excellent events completed including, a Reception event held in Trinity College Dublin via The Terrorism knows NO Borders Project.'

This event was particularly focused on providing an opportunity for RoI-based victims/survivors to come together in solidarity and to experience the support of The SEFF family.

The event was attended by large numbers of senior individuals from throughout RoI Society including, the Head of the Irish Army and a senior Garda representative. Our thanks go to all those who participated in any way to what was a dignified and memorable evening.

Since our last Newsletter went out the SEFF family has however been bereaved by a number of its' members. Locally and most tragically was the loss of 18-year-old Kirsty Clarke, and our love and continued prayers are with the Clarke/Graham family circle.

We were also bereaved of Una Moffit who was to speak at this year's SEFF Conference, Una was in her early 70's and was a lady - she had borne much in her life in losing a brother, murdered by loyalist terrorists and then having her family owned business blew up and targeted by both republican and loyalist terrorists. (In fact it was her family business - Balmoral Furniture which was blown up by Bobby Sands and his fellow terrorist 'comrades')

SEFF is a family of people from across the religious and political spectrum so as such we do not advise people to vote in any specific way - we simply suggest that you would use your franchise on 2nd March 2017 and ensure that you vote for those candidates who you have confidence will pursue and advance victim and survivor issues.

Please use your vote fully by voting down your ballot. The best advice (without prejudice) we can give is, keep voting down until your conscience will not allow you to go any further.

As yet we do not have confirmation of funding from 1st April 2017 onwards, within next month's Newsletter we will be able to advise of the state of play on this issue as well as hopefully provide some clarity to those who receive individual support awards via VSS.

We would urge a large attendance at our next monthly meeting taking place on Wednesday 22nd February 2017 @ 7.30pm where Raymond Farrell will be in attendance to speak on matters of mental health and trauma and the need for reform and further investment in these support interventions and responses.

Please note that the SEFF office (inclusive of The FACT Project) will be closed for the St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday on Friday 17th March 2017 and will re-open on Monday 20th March 2017 @ 9am.

Kenny

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.

ACTIVITIES AND COURSES 2017

CLASS & TUTOR	DATE, TIME & DURATION	DESCRIPTION	VENUE	COST
Chair Based Activity TUTOR: Ruth Gault	Thurs 26th Jan 2017 10.30am - 12pm 4 weeks	Some light exercise involving various activities while based in sitting position.	SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea	FREE

Expression of Interest

If interested in attending any of the above activities we ask that you phone the office **ASAP** to let us know. Please note that an expression of interest does not guarantee the offer of a place(s) on an activity/service until full payment is received.



MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB 2016 / 2017

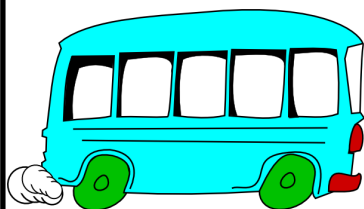
SEFF's Men's Breakfasts continue with the next one on Saturday 4th March 2017 in the Millers Coffee Shop, Lisnaskea. Breakfasts begin at 10am and the cost is £3 per Breakfast.

DATE	LOCATION
Saturday 4th March 2017 at 10am	Millers Coffee Shop, Lisnaskea

ARMAGH RESPITE DAY SATURDAY 11th MARCH 2017

We are arranging a respite day to Armagh on Saturday 11th March 2017 the bus will depart from SEFF Office, Lisnaskea at 9am and the itinerary will be as follows:

- 10am - Tea, Coffee & Scones at Navan Fort Centre**
- 10.30am - 1pm: Visit & tour of the Navan Fort Centre**
- 1.15-2.45pm: Free time in Armagh (lunch is at your own expense)**
- 3pm-4.30pm: Tour of Royal Irish Fusiliers Museum**
- 4.45pm: Depart from Armagh**
- 5.30pm: Evening Meal in Salley's, Aughnacloy (3 course meal)**
- Approx. 8.30pm: Return to SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea**



Cost is £20 per person - if interested in attending please phone the office ASAP on 028 677 23884 / 22242.

EUROPEAN VICTIMS OF TERRORISM DAY PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS STORMONT

SEFF are running a bus to **Stormont on Monday 13th March 2017**, leaving SEFF Offices at 8.00am sharp.

This event originated in Spain, following the Madrid Train Bombings in 2004, in which 191 people were killed, and over 1800 injured.

The event at Stormont will start at 10.30am and will close at 1.00pm, there will then be an opportunity for people to get lunch before returning home. Places are limited so if you would like to attend, contact the office to secure your seat on the bus! **SEFF Office: 028 677 23884**

This is always a particularly moving event and IVU is once again coordinating three speakers this year who will share their testimony (Victims and survivors participating will come from across the community - sharing the commonality of being innocent victims/survivors of terrorism.

SEFF BEFRIENDING FEBRUARY UPDATE

Hi All,

As we roll towards the end of our financial year we are hoping that nothing changes and we will be able to continue with the work we are doing.

We have some dates coming up that we would love to see members attending so get please make a note in your diary or calendar:

Thursday 23rd February 2017 - 10:30am - 12pm - An introduction to our revised Welfare Service now known as "Switch."

Thursday 23rd March 2017 - 10:30am - 12pm - We are hoping to have representatives from some of the local churches to come along and discuss the Church's role in society today.

Luncheon Club will be starting up again in April hopefully if we receive funding, we will be contacting those eligible to come along.

Hope you can join us at some of our events.

Regards

The Befriending Team



The 'Morning SEFF Calling' Project

Hello SEFF Members from Morning SEFF Calling

We are now well into February, and Valentine's Day has come and gone.

It is great to see the stretch in the evenings, hosts of snow drops and even buds on the trees. A sure sign that Spring and hopefully warmer days are coming. Time also to stretch the old hamstrings and begin walking and exercising, to get rid of those few pounds of fat which we have accumulated over the dreary winter period.

We are still in the process of setting up our Wednesday evening calls and already have a few members who would prefer an evening call from us. If you know of anyone who might benefit from a call, morning or evening please get in touch with the **SEFF Office** and leave a name and contact number for the individual who would like an informal chat for about fifteen minutes, once a week. We also have someone else coming on board to help with the morning calls. For those of you who would like to converse with a male volunteer then you are in luck as for some men out there it may be more comfortable talking to someone of the same gender.

Please do not hesitate in getting in touch with us, if you are on your own, house-bound, feeling down or lonely and you never know it could be just that little nudge you need to bring about changes in you life.

Our volunteers are trained and confidentiality is our priority.

Until next month take care.

Ann, Rita and Jenny MSC

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



COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES



We are now taking names for Complementary Therapies for the coming months into the new financial year. 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 1/2 OF THE SESSIONS BEFORE SESSIONS COMMENCE, OR YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVAIL OF THESE TREATMENTS**



SEFF's Advocacy Service

AflV

AflV continues to build on its identity within the innocent victims' sector. We once again encourage you to engage with the service, no matter how big or small the query. We need your support for AflV to be a success. Border Trails – The border trails are complete, and the filming of identified incidents took place over the last two weeks, providing a Border Trail of all of Fermanagh.

With your support, some of you have kindly allowed me access to your HET reports. If there is anyone else who would like me to review their report, please contact the office. I am building a library of reports that will allow me to establish a pattern of neglect by the HET, and create a strong challenge to the new HIU when it becomes established.

There is an AflV good practice day organised for Saturday 25th February. If you have availed of or worked in any way with AflV, please contact us if you would like to attend. There will be various pick-ups and drop-offs on the routes there and back.

We are travelling to Bangor to meet with Decorum NI (mostly retired members of the Security Forces) where there will be presentations by both Decorum and AflV. We then will move on for a visit to Schomberg House of Orange, Lunch, and then a trip on the Lagan.

Displacement - If you had to move home against your will at any time, please let us know your story.

I would like to once again confirm that the AflV SEFF conference will be held at the Killyhevlin Hotel on **Saturday 4th March 2017**, and the Respite Weekend is in Edinburgh, **24th - 27th March** inclusive.

Please advise SEFF if you would like to attend the conference, and if closer to the date there are available spaces, we will be able to give you a call.

If we can be of any assistance in relation to your advocacy needs please contact us on the relevant telephone numbers, email, or call in person at the office.

Ken & Matthew

Tel: 028 6772 9076

Mob: 0783 4488 635

Email: ken.funston@seff.org.uk / matthew.gault@seff.org.uk

Can we be Reconciled?

I wrote previously on the emotive point of reconciliation and the current agenda of Sinn Fein.

They recently produced a document entitled, "Towards an Agreed and Reconciled Future" Within that document they made clear their desired agenda, "In ending partition and engaging with its impact, legacy and aftermath, it is vital if we are to deal with the past and build an agreed and reconciled future." They never refer to truth and justice, it is not part of their strategy as they will not want to potentially leave their members exposed to prosecution for their previous crimes. The document continues at length to accuse others, never acknowledging the criminality of the IRA and how wrong it was to commit murder no matter what the perceived injustices were. Quite simply, the victims of the IRA don't count.

The reality is reconciliation cannot happen in isolation. The book "Sin, Forgiveness and Reconciliation, Christian & Muslim Perspectives", theorises on reconciliation and states that it will always be difficult without first, the wrongdoings being exposed and judged. It adds that to forgive and forget is almost impossible. Forgetting can be nothing more than a way of increasing negative memories, leaving the victim with enmity and hatred. Archbishop Desmond Tutu is regularly misquoted but one of his most profound statements is, "Truth is at the heart of reconciliation, the need to find out the truth about the horrors of the past, best ensure they never happen again. Without it people have no sense of safety, no trust, no confidence in the future."

Luke 17:3 states "Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him." We struggle with the past because we don't know what took place, we have no answers. Our society will struggle to move forward whilst the perpetrators of heinous crimes continue to be rewarded in an unjust society. The past models our future, with an unresolved past it seems impossible to have that perfect future.

Sinn Fein and Martin McGuinness need to understand that meeting members of the Royal Family is purely symbolic, it is an emblematic carefully orchestrated manoeuvre to convey some sense of change on their part; we are not so easily convinced. If you so desire reconciliation Mr McGuinness, we need to hear about your past before you leave this earth.

Ken Funston

SEFF is coming to your doorstep (Info Sessions)



We are making arrangements to deliver a number of Information Sessions around the Fermanagh and South Tyrone area between now and the end of March 2017.

At the events we will either show SEFF's response to the Bobby Sands film, the documentary known as, 'Remembering those who had NO choice' or snippets of other personal testimonies.

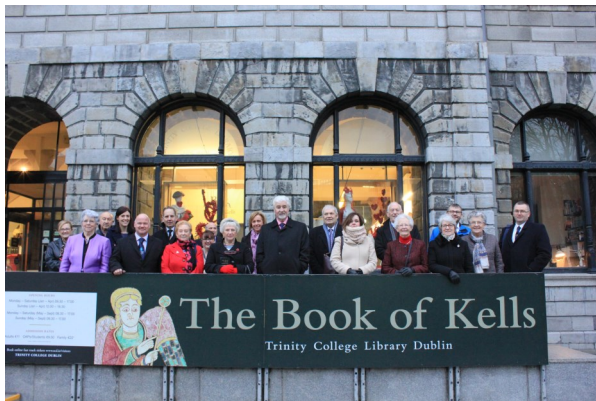
We will also be taking along the Memorial Quilts and giving a short talk on the work of SEFF and the various services we can provide.

Dates and locations are as follows: (We would appreciate if you could spread the word about these events within your locality)

LOCATION	DATE / TIME	LOCATION	DATE / TIME
Enniskillen Royal British Legion	Monday 6th March 2017 at 7.30pm	Clogher Royal British Legion	Wednesday 8th March 2017 at 7.30pm

**Dublin Reception Event for 'Terrorism knows NO Borders' Project,
Trinity College, Friday 10th February 2017**

At a reception held in Trinity College Dublin on Friday evening, to launch a commemorative quilt remembering victims of the 'Troubles' living in Great Britain, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, South East Fermanagh Foundation's (SEFF) Di-



rector of Services Kenny Donaldson said: "This is part of our efforts to remember victims and their families, across the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, under the theme "Terrorism Knows No Borders".

Discussing the Irish Government's response to the Troubles legacy, Mr Donaldson went on to say, "We are concerned at the lack of effort during the Troubles by elements within the Dublin government to prevent terrorism and its part in the creation of PIRA. There are many other questions which remain unanswered. Its failure to acknowledge its actions and inactions during that awful time remains a cause of concern for our members and borderland families."

Mr Donaldson acknowledged all the dedicated work that SEFF members undertook in producing the Memorial saying: "Memorial Quilts have a long history in commemoration and play an important part in bringing communities together and of humanising those who have been murdered - they get behind the badge and stereotype and uncover the individual person."

One of the speakers at the event, Dr Finian Fallon, a son of Garda Richard Fallon who was murdered in Dublin by a Republican gang during the Troubles said, "The Irish government was not an innocent party in the Troubles, it was one of the main protagonists."

Discussing his father's murder, Dr Fallon said, "I believe that the gun that killed my father was imported by the Irish state. The Irish state is now engaged in a "hidden history" approach to addressing legacy issues from the Troubles: effectively nothing is being done to address injustices during the Troubles in the South."

Craig Agar, son of murdered British Army soldier Thomas Agar who also shared his testimony added: "It was an immense honour for me to share my family's experiences of terrorism amongst others who have similarly suffered and who come from across the community, throughout Ireland (north and south) and beyond".

"My message to the Trinity gathering was that the criminal justice and political institutions and agencies in place supposedly to serve the interests of justice have conclusively failed victims of terrorism and that this must be changed".

"As a GB-based victim I am also deeply frustrated at the lack of support options for my family and others like us. But for the support we have been given by our friends in Northern Ireland we would know little of the rights and entitlements that we have. The public in Great Britain by and large fail to relate to issues connected to 'The Troubles.'

"I have made new friendships and relationships this weekend and will seek to build on what has now been started. I won't be fobbed off any more, I and so many others deserve better - much better. Let us never forget, 'Peace is not the absence of Terrorism, but the presence of Justice,' concluded Mr Agar.

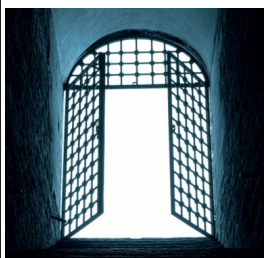
Also attending the SEFF gathering in TCD, Austin Stack, son of the murdered chief prison officer of Portlaoise Jail, said, "The Irish Government has blocked the Independent Victim and Survivor Coalition (IVSC) from receiving the support of the Victims & Survivors Service which victims in the north have access to."

He was concerned with this saying, "This is a clear case of discrimination against those who have suffered in the Republic." and continued, "There are families in the south devastated by the Troubles but the Irish Government are providing no practical support and are inactive regarding our plight."

Senator Gerard Craughwell gave the Keynote address. As well as the Memorial Quilt which honours those murdered from Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, a Book and DVD containing 25 testimonies from victims/survivors across both jurisdictions was launched.

SEFF has sought for a number of years to raise the plight of RoI and GB-based victims/survivors who have not been receiving equitable access to the services which Northern Ireland-based victims/survivors have been able to access. SEFF will continue to push these issues in partnership with groupings and individuals based in The Republic of Ireland and Great Britain. No victim/survivor should be disadvantaged on the basis of their given postal address.





The SWITCH Project Update

(SEFF's Welfare Information and Community Health Project)

Recognition for Carers

SEFF has secured £500 of an award via the Western Health and Social Care Trust's 'Carers Award Scheme.' The funding will enable us to provide vouchers for the Ardhoven Theatre or The Lakeland Forum, providing carers with the means to have some respite and to invest in their own mental health and emotional well being.

We invite those who are Carers to contact the SEFF office on: 028 677 237884 asap and to indicate whether you would like a voucher for The Ardhoven Theatre or The Lakeland Forum.

Eligibility criteria: Providing care to a loved one for a minimum of 35 hours per week.

We salute the role performed by carers (particularly those caring for loved ones who have been physically or psychologically impacted by the campaign of terrorism)

VSP Awards & Pilot Scheme

Just a reminder for those in receipt of VSS awards that they need to be spent up by 31st March 2017. If for any reason you cannot use your award for items contained under the eligibility list then please contact Tina who can go through the Pilot Scheme process which will allow expenditure on other items outside the list.

Welfare Outreach Information Sessions

SEFF are running a number of Welfare Information Sessions with partner groups across the province, there will be reps from different organisations coming along to share information but with a particular focus on **WELFARE REFORM** please see details below:

- **Thursday 23rd February 2017 at 10.30am: SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea**
- Wednesday 15th March 2017 at 7.30pm: Out of the Shadows Group Offices, Richill

If you require any further information about any of the above please contact the office on 028 677 23884.



CHANNEL 56 are coming to SEFF to facilitate a CV & MEDIA TRAINING Workshop on Saturday 25th March 2017.

From 10am - 4pm (Lunch will be included)

The course will be aimed at young people aged from 16 years old and above however if there is space for younger participants we will hold a reserve list of names.

This training will be very worthwhile especially for those who are going to be completing UCAS forms and who would like a CV drawn up in order to enhance the opportunities available to them through work.

If interested please contact the office on 028 677 23884.

Tribute to Kirsty Clarke

SEFF recognises the huge loss to the Clarke and Graham family of 18 year old Kirsty. She was never a victim she was an emphatic survivor. She refused to simply exist - she chose to live and live well she did. She was not consumed by her own circumstances but rather chose to live for the good of others and the array of organisations and volunteering schemes that she was involved with really defied her mere 18 years on this earth. Her intention to study Nursing is a depiction of the journey she has gone through over her life. Kirsty, we at SEFF will honour you and other young people taken too soon such as Jamie Nelson, (son of Raymond and Valerie) **On Thursday 16th March 2017 there will be a special evening of Reflection hosted by the SEFF Family in Lisnaskea High School where we will be giving thanks for Kirsty's life. Please confirm with the office your attendance on: 027 677 23884. The evening will commence at 7pm and there will be food refreshments provided. Irwyn McKibbin from Heartbeat N.I will be present and will provide a talk on the work of the organisation.** Our ongoing thoughts and prayers are with Alan and Sharon, Zara, Lily and the entire Clarke and Graham family circles.





FACT FEBRUARY 2017 UPDATE

Over 150 FACT members chased the winter blues away in the Killyhevlin Hotel on 25th January. An alternative to the traditional Christmas function FACT members enjoyed laughter and wellness session, information on herbal oils and were entertained by the newly formed FACT choir. After lunch dancing by Wee Tom and Marie Phelan got everyone up and moving.



FACT classes are now running and



are extremely well attended in both counties. They include dancing, ipad, laptops, chair exercise, sewing and art.

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 Lisnaskea office opening hours are 9am-3pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS IN SEFF 2017

February Members Meeting

Wed 22nd February 2017

7.30pm

GUEST SPEAKER: Raymond Farrell (who is also a local Cllr)

Exploring the services needed to support those with Mental Health & Trauma related illnesses and conditions.

March Members Meeting

Wed 22nd March 2017

7.30pm

GUEST SPEAKER: A rep from Bennett House (a RBL respite facility in Portrush) will be present to give information on their facilities and how to avail.

April Members Meeting

Wed 26th April 2017

7.30pm

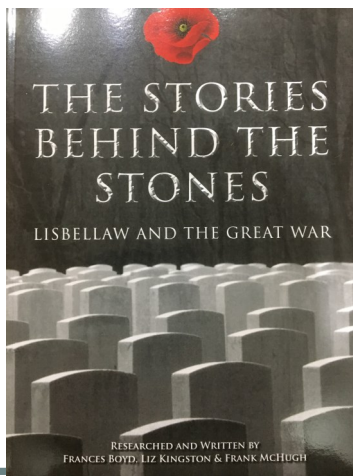
GUEST SPEAKER: Major Gordon Black, 253 Medical Regiment, presentation on the future capabilities of the army followed by Q&A.



At SEFF's January monthly meeting we welcomed Billy Matchett author of. 'Secret Victory: The Intelligence War that beat the IRA'.

Billy gave a talk on his book and the findings from his research, a question and answer session followed.

Pictured opposite left to right are: Kenny Donaldson, Billy Matchett, Eric Brown and Ken Funston.



Lisbellaw WW1 Commemorative Weekend Book

"Stories behind the Stones"

On sale price £20.

A very good read and would make a lovely Christmas Present.

If interested contact

Heather McFrederick 07712762770 or

Harriett Kirkpatrick 07962611856

SEFF Merchandise



We now have SEFF ties for sale within the office along with other bits and pieces of merchandise.

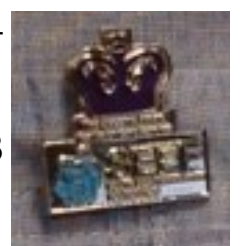
Ties are priced at £12.00 each (or 2 for £20) and for the ladies in the membership we are currently working on the design of some SEFF scarves and hope to have them in the next few weeks.

SEFF badges are also on sale at £2 each or 3 for £5.

We also still have copies of all our Books, DVDs and publications should anyone wish to acquire copies.

We also have badges and umbrellas connected with the ongoing fundraising initiative to develop a new Memorial honouring the victims of The Enniskillen Poppy Day Massacre - Badges are priced at £5 and umbrellas at £35 - please support this worthy initiative.

If you have any queries please give us a call on 028 677 23884.



Topics & Dates of Interest

SEFF fundraising DANCE



Royal British
Legion
Enniskillen

Friday 24th March

9pm to 1.30am



All Prize Donations
gratefully Received

↓ Can be left in
SEFF, or with Ernie
Clarke or Wesley

Armstrong

Tickets £5 each

SEFF Office 028 677 23884

Tickets for this SEFF Fund
Raising Event can be pur-
chased through the office!

02867723672

Clogher Royal British Legion

Auction

Saturday 8th April
2017 at 2pm

Viewing from 10am

Proceeds in aid of Disability
Access to the Legion Hall.

Please try your best to support
this event.



Newtownbutler Methodist Church Gospel Concert

Newtownbutler Church Hall
Friday 24th March 2017 @ 8.00pm



Visiting artists:

THE THOMPSON BROS,
FORMERLY "LOW COUNTRY BOYS"
LEAD SINGERS
AND CALLUM SMITH.

Admission £6.00 (including Supper)

Under 18's Free

Proceeds to Church Build fund
And Holiday Bible Club



Get In Step!

County Fermanagh Womens
Loyal Orange Lodge

Orange Ball

Friday 24 March 2017 @ 8.00 pm
The Unionist Hall, Enniskillen

Music by Andy Lowry,
The Singing Digger Man.

Sisters and Brethern Regalia to be worn
Tickets £7.50 includes supper

See Karen for Tickets

God Save the Queen