

SEFF NEWSLETTER



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Seff Lisnaska

Seff Victims



Dear Member,

2017 is really in full swing at this stage, St Patrick's Day takes place tomorrow as this Newsletter is distributed.

We've had a hectic March to date which is the usual form as we seek to close down programmes for 2016/2017 whilst also trying to plan for the forthcoming period.

I have good news to report in this regard, SEFF has secured a further three years funding with an 8% increase on our 2016/2017 Victim and Survivor Programme budget. Whilst we applied for a larger amount of funding we are confident that we can do a service fitting to you our membership on what has been awarded. Budget constraints within the overall sectoral meant that 8% capped increases were standard for all those groups who made the grade in their funding bids.

We have even better news to report in terms of our Peace IV funding bid, SEFF secured everything it requested - 4 Advocacy Case Officers and 2 Health and Wellbeing Caseworkers, it is anticipated that these positions plus an I.T/Monitoring Development Officer (funded under VSP) will be advertised in the near future.

With the closing of Programmes there are always changes and this is true within the Advocacy Service where we say goodbye to Matthew Gault who was the Research/Admin p/time Officer. Matthew's contribution has been noteworthy since he took up the position but unfortunately this post ceases as a result of the new funding call.

The only other matters I wish to briefly speak on is to thank all those who gave so much in ensuring that this year's SEFF Conference went off so well - to staff, volunteers, contributors and attendees, the organisation says a very heartfelt thank you to you all.

And as referred within The Newsletter we would ask that members turn out in large numbers on Monday night to support the Clarke and Graham families for an event marking the life and contribution of a special young woman - Kirsty Clarke.

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. We will also be closed for Easter on Good Friday

14th April and Easter Monday 17th April reopening at 9am on Tuesday 18th April 2017.

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.

Giving thanks for the amazing life of Kirsty Clarke

Many of you know the Clarke, Graham families and are aware that on the 30th January this year that Kirsty sadly suddenly passed away., robbing the family, friends and community of an unforgettable, quiet, gentle, vibrant and determined young girl.

On MONDAY 20th March in Lisnaskea High School gymnasium we are holding an evening to give thanks to Kirsty and to help raise funds for three charities that helped and supported Kirsty throughout her illness and to hear how she impacted on so many lives.

We are calling on the SEFF family to come out and strength to support the Clarke and Graham family circle.

Moring SEFF Calling

Last month I had been delighted to see the snow drops, heralding the the forthcoming end to the dreary days of winter, however within just a few weeks later, a different spring flower has appeared, along with some warmer weather.

We at Morning SEFF Calling are here to provide a listening ear. We have two new volunteers (both male) Derek and Johnny in addition to Myself, Rita and Jenny.

We are all trained and want to bring some comfort to those who are isolated, house bound or are just finding life difficult to cope with at the moment.

We cannot give you advice but sometimes it is just nice to talk to someone outside of the circle of friends and family, and to perhaps get pointed in the right direction of a professional who can help you with the coping mechanisms you may need.

We here at MSC will travel that road with you by giving you a free call once each week at a day and time suitable for you.

So please do not hesitate to contact the SEFF Office if you or someone you know that could benefit from this.

Until next month from all in the MSC team.

 **Giving Thanks for** 

KIRSTY CLARKE

Gymnasium Hall,
Lisnaskea High School

Monday
20th
March
7pm

Inygn McKibbin from Heartbeat NI will be in attendance & will speak about the role of the charity and his special memories of Kirsty and the Clarke family.

Donations gratefully received on the evening to support the 3 charities named below.

register attendance with SEFF
On **02867723884** For catering purposes

Playing on the evening
Lisbellaw
Accordion Band

All welcome to come & support this remarkable young girl and all her achievements!!
Charities being supported from the donations

DIABETES UK
KNOW DIABETES. FIGHT DIABETES
0345 123 2399

Heartbeat-Ni
THE NI LIVERPOOL HEART CHARITY
Raising awareness of
Congenital And Acquired Heart Defects
In Children And Young Adults

**Children's
Cardiothoracic
Transplant Fund**

SEFF BEFRIENDING MARCH UPDATE

Hi All,

It's great to see the Spring flowers starting to bloom and the days getting longer, it gives us heart for a nice long summer hopefully.

We have a coffee morning coming up if you want to mark the date:

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



RESPIRE DAY

SATURDAY 13th MAY 2017

We are running a day respite to the matinee performance of the Walled City Tattoo in the Millenium Forum on Saturday 13th May 2017.

The headline act is the Copenhagen Drummers (winners of Denmark's Got Talent and the Eurovision finalists). It will also involve all aspects of a traditional tattoo with a 300+ cast.

The bus will depart from SEFF at 12pm and we will stop for a meal on the way home (location to be confirmed).

Cost is £20 per person. Please phone the office on 028677 23884 to register your interest in attending this event.



COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES



We are now taking names for Complementary Therapies for the coming months into the new financial year 2017-18. 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 Victim's Seminar

Reclaiming the Past, Shaping the Future Victims Conference in Fermanagh

On Saturday 4th March 2017 an important Seminar was held in Fermanagh under the theme, 'Reclaiming the Past, Shaping the Future'.

Kenny Donaldson, SEFF's Director of Services stated: "Northern Ireland is in a state of paralysis due to the flawed belief that 'The Past' can somehow be dealt with separately from 'The Present' and 'The Future.' Victims and survivors have paid a very heavy price over the years of the terror campaign losing loved ones, their limbs and in some cases, their wits".

"With the rollout of the Peace Process (viewed by many as the appeasement of terrorism process) victims and survivors continued to be the constituency to pay the heavy price. Today in 2017 victims and survivors continue to pay the price through being expected to carry the burden of injustice. This in no small part is brought about by the incessant campaign of historical rewrite of 'The Troubles.'

"The Seminar explored from an academic, faith, legal and practical basis how the integrity of The Past might be reclaimed and the Future shaped meaning that victims and survivors can live once again instead of simply existing".

"We were delighted to have such a distinguished group of speakers who included, Prof Thomas Hennessey, former Archbishop of Armagh within the Church of Ireland, Rev Alan Harper, Matthew Jury of McCue and Partners Solicitors, The Victims Commissioner Judith Thompson and many others with the focus of the Seminar's acknowledgement being for Judith Jenkins (widow of Jeffrey Young) who was murdered as a consequence of the Hyde Park bombing - Mrs Jenkins' powerful contribution received a standing ovation from the Seminar delegates of which there were some 120".

Mr Donaldson added: "Meanwhile on Friday evening we were honoured to also have four individual victims/survivors murdered as a consequence of republican or loyalist terrorism from Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Great Britain and Spain share testimony - Ann McCabe supported by daughter Stacey (widow and daughter of Garda Jerry McCabe) Mark Rodgers (son of Council worker Mark Rodgers murdered at Kennedy Way, Belfast) Geraldine Ferguson (mother of Patrick Azimkar, murdered at Massareene Barracks, Antrim) and Josu Pueles Garcia (brother of the last Policeman murdered by ETA in 2009, Spain)

"Against the backdrop of there being limited chance of terrorists who committed pre 1998 crimes being held accountable through the criminal justice system it is ever more necessary that Societal Justice prevails - that means preserving the core fundamental principle that whatever grievance (perceived or real) that an individual or group of people may have felt that there was never justification for the taking of life in the advancement of or defence of a 'so-called political objective' concluded Mr Donaldson.



L: Ken Funston AAV Manager



R: Eric Brown - Chairman of SEFF



Seminar Chairman - Oliver Wilkinson



Judith Jenkins - Husband murdered



Most Rev Alan Harper



Matthew Jury -

Hyde Park 20th July 1982



Q & A Session



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Professor Thomas Hennessey—Canterbury Christ Church University



Matthew Jury - McCue & Partners Lawyers



SEFF's Advocacy Service

Research Update

The Border Trails are still being reviewed before the written material can be produced to the public. The filming has been completed for the four areas, and the following provided commentary for that filming and will be in a position to guide visitors on any future border tours –

- **South Fermanagh** – Eric Brown
- **West Fermanagh** – Howard Brooker
- **North Fermanagh** – Ken Funston
- **Enniskillen** – Brian Johnston

A meeting was held with "Brilliant Trails" to discuss online/digital ways to get the message of the Trails out to the wider public.

Historical statistics work carries on slowly in the background. Work on creating a list of incidents to mark out the large map is nearly completed; once complete, the map can be marked and a digital version can be displayed on the SEFF website. Unfortunately, due to the size of the map, there is no ideal place to display it fully at this present time.

We continue to improve on the standard of the SEFF website, adding information as required, creating a better experience for the viewer.

Casework Update

The AfiV advocacy service is now engaging with almost sixty families, and that list is growing. The support required by them varies from simple enquiries to multi-faceted casework.

Conference

A very successful conference took place on Saturday 4th March in the Killyhevlin Hotel. Over 100 delegates took part with notable presentations

given by Matt Jury, Tom Hennessey, and Alan Harper. Their musings were thought provoking, leading to an interesting debate immediately after, and also during the afternoon 'break-out' sessions.

Good Practice Visit

Approximately 25 members attached to the AfiV project visited Decorum in Bangor, and presentations were made by members of both organisation. The combined group of about 40 then paid a visit to the House of Orange, had lunch in Belfast and then had a boat-tip on the Lagan. Friendships were made and hopefully the cordiality between the organisations will continue.

AfiV 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 AfiV to be a success.



Some of the AfiV/Decorum group about to embark on a short trip on the Lagan

Scotland Respite Weekend

The AfiV respite weekend trip will take place in Edinburgh during the dates 24th-27th March inclusive.

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**

European Victim's Day at Stormont

Monday 13th March 2017



On Monday past a packed bus set off from Fermanagh to attend European Victim's Day at Stormont. This event began after the Madrid bombings of 2004 and is now an annual event at Stormont organised by Jim Allister TUV MLA and co sponsored by the UUP and SDLP.

As with previous years IVU were involved in organising the speakers. This year David Kelly whose father, an Irish Army Soldier was murdered in 1983 gave his testimony to a packed Senate Chamber. He talked of the hurt within his own family, his father, Patrick was an army private and was murdered while searching for kidnapped Don Tidey along the Fermanagh-Leitrim Border.

Noel Downey spoke for the first time spoke about the injuries he sustained when a booby trap bomb exploded as he went to get into his car outside a pub in Lisnaskea in 1990. Noel lost his left leg in the explosion. Noel spoke about the devastation to himself and his family and how his injuries changed his life forever, he also paid tribute to his wife Helen who he said "stood by him throughout".

Ken Funston (SEFF's Advocacy Manager) spoke on what was the 33rd anniversary since his brother, Ronnie's murder. Ronnie was 28 years old when he was murdered while working on his farm near Pettigo, nobody has ever been brought to justice for his murder. Ronnie had retired from the UDR some 8 years before he was targeted which further proves that the IRA were engaged in a campaign of ethnic cleansing in the border areas of Fermanagh.

All three spoke powerfully recalling the trauma they and their families have suffered and indeed continue to suffer.

It is crucial that the message of innocent victims & survivors of terrorism is heard against the backdrop of terrorism's revisionist strategy.



Victims and Survivors Service (VSS) Update

As this Financial year draws to a close (on 31st March 2017) we want to remind those who are in receipt of VSS awards that they need to spend these up and return all paperwork by the end of the month. If you cannot spend the award on items listed within the eligibility list originally sent out with your Award letter then please contact the office and we can arrange for our Welfare Officer to complete a consultation form which will allow you to spend your award on items which are not listed within the VSS eligibility document.

For anyone who is bereaved, injured or a carer and who ARE NOT CURRENTLY registered with the VSS we ask that you get in touch with the office urgently in order to complete an Individual Needs Programme registration form. It is anticipated that these schemes may close to new applicants after 31st March 2017 so it is very important to act now and avoid missing out on future support from the VSS.



FACT MARCH 2017 UPDATE

FACT winter/spring classes are continuing to prove extremely popular with all classes filled to date. The next **FACT** newsletter will be sent out at the beginning of April so watch out for new events and classes.

Sewing classes in Derrygonnelly started this week. The ladies thoroughly enjoyed week 1 activity making a beautiful cheeky little Easter themed pin cushion. Many there claimed not to be "crafty" and so were delighted with their achievement!



iPads and laptop classes have now switched location to Kesh and Belcoo and continue to be extremely well supported helping our **FACT** members to keep in touch using technology.

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

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 of respite.

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.

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 purchased through the office!
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 is 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.



SEFF Merchandise

We now have a variety of SEFF merchandise on sale within the offices:

Ties are priced at £12.00 each (or 2 for £20)

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.



SEFF Youth

Easter Respite Day

We have been given an opportunity through the Orange Order to run a day respite for young people on FRIDAY 21st APRIL 2017 (over the Easter holidays).

The bus will depart from SEFF at 10am, first stop will be a visit to Sloan's House in Loughgall. After lunch we will then head on to take part in some horse riding (at the request of some of those young people who came to our recent Youth Project and activity day in Todd's Leap).

The day is open to young people aged from 11 years and above. If interested in attending please contact the office on 028 677 23884.



Topics & Dates of Interest

ULSTER CANADIANS AT VIMY RIDGE



PRESENTATION BY

NIGEL HENDERSON
HISTORY HUB ULSTER

FOR

**LISBELLAW & SOUTH FERMANAGH
WORLD WAR ONE SOCIETY**

AT

**LISBELLAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL
10TH APRIL 2017
START TIME: 8PM**

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 sup-
port this event.**



UDR Regimental Association (Enniskillen Branch)

Concert

in the Unionist Hall Enniskillen
on Friday 21st April 2017 at 8.00p.m. sharp

*Kenny Archer Gospel Singer and Compere
with Special Guest Billy McFarland*

also

Erne Highland Dancers, The Junior Ladies Choir No.33
and The Pipes and Drums of The County Fermanagh
UDR Regimental Association Band

No 35

Admission £7.50

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