

SEFF NEWSLETTER

Supporting Victims and Survivors, Strengthening Communities

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Seff Lisnaskea

Seff Victims



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service



APRIL 2017 - Issue 127

Dear Member,

Work continues to increase within SEFF as we push forward in our quest to best represent the innocent victims and survivors of terrorism and 'other Troubles related criminal violence.'

The organisation is currently recruiting across 8 new positions - 1 x Advocacy Support Manager, 4 x Advocacy Support Workers, 2 Health and Well-being Caseworkers (funded via Peace IV) and a Monitoring and I.T Development Officer (funded via VSP) We hope to have all new personnel in place by 1st July 2017.

Since the last Newsletter we have also been on an AfIV Project respite/good practice visit to Edinburgh which was well received by those attending. Importantly SEFF was able to outreach to GB-based victims/survivors with a number of families joining with SEFF's N.I-based members for the first time.

I want to also recognise those Clergy who came together to work collaboratively with SEFF in offering a victim-centred service of Prayer and Reflection on the day in which Martin McGuinness was buried. This was entirely the right thing to do and the large numbers attending (despite the short notice) bears this out.

The death of Martin McGuinness brought a wide spectrum of response. On a human level SEFF takes no glee on the death of anyone irrespective

of what they may or may not have done within their life on this earth. We acknowledge that Martin McGuinness will be grieved by his own family and others.

However it must be said that upon news breaking this morning of Martin McGuinness death that many innocent victims and survivors of IRA terrorism have been expressing feelings of being further cheated - cheated of the prospect of obtaining some form of accountability through information Mr McGuinness could have chosen to provide to them but instead has taken to the grave with him.

Martin McGuinness will now meet his Maker and unlike on this earth, he won't be able to dodge accountability citing the IRA's Green book or any other document. Each and every one of us faces the same destiny.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all staff and volunteers within SEFF who have pulled together in recent weeks in ensuring that the work of closing down one financial year and opening another is being completed without detriment to those who we are in place to serve.

We wish to also remind members and others that SEFF offices will be closed for May Day Bank Holiday on Monday 1st May and also Monday 29th May. The office will reopen again on the Tuesday's of each respective week @ 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.

SEFF visit Scottish Parliament

Over the course of the weekend 24th - 27th March, over 40 members of South East Fermanagh Foundation visited Edinburgh for a good practice visit which included a tour within the Scottish Parliament and a Presentation-based meeting with Tom Arthur MSP for Renfrewshire South (Parliamentary Liaison Officer to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice)

Our Director of Services Kenny Donaldson stated: "Over the weekend we brought together well over 40 innocent victims and survivors of terrorism who came from all parts of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, Protestant and Roman Catholic, Unionist and Nationalist - their common bond was and is **'innocence.'**"

"Within our Presentation to Tom Arthur we raised the following issues, the plight of War Widows who remarried and had their pensions removed from them, the case of the Three Scottish Soldiers including recent comments made by Scottish National Party's John Mason and services for victims and survivors living in Scotland and the need for pro-activity by the Scottish Government".

"We found Mr Arthur to be empathetic and engaging with our group which included a number of Scottish families. He unreservedly apologised to our group for the harm caused by Mr Mason when he recently described the IRA's campaign of violence as being that of 'freedom fighters.' He confirmed the comments to be 'disgusting and wrong.'

"Mr Arthur (**pictured below**) who had spoken to colleagues within the SNP and across the other political parties in advance of meeting with SEFF committed to taking for a range of action points including; increasing pursuing the potential for a Reception event to be held in parliament for SEFF and Scottish-based families of terrorism, to redouble efforts in lobbying for the MOD to reinstate a Pension for War Widows who remarried and to re-examine ways in which the Scottish and N.I devolved administrations could share information ensuring that a joined up approach is taken in supporting the needs of victims and survivors of terrorism. Critically he also committed to speaking to colleagues around how the Scottish Government could do more in standing by and with the families of The Three Scottish soldiers and others impacted by Northern Ireland-related terrorism".

Other visits completed over the weekend included The Royal Yacht Britannia, Edinburgh Castle etc.



SEFF BEFRIENDING APRIL UPDATE

Hi All,

As the new financial year starts we are back to planning what we will be doing in the coming months so we can hit the ground running when our new budget comes through. Befriending will continue and hopefully we will be able to help as many of our members as we can. Our budgets don't really change from year to year but often our requests for help increase so we have to keep a tight eye on spending. This year will be no different so we will be starting the year prioritising who we can help until we see where we are.

Coffee Mornings:

We are going to do a series of church based coffee mornings so please keep free the last Thursday of every month and watch the newsletter for details of who we will be having:

Thursday 25th May 2017 (10:30am - 12Noon) Rev Mark Durrell

Thursday 29th June 2017 (10:30am to 12 noon) - Speaker to be confirmed

Hope you can join us.

Regards,

The Befriending Team



Hello to everyone from the

Morning SEFF Calling Team

Easter has now been and gone and we are well into the first half of 2017. As they say, "time waits for no one".

Wednesday evenings has now been added to our weekly call schedule. There have been a couple of little hiccups with it but we continue to offer this service to any SEFF member who meets the criteria for these weekly contacts.

If any of our readers would like to avail of these calls please contact the SEFF Office and leave a contact number or a message, whereupon we will return the call to arrange a day and time suitable for you.

Just to remind you, we offer a free fifteen to twenty minute call from our trained staff each **Monday** morning from **10a.m.-12.30 pm**, **Wednesday** from **6pm** until **8.30pm** and on **Thursday** from **10a.m.-12.30pm**.

Until our next newsletter, take care
From the Morning SEFF Calling Team



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 MONIES BEFORE SESSIONS COMMENCE, OR YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AVAIL OF THESE TREATMENTS**

A Night In Memory Of Kirsty Clarke

On Monday 20th March 2017 SEFF held a night in memory of Kirsty Clarke. The event took place in Lisnaskea High School, where Kirsty had spent part of her secondary education before it closed its doors in 2013. There was a huge attendance which showed Kirsty's family & friends the high esteem in which she was held across the locality and indeed beyond.

On the evening we had a presentation from Irwyn McKibbin of Heartbeat NI (who also presented a defibrillator to the Clarke family for Aghavea Church of Ireland Parish which the family belong to)

Hymns were played by Lisbellaw Accordion Band (which Kirsty and her sister Zara were members of). The band members spoke fondly of Kirsty & shared some special memories.

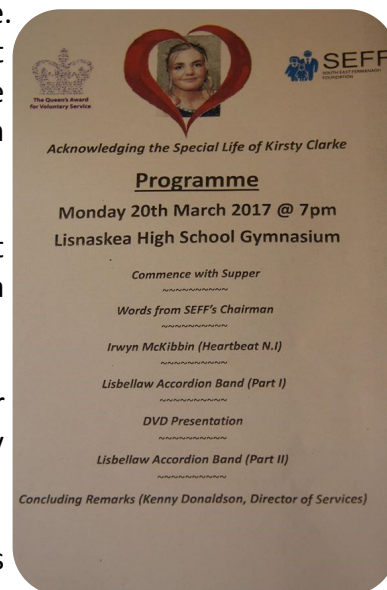
A short film had been put together by SEFF in collaboration with Lyons Digital Productions, the film illustrated Kirsty's life and contribution within various SEFF projects including pics and footage of Kirsty being interviewed plus family-based presentation of photographs involving Kirsty from birth ..

An Irish Stew supper was served.

Kenny Donaldson, our Director of Services stated: "Kirsty was and will continue to be a shining beacon of hope for so many others. She came from a family who have demonstrated insurmountable levels of courage and restraint over many, many years".

"Kirsty lived life and she lived it well, she is an example to all of us not to quit, to fight on and to always be the best we can be. SEFF was extremely proud to hold this event in conjunction with the Clarke family".

"Over £1,000 was raised in donations on the night which will be invested in further info the work of Heartbeat NI, Children's Cardiothoracic Fund and Diabetes UK".





FACT APRIL 2017 UPDATE

The Spring **FACT** newsletter has been sent out thanks to our hard-working bunch of volunteers. Our spring newsletter contains a wide range of activities in varied locations to encourage people to get out, learn something new and socialise.

Intergenerational work is an integral part of The **FACT** Project.

Good relations between generations fosters respect both ways and has been proven as a factor in reducing anti-social behaviour. We are delighted to have received funding from Linking Generations NI under their AllAgesApril to facilitate such a project.

Pupils at Ballinamallard PS are acting as iPad "Buddys" to enable **FACT** & Grandparents members to learn how to use iPads for everyday activities such as shopping, reading a book or looking up bus timetables. Facetime and messaging demonstrate the ease of keeping in touch with family members both near and far. This was of huge interest to the **FACT** participants many of whom had family abroad.

#All age's April!!!!!! 🌞🌞



Ballinamallard PS pupils also demonstrated how school lessons on reading, writing and arithmetic are now carried out in school using iPads, breaking down the perceptions that iPads are just for fun.

Together they created an interactive eBook of the project which included audio files comparing the older and younger participants experiences of a "typical day at school".

I showed grandad to play a phonics game

The **FACT** Project have also received funding from Community Pharmacy Programme and will be hosting an event in Lisbellaw in association with Lisbellaw Medical Hall. This will cover medication and herbal alternatives, good sleep, minor ailments and will also feature a session by Cruse Bereavement making salt memory jars.

More and more studies are indicating that it's good to eat foods which aren't processed and are prepared at home with fresh ingredients. **FACT**, SWAP and Colebrook Kitchen Garden are offering this opportunity in 2017. We will deliver an ongoing course where participants grow the ingredients to cook wholesome nutritional meals. This is ideal for those who don't cook, don't garden or don't do either! Session 1 has been completed and participants picked rhubarb before preparing together a delicious but healthy rhubarb crumble. Its not too late to join in.



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.



Research Update

The research and admin assistant, Matthew, will no longer be engaged in Advocacy work. I would like to thank him for his assistance and support over the last 18 months, and his valuable contribution in his role. I will be combining any future research work with my advocacy role.

Casework Update

- AflV are now engaging with almost 60 families, some cases more complex than others.
- The same issues continue with the PSNI and other governmental organisations, and that has not alleviated. I do not expect that to change, and quite simply we must remain resilient in our role.
- All Rol agencies, government, Garda and Garda Ombudsman (GSOC) are particularly problematic; we will continue to pursue them in order to gain some measure of success.
- A number of current cases are being assisted by legal firms and we await any possible updates. This will be time consuming and do not expect anything in the near future.
- We continue to build a data base of HET reports that may be revisited when

the new SHA structures are in place.

- Following the recent application process to VSS, SEFF were successful in funding through PEACE IV for an Advocacy team of one manager and four case workers. This provides a level of resilience within the increasing workload giving a much greater chance of success in legacy cases, and augers well for the future.

Respite Weekend

The AflV respite weekend trip took place in Edinburgh during the dates 24th-27th March inclusive, and was deemed a very rewarding and enjoyable weekend.



Legacy and the PSNI

A young German called [Inga Maria Hauser](#) was murdered 29 years ago, shortly after arriving in NI off a ferry from Scotland. The PSNI recently made a statement in relation to the murder investigation, an enquiry that has remained active since this terrible crime in 1988.

PSNI Detective Chief Superintendent Raymond Murray acknowledged "strenuous

efforts" to find the killer or killers over the last I have had on occasion been able to direct three decades had yet to succeed, but he them towards potential evidence or investi- insisted the case was still open and officers gative opportunities, but their response al- remained "tantalisingly close" to catching ways has a negative tone; there quite simply those responsible. He added, "While it has to is no appetite to do anything. 92% of murders be recognised that Northern Ireland is deal- by the PIRA in Fermanagh remain unsolved, ing with a legacy of over 3,000 murders yet there is no desire within the PSNI to which is unique compared to any other Euro- change that figure. Legacy policing is not pean country, the PSNI is keen to bring Inga proactive, they will only begrudgingly look at Maria's murderer to justice." Mr Murray a case if the evidence is presented to them. therefore is cognisant of the many hundreds Ex-Det Chief Supt Norman Baxter recently of unsolved murders relating to the NI Trou- made a statement to The Sun newspaper, bles, yet he should feel embarrassed at mak- linking the chief suspect in the Hyde Park and ing this statement. Regent's Park atrocities to a local case.

In my role as an advocate, my primary re- Yet the PSNI still do nothing, resisting pressure sponsibility is assisting families attempting to to make a statement about this case. I have find some resolution for the crimes conduct- to commend the police in pursuing the mur- ed against them in the past. This necessitates derer(s) of Inga Maria Hauser, I only wish they engaging with governmental organisations showed the same desire to apprehend the such as the PSNI, and their Legacy Investiga- many other murderers in our midst. tion Branch.

That office has shown no wish or desire to re- open legacy cases involving the PIRA, and remain reluctant to engage with the likes of myself. I am unable to comment on whether this is an organisational decision by the PSNI, or they have been instructed accordingly.

Ken Funston

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UPCOMING MEETINGS IN SEFF 2017

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.

Topics & Dates of Interest



A Night
— at the —
Races

Friday 26th May
@ 8pm
Carrybridge

Bring Your Money Box &
Join Us in a Night
Of Fun & Laughter
& Have a Flutter
on a Winner!



SEFF Fund Raising Event



**KEEP CALM
AND HAVE
A
PAMPER
PARTY**

8TH MAY 2017
**LADIES PAMPER
NIGHT**

Tickets cost £10 (this entitles you to 2 treatments)

This night is for the Ladies, they all work hard and deserve to be pampered, it is a fundraiser for Rachel West who is going to Borneo in July for a month to do Humanitarian work with an organization called Camps International.

CAMPS
international
ETHICAL JOURNEYS WITH A CONSCIOUSNESS

Newtownbutler
Community Centre
7 - 9.30pm

Neck & Shoulder
Massage

Kinesiology &
Forever Living
Aloe Vera table

Skin Analysis &
The Body Shop

Hair Blow Dries,
Up styles, Curls or
Straightening

Nail Painting

Raffle

Complimentary
Refreshments

IF YOU WOULD LIKE
YOUR HAIR BLOWDRIED
PLEASE COME WITH IT
WASHED
IF YOU WOULD LIKE A
SHOULDER MASSAGE
PLEASE WEAR A THIN
STRAP TOP

REMEMINDER

RENEWING SEFF MEMBERSHIP 2017/18

We are fast approaching the new membership year at SEFF; **1st July 2017**. Payments for renewing can be made by either cheque, cash or standing orders from your bank account.

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 2016/17 membership database before we implement the updated 2017/18 mailing list.

We would appreciate if you could pay membership fees before **31st July 2017** 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.

The last SEFF Fundraiser was a huge success. £1,475.00 was raised through a Dance-themed event held in Enniskillen RBL on 24th March 2017. A big thanks to the SEFF Fundraising committee, to those who donated gifts for the raffle and to those who helped out on the evening with selling tickets. A special thank you to Wesley Armstrong, SEFF Fund Raising Chairperson, who was MC on the evening. The next fundraising event will be held on Friday 26th May in the Carrybridge Marine Hotel. All support for this event