David Harkness - 17th January 1992

SEFF remembers David Harkness who was murdered 27 years ago today by PIRA terrorists along with seven of his work mates and friends via The Teebane Massacre.

David along with his workmates were travelling home from work when PIRA terrorists detonated a bomb on the Omagh-Cookstown road. Eight men’s lives were stolen with a further six injured.

David had worked for Karl Construction and was targeted along with others supposedly because the Firm carried out work for the security forces. Many however saw the attack as an attack motivated by sectarian and ethnic influences.

David was very proud of his roots and was involved in the civic life of the local District having a keen interest in the local band - Montober Flute Band where he was a member for many years; he was also regarded as a keen and gifted sportsman.

David is remembered on SEFF’s most recent Memorial Quilt - A Patchwork of Innocents where his membership of the band is very much to the fore.

Montober Fluite Band recently celebrated its’ 100th Anniversary and on the night of the Reception SEFF’s Memorial Quilts were displayed which included patches to David Harkness and David Black (both former Montober Flute Band members) The Band’s community and much further afield continue to remember David with deep affection.

SEFF’s thoughts and prayers are with the Harkness family today and everyday as well as with the families of the seven others murdered at Teebane and the surviving injured.

Those murdered were:

William Gary Bleeks (35)

Cecil James (Jimmy) Caldwell (37)

Robert Dunseith (25)

David Harkness (23)

Robert Irons (61)

John Richmond McConnell (38)

Nigel McKee (22)

Oswald Christ (44) who was the driver died from his injuries four days later.

The Teebane families are supported via SEFF’s Advocacy Support Service.