Edward O'Neill

17th May 1974

SEFF remembers Edward O'Neill, a civilian murdered when three bombs exploded in Dublin's city centre on 17th May 1974. The attack was carried out by loyalist terrorists.

Forty-six years on, no one has ever been held accountable for his death, and the deaths of thirty-three others killed in Dublin and Monaghan on that fateful day.

Edward’s wife also lost a child, a baby who was full-term was tragically stillborn.

Edward Snr, a self-employed painter and decorator and father of eight had gone into Dublin City Centre with his two young sons to have their hair cut. Edward Jnr was severely injured in the bomb attack; those injuries (both physical and psychological) are with him to this day. His brother escaped serious physical injury but remains psychologically impacted by the events he witnessed.

Journalist Barry J Whyte worked with the O’Neill family in producing a book titled, “Two Little Boys” which provides a very personal depiction of the family's search for the truth.

In recent months Edward Jnr when commenting on the proposed pension for seriously injured victims stated; that he would “rather be in pain for the rest of his life than to receive a Pension which would also be paid to perpetrators”.

The legislation laid before the UK Parliament excludes Irish citizens living in the Republic of Ireland who were impacted by ‘Troubles related events’ which took place within that jurisdiction. SEFF continues to campaign robustly for equality of treatment to be extended to those impacted by events in the Republic of Ireland who are non-British Nationals.

London and Dublin must work collaboratively on this issue to resolve it for the benefit of those innocents caught up in events, not of their own making.

Edward O’Neill Snr is remembered on SEFF’s Memorial Quilt Terrorism knows NO Borders and our thoughts and prayers are with the O’Neill family today and every day.