John Hallawell 28th October 1983

SEFF remembers John Hallawell on this the 35th Anniversary since he was murdered by PIRA terrorists on 28th October 1983.

Two men and a woman are said to have fired between 10 and 15 shots into John’s car parked outside his own home, murdering him, before escaping in a hijacked car.

John was married to Anne with whom he had three children David, Carolyn and Jonathan.

John joined the RUC as a Constable in 1971. He also worked in both the Taylor Woods and Standards Telephones and Cables (STC) factories - before joining the RUC.

John had many hobbies and interests including football, badminton, cars, music and other sports.

The symbol of the Blue Lamp Disco depicted on SEFF’s Quilt depicted John’s role in overseeing the discos in Londonderry through his role as a community-based Policeman.

The Blue Lamp Discos were run by the RUC from the late 1970’s through to the early 1990’s, during some of the most turbulent times of The Troubles in Northern Ireland. The discos were held as part of the RUC’s youth outreach work. Basically they were discos held by police officers in local schools and youth clubs, to keep young people off the streets.

John was dubbed by the press as 'Ulster's friendly policeman.'

The community at large were repulsed by John’s murder, he was held in extremely high regard by young and older, Protestant and Roman Catholic.

His murder was senseless alike all others brutally taken through terrorism.

SEFF’s thoughts and prayers are with the Hallawell family this day and every day.