**John (Jackie) Haggan**

**10th March 1994**

SEFF remembers John Haggan (known as Jackie) who was murdered by Provisional IRA terrorists.

Jackie was born in 1961, he lived in Newtownabbey, County Antrim and was married to Kim, they had three children Jason (aged 5), Terry (aged 3) and an unborn son, Aaron. Jackie served on the RUC and was stationed at Willowfield.

On 10th March 1994 Jackie went to the Dunmore Greyhound stadium with his wife Kim who was 3 months pregnant at the time.

Jackie was sitting in the bar area having a drink with Kim and friends; a PIRA gunman walked up and shot Jackie in the head in front of his pregnant wife and then shot him again as he lay on the ground, a second gunman fired shots in the air before making their escape. Jackie was pronounced dead on arrival at the Mater Hospital.

Over the years Jackie had owned and raced dogs of his own; a couple of them had been very successful. The Greyhound Community was very mixed, they socialised and met with both sides of the community, there was never an issue. Although Jackie would never discuss the fact he was a serving member of the RUC, there is no doubt a lot of individuals within the Greyhound circles were aware.

Only one person was convicted in relation to Jackie’s murder; this being the person who supplied a house for the PIRA gunmen to change and dispose of their clothes, he was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Aside from Jackie’s great interest in greyhound racing, he was also interested in football and was generally keen on all sports.

Jackie had always wanted to join the RUC and was very proud to be a member. Jackie is remembered on SEFF’s most recent Memorial Quilt - A Patchwork of Innocents. The greyhound image represents his love of greyhound racing, despite the risks, he was determined to enjoy this passion; this ultimately led to his murder when innocently enjoying this pass time with his wife.

We hold in our thoughts and prayers The Haggan family circle, inclusive of SEFF’s Advocacy Service Worker, Peter Murtagh (Jackie’s brother-in-law) today and every day.