**Leanne Murray**

**23rd October 1993**

SEFF remembers Leanne Murray who was one of nine murdered in the Shankill bomb, an attack by Provisional IRA terrorists upon Frizzell’s fish shop. Leanne was a child of 13 at the time when her innocence was stolen away from her.

Leanne is remembered by her family as a lovely little girl who was very calm in life. She enjoyed netball in school, coming home and as her brother Gary fondly recalls, arguing with him over little silly things about who would do the dishes for their mum or whose turn it was to do the housework.

Leanne was known as a very outgoing person who loved life. Her hair was very long and it took her hours to wash and brush it. Leanne had been on cross-community trip to America only six weeks before she died. On that trip she met another little girl called Roisin from Ligoniel who she became very friendly with.

Roisin came down to the family home before the funeral. Leanne went shopping with her mum on the Shankill every Saturday. When the bomb was detonated, Leanne died instantly; she had gone to buy whelks in the fish shop.

Leanne’s Mum Gina painfully recalls that day. Gina who has "lived two separate lives" said recently in an interview with The Belfast Telegraph:

"There's the life I had before Leanne was murdered and the one after her death," she said.

"That day is always at the front of my mind. It will stay with me for the rest of my life."

Gina had popped into a fruit and veg shop while Leanne had gone into Frizzell's fish shop to buy whelks just before the blast.

"I used to call her my brown-eyed girl because she had brown eyes like me," she recalled.

"After the explosion I couldn't find her anywhere. Panic and trauma set in; I spent so long searching. I didn't know what to do. I was yelling her name but it was no use. I didn't know it then, but my little daughter was dead."

The grandmother-of-four added: "Eventually two CID officers took us to the mortuary. It was terrible. She was in a black bag. I was crying and screaming."

Leanne is remembered on SEFF’s Memorial Quilt - A Patchwork of Innocents; her patch is included within a heart shaped centerpiece remembering children of the terrorist campaign.

SEFF’s thoughts and prayers are with the Murray family and all of the other Shankill families today and every day.