**Martin Walsh**

**9th January 1977**

SEFF remembers Martin Walsh who was murdered on 9th January 1977 by an IRA bomb.

On 9th January 1977 Martin was a soldier with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps holding the rank of Sergeant and was killed by an IRA bomb when it exploded as he sought to investigate the contents of the fateful milk churn near Newtownbutler.

Sgt Walsh, aged 28 years, was married with two children. He was investigating a device in a milk churn and when he put his hands into it he shouted he was almost at the bottom. Then he simply said: "Oh Christ, what've I got here?" and then there was a bang.

Sgt Walsh's remains were found 150 yards away. Sgt Walsh "was a self-assured young man, confident and liked by his team".

Martin was considered a very good looking young man with Elvis type looks.

He had grown up in Wales and had joined the RAOC as a bomb disposals expert. Martin was married to Eve and they had two children, Karen (aged 4 years) and Andrew (aged 2 years), they lived in Hereford.

Martin was a massive ABBA fan and also had a love for cars, especially Volkswagens' and 'Herbie' beetle, this explains what is symbolised on his patch on SEFF's Memorial Quilt. The leek represents the love of his home Country, Wales.

SEFF's thoughts and prayers are with the Walsh family circle today and everyday.