**Simon Andrew Tipper**

**21st July 1982**

SEFF remembers Tpr. Simon Tipper who was murdered by Provisional IRA terrorists in the Hyde Park Bomb.

Simon Tipper was 19 years old and recently married at the point of his murder. He and his wife had no children. He was one of four soldiers whose lives were stolen via the Hyde Park Bombing on 20th July 1982.

Among Simon’s interests were music, football and he loved dogs, in particular Staffordshire Bull Terriers.

He was an avid Aston Villa fan which is why the club are represented on his patch within the memorial quilt.

Simon’s brother Mark along with representatives of the other families impacted by the bomb has carried forward the campaign for justice concerning the murder of his brother and colleagues.

Mark travelled to Northern Ireland on a number of occasions to raise awareness of the case and to build support. In 2019, following a civil trial a judgement was made that John Downey was responsible for the bombing.

Mrs Justice Yip ruled that ex-Provisional IRA terrorist John Downey, was an 'active participant' in the bombing and was jointly responsible with others for 'wicked, pre-meditated attack' that claimed the lives of four young men and 'indelibly altered' many others.

Mark’s words in the aftermath of the judgement are powerful. He said he was relieved to "get the justice those four boys deserve".

Added Mark: "It means we have found justice. All we ever wanted was justice for them.

"This is no secondary prosecution. The case was put forward, he was found guilty, he is now the Hyde Park bomber.

"If he was innocent he would have been here - he had no case to put forward."

"It's not a day to rejoice, it's a day to know we have gained the closure we were after - but those boys paid with their lives."

“The ruling is important and might make other terrorists out there sit up and take notice, maybe they’ll have cause for concern that they won’t get away with what they’ve done”.

SEFF’s thoughts and prayers are with the Tipper family today and every day and each of the other families impacted as well as former colleagues physically and/or psychologically injured.