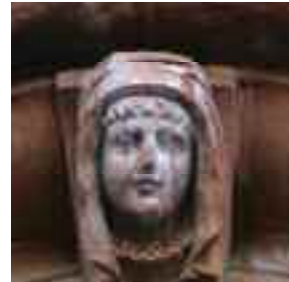


Healing Through Remembering Annual Report





Report Editor - Claire Smith
Photography by - Kevin Cooper, Pacemaker Press International, Kate Turner, Claire Smith



A project supported by the PEACE III Programme managed for the Special EU Programmes Body by the Community Relations Council/Pobal Consortium.

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Chairman's Introduction



Dealing with the past remains central to embedding the peace, and far from going away, the issue continues to gain momentum. This year saw a substantial increase in discussions about how best to address societies' troubled past. The roll out of the PEACE III funding for projects focused on dealing with the past, and the publication of the report of the Consultative Group on the Past were key to the growing number of debates. The ongoing work of Healing Through Remembering (HTR) has also continued to provide impetus to the developments. Having consolidated the financial position of the organisation the previous year, HTR was in a position to continue to grow its membership and reach out to more communities through the *Whatever You Say, Say Something* programme.

The *Conversation Guide* on dealing with the past continues to be a useful resource, not just for the outreach element of HTR's work but also as a way of

working in collaboration with other PEACE III funded projects. Interest in the work of HTR also continues to grow. The website statistics alone demonstrate a substantial interest both locally and internationally. This emphasises the importance of bottom-up or community-led initiatives in the dealing with the past debate.

However, community and member-led initiatives require constant nurturing and energy. It is important to acknowledge the voluntary contributions of the HTR membership, as well as the engagement of wider communities with HTR. It is this commitment that provides the hope that an inclusive approach to dealing with the past can be found.

Brandon Hamber
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brandon Hamber'.

2009 Overview



The year's work concentrated on the development of the *Whatever You Say, Say Something* project. A number of Delivery Partners were recruited and trained and the outreach work was underway by the end of the year.

The Sub Groups each reviewed the Strategic Plan from 2006 to 2009 and considered achievements and plans for the future. The Strategic Plan reviews also informed the development of the idea of the Members' Meetings and the aim of offering a wider membership discussion on the issues the Sub Groups consider. The membership meetings this year were concentrated on the Report of the Consultative Group on the Past but they also demonstrated that creative discussion was possible at this wider level of the organisation. These meetings will continue as an environment for new discussions and developments.

The Storytelling Sub Group published the *Ethical Principles* guide to inform the growing discussion on the use of various methods of storytelling and narrative work. The Living Memorial Museum Sub Group continued its visits to gather learning and also considered developing the work of the *Artefacts Audit* so as to continue to the debate on this issue. The Day of Reflection was again marked in a variety of ways by a range of groups and individuals. The independent

evaluations continue to show a growing support for the initiative. The Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement Sub Group considered the report of the Consultative Group on the Past and developed its own debate. The Commemoration Sub Group launched the report *At the End of the Day* and considered the approaching decade of significant anniversaries.

The relationship with the Belfast Film Festival continued this year as the organisation supported a number of films in the programme. The first HTR walk was held and merely increased the demand for more social activities for the membership!

The Delivery Partners have found that in offering the outreach workshops we can share the learning of Healing Through Remembering. Showing that if the environment is safe and people feel in control of the conversation not only can they be heard but they can learn from others and develop new relationships. We look forward to another two years of offering people the opportunity that is 'whatever you say, say something.'

Kate Turner
Director





‘The Workshop has given me a better grasp of some of the perspectives I have to consider’

Whatever You Say, Say Something

Building on the success of the *Diverse Past, Shared Future* project *Whatever You Say, Say Something* focuses on conversations on dealing with the past. A major activity taking place is the conversational workshops which are designed to encourage discussions on the legacy of the conflict, aided by a trained facilitator. These workshops offer a chance for people to contribute to the debate on how to deal with the past while building a more peaceful future. The project also involves public events that aim to widen the debate on dealing with the past, and discussions have also continued around the five key areas – Storytelling, Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement, a Living Memorial Museum, a Day of Reflection, and Commemoration – which were outlined in the original 2002 Report on the Healing Through Remembering Project. Funded by the PEACE III Programme, *Whatever You Say, Say Something* will continue until December 2011.

Workshops

Early in 2009, a number of Delivery Partners were chosen to facilitate the workshops. Coming from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, they include: Joe Blake, Janie Crone, Patricia Devlin, Bryony Flanagan, David Gardiner, Will Glendinning, Rodney Green, Lesley Macaulay, Maura Maginn, Derrick Mathews, Laurence McKeown, Yvonne Naylor, Jayme Reaves, Martin Snoddon, and Suzi Swain. The Delivery Partners have used their extensive contacts within the community to engage in conversations that have covered a number of topics, including remembering the past, values and principles of dealing with the past, truth recovery, acknowledgement and apology, memorialisation and storytelling.

HTR’s Delivery Partners are trained to use the *Conversation Guide*, which has provided a foundation for many conversational workshops that have taken place. The Guide has been designed specifically for facilitators interested in supporting groups to engage on this issue and is available as a resource for interactive debate.

Over four days in November and December 2009, HTR officially launched the project in four different locations: Dundalk, Lisburn, Enniskillen, and Belfast. This provided an opportunity to meet HTR staff and delivery partners and people who had already taken part in workshops.

In 2009 ten outreach conversational workshops were delivered by three facilitators, engaging with groups which included protestant working-class communities in East and West Belfast, a church group and with participants in the INCORE Journeys Out programme. All together the workshops were attended by 114 people. Participants recorded that they now feel more informed about the issues and they welcome the opportunity to hear other perspectives which differ from their own. The following comments were recorded in the internal evaluation system by workshop participants:

- ‘The Workshop has given me a better grasp of some of the perspectives I have to consider’
- ‘I would be less quick to box people in and be more open to consider others’ viewpoints’
- ‘The use of humour by the end of the group showed that there was a greater trust and tolerance in the group’
- ‘Both communities suffered not just me’
- ‘If we all dealt with the past we may have a future for all generations’

For more information about *Whatever You Say, Say Something* contact Laura Coulter, Project Co-ordinator at HTR. Leaflets are also available from the HTR Office.



'The challenge is not to attempt to forget, but rather find an appropriate way to remember.'
Ethical Principles: Storytelling and Narrative Work, page 5

Sub Groups

The work of the Sub Groups in 2009 was two-fold. Firstly, the discussion was influenced by wider developments such as the Report on the Consultative Group on the Past and the subsequent public consultation on the Report, the establishment of the Victims Forum and the debate regarding the definition of a victim, loyalist decommissioning, and the current cost of dealing with the past and the future of the Historical Enquiries Team. Secondly, each Sub Group spent several months reviewing their Strategic Plan (implemented in 2006) by documenting detailed responses to the following questions:

What have we achieved? What did we learn? What do we still need to achieve? How best do we do this within HTR?

This review enabled the Sub Groups to critically appraise the current structure of the organisation and debate future plans. Issues raised included the long term remit of the organisation, ways to work across the Sub Groups and the effect that political developments have on the work of the organisation. These reviews informed the debate at meetings of the HTR membership.



Storytelling

In June, the Storytelling Sub Group launched *Ethical Principles – Storytelling and Narrative Work*. This was written by the Sub Group over many months and outlines a set of principles for storytelling and narrative work connected to the experience of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. Bishop Michael Jackson and Professor Bill Rolston spoke at the event.

The report has two sections. The first section explains the context in which the principles have been developed. The issues around the different methods of storytelling and narrative work are discussed, including oral history, encounter, and artwork. This section situates storytelling and narrative work related to the conflict within HTR's overall approach to dealing with the past.

The second section describes 20 ethical principles that should inform and guide storytelling and narrative work. These are grouped into three clusters drawn from the core values for dealing with past that were developed in January 2008. This framework seeks to link the core values for dealing with the past to the specific ethical principles for storytelling and narrative work.

It is hoped that the principles will guide and inform the work of a range of storytelling projects and will also promote the importance of good practice in this area. HTR welcomes a debate on the principles as a key tool for engagement with and implementation of storytelling and narrative work. If you would like to order copies, contact the HTR Office.

In October, HTR welcomed Paul Costello, Director of the Centre for Narrative Studies in Washington D.C., to speak about the principles and the practice of storytelling. Topics included:

"What is the story of the story?" "What happens when a story outlives its usefulness?" "How does one change a story?" "How does one grow a new story?"

The seminar was well attended and raised further questions about storytelling/narrative work and its role in a post-conflict society. Future plans for the Sub Group include the development of a good practice guide.



'...the fact that a significant number and range of people developed ways to reflect, and commented on it, would indicate a continued "hunger" for reflection...'
Day of Reflection Evaluation 2008, page 18



Day of Reflection

The evaluation of the Day in 2008 was carried out by Joe Blake and published in March 2009.

The evaluation sought to review the previous Day of Private Reflection and equally to inform the Day on the 21st of June 2009. It found that the Day of Private Reflection was "underpinned by a series of agreed principles and values which ensured the Day was approached in an inclusive and sensitive manner", and made the following points:

- There is still a general positive attitude about the Day of Private Reflection initiative and many in the community welcome this as an opportunity to reflect on the past.
- HTR could explore the potential for the Day of Private Reflection to be linked to other initiatives which deal with the past, that are currently taking place amongst communities and organisations.
- As with the previous Day of Private Reflection there is a concern from many in the public arena that they are not sure how they should get involved in the initiative.

The Day of Reflection was mentioned in the Report of the Consultative Group on the Past which was launched in January 2009.

The Sub Group promoted the third Day of Reflection on June 21st 2009. The Day received widespread media coverage including radio, television, the daily and regional press, and several magazines. A range of activities took place on the Day, including making and flying kites with messages of hope on them, launching a



wishing well, walking up Cave Hill, and lighting a ceremonial candle tree. The most common means of reflection was facilitated by churches and community centres which opened their doors to offer quiet spaces to reflect or pray.

Sara Templer was appointed to carry out the evaluation of the Day of Reflection 2009.

The Sub Group are focusing on the future of the Day, including activities, ownership, promotion, and the suggestion offered by the Consultative Group on the Past.

Living Memorial Museum

The Sub Group spent much of the year working on a proposal document for a temporary exhibition of everyday objects relating to conflict. The Artefacts Audit, published in 2008, has provided the foundation for making this a possibility. The Sub Group members also continued to draw on their own expertise and their connections with local and international organisations. HTR became a member of the Northern Ireland Museums Council, and visited the Ulster Museum within weeks of it re-opening. The Sub Group visited Rattling the Cage, in the North Gallery at the Phoenix Gallery, Waterloo Place, Brighton on March 19th. The exhibition detailed the campaign by a group of volunteers to highlight the plight of local resident Omar Deghayes in Guantanamo Prison. The exhibition was of interest as an example of displays based on materials that were interesting but not inherently easy to display, for example, notes and correspondence.

Will Glendinning represented HTR at a workshop at Wannsee House in Berlin in



‘...the diversity represented by and in Healing Through Remembering gives it credibility.’
At the End of the Day...Commemoration – Forward Thinking into the Past, page 42

May, which was organised by the International Coalition of Historic Sites of Conscience. The workshop included a wide variety of organisations and historic sites from across Europe. The debate concerned considerations of ‘perpetrators’ in current and past conflicts and the appropriateness of language used, which was extremely relevant to the work of the Sub Group as they continue to consider what form a living memorial museum may take.

Commemoration

HTR launched *At the End of the Day...Commemoration – Forward Thinking into the Past* in June. The report collated the contributions made at a one day Round Table event which was organised by the HTR Commemoration Sub Group. It included summarised presentations of the Sub Group’s commissioned research papers and a presentation on an international context. It also summarised the views expressed in group and general discussion.

Dr. Johnston McMaster from the Irish School of Ecumenics launched the report and raised questions around the forthcoming decade of centenaries.

It is the hope of HTR that the document will stimulate wider discussion of the complex, sensitive and challenging issues relating to commemoration especially with the upcoming significant anniversaries. The document aims to promote discussions which explore and reflect further on commemorating the past while keeping the future in view.

To order copies, contact the HTR Office.



Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement

Much of the work of the Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement Sub Group centred on the Report of the Consultative Group on the Past. The Sub Group held a residential on the 26th and 27th of February to discuss the recommendations of the report in detail. In response to the ongoing public debate surrounding the cost of dealing with the past, which was highlighted in the Report, the Sub Group decided to commission a piece of research on the cost of dealing with the past. The Sub Group hope to use the research as a tool for further work and as a platform for discussion on the range of costs of dealing with the past.

The Sub Group also continued its work on acknowledgement and its relationship to truth recovery, including looking at the role of apologies in dealing with the past. Future plans include wider engagement on the issues under debate.

Other events



'We need to understand what brought us to the point of conflict...and what facilitated the building of peace.'
Ethical Principles: Storytelling and Narrative Work, page 5

Other events

Considering New Perspectives: In October 2009, HTR held an in-depth interactive opportunity on 'Considering New Perspectives', which was a free flowing and informal opportunity to discuss the journey that dealing with the past entails and to consider questions such as 'What was the first step? 'What keeps you going?', and 'How do we involve other people?' [This discussion followed a Sponsored Walk by some HTR members and staff up Cave Hill, which raised over £1500 for HTR core funds.) A slideshow was created using images of scenery and of HTR which was conducive for the debate about engaging in difficult conversations about how to deal with the past. The slideshow has subsequently been developed into a short film for use as a resource in the work of HTR.

It is envisioned that this film will aid the HTR conversational workshops and be a valuable resource for all those groups and individuals interested in engaging in the debate on dealing with the past.

HTR would like to thank all those who participated in the event and/or the Sponsored Walk. More fundraising and social events will be held in 2010.

Belfast Film Festival: In partnership with the Belfast Film Festival, HTR sponsored a series of films that focused on the theme of Memory, Truth and Transition: *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*, which was about the fight to end the civil war in Liberia, *Bernadette*, which documented the early political career of Bernadette McAliskey, and *For the Record*, a record of the life of PJ McClean, Chairperson of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1970s.

These films provided a platform for discussion on gender, identity, grass roots activism, the legacy of conflict, and the role of memory in a post-conflict society. Film is an increasingly popular medium used for storytelling and documenting the past and HTR hopes to continue to work with the Belfast Film Festival in future years.



Publications

Ethical Principles Storytelling and Narrative Work, June 2009

Day of Reflection Evaluation 2008, March 2009

At the End of the Day...Commemoration – Forward Thinking into the Past, launched June 2009 (produced June 2008).

If you would like to order copies of these reports or any of HTR's publications, contact Claire Smith at claire@healingthroughremembering.org. Reports are free of charge.

Media

Articles about HTR and *Whatever You Say, Say Something* appeared in the Irish News, the Belfast Telegraph, the Irish Times, and the Independent, among others. The Day of Reflection 2009 received widespread coverage in the regional press, and on Radio Ulster. HTR continues to work with Pagoda PR for matters relating to media coverage.



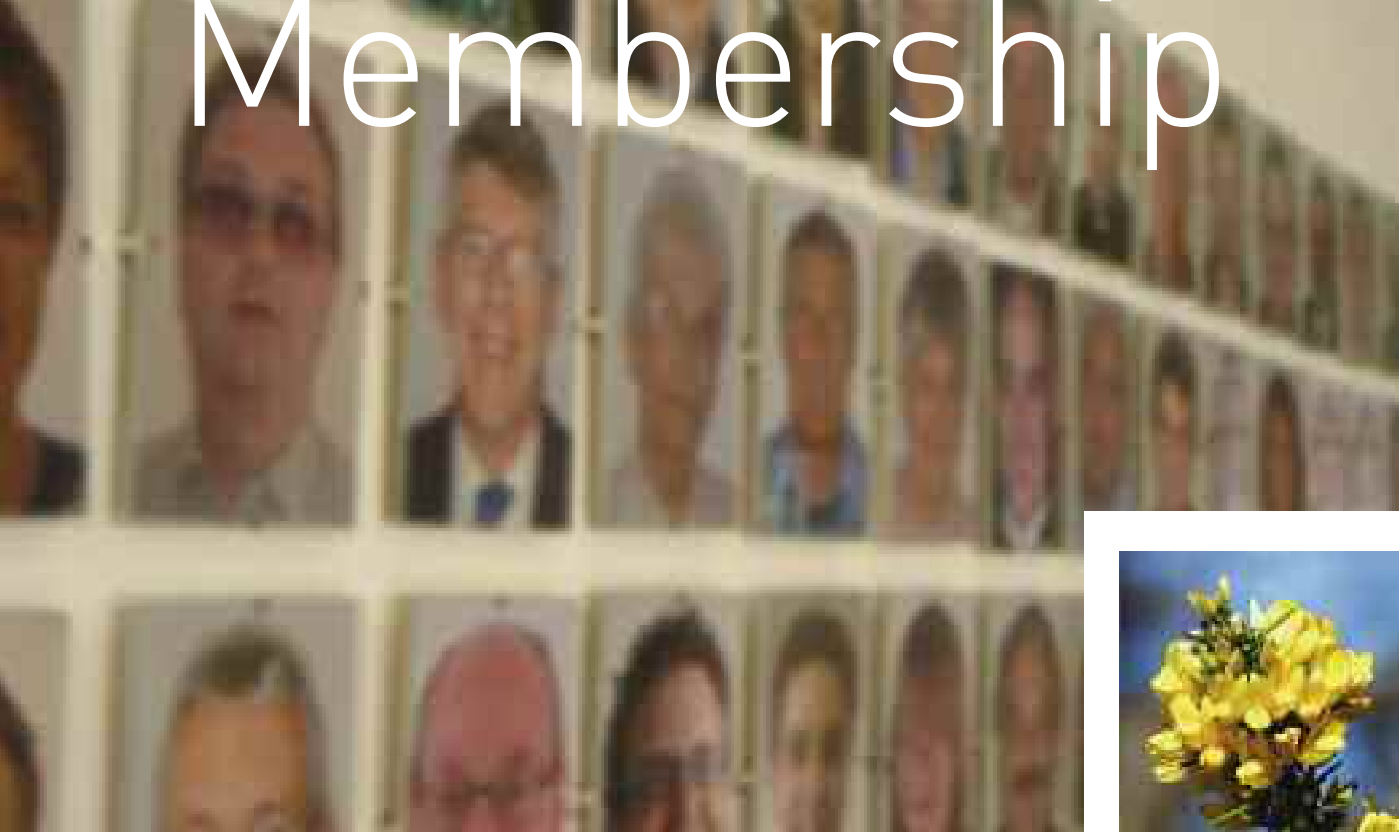
Website

The HTR website was visited 4,351 times in 2009, and 2,505 of these were first time visits – over 50% of the hits. The website was most active in June, and from September to November. The majority of visitors chose to view the 'about us' page, the 'reports' page and the 'news' page. 60 visits were a result of using the social networking site Facebook to promote an event.

The Day of Reflection website was visited by 1,716 people, 1,390 of whom were first time visitors. The site was most active in April, May and June. The website was updated to enable visitors to order materials directly from the site itself, making it more user-friendly.

Visitors to both websites came from numerous countries around the world, including Australia, Russia, the United States, Canada, China, Japan, India, South Africa and Indonesia. The majority of visitors came from across these islands.

Membership



Membership

HTR membership totalled 103 by the end of 2009, and includes people from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Three membership meetings were held in 2009; these focused on the Report on the Consultative Group on the Past and the organisation's response to the NIO consultation on the Report. HTR's wider membership welcomed the publication of the report and called for further debate on the recommendations. HTR's submission to the NIO consultation drew on the membership's knowledge and experience of work in this area and was intended as a contribution to the unfolding process.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Claire Smith on 028 9023 8844 or email claire@healingthroughremembering.org.

Board of Directors



Board of Directors

Brandon Hamber
Chairperson

Oliver Wilkinson
Honorary Secretary

Dawn Purvis
Honorary Treasurer

Sean Coll
Chair: Day of Reflection

Claire Hackett
Chair: Storytelling

Alan McBride
Chair: Living Memorial Museum

Alan Wardle
Chair: Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement

Geraldine Smyth
Chair: Network of Commemoration and Remembering Projects

Irwin Turbitt
Co-optee

Pat Sheehan
Co-optee (December 2009)

Personnel

All of HTR's interns work on the Newspaper Article Archive, a database of over 20,000 articles that date back to 1991



Personnel

Kate Turner
Director

Angus Lambkin
Project Co-ordinator (until May 2010)

James Grant
Finance Officer

Claire Smith
Administrative Assistant

Interns

Ruairi Rowan
Media and Communications
Day of Reflection Assistant Organiser

Sierra Williams
Newspaper Article Archive

Erica Frazier
Newspaper Article Archive

Kaori Ebihara
IT Assistant and Archive Officer

All of HTR's interns work on the Newspaper Article Archive, a database of over 20,000 articles that date back to 1991. Interns are responsible for cataloguing the articles, imputing the data into the database, and maintaining the filing system. *(The archive is located in the resource centre in the HTR Office, and is available for students, academics and members of the public to use.)*

HTR's interns ranged from local students studying for a postgraduate degree, to international students in Northern Ireland participating in exchange programmes. Interns are welcome to apply for placements throughout the year.

Consultants Database

Many projects were initiated, including an addition to the *Conversation Guide*, a film on dealing with the past, and a promotional flyer for *Whatever You Say, Say Something*



Consultants Database

By the end of 2009, there were 95 members of the Consultants Database, which HTR utilised significantly. Many projects were initiated, including an addition to the *Conversation Guide*, a film on dealing with the past, and a promotional flyer for *Whatever You Say, Say Something*.

To join the database, email consultantsdb@healingthroughremembering.org and request an application form.

Contracted Consultants

Evaluator of the Day of Reflection 2009

Sara Templer

Delivery Partners for *Whatever You Say, Say Something*

Joe Blake

Janie Crone

Patricia Devlin

Bryony Flanagan

David Gardiner

Will Glendinning

Rodney Green

Lesley Macaulay

Maura Maginn

Derrick Mathews

Laurence McKeown

Yvonne Naylor

Jayne Reaves

Martin Snoddon

Suzi Swain

Whatever You Say, Say Something Project Evaluator (to December 2011)

Patricia McCorry

Conversation Guide additions – Component on the Consultative Group on the Past

Joe Blake

Outreach Programme Promotional Guide

Ruth Moore

Archive Development Officer

Kaori Ebihara

Facilitator for HTR Members Meetings

Joe Blake

Considering New Perspectives presentation

Laurence McKeown

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(incorporating income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

HEALING THROUGH REMEMBERING (A company limited by guarantee)



	Note	Restricted Funds 2009 £	Unrestricted Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
Other Incoming Resources					
Other Income		-	2,395	2,395	791
Investment income		-	20	20	1,180
Incoming resources from charitable activities	1	251,276	1,538	252,814	205,103
Total incoming resources		<u>251,276</u>	<u>3,953</u>	<u>255,229</u>	<u>207,074</u>
Resources expended					
Expenses		14,398	-	14,398	4,286
Charitable activities		230,035	2,844	232,879	231,591
Governance costs		4,529	7	4,536	8,330
Total resources expended	2	<u>248,962</u>	<u>2,851</u>	<u>251,813</u>	<u>244,207</u>
Movement in total funds for the year –					
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		2,314	1,102	3,416	(37,133)
Transfer between funds		(21,676)	21,676	-	-
Total funds at 1 January 2009		<u>21,676</u>	<u>4,493</u>	<u>26,169</u>	<u>63,302</u>
Total funds at 31 December 2009		<u><u>2,314</u></u>	<u><u>27,271</u></u>	<u><u>29,585</u></u>	<u><u>26,169</u></u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(incorporating income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

HEALING THROUGH REMEMBERING (A company limited by guarantee)



Note 1

Other Incoming Resources

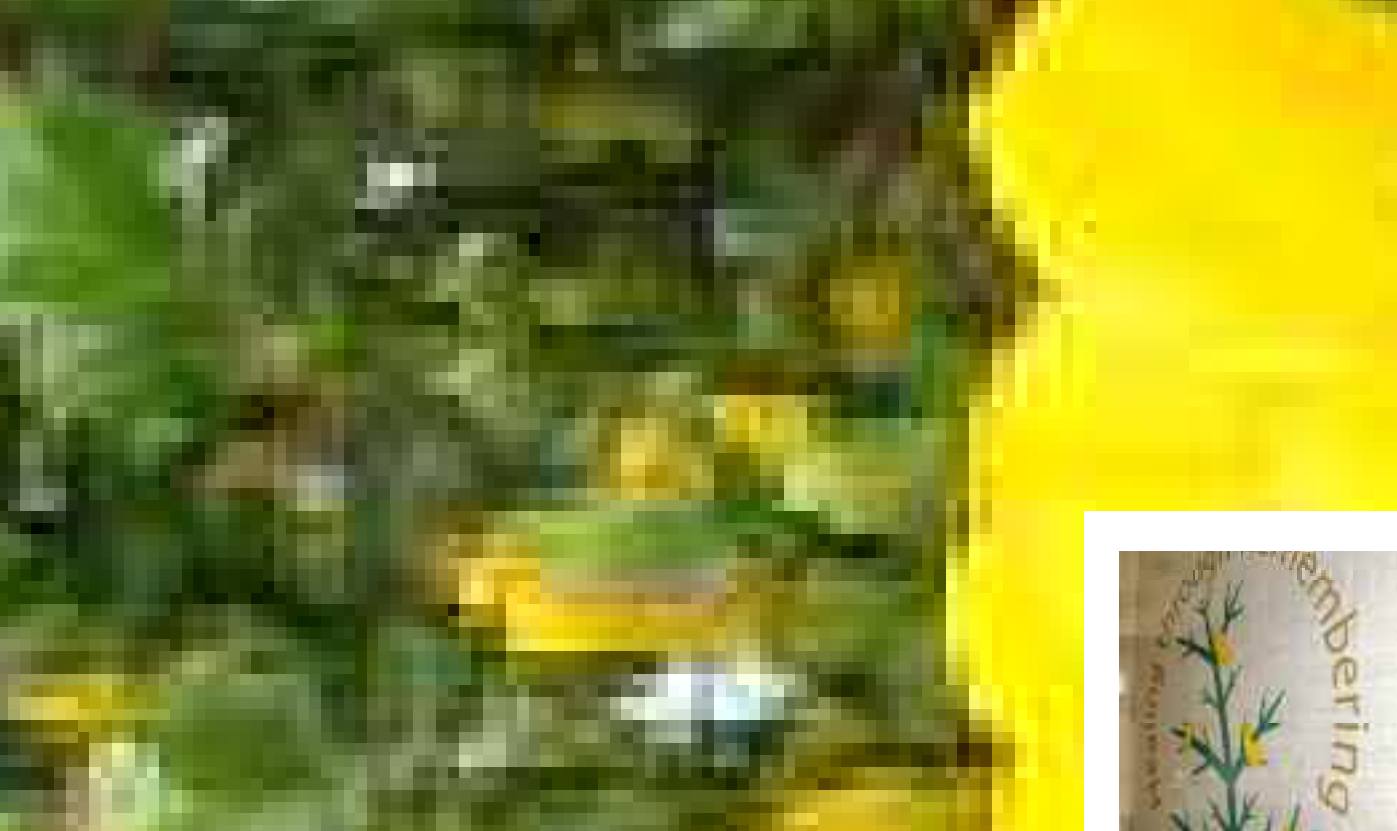
	Restricted Funds 2009 £	Unrestricted Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2009 £	Total Funds 2008 £
Grants receivable for core activities	<u>251,276</u>	<u>1,538</u>	<u>252,814</u>	<u>205,103</u>
Grants receivable for core activities				
Restricted funds:				
Northern Ireland Community Relations Council			12,180	9,000
DPSF Peace II SEUPB Grant			-	126,358
WYSSS Peace III SEUPB Grant			232,696	26,295
Ferguson Trust			5,000	-
Belfast City Council			1,000	-
Duke University			<u>400</u>	<u>-</u>
			<u>251,276</u>	<u>161,653</u>
Unrestricted funds:				
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust			-	37,500
Columbanus Trust			-	5,000
Dominican Reconciliation Fund			-	950
Fundraising Income			<u>1,538</u>	<u>-</u>
			<u>1,538</u>	<u>43,450</u>

Note 2

In 2009, expenditure on charitable activities (£251,813) includes the following

	2009
	£
Employment costs	102,371
Rent	24,159
Consultants	42,762
Printing, Postage & Stationery	28,887
Audit & Accountancy	2,271
Travel	6,238
Food, Catering & Venue Hire	7,291
Advertising, Design & PR	<u>14,398</u>
Total	<u><u>228,377</u></u>





A project supported by the PEACE III Programme managed for the Special EU Programmes Body by the Community Relations Council/Pobal Consortium.



Healing Through Remembering

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