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HEALING THROUGH REMEMBERING BULLETIN

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Lish & Gerry at the Shrine



Pádraig Coyle (Belfast Celtic Society), Kate Turner (Healing Through Remembering) and Michael Boyd (IFA) outside Stormont.

On 17 February, with support from the European Development Fund under Peace III, the Irish Football Association, in association with the Belfast Celtic Society and Healing Through Remembering, played host to a ground breaking piece of drama as well as a facilitated Dealing With The Past interactive workshop in the Senate Chamber at Stormont Buildings, Belfast.

The drama, entitled 'Lish and Gerry at The Shrine' is based around two Northern Irish Football legends that crossed the sectarian divide in the 1940s for the love of their sport. Elisha Scott was the Protestant manager of Belfast Celtic while Gerry Morgan was Linfield's Catholic trainer.

At the end of the drama, two of Healing Through Remembering's delivery partners, Joe Blake and David Gardiner, facilitated a workshop which touched on the issues raised during the play and encouraged people from the local football community to share their stories about the good community relations work going on in the sport today.

Michael Boyd, Head of Community Relations at the Irish FA added: "This witty, clever and moving drama was first shown at Windsor Park in 2010 and was so successful that a group of local MLAs decided to bring the event to Stormont. The Association has learnt from the past and moved on to become a community focused organisation which is main-streaming community relations into the heart of the Association. "I was delighted that Healing Through Remembering were onboard as a key partner in the event. Their expertise and facilitation skills at the workshop after the drama were invaluable."

Due to its popularity plans are now well underway to stage the production again. HTR, in collaboration with the IFA and the author, Pádraig Coyle, are organising a similar drama and discussion as the one held at Stormont, for the John Hewitt Summer School as well as with a couple of local football clubs who expressed an interest in bringing the event closer to their supporters. These will take place in late July and early August.

Whatever You Say, Say Something (WYSSS) Update

The Whatever You Say, Say Something workshops (WYSSS) offer in-depth opportunities for conversations considering wide-ranging issues around dealing with the past by providing trained facilitators to work with groups or organisations. Since the last edition in winter 2010 six new consultants have been trained in HTR facilitation using the conversation guide – they are Zora Molyneaux, Mick Beyers, Roger McCallum, Andy Galloway, Maire Young and Helen McLaughlin bringing the total number of WYSSS facilitators to 21. Almost 85 conversational workshops have been delivered to date to a diverse range of groups across Northern Ireland. A number of other conversational workshops are scheduled to take place over the coming months. Through the

Whatever You Say, Say Something project HTR offers opportunities for conversations across a wide range of issues around dealing with the past. HTR's trained facilitators work with groups and organisations to identify their specific interests for these conversations. Facilitators use a conversation guide. This is a resource developed by HTR and which offers guidelines on facilitating conversations on topics such as assumptions, commemoration, storytelling, living memorial museum, and truth recovery as they relate to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.

The WYSSS project has now entered the third and final year of its first phase of Peace III funding.

Kate Turner speaks at International Commission on Missing Persons Conference



Potocari Memorial Center

From 8-10 May 2011 Kate Turner, Director of Healing Through Remembering, joined four speakers from organisations which are members of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience and over 100 victims group representatives for the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) 'The Missing, Memory and Sites of Conscience' conference in Sarajevo. The conference attendees were cross-community participants from around the Former Yugoslavia.

ICMP invited the Coalition to share their members' experiences in developing memorialisation projects, particularly initiatives launched and realised by victims and survivor groups and those developed in response

to armed conflict, disappearances, and displacement.

Representatives Bonita Bennett from the District Six Museum (South Africa), Kate Turner from Healing Through Remembering, Mararita Romero from the Villa Grimaldi Peace Park (Chile), and Gonzalo Conte from Memoria Abierta (Argentina) shared their experience with conference participants.

During her address, Kate presented on the work of Healing Through Remembering. She outlined its role as a network of individuals with diverse political, social and religious backgrounds working together on dealing with and remembering the past relating to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.

Throughout the conference, working groups on the work of ICMP and last year's Conference Report - Promoting a Holistic Approach to Memorials and Remembrance (December 2010, Sarajevo) were discussed, along with presentations of local memory initiatives happening within the region of the Former Yugoslavia.

After the conference there was a visit to the Podrinje Identification Project in Tuzla where bodies are still being identified as a result of the

conflict in Bosnia from 1992-1995. This was followed by a visit to the Potocari Memorial Center where the events at Srebrenica are

memorialised and many of the victims have been interred.

Belfast Film Festival

A red, tilted rectangular logo with the words "BELFAST FILM FESTIVAL" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

Keeney, which was shown at the Queens University Film Theatre (QFT).

The Siege of Sarajevo was the longest siege of a capital city in the history of modern warfare. It began on the 5th of April, 1992 and officially ended on the 29th of February 1996. This documentary journeyed around Sarajevo, juxtaposing stories of the past with present day images of the Bosnian city. The film explores very personal first hand accounts of life during the siege and reflects on the notion that post conflict societies in the rebuilding of lives, space and a sense of place, cannot ignore the legacy of the past, however difficult.

HTR sponsored two films at this year's Belfast Film Festival. The first was a 25 minute documentary film entitled 'We are Not Afraid' in response to the Belfast Sarajevo Initiative produced by Belfast filmmaker, Declan Keeney, which was shown at the Queens

The screening was then followed by a panel discussion with the theme: Education or perpetuation; telling stories from the conflict facilitated by Laurence McKeown, one of HTR's delivery partners and also a committee member on the Belfast Film Festival. This discussion explored the politics, ethics, and practicalities of passing on stories from the conflict. The panel comprised local film makers Cathal McLaughlin, Declan Keeney and Margo Harkin.

The session concluded with the first public screening of HTR's short film 'The Summit is Shrouded in Mist' which was well received by the audience.

The second film hosted by Healing Through Remembering was another docu-film entitled 'Absence of Will'. This focused on the conflict in Georgia/Ossetia and was shown at the Beanbag cinema. It centred on the experiences of two individuals retracing the origins and history of the conflict, which breaks out again while they are filming for the documentary.

Day of Reflection

The Day of Reflection was held on Tuesday, 21st June 2011, the longest day of the year. The Day of Reflection is an initiative promoted by Healing Through Remembering (HTR), a cross-community organisation that focuses on ways of dealing with the past relating to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.

The Day of Reflection is a day for personal and private reflection; a day to acknowledge the deep hurt and pain caused by the conflict, to reflect on our own attitudes, on what more we might have done or might still do, and to make a personal commitment that such loss should never be allowed to happen again. It provides a voluntary opportunity for everyone in Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Great Britain and further afield to reflect upon the conflict in and about Northern Ireland and the future that is before us. The Day

of Reflection on 21st June is offered as a day for personal, private and individual reflection, for example, at home or at work or within a family, group or organisation.

This year HTR marked the Day of Reflection with a reflective opportunity at the Linen Hall Library which ran from 10:30am to 2pm. There was space for reflection, an exhibition, guest readings and music from Gerry Green.

See www.dayofreflection.com or contact Healing Through Remembering, Alexander House, 17a Ormeau Avenue, Belfast BT2 8HD, Tel 028 9023 8844 for more details. You can also follow the Day of Reflection on Twitter (@DayofReflection) or Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/dayofreflection>).

Staff Update - New Project Coordinator



Healing Through Remembering would like to welcome Aongus O'Keeffe as its new Project Coordinator. Aongus has taken over from Laura Coulter who left to pursue a freelance career.

Aongus O'Keeffe is from Limerick city. He worked in community development for a number of years before going on to complete a Masters in Peace & Development Studies. Aongus spent a year volunteering with the Voluntary Services Overseas before taking up a post with Trócaire in Sierra Leone. He spent five years there building up and managing Trócaire's development programmes, which largely focused on two thematic areas of Governance and Women's Empowerment. This involved working closely with local civil society organisations and building their capacity to deliver services and advocate for pro-poor government policies.

Aongus relocated to Belfast in early 2011 and has taken up the post of Project Coordinator with Healing Through Remembering in March 2011. He will be coordinating the 'Whatever You Say, Say Something' project.



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HTR Reports to Order

Copies of all reports produced and published by Healing Through Remembering are available to order direct from the office or online in the resources section of the HTR website :

www.healingthroughremembering.org



Ethical Principles –
Storytelling and Narrative Work

At the End of the Day – Commemoration:
Forward Thinking into the Past

Momentum and Change: An overview of the role and remit of Healing Through Remembering

Artefacts Audit: A report on the material culture relating to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland

Without Walls: A report on the Open Call for Ideas for a Living Memorial Museum

Day of Private Reflection: 2007, 2008 and 2009 Evaluations

Making Peace with the Past: Options for truth recovery regarding the conflict in and about Northern Ireland

Making Peace with the Past – Executive Summary

The Viability of Prosecution Based on Historical Enquiry

Acknowledgement and its Role in Preventing Future Violence

A Day of Private Reflection: Discussion Paper and Proposal

A Day of Reflection: Local Scoping Study

Storytelling as the Vehicle? Conference Report

International Experiences of Days of Remembrance and Reflection

Storytelling Audit: An audit of personal story, narrative and testimony initiatives related to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.