



# CRC e-Bulletin

## No Turning Back

**Tony McCusker, CRC Chair, reflects on the recent violence from dissident republicans.**



turning back

The deaths of two soldiers and a PSNI officer several weeks ago as the result of attacks by dissident republicans was a shock to us all. For those of us who have lived through the bloodshed and violence of the Troubles this was a nasty throwback to those dark days which we had hoped were long behind us.

It is perhaps a reminder that the task of building peace after a long period of conflict is not easy and that we should not be complacent that the spectre of violence has gone away for good. Peace which has been hard won should not be taken for granted. Despite the establishment of a political peace process since 1998 and the dramatic reduction in the level of paramilitary violence, healing the divisions and building a shared future was always going to be a challenging task and a long term project. Peace has always been about more than the absence of violence. The cost of failing to tackle these deep-seated issues of division is a reversion to the historical cycle of violence such as we have just glimpsed.

On the positive side the dissident republican outrages brought about a collective demonstration of unity by political and civic leaders, backed up by peace rallies from the general public, making it clear that there is no public support for any return to the Troubles. But our peace process is still fragile and we have had a warning that we had better lay down some good foundations for a shared future if we are to avoid any return to the futility of the past.

This means that all the parties in government must agree on a clear vision of the way forward and that this must involve creating bridges across community divides. Beyond the rhetoric it means that we must tackle the difficult issues such as around parades, flags, emblems, language, interface walls, and segregated patterns of living and education. For both communities and politicians, officials and voluntary bodies, the task is to create a new public culture of working and living together in partnership based on trust, equality and mutual respect. This will be the best insurance against dissident republicans dragging us back to where we do not want to return.

Issue 8

April 2009

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# Social identity and tolerance in mixed and segregated areas of N. Ireland

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**AIM:** to highlight how intergroup conflict may be reduced, intergroup tensions alleviated and conflict resolution realized.

We tested the long-established proposition that contact and inter-ethnic social relationships tend to improve relationships between groups that are in conflict as well as examining in more detail the dynamics involved in this process and the impact on relationship among all ethnic group in Northern Ireland.

## **BACKGROUND**

In order to examine the relationship between contact between groups, threat to identity distinctiveness, social identity complexity and attitudes to outgroups ('them'), we carried out focus groups, interviews and a survey in segregated' (Catholic or Protestant) and 'mixed' (Protestant and Catholic) working-class areas in Northern Ireland ( using census data to select the areas). These areas were matched as far a possible in terms of such things as social class, unemployment, and historical levels of sectarian violence. The focus groups were used to generate themes that were followed up first in the individual interviews and the survey. The focus groups participants were selected from community groups and in turn provided a first point of contact for potential interviewees. The surveys involved 1,948 respondents drawn at random from the areas under study, who were interviewed face-to-face in their own home by trained social survey interviewers.

## **METHOD**

We carried out focus groups, interviews and a survey in 'segregated' (Catholic or Protestant) and 'mixed' (Protestant and Catholic) areas in Northern Ireland (based on census data ) matched as afar as possible in terms of things such as social class, unemployment, and historical levels of sectarian violence.

The focus groups were used to generate themes that were followed up first in the individual interviews and the survey.

The surveys involved 1,948 respondents (approximately equal numbers of Catholics and Protestants, men and women) drawn at random from the areas under study, who were interviewed face-to-face in their own home by trained social survey interviewers.

## **Key Findings**

- There is a stronger sense of community cohesion and solidarity in segregated areas; evidence for this is the existence of strong family and social networks.
- There is a greater tendency among those living in the mixed environments to make a clear distinction between the perpetrators of violence and intimidation and the bulk of the religious group to which they belong.
- It appears that contact with the other community is associated with more differentiated outgroup perception – "they" are not all tarred with the same brush.

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Patricia at [poneill@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:poneill@nicrc.org.uk) or Ellana at [info@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:info@nicrc.org.uk).

*contd:*

## **Social Identity and tolerance In mixed and segregated areas of N. Ireland (contd)**

- Contact with the other community is also associated with more differentiated ingroup perceptions – “we” are not all the same.
- Holding these more complex ingroup perceptions plays a role in positively influencing attitudes towards the other community.
- There was evidence for the ‘**Secondary Transfer Effect**’: Positive contact between Groups A & B not only improves relationship between Groups A & B but also changes A & B’s attitudes to Group C.
- There was evidence that people living in mixed areas in Northern Ireland are more likely to display more positive attitudes to a wide range of minority ethnic groups not just those from the other major community.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

The challenge, but also the opportunity, for conflict resolution lies, we believe, in putting less emphasis on simple, divisive and polarizing identities and encouraging more complex, differentiated and inclusive identities, without overriding valued social categorizations. Northern Irish society is, and has been for some time, undergoing significant changes, evolving from a situation of violent conflict to a post-conflict situation. At this time in particular it is important to remember how intricately linked social identity processes are to intergroup relations, both good and bad.

By further discussing the intergroup consequences of group-based processes we hope to have fostered understanding of the identity-based issues at stake in this context, over and above an understanding solely of categorization and identification processes. We have documented that threat perceptions arising directly or indirectly from the other group can have adverse consequences for intergroup relations. In contrast, engaging in contact with members of the other community tends to have positive consequences for community relations, being typically associated with more positive attitudes to that group, as well as being an effective means for reducing perceived threat. The extensive body of research on the consequences of intergroup contact should be of particular interest to policy makers, as it provides consistent support for continuing contact schemes in educational and community settings in this context. Moreover, this research has, for the first time, focused on examined the consequences of segregation on self-categorization, and social identification, as well as intergroup or between group processes. This research illustrates the powerful effects that context can exert on group relations (both within groups and between groups), to the extent that individuals living in mixed areas in Northern Ireland tended to be more likely to display more discerning categorization patterns and tended to reveal less bias in favour of their own community than did individuals living in more homogenous, segregated environments. However, whether this is because more ‘tolerant’ people elect to live in mixed areas, or whether this is a consequence of living in a mixed area, remains uncertain.

The lack of state support is a recurrent theme in many interviews. In particular respondents expressed dissatisfaction with key government agencies such as the police service and housing executive and with local elected representatives. This research should inform and enrich a fundamental, and complex, strand of government policy in Northern Ireland, aimed at supporting integrated neighbourhoods, better inter-group communication and inter-ethnic trust.

**The views expressed in this magazine by contributors are their own and may not necessarily be attributed to the CRC.**

**Compiled and edited by Patricia O’Neill and Ellana Tomasso**

## Social Partnership Programme

**Mediation Northern Ireland** contributes to progress in Northern Ireland by embedding good practice in dealing with change, contention or conflict.

With the support of the Big Lottery and the Community Relations Council, we are carrying out an innovative programme which builds structures and systems to deal with contentious and community cohesion issues especially through strengthening social partnerships.

A mediator goes between people affected by difference or conflict and, acting as an 'impartial outsider', assists communication, increases understanding and supports efforts to improve the situation, based on consensus, human dignity and mutual respect.

In terms of Community Cohesion, mediation has three civic tasks:

1. To help people deal with disputes that have significance for community relations – conflict intervention.
2. To strengthen relationships – among civic leaders; within and between communities – good relations.
3. To empower citizens to solve problems in collaboration with civic leaders and public services – social partnership.

Informed by John Paul Lederach's theory of 'the moral imagination', MNI believe that those who overcome conflict or build peace in society share four fundamental characteristics:

- An understanding of the importance of developing relationships, not just with one's friends or allies but also with others who have significance in a difficult situation.
- A curiosity about these 'significant others' – meaning a genuine interest in them and a regard for their ultimate welfare.
- A capacity for creativity in situations of conflict or contention.
- A willingness to take risks to improve one's situation.

We believe that mediators can contribute to societal stability by strengthening relations between individuals with strategic significance or potential in society; by stimulating their curiosity about significant others; by supporting their creativity and helping them take risks for positive change.

We call this work: 'stimulating the civic imagination'.

The foundation of the Social Partnership Programme strategy is to strengthen relations between three 'core sectors':

- The Local Authority and Public Services – elected representatives and officials.
- Civic Society – unelected leaders.
- The community/voluntary sector – grassroots activists.

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## **Social Partnership Programme (contd)**

This involves working in partnership with appropriate local actors to agree an aim and set of objectives for MNI's intervention process and agree the design of the first phase of the process.

An important phase in the Social Partnership Programme is bringing relevant civic leaders together for mediated dialogue on the issues identified in an earlier assessment; and to seek consensus about an action plan to address the issues.

Another important part of the Social Partnership Programme is building local capacity to develop sustained, long term mediative activity in support of community cohesion. Invariably, this involves training local practitioners, from across the three aforementioned core sectors – the Local Authority/public services; civic society; the community/voluntary sector.

Overall the programme has a four strand approach.

1. Building civic support – This activity will aim to create a supportive climate for local mediation in support of community cohesion.
2. Infrastructure – Creating mechanisms to establish and maintain partnerships between local leadership regarding the strategic direction of the programme and its operational delivery.
3. Training – Improving locally based capacity to develop and practice mediation and associated disciplines in support of community cohesion.
4. Practice Development – Supporting local mediators to make a transition from training to practice.

The intended legacy of the programme will be improved local capacity for

1. Conflict Intervention.
2. Promoting Good Relations.
3. Building Social Partnership.

The Social Partnership Programme is a model for dealing with issues on a local government level across sectors, it also takes into account that across the sectors there is existing work being done to resolve contentious issues and to support community cohesion. The Social Partnership Programme adds value to this work, and helps organisations and people enhance their skills to problem solve and work collaboratively to achieve their aims and objectives.

Currently the Social Partnership Programme is working in the following Council areas: Newry and Mourne, Ballymena, Larne, North Down, Ards and Down.

For more information about the Social Partnership Programme please contact:

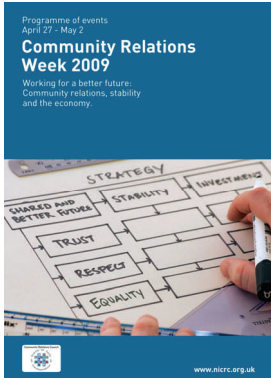
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## Community Relations Week 2009



This month sees the start of CR Week (27 April—7 May), the annual showcase of community relations events and activities. The programme is co-ordinated by the Community Relations Council and planned by individual organisations, mostly voluntary and community groups but also District Councils and other public bodies. This year over 130 events have been organised. The most up-to-date programme details are posted on the CRC website and a printed programme is available on request.

This year's theme is the relationship of community relations work, stability and the economy. Now is a time of significant economic challenge, but addressing division now in order to create an inclusive and open society is critical if we are to take advantage when the recovery comes. CRC's annual conference on 30 April in Newtownabbey focuses particularly on the economy and the connection to tackling division. Speakers will include members of the business community.

Derry City Council, which hosts one of three launches of the week, is running a campaign called 'What's it to you?' in which the public will be given a chance to voice their opinions to politicians on what community relations means to them. This is against a background of over 30 events happening in L'Derry.

In Belfast, the Ashton Community Trust is running a conference on sectarianism and racism. Meanwhile NICVA is running an Older People's Parliament at Stormont, chaired by Assembly Speaker Willie Hay, on the motion 'This Assembly believes that older people can play a key role in creating a shared and better future'. In a separate Stormont event the Irish Association is holding a question and answer session with a political panel to evaluate progress on 'shared future' policies and practices. Other events include a meeting of footballers from the Ladies Under 17 teams from Rangers and Celtic with cross-community teams organised by Linfield FC. Anti-sectarian training sessions by the IFA will be included. Also, PeacePlayers International is exploring community relations issues in an event with Protestant and Catholic youth.

In Armagh the District Council is one of a number which is taking the opportunity to launch its Good Relations Strategy. Also included among a number of events in the area is a celebration event for young people to highlight community relations work they have been engaged in through the PASS youth project.

Coleraine Borough Council and Kilcranny House are hosting a community dialogue on devolution to help promote the use of the Town Hall as a shared civic space. Kilcranny House is also running a visual arts event in Portstewart on 'Who do you think you are?'. In Dungannon the Rural Community Network will be having a discussion on building positive relations and launching 'Sharing Over Separation- a Rural Perspective'.

Among the events planned in Fermanagh is a presentation of the Arts Council's Re-Imaging Communities Programme.

These are just snapshots of the programme. Printed programmes are available from CRC and an updated version can be viewed on the CRC website [www.nicrc.org.uk](http://www.nicrc.org.uk). If you wish to add an event to the programme this can be included on the CRC website. Contact Ray Mullan at CRC [rmullan@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:rmullan@nicrc.org.uk) or tel 028 9022 7500 for details.

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# **The Business of Peace:** **working for a better future: community relations, stability and** **the economy—the flagship event of CR Week 2009**

With global economic headwinds currently strong and competition for investment fierce, economies must be agile, streamlined and dynamic. Costs must be minimised, stability must be ensured and infrastructure, skills and connectivity must be of the highest order. However, Northern Ireland continues to be weighed down by the legacy of the conflict and this half day conference seeks to connect the imperative of peacebuilding with the economic and social future.

You are cordially invited to this event, where authoritative speakers from government, business and the trade union sectors will outline what is being done and what needs to be done to address legacy barriers and challenges, and ensure that Northern Ireland's economic potential is no longer compromised by segregation and its effects.

## **Keynote address by Sir Roy McNulty**

### **Panellists**

- Garvan O'Doherty, Chief Executive, Garvan O'Doherty Group
- Ann McGregor, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce
- Heather Moorehead, Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)
- Peter Bunting, Assistant General Secretary, Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU)

**The Business of Peace**  
**Thursday 30 April 2009**  
**Corrs Corner**  
**Newtownabbey**

**9.00 am—1.00 pm**

We look forward to welcoming you at the event

Please register early as numbers are limited

**To register or for more information please contact:**

**Grace O'Sullivan, Policy Development Programme**  
**Tel: 028 9022 7500 email: temp3@nicrc.org.uk**  
**Website: www.nicrc.org.uk**

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## Policy Update

### Challenge of Change Conference

Junior Minister's Donaldson and Kelly attended the Interface Working Group's 'The Challenge of Change' Conference on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

Minister Kelly stated that they hoped their attendance 'will assist the work of the Interface Work Group and that it can make a contribution towards practical progress in exploring the scope for change at interface areas in removing barriers'.

The Challenge of Change process has enabled interface workers and community organisations across Belfast to take part in discussions about the opportunities and challenges to changing the nature of interfaces. The social, economic and environmental deprivation of these communities has been highlighted throughout these discussions.

"The Executive is determined that everyone in our society should live in a fair and equitable society which is at ease with itself and where everyone can enjoy a better quality of life".

The Programme for Government recognises that the economy cannot grow in isolation from determined efforts to transform our society and that *'building a strong economy requires ... a tolerant, inclusive and stable society if we are to attract the investment and skills needed to promote growth.'*

This was reiterated by Minister Kelly, "A strong economy is the backbone of any society...everyone must be able to share in the benefit of economic regeneration, but as long as there are interfaces there will be barriers preventing some areas reaching their true or full potential. This is a time to take stock of the past, and much more importantly I think we must use these lessons to move forward".

Minister Donaldson

"Working with some of the most disadvantaged communities, working on building relationships between the people here and ensuring the end of segregation and division is essential to securing our long term peace".

Originally few in number, the 'peacewalls' have multiplied over the years, from 18 in the early 1990s to, according to ICR research for the Belfast area, up to 81 security and segregation barriers, 44 PSNI CCTV cameras and 6 intrusive security measures at police stations.

"The so called peace walls are a tangible demonstration of the deep divisions that still exist in our community"

Long term...'what we need to do is find a way of trusting our neighbour because it is in building that trust that we create the circumstances in which the walls of division can be removed and we are very clear that we can not arbitrarily as a government just come into an area and say the wall is coming down, decisions have to be taken by the communities in which these barriers exist".

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*contd:*



## **Policy Update (contd)**

The Challenge of Change process is based on the fundamental principle that the safety of those living near or at an interface is paramount and any local changes must be driven by the communities themselves, with the support of all the residents.

“I know there is some concern in communities that when they hear some politicians talking about taking down the walls that this demonstrates a lack of understanding about the genuine concerns of those who live around that wall. For many it seems that this is the wrong focus – the wall or the fence is not the problem but the reasons for the division and separation in the first place. And that is what we have to get to”.

***May's e-Bulletin will contain a full conference report.***

## **Assembly Update**

### **Questions & Answers**

During March MLA's put forward a number of written and oral questions which were of particular interest to CRC. They covered a number of policy issues such as:

#### **OFMDFM**

1. An update on the work plan for the victims commissioners.
2. Status on the strategy for a shared and better future and when it will be published.
3. An update on its efforts to tackle racism.
4. What assessment it has made of how the experiences gained through the peace process can be used to benefit the global community.
5. CSI & inclusion of Sexual orientation issues.

#### **DCAL**

1. Funding to Irish & Ulster Scots organizations and Projects.
2. Orange culture/loyal orders – funding/promotion/contribution.
3. Language strategy – how it will reduce the politicization of Irish/how it will address under-funding of Ulster Scots/status.

#### **DARD**

1. Actions taken by the Minister since entering office to help strengthen the capacity of Orange Halls in rural communities.

**Two questions of particular interest relate to bonfire policy and the flags protocol. (see below)**

#### **11 July bonfires**

Mr P Butler asked the Minister for Regional Development what progress has been made in developing a new policy on 11 July bonfires. (AQW 6231/09)

Minister for Regional Development: I can advise that my Department's Roads Service is not developing new policy or undertaking any review in relation to Eleventh Night bonfires. The Member may be aware that, while bonfire management is an inter-agency issue, Roads Service has the power, under the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993, to remove bonfire material on or near a public road, which may constitute a danger to road users. Roads Service will continue to take a joint approach with the other agencies in the management of bonfire sites. You may be interested to note that Belfast City Council intends to continue its successful Bonfire Management Programme for another year. I understand that the Council has developed its Bonfire Beacon Structure, which will make beacons available to interested communities.

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## **Policy Update (contd)**

### **Flags and Emblems**

Mr P Butler asked the Minister for Regional Development what progress has been made in developing a new flags and emblems protocol between his Department and other statutory agencies; and when this protocol will be in place. (AQW 6233/09)  
Minister for Regional Development: My Department's Roads Service have, through written submissions and attendance at review meetings, contributed to the review of the "The Joint Protocol in Relation to the Display of Flags in Public Areas", initiated by OFMDFM in April 2008.

I understand that completion of the flags protocol review is subject to progress of work undertaken by OFMDFM, to review and refresh the current "A Shared Future" policy and "Racial Equality" strategy.

The Member will know that it is my view that the current protocols are outdated and although they may achieve successful resolution to these issues in some areas, they do not in many others. I have also met Chief Constable, Hugh Orde, PSNI, in relation to the role that the Police must play by way of enforcement, in addition to the work of other agencies, such as Roads Service.

### **Northern Ireland Affairs Committee**

Following on from the oral evidence session with Lord Eames and Mr Bradley on Wednesday 25 February 2009, the Committee has issued a 'Call for Evidence - Inquiry into the Consultative Group on the Past'. The investigation will look at the feasibility of implementing the proposals of the Report of the Consultative Group on the Past in Northern Ireland, and is particularly interested in:

- \* Future provision for victims in Northern Ireland
- \* The operational implications for the bodies currently overseeing the review of historical cases

The Committee invites any individual or organisation with an interest in this matter to submit written evidence in accordance with the guidelines stated below:

Each submission should:

- \* be no more than 3,000 words in length;
- \* begin with a short summary in bullet point form;
- \* have numbered paragraphs; and
- \* be in Word format or a rich text format with as little use of colour or logos as possible.

A copy of the submission should be sent by e-mail to [northircom@parliament.uk](mailto:northircom@parliament.uk) marked "Consultative Group on the Past" and should arrive by **Friday 10 April 2009**.

If you wish to submit a paper copy, in addition to the electronic version, it should be sent to:

The Clerk of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee  
House of Commons  
7 Millbank  
London SW1P 3JA

## Council Member Profile—Stephen Farry

Stephen Farry was elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly in March 2008. He sits on the Finance and Personnel Committee, and is the Alliance Party's spokesperson on those issues. He also serves as the party's justice spokesperson.

Stephen has also been a member of North Down Borough Council since 1993, and served as Deputy Mayor in 2002-2003, and more recently as Mayor. Previously, he was General Secretary of the Alliance Party between 2000 and 2007. Stephen seized the opportunity for a year's leave of absence to become a Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, a leading think tank in Washington DC. He also acts as a consultant to the Washington-based, National Democratic Institute, and served on a number of missions in the Balkans.

Stephen holds a first class degree in politics and a PhD in International Relations from Queen's University, Belfast. He has been a member of the Community Relations Council since 2007.

### New Research

#### *Social Assets –research report*

**by Mike Morrissey, Kat Healy and Brendan McDonnell**

Published by Community Foundation for Northern Ireland and Community Evaluation Northern Ireland.

This research was carried out during 2008 and aimed to generate estimates of 'social assets' at local area level across Northern Ireland which could then be used to complement existing decision making mechanisms.

The terms of reference for the project were:

- This project was focused on generating information on the social assets of communities in order to widen the policy debate and, hopefully enhance existing decision making mechanisms;
- No attempt was being made to disregard already established methodologies currently used within Northern Ireland;
- Findings from the research have been professionally and robustly evaluated by the steering group to provide an opinion on their integrity, objectivity and usefulness;
- While professionally robust and defensible, the research methodology also had to be responsive to local situations, easily updateable and reasonably inexpensive;
- Potential models for future development and usage were to be identified if possible.

To receive a copy of this research please contact Community Foundation for Northern Ireland—[www.communityfoundationni.org](http://www.communityfoundationni.org).



## Events

### Final Call for Community Relations Award Nominations

The deadline for receipt of nominations for the 2009 Community Relations Award for Exceptional Achievement is **Friday 3 April**.

This annual award, in the form of a bronze sculpture, was created in 2006 and was awarded for the first time in April 2006 during Community Relations Week.

Nominations of individuals (not organisations) are invited. The criteria for consideration of nominations for the Community Relations Award are:

- Evidence of exceptional, sustained and long term commitment to community relations work
- Evidence of commitment beyond single community across Northern Ireland and/or across the Border
- An embodiment of CRC values
- Evidence of impact on the thinking around community relations issues.

Self-nominations will not be accepted and CRC staff and existing CRC Members may not be nominated. Family relatives of CRC staff and Members are also ineligible.

Nominations should be submitted to the Community Relations Council on an official CRC nomination form, available on the CRC website or on request from CRC reception, by Friday 3 April 2009.

### Training People

'Training People', the training agency for the not for profit sector, have announced a number of Belfast and Dublin based fundraising and personal development courses for not for profit organisations, charities and small to medium sized enterprises. These will take place during April/May 2009. All of the courses are of one day's duration. They are:

- **Researching and Securing Grant Aid: Belfast Mon 20th April /Dublin Wed 13th May**
- **Developing a Fundraising Strategy: Belfast Fri 24th April/Dublin Thurs 14th May**

Courses cost £130.00 / €140.00 including VAT.

Belfast venue: Boardroom, Council for the Homeless, Great Victoria Street.

Dublin venue: All Hallows College, Drumcondra.

To book a place on a course or for more details phone 028 9267 4737 (NI)/ 048 9267 4737 (ROI) or e mail [trainingpeople@gillassociates.com](mailto:trainingpeople@gillassociates.com) with your details or write to Training People, c/o gillassociates.com, 265 Lisburn Enterprise Centre, Enterprise Crescent, Ballinderry Road, Lisburn BT28 2BP. Courses can be booked in advance and we will invoice you - however, places cannot be fully confirmed until payment is received.

## Events (contd)

### Postgraduate Diploma/MA in Peace and Conflict Studies

Following the revalidation of the Postgraduate Diploma/MA in Peace and Conflict Studies which is offered at the Magee campus of the University of Ulster, the course team is pleased to announce some changes to the programme. Two of these are of particular note. The first is that a part-time option is to be reintroduced starting in the 2009-10 academic year. The second is that a new module is to be offered on Peacebuilding in Divided Societies that will draw on the international expertise of the University in this area.

The full programme will now comprise four taught modules: Peace and Conflict Research; the Northern Ireland Conflict, Divided Societies in the Modern World; and Peacebuilding in Divided Societies. MA students will also have to research and write a 12000 word dissertation on a topic related to peace and conflict research. Further details are available from the Course Director, Dr. Stephen Ryan, at [s.ryan@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:s.ryan@ulster.ac.uk).

### Unheard Voices

**Wednesday 22 April**

**7.30pm, WAVE Trauma Centre, Ballymoney**

**Monday 27 April**

**7.30pm, Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart**

The often forgotten stories from victims and survivors of the Troubles have been recorded by a team led by the University of Ulster's Centre for Media Research. The individual stories present powerful recollections of the move from conflict to peace, as the themes of loss, recovery, strength and remembering are reflected through trauma, grief and hope. The short films, which have been produced in collaboration with WAVE Trauma Centre and Causeway Museums Service, present a unique opportunity to hear personal narratives from the conflict.

Free admission but booking is necessary. To reserve a place please contact the Cultural Development Office at the University of Ulster on 028 7032 4449 or [cn.bleakley@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:cn.bleakley@ulster.ac.uk), indicating which event you wish to attend.

### LIMA

The Lisburn Indian Malayalee Association (LIMA) is having a cultural event on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at Lisburn Trinity Church hall, Knockmore Road. This programme aims to create an environment to impart understanding of Indian and Kerala heritage, culture and values among the Irish / British society in general and other ethnic communities through cultural and social activities.

### Magee Campus, University of Ulster 'Soot silverfish and strawberry jam'

4.30pm, 30 April, Aberfoyle House, Magee Campus

This event looks at the Library of the Church of Ireland diocese of Derry and Raphoe and its importance in the history of the city. Everyone Welcome.

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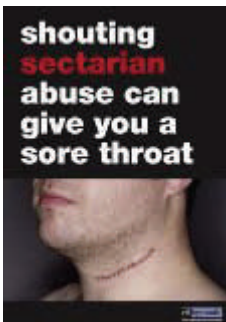
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***Promoting a peaceful and fair society based on reconciliation and mutual trust***

[WWW.NICRC.ORG.UK](http://WWW.NICRC.ORG.UK)



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## Events (contd)

### University of Ulster

Short course 'Researching Peace and Conflict in Divided Societies' by distance learning.

This short course is delivered entirely by distance learning by leading academics and researchers in INCORE (International Conflict Research Institute). It provides an introduction to some of the

- key concepts, ideas and debates in the field of peace and conflict research
- theoretical understandings of the course, dynamics and resolution of societal conflict
- key methodological and ethical issues involved in carrying out research in divided societies

The next course begins in January 2010 and runs for 12 weeks. All of your lectures, class discussions and projects take place online so you can easily fit your study around your work and life. Credit points from this short course can be used towards the University of Ulster PGC/PGD/MSc Social Research Skills with Specialisms.

More details are available at <http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/courses/shortcourses/>