



*Towards Human Rights  
and Truth Recovery*

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 - December 2009



## Nollaig Shona Daoibh from the PFC

The Pat Finucane Centre sends heartfelt Christmas greetings to all families working for truth and justice.

This is a hard time of year for many. Many will be thinking of the faces and laughter we miss, despite the passing of the years.

The Centre would like to assure you that our thoughts will be with you on Christmas Day, as throughout the year.

We pledge ourselves in 2010 to work with renewed energy to vindicate the rights of the living as well as the dead.

### Compensation

Some of you have approached us to ask for a family meeting in the New Year to discuss the often pitiful and insulting compensation you were awarded (particularly in the 1970's and 1980's). We will be sending out invitations soon.

### Dates for the Diary!

Annual Bloody Sunday Weekend

#### 8 pm - Thursday January 28<sup>th</sup>

An Culturlann, Great James's Street, Derry  
"Raiders of the Lost Archives"

PFC staff and actors in dramatic readings from hitherto secret documents showing how the British government knew about, and colluded in, loyalist subversion in the UDR and RUC

#### 8pm Friday January 29<sup>th</sup>

Annual Bloody Sunday Lecture

Tony Doherty speaks of the frustration felt by the Bloody Sunday families at delays in Saville Report

#### 2.30pm Sunday January 31<sup>st</sup>

Annual Bloody Sunday March (assemble Creggan Shops)



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# Historical Enquiries Team

The PFC continues to engage, critically, with the Historical Enquiries Team and work is progressing. We anticipate the publication this spring of a report drawing together the main findings of, and concerns arising from, the HET's major re-investigation of the "Glenanne Series" of murders and attacks.

In advance of this, the PFC wants to give each of those families a chance to speak about the effects on them personally, both in the short and longer term, arising both from the initial incident and subsequent developments - including claims of cover-up and collusion.

We believe that, despite the obvious political, legal and security implications, the importance of the impact on each family and their suffering should be fully acknowledged and respected.

In the New Year, Anne will be contacting each of the families linked to the Glenanne series of murders to arrange a time when she can speak to them. In the meantime, if you have any further queries, please give us a ring.

## Pat Finucane

As we go to press, the British government continues to stall on its commitment to implement the Cory Report with a full, public, international, independent inquiry. Last month, John Finucane spoke about this to a committee of the US Congress.

## P.F.C. Staffing

Three new members of staff have recently joined us. The posts are funded through the PEACE 111 programme. They are Maggie O'Connor, Case Worker (full-time) based in the Derry office ([maggie@patfinucanecentre.org](mailto:maggie@patfinucanecentre.org)), Anne Cadwallader, Case Worker (part-time) Newry office (email [anne@patfinucanecentre.org](mailto:anne@patfinucanecentre.org)) and Geraldine Breslin, Administrator (full-time) based in the Derry office. Contact Derry@02871268846 or Newry @02830251491

**Maggie** was born in Dublin and has lived in the North for nearly 30 years. She is a qualified solicitor and has worked with Madden & Finucane, the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the Committee on the Administration of Justice (CAJ).

Her human rights work has included working closely with the Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on measures to vindicate the European Court's finding that the UK violated human rights standards.

She has also worked with people seeking information and acknowledgment about deaths and incidents from the past.

London-born **Anne** has worked as both a print and broadcast journalist on both sides of the border in Ireland for the past 30 years.

She has worked for the BBC, RTE, The Irish Press, Daily Ireland, Ireland on Sunday, The Irish Echo (New York), Reuters, Independent Network News and wrote the book "Holy Cross" about the school blockade in Ardoyne.

She specialised in writing about human rights cases, is also a freelance media trainer and serves on the Executive of the Committee on the Administration of Justice and the Management Committee of the Conway Mill Preservation Trust.

**Geraldine**, from Moville in Inishowen, is our new office administrator. She has many years experience in community development, is on the board of Inishowen Women's Outreach, sings with the Moville Gospel Choir and is a Board Member of Medicine Wheel (using creative writing to help people through the mental anguish caused by the conflict).

Also this month, **Alan Brecknell** (Newry) was appointed to the Victims' Forum, advising the Commission for Victims and Survivors. **Maggie** spoke about the PFC's work at an event at Queen's University, Belfast, to mark International Human Rights Day and **Alan** spoke on the "Eames/Bradley" proposals at an event organised by the Community Relations Council.



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