

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

Supporting Victims and Survivors, Strengthening Communities Dear Members,

July has been a month of welcoming new faces to the organisation.

We are delighted to advise that SEFF has been successful in its' bid to deliver an Advocacy Service for the benefit of the people of South Armagh and surrounding hinterlands.

Ian Irwin and Alan Lewis (Advocacy Support Workers) transfer across from the FRPU organisation and we are currently recruiting a further Advocacy Support Manager and a p/time Research and Admin Officer. SEFF will now open a new office in Bessbrook village to deliver the service from.

Meanwhile Esther Hurst takes over Martina Virtue's role as Health and Wellbeing Caseworker for the Western sub-Region and Clogher Valley District. We welcome all three new staff to the SEFF Family.

These last few weeks have been particularly busy and challenging for innocent victims/survivors of terrorism with the release of advices on Pensions for the seriously injured made by the Victims Commissioner. Unashamedly SEFF and upwards on 20 other organisation's have rejected her calls for those injured as a consequence of their own criminal actions to also receive the Pension alongside the innocent who they maimed. We have also taken the difficult but necessary step in calling for her resignation. The Commissioner has to date failed to do the right thing so our pressure MUST now be exerted upon Government and the Secretary of State, the Commissioner MUST not be re-appointed for a further term of office., she cannot and will not advocate on behalf of our constituency of victims/survivors (the largest constituency)

Public Consultation around a Regional Trauma Network for Northern Ireland

On Thursday 8th August 2019 IVU will be hosting a special event which will be attended by representatives of the new Regional Trauma Network. There is currently a Public Consultation open which IVU and SEFF will be responding to. Link to the Consultation: http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/consultation-begins-regional-trauma-network/

We will be running a bus from Lisnaskea, leaving SEFF offices at 5.45pm with pick-ups possible along the way. Call the SEFF office on: 028 677 23884 for further info. We encourage you to attend.

Kenny

Membership Details update

REMINDER - If you have not done so already, it's time for your SEFF membership renewal. August will be the last time we'll automatically send the Newsletter to 18 ' 19 Membership.

With ever changing regulations we will be asking for your **GP's name and contact details** to add to your records. Also we require your **GDPR consent**, under data protection legislation we are required to get your consent to hold your data on our systems; we can take your verbal confirmation over the phone. Please call the office and update this information if you have not already done so.

OR **remember** when sending your membership fee to us to **include** your GP's details and that you either give consent for SEFF to hold your information and if you give or **not** your consent for us to use any photos of you in publications.

Thank you for your cooperation.



SEFF August
Monthly Member's
Meeting
Please note there
is no Members
Meeting in July.
The next meeting
will be
Wednesday 28th
August 2019 at
7.30pm in SEFF
Offices, Lisnaskea.

Parking at SEFF, Lisnaskea

If attending a day or

overnight respite and you are parking within Manderwood Estate (where SEFF is based) then please ensure that you park a minimum of 8 car parking places beyond the SEFF entry tunnel either side. It is important that the area in front of the SEFF tunnel is kept free and available for those coming to the office throughout the day to have access

JULY 2019 Issue -154

Upcoming Cultural Seminars & Guest Speakers

DATE	VENUE	SPEAKER
REMINDER		Just a reminder that there will be no July Member's Meeting in any location across SEFF's service provision.
Wed 21st August 2019 7.30pm	Newtownstewart 2000 Centre	Representatives from the Legacy Investigations Branch will attend this meeting to address the group. A short Member's Meeting will follow.
Wed 28th August 2019 7.30pm	SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea	SEFF's August Member's Meeting Speaker to be confirmed.



Complementary Therapies

We are now taking names for Q2 of this funding year 2019/2020 covering the **Sept - Oct 2019 period**.

The treatments on offer are as follows (5 sessions) of:

Massage, Reflexology (Therapist: Sandra Johnston)

Aromatherapy (Therapist: Gordon Hayhurst)

•Reflexology (Therapist: Gillian Johnston)

Physiotherapy (Therapist: Nicola McCullagh-Daley) **

**Due to restricted funding for physiotherapy sessions through SEFF, a decision has been made that anyone who wishes to avail of this service must first complete an Individual Needs Consultation with a Health and Wellbeing Caseworker within SEFF.

We have a duty to direct resources to those most in need. The INC will allow us to assess options for the individual whereby we will try our best to ensure support is possible through our own internal resources, the Victims and Survivors Service support frameworks or external avenues.

- •Indian Head Massage (Therapist: Gordon Hayhurst)
- •Hopi Ear Candle Therapy (Therapist: Ruth Watson)
- •Health Kinesiology (Therapist: Marilyn Robinson)

Please contact the office to register your interest on 028 677 23884.

£25 contribution for 5 sessions -

**WHEN TAKING UP <u>ANY</u> OF THESE SESSIONS YOU ARE REQUIRED TO COM-PLETE THE MONITORING FORMS AND PAY THE MONIES <u>BEFORE</u> SESSIONS COMMENCE, OTHERWISE YOU <u>WILL NOT</u> BE ABLE TO AVAIL OF THESE TREATMENTS.

The SEFF Office is open Monday -Friday, 9am - 5pm for general office business If you require support or help with completing DHSS or other Welfare forms Tina/Norman will be available to assist with this service. As much as is possible, Tina will be in the office on Tuesdays from 10am - 5pm. However, if you require help outside these times, please contact the office, leave your name and number and someone will contact you to arrange a suitable time. Remember Norman Kirkpatrick is also now available to assist you with Appeals/Tribunal

SEFF

Representation work.

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1 Nutfield Road,
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Co Fermanagh
BT92 OFP

Phone: 028 677 23884/ E-mail: info@seff.org.uk Website:

www.seff.org.uk

ACTIVITIES & RESPITES

Celebrating 10 years of SEFF's Ulster Scots Summer School

Well over 50 young people aged 7-16 years attended SEFF's 5 Day Summer School this week. The Summer School was delivered from the Archdale Hall, Lisnaskea and the site of the former Lisnaskea High School.

The young people were looked after by a team of leaders and were able to avail of a diverse programme of culture-based and fun filled activities ie music, quizzes, crafts, dancing.

There was also an Away Day to Tayto Castle, Tandraee and Tannaghmore Open Farm, near Lurgan.

The finale of the week was The Highland Games held at the former Lisnaskea Hogh School sure where healthy competition as the order of the day as the kids engaged in healthy competitiveness whilst cheered on by parents/guardians and grandparents.

There was also a BBQ and special visit from Mr Whippy which was well received by everyone.

The organisation's appreciation goes to Joy Aiken (Coordinator for the Sunmer School from SEFF's admin side) Audrey Watson (Coordinator onsite) the leaders, tutors and of course the young people themselves.

Here's to the upcoming Residential Summer School in Belleek from 16th-18th August for 12-16 year-olds and there are still a few places left.

And in early August when we hold our first 5 day Summer School in South Down, within Rathfriland High School.











SEFF New Staff Members

Esther Hurst - Health & Wellbeing Caseworker

My name is Esther Hurst, I live outside Brookeborough. I am married to Alex Hurst who is a full time beef farmer with his Dad. We have two daughters - Ruby aged 6 and Anna aged 3. Ruby attends Maguiresbridge Primary School and is going into P2 in September. Ruby suffered a massive stroke at birth and as a result has Cerebral Paisley. She is an inspirational little girl who enjoys horse riding and swimming. Despite doctor's initial fears, she can walk really well but requires a splint. She's very determined and doesn't turn down any opportunities.

I currently work for the Western Health & Social Care Trust in Mental Health & Learning Disability in a Day Centre. I studied at Stranmillis university College Belfast after completing my A Levels. Growing up my Dad served in The Ulster Defence Regiment, The Royal Ulster Constabulary and the PSNI, he has since retired and enjoys steel work. I am looking forward to commencing my post in SEFF as Health & Wellbeing Caseworker in both Lisnaskea and Newtownstewart. I am looking forward to the challenge and meeting you all in due course.



lan Irwin - Advocacy Support Worker (SEFF's new South Armagh Gateway Service)

I was born in a small, rural village in East Tyrone and brought up in an area that 'The Troubles' has had a lasting and devastating impact upon the minority community. Outside of work I am an active member of the community and strive to make a positive impact in my local area through various organisations I am a member of. I studied at Queens University and obtained a BA Hons degree in Management. I have vast experience of working with innocent victims & survivors including posts within South Armagh victims group FAIR to latterly the advocacy organisation FRPU. I have campaigned tirelessly on victims related issues including the unjust current definition of a victim. I previously worked for the Northern Ireland Prison Service and achieved promotion to a

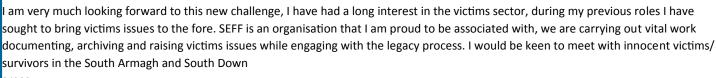
senior rank. This post deepened my understanding of trauma impact and conflict resolution. This career path has helped to aid my personal development and I am considerate of the confidentiality requirement and related sensitivities associated with my new position. I am very much looking forward to building upon my work with FRPU and using my prior involvement to help to maximise this new SEFF gateway service into South Armagh & South Down.

Alan Lewis - Advocacy Support Worker (SEFF's new South Armagh Gateway Service)

I am a 30 year old married father of two from Clough Co Down. I formerly worked as a political aid at Stormont for five years before moving into the victims sector. The most high profile case being when I worked alongside the Kingsmills families during their inquest proceedings.

In 2012 during my role at Stormont I travelled to Brussels were I addressed a delegation of MEP's at the European Parliament on the "radicalisation of children by terrorist organisations." I was also heavily involved in the raise the Maze campaign and this trip formed part of overall efforts to prevent a terrorist shrine being fat the Maze Prison.

I was recently elected onto Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, topping the poll in the Slieve Croob area of the district.



This is an exciting time to be joining the SEFF team, with discussions ongoing at Stormont and the out workings of the flawed Stormont House Agreement. I look forward to playing my part, ensuring that innocent victims and survivors of terrorism are represented and the legacy of our troubled past is not rewritten or forgotten.



BEFRIENDING JULY 2019 Update

Hi All,

We hope you are all enjoying what good weather we are having, in between the showers. The Befriending service is continuing to help those in need and we are working around holidays so please be patient with us. Unfortunately, we are still having to be extremely careful with our Befriending budget due to the success of the service. Our budget is consistently stretched and we cannot sustain this so are having to make some very difficult decisions when asked for help.

The Luncheon Club for our less socially active members is ongoing and we will be contacting those within the SEFF membership who are eligible to avail of this, lunches usually happen every two months in different areas around Fermanagh and Tyrone and we target those local to that area.

Note for all book lovers: next time you are in the office, don't forget to check out our SEFF Book Shelf in Unit 2 (out through the kitchen) where you can browse the selection and leave a small donation in the bucket provided. The shelves are continually being refreshed so keep an eye out for some good reading material, there is a wide range of books to choose from.

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 19th September 2019 - 10.30am-12.30pm - British Red Cross, Slips, Trips & Falls Coffee Morning in SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea.

Thursday 26th September 2019 - Macmillan Biggest Coffee Morning and Cake Sale. We usually get a good attendance and raise hundreds of pounds for this extremely worthwhile charity so please come along and if you are a baker then feel free to bring a contribution to the cake sale.

Regards,

The Befriending Team

MORNING SEFF CALLING SERVICE UPDATE

The service continues to develop with further members requesting the support. We are also hoping to commence services from Newtownstewart and Rathfriland.



We would like to appeal to our members: Could you or someone known to you could spare a few hours on a weekly basis, to give someone who is lonely or isolated a phone call just to let them know they have not been forgotten and at **Morning SEFF Calling** we care?

Please call the SEFF office on: 028 677 23884 if interested in receiving the service or if you wish to volunteer your time at any of the outreach offices where we aim to provide the service from.

Ann and Rita (MSC)

SEFF's South Down Gateway Service

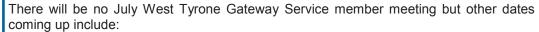
SEFF continues to offer a diverse programme of support within the South Down area through its' Gateway service delivered from Rathfriland. Victims and survivors have access to advocacy, complementary therapies and health and well-being casework support services with personnel able to see you within the Rathfriland office. Meanwhile we are currently seeking to recruit a Counsellor and a Welfare/Benefits Advisor who will also be based in Rathfriland and will be facilitating these services for the benefit of local people. Please ring SEFF if you are in need of any of these services.

Meanwhile, a 5 day standard Ulster Scots Summer School for 7-16 year olds will be held in Rathfriland High School from Monday 5th - Friday 9th August 2019. The Summer School will run daily from 10am - 3.30pm with a wide range of Ulster Scots-themed workshops and activities to include Highland Dance, traditional Ulster Scots music (eg. Bagpipes, Accordion, Drums) along with Cookery, Football and lots of other fun activities. Please ring the SEFF office on: 028 677 23884 if you would wish to register young people.

We are implementing a monthly member meeting structure within the South Down area providing local victims/survivors with the opportunity to come together to discuss issues of commonality, to be informed about developments within the sector and a range of other related issues. The first monthly member meeting will be held on: Monday 19th August 2019 where the theme for discussion will be: 'The Pension for the seriously injured' and we will have a guest speaker(s) present to discuss the issues)

SEFF's West Tyrone Gateway Service

There continues to be good progress with our West Tyrone Gateway service which is delivered from outreach offices in Newtownstewart.





August Member's Meeting

Wednesday 21st August 2019 @ 7.30pm

Representatives from the Legacy Investigations Branch will attend this meeting to address the group. A short WT Gateway Service Member's Meeting will follow.

September Member's Meeting

Wednesday 18th September 2019 @ 7.30pm

Representatives from The WHSCT's Pathfinder Team will be present to speak of the outcome of the recent Consultation undertaken by the Trust concerning Health and Social Care provision across The Trust area.

Over the coming weeks and months the following activities will proceed (check SEFF Newsletter for specifics) Memorial Quilt Project, craft classes, luncheon dinners, respite and we hope to commence a Befriending and Morning Calling Service. We remind members that SEFF delivers the following services from the Newtownstewart office; Advocacy, Benefits/ Welfare Advice and Appeals Representation, Counselling, Complementary Therapies and Health and Wellbeing Caseworker's service. Please contact the office on: 028 677 23884 for further information.

Family Day Respite Saturday 17th August 2019 Slieve Gullion Forest Park Giant's Lair & Adventure Playpark

Depart from SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea at 9am SHARP travelling to Slieve Gullion Forest Park. Enjoy time going around the Giant's Lair The Story Trail takes visitors on an unforgettable journey of intertwined fairy house and arts features creating a fantastical childhood land of mystery, dragons, giants, witches and fairies followed by some time in the adventure play park.



A small packed lunch will be required before leaving Slieve Gullion when we will travel to a local trampoline park/soft play area with a visit to McDonalds on the way home.

Cost is £10 per adult and £5 per child (under 12's) Adults may participate in the activities on offer.

Please phone the office to EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST by 5pm on Friday 9th August 2019.

Delivery MUST now follow - IVU

Kenny Donaldson, Spokesman for Innocent Victims United: "We are encouraged by recent comments from Nigel Dodds made in Parliament concerning the need for the Military Covenant to be applied equally across the United Kingdom and the need for a U.K. wide definition of victim of terrorism".

"Men and women from Northern Ireland have served and continue to serve the Crown and UK State within the security forces, they do so alike their counterparts across England, Scotland and Wales and just as veterans from across Great Britain have access to the rights contained within the Military Covenant, so too must N.I-based veterans enjoy those rights - this is a matter of equality".

"There must be an end to the politicisation of our veterans and their practical needs across welfare, health and well-being, housing etc".

"Meanwhile the continuance of the 2006 definition of Victim as laid out in the Northern Ireland Order is wilful State sponsorship of a rewrite of The Past. The definition infects the environment in which victims issues operate".

"Whilst welcoming Nigel Dodds remarks, the real test will be that in the expected negotiations the DUP will have/or indeed are having with the Conservative and Unionist Party concerning an extension to the 'Demand and Supply deal' that these issues are not merely asks or appeals but rather are cast iron commitments given with timelines attached".

"Northern Ireland MUST finally be lifted up from the place it has fallen due to two plus decades of political appearsement of The Provisional Republican Movement and Terrorism across the board".

"SEFF and IVU initiated the call for a UK-wide definition of victim of terrorism to be developed and we implore Government to heed that call and set about implementing change, which would have a transformative impact upon our Society," concluded Mr Donaldson

Pension MUST be delivered for Innocent Victims

SEFF statement following the Publication of The Victims Commissioner's advice to The Secretary of State on A Pension (VASPA) for the Seriously Injured.

We alike others have campaigned for many years for the provision of a special recognition payment/Pension to be made available to the seriously injured. In September last year we launched a Contract with the seriously injured in which this item was very much to the fore and we secured significant political backing for our stance.

Let's be clear; we will not be goaded into a cynical and cruel game of pitting one innocent victim off against another. We fully appreciate the financial hardship that many have experienced down the years and recognise the failings of our political system to address the issues thus far.

Those who continue to struggle and who fear for the future and who crave to have some measure of financial security should not be put in a position where they are effectively being blackmailed into offering support for a Pension which incorporates terrorists/perpetrators and for which the greater majority of innocent victims understand to be wrong.

The fact that today's proposals were launched to the Media minus consultation with the sector illustrates the lack of consent that exists for the content - and that is deeply insulting to innocent victims.

The UK Government must now make right with this issue by accepting and legislating amendments which ensure that no pension/payment can be made payable to;

- 1. Those who went out to harm others but were themselves injured in the consequence of their actions.
- 2. Those with serious Troubles related criminal convictions.

There is also an urgent need for work to be completed on other classifications of victim/survivor and the need for recognition/reparation payments to be made ie to the bereaved and those displaced from their homesteads due to violence and intimidation motivated by sectarian and ethnic hatreds.

These matters must be resolved once and for all, a UK-wide definition of victim of terrorism is the basis to unlock these issues.

If you wish to read the document launched by The Commissioner, then go to: https://www.cvsni.org/media/1981/2019-vaspa-advice.pdf or we can print off a copy for you to collect at the SEFF office.

SEFF Says a Sad Farewell

Willie Frazer 08-07-1960 to 28.06.2019

SEFF's deepest sympathies are with the Frazer family after the sad passing of Willie.

First and foremost Willie was loved and cherished by his own family but many others loved him too and then there are friends and indeed those who might have been understood as opponents but who held a healthy respect for him based on his family's lived experience of sectarian and ethnic motivated terrorism - terrorism which stole 6 members of Willie's family.



Willie committed a substantive section of his life to fighting innocent victim's issues and is most closely associated with the case to secure compensation for Gadaffi's terror victims murdered by The Provisional IRA and also of pursuing fuel and diesel smugglers and criminals operating in south Armagh and our borderlands. He was also the prominent campaigner alongside the Kingsmill families consistently supporting their efforts down the years.

Willie was a unique individual, he had sharp wit and could be very charming. Yes he had flaws but so too does every one of us. We pray for Peace for the Frazer family over the coming period as they mourn and grieve the loss of Willie.

Beatrice (Bea) Worton 22/09/1927 to 05/07/2019

Bea Worton carried her pain with immense dignity down the years, she battled long and hard for justice and she was a constant in standing up for what is right - her tenacious spirit was admired by very many people.

Her name is synonymous with the Newry Playpark issue (named after convicted terrorist Raymond McCreesh) and where she took on the local Council in the Courts and what's more, defeated them.

Bea was a regular attended of the Kingsmills inquest, she craved justice and accountability for the sectarian motivated murder of her son Kenneth and nine other innocents by the Provisional IRA. Sadly she passes not having saw the end of the Inquest".

SEFF's prayers are with the Worton family as they grieve the loss of a special lady, someone who inspired and also plucked the consciences of those who should know better and who must do better.

Bereavement Support Sessions

We are hoping to start a further course of Bereavement Support sessions commencing in September on a Wednesday from 12.30pm - 2.30pm (start date to be confirmed) lunch will be provided each week.

The sessions will be facilitated by Holly Reid (who has previously delivered sessions within the SEFF Offices, Lisnaskea.)

We have had some very positive feedback from those who took part in the last series. So much so that these individuals have decided to continue to meet in a more informal capacity at a weekly peer support group.

We are now looking for individuals to take part in the next set of sessions, they are open to people who have been bereaved of a spouse/partner or family member, this can be recent (but not within the last 12 months) or the bereavement can be a number of years ago. If you feel like you could benefit from this type of support please get in touch and we will provide you with further information.



Do not suffer in silence!



Robert McMaster

SEFF commends local member Robert McMaster who has scaled the heights of Mount Kilimanjaro, raising approx. £7,000 on behalf of Brainwaves Northern Ireland (c/o Matthew Topping - friend and colleague of Robert in Tesco's, Enniskillen who died of a brain tumour) and Ellie's Retreat charity (Ellie Nicholl tragically passed away at aged 8 years s a result of H-ABC syndrome)

The finance raised will be well utilised by both charities. Robert will be speaking at an upcoming SEFF Coffee morning event (further details in August N'letter)

September Respite Sat. 21st September 2019 Ulster Scots Tour, Kilkeel

We are currently planning a respite day in September where we will take in an Ulster Scots tour around Kilkeel. The tour will be facilitated by Schomberg Society and James Donaldson.

After the tour there will be some free time in Newcastle for folk to spend as you wish and we will stop for a meal on the way home.

Cost is £20 per person (includes transport, tour and meal).



Project Common Bond

SEFF and MUVE Project representatives are currently in the U.S attending a Peacebuilding Conference which has involvement from young people aged 15-20 years impacted by terroism, war and other civil unrest (circa 20 Nations of the World are represented)

In next month's Newsletter we will be including reflection comments from those representing SEFF as well as hearing from Doreen Mullan (chaperone)

We wish all the young people and their chaperones a wonderful experience.



OPERANS AGOOD AND VETERANS AGOOD AT THE LAND VETERANS AGOOD AGO

<u>SEFF to run a bus to Op Banner Commemoration</u> <u>Event - 17th August – Wallace Park, Lisburn</u>

The event is set to take place in Wallace Park, Lisburn, on Saturday 17th August, to commemorate the deployment of the British Army on to the streets in support of the civil power to combat the terrorist threat. The occasion will begin with a Drumhead Service at 11am, conducted by Revd's Edwin Fraser and Andrew Thompson.

After the Drumhead Service, a parade of Operation Banner veterans will make its way from Wallace Park through Lisburn to mark the occasion, passing and lay-

ing wreaths at three memorials on its way - the Lisburn Half Marathon Bomb Memorial and the UDR Memorial in Market Square and the War Memorial in Castle Gardens.

Fourteen bands are expected to participate in the parade, which will return to Wallace Park where the Wellington Silver Band will conclude the ceremony. Hot and cold beverages will be available in the park from mobile vendors, with all proceeds going to the Mayor's chosen charity - Air Ambulance NI.

Everyone is welcome, especially Veterans, families of the bereaved and injured, and all others who wish to show their support. It is expected that including participants and visitors, there will be upwards on 10,000 people taking part, this is probably a conservative estimate.

SEFF will have a gazebo set up near the bandstand, with the usual information and merchandise. As part of the commemoration event, visitors can make their way to the city centre where an Operation Banner Veteran's Museum will be set up in a marquee in Market Square. An Ulster Aviation Society Westland Scout Helicopter and old military vehicles will also be on display outside the Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum. A bus will depart from SEFF at 8.30am to attend the event, pick ups can be arranged on route. The cost is £5 per person, please note there will be no meal included. If interested in attending please phone the office on 028677 23884.

TEMPO WLOL 210

Coffee Morning TEMPO PARISH HALL

Saturday
September 28th

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10am - 12pm

ALL Proceeds to

DREW NELSON

Life & Legacy Project

ALL WELCOME

SEFF Book Shelf

Calling all avid readers

We are starting a new fundraising idea in SEFF which came about after we put a shout out for books to sell in the Tesco Book Stall recently. We now have two Book shelves crammed with all kinds of books in Unit 2 (just through the kitchen) so next time you are in the office why not take a few minutes to browse through the shelves and see what suits, all we ask is that you leave a donation in the bucket provided. Also if you have any books at home that you are finished with then we would be happy to take them off your hands and add them to our book shelf.

W.L.O.L. 120 Daughters of William

are holding a

GRAND DRAW



Prize £500



in aid of the "Drew Nelson Life & Legacy Project"



Draw will take place on the 25th October 2019 at a Bazaar in the District Hall , Lisbellaw

Tickets £5.00 each

This is a voluntary subscription towards the above fund

NO: 75

<u>PCB Quiz Sheet</u> Winners

1st Prize winner - T Alexander £20

2nd Prize Winner

M Coffey £15 &

3rd Prize Winner
- J Carson £10

Thank- you all for your support in this fundraising activity.