Healing Through Remembering Launches Whatever You Say, Say Something

Healing Through Remembering (HTR) launched a major cross-community outreach project designed to help people discuss the legacy of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. Whatever You Say, Say Something was launched over four days in Dundalk, Lisburn, Enniskillen and Belfast, and will offer individuals and groups the chance to begin difficult conversations with the help of a trained facilitator who will aid dialogue. The aim is to encourage people to engage on issues relating to the conflict.

The discussion groups and workshops will offer a platform for any groups and/or organisations to feed their views into existing HTR projects as the organisation considers how society can build a more peaceful future. The project offers an opportunity for individuals and groups to meet in a safe environment and discuss the difficult issues around how we deal with the past.

Healing Through Remembering’s Conversation Guide on Dealing with the Past, will be available to interested groups as a resource.

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The project will run until December 2011 and is funded by the European Regional Development Programme. For more information please contact Angus Lambkin, Project Co-ordinator at HTR. Leaflets are also available from the HTR Office.

Events and Information from other Organisations

Northern Ireland Mixed Marriage Association
2010 Conference “Sharing Patrick – A Saint for All”
Saturday 6th March
St. George’s Church, High Street, Belfast.

Irish School of Ecumenics Belfast Campus
Re-emerging Conference ‘The Church is dead, long live the Church’
Tuesday 16th – 18th March 2010

Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace
Peace Lecture
Thursday 18th March
The Peace Centre

Irish Peace Centres Conference Prejudice and Pride
Tuesday 30th March and Wednesday 31st March
Belfast

Belfast Film Festival
Thursday 15th April – Friday 30th April 2010
Including HTR sponsored screenings and discussions (see above)

Community Relations Week
Monday 26th – Friday 30th April 2010

Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
Meet the Commission – Strabane Reception
Strabane District Council
Monday 22nd March 2010
4:30pm – 6:00pm

Rural Community Network and the Community Relations Council
Exploring the nature of division in rural communities and specifically the experiences of those from the Border Counties.
29th March 2010 – Cavan Crystal Hotel
10.00am – 1.00pm (Followed by Lunch)

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Also inside
• Living in and Reporting on Conflict with Brian Rowan
• An update on the work of the HTR Sub Groups
• Recent Report

Editor: Claire Smith
With thanks to HTR staff

Photo credits: Pacemaker

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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HTR Events

Day of Reflection 2010
The Day of Reflection will again be promoted by HTR on 21st of June.

Memory Truth and Transition
A series of film screenings and discussions exploring the issues of remembering and dealing with the past, and the challenges of transitions.

In partnership with the Belfast Film Festival,
Thursday 15th April – Friday 30th April 2010
www.belfastfilmfestival.org

Healing Through Remembering, Alexander House, 17a Ormeau Avenue, Belfast BT2 8HD
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e-mail: info@healingthroughremembering.org
website: www.healingthroughremembering.org

Editor: Claire Smith
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Living in and Reporting on Conflict

In February, HTR welcomed Brian Rowan to speak about reporting on the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. Brian, former security editor for the BBC and now a freelance reporter writing for the Belfast Telegraph, gave an insight into his 20 year career reporting on the conflict, the ceasefires and decommissioning. Using his own exclusive archive material Brian discussed his decades-long relationships with combatant groups and security forces, their means of communication with the media and how their words were reported. The event was held twice due to popular demand, and offered an opportunity to discuss the dilemmas and processes of reporting to - and living in - a divided society.

Brian noted that while journalists were sent to various war zones, and places that experienced conflict, to report on events, it was very different if you were living somewhere, and reporting on the conflict as it happened around you.

Brian emphasised his belief that you cannot report on a conflict by only talking to one side or about one side or by taking one side. For this reason, he decided to establish his own contacts and relationships on all sides in order to build trust, and report on the conflict in their words.

Recent Report

Ethical Principles – Storytelling and Narrative Work is a recent HTR report that was written by the Storytelling Sub Group. This document outlines a set of principles for storytelling and narrative work connected to the experience of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. The document has two sections. This first section explains the context in which the principles have been developed.

The issues around the different definitions and types and methods connected to storytelling and narrative work are discussed. 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.

At a Glance...

Commemoration
A report of the Sub Group’s roundtable event in January 2007, entitled At the End of the Day – Commemoration: Forward Thinking into the Past, was launched at HTR on 10th of June 2009.

Storytelling
The Sub Group hosted a seminar with Paul Costello, Director of the Center for Narrative Studies in Washington on Wednesday 7th October 2009.

Day of Reflection
The Day of Reflection will again be marked on 21 June 2010. The Sub Group has reviewed the Day in 2009 and is considering future years. For more information go to www.dayofreflection.com.

Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement
The Sub Group is considering the issues that need debated on both truth recovery and acknowledgement and is examining a review of costings of dealing with the past.

Living Memorial Museum
The Display Books of the Open Call for Ideas responses are being exhibited at a number of venues. If you are interested in displaying the Books, please contact Claire Smith. Funds are being sourced to run a temporary exhibition. An exchange visit to Wansee House in Berlin is being funded by Sites of Conscience. The group was recently visited by Jo Besley, curator at the Museum of Brisbane, Australia, who is currently conducting research into memorial museums.

Visit www.healingthroughremembering.org for regular updates on the work of HTR.

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 and 2008 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.