

HEALING THROUGH REMEMBERING
ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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Contributions from Sarah Jankowitz & James Grant
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PEACE III Programme
managed for the Special EU
Programmes Body by Pobal.

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CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

We ended 2013 facing uncertainty but nevertheless hopeful that 2014 would see progress by our political parties in dealing with the past and some certainty regarding our future funding situation. Thankfully this year saw progress on both fronts. The securing of further funding is recognition of the value of our work. More generally, the need to deal with the legacy of the past has become a pre-requisite for a peaceful, better future.

Our successful Voyager programme, part-financed by the European Union's Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACE III) and managed by the Special EU Programmes Body came to an end. The project, through its various strands of work, has ensured widening engagement on issues related to our past and made 2014 one of the busiest for our Director, Kate Turner and our team. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank Kate, James Grant, Eimear McVeigh, Jayme Reaves, Sarah Jankowitz and our interns, volunteers, consultants and delivery partners for their expertise and commitment in delivering our programmes and promoting the aims of the organisation.

Healing Through Remembering is committed to finding a way to deal with our past, and we were pleased to produce and launch the *'Are We There Yet?'* Report. The report draws together all the strands of work we were involved in throughout the Voyager programme - such as developing a process for groups/ organisations to make statements of acknowledgement relating to their role in the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. *'Are We There Yet?'* offers itself as an aid to anyone deliberating how we deal with the past. We were able to submit copies to all of the political parties involved in discussions on the way forward and recognise the inclusion of some elements within the Stormont House Agreement.

The Stormont House Agreement provides a collective political agreement for us to deal with our past in a comprehensive way. Although not universally welcomed, it is unique in the sense that it represents the first politically agreed way forward. This is an opportunity that we must make the most of, and as soon as possible. In the quickly changing nature of our politics, a week is a long time and while some uncertainty exists around the stability of our political institutions, Healing Through Remembering remains committed to helping and holding to account all those with responsibility for the implementation and delivery of the Stormont House Agreement.

Healing Through Remembering has secured funding through a variety of sources to continue our peace-building work into 2015 and beyond. We are pleased to have become one of the Strategic Partners of the Peace and Reconciliation Fund delivered through the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade which provides us with an opportunity to collaborate with other organisations committed to building peace and a better future for us all.

Dawn Purvis
Chair



2014 OVERVIEW

This year saw the completion of the extensive Voyager Project which had included workshops, pilot schemes, drama performances and study visits. This was supported by the PEACE III Programme for Peace and Reconciliation as part of the European Union's European Regional Development Fund. HTR exceeded all the targets of this project both in terms of activities and in the number of participants in events, discussions and workshops.

The project also included the production of a number of resources including reports, newsheets, a drama, workshop materials and a short documentary film. These materials will hopefully continue to assist conversations on dealing with the past.

Due to economic difficulties the study visit had to be rearranged at very short notice with the help of our friends Alma Mašić, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Sarajevo and Maja Čečen, Fund B92, Belgrade. The result was that a very successful study visit was arranged to both Bosnia Herzegovina and Serbia, which gave us a very challenging insight into another conflict area and also what that meant to us and our work nearer to home.

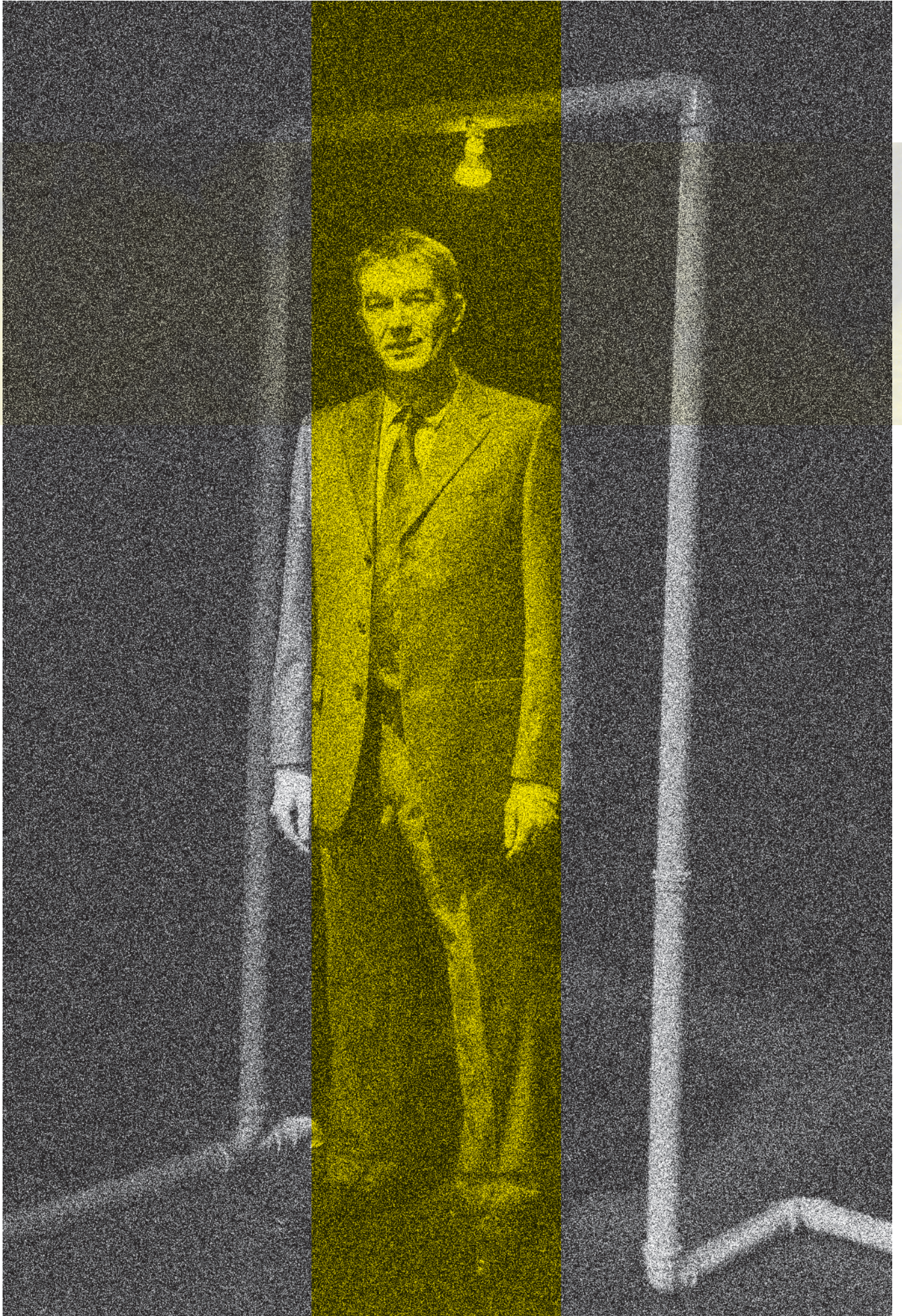
A number of events have become regular fixtures in the HTR calendar - in particular the Day of Reflection and the Everyday Objects Transformed by Conflict Exhibition. Both of these elements continue to engage people not otherwise involved in the debate on legacy issues.

The end of the Voyager project also saw a reduction in staffing and we were sorry to say goodbye to Jayme and Eimear who had both served HTR in a number of capacities. We also said goodbye to a good team of interns without whose volunteer time we could not have staged the Everyday Objects Exhibition in the city centre venue.

On a practical level the Articles of Association were amended with help from Edwards & Co solicitors. This was to take account of legal changes since the organisation had been founded in 2002, the new charities legislation and to make slight practical alterations to the election of board members. These changes were agreed at the Annual General Meeting in 2013 so they took full effect this year.

All this in a year when the office also suffered water damage due to a leak in the roof of the building - which led to considerable damage and disruption to the normal working environment and routine!

Kate Turner
Director



HTR ACTIVITIES

Voyager Project

The Voyager project, which was supported by the European Union's European Regional Development Fund through the EU's PEACE III Programme for Peace and Reconciliation and managed by the Special EU Programmes Body, ran from February 2012 to August 2014.

The Voyager project included a number of areas of work: 'Pilot activities' were carried out to further the debate and discussion on dealing with the past. These were focussed on the HTR strands of work - Living Memorial Museum, Storytelling, Day of Reflection, Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement, and Commemoration. There were also further developments under these themes supported by other funders. HTR continued to offer fully funded conversational workshops on dealing with the past to community groups and organisations. A short documentary was commissioned, an international study visit was undertaken and engagement was continued with relevant decision makers.



International Study Visit – Bosnia/Serbia

HTR hosted an international study visit to Bosnia/Serbia in March 2014. This was the second of two international study visits funded by PEACE III as part of the Voyager Project with the aim of stimulating learning and mutual support through studying experience of conflict in other areas.

The group of ten participants travelled to Bosnia, then Serbia from 15-21 March 2014 and was comprised of individuals working in a wide variety of organisations and community groups throughout Northern Ireland and the UK. Participants had been recruited through an application process and competition for the limited number of places was high. Applicants were chosen based on their outreach to local groups to whom they would bring their learning back as a result of the visit.

In Bosnia, the group were hosted by the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Sarajevo where they spent time learning about the various periods of the history from the region including the conflict in the 1990s. The group visited various memorial sites and the National Museum of Sarajevo where an exhibition of everyday items from the Siege of Sarajevo (April 1992 – February 1996) was on display; many of these items were clever improvisation at turning items of rubbish into useful artefacts.

The group travelled from Sarajevo through the hills to Tuzla where they met with the International Centre for Missing Persons. The group visited their offices, laboratories and morgue in order to learn more about their work finding and identifying remains. This was a particularly tough day for the group as a whole.

The next stop for the group was Potočari where they visited the memorial and cemetery remembering the massacre of over 8,000 men and boys from Srebrenica.

Here the group met with Hassan who shared his personal experiences of the events of those days.

The group crossed the Drina river, a river once used for dumping bodies from the conflict, and left Bosnia for Serbia where they were hosted by Fund B92 in Belgrade. Nicola Radic Lukati gave the group a tour of the site of the World War II concentration camp followed by a seminar on commemorations - specifically, how World War II was experienced and remembered in Serbia. In Belgrade, the group also met with the Centre for Non-Violence to learn about their work with ex-combatants and spent time in the Rex Centre with Fund B92 who then took the group on a newly devised tour of the sites of demonstration against the war in the 1990s. The study visit ended with a group reflection on the experiences from the people and places visited

Living Memorial Museum

Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict Exhibition

The *Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict* exhibition continued to be on display at the HTR office whilst work continued to develop on the exhibition's future. Here the exhibition was held in the meeting room and was open to the public. Originally planned to run for six months, the collectors agreed that the exhibition should stay together due to its success.

As a result of further funding a new location in Belfast City Centre was secured in May. The exhibition went on display in a shop unit located at Unit 6 Lyndon Court, 38 Queen Street from 19th May 2014. By moving to a more central location, more people were given an opportunity to contribute to the debate about how we can learn from and remember the past. The collectors continued to be involved in the process, many bringing their own interpretation and personal stories of the conflict, adding



HTR Key strands of work

- Commemoration
- Living Memorial Museum
- Day of Reflection
- Storytelling and Personal Narrative; and
- Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement.

Commemoration

The Board developed the pilot idea that organisations and groups involved in commemorative events should write their own Code of Conduct which should be publicly available.

to the conversation and reflecting on the complexity of historical memory.

The move to Lyndon Court was well received with very positive and encouraging feedback. From comments expressed, visitors seemed to understand why the exhibition was put together and conveyed relief that the events portrayed belong in the past. For a lot of visitors the exhibition evoked memories of their own experiences and lives. Others felt the exhibition could be a very useful learning resource for younger generations. There was a very high feedback rate with almost 60% of those who visited the exhibition filling in an evaluation form.

Comments included:

- *Learning about the past can help us not to relive/repeat history;*
- *Ingenious!;*

- ... a good way to realise how all communities were affected by the troubles. A great way to encourage conversation; and
- ... a powerful, poignant and stark reminder of how we must focus on the future.

From May to November there were 841 visitors to the exhibition in Lyndon Court.

The exhibition was withdrawn from the public space in Lyndon Court in November due to environmental concerns over the winter. The closure was marked with a seminar with a presentation by Dr Karine Bigand, University of Aix, who had studied and analysed the feedback and responses left by visitors.

It is hoped to return to the venue in 2015, if financial and human resources permit. Meanwhile a small version of the exhibition remains on display in the HTR offices.

Day of Reflection

In 2014 HTR held its fourth public event for the Day of Reflection since launching the initiative eight years ago.

Space for reflection was made available by HTR at the Linen Hall Library throughout the day for those who wanted to drop-in and mark the Day. Opportunities for individual and collective reflection, discussion and feedback were availed by those who attended, many of whom had not previously marked the Day. Some comments left on the thought wall included:

- "Remember the past and learn from it!"
- "No-one is wrong. Everyone has their story"
- "Peace is one of God's greatest gifts. If each one of us could embrace that peace this country and the world at large would be a better place for all of us and the children of the future"



As part of the Voyager Project, a set of panels of each of the Everyday Objects Exhibition artefacts was developed to enable the exhibition to go to venues that were too limited either by space or funding for the full artefacts-based exhibition.

The panel exhibition was displayed at the following locations in 2014:

- Victims and Survivors Trust (VAST), Belfast (11 – 27 February)
- 174 Trust, Belfast (9 – 25 April)
- Holywell Trust, Derry/Londonderry (2 - 19 June)
- Linen Hall Library, Belfast (21 June)
- Mosley Mill, Newtownabbey (13 - 23 June)

Triona White Hamilton continued to curate the exhibition and panels throughout the year, liaising with venues and collectors on behalf of HTR.

- "Learn from yesterday. Live for today. Hope for tomorrow"
- "I am who I am because you are who you are"

There were readings by Jimmy McAleavey, Paul McLaughlin (NIMMA) and Dawn Purvis, chair of Healing Through Remembering.

Interns Laura Brody and Kirima Isler read from 'The Lake of Innisfree', and Edgar Turner read 'Bear in Mind These Dead' by John Hewitt.

Between readings, clips from a number of Healing Through Remembering short films were screened, including the *Ordinary Objects Extraordinary Times* series, *When the Summit is Shrouded in Mist* and the *Day of Reflection* film.

Around the corner, at the Lyndon Court premises, the 'Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict' exhibition was also opened for anyone who wished to use the space to reflect.

Funding from the Community Relations Council enabled HTR to employ Fieldworkers to promote the Day.

A number of organisations and community groups marked the Day for the first time, joining a growing community of those who find the initiative worthwhile and helpful for continuing to address the legacy of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. Groups from Northern Ireland, Great Britain, Republic of Ireland and further afield marked the Day with activities such as readings, quiet moments, labyrinth meditation, performances, music, lectures and discussions.

The members shared how the Network's regular meetings allow it to respond to the local political and social context as it evolves. Any group that adheres to the Healing Through Remembering ethical principles on storytelling and personal narrative as a foundation for their work can join the Network.

The Stories Network will encourage practitioners, contributors, participants and researchers to learn from each other, share expertise and experience and promote good practice. The Network was hosted by Healing Through Remembering as part of the Voyager Project, supported by the European Union's European Regional Development Fund through the EU's PEACE III Programme for Peace and Reconciliation, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.

HTR continued to share and promote the series of short films *Ordinary Objects Extraordinary Times* where individuals share their reflections with an object which has particular resonances for them and their personal



Storytelling and Personal Narrative

The Stories Network was officially launched in June at The MAC in Belfast. A number of individuals and groups involved in gathering personal narratives and stories set up the Network, which is designed to cater for projects gathering and sharing experiences and history relating to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.

At the launch, the members of the Network presented their Memorandum of Understanding. Their work is guided by themes of trust, sharing, listening, good practice, diversity, relationships, capacity building and consent.

The activities of the Network include regular seminars and events relating to the sharing of stories and personal narratives about the conflict. It was hoped that the membership of the Network would be wide-ranging and diverse. A diverse membership would also ensure that these activities were more informative and comprehensive.

memories of the conflict. These short films were displayed as part of the 'Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict' exhibition located at Unit 6 Lyndon Court, 38 Queen Street, Belfast from May to November 2014.

Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement

The research into Apologies and Acknowledgement continued. This involved gathering and analysing statements of apology, acknowledgement and recognition for conflict-related events or activities. These statements were made over the years of the conflict by individuals, groups and organisations. This led to a suggestion that acknowledgement statements should be worked on by groups and organisations, but, importantly, that they should be based on genuine intent and include engagement with those on whom the statement would impact.

HTR continued to be a community partner in the Queen's University Belfast School of Law's 'Amnesties, Prosecution and the Public Interest' project funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). The purpose of this project was to provide information on the international, historical and legal context to amnesties, prosecution and the public interest in order to ensure that the public debate is as well informed as possible.

For more information visit:
<http://blogs.qub.ac.uk/amnesties/>

Publications/Productions

Are We There Yet? Report

All the pilot ideas developed were written up as chapters of a report entitled *Are We There Yet?* This report is an aid to all those considering the issue of dealing with the past and was prepared in time to be sent to those working on what became the Stormont House Agreement.

discussion on dealing with the past. The performances took place in the Skainos Centre on the Lower Newtownards Road, Cultúrlann on the Falls Road and the MAC in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter.

Conversational Workshops

Workshops

HTR continued to deliver conversational workshops at no cost to a diverse range of community organisations and groups of interested individuals. In 2014, HTR conducted over 50 workshops with over 300 participants.

Delivery Partner Training

The final session under the Voyager Project took place in May. Development of materials to include in the Conversation Guide, which was originally published in 2007, continued in early 2014. Further to the educational *Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict* inserts, another set of additional inserts was created.



Building a Way Forward

A documentary film by Declan Keeney, Echogate productions. This short film gives an explanation of the work of HTR and the motivation of those involved in the work and discussions.

Summary of Exhibition Feedback and Response

A newsheet by Dr Karine Bigand, University of Aix, analysing the feedback and responses left by visitors to the Everyday Objects Exhibition.

Memorandum of Understanding for the Stories Network

An outline of the aims, purpose and activities of the Network.

Newsletter Bulletins

Bulletins 14 and 15

Those You Pass on the Street

Four performances of the HTR drama, *Those You Pass on the Street*, were staged in January 2014. The drama, written by Laurence McKeown, is designed to stimulate

Local and International Engagement

In addition to working with groups, organisations and individuals as part of the main HTR activities listed above, HTR also worked with others as part of their work. This included a role as part of the advisory groups for the INCORE, Ulster University Accounts of the Conflict Project; the Community Foundation NI led From Prison to Peace Project; Calipo Theatre Company Sharp Focus productions and the WestBIC led Glórtha Aduaidh project. HTR also supported a section of the Belfast Film Festival with films relating to dealing with the past. HTR staff and delivery partners assisted with planning and workshops at a Commission for Victims and Survivors Conference. The Director was involved in post-show discussions on the Owen McCafferty drama *Quietly* at both the Lyric Theatre Belfast and the Abbey Theatre Dublin.

HTR continued its international participation at events run by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, hosted a visit by staff from the Gernika/Guernica Peace Museum, and attended an event in Berlin hosted by Pablo de Greiff, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the

promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence. HTR also accepted invitations to attend a reception at Windsor Castle for the visit of President Higgins and to a garden party at the Áras an Uachtaráin.

HTR continued to build on existing links and to foster links with a number of academic institutions locally and internationally. The number of student groups visiting the organisation as part of their fact finding visits to the area increased. The students came from a variety of disciplines including peace and conflict studies, international relations, theology, politics and museum studies, and they showed a keen interest in the work of the organisation, some of them later requesting intern placements.

Communication

Website and Social Media

HTR Website

The HTR main website had an increase in visits by 22% on last year. The majority of these (75%) were new visitors. The main international visitors this year were from USA, Brazil, Canada, Taiwan, France, Germany Australia and Russia.

The Day of Reflection and Everyday Objects websites had peaks of visitors coinciding with the months and weeks around the Day of Reflection and the Exhibition being in Lyndon Court respectively.

Facebook and Twitter

HTR's presence on Facebook and Twitter includes HTR, Day of Reflection and Everyday Objects as separate accounts. The main HTR account continues to function primarily as a news service for articles, commentaries and news related to dealing with the legacy of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. This helps to inform individuals interested in the debate and to widen the circulation of discussion on news relating to dealing with the past.







BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dawn Purvis
Chairperson

Oliver Wilkinson
Secretary

Claire Hackett
Treasurer

Irwin Turbitt
Responsibility: Day of Reflection

Brandon Hamber
Responsibility: Storytelling

Alan McBride
Responsibility: Living Memorial Museum

Pat Sheehan
Responsibility: Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement

Geraldine Smyth
Responsibility: Commemoration

Brian Lambkin
Co-optee



STAFF

Kate Turner
Director (P/t time Oct – Dec)

Jayme Reaves
Project Coordinator
(until June 2014)

Sarah Jankowitz
Project Coordinator
(June – August 2014)

James Grant
Finance and Personnel Manager
(P/t time Oct – Dec)

Eimear McVeigh
Administrator
(until September 2014)

Patrick Maguire
Administrator
(Work Placement Oct – Dec)

Interns in 2014

Clémence Albrecht
Laura Brody
Elizabeth Deligio
Florian Englberger
Kirima Isler
Tévy Kong
Tom O'Connor
Harold Ohayon
Sarah Jankowitz
Thomas Wilkinson

Consultants in 2013

Delivery Partners
Joe Blake
Lesley Macaulay
Roger McCallum
Laurence McKeown
Helen McLaughlin
Zora Molyneaux
Yvonne Naylor
Padraig O Tuama
Martin Snoddon
Suzi Swain

Archive Officer (July)
Bentley Robinson

Everyday Objects Exhibition
Coordinator/Curator
Triona White Hamilton

Short-film maker
Declan Keeney and Echogate
Productions

Theatre Company for Drama
performance
Kabosh Theatre Company

Thanks

HTR thanks the following for ongoing support and encouragement:

- Fire Defence - fire and security sales and service
- Cunningham and Dickey solicitors
- Ronnie Horner
- Alma Mašić, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Sarajevo and Maja Čečen, Fund B92, Belgrade
- International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(incorporating income and expenditure account) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Note	Restricted funds 2014 £	Unrestricted funds 2014 £	Total funds 2014 £	Total funds 2013 £
Other Incoming Resources					
Other Income		-	2,469	2,469	1,895
Investment income		-	3	3	730
Incoming resources from charitable activities	1	215,946	-	215,946	311,676
Total incoming resources		<u>215,946</u>	<u>2,472</u>	<u>218,418</u>	<u>314,301</u>
Resources expended					
Expenses		22,719	-	22,719	25,823
Charitable activities		210,048	-	210,048	286,580
Governance costs		3,302	-	3,302	3,713
Total resources expended	2	<u>236,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>236,069</u>	<u>316,116</u>
Net income (expenditure) for the year					
Transfer between funds		(20,123)	2,472	(17,651)	(1,815)
Total funds at 1 January 2014		<u>37,937</u>	<u>15,874</u>	<u>53,811</u>	<u>55,626</u>
Total funds at 31 December 2014		<u><u>17,814</u></u>	<u><u>18,346</u></u>	<u><u>36,160</u></u>	<u><u>53,811</u></u>

2014 OVERVIEW

	Restricted funds 2014 £	Unrestricted funds 2014 £	Total funds 2014 £	Total funds 2013 £
Note 1				
Other Incoming Resources				
Grants receivable for core activities	215,946	-	215,946	311,676
Grants receivable for core activities				
Restricted funds:			2014	2013
			£	£
Northern Ireland Community Relations Council			1,971	13,098
Voyager Peace III SEUPB Grant			156,949	235,547
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust			37,759	-
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade – Reconciliation Fund			7,676	20,148
Belfast City Council			-	27,500
Duke University			1,004	-
Dundalk Town Council			-	4,543
Awards for All			7,991	2,009
Queen's University Belfast			1,100	811
Disruptive Media			-	1,800
Belfast Cathedral Sit-Out for Charity			800	800
Cinemobile			510	-
University of Ulster			100	-
Unfinished Business Project			86	2,402
Gernika Peace Museum & City Council of San Sebastian			-	3,018
			215,946	311,676

Note 2

In 2014, expenditure on charitable activities (£236,069) includes the following:

	2014
	£
Employment costs	86,524
Rent	22,982
Consultants	38,557
Printing, Postage & Stationery	16,343
Audit & Accountancy	2,776
Travel	11,652
Telephone & Fax	1,184
Advertising, Design & PR	5,740
Total	185,758



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