

# Healing Through Remembering Annual Report 2007



## Chairman's Report

2007 saw several significant local events that impacted on the work of Healing Through Remembering. These included the restoration of the Assembly on the 8th of May 2007 following its collapse in October 2000. Restoring the Assembly ushered in new hope for lasting political co-operation. In June 2007 the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland established the Consultative Group on the Past, co-chaired by Lord Robin Eames and Denis Bradley. The Group's remit is to consult across the community on the best way to deal with the legacy of the past in Northern Ireland. The establishment of the Consultative Group highlights the importance the issue of dealing with the past is being given at the political level. At the same time, a functioning devolved Assembly gives us the chance for decisions to be made at local level on these issues.

2007 was also a significant year for Healing Through Remembering. In instigating the first Day of Private Reflection on Thursday 21 June 2007, HTR moved from an advocacy and discussion forum into the area of implementation. This showed that a diverse range of people could not just debate difficult issues but could work together to address the past. The independent evaluation of the Day showed that there was an 'appetite' for spaces for reflection. It also observed that HTR was considered to have promoted and marked the Day in an inclusive and considerate manner even by those unsupportive of the venture. The other Sub Groups also made significant progress during the year. The Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement Group took the *Making Peace with the Past Report* on the road. In a wide range of public and private roadshows the Sub Group shared their deliberations on this issue and also their experience as diverse individuals co-operating on this difficult topic. The Living Memorial Museum Sub Group published an analysis of the Open Call for Ideas on a Living Memorial Museum. The Storytelling Sub Group held a workshop entitled 'Storytelling - Helpful or Harmful?'. The Commemoration Group held a public roundtable event and screened a series of films for HTR members focusing on dealing with the past. In short, HTR continued, through a wide range of activities, to not only help the society deal with the past in a practical sense but remained a leader in the field.

2007 also saw the stepping down of Roy McClelland as Chair of HTR. Roy had chaired HTR since 2001. He piloted the fledgling organisation through uncharted waters while ensuring that it was always a membership-led enterprise. I hope my time as Chair will be equally fruitful, and with the support and commitment the Board and HTR members have always shown, ensure that collectively we rise to the challenges of a new context.

**Brandon Hamber**  
Chairperson



## OVERVIEW 2007

Healing Through Remembering saw its work and impact increase over the year. There was an increase in public events and engagement and the debate and discussion in the Sub Groups continued, informed by this wider involvement.

The Day of Reflection Sub Group saw the first Day of Private Reflection take place on 21st June 2007. The subsequent independent evaluation clearly indicated that the Day had been well received and many felt the need for such a moment of reflection.

The Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement Sub Group ran a series of open meetings throughout Northern Ireland – and in London and Dublin - based around its *'Making Peace with the Past'* publication.

The Commemoration Sub Group held its Round Table Event at the Institute of Irish Studies. A full report titled *"At the End of the Day..."* has since been published.

The Living Memorial Museum Sub Group produced its report: *"Without Walls"* – the outcome of its Open Calls for Ideas for a living memorial museum.

The Storytelling Sub Group, following several years of events and reports, continued its work on the principles, values and definitions of storytelling.

The organisation was also successful in receiving funding for an outreach programme 'Diverse Past, Shared Future'. This allowed HTR to share discussions and learning with those who had not yet been involved in the debate on how to deal with the past.

Throughout the year HTR again welcomed new staff, consultants and interns to the HTR team. This dedicated team again met a variety of challenges and carried out the activities, research and work of the organisation not only efficiently and professionally – but with a smile. However, it is the members who lead the organisation – who make it all happen. It is their input and commitment to HTR that allows this work to progress, and it is the Board who implement and lead on behalf of the members. This Annual Report for 2007 is HTR's opportunity to say 'Thank You', to everyone involved – and to prepare for the challenges that lie ahead.

**Kate Turner**  
**Project Co-ordinator**



# SUB-GROUPS

## Overview of Sub Groups

The activities of Sub Groups vary from year to year with a number of Sub Groups having a more public profile in each year. In particular 2007 saw significant public activity by the Day of Reflection and Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement Sub Groups.

## COMMEMORATION SUB-GROUP



HTR's Network of Commemoration Sub Group held a Round Table Event at the Institute of Irish Studies, Queen's University, on 19th January 2007.

The event included presentations on two separate, HTR commissioned research papers into commemoration by John Nagle and Sheila Fitzgerald respectively.

Thirty seven participants attended this successful event. Many difficult and challenging issues were tackled, giving rise to increased insight and understanding. It culminated in the publication of a detailed report entitled *At the End of the Day*.

## DAY OF REFLECTION SUB-GROUP

The first Day of Private Reflection took place on Thursday 21st June 2007. The HTR Day of Reflection Sub Group was tireless and detailed in its careful consideration and planning for the day, to bring it to fruition.

Providing detailed information was core to the process. It included leaflets, postcards, bookmarks, wallet cards and posters – all sensitively designed and produced to a high specification.



A free-phone telephone support line was made available before, during and after the day. The Day of Private Reflection was launched in May 2007 and received considerable media interest and attention.

The independent evaluation found that the most common way of reflection was in a private space or 'quiet time'. Other examples included reflective discussion and the creation of books of reflection.

While the private nature of the initiative meant it was difficult to assess the actual level of participation, feedback and messages of support showed a high level of interest and activity.

HTR and the Day of Reflection Sub Group were commended on their commitment to inclusivity.

Interest and support for the Day of Private Reflection came from all sections of the community. There was widespread support in favour of a second Day of Private Reflection, with Healing Through Remembering as the lead organisation.

## LIVING MEMORIAL MUSEUM SUB-GROUP

The highlight of 2007 for the Living Memorial Museum Sub Group was the publication in November 2007 of its detailed report *Without Walls*.



*Without Walls* was the culmination of many months of research, dialogue and outreach. The report's author – Louise Purbrick (a member of the Sub Group) studied the submissions from the Open Call for Ideas (which took place from June to October 2006) in detail and worked with the Sub Group to produce a report that portrayed the individual ideas while identifying key themes.

HTR and the Living Memorial Museum Sub Group was aware of the importance of the submissions in terms of the potential to enrich the debate on dealing with the past – and so decided to document all the submissions in two ways: the report *Without Walls* and the second, a set of carefully designed *Display Books*, which present the submissions – both text and images – in a collective format for formal viewing.

The Books show how much thought and effort went into these submissions and how many people consider the representation of the conflict to the next generation to be vitally important.

2007 was also the second year of Dr Kris Brown's fellowship post with HTR. He continued his research throughout the year for the audit of items relating to the conflict. The outcome of that research was the publication of the *Artefacts Audit: A report of the material culture of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland*. 424,395 items were included in the audit, far exceeding the initial expectations of the LMM Sub Group.

## STORYTELLING SUB-GROUP

In 2007 the Storytelling Sub Group continued to work on the principles, values and definitions of storytelling.

As part of Community Relations Week in May 2007, the Sub Group hosted a workshop on the theme *Storytelling – Is it helpful or harmful?*



## TRUTH RECOVERY & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SUB-GROUP



In October 2006 the Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement Sub Group launched *Making Peace with the Past: Options for truth recovery regarding the conflict in and about Northern Ireland*.

In 2007 the Sub group was engaged in disseminating the report. One of the core aims of this detailed and in-depth report was to help facilitate, stimulate and aid discussion and debate



on the issue of truth recovery. A series of public meetings got underway – starting at the Indian Community Centre in Belfast and ending at Liberty Hall in Dublin on 30th April 2007. The events took place throughout Northern Ireland, Monaghan, Dublin and London.

# Engagement and Partnership

**Healing Through remembering hosted several seminars and information sessions throughout 2007, including:**

- CCCI annual conference – HTR workshop
- Community Relations Council Victims Conference
- IES Abroad Students
- Irish School of Ecumenics Students
- Lagan College M7 Students and Teachers
- National University Ireland Galway Students
- Students from Arcadia College (United States)
- Trauma Recovery Network Conference – HTR presentation
- Truth in Translation Workshop
- University of Limerick Post Graduate Students
- University of Washington Students

**Healing Through Remembering was committed to community engagement and working in partnership with diverse and wide-ranging groups and organisations throughout 2007. Meetings took place with the following:**

- Abbot Zen Centre (San Francisco)
- Children’s Commissioner
- Church of Ireland
- Community Cohesion (Southward)
- Consultative Panel on the Past
- Democratic Unionist Party
- Department of Foreign Affairs (Rol)
- Family Trauma Centre
- Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation
- Greensboro Truth Commission
- HURT
- Independent (The)
- Independent Monitoring Commission
- Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (South Africa)
- International Centre for Transitional Justice
- Irish Council for the Training of Journalists (ICTJ)
- Irish School of Ecumenics
- Muthu (Christian Aid, Sierra Leone)
- Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
- Orange Order
- Serbian Victimology Society
- SHSSB Trauma Advisory Panel
- St Ethelburga’s Centre for Peace and Reconciliation
- Ulster Unionist Party

# Diverse Past, Shared Future –

## Expanding the Debate

In 2007, Healing Through Remembering was successful in a funding application to the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation to deliver a new HTR project.

Entitled “Diverse Past, Shared Future – expanding the debate” the project got underway in June 2007. It aimed to consolidate and build on skills which the HTR sub group members have developed over recent years in addressing issues related to dealing with the past.

Using the skills, resources and materials of the sub groups, the Diverse Past, Shared Future project reached out to other groups and communities which had hitherto not been engaged in the ‘dealing with the past’ debate.

Ruth Moore was appointed as the Outreach and Training Officer to lead the project throughout its 12 month timescale (from June 2007 – June 2008).

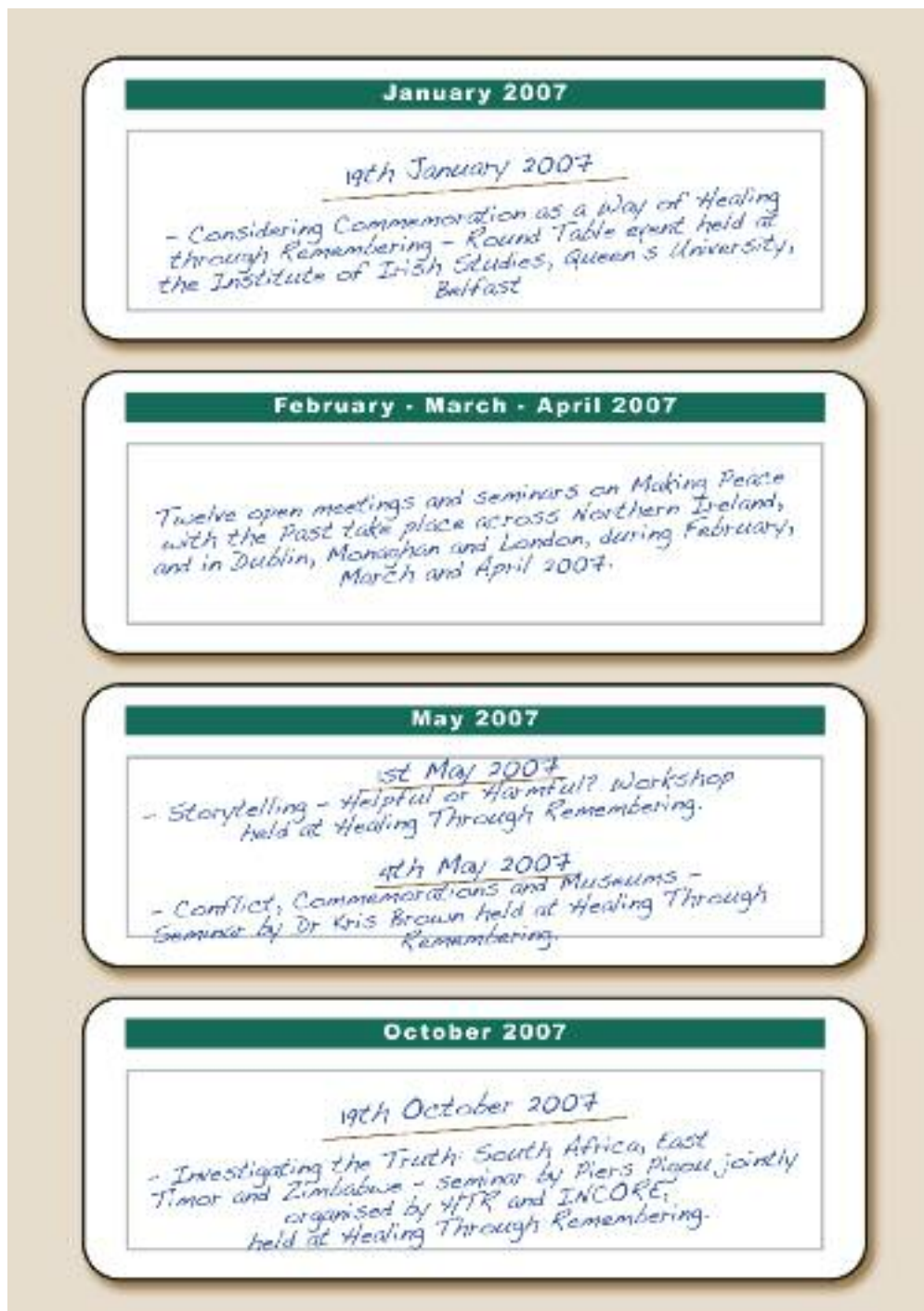
Diverse Past, Shared Future helped to build capacity for wider debate and discussion on how to deal with the past to ensure a better future.





# Public Events

Several public events were held by Healing Through Remembering throughout 2007 – including the series of open meetings and seminars on Making Peace with the Past (as outlined in the section on the Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement Sub Group). These main public events in the 2007 HTR calendar included:



# Healing Through Remembering Membership

**At the end of 2007 there were 84 registered members of Healing Through Remembering.**

**Membership is open to all with an interest in HTR's work, aged 16 and over.**

**The membership is composed of people from the original project board, people who are also part of the Sub Groups and others who are not members of any Sub Group but support the work of HTR.**

**At the end of 2007, the number of sub group members totalled 87.**



# Healing Through Remembering Board

The members of the Healing Through Remembering Board for 2007 were:

Chairperson	Roy McClelland (until 4th September 2007)
Chairperson	Brandon Hamber (from 4th September 2007)
Hon Secretary	Oliver Wilkinson
Treasurer	Marie Breen Smyth

## Board Members

Sean Coll (Chair: Day of Reflection)

Claire Hackett (Chair: Storytelling)

Alan McBride (Chair: Living Memorial Museum)

Jackie McMullan (Chair: Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement)

Geraldine Smyth (Chair: Network of Commemoration and Remembering Projects)

Dawn Purvis (Co-opted)

Martin Snoddon (Co-opted)



# Healing Through Remembering Personnel

<b>Project Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Kate Turner</b>
<b>Administration Assistant</b>	<b>Elaine Armstrong</b>
<b>Unit Communications Officer</b>	<b>Lainey Dunne (until Sept 07)</b>
<b>Finance Officer</b>	<b>Harry Entebang (from Sept 07)</b>
<b>Researcher</b> <b>(Joint fellowship with Institute of Irish Studies at Queen's University Belfast)</b>	<b>Kris Brown</b>

## **Consultants:**

Joe Blake (July 2007 – March 2008)  
Ruth Moore (June 2007 – June 2008)  
Sara Templer (May – October 2007)

## **Interns:**

Martin Bedeleem  
Kathleen Callaghy  
Kaori Ebihara  
Jayme Reaves  
Claire Smith  
Adrienne Tygenhof



# Publications, Media and Website

## Publications:

*"Without Walls: A Report on Healing Through Remembering's Open Call for Ideas for a Living Memorial Museum of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland".*

*November 2007*

*'Storytelling' Audit – An audit of personal story, narrative and testimony initiatives related to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.*

*Reprint with Additions: June 2007*

Copies of all reports and publications produced by HTR are available to download at [www.healingthroughremembering.org](http://www.healingthroughremembering.org) or can be ordered free of charge from HTR offices – tel: 028 9023 8844.

## Media

HTR enhanced its media profile throughout 2007, with appearances on UTV and BBC and with numerous interviews on BBC Radio Ulster.

HTR's press profile was increased following several articles and features in Northern Ireland's daily newspapers, plus national newspapers such as the Independent, and the Irish Times.

The Day of Private Reflection in particular resulted in extensive media coverage – including UTV Life, BBC Newslines, BBC Radio Ulster (Good Morning Ulster and Evening Extra), BBC Radio Foyle, BCB Belfast Tonight, BBC Thought for the Day, BBC Radio Ulster Sunday Sequence, GMTV and Five FM. There were also forty newspaper articles, features and reports relating to the Day of Private Reflection.

## Website

**[www.healingthroughremembering.org](http://www.healingthroughremembering.org) continued to play a key part in the organisation's communications structure.**

**Containing detailed information in a useable and accessible format, the website received several thousand 'hits' throughout 2007.**

**A separate website was set up for the Day of Private reflection – [www.dayofreflection.com](http://www.dayofreflection.com), which is was linked to the Healing Through Remembering website.**

HEALING THROUGH REMEMBERING  
 DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

	Unrestricted	Designated Funds	Project Restricted	Total 2007	Total 2006
<b>Income</b>					
Atlantic Philanthropies	70,000.00	-	-	70,000.00	250,000.00
Joseph Roanfree	12,500.00	-	-	12,500.00	-
NI Community Relations Council	-	-	11,970.00	11,970.00	9,300
Bank interest	4,771.00	-	226.00	4,997.00	9,722
CPNI Pence & SEUPB Grant	-	-	88,158.00	88,158.00	-
Other income	194.00	-	-	194.00	1,397
	87,465	-	98,354	185,819	270,419
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<i>Cost of generating funds</i>					
Website costs	2,794	-	-	2,794	3,510
Advertising	29,612	-	-	29,612	27,805
<i>Direct charitable costs</i>					
Staff wages and salaries	50,517	-	9,721	60,538	65,055
Social security costs	4,574	-	1,444	6,018	6,408
Pension costs	1,991	-	702	2,693	3,903
Office & admin	4,780	-	23,399	28,179	2,944
Bank charges	194	-	-	194	278
Travel	9,714	-	1,970	11,684	2,667
Insurance	(520)	-	690	170	3,327
Rent	14,509	-	3,165	20,788	30,465
Petty cash	-	-	-	-	581
Printing	11,368	-	9,678	21,067	41,836
Telephone	1,533	-	635	2,168	2,371
Events	152	-	-	152	223
Conductivity	16,419	-	1,200	17,639	63,955
Legal & professional	1,100	-	-	1,100	-
Support costs	517	-	2,045	10,462	223
Depreciation	16,413	-	-	16,413	16,251
<i>Governance costs</i>					
Audit & accountancy fees	7,172	-	-	7,172	6,201
Meetings	3,216	-	-	3,396	22,039
Sundry	265	-	31	297	1
	170,845	-	65,600	236,446	300,372
<b>Surplus / deficit for the year before transfers</b>	(83,381)	-	32,754	(50,627)	(29,953)
<b>Transfer</b>	19,797	(19,797)	-	-	-
<b>Surplus / deficit for the year after transfers</b>	(63,584)	(19,797)	32,754	(50,627)	(29,953)
<b>Opening balance</b>	63,584	50,000	345	113,929	143,883
<b>Closing balance</b>		30,203	33,099	63,302	113,930

This page does not form part of the audited accounts