



Healing Through Remembering Annual Report 2016





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Photo credits - Healing Through Remembering & throughtheeyeofalens



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## Chair's Introduction

After yet another difficult year in terms of progress on dealing with the past and the implications that holds for Healing Through Remembering we are hopeful that there will soon be movement on the mechanisms within the Stormont House Agreement. It is then that the decades of work of Healing Through Remembering can best be offered as a resource to all involved.

Dawn Purvis  
Chair

*Above: HTR Chair Dawn Purvis and Board Member Alex Bunting at the Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict Exhibition at Girdwood Barracks, 2016.*



## 2016 Overview

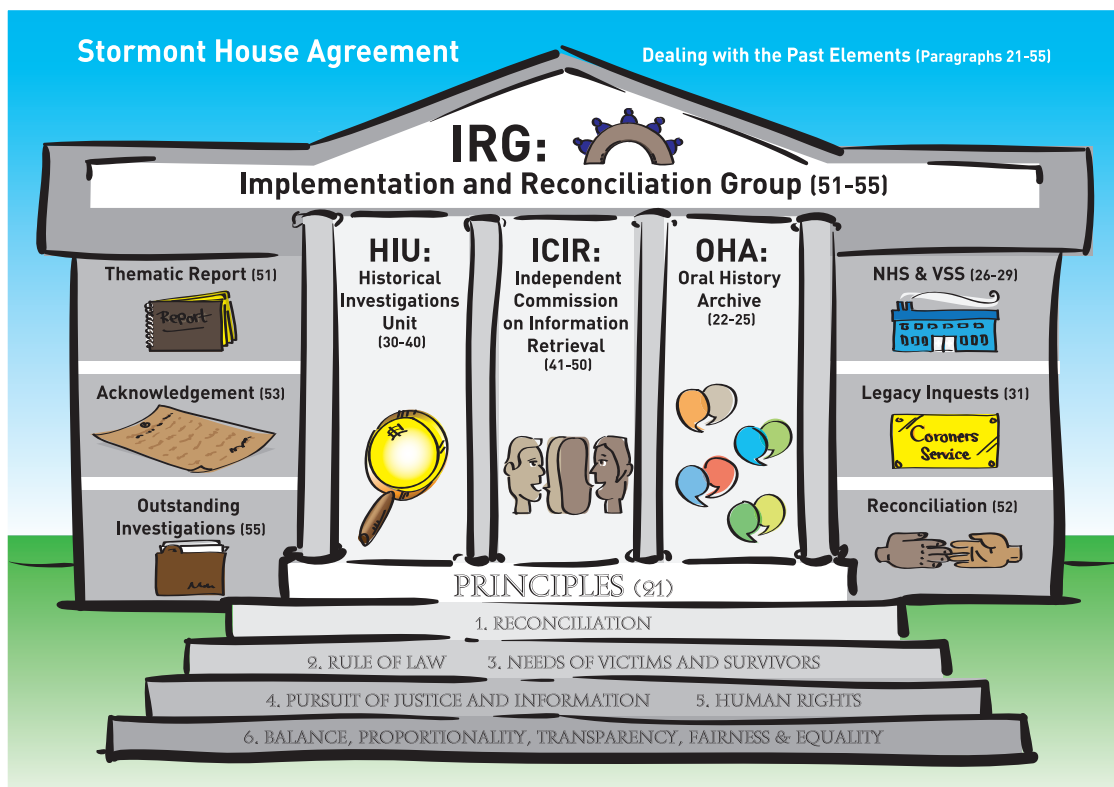
There were a number of projects in 2016 which encouraged debate and discussion – the Cultural Inclusion Project, the Stories Network Seminar, the Day of Reflection, the Then & Now photo display and the Everyday Objects Exhibition.

The Stormont House Agreement resource document was very favourably received – with both hard copies and soft copies (via the

website) being distributed to a wide range of groups and organisations. The resource was designed to enable greater understanding of and engagement with the legacy proposals contained in the 2014 Stormont House Agreement. This followed recognition that there was a lack of clear, accessible information for wider audiences about what these proposals were and what they might mean for dealing with the past in Northern Ireland.

Kate Turner  
Director

*Above: HTR Director, Kate Turner, visiting the History of Immigration in Catalonia Museum in Barcelona as part of the 2016 International Coalition of Sites of Conscience field trip.*



## HTR Activities

### Stormont House Agreement Legacy Resource

The Discussion Resource on the Legacy Elements of the Stormont House Agreement (SHA) was published in March 2016 with funding from the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council, following consultation with HTR Board members, Delivery Partners and other HTR members. The resource is an informative booklet offering full summaries of each of the legacy proposals outlined within the SHA.

It was hoped that the resource could help inform public debate and enable a range of stakeholders to engage in discussions around the proposed mechanisms of the SHA. The resource summarises the content of the agreement; offers questions that individuals and

groups may wish to consider about proposed legacy mechanisms; and, references specific paragraphs in the SHA for each proposal, enabling users to easily locate the text as written within the agreement.

The resource was launched with a number of diverse stakeholders in Belfast, Armagh and Derry, with the goal to reach as many different stakeholders and interested parties as possible. Outreach and dissemination of the resource continued throughout the year, and groups and individuals were encouraged to use and distribute the resource however they saw fit.



## The Stories Network

On Friday, 20 May 2016, The Stories Network hosted the first of a series of seminars addressing oral history archives, with this seminar focusing specifically on issues of process, methodology and copyright. The seminar included presentations and a panel discussion by members of the Network, and was open to anyone interested in the Oral History Archive proposed in the Stormont House Agreement, involved in current storytelling/oral history projects and considering or planning new projects.

In the first session, members of the Network presented their respective projects to the audience as case studies. Each spoke about the project, its impetus and hurdles as well as how they dealt with process, methodology and copyright.

The projects included the Pat Finucane Centre's Recovery of Living Memory Archive, presented by Sara Duddy, the RUC George Cross Oral History Archive, presented by Murray Cameron and finally Northern Ireland Mixed Marriage Association's books, *Mixed Emotions* and *Both Sides Now*, presented by Paul McLaughlin.



Those in attendance were given an opportunity to ask questions of the presenters before moving into small group discussions to consider what issues were being raised in the current context of the proposed Oral History Archive.

Network members Claire Hackett, Jenny Meegan and Ronan Deazley then respectively presented on the issues of process, methodology and copyright before opening up to the floor for a more in depth discussion. Participants raised a number of questions, including the role of storytelling in reconciliation, long-term preservation of archives, access to and usage of stories as well as how to bring together existing projects and new stories in a collective archive.



## Cultural Inclusion Project

Between April and September 2016, Healing Through Remembering ran a workshop project that brought together groups from different backgrounds to discuss and consider issues around commemorating, memorialising and explaining events from the past. The project, entitled *Cultural Inclusion: Challenging Community Commemoration*, was funded by the Belfast City Council Good Relations Unit.

As 2016 was a significant year in terms of commemoration, the project was designed with the potential for reflection upon the 1916 centenaries in mind. The project encouraged groups to consider the ways they express their own culture and identity, challenged participants' attitudes and stereotypes about the 'other', built cross-community relationships between groups and individuals for future engagement and reduced gaps in collective knowledge and understanding about the past.

Five sets of groups undertook a programme of workshops:

- Initial workshop
- Visit to a venue representing a Protestant/Unionist/Loyalist perspective
- Visit to a venue representing a Catholic/Nationalist/Republican perspective
- Visit to the Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict exhibition
- Final workshop

A total of 96 individuals participated, with visits to the Roddy McCorley Society, ACT museum, Andy Tyrie Interpretive Centre, Conway Mill and a Lower Newtownards Commemorative Project under development.

## Day of Reflection

Healing Through Remembering marked the tenth annual Day of Reflection on 21st June 2016 by hosting an event at the Linen Hall Library. The space was open to the public as a space to reflect, with a number of guest readings and DVDs from Healing Through Remembering projects including the Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict exhibition, Ordinary Objects Extraordinary Times and When the Summit is Shrouded in Mist.

Various Day of Reflection activities were also organised by different groups and organisations across Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and Great Britain.



## Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict

The exhibition returned to its Queen Street location between May and September.

It was hosted by Girdwood Community Hub from 4-18 November to coincide with a performance of the HTR-commissioned play *Those You Pass on the Street*. This was led by Intercomm and Duncairn Community Partnership who saw Girdwood as a potential space to explore the past and consider how space is transformed, much like the objects in the exhibition.

The HTR Director Kate Turner and Board Member Brandon Hamber were invited to be part of an advisory group for International Network of Museums for Peace conference to be hosted April 2017 in Belfast.

*Above: Scenes from the Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict Exhibition at Girdwood Barracks.*



## Then & Now Photo Project

This project selected images of Belfast during the conflict and enlisted the help of a local artist, Danny Meegan, to capture present day photographs of the same locations. The project was presented at the AGM in October, generating significant interest and discussion amongst those in attendance.

*Above: Parish Church of St George, more commonly known as St George's Church, High Street, Belfast, in 1973. The church is partly obscured by a collapsed building at the top of Victoria Street.*

*Right: St George's Church, High Street, Belfast, 2016.*

## HTR Key Strands of Work

Engagement with decision makers continued on the five, overlapping strands of HTR's work. These were based on the following proposals as outlined in the 2014 *Are We There Yet?* report.

### Commemoration

All groups and organisations organising potentially contentious commemorative events or activities in the public space should ensure that they are run according to their own publicly available Code of Conduct.

### Living Memorial Museum

The creation of a Living Memorial Museum which presents a diverse range of both the experiences and perspectives of the everyday experience of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland and the steps to peace. This museum will provide an opportunity to gain new knowledge and perspectives; and to act as a signpost to other museums, memorials, tours and collections.

### Day of Reflection

Wider support for the 21st June to be annually marked as a Day of Reflection on the impact and effect of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.

### Storytelling

Development of a network linking personal narrative and storytelling projects and archives related to the conflict. This will include support for repositories for stories and narratives thereby enabling wider audience engagement.

### Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement

Truth Recovery: Develop a comprehensive framework for truth recovery which can uncover as much information as possible to support people who have been most impacted by the past.

**Acknowledgement:** Develop an agreed process that allows for groups/organisations to make statements of acknowledgement relating to their role in the conflict in and about Northern Ireland. This process will have an element of genuine engagement with the potential audience, demonstrate sincerity of intent and a commitment to a peaceful future.



## Local and International Engagement

The HTR Director was appointed to the European branch of the International Coalition for Sites of Conscience. HTR hosted a further visit from the UN Special Rapporteur Pablo de Greiff. HTR gave a talk 'When is a brick not a brick?' at Ulster Museum. HTR gave a presentation on the Everyday Objects exhibition and Living Memorial theme at 'Creative Processes and the Politics of Peace Building' seminar. The event was hosted by the Centre for Resolution of International Conflicts in Copenhagen. HTR also gave talks to a number of visiting student groups.

*Above: HTR Director, Kate Turner, with visitors from Myanmar at the Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict Exhibition.*

## Communication

### Website

Our new website went live in April, and was formally launched at the 2016 AGM. The new site featured a modern format and was designed to provide a more user friendly experience.

### Social Media

HTR's social media presence includes Facebook and Twitter accounts for HTR, the Day of Reflection, the Everyday Objects exhibition and The Stories Network. The main HTR accounts continue to function primarily as a news service for articles and commentary relating to dealing with the legacy of the past in and about Northern Ireland. The other dedicated accounts function to publicise events and the exhibition.

*#HTRactive* - Social media posts also highlighted HTR engagement and participation at local and international events.

In 2016, the main HTR Facebook page gained 82 new followers, a ten per cent increase, and its top post reached 850 people. The main HTR Twitter account gained 59 new followers, and the top tweet accrued 4,635 'impressions'.

## Board of Directors

Dawn Purvis – Chair  
Oliver Wilkinson – Honorary Secretary  
Claire Hackett – Honorary Treasurer  
Brandon Hamber  
Brian Lambkin  
Irwin Turbitt  
Geraldine Smyth  
Alan McBride – Outgoing  
Pat Sheehan – Outgoing  
Alex Bunting – Appointed at 2016 AGM  
Philip Dean – Co-opted after 2016 AGM  
Hedley Abernethy – Co-opted after 2016 AGM  
Conor Keenan – Co-opted after 2016 AGM  
Louise Purbrick – Co-opted after 2016 AGM

## Staff/Interns/Consultants

Kate Turner – Director  
James Grant – Finance and Personnel Manager

Sarah Jankowitz – Project Coordinator /  
Communications Consultant

Kate Loughran – Intern  
Evan Whetsell – Intern  
Elizabeth Cychosz – Intern  
Olwyn Duignam – Intern  
Ernest Purvis – Intern

Special thanks to: Ronnie Horner, Danny Meegan  
and CDC Solicitors

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

## HEALING THROUGH REMEMBERING (A company limited by guarantee)

(incorporating income and expenditure account) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Note	Restricted funds 2016 £	Unrestricted funds 2016 £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
<b>Other Incoming Resources</b>					
Other Income		-	1,931	1,931	2,261
Incoming resources from charitable activities	1	57,754	-	57,754	183,039
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>57,754</u>	<u>1,931</u>	<u>59,685</u>	<u>185,300</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities		123,981	-	123,981	111,222
Governance costs		2,685	-	2,685	3,071
<b>Total resources expended</b>	2	<u>126,666</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,666</u>	<u>114,293</u>
<b>Net income (expenditure) for the year</b>					
Net movement in funds		(68,912)	1,931	(66,981)	71,007
Total funds at 1 January 2015		<u>86,560</u>	<u>20,606</u>	<u>107,166</u>	<u>36,159</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u><u>17,648</u></u>	<u><u>22,537</u></u>	<u><u>40,185</u></u>	<u><u>107,166</u></u>

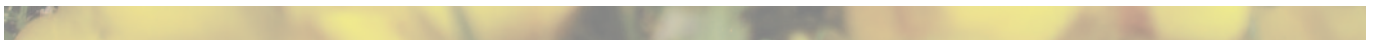
## 2015 OVERVIEW

	Restricted funds 2016 £	Unrestricted funds 2016 £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 20154 £
<b>Note 1</b>				
<b>Other Incoming Resources</b>				
Grants receivable for core activities	57,754	-	57,754	171,574
<b>Grants receivable for core activities</b>				
<b>Restricted funds:</b>				
Northern Ireland Community Relations Council			1,600	3,475
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust			4,017	128,521
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade – Reconciliation Fund			45,217	38,748
Belfast City Council - Good Relations			6,120	-
St Anne’s Cathedral Sit-Out for Charity			800	800
Cinemobile			-	30
			57,754	171,574

### Note 2

In 2016, expenditure on charitable activities (£126,666) includes the following::

	2016 £
Employment costs	56,305
Rent	21,825
Consultants	14,850
Printing, Postage & Stationery	3,925
Audit & Accountancy	2,650
Travel	845
Telephone & Broadband	1,111
Advertising, Design & PR	2,506
<b>Total</b>	<b>104,017</b>



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