




2005

Healing through Remembering Annual Report 2005





Inside photography by - Kevin Cooper, Pacemaker Press International, Kate Turner, Lainey Dunne.



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Chairman's Introduction

As the details of this year's Annual Report demonstrate, this has been a fruitful year for the Healing Through Remembering Initiative (HTR). It is particularly encouraging to see the steady growth in our membership, which I believe reflects a growing awareness of and interest in the work of Healing Through Remembering.

The five sub groups, essential to developing the HTR Report recommendations, have been central to the work of the project. The cross-fertilisation of ideas and insights between sub groups and within the Project Board is proving for us that "the whole is greater than the sum of the parts". In spite of the relatively early stage of our work there have been a number of important outputs and several are anticipated in the near future.

None of this work could have been achieved without the time, energy and commitment of the members of the sub groups, all of which is voluntary. Their regular attendance at sub group meetings, their tackling of challenging topics and at times having to confront differences between members is crucial to the development of the project and its recommendations. Moreover, their involvement is vital in bringing the work of HTR to a wider audience.

My thanks goes to them, the HTR staff and consultants, and my fellow Board members for a year of hard work that has been groundbreaking, productive and set our future foundations.

We trust that the ongoing work of the five sub groups and HTR as a whole will continue to stimulate new thinking, both within the project membership and in wider society.

As we said in the original Report, processes of remembering, reflecting, informing and educating must be sustained for another generation at least. The work of HTR will stand or fall on the commitment of those willing to take it forward. The benchmark of HTR's success will be the extent to which groups and individuals wary of, or sometimes opposed to, a shared remembering process, can have their voices heard.

As the work continues to grow we look forward to deepening engagement with all as we endeavour to find ways to deal with our conflictual past.



Roy McClelland
Chairman of the Board of Directors

“HTR continues to raise the debate”



2005 Overview

This report covers the second year of operation for Healing Through Remembering (HTR). A limited company, with charitable status, Healing Through Remembering has built on the foundations laid in the first year of operation.

This year was extremely productive for the organisation. The five sub groups, established in August 2004, continued to grow their diverse membership, form solid working relationships and undertake a range of projects.

The first in a series of reports from the sub groups was publicly launched in October 2005 and was quickly followed by a public conference at the end of November. Several additional pieces of research were commissioned and are underway. A fellowship post was also created in partnership with the Institute of Irish Studies at Queens University Belfast.

The Healing Through Remembering Initiative held its first AGM on the 13th of April 2005 which saw the appointment of sub group chairs by the broader membership. During 2005 the membership of the organisation continued to grow steadily and represent a wide cross-section of society.

A number of events – launches of reports, research, consultations, call for ideas, seminars – are prepared for 2006.

As our profile grows and our members engage in honest and open debate we hope to find a way for society to best use the past to build a secure and peaceful future.



Kate Turner
Project Co-Ordinator



Sub Groups

In August 2004 five sub groups were established to address each of the recommendations - Network of Commemoration and Remembering Projects, Acknowledgement, Collective Storytelling and Archiving Process, Day of Reflection and Living Memorial Museum - that were made in the Healing Through Remembering Project Report of 2002. Like the original Project Board, the membership of each of the sub groups consists of a diversity of individuals with a range of different political views and social experiences.

Each sub group is tackling the original recommendation made in 2002 through discussion, dialogue and research.

Storytelling

The first step for the Storytelling sub group was to commission research to audit the extent of storytelling initiatives relating to the conflict. The research was published as a report, "Storytelling Audit. An audit of personal story, narrative and testimony initiatives related to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland", and publicly launched on the 18th October 2005. The audit, compiled by Gráinne Kelly, outlines the discussions that were held in the Storytelling sub group regarding an initial definition of storytelling and then documents 30 storytelling initiatives that match this definition. The audit provides a valuable and important mapping of this area of work and is a resource for those interested in storytelling. It is intended that the audit be annually updated with new projects and current information for projects already included.

Following the launch of the report the sub group held a public conference to address storytelling as a vehicle for dealing with the past. This one-day event, entitled 'Storytelling as the Vehicle?' was held on the 29th November 2005 in the Dunadry Hotel. It was attended by 84 individuals coming from a wide variety of backgrounds and organisations. The conference began with an input on the work of the Storytelling sub group, outlining their definitions for the audit, the extent of the audit and their ongoing thoughts about storytelling. This was followed by a presentation by Kevin Whelan from the Keough-Notre Dame Centre in Dublin. His talk covered memory and testimony and their role in a society looking at and forming history. The second speaker, US-based Samson Munn, talked about storytelling and its role in encounter with the 'other'. He outlined his work in the Austrian Encounter initiative that brings together the children of Holocaust survivors and the children of Nazis. The presentations were followed by two discussion group sessions and a plenary question and answer session to a panel chaired by Brandon Hamber. The panel consisted of the Chair and vice Chair of the Storytelling sub group, a representative from the Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement sub group and Samson Munn.

The Conference generated a considerable amount of new interest in the organisation as registered in the completion and returning of the Healing Through Remembering Interest Forms.

In April 2005 HTR hosted a joint seminar with Catalyst Arts Centre focused on the documentary by Cahal McLaughlin on the

“...there is no single day in the calendar year when someone did not die as a result of the conflict”



Maze/Long Kesh. After viewing the documentary installation there was a discussion on storytelling in various media.

recommendation. The document will then be used to generate a wider and more informed debate on the issue.

Day of Reflection

The Day of Reflection sub group continued the research started in 2004 into International Days of Remembrance and Reflection. A number of international days were identified and questionnaires were emailed to international contacts in the relevant countries. Information was gathered on the setup and implementation of these days. A report was produced which examined the lessons that can be learnt from these International examples, particularly in the local situation. The report was scheduled for launch in early 2006.

In the light of the international research the sub group also commissioned a scoping study to examine what locally-based key individuals and organisations considered to be the main issues concerning the recommendation of the Healing Through Remembering Report 2002 for a Day of Reflection. This scoping study carried out by Pamela Montgomery, was based on interviews with a range of individuals from a variety of organisations, including political parties, community organisations, churches and government, and gathered their views on the Day of Reflection recommendation in the Healing Through Remembering Report. The sub group has received this report and are adding to it a proposal examining what a Day of Reflection might look like and what the next steps might be in considering the implementation of this

The group has also had a number of meetings with key individuals following the Day of Reflection held by the Lord Mayor of Derry in December 2004. They met with those involved in the day and also those who had expressed reservations about the event.

An obvious consideration for the group is considering a date that would be appropriate to hold a day of reflection. The sub group carried out an extensive examination of the deaths relating to the conflict and discovered that there is no single day in the calendar year when someone did not die as a result of the conflict. This clearly has implications for choosing a day on which to reflect. Further consideration is being given on this issue and particularly the relevance of this to choosing an appropriate day for a Day of Reflection.

Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement

The Acknowledgement sub group held a residential meeting in early 2005 to examine the best course to pursue in looking at the specific recommendation from the 2002 Report. In the course of this meeting it was felt appropriate to rename the sub group as the 'Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement' sub group. They felt this better reflected the issues which they are addressing.

“the research will contribute substantially to the debate...”



The first piece of research commissioned by the sub group was a local scoping study on acknowledgement. The research, conducted by Brian Gormally, will contribute substantially to the debate on what acknowledgement might or might not involve, as well as consider the role of organisational narratives in dealing with the past. The report will be published in 2006.

At the start of 2005 the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee made a call for submissions on dealing with the past. Healing Through Remembering gave evidence to this committee based on discussions from the Truth Recovery and Acknowledgement Group.

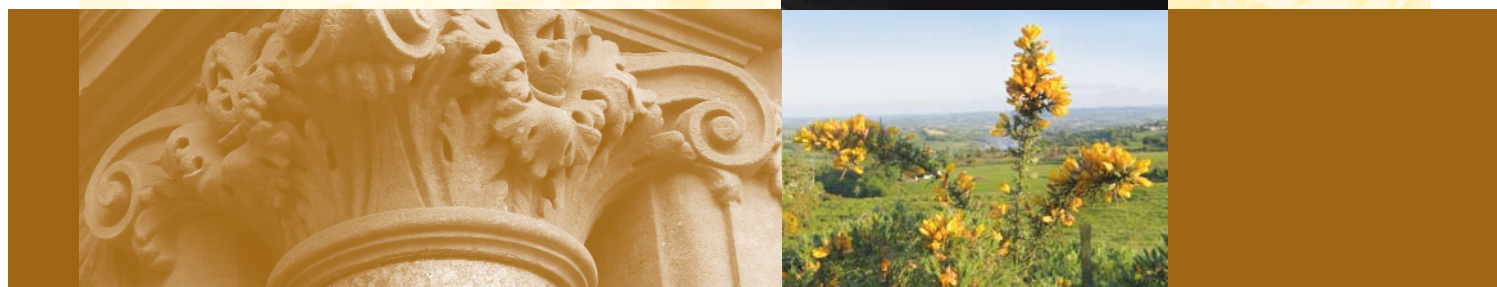
The sub group decided to enable a fuller debate on truth recovery by preparing a report on the current options for truth recovery for public discussion. The sub group worked together to identify, using local and international experience, a number of potential options for truth recovery. Kieran McEvoy was appointed to write the report in conjunction with the sub group. The paper will be completed in 2006 and will be used to enable a fuller debate on the range of options for society on the issue of truth recovery.

Living Memorial Museum

The Living Memorial Museum sub group had a productive 2005. As a first step the sub group felt it was important to carry out an Audit of the artefacts relating to the conflict. This would record what artefacts were held by museums,

organisations and private individuals. The aim of the audit is not to pull all these materials into one collection but to record what items are held and thereby also identify any gaps in known collections. It was decided that the best way to approach this was in partnership with one of the local universities. A two-year Fellowship post has been set-up in conjunction with the Institute of Irish Studies at Queens University Belfast, partly funded by Healing Through Remembering and partly by the University. The holder of the fellowship will carry out the Audit of artefacts relating to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland as originally planned. He/she will also identify the areas of the conflict for which artefacts are not easily identified, for example, the role of the Fire Service or housing discrimination. The Fellow will also produce academic papers in an attempt to build greater engagement between museum, academic and community environments on these issues. The Fellowship, as an externally rooted entity, also has the potential to last well beyond the life of the Healing Through Remembering project or develop in new directions over time.

Another aspect to the work of the sub group has been the idea of what form a museum to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland could take. The sub group wanted to gather a variety of responses from community-based organisations, as well as from qualified architects and designers, and so decided to hold an Open Call for Ideas. This call for ideas will be open to all and will be particularly targeted at art colleges, school pupils and community groups. A selection of the ideas submitted will be



identified to tour local venues as an exhibition to stimulate debate. It is intended that seminars on a Living Memorial Museum will be organised in these venues to coincide with the end of the exhibition.

In order to continue to develop the knowledge of the group, the group began a process of visiting different conflict related museums and centres. The first visit by the sub group was to the Imperial War Museum North and the Tim Parry Jonathan Ball Peace Centre in Warrington. The visit enabled the group to study the buildings and discuss with the organisations their approaches to memorialisation.

Network of Commemoration and Remembering Projects

Following a slow start the Network Sub Group identified the need to consider the definitions of any words that may be used in any final recommendations from HTR. They informed the other sub groups that they would be prepared to look at this issue if and when any key terms emerged from their work, though it was realised that this may not happen for some time.

The Network sub group also decided to look at the issue of "co-remembering" and remembering and commemoration in society. A number of discussions took place in the sub group and a half day seminar on the topic was suggested. This event is being planned for 2006.

The Network sub group are also examining the issue of networking between commemoration projects. It is felt that networking is a particularly difficult issue in the field of commemoration and remembering. Commemoration and remembering activities by their very nature often entail an inward looking approach being taken by a group. The group are therefore initially examining what the issues might be through consultation with other members of Healing Through Remembering.

The sub group are also arranging a number of events for the wider HTR membership. The first event was to the Imperial War Museum North in Manchester in December 2006.



Publications and Events

Report launch

October 2005 saw the first public launch of a report commissioned by Healing Through Remembering on behalf of one of its sub groups.

The report, "Storytelling Audit. An Audit of personal story, narrative and testimony initiatives related to the conflict in and about Northern Ireland", was commissioned on behalf of the Storytelling sub group.

The report was launched at the offices of Healing Through Remembering on the 18th October with a presentation on the audit from the researcher, Gráinne Kelly, and with input from the sub group's vice Chair, Claire Hackett.

The event was attended by over 40 people, some representing groups included in the audit and others interested in the area of dealing with the past and the role of storytelling in particular.

In addition to launching the report the event provided the opportunity of introducing the range of work of Healing Through Remembering to a new audience, through those who attended and through the media coverage received.

Public Conference

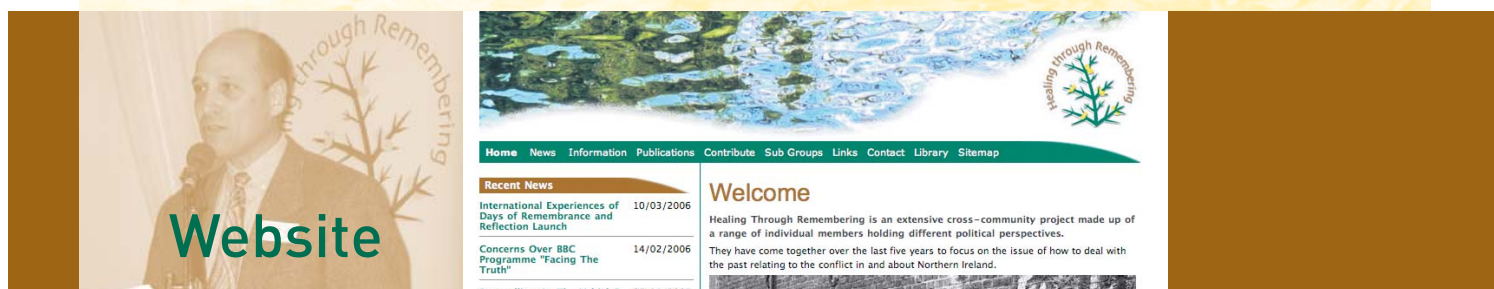
On the 29th November 2005 Healing Through Remembering held a public conference in the Dunadry Hotel, Co. Antrim. The conference, entitled "Storytelling as the Vehicle?", was organised in conjunction with the Storytelling sub group and targeted storytelling practitioners and those interested in the issue of dealing with the past.

Attended by over 80 people, the conference sought to widen the debate on the possibility of a collective storytelling and archiving process as recommended in the 2002 Report. Of particular concern was how such a process might help to deal with the legacy of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland.

The conference widened the discussion and engagement on the topic and further built on the dialogues started at the launch of the Storytelling Audit the month previous. It also served as a recruiting ground for new HTR members.



“the site has recorded visitors from more than 20 countries...”



Redevelopment

In 2005 the Healing Through Remembering website underwent a major redevelopment to enhance the range and depth of the site.

A tendering process resulted in Three Creative being awarded the contract and undertaking the task of redesigning www.healingthroughremembering.org. The aim for the new website was to make it more informative and interactive for visitors.

Re-launched on the 18th October, the redeveloped website features the organisations latest news, background information and history of HTR, online publications, an online library and contact sections, in addition to a dedicated section for each of the five sub groups.

Forum

In order to provide a mechanism for visitors to the site to contribute to the project a forum/message board has also been incorporated into the new website.

Visitors

Between the re-launch of the site in October 2005 and the end of December 2005 the site had received over 1800 hits, 6000 page views and had recorded visitors from more than 20 countries including Sweden, Japan, Philippines, Canada, Colombia, South Africa and Australia to name a few.



Media

HTR continued to expand its level of media coverage through 2005. HTR has also worked on contacting key organisations and individuals to make them aware of our work before any high

media profile. This phase of contact is well underway and a higher media profile is planned for 2006, especially with the number of reports and public events scheduled.

The media coverage during the year included:

- Article on remembrance conference with Maureen Hetherington representing HTR (31st January)
- South Belfast News item on HTR (19th March)
- Oliver Wilkinson appeared on Radio Ulster Seven Days representing HTR (7th August)
- Harold Good interviewed on Talkback, Radio Ulster and made reference to work of HTR (13th October)
- Interview with Claire Hackett about Storytelling Audit Report on BBC television news (18th October)
- Item on Storytelling Audit in Belfast Telegraph (18th October)
- Three items appeared in Belfast Telegraph about the Storytelling Conference (17th and 19th November)
- An item on the Storytelling Conference by Malachi O'Doherty was broadcast on Sunday Sequence, Radio Ulster (4th December).
- PBS Frontline World recorded the Storytelling Audit launch and interviewed some of those present for a programme on Northern Ireland for PBS in the US. (November 2005 and January 2006)



Representation of HTR at other events

During 2005 Healing Through Remembering was represented at a number of local and international events by both Board members, staff and individuals from the wider HTR membership.

- Claire Hackett attended a CRC Seminar, 'Ways forward in a traumatised land: Unity and Reconciliation in Rwanda after the genocide', on behalf of HTR.
- Will Glendinning attended the Northern Ireland Museums Council conference in Armagh in November 2005 on behalf of the Living Memorial Museum sub group.
- Alan McBride attended the 'Dealing with the Past and Transitional Justice Conference' held in Switzerland by the International Centre for Transitional Justice in October 2005.
- Kate Turner and Alan McBride attended the premier of 'Rehearsals', a film by an English documentary team interviewing local communities.



Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Healing Through Remembering Initiative has overall legal and management responsibility for the organisation and consists of the Chairperson, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, the five sub group Chairs and two co-opted places.

The members of the Board of Directors are elected by the organisations membership at the Annual General Meeting.

The elected members of the Board for 2005/2006 are:

Roy McClelland
Chairperson

Oliver Wilkinson
Honorary Secretary

Marie Breen Smyth
Honorary Treasurer

Jackie McMullan
Truth Recovery & Acknowledgement Chair

Alan McBride
Living Memorial Museum Chair

Maureen Hetherington
Storytelling Chair

Sean Coll
Day of Reflection Chair

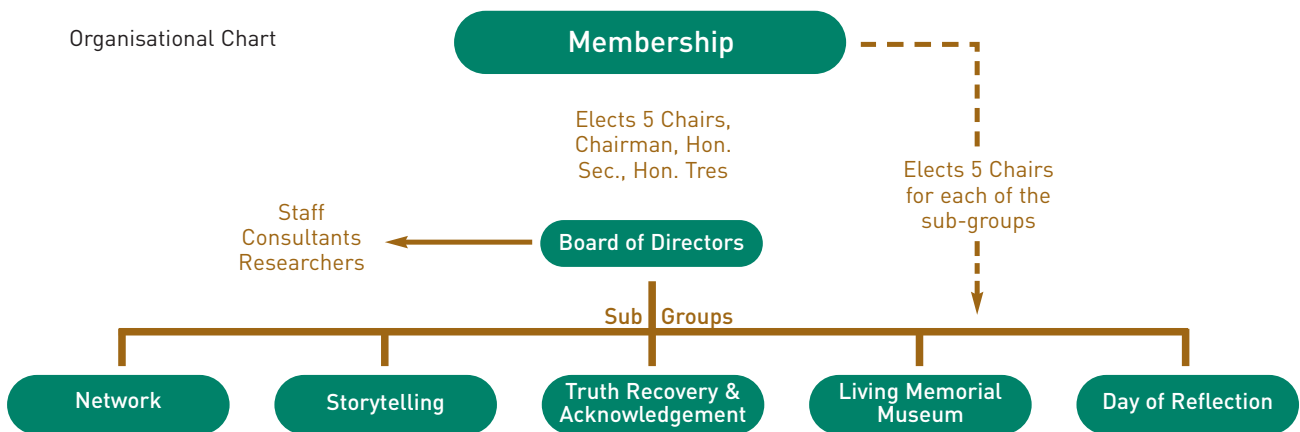
Claire Hackett
Co-opted. Vice Chair Storytelling.

No Network Chair has yet been appointed and the second co-opted place remains unfilled until a Network Chair is in place.



Membership

Organisational Chart



HTR Membership

Membership of Healing Through Remembering is open to all individuals with an interest in the work of the organisation, who are over 18 years of age and who support the further investigation of the Recommendations outlined in the Report of the Healing Through Remembering Project (June 2002). Those wishing to become a member of HTR are furnished with membership application forms and are encouraged to read these and discuss the matter with HTR staff, consultants or members for additional clarification.

An 'Interest Form' is circulated at all HTR public events which gives an option of requesting a membership pack.

The membership of HTR to the end of 2005 stood at 54 people and continues to grow steadily. The membership consists of the majority of the

original HTR Project Board, a number of members of each sub group and also interested individuals who support the work but are not members of any sub group.

Sub Group Membership

Each of the five sub groups comprises a range of individual members with different political perspectives and social experiences. Each sub group member attends the meetings in their capacity as an individual and not as representatives of particular organisations or groups.

Sub group members are not required to become members of Healing Through Remembering.

At the end of 2005 the total number of active sub group participants stood at 86 people.



Personnel

Staff – 2005

In 2005 the staff team of Healing Through Remembering grew from two to three with the appointment of a Communications Officer. The joint fellowship post with Queen's University Belfast, starting in January 2006, also adds to the team.

HTR Staff

Kate Turner
Project Co-Ordinator

Elaine (Lainey) Dunne
Communications Officer

Kris Brown
Research Fellow Institute of Irish Studies,
QUB and Healing Through Remembering

Elaine Hamilton
Administrative Assistant

Core Consultant

The core consultant to the project is
Brandon Hamber

Consultants' Database

In order to facilitate the discussion meetings and carry out research HTR has compiled a database of researchers and facilitators. Details of research projects or facilitation contracts are circulated to those on the database in order to appoint for these contracts as they arise. The database allows HTR to best avail of the skills base available.

Healing Through Remembering welcomes applications to join the consultants' database.

At the end of 2005 there were 29 researchers and facilitators registered on the database.

Contracted Consultants – 2005

In 2005 the following consultants were contracted:

Gráinne Kelly
Storytelling

Brian Gormally
Acknowledgement

Pamela Montgomery
Day of Reflection

Kieran McEvoy
Truth Recovery



Interns – 2005

HTR has received a regular stream of local and international inquiries regarding volunteer intern placements. Interns and volunteers play an important role in the work of Healing Through Remembering by carrying out independent research and contributing to the daily running of the office.

Through 2005 four individuals interned with Healing Through Remembering:

Kathleen Ensor (Oct 04 – July 05)

Kat worked on managing the media archive and completed the International Experiences of Days of Remembrance and Reflection research started by Maria Truno I Salvado in 2004.

Austin Bailey (Jan – July 05)

Austin's role included IT maintenance. He also conducted research using Lost Lives, CAIN and other sources regarding possible dates for a Day of Reflection.

Katie Hansen (Jan 05)

Katie's main focus was the media archive.

Kathryn O'Neill (Sept – Dec 05)

Kathryn worked on updating and maintaining the media archive and researching the issues relating to specific dates for a Day of Reflection.

Interns and volunteers are welcome to apply to HTR for placements throughout the year.

PR Consultants

Pagoda Public Relations continue as PR agents for HTR. A media strategy was developed and presented to the HTR Board. Pagoda, in liaison with the Communications Officer, arranges PR for HTR events.

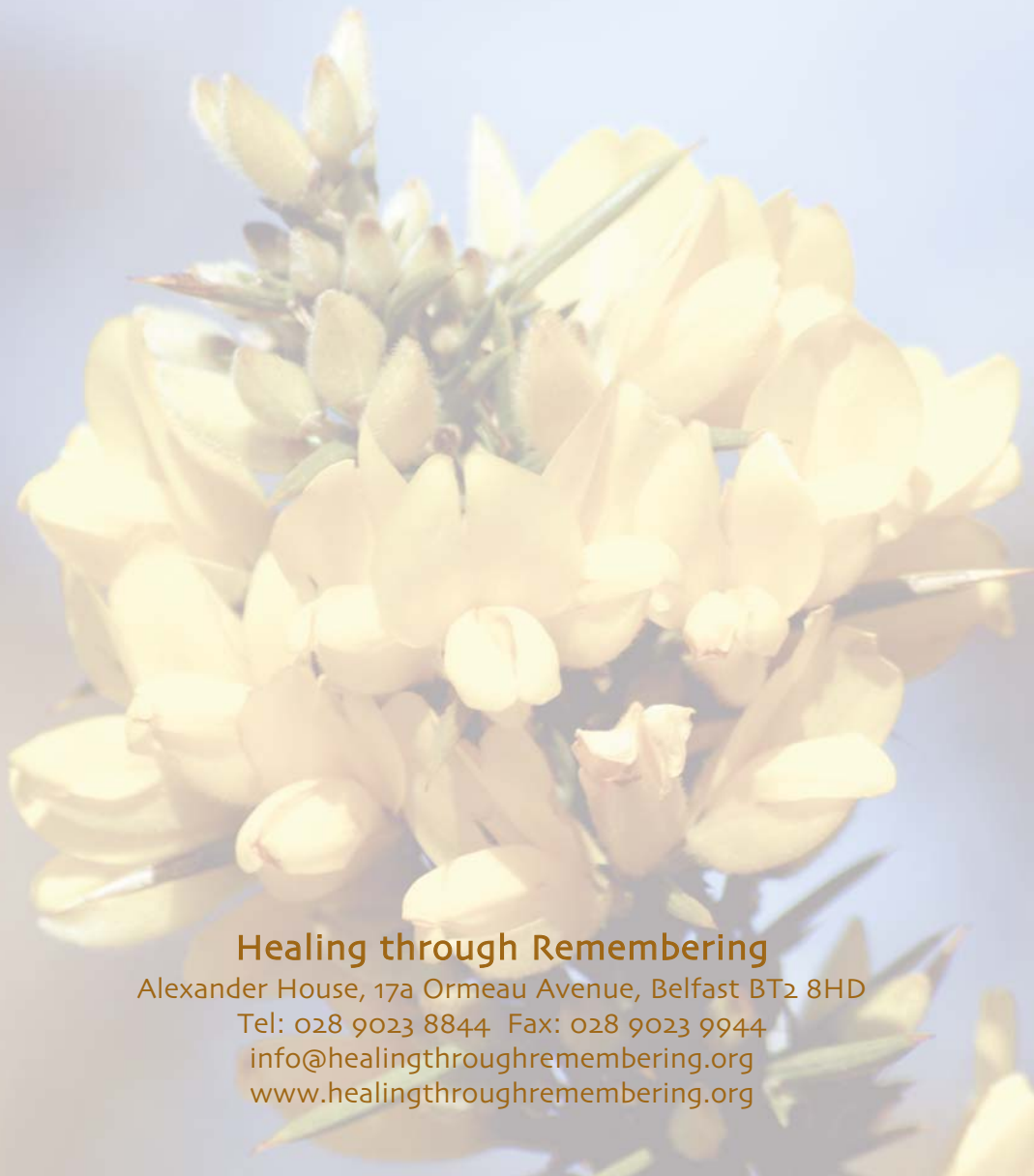
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2005

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2005 £	Total 2004 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Grants				
- The Atlantic Philanthropies (Ireland) Limited	180,000		180,000	250,000
Bank interest	9,431		9,431	4,440
Other Income	26,580	-	26,580	3,446
	<u>216,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,011</u>	<u>257,886</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Salaries	48,713	-	48,713	21,383
Employers' NIC	4,763	-	4,763	2,079
Office administration	3,770	-	3,770	1,834
Audit fees	1,675	-	1,675	1,675
Accountancy services	2,002	-	2,002	-
Human Resources	1,250	-	1,250	250
Bank charges	187	-	187	55
Travel & meetings	19,345	-	19,345	4,670
Web Design	10,161	-	10,161	285
Insurance	2,268	-	2,268	1,693
Consultancy fees	92,813	-	92,813	15,042
Rent and service charges on premises	19,549	-	19,549	12,100
Petty Cash	1,440	-	1,440	564
Postage, stationary & printing	16,396	-	16,396	7,969
Telephone and fax	1,825	-	1,825	1,530
Advertising and publicity	6,713	-	6,713	3,208
Depreciation - fixed assets	11,110	-	11,110	2,258
- leasehold improvements	4,701	-	4,701	5,940
	<u>248,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>248,681</u>	<u>82,535</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>(32,670)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(32,670)</u>	<u>175,351</u>





2005



Healing through Remembering

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