

THE RANGE OF SERVICES OFFERED:

- Befriending / visiting
- Peer group support
- Social events
- Individual and Group Counselling
- Listening Ear Service
- Personal Support
- Skills Training
- Advice, Advocacy & Welfare Assistance
- Conferences / Seminars
- Education & Research

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of West Tyrone Voice is open to the residents and former residents of West Tyrone who are the near and immediate relatives of those who have been murdered by terrorists, or who have been injured and survived murder bids by terrorists, or who have suffered harassment and intimidation by terrorists. Those who have suffered bereavement, loss or injury (physical, emotional or mental) as a result of terrorist activity in West Tyrone and the surrounding area are welcome to join us. If you or someone you know would benefit from joining our group, and can assure the executive committee that you denounce ALL acts of terrorist violence, accept the aims of the group, and are prepared to assist where possible to bring justice and healing to the victims of terrorism in West Tyrone, please contact our office on 8166 2848.

Membership is at the absolute discretion of the executive committee and the fee is *fixed annually* by the committee.

For further information, please contact:

The Project Director
 West Tyrone Voice
 Grange Court, 21/27 Moyle Road
 NEWTOWNSTEWART
 Co Tyrone, N. Ireland, BT78 4AP

Tel & Fax: (028) 8166 2848
 Tel: (028) 8166 1324 / 8166 2702
 Mobile: 07989 26 36 01
 Email: westtyronevoice@yahoo.co.uk
 Website: www.westtyronevoice.bravehost.com

On the Road to Recovery

By Dr J. E. Hazlett Lynch
 Practical help for the victims of the NI conflict as they seek to recover from their trauma.

Price: £3.00 + 50p per book p&p.
 Available from the office

WTV is part-funded by the Community Relations Council, and by the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation through The Rural Development Council.

RESPONSE FORM


Please send me information on:

- * How I can become involved in WTV []
- * How WTV can help me []
- * Social benefit and welfare matters []
- * Events being arranged []

NAME

ADDRESS

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(028) 8166 2848
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 (028) 8166 2702

WEST

TYRONE

VOICE

Speaking and Acting

for the Victims of

Paramilitary Terrorism

in West Tyrone

Part-funded by:



EU Programme
for Peace and Reconciliation
in Northern Ireland and The Border Regions



WEST TYRONE VOICE

West Tyrone is a largely agricultural area, and shares a land frontier with the Irish Republic, covering the district council areas of Strabane and Omagh. It has a population of approximately 88,000 people.

West Tyrone Voice is a group of victims from our community that was formed in early 1999 as a result of needs that were identified amongst those who had been the innocent victims of paramilitary terrorism in this part of the North West of the Province, together with their families. The group is decidedly non-party political, and is not aligned to any religious body.

ORIGINS

The group came into being initially to highlight the plight of the countless “forgotten victims” who have been overlooked, whether intentionally or unintentionally, by a large section of society. They are the “disappeared” of West Tyrone. They have been ignored by our political and church leaders, and dismissed as irrelevant by national and international governments alike. Our members felt the need to talk about what they had suffered at the hands of terrorists to others who had had similar experiences, to be listened to sympathetically, and to do so in a safe, non-threatening environment.

Opportunity for people to work through some important issues in their own minds with the help and support of specially trained counsellors is an urgent need for these people.

A SUFFERING COMMUNITY

The community in West Tyrone has suffered greatly at the hands of terrorist death squads since the terror campaign started in 1968. Many murders and attacks still remain unsolved, which only serves to prolong the agony for their families. Over these years, there have been thousands of terrorist incidents, resulting in approximately 233 murders, and thousands of injuries, cases of intimidation and bombings.

Currently, 48 group members are under death threat from terrorists since the signing of the 1998 Belfast Agreement.

WHAT ARE OUR AIMS?

- * Be a voice for the victims of paramilitary terrorism and their families
- * Seek justice for these victims
- * Seek formal recognition of their suffering
- * Provide support and advice for our members
- * Ensure the story of our pain and loss is never forgotten
- * Seek the re-integration of our members back into the wider community, especially the youth and young adults.

WEST TYRONE VOICE

Speaking and Acting for the Innocent Victims of Paramilitary Terrorism in West Tyrone

West Tyrone Voice will seek to help, in whatever way it can, any who have suffered as a direct result of terrorist activity. Our principle is:

To offer care and support in a sensitive way to anyone who has suffered trauma as a result of terrorist activity during “the Troubles”, and to their families

Religious background, political opinion or cultural practice will be no bar to those who need our help. West Tyrone Voice believes in the uniqueness and dignity of people who have the right to be treated with respect. Respect for life and the acceptance of differences are basic to our outlook.

ACHIEVING OUR AIMS?

WTV has established informed relationships with governments and statutory bodies, and meets with the decision-makers in the Northern Ireland, UK, Dublin and European Parliaments. We encourage our people to tell their story to the media at every opportunity. WTV was set up to enable victims come to terms with the indescribable violence they have faced, and the loss they have sustained. Some members have been trained in the use of counselling skills. We now have a drop-in centre for victims who need support or help, the provision of full time members of staff, and administrative support. Under the European ‘Peace II’ Funding, WTV organises training courses for members in areas such as Computer Skills (Basic to ECDL), Historical Awareness, Crafts, and Personal Development.