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NEWS ARCHIVE

- 12:27 Drugs crackdown in prisons
- 11:12 PSNI: rise in knife crime
- 10:57 Threat of mass starvation looms in
- 10:42 6 RIR in Taliban attack
- 09:08 Bluetooth is watching: secret
- 07:32 Pop band enters Dragons' Den in
- 07:32 Gromit creator revels in having a
- 06:39 Man dies in Tyrone crash
- 02:57 Iraq hostages: Brown urges Iraqi
- 02:18 Man mistaken for bomber was
- 00:03 MPs urge rethink of government
- 00:03 MPs seek answers on torture
- 00:03 Budget cuts threaten to slow
- 00:03 France: Sarkozy's constitutional
- 00:03 Colombians take to the streets to
- 00:03 Gypsy girls' corpses on beach in
- 00:03 Police kill two in China after 400

YESTERDAY

- 10:38 Beaver 'blight' is a warning to UK
- 09:34 Cowboy clinics 'will scar
- 09:34 Badly trained doctors linked to
- 09:29 A threat to legal help in the town
- 21:26 Divers rescued in Portrush
- 21:25 Hijack in north Belfast
- 17:20 Northern Irish soldier loses leg
- 17:10 Mother of Guildford accused dies
- 17:08 Man assaulted in Derry
- 11:53 Calls for assembly to reconvene
- 10:14 Poilice seize cannabis plants
- 00:04 Civilians and oil firms flee Niger

WIN

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- 00:04 A furious Kremlin is determined to
- 00:04 Mandelson polishes his 'inner
- 00:04 Is this the last stand for
- 00:04 Carrier rapped for role in war
- 00:04 Banana talks fail to bear fruit
- 00:04 Ads warn soldiers back from war
- 00:04 Family videotape treasures at risk
- 00:04 Gene found that limits alcohol risk

YOUR COMMENTS

-  Talks on council workers` pay
16 comments
-  Government apologises over pub bomb
20 comments
-  Orange Order attacks Sinn Fein
52 comments

LOCAL NEWS



The Disappeared

Tuesday 01 July 2008 14:10

Families of Disappeared to receive government help

Families struggling with the unresolved affairs of the Disappeared IRA victims are to receive government help.

The High Court will be allowed to declare a missing person presumed dead and issue a death certificate, Nigel Dodds said.

The Finance Minister`s Presumption of Death Bill will help relatives dispose of the homes of those abducted and have savings or insurance policies paid.

Mr Dodds said: *"I know that for the families of the Disappeared and other missing persons that this bill cannot make up for the loss of a loved one or the continuing anguish which comes from a body not being recovered for burial or cremation."*

"I hope, however, that it will help them to address some of their concerns and the problems they may encounter."

There were 68 people listed as missing from Northern Ireland earlier this year.

Last November relatives of the nine so-called Disappeared carried a black wreath with nine white lilies to Stormont to remember them.

They include 17-year-old Columba McVeigh, kidnapped and murdered by the IRA in 1975 near his home village of Donaghmore,

County Tyrone.

37-year-old Jean McConville, was abducted by the IRA from her home in 1972, after she went to the aid of a fatally wounded British soldier outside her front door.

In 1999, the IRA offered to help locate the bodies. Three victims were found in 1999, one in 2003.

In 1999, gardai recovered the bodies of Eamon Molloy, left in a coffin in a graveyard in County Louth as well as the remains of 17-year-old John McClory, and 23-year-old Brian McKinney, whose remains were found after weeks of digging in a bog in County Monaghan.

However, the IRA was unable to give precise enough information to locate the other bodies.

Seamus Wright was interrogated and murdered by the IRA in 1972. Kevin McKee in 1972. Brendan McGraw in 1978 and Danny McIlhone, in 1981.


The material for this story has been provided by PA

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