

Schemes available

CHRONIC PAIN MANAGEMENT SCHEME

Provides individuals who are suffering chronic physical pain, *(as a result of a troubles related injury)*, with financial assistance towards private medical consultations and treatments.

SHORT BREAK SCHEME

Provides individuals and families with a short break away from their usual surroundings, responsibilities and commitments. Short breaks are available throughout the UK and Ireland.

EDUCATION & TRAINING SCHEME

Provides grant assistance to children and adults whose education or vocation has been affected by their experiences. This enables them to access education and training opportunities available to help them improve their employment prospects.

DISCRETIONARY SCHEME

Provides a grant to those who have lost a spouse or partner or those who have suffered very serious physical/psychological injuries as a result of the Troubles and are experiencing financial difficulties. *(This scheme is means tested).*

OVER 60's SCHEME

Help for the over 60s with the general cost of living expenses that people incur when they get older.

HOME REPAIRS SCHEME

This pilot scheme is available to homeowners *(aged 60 years and over)* who require minor household repairs to be undertaken.

BACK TO SCHOOL SCHEME

This scheme aims to provide financial assistance to purchase school uniforms and help meet other costs associated with the start of the school year.

For further details on any of the schemes contact the Grants Office on 02890 245965 or visit our website www.nimf.org.uk

If you no longer wish to receive a copy of this publication please contact Wendy on 02890 245965.

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Support and
Reconciliation
NORTHERN IRELAND MEMORIAL FUND



Newsletter

Issue 6

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Following the recent announcement of further Government funding, the Northern Ireland Memorial Fund is now able to update applicants on the schemes which are currently available. See inside for further details.

Over 60's Support Scheme

The Over 60's Scheme will be re-introduced from 1st June 2008, in response to the needs of older victims. This grant will help cover the general costs and expenses that people incur when they get older.

The Over 60's Support scheme will run from 1st June 2008 until 31 December 2008, to help victims/survivors aged 60 years and over.

Applicants can apply for a grant of £200 - restricted to one per household. Applications will be accepted from those who are aged 60 years and over and who as a result of the 'Troubles' have:

- lost a parent, partner, child or sibling, or
- sustained a physical injury which is ongoing or have been clinically diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and have not recovered
- are the registered primary carer of an immediate family member who has been physically injured.

If you wish to apply please contact the Grants office on 02890 245965 for an application form.

Back to School Scheme

The Back to School Scheme will be re-introduced on 1st July 2008 and will run until 30th September 2008. The Scheme aims to provide financial assistance to purchase school uniforms and help meet other costs associated with the start of the school year.

The scheme will be open to applicants who as a result of the 'Troubles' have:

- lost a parent, partner or child, or
- sustained a physical or psychological injury (which is ongoing), or
- are the registered primary carer for an immediate family member who has been physically injured.

If you are eligible and interested in applying please contact the Grants Office on 02890 245965 on or after 1st July 2008.

Please note: Applications cannot be accepted after 30th September 2008.

Home Repairs Scheme (Over 60's age group)

The Fund is introducing a pilot scheme for home owners, aged 60 years and over, who need minor household repairs carried out.

The scheme is open to home owners who have previously received help from the Fund and as a result of the 'Troubles' have:

- lost a partner or spouse, or
- sustained a physical injury which is ongoing or have been clinically diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and have not recovered, or
- are the registered primary carer for an immediate family member who has been physically injured.

This pilot scheme will run from 1st June 2008 - 31st December 2008 covering mainly the greater Belfast area and the East of the province.

Repairs can only be undertaken by the contractors previously approved by the Fund. The scheme only applies to private householders as NI Housing Executive tenants can avail of the NIHE repair scheme for both emergency and general repairs. Rented accommodation is also excluded from the scheme.

There is a limited budget for this scheme which is primarily aimed at applicants who have a low household income. This is not an emergency call out scheme. The type of work which can be undertaken may include minor plumbing, joinery, electrical and plastering work. All work undertaken must be approved by the Fund and payment will be made directly to the contractor.

If you meet the criteria and would like to apply, please complete the form opposite and return to our Head Office address. (Address shown on the back page of this Newsletter).

Short Break Scheme

If you have only received one Short Break in the past and would like to re-apply please contact the Grants Office on 02890 245965 for an application form.

This scheme is open to applicants who as a result of the 'Troubles' have:

- lost a parent, partner or child, or
- sustained a physical or psychological injury (which is ongoing), or
- are the registered primary carer for an immediate family member who has been physically injured.

Education and Training Scheme

We would again remind applicants that it is Fund policy not to re-imburse fees for courses/training which have commenced prior to their applications being approved. To avoid disappointment regarding funding for courses, we would advise all applicants to submit their application form to the Fund prior to embarking on any courses or training.

Applications received after the course/training has commenced cannot be approved. Supplementary information can be submitted after the application has been received.

This scheme is open to applicants who as a result of the 'Troubles' have:

- lost a parent, partner, child, sibling or grandparent, or
- sustained a physical or psychological injury (which is ongoing), or
- are the child or spouse of someone who sustained a physical or psychological injury (which is ongoing), or
- are the registered primary carer for an immediate family member who has been physically injured.

Discretionary Scheme

Are you living in a low income household? Have you lost a spouse or partner, sustained a physical injury which is ongoing, or been clinically diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as a result of the 'Troubles'? If so the Discretionary Fund may be able to help you with the purchase of basic household items or services. This is our only means tested scheme and is reserved for our lowest income households. Applications are strictly limited to those who lost a partner/spouse or were injured.

We are unable to accept applications which fall outside this criteria.

Note. The award of DLA is not included in our financial assessment.

You may apply once in a 12 month period.

What is a low income?

Each application is considered on its merit. The financial assessment will be based on the total household income and include, outgoings, number of dependants, income from non-dependants and living conditions.

If you think you may qualify please complete the form below and return to Head office. (Address shown on the back page of this Newsletter).

NIMF Youth Projects

Last year the Fund completed a very successful youth project involving 22 teenagers (male and female) from both sides of the community, who came from throughout the province. During the year the group undertook various fun and learning activities before completing a building project in Romania, in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity. Accompanied by leaders, the teenagers built a house for a family living in poverty housing conditions.

We will be running a similar project this year with places allocated on a first come first served basis. All costs in relation to the project will be covered by the Fund. The project will be open to teenagers aged 16 -19 years, whose lives have been affected by "The Troubles" who are willing to commit to this cross community project.

NB. The NI Memorial Fund has in place a child protection policy and all staff and volunteers will be trained in line with this policy and be subject to the relevant Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults checks.

If you are interested in this Youth Project please complete the form below and return to our address at Head Office. (Address shown on the back page of this Newsletter).

Remembrance Commission (RoI)

The Remembrance Commission was established by the Republic of Ireland Government in October 2003 to provide assistance to those who suffered as a result of the conflict in Northern Ireland.

If you have suffered bereavement/ injury or displacement in the Republic

of Ireland, or at a time when you were resident in the Republic of Ireland, you may be eligible.

There are a number of payments which can be made by the Commission: Acknowledgement Payments, Economic Hardship Payments and Medical Payments.

For further information contact the Remembrance Commission on 00-353-1-6696860.

Postal Arrangements

May we remind you again to ensure that mail you are sending to the Memorial Fund has sufficient postage paid to ensure delivery. As we highlighted in a previous Newsletter, Royal Mail will hold letters where postage paid is insufficient until the full price of postage is paid. This has resulted in administrative difficulties and applications not being delivered to the Grants Office.

When you are sending applications to the Grants Office and are in doubt as to the correct postage, we recommend that you have the envelope weighed at the Post Office and the appropriate postage paid. Please note that Royal Mail will also take into account the size and thickness of the envelope when calculating the correct postage.

Application Forms. Please complete the applicable form and return to the address overleaf.

Home Repairs Scheme (Over 60s age group)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone no: _____

Background:- Bereaved Injured

Please answer the questions below.

Are you over 60 years? _____

Are you a homeowner? _____

Please provide brief details of the work required: _____

Discretionary Scheme

Name _____

Address _____

How do you qualify for assistance?

I lost my partner/spouse I was injured

Please give details of the item or service you require: _____

Please Note: qualifying applicants will be visited at home to have their case assessed. The scheme is discretionary and an award is not guaranteed.

NIMF Youth Project

Name _____

Address _____

Contact No. _____

Date of Birth _____

Please tick one of the boxes below to confirm how you were affected by "The Troubles".

Bereaved Injured
Child of someone who was injured