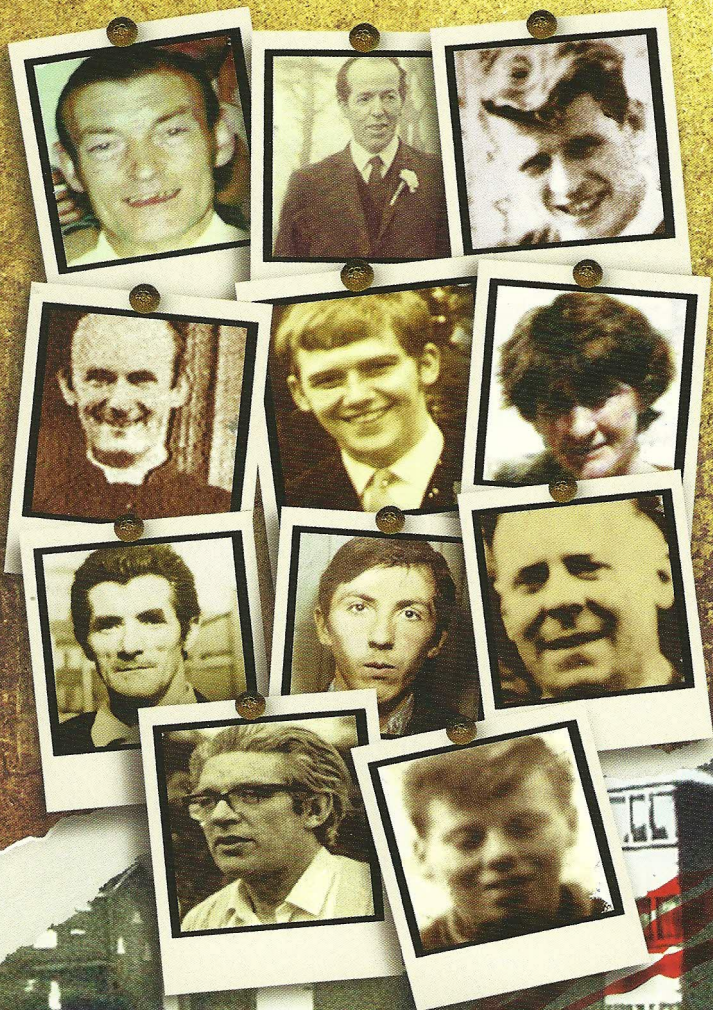


TIME FOR OUR TRUTH



the ground other men tried to get to help her which resulted in them also being shot. **Daniel Teggart** 5 a father of 13 was initially shot while running for cover, he was shot repeatedly 14 times whilst laying defenceless on the ground. **Joseph Murphy** 6 a father of 12 who was shot in the leg and Noel Phillips, also suffering from a wound, did not receive any medical attention. When a British Army armoured personnel carrier (APC) pulled into the field where the dead and wounded were lying, eye witness accounts said that Noel Phillips was summarily executed. These eye witness accounts are supported by forensic and post-mortem results. Another local man Gerard Russell was shot 4 times at point blank range at the same time but survived. The Army began to throw the bodies of the dead and the wounded into the army APC. Amongst the wounded was Joseph Murphy, Mr Murphy was taken to the Henry Taggart Army Barracks where he was severely beaten. He died 3 weeks later. His family firmly believe that if he had received medical attention he would have lived. They believe that he was beaten to death. Others wounded were also severely beaten whilst in the Henry Taggart Barrack. None of the dead, the dying or wounded received any medical treatment whatsoever.

AUG 10 On the 10th August **Eddie Doherty** 7 was making his way home along the Whiterock road when a British Army digger and Saracen moved in to dismantle a barricade that had been erected across the road. From the cab of the mechanical digger, a member of the Parachute Regiment shot Eddie in the back. He did not receive any medical attention and died of his wounds

AUG 11 On the early morning of the 11th August. **John Laverty** 8 aged 20 was shot dead by soldiers. **Joseph Corr** 9 a father of 7 was also shot and died 16 days later on the 27th August as a result of his injuries. The Parachute Regiment's account is that both men were firing at the army. Neither man was armed. All ballistic and forensic evidence disproved this testimony with no residue of firearms being found. The British Army version of events remains the 'official' version.

Pat McCarthy 10 a community worker was shot and wounded in the hand while attempting to leave the local community centre to distribute bread and milk. A few hours later he decided to continue with his deliveries. He was stopped by soldiers and beaten. Paddy suffered a massive heart attack and died as a result of his ordeal.

John McKerr 11 had taken a break from his maintenance work at Corpus Christi church in Ballymurphy. He had walked 50 yards from the church gates when a British Army sniper shot him. Despite the harassment of British Army soldiers local residents went to his aid and remained at his side until an ambulance arrived. He died of his wounds on the 20th August.

Background

On Monday 9th of August 1971 Internment without Trial was introduced by the British Government. The policy was directed and implemented by the British Army with the stated aim to "shock and stun the civilian population".

Between 9th and 11th of August 1971 eleven people were killed in the Ballymurphy area of West Belfast. All eleven were murdered by the British Army's Parachute Regiment. All eleven were unarmed civilians

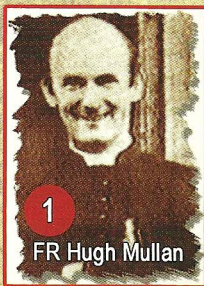
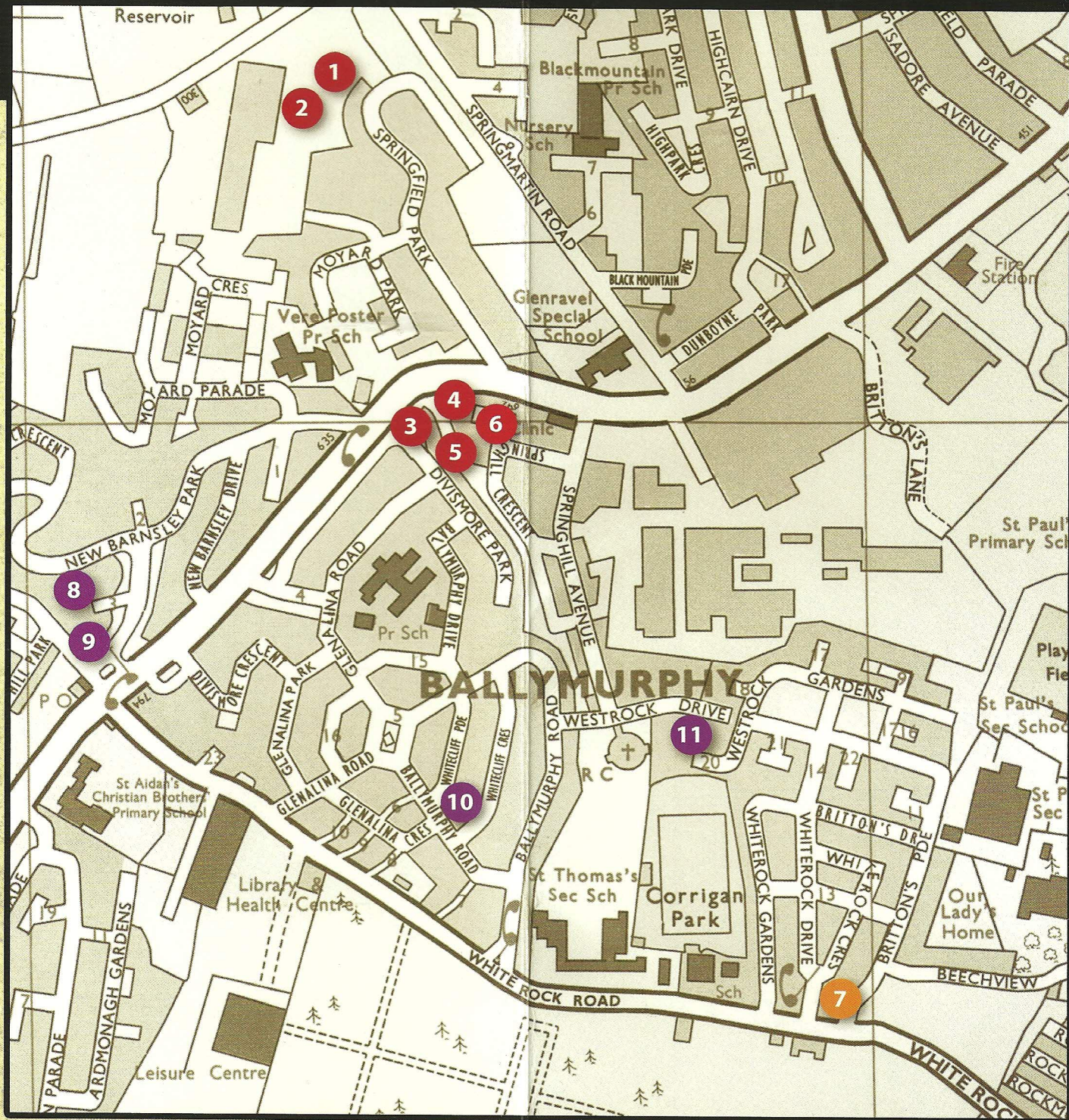
One of the dead was a parish priest and another the mother of eight children. Fifty seven children were left without a parent. There was No proper criminal investigation. The Royal military police were assigned as sole investigators. Not one member of the British Army was held to account. It is believed that had justice been administered and those held to account charged, the events of Bloody Sunday would not have happened.

The terrible events in Ballymurphy in 1971 for too long remained in the shadows. Here we put the spotlight on how eleven innocent people met their deaths over a three day period in August 1971.

AUG 9 On the 9th of August 1971 the first of the killings took place in Springfield Park. A local man called Bobby Clark was trying to lift children to safety when he was shot and wounded. People tried to help, but were pinned down by British Army gunfire from the flats in Springmartin overlooking Moyard Park. The parish priest, **Father Hugh Mullan** 1 raised a white cloth and went to aid the wounded man. After anointing him Father Mullan was shot under the left arm whilst waiving the white garment. Another young man **Frank Quinn** 2 also came from his place of safety to help Father Mullan. They were both fatally wounded where they lay. Due to continued gunfire from British paratroopers the bodies of the two victims lay unattended until local people could reach them and bring them to neighbours houses where they remained until the next morning.

200 yards away at exactly the same time local people were standing at the front of the Henry Taggart Army Barracks at the top of Divismore Park when the British paratroopers opened fire indiscriminately. Running for cover through waste land **Noel Phillips** 3 a young man of 19 was shot and wounded. As he lay crying for help a mother of eight children **Joan Connolly** 4 went to his aid, she was heard to say "It's alright son I'm coming to you". Joan was shot in the face. Wounded and disorientated she tried to walk and was shot another 3 times. As she lay on

Map of Ballymurphy illustrating location where victims were shot



1
FR Hugh Mullan



2
Frank Quinn



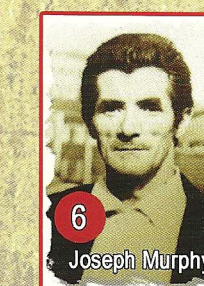
3
Noel Philips



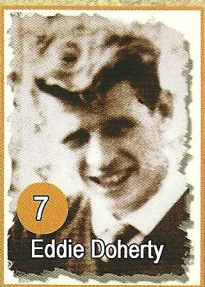
4
Joan Connolly



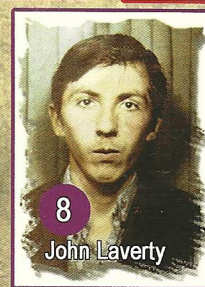
5
Danny Taggart



6
Joseph Murphy



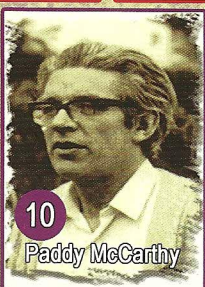
7
Eddie Doherty



8
John Lavery



9
Joseph Corr



10
Paddy McCarthy



11
John McKerr

Post Saville Report

With the publication of the Saville Report into the “unjustified and unjustifiable” killings on Bloody Sunday in Derry in 1972 the British Prime Minister made an apology on behalf of the British Government to all the dead and wounded. It was a long journey for the families of all the victims of Bloody Sunday.

With the holding of the public inquiry into Bloody Sunday it has become clear that, had the Parachute Regiment been held to account for the murders in Belfast they could not have gone onto murder 14 more civilians with impunity six months later in Derry.

We are on our journey “to set the truth free”. Although we know the truth of what happened in Ballymurphy in August 1971 we are determined to persevere until the innocence of our loved ones, friends and neighbours is acknowledged and declared in front of the world. We shall never forget.

What is needed

Ballymurphy Independent Panel

The horrific catalogue of events in Ballymurphy between the 9th and 11th August 1971 have remained hidden from public knowledge and focus for over 40 years.

In November 2011 the Attorney-General directed the Coroner to re-open inquests into the deaths in Ballymurphy.

We welcome this yet remain concerned about the limitations of an inquest to investigate the context, circumstances and aftermath of the deaths of our loved ones. We were correct to have no confidence in the review of the deaths by the Historical Enquiries Team (HET) within the PSNI. We questioned the independence of the HET and the methodology underpinning its review of RMP cases. These failings have been highlighted by Professor Patricia Lundy in her recent independent reports. Her findings were upheld in a recent report by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) to the fact of working illegal practices. The HET was replaced in December 2014 by the Legacy investigations branch within the PSNI again we doubt the independence of this team.

Consequently we propose the appointment of an Independent Panel to examine all documents relating to the context, circumstances and aftermath of the deaths of our loved ones. Its focus would include: the investigation of the role of the British Government, British Army, criminal justice agencies such as the RUC, DPP, the Coroner’s Office and the significance of the media. Reflecting the terms of reference of the British Government-funded work of the Hillsborough Independent Panel, the proposed project’s research and analysis would demonstrate how disclosure of all documents ‘add to public understanding’ of the circumstances in which the deaths occurred. It would also create a public archive of all documents reviewed by an independent panel. Finally, it would establish an evidence base on which further legal actions and new inquests could be progressed.

Ballymurphy Independent Panel "Not in the Public Interest"

The Ballymurphy Independent Panel Proposal was forwarded to both to the British Secretary of State for the North, Theresa Villiers and the Irish Government. In the meantime the proposals gained the support of Sinn Fein, SDLP, Alliance Party, numerous MPs and TDs, Trade Unions and also by Fr Tim Bartlett on behalf of the Catholic Church.

In January 2014 the campaign was given a huge boost when the panel proposal was fully endorsed by the Taoiseach Enda Kenny and the Irish Government, That was a great day for the families but it was short lived.

At the end of April 2014 the families were called to their Solicitors office to hear the decision by The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Theresa Villiers and the British government. It was sent to them by a courier as Ms Villiers hadn't even the decency to tell them herself. In the letter she said she "understood our Pain and Hurt" But that she could not agree to set up an Independent Panel because it was not in the "Public Interest".

The families see this decision as hypocritical given that the British Government have supported and financed the Hillsborough Panel, which shows it to be a tried and tested cost effective model. The decision by Teresa May in July 2014 highlights the view that the families are being treated as second class citizens by her decision to appoint an independent panel headed up by Nuala O'Loan to investigate the historical murder of Daniel Morgan. This goes to show that had the Ballymurphy Massacre occurred on the streets of England it would be in the "Public Interest".

"We will continue to fight for this until we die and then our young family will come in and they will fight for it, we will get our day," Briege Voyle 30th April 2014

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