



For Release 17th October

On 31st October, Colin Parry the father of Tim Parry, the 12 year old boy killed in the 1993 IRA bomb attack on Warrington will meet with the President of Sinn Fein, Gerry Adams.

This first meeting between the two men is expected to bring a powerful mix of emotion as Colin Parry, Chairman and Co-founder of the Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace, hosts a debate on the subject of 'Exploring Different Routes to Peace'.

Neither man has ever met the other before but, recognising that the Northern Ireland Peace Process has come a long way, Colin invited Gerry Adams to share this platform with him, not only to mark that progress but also to inform an invited audience of their different perspectives on making political progress in the face of an entrenched and historic conflict.

Speaking of the event Colin said: "Meeting Mr. Adams and sharing a public platform with him will be very challenging for me. However, it is a vital step on my own personal journey to reconciliation and a vital step too for the Foundation in living up to its Charter principles which include:

'Developing mutual understanding and respect between conflicting parties... is the only [sustainable] way to build trust...'

'The Foundation takes no side in conflict situations and strives to ensure that all its programmes are fully inclusive, even though this may be challenging...'

Gerry Adams said: "The peace process in Ireland has come a long way. This year especially has seen significant strides forward. Of course, the process is not over. There is much work still to be done, particularly in the field of victims, truth and reconciliation. I look forward to meeting Colin Parry and to sharing with him and those attending the event my hopes for the future."

The Irish Ambassador to Britain, David Cooney, has also agreed to attend the event and to say a few words. BBC Political Editor, Nick Robinson, who is a Foundation Patron, will MC the event.

The event is generously supported by Clifford Chance which has made its facilities in Canary Wharf freely available to the Foundation.

- Ends -

Photographers and journalists welcome for interviews at 6.30pm

Further information from Clare White on 01925 581 231, See www.foundation4peace.org

- The Tim Parry Johnathan Ball Foundation for Peace was set up by Colin and Wendy Parry following the death of their 12-year-old son Tim and 3-year-old Johnathan Ball after the IRA bombed Warrington in 1993. Wilf and Marie, Johnathan's parents fully support the organisation.
- The Peace Centre (Warrington) is a unique LIVING legacy and memorial to Tim and Johnathan. It was built with local, national and international support, and was opened on March 20, 2000 - the 7th anniversary of the bombing. It is a £3m state of the art, fully equipped learning centre where people develop a passion for peace through participating in learning programmes.
- The Foundation works with young people, victims of political violence and former military and paramilitary combatants, including former adversaries.

