

BELFAST TELEGRAPH

ADVERTISEMENT

Belfast Telegraph - IPR Website of the Year

Search Site

Advanced Search

- Loadzajobs.co.uk
 - Propertynews.com
 - Belfast Telegraph TV
 - Family Notices
 - Ads For Free
- Belfast Telegraph**
- Home
 - News
 - Local & National
 - World news
 - Politics
 - Environment
 - Education
 - Letters
 - Opinion
 - Technology
 - Breaking News
 - Northwest Edition
 - Business
 - Business Telegraph
 - Sport
 - Health
 - Features
 - Columnists
 - Entertainment
 - Homefinder
 - Weather
 - Archive
 - Calendar 2008
 - Telegraph Travel
 - Shopping Directory
- Inside Belfast**
- Jobs
 - Training
 - Dating
 - Casino
 - Bingo
 - Reader Offers
 - Diners' Club
- Services**
- RSS
 - Media Kit
- Other Titles**

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Local & National](#)

Local & National

Murdered Paul was not a criminal, Irish minister tells Quinns

- Email Article
- Print Version
- Search
- +Most Emailed
- +Most Read

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

By Deborah McAleese

The parents of murdered County Armagh man Paul Quinn have welcomed reassurances from the Irish government that it does not believe their son was a criminal.

Ever since the 21-year-old was beaten to death in a shed in County Monaghan in October - reportedly by the IRA - there have been allegations that he had a criminal past.

Mr Quinn's family said the IRA killed him after he had defied an order to leave the country.

Sinn Fein denies any republican involvement. No-one has been charged with the murder.

Yesterday Mr Quinn's parents met Irish foreign minister Dermot Ahern and following the meeting they said that Mr Ahern told them the Irish government does not believe Mr Quinn was involved in criminal activity.

His mother Briege Quinn said that Mr Ahern's remarks had "lifted a great weight from our shoulders".

She added: "Once we got over the shock of Paul's death, nothing has caused us more hurt and pain than these allegations.

"It means a lot to us to have the minister say this, and we thank him very much for meeting us and telling us so clearly. This actually means more to us than getting someone into court. We know justice will take time, but the truth can be told right away."

The meeting at Mr Ahern's constituency office in Dundalk focused on the investigation into the murder and the family's distress at allegations of criminality made against their son.

The family was accompanied at the meeting by SDLP Newry and Armagh assembly member Dominic Bradley.

Mr Bradley said the SDLP will support the Quinn family until Paul's name is publicly cleared "and until the family get the justice they deserve".

Supporters of the Quinns have organised public meetings in the area to demand his killers be brought to justice.

The latest meeting in Crossmaglen last Thursday was attended by 300 people, including three Opposition members of the Dail, former Labour Party deputy leader Liz McManus and Fine Gael's Seymour Crawford and Fergus O'Dowd.

Sinn Fein councillors also attended the meeting and insisted they too wanted the killers to be brought to justice.

More articles in Local & National

- [Petrol bombers torch tree in estate attack](#)
- [Competition for helping nature](#)
- [Lyric redevelopment gets £1.25m grant off council](#)
- [Massive rebuilding plan for prisons in Ulster](#)
- [Orange attack claims 'need streamlined'](#)

Don't miss . . .

In Pictures:
Boss is back



Springsteen delivers an early Xmas present

In Pictures and Video:
A taste of tinseltown



Mischa the belle of Belfast city for movie premiere

Most interesting family in Ireland



Raise a glass and toast the remarkable Guinnesses

In Pictures and Video:
What's the big Ikea?



The iconic Swedish superstore opens

Festive farewell to Belfast choir



Conductor Harry Grindle bows out on high-note

In Pictures:
Derry Xmas



13,000 Santas put Derry into the record books

It's a gift



The 80 best buys for Xmas chosen by experts

ADVERTISEMENTS

3 Sunday Life

3 Ireland's Saturday Night

3 Community Telegraph

ADVERTISEMENTS

Blogs

Catherine Townsend: Sleeping Around



My date, who I met online, was one of the worst ever

Cooper Brown: He's out there



The Cooperman is still in the deepest doo-doo

Video

BT Woman of the Year



Applauding Ulster's most exceptional women

Omagh blaze tragedy



Special report on Northern Ireland's worst house fire

Belfast Telegraph Property Awards



Celebrating excellence at the inaugural awards gala

Best view in town



Special multimedia report on Belfast Wheel

Fashion Week



Ulster struts the catwalk with a stylish confidence

Carl Verheyen



Interview with one of the world's best guitarists

Final moments of Uboat diver



The last dive of Dublin man Michael Hanrahan

Big Man's big fry



First Minister's vision is outlined over breakfast

Ulster's boy wonder



Watch our interview with golf sensation Rory McIlroy

Twelfth parades



Watch the video of this year's parade in Belfast

Paisley interview



Exclusive: First Minister Ian Paisley talks to Ed Curran

In Pictures . . .

News

- [Ulster Fry event](#)
- [The Twelfth](#)
- [Bull Run](#)
- [Award-winners](#)
- [Flooded Ulster](#)
- [Sunny Northern Ireland](#)
- [Devolution Day](#)
- [Assembly Elections](#)
- [Maze tumbles](#)
- [Blair quits](#)
- [Last watchtower](#)
- [Carrick-a-rede](#)

Events

- [Xmas: what a turn on](#)
- [Property Awards](#)
- [50 Cent](#)
- [Enrique Iglesias](#)
- [Halloween](#)
- [Fantasy Fest](#)
- [Rolling Stones](#)
- [Oxegen 07](#)
- [Beach Party 07](#)
- [Balmoral Show](#)
- [Razorlight](#)
- [St Patrick's Day](#)
- [Mardis Gras](#)
- [Justin Timberlake](#)
- [Brit Awards 07](#)

Sport

- [Spain 1 Norn Iron 0](#)
- [Win over Denmark](#)
- [Windsor win](#)
- [Golf: Rory McIlroy](#)
- [British Open](#)
- [Copa America Final](#)
- [N Ireland v Sweden](#)
- [Six Nations](#)
- [World in Sport](#)

Eye on the World

Malise Ruthven



How the Saudis exported a hardline ideology

Apocalypse now?



Hersh predicts major conflict if US attacks Iran

Burmese junta?

Knickers to that



'Panties for peace' is latest ploy by Burma activists

Conquering sectarianism



Can Ulster be the blueprint for Iraq's future?