Former Home Secretary Amber Rudd joined a congregation of nearly 2,000 in Cardiff last September to remember officers who have died on duty.

The emotional gathering was a poignant reminder of the sacrifices too many officers make, and only six-months on from the tragic murder of PC Keith Palmer.

Families, friends, colleagues, senior officers, and government officials were welcomed on arrival at St David’s Hall by a horse guard and guard of honour formed by representatives from each force in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and uniformed police officers from overseas forces.

Just as the service was about to start, the National Police Air Service flew over the hall, as a mark of respect.

A leather-bound book of remembrance, provided by the Police Roll of Honour Trust in dedication to all officers who have died on duty, was carried and presented by Sergeant Joanne Matulevicze from Police Scotland.

The Home Secretary gave a reading before prayers were read by PC Ian Swales, Cambridgeshire Police, on behalf of his crew partner PC Andreas Giovanni Newbery; Tim Harding, son of PC Leonard Alan Harding, Wiltshire Police; Tony Browning, father of PC Gareth Browning, Thames Valley Police; and Amy Mawson, daughter of Sergeant Nigel Mawson, West Midlands Police.

PC Lowri Davies, daughter of PC Terence John Davies, Gwent Constabulary, lit the candle to remember those who died from the police forces of Wales; Thelma Corkey, widow of Reserve Constable Samuel Snowdon Corkey, Royal Ulster Constabulary, lit the candle to remember those who died from the police forces of Northern Ireland; Laura Wiggins, daughter of PC Douglas Wiggins, Police Scotland, lit the candle
to remember those who died from the forces of Scotland; and Pamela Knee, sister of PC John Egerton, Greater Manchester Police, lit the candle to remember those who died from the police forces of England.

Former Police Federation Chair, Steve White, read the names of the officers who have died in the last year: DC Joe Mabuto, Thames Valley Police; Inspector Mark Estall, Essex Police; PC Paul Briggs, Merseyside Police; PC Austin Jackson, Leicestershire Constabulary; PC Keith Palmer GM, Metropolitan Police; and PC Gareth Browning, Thames Valley Police.

There was silence in the auditorium as petals of remembrance descended from the gallery before the Last Post was sounded.

- The next National Police Memorial Day takes place on Sunday 30 September 2018 at The Waterfront Hall, Belfast. Full details of how to register to attend can be found in this newsletter.

A version of this article first appeared in Police magazine.

2018 National Police Memorial Day: The Waterfront Hall, Belfast

Preparations are well underway for this year’s National Police Memorial Day in Belfast where we look forward to welcoming folks who have attended previous events as well as those attending for the first time. In recent years we have seen an increasing number of visitors from overseas who we also look forward to meeting again.

There are still many who do not know that the Day is open to all who wish to attend and we would like to seek your help in not only publicising the weekend but also, on our behalf, inviting others who are able to join with us.

We have made the Newsletter available via e-mail and we would ask that you forward this to as many others within the Police family as you feel appropriate. This includes serving officers and staff, those who have retired and especially the families and friends of those who sadly have lost their lives over the years. All are invited and welcome to attend whether to remember a specific person or to be mindful of all those who have died.

Belfast Waterfront opened for business in 1997 and has played a key role in Belfast’s economic and social development since then. The city is now recognised as a major European destination for conferencing, culture and business investment. The Waterfront Hall is an award-winning, purpose built conference, arts and entertainment centre offering a variety of facilities including a main auditorium, studio, 14 meeting rooms, gallery space, gift shop, restaurant and two bars.

Registration to attend

This year we will be introducing a self-registration system where you are asked to register to attend by completing an on-line Registration form. Registration will close on 24 August 2018. You can register by clicking here.

There will be a Civic Reception at Belfast City Hall at 6.30pm – 8.30pm on Saturday 29 September. The eligibility criteria for those attending this Reception is as follows.
Families of deceased officers; a representative [& +1] from each Federation Branch Board; the Senior officer [& +1] attending from UK Police Forces; Police & Crime Commissioner [& +1] from each Police Force in England & Wales; Representative [& +1] from national staff associations and Police Charities. Other invited guests.

For those wishing to attend the Saturday evening reception please indicate this on your booking form.

If you have any queries then please contact National Police Memorial Day by e-mail: nationalpolicememorialday@polfed.org or by telephone 07843 293958.

Tickets will also be sent to you [or your group leader] by e-mail. Admission into the event will be on the production of a valid ticket and appropriate photo-identification.

When registering a group, invitations can be sent out to one address, provided that all names and addresses reflect each guest’s form of identification that they will be asked to bring with them to gain access to the event (e.g. passport, driving licence).

Further details will be available at: www.nationalpolicememorialday.org

National Police Memorial Day 2018: Travel arrangements

How to find The Waterfront Hall:

The Waterfront Hall is located just ten minutes’ walk from Belfast city centre at 2 Lanyon Place, Belfast, BT1 3WH.

Getting to Belfast:
Getting to Belfast couldn’t be easier. There are three airports, sea crossings from Scotland and England and a direct rail link from Dublin.
By Air
George Best Belfast City Airport
The airport is situated just three miles from Belfast City Centre. Please check www.belfastcityairport.com for flight information.

For connections from Britain and Europe British Airways, Aer Lingus and FlyBE offer direct routes to many major airports.

The Airport Express 600 bus service runs from the airport terminal to the city centre every 20 minutes (05.30 - 22.05) Monday to Friday. Please check www.translink.co.uk for services on Saturdays and Sundays.

Belfast International Airport
Belfast International Airport is 30 minutes' drive via the M2 Motorway. Please check www.belfastairport.com for flight information.

The Airport Express 300 service operates between the airport and Belfast City Centre every 15 minutes Monday to Friday, every 20 minutes on Saturday and every 30 minutes on Sunday. This service operates 24 hours a day however night services are less frequent. Please check www.translink.co.uk for services during off peak times and weekends.

By Sea
Belfast is easily accessed by sea with crossings from both Scotland and England. Travel by state of the art superfast ferries with journey times from just 2 hours 15 minutes. Operators and travel times vary. Please check out Stena Line, P&O, Irish Ferries and the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company for travel options.

By Rail
An Enterprise service runs 8 times daily (5 times on Sundays) from Belfast to Dublin. The journey time is approximately 2 hours.
T: 028 9089 9409
www.translink.co.uk

By Bus
Dublin Airport Express Coach Service operates to Dublin Airport, with a journey time of approximately 2 hours.
T: 028 9066 6630
www.translink.co.uk

Airport Transfers
T: 028 7126 9996
www.airporter.co.uk

Value Cabs
T: 028 9080 9080
www.valuecabs.co.uk

By road from Dublin
Starting out from Dublin Airport, the M1 Motorway is well signposted for Belfast; this is a toll road and there is one Toll Plaza approximately 31 km from Dublin Airport. Continue on this Motorway signposted for Belfast. Just after passing the City of Newry the road becomes a dual carriageway (A1) and Motorway regulations fall away. At the Sprucefield roundabout (approximately 137 km from Dublin Airport) the A1 joins the M1 motorway (signposted The North, Belfast). Once within the Greater Belfast area the signs will display as City Centre. At Grosvenor Road Junction (approximately 152 km) leave the motorway and follow signs City Centre onto the B38.

Accommodation
There are a very limited number of rooms available in Belfast for this weekend in September due to other major events taking place in the city and therefore it is essential to book early to avoid disappointment. Due to restricted availability you can secure your room now with a non-refundable 10% deposit, and the full payment will be due 8 weeks prior to your stay (05 August). If cancellation occurs within 8 weeks of arrival a 100% cancellation charge will apply.
All hotels are available to book through Travel Counsellors on this secure website: http://belfastpolicememorial.travelcounsellors.com. Here are the selection of hotels available to book:

**Hilton Belfast Templepatrick Golf & Country Club**
20 minute drive away from Waterfront Hall (13 miles)
Rates: £135 Single B&B or £150 Double B&B

**Clayton Hotel Belfast**
15 minute walk away from Waterfront Hall
Rates: From £118 Single B&B or From £131 Double B&B

**Europa Hotel City Centre**
13 minute walk away from Waterfront Hall
Rates: £285 Single B&B or £285 Double B&B.

**Grand Central Hotel**
10 minute walk away from Waterfront Hall
Rates: £285 Single B&B or £285 Double B&B.

**Ramada Encore Belfast City Centre**
13 minute walk away from Waterfront Hall
Rates: From £100 Single B&B or £110 Double B&B.

**The Fitzwilliam Belfast**
12 minute walk away from Waterfront Hall
Rates: From £194 Single B&B or £206 Double B&B.

**Other recommended hotels:**
For more Belfast visitor information go to: www.visitbelfast.com

**Congratulations!**

Many of you have fond memories of Joe & Sharon Holness whose vision, hard work and dedication not only began National Police Memorial Day but saw it grow from strength to strength. Joe retired as a serving officer from Kent Police last year. Recognising the role he had played in ensuring National Police Memorial Day became an important part of the Policing calendar Joe was awarded the OBE in this year’s New Year’s Honours List. Well done Joe, a well-deserved honour.

Sharon had previously received the MBE for her involvement, again well-deserved recognition.

**NPMD Coordinator**

Last year David Wilbraham, National Police Chaplain, undertook the role of Interim Co-ordinator for National Police Memorial Day to ensure that the Service in Cardiff came together and continued to be a meaningful occasion. The NPMD Trustees have agreed that David will continue to act as Co-ordinator for National Police Memorial Day drawing together all those involved as well as looking at ways in which the event can be developed and continue to grow in the coming years.

Following the decision David said “I have been involved with NPMD for a number of years and valued the vision that founded the Day and the importance it now has. As a former Police Officer and as someone who in my current role deals with the deaths of officers and staff I know just how vital it is for this Day to continue to be part of UK Policing. It acknowledges the sacrifice of all those who have died on duty but also is important in recognising the dedication, commitment and bravery of officers and staff day by day who willingly place themselves in that place of ultimate danger. My vision is that the Day finds an increasing focus across the UK as the time when we remember those who have died in the Police Service and salute those who keep the Peace day by day.

If you wish to be in contact with David then please e-mail via the National Police Day Memorial email address nationalpolicememorialday@polfed.org
We are grateful to all who support National Police Memorial Day financially whether by donations, purchasing merchandise or through fund-raising and sponsorship. Rachel Tappenden will be running in this year’s London Marathon and has chosen to so for National Police Memorial Day.

Rachel has been training long and hard for this event and if you are able please do visit the link below to recognise her efforts and to support National Police Memorial Day.

The NPMD was established to remember police officers who have been killed or died on duty. The annual ceremony demonstrates to relatives, friends and colleagues of fallen officers that their sacrifice is not forgotten and gives recognition to the dedication to duty and courage displayed by police officers.

As a serving Police Officer, this is a charity close to my heart and throughout my years of service, I have heard far too often the news that members of the policing family have made the ultimate sacrifice. It is so important that we take the time to remember them.

I will be running the 2018 London Marathon in order to raise funds for the NPMD. Please spare what you can to donate to such a worthy cause, in order to ensure the memory of these brave officers are not forgotten”

You can sponsor Rachel’s fundraising endeavours by using the following link:

https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/RachelTappenden1

If you have any queries concerning the event this year then please make contact via the following email address: nationalpolicememorialday@polfed.org or by telephoning 07843 293958 administration for the event will be looked after by Viv Baldwin.

If you do not wish to receive copies of this newsletter in the future, please email us at: nationalpolicememorialday@polfed.org and we will delete your email details from our mailing list.