

**SOLDIER'S DAD CALLS ON SINN FEIN TO SAY SORRY FOR DEATHS**

# 25 years on a father's pain still remains

THE FATHER of a 21-year-old Island soldier murdered by the IRA 25 years ago has called on Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams to stop holding up the peace process and apologise to the families of those who have suffered loss at the hands of the terrorists they support.

Ryde man Bob Grundy, 72, and his former wife, Doris Moon, were devastated when told that their son, Peter, had been killed by an IRA booby trap on December 16, 1979 — news that has haunted them to this day.

Peter, a private serving in the Second Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, was killed when a bomb exploded as his patrol passed a derelict building in Forkhill, South Armagh.

He had also just escaped death in the province on other occasions, one of which was at Warrenpoint on August 29, 1979, during which a convoy was ambushed. Six soldiers died in a huge bomb blast which destroyed their truck.

The truck Peter was in was the middle of the convoy of three and escaped uninjured.

He also survived a second bomb blast at the scene shortly after and a number of near misses in



**Peter Grundy, the Ryde paratrooper who was blown up by an IRA bomb in Northern Ireland in 1979. FILE**

**By Jon Moreno**

other incidents that year, the year that former Island governor Lord Louis Mountbatten was also murdered by the IRA.

Peter, who was educated at Bishop Lovett and Ryde High schools, was sent straight to Northern Ireland after completing his training at Aldershot.

His father, a retired postman and former commanding officer of the Ryde Army Cadets, laid a wreath at Peter's grave in Ryde Cemetery on Thursday last week.

He has paid his respects on the anniversary of his death for the past 25 years and feels as bitter towards his son's killers now as he did then.

"The IRA and Sinn Fein should now apologise to the British people but I dare say it will never happen. You only need look at how the IRA and Sinn Fein have held up the peace process in Northern Ireland just because they do not want to provide photographic evidence of disarmament.

"Let's not forget Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness were key members of the IRA at the time my son was murdered. They and other terrorists should be brought to justice just like other killers.

"I would like to see the IRA completely disarm — that is the only positive step towards peace."

Mr Grundy, of Lower Highland Road, Ryde, has never visited the scene of his son's murder and feels he never could.

"I dare not go. I might just lose it," he said.

"Peter was there to do a job and wanted to be a success. Time has not healed the loss of Peter and it never will."

Peter's mother, Mrs

**Right: Bob Grundy lays a wreath at the grave of his son, Peter, 25 years after his death. 1204-j15806**



**Below: Members of the Parachute Regiment carry Peter Grundy's coffin into Ryde Cemetery 25 years ago. FILE**



Moon, 72, of Bath, came to the Island on Sunday to also lay a wreath at Peter's grave.

She said: "It feels as painful as ever — I will never forget what happened. It was the most horrendous and dreadful

crime.

"I am pleased there is peace now in Northern Ireland and that young men like Peter are no longer being killed."

A funeral with full military honours for Peter was held at Trinity Church,

Ryde.

The Ryde branch of the Royal British Legion has indicated to Mr Grundy that his son's name could be added to the town memorial's roll of honour honouring those who fell in other wars.