

‘That was the week that was!’

A quieter week but very positive none the less.

A major article on Shirley in the lawyer’s magazine, ‘**The Firm**’ (<http://www.firmmagazine.com/>) caused some stir and has been commented on by people across the UK. It is a timely reminder to lawyers and the **Law Society** (<http://www.shirleymckie.com/LawSociety.htm>) that all is not well with Fingerprinting in Scotland. Certainly there is more evidence of fingerprint evidence being routinely challenged in Scotland now but it is disappointing that the Law Society has not been more proactive in encouraging its members to question the experts routinely. It is through challenge that the expert’s effectiveness will be improved and the ‘feckless few’ will be weeded out.

Great to see **Ed German’s** pictures from the Henry Fauld’s memorial unveiling in Beith on 12 November. (<http://www.clpex.com/> - **Weekly Detail**). Ed has been a good friend of Shirley over the years always believing in her innocence and willing to back her fight for justice. It was great to see him with his wife Nannette and to offer them some good old fashioned Scottish Hospitality. Over the years we have welcomed people like Pat Wertheim, David Grieve and Allan Bayle and when this is all over we hope to meet many more. The offer is open to experts holidaying in Scotland to give us a visit – you will be more than welcome.

Next week sees yet another court hearing this time to attempt to force the Scottish Minister’s legal team and others to allow witnesses to be interviewed. That so many are hiding away tells its own story. Another area of obstruction has been obtaining documents. The level of opposition seems strange but then nothing surprises us any more and our legal team have things well in hand.

Messages of support continue and this week an American trainee expert writes, *“Hearing about what happened to you just reinforces the need for proper training of latent print examiners (as well as proper techniques of fingerprint identification!) AND the need to make sure those who ARE selected for such positions have high morals and standards. We will all continue to monitor your case here in the US.”* See full letter at <http://www.shirleymckie.com/friendsletters.htm>

The week ends with Bill McFarlan, a long time supporter, appearing on ‘Real Radio’ and raising Shirley’s case with Cathy Jamieson, the Minister for Justice. Although not willing to debate the case much of what she says is balanced and reasonable. Dare we hope that the Minister will at last grasp the nettle and counsel her colleagues to end the 8 year nightmare.