

19 November 2005

- As indicated pressure is increasing on the **Scottish Fingerprint Service** and **SCRO** to explain what is being done to reconcile the differences within its ranks as to what constitutes fingerprint identification. **MSP Alex Neil** has bombarded the Executive with Parliamentary questions seeking out these very answers. It is fair to say that the responses received so far are guarded to say the least showing the total reluctance to face the important issues affecting fingerprinting in Scotland.  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/AlexNeilAnswers7.11.05.pdf>
- The letters columns of **'The Herald'** have been busy this week with 'the Shirley McKie' case being one of the **'hot topics'** of the week. These responses were initiated by a Herald article and Leader highlighting how in 2000 the present **Chief Constable of Strathclyde Willie Rae** had warned the Executive in a letter that if they didn't deal with the issues arising from Shirley's case then problems would mount. Unfortunately the Executive did not listen and tried to smother debate – no doubt hoping her supporters would go away. How wrong they were!!  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/TheHerald10.11.05.pdf>
- The first letter was from **Kath Ryall** Regional officer of **Unison Scotland** making a plea on behalf of the **SCRO experts** who she felt had *"suffered", "but scant regard has been paid to them by the employer and the executive."* She then referred to Shirley's *"apparent desperation for a pre-trial settlement"*. Iain in his response pointed out that the experts suffering had been **"self inflicted"** and challenged her to show as much concern for her expert members from **Lothian and Border's** and **Grampian** who had been threatened with discipline for speaking out against SCRO. Far from fearing a hearing **Shirley's legal team** and the international experts will welcome the opportunity to show just what has gone on over the past 9 years.  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/LyallUnison12.11.05.pdf>  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/Heraldletter14.1.05.pdf>
- A surprising piece of information came by way of a **Herald letter** from **Alison Hannah** one of the original experts in the Lothian and Border's 14. She revealed she had never signed the 2000 letter and did not agree with its criticism of SCRO. Enquiry showed that her claim was indeed correct but that she had only revealed her opposition after the letter she had agreed to had been posted. That she had not admitted now being an **expert at SCRO** rather dented **Alison's credibility**.  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/Hannahupdate17.11.05.pdf>
- A notable milestone was reached this week when over 300 people visited [www.shirleymckie.com](http://www.shirleymckie.com) in one day. Over the past months there has been a steady build up of visitors from over 20 countries across the world.
- As always there were many letters commenting on the Herald publicity and encouraging Shirley to keep up the fight. These letters are greatly valued as her fight moves into a very important stage.  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/friendsletters.htm>  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/AnInternationalview18.11.05.pdf>  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/Letters-19.11.05.pdf>
- A request from Donald Reid who was prime mover behind the Henry Faulds memorial in Beith. He is looking for a quote to place on the unveiling plaque being prepared.  
<http://www.shirleymckie.com/documents/HenryFauldsMemorial18.11.05.pdf>
- Thanks as ever for the messages of support for Shirley and visitors can look forward to regular site updates and remember your contributions and comments are always welcome. If you wish any friends or colleagues to receive this weekly update please pass this update onto them or send their e-mail address to: [justiceforshirley@btinternet.com](mailto:justiceforshirley@btinternet.com)