

# Tribute concert for Holywood's Martin

**A TRIBUTE concert is to be held in Holywood next weekend (May 26, 27) for missing local man, Martin Kelly.**

The two-day event will feature up to ten live bands and will be called 'One for Marty - Two for Marty', Marty being the name by which he was known by his friends.

It is expected to be a sellout because of the huge community support there has been for Martin (22) who disappeared in Belfast on New Year's Day.

Its organiser, Ulster blues singer Mari Jackson, who lives in Holywood and is a close friend of the Kelly family, says Martin's pals are determined to play their part.

She explained, "Martin's family are now keen to step up proceedings by taking the search from him to a higher level throughout the UK

"This will include having his picture put on the sides of taxis, vans and even milk cartons. However this will cost a lot of money.

"Being such a rare happening, unfortunately Northern Ireland offers little support, either financially or otherwise.

"We do not even possess all the necessary search equipment, much of which had to be borrowed from the mainland."

Mari said many of Martin's friends shared his passion for music and felt the concert was an ideal way of showing their continued support for him.

She added, "Martin is a confident, friendly and outgoing character, who would give anybody the time of day. He is also caring and compassionate.

"He spent a year volunteering in Africa, with further plans to spend more time in the Far East helping people affected by the Tsunami.

"He is very close to his family and would contact them immediately if he had intended to stay out longer than planned. Even the police are baffled by his case."

And Mari has appealed for volunteers to help with general duties on both nights and is still considering the inclusion of more bands.

She added, "Marty's family and friends have endured terrible suffering beyond our comprehension in the last few months.

"Our community has lost the beautiful, kind-natured and gentlemanly Marty, who we all love in our own individual ways.

"With your help, we can raise enough funds to take this search to the next level and ultimately bring closure to this very sad ordeal.

"All the proceeds from the two night live music extravaganza are going to help Martin Kelly's family to bring him home.

"I know the Kelly family wish again to extend their sincere gratitude to everyone involved in supporting them through this most difficult time."

The event will take place in St.Patrick's Hall, Church View, Holywood, on Friday and Saturday May 26 and 27, commencing at 8.00pm.

Each night will have four to five live bands playing. There will also be ballots and bar facilities.

Tickets are on sale next week priced at £15 per night from Garrys' Barber Shop, High Street, Holywood.

Potential helpers can contact Mari at marijackson3@aol.com, telephone 028 9042 5262, mobile 07751575079 or by calling in person to Garrys' Barber Shop, Holywood.

Donations can be made at any Ulster Bank Branch to the "Friends of Marty Kelly" account.

Further information can be obtained via [www.ourmartykelly.com](http://www.ourmartykelly.com)

An American style missing persons campaign could be funded by the tribute concert.

For plans are afoot to copy the high profile publicity campaigns which have seen the photographs of missing Americans appears on milk cartons, buses, vans and taxis.

Alternatively the proceeds of the concert may go to help the people of Africa where Martin once worked as a student volunteer.

Martin Kelly was last seen leaving Pat's Bar in Belfast's Clarendon Dock at about 7.15pm on New Year's Day after socialising with friends.

Martin Kelly is described as being six feet one inch tall and of slim build with short dark hair.

When last seen on New Year's Day he was wearing a black Guinness T-shirt and a pair of blue jeans.

The investigation into Martin's disappearance is being conducted from Musgrave Street police Station.



Martin Kelly

## Open-all-hours call for police station

**CALLS for Holywood police station to be opened on a full time basis have been backed by North Down councillor and MLA, Alex Easton.**

The DUP representative claims his own research has shown that a huge majority of local residents want the High Street facility to again open round the clock. He said a poll of 150 Holywood people, carried out by his constituency office in the town, showed that a 86% of them wanted the longer opening hours.

He said 56% of the respondents also believed crime in Holywood was on the increase with a further 29% declaring themselves unsure.

time station. That is something that is repeated to me in my constituency office at the heart of the town.

"It is vital to have due regard for the 86% of my constituents who, in a survey of 150 Holywood locals, called for a full time station.

"People in Holywood are massively concerned about burglaries and the level of anti-social behaviour. Drugs are a further high concern.

"The use of high visibility foot patrolling, particularly at night and at the weekends, is a means of tackling the fear of crime.

"I fully intend to address this issue and others with the District Council's officers."