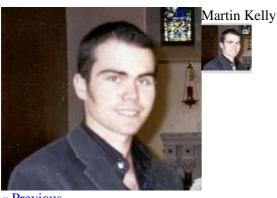


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Monday, 4th January 2010

# Dad in plea over missing plumber



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Published Date: 22 December 2009

A MAN whose son will be missing for four years on New Year's Day has made a fresh appeal for information. Martin Kelly, 21, from Holywood, went missing on January 1, 2006 after going for drinks in Pat's Bar in Garmoyle Street, in the docks area of Belfast.

The plumber and part-time barman left with his friends at 5.30pm to get a taxi to Holywood – but returned to the bar 40 minutes later on his own.

He then left the bar around 7pm – and has never been seen since.

Martin is 6ft 1in and slim with short dark hair and was wearing a black "Guinness" T-shirt and blue jeans when he disappeared.

Since his disappearance, the PSNI have carried out numerous searches, including a trawl of the River Lagan.

His father, Raymond Kelly, 58, said: "Martin's disappearance is particularly hard at Christmas when families are sitting down together to celebrate.

"I have put together a lot of details about what happened on the day Martin went missing, but there are still a lot of questions that need to be answered.

"I am really hoping that anyone who knows anything about Martin's disappearance will examine their conscience this Christmas and help us find our son. It is not too late for any information to be brought forward."

Mr Kelly added: "Martin had been out with the crowd he was with in Pat's Bar the night before.

"A lot of drink had been taken. Martin left the bar a first time and returned, which was a surprise to people in

the bar. He had a pint and did not take a lift he was offered to get back to Holywood – he then left on his own. So he went missing twice on January 1, 2006.

"I would really like to hear from anyone with information about my son.

"If people do not want to come forward to the police, they could tell their minister. Our family just want to find out what happened to our son."

A PSNI spokesman last night reissued their appeal for anyone with information on the disappearance of Martin Kelly to come forward.

"Over the past four years, police have carried out a full and thorough investigation into Martin's disappearance and have carried out extensive underwater and land searches," he said.

"Police remain committed and determined to discover what happened to Martin and to bring closure to his family. Detectives will continue to follow up all new lines of inquiry and any new information.

"Anyone who believes that they can assist police is asked to contact the detectives at Musgrave Street on 0845 600 8000."

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• Last Updated: 22 December 2009 9:06 AM

Source: n/aLocation: Belfast

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