



MISSING: Martin Kelly

Birthday appeal for lost man

By JOHN CASSIDY

THE father of missing Martin Kelly has made a fresh appeal for information about his son's disappearance on the anniversary of his birthday.

Martin would have celebrated his 24th birthday on Friday, March 14. But he disappeared without a trace on January 1, 2005 after celebrating the New Year with friends in Pat's Bar in Belfast's Clarendon Docks.

Dad Raymond believes someone may have information about what happened to his son that night and for some reason has still not come forward.

"Maybe the person is frightened because it has been so long since Martin disappeared," said Raymond. "But I would urge them that if they don't want to go to the police, they could go their local



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clergyman or priest and tell them what they know.

"It is not too late to come forward. If someone knows something about what happened to Raymond they should use these channels available to them."

The dad still hasn't given up hope of finding his son's body. Last December, he called on the PSNI to search a Victorian storm drain for his son's remains.

The drain, which travels all the way up to north Belfast, had been searched before but only at the entrance.

The police have since carried out a further search of the Victorian storm drain as requested by Mr Kelly but nothing was found.

The PSNI said this week that the team searching for Martin Kelly would follow-up all fresh leads.

In a statement, the PSNI said: "Police remain committed and determined to discovering what happened to Martin and to bringing closure to his family.

"Detectives will continue to follow up all new lines of enquiry and any new information.

"Anyone who believes that they can assist police or anyone with information who has not yet come forward is asked to contact the detectives at Musgrave Street on 0845 600 8000."