

# CONFLICT TEXTILES



## War-Torn Children Exhibition

Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny - 9<sup>th</sup> February to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### Workshop with schools

As part of the exhibition programme, workshops were facilitated with two local schools, involving a total of 46 students.

#### Workshop calendar

##### **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – facilitated by Roberta Bacic**

1. Senior cycle students from Errigal College, Letterkenny, 11am – 12.30pm
2. Senior cycle students from Loreto Secondary School, Letterkenny, 1.30pm-3.00pm

##### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February - facilitated by Breege Doherty**

3. Post leaving cert students (Art & Design and Youth Studies) from Errigal College, Letterkenny, 12 – 1.00pm

#### Format of workshops

##### **1. Brief overview of exhibition**

##### **2. Guided tour of the five exhibition components:**

- arpilleras
- posters
- photographs
- Two installations; “Naming the Children” tree and knitting corner

##### **3. Naming the Children**

This project, which has been undertaken by members of Shannonwatch and Connemara Peace Group aims to list the names of as many as possible of the one million children who have died since 1991, because of the Middle East related wars. By involving Irish children in the act of remembrance, it is hoped to raise awareness in our young people of the real impact of war.

During the schools’ workshops, students, either individually or working in twos, picked a name from the list of dead children. Using a fabric marker, they wrote the child’s name on a piece of cream ribbon. They then chose an arpillera doll, which had been made in previous workshops, and pinned the name of the dead

child to the doll. Finally the doll was attached to the tree – a powerful act of remembrance.

Students from Loreto Secondary school used cardboard figures instead of dolls. With scraps of fabric, they 'dressed' their figures, giving them an identity before pinning the names on them. The finished figures were placed in a hard backed copy book.



**Curator Roberta Bacic gives a guided tour to Errigal College students.**



**Attaching the dolls to the remembrance tree.**



**Teacher Eimear Logue gives a helping hand.**



**Students from Loreto Secondary School view an arpillera made in a previous workshop.**





**Roberta Bacic explaining the photographs to Loreto Secondary School Students.**



**Art & Design students from Errigal College fix their dolls to the remembrance tree.**



**Post Leaving Certificate students from Errigal College with tutors Marie Crossan (centre) and Breege Doherty (right).**

Report and photos by Breege Doherty

12<sup>th</sup> March, 2018