

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission

13 June 2022

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission releases film to mark the fifth anniversary of the tragedy

'When the wind blows, it looks like they're about to fly away, but really, they'll always be here.'

These are the words spoken by one of the school children who appears in the Memorial Commission's poignant [video message](#) as she describes a memorial created by the children in their school playground. The Memorial Commission have published this, their second film, on the eve of 14 June 2022, almost five years after the Grenfell Tower fire tragically took 72 lives.

The film features local school children speaking powerfully about how they remember their former friends and classmates. One young girl, presenting a green commemorative tile she has created, describes how the future memorial will help their community to both celebrate the memory of those who died, and how they lived.

In the film, several of the Memorial Commission's elected community representatives explain their most important work is listening to the community – to the bereaved families, to the survivors, and to those who live close to where the tower stands.

Last month, the Memorial Commission [published a report](#) outlining the many ideas they have heard so far. They hope, and have heard from many in the community so far, that a future memorial should bring comfort and provide somewhere for people to come together and be with others who understand their grief. The memorial must also be a place of remembrance, helping the Grenfell tragedy to never be forgotten, and a reminder of the need for justice.

Towards the end of the film, a bereaved family member urges those who want to share their ideas to come forward and speak to the Memorial Commission. The film ends with a tribute to the 72 loved ones who lost their lives.

The Memorial Commission's community representatives said:

'Remembering what happened at Grenfell Tower continues to be difficult and painful five years on.'

'Our mission is to create a memorial to honour and remember those who lost their lives in the tragedy, making sure that the community leads on decision-making.'

'Our video celebrates the strength, dignity and diversity of this unshakeable community, including the children and young people who are our future.'

The Memorial Commission's co-chairs, Thelma Stober and Michael Lockwood, said:

'Five years after the tragedy, we remember and honour those who lost their lives – you are in our hearts.'

'We are proud to be supporting the Memorial Commission in delivering a memorial that reflects the wishes of this incredible community.'

'The Memorial Commission's important work will make sure that those who lost their lives are commemorated, and Grenfell is never forgotten.'

The community representatives and the co-chairs are keen to speak to the community however it suits them best, and in a language with which they are most comfortable.

Further information

- The Memorial Commission's film is available in the news section of their website, www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk. **Note to editors: please do not use images of the children in the film. We have provided the following film should you wish to show parts of the film as part of your report.**
- The video was filmed during May 2022 by production company bigSMALL TV. Filming took place in the Al-Manaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre, Oxford Gardens Primary School and close to the Lancaster West Estate, which surrounds Grenfell Tower.
- Read and download a copy of the Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission's report here: www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/report
- The Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission comprises 10 [community representatives](#) made up of five bereaved family members, three former residents of Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk who lost their homes, and two residents from the Lancaster West Estate. This composition of community representatives enables the bereaved to have the majority say. Community representatives were selected by the bereaved families, survivors and local residents.
- The Memorial Commission's [co-chairs](#), Thelma Stober and Michael Lockwood, set the direction of the Memorial Commission's work and oversee its work.
- The Memorial Commission is working closely with the bereaved families, survivors and the community to decide the most fitting and appropriate way to remember those who lost their lives in the Grenfell tragedy, and how the memorial site will be owned and managed in the long term.
- If you are a bereaved family member, survivor or local resident, the Memorial Commission is keen to speak to you in whichever way works best of you. See the contact page of their website: www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact.
- Information about the Memorial Commission can be found at www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk, and on Instagram www.instagram.com/grenfelltowermc/ and Twitter twitter.com/GrenfellTowerMC

- The Memorial Commission is not responsible for deciding the future of Grenfell Tower. The government owns the Grenfell Tower site and is responsible for its safety and security. No decision has been made about the future of the tower. For more information go to www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates.

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