

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – September 2020

The Community Support Newsletter is published monthly. Regular updates are also issued by email. If you wish to receive these or place an article in the Newsletter, please contact Alison Gilmore on 0300 303 1777 / email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

The deadline for the next Newsletter is Wednesday 23 September

Council News & Events

Good Relations Strategy

You may be aware that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council undertakes an audit of good relations every three years to inform a new good relations strategy. We want to find out about the issues, needs and ideas people have for improving relationships in the Council area between all people - but especially between people from different religious, political and ethnic backgrounds.

Below is a link to a confidential survey we would like you to complete. It is mainly tick boxes and will take between 5-10 minutes to do. At no stage do we ask you to identify yourself and no one in Council will see any individual return. All replies will be aggregated.

Please help us to deliver our services better, be honest and let us know what the issues are and what your ideas are to make this an even better area in which to live.

Thanks for your help. Just click the link below and follow the instructions. It couldn't be simpler:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FermanaghOmagh>

The survey will close at 12.00 noon on Friday 25 September.

Training Opportunities for Community and Voluntary Sector Groups

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council's Community Services has places available for the following free online courses for the community and voluntary sector:

Safeguarding – Child Protection and Adults at Risk

Delivered by Children in Northern Ireland.
Thursday 24 September, 7-10pm, online.

Fundraising Options for Groups in the time of COVID-19

Delivered by NICVA, this session aims to explore practical fundraising options and alternative income sources during this challenging time.
Thursday 22 October 7-8.15pm, online.

Numbers are limited to 2 per group however further places may be available on request.

Booking essential - Contact Kellie Beacom on 0300 303 1777, ext 21201, Mobile: 07761 029732 or email: kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com

Grant Aid Support The “Recover” Fund Programme 2020/21

Applications are invited from voluntary clubs, societies, community and sporting organisations. Groups must be based in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. Projects and activities must take place before 31 March 2021.

The funding call opened on a rolling basis and there are two remaining closing dates for receipt of applications:

Monday 21 September at 5pm* and **Friday 20 November** at 5pm*

*Funding is subject to availability

For further information or to apply online, please visit the Council website at

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/funding-and-grants/>

Council Officers are available by telephone or email to provide guidance and support to groups who wish to apply to this fund. Please contact Community Services on 0300 303 1777, Text phone 028 8225 6216. Please see Guidance Notes for email contact details.

Grant Aid - for Older Persons Groups

South West Age Partnership (SWAP) is responsible for the delivery of Council Grant Aid for older persons groups. Older Peoples Groups must apply directly to the South West Age Partnership (SWAP) for this funding.

For further information or to apply for Grant Aid please contact Allison Forbes Tel: 028 8225 1824 or email: aforges@southwestagepartnership.co.uk

“Litter Champion” Volunteer Scheme

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council recently launched the “Litter Champion” scheme - a new initiative which will allow individuals to register as Council Volunteers to help keep local public places cleaner and more vibrant.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to a cleaner, greener, and more vibrant District. The Council currently undertakes a programme of cleansing to deal with litter, dumping, and fly tipping across the District each year. In the current year, it is estimated that the cost of this programme will be around £1.9 million.

While our cleansing teams do a fantastic job in keeping the District tidy, the Council greatly appreciates when individuals and communities offer their support to help maintain and improve our District through volunteering.

By supporting local litter collecting events, residents of the district can play a positive role in improving and protecting the environment by formally registering either in small family/friend groups or as part of larger community/sporting organisations.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will provide registered volunteers with the necessary equipment and advice on litter picking and will collect bagged rubbish left in designated areas once the litter pick is finished.

By registering you are also supporting the Council by gathering valuable data on the amount/type of rubbish and problem areas, as well as helping us to promote cleaner communities.

For more information on the “Litter Champion” scheme, please visit the Council website at

www.fermanaghomagh.com, contact the Council by telephone on 0300 303 1777

or email litter.champion@fermanaghomagh.com

Good Relations Week: 14–21 September

On-line Events taking place in Fermanagh and Omagh District

Monday 14 September

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. Launching a video 'Celebrating Our Journey, Embracing our Future' which will showcase examples of events and programmes organised by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Good Relations section in the past year.

Tuesday 15 September, 10.00am – 11.30am

The Process of Peace-Making through the eyes of an Artist Ireland's Totem, Crown of Conciliation – Circle of Hope

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in association with Fermanagh and Omagh Interfaith group. A facilitated workshop examining the peace process in Northern Ireland using 'Ireland's Totem', a driftwood construction, with words.

Wednesday 16 September, 10.00am – 12.00pm

'From "the Muddy Byways of Fermanagh and Tyrone" to Partition and Two Irish States 1918-22'

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in association with Rural Community Network and NI Screen's Digital Film Archive. An on-line talk by renowned historian Dr Éamon Phoenix examining the key historical events in Ireland in the years 1918–1922 using unseen footage of key events.

Wednesday 16 September, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

'Hope beyond Covid: Where to now for Church Communities?'

Omagh Churches' Forum in association with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. Public talk with two eminent church leaders, The Most Rev Eamon Martin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland and the Right Rev John McDowell, Church of Ireland Archbishop-elect of Armagh will explore how Church communities have found new and innovative ways to connect with each other during this pandemic.

Thursday 17 September, 10.00am – 12.00pm

Good Relations and Knowing Racial History; Embracing a More Just Future'

Irish School of Ecumenics in association with Fermanagh Churches Forum and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. On-line talk by Dr Johnston McMaster followed by question and answer session and small group discussion.

Thursday 17 September, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

The 'State' of Northern Ireland

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. Six-week shared history training programme exploring key historical events in Northern Ireland from the Home Rule crisis to Partition and the Civil Right Movements. Places are limited and participants will be expected to commit to all six sessions.

Good Relations Week is a high-profile initiative aimed at celebrating all aspects of our culture and heritage, challenging sectarianism and racism and promoting understanding and respect among all sections of our community.

To find out more about these events and to register, please visit the Council website at www.fermanaghomagh.com or T: 0300 303 1777 E: goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com

Public Consultation

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is currently seeking your views on our Draft Climate Change and Sustainable Development Strategy 2020-2030.

Recognising that we are facing climate breakdown and a biodiversity crisis which are impacting here and now, and will affect all aspects of our lives in coming years, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has resolved to formally declare a Climate Emergency.

The Strategy sets out the practical steps we can take over the coming years to minimise climate change impacts on our day to day lives, and suggests ways in which we can try to counter the severity of this Climate Emergency. It also sets out how we will work towards the achievement of the United Nations' 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals by moving closer to building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future for our people, our environment and our economy.

The Strategy recognises that our local contribution is part of a complex challenge that involves all of us, both nationally and internationally. The Council will work towards achieving, and going beyond, the statutory targets which will be in place for achieving net zero carbon emissions.

You can obtain copies of the Draft Strategy and the Response Questionnaire by:

- Downloading the documents from the Council's website www.fermanaghomagh.com/consultations
- Telephoning the Council on 0300 303 1777
- Textphone: 028 8225 6216 · Emailing: consultations@fermanaghomagh.com

Consultation Responses: You can return your response to the consultation by:

- Completing the online questionnaire at www.fermanaghomagh.com/consultations
- Completing a paper copy and posting to: Public Consultation, Policy and Strategic Services, County Buildings, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, BT74 7BW.
- Emailing your response to: consultations@fermanaghomagh.com

Consultation documents will be available in a range of formats upon request. Please contact us via the above contact details with your requirements.

If you require assistance to record your consultation response, please email consultations@fermanaghomagh.com, telephone 0300 303 1777 or textphone 028 8225 6216 and leave your contact details; a member of staff will be in touch to provide assistance.

Consultation Closing Date: Friday 30 October 2020

Key Dates for your Diary

Sept 2020	
14-21 Sept	Good Relations Week
21 Sept	RECOVER Fund Application closes 5pm
21 Sept	Grant Aid for Older Persons Groups closes 5pm
24 Sept	Closing date for submissions to DfI re closure of roads
25 Sept	Good Relations Survey closes 12 noon
Oct 2020	
30 Oct	Consultation Closes – Draft Climate Change and Sustainable Development Strategy
Nov 2020	
20 Nov	RECOVER Fund Application closes 5pm
20 Nov	Grant Aid for Older Persons Groups closes 5pm

Community and Voluntary Sector Register

Has your organisation registered their details? Registration will enable Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to keep you updated with important information and provide any necessary support you may require.

You can download a registration form and receive further information on how we process your data on the Council website <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-register/>.

Alternatively you can contact Community Services on 0300 303 1777 to speak to an officer who will send you a registration form and assist you with any questions you may have, or email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com for a copy of the registration form.

Charity Support

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council may provide support to charities in a number of ways including the provision of grant aid; the attendance of the Council Chair or Vice Chair at photo opportunities; use of Council facilities and the illumination of Council buildings to mark specific days of significance to a chosen charity which is associated with a particular colour.

Please note, applications for the use of Council facilities or the illuminating of Enniskillen Castle and Strule Arts Centre in a particular colour, should be submitted to the Council at least 6 weeks before the date requested, to allow sufficient time for the application to be considered.

For further information or enquiries regarding Council support to charities, please email communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Community Support Officer Areas

The Community Services Department offers support to individuals and organisations within the community and voluntary sector promoting community action. Officers within the Community Services Team are available to assist community groups and voluntary organisations make as big a difference as possible to local lives and issues.

The link below can help you find your local Community Support Officer - please contact us for any assistance you or your organisation may require on 0300 303 1777

<https://fermanagh.maps.arcgis.com/apps/ZoneLookup/index.html?appid=82210c413ab74bcd8da1750af0321163>

Community News

Support Needed in Promoting Key Public Health Messages

Your help is needed to help stop the spread of Coronavirus in Northern Ireland

It is hoped that by having messages reinforced by established organisations and groups who have strong and trusted connections with local communities, people will respond to the urgent need to sustain measures to prevent any further spread of coronavirus. Please see links to documents below:

[Letter from the Public Health Agency](#)

[StopCOVID NI App](#)

[Test, Trace & Protect](#)

Closure of roads

All community, voluntary and sporting organisations who require road closures for charity events such as fun runs, festivals, etc are encouraged to make a submission to DfI regarding the review of road closures:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/news/mallon-announces-commencement-review-special-events-legislation>

Please note there is a closing date of 24 September.

Fermanagh Rural Community Network

Awards 2020 - Celebrating Your Achievements

Fermanagh Rural Community Network (FRCN) are pleased to announce the 19th year of our Community Awards scheme to celebrate the work of Community & Voluntary Organisations in County Fermanagh. All Organisations should submit at least one nomination.

Nominations are requested from Organisations for the following categories

1. Award for Local Community Activity (In the last 12 months)
2. Award for An Individual who has made a difference in your area

Prizes will be awarded

Deadline for all Nominations: 12 noon on Monday 5 October

Only Nominations on the FRCN Awards 2020 Nomination Form will be accepted.

Nomination Forms are available to download from the FRCN website: www.fermanaghrcn.org or by contacting Frances on 028 6632 7006 or by e-mail: info@fermanaghrcn.org

In Co-ordinating this Awards scheme FRCN, as the Local Rural Support Network for County Fermanagh, is proud to celebrate the skills, services, and projects developed by Organisations and Communities throughout the County.

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service

Cathedral Church Hall, Enniskillen

Monday 14 September from 10.30am to 1.30pm and 3pm-6.30pm

Tuesday 15 September from 10.30am to 1.30pm and 3pm-6pm

Please make an appointment in advance by calling 0808 553 4653

Check out <http://www.nibts.hscni.net/donating-blood/where-to-donate/> for further Scheduled Donation Sessions.

OG Cancer NI Awareness Campaign

Oesophageal and Gastric cancer (oesophago-gastric) is already detected too late as many people are unaware of the signs and symptoms - this results in a poor prognosis.

Due to Covid-19 the number of referrals to the GP with these symptoms are noticeably down.

Early diagnosis is crucial.

For those diagnosed at a late stage the 5-year survival rate in NI is 20%

We cannot stress enough the importance of seeking medical advice without delay. Doctors are urging people with signs that could indicate cancer to phone them rather than wait and worry.

The oesophago-gastric symptoms are often dismissed as indigestion but any change, however subtle, if persistent should not be ignored.

"I wasn't going to bother the doctor, but then the food started sticking in my chest – I was so glad that I got it checked out, it saved my life." John, former patient.

OG Cancer NI is a registered local charity dedicated to helping people affected by oesophago-gastric cancer. It is run by volunteers, mostly former patients and carers.

In normal circumstance we hold regular meetings where patients from all parts of Northern Ireland can receive quality information and chat with former patients in a supportive environment.

More information can be found at: www.ogcancerni.com; www.facebook.com/ogcancerni
www.twitter.com/ogcancerni

Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research, 97 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 7AE
(NICC Register No: 107492)

Pharmacy First Service

Ask your pharmacist first for free and confidential advice and treatment for sore throats, colds or flu-like illness. Save time and avoid waiting to see a GP!

The Pharmacy First Service is a service whereby patients are encouraged to consult with a participating community pharmacy rather than their GP for a defined list of common conditions.

The pharmacist will give advice and (if appropriate) supply medication from an agreed formulary or refer the patient to the GP if necessary.

Medicines, when deemed necessary, are supplied **free of charge**.

Snap that: Life through the lens of Ireland's 18- to 25-year-olds

The [Royal Irish Academy's Social Sciences Committee](https://www.ria.ie/news/humanities-and-social-sciences-committees-social-sciences-committee/snap-life-through-lens) has launched a youth photography call for an online exhibition (18- to 25-year olds).

We are seeking submissions of photographs and captions that tell the story of things that help or hinder the lives of this generation of young people on the whole island of Ireland, from rural and urban communities. Closing date 30 September.

<https://www.ria.ie/news/humanities-and-social-sciences-committees-social-sciences-committee/snap-life-through-lens>

Communities and COVID-19

Stories of People, Support and Mobilisation across our communities

Launch Event: Wednesday 9 September, 11am-12.30pm – Register Now

The Communities and COVID-19 story telling project sets out to capture and recognise the stories of what happened on the ground over the last 5 months to support people and families needing access to basic day-to-day essentials, human connection, care and solidarity.

The wonderful community efforts and initiatives are encapsulated through story, picture and film and reflect experiences across Northern Ireland. They serve as a snapshot of the extent of community activity that has been crucial in responding to crisis and beyond.

The Social Change Initiative, St. Stephen's Green Trust and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, believes that there is important learning that can underpin a commitment to Build Back Better together.

Join us to hear a range of community perspectives and help us think about what needs to be done to Build Back Better.

You need to register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Mdla4oWTQeihoZhdrndZOg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. We look forward to seeing you.

HSC mental health campaign September – October 2020

The five HSC Trusts, Public Health Agency (PHA) and the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) are working together this year for the first time, to roll out a regional campaign to connect World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day. The campaign aims to promote the positive mental health and wellbeing of everyone living in Northern Ireland and will focus on promotion of self-care and looking after each other using the Take 5 approach and the range of support and resources available.

'Working Together to Promote Mental Wellbeing' will launch on Monday 7 September and will run for a five week period. We want you to get involved by sharing our social media posts, using the logo and the hashtag #MentalWellbeingNI2020 and sharing any events or initiatives that fit with each week's Take 5 theme so that as many people know about them as possible.

If you would like us to share and promote your event, programme or training, linked to any of the Take 5 themes on the PHA's Minding Your Head website and Western Trust social media, please send details to Sonia.montgomery@westerntrust.hscni.net as soon as possible.

Social Distancing Guidelines from RNIB

Please see the links below for social distancing guidelines from RNIB

Two documents have been developed. One addresses the needs of blind and partially sighted people specifically. It covers a range of issues including guiding and mask wearing. The second is aimed at raising awareness among the wider public and service providers and offers tips on how to support blind and partially sighted people to resume their everyday activities, as society begins to emerge from lockdown.

The documents are available to view online via the [RNIB website](#)

You can also download the documents directly via the links below:

- [NI Guidance on Social Distancing if you are Blind or Partially Sighted](#) (APDF)
- [NI Guidance on Social Distancing if you are Blind or Partially Sighted](#) (Word)
- [NI Social Distancing Guidelines - how you can support Blind and Partially Sighted people](#) (APDF)
- [NI Social Distancing Guidelines - how you can support Blind and Partially Sighted people](#) (Word)

Marie Curie Twilight Walk

Throughout September Marie Curie is encouraging people to “light up the night” by taking part in a Twilight Walk in memory and celebration of a loved one.

Twilight Walk is a special event that provides a way to remember loved ones and to support the charity’s work.

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic over 35,000 people have been affected by a bereavement in Northern Ireland. Many people have missed out on the opportunity to say goodbye, grieve and support each other as they normally would. Twilight Walk is a time for us to remember those who’ve died and raise money to support anyone facing the end of life in Northern Ireland.

Twilight Walk usually takes place in September with approx. 2,000 people joining in memory of loved ones and like many events, it can’t go ahead as one big event. So instead, we are asking people across Northern Ireland to hold their own little Twilight Walk in September and ‘light up the night’ in memory of loved ones and so that Marie Curie can continue to be here for people impacted by death, dying and bereavement.

We will then all join together online for a special moment with U105 radio on the evening of Friday 25 September, where you can be part of creating one big lantern lane to unite, remember and celebrate the lives of loved ones who have died.

<https://mariecurie-twilightwalk.blackbaud-sites.com/>

Training Opportunities

Innovation Recovery Free Online Course Timetable

Our timetable for September's free online courses is now live and open for registrations. Please click on this [link](#) for a PDF of the Prospectus.

If you are interested in attending one of the courses, you can register your interest either by telephone or by email: –

Telephone - NI (028) 7186 5149 or ROI (086) 606 9480

Email – recoverycollegewest@westerntrust.hscni.net

Mindfulness for School Teachers

This year has been particularly challenging and as a teacher, you might be feeling stressed or anxious as you prepare to go back to school. Mindfulness is a form of meditation which allows you to develop skills and techniques to cope with these feelings and in turn improve your own mental wellbeing. It has many benefits and evidence suggests that practising mindfulness for even five minutes a day can reduce stress, improve your mood and help you sleep better.

The Health Improvement, Equality and Involvement Department of the Western Health and Social Care Trust are delighted to offer teachers (primary and post primary) the opportunity to experience and learn mindfulness in a 6 week programme delivered via Zoom. These sessions will last 45 minutes each and will allow you to practice mindfulness for yourself which will help to build your own resilience for the year ahead.

Also if you continue to practice, there is a plan next year that we will offer practitioner training to allow you to bring this skill into the classroom.

For further details contact Sonia.Montgomery@westerntrust.hscni.net

Help is available for the unemployed

Have you recently been made redundant or are unemployed? If so, SUSE+ can help you. We are currently offering help and support with Job Searches, CV Building, Interview Preparation. Mentors work 1:1 with participants to help secure a job in the local area. Online courses are available in money management, holistic therapies, self-care, employability, confidence and motivation, job club and much more.

For more information contact Tracy - tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk - 07436 533475

Funding Opportunities

Rural Micro Capital Grants Scheme 2020

Open for applications from Monday 7 September, closes at 12.00 noon on Friday 2 October.

This Scheme is funded under the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation Programme. Guidance and Online Application Forms will be available on our website (www.omaghforum.org) from 9am on Monday 7 September.

Micro Capital grants of between £200 and £1,500 are available to rural community-led voluntary organisations for projects tackling issues of local poverty and/or social isolation. The total project cost must not exceed £3,000. Projects must clearly address an issue of rural poverty and/or social isolation and applicants must provide a minimum of 15% match funding. Applications this year will be online.

The Rural Micro Capital Grant Scheme 2020 has been designed to:

- Help rural community-led voluntary groups to address local issues of access poverty, financial poverty and social isolation.
- Improve the lives of rural communities, and in particular the wellbeing of isolated individuals.

Projects must focus on one of the following three themes:

- Modernisation (of premises / assets)
- Information Communication Technology (ICT).
- Health and Wellbeing.

Omagh Forum for Rural Associations, in conjunction with South West Rural Community Development Service are hosting a number of “Zoom” information sessions during the application period.

We would strongly advise all groups to take part in one of these so that your group has all the latest information on the programme and together we all can learn from previous experiences.

Wednesday 9 September 2020 @ 3pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88249385799?pwd=aGkyZ1NZb3g3M3NwQ0J4UFU0d0Z1QT09>

Meeting ID: 882 4938 5799 Passcode: 376305

Thursday 10 September 2020 @ 7.30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87672053619?pwd=VDd0VmIMY3VIMlI0RHZZZzYzOTIGUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 7205 3619 Passcode: 967223

Tuesday 15 September 2020 @ 10am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88497945891?pwd=MjBYVVFsS1lrNXJXY3NvdGhPS3BkZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 9794 5891 Passcode: 760773

Tuesday 22 September 2020 @ 7.30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87218509708?pwd=UnpCeGNSSzNpM1dJTlhldiY0T0pMdz09>

Meeting ID: 872 1850 9708 Passcode: 974341

Share your recipes for World Food Day

Did you know that our friends at Food For Life are looking for recipes? And... did you know they also are looking to give out small grants? They have £150 grants available to host a '**Good Food Get Together**'.

If you would like more information or an application form, please contact them at

fflgtsmallgrants@foodforlife.org.uk

or visit their website <https://www.foodforlife.org.uk/get-togethers/get-involved/small-grants>

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Small Grants Scheme

This funding is intended to help community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland engage in Community Relations work.

Full details available at: https://www.community-relations.org.uk/community-relations-culturaldiversity?mc_cid=842b315766&mc_eid=20ad8a81f7

Closing Date: 4 December 2020