

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – May 2025

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 ext 21217 / email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

Please note the deadline for June's Newsletter is Tuesday 27 May

Council News & Events

Strategic Capital Projects Grant Programme 2025/2026

The Strategic Capital Projects Grant Programme 2025/2026 opened on Monday 7 April 2025. This funding supports local community & voluntary organisations working on projects to enhance existing facilities or meet unmet local needs in both rural and urban areas.

£1 million in funding is available:

- Category 1 – Larger strategic grant up to £300k with a maximum of one project at this scale. The project must robustly demonstrate how it serves communities across a District Electoral Area (DEA) or across several DEA's.
- Category 2 – Medium Capital with grants up to £100k. A minimum of seven grants will be awarded and will be equitably spread across the district.

Deadline for submission of applications is 5pm on Friday 9 May 2025.

Applications received after the closing date and time will be deemed ineligible.

For further information, including details of mandatory information workshops, please contact the Grants & Investment Team on 0300 303 1777 or email grants@fermanaghomagh.com

Positive Ageing Small Grants Programme 2025-26

Now open for applications!

Constituted/non-constituted, non-profit making community/voluntary sector organisations/groups supporting those aged 60+ can apply for grants of up to £500. Grants should be used to develop programmes for older people to be active and to improve their physical activity while also providing opportunities for social connection.

Contact the South West Age Partnership by emailing aforbes@southwestagepartnership.co.uk for an application form

Closing date: Friday 23 May 2025 at 12noon.

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.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/>

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.

To make an illumination request please complete <https://form.jotform.com/222782646405055> or for any enquiries regarding Council support to charities, email communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Community Support

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.

For further information, please visit [Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](http://Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (fermanaghomagh.com))

Please contact your local Community Support Officer for any assistance you or your organisation may require on 0300 303 1777

Area	Officer	Email	Telephone
Enniskillen	Ruthanne Fawcett	ruthanne.fawcett@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21649
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21405
Erne North	Leza Cleary	leza.cleary@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21234
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Eilish Morgan	eilish.morgan@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20068
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Billie-Jo Irwin	billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20220

Grants open on a rolling basis

Community Services – Project Development

Applications for Community Services – Project Development are open on a rolling basis and can be accepted throughout the year. Applicants must first contact a Community Support Officer of the Council to discuss their project/proposal prior to an application being made available. For further information on [Project Development – Guidance Notes 2025-26](#)

Seeding Grant Aid

Applications for Seeding Grant Aid are open on a rolling basis and can be accepted throughout the year. Applications can be accessed on the Council's Grant Aid Submit Portal

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/sponsorship-grants-bursaries/grant-aid/>

For further information on Seeding Grants visit [Seeding Grants Guidance Notes](#)

Sports Team – Grant Aid (Significant Sporting Achievement)

Applications for Sports Team Grant Aid are open on a rolling basis and can be accepted throughout the year. Applications can be accessed on the Council's Grant Aid Submit Portal

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/sponsorship-grants-bursaries/grant-aid/>

For further information on Sports Team – Significant Sporting Achievement Grants – [Sports Team – Grant Guidance Notes](#)

Bursaries – Sports Bursary

Applications for Sports Bursaries are open on a rolling basis and can be accepted throughout the year. Applications can be accessed on the Council's Grant Aid Submit Portal

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/sponsorship-grants-bursaries/grant-aid/>

For further information on Sports Bursaries – [Sports Bursary Guidance Notes](#)

If you require further advice or guidance, please contact: Grants & Investment Unit, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Tel: 0300 303 1777

Email: grants@fermanaghomagh.com

Text Phone: 028 8225 6216

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Training Opportunities for Event Organisers

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and APEX Housing Association are offering a series of valuable training sessions aimed at strengthening the skills of voluntary and community organisations in the region.

The training, supported by the Council and delivered by expert trainers, covers essential areas such as effective fundraising strategies, social media promotion for events, and stewarding for event management. These sessions are designed to provide practical knowledge and equip participants with the tools they need to enhance their organisational effectiveness.

Free Effective Fundraising Training for Voluntary and Community Organisations

In partnership with NICVA and funded by APEX Housing Association, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will deliver a comprehensive **free** Effective Fundraising Training series. The in-person sessions, which will be held at the Strule Arts Centre in Omagh, are scheduled as follows:

Training Sessions:

- **Wednesday 7 May Strule Arts Centre, Omagh 10.30am-1.00pm**
Basics of Fundraising and Creating a Short-Term Fundraising Plan
This session will explore different ways to fundraise and cover the essential steps needed to develop a short-term fundraising strategy relevant to your organisation.
- **Wednesday 14 May Strule Arts Centre, Omagh 10.30am-1.00pm**
Building Your Case for Support
Learn the importance of creating a Case for Support, a vital tool that underpins your fundraising efforts and helps effectively communicate your cause to potential funders.
- **Wednesday 21 May Strule Arts Centre, Omagh 10.30am-1.00pm**
Completing Fundraising Applications
This session will guide participants through the process of identifying what funders need to know, finding and selecting appropriate funders, and offering tips on how to effectively complete application forms.

Participants are invited to attend one, two, or all of these sessions, depending on their specific needs and interests. Early registration is recommended as spaces are limited.

To register please complete <https://form.jotform.com/250683623882363>

Free Online Training: Mastering Social Media for Event Success

Additionally, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is pleased to announce free Online Mastering Social Media for Event Success Training led by Niamh Taylor from Digital 24. This training will provide key insights into using social media to promote and enhance events, including:

- Planning Social Media Content Before the Event
- Understanding Social Media for Events
- Creating Engaging Content for Event Promotion
- Multi-Channel Event Marketing Strategy
- Managing Social Media on the Day of the Event
- Post-Event Social Media Strategy

This free online training is ideal for those looking to maximise their event's online visibility and engagement. To register please complete <https://form.jotform.com/250683523830355>

Free Stewarding Training for Event Management

Thursday 8 May Monday 9 June
Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown 7pm-10pm

The **Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)** is also offering a **free** Stewarding Training Course for groups involved in managing events. This training, facilitated by Proficiency Training, will cover vital event management topics such as crowd control, traffic management, conflict resolution, and emergency response.

Spaces are limited, with a maximum of four participants per group, and registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign up, please email pcsp@fermanaghomagh.com or call **0300 303 1777 Ext 21233** for more information.

For more information on any of the above log on to <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/events-and-festivals/> webpage.

Free Exercise Programmes

Over 35 free exercise programmes have been launched right across the district by our Community and Wellbeing Team.

The weekly exercise programmes, which will run for at least 6 weeks and range from Couch to 5k, Walking, Boccia, Chair-Based Exercise, Pickleball, and Circuits, will be taking place in:

- Ballinamallard
- Bellanaleck
- Carrickmore
- Enniskillen
- Fintona
- Gortin
- Irvinestown
- Kesh
- Lisnaskea
- Newtownbutler
- Omagh
- Tempo
- Trillick
- Trory

Exact details on each of the programmes and links to sign up form are available at

<https://tinyurl.com/yck8sjzf>

For the latest updates and more information about our programmes, don't forget to visit our website <https://tinyurl.com/4a4xuf24>

Advance your career in classroom support roles!

Join the Level 3 Classroom Assistant Upskilling Academy and gain the skills, confidence, and certification you need to make a real impact in the classroom!

- Accredited Level 3 qualification
- Expert led training and support
- Practical training with real classroom experience
- Flexible learning options to suit your schedule
- Employability workshops - support with job search, CV writing and interview skills
- Perfect for those passionate about supporting young learners

A short interview will form part of the application process to make sure this opportunity supports your growth and success.

Limited places available — enrol now and start your journey to a rewarding career in education!

Email David.Taylor@swc.ac.uk

Fermanagh and Omagh Monthly Community Climate Champion

Become a Community Climate Champion for Fermanagh and Omagh!

Are you or is someone you know making a difference for the environment in our community? We're calling on residents to nominate themselves, others, or local groups for the title of Fermanagh and Omagh Community Climate Champion!

This is your chance to celebrate and shine a light on positive climate action, whether that be by reducing waste, promoting biodiversity, saving energy, or inspiring sustainable living. Big or small, every effort counts!

Each month, a new champion will be recognised for their outstanding contributions, receiving well-deserved recognition for their commitment to a greener future.

Nominate now and let's celebrate and learn from our local climate heroes! Use the online form and tell us how the actions are making a positive environmental impact. Make sure your nominations are made by end of day on the third Sunday of the Month.

Together, we can create a more sustainable Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Area. To nominate or find out more info please go to [Get Involved | Fermanagh & Omagh District Council: Climate Change](#)

48th annual Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival

Monday 5 May to Friday 9 May 2025

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/article/fermanagh-classic-fishing-festival-celebrates-its-48th-year/>

Registration for the 2025 Fermanagh Classic Fishing Festival is now open – [click here](#).

For further information or enquiries, please contact tourismdevelopment@fermanaghomagh.com or call 0300 303 1777.

FODC Coach Education

Community Wellbeing at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council organise various coach education programmes, including First Aid, Safeguarding etc.

For further information, please contact ryan.hanna@fermanaghomagh.com

FODC Physical Activity Referral Scheme (PARS)

Delivered in partnership with the Public Health Agency (PHA), PARS is a **free 12-week exercise** referral programme facilitated by fully qualified staff for individuals with specific health conditions who have no absolute contraindications to exercise.

PARS includes online delivery with sessions also facilitated at the following Council leisure centres:

- Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown
- Castle Park Leisure Centre, Lisnaskea
- Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen
- Omagh Leisure Complex

For further information visit [Physical Activity Referral Scheme](#)

FODC Move More Programme

A physical activity initiative delivered in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support available to anyone who has had a cancer diagnosis, at any stage of their life.

Move More supports the lives of people with cancer through physical activity. Physical activity before, during and after cancer treatment can help prevent and manage the effects of treatment, such as fatigue, depression and risks to heart health.

Sessions are facilitated at the following Council leisure centres:

- Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen
- Omagh Leisure Complex

For further information visit [Macmillan Move More](#).

Age Friendly at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is committed to providing an Age Friendly District and seeks to ensure that older people lead more independent, engaged and socially connected lives.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/health-wellbeing/agefriendly/>

For details of how to join an older person's group, visit

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/health-wellbeing/agefriendly/join-an-older-persons-group/>

Community Centres

Our community centres are available to hire for children's activities/parties, community events, health and sporting activities, special occasions and corporate events.

For further details or to make a booking visit

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-centres/>

Irish Language Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

For up to date information and details of activities across the district

visit <https://www.facebook.com/FODCGaeilge>

Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)

A partnership between the Council, statutory providers and the community. The partnership is made up of elected and independent members and representatives from the statutory sector.

Follow us on Facebook via the link below

https://www.facebook.com/FermanaghandOmaghPCSP/?locale=en_GB

Consultations

Consultations provide you with an opportunity to have your say. They also help us to find out what you think and to understand your priorities and concerns about our district. Further information is

available at <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/your-council/consultations/>

Events in Fermanagh and Omagh

Visit the following websites for details of what's on in the district:

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/events-and-festivals/>

<https://www.fermanaghlakelands.com/whats-on>

<https://exploreomaghsperrins.com/whats-on/events/>

Community News

Give blood - you could save 3 lives!

Enniskillen Thursday 1 May 12.30pm-7.30pm

Dromore Thursday 8 May 12.30pm-7.30pm

Omagh Thursday 22 May 1pm-8pm and Friday 23 May 12.30pm-7pm

Book your appointment via <https://nibts.hscni.net/online-booking-for-blood-donation-appointments/>

Want to know if you can give blood? Check out our eligibility quiz here:

<https://nibts.hscni.net/donating-blood/can-i-donate/>

Are you caring for an Adult with a Learning Disability?

Parent/Carers Event

Thursday 1 May, 11am

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

- Free Health Checks available from Bradley's Pharmacy
- Free Complimentary Therapies (please ring in advance to book your place)
- Tea/Coffee and Scones served

For more information, please contact:

Geraldine McLaughlin – Carers Co-ordinator – 028 7135 5023

Gabrielle McAloon – Carers Development Worker – 028 6634 4000

Truth Recovery Independent Panel

The Independent Panel appointed by the Executive Office to find out the truth about Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses in Northern Ireland from 1922 - 1995, and their related pathways and practices, including the adoption and care systems, **is requesting testimonials from those impacted.**

Giving testimony:

- Talk to the panel in a safe and supportive space, with confidentiality as an option
- Have your experience on record
- Help shape the final report and recommendations to the Public Inquiry.

The Independent Panel wish to hear from:

- Any person who has been directly impacted
- Relatives of those directly impacted
- Any person who has worked or volunteered in or lived close to one of these institutions.

If you would like to share your experience, please get in touch by Thursday 1 May 2025.

Phone: 028 9052 0263 Email: testimony@independentpanel.org.uk

Write to: Truth Recovery Independent Panel, 4th Floor, Equality House 7 - 9 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, BT2 7DB

The institutions the panel are investigating along with guidance on access to records is available at: www.independentpanel.truthrecoveryni.co.uk

Belleek CCE

Traditional Music Session

Sunday 4 May, 5-6pm Junior Session,
6pm onwards for everybody to take part in Riverside Bar, Garrison
All musicians, singers and listeners welcome!

CCE Masterclasses

Sunday 15 June, 1pm – 4pm
The Belleek Hub, Station Road
Session afterwards with Tutors and Pupils.
Free to all Belleek CCE Branch Members
Non-members welcome for a small fee of £10 Stg.
Contact Bernie on 086 6039343 or visit Belleek CCE Facebook Page for more information

Free Wellbeing Aromatherapy Workshop in collaboration with SWELL Cancer Support.

Open to any LGBTQIA+ individuals that have been affected by cancer

**Tuesday 6 May, 6pm-8pm
at SWELL's support centre in Enniskillen.**

Attendees will be able to create their own aromatherapy oils to take home with the help of an aroma therapist as well as enjoy a 10-minute taster of a complimentary therapy. The workshop is completely free and tea, coffee & buns are also included.

The workshop offers LGBTQIA+ individuals that have been affected by cancer; whether it be a past or current diagnosis, or if they are supporting a close friend or family member with cancer, a chance to unwind, connect, and allows individuals to take a moment for themselves in a safe and inclusive space. People can sign up via the events page on our website: [LGBTQIA+ Aromatherapy Wellbeing Workshop - Enniskillen - The Rainbow Project](#)

VE Day 80

Thursday 8 May 2025

Commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day, marking an extraordinary milestone since the end of the Second World War in Europe.

Free events will take place at various venues across Enniskillen
from Thursday 8 – Saturday 10 May.

A programme overview is available at <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/event/ve-day-80-commemorative-community-concert/>

Foyle Hospice

Pump it up for Charity 2

Friday 9 May, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Omagh Leisure Complex

Join @katesfitness, Christine Penrose, Shane @unitedfitness and co for 2 hours of high-energy workouts: khai bo, boxing, pilates - move, sweat and support a great cause!

Visit www.register.enthuse.com to register

The Big Lunch - Bringing People Together

Holding a Big Lunch, whether it be a street party or a simple coffee, cake and catch-up with friends is an ideal way to unite communities – so **why not claim a £25 food voucher** to help you get started?

This year's Big Lunch, on 7 and 8 June, is all about feeding community spirit, reducing loneliness and celebrating our communities and neighbourhoods. It's a time to bring people together, share food and find out what we all have in common. If the weekend doesn't suit, simply pick a date that works for you.

Neighbours can apply and groups do not need to be constituted.

Get your voucher and take part here -

<https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/big-lunch/free-food-vouchers>

We have a recipe competition with significant hampers and prizes for those hosting Big Lunches.

Any member of the public can submit a recipe

Just Us

Disco Night with DJ Niall McCann

Saturday 17 May, 7pm-10pm

Valley Hotel, Fivemiletown

£7 Admission, one carer free

Those requiring assistance must be accompanied

NI Water

Key Stage 2 School's Poster Competition

"The Science of Clean Water"

Draw a poster to celebrate the important role scientists play in ensuring clean, safe water comes out of our tap!

Fantastic prizes to be won!

Closes Friday 23 May

Award Ceremony will be held in Moyola Water Treatment Works

For full details click on

<https://www.niwater.com/siteFiles/resources/Education/Competition/2025/schoolscompetitoninspirationandinstructions2025.pdf>

New Rhythms Drumming Circle

Free 4 week wellbeing drumming workshops that aim to support and encourage isolated adults in rural communities to explore personal creativity, gain confidence and connect with others to boost mental health and wellbeing. Delivered by Inspire with drummer Aidan Dunphy.

- Wednesdays: 14, 21, 28 May and 4 June, 10.30am-12.30pm
Ecclesville Centre, 11 Ecclesville Road, Fintona
- Thursdays: 22, 29 May and 5, 12 June, 11am – 1pm
Prospects Court, 5 Prospects Court, Castlederg

Online Registration Form: <https://forms.office.com/e/sxVtCmDigB>

or contact: Jenny Groves, Training Co-ordinator, j.groves@inspirewellbeing.org / 07834 181303

Visit our Webpage: www.inspirewellbeing.org/training/wellbeing-drumming/

Amplify Programme with YouthAction NI

Amplify is a programme for young people from FODC area, aged 14 - 25.

The programme aims to build the skills of participants to learn about peacebuilding, role of young people in being peace builders, learn about other cultures, traditions and values. Amplify is a long term programme with a 6-9 month schedule but the choice of what we do will always be down to the young people. Some options they can avail from are:

- Skill Building - Confidence building, self-esteem building, peer-to-peer support, friendship building
- Activity/ Day Trips - BBQ at the beach, Escape rooms, Kayaking, Wall Climbing, Water park and a lot more. The young people choose!
- Residential - Nights or weekends away with other groups/organisations
- Short Qualifications - First Aid, Child Protection, Access NI
- OCN Qualifications - Youth Work, Sports Development, Animation Production
- Workshops - Leadership, Communication, Money Management
- Employability - Taster Days, CV Building, Interview Skills
- Social Action Projects - Community Relations & Building, Intergenerational work, Altruism, Helping others
- And so so much more!

For participants who meet particular criteria there are incentive payments available.

For more information, contact Lee Hamilton T: 028 6632 8534 E: lee@youthaction.org

Ulster University Focus Group Discussion

Do you:

- Have **experience with bodyweight management** eg member/facilitator of weight loss support group ie Weight Watchers, healthcare professional, gym member/employee or are overweight or living with obesity (not essential)
- Want to **help** shape evidence that could **improve exercise-based health and weight management strategies**

Please note all participants must be aged 18 years and above.

We want to hear your thoughts and experiences to develop an exercise based intervention to potentially benefit individuals who are overweight or living with obesity!

Compensation for travel expenses and lunch will be provided.

Please express your interest by filling out the form at <https://forms.office.com/e/a8A5Tiwpad>

Please note this is a Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) activity and not an actual research study.

Erne Paddlers

The 2025 outdoor paddlesports spring programme is underway. We offer outdoor skills based progressive kayaking and paddleboarding courses as well midweek and weekend lough and sea kayaking trips. We have a new base in Enniskillen - come and join us at the Round O.

Our popular summer paddlesports camps are also open for booking with a range of discounts available for early and multiple ticket purchases.

Full details of all courses and activities are published here: www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

Firewalk Fundraiser and Fun Day - Saturday 24 May

It's the club's 15th anniversary this year and we're planning a fabulous fun afternoon which will include an epic Firewalk fundraiser event. There will be a BBQ, cake sale, fun activities for all the family, information stands, an equipment bring & buy / swap shop, raffle, great prizes and much more. There are some places still available. If anyone would like to raise funds for Erne Paddlers please register asap via the link above. If any local charities would like to be involved and raise funds for their own cause please get in touch: email@ernepaddlers.org.uk

Erne Paddlers is a not-for-profit registered charity and an inclusive club and we want as many people as possible to experience the health and wellbeing benefits that paddlesports can bring. Find us on Facebook, Instagram and X for regular updates too.

If anyone would like to find out more, please get in touch via social media, email@ernepaddlers.org.uk or call/WhatsApp 07468911398.

Exciting Opportunity for Local Businesses & Job Seekers!

Fermanagh and Omagh Labour Market Partnership is proud to launch the Employer-led Disability Inclusion Programme, a new initiative designed to help businesses foster inclusive workplaces and provide individuals with disabilities or long-term health conditions the support they need to thrive in employment.

Through a collaboration with the NOW Group, this programme offers local businesses the resources and guidance to develop inclusive hiring practices, implement workplace accommodations, and promote disability awareness among staff.

For Businesses:

- Access tools and best practices for creating accessible workplaces
- Learn employer-led strategies for inclusivity
- Make a lasting impact on diversity and inclusion within your team

For Local Residents (Aged 16-64) with Disabilities or Health Conditions:

- Gain qualifications in customer service, hospitality, or catering
- Secure valuable work experience placements
- Break down barriers to employment and build a successful career!

How to Get Involved:

Call Clare at NOW Group: 07501 430819 or email clare.jordan@nowgroup.org

FREE online specialist gaming and gambling harm prevention workshops

Thursday 1 May, 10am-12.30pm

Wednesday 17 July, 10am-12.30pm

Wednesday 17 September, 10am-12.30pm

Book your **free place** by emailing training@ygam.org

Do you work with children & young people in Northern Ireland? Learn about the blurred lines between gaming and gambling harms and how you can help safeguard the young people you work with.

Did you know?

- 26% of 11-17 year olds have spent their own money on gambling in the last 12 months.
- 87% of 8-25 year olds play online games at least 3 times a week

Following your session you will receive:

- A City & Guilds certificate and digital credential
- Access to resources to use in your practice

For more info about us and our training please visit www.ygam.org

Bluegrass Festival

Ulster American Folk Park

23 – 26 May

- Free shuttle bus service from town centre, to the Folk Park and return for the duration of the weekend
- Bluegrass Open Mic Stage – allowing talented musicians to showcase themselves on a stage
- Friday night opening events on 23 May taking place in the town centre – this includes two **free** music workshops for community and residents to sign-up for in advance – one focussed on irish/trad and the other on folk/bluegrass

- School choir performances with Omagh County PS and St Mary's PS Killyclogher, along with the opportunity to perform with Dublin Gospel Choir. There will be two performances on Sunday 25 May, one at the Folk Park itself, and the other in a town centre venue, which will be no cost to attend (details have not been released just yet for this element)

More information is available at [Bluegrass Omagh | Ulster American Folk Park](#)

New international Toastmasters Club in Fermanagh "Island Voices"

Toastmasters is a global organisation that empowers people to become more confident communicators and leaders.

We are now welcoming expressions of interest. For more information or to express an interest,

Email: shelley@accessavenue.co.uk or islandvoicestmi@gmail.com

Phone: 07598 140 298

Facebook: [Island Voices Toastmasters International](#)

Omagh Jobs and Benefits

Financial Wellbeing- Community Information and Support event

Wednesday 28 May, 10am-1pm

Omagh Library

Organisations taking part are :

- Make the Call.
- ASCERT.
- Omagh Independent Advice Service.
- DFC Discretionary Support.
- Omagh Library.
- Omagh Foodbank.
- DFC Universal Credit Job Club.
- Land & Property Services.

Free event with advice on benefits, domestic housing rates, available support, and training courses.

Radio Ulster Broadcast Appeals - Opportunities

Applications are now being invited for upcoming Broadcast Appeal slots on Ulster/Foyle/Sounds. These opportunities will be available from June 2025 onwards.

More information and an application form can be downloaded at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/northernireland/appeals/apply>

Volunteer Now

Our latest Training Newsletter is out now! Please visit [VTraining March 2025](#)

For a list of our scheduled training courses visit <https://bit.ly/VNCoursesScheduled> and for our on demand courses visit <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training/on-demand-courses/>

Fermanagh Film Club

For further details visit our website at <https://www.fermanaghfilmclub.com/>

AWARE NI

Are you a community, voluntary or sporting group in the Western Trust area and interested in bringing mental health programmes to your organisation?

AWARE NI have funding in place for the delivery of short one off mental health awareness sessions and longer life skills engagement programmes between April-June 2025.

Mood Matters Adults (18+)

2 hours Duration / Minimum 12/Maximum 25 people / Face to Face or online

This light and interactive mental health awareness training session is an opportunity for you to think about how to look after your own mental health. The workshop will explore mental health stereotypes and look more closely at how to spot the early signs of mental health illness, stress, depression, anxiety disorders and bipolar. This session will teach individuals coping skills for everyday life, how to avoid getting caught in a vicious circle and how to break unhelpful habits that we sometimes have when our mood is low, as well as where to get further help and support. This session will focus on you as an individual and will then allow you to apply these skills to supporting family, friends and others.

Living Life to the Full (18+)

6 weeks @ 2 hours per week / Minimum 12/Maximum 18 people / Face to Face or online

This is a programme that can make a big difference to your life. It can help you manage your feelings when you are stressed, worried or depressed and learn simple practical skills to help you cope with life's challenges. Delivered over 6 weeks the programme looks more closely at the ways in which mental health can be impacted by life events and unhelpful thinking styles which may also then affect our physical health and overall enjoyment of life.

If interested in either the Mood Matters Adult or Living Life to the Full programme, please contact Catherine on E: catherine@aware-ni.org or training@aware-ni.org

To find your nearest support group please visit: aware-ni.org/support-groups

To learn more about the signs and symptoms of depression please [click here](#)

6 week Living Life to the Full for anyone impacted by cancer

[Every Thursday evening beginning 1st May to 5th June between 6:30pm-8:30pm](#)

Click on the link above to register.

Aisling Centre

37 Darling Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DP

Groups & Programmes:

- **Forget Me Not** – Bereaved by Suicide support group meets first Monday of every month at 7.30pm. Next meeting Monday 12 May due to the Bank Holiday.
- **Mindfulness Meditation** – Monthly drop-in sessions, last Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Next meeting Tuesday 27 May.
- **Self Care Sessions** – Monthly drop-in sessions, first Tuesday of every month at 10am. Starting Tuesday 6 May.

Other Groups:

- **Alcoholics Anonymous** – 3 meetings per week at Aisling Centre.
- **Aware** – Mental Health Support Group. Meets every Tuesday at 7pm. If you would like to attend, please email Sarah sarah@aware-ni.org.

- **Escapists** – Support Group for Carers. Meets Wednesdays 10.30am-1pm.
- **Fermanagh Pride** – Meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 7pm. Contact 07368 503661 or email fermanaghpride@gmail.com for further information.
- **Island Artists** – Open to new members. Meets Wednesdays from 1-4pm. For more information, please contact Maura on 07968 225704.

For further information on any programmes, please contact Aisling Centre on info@theaislingcentre.com or telephone 028 6632 5811 (unless stated otherwise).

Yoga Timetable (please contact individual facilitators to book):

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| • Christine | Mondays at 5.30pm | 07722 550040 |
| • Elena | Tuesdays at 7pm | 07894 037450 |
| • Leila | Tuesdays at 7pm | 07594 026531 |
| • Alasdair | Wednesdays at 6.30pm | 07776 290903 |
| • Genny | Thursdays at 12pm | 028 8754 1994 |
| • Theresa | Thursdays at 6pm (men only) | 07923 694523 |
| | 7.30pm (mixed) | 07923 694523 |

Oak Healthy Living Centre, Lisnaskea

New programme now available at <https://www.oakhealthylivingcentre.com/>

Tel: 028 6772 3843

Email: Info@oakhlc.com or admin@oakhlc.com

Latest Volunteering Opportunities

Fermanagh <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering-opportunities/>

Omagh <https://omaghvolunteercentre.org/opportunities>

August Craft Month 2025

Now open for Applications!

Northern Ireland's unique celebration of the craft sector provides opportunities for the public to experience, participate in, buy and learn about Craft.

We welcome event applications from -

- Councils, arts centres and cultural venues
- Galleries, retailers, museums and libraries
- Individual craft makers
- Guilds, Associations, Networks and Societies (GANS)
- Further and Higher Education Craft institutions and educators
- Heritage organisations

The possibilities of event types are endless -

- Craft trails
- Exhibitions
- Markets and fairs
- Workshops
- Craft talks
- Meet the Maker
- Demonstrations

The deadline for event applications is Sunday 8 June.

Register and submit your event(s) at <http://www.augustcraftmonth.org/applications/>.

If you'd like to discuss these opportunities and how you can get involved, please get in touch on info@augustcraftmonth.org or call the team on 028 9032 9342.

British Nutrition Foundation Drummond Community Award 2025

The British Nutrition Foundation Drummond community award recognises an individual (e.g. a health professional, teacher or volunteer) or a group that has undertaken a community initiative to support healthier eating in an underserved group(s) in the UK.

Individuals must be nominated (self-nominations will not be accepted) in order to be considered for this award; however the nominee is required to complete one section of the application form and to submit the application.

If you know of a worthy winner, we encourage you to nominate them. Full details including information about previous winners can be found at

<https://www.nutrition.org.uk/about-us/awards/community-award>.

Applications must be received by midnight on 8 June 2025

New Online Safety Policy Templates

The Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland has launched new customisable online safety policy templates for organisations working with children and young people. The templates cover online safety, photography, and social media policies.

[Access the templates](#)

Volunteers' Week 2025 Countdown Begins!

2-8 June 2025

Every year, over 722,000 people dedicate their time to making a difference in local communities. This June, people across Northern Ireland with over 14m across the UK will come together to celebrate these inspiring individuals through parties, award ceremonies and coffee mornings, expressing gratitude to those who give selflessly to help others.

For further information visit <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteers-week-2025-countdown-begins/>

[Visit the Volunteers' Week website](#)

Training Opportunities

Omagh Forum for Rural Associations

Governance training

Tuesday 20 May, 7.30pm

Conference room of Omagh Community House

The aim of the session is to build capacity of individual members of community groups to recognise and implement good governance measures. The training will include the following:

- What is governance?
- Good and bad practice
- Looking at Risk
- Review of Governing documents
- Roles and responsibilities of Committee members
- Roles and responsibilities of Office bearers
- Charity Commission for Northern Ireland

Booking is essential, please click on the following link <https://bit.ly/3EKYZcz> or email maryt.conway@omaghforum.org or telephone 028 8225 1559. Refreshments will be served

Health Improvement Equality & Involvement Department

Training Brochure April – September 2025

The WHSCT Health Improvement Equality & Involvement (HIEI) Department has released their latest Training Brochure which is offering **free training courses** taking place across the Trust from 1 April to 30 September 2025.

This is the first edition of 2025 and continues with a themed layout. Our training courses are located under the headings of Children & Families, Emotional Health & Wellbeing, Nutrition and Physical Activity.

We are also delighted to introduce a new seminar to the brochure, the 'Infant Mental Health Awareness Week Seminar'.

The courses will be delivered either via Zoom or face to face in a range of locations across the WHSCT.

To view the Training Brochure, click on this link <https://westerntrust.pagetiger.com/hiei-training-brochure-april-september-25/hiei-training-brochure-april-to-september-2025>

We are introducing a new method for course registration. Each course has a 'click here to register' icon that directs you to a Microsoft form where you can register for the course and date. Please be aware that you are registering your interest by completing the Microsoft form - it does not mean you are guaranteed a place. If you need an alternative method of registering, please feel free to contact us. Accessible view is available.

For further information and any queries in relation to the Training Brochure, please email health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 7186 5127.

Website - [Health and Wellbeing | Western Health & Social Care Trust](#)

Order Leaflets - [Health Improvement Leaflet Catalogue | Western Health & Social Care Trust](#)

'Interculturalism and Traveller Cultural Awareness' course

Friday 23 May, 10am to 1pm

Via Zoom

Open to everybody interested in learning more about Travellers and their culture, the training aims to increase understanding of Traveller culture, history and heritage and to gain greater knowledge and understanding of the challenges and struggles experienced by Travellers in Irish society.

Facilitator: Donegal Travellers Project

If you would like to register for this course, please complete the form linked here -

<https://forms.office.com/e/tP840The54>

Take 5 Ambassador Training

Online via Zoom

Tuesday 13 May, 10am to 12pm <https://forms.office.com/e/D0jipF1kWC>

Tuesday 16 September, 10am to 12pm <https://forms.office.com/e/D0jipF1kWC>

The training explores the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing approach, examines the Take 5 toolkit and offers the opportunity for participants to share examples of best practice, learning how they can integrate the Take 5 approach into their future work.

Participants are encouraged to engage in discussion, share their thoughts, ideas and provide examples of previous work that may be helpful to other participants.

Each participant will receive a course handbook and a digital version of the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing Toolkit.

Participants may join the WHSCT trust Take 5 Ambassador network. A platform for sharing relevant information, examples of best and supporting other Take 5 Ambassadors.

Money Management Programme

Free Workshops

Are you part of a community group in the Fermanagh/Omagh area and want to learn more about money management, budgeting etc?

Workshops will be delivered in a community setting. A minimum of 8 per group.

Workshops are delivered over 4 weeks / one 2 hour session each week

Each participant will receive a free tablet device upon completion of the course.

To find out more, email craftgam@hotmail.com or telephone 028 7188 4304

Recovery College Spring/Summer 2025 Prospectus

<https://westerntrust.hscni.net/service/recovery-college/>

We have some exciting workshops coming this term across our 5 locations. If you are interested in attending any workshops please enrol by either;

-completing our enrolment form in the back of the prospectus

-emailing us on recoverycollege@westerntrust.hscni.net

-phoning us on 028 8225 2079 or

-completing our online enrolment form which can be found in the prospectus or at the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/RKy3i6khzX>

Funding Opportunities

National Churches Trust

Funding Your Project & Applying to The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Tuesday 13 May, 2pm-3pm online

Are you planning a major repair, reordering or heritage project for your church? Are you thinking about or already preparing a Heritage Fund application? Jon Hodges has been Project Manager for our Cherish project since May 2024, join him and a representative from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to learn more.

[Find out more and book a free place here](#)

Community Foundation for NI

Thriving Futures Fund –

The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland is delighted to work with the Henry Smith Charity to launch the new Northern Ireland Thriving Futures Fund. The fund aims to support refugees and people seeking asylum, people experiencing domestic abuse, and people leaving the criminal justice system. Applications are welcome from organisations providing support in one or more of these three areas. The maximum available for a three-year grant will be £150,000.

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/thriving-futures-fund/>

Deadline Monday 12 May 2025 at 1pm.

Community Foundation for NI

The Fibrus Community Fund –

Established by Fibrus Broadband in 2021, the Fund is aimed at addressing digital poverty and exists to support the work of communities across Northern Ireland to provide access to digital technology for the most vulnerable. Grants of up to £2,000 for constituted community and voluntary organisations with an annual income below £50,000.

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-fibrus-community-fund/>

Deadline Friday 9 May 2025 at 1pm.

Irish FADCMS Grassroots Facilities Fund 2025-26

Applications are now open for the latest tranche of funding available through the Irish Football Association (FA)/Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Grassroots Facilities Investment Fund.

This aims to enable grassroots football clubs, local authorities, schools and football-focused sports community/charitable organisations in Northern Ireland to improve and refurbish facilities so that grassroots football clubs and communities have a high quality pitch to play on, thereby helping to create a better grassroots football infrastructure foundation.

Please follow the link for more information - <https://www.irishfa.com/news/2025/april/applications-now-open-for-irish-fadcms-grassroots-facilities-fund-2025-26>

Closing date: Thursday 8 May at 12 noon for submissions.

Micro Community Investment Fund

Closing Date: Ongoing

Grant Size: Up to £1,500

The fund will provide valuable investment for community initiatives making a difference in towns and villages across Northern Ireland. It will enable those organisations who are making the lives of others in their communities better, by improving their financial, physical, and mental wellbeing. Projects should focus on improving at least one of the following:

- Financial wellbeing
- Physical wellbeing
- Mental wellbeing

[Learn more](#)

Foras na Gaeilge

Scéim na bhFéilte 2025 (Glaoch 2)

01 Meitheamh - 31 Nollaig

Tá áthas ar Foras na Gaeilge a fhógairt go bhfuil Scéim na bhFéilte 2025 (Glaoch 2) oscailte anois agus fáiltimid roimh iarratais d'fhéilte a eagrófar idir 01 Meitheamh agus 31 Nollaig 2025.

Is é an spriocdháta le haghaidh iarratas faoin dara glaoch ná 12 meán lae Dé Céadaoin, 14 Bealtaine, agus ní ghlacfar ach le hiarratais a chuirfear isteach go leictreonach.

Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil téigh chuig <https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/sceimeanna-maoinithe/> nó déan teagmháil linn ag feilte@forasnagaeilge.ie

Foras na Gaeilge

Festivals' Scheme 2025 (Second Call)

01 June – 31 December

Foras na Gaeilge is pleased to announce that the Festival Scheme 2025 (Second call) is now open and we welcome applications for festivals that will be organised between 1 June and 31 December 2025.

The deadline for applications for the second call is 12 midday Wednesday 14 May and only applications submitted electronically will be accepted.

For further information visit <https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/sceimeanna-maoinithe> or contact us on feilte@forasnagaeilge.ie

National Lottery Heritage Grants

Funding for all types of UK heritage.

Heritage can be anything from the past that you value and want to pass on to future generations including nature and habitats, historic buildings and environments, or cultures, traditions and people's memories. Four [investment principles](#) guide their decision making. You must take all four principles into account in your application.

For grants £10,000 to £250,000, there is no deadline but you can use their optional [Project Enquiry](#) service to get feedback on your idea within 10 working days.

For grants from £250,000 to £10m, you must first submit an [Expression of Interest](#). The next deadline for National Lottery Heritage Grants over £250,000 and when you can expect a decision is midday 28 May 2025 for a decision by the end of September 2025.

Visit [National Lottery Heritage Grants](#) for full information.

PEACEPLUS Change Maker Funding Programme

Please remember to [Register with Co-operation Ireland](#) to be kept updated about the programme funding calls and to access advice, guidance and support at any time via our helpdesk.

The support available when you register includes:

- Regular programme updates: we will keep you updated about the grant funding call announcements and other programme updates.

- Partner matching: we can support your group as you search for a suitable project partner i.e. either a cross-community or a cross-border project partner.
- Project idea development: we can provide you with advice and guidance as you develop your project idea.
- Application guidance: we can provide guidance as you prepare your application to the programme.
- Upcoming events and support workshops: we will invite you to online workshops that we are planning to support applicants to the programme.
- Request a one-to-one meeting: you can contact our helpdesk to set-up a one-to-one meeting when you are ready to discuss your project idea or application.
- Helpdesk support: you can contact our helpdesk 24/7 with any general queries that you have about the grants or application process.
- Application readiness checks: we can check through your grant funding application before you submit it online.

Our helpdesk is contactable 24/7 by emailing changemakers@cooperationireland.org

The slides from the recent 'Be Ready' event are now available online here: [Slides - 'Be Ready' Community Information Event](#)

The information handout from the 'Be Ready' event is now available online here: [Handout - 'Be Ready' Community Information Event](#)

Tesco Stronger Starts

Open to charities and community organisations to apply for a grant of up to £1500. Every three months, three local good causes are selected to be in the blue token customer vote in Tesco stores throughout the UK.

If you work with a charity, school or local non-profit group that you think would benefit, you can apply or nominate online at tescocommunitygrants.org.uk

For further information contact Martina Reynolds, Tesco Community Champion on 07925 427388