

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – July 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 July's Newsletter is Tuesday 29 July 2025

Council News & Events

Culture and Heritage Sponsorship 2025

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is offering £300 sponsorship for free, inclusive events celebrating local culture, heritage, language, and the arts.

Sponsorship is available for events taking place during:

- European Heritage Open Days (8–14 Sept 2025)
Focus on architecture, hidden histories, or improved access to heritage.
- Culture Night (19 Sept 2025)
Creative performances, exhibitions, workshops, and cultural showcases.
- Leid Week (24–29 Nov 2024)
Events promoting Ulster-Scots language, music, storytelling, and heritage.
- Seachtain na Gaeilge (1–17 Mar 2026)
Celebrating the Irish language through arts, media, and educational events.

Applicants may apply for multiple strands, but funding is not guaranteed for all.

Events must:

- Take place in the district
- Be free and open to all
- Align with Council priorities

For further details visit

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

Closing date: 5pm on Thursday 3 July 2025

Cost of Living Help

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-help-support/cost-of-living-help/>

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/>

Hats off to Forthill

The annual Hats off to Forthill returns on **Friday 25 July** with a free afternoon of family fun in Enniskillen's Forthill Park.

Attendees can enjoy an afternoon of live music from the bandstand, traditional games, Jo-Jingles, balloon-modelling, hula-hooping and more.

For more information please visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/event/hats-off-to-the-forthill/>

Teddy Bears Picnic

The Teddy Bears Picnic will take place at the Grange Park Omagh at 1pm on **Saturday 26 July**. Families of all ages can enjoy a variety of free activities, including singing along with Tom Sweeney's 'Tots and Tedd', storytelling and rhymes with Libraries NI, Cultural Arts and Crafts with Thai Arts NI, Natalie Sand Art, Wheel Works Art Cart, Hunter West Activity Centre, games and more.

For more information please visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/event/teddy-bears-picnic-2025/>

Welcome Ambassador Service Returns to Devenish Island – Summer 2025!

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, in partnership with the Department for Communities Historic Environment Division, is delighted to announce the return of the Welcome Ambassador Service to Devenish Island this summer!

Opening Hours 11am-5.30pm, Daily throughout July & August and Weekends in September
Enjoy a warm welcome as you step onto this historic island! Our friendly Ambassador will:

- Open the visitor centre and public toilets
- Offer guided tours of the ancient monastic site
- Provide helpful, informative insights during your visit

The service will be delivered by Erne Water Taxi with support from the Department for Communities Historic Environment Division.

Make your summer memorable with a visit to Devenish Island – history, heritage, and hospitality await!

New Dementia Wristband Scheme

We are pleased to share our support for the new Dementia Safeguarding Scheme delivered by the [Western Health and Social Care Trust](#), [Age Concern Causeway](#), [Public Health Agency](#).

The Council has a number of wristbands available for individuals with a dementia diagnosis.

Please email age.friendly@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone the Council's Age Friendly Officer on 0300 303 1777 to arrange the collection of a wristband at one of the Council's main office buildings.

For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3ETf7sN>

As one in three people in Northern Ireland living with dementia remain undiagnosed, the theme of Dementia Action Week 2025 was diagnosis. A timely diagnosis is essential to access appropriate care, treatment, and support. The Alzheimer's Society has developed a symptoms checklist to help individuals discuss concerns – either for themselves or a loved one – with a GP or healthcare professional. This resource is available at <https://bit.ly/4kf6NTg>

For more information, contact the local Alzheimer's Society office on 028 9066 4100.

Community Consultation on Strule Shared Education Campus

The Strule Shared Education Campus is a landmark project bringing together six schools on a single site, formerly the Lisanelly Army Barracks. While each school will retain its individual identity and ethos, the campus will foster collaboration, expand curriculum options, and promote inclusive education. It will also provide modern, flexible facilities and strengthen links between mainstream

and special education. The Strule Campus was identified as a key educational opportunity for Omagh during the Omagh Place Shaping process.

The consultation process will play a key role in shaping how the Department of Education engages with the public and shares information during the ongoing construction phase of the Strule Shared Education Campus. The campus is scheduled for completion in September 2025, representing major investment in both education and community development for Omagh and the surrounding areas.

Community input is vital to the success of the project, and the Department is keen to hear from as many people as possible to help ensure the delivery of a state-of-the-art educational facility that also delivers lasting benefits for the wider community. In addition to serving local schools, the campus will offer facilities for community use outside of school hours. The surrounding site will also provide improved access and recreational space for the town, with new cycleways and walkways being developed in partnership with Fermanagh & Omagh District Council.

The survey takes approximately 5 minutes to complete and is open to anyone with an interest in the development of the shared education campus. Feedback will be used to inform public engagement and information campaigns throughout the remainder of the construction phase. The Department of Education will also be hosting several in-person engagement opportunities, to ensure the widest possible participation.

To find out more about the Strule Shared Education Campus and the community consultation, please visit <https://strule.org/>
You can access the survey [here](#).

AED Training

Tuesday 1 July CKS Community Centre, Omagh

Wednesday 9 July Strathroy Community Centre, Omagh

Each Session runs from 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

Empower yourself to save lives! Join one of our **free** AED training sessions and learn how to use an Automated External Defibrillator effectively.

Register today at <https://form.jotform.com/251262251414345>

For more information, please contact dana.tajak@fermanaghomagh.com

REAP Programme Free Courses

If you are not working or in full time education, you may be eligible. Contact the [REAP Programme](#) by any of the following methods to discuss what your options are

- <https://bit.ly/44O5YKI>
- Omagh - 028 8224 6535
- Enniskillen - 028 6632 6478
- Email - reap@fermanaghomagh.com

Classroom Support Fast Track Programme

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC) and Fermanagh Rural Community Initiative (FRCI) are delighted to announce the return of our extremely popular Classroom Support Fast Track Programme delivered through the REAP programme.

- It would suit Classroom Assistants who are out of contract from June, parents/guardians who may be interested in working with children or those who would like to improve their own skills.
- The training is provided **free** to eligible participants - not working or in full time education.

Contact us at REAP using any of the following methods to discuss what your options are:

<https://bit.ly/44O5YKI> Omagh - 028 8224 6535 Enniskillen - 028 6632 6478

Email reap@fermanaghomagh.com

Want to Break Into the Construction Industry?

The REAP Programme is offering a range of **free** training opportunities designed to help you kick-start your career in construction!

Open to individuals not currently working or in full-time education

Gain valuable skills and industry insight

Boost your employability – for **free**!

Contact us at Omagh: 028 8224 6535, Enniskillen: 028 6632 6478

Email: REAP@fermanaghomagh.com Apply now: <https://bit.ly/44O5YKI>

Spaces are limited – Don't miss out!

Help Capture the Story of the Fermanagh Lakeland Forum

People can share their written memories and reflections by emailing the Council's Museum and Heritage team at fvic@fermanaghomagh.com.

There will be further opportunities to share stories as part of the Oral History project during the redevelopment works.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/article/help-capture-the-story-of-the-fermanagh-lakeland-forum/>

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 \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/community)

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

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 Council leisure centres.

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 Council leisure centres.

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/>

Community News

Give blood - you could save 3 lives!

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

Omagh Technology Education Centre Thursday 10 July and Friday 11 July
Enniskillen St Macartin's Cathedral Hall Tuesday 22 July and Wednesday 23 July
PS - Want to know if you can give blood? Check out our eligibility quiz here:
<https://nibts.hscni.net/donating-blood/can-i-donate/>

Deafblind UK Support for Sight and Hearing Loss

If you or someone you know is affected by combined sight and hearing loss, then come along to one of our events to find out more. No need to book – just turn up and say hello!

Tuesday 1 July Enniskillen Library from 10am to 3pm

Wednesday 2 July Omagh Library from 10am to 3pm

We have joined forces with Libraries NI to ensure local residents have easier access to crucial support for sight and hearing loss. Together, we are introducing dedicated information points in libraries linking people living with sensory loss to vital resources and guidance.

These information points will allow residents to collect information about Deafblind UK's local sight and hearing loss support services, including mental health assistance, social opportunities, and technology support. The local team will also be able to advise and connect residents directly to support and services from other regional providers and this can be done via phone, email, SMS and BSL relay. To further enhance accessibility, Deafblind UK will train library staff in best practices for accessibility and advise libraries on creating inclusive and welcoming spaces.

Sight and hearing loss information points will be available in the following libraries from 1 July:

- Enniskillen Library
- Fintona Library
- Irvinestown Library
- Mellon Centre for Migration Studies
- Lisnaskea Library
- Newtownstewart Library
- Omagh Library

Contact us for more information on Helpline 0800 132 320 www.deafblind.org.uk

Community Advice Fermanagh

Financial Wellbeing Clinic at Garrison Community Hub

Wednesday 2 July, 10am - 2pm

This event is taking place as part of a new initiative to increase the reach of debt advice locally, and is being delivered across the District by Community Advice Fermanagh and Omagh Independent Advice Services, on behalf of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

At our **free** drop in clinic, get advice and information on:

- Your income and maximisation – Benefit Check
- Benefit Entitlement (eg PIP, Attendance Allowance, ESA, Universal Credit, Pension Credit, Carer's Allowance)
- 'Move to Universal Credit'

- Housing – eg Rates relief, Support with Rental Costs, Grants
- Debt
- Pensions (State & Private)
- Benefit appeals
- Employment
- Cross Border Enquiries

*Due to the nature of the clinic, individuals will be seen in order of arrival and there may be a waiting time. For further information telephone 028 6632 4334

Easilink Community Transport

“Women – Take the Wheel!”

Friday 4 July, 2pm-4pm

Unit 12, Strabane Enterprise Agency, Orchard Road, Strabane BT82 9FR

A hands-on, confidence-building workshop designed to empower women to become volunteer minibus drivers. Whether you’ve always fancied driving something bigger - or you’re just curious to give it a go - this is your chance!

What’s in store?

- Take a spin in one of our minibuses – short, supervised drives available!
- Hear inspiring stories from our fabulous volunteers and training team.
- Learn about licence categories, training options & support available
- Build skills and confidence in a relaxed, friendly environment.
- And yes – there will be some sweet treats on the day!

If you (or someone in your group) has a Category D1 (Not for Hire or Reward) licence, this is especially for you. But even if you don’t, come along anyway! We’ll talk you through how to get it and support that’s available.

To RSVP, just email Una at una@easilink.org or call 02871 883282 by Monday 30 June 2025. Let’s break down barriers and put more amazing women in the driver’s seat!

The Fermanagh Trust

Civic Honour Awards

To mark 30 incredible years of supporting local communities, The Fermanagh Trust is proud to launch the Civic Honour Awards, celebrating 30 local heroes from across Co Fermanagh. Each awardee will receive a £1000 bursary for the community organisation they’re involved with. Two Award Categories:

- Inspirational Young Person (aged 30 and under)
- Community Impact and Legacy (30+ years of service)

Nominate via <https://forms.gle/9N7DA7zoqBXNxGFXA>

For further information email sonya@fermanaghtrust.org

Switch to Digital Landlines

Telecare users and their loved ones are urged to speak to telecoms providers ahead of switch to digital landlines

Users of lifesaving alarms are encouraged to call their providers to access additional **free support** with the switchover from copper to digital landlines.

During the switchover, telecoms companies will send engineers to help customers and test connections of telecare alarms used by 2 million nationwide.

Vulnerable people who rely on lifesaving telecare alarms to call for help are urged to get in touch with their landline providers so companies can provide additional support for them during the switch to digital landlines.

The switch from analogue to digital landlines is being rolled out across the country as copper networks become increasingly unreliable and spare parts are no longer available.

Putting safety at the centre of the switchover, landline companies will send an engineer to carry out the switchover and personally test the telecare alarm, ensuring it continues to work once a household has moved onto the digital network. Landline providers will also offer vulnerable customers with a free battery back-up device so their landline can continue working in an outage. [More information on the Digital Switchover can be found here](#) and the new awareness campaign video can be viewed here <https://youtu.be/7Qklcdq7PQo>

To find out more about the support available, customers of all major providers can easily find contact information on the newly created digital landline website

here: www.digitalphoneswitchover.com

BT and Virgin Media landline customers can call on 150 from their home phone.

Free Period Products

Need period products? You're not alone — and help is here.

Period inequality can impact dignity, confidence, and mental wellbeing — but no one should have to go without.

Free period products are now available in your local library. Just drop in during opening hours and look for the pink posters — no questions asked.

Share your thoughts and help improve the scheme by completing this short survey:

<https://bit.ly/4mUv9DP> **The survey is open until Wednesday 6 August 2025.**

My Hospital Journey Survey

Age NI has recently launched a research project My Hospital Journey. They want to hear from older people aged 65+ about their hospital stays.

Many older people have stories to tell about their experiences in hospital and they want to reach as many as possible so that their voices can be heard.

For more information and a link to the online survey visit <https://www.ageni.org/news/hospital-journey/>

Call Age NI on 028 9024 5729 to have a paper copy of the survey posted or to request support to fill the survey in over the phone.

Dance Connects Project

Call to promote local venues

We're looking to include local venues in a public database of venues available or hireable for dance activity in the Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh-Omagh district council / local authority areas. [Complete the 5-minute survey](#) to include your venue.

What if I think my venue isn't suitable for dance?

Please complete the survey anyway. All kinds of dance activities can happen in different types of venues. Plus, by completing the survey you will help us understand what your venue is like so we can help build understanding about our local venues.

The database is part of the Dance Connects project. Funded by Creative Ireland, Dance Connects seeks to support a network of dance activity in the rural border area of Cavan, Monaghan, and Fermanagh-Omagh.

If you have any questions, you may contact Victoria Durrer, University College Dublin, at Victoria.durrer@ucd.ie or 01 716 8649.

More information on the research team involved in the project is available at the survey link.

Rural Heritage Summer School

Fancy joining in on a summer school in the Sperrin Mountains this summer, to explore these mountains, their heritage, their folklore and their communities?

The Rural Heritage Summer School is for community and heritage practitioners working and living within rural communities in Northern Ireland. It's a three-day residential based in the Sperrin Mountains that aims to provide:

- Rural community and heritage practitioners with an opportunity to learn about the heritage that lies in these upper lands
- Respite for rural practitioners
- Opportunities for relationship building and networking
- Learn about what other rural communities are exploring and delivering in their rural place

Dates: Thur 21st Aug – Saturday 23rd Aug

Location of residential: An Creagán, Omagh

Over 18's only.

Residential cost:

£85 for single occupancy room - limited amount, first come first served. (accommodation, food and bus hire included)

£75 for individual beds in a shared bedroom (max 2 people) (accommodation, food and bus hire included)

Non-residential cost: £45 (food and bus hire included)

To book a place click here - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rural-heritage-summer-school-tickets-1419255845439?aff=oddtcreator>

RCN is subsidising the cost of the summer school to make it affordable for people living in rural communities.

This summer school is part of our HEARTH project and is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Action Mental Health

'Mindset' Programme

For young people, aged 14 - 17 years, or adult groups

The programme is three-hours in length. It can be delivered in either one or two sessions and aims to:

- raise awareness and increase knowledge and understanding of Mental and Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- raise awareness of signs and symptoms of mental ill health
- promote self-help/resilience techniques and how to maintain a safe level of positive mental/emotional health and wellbeing
- promote self-care
- highlight information and/or resources on mental health support organisations available (locally and regionally).

Both programmes are fully funded so can be delivered at **no cost** to anyone interested in running the programme.

For further information email amhmenssanani@amh.org.uk or telephone 028 9442 5356

Free youth programmes

Open to secondary school aged young people/young adults (up to 25 years) in the Fermanagh and Omagh area -

‘Provoking Thought (11- 25)’ and ‘Mental Health Ambassador (for 16+)’ are delivered in connection with Ulster University as part of the Our Generation project.

We provide 6 group sessions (1.5 hours each). These can be scheduled weekly or alternatively they can be provided over a week depending on what suits the setting.

For further information please contact Rachael Melanophy, M: 07751802961

E: rmelanophy@amh.org.uk W: www.amh.org.uk

Community Futures Survey

[Development Trusts NI](#) are exploring how community anchor organisations engage young people (16–30) and how they can better support their involvement in civic and community development, particularly in creating pathways to paid employment, decision-making and leadership roles.

Fill out the Community Futures Survey to share your views on:

- How young people currently engage with community organisations
- The leadership and paid career opportunities available
- The skills, support, and pathways needed to secure the sector’s future.

Your voice matters - whether you're a young person, volunteer, staff member or community leader. Could you take a few minutes to complete the survey today? [Take DTNI Survey](#)

Alzheimer’s Society

Dementia Café Fermanagh

A warm and welcoming space for people living with dementia, their carers, family and friends.

The session blocks are held on the following **Mondays**, 2–4pm:

- 28 July, 4, 11, 18 August, 1, 8 September 2025
- 22, 29 September, 6, 13, 20, 27 October 2025
- 3, 10, 17, 24 November, 1, 8 December 2025
- 2, 9, 16, 23 February, 2, 9 March 2026

Carers Peer Support

A warm and welcoming group for carers of people with dementia to meet and chat.

The session blocks are held on the following **Tuesdays**, 2-3.30pm.

- 29 July, 5, 12, 19, 26 August, 2 September 2025
- 16, 23, 30 September, 7, 14, 21 October 2025
- 4, 11, 18, 25 November, 2, 9 December 2025
- 3, 10, 17, 24 February, 3, 10 March 2026

Carers Information Support Programme (CrISP)

for carers, family, and friends of people with dementia

Please note you only need to attend one of the below blocks. The session blocks will be held on the following dates:

- 4 and 5 August 2025, 6-8pm
- 15 and 16 September 2025, 6-8pm
- 4 and 5 November 2025, 6-8pm
- 19 and 20 January 2026, 2-4pm

All sessions are held in Fermanagh House, 6 Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen, BT74 7HR. Light refreshments are provided.

For more information and to book your place, contact:

Martin Bradley, Dementia Adviser: 07725 475715

Rita O'Loughlin, Dementia Adviser: 07889 148927

Introducing... Lads to Dads!

A new group dedicated to supporting young fathers under 30 years old, who are either expecting or have recently become dads.

Why should I go?

The group offers a welcoming space where young dads can access practical advice on parenting, share their experiences, and connect with others navigating similar challenges. By fostering social connections, Lads to Dads helps reduce feelings of isolation and builds a supportive network that encourages confidence and resilience during this important life stage. Those who come along to the group can gain valuable insights into early fatherhood, have a safe space to gain emotional support, and have opportunities to develop friendships with peers, ultimately empowering young dads to become confident, engaged, and caring fathers for their children.

Also:

Regular monthly meetings as a group

Find out what additional help and support there is

Activities and social gatherings

'Lingo' and 'Jargon' busting

Mental and physical health support

Workshops

Practical help and advice

How to look after ourselves as Dads

How to support mum and the wider family

And much more to come!

For more information, please call 028 6632 8534 or email lee@youthaction.org

Connecting Communities Event

Wednesday 23 July, 12-2pm

The Grange, Omagh

A **free** local event designed to connect volunteers, share ideas, and inspire real change in your community. Join us to discover local projects, explore funding opportunities, and meet others who share your passion for making a difference.

Whether you're looking for ways to get involved or keen to exchange handy tips and ideas, this is the perfect place to start. Meet organisations like Volunteer Now, True Harvest Seeds, Radius Housing, The Conservation Volunteers and Ulster GAA as they showcase their work and share ways you can get involved.

Enjoy fun and engaging workshops, seed swaps, and our plant station, where you can meet your local field officer and have some planting fun!

[Sign up here](#)

JustUs.

Visit to Waterways Ireland HQ - Enniskillen

Thursday 24 July – Booking Now Open!

We're excited to announce that Waterways Ireland, the official body responsible for managing, developing, promoting, and protecting Ireland's inland waterways, has generously offered JustUs a free, accessible visit to their Enniskillen headquarters — including an optional boat tour to Devenish Island (weather dependent)!

This fantastic opportunity includes:

- Talks from Waterways Ireland teams
- A chance to learn more about the waterways and their heritage
- Refreshments on arrival and a light lunch provided
- An optional boat trip to Devenish Island (weather dependent)

Please note:

- Limited spaces available for the HQ visit
- The boat has a capacity of 12, so names will be selected at random to ensure fairness

To register your interest email justus.events@yahoo.com

Please include:

- Your name
- If you'll have a companion
- If you'd like to be considered for the boat trip to Devenish Island

Calling Artists & Community Groups: Carnival School

Cavan Arts Festival (CAF) are inviting community groups and professional artists to take part in the Lifelong Learning Carnival School, supported by Cavan County Council PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Carnival School is a bold, 30-month creative pilot project led by Cavan Arts Festival. Over the coming months, we will work with artists and adult community groups across the region through a series of collaborative workshops, culminating in live performances at CAF 2026 and CAF 2027.

We're looking for:

- * Professional artists (samba, movement making, brass, circus)
- * Community groups based along the Cavan/Fermanagh border region

How to Get Involved:

Interested artists and community groups, please email us

at cavanartsfestival.producer@gmail.com with a short introduction including:

- * Who you are
- * Where you're based
- * What you're interested in (artform, learning or teaching)
- * Any supports you may need to participate

Is there something you'd like to share about your experience with benefits?

We're looking for parents and carers of under-18s to share their experiences of how social security differs across the four nations of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

****£50 Love2Shop vouchers for each workshop you attend****

For further information visit <https://safetynets.study/take-part>

Volunteer Now

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/>

Latest Volunteering Opportunities

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

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

Fermanagh Youth Service Info

This is an information-sharing service aimed at parents, guardians, teachers, youth organisations, community representatives, and anyone actively engaged with young people in Fermanagh. It will enable you to stay informed about the latest opportunities and updates from Youth Services. Additionally, it will provide you with information regarding any changes.

By completing the form, you will be added to the WhatsApp broadcast list. Unlike a group chat, broadcasting ensures that members cannot view each other's phone numbers or profile pictures, offering a higher level of privacy. Any correspondence shared through the broadcast will be directed solely to the broadcast host.

Please complete the form at <https://forms.office.com/e/udAJmg58Ek> to register.

Home-Start Omagh District

New Outreach Project

The Home-Start Omagh Outreach Project (HOOP) is a four-year initiative designed to provide weekly family groups in Beragh & Sixmilecross, Dromore & Trillick, and Coolnagard Area in Omagh town.

Home-Start Omagh District provides home-visiting volunteer support to families with young children living in the Omagh District area. Our volunteers offer practical and emotional support to families who are facing a range of challenges or finding life as a parent challenging.

The HOOP initiative is set to kick off in September 2025. Home-Start Omagh District encourages families in the three areas to stay tuned to their social media channels and website for updates on this exciting family support initiative.

For more information about HOOP and how to get involved, please contact Allison Spriggs, HOOP Coordinator, at 078 4374 9852, or visit Home-Start Omagh District's website at <https://homestartomaghdistrict.org.uk>

Erne Paddlers

Summer is here! We have an action packed summer planned with kids summer camps during the day and our paddlesport skills sessions in the evenings. We offer outdoor progressive kayaking and paddleboarding courses to suit all levels of experience and ability as well as midweek and weekend lough and sea kayaking trips. Come and join us at our new base at the Round O in Enniskillen.

Our popular summer paddlesports camps for kids aged 7-14yrs start soon. Discounts available early and multiple ticket purchases, and assistance rates are available too. Full details of all courses and activities are published here: www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

We have something to suit everyone.

The club can also provide bespoke group sessions for any organisation. Just get in touch to find out more.

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.

Our planned Firewalk Fundraiser Fun Day has been rescheduled for Saturday 30 August. Join Erne Paddlers at Enniskillen Rugby Club to help celebrate our 15th Anniversary. You can be a part of the firewalk challenge and help raise funds for us or you can join in and raise funds for your own charity, club or organisation. If you are a local charitable organisation and would like to reserve some places for your team to take part please get in touch.

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 07468 911398.

Aisling Centre

37 Darling Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DP

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

Groups & Programmes:

- **Forget Me Not** – Bereaved by Suicide support group meets first Monday of every month at 7.30pm.
- **Mindfulness Meditation** – Monthly drop-in sessions, last Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Currently on summer break – next meeting will be Tuesday 30 September.
- **Self Care Sessions** – Monthly drop-in sessions, first Tuesday of every month at 10am. Next Meeting Tuesday 1 July.

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@aware-ni.org.
- **Escapists** – Support Group for Carers. Meets Wednesdays 10.30am-1pm. Currently on summer break, will return in September.
- **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):

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Catherine | Mondays at 10am | 07730 797775 *new class* |
| • 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 |

Training Opportunities

ILM Management & Leadership Omagh/Fermanagh

In September 2025, Fermanagh Trust, funded by Halifax Foundation NI, will facilitate an ILM (Institute of Leadership & Management) Leadership and Management Course **free of charge** for Community Voluntary Sector staff and volunteers from the Fermanagh area.

Within the next 18 months we will be providing the same course in the Omagh area, we are also looking for individuals to express their interest in participating at this point. This is a unique opportunity enabling access to a course that would usually cost participants £500+ with travel costs on top.

This ILM Expression of Interest Form <https://forms.gle/Xfq8RDUTCzonFYNy8> is seeking individuals to express their interest in participating in one of these courses, and completion of a short survey to ensure we make the course as accessible as possible for as many interested individuals as possible.

The community/voluntary sector in Fermanagh and Omagh plays a crucial role in supporting local communities. However, individuals in this sector often lack access to professional development opportunities due to geographic and financial barriers. By providing ILM courses locally, we aim to bridge this gap and empower individuals with the skills they need to drive positive change.

If you have any questions please get in touch with Sonya Johnston, Deputy Director, Fermanagh Trust via Email sonya@fermanaghtrust.org or Tel 028 6632 0210

FREE online specialist gaming and gambling harm prevention workshops

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

Volunteer Now

Succession Planning for Volunteering

Tuesday 29 July, 10.30am – 12.30-pm Online

For more information/to register -

https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/course/support-supervision-of-volunteers-4/cid_0/

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>

Diploma in Community Development Practice 2025 - 2026

This is a one-year (part time) course accredited by the University of Galway for the year 2025 – 2026. The Diploma in Community Development Practice has been designed to enable Community Activists (volunteers and paid staff in the community / voluntary sector) to develop the knowledge, understanding and essential practical skills and experience required to provide leadership within this field.

One off cost of £150 per person. If you are unwaged then we can talk to you about how we can support you to meet this payment. Places are limited to 25 students.

Location: Strabane

Participants are particularly welcome from those in the Strabane/Omagh area.

Please apply via <https://forms.gle/mZ8GEzC1yzQawuN87>

or for an application form/further information please email kelly@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

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](#)

Funding Opportunities

New Fund to Combat Hate launched by CFNI

For further information/to apply visit <https://communityfoundationni.org/news/new-fund-to-combat-hate-launched-by-cfni/>

Deadline - ongoing

The Nature Save Trust

Fresh air and exercise have long been recommended as a way for many to feel better, physically and mentally, but a connection to nature can also have a profound impact on our ability to create positive action for climate change.

We are looking for grant applications from charities, community groups, and organisations who are working to connect communities to nature.

For full details visit <https://naturesave.co.uk/naturesave-trust/>

Apply at <https://naturesave.co.uk/naturesave-trust/trust-application-form/>

The deadline for this funding window is Thursday 10 July 2025, 12pm.

The National Lottery – Climate Action Fund

The Climate Action Fund is our commitment to help communities tackle climate change. We're supporting communities to be environmentally sustainable.

With Climate Action Fund – Our Shared Future we want to involve more people in climate action. And we want to inspire bold and exciting change.

We'll only fund projects developed in a formal partnership with other organisations.

We're looking for partnership projects that reach more people by either:

- linking climate action to the everyday lives and interests of local communities. And inspiring them to take action.
- influencing communities at a regional or national level. Like linking up groups across locations. Or a campaign that inspires change across one country, or the whole UK.

You do not have to be a climate or environment focused organisation to apply

For full information visit [Climate Action Fund - Our Shared Future | The National Lottery Community Fund](#)

Application deadline:

We plan to stay open to applications until late 2025. We'll share the final deadline soon.

The National Lottery Community Fund

Strengthening Communities is our funding for community led projects. It will help us deliver our strategy, 'It starts with community.'

We know that communities have many strengths and resources. We'll fund projects that use these to help make people's lives better.

Your project must:

- involve people who experience poverty, disadvantage or discrimination
- support people early to help prevent negative experiences
- be led by your community and build on its strengths and connections.

[See what we're hoping to fund](#) for details.

For further information visit

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/strengthening-communities>

Application deadline: Ongoing

Arts Council NI: New Small Grants Programme

The New Small Grants Programme, funded by support from the Department for Communities, aims to encourage greater participation in the arts; and to increase equality of access to and opportunities in the arts across all Section 75 groupings. You can apply for an amount between £500 and £5,000 for a project. They welcome applications from the widest possible range of organisations. You will be required to provide proof that you have a legal constitution.

For further information visit [Arts Council NI: New Small Grants Programme](#)

Application Deadline: 12 noon, Friday 18 July 2025

SEUPB Change Maker Fund – Now Open for Applications

The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) is currently inviting applications to the [Change Maker Fund](#). Environment and Climate is a key theme and would facilitate more local/smaller focused projects that the Environment Fund doesn't facilitate.

The Empowering Communities Programme is structured into three distinct yet interlinked strands:

Strand 1: The Empowering Communities to Embed Peace Small Grants Programme - This strand facilitates grassroots-level peacebuilding by providing small grants to local community organisations. It enables a bottom-up approach, empowering people and organisations to directly contribute to peace and reconciliation within their communities.

Strand 2: The Institutional Capacity Development Programme - This strand focuses on enhancing the capabilities of institutions to effectively engage in and support peacebuilding efforts. By strengthening organisational capacities, it ensures the sustainability and effectiveness of peace initiatives.

Strand 3: The Community-Based Safety Interventions Programme - This strand aims to promote safety and cohesion within communities through targeted interventions. By addressing safety concerns, it fosters an environment conducive to peace and reconciliation.

Full guidance and application materials can be accessed via the SEUPB website:

<https://peaceplussupport.seupb.eu/changemaker-key-documents>