



Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – June 2018

The Community Support Newsletter is published on a monthly basis.

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

or email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

The deadline for the next Newsletter is Wednesday 20 June.

Please ensure that you send your information in on time for this deadline
as groups have indicated they prefer to receive only one email per month.

Council News & Events

Grant Aid Applications

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council invites applications from voluntary and community organisations based in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. The grant aid funding relates to projects/activities in the 2018-2019 financial year. Applications are invited in the categories listed below: -

Grant Aid:

- Remembering and Commemoration – Decade of Centenaries*
- Policing & Community Safety - PCSP

All Grant Aid Streams are dependent on budget availability.

* Please note the application process for Remembering and Commemoration is a two-stage process. Applicants must submit an Expression of Interest form for approval before they can submit an application form. **Deadline Friday 1 June 2018 at 5pm**

Applications **must** be made on an official application form. Application forms and associated guidelines can be downloaded from www.fermanaghomagh.com or by contacting the Funding & Investment Unit, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Tel: 0300 303 1777, e: grants@fermanaghomagh.com

**Applications for grant aid are now open and will close on Friday 15 June 2018 at 5pm
Late, incomplete or retrospective applications will not be considered**

Update of the Community and Voluntary Sector Register

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is updating its register of community and voluntary organisations operating in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area. **All groups or organisations** should get in touch to register or update their details. This includes groups who have previously registered and those who are not currently on the register.

Registration will enable Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to keep you updated with important information and provide any necessary support you may require.

You can download a registration form and receive further information on how we process your data on the Council website www.fermanaghomagh.com. Alternatively you can contact Community Services on 0300 303 1777 to speak to an officer who will send you a registration form and assist you with any questions you may have, or email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com for a copy of the new registration form.

Free Training for Community and Voluntary Sector representatives organised by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Keeping Children Safe – facilitated by Volunteer Now

Wednesday 27 June, West End Community Centre, Rossorry Church Road, Enniskillen, 6-9pm. Numbers are limited. Prior booking essential.

To book, contact Bernie Doherty or Josephine McMenamin from Community Services on 0300 303 1777 or email communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com.

Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week 17 – 23 September 2018

Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of our culture and heritage, promote cultural diversity and tackle sectarianism and racism. It is about inspiring new ideas, promoting understanding, respect and engagement between and amongst all sections of our community. It gives us a chance to showcase the wide range of ways in which people are shaping the future together right now.

The Week provides a platform for organisations and groups from the community and voluntary sectors, arts, culture, sport, education and the wider public sector to showcase innovative approaches to good relations and building a united and shared community.

If you are interested in organising an event and wish to register an expression of interest, please telephone Pauline Clarke, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on 0300 303 1777 or email goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com **by Friday 22 June 2018**. The Council may be able to provide a modest amount of financial assistance towards your event.

All programmes will be advertised in Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week publications.

Key Dates for your Diary – Further information in Newsletter or to follow at a later date

June	
9 June	Enniskillen 10K
15 June	Deadline for FODC Grant Aid
19 June	Farm Health and Safety Workshop - Omagh
22 June	Deadline for Expressions of Interest - Community Relations & Cultural Awareness Week
27 June	Keeping Children Safe – West End Community Centre

Get involved in 'Community Lives' - A Fermanagh and Omagh District Council PEACE IV Programme

Community Lives is one of a number of programmes being managed by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's PEACE IV Partnership under the EU's PEACE IV programme, managed by the SEUPB.

The Community Lives programme hopes to capture local community stories to dispel myths and increase understanding of our shared history. Participants will have the opportunity to have their voice heard and develop their visions for the future. The programme will concentrate on areas in Omagh: Strathroy, Gortview and the Hospital Road and surrounding areas; and in Enniskillen: Kilmacormick and Coleshill and the surrounding areas. The Community Lives programme will be delivered by facilitators from Verbal Arts, focusing on three interrelated strands Capturing the History, Mapping the Present and Imagining the Future.

The first strand "Capturing the History" involves community-based research, reminiscence work and inter-generational work with residents and former residents of the areas to record and represent the living history. Participants will have the opportunity to produce publications and online materials, as well as work with a professional photographer to produce an exhibition of work which will be displayed in venues in Enniskillen and Omagh.

The "Mapping the Present" strand will work with community and youth groups across the various areas and bring them together through the development of skills in film making, photography and mixed-media. The participants will have the opportunity to create short digital stories, which highlight the challenges the young people involved face in today's society.

The remaining strand "Imagining the Future" will bring together the work from Capturing the History and Mapping the Present. Participants will walk through a series of sessions which will allow them the opportunity to develop their visions for the future.

There is still time to get involved in the Community Lives programme. Capturing the History begins with Reading Rooms, an opportunity to read or listen to a short story or poem followed by a discussion with a cup of tea or coffee provided. There is no need to pre-book a space, feel free to drop in on the following days:

Omagh

Strathroy Community Centre: Wednesday 11.30am - 12.30pm

GK House: Wednesday 2pm – 3pm

Hospital Road Community Centre: Thursday 2pm - 3pm

Enniskillen

Devenish Partnership: Thursday 11am – 12 noon

West End Centre: Thursday 3pm – 4pm

If you would like more information, please contact:

Omagh - Peace IV Officer: Tara Taylor-Craig

tara.taylor-craig@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone 0300 303 1777 ext. 20443.

Enniskillen - Peace IV Officer: Patricia McNulty

patricia.mcnulty@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone 0300 303 1777 ext. 21323.

Or online at www.fermanaghomagh.com

Match-funding has been provided by the Executive Office and the Department of Rural and Community Development in Ireland.

Charity support

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

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

For further information or enquiries regarding Council support to charities, please contact Louise McLaughlin, Community Services, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, on 0300 303 1777 or email louise.mclaughlin@fermanaghomagh.com

Community Planning Update

Following the launch of “Fermanagh and Omagh 2030” in March 2017 (which is the overarching Community Plan for the district), an Action Plan has been produced which includes actions which will help to begin to jointly tackle the major issues in the district and require a high level of partnership working to achieve, with a focus on prevention and early intervention. Some of the actions can be delivered in the short to medium term, others will take longer to fully achieve.

The 8 week public consultation on the Action Plan has now finished. All comments and opinions expressed during the public consultation will be considered by the Strategic Partnership Board in March with the aim of finalising the first Action Plan in April. It is expected that an Action Plan will be published soon and partners will begin implementation as soon as possible.

If you would like more information about the Community Plan Action Plan, you can get in touch with Oonagh Donnelly, Community Planning officer by telephoning 0300 303 1777, ext 20213, textphone 028 8225 6216 or email communityplanning@fermanaghomagh.com.

Ulster Scots Education Pack

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is launching a new Education DVD based on the Ulster Scots traditions, language and culture. It will serve as a tool to aid teachers in exploring the Ulster Scots tradition with their pupils and combines History, Language, Dancing and Arts and Crafts. The Education pack has step by step guides to each project, including templates and links to the curriculum.

The DVD has been produced as part of the Good Relations Programme, and was jointly funded by The Executive Office and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council under the “Our Cultural Expression” theme of the Together: Building a United Community Strategy. The theme aims to promote mutual respect and understanding amongst the community, where the community’s diversity is strengthened and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced.

The DVD is available free of charge to all primary schools within the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

Free Gardening Training through PEACE IV

Ideal for groups who are planning to create a gardening space but may also be of interest to members of your organisation who would enjoy participating in these sessions.

Although the Growing Communities programme is closed for applications, a wide range of **free** horticulture training sessions and best practice visits will be delivered across the Council Area over the coming year, starting this May. The majority of these training sessions are open to anyone, and offer something for all ages, groups and abilities. Examples of planned workshops include:

- First allotment: Horticulture for beginners
- Themed cooking and jam/chutney making from garden produce
- Path making and raised bed construction
- Soil preparation and management
- Plant Health: Pest and disease management
- Seasonal Maintenance
- Polytunnel Growing 101
- Growing and using herbs – from teas to lip balms
- Making hanging baskets and window boxes
- Permaculture and organic growing
- Community Garden Management
- Plant propagation
- Wildlife Gardening: Gardening to encourage biodiversity
- Mother and Toddler story telling gardening sessions

Why not take a plot at your nearby allotment or community garden?

In addition to free training, many of the gardens involved in this programme have plots available for community groups and individuals to use. Community gardening is a cheap and fun way to bring your group together, with the opportunity to learn new skills, socialise and get some light exercise.

If you are interested in getting involved in one of these gardens, or would like more information on the training workshops, please contact Roisin Grimes, FODC Community Garden Project Officer roisin.grimes@fermanaghomagham.com

Community Groups involved:

Fermanagh –

Lisnaskea Lough Head Allotments
SEFF Allotments, Lisnaskea
Community Garden at Share Discovery Village
Donagh Community Garden
Devenish Partnership Forum Allotments, Enniskillen

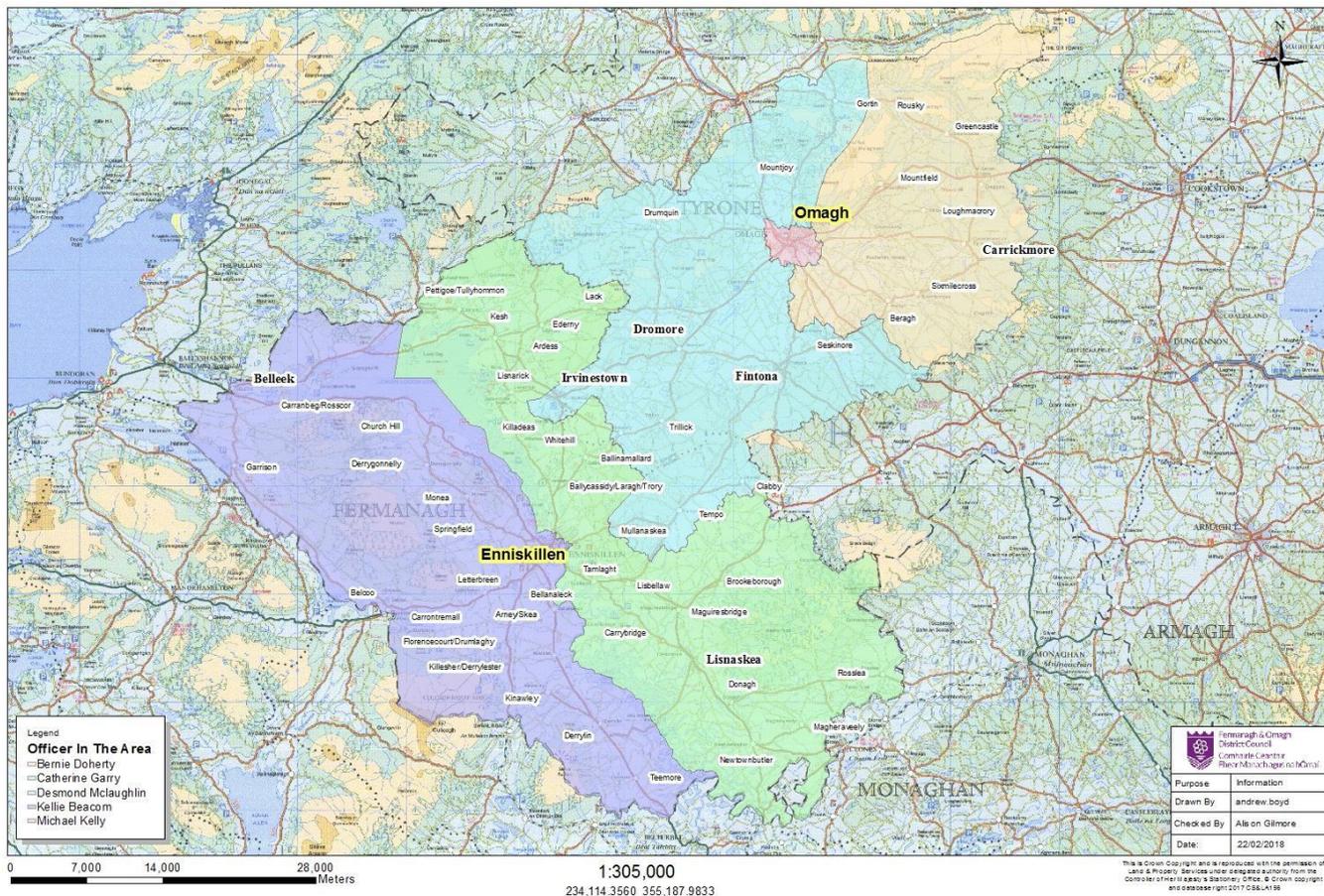
Omagh –

MACCA Allotments, Mullaghmore
Campsie Residents Association Community Garden
Drumduff and Drumnakilly Community Garden
Creggan Education and Research Centre Community Garden
Owenkillew Community Development Association Community Garden, Gortin

Community Support Officer Areas

The Community Services Department offer support to individuals and organisations within the community and voluntary sector promoting community action. Officers within the Community Services Team are available to assist community groups and voluntary organisations make as big a difference as possible to local lives and issues. The link or map below can help you find your local Community Support Officer - please contact us for any assistance you or your organisation may require on 0300 303 1777.

Community Support Officer Area



<https://fermanagh.maps.arcgis.com/apps/InformationLookup/index.html?appid=298ff71ef2fc4cabcbe2f5ee703c291b>

Community and Voluntary Sector Register

Has your organisation registered their details? Registration will enable Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to keep you updated with important information and provide any necessary support you may require. You can download a registration form from the Council web site

<http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/residential-services/community/community-register/>

Contact us on 0300 303 1777 Ext 21217 Email: alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

Relaunch of advisory groups to improve access to Council services and facilities

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has relaunched a number of Advisory Groups to provide support, guidance and direction to Elected Members and Council Officers on matters related to disability, with a particular focus on how Council services are designed and delivered.

The three Groups – the Disability Advisory Group; the Enniskillen Access Advisory Group (previously known as Ardhowen Arts and Disability Advisory Group); and the Omagh Access Advisory Group (previously known as Strule Arts and Disability Advisory Group) – were initially established to provide support to the Council’s Arts and Heritage service. However, following a period of consultation the Groups have now been relaunched with a wider remit to include all Council facilities and services.

Membership of the Disability Advisory Group consists of both Elected Members and Volunteer Members, whilst both Access Advisory Groups consist solely of Volunteer Members who either have a disability or represent people with disabilities.

The Disability Advisory Group will also work to ensure that the Council is delivering upon its promises outlined within its Disability Action Plan 2017-2019.

The Groups will meet on a regular basis throughout the year. If you have an issue or concern regarding access to Council services or facilities and would like to bring this to the Groups’ attention for consideration, please contact a member of the relevant Group – contact details are available on the Council’s website.

For further information on the Disability Advisory Group, or any of the Access Advisory Groups or to raise an issue or concern, please email disability@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone Matthew Nevin or Finbar Maguire, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on 0300 303 1777 or Text Phone 028 8225 6216.

Disability Sailing on Lough Erne

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is working in partnership with the Public Health Agency, Disability Sport NI, Sport NI and Lough Erne Yacht Club to provide sailing opportunities on Lough Erne for people with disabilities through the Sailability Project.

Four specialised and adapted sailing boats have been purchased through the Sailability project and are available for use at Lough Erne Yacht Club. The boats are also ideal for use by older people.

The project is led by Disability Sport NI and is part of a wider ‘Active Living: No Limits 2021 Action Plan’. The aim of this initiative is to improve the health and well-being of people with disabilities in Northern Ireland through participation in sport and active recreation.

For more information on how you can get involved in the sailing programmes please contact the Lough Erne Yacht Club by telephone on 028 6638 8432, email info@leyc.net or look on the club website www.leyc.net.

To enquire about sailing opportunities generally within the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area please contact Imelda McCarron by calling 0300 303 1777 or email Imelda.mccarron@fermanaghomagh.com

Elite Athlete Gold Card Scheme

The Elite Athlete Gold Card Scheme supports sports men and women from the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area who have attained International or National success in their chosen sport. Fermanagh & Omagh Sports Forum has responsibility for assessing and administering the scheme.

Athletes will, subject to a successful application, be included in the “Elite Athlete Gold Card” Scheme and will be permitted to use identified recreation facilities owned and managed by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. These include:

- **Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown** – fitness suite.
- **Castle Park Leisure Centre, Lisnaskea** –fitness suite.
- **Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen** – fitness suite, swimming pool and athletics track.
- **Omagh Leisure Complex, Omagh** – fitness suite, swimming pool and athletics track.

The “Elite Athlete Gold Card” will be issued to athletes for a maximum period of 12 months, subject to terms and conditions of use.

Further information, including eligibility criteria, conditions and an application form can be obtained via <http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/residential-services/leisure/elite-athlete-gold-card-scheme/>

Waste and Recycling

It is vital that we understand what happens to our waste – this helps us to think about how we can reduce and recycle our rubbish. By learning more about waste and recycling we can all do our bit for the environment.

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council believe in working with this and future generations to help improve our recycling and recovery rates. The recycling education officers are available to educate people about our facilities; the role everyone plays in recycling; and the benefits for the community.

If you are interested in an activity for your youth group or community group, please send a brief email outlining the dates you are interested in and details of your group to claire.mcdermott@fermanaghomagh.com or anthea.owens@fermanaghomagh.com and we will get in touch to discuss organising a bespoke session for you.

Please donate unwanted furniture and paint

Residents are encouraged to bring unwanted bulky items including wardrobes, tables and chairs etc to recycling centres located at Gortrush, Omagh, Fintona, Carrickmore, Drummeemore, Enniskillen, Irvinestown, Kesh and Lisnaskea. These items are collected by third sector organisations, refurbished and reused for social enterprise in your community.

Residents can also donate unwanted, usable paint that is then made available free of charge to residents and community groups throughout Fermanagh and Omagh District to use in the home, garden or on community projects.

For further information please contact Anthea Owens, Recycling, Education and Grants Officer, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council on 0300 303 1777.

Community News

Cancer Connect ni

Saturday 2 June 10am-1pm

Vintage Coffee Morning

Garden Room, Franco's Restaurant, Enniskillen

Introducing The Next Chapter ...

... a new project targeting women to develop their ideas, build communities and support the transition out of conflict. The Next Chapter aims to improve the representation of women in public and political life and contribute to a more gender-sensitive society in Northern Ireland and the border regions of the Republic of Ireland.

Information Session Monday 4 June 7-8pm, Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen BT74 7HR

How can you get involved? The Next Chapter is a two-year project. It will include the creation of a network of people working together to support peace and reconciliation, mobilising social change in their own communities and nurturing aspirations on a shared future. 10 Chapters will be set up engaging 300 people, with 200 participants completing a Capacity Development training programme. Each Chapter will be demographically representative and inclusive of participants from all communities.

To register your interest visit www.thenextchapter.eu

For further information please contact Project Co-ordinator Sarah Malone at Sarah@irishrurallink.ie

Lisnaskea Historical Society

Olde Tyme Market Day – Friday 8 June, 9.30am-12.30pm

Corn Market Yard, Lisnaskea

A day when the Lisnaskea primary school pupils experience the fun of the market day and sell the wares they bring. Refreshments are provided for children. Profits from children's stalls are in aid of their own school. Lisnaskea Historical Society does not make any monetary gain from the event. Please support the schools to make the day a memorable one for all. Children learn about history, old ways, the importance of buying and selling as well as bartering and getting a bargain. Grandparents enjoy the event too and often contribute produce and recount memories of attending markets long ago.

The intergenerational dancing will be happening again this year, run by FACT and Lough Erne Heritage will be bringing a Lough Erne cot, to show people how good and practical this type of boat was on our Lough, and their display of boating history. Children can be photographed at the side of the cot in their costume. Hall and stage available if weather is bad.

9.30am Children arrive for stall setup, accompaniment of sound system music.

Selling commences - accompanied by music and dancing - a lot of noisy fun takes place.

10am-12.30pm Lough Erne Heritage display continues throughout the morning with people on hand to explain the boating and traditions of the Lough. Brian Osborne will explain the history of Lough Head, which he has researched thoroughly.

Fermanagh Genealogy Centre

Open afternoon for Volunteering Saturday 9 June, 1.30-4.30pm, Enniskillen Castle Museum.

Are you bored, lonely or looking for an interesting activity? Why not come and take a look at what we do and meet some of our current volunteers. Get involved! Hear about how you could join in. Volunteering with us can give you opportunities to try something new, develop skills and gain experience. Improve your career prospects, learn how to do your family history research, build your confidence or simply make new friends who enjoy family history and helping others with their research. We work on weekday afternoons, one or two times a month.

All are welcome, no experience necessary, we look forward to meeting you.

Lough Erne Heritage

Public lectures begin at 2.15pm in Enniskillen Library, ending at 3.30pm -

Saturday 9 June – Commercial Fishing on Lough Erne - Eugene Brazil, an experienced commercial fisherman, on the history of this little-known subject. Do come along and hear some fascinating and never told information. This is an opportunity to ask questions about a rather mysterious subject.

Saturday 7 July – George Morrissey on Saint Mogue's Cot

We warmly welcome new members. Benefits of membership includes free entry to all our lectures plus a regular newsletter. Our events have been organised both to inform and to encourage more interest in the history and heritage of the traditional wooden boats and the people who built and used them on Lough Erne. For further information contact info@lougherneheritage.com

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service

St Ronan's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lisnaskea on **Wednesday 6 June**. The session will run from 1.30pm – 4pm & 5.15pm – 8pm.

Please check out <http://www.nibts.hscni.net/donating-blood/where-to-donate/> for further Scheduled Donation Sessions. Telephone 028 9032 1414

Cycle for AWARE

30 and 50 mile cycle Sunday 17 June

Youth Sport, Killyclogher Road, Omagh – 10am start

Hosted by Omagh Wheelers and Omagh AWARE fundraising committee

Register www.aware-ni.org/challenge-events/cycle-for-aware.html

Registration is £10 and we ask that you fundraise as much as you can. Registration is available on the day 8.30-9.30am but it is recommended you register in advance.

Join us for a BBQ after the cycle on your return to Youth Sport

Family Wellness Project/Cause Parent/Carer Support Groups

Thursday 21 June, The Station Centre, Omagh 11am -12.30pm.

Monday 25 June, Fermanagh House, Enniskillen 7-9pm.

Positive parenting strategies are covered at each meeting. 1-1 meetings are also available.

Parents/Carers should contact Charmaine McCorry before attending to ensure criteria is met.
Tel: 07740 410169

www.cause.org.uk

<http://www.parentingni.org/family-wellness-project/about-family-wellness-project>

Home-Start Lakeland

Charity Golf Day hosted by Castle Hume Golf Club

Friday 22 June

Teams of 4 - £100 per team (including meal)

1st Prize – Weekend for 4 staying in Portstewart with Sat/Sun tickets to the nearby Irish Open in Ballyliffin.

There will be several 4 ball golf prizes including longest drive & nearest the pin

Please book tee time with Sean in Castle Hume Golf Club

Tel: 028 6632 7077 (payment required at time of booking)

There will be a Special Auction for a Signed Irish Rugby Jersey, Signed N.Ireland Football Jersey (Michael McGovern Training Top) and Signed Fermanagh GAA Jersey

In addition to golf there will be the sale of paintings, putting competition for non-golfers, tombola, music, food and entertainment

For further information, please contact Claire on 028 6634 6818 or info@homestartlakeland.com

“Have a Go” in the Kitchen Garden at Florence Court

Kitchen Garden Volunteer Recruitment Day **Saturday 23 June** 10am-4pm. Come along to hear about life as a Kitchen Garden volunteer at Florence Court and take home a little something from our garden to yours. We'd love to have you join our team!

Make a Busy Bee Hotel **Tuesday 10 July** Drop-in between 11am-3pm. Join us on 'National Don't Step on a Bee' Day and create your very own 'bee hotel' - a space for solitary bees to nest in.

Summer Fruits Jam-making Workshop **Sunday 15 July** 2pm-4pm. Pick your own strawberries and raspberries fresh from our Kitchen Garden and pick-up some handy tips as we demonstrate the art of homemade jam-making!

For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/florence-court
[facebook.com/NationalTrustFermanagh](https://www.facebook.com/NationalTrustFermanagh)

Aisling Centre, 37 Darling Street, Enniskillen, BT74 7DP

The Creative Path - Rethink, Re-evaluate and Reinvent Your life

with Ursula McHugh

Wednesday 13 June 10.30am – 12.30pm Admission £10.00

Reservation required - please phone Aisling Centre 028 6632 5811

email info@theaislingcentre.com

Mindfulness Meditation

with Mary Conway

Monthly Drop in/Taster Session Tuesday 19 June 7.30–9pm

Journeying Together

with Mary Daly

Monthly support group for people who live with or have lived with a loved one's addiction

Wednesday 13 June 7.30–9pm

For information contact the Aisling Centre – 028 6632 5811

For further information on these and other programmes contact the Aisling Centre 028 6632 5811

Visit our website – www.theaislingcentre.com

Register to receive e-updates. email info@theaislingcentre.com / Follow us on Facebook or Twitter

Support Groups and Networks

AA

3 meetings per week. For information contact the Aisling Centre – 028 6632 5811

ADHD

Adult support group. 1st Thursday of the Month 7pm – 9pm

For information contact Niall Greene or Emma Weaver

t: 07729618563 | 07724916770 | e: niaadhd@gmail.com

AWARE

Self-help support group for people affected by depression or bipolar disorder (manic depression).

Alternative Tuesdays 7.30 - 9pm. For information contact 0845 120 2961 e: help@aware-ni.org

Escapists

Support group for carers - Every Wednesday morning 10.30am – 1pm

For information contact Clare McGovern 07830 117766

Forget Me Not

Support group for people bereaved by suicide - 1st Monday of the Month 7.30pm – 9pm

For information contact Collette Cullen 07826 535199

SWEDES (South West Enabling Deaf Encouraging Sign)

Deaf, hard of hearing, hearing and signing social network - 2nd Tuesday of the month 7 - 9pm

For information contact Joan Thompson 028 6632 5811

Ethnic Communities Support Group

Free advice & advocacy service - Available by appointment, every second Tuesday 10am – 4pm

For information contact Karolina at OECSG on 028 8224 9750 Email: oe CSG2@yahoo.co.uk

Island Artists

Mondays 7.30pm – 9.30pm & Wednesdays 2pm – 4pm. Contact Maura Newman 07968 225704

Yoga

Mondays 6.30pm – 7.30pm. Contact Alasdair McKay 07776 290903

Thursdays 11.30am – 1pm. Contact Jenni Brown 028 8954 1994

Thursdays 6.30pm-7.30pm. Contact Christina Cornyn 07722 550040

Tara Centre, 11 Holmview Terrace, Omagh BT9 0AH

Tel: 028 8225 0024 email: info@taraomagh.com www.taraomagh.com

“All Illness Begins in the Gut “– Chronic Inflammatory Disease, Autoimmunity and the Gut Connection – Dr Aileen O’Kane MD

Saturday 23 June, 10am - 4pm (registration 9.30am - 10am)

Transforming Stress & Anxiety into Vitality – Michael O’Doherty

Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 September, 10am - 4pm (registration 9.30am - 10am)

Soul of Healing Seminars - Maura Twohig and Mary Daly

Saturday 30 June, 11.30am – 5.30pm (registration 11am – 11.30am)

Yoga for Beginners & Intermediates - Heather Kemps

Beginners – Wednesdays to 20 June (10.30am-12pm) and Thursdays to 21 June (7pm-8.30pm)

Intermediates – Wednesdays to 20 June (12pm – 1.30pm) and Thursdays to 21 June (8.30pm-10pm)

Meditating Together

Self-Facilitated Groups

Mondays (8pm-9.30pm) and Tuesdays (10.30am-12.00pm)

(Open to anyone who has followed the Tara Centre Meditation/Mindfulness Course for Beginners)

Advance Notices:

Meditation / Mindfulness Course (Autumn 2018)

Western Adult Autism Advice Service

This service is aimed at young people aged 16+ and adults with ASD and those who care for them (parents/carers/professionals). It will be facilitated 4 times per year from 1.30pm – 4.30pm in the local libraries on the following dates:

1st Thursday in March

Strabane Library

1st Wednesday in June

Enniskillen Library

1st Thursday in October

Derry Central Library

1st Thursday in December

Omagh Library

You do not need to make an appointment. Just call in and someone will be available to speak with you.

For further information or enquiries please contact Right 4 U Project Officer, The Cedar Foundation, Dromore, Co Tyrone. Telephone 028 8289 7772

Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen BT74 7HR

Telephone 028 6632 0210

Mental Health Charter Seminar – Tuesday 5 June, 10.30am - 12.30pm

Learn how signing up to the voluntary Mental Health Charter and the action measures can help your organisations to identify sources of information and support from the partners in the Mental Health Charter. Book online <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mental-health-charter-seminar-tickets-46179548272>

Western Health and Social Care Trust – Health improvement meeting Tuesday 26 June 9am-1pm – ‘Safe Talk’ for Suicide. Contact Roisin Fletcher on 028 7186 5127 or email health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net

Action on Hearing Loss – Free help and support drop in session on Thursday 7 June from 10–11.30am. Hearing checks, hearing loss services advice, new batteries & ear mould tubing, help with cleaning etc. Please contact Sheena Kelly, Outreach Development Officer on 028 8225 1446/07553 353980 Email: sheena.kelly@hearingloss.org.uk

Safeguarding Full Course - Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 June 7-10pm

For further information please contact: Nicola at the Western Office on 028 9536 1042/028 9536 1033 or email childcare.info@hscni.net

For booking go to: <http://childcarepartnerships-ni.org/training-quality/>

Macular Degeneration Support Group - monthly support meeting third Wednesday of each month from 11am -1.00pm. For further information contact Doris Cutler on 028 66 341404. Next meetings 20 June and 15 August.

Mum’s Wellness – Drop in Group Tuesdays 5, 12, 19 and 26 June 10-11.30am. Contact Ursula at Mindwise on 028 6632 4334 or 07760 627428

Drink Wise Age Well - support group for the over 50's wishing to talk about drinking on Wednesdays from 1.30 - 3.30pm. Further details at www.drinkwiseagewell-training.org.uk/

Sarcoidosis Support Group - meet first Monday of the month from 7-9pm.

Family Mediation - assisting families experiencing the trauma of separation. Appointments available. Call 028 9024 3265 or email enquiry@familymediationni.org.uk

U3A – leisure and learning co-operative of older people. Choir, drama and poetry. Meet regularly in Fermanagh House. Call 028 66 320 210

Autism NI Support Group - 8-10pm 4th Wednesday of the month (not July or Aug). Contact Michelle Higgins 07834 484229

Victim Support - A charity supporting people affected by crime. They offer a free and confidential service, whether or not a crime has been reported and regardless of how long ago the event took place. We are an independent organisation - not part of the police, courts or any other criminal justice agency. Contact 028 9024 3133 or email info@victimsuport.org.ni

Addiction NI - A community addiction service/registered charity providing treatment and support for people who are dependent on alcohol or drugs. We provide tailor-made treatment programmes for people with drug or alcohol problems, delivered in community settings. We also give confidential support for people affected by someone else's drinking or drug use.
Contact 028 9066 4434 or email enquiries@addictionni.com

Enniskillen 10k

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has announced details of the 2018 Enniskillen 10k Road Race and Leisure Walk which will take place this year on **Saturday 9 June** commencing at 2.00pm. The event, organised by the Council and supported by the National Trust, carries a prize fund of £1,500.

As part of the event, a Kiddies Fun Run will also take place outside the Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen at 12 noon on the day.

This year, the Enniskillen 10k Road Race and Leisure Walk has been, once again, included within the Novosco Grand Prix which is a multi-race competition involving seventeen 10k races in Northern Ireland running from March to November 2018 with a range of prizes. Further information on the Novosco 10k Grand Prix is available from www.novosco10kgrandprix.com

The weekly parkruns in Enniskillen and Omagh can help participants make preparations for the Enniskillen 10k. The parkruns, which comprise a 5k run, jog or walk, take place at the Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen and Omagh Leisure Complex at 9.30am on Saturday mornings to help improve fitness levels. Further information regarding both parkrun events is available at www.parkrun.org.uk

For further information/to register please visit www.enniskillen10k.com Alternatively, please contact Chris Elliott, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on 0300 303 1777 (calls charged at local rates), telephone 028 8225 6216 or email chris.elliott@fermanaghomagh.com

Blue Grass Meets Green Grass

We are pleased to announce that the world class dance company Starmaker's will be visiting Ireland from the Southern American State of South Carolina in the Summer. The passion of Starmaker's is to inspire, motivate and enrich every student in the art of dance and this will be their first visit to Ireland. The group will be in Ireland's shores from 4-9 June.

The desire of the Starmaker's students is to share their talent of dance in the clogging genre and sharpen their skills in both Highland and Irish dance techniques while in Ireland. Starmaker's dance company is founded by world Clogging champion Christi Stanton who will be leading a group of 40 people, including 20 students between the age of 8 and 18 years old. The Clogging dance style celebrates the fusion of both Irish and Highland dance adapted in the New World in the same way that Bluegrass and Country music morphed from traditional Irish and Scottish music. In many ways it's an untold story of how dance was fused through immigration and in it's time for Starmaker's to bring the steps back to Ireland.

The dance company's locations and dates in June are as follows:

- 4 and 5 June Belfast
- **6 and 7 June Enniskillen**
- 8 June Newcastle
- 9 June Dublin

We would like to partner with other Highland Dance and Irish Dance schools and eager to find connections for the students to form relationships for education, dance, and hospitality!

Contact Judith McLoughlin Judith@shamrockandpeach.com

Join us to celebrate 100 years of women's suffrage!

You are invited to join PROCESSIONS, one of the UK's largest ever mass participation artworks, produced by Artichoke and commissioned by 14-18 NOW.

On **Sunday 10 June**, women and girls – including those who identify as women and non-binary individuals – will walk together in their tens of thousands through Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh and London. Participants will be given green, white or violet to wear to represent the colours of the suffrage movement.

Register at www.processions.co.uk to take part in this once-in-a-lifetime living artwork, celebrating a historic moment for gender equality and creating a dramatic portrait of women in the 21st century.

Farm Health & Safety Workshop

Delivered as part of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020 - Farm Family Key Skills.

Tuesday 19 June, 7pm – Omagh

For farmers, farm family members and farm employees. The free workshops offer practical awareness raising which covers the everyday hazards faced by the farming industry. All those who attend will be entered into a free monthly draw to receive a free bundle of goods – a hi vis, bodywarmer, head torch and pair of wellingtons.

Anyone interested in attending must register in advance Tel RDC on 028 8676 6980 or www.cafre.ac.uk/industry-support/farm-family-key-skills/.

Training can also be set up locally for a group of farmers, family members and employees in your area.

Cycle for AWARE Overcoming Depression. Changing Lives

Hosted by Omagh Wheelers and Omagh AWARE Fundraising Committee, a 30 mile and 50 mile cycle will take place on **Sunday 17 June** starting at Youth Sport, Killyclogher Road, Omagh at 10am.

Register at www.aware-ni.org/challenge-events/cycle-for-aware.html

Registration is £10 and we ask that you fundraise as much as you can. Registration is available on the day of the event 8.30-9.30am but it is recommended you register in advance.

Join us for a BBQ after the cycle on your return to Youth Sport.

AWARE Mood Walks Overcoming Depression. Changing Lives

Omagh - Sunday 16 September

For more information and to register go to www.aware-ni.org

Email fundraising@aware-ni.org Tel 028 9035 7820

Rural Support

The charity which supports farmers and farming families right across Northern Ireland has undergone a Spring clean of its own – launching a brand new helpline number for those who need guidance or a helping hand.

The Rural Support helpline provides a listening and signposting service for farmers and rural families. A dedicated team of staff and volunteers deal with a range of issues including farm financial pressures, physical and mental health concerns, farming paperwork and bureaucracy.

The freephone helpline number is **0800 138 1678**.

Helpline Operating Hours 9am–9pm, Monday to Friday.

Email info@ruralsupport.org.uk Website www.ruralsupport.org.uk

Homeshare & Older People Research – Department of Communities NI – Community & Voluntary Groups, Age Sector, Referral Organisations

Shared Lives Plus is carrying out research as part of a small feasibility study into the potential of the Homeshare model to support older people in Northern Ireland. We are keen to hear the views of community and voluntary organisations, age sector groups and referral organisations etc. The survey should only take 3-4 minutes <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NIHomeshare>

What is Homeshare?

- Homeshare schemes can be set up and run by community, voluntary and other non-profit organisations
- They bring together older people (Householders) living on their own (in their own home) with young professionals or students (Homesharer)
- After matching and agreement the Homesharer moves in for an agreed period of time and pays a fee to the Homeshare scheme. They also make a monthly contribution to household bills (the combination of these payments will be lower than the current market rent for the area)
- In return for cheaper rent, the Homesharer provides an agreed weekly number of hours of low level support to the older person
- This includes tasks like shopping, cleaning, handyperson and gardening jobs and companionship
- Homesharers do not provide personal care e.g. washing, dressing or other regulated activity
- Schemes can be funded in a number of ways including a mix of grants and fees paid by Householders and/or Homesharers etc for the vetting, approval, matching and ongoing monitoring and support provided
- Schemes can become sustainable and self-financing between 3-5 years depending on the model adopted

For further information contact **Frank Johnston, Shared Lives Plus (Northern Ireland)**

Telephone 07392 313502 frank@sharedlivesplus.org.uk [@SharedLivesPlus](https://www.instagram.com/SharedLivesPlus)

One Friend Loneliness Group

For individuals who have been bereaved, separated, divorced or just singles who are experiencing loneliness or social isolation. We currently have 32 members ranging in age from 27-80 years. We arrange events in the Enniskillen area such as going to the cinema/theatre, lunch and coffee. Regular walks on Tuesday evenings at 7pm, coffee every Thursday at 12 noon. Anyone interested in participating can contact Pauline McManus on 07972 375795.

Don't get your heart - and bank balance - broken by romance scammers, warn TSS

The Trading Standards Service in Northern Ireland is warning people to be careful about who they accept as a 'friend' online, as they are aware that people can be preyed upon by dating and romance scammers, on social media sites.

Sharon Muldoon of the Trading Standards Service said: "Social media has overtaken online dating sites as the most common way for dating and romance scammers to contact potential victims. If you're going on social media, a dating site or app to find a potential Mr or Ms Right, it's important to keep your guard up to a scammer's advances."

Trading Standards has provided the following tips to enable you to help to protect yourself from an online dating/romance scammer:

- Scammers create believable profiles to present themselves as an almost too good to be true 'catch' - use a Google Image search to check if their profile picture is genuine;
- If the person you are interested in says they are overseas, or can't meet you right now for any reason, be suspicious - their excuse may sound reasonable, but it is usually a lie;
- Be careful when people profess strong feelings early on - scammers want you to fall in love with them, so they can abuse your trust and feelings to get money out of you;
- Scammers spin sympathetic tales about why they need money, but please don't fall for it - you should never ever give, or send money to someone you have only met online; and
- Don't share intimate photos or use webcams in an intimate setting - scammers will use these photos or webcam recordings at a later date to blackmail you.

If you think that you may be involved in a romance scam please contact Action Fraud immediately on 0300 123 20 40, or log onto their website <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/> to use their online reporting tool. Alternatively, if you would like to speak with an Officer within the Trading Standards Service in Northern Ireland, please phone 0300 123 62 62.

Alzheimer's Society – United Against Dementia

Would you be interested in becoming a Dementia Friendly Community Champion?

This Volunteer role is essential to creating dementia friendly communities across Northern Ireland. You will do this through providing interactive dementia awareness workshops to develop knowledge about dementia and provide opportunities to develop confidence and skills on how to communicate, relate and support someone with dementia.

Previous experience in the delivery of presentations and group facilitation is desirable but not essential, as training will be provided. The role may be ideal for you if:

- You wish to develop your own understanding of dementia and the impact it can have
- You have developed verbal and non-verbal communication skills and listening skills
- Are willing to engage in training in facilitation skills and peer support
- You can show empathy, patience, consideration and a caring nature
- You are comfortable in attending future development and support meetings.

Interested? If you would like to find out more about this or any of our volunteering opportunities please contact Rosario Mc Hugh, Volunteering Officer (rosario.mchugh@alzheimers.org.uk /028 7138 4570) or visit our website at www.alzheimers.org.uk.

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

The Adopt a Spot programme is a scheme that will formally enable groups across Northern Ireland to adopt a locality and look after it. With street cleansing costing nearly £40 million a year, why not take pride in your area and adopt a spot? The area that you adopt can be any area of your choosing, subject to council or landowner approval. It can be anywhere: a section of roadway, beach or green space, a forest park, river or urban area. If there is an area that you think could do with a clean-up and needs a bit of TLC, why not adopt it and instil a sense of “pride in my place.”

Adopters can be families, community or youth groups, church groups, schools, businesses or sporting associations. There are a limited number of spaces, so get your application in early! Successful groups will be provided with clean up kits which are to be collected from the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful office and they will include:

- Litter pickers
- Gloves
- Branded rubbish bags
- Branded high viz vests
- Branded Adoption Certificate and adopter pledge
- A hints and tips booklet on how to run a successful clean up

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful asks that you agree to the terms and conditions set out in the contact. This includes agreeing to carry out 4 clean ups over the course of a year, and reporting your results and pictures through the Live Here Love Here website.

To be part of the Adopt a Spot scheme, please contact Karina Magee on 028 9073 6920
karina.magee@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org <http://www.liveherelovehere.org>

Active Female Competition

The Female Sports Forum in partnership with O’Neills Sports have a new **monthly** ‘Active Female Competition’ to highlight the contribution of women and girls in sport and physical activity across Northern Ireland.

Nominate a participant, coach, volunteer or administrator who has had recent individual and/or team success and/or made an exceptional contribution to their sport in the previous month. After all the nominations are in, the Female Sports Forum will shortlist three of the nominees and post online their reason for nomination on their social media platforms for the public to then vote for the most deserving female who will win a £50 voucher from O’Neills Sports.

For more information and to nominate, please visit
[training opp](#)

Telephone: 028 9038 3825

Facebook: Female Sports Forum **Twitter:** @FemSportsForum

Instagram: @femalesportsforum

Action on Elder Abuse Northern Ireland

Violence and abuse do not respect age and no one should suffer. The sad reality is that thousands of older people in Northern Ireland are suffering harm and abuse, most often perpetrated by people they know and trust.

At Action on Elder Abuse Northern Ireland we work to change that. We seek a society that values and protects older people, keeping them safe from neglect, physical and sexual abuse, emotional and financial abuse. We provide help and support to anyone who is concerned about the abuse or harm of an older person. We deliver the only dedicated elder abuse Helpline which is free to call and offers impartial and confidential advice and support to help with your concerns. If you need to talk to us or you are worried about an older person, call us in confidence to get the support every older person deserves. Help is just a phone call away.

AEA Freephone Helpline: 080 8808 8141 www.elderabuse.org.uk/northernireland

Organ Donation Northern Ireland

Speak up and save a life

Approximately 7000 people require an organ transplant annually in the United Kingdom. There is a real shortage of organ donations and unfortunately every year around 14 people in Northern Ireland die waiting for an organ transplant.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council are working with the Western Health and Social Care Trust (Western Trust) to raise awareness of the need for families and friends to have a conversation around their wishes in relation to organ donation.

This is because after your death, your next of kin will be consulted on whether your organs can be donated, even if you carry a donor card. Any decision they make will be respected. When families or friends know the wishes of their loved ones it can give them the confidence to fulfil your wish to be an organ donor.

There are many ways to register as a potential donor:

- Register online at www.organdonation.nhs.uk or www.organdonationni.info
- Register when applying for or renewing a driving licence
- Register when registering with a GP Practice
- Telephone the NHS Donor Line 0300 123 23 23. Lines are open 24 hours a day all year round
- Download a form from www.organdonation.nhs.uk print it and return it by Freepost
- Register when applying for a Boots Advantage Card.

Action on Hearing Loss Northern Ireland is part of the new UK Hear to Inform and Connect (2017-19) project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund. This project will help to grow our information service to reach even more older people with hearing loss.

The aim of the project is to ensure older people with hearing loss feel better informed about how to manage their hearing loss, and where to access further support in their local area. Our information teams will also work with care homes, community groups and local organisations who provide services or support for older people with hearing loss, to help them make their services more accessible and inclusive.

Our information Officers and volunteers will help in a number of ways:

- By delivering information stands in a range of community and health settings such as libraries, leisure centres, GP surgeries and hospitals.

- By giving talks to care homes, local community groups and organisations on deaf awareness, equipment, communication and Action on Hearing Loss services and campaigns.
- By carrying out basic hearing screenings using a hand held screener to identify whether further assessment by a hearing professional is required.
- By providing demonstrations of equipment such as vibrating alarms and amplified telephones, to support older people to better manage their hearing loss.
- By signposting to other local services for older people who are deaf or hard of hearing

For further information or to arrange a talk to your group or get a hearing check contact Geraldine Keys on 07393 232833 or email geraldine.keys@hearingloss.org.uk

Training Opportunities

Volunteer Now

Keeping Children Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers

Thursday 7 June 10am - 4pm, Fermanagh House

This one day certificated training course is suitable for staff and volunteers who have regular and/or direct contact with children and young people (e.g. supervisor, leader, officer in charge). It will assist staff and volunteers with meeting good practice standards in safeguarding children and young people. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis and are limited to a maximum of 5 per organisation.

Cost: £45 per person. **Booking at:** <http://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training-events/view/758>

Understanding Alcohol – Free Half Day Course

This year **Alcohol Awareness Week** will be happening week commencing 18 June 2018. ASCERT Training Services hopes to raise awareness among the workforce about what remains as our most common and widely used drug.

As a result we are prepared to offer free Workforce Development Training to any organisation or group of partners that wants to host our half day '**Understanding Alcohol**' course **throughout the month of June 2018.**

If you are interested in taking up this opportunity please contact us as soon as possible either by email training@ascert.biz or phone **0800 2545123** and ask for Jenna or Colin.

SUSE+ Omagh are now offering

- Essential Skills Numeracy
- Essential Skills Literacy
- Customer Service
- Horticulture

The Literacy and Numeracy Course is running now/through the summer which is important for participants who need Literacy/Numeracy by September 2018.

SUSE+ offers 1:1 mentor support, careers guidance and support when seeking education, training and employment opportunities. Courses are subject to demand and eligibility criteria applies.

Please contact Tracy Sharkey, SUSE+ Mentor, South West College, Omagh Campus
0845 603 1881 ext 5417 Mobile 07436 533475 Tracy.Sharkey@swc.ac.uk www.swc.ac.uk

The ASPIRE Programme is Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Employability Programme; working in partnership with the Western Health and Social Care Trust and the Education Authority Western Region. Are you:
Aged 16 and over?
Unemployed or working less than 16 hours per week?
Seeking employment?

ASPIRE can support you in providing work placements, short courses, qualifications, mentoring, coaching, health and well-being, support with CV's, application forms and interviews; and much more – a programme that's focused on you, the individual, that moves at the right pace for you, all delivered in a supportive and friendly environment.

We currently offer opportunities in Social Media; Computerised Payroll, Computerised Bookkeeping, IT User Skills, Work Experience Placements, Graduate Programme, CSR Cards, Refresher Forklift Licence Training, First Aid Certificates, Classroom Support Package, Essential Skills in Numeracy and Literacy.

**For further information call our Omagh office on 028 8224 6535
or the Enniskillen office on 028 6632 6478.**

Funding Opportunities

Slieve Rushen Wind Farm Fund

Is your community project located within 12 km of Slieve Rushen Wind Farm in South West Fermanagh? If yes, your group may be eligible to apply for a Slieve Rushen Wind Farm Fund Grant. **Closing date for applications 12 noon Monday 18 June 2018.**

For application form and guidelines visit www.fermanaghtrust.org or contact Hazel at the Fermanagh Trust Tel: 028 66 320 210 E: hazel@fermanaghtrust.org

Community Foundation for NI - Micro Grant Programme

Established in recognition and celebration of the contribution of voluntary groups and people to our society and the need for a simple application process for small amounts of funding.

Grant Size: Up to £1,000

Priorities: Low capacity groups who have limited access to funding

The fund is open for applications on a rolling call basis, subject to fund availability.

You do not have to have a constitution to apply to this fund.

Full details available at <http://www.communityfoundationni.org/micro-grant-programme>

Community Relations Council

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Scheme has now re-opened

Deadline date: 14 November 2018

Grants are up to £10,000 but the average one is around £5,000 to £6,000.

www.community-relations.org.uk/community-relations-cultural-diversity

If you have any questions or would like to discuss a proposal prior to submitting an application, please contact a member of the Funding & Development Programme on 028 9022 7500 or email info@nicrc.org.uk

Social Housing Enterprise Investments awards - The Education, Training and Business Start-Up Grants are open year round (awards up to £1000, limited number).

The link below provides additional information and a link to the application forms:

http://www.nihe.gov.uk/index/community/community_social_housing_investment_scheme.htm

Garfield Weston Foundation

For 60 years the Trustees of the Garfield Weston Foundation have supported local charities across the UK. These small to medium organisations are often un-sung champions doing important work to keep our communities connected.

To celebrate the Foundation's anniversary and the vital role of volunteers and community charities, we are excited to launch an additional grants scheme that is **open for applications to 30 June 2018 exclusively** – the Weston Anniversary Fund.

<https://anniversary.garfieldweston.org/weston-anniversary-fund/>

This is a **Capital grants scheme** and applying is a simple one-step process.

If this fund doesn't fit your particular charity or project, then you may want to consider applying to our ongoing, regular grants scheme.

Grow Wild Community Project Funding 2018

Sign up to the Grow Wild newsletter for the many free offers, competitions, blogs and lots of amazing information at growwilduk.com. In spring 2018, groups can register for **free Grow Wild seed and fungi kits** to share. Get Creative Youth awards of £500 will be open in 2018 for young people to showcase their creative talents

Pledge your support by planting a virtual seed [here](#) s.baine@kew.org 07920 477 553

www.growwilduk.com [@Grow WildNI](#) Tel: 020 8332 3849

The Architectural Heritage Fund

Rita Harkin has been appointed as the Northern Ireland Support Officer to develop Growing Community Enterprise Through Heritage - a two year project, funded by the Department for Communities' Historic Environment Division and The Pilgrim Trust.

If any community groups in the area are involved in trying to find a sustainable use for an historic building at risk, please contact Rita at: rita.harkin@ahfund.org.uk or call 0300 121 0342. See www.ahfund.org.uk for information on the work of the Fund, regarding grants, loans and advice.

Building Better Futures Loan Fund

The Ulster Community Investment Trust (UCIT) is a Charity which was set up to provide loans to charities, community organisations, sports clubs and social enterprises.

Loans are available for many purposes including property – purchase, construction or renovation, equipment, renewable energy projects, bridging funding gaps, restructuring existing debt, working capital and funding shortfalls in larger grant assisted projects.

UCIT's core loan fund provides loans from £25,000 to £500,000+ to third sector organisations including community associations, rural development initiatives, churches and faith-based organisations, energy and environmental initiatives, childcare schemes and housing associations.

As a registered charity, all profits generated by the Trust are recycled for reinvestment into the community sector. For further information contact **UCIT on 028 90315003** or info@ucitltd.com

The Challenge Fund; Arts and Culture Programme Launched

A new arts and culture initiative which will help to develop skills within the sector, promote positive health and well-being and raise awareness of traditions from a bygone era through arts, crafts and performance has been launched.

The Challenge Fund, co-funded by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland will be delivered under three themes; 'Arts for All' concentrating on health and well-being, active ageing and inclusion; 'Multiple Identities' focusing on musical cultural traditions and 'Loughs, Bogs & Mountains' addressing rural arts, traditional skills and the environment. The programme, which will run until October 2019, will be delivered in partnership with a number of organisations including South West Age Partnership, Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (NI) and Dún Uladh – one of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann's seven regional centres, Sliabh Beagh Arts, An Creagán and a number of other venues, local organisations and individual artists.

The Challenge Fund will make a total investment of £250,000 across the district. Each of the programme themes will provide a series of arts, crafts, performance and training workshops and activities for various groups in local communities. The activities will result in the creation of new artworks, development of new skills and expertise, exhibition and performance opportunities and increased capacity across the arts and cultural sector in Fermanagh and Omagh. The Challenge Fund will also deliver an Artist in Residence initiative, bringing distinguished artists into the district to undertake a wide range of activities engaging with local schools, businesses, community groups and artists. There will also be support for local artists including an unprecedented opportunity for an artist to undertake a residency at the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris, with prospects of making European and International connections. Finally, a programme of technical and theatre training will take place across the district for local voluntary, community and amateur drama groups and young people.

For further information on the Challenge Fund [please click](#) here or email culture@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone 0300 303 1777