



Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – August 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 / alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

The deadline for the next Newsletter is Thursday 16 August.

Council News & Events

The Council's Connect Centre, 16 High Street, Omagh is now open from 8.30am-6pm, Monday-Friday, where you can access a range of Council services and information. The operating hours of the Council's phone line 0300 303 1777 have also been extended to 8.30am-6pm Monday-Friday.

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

Grant Aid and Bursary Programme 2018/19 – 2nd call opening September 2018

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council operates a Grant Aid and Bursary Programme which opens twice yearly in January and September. A call for applications for the Council's second round of Grant Aid and Bursary funding for the 2018/19 financial year will open in September 2018 (date to be confirmed).

This round of funding will offer grant assistance for projects and activities that will take place during the 2018/19 financial year. All funding must be spent before 31 March 2019.

Applications for funding for a project or event which has already taken place will not be accepted. Grant Aid/Bursary funding information sessions will take place during September 2018 in various locations throughout the district; venues and dates to be confirmed. Council Officers will be in attendance at each session to provide advice and guidance on the application process.

Further details relating to the 2nd call of the Grant Aid/Bursary Programme opening in September 2018 will be advertised in local papers; in the September 2018 edition of the Community Newsletter and available on the Council website www.fermanaghomagh.com

**For further information please contact the Funding & Investment Unit,
Tel 0300 303 1777 or Email grants@fermanaghomagh.com**

Marble Arch Caves Summer Opening Hours

Due to demand we are delighted to extend our summer opening hours for July and August 2018. **Tours will now be available from 9.30am – 6pm.**

The stunning Marble Arch Caves allow visitors to explore a fascinating, natural underworld of rivers, winding passages and lofty chambers. Lively and informative guides conduct tours past a bewildering variety of cave formations. Spectacular walkways allow easy access and sympathetic lighting reveals the stunning beauty and grandeur of the caves while electrically powered boats glide through the huge caverns carrying visitors along a subterranean river.

After your guided tour, explore the Visitor Centre and gift shop or take a leisurely stroll through the stunning, shady Marble Arch National Nature Reserve. Kids can complete the fun fossil trail in the carpark, or see what insects and wildflowers you can identify in the wildflower knoll!

Please note Marble Arch Caves guided tours are weather dependent and advance booking is strongly recommended (Tel: +44 (0) 2866348855).

Check out <http://bit.ly/MarbleArchCaves> for more information.

Geopark Events

Our full 2018 programme of events for the Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark is ready for your enjoyment. It is designed to embrace the ethos of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in hosting events within the Geopark area which reflect the rich natural and cultural heritage of the border regions of counties Fermanagh and Cavan. The programme is also designed to cater for all interests: from family fun days, heritage and geology talks to walking and food festivals, craft workshops and guided rambles. There is a mix of activities for all those interested in learning more about their Geopark.

<https://www.marblearchcavesgeopark.com/geopark-events/>

Festival Lough Erne

Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 September www.festivallougherne.com

Celebrate Fermanagh's finest food and the waterways at Enniskillen Castle. Come and enjoy:

- Tented village filled with local artisan food producers and Irish Crafts
- Cookery demonstrations with celebrity chefs
- Entertainment for all the family
- Water based activities for children

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.

Exciting new PEACE IV programme to encourage kids' creativity launched

'Creative Cafés', an exciting new programme for children and young people featuring fun and innovative classes, workshops and activities involving creativity and self-expression, was launched recently in the Fermanagh and Omagh district.

'Creative Cafés' is one of 16 projects funded through the Fermanagh and Omagh PEACE IV Local Action Plan from a total funding package of £2.8m. The Local Action Plan delivers projects across three key strands; Shared Spaces and Services, Children and Young People and Building Positive Relations at a local level.

The programme is designed to cater for five different age groups, from infants to teenagers. It has something for everyone, with photography classes, balloon modelling, dance sessions, make-up masterclasses, baby raves and teen blogging courses, all guaranteed to get the creative juices flowing. All workshops and classes will be delivered by qualified local tutors who will enhance the creative process and boost the creative flow of the participants. The programme will be facilitated by FOCUS and will run from July 2018-March 2019 in both Enniskillen Castle and Strule Arts Centre, Omagh.

The Programme is supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). Match-funding for the project has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development in Ireland.

Admission to 'Creative Cafés' sessions, workshops and activities is free however pre-registration for the programme is advisable. To register for the programme or to get involved, please contact FOCUS on 028 8224 0991 or email: conor.keys@focuscommunity.co.uk

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.

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.

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

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

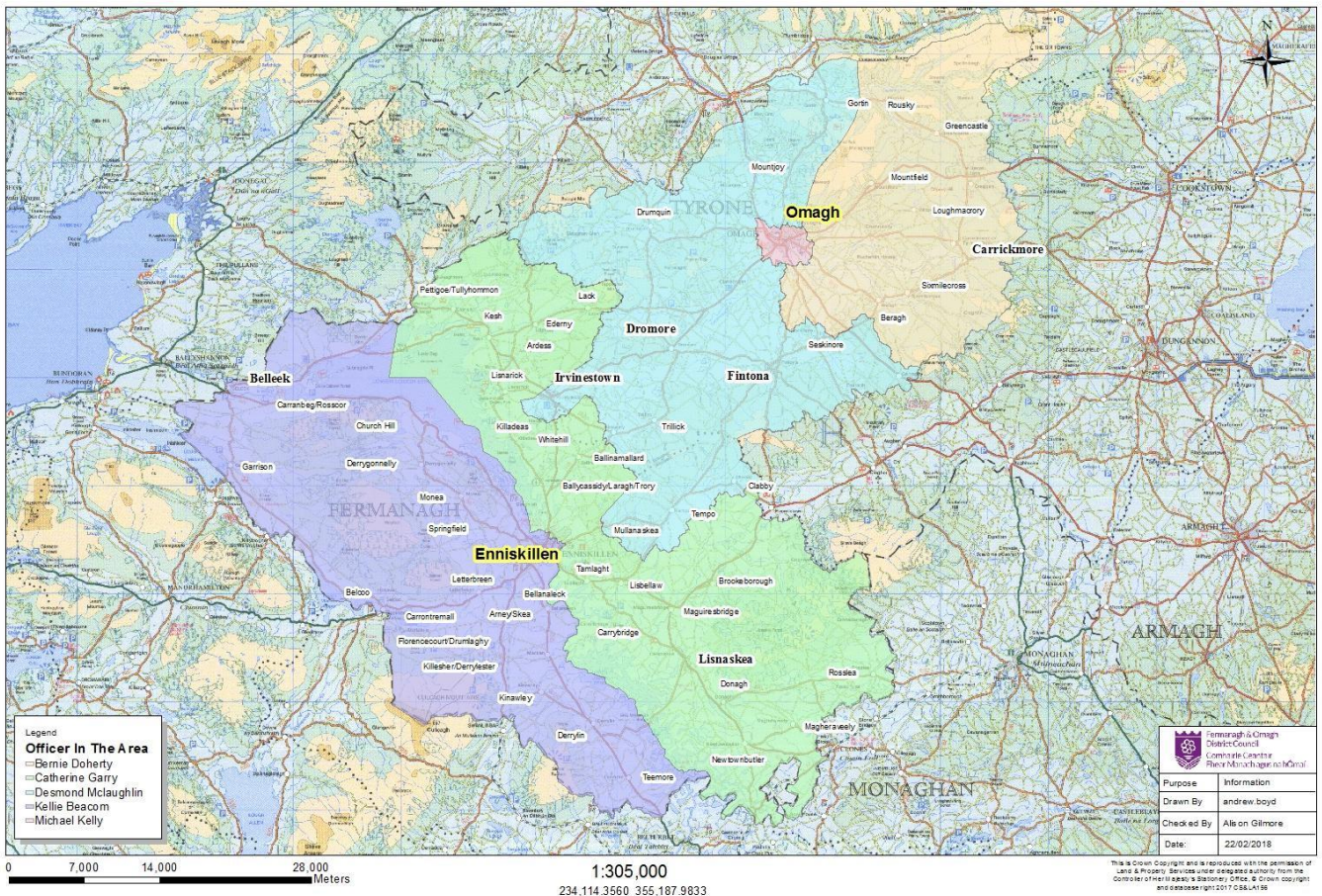
Omagh –

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, Drummeel, 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

Goodwill Gifts

3rd Annual General Meeting at Goodwill Office, 6 Georges Street, Omagh

Tuesday 7 August, 6.30pm

Please ring Rose on 07881 347716 or Jennifer on 07733 170493 to confirm your attendance for catering purposes.

Department of Health - Reform of Adult Social Care

Important opportunity for individual involvement for local family carers

The Department of Health is asking for family or informal carers across the five Trust areas to complete an expression of interest in being involved in the upcoming Reform of Adult Social Care. An Independent Expert Panel (IECO) is being established made up of carers across the five Trusts who have experience within one of the adult Programmes of Care (POCS), older persons' services, adult mental health, adult learning disability and adult physical disability. You can apply online or ask for an application to be mailed to you. For further information click on

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/independent-expert-carers-panel-member-recruitment-documents>

DOH Contact Tel is 028 90 765630. Reimbursement of out of pocket expenses including cost of alternative care arrangements will be provided in accordance with current guidelines.

Closing date 10 August 2018

This is an opportunity for families and carers to have their individual voices heard in the shaping of future services. Caroline Kelly will meet with any group of carers to explain more details of the project and the expert report Power to People. Tel 07768 000165

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service

Castlederg High School – Wednesday 8 August and Thursday 9 August

From 1.30pm-4pm and 5.15pm-8pm

Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen – Monday 13 August and Tuesday 14 August

From 1.30pm-4pm and 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

Fermanagh Film Club

Free screening of Mickybo & Me (starring, among others, Julie Walters, Ciaran Hinds & Adrian Dunbar on **Monday 27 August**, 8pm in Fermanagh House.

This is a Cinema day event <http://www.filmhubni.org/Projects/Cinema-Day-2017>

Autumn programme commences on 12 September.

For further details contact Ann McDermott on 07874 005861

Email fermanaghfilmclub08@gmail.com

Feagh Pipe Band Annual BBQ

Saturday 1 September, Basil's, Magheraveely at 8pm. Everyone welcome.

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

Fun Flower Arranging for Kids **Sunday 26 August & Sunday 2, 9, 16 September** 2pm-4pm. Let the little ones grab a basket and collect flowers from our garden to create a jam-jar flower arrangement to take home or give to someone special!

Kitchen Garden Roadshow Festival Lough Erne, Enniskillen Castle **Saturday 22 September**. Check out our fresh Kitchen Garden produce at Festival Lough Erne in Enniskillen Castle and ‘have a go’ at apple pressing!

Sunday 23 September 2-4pm. Pick-up a few gardening tips from our Gardener David and enjoy a live cookery demonstration using fresh produce from the garden with Chef John Roche. Tasty samples to be enjoyed by all!

Seed Gathering Day **Sunday 30 September** 2-4pm. Did you know September is National Seed Gathering month? Harvest your own runner beans and marigold seeds, and take some home for your garden!

Apple Harvest Day **Sunday 21 October** 2-4pm. Come along to help us harvest the many Irish apple varieties we grow at Florence Court, or have a go at apple pressing, bobbing for apples or taste-testing!

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

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

Hearing loss charity seeks new members to join research panel

People with deafness and hearing loss are invited to join Action on Hearing Loss’ research panel to share their experiences and inform the charity’s campaigning work.

Panel members are asked to complete up to four online surveys a year and from time to time may be contacted about opportunities to take part in focus groups or one-to-one interviews.

Feedback from the panel has been used to inform the charity’s ‘Working for Change’ campaign, which aims to change attitudes to hearing loss in the workplace, as well as the charity’s work on subtitles. Thanks to 6000 people who got involved in the ‘Subtitle it’ campaign, a law was passed in April 2017 giving **Ofcom new powers to legally enforce subtitles on video-on-demand services.**

To join the panel or find out more,
visit www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/researchpanel where you will be asked to fill in a short questionnaire.

Nexus NI is recruiting volunteer/sessional counsellors in the Omagh and Enniskillen areas. For further information please go to www.nexusni.org/jobs. For criteria see job description.

Community Family Support Programme

The Community Family Support Programme supports families as they make life changing decisions to improve their everyday lives, delivered in the heart of the community.

Support for families

If your family needs help, support is available. If you or a family member isn't in education, employment or training, you will get help and advice to address your needs and access to a range of positive opportunities.

Your family will receive help and support to address any health, social and economic issues that impact your daily lives.

Family support workers will meet and speak to your family to help you find ways to tackle your own specific challenges and needs.

Types of support

The support provided on the programme is directly matched to your own needs and may include help with:

- accessing suitable education, employment and training opportunities
- developing skills to find work, creating CVs, job-searching and preparation for job interviews
- self-confidence, motivation and social skills
- encouraging better relationships within families
- improving your health
- money management and benefit advice

Taking part in the programme

Your family can take part in the programme if you:

- have at least one member of the family aged 16 or over who is not in education, employment or training
- have educational, employment, training health, social, or economic issues that need to be addressed
- are committed to seeking ways to improve your lives

How to join the programme

You can join by ringing 028 7138 2260 and ask to speak to a member of the Community Family Support team. We are always happy to help!

We can also be contacted on the Community Family Support Programme Facebook page, PM us any questions you might have.

This project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014 - 2020 and the Department for the Economy.

Volunteer Now

A summer brochure of volunteering opportunities in the Fermanagh area is now available.

Opportunities can also be advertised on the website or in the next brochure.

For further information, contact Lynn Johnston on 07375 638501, email

Lynn.johnston@volunteernow.co.uk or go to the Volunteer Now website www.volunteernow.co.uk

Alzheimer's Society – United Against Dementia

Will you join the thousands of volunteers already taking on dementia?

Volunteer: Dementia Friendly Community Champion NI

The Dementia Friendly Community Champion role is essential in creating dementia friendly communities across Northern Ireland.

What's involved?

- Delivering interactive dementia awareness workshops
- Delivering targeted dementia information sessions within your local community, networking at relevant events, gatherings and groups
- Raising the profile of Dementia Friendly Community Programme through posters, leaflet distribution, social and mass media
- Supporting local campaigning activity which champions the rights of people affected by dementia

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.

Community Accountancy Services Northern Ireland (CASNI)

CASNI is the charity that helps other Charities, CIC's, Groups and all other types of Voluntary Organisations!

From our charity office in Cityside, Derry, we now offer many other services, over and above accounts preparation and independent examination. For the annual membership fee of £100, all groups and registered charities within Northern Ireland can have 12 months help and advice with governance, book-keeping, funding and bid writing, plus financial health checks.

Small additional fees will get groups and registered charities a payroll service if required and accounts prepared in line with the Charity Commission's and Companies House guidelines up to a maximum annual income of £250,000. These fees are agreed prior to any work taking place and will be outlined within our membership engagement letter. When turnover is £5,000 or less, the accounts preparation is free, the only cost incurred being our £100 membership fee.

For further information (or to join*) please contact us on either 028 7127 9876 or email office@casni.org.uk www.casni.org.uk

*An annual subscription fee of £100 applies to all.

Tara Centre, 11 Holmview Terrace, Omagh BT79 0AH

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

Transforming Stress & Anxiety into Vitality – Michael O'Doherty

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

Advance Notice

Meditation / Mindfulness Course (Autumn 2018)

Our full programme of events for Autumn/Winter 2018 will be released at the end of August

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

Mindfulness Meditation with Mary Conway

Monthly Drop in/Taster Sessions start again in September

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

Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen BT74 7HR

Telephone 028 6632 0210

Action on Hearing Loss – Free Help and Support drop in sessions for 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

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 meeting 15 August.

Mum's Wellness – Drop in Group Tuesdays 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

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@victimsupport.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

Fermanagh Genealogy Centre - Our volunteers meet in Fermanagh House for training on the second Tuesday of the month Sept - June 7-9pm. If you would be interested in volunteering at the Fermanagh Genealogy Centre you can call into Enniskillen Castle Museum when we are open Mon, Wed, Thurs 2-4pm and we will show you around. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer in the Fermanagh Genealogy Centre or wish to join as a member to attend our talks and trip program, email us at fgc2012@hotmail.com

Lough Erne Landscape Partnership Awarded £2.6m from Heritage Lottery

A major new initiative to protect and conserve the Lough and its surroundings is underway thanks to a £2.6million investment from the National Lottery over five years.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) confirmed the award for the new Landscape Partnership project at Lough Erne led by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds NI (RSPB NI).

The beautiful Fermanagh Lakeland landscape consists of numerous islands, long shorelines, rivers, wet meadows, blanket bog, grasslands and woodlands. It is home to an array of internationally important species and habitats, and contains a wealth of natural, built, archaeological, cultural and industrial heritage spanning 9,000 years.

The Lough Erne Landscape Partnership (LELP) plans to deliver 23 individual projects to improve access, protect habitats and species, and engage communities with the heritage in 500km² of landscape. It will support an innovative partnership approach to the ongoing, integrated management of the natural environment, led by the RSPB NI in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Waterways Ireland, Fermanagh Rural Community Network, Upper Lough Erne Tourism Development Association, and the National Trust.

Funding for LELP was awarded through HLF's Landscape Partnership programme which helps to protect and manage some of the UK's most spectacular landscapes.

Activities will include the creation of trails and walkways to improve access. Invasive species will be better managed to allow native plants to thrive and conservation works will support the breeding populations of waders such as curlew, snipe, and lapwing, which have seen a catastrophic decline of more than 80% over the last 30 years.

Local people will be encouraged to get involved in the project, with a dedicated training and volunteering programme providing opportunities to become a heritage champion for the landscape, lead guided tours or develop traditional skills such as stone carving, thatching, and heritage crafts. Engaging with people and communities is at the core of the Partnership Scheme. For further information click on <http://lelp.org.uk/>

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

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.

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

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

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

Free One Day Irish Language Course

Saturday 4 August, Fr. Matt Hall, Trillick, 10am - 4pm.

Please register interest by emailing tacs14@outlook.com. New learners, intermediate and advanced level classes. Light refreshments provided. Please bring a packed lunch.

Level 2 Award in Food Safety & Hygiene

South West College, Enniskillen Campus

Two day course on **Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 August** 9am-3pm. £16 per person.

Telephone 0845 603 1881. Prior booking essential – Course Code HEP1A.

Free ASIST Training for Community & Voluntary Sector Organisations

ASIST is a two-day intensive, interactive and practice-dominated course designed to help caregivers recognise risk and learn how to intervene to prevent the immediate risk of suicide. A waiting list will be maintained and you will be contacted as and when a place becomes available on future workshops scheduled.

Tuesday 9 & Wednesday 10 October

Omagh – venue to be confirmed

Further information available at www.dhcni.com/clear or contact Brenda Morris

CLEAR Project Manager on 028 7138 3386

Third Space Programme Fermanagh and surrounding border areas are recruiting!

Third Space is a 26-week cross community, cross border programme in partnership with the Verbal Arts Centre in Derry that works with children and young people aged from 14-24 who have been identified as vulnerable and at risk. The Young People will achieve their qualifications through methods such as Digital Storytelling & Graphics as well as Outdoor Pursuits, Residentials, Day Trips and a Legacy Element where opportunities to become involved in other post-programme activities will be available.

Young People will gain OCN Accredited Level 1 Qualifications in:

- Personal Development
- Good Relations
- Citizenship

Incentivised payment scheme of up to £40 per week (must be resident in NI, over 16, not on EMA and have completed formal education). We are particularly interested in hearing from practitioners/young people from the PUL Community.

Please contact below if you are interested:

Aine Mc Coy – aine.mccoy@extern.org 07889 231466

Ken Keane – ken.keane@extern.org 07889 231468

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

AWARE- FREE 6 week Living Life to the Full Programme

25 September, 2 October, 9 October, 16 October, 23 October, 30 October

11am-12.30pm, Omagh Library

This is a programme which can make a big difference to your life. It can help you manage your feelings when you are stressed, worried or depressed and learn simple practical skills to help you cope with life's challenges.

This is a six-session programme using Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) concepts – the most evidenced-based talking therapy for people affected by low mood, anxiety or depression. The programme focuses on how we can challenge and change our thinking and behaviour.

Course content

Week one Why do I feel so bad?

Week two I can't be bothered doing anything

Week three Why does everything always go wrong?

Week four I'm not good enough
Week five How to fix almost everything/The things you do that mess you up
Week six Are you strong enough to keep your temper? 10 things you can do to feel happier straight away

To register please visit the AWARE website [https://www.aware-ni.org/index.php?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=4&Itemid=222&form\[Description\]=Omagh%20Library%20\(Morning\)&form\[Date\]=Tuesday,%2025%20September%202018%2011:00](https://www.aware-ni.org/index.php?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=4&Itemid=222&form[Description]=Omagh%20Library%20(Morning)&form[Date]=Tuesday,%2025%20September%202018%2011:00)

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.

Rutledge Recruitment and Training

Exam Results – What next?

The Training for Success programme (TFS) is for school leavers aged 16-18 years old and is designed to provide skills, confidence and knowledge within a unique supported learning environment.

We offer a wide range of programmes leading to qualifications in a number of occupational areas. To find out more please call into the branch on 20 Darling Street, Enniskillen, phone Michelle on 028 663 29858 or email mbaker@rutledgegroup.co.uk

Assessors A1 Award

Recruiting for September in the Enniskillen branch

The A1 Assessors Award is for people who are, or will be, assessing learners taking vocational qualifications. You will be trained in the skills and techniques and principles of assessing learners using a range of methods. Achieving this qualifications is an opportunity to stretch your skills, improve your career prospects and put something back into the industry.

You must have level 2 or 3 in an occupational area or experience in the industry and have access to at least 3 learners to assess. We may be able to provide learners at an additional cost.

Currently recruiting for a class to start in mid-September in the Enniskillen branch. To find out more please call into the branch on 20 Darling Street, Enniskillen, telephone Michelle on 028 6632 9858 or email mbaker@rutledgegroup.co.uk

Funding Opportunities

Ulster Bank Skills & Opportunities Fund

R2 2018, launching on 3 September, will be the final opportunity to apply for a community grant.

We have funding of £35k available, and are looking for applications from not-for-profit organisations with a project or project idea focused on providing opportunities for people to develop their financial capability skills or the skills to start or develop a new business now or in the future in our local communities.

As with previous rounds, a selection of organisations will be shortlisted, and voting will then be opened to the public to help decide the winners, who will be announced in December.

So, if you have an eligible project in mind or know of someone else who might, head to the Skills & Opportunities website for everything you need to know, including full eligibility criteria and case studies from previous winners <http://www.skillsandopportunitiesfund.ulsterbank.com/>

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

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

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 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 see www.fermanaghomagh.com or email culture@fermanaghomagh.com or telephone 0300 303 1777