



Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – September 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 20 September.

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.

Grant Aid Applications – Round 2

Applications for grant aid & bursaries open on Monday 10 September 2018 and close at 5pm on Thursday 27 September 2018.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council will soon invite applications from voluntary clubs, societies, community/sporting organisations. Bursaries will also open to individuals for Sport. The grant aid funding relates to projects/activities in the 2018/19 financial year.

Applications will be invited in the categories listed below:-

Grant Aid:

- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Community Services – General
- Festivals & Events – Large
- Festivals & Events – Small
- Seeding Grants
- Sport NI - Everybody Active 2020 Programme

Bursaries:

- Sport

Information Sessions for Funding Streams will be held in the following locations:

Enniskillen Castle	Tuesday 11 September	7.30-9pm
Strule Arts Centre, Omagh	Thursday 13 September	7.30-9pm

If you are unable to attend any of the above information sessions, Council Officers will be available by appointment to provide information.

Please contact the Funding & Investment Unit; see telephone number below.

Applications must be made on an official application form. Application forms and associated guidelines will be available to download when the call opens on **Monday 10 September 2018** and can be downloaded from www.fermanaghomagh.com or by contacting the Funding & Investment Unit, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council:

T: 0300 303 1777 E: grants@fermanaghomagh.com

Late, incomplete or retrospective applications will not be considered.

Older People's Groups should apply directly to South West Age Partnership

T: 028 8225 1824 E: aforbes@southwestagepartnership.co.uk

Please note this funding is only available to groups who have not previously received funding for activities for the period April 2018 - March 2019.

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

Sept 2018	
Mon 10	Call opens for Grant Aid Applications – Round 2
Tues 11	Funding Information Session, Enniskillen Castle 7.30-9pm
Weds 12	CVS Representatives Forum Meeting, Omagh 6pm
Thurs 13	Funding Information Session, Strule Arts Centre 7.30-9pm
17-23	Good Relations Week
Thurs 27	Deadline for Grant Aid Applications
Oct 2018	
Mon 8	Consumer Council Information/Training Day, Bawnacre 11am-2pm

One Day Irish Language Course

Saturday 1 September, 10am-4pm Dooneen Centre, Tempo. £5.00

Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced classes available. Kick start your Irish Language learning after the summer break. Light refreshments provided, lunch not provided. For further information visit www.fermanaghomagh.com.

Irish Language Classes Registration Night

Thursday 13 September, 7.30pm-8.30pm Enniskillen Castle.

Presentation by Conradh na Gaeilge of “Our Shared Language / Ár Teanga Roinnte”.

Classes start on Thursday 20 September, 7.30pm-9.30pm for 10 weeks until 22 November.

Beginner, Improver, Intermediate and Advanced classes available. £20.00 for 10 week course (£15.00 concession rate available). For further information visit www.fermanaghomagh.com

Strule Arts Centre Community Pantomime 2019

Would you like to learn performance skills, meet new friends and have lots of fun? Bootcamp Auditions for the third Strule Arts Centre Community Pantomime will be held in Strule Arts Centre on **Saturday 15 September**:

Under 18s 11am -12pm

Adults 1-3pm

The Panto will run in Strule Arts Centre from 16-20 and 24-26 January 2019.

Numbers are strictly limited this year so places **must** be booked in advance online at www.struleartscentre.co.uk or at Box Office 028 8224 7831.

Booking goes live at 10am on Saturday 1 September.

Good Relations Week 2018

Monday 17 – Sunday 23 September 2018

Then, Now ... Next?

A programme of free public events will take place across the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area as part of Good Relations Week.

Good Relations Week is a high profile initiative supporting the Northern Ireland Executive's Together: Building a United Community (T:BUS) strategy. It is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of our culture and heritage, to promote cultural diversity and to challenge sectarianism and racism.

The Week's primary objectives are to inspire new ideas, promote understanding, respect and engagement between and amongst all sections of our community. It provides a platform for organisations and groups across a variety of sectors to demonstrate innovative approaches to good relations and examples of how we can build a united and shared community.

The theme for this year is 'Then, Now ... Next?' 20 years after the Agreement, we reflect on how far we have come and our ideas about what we should do next.

To find out more about public events taking place in the Fermanagh and Omagh district during Good Relations Week, please visit www.fermanaghomagh.com or contact Pauline Clarke, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on 0300 303 1777.

All events listed have received financial support from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's good relations programme assisted by the Executive Office.

What can churches do next?

Monday 17 September 2018, Tir Navar, Derrygonnelly, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Derrygonnelly and District Community Partnership

Professor John Brewer, Queen's University, Belfast will speak to an open audience about religion and politics and what the role of local churches is in today's society.

For further details please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council: pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com or ring 0300 303 1777

The Church and Reconciliation

Wednesday 19 September 2018, Omagh Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Omagh Churches' Forum

A public event with guest speaker Dr Fergus O'Ferrall exploring "The Churches and the challenges of reconciliation".

For further details please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council: pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com or ring 0300 303 1777

Beyond 1918 conference

Thursday 20 September 2018, Omagh Library, 9.30am – 12.30pm

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Rural Community Network and Libraries NI

A conference examining the key historical events of the end of World War One and its aftermath. Speakers include Philip Orr, Sean Collins and Maureen Hetherington.

Admission is free but places are limited. Please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to register your interest: pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com or ring 0300 303 1777.

Conference: “Uneasy, Unsettled, Unsettling: Religion and State Relations”

Thursday 20 September 2018, Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, 10.00am – 4.00pm

Fermanagh Churches Forum and Irish School of Ecumenics in association with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

A conference exploring how faith values and ethics can help build more just and inclusive relationships and in partnership develop a concrete vision of the common good. The conference will engage with a new approach to a new situation.

For further details please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council: pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com or ring 0300 303 1777.

Culture Night 2018

Friday 21 September

Culture Night has become one of the highlights of our region’s events calendar. It is the evening each year when our arts and cultural organisations throughout the country open their doors to the public with special or extended night time events, **all offered free of charge**.

This year Culture Night celebrations are being held right across the Fermanagh and Omagh District and the programme has something on offer for everyone. The Council had a public open call for applicants to participate in this year’s Culture Night celebrations and key to this year’s events programme was the proactive involvement of rural organisations providing cultural activities for and by their local communities.

This year’s programme is packed full of dance, music, song, film, art, craft & language events there is definitely something on for everyone! See www.fermanaghomagh.com for full details.

Festival Lough Erne

Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 September www.festivallougherne.com

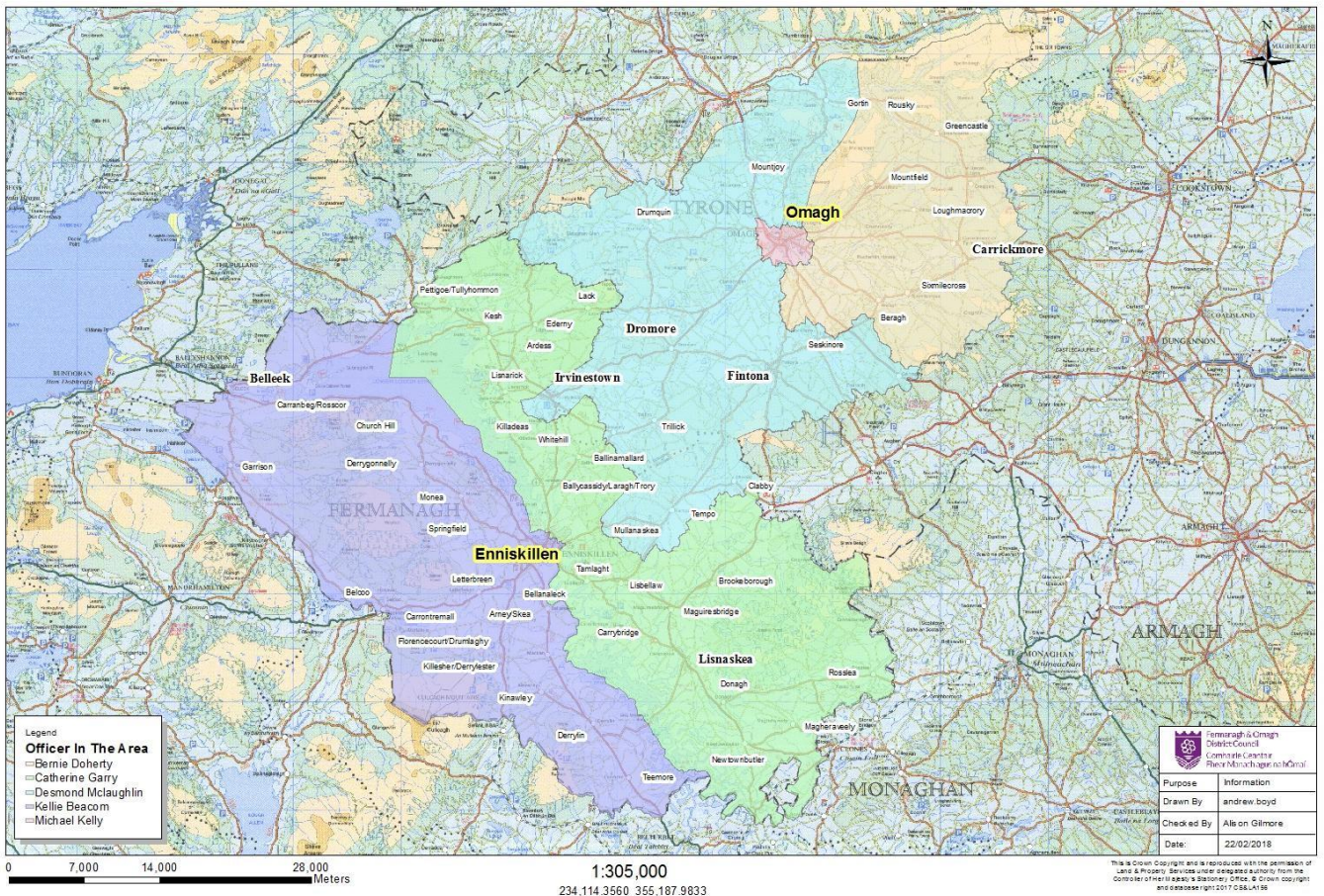
Celebrate Fermanagh’s finest food and the waterways at Enniskillen Castle. Come and enjoy:

- 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

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=298ff71ef2fc4cabc25ee703c291b>

Community and Voluntary Sector Register

Has your organisation registered their details? **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 <http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/residential-services/community/community-register/>. Alternatively you can contact Community Services on 0300 303 1777 to speak to an officer who will send you a registration form and assist you with any questions you may have, or email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com for a copy of the new registration form.

Fermanagh Live Arts Festival

Experience Something Beautiful in Fermanagh

Experience and participate in Fermanagh's finest live entertainment and visual arts this autumn when Fermanagh Live takes place from **Wednesday 3 October to Sunday 7 October**. The festival thrives on showcasing local and international innovative and exceptional talent providing a diverse range of the very best in music, dance, film, literature, comedy, carnival and visual arts. Full programme of events available via <http://www.flive.org.uk>; Contact us arts@flive.org.uk

Fermanagh & Omagh Consumer Council information/training day

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council have invited The Consumer Council to deliver an event aimed at helping consumers with:

- ✓ saving money on your household bills;
- ✓ protecting against fraud and scams;
- ✓ preparing for winter;
- ✓ support available for consumers with a disability or long-term health condition;
- ✓ understanding your consumer rights online and on the high street;
- ✓ making an effective complaint; and
- ✓ knowing where to go for expert help & advice.

** Bring your latest electricity bill to find out if you could be saving £££s using The Consumer Council's free and independent Energy Comparison Tool. **OR** If you are a business consumer, we can do a water bill health check. **

Date: Monday 8 October 2018

Venue: Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown

Time: 11am -2pm lunch included

Register to reserve your place with: alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

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/>

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 News

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 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)

Lakeland Special Olympics Club

Training and competition in Special Olympics sports for persons with intellectual disabilities within the Fermanagh area. Football, Kayaking, Athletics & MATP will take place at the Lakeland Forum from September.

Notice of Club Enrolment Sessions for 2018/19

Session 1: Thursday 6 September 6-7pm Session 2: Saturday 8 September 10-11am
Both in the Baloo Room, Lakeland Forum.

All new and existing athletes must attend one or other with a parent/guardian/carer as required to complete the enrolment form and code of conduct and to pay the annual subsidy. **Athletes are asked to note that enrolments and subsidies cannot be accepted after these dates.**

For further information please email lorna-lakelandsoc@outlook.com
or visit the Club website at www.lakelandspecialolympicsclub.weebly.com
or facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lakeland-Special-Olympics-Club>

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service

St Aidan's High School, Derrylin - Monday 3 September 2.30pm-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

Fermanagh Film Club

Autumn programme commences on **Wednesday 12 September** 8-10pm in Fermanagh House with 'The Devine Order'

For further details contact Ann McDermott on 07874 005861

Email fermanaghfilmclub08@gmail.com

Networking Forum

SUSE+ in connection with South West College is holding a networking meeting for organisations that are currently working with those over the age of 16 and upwards. It is an opportunity to come along to share best practice, discuss what your service offers and also find out how other organisations could support you or your clients that you are working with.

There are so many different services, organisations and community groups in the local area and sometimes the information of what is being offered doesn't filter through to the people on the ground.

First proposed dates for Inaugural meeting:

- Wednesday 12 September and Wednesday 21 November, 11am-12.30pm
- **Technology and Skills Centre, Enniskillen** South West College
- Wednesday 19 September and Wednesday 28 November, 11am-12.30pm
- **Omagh Campus** South West College

Please contact david.taylor@swc.ac.uk if you wish to be included in this forum and feel free to forward this onto any organisation or service that you feel may benefit from attending this meeting.

Fermanagh Genealogy

New season begins on **Saturday 15 September** upstairs in Enniskillen Library from 1.30pm-3.30pm. All are welcome, visitors £5.00 or annual membership is available for £20.00. We have a talks program and social events running from September to June.

We also provide free research assistance from our base at Enniskillen Castle Museum, on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, see below for booking link.

Book a visit www.enniskillencastle.co.uk/explore-more/fermanagh-genealogy-centre/

Keep in touch www.fermanaghgenealogy.org and www.facebook.com/fermanaghgc

Mood Walk Omagh – 5k/10k

Sunday 16 September at 2pm, Omagh Community House

We are delighted to announce the details of the AWARE Mood Walk for Omagh. The walk has been organised to mark World Suicide Prevention Day and is open to everyone to come along. You can walk in memory of someone, or simply to show your support for the thousands of people in Northern Ireland living with depression.

Walking is one of the best ways to improve your mood and look after your mental health - join us for an autumnal stroll. We are also welcoming you to stay behind for tea and coffee in Community House afterwards.

For more information about this Mood Walk, please contact the Fundraising Team by emailing fundraising@aware-ni.org or calling the Belfast Office on 028 9035 7820 or Derry Office on 028 7126 0602.

Registration costs £10 (which includes your AWARE t-shirt). Children under 12 are free.

Register now on www.aware-ni.org/moodwalk

Lisnaskea Historical Society

Talk by Vicky Herbert on 'The Maguire Clan of Lisnaskea and Derrylin– who were they?'

Monday 17 September 8pm, Castle Park Centre, Lisnaskea

Fermanagh Garden Society

New season commences on **Tuesday 18 September** in Enniskillen Library at 8pm.

We are delighted to say that we will have Brendan Little as our guest speaker.

Brendan is a regular on Gardeners' Question Time on Saturday mornings on BBC Radio Ulster.

Everyone welcome. We finish the evening with a cup of tea and chat.

Further information from fermanaghgarden@outlook.com

Pop Up Gaeltacht

Saturday 22 September, 3-6pm, St Patrick's GAA Clubhouse Donagh. All levels of Irish welcome.

Harvest Vintage Day

Drumquin Methodist Church and Alzheimer's Society

Saturday 29 September 11am – 4pm, Omagh Show Grounds, Drumquin Road, Omagh

- Vintage Tractors, cars, lorries, motorbikes, bicycles
- Farm tools/farm machinery, stationery engines
- Model displays etc
- Auto jumble – car boot sales
- Dog Show

Exhibitors Free; Trade Stalls/Car boot £10

Admission – Adults £3.50, Primary School Children – free

Contact Ethel on 07719 934219

'Women Along the Border' Project

A series of craft and other workshops will take place in September in the areas of Garrison, Cashel and Belcoo in Fermanagh, and Kinlough, Kiltycashel, Rossinver and Glenfarne in Leitrim.

If you would like to be kept informed of these workshops please contact Isobel by email at

womenalongtheborder@gmail.com, follow and like our Facebook page 'Stitching

Stories' <https://fb.me/womenalongtheborder>, or phone 00 353 71985 6220 to find out more.

'Women Along the Border' is an initiative of the North Leitrim Women's Centre, with the support of the Leitrim County Council through the Leitrim County PEACE IV Partnership. This project has been supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Health and Social Care

Oncology Services Transformation Project

We want to know what matters to you, and would like to hear your views on how we can improve Cancer Services in Northern Ireland. The focus of the project is the patient pathway from diagnosis through treatment processes for Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy. This does not include treatment for blood cancers or treatment through surgery.

If you would like to have your say, please fill out our short 5-minute survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WKWQ7QY>

mPower Healthy & Connected Communities

mPower is a 5-year EU-funded project operating in the border counties of the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland. The project will champion a preventative approach to care, supporting societal change by empowering more people to self-manage their health and care in the community.

The service will commence initially in the South East Fermanagh area and will be offered to older people (aged 65 +) living with long-term conditions. Community Navigators will offer personalised wellbeing plans that will focus on supporting self-management and will include:

- **Social Prescribing** – connecting people to local activities and services
- **Digital Health Interventions** – connecting people to technology to enhance support for health & well-being.

Among this group social isolation and loneliness is a major health issue and community engagement has proven to be one of the most effective ways of tackling this issue.

mPower is seeking to link with clubs/associations or societies who feel they have a social engagement opportunity for an older person within their programmes either as a member or a volunteer. For more information visit **mPower** website www.mpowerhealth.eu/

If you have a social engagement opportunity to offer, **please contact Elaine Aughey, mPower Implementation Lead @ elaine.aughey@westerntrust.hscni.net** or 07879 113279.

Free environmental arts workshops

An Creagan are currently delivering free environmental arts workshops to community groups, women's groups, men's sheds etc across the Omagh district.

If you have a group you would like us to work with, please get in touch with Martin on 028 8076 1112 or email arts@ancreagan.com

Happy Feet Walking Group

A new Walking Group has been set up in the Omagh area further to Walk Leader Training funded by the Public Health Agency and delivered by the Health Improvement, Equality & Involvement Department (Western Trust).

The Group meets every Monday at 7pm in the Grange Car Park, Omagh. Walks are approximately 1.7 miles in length and take 30-40 minutes to complete. All adults and children welcome (children must be accompanied by a parent).

For more information contact Lorraine on 07780 731227

<https://www.facebook.com/Happy-Feet-Walking-Group-1048873881927400/>

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.

Women's Resource & Development Agency (WRDA)

Free Workshops for women and women's groups across Northern Ireland.

Contact Elaine on 028 9023 0212 Email elaine.crory@wrda.net

WRDA is a women's resource organisation that works across Northern Ireland. We work for women's equality and participation in society. We believe women of all ages and backgrounds have experience, insight and understanding of the world around them - but little opportunity to share their voice. Women play a vital role in their communities, but are often denied opportunities to influence changes and decisions because of rigid stereotypes. Our workshops are tailored specifically for our particular people and area and we use them to explore themes such as discussing womanhood; finding our identity; family roles; sharing stories; women's perspectives; finding your voice; knowing your community; taking part; women's leadership; what shapes us; women's influence on healing and peace.

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.

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.

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.

Tara Centre, 11 Holmview Terrace, Omagh BT9 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 shortly.

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

Mindfulness Meditation with Mary Conway

8 week autumn course – dates not yet confirmed – please contact Centre if you would like more information.

Monthly Drop in/Taster Sessions start again in September – dates not yet confirmed

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 session on Thursday 6 September 10am-11.30am 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

Meghan's Yoga Classes – Mondays 7–8pm, Tuesdays 5.30–6.30pm, Thursdays 11am-12 noon.

Drinkwise Age Well – Wednesdays 1.30–3.30pm

Sarcoidosis Support Group – Mondays 7-9pm. Contact WendyWatson27@yahoo.com

St John's Ambulance – 3 day First Aid Course on 4, 11 and 18 September. Book via <http://www.sja.org.uk/sja/training-courses/first-aid-courses/search-for-training-courses.aspx>

U3A – leisure and learning co-operative of older people. Choir, drama and poetry.

Call 028 66 320 210

General Meeting Monday 10 September. Choir meets 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

Downs Syndrome Support Group – Wednesday 5 September 8-10pm.

Mindwise – 2 day training course 13 and 14 September 9am-5pm – ‘An Introduction to Coaching for Mental Health & Wellbeing’ aimed at

- Those already working in the area of mental health and wellbeing
- Leaders, managers, supervisors who would like to learn more about the importance of using coaching to assist people dealing with mental health and wellbeing issues to discover new possibilities
- Individuals who want to develop themselves personally and realise how coaching can enhance their life.

Contact fiona.scullion@mindwisenv.org or telephone 028 9040 2323 for further information/to book

Volunteer Now – Keeping Children Safe Training for staff and volunteers 13 September 10am-4pm. This one day certificated training is suitable for Designated and Deputy Designated Child Protection Officers. They will look at knowledge of the legal context of child protection; an understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Designated Officer; knowledge of Health and Social Care Trust structures and processes; and exploration of issues and concerns around referrals and sharing information. For further information and booking please go to

<http://www.volunteernow.co.uk/training-events/view/769>

Free 6 Week Sign Language Course – Fridays 2-3.30pm from 14 September to 19 October. Booking is essential and places are limited. Contact Drink Wise, Age Well on 028 8283 9240.

NICVA – Workshop for Treasurers Tuesday 18 September 7-9.30pm. This is a free practical workshop for treasurers or those that keep the financial records of small charities to help them establish appropriate financial systems.

The focus of this workshop will be on basic bookkeeping and financial management including setting up and maintaining the books (cash book, cheque ledger, petty cash); cash handling, understanding charity funds and accounts and the role of the treasurer. Places limited to one per organisation in the first instance and holding a waiting list for other interested members of the organisation. For further information or booking please see <http://www.nicva.org/training>

Osteoporosis Information Event – Wednesday 19 September 7-9pm.

'Diagnosis & Healthy Living for Strong Bones'

To book your place text or phone Edel Rogan on 07515 574785 or email e.rogan@nos.org.uk

Eye Health Information Event – Thursday 20 September 10.30am-1pm.

If you or a family member have been diagnosed with Macular Degeneration, Glaucoma, Cataract, Diabetic Retinopathy, or any other eye condition you are invited to come along to an Eye health information event hosted by Enniskillen Macular Support Group. Guest speakers include:

- Claire McElholm, Ophthalmic Optician Enniskillen & Irvinestown, who will give an overview on all aspects of sight loss including latest treatments and developments in the most common eye conditions.
- Una Gilmore RNIBNI will speak about RNIB's Need to Talk Emotional Support and Confidence Building Project.
- Catherine de Lacy, Vision Rehabilitation Worker, Sensory Support (WH&SCT) will provide information about Sensory Support services locally including mobility, rehab, independent living and making the most of your sight
- Enniskillen Macular group will share information about the practical and emotional support provided by them.

Admission free. Refreshments will be provided. Booking Essential – Telephone 07760 208090

Western Area Child Care Partnership – Health & Safety Manual Handling Course on

Wednesday 26 September and Wednesday 3 October, 7-10pm. For further information please contact Nicola at the Western Office on 028 9536 1042 or email childcare.info@hscni.net

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

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)

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

Marks & Spencer - Get into Retail

Are you 16-25? Looking for work?

Taster/Selection Session on 12 September in Cookstown, Omagh and Enniskillen stores.

Not only will it boost your confidence and employability, but you'll also have the chance to benefit from the support of one of our mentors to help you uncover your next steps.

All training provided; Travel expenses paid on the programme; Doesn't affect your benefits; Boost your employability skills; Up to 6 months mentoring support.

To join the course or find out more, Search 'Prince's Trust'; Text 'Call me' to 07983 385 418 or call for free on 0800 842 842.

Walking on Eggshells

Non Violent Resistance Programme

Mondays 1 October – 26 November, 10am-12 noon, Enniskillen

Child to parent violence is an abuse of power through which the child or adolescent attempts to coerce, control or dominate others in the family.

The programme will support parents* and carers to achieve a calmer and violent free home -

- Overcome sense of helplessness
- Develop a support network
- Stop destructive behaviours
- Improve family relationships

*Due to funding stipulations this programme is only available to mothers at this time.

All parents/carers will complete an initial telephone assessment to ensure the programme is suitable for their family circumstances. **Call 0808 8010 722 to register.**

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

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

SUSE+ Omagh are now offering

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

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

Funding Opportunities

2019 GSK IMPACT Awards - Core funding and free training for health charities

GSK's IMPACT Awards reward charities that are doing excellent work to improve people's health. Organisations must be at least three years old, working in a health-related field in the UK, with income between £80,000 and £2.5 million. Up to 20 awards will be made ranging from £3,000 to £40,000 plus free training valued at up to £6,000. Organisations will also have a film made, receive help with press and publicity and be given a set of promotional materials.

To apply or to view winners' films go to: www.kingsfund.org.uk/gskimpactawards

Closing date: **20 September 2018**

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

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