

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – December 2020

The Community Support Newsletter is published monthly. Regular updates are also issued by email. If you wish to receive these or place an article in the Newsletter, please contact Alison Gilmore on 0300 303 1777 ext 21217 / email alison.gilmore@fermanaghomagh.com

The deadline for the next Newsletter is Wednesday 16 December



**Season's greetings from the Community Services Team,
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council
wishing you a prosperous and peaceful 2021**

Council News & Events

Festive season gets underway with 'Christmas Lights Festival'

In a video shared on the Council's social media channels, Santa joined the Chairman of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Councillor Chris Smyth, to press the big red button to switch on the Christmas lights in Enniskillen and Omagh as well as a range of custom light displays and projections on a number of buildings in the two towns.

Christmas light displays and projections are also set to illuminate buildings in Carrickmore, Dromore, Fintona, Irvinestown and Lisnaskea over the coming weeks to tie in with locally organised Christmas activity with further details to be announced shortly.

The Intec Centre, Courthouse, County Buildings and Townhall in Enniskillen and the Courthouse, the former provincial bank building and Sperrin House in Omagh are each illuminated with custom light displays and projections.

People are encouraged to enjoy the light displays safely by following current Covid-19 restrictions and public health guidance at all times ensuring they remain in their household bubble, keep their distance from others, practice good hand hygiene and wear a face covering when required.

A programme of festive online entertainment will also be available via the Council's arts and cultural venues facebook pages including The Ardhoven Theatre, Enniskillen Castle, Marble Arch Caves, and Strule Arts Centre.

The Christmas Lights Festival is organised and funded by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. Enniskillen BID contributed to the cost of the traditional Christmas lights in Enniskillen while funding for light displays in Carrickmore, Dromore, Fintona, Irvinestown and Lisnaskea has been provided by the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs. The Council is grateful to Enniskillen BID and the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for its support.

For COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Information, advice & Council services, visit:

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/covid-19-coronavirus-information-advice-council-services/>

A range of support is available to and within local communities. Further information is available by clicking on the link above.

International Day for Persons with Disabilities

'Not All Disabilities are Visible' is this year's theme for International Day for Persons with Disabilities.

To celebrate, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council has organised a range of exciting online workshops to learn more about various disabilities and the support available within the district and regionally. **The programme runs from Thursday 3 December to Thursday 10 December** and is funded by the Public Health Agency.

To download the programme of events, please visit the Council's Website by clicking on the following link: <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/your-council/policies/equality/international-day-for-people-with-disabilities-2020/>

For more information please contact Finbar Maguire or Matthew Nevin by emailing disability@fermanaghomagh.com, telephoning 0300 303 1777 or text phoning 028 8225 6216

Calling all Centenarians...

As part of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's plans to mark 100 years since the creation of Northern Ireland, we are calling all individuals who are 100 or over in 2021.

Plans are in the making to work with people on a shared reminiscence project. If you or a family member are turning 100 or are already so and reside in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area, please contact age.friendly@fermanaghomagh.com for more information.

Walk in Her Footsteps

Step into our journey exploring the role of women in Irish history

This new six-week programme will begin on Tuesday 19 January 2021, 7.00pm – 8.30pm

Join us on-line in an informal, interactive programme designed by women for women. Come and meet new people, engage with a range of inspirational speakers, have invaluable discussions and more importantly have fun while learning.

To register please email pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com or Tel 0300 303 1777.

Places are limited and participants will be expected to commit to all six sessions.

Community Support

The Community Services Department offers support to individuals and organisations within the community and voluntary sector promoting community action. Officers within the Community Services Team are available to assist community groups and voluntary organisations make as big a difference as possible to local lives and issues.

The link 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

<https://fermanagh.maps.arcgis.com/apps/ZoneLookup/index.html?appid=82210c413ab74bcd8da1750af0321163>

Area	Officer	Email	Telephone
Enniskillen	Steven Ormsby	steven.ormsby@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21232
Erne East	Catherine Garry	catherine.garry@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21205
Erne North	Steven Ormsby	steven.ormsby@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21232
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Hugo Sweeney	hugo.sweeney@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21237
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Neville Armstrong	neville.armstrong@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20275

Training Opportunities for Community and Voluntary Sector Groups

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council's Community Services has places available for the following **free online courses** for community and voluntary sector representatives based in the Fermanagh and Omagh District:

Declan Coyle - "The Green Platform" - feel positive, motivate yourself and your committee for the year ahead

Monday 18 January, 7.00 to 9.00pm

This webinar is with globally renowned author of "The Green Platform", Declan Coyle. Covid-19 brought many challenges to which the community and voluntary sector across the district responded without hesitation. Frequently it is community representatives who are first on hand when there is a crisis, so it is important that they practice self-care and stay motivated even at the most difficult times.

This workshop by Declan Coyle will be uplifting, motivational, and provide a transformational template for inspiring our community work. He will explain how we can shift our thinking to positive proactivity and how then to inspire our committees. Declan engages his audience at a level rarely experienced using passion, energy, and humour to reveal how the "Green Platform" principles can be applied to any area of community work or life with amazing results.

Introduction to Governance Webinar

Tuesday 16 February, 7.00 to 8.30pm

This webinar provides an introduction to charity governance. It will be useful to those who are newly elected/appointed on to the committee/board of a charitable organisation (charity trustees). It will also be of interest to those charity trustees (committee members/directors) who wish to understand more about their role and what is expected of them. The training will include:

- the role of the committee/board
- legal duties of charity trustees
- the principles of good governance
- charity regulation

There will be lots of opportunities to ask questions. The session will be delivered using Zoom and joining instructions will be sent in advance. It is free.

Charities Annual Reporting Webinar

Thursday 18 February, 7.00 to 8.30pm

This session will provide trustees with simple and practical guidance on charity annual reporting requirements. The session will cover the following topics:

- completing the annual monitoring return
- the content of Trustee's Annual Reports
- the requirements for the annual accounts
- the requirement to have the annual accounts independently examined or audited.

There will be lots of opportunities to ask questions. The session will be delivered using Zoom and joining instructions will be sent in advance. It is free.

Numbers are limited to 2 per group however further places may be available on request.

Booking essential - to book online: <https://form.jotform.com/202642794367059>

or contact Kellie Beacom on 0300 303 1777 - ext 21201, Mobile: 07761 029732

or email: kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com

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 and receive further information on how we process your data on the Council website <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-register/>.

Alternatively, you can complete an online form at <https://form.jotform.com/202643203667048> or 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.

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 email communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Support for Social Economy Enterprises

Are you considering starting a new Social Economy Enterprise and not sure where to begin? Are you part of an existing Social Economy Enterprise and need guidance or advice on how to further develop and enhance its services?

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council are offering **free** mentoring support to new and existing Social Economy Enterprises throughout the district, so if you would like to speak to a business advisor regarding your organisation then get in touch. The Social Economy Programme provides mentoring support to organisations whose core objectives are social in nature.

The type of support that is available includes mentoring support around organisation structure, leadership, quality management, accessing finance, social media promotion, recruitment, financial planning or project management.

Don't miss out on this opportunity - for further information and details on how to register your interest you can contact a member of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Economic Development team on 0300 303 1777 (calls charged at local rate) or email businesssupport@fermanaghomagh.com

Social enterprises are businesses whose primary objective is to achieve social and environmental benefit and where profits are reinvested back into the business or in the beneficiary community – and not distributed to owners/shareholders/ investors.

Local Development Plan Draft Plan Strategy – Proposed Changes Consultation

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has cancelled and is re-running its consultation on the proposed changes to the Local Development Plan draft Plan Strategy.

The original Schedule of Proposed Changes did not accurately reflect the agreed position of the Council, particularly in relation to policies MIN04 – Unconventional Hydrocarbon Extraction, FLD03 – Sustainable Drainage Systems, RE01 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation and HOU17 – Affordable Housing in the Countryside. The Schedule has now been updated to reflect

all the changes agreed with Councillors. The Council apologises for any concern which the publication of the inaccurate information has caused.

No changes are proposed to the wording of draft Policy MIN04 and the agreed draft policy wording can be found in the Draft Plan Strategy document as published in October 2018. As there are no proposed changes to draft Policy MIN04 – Unconventional Hydrocarbon Extraction, it is not included in the Schedule of Proposed Changes.

As a result of the public consultation exercise for the LDP Draft Plan Strategy, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has considered all representations and is now proposing a number of changes to the Draft Plan Strategy in response to the consultation process. These changes will be subject to a formal 8-week public consultation from Thursday 8 October to **Thursday 3 December**. Full details available at <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/planning/local-development-plan-draft-plan-strategy-proposed-changes-consultation-2/>

Community News

December Regional Nutrition Webinars

Are you interested in finding out more about food and nutrition for yourself or your family? Dietitians are taking these online workshops throughout December. There's something for everyone, from 0-100 years! Free and open to all.

Wednesday 2 December 9.30-11am - Introduction to Solids
<https://hhk-introsolids-dec.eventbrite.co.uk> (limited numbers, sign up required)

Thursday 10 December 1-2pm – Top Tips for a Healthier Weight <https://tinyurl.com/TTFHW-Dec>

Wednesday 16 December 12-1pm – Mealtime and Fussy Eating Tips
<https://tinyurl.com/hhk-family> Passcode: 531965

Thursday 17 December 11am-12noon – Eating Well As You Age
<https://tinyurl.com/nutrition-olderadults> Passcode: 531965

Disclaimer: For safeguarding purposes, participants should turn off their camera and audio during the webinars. Please note any information shared in the Q&A/chat facility may be viewed by others. Facilitators are not responsible for individual participants throughout the webinar.

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service

Please note that donation sessions are now by appointment only; to book an appointment, please call 08085 534 653 between 10am and 4.30pm.

- Millennium Centre, **Newtownstewart** on Thursday 3 December, 1-4pm and 5-7.30pm.
- Silverbirch Hotel, **Omagh** on Tuesday 8 December and Wednesday 9 December, 1-4pm and 5-7.30pm

Many thanks for your continuing support - it is greatly appreciated.

Check out <http://www.nibts.hscni.net/donating-blood/where-to-donate/> for further Scheduled Donation Sessions.

The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)

Charities which prepare accounts on the accruals basis are legally required to apply the Charities SORP. This SORP is in the early stages of being redeveloped and NICVA is on the SORP Trustee engagement working group which has devised an online questionnaire to seek Trustees' views on their experiences of applying the current Charities SORP.

The questionnaire for voluntary and community organisations is in the following article.

<https://www.nicva.org/article/charities-sorp-time-for-trustees-to-have-their-say>

The closing date for this survey is Monday 7 December.

Lough Erne Landscape Partnership Network Meeting Invitation

Tuesday 15 December, 11am-12.30pm

Do you work or volunteer in the Lough Erne Region? Join us for this LELP Network virtual event where we will discuss the challenges of engaging our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The event will focus on Community Engagement During Challenging Times and will provide those in attendance with the opportunity to interact with one another through the use of break out rooms.

Full details about the event are available at <https://www.lelp.org.uk/events/lelp-network-meeting-3/>

For further information contact Heather Gott E: heather.gott@rspb.org.uk or M:07738 116385

Christmas Carol Concert

South West Rural Community Development and British Red Cross

Thursday 17 December, 8-9pm

2020 has been a challenging year for all of us. You can put it all behind you and get into the festive spirit by joining our virtual Carol Concert. Enjoy this festive concert from the comfort of your own home.

We are delighted to have the renown Malachi Cushe and Plunkett McGartland to perform all of your favourite carols and festive songs.

If you would like to be part of this memorable event, please contact:

Siobhan McGlone 07702 338930, Nicola Reid 07860 715718 or Tiernach Mahon 07968 741745

Drink Wise Age Well Project

New over 50s alcohol helpline

We recently commissioned a poll that found that one in two over 50s are drinking at a level that could cause health problems now or in the future and more than four million over 50s are binge drinking at least once a week during lockdown. We also know that the factors that can lead to increased alcohol use in an older population; retirement, bereavement, isolation and loss of sense of purpose, may be exacerbated by the pandemic.

In response to the above findings we are launching a free national Helpline supported by the National Lottery Community Fund. This will be available 7 days a week; Monday to Friday 12pm-8pm and 10am-4pm at weekends, providing confidential advice, information and support to anyone aged over 50 who may be worried about their drinking, or anyone worried about a loved one over 50. **The Helpline number is 0808 801 0750.**

Census 2021 is Coming to Fermanagh & Omagh District Soon....

The census happens only once every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in Northern Ireland. The last census was in 2011 and counted 1,810,900 people living here.

Census day will be on 21 March 2021

Local councils, charities and many other organisations use census information to help decide how to spend millions of pounds on services every year.

Census 2021 will be run predominantly online, with the majority of households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete on their computers, phones or tablets. Paper questionnaires will also be available. This option may be of particular importance for those with poor broadband and those less digitally aware.

There will be a range of help available for those who need it including language support in 17 languages, accessibility support including Braille, Easy Read, British Sign Language & Irish Sign Language and practical help to complete your census.

If you would like more information for your group email census.engagement@nisra.gov.uk and we will connect you with our Fermanagh & Omagh Census Area Manager or visit the get involved section at www.census.gov.uk/ni and follow us on Facebook and Twitter @NICensus2021

Some Census facts

At the time of the last census...

- There were 41,512 households in Fermanagh & Omagh made up of 113,161 people
- 627 of these were aged over 90 years old
- 15% of households lived in adapted accommodation
- Almost 7,000 households did not have access to a car or van
- 11% of residents provided unpaid care with over 3,000 people providing more than 50 hours of unpaid care per week

AWARE: Overcoming Depression, changing lives

Free courses being delivered in the New Year – now open for registration

Mood Matters Adult Workshop (2hrs)

This light and interactive mental health awareness training session is an opportunity for you to think about how to look after your own mental health. We will explore mental health stereotypes and look more closely at how to spot the early signs of mental health illness: stress, depression, anxiety disorders and bipolar. This session will teach you coping skills for everyday life, how to avoid getting caught in a vicious circle, how to break unhelpful habits that we sometimes have when our mood is low, and where to get further help and support. This session will focus on you as an individual and will then allow you to apply these skills to supporting family, friends and other colleagues. **To register** for a place visit Mood Matters Adult <https://www.aware-ni.org/booking-mood-matters-adults/>

Living Life to the Full (6 weeks @ 2hrs per week)

This 6-week course looks more closely at the ways in which mental health can be impacted by life events and unhelpful thinking styles which may also then affect our physical health and overall enjoyment of life. This programme looks at a different topic each week, and it is broken down as follows:

Week One: Why Do I Feel So Bad - This enjoyable, interactive session introduces the 5 areas approach and shows that what you think and do influences how you feel.

Week Two: I Can't Be Bothered Doing Anything - We've all said this to ourselves when we're feeling down. This session encourages you to start doing things which can make you feel better.

Week Three: Why Does Everything Always Go Wrong - This session teaches you to recognise and control your unhelpful thinking patterns. It encourages you to challenge your negative thoughts and replace them with more helpful ones.

Week Four: I'm Not Good Enough - We're not born with doubts like these! Things others have said creep into our heads and we begin to believe them. Re-build your self-confidence and learn to like yourself again.

Week Five: How to Fix Almost Everything - Everything is achievable if broken down into small enough steps. This session introduces a 5 step plan to help you tackle problems and make positive changes in your life.

The Things You Do That Mess You Up - This session helps you to identify things such as drinking, comfort eating or spending money which may make you feel better initially but which may lead to problems over time.

Week Six: Are You Strong Enough To Keep Your Temper - This session helps you to recognise what winds you up and teaches you how to control your anger and improve your happiness and relationships.

10 Things You Can Do To Feel Happier Straight Away - This last session sums everything up and shows you some simple things that you can build into your everyday life to help you feel happier, fitter and more positive.

To register for a place visit Living Life to the Full <https://www.aware-ni.org/booking-living-life-to-the-full/>

Across the Hedgerow: Befriending Service for the Rural & Farming Community

Winter is now upon us which means darker nights and colder days and because of this we are more inclined to stay indoors where it is warmer and cosier. However, due to this, individuals feel more lonely and isolated than ever before as they are no longer able to meet others in social gatherings due to Covid-19 and most are swept up in the whirlwind of Christmas which means having little or no time for the older and more vulnerable people within our communities.

In order to address this very real concern, Rural Support in partnership with the Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster (YFCU) have developed the Across the Hedgerow project which provides older, vulnerable and/or isolated members of the farming community with listening support and companionship via telephone calls with a view to reducing fear and improving mental and emotional wellbeing.

This project was established during the peak of Covid-19 as due to lockdown and other restrictions, families were forced to stay apart meaning the older, more vulnerable generation had to stay indoors. Therefore, eliminating physical contact with their loved ones which made them feel lonely and cut off from the outside world.

Across the Hedgerow has helped to ease this struggle and there is a team of Rural Support and YFCU staff and volunteers ready and willing to be matched to clients who can either self-refer to the service via **Rural Support's helpline 0800 138 1678** or be referred by third parties with the verbal permission of the client. Rural Support will co-ordinate the matching of Across the Hedgerow clients to a suitable person and they will make contact as often as the person needs to feel safer and more content during this crisis.

Across the Hedgerow has helped to relieve stress caused by loneliness and isolation and has also helped this generation within our farming community to get the help and support they need, whilst protecting their mental health and wellbeing.

Omagh Volunteer Centre

- **Befrienders needed this Christmas**

Do you enjoy a good chat? The B-Friend Hub Omagh need volunteers this winter to give up one morning per week to call local elderly isolated residents. If you can help, please email with your contact number to volunteer@omaghvolunteercentre.org so we can get in touch. Thank you

- **Find out more about Volunteering and Be Collective**

Want to find out more about volunteering? What are the benefits? What opportunities are there? How to start volunteering? Click here - [Zoom Volunteer Information Event](#)

New volunteer management system Be Collective - This new system will provide volunteer organisations with an opportunity to promote opportunities and volunteers to find and apply to these. Click Here - [Introduction to Be Collective Platform](#)

Exciting Opportunity with West End Partnership

Are you looking to re-engage and re-energise after lockdown? Are you bursting with ideas for Community activities and events? Do you want the opportunity to further develop your volunteering and organisational experience?

If the answer to any or all of the above is YES then the West End Partnership would love to have you on board!

Click on the link [MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE](#) to find out more.

Volunteer Now

Christmas volunteering opportunities

We have a lot of volunteers getting in contact with Volunteer Now enquiring about Christmas opportunities. We have a new section on our website for Christmas opportunities; it sits in the Volunteering section under Inspire Me

<https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/inspire-me/christmas-volunteering/>

If you or your organisation have any Christmas opportunities that you would like to share email Lynn.johnston@volunteernow.co.uk Mobile 07467 486638

Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

A central Translation hub has been set up on the CYPSP website and provides information on health, education, family support, Covid, housing, employment, safety, EUSS, sign language and contacts. Click on <http://www.cypsp.hscni.net/translation-hub/>

Omagh Forum for Rural Associations

Join us for our free Online Zoom Classes or request a Kids Christmas Craft Pack

Please contact Carol at Omagh Forum on info@omaghforum.org to register. All classes are free and spaces are limited. To take part you must live in the Fermanagh/Omagh area. To join the online Zoom classes, you must have an email address, internet access and a laptop, tablet or smart phone.

Gentle Yoga - A gentle, encouraging introduction to yoga, enabling you to grow in strength and flexibility in a kind and welcoming way.

- Program 1 (3 weeks via Zoom) Tuesdays 7.30-8.30pm, 1, 8 and 15 December
- Program 2 (4 weeks via Zoom) Tuesdays 7.30-8.30pm, 12, 19, 26 January and 2 February

Meditation with Mona - Just like your body, your brain needs to stay active to be strong. Join us on Zoom and learn how to reap the many benefits of developing a positive mindfulness habit. Thursday mornings, 11-11.45am, 3, 10 and 17 December

Kids Christmas Crafts Pack - Receive a craft pack with materials and instructions to create a festive Christmas stained glass window hanging. Packs will either be available for pick-up or posted to your door. Instructions are included with each pack as well as access to a step-by-step video link.

On-Line Training Programme

Omagh Forum is delivering a further series of training sessions by zoom over the next few months, so why not take advantage of these and learn from the comfort of your own home. Please register in advance using the link below and we will send you a zoom invite. Don't be put off by the technology, zoom is straightforward to use and we are happy to help with any technical queries in advance. All classes will open 10 minutes early to allow for any technical hitches.

Running an online meeting

This training session will help you to Plan & Run an On-line Meeting or AGM during Covid-19. The pandemic has changed how many voluntary and community groups carry out their work, but Management Committees have ongoing responsibilities for good governance. We will look at Charity Commission guidance and particular responsibilities around AGM's as well as the importance of your governing document among other things.

- Thursday 3 December, 7.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/running-an-online-meetingagm-tickets-126934900705>

- Thursday 14 January, 7pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/running-an-online-meetingagm-tickets-130575433637>

How to use Zoom

Omagh Forum is offering basic Zoom Communication training to help and encourage groups and individuals stay in touch at this time. Zoom is basically a communication tool where you can see and chat to numerous people at one time. There is a written chat function and the host can share documents from their laptop for others to view, among other things. You will need a smart phone or tablet or laptop and reasonable broadband coverage.

We will send out training materials in advance for you to have a look at and we will send an invite to your email address to attend the meeting, we anticipate 45mins to an hour.

We can also offer the training at a different time to multiple members of one group if you wish, that way you can keep in touch virtually.

- A basic guide to using zoom - Thursday 10 December, 7pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-basic-guide-to-using-zoom-tickets-129473240949>

- A basic guide to using zoom - Tuesday 19 January, 11am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-basic-guide-to-using-zoom-tickets-129474259997>

Re-opening your community facility

As restrictions ease and organisations look to reopen community facilities, Omagh Forum has put together practical guidance to assist you in preparing to bring your community facility back into use. The session will explore Sample Covid-19 risk assessment for your facility; Covid-19 secure guidelines; Social distancing within a community facility; Cleaning and encouraging good hygiene; Sample hiring agreements; Day to day procedures; Procedures if someone becomes unwell with Covid-19. Participants may be eligible for a free resource pack to help in re-opening

- Friday 15 January, 11am

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/re-opening-your-community-facility-tickets-130548063773>

- Thursday 4 February, 7pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/re-opening-your-community-facility-tickets-130548466979>

Lives Reflected – Recognising the Impact of COVID-19

Belfast Cathedral are inviting members of the public to pay their tribute to friends and loved ones through Lives Reflected www.livesreflected.com, an online book of remembrance for those who have died from Covid and from other causes in 2020. If you have lost someone this year, please visit the website to commemorate their life through an online tribute. The website is a living legacy that hopes to offer a place for people to share stories and celebrate the lives of loved ones.

Guidance on toy safety at Christmas

The Child Accident Prevention Trust wish to alert families to dangerous toys sold online this Christmas. For useful information visit <https://www.capt.org.uk/news/safe-christmas-toys-online>

Training Opportunities

Opportunities for Digital Inclusion and Participation

Libraries NI

If you have a tablet, laptop or phone and need help to address a specific problem, our digital team can help. Simply phone 028 9039 5989 (Monday-Friday, 9.15am-4.45pm) with a brief description of how you need IT help and library staff will phone you within 48 hours with free, helpful advice on many topics.

Click on the following link for details of digital help sheets and zoom workshops:

<https://www.librariesni.org.uk/Digital-Help/Pages/default.aspx?src=LNID-Learn-DigitalHelp>

Business in the Community, in partnership with Go ON NI and NI Direct, is offering free digital help for anyone who needs it. If you have a tablet, laptop or phone and need help to address a specific problem, our digital volunteers can help. Simply text the word DIGITAL to 67300* with a brief description of what you require help with, or call 07551 852684* and leave a message, and a volunteer will phone you within 48 hours with free, helpful advice on many topics.

*All calls and text messages will be charged at your network operator's standard rate.

The ONSIDE project aims to improve the health and wellbeing of disabled people over 16 years old through increasing their social and digital involvement in the community. Over a six-month period, we will deliver person-centred support to increase your community connections both digitally and socially, attend a digital skills programme which will train, equip and support you to become connected online. The ONSIDE project offers participants independence, choice and control.

Contact Ciara McGivern, Northern Ireland Housing Executive -Email Ciara.McGivern@nihe.gov.uk
Tel 028 9598 3169 Mobile 07468 350723

www.disabilityaction.org/onside

Linking Generations Northern Ireland

For advice on how to improve your digital literacy or help someone with their digital literacy click on <https://www.digital-age.org.uk/>

NICVA Help with Digital

https://www.nicva.org/article/help-with-digital?utm_source=eNews+weekly+bulletin&utm_campaign=5f23bfc036-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_06_11_01_26_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3f6979e667-5f23bfc036-323206929

SUSE+

New courses

Have you recently been made redundant or are you currently unemployed? SUSE+ can help you. We are currently offering help and support to gain qualifications and employment. We run Job Searches, CV Building, Interview Preparation. Mentors work 1:1 with participants to help secure a job in the local area.

New courses include Foundation Skills in Working with Children, Personal Success & Wellbeing, Progression to Employment, Customer Service, Money Management, Retail, Business Administration, Barista and Essential Skills in Numeracy and Literacy.

For more information contact Tracy - tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk Mobile 07436 533475

NICVA Training

We are offering training on charity reporting and governance. Delivery will be via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. More information can be found at the link below:

<https://www.nicva.org/services/charity-annual-reporting>

Any groups who would like support with the annual reporting for the Charities Commission should contact Kathryn Kerr on 028 8676 6670 or email kathryn@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

Western Trust Health Improvement, Equality and Involvement Department

Latest Training Brochure running to March 2021

COVID-19 has presented challenges to how we deliver our training. We are pleased to be able to offer a range of courses via Zoom. While we are aware that delivery of training online may present difficulty for some, we appreciate your understanding as we work to develop our programmes safely within the current challenging situation.

Access the Training Brochure via <https://westerntrust.hscni.net/new-health-improvement-training-brochure-for-october-2020-to-march-2021/>

CAWT Mental Health Innovation Recovery

Online Course Timetable

A list of recovery courses being delivered online via Zoom can be accessed at

<http://cawt.hscni.net/projects/eu-interreg-va-programme-2014-2020/mental-health-innovation-recovery-i-recover/>

The Oak Healthy Living Centre in Lisnaskea is a partner organisation with this cross-border project and if anyone is interested in enrolling on any of the courses, they can contact the Oak for an email enrolment form and any assistance required. All courses are free.

Email info@OakHLC.com Tel 028 6772 3843

Arts Care 4 U

14 January 2021 • 11 February 2021 2-4pm

Available free of charge for staff working in older people, adult mental health and adult learning disability settings. Priority is for nursing and residential but community settings who can clearly demonstrate that they are able to deliver to groups may also be considered if places are available.

Commitment is only 1 x 2 hour training session. We are encouraging two attendees from each setting and their setting will receive a resource box of materials including a DVD on guided diversionary activities worth £250.

Course Content: An introduction to the organisation Arts Care and the benefits of using art, music and creative movement activities to enhance the well-being of older and vulnerable people in Nursing and Residential Care and supported living. Learning how to use the contents of the Arts Care 4 U Art Box. This includes learning how to facilitate art sessions (eg painting, collage, felting), facilitate a range of creative movement exercises and learn how to host a sing along with residents and their families.

Contact health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net Tel 028 7186 5127

Futures Youth Project - Online Programme

The Futures Project is a youth programme run in partnership between NI Housing Executive, Belfast Met and Start360.

The course is aimed towards 16-24 year olds who are perhaps looking for some direction. The programme has recently moved to an online format due to the current pandemic. Our next course will be **commencing on Tuesday 12 January** and will be run on Tuesdays and Thursdays, across a 3-6 month period.

Participants will receive £8 for each day of the course and will also obtain an OCN Level 2 Qualification in Personal Success and Wellbeing (comparable to GCSE A-C) upon completion. The course can offer a taster for life at Belfast Met and support is also offered with transition into education, employment or training at the end of the programme. The project is delivered in an informal environment involving fun activities with weekly tasks while the course content will focus mostly on team building, understanding feelings & emotions, communication skills, drugs and alcohol, cyber-bullying, peer pressure, discrimination and so forth.

Aside from qualifications and other incentives, this is an enjoyable course which offers a great opportunity to meet like-minded people and the chance to work on a community project. Recent participants have made a video which outlines what day to day life on the course looks like – this can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3qLkvdzO10>.

Young people can be referred by organisations or register themselves by contacting us at futuresproject@nihe.gov.uk or contacting us on 07920 518125.

Funding Opportunities

Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia Covid Fund/Ciste Covid

Provided by the Department for Communities Northern Ireland

You can make an application for funding for £2,500 or £5,000

before the deadline of Wednesday 2 December 2020.

- An event or a series of events that promotes the Irish language during Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia, 1 – 17 March 2021.
- A project that promotes the Irish language that will be organised during Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia, 1 – 17 March 2021.
- A series of events organised during January or February 2021 to promote the Irish Language, with the highlight of events occurring during Seachtain na Gaeilge, 1 – 17 March 2021.
- A series of events organised during January or February 2021 to promote the Irish Language, with the final event occurring during Seachtain na Gaeilge, 1 – 17 March 2021.

Further information and terms and conditions are available on www.snag.ie/cistecovid/

Tagann an t-airgead don chiste seo ón Roinn Pobail ó thuaidh.

Is féidir iarratas ar mhaoiniú le haghaidh £2,500 nó £5,000 ríomh spriocdháta 2 Nollaig

- Imeacht nó sraith imeachtaí a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn agus a eagrófar l rith Sheachtain na Gaeilge le Energia idir 01 agus 17 Márta 2021.
- Tionscadal a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn agus a eagrófar ina iomlán l rith Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia idir 01 agus 17 Márta 2021.

- Sraith imeachtaí a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn agus a eagrófar I mí Eanáir agus/nó I mí Feabhra le buaicphointe na sraithe imeachtaí sin ar siúl I rith Sheachtain na Gaeilge le Energia 2021.
- Tionscadal faoi leith a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn agus a eagrófar I rith mí Eanáir agus/no mí Feabhra agus a chuirfear I gcríoch roimh dheireadh Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia 2021.

Tá tuilleadh eolais ar fáil ar www.snag.ie/cistecovid/

Ulster-Scots Covid-19 Resilience Fund

The Ulster-Scots Agency has launched a new Fund to help Ulster-Scots groups in Northern Ireland deal with the financial and cultural impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The Fund has been made possible by support from the Department for Communities, which has allocated £850,000 from funds allocated to the NI Executive by the UK Government.

The Fund will support Small Grants (up to £3k), Language Grants (up to £10k) and Large Organisation Grants (up to £30k). We are open for Small Grant applications now and grants will be awarded on a rolling basis, with awards made until the allocated budget (£660k) is exhausted. The deadline for Language Grant and Large Organisation Grant applications is

Wednesday 2 December.

Visit <https://www.ulsterscotsagency.com/news/article/420/ulster-scots-covid-19-resilience-fund/>

Building the Community-Pharmacy Partnership

The next round of BCPP funding is now open. The number of sessions and the number of participants has been reduced and planning/training has been increased in light of COVID-19. We are encouraging participants to hold their projects using Zoom where possible.

You can download a pack [here](#)

If you would like to discuss with a member of the BCPP team, please email bcpp@cdhn.org and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Closing date Level 2: Thursday 3 December

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Small Grants Scheme

This funding is intended to help community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland engage in Community Relations work.

Full details available at: https://www.community-relations.org.uk/community-relations-culturaldiversity?mc_cid=842b315766&mc_eid=20ad8a81f7

Closing Date: Friday 4 December

Free Equipment and Training for Sports Clubs

The [Clear Project](#), in conjunction with the [Public Health Agency](#), are offering constituted, voluntary sector sports clubs in the [Western Trust](#) area the opportunity to avail of training which will help them support their members and get £300 worth of relevant sports equipment for the club. Full details available at <https://www.dhcni.com/news/free-equipment-and-training-for-sports-clubs>

Closing date for applications 3pm, Friday 11 December

VCSE Covid Recovery Fund

On behalf of the Department for Communities (DfC), Co-operation Ireland in partnership with Rural Community Network announces the opening of the VCSE Covid Recovery Fund.

The Covid 19 Pandemic has impacted Voluntary, Community and Social Economy (VCSE) organisations across Northern Ireland - a high proportion of these organisations have refocused their objectives to reduce the impact of Covid-19 on the most vulnerable in our society. At the same time, the pandemic also demonstrated the value and contribution of VCSE organisations in the delivery of services provided to those most in need.

The VCSE Covid Recovery Fund has a total value of over £3 million and aims to:

1. Provide additional funding to VCSE organisations to procure Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other items to enable the re-opening and continued delivery of vital community services.
2. Support VCSE organisations to move services online and increase digital connectivity for organisations delivering mental health supports and/or providing services to young people, older people, those who are medically isolated, the disabled and women.

The Key Features of the Fund are:

- Total Value - over £3 million
- Grants of up to £5,000 are available to voluntary, community or social economy organisations
- Applications must be submitted using the online application process
- Funding must be spent by 31 March 2021

To make an application to the VCSE Covid Recovery Fund or for further information on what support is available, please click the following link: <https://cooperationireland.org/projects/covid-recovery-application/> **The closing date for applications is 4pm, Friday 11 December.**

Community Foundation NI Telecommunity Fund

Grants of up to £2000 to organisations and projects that directly and specifically support Young people, Older people & People with disabilities. This is a rolling programme.

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-telecommunity-fund-grant/>

DAERA has launched a new Rural Social Economy Investment Scheme

This is a pilot scheme which will provide grants of between £25,000 and £50,000 (at 80%) to emerging and established rural social enterprises (trading for at least 12 months) in Northern Ireland to enable them to increase their capacity, potential profitability and sustainability whilst supporting those who live in rural areas.

DAERA have appointed Rural Action in partnership with the Rural Community Network (RCN) to carry out animation and pre-application support activities to assist potential applicants to access and apply to the scheme. This includes the delivery of workshop webinars.

For further information visit: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/rural-social-economy-investment-scheme> **The closing date for applications is 5pm, Friday 11 December.**

Community Foundation NI - Arts and Culture Grants - ongoing

Projects must support at least one of the following beneficiary groups:

- People with disabilities
- Children and young people, in particular young women and girls
- Older people
- People with poor mental health
- Black, Asian and ethnic minorities
- Rurally isolated people
- People in poverty
- Persons in institutions such as care homes, rehabilitation centres
- LGBTQ+ community
- Anyone identified as discriminated and excluded; particularly when it comes to engagement with the arts

Visit <https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-arts-culture-and-heritage-challenge-fund/>

Halifax Foundation NI Community Grants Programme

Supporting charities to REACT to this pandemic, PREPARE to reopen services or adapt their services accordingly, and to RESTORE/RENEW their operations in order to deliver what may be for many, a new way of life. Programme is rolling & average grant is £2500.

<https://www.halifaxfoundationni.org/programmes/community-grant-programme>

The National Lottery Shared History Fund

The Shared History Fund uses funds provided by the UK Government and is being distributed by The National Lottery Heritage Fund using criteria set by the Northern Ireland Office.

It will support organisations seeking to:

- Mark the centenary of Northern Ireland in 2021 in a spirit of mutual respect, inclusiveness and reconciliation, in line with the Principles for Remembering.
- Facilitate local and national awareness of, and engagement with, this significant national anniversary.

Grants will be awarded between £3,000 and £100,000 in two categories: £3,000-£10,000 and £10,000-£100,000. Funding must be spent by 31 March 2022.

For full information visit <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/shared-history-fund>

Deadline: noon on 15 January

LELP Community Engagement & Farming Fund

Applications are invited to the Lough Erne Landscape Partnership (LELP) Community Engagement & Farming Fund (CEFF) supported through funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The fund is designed to help fund and implement exciting new project ideas that will reconnect local people with their landscape; celebrating its built, natural and cultural history and heritage.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available and further details of the grant can be found [here](#).

Projects grants will be available for the delivery of exciting and innovative new projects. We are looking for projects that will deliver the protection, conservation and celebration of the unique character of the Lough Erne region. LELP are keen to work with inspired groups and individuals to develop a wide range of innovative project ideas, in all sectors such as agriculture, tourism, arts, local histories and biodiversity.

Members of the LELP team are available to discuss your project ideas by contacting Heather Gott E: heather.gott@rspb.org.uk or call M: 07738 116385. (Due to the Covid 19 pandemic all staff are working from home).

We are keen to support you with your application, and any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the LELP team.

Closing date for applications: 5pm, Friday 15 January (late submissions not accepted)

Funding to connect your community through food

Food for Life Get Togethers harnesses the power of good food to connect and bring together people of all ages and from different backgrounds.

We're offering small grants of £150 to April 2021. The grants are to support community led food growing, cooking and sharing activity and Get Togethers.

For further information visit <https://www.foodforlife.org.uk/get-togethers/get-involved/small-grants>

Play Resource Belfast Centre of Creativity

100% Bursaries now available for Creative Paths Arts Programme.

For more information contact Bridget Lindsay, Arts Manager on 028 9035 7542

<http://playresource.org/arts-outreach/>