

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – May 2022

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

Please note the deadline for the next Newsletter is Tuesday 24 May

Council News & Events

[COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Information, advice & Council services – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/covid-19)

Grant Aid Support

2nd Call for Applications - 2022 / 2023

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council invites applications from voluntary clubs, societies, community and sporting organisations. Groups must be based in the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.

The funding call will close at 5pm on Thursday 5 May 2022.

Applications are invited in the categories listed below:-

- **Community & Wellbeing**

Funding covers the period: 21 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

- **Summer Schemes**

Funding covers the period: 1 July 2022 to 31 August 2022.

For Guidance Notes or to apply online,

please visit the Council website at: <https://bit.ly/GrantAidSupport2022>

or contact the Grants & Investment Unit on Tel: 0300 303 1777 Text phone: 028 8225 6216

Email: grants@fermanaghomagh.com

Council Officers are available to assist with any queries you may have regarding the application process or funding criteria. Please see Guidance Notes for officer contact details.

Grant Aid - for Older Persons Groups

South West Age Partnership (SWAP) is responsible for the delivery of Council Grant Aid for older persons groups. Older Persons Groups must apply directly to the South West Age Partnership (SWAP) for the Council's Grant Aid; some grant stream exceptions may apply.

For further information or to apply for Grant Aid please contact:- Allison Forbes Tel: 028 8225 1824 or Email: aforbes@southwestagepartnership.co.uk

Support for Platinum Jubilee Events 2022

- **FODC Grant Aid and Sponsorship Support
(including local pageants and street parties)**

Small Scale Community Events marking the Platinum Jubilee in June 2022 are eligible under Community & Wellbeing Grant Aid – see Page 3 [Microsoft Word - Grant Aid - Guidance Notes 2022-23 \(fermanaghomaggh.com\)](#)

This offers funding of up to £500 and opens 4 times a year.

For larger scale events, groups are advised to apply under Sponsorship.

[Events and Festival Sponsorship Scheme Opens. – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomaggh.com\)](#)

For further information or support, please contact
communitysupport@fermanaghomaggh.com

- **Big Jubilee Lunch 2-5 June 2022**

[The Big Jubilee Lunch | Eden Project Communities](#)

Eligible for support through FODC grant programme and Sponsorship.

- **Beacon Lighting**

[The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2022 \(queensjubileebeacons.com\)](#)

Eligible for support through FODC grant programme and Sponsorship.

- **National Lottery Funding**

For more information, visit The National Lottery Community Fund's [website](#).

- **Platinum Jubilee Emblem**

Free to download from [The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Emblem | The Royal Family](#) where detailed usage guidance can also be found.

- **Queen's Green Canopy**

Everyone from individuals to community groups, villages and schools is invited to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'.

The initiative runs through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022. More details can be found here

[The Queen's Green Canopy \(queensgreencanopy.org\)](#)

Plaques are available to buy from Royal British Legion Industries [through our online shop](#)

Telephone 08081 969505

Permission to plant on Council estate through the normal process.

Free vouchers and opportunities with The Big Lunch and The Big Jubilee Lunch

Open to any member of the public as well as groups

1. Celebrate a Month of Community June 2022

The Big Jubilee Lunch will be the official community celebration for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend and The Big Lunch will once again kick start a whole Month of Community so there are plenty of opportunities for **everyone** to reconnect and celebrate the power of community this June!

Take part in [The Big Lunch](https://www.thebiglunch.com) - order your pack at www.thebiglunch.com

Your get together can be held anytime in June 2022 as part of the [Month of Community](#) and could celebrate any of the following or simply be an opportunity to get to know people where you live:

- Volunteers Week
- Neighbourhood Watch Week
- Loneliness awareness Week
- Carers Week
- Small Charities week
- Refugee Week
- Mental health day

June is full of reasons to celebrate community and say thank you to the people who make a difference where you live! Remember your own activity can be as simple as a few neighbours or friends getting together – size really doesn't matter!

2. The Big Jubilee Lunch 2-5 June

Register your Jubilee plans and get free materials at www.thebigjubileelunch.com

You can register even if you're planning a small gathering to watch the activity together. You'll receive a note in your pack from HM The Queen and you can have your activity whether private or public listed as an [official part of the celebrations and added to the map](#).

3. Weekly draw for £25 Big Lunch vouchers

Available to organisations, schools, churches and constituted and non-constituted groups.

<https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/help-for-your-big-lunch-in-northern-ireland>

To take part:

Visit www.thebiglunch.com and register for The Big Jubilee Lunch or The Big Lunch.

Remember to provide contact information and select yes to further contact and media.

Email gmcloskey@edenproject.com a few brief sentences on what you plan to do where and who you are.

Remember a Big Lunch is anything from a few neighbours getting together, to a celebration with the whole community.

Winners will be notified ongoing weekly from February on our [Facebook page](#).

4. Platinum Champions

Did you spot us on The One Show?

The Platinum Champions Awards will be a celebration of volunteering spirit and how volunteering plays an essential role in building communities and improving quality of life for millions of people across the UK.

Watch this space for further updates and to find out how you can get involved and nominate a volunteer!

Together with Royal Voluntary Service President, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall, and in partnership with The Big Jubilee Lunch, the awards will celebrate outstanding volunteers across the country who are making a difference every day. Those who take home the prize will also be invited to sit at a very special table for The Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5 June, the end of the official national Jubilee celebration. For more info click [here](#)

To get our community news updates [Click here](#) www.edenprojectcommunities.com

Grant Aid – Rolling Programmes

Community Services – Project Development

Applications for Community Services – Project Development are open on a rolling basis and can be accepted throughout the year. Applicants must first contact a Community Support Officer of the Council to discuss their project/proposal prior to an application being made available

For further information visit [Grant Aid - Project Development – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](#)

Seeding Grant Aid

Applications for Seeding Grant Aid are open on a rolling basis and can be accepted throughout the year. Applications can be accessed on the Council's Grant Manager Portal.

For further information visit [Microsoft Word - Seeding \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](#)

Sports Bursary

Applications will be received on an on-going basis but will not be assessed until the next available grant programme is closed. For the Sports Bursary, applications **must** be submitted **prior** to the Tournament, Competition or Event taking place. Applications cannot be made retrospectively after the Tournament, Competition or Event in which the applicant is seeking the bursary for.

The Bursary Guidance Notes should be read in conjunction with Fermanagh & Omagh District Council's Grant Aid Code of Practice

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

Events and Festivals Sponsorship - Second Call

[Events Sponsorship – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](#)

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council are now inviting online applications for Sponsorship from Event and Festival organisers that deliver events within the district.

[Apply online using the Grant Manager](#)

Events and Festivals Sponsorship will be continually **open** until March 2023. During this **open** roll out there will be designated closing dates so applications received can be moderated and approved through Council procedures.

Closing dates and times:

Monday 9 May 2022 12 noon

Monday 5 September 2022 12 noon

Monday 7 November 2022 12 noon

All Events & Festivals must be applied for in advance to the actual commencement event date(s) and prior to closing dates highlighted above.

Events and festivals marking the Platinum Jubilee are eligible under this programme.

Event Categories:

Major 10,000+ attendees, applications must be submitted 6 Months before the event

Large 5,001 – 10,000 attendees, applications must be submitted 4 Months before the event

Medium 250 – 5,000 attendees, applications must be submitted 2 Months before the event

Small Community, Sports, Arts Events and festivals will not be considered under sponsorship. (Small events and festivals may apply to Community Wellbeing Grant Aid)
Please read the [Sponsorship Outward Guidelines](#) and [Sponsorship Publicity Guidance](#) before completing the online Sponsorship application.

For more information, please contact:-

Tel: 0300 303 1777, email: sponsorship@fermanaghomagh.com

or telephone: 028 8225 6216

Community Pollinator Garden Award

As part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations the [Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#) through [Live Here Love Here](#) is offering an award of £100,000 for a community pollinator garden which will benefit pollinators and people by providing a shared and accessible space. Many foods we eat rely on pollinators and they also help to ensure healthy ecosystems that clean the air, stabilise soil and support other wildlife.

For more information on the award and to apply visit bit.ly/3NB4REG

Extended to noon, Wednesday 4 May

Dawn Chorus Walk

Sunday 1 May 2022 at 6am

Walk along the Camowen River at Lover's Retreat, Omagh to listen to the birds sing.

Places are limited. To book, email biodiversity@fermanaghomagh.com

Play Park Strategy

[Play Parks – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](#)

Play Park Consultations

As part of our Play Park Strategy, we are holding public consultations so you can share your views – keep a look out on our social media channels for upcoming consultation venues.

You can also have your say via our online consultations below.

Current consultations

[Derrygonnelly Play Parks](#) – Closing date: 20 May 2022 at 5.00 pm

[Dromore Play Parks](#) – Closing date: 18 May 2022 at 5.00 pm

Have your say.....

'Lived Experience of Poverty' Consultation – Now live.

FODC want to hear from people who are struggling on a low income.

Help us develop interventions that will support those most in need.

Please provide feedback via <https://bit.ly/LivingInPovertyConsultation>

Open Water Swimming Safety Courses

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh PCSP and Swim Ulster have organised open water swimming safety courses across the district throughout May 2022.

There are still places available on the following courses:

- Youth – Open Water Swimming Safety Course (Muckross, Kesh)
- Development – Open Water Swimming Safety Course (Killyfole & Gortin)

For further information regarding the courses including registration details, please visit

<https://bit.ly/3JFIQSR>

“The Changing of a Nation” opens at Strule Arts Centre

Open to the public until Saturday 14 May, Monday to Saturday 9.30am - 5pm.

“The Changing of a Nation” exhibition has now opened at the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh. The major touring exhibition has been organised by the Tower Museum, Derry City & Strabane District Council.

Ireland was officially divided into two separate political areas under the Government of Ireland Act on 23 December 1920. This was a pivotal moment in a long process that saw the idea of partition move closer to reality. Over one hundred years ago, events at home and internationally brought about monumental changes to the political and social structures to Ireland. This exhibition examines the origins, impact, and legacy of partition through key artefacts and documentation.

The NI2021 Event Programme, leading into 2022, is enhanced by the Digital Remembering Initiative. The initiative is supported by the Shared History Fund distributed by The National Lottery Fund on behalf of the Northern Ireland Office.

Fancy something different this summer?

We are delighted to bring you a new and exciting outdoor theatre programme from [Ardhowen Theatre](#), [Enniskillen Castle: Fermanagh County Museum](#) and [Strule Arts Centre, Omagh](#), supported by [#FODC](#)

Running from 9 – 23 July 2022, the whole family can pack up a picnic to enjoy a fun open air show at a local Leisure Centre pitch.

Featuring drama and comedy from Chapterhouse Theatre Company and Heartbreak Productions.

Book your tickets at bit.ly/3xCZf7D

Draft Improvement Objectives 2022/23 for the District

Public Consultation

[Have your say on key local issues! – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](#)

To take part please visit <https://bit.ly/3JHeWxy>

Consultation closes on Monday 23 May 2022

Have your say today!

Consultations – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (fermanaghomagh.com)

Current consultations being undertaken by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council include:

[Public Consultation on the Draft Linguistic Diversity Policy 2022-2025](#) , closes 5pm on Tuesday 5 July 2022.

Festival Lough Erne returns for 2022!

10-18 September

Save the Date!

Festival Lough Erne will return for its 7th year and promises to bring fun, adventure and lots of activity. Visit <http://www.festivallougherne.com/> for further information.

Are you choosing between heating your home or eating adequate meals?

Do you worry how you are going to make ends meet?

If so, please consider calling the Council's Health Improvement Team on 0300 303 1777 who can offer energy efficiency advice, determine if you are eligible for an energy efficiency grant, refer you to a specialist organisation for a benefit entitlement check or signpost you to other resources where you can get information regarding making delicious low-cost nutritious meals.

Everybody Belongs Campaign

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council launched a new innovative campaign that demonstrates its commitment to valuing each and every resident in the district. The #Everybody Belongs campaign was developed in line with the vision of the Council's Good Relations Programme. It strives to oppose racism, sectarianism and discrimination against any of its residents irrespective of background, identity or ethnicity and ensure that everyone feels they belong in a district that is welcoming, shared and inclusive.

The campaign was officially launched by the Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, Councillor Errol Thompson, who was the first citizen in the district to sign the Everybody Belongs pledge. This pledge of belonging clearly demonstrates that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council recognises that diversity and multiculturalism greatly enriches our society.

Everybody is encouraged to commit to the pledge and all public agencies, businesses and community organisations are invited to display it on their premises. This is an opportunity to strengthen and diversify community networks and promote greater involvement of people of all backgrounds and ethnicities in the civic and public life of Fermanagh and Omagh District.

Everybody Belongs Pledge

We pledge to oppose racism, sectarianism and discrimination against any people regardless of their background, identity or ethnicity. We condemn hate speech and oppose prejudice. We recognise that diversity and difference enrich us all and enrich this District.

The Everybody Belongs pledge is available for signing online by [clicking here](#).

For further information and how to get involved in the campaign, contact Good Relations by telephone on 0300 303 1777 or by email goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com.

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/good-relations-2/everybody-belongs-campaign/>

Autism & Sports Coaching Workshop

Fermanagh and Omagh Sports Forum in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council have organised an Autism and Sports Coaching workshop at Omagh Leisure Complex on **Wednesday 11 May 2022**.

The Disability Sport Northern Ireland Autism and Sports Coaching workshop has been developed in partnership with Autism initiatives and is designed specifically for sports coaches and physical activity leaders who want to further their knowledge on how to fully include participants with Autism in their session.

For further information including registration details, please click on <https://bit.ly/3vIX6LZ>

Sport and Countryside Recreation Facebook page

Details regarding all Fermanagh and Omagh District Council programmes, activities, events and any other relevant information will be uploaded to this page.

[Sport and Countryside Recreation at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council - Home | Facebook](#)

We suggest that you like / follow the page to keep up to date with all details of programmes etc across the District Council area.

Coach Education Programme

Fermanagh and Omagh Sports Forum in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has organised a series of workshops as part of the Coach Education Programme 2022, details of which are outlined in the link below:

[Coach Education Programme 2022 – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghmagh.com\)](https://fermanaghmagh.com)

For further information regarding the Coach Education programme, please contact chris.elliott@fermanaghmagh.com

Charity Support

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

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

For further information or enquiries regarding Council support to charities, please email communitysupport@fermanaghmagh.com

Community Support

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

For further information, please visit [Community – Fermanagh & Omagh District Council \(fermanaghmagh.com\)](https://fermanaghmagh.com)

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@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21232
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	joanne.cunningham@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21405
Erne North	Steven Ormsby	steven.ormsby@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21232
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	kellie.beacom@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Neville Armstrong	neville.armstrong@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 20275
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	josephine.treanor@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Neville Armstrong	neville.armstrong@fermanaghmagh.com	Ext 20275

Community News

Advance Care Planning Cafe

Wednesday 4 May, 2pm - Omagh Library

This year Compassionate Communities NI with partners [Libraries NI](#) and [Age Friendly Fermanagh and Omagh District Council](#) are delighted to host an Advance Care Planning Café in conjunction with the launch of a Death Positive Library Project in Omagh Library on Wednesday 4 May, 2pm.

We know that it's by talking, and by sharing stories, that we can change the conversation about death. When we talk about dying and grief, we remove the taboo and stigma that have for too long surrounded these topics. And we can also better understand what's happening in our communities so that political and healthcare leaders know what is needed to make end of life care accessible to everyone in the UK.

Dying Matters Awareness Week is our chance to join the Dying Matters movement – to get talking about death and dying, and to call for end of life care for all.

Let's talk about dying and grief, and our plans for the end of life, so that everyone can die #InAGoodPlace, no matter who they are.

[Dying matters week 2 – 6 may 2022 – Compassionate Communities NI](#)

Cuilcagh/Slieve Anierin Project

A number of local community heritage events will take place over the coming weeks to encourage people around the Iron Mountains and Cuilcagh to explore and appreciate the natural, built and archaeological heritage of this unique cross-border area.

The first event is a **free heritage talk** by local geologist and caver John Kelly about the industrial heritage legacy of iron making around the mountain on **Thursday 5 May at 8pm in Trivia House, Swanlinbar**. No booking is required. Refreshments will be served.

For further information please contact barneydevine@gmail.com Mobile 07734 847470

Resumption of Hearing Aid Support Session

RNID is resuming its free drop-in support session for hearing aid users in

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen on Thursday 5 May from 10.00 - 11.30am.

This socially distanced drop off and pick up service provides new batteries, cleaning and retubing of ear moulds for NHS hearing aids.

Hearing aids must be placed in a labelled envelope with name and contact details. They will be collected at the entrance by a volunteer and brought inside for maintenance. Users can wait in their car or return later to collect hearing aids. Hearing aids can also be dropped off by friends or family members.

The sessions are run by trained volunteers and funded by the Health & Social Care Board.

For more information visit www.rnid.org.uk

or contact Mary Cruickshank; email mary.cruickshank@rnid.org.uk or call 07918 767640.

Erne Paddlers

Erne Paddlers is a paddlesports club based in Enniskillen, providing courses, trips, events, and development opportunities that are open to all.

We have just launched our outdoor spring programme, which will be based in the Broadmeadow in Enniskillen. There is a wide range of 5-week courses and other activities lined up for every evening during the week, designed for beginners and those with more paddling experience, and it's sure to include something to suit everyone:

Kayaks, Standup Paddleboards (SUPs), Open Canoes, Sit-on-tops, Canoe Polo, Inclusive Paddle-Ability sessions, and Family Fun sessions - as well as single trips and one day courses.

Full details of all our courses and events for May are here www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

We are particularly keen to encourage anyone with additional needs, people who might need extra support and those who may just feel a little nervous on the water, to consider coming along to one of our inclusive paddle-ability sessions on Thursday evenings <https://bit.ly/InclusiveThurs7pm>

Providing access to all is one of the club's central aims. We have an ever growing team of committed and qualified coaches and volunteers. We want as many people as possible to access the proven benefits to health and well-being of the social, outdoor experience that is paddling. As a club, a community organisation and a not for profit registered charity, we are ideally placed to provide that.

Any queries please contact us at email@ernepaddlers.org.uk or via social media or call 07468 911398.

Lough Erne Landscape Partnership

As part of the Lough Erne Wildfowlers Council project, we would like to invite you to attend the **"Snipe Walk at Dusk" on Friday 6 May 2022, 9pm on Boa Island.**

The drumming of Snipe was until recent times a common sound in the spring on the shores of Lough Erne. In recent times the number of Snipe and other breeding waders had been in decline in the region and indeed throughout the UK and Ireland.

The Lough Erne Wildfowlers Council have been working in partnership with LELP through funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to restore and maintain habitat on Boa Island in order to protect and conserve breeding waders on the shores of Lough Erne. Michael Stinson, LEWC will guide us through an area where habitat restoration works have taken place. You will have the opportunity to learn more about the work the LEWC are carrying out whilst enjoying the unique drumming of Snipe and birdsong of other birds that can be found at dusk.

To register please click [here](#). Numbers are restricted for this event - early booking is essential.

If you have any queries, please contact Heather Gott on 07738 116385 Email info@lelp.org.uk

Lisnaskea Darkness Into Light

Saturday 7 May 2022, 4.15am

Castle Park Centre, Lisnaskea

The last two years have been so difficult for everyone. The isolation, worry and stress that we have all felt has taken a real toll – especially on those affected by suicide and self-harm.

So, this year we need to come together again and walk side by side to say to those in crisis:

You are not alone. There is hope. We are here for you.

So please, save the date and help us make this the biggest and brightest Darkness Into Light ever!

Darkness Into Light proudly supported by Electric Ireland.

Registration now open – www.darknessintolight.ie

British Red Cross Volunteering roles

Omagh and Enniskillen

Are you looking for a volunteering role? The British Red Cross are looking for volunteers for their Mobility Aids Service in Omagh (Warehouse Volunteers and Customer Service Volunteers) and Enniskillen (Customer Service Volunteers). You could help someone gain access to the use of a wheelchair while they recover from an illness or an injury.

Click the links for more information and to apply.

Alternatively email us on wheelchairvolunteer@redcross.org.uk or call us on 03000 040309.

[Customer Service Volunteer, Omagh](#)

[Warehouse Volunteer, Omagh](#)

[Customer Service Volunteer, Enniskillen](#)

Hourglass (Safer Ageing) Helpline goes 24/7

Support for older people at risk of harm and abuse

Hourglass is the UK's only charity solely focused on ending the harm and abuse of older people. We operate a national freephone helpline which provides support and advice to anyone with concerns or questions about an older person.

Following an increase in demand, we are now running this service 24/7 from 16 March 2022. This will enable timely advice and support for older people, their families and practitioners when they need it most. **The Freephone Helpline number is 0808 808 8141.**

Victims or those concerned about an older person can also contact us electronically using webchat, text messaging or by email. These services are initially only available during business hours but we are looking to extend these to 24/7 as soon as practicable. They can also interact with us via our Chat Bot or access a repository of information on safer ageing through our Knowledge Bank at any time. All the details are available on our website [here](#).

According to the World Health Organisation 1 in 6 people 60 years and older experienced some form of abuse in community settings. Our own polling has shown that 1 in 5 older people in the UK have been victims of abuse. We need to address this and find ways of supporting this urgent need for support and advice, with your help we can do this.

Libraries NI

Need some IT Help?

Sign up for our free Zoom sessions on the Libraries NI website [Events \(librariesni.org.uk\)](https://librariesni.org.uk)

Live Here Love Here

The BIG Spring Clean is Northern Ireland's biggest volunteer clean up and each year we need your help to make it happen!

The BIG Spring Clean, taking place each year between 1st March and 31st May, is Northern Ireland's largest community clean-up campaign. Since its inception, 553,571 volunteers have participated in clean-up activities during the Spring months, removing over 800 tonnes of waste! It is open to individuals, schools, community groups and businesses from all communities wishing to rid their streets of litter and discarded rubbish.

For further information visit <https://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=19>

Could you provide a home for a young refugee?

HSC NI Foster Care is appealing for more foster carers and supported lodgings hosts who can provide homes to young refugees who arrive in Northern Ireland without a parent or carer.

In the past year, more than 60 young refugees were received into care, the highest number on record, and it is anticipated that this will rise further.

The majority of young refugees arriving without family are teenagers aged 14-17 and many would like to be cared for in a family setting. Young refugees come from a range of countries such as Eritrea, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Sudan. In many cases, these young people are fleeing danger and war, they may have been victims of trafficking or exploitation, or their parent or carer has disappeared. Young refugees need a safe and welcoming home environment where they will receive practical and emotional support and where they can integrate into local communities.

Foster carers look after children of all ages, whereas supported lodgings is a type of semi-independent accommodation where a young person aged 16 or over lives in the home of a host family or individual.

Enquiries are welcome from people from any race, religion, language, culture, gender, disability, age or sexual orientation.

For more information on becoming a foster carer or supported lodgings host, contact HSC NI Foster Care on 0800 0720 137 or visit adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net/young-refugees/

Farm Families Health Checks

We are looking for groups in rural areas that would consider running a health check day – see [farm family info leaflet.pdf](#).

We only require a flat surface to park our van and a place to link into the electric supply as the van that comes is completely self-contained.

Here is a link to our **free** service:

<https://scanner.topsec.com/?t=7d4e95d7d6156311ae6ec48633560352f66d3507&u=https%3A%2F%2Fvimeo.com%2F605623998&d=1783&r=show>

Please contact Christina Faulkner, Farm Families Health Checks Programme Co-ordinator on Tel: 028 2563 5573 / 07833 461690

Aisling Centre
37 Darling Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DP

Self-Care Sessions

Quality care comes from quality attention

Care for tired bodies and busy minds, with practical techniques and guided relaxation sessions on an exciting new 5-week programme.

This programme will have a particular focus on managing anxiety. 5-week Programme

Monday 9 May – Monday 6 June 10.30am – 12 noon

Numbers Limited – booking essential. Suggested Donation £2

ReAttach Therapy

An introduction to WARA for self-care and relaxation

Join us for a cuppa and a chat to learn about this simple and effective tool that you can use to help yourself and others manage stress and anxiety

This is a one-off workshop which will be repeated on Wednesdays 18 May & 15 June 10-11am

Numbers Limited – booking essential. Free workshop – Donation optional

Mindfulness Meditation

Monthly Drop in / Taster Sessions by Zoom

One Tuesday Every month at 7pm – Tuesdays 24 May, 28 June

For sign in details and further information please contact us on Tel 028 6632 5811

or Email: info@theaislingcentre.com

AA

Meetings every week. For information contact the Aisling Centre on 028 6632 5811

Escapists

Support group for carers. Every Wednesday morning 10.30am – 1.00pm

For information contact the Aisling Centre on 028 6632 5811

Forget Me Not

Support group for people bereaved by suicide

1st Monday of the Month 7.30pm – 9.00pm

For information contact Fedilis Simpson on 07841 569000

Island Artists

Wednesdays 2.00pm – 4.00pm

For information contact Maura Newman on 07968 225704

Yoga

Thursdays 12 noon – 1.30pm

For information contact Jenni Brown on 028 8954 1994

Wednesdays 6.30pm – 7.30pm

For information contact Shauna McMorrow on 07526 465004

For further information on these and other programmes visit our website www.theaislingcentre.com

Register to receive e-updates

Contact the Centre:- Email info@theaislingcentre.com / Tel 028 6632 5811

Follow us on Facebook or Twitter

Lakeland Community Care Ltd

Arm Chair Exercises in person at the Healthy Living Centre and on Zoom

Starting 22 March for 10 weeks, 11am-12 noon

Tutor: Jackie, Fermanagh Fitness

Zoom Meeting ID: 853 9726 5843

Passcode: 096310

Enrol by contacting Frances on 028 6638 6934 or Email: frances@lakelandcare.org.uk

Funded by Lakeland Community Care Ltd

Everyone Welcome

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service

By appointment only; to book please call 08085 534 653 between 10am and 4.30pm.

Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh

Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 May

12.30pm – 4pm and 5pm – 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.

Drug and Alcohol Awareness Sessions

The Western Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team can deliver **free** 1-2 hour awareness sessions on various drugs and alcohol related topics. If you then want to move to more in-depth information, we can sign post you. All of our sessions include details of local support services and how to access them.

Sessions are currently being delivered online via Zoom or Teams.

We can also provide in person delivery in line with safety guidelines.

Email Connections@wdact.info or telephone Peter 07545 928225 or Jennie 07761 282849.

What's on in Omagh Library

Rhythm and Rhyme: Rhymes and stories for 0 – 4-year-olds (accompanied by a parent / carer)

Tues 9:30am – 10:00am; Wed 11:00am – 11:30am; Thurs 11:00am – 11:30am;

Fri 2:15pm – 2:45pm; 2nd and last Sat in the month 2:15pm – 2:45pm

Booking essential – lines open on Saturday for the week ahead

Lego Club: Books 'n' Blocks followed by free play for Primary School children in Years 4 – 7

1st Tues and 3rd Thurs in the month, 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Book from the week preceding the session

Afternoon Book Group: Adult reading group, Tues 17 May 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Book for discussion is Diary of a Somebody by Brian Bilston

Call in and collect a copy if you want to join in.

Knit and Natter: Whether you like to knit, crochet, sew etc you're welcome to come along and enjoy the chatter as you craft. Tues 6:30pm – 8:00pm; Fri 10:30am – 12:30pm

Tea and Newspapers: Thurs 10:00am – 11:00am

Enjoy a cup of tea / coffee whilst you catch up on the news

Omagh Forum

We are happy to announce that we are relaunching our popular “One to One Governance Workshops” over April and May. They will be going back to face-to-face meetings this year.

Issues to be discussed:

- Governance issues
- Development planning
- Application form filling
- Funding opportunities
- Any issue relevant to your group!!!

Spaces are limited so early registration is advised.

Please see the full list of venues, dates, times, and registration links below:

Town	Venue	Address	Time	Date	Registration Link
Carrickmore	Pairc Eire Og	25a Termon Road, Carrickmore	5pm-8pm	03/05/2022	https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/NbW8g04d
Maguiresbridge	The Market House Hall	45 Main St., Maguiresbridge	5pm-8pm	05/05/2022	https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/rb29nQPa
Eskra	Eskra Community Centre	167 Newtownsa ville Road, Eskra,	5pm-8pm	09/05/2022	https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/YerYyJ4d
Blacksessiagh	Blacksessiagh Hall	96 Loughmuck Road, Omagh	5pm-8pm	12/05/2022	https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/nelpK97e

Omagh Volunteer Centre

Our Spring Volunteering Newsletter is available at
<https://omaghvolunteercentre.org/opportunities>

Introducing the All-New EPIC Awards

As part of Volunteer NI, we are excited to launch the all-new EPIC Awards, an award scheme that recognises and validates the contribution made by volunteers.

Empowering People In Communities

EPIC (Empowering People In Communities) is open to volunteers of all ages and from all types of volunteering. To qualify for an EPIC Award, volunteers must make a commitment of at least 50 hours, within any 12 month period. These hours can be gained through volunteering with one organisation, or with multiple organisations simultaneously.

The Awards

There are three levels of EPIC Award:

- Bronze Award - 50 hours of volunteering
- Silver Award - 100 hours of volunteering
- Gold Award - 200 hours of volunteering

Get Involved

Are you an organisation that would like to reward its volunteers? We are now taking expressions of interest. As well as showing how much you value your volunteers for the work that they do, being part of this initiative is a great way to attract new volunteers and to retain and motivate your current volunteers.

Click on <https://forms.office.com/r/XhZA9hMEmm> to learn more and register your interest:

Are you a volunteer who would like to receive an award? Chat to your organisation and ask them to register, or get in touch with us and send us the details of your organisation so that we can reach out. Contact Martin on 028 8224 0772 or email info@omaghvolunteercentre.org

StoryTrails is coming to Omagh

Friday 1 – Saturday 2 July 2022

[Omagh – StoryTrails \(story-trails.com\)](https://story-trails.com)

StoryTrails will take place in 15 locations across the UK and Northern Ireland. In each town or city, you will be able to experience a series of magical mobile AR walking trails, an immersive map of the locations, community stories and a series of Virtual Reality experiences. We will remix the BFI and BBC unparalleled film and television archives so that audiences can experience history where it actually happened, revitalising the streets upon which they stand with new voices and untold stories of the past. We'll be collecting your stories to create the world's first spatial archive, linking national media archives with contemporary 3D scans of objects, people and places to create a new way of experiencing your town.

StoryTrails will be coming to Omagh in early 2022, collecting stories and scans, before revisiting each location with a multimedia touring show that will immerse you in history like never before. In the summer of 2022, you will be able to visit your local library and step into a portal that will magically bring the past to life, opening up a conversation about our future. [StoryTrails \(story-trails.com\)](https://story-trails.com)

For further information please contact: Hayley.Butler@readingagency.org.uk

Training Opportunities

Gambling Harm Prevention Training

YWA (Youth Work Alliance) has been working with YGAM (Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust) [Homepage - YGAM](#) and GamCare [Young People's Support Service - GamCare](#) in delivering an education and support programme to Northern Ireland to practitioners from various fields, with the mission of safeguarding future generations from gambling and gaming related harms.

Gambling-related harms have been presented as a hidden issue in Northern Ireland for many years, which makes it even more vital for us to ensure children and vulnerable people are informed, educated and safeguarded against the potential harms associated with gambling and increasingly, gaming too.

We offer free online workshops to equip you with the knowledge and tools to inform, educate and safeguard the young people you work with in relation to gaming and gambling and the associated risks. Our City and Guilds assured training runs in 2 parts or as 1 bespoke session at the request of your school/organisation.

The aims are to:

- Increase your knowledge and understanding of gaming and gambling-related harm in the UK
- Provide you with resources to deliver sessions directly to children and young people to prevent future harm
- Support you with information on how to spot signs of harm and how to sign post young people for support

You will receive:

- A City & Guilds certificate and digital credential Access to over 450 free resources.

The training is delivered free and currently online, offered in 2 options:

- 1) Full session taking up to 3 hours
- 2) Delivered in 2 parts - Introduction taking 2 hours and Follow-up taking 1 hour

Upon completion of the training, you will be given log in details to YGAMS resource section.

For further information please contact helen@youthworkalliance.com Mobile: 07950 471553

Disability Inclusion Training

Wednesday 11 May, 10am-12pm

Facilitator: Disability Sport NI

Target Audience: Anyone wishing to provide inclusive sports and active recreation opportunities such as sports coaches, physical activity providers and staff in schools.

Do you provide sports and active recreation opportunities? Interested in developing your knowledge and skills to make these more accessible to people with disabilities? If so, please contact health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net for further information/to register.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Awareness Training

Wednesday 26 May, 10am-12pm

Facilitator: The Rainbow Project

Target Audience: Anyone working within the community, voluntary or statutory sector

Please contact health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net for further information/to register.

Free Keeping Adults Safe Online Training

For community, voluntary, faith and independent sector organisations in the Western Trust Area

Keeping Adults Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers

Suitable for staff/volunteers who have regular and/or direct contact with adults at risk (e.g. leader, coach, carer or support worker), this certificated training programme covers: key definitions; legal context of adult safeguarding; awareness of abuse issues; procedures for reporting concerns; procedures for planning activities and assessing and managing risk; confidentiality issues; and code of behaviour for staff/volunteers.

14 June 2022, 10.00am - 3.30pm

[Keeping Adults Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers \(Western Trust area\) - Volunteer Now](#)

6 October 2022, 10.00am - 3.30pm

[Keeping Adults Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers \(Western Trust area\) - Volunteer Now](#)

12 January 2023, 10.00am - 3.30pm

[Keeping Adults Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers \(Western Trust area\) - Volunteer Now](#)

Keeping Adults Safe: Recruitment, Selection and Management

A half-day session designed to support those recruiting and managing staff and volunteers within organisations with the wider policy and practice framework around adult safeguarding, as per our publication, Keeping Adults Safe: A Shared Responsibility.

28 June 2022, 10.00am - 1.00pm

[Keeping Adults Safe: Training for Staff and Volunteers \(Northern Trust area\) - Volunteer Now](#)

Keeping Adults Safe: Implementing Standards for Good Practice

A half-day session designed to help organisations implement the required standards of practice for adult safeguarding, as outlined in Keeping Adults Safe: A Shared Responsibility. This training looks at each of the 8 standards individually and considers the procedures and guidelines that need developed within your organisation in order to implement the standards, allowing organisations to identify areas for improvement and action required.

22 September 2022, 10.00am – 1.00pm

[Keeping Adults Safe: Implementing Standards for Good Practice \(Western Trust area\) - Volunteer Now](#)

All Keeping Adults Safe training is supported by the Health and Social Care Board.

All training is delivered by accredited trainers.

Western Health and Social Care Trust Training Brochure

The WHSCT Health Improvement Equality & Involvement Department is delighted to announce the launch of its training brochure for **March – September 2022**.

Free courses are available via online zoom delivery on many topics including nutrition, physical activity, mental health & gender identity awareness.

The brochure is available for download [HERE](#) and includes links to Application Forms which should be submitted to health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net or via post to Health Improvement, Equality and Involvement (HIEI), Maple Villa B, Gransha Park, BT47 6WJ unless otherwise stated in the brochure.

Telephone Number for queries: 028 7186 5127

Community Food and Nutrition Team

Starting Solids – Weaning Information Session

Sessions are free and open to everyone via Zoom once each month.

- Wednesday 25 May, 10.30am
- Wednesday 29 June, 10.30am

Registration with an email address is required for each session at the link below:

<https://westerntrust-hscni-net.zoom.us/j/91982520892>

We provide evidence-based information on all aspects of weaning, including signs of readiness, suitable foods & those to avoid, textures and stages, suitable drinks and cups and vitamin recommendations. There's also the opportunity to ask a Registered Nutritionist questions throughout.

Nutrition Webinars - May

If the dates/times don't suit and for other nutrition topics, pre-recorded sessions are available to watch at: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/8198914>

Introduction to Solids – Thursday 5 May @ 10am, available at: <https://tinyurl.com/solids-may> or https://northerntrust-hscni.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ivaGDu11RMiJCTUi5qYIZA

Food & Mood – Friday 13 May @ 11am, available at: <https://tinyurl.com/foodmood-may> or https://teams.microsoft.com/registration/3jCanNfYpEqWAEvnYI_2xQ,Z7-Vz65V30q3zHrM65smUw,RoCFsfzd8kCIP5F2tMKVGw,CAvL47DHNUCa0ybcidZghQ,UiKenWF6B0uFRgaD-y-ZOA,rDACN5p3zEaYnJeC3sPVmg?mode=read&tenantId=9c9a30de-d8d7-4aa4-9600-4be7625ff6c5&skipauthstrap=1

AWARE NI

Free online wellbeing workshops/courses for adults 18+

Living Life to the Full – Online Life Skills Programmes (via zoom)

We're delighted to be able to offer a range of Living Life to the Full programmes online! The Living Life to the Full programme will be delivered via zoom over 6 sessions lasting approx. 2hrs each.

This is a programme that 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. It looks more closely at how 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. To register visit <https://www.aware-ni.org/booking-living-life-to-the-full/>

Mood Matters for Adults – Online Mental Health Awareness Sessions (via zoom)

The Mood Matters for Adults course is 2 hours long and is suitable for anyone (over 18) who would like to learn more about minding their mood. It can also help to manage feelings of stress & anxiety. For more info & to register, visit: www.aware-ni.org/booking-mood-matters-adults/

National Weaning Week

4 - 11 May 2022

Weaning can be an exciting but sometimes daunting time for parents. Research shows that introducing solids too early may increase the risk of asthma, eczema, digestive problems, allergies and obesity later in life. Introducing solids at 6 months using healthy foods is an investment in a child's present and future health.

There are a number of physical resources available including weaning recipe books and doidy cups. Please get in touch with us if your organisation would like to avail of these health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net or 028 7186 5127.

Investing in Community Leadership

These courses are free and available to anyone volunteering or working in the Community / Voluntary sector in the West. If you have any questions or difficulties please get in touch. If you have a need for training in an area we have not yet covered please let us know and we will work to try and incorporate into our Programme.

Handling Conflict (in Groups, Meetings, organisations etc)

Wednesday 11 & Thursday 12 May, 9am-5pm

2 Day Course - Face to Face, in Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Facilitator: Diane Greer

Developing the knowledge and skills to manage conflict in groups is important to be able to effectively engage and communicate with groups of people in the Community with similar goals but differing ideas, opinions, or values.

A practical course aimed at exploring the roots of conflict in groups and identifying ways to manage them.

Training will include:

- Identifying types of conflict and our associations. Understanding how conflict develops and escalates.
- Knowing the difference between functional and dysfunctional conflict.
- Examining causes of conflict.
- Understanding our own approach to conflict.
- Assessing a range of approaches.
- Mapping and analysing a conflict.
- The role of communication in managing conflict.
- Reality testing solutions to conflict.

<https://forms.gle/82hRNiYj2B8Vj1837>

If you have any questions please get in touch with Sonya Johnston, Programme Manager
Telephone: 028 6632 0210 Mobile: 07949 092350 www.fermanaghtrust.org

Funding Opportunities

Live Here Love Here: Small Grants Scheme

This Scheme forms part of a wider programme aimed at promoting civic pride within communities and improving environmental quality. The Small Grants Scheme is a partnership between 10 Local Councils, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, McAdam and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful. The Small Grants Scheme is about encouraging practical, local action towards building more sustainable communities. Grants are available from £500 to £3,000 and are open to unconstituted groups, volunteer, community groups and NGOs, all schools and third level education organisations, Youth groups, sports clubs, churches, and not-for-profit organisations.

For further details visit <https://www.liveherelovehere.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=44>

Fund closes for applications Monday 9 May.

Community Relations Council: Small Grants Scheme

The Community Relations Council, with the support of Government, has established a fund to spend each year on community relations projects. This funding is intended to help community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland develop their capacity to engage in community relations work and to enhance the community relations potential of projects they undertake. Grants are up to £10K maximum and for project costs only. Average grant is £2K – £5K

For further information visit <https://www.community-relations.org.uk/community-relations-cultural-diversity>

Closing date: Friday 16 December 2022

Charities Solar PV Programme

Action Renewables is a leading provider of renewable energy expertise. We provide support for renewable energy development, and we are a registered charity in Northern Ireland.

As part of our charitable objectives, Action Renewables previously funded the service and repair of 36 solar PV systems in schools across NI in 2019.

In 2020/2021 we further developed our charitable programme to provide funding for the installation of PV systems in charitable organisations and social enterprises.

Full details on the programme and application form are available on our website at:

<https://actionrenewables.co.uk/charitable-activities>

National Lottery Community Fund Grants

Details of funding opportunities via The National Lottery Community Fund can be found here <https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/northern-ireland>

If anyone would like further information or to discuss any of grant programmes, please do not hesitate to contact Charlie Thomas, Funding Officer on 07929 872482 or 028 9055 1424

The National Lottery Heritage Fund UK

Grants for projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional and local heritage of the UK.

Grants from £3,000 - £5million; Rolling Deadlines

For further information visit <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding>

NI Policing Board: Police Property Fund Grants Scheme

The Police Property Fund is made up of assets recovered by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) as a result of criminal investigations. The Police (Property) Regulations 1997 provide for the Policing Board to make payments to organisations for charitable purposes from the Fund. Grants between £1000 and £10,000.

Deadline for Applications: **Thursday 12 May 2022, 12 noon.**

For further information visit [Police Property Fund Grant Schemes | Northern Ireland Policing Board \(nipolicingboard.org.uk\)](https://nipolicingboard.org.uk)

Community Finance Ireland: Sports Fund

Community Finance Ireland (previously UCIT), one of the UK's largest providers of social finance, has already provided £7M to 70 clubs across Ireland, helping deliver new training facilities, clubhouses and state-of-the-art pitches. The new fund will commit a further £4m to the local sporting sector over the next five years. Click on the above link for further information.