

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Community Support News – November 2024

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 26 November

Council News & Events

Food Safety Information for Community & Voluntary Representatives

*****Last chance to Register for this free training – only a few spaces remaining!*****

Safefood, in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Community Services, would like to invite Community & Voluntary group, club or society representatives from the District Council area to a free information session on food safety.

Tuesday 5 November, 7.30-9.30pm – Enniskillen [Register now](#)
Aisling Centre, 37 Darling Street, BT74 7DP

This session will give an overview of key food safety considerations for those involved with organisations managing community premises, or who provide catering as part of their activities. This includes small scale hospitality in community spaces, to larger scale catering for events or fundraisers, or just regular hot food provision.

This training is not just for venues, even knowing about Food v Allergies is of use when serving Tea and Coffee at a meeting, or at the side of a pitch.

Please note: we will accept a maximum of two representatives per organisation

Funding & Advice Fair

Thursday 21 November, 4pm-8pm
Omagh Leisure Complex

Save the date for this upcoming Funding & Advice Fair providing information about available funding, how to apply and an opportunity to discuss any project ideas for your community.

Omagh Music Festival

The Annual Omagh Music Festival Weekend returns this year and will celebrate the music of Omagh legends, Frankie McBride and Frank Chisum.

On Friday 1 November, come along for an Evening of Music and Conversation with Sweet Omagh Town Internet Radio presenters, Don McGurgan and Declan Forde.

On Saturday 2 November, the Omagh Music Festival Concert will take place and artist Conor Chisum, Frank Chisum's grandson, will hold an album launch event.

Booking & Info available at <https://bit.ly/4df5P5h>

Positive Ageing Month

We offer free home safety checks for all residents who are over 65, families with children under 5, and vulnerable adults, living within our council area.

Reduce your risk from Falls in the home; Poisoning; Burns or Scalds; Danger from Carbon Monoxide; Choking or Ingestion

Apply for a home safety check by contacting the Environmental Health Department

on 0300 303 1777; email: home.safety@fermanaghomagh.com or online: <https://bit.ly/3O2VDCZ>

New Farmers' Markets

FODC is working in partnership with the NI Regional Food Programme, through the Sperrin and Erne Food Partnership, to bring Farmers' Markets to Enniskillen and Omagh.

Enniskillen Castle	Saturday 2 November	11am - 4pm
Omagh Marquee at Main Street	Sunday 3 November	12 noon - 4pm

Christmas Farmers' Markets:

Omagh Marquee at Main Street	Sunday 23 November	11am – 5pm
Enniskillen Castle	Saturday 7 December	11am - 4pm

Reaching Rural Project

Fun and creative activities for children with disabilities in different locations.

An initial four weeks of activities will run in [Gortin Outdoor Activity Centre](#) for children with disabilities aged 4 – 10 years old on the following dates:

Tuesdays 12, 19, 26 November & 3 December at 6pm.

The programme has been funded by the Public Health Agency.

To book a space or to find out more information please contact Access Inclusion by telephoning 0300 303 1777 or emailing disability@fermanaghomagh.com

Marble Arch Caves

Autumn Cave Tour Special: Buy One, Get One Half Price!

Explore the wonders of Marble Arch Caves this Autumn with our limited-time offer! Buy one Guided Cave Tour ticket and get the second at half price, available for Adult, Student, and Senior tickets.

- Booking Period: 29th September - 20th December
- Days: Monday to Friday, from 12:00 PM onwards
- Use code **50OFF** when booking online, or purchase on the day of your visit.

Don't miss out on this fantastic deal—bring a friend and discover the beauty beneath!

Visit <https://marblearchcaves.co.uk/2024/09/06/autumn-offer-guided-cave-tour/> for terms and conditions and for booking and <https://marblearchcaves.co.uk/online-booking-guided-cave-tour/> for direct link to online booking.

Sperrin AONB Consultation Findings - Report Launch

Thursday 14 November, 10am-2pm

Glenpark Estate, Omagh

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated in the recent consultation exercise to help shape the first-ever management plan for the Sperrin Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Your input has provided invaluable insights into the current landscape of Sperrin AONB, as well as the opportunities and challenges related to its future management.

We warmly invite you to attend and hear more about the outcomes of the consultation and the next steps in developing the management plan.

To help us prepare for the event, we kindly ask that you register your interest by completing the short online registration form below, noting any dietary or accessibility requirements. This will assist us with catering arrangements and ensure that participation numbers do not exceed the room capacity, as places will be limited.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sperrin-aonb-consultation-report-launch-tickets-1006704790127>

Two free buses will be running on the day via the following routes:

Dungiven > Claudy > Donemana > Glenpark Estate

Maghera > Draperstown > An Creagán > Glenpark Estate

If you would like to book a space on either bus, please indicate when registering. More information is also available upon request.

We look forward to seeing you at the event!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch by emailing us at info@sperrinpartnershipproject.com or phone 07864 962648

Ederney and Kesh Ward Play Parks Consultation

We are inviting residents in the Ederney and Kesh Ward area of the District to have their say on the future of play provision in the area as part of our Play Park Strategy.

Have your say online by visiting bit.ly/FOPlayParks

For further information see tinyurl.com/mvrym5ee

Online Consultation closes Wednesday 6 November at 5pm

Council's Reuse Scheme

The Council provides a reuse scheme for items that are suitable for reusing or restoring.

Through the scheme, you can bring your unwanted household bulky items such as wardrobes, tables and chairs to recycling centres in:

- Drummee, Enniskillen;
- Gortrush, Omagh;
- Carrickmore;
- Fintona;
- Irvinestown;
- Kesh
- Lisnaskea

where they will be collected by registered charities, refurbished and reused in the community.

You can also donate your unwanted usable paint at the recycling centres listed.

For more on the Reuse Scheme visit <https://bit.ly/FODCReuse>

Events in Fermanagh and Omagh

Visit the following websites for details of what's on in the district:

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/events-and-festivals/>

<https://www.fermanaghlakelands.com/whats-on>

<https://exploreomaghsperrins.com/whats-on/events/>

Grant Aid & Bursary – 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 [Project Development](#)

- **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 on Seeding Grants visit [Seeding Grants Guidance Notes](#)

- **Significant Sporting Achievement – Grant Aid**

Applications for Significant Sporting Achievement 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 on Seeding Grants visit [Significant Sporting Achievement – Grant Guidance Notes](#)

- **Bursaries – Sports Bursary**

Applications for Sports Bursaries 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 on Sports Bursaries visit [Sports Bursary Guidance Notes](#)

Contact Details

If you require further advice or guidance, please contact: Grants & Investment Unit, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Tel: 0300 303 1777

Email: grants@fermanaghomagh.com

Text Phone: 028 8225 6216

Free FODC Climate Team Environmental Education Programme

We are the Climate Education Team with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, and our role involves delivering our Environmental Education Programme to schools, youth and community groups.

This year we are reaching out to offer you our **free workshops** that are available to June 2025. Typically, each talk and activity lasts 45 minutes to 1 hour. Our maximum group size would be approximately 30. Sessions are allocated on a first come, first served basis, but we will try and accommodate your requests. Please be mindful of other groups and only register for one workshop for now. If the team has capacity, we will send out our programme later in the year.

The following options are currently available; Waste and Recycling, Biodiversity and Outdoor Learning, and Climate Action. Please do contact us if there is a specific topic you require, and the team will try their very best to facilitate this. All workshops can be adapted for all ages and abilities, which can be discussed further with a member of our team once you have registered.

If you are interested in a workshop, please complete the JotForm which shows the activities currently available for the year ahead: [Environmental Education Booking Form](#)

If you would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us on climate@fermanaghomagh.com or ask to speak to one of the Climate Team on 0300 303 1777.

Community Wellbeing at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

This site will provide up-to-date information in relation to Sport and Countryside Recreation programmes, events and activities across the district.

<https://www.facebook.com/SportandCountrysideRecreation/>

Community Centres

Our community centres are available to hire for children's activities/parties, community events, health and sporting activities, special occasions and corporate events.

For further details or to make a booking visit

<https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/community-centres/>

Fermanagh and Omagh Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)

A partnership between the Council, statutory providers and the community. The partnership is made up of elected and independent members and representatives from the statutory sector.

Follow us on Facebook via the link below

https://www.facebook.com/FermanaghandOmaghPCSP/?locale=en_GB

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.

For further information visit <https://www.fermanaghomagh.com/services/community/>

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.

To make an illumination request please complete <https://form.jotform.com/222782646405055> or for any enquiries regarding Council support to charities, email communitysupport@fermanaghomagh.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 \(fermanaghomagh.com\)](http://fermanaghomagh.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	Ruthanne Fawcett	ruthanne.fawcett@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21649
Erne East	Joanne Cunningham	joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21405
Erne North	Leza Cleary	leza.cleary@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21234
Erne West	Kellie Beacom	kellie.beacom@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 21201
Mid Tyrone	Eilish Morgan	eilish.morgan@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20068
Omagh	Josephine Treanor	josephine.treanor@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20222
West Tyrone	Billie-Jo Irwin	billie-jo.irwin@fermanaghomagh.com	Ext 20220

Community News

Belfast Community Gospel Choir

Saturday 2 November, 7.30pm

Devenish College, Enniskillen

Tickets £20 – Please contact Carmel 07719 440171 or Ced 07768 531919

or book via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bcgc-enniskillen-tickets-927501460837?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Draft Programme for Government 2024-2027

Consultation Period ends 4 November 2024

The NI Executive has published the [draft Programme for Government 2024-2027](#) laying out in draft form the Executive's key commitments and priorities for the next 3 years of government in Northern Ireland. You are encouraged to share your thoughts – click on the above link for details.

Give blood - you could save 3 lives!

- **Omagh** - Friday 1 November
- **Derrylin** - Monday 11 November
- **Carrickmore** - Friday 15 November
- **Irvinestown** - Thursday 21 November

Book your appointment by tapping on the link -

<https://scanner.topsec.com/?d=1783&r=show&u=https%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2FGiveBloodNI&t=9eaf8cfaa84a84e39e28806eaa01d393e44b7f7a>

Omagh Forum AGM and Networking Event

Tuesday 5 November, 7.30pm

Fintona Orange Hall, 3 Craigavon Road, Fintona, Co Tyrone, BT78 2BN,
hosted by Ecclesville LOL 34.

The event is open to all rural community groups across the district, and our focus this year is on anti-poverty and measures to help households. We will have speakers from Omagh Independent Advice Service and the Anti-Poverty Officer, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (FODC). We will have some energy-saving tips as well as a few spot prizes.

We will also have a number of information stands at the event. Confirmed so far are FODC REAP and Labour Market Partnership - employability programmes; Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP); We Care Project; Omagh Healthy Living Network; B-friend Hub; Libraries NI, Fermanagh and Omagh; and Easilink Community Transport. We hope to have others also.

Ecclesville LOL will also tell us about their funding journey which led to the transformation of their Hall.

This is a great opportunity to learn new things and network with others in the district. Light refreshments provided. We would love to see you there.

Divergently Together –

A community engaged project by artist AlanJames Burns

Call for Participants

We are looking for **neurodivergent individuals aged 25+** who are interested in climate action, to join a series of creative, cross-border workshops in Spring 2025.

Participants will collaborate in creative workshops experimenting with bio materials and technology that explores the lived experiences, perspectives, and responses of the disability community to the impact of climate change.

Participants will receive a fee for taking part and access support can also be provided.

If you're interested, please feel free to get in touch with laura@alanjamesburns.com

Tattymoyle Wind Farm

SSE Renewables are proposing to develop the Tattymoyle Wind Farm near Fintona, Co. Tyrone comprising up to 10 turbines generating up to 60MW. The turbines will have a maximum tip height of 180m. The project is located in an area identified in Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Wind Energy Strategy as having the 'highest underlying capacity' for development of renewable infrastructure.

The project will deliver a range of benefits, including;

- Providing enough clean energy to power around 64,000 average homes
- Displacing almost 48,000 metric tonnes of carbon annually
- Creating circa 50 jobs at peak construction
- Estimated annual Community Benefit Fund of around £300,000
- Investment in local economies
- Significant commercial rates to local Council

The project team plans to submit a planning application in Q2 2025.

Public Consultation

We will be running a Public Consultation for 4 weeks, **launching on Tuesday 5 November**.

Our consultation materials will be available to view in-person as follows:

Tuesday 5 November, 4pm-7.30pm The Valley Hotel, Fivemiletown

Wednesday 6 November, 4pm-7.30pm Mellon Country Hotel, Beltany Road, Omagh

These events are free to attend and give people the chance to learn more about our plans for the proposed wind farm and have any questions they might have answered by our project team.

You will also be able to access the consultation materials online via the banner at the top of the Tattymoyle webpage from Tuesday 5 November here <https://www.sserenewables.com/tattymoyle/> until Friday 6 December.

Youthlife

Bereavement counselling for children and young people

Fermanagh House on a Tuesday

Omagh Library on a Thursday

Youthlife provides counselling support for children and young people aged 5-25 years who have been affected by bereavement, separation, divorce or loss of a significant person

Referrals can be made by contacting Caroline Temple on 028 7137 7227 - leave a voicemail and we will get back to you or email Counselling@youthlife.org for referrals coordinator Lianne, regarding active counselling sessions.

More info can be found on their website [Youthlife – Bereavement Counselling for Children and Young People](#)

The Impartial Reporter

Mainly About People Section

Our newly expanded Mainly About People section is a **free service** designed to spotlight the fantastic efforts that are making a real difference locally.

To ensure we represent the breadth of work happening in our area, **we are inviting all community groups to send us news releases, event details, and a photograph.** If you do not have a suitable image, we would be happy to arrange new photos as needed.

All we require is at least 100 words and a photograph, and we will feature your group both in print and online. Please send your submissions to map@impartialreporter.com including "MAP" in the subject line.

We are eager to feature as many groups as possible so please do get in touch and let us celebrate the amazing work happening in our community.

Carers' Hub

Thursdays, 11am-1pm

Aisling Centre, Enniskillen

Guest Speaker and Refreshments provided

The purpose of the group is for unpaid carers to come together to support each other.

The group will have different information and training sessions and there will also be feel good sessions such as aromatherapy, lunch and other activities planned throughout the year.

If you are interested in attending, please contact:

Judith, Western Rural Health Care Ederney GP Surgery on 028 6863 1234 or

Martina, Dromore and Trillick GP Surgery on 028 8244 0600

You **do not** have to be registered with these two GP practices to register for this event.

Open to all carers in the wider Fermanagh and Omagh area.

Oak Healthy Living Centre

Lisnaskea

We are delighted to advertise our upcoming programme of activities here in the centre to December this year.

For more information visit <https://www.oakhealthylivingcentre.com/>

Tel: 028 67723843

Email: Info@oakhlc.com or admin@oakhlc.com

Fermanagh House

Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen BT74 7HR

Spaces and Connections: Healthy ageing in rural and coastal areas

How does our social environment affect our health as we get older?

Thursday 7 November, 11am - 3pm

With Dr Claire Potter from Queen's University Belfast.

Come along and join researchers from Queen's and representatives from AgeNI and The Paul Hogarth Company Landscape Architects for this special event to discuss how where we live may affect our health as we get older with a particular focus on rural and coastal living. As well as sharing lived experiences around healthy ageing, attendees will be able to discuss and reflect on new research that combines the themes of healthy ageing, social connection and rural or coastal living. To book a place: [Spaces and Connections: Healthy ageing in rural and coastal areas Tickets, Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Introduction to Collection Data on your Community & creating a Community Profile

Session 1: Tuesday 19 November 6.30pm-9.00pm

Session 2: Tuesday 26 November 6.30pm-9.00pm

These workshops will help participants learn about the NISRA-NI Statistics & Research Agency and NINIS - NI Neighbourhood Information service. Participants will learn how to use these 2 sources of official information collected by government across a range of issues and geographies in Northern Ireland to benefit their groups / organisations understanding of the area they are working in or of the group / community they are working with.

Location: [Fermanagh House](#), Enniskillen

Facilitator: [Rural Community Network](#)

For more info / register <https://forms.gle/QMxG2Y8kf72WHixY6>

Impact of social isolation and loneliness on health and wellbeing

Thursday 14 November, starting with lunch at 12pm, and ending at around 3.00pm.

Age NI is working with Queen's University Belfast and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on this piece of research. We would be delighted if you could join us at the Focus Group session. If you would like to attend, please let Michele Young know at Age NI – just drop her an email: michele.young@ageni.org

You'll find this particularly relevant if you have experience of the issue yourself, perhaps because of your own lived experience, or the experience of a friend or family member, or because you know of examples of the impact of loneliness and isolation on people's health and wellbeing because of your work or volunteering experience.

All input will be kept anonymous, and we will not be identifying anyone's experience by discussing their name or describing where they live.

Seeking applications from Pre-Schools for the first year of a new Shared Education initiative – ASPIRE.

Tuesday 5 November, 6.30pm-8.30pm

[Early Years - the organisation for young children](#)

This project continues until December 2028, and follows on from the Sharing from the Start initiative. The sessions will introduce settings to the new project and application process and will be an opportunity to discuss ideas and best practice.

This project is supported by the European Union's "PEACEPLUS Programme", managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

To register [ASPIRE Pre-School Application Workshop \(Enniskillen\) Tickets, Tue 5 Nov 2024 at 18:30 | Eventbrite](#)

JustUs Events

- **Friday 8 November**, 7pm-10pm – 80s/90s Disco in the Valley Hotel with DJ Ice. £5 entry.
- **Tuesday 12 November**, 12pm-4pm - Purple Tuesday Party, Enniskillen Legion. Free entry. Purple Tuesday is a global social movement for improving the customer experience for disabled people and their families. It addresses the barriers faced by disabled consumers and encourages businesses to become more disability-friendly. Over time, Purple Tuesday has grown into an international campaign highlighting the importance of accessibility, inclusivity, and equal access for all consumers. If individuals have something purple they can wear (hairband, t-shirt, tie or hat) that would be great! However wearing purple is optional.
- **Friday 6 December**, 12.30-2.30pm – Christmas Disco in Enniskillen Legion with DJ Chris Morrow. £5 Entry; 1 carer free.

JustUs is a group with charitable objectives, hosting regular events for adults with disabilities. JustUs aim to promote health, wellbeing and social inclusion through our events and activities. These include discos, live music, day trips, walks and much more.

Want to know more? Join our Facebook Page JustUs or email us at JustUs.events@yahoo.com

Attendees must be 18 or over and those requiring assistance must be accompanied at all events.

Volunteering with the Western Trust

Would you like to become an Encompass Volunteer?

The Encompass digital health and social care record system will go live in the Western Trust on 8 May 2025. This is a once in a generational system change, the likes most of us have never seen before, nor will again. During the transition from our now outdated systems to the new Encompass system we will have lots of visitors to our hospital sites, many of whom will never have been to the Western Trust. We will have patients and clients who may not have heard of Encompass or what it means to them.

Our team of Encompass volunteers will be on hand to Meet and Greet at our hospital entrances, to offer wayfinding advice and provide reassurance for those unsure of our new way of working.

Volunteers will be given relevant training prior to the Go live date and will attend at various times before 8 May to support with practice runs etc.

As an Encompass volunteer you would attend during the working week, as such we are seeking those available during usual working hours, i.e. Monday to Friday 8am-5.30pm.

If becoming an Encompass volunteer is something you would like to know more about, or you are interested in any of our other volunteers roles, please email volunteering@westerntrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 7161 1155.

Further information about volunteering in the Western Trust can be found at <https://westerntrust.hscni.net/about-the-trust/involving-you/volunteering/>

Health Improvement Team

Nutrition Webinars

A wide range of free 30 min nutrition webinars for all life stages and healthy recipe videos are available. Watch on YouTube at <http://pha.site/public-health-dietitians-youtube>

NOW Group Family Service

We are trying to encourage more referrals from the Fermanagh and Omagh area.

We work with parents who have learning disabilities, diagnosed ASD, ADHD, Dyslexia or if the parent self identifies with a LD. The parent must be pregnant or have a child aged 0-5 and have no or low social work involvement.

We provide early intervention parenting support to parents and also offer parenting programmes (Weaning, mental health, toilet training etc). Our support is very much based around what the individual needs at that time.

- Attending appointments with parents
- Developing a routine
- Understanding and Behaviour management
- Completing and filling out forms
- Toilet training
- Weaning
- Budgeting/money management
- Encouraging social life
- Advocacy

Contact Shauna McKenna, Family Service Officer, Western Trust Area on 07548 224562
Head office: 028 9043 6400 <https://www.nowgroup.org/>

Public Consultation - HSCNI Involvement and Consultation Scheme

The Public Health Agency (PHA), in partnership with the Northern Ireland Health and Social Care (HSC) Trusts are seeking your views on a new Involvement and Consultation Scheme Document.

Involvement of and consultation with service users and carers is critical in the commissioning, development, design and delivery of HSC Services. To comply with our statutory duties in regards to Involvement and Consultation, as set out in the Health and social Care Reform Act (NI) 2009, all HSC organisations, to which the legislation applies, must have a Consultation Scheme in place, which sets out how they meet their statutory responsibilities in this field.

Working together through the Regional HSC Personal & Public Involvement (PPI) Forum, service users, carers, experts and advocates in the fields of Involvement and Consultation and other HSC partners, have collaborated on the development of a common, generic template, in order to update our respective Schemes.

In adopting this approach, our new Schemes, will encourage a raising of standards and can aid us to deliver an improved consistency of approach to the active and meaningful involvement of service users, carers, and effective partnership working with our Community & Voluntary sector partners and the wider public.

We thank you in advance for taking the time to give us your feedback on the Involvement and Consultation Scheme and look forward to your comments.

This consultation will close on Monday 11 November 2024. You can take part at <https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc/consultation-on-hsc-consultation-scheme-template>

If you would like to find out more information, please contact ppi.secretary@hscni.net.

Erne Paddlers

Indoor pool kayaking courses continue through November and December. Pool sessions in Enniskillen, Fivemiletown and Omagh with a range of courses suitable for everyone. Beginners through to experienced paddlers, skills courses for all aged 13yrs+, fun sessions specifically for children aged 7-12yrs and teen leadership development courses. Look out for midweek and weekend Lough Erne trips, and sea kayaking adventures off the Donegal coast.

Full details of all courses and activities, and tickets available at www.ernepaddlers.org.uk/events

We have some extra capacity over the coming months to run indoor sessions for local community and charity groups. These can be block booked by organisations and tailored to meet the needs of participants. We have significant knowledge and experience providing bespoke paddlesports activities across a wide range of local organisations. If you or your group are interested and would like to find out more please get in touch.

Erne Paddlers is a not-for-profit registered charity and an inclusive club.

We try to keep prices as low as possible and there are additional discounts available depending on individual circumstances. Find us on Facebook, Instagram and X for regular updates too. If anyone would like to find out more, please get in touch via social media, email@ernepaddlers.org.uk or call/WhatsApp 07468911398.

Good Relations Awards 2025

Now open for nominations

The annual Good Relations Awards spotlight the vital role that individuals and groups play in peacebuilding throughout Northern Ireland.

Previous Award winners have come from all parts of the region and worked in a wide variety of settings including women and peacebuilding, faith-based work, youth work, community development, cross community work at interfaces, and ethical remembering/commemorative work in a history of conflict.

For further information visit <https://goodrelationsawards.com/>

Closing Date Thursday 19 December 2024

The Centre for Independent Living Northern Ireland (CILNI)

Dedicated to empowering disabled people to live independently and make choices about their own lives. Established to promote the principles of Independent Living, CILNI works closely with individuals, families, and carers to provide advice, support, and guidance on accessing Self-Directed Support and Direct Payments. By offering a range of services, from helping to inform support plans to supporting individuals to become employers, CILNI aims to ensure that disabled people have control over their own support arrangements and can live in a way that best suits their needs and aspirations.

CILNI offers tailored assistance to those seeking Direct Payments, enabling them to arrange personalised care and support that enhances their quality of life. A key aspect of this support is guiding individuals through the process of becoming an employer, helping them understand their responsibilities and rights when employing personal assistants or carers. Through one-to-one advice and ongoing guidance, CILNI is dedicated to breaking down barriers and enabling disabled people to live fuller, more inclusive lives in their communities.

For information visit www.cilni.org or Tel: 028 9064 8546

Huntington's Disease Association Northern Ireland

Huntington's Disease is a rare neuro-degenerative condition affecting the lives of hundreds of people across NI. Over time, HD causes a person to lose control over their body and mind and eventually they will require constant care until end of life. No two people or two families will have exactly the same experience of HD. There is currently no cure and carefully co-ordinated management of the disease by a range of health and social care professionals is required, to maximise independence and promote well-being for everyone impacted.

HDANI is the only charity in Northern Ireland that provides a range of services to anyone affected by HD including facilitated support groups, advocacy, advice, practical & emotional support, information & training.

Our services are free, confidential and available to anyone in Northern Ireland impacted by HD. If you want information or support for yourself or your family you can contact us. Visit our website www.hdani.org.uk or you can email us on info@hdani.org.uk and someone will be in touch within 2 working days.

Tara Centre

11 Holmview Terrace, Omagh BT79 0AH

For details of our Autumn programme please visit <https://taraomagh.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Tara-Centre-Autumn-Brochure-2024-web.pdf>

This includes workshops on Meditating Together, The Green Platform, The Enneagram, Dru Yoga, Qi Gong for Self Healing and Meditation "The Soul of Healing".

Ongoing services available include Counselling/Psychotherapy, Art Therapy, Complementary Therapies.

Support Groups:

- PATHS Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month 8pm-9.30pm
- Omagh Men's Support Group meets Mondays, 7.30-9.30pm

Any enquiries on any of the above, or to book your place, please contact reception on 028 8225 0024 Email: info@taraomagh.com

Aisling Centre

37 Darling Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DP Tel 028 6632 5811

****Special Event – Friday 8 November at 7pm****

The Four Seasons – a gala evening of imagery & music at Castle Coole. Featuring photographs of the counties through which the Erne flows by Richard Pierce. Musical entertainment from Jonathan Beatty & friends. With canapés from Tully Mill & wine from Brian Cullen Wine Shop.

Tickets cost £30 & are available from info@theaislingcentre.com / 028 6632 5811.

Groups & Programmes:

- Forget Me Not – Bereaved by Suicide Support group meets first Monday every month at 7.30pm. Next meeting will be Monday 4 November. Annual Tree of Lights service Sunday 24 November, 3pm. - a moving event organised annually by the Forget Me Not Support Group. This very special ceremony creates a quiet space to remember a loved one who has died by suicide before the advent of the Christmas Season. For further information please contact Aisling Centre on 028 6632 5811.

- Mindfulness Meditation – Monthly drop-in sessions, last Tuesday of every month at 7pm. Next meeting Tuesday 26 November.
- Self-Care Sessions – 5-week programme with a particular focus on managing anxiety. 9.30am - 11am running from Tuesday 8 October until Tuesday 12 November (with a break Tuesday 29 October). Advance registration required - please contact info@theaislingcentre.com or telephone 028 6632 5811.

Other Groups:

- Alcoholics Anonymous – 3 meetings per week at Aisling Centre. For more information, please contact info@theaislingcentre.com or telephone 028 6632 5811.
- Aware – Mental Health Support Group. Meets every other Tuesday at 7pm. Next meeting on Tuesday 5 November. If you would like to attend, please contact Sarah on 07867 028489 or email sarah@aware-ni.org.
- Escapists – Support Group for Carers. Meets Wednesdays 10.30am-1pm. For more information contact info@theaislingcentre.com or call 028 6632 5811.
- Carer's Support Hub – Meets on the last Thursday of the month, 11am-1pm. Next meeting on Thursday 28 November. Support for all carers in Fermanagh and Omagh. Please contact Judith to attend on 028 6863 1234.
- Fermanagh Pride – Meets Thursdays at 7pm. Contact 07368 503661 or email fermanaghpride@gmail.com for further information.
- Island Artists – Open to new members. Meets Wednesdays from 2-4pm. For more information, please contact Maura on 07968 225704.
- Little Mess – Messy play and learning for children aged 6 months to 5 years, with a craft corner for older siblings up to 10 years old. Next event Friday 1 November at 11am. Contact Colette on fermanagh@thelittlesensory.co for more information of if you would like to attend.

Yoga Timetable (please contact individual facilitators to book):

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| • Christine | Mondays at 5.30pm | 07722 550040 |
| • Leila | Mondays at 7pm | 07594 026531 |
| • Elena | Tuesdays at 7.15pm | 07894 037450 |
| • Alasdair | Wednesdays at 6.30pm | 07776 290903 |
| • Genny | Thursdays at 12pm | 028 8754 1994 |
| • Theresa | Thursdays at 6.30pm & 7.30pm | 07923 694523 |

Aisling Centre Christmas cards – A unique collection featuring 3 local photographs taken by Richard Pierce. Cards are printed on sustainably sourced paper and 100% of the proceeds to Aisling Centre. Cost £4.50 for a pack of 9 cards. Available from Aisling Centre and Westend Coffee Shop.

Christmas Gift Ideas - Give someone The Gift of Hope this year. Aisling Centre gift cards to help provide counselling to a local person. A sustainable and ethical gift for the person who has everything they need.

The Four Seasons – A stunning collection of limited-edition mounted and signed photographs by Richard Pierce. Available in A3 and A4 size. Can be purchased Singly or as a set of 4. 100% of proceeds to Aisling Centre. Available for sale at Aisling Centre from 9 November.

Hope Healing Growth – Save the Date – Aisling Centre's Annual Day of Inspiration will take place on **Saturday 11 January** at the Crest Centre, SW College, Enniskillen. Booking will be via Eventbrite and the details will be published on our Facebook page early November. (would also make a very meaningful Christmas gift)

Apply for a Broadcast Appeal on BBC Radio Ulster

We are inviting applications for our Radio Ulster Broadcast Appeals from January 2025 onwards. The BBC provides up to 11 broadcast slots to local charities each year on BBC Radio Ulster/Foyle. These are available for local charities registered with the Charity Commission NI and who offer their services on a region-wide basis.

More information, application guidelines and an application pack can be downloaded from the following webpage

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/northernireland/appeals/apply>

Omagh Healthy Living Network

Social Prescribing Service

We offer ongoing 1-2-1 support for individuals who need a little extra help with social issues impacting their health and wellbeing.

Our team is here to connect you with local resources and services that can make a real difference in your life.

For more information or to register your interest, don't hesitate to reach out.

Contact us at 028 82 25 1559 or health@omaghforum.org.

Let's take the next step together toward a healthier, happier you!

Latest Volunteering Opportunities

Fermanagh <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering-opportunities/>

Omagh <https://omaghvolunteercentre.org/opportunities>

Swim Ireland - Women in Sport Community Survey

On the back of International Day of the Girl 11th October and the launch of Sport Ireland - Her Moves Campaign [#ItsComplicated](#), Swim Ireland is seeking feedback from women and girls to help us shape our 2025 Women in Activity Calendar, continuing our mission to create an island of swimmers.

We would like to hear from as many women and girls as possible to help us understand what they enjoy, if they are an active swimmer or, if not, what is preventing them from participating.

It only takes 3-4 minutes to complete, and the survey is completely anonymous, please click on the link [Swim Ireland Women in Sport Community Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#)

Anxiety Based School avoidance: Podcast

Parentline NI experience large numbers of calls from parents and carers who are struggling with the issue of Anxiety Based School avoidance.

Many of these parents feel like they are the only ones going through it, which is so far from the truth.

In this very special episode of the Parentline NI Podcast we share some of the stories and experiences from parents, and shine a light on this issue.

Our host Kerry McLean chats to Courtney, Lyndsey and Fiona, as well as Elaine from Strive NI in this episode. Full episode here: [PODCAST](#)

St Patrick's Day 2025 in Fermanagh - Grant Aid

We are now past the 5 month countdown to the St Patrick's Day Festival in Enniskillen so we thought no better time to reveal our theme...**Jump n Jive in 25!**

As well as celebrating all things dance & fitness we're also including a "J" party into the mix to help make your outfits and floats come alive in 25!

Not only have invitations now been sent to all schools in Fermanagh, we are also encouraging everyone to start thinking about how they can showcase their club, business, school or organisation at Enniskillen's biggest cross community party of the year.

As ever we are already working behind the scenes to make the next one bigger and better than ever but we're only as good as you guys! Small grants to help you participate are available but limited so please email info@projectstpatrick.com asap to get involved.

And remember 17th March 2025 falls on a Monday, making it the last Paddy's bank holiday weekend for a while so start making plans to gather friends and family for all your usual favourites and a few new surprises!

Check out the galleries at www.projectstpatrick.com for loads of pics & videos from last year and beyond.

Urgent Attention Please!

Defibrillators: HeartSine® Samaritan® PAD 350P/360P/450P/500P, Omron HDF-3500

The HeartSine Samaritan PAD and Omron HDF-3500 are small, lightweight, portable, battery operated Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) designed to treat victims of cardiac arrest. We have determined that a manufacturing-related issue may impair device audio prompts.

The issue could prevent the device from delivering instructional voice prompts to the user during use of the device.

The device has visual instructional icons still present and is functional, but if the issue is not identified by the customer prior to use, it could potentially lead to no therapy or a delay in therapy. In addition, there may be risk of shock to the user due to the absence of the "stand clear" voice prompt.

There has been one reported serious incident to date in which the device failed to deliver audio prompts. Serious incidents or quality problems experienced with the use of this product may be reported to the Stryker Representative, Aman Auluck Email: amandip.auluck@stryker.com

Training Opportunities

Current Free Courses, Omagh, Enniskillen, Derry/Londonderry & Online!

Do you volunteer or work for a Charity, Community Group, Voluntary organisation?
A sports club, music group, arts group, social /recreational group?

Understand how to Engage People and Explore different Methods of Consultation

Tuesday 5 November, 7.00pm-9.30pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Need help gathering the Info to help your Funding Applications?

Collecting Data on your Community & creating a Community Profile.

Session 1: Tuesday 19 November & Session 2: Tuesday 26 November, 6.30pm-9.00pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Involving People in Decision-Making

It's important when working with any Community or group that you engage with and consult with everyone involved. To do so it's important to have an understanding and knowledge of a variety of methods of engaging with people.

Tuesday 5 November, 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Fermanagh House, Enniskillen

Facilitator: Rural Community Network Register at <https://forms.gle/1v9RFeMeitCuaNhM7>

What to expect:

Understand the value of participation and consultation

Explore policy and legislation

Understand the differing levels of participation and consultation.

Understand the barriers to & difficulties of achieving participation.

Gain knowledge of new ways to engage people & overcome barriers to participation.

Opportunities to meet others working/volunteering in Community/Voluntary sector locally.

Online On Demand Courses

Access your free learning from any device, at any time, from any location!

Access full programme details at this link and register for any of the above courses at

<https://www.fermanaghtrust.org/community-support/training-programme>

If you have any questions or training needs we haven't covered, please do get in touch, call Sonya at The Fermanagh Trust on 028 6632 0210 or email leadership@fermanaghtrust.org

WHSC Recovery College Autumn Winter 2024 Prospectus

Free courses on mental health and emotional wellbeing

We all have varying degrees of mental health just like with our physical health. As such our workshops are free and open to absolutely everyone – carers and supporters, people with or without a mental health diagnosis, staff, students – anyone who wants to improve or maintain their mental health and emotional wellbeing.

We keep things informal and relaxed, and all workshops have been written and are delivered by people who have lived experience alongside mental health professionals so students get the lived and learned experience of the topics.

For further details visit:

<https://westerntrust.hscni.net/recovery-college-launches-autumn-winter-2024-prospectus/>

Health Improvement Equality & Involvement Department Training Brochure to March 2025

The WHSCT Health Improvement Equality & Involvement (HIEI) Department has released their latest Training Brochure which is offering **free training courses** taking place across the Trust from to 31 March 2025.

This second edition of the HIEI Training Brochure has an exciting new themed layout. Our training courses are now found under the headings of Children & Families, Community Development, Emotional Health & Wellbeing, Nutrition, Physical Activity, Sexual Health and Smoking Cessation. We are also delighted to introduce eight brand new courses and three courses that are returning to the brochure.

Our new courses are Odyssey Parenting your Teen Programme, What is Childline?, Health Literacy Awareness Session, Making our Nervous System Work for Us: Using the Polyvagal Theory, The Power of Humour: Mental Wellbeing's Secret Weapon, Understanding Bereavement with Suicide, Understanding Self Harm and Understanding Self Harm with Autism.

The courses coming back again are Introduction to Interculturalism and Traveller Cultural Awareness, Introduction to Positive Intelligence and I Can Cook it!

The courses will be delivered either via Zoom or face to face in a range of locations across the WHSCT.

To view the Training Brochure, click on this link [Training Brochure Sept 24 - Mar 25 - Tra \(pagetiger.com\)](#)

For course details including times and course content and to book a place, please click the 'Click Here to Register' icon below each course which takes you to the Eventbrite registration page. Click on the Health Improvement, Equality and Involvement (HIEI) logo on the Page Tiger page to be taken to the HIEI website.

Accessible view is available.

For further information and any queries in relation to the Training Brochure, please email health.improvement@westerntrust.hscni.net or telephone 028 7186 5127.

Funding Opportunities

Community Relations / Cultural Diversity (CR/CD) grant scheme

Currently open by Community Relations Council

All projects in receipt of CR/CD funding must be completed within this financial year

Grants are up to £10K maximum and for project costs only

Average grant is £2K – £5K

Details at <https://www.community-relations.org.uk/funding-scheme/community-relations-cultural-diversity>

Closes Friday 1 November 2024

Home Instead Charities

Small Grants to Reduce Social Isolation for Over 55s in the UK

We can fund:

- Regular weekly or monthly events and activities such as weekly cinema club, weekly knit and natter or Thursday lunch club
- One off activities such as a day trip or a Christmas lunch
- Activities such as yoga or a guest speaker for your group such as a local historian

For further information visit [Apply For A Grant | Home Instead Charities](#)

NB Applications received in October will be processed and awarded in November.

Department for Communities

Roof and Windows Repair Stream

Owners of historic, listed buildings in Northern Ireland can access financial support to carry out essential repair work, with a focus on keeping buildings watertight.

This funding is part of the Department for Communities' Historic Environment Fund initiative, aimed at preserving architectural heritage. The Repair Stream of the Historic Environment Fund offers up to £8,000 per property, and up to £15,000 for thatched buildings, for vital roof and window repairs in the 2025/26 financial year. The aim is to spread the available support widely and to help owners tackle the impact of more extreme weather resulting from climate change. Eligible works include repairs to slated roofs, lead work, chimney repairs, thatched roofs and windows. Some professional fees may also be covered, but the programme does not support alterations, improvements or work on unlisted historic buildings. Churches are also excluded from funding.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday 27 November 2024, 5pm.

For more information, please visit <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/communities/dfc-hed-roof-window-repair-stream-guidance.pdf>

Sported: Cash4Clubs 2024

Sported is delighted to team up with Cash4Clubs to deliver another round of funding in 2024.

Grants of £2000 (€2000 in Ireland) are available for community organisations working with adults from under-represented communities, delivering sport or physical activity for social purpose.

The 2024 programme is exclusively focused on supporting adult clubs. They want to offer funding to groups that deliver activities to over 18s only, with an emphasis on 18–25 year olds. The funding will be unrestricted but with an outcome of increasing participation, meaning clubs are able to decide how best to use the grant to engage more adults from their local communities.

The fund is currently open until Tuesday 12 November 2024.

For full details visit <https://thehub.sported.org.uk/cash4clubs.html>.

Mental Health Strategy Early Intervention & Prevention

New grant programme: Strengthening Communities

This will provide multi-year funding of up to £500,000 for projects which make communities stronger, healthier and more inclusive. The annual budget for this new programme will be around £20 million. Now open to applications from voluntary and community sector organisations with no closing date.

Our strategy, '[It starts with community](#)', puts equity and fairness at the heart of our funding.

In Strengthening Communities, we will invest most where the need is greatest, ensuring that those who experience poverty, discrimination and disadvantage – adults, children and young people alike – have the same opportunity to fulfil their potential, participate in their communities and live healthier, happier lives. It will be our main funding offer up to 2030 and will start off by specifically targeting two of our strategy mission areas:

- help children and young people thrive
- enable people to live healthier lives

We will continue to expect project proposals to be community-led, to build on existing strengths and to increase connection and strengthen networks. We will also want people applying to the programme to tell us why they are best placed to deliver, how they will know their project has made a difference and how they will measure that impact.

We will be sharing details of information sessions for any groups interested in applying on our social media channels in the coming weeks. We want people to contact our team and chat to us about their ideas if they would like to apply – here's a [link](#) where there are some more details about the programme.

Homewards Fund

Homewards is a UK-wide programme to end homelessness, launched in 2023 in partnership with The Royal Foundation of The Prince and Princess of Wales.

Homewards aims to demonstrate that homelessness can be ended, making it rare, brief and unrepeatable.

The Homewards Fund is a targeted fund, aimed at supporting members of the Homewards Coalitions in the six Homewards Locations, including Northern Ireland. This might include charities, community groups, housing associations and private companies.

Maximum value: Discretionary

For more information visit <https://homewards.org.uk/homewards-fund/>

Application deadline: None specified

Victoria Homes Trust

Grants are available for voluntary projects that assist the physical, mental and spiritual development of young people in Northern Ireland under 21 years of age. Examples of eligible areas include alcohol and drugs abuse; homelessness; and counselling for those in need of guidance, advice and support.

Maximum value: £2,500

For further information visit <https://www.victoriahomestrust.com/>

Application deadline: Thursday 2 January 2025

The Fermanagh Trust - Funding Opportunities

For Brookeborough Area - from the Teiges Mountain Wind Farm Fund - Local groups can apply for small one-off grants up to a maximum of £2000. Closing date Wednesday 6 November 2024

For Community Groups in Drumquin and Killen - If your group is located within 5km of either of these wind farms, you may be eligible for a grant to support your local projects. Funding is available for small one-off grants, longer-term strategic programmes, and larger capital projects. Closing date Wednesday 6 November 2024

For Belleek and Garrison Areas: Callagheen Wind Farm Fund - This fund aims to support community projects within a 7km radius of the wind farm, situated between Belleek and Garrison. A significant opportunity for local groups to secure financial backing for initiatives that enhance community life. Applications are welcome from a broad spectrum of community-focused projects, including those related to economic, social, and educational development. Closing date Friday 1 November 2024

Joan Trimble Awards:

Bursaries available for young people in music, creativity, the performing arts and Irish culture

In memory of the renowned Enniskillen-born musician and composer Joan Trimble, the bursary scheme was created by her family to honour her lifelong dedication to County Fermanagh. These awards aim to foster the involvement of young people in music, creativity, the performing arts, and Irish culture. The bursaries support individuals up to and including 25 years of age, providing financial assistance for specialist education, training sessions, and courses, as well as international cultural programmes. Closing date Friday 1 November 2024

Fermanagh Voluntary Association of the Disabled:

A Legacy of Generosity and Community Spirit

After 58 years of dedicated service to the people of Fermanagh, the Fermanagh Voluntary Association of the Disabled (FVAD) is closing its doors, leaving behind a legacy that will continue to benefit the community. Founded in 1966 to address a significant gap in services for local people with disabilities, FVAD has been a pillar of support and camaraderie, creating spaces for social, recreational, and educational activities while offering vital welfare advice and skills development. As FVAD closes its doors, it is delighted to announce the creation of the FVAD Legacy Fund in partnership with the Fermanagh Trust. This fund will carry on the charity's spirit by providing grant aid for social and recreational activities for disability groups in Fermanagh.

Visit <https://www.fermanaghtrust.org/our-grants> for full information on the above opportunities