

URBAN VILLAGES

FOCUS

MAGAZINE

ISSUE

04

SEPTEMBER
2018

**Pic
ops!**

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COLIN

**FOOTPRINTS
CAPACITY
BUILDING**

Tackling Holiday
HUNGER

EASTSIDE

SOUTH
BELFAST

**Let Us
Celebrate**

NORTH
BELFAST

**WOMEN'STEC
RECRUITMENT**

DERRY-
LONDONDERRY
Streets Alive

**FÉILE
LAUNCH
IN AUGUST**

**URBAN
VILLAGES**

Thriving Places

IMPROVING AREAS | STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES | LIVING BETTER TOGETHER

Contents



4 CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Building relationships across Urban Village areas



6 LOCAL STORIES

Colin West Belfast **6-8**
 Derry-Londonderry **9-11**
 East Belfast **12-14**
 North Belfast **15-17**
 South Belfast **18-20**



21 CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Improving the physical environment



24 WHAT'S ON

Get involved in local events and activities



27 NEWS

Keeping you up to date

About Us



The Urban Villages Initiative is a headline action of the Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) Strategy. It is designed to improve good relations outcomes and develop thriving places.

The Urban Villages Initiative is shaped and delivered in partnership with local communities and has three core aims:

- To foster positive community identities
- To build community capacity
- To improve the physical environment

The Urban Villages Initiative is continuing to invest in the five Urban Village areas by supporting organisations in the development of projects aimed at improving the lives of people in these areas.

For more information contact: info@urbanvillagesni.org

Welcome

Linsey Farrell Programme Director, Urban Villages Initiative, The Executive Office



Welcome to the September edition of the Urban Villages FOCUS magazine.

In this edition you will read about community projects across the Urban Village areas that are involved in a wide range of activities, all tied into our core aims of building capacity, improving the physical environment and fostering positive community identities.

You will see what a positive impact these projects are having on people's lives and the wider community as a whole.

During Good Relation Week 2018 we were delighted to celebrate 13 schools in Urban Village areas becoming Schools of Sanctuary at a showcase event at the Belfast City Hall, and we have another 10 signed up to start their journey this year!

Fantastic to see these young people and their teachers leading the way in creating welcoming and inclusive places for newcomer children and their families, you can read more on pages 4-5.

The Urban Villages Capital projects are now rolling out with several projects progressing across the Urban Village areas. We are beginning to see the improvement in the physical environment in ways that will benefit entire communities, you can read more on pages 21-23.

The Urban Villages Initiative is driving collaboration across government, wider public sector bodies and the voluntary and community sector to deliver better outcomes for our people. You will read about the success of those collaborations locally and between communities, and the positive effect it is having on people's lives, throughout this edition.

In the What's On section you will find a wide range of events and activities, which I would really encourage you to attend and get involved with, there is something for all interests and age groups.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this issue of FOCUS Magazine. The content really demonstrates how vibrant the Urban Village areas are becoming and highlights the diverse range of people that live and work in them, creating truly thriving places, together.

I hope you enjoy reading about what's happened in your Urban Village area and across all of the Urban Village areas in Belfast and Derry-Londonderry.

Best regards,

URBAN VILLAGE AREAS - Derry-Londonderry: Bogside, Fountain & Bishop Street. South Belfast: Sandy Row, Donegall Pass & The Markets. North Belfast: Ardoyne & Greater Ballysillan. East Belfast: Newtownards Road, Grampian Avenue to Bridge End. West Belfast: Colin Area.



Creative Schools Partnership

Earlier this year the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, through its National Lottery Funds and in collaboration with the Education Authority and the Urban Villages Initiative, launched the Creative Schools Partnership - a pilot programme bringing more creativity into the classroom to improve educational outcomes for students.

Ten schools serving communities across the five Urban Village areas worked

with professional artists to deliver a unique arts project linked to school development priorities.

The scheme directly involved 180 children through arts workshops. Many more students, family members and the wider school community were engaged through performances, publications, exhibitions and conversations.

Feedback from students and teachers was overwhelmingly positive. A celebration event



in September at the Ulster Museum will give pupils from across the Urban Village areas an opportunity to meet and hear more about each other's work.

Creative Partnership films...
Find out more: <http://bit.ly/CreativeSchoolsPartnership>

Good Relations Week

Good Relations Week took place in September with the theme **Then, Now.... Next? 20 years after the Agreement, it reflected on how far we have come and our ideas about what we should do next.**

Good Relations Week featured over 190 events. It is a high profile initiative supporting the Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) strategy and its four priority areas: Our Children and Young People; Our Shared Community; Our Safe Community; and Our Cultural Expression.

The week showcased the good work being done by a wide range of organisations in the area of community relations and cultural awareness including workshops, training events, launches, music events, showcases of work, public events, private events and more.

With the support of the EA Intercultural Education Service and the Urban Villages Initiative, schools from Urban Village areas

showcased their great work during Good Relations Week.

On the 20th September at Belfast City Hall a celebration event saw 13 schools share their journeys on becoming welcoming and inclusive Schools of Sanctuary, and more schools were welcomed onto the programme.

Jacqueline Irwin, Chief Executive of CRC, said: "During Good Relations Week we showcase events involving people who have chosen to build and sustain good relationships across our diverse community. This commitment to build good community relationships is the fabric of peace and it is changing the way we will share the future."

Further information is available at www.goodrelationsweek.com



Celebration as 13 Schools become Schools of Sanctuary

As part of Good Relations Week this month, 13 schools serving Urban Village areas across Belfast and Derry-Londonderry are celebrating becoming Schools of Sanctuary.

The Schools of Sanctuary programme helps schools to further develop as welcoming and inclusive places for newcomer pupils and their families; and a place where every child feels safe and accepted regardless of what they believe, where they are from or what they look like.

The approach helps pupils to develop cultural awareness across the curriculum and strengthens connections with the wider community.

The programme was first piloted in Blythefield Primary School in the South Belfast

Urban Village area, and in 2017 it celebrated becoming the first primary school to become a School of Sanctuary in Northern Ireland.

The work has continued as the Education Authority through its Intercultural Education Service, with funding from the Urban Villages Initiative, has provided training and support to help a further 13 schools to develop their portfolios this year and to achieve Schools of Sanctuary status, and at least a further 10 Urban Village schools will be supported to develop their portfolios in 2018/19.

Independent assessors from the City of Sanctuary Group visited the schools, one commented "Our teams have experienced a friendly welcome, warmth and hospitality and a spirit

of inclusion within the school environment of these institutions. A common idea that was shared by all these schools was that diversity is something to be proud of and that this type of open-mindedness and inclusive learning will equip children not only for their school years but also after".

The programme is supported through a partnership between the Urban Villages Initiative, the Education Authority's Intercultural Education Service and the City of Sanctuary Group.

13 New Schools of Sanctuary:

- Long Tower Primary
- Malone Integrated College
- Donegall Road Primary
- Elmgrove Primary
- Holy Evangelists' Primary
- St Kieran's Primary
- Christ the Redeemer Primary
- The Good Shepherd Primary
- Mercy College
- Holy Cross Girls' Primary
- Sacred Heart Boys' Primary
- St Joseph's College
- Cliftonville Integrated Primary



Colin Summer Festival Fun

Colin
WEST BELFAST



The Food and Craft Market at the Colin Allotments was enjoyed by all. There were lots of different vendors who specialised in a variety of fresh produce. The event featured live music and cookery demonstrations in the allotment kitchen and there was arts and crafts produced by local artists.

The Summer Festival programme coincides with the historical period in August when bonfires were a feature in the Colin area. It is always difficult to engage the young people who are inclined to get involved in building bonfires, and therefore increasing the potential of anti-social activity.

As a result of all the very positive community engagement with the Festival Programme and other initiatives in the Colin area, there has been a massive reduction in bonfires throughout the area, and as a result there was one minor bonfire with no reports of anti-social activity.



The Colin Summer Festival organised by Colin Neighbourhood Partnership (CNP) featured fun family events during the month of August.

A two-week long programme of events was rolled out at little or no cost to participants, allowing families on low income to engage in positive activity; bringing the community together and promoting positive social inclusion and interaction. During this period there was an increased sense of community pride and lots of community engagement.

Children, young people and families came together and they created costumes for the Colin carnival parade, they learnt new skills through cookery and crafts, and men received vital health checks. Importantly, the community came together to participate in this celebration event and mixed in a safe and controlled environment.



Highlights of the festival included the annual Colin Festival Parade and Family Funday. This colourful carnival parade made its way up from St Luke's Church in Twinbrook to the Laurel Glen car park where there was a free Family Fun Day. There was a great family atmosphere with carnival rides, live music, talent competitions, local sporting organisations providing information on their activities, and so much more.

The annual community festival kicked off with a Historical Trip to Dublin. The programme also included, a Family Camp and Crafts Night, BBQ cookery classes at the Colin Allotments, a Family Treasure Hunt in Colin Glen Forest, and a Men's Health Fair in Cloona House.



Ionad na Fuisseoige

Spring 2018 saw the completion of an exciting programme of classes at Ionad na Fuisseoige, funded by the Urban Villages Initiative, in the new purpose-built Community Centre.

The more creative participants were able to develop their skills with courses such as Landscape Painting, Affirmative Art, and Nail Art. Those who enjoy a more practical, hands-on experience had the opportunity to complete a Driving Theory Course - resulting in a couple of successful theory tests!

Sewing, cookery, body transformation and jigfit dancing classes were on offer. The eternal students and history buffs enjoyed a 10-week course on Local History, moving on to Irish History, and Level 1 and 2 Irish Language classes.

The classes were a huge success, with all participants eagerly awaiting the Autumn Programme which will run from Sept-Dec 2018. They will have the opportunity to do a quilting and sea-art course, creative writing and photography, culminating in the production of short videos.

For further information on courses available at Ionad na Fuisseoige Email: eolas@ionadnafuisseoige.com or Telephone: **028 9062 0373**

“The courses, funded by the Urban Villages Initiative, have enabled our community to experience new learning opportunities or build on existing skills, in a friendly, sociable atmosphere where their children are cared for in the crèche, supported by our highly-qualified staff.”

Róisín Ní Raghallaigh
Ionad na Fuisseoige

Colin
WEST BELFAST



The groups are diverse and inclusive with different age-groups and cultures represented.

Women and their families in the Colin area have been given opportunities to work at a local level to build up relationships and networks with other women both from within and outside their community.

Skilled facilitators provided a range of skills and confidence building programmes aimed at raising awareness of issues that both divide and unite our communities in Northern Ireland.

Women coming through the programmes are now much more willing to participate in programmes and activities with other women's centres and groups.

For further information about Footprints Women's Centre
Email: enquiries@footprintswomenscentre.org
or
Telephone: 028 9092 3444

Footprints Empowerment Programme

The Footprints Empowerment Programme equipped the women participating with the skills and the capacity to be more active in their communities and civil society.

The programme created a collective understanding enabling women and families from diverse backgrounds and experiences to build relationships within and across communities that have been affected by the conflict in Northern Ireland.

For many this initiated the start of a dialogue across communities that would not have previously been possible without the support of this project.

Recently, over fifty women from Footprints and Ballybeen Women's centres took part in a cross community activity in Cultúrlann as part of the Féile an Phobail.

The screening of the Suffragette movie, which marked the 100th year anniversary of women's suffrage movement, brought women from the two centres together and afterwards they discussed issues relevant to women in both centres.

The project facilitated all partners to participate in programmes and activities that promote mutual respect and understanding.

New Gate Fringe Festival

Bogside, Fountain & Bishop Street

DERRY~ LONDONDERRY



This year's New Gate Fringe Festival provided a unique blend of music, dance, drama, art, storytelling, poetry, cookery demonstrations, historical tours and debates.

The impressive and edgy programme has been lauded and received considerable positive media attention.

The Festival incorporated 40+ events, over a two and a half week period. The distinctive and colourful Tartan Walk, animated the City Walls and raised money for local autism charity - Circle of Support. UV Arts graffiti workshops have produced stunning visual art pieces and a number of high profile speakers engaged in topical debates.

The festival incorporated an array of musical events, covering a wide range of genres. The Traditions Meet performance was a highlight of the Fringe Festival with

local Irish, Ulster Scots and Marching Band musicians and dancers providing a performance that brought together our distinctive cultural traditions, while showcasing the talents of local people. With an expanded programme and greater demand, events took place in a range of venues throughout the city.

The New Gate Fringe Festival and the work of the North West Cultural Partnership has demonstrated how to foster positive community identities, build relationships, enhance pride and create welcoming places; through celebrating cultural diversity and promoting and developing a programme of festivals, events and cultural activity.



Féile 2018



Féile 2018, in its 26th year, is Derry-Londonderry's biggest community festival. This year's programme featured more than 70 events ranging from music, literature, sport, visual arts, fun days, health, discussions, lectures, community consultation and tours; it attracted audiences in excess of 25,000 over a 9-day period during August.

The Urban Villages Initiative funds a number of events and activities as part of the Féile. Some highlight events included: The Meenan Square Village Fair took over the Meenan Square, Meenan Park,

Dove Gardens, and Abbots Walk with activities for all the family. The event attracted hundreds of residents and visitors and featured old playground games and many more activities including a glamorous granny and bonny baby contest.

Meenan Square has been identified as one of the key regeneration projects by the Urban Villages Initiative. This event provided local residents opportunity to enjoy some fun time together at this site, which is renowned for anti-social behaviour and vandalism and

is a blight on the landscape of the area.

Young people enjoyed a range of tailored events, including: DGTL, a science, technology and digital event for children and young people. The Wonder Wagon travelled across the Bogside and Fountain providing pop-up storytelling sessions to children about inspirational women in history. The Wacky Science Fair was a fun and interactive science event for children and young people.

Festival of Fire 2018

Gasyard Wall Féile has been providing alternatives to bonfires since 1993. Bonfires in the area have often resulted in environmental damage, anti-social behaviour as well as damage to community relations.

Over the last number of years, Féile with funding from Urban Villages and DfC, in partnership with residents, youth clubs and organisations in the area have worked together to develop a Festival of Fire in the area.

The theme for this year's finale, was the Ship of Destiny which saw a large ship containing the wishes of local young people carried through the streets of the Bogside to the Gasyard Park with the ship being placed on a large sculptural

bonfire. As well as activities for children and families, the event also featured an amazing line-up of music and dance performances from local artists.

A spectacular Festival of Fire, produced by landscape theatre company, LUXe, featuring collaborations with local young people and international artists, brought our biggest community festival, Féile 2018, to a close.

The event was attended by more than 4,200 people of all ages from across the city and beyond and proved that fire can be a wonderful way of bringing people together without the sectarianism and anti-social behaviour that is often associated with traditional bonfires.

"It was fantastic, we need more of this instead of bonfires of hate."
Local resident



Streets Alive

The 2018 Streets Alive programme, which will bring festivals, sporting events, multicultural and youth activities across the Derry-Londonderry Urban Village area was recently launched in the city. Through the yearlong Streets Alive project, the Urban Villages Initiative funded a number of events and activities as part of Féile 2018.

Led by Gasyard Wall Féile and supported by a number of local community organisations, this year-round cultural and festival programme is supported by the Urban Villages Initiative. The aim is to improve relationships across communities through this events based programme.



The programme began with the launch of Féile 2018 and the start of the New Gate Fringe Festival in the Bogside, Bishop Street and Fountain Urban Village area.

This programme also features events later this year, including the world famous Halloween celebrations, a Winter Wonderland and the Christmas Market.

Look out for a range of exciting events coming your way in 2019, including the Spring Festival!

For more information contact:
Gareth Stewart
gasyardfeilederry@gmail.com
028 7126 2812

 **Streets Alive Video**
<https://youtu.be/ofxl1g2be4s>



Resilience Programme

The Resilience Programme, led by The Bogside and Brandywell Health Forum and supported by the Urban Villages Initiative is a programme of events and activities to enhance health and wellbeing amongst young people while also strengthening partnerships between schools and youth clubs in the Derry-Londonderry Urban Village area.

So far, a group of Year 7s have been involved in an eight week long programme of education (English and Maths), physical activity and nutritional information, helping in their transition into post primary school.

Clubs involved are from the Urban Village area including St Eugene's PS, Fountain PS, Nazareth House PS, Gaelscoil Eadain Mhoir, Long Tower PS and Long Tower Youth Club, Cathedral Youth Club, Youth First, Bishop Street Youth Club and Pilots Row.

Primary School and Youth Club programmes will run from September 2018. Year 6 pupils, aged between 9 to 10 years old will participate.

For more information contact:
Bogside & Brandywell Health Forum
T: 028 7136 5330 or
E: info@bbhealthforum.org

"The Resilience Programme helps young people with poor attendance at school to improve their Maths and English as well as increasing their physical activity."
Aileen McGuinness, BBHF



Urban Villages Initiative in EastSide

EAST BELFAST

Holiday Hunger is a real issue that many families in East Belfast are dealing with during school holidays and they feel extra financial pressures.

The absence of free school meals and breakfast clubs during holiday periods means that parents often revert to buying cheap frozen food with little nutritional value, or go without themselves.

The EastSide Partnership's Scaffolding Project has connected local community organisations and churches to develop the Holiday Hunger Project 2018.

Communities Working Together to Tackle Holiday Hunger



The aim was to support the nutritional health of children during school holidays and to promote partnership working.

The project brought together partners and volunteers to target children attending summer activities, and they have successfully facilitated nearly 4,000 food interventions.

This summer, Ballymac Friendship Trust supported by CFC Inner East participated in the project; providing lunches for children from the Pitt Park area over five fun filled weeks.



They tried new foods, learned to recognise vegetables and herbs, harvested their own produce and learned some cookery skills.

The Scaffolding Project has also delivered a recycle school uniform campaign setting up uniform stalls to help parents get ready for the new school year.

For more information on this project contact Ken Humphrey ken@eastsidepartnership.com or **028 9046 7927**

East Belfast Granny

East Belfast Granny is the third in a trilogy of plays written and directed by Fintan Brady of Partisan Productions, which premiered at the Ballymac Friendship Centre during EastSide Arts Festival.

Fintan describes the play as a fast-moving trip through the life and times of a woman holding a fractured family together in tough times. "The main character is a blend of various women, of similar age and background, with their stories collected into one."

The play touches on social and financial struggles, mental health issues, loneliness and silent battles with substance misuse; not least dependency on prescription drugs which were historically over-prescribed to this generation in the trauma-rich period of the Troubles."

As part of this collaborative programme, young people in the EastSide Urban Village area have the opportunity to participate in an OCN accredited training programme. Nadine for example, has had real life experience working on this and other plays and has done a great job.



Nadine commented, "I picked the theatrical make-up course, I get to work with loads of different people and my tutor Karen really supports me. I've been able to practise on the girls in the youth club and have done the make up for the actors in two different plays in the East Belfast trilogy."

OCN Creative Skills Programme - Nadine's Story

Nadine joined Ballymac Youth Club at the age of 6, and living locally she has been about the club a lot. Now, aged 15, she is an integral part of the team at Ballymac, volunteering with the youth club and helping with the Holiday Hunger project.

Nadine is a very reliable teenager and loves to help others, she gets on with tasks whatever needs to be done. So, we invited Nadine to join the OCN Creative Skills Programme earlier this year, and she became one of our first recruits.

ARE YOU INTERESTED

in joining the OCN Creative Skills courses are open to anyone in the EastSide Urban Village area, aged 15-25. Courses include theatrical make-up and hairdressing, stage and set design, choreography, sound and lighting, drama, creative writing and stage management.

If interested, message <https://www.facebook.com/ballymaccentre/> or e-mail roz.small@hotmail.com

Connecting Communities

Through the Connecting Communities Project, East Belfast Community Development Agency (EBCDA) ran a Summer Nutrition Programme targeting 'Holiday Hunger'. They distributed food parcels containing fresh fruit and vegetables to families who would normally get free school meals during term time.

The East Belfast Wise Men's Shed packaged all the food parcels and local organisations;

Lagan Village Youth & Community Centre, Diamond Project, Oasis, Greenway Women's Centre and the Cregagh Youth and Community Centre distributed them to local families.

These collaborative projects were a huge success. Children have learned a lot and they are more aware of where their food comes from, with many happy to eat different types of food.

For more information on this project contact Narendra Munna narendra@ebcda.org or **028 9045 1512**



EastSide 'AuthentiCity' Greeter Scheme



With an ever-growing demand for experiential tourism and visitors seeking to connect, engage with and immerse themselves in local cultures and communities, destinations worldwide are now changing how they develop, manage and market their tourism offerings.

With this in mind, EastSide Tourism, supported by the Urban Villages Initiative, is harnessing the power of strong community identities and civic pride through an innovative new 'greeter' scheme, the first of its kind in Northern Ireland.

So how does it work? Visitors request to meet up with a local 'EastSider' for a pre-arranged 'greet' via: www.VisitEastSide.com/meet-eastsider.

A local volunteer is then assigned based on the interests of the visitor or group. Think kind of like a tourist/local matchmaking service.

Greets take place, usually over a cup of coffee, in JACK Coffee Bar at EastSide Visitor Centre and offer visitors an opportunity to gain an authentic insight into life in east Belfast today.

This EastSide AuthentiCity Scheme is completely free of charge for visitors and offers genuine differentiation and competitiveness for east Belfast in an increasingly crowded tourism marketplace.

At its core, this scheme also shares the same aims of the Urban Villages Initiative to build community capacity and foster positive community identities.

EastSide Tourism currently has a team of eight volunteer 'EastSiders' however they are always on the look-out for more community champions so email: visitorcentre@eastsidepartnership.com if you would like to get involved.



To The Hallion That Stole My Giant Marrow

This project involved a diverse group of 12 participants who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and members of the local Community working together to create a Social History Exhibition depicting gardening through the ages 1918 - 2018.

The aim of the project was to explore, celebrate and bring to life the history of allotments, parks, community gardens and alleyways.

The opening night singalong comedy performance of To the Hallion That Stole My Giant Marrow, included a ration style meal in our Refresh Café with a street party comedy and poetry delivered by Partisan Productions.

It was a very successful evening attended by 60 people from the local Community. The project was about good relations, inclusion, taking pride in the community and improving a sense of belonging.



Ardoyne & Greater Ballysillan

NORTH BELFAST

Yes She Can!

Project Starting September

#notjustforboys



WOMEN'STEC has an exciting new programme starting in September for young women aged 14+ and it's different to all the rest! If you are a girl, and you aspire to earn a decent salary, and you're not quite sure what career path you want to take... the Promoting Opportunities Programme could be just the thing for you.

"This is a fantastic way for young women between the ages of 14 and 24 to gain an insight into careers where women are often under represented."

Through our programme, you'll get a confidence boost, lots of inspiration from visits and outings, the chance to meet inspirational female role models and discover some fab careers (you CAN do), alongside support and guidance on how to pursue non-traditional careers!

If you ever thought you couldn't work in the wider construction industry, in the IT industry, engineering or other areas, join this project to see how you can,"
Helen Kerr, Project Worker at WOMEN'STEC.

Funded by Urban Villages, the #notjustforboys programme is currently open to young women living in Ardoyne and Greater Ballysillan.

WOMEN'STEC promise you a totally different, energising and inspiring experience. So, why not get involved?

Contact Helen by emailing helen.kerr@womenstec.org or ringing **028 9074 9810**.

Beacons lighting the way

This is the Sunningdale Community Centre's 10th year with the Beacon in North Belfast. It is a welcoming and friendly family event in the community and it is a much better approach for the environment.

The Beacon has willow chippings in the top cage, 50 pallets in the bottom cage and the sand acts as a barrier so the grass or ground does

not get burnt. There is no wood collecting required as it comes pre filled, so there is nothing lying around prior to 11th July and especially no tyres.

With no wood collection required there is no ongoing anti-social behaviour in the lead up to the 11th. People come from all over and it has become a positive celebration of our culture.

"In the past the Beacons guided the boats to safety, now I see that they guide people as a positive expression of our proud culture"

Joan Totten, NB Alternatives



NBWISP Everton Garden

growing resilient communities



Let It Grow's new garden at the Everton Complex North Belfast Day Centre, was the perfect setting for a 70th birthday party for the NHS.

Let It Grow, a project by NBWISP* health and well-being centre, offers schools and community groups the chance to discover the power of plants and their benefits to them, the community and the wider world.

The Everton courtyard was a therapeutic growing space for people with learning difficulties or battling mental health or drug addiction issues. Over the years, it had become overgrown and neglected. NBWISP took it on as a pilot project for the summer.

NBWISP tidied the space, painted benches and grow boxes in bright colours and brought leftover plants from its school gardens. They recruited a full time volunteer for the Health Board and staff along with service users help now too.

Staff tell stories of service users visibly benefiting, including a lady with serious anxiety issues who is now fully engaged in gardening and 'smiling and less anxious'.

This project is a shining example of how local communities can revitalise statutory services, in this case helping health service clients regain social skills and improve their mental wellbeing and resilience.

NBWISP is keen to continue working with Everton to expand the growing area, maintain the garden and secure OCN certificates for the staff and service users who are learning new gardening skills.

To date, NBWISP has five primary school gardens in the Urban Village area (Wheatfield, Holy Cross Girls, Our Lady's, Ligoniel and Bunscoil Bheann Mhadagain) and two other schools have asked the group to help them transform their spaces.

***NBWISP: North Belfast Women's Initiative and Support Project.**
www.facebook.com/weehouse.nbwisp

"There has been a transformation in the outdoor space but also in people's lives. We look forward to watching our garden grow and to maintain it with love."

Suzanne Wilson, Day Support Manager, North Belfast Day Centre



Ardbone Festival

boosts community spirit and good relations



In its second year, Ardbone Festival continues to grow as an exciting community festival for Ardoyne and Marrowbone.

Oliver the Musical, the talent show, traditional music, paint party, boxing showcase event and Carezone family fun day drew the largest crowds, but there were many highlights, too many to mention here.

The festival focuses on health, wellbeing, community spirit and urban regeneration, and aims to cater for all ages and backgrounds in the area and surrounding communities.

This year, with help from the Urban Villages Initiative, the Festival was able to give an extra boost to community relations and cultural diversity, with events like the Peace Players' game of three halves in Marrowbone Park, the health day run jointly with Shankill Health Partnership and support for North Belfast Friendship Club.

North Belfast Friendship Club meets Tuesdays 6pm-8pm, R-City Coffee.

It's a family-friendly space for newcomers and locals to get to know each other.

"What a lovely night we had! A huge THANK YOU to Urban Villages and to Ardoyne & Marrowbone Community Festival." Claudia Belloni, North Belfast Friendship Club

The Festival will be back for a week in December. Meanwhile, keep an eye out for a new date for the 'Run the Walls' fun run. Due to happen during festival week, the run had to be postponed.

Speak Up Ardoyne and Marrowbone

"I just love how it's just like one big community... I've stayed here all my life. I've never moved away and I have a family that I'm bringing up in the area too and hopefully they'll enjoy it enough that they'll want to stay as well."
 Arlene Murphy

Arlene Murphy is a teacher at Holy Cross Nursery School. She is the first interviewee in a series of short films featuring people living, working or born in Ardoyne and Marrowbone.

Twelve interviews are online already. You can see them on YouTube, Ardoyne

Youth Enterprise - Speak Up Ardoyne and Marrowbone playlist:



With support from Urban Villages, Ardoyne Youth Enterprise hopes to interview 60 people of all ages and backgrounds across the Urban Village area, to find out what the area means to them, their memories, concerns and hopes for the area, its people and its neighbours.

The project involves young people in the film-making and editing process, to develop their skills and confidence and give them the chance to build a portfolio to be proud of.

Anyone interested in participating can contact Ardoyne Youth Enterprise on **028 9074 1479** or email catherine@ardoyne.org



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAImYD_Zgh4iCPEC_Ip3izA

Sandy Row,
Donegall Pass
& the Markets

SOUTH BELFAST



'Let us Celebrate'



The Let us Celebrate community event was held this summer at the Donegall Pass Community Centre, and it brought together the community and organisations of Donegall Pass for a fun day for all the family.

There was more to it than a fun day out though! The event promoted the services and programmes available in the Donegall Pass area whilst also wanting to improve the health, happiness and wellbeing of visitors on the day.

We celebrated the diverse range of nationalities that now live in the Donegall Pass area and make it a vibrant multi-cultural place to be.

Everyone enjoyed tasting the multi cultural cuisine on offer, including Indian, Chinese, Polish and Afro-carribean food.

The celebration event was a great success with more than 300 people joining in the fun.

The event had something for everyone to enjoy, with activities for all ages and abilities as well as displays and exhibitions.

A social documentary photographic exhibition of the Donegall Pass area showcased the wide range of groups that are based in the Donegall Pass Community Centre, with images of the Donegall Pass Social History Group, Combat Fencing, Indian dancers and even baking from the Cake Club.

The exhibition also included great shots of activities from local community organisation such as the Community Garden, Alternatives and Donegall Pass Community Forum.



How does your Garden Grow



The 'How does your garden grow' project includes an Intergenerational approach, working across the South Belfast Urban Village area. Donegall Pass Community Forum (DPCF) work in partnership with Social Farms & Gardens to bring pupils from three primary schools together with the older generation from sheltered housing folds in the area. They participated in a number of workshops around the theme of community orchards.

The Strawberry Fair in June this year was a celebration event for the Intergenerational Orchard Project. It took place at Donegall Pass Community Garden where they provided homemade scones, fresh strawberries and homemade jam.

Participants were able to win a prize at tombola, pot up and take home a strawberry plant, take a tour of the garden and talk to neighbours.

The event was attended by two of the participating schools and their teachers, two of the older people's groups, translators, local families, residents and a group from the Indian Community Centre.

Children and teachers assisted with serving tea, helping people to the tombola and welcoming people at the gate, which led to positive interaction between the children and older people.

All sessions have been well received with good engagement from all participants:

- **Young people said they had not realised before that so many different kinds of apples existed.**
- **Older people involved in the intergenerational sessions who responded said that they valued the sessions for the opportunity to meet new people/get out/have something to do.**
- **People from ethnic minorities who responded said they loved the atmosphere and valued the opportunity to get involved.**



Making a Difference with Alternative Therapies

Donegal Pass Alternative Therapy Programme has reached out to some of the most hard to reach people across the local community.

The programme started by providing sessional therapy for a wide range of people in recovery from challenging medical issues and those living with anxiety and other mental health concerns.

The programme has served individuals of all ages and gender from the local Donegal Pass, Markets and Sandy Row Urban Village areas.

The shared course has also improved community relations between people from the three Urban Village neighbourhoods, breaking down misconceptions and building community cohesion.

The programme has provided an opportunity to signpost those at high risk of suicide or suffering a life crisis towards other essential support services. Everyone participating spoke of the benefits they gained from the therapies.

"My pain levels were 10 when I started and 1 now, this has made a real difference to me"
Male, aged 90



The newly trained therapists will develop a Social Enterprise with the support of the Donegal Pass Community Forum. The next stage of training will commence in late September.



Quality Study Support



Belfast South Community Resources (BSCR) in partnership with Queen's University Belfast have been delivering study support to pupils at post primary level for several years in many different aspects of their studies. This year, through funding from the Urban Villages Initiative, BSCR delivered an intensive Maths GCSE revision project in the South Belfast Urban Village area.

The programme ran for four days in Queen's University where 50 pupils from post primary schools throughout south Belfast received high quality tutoring and exam technique tips from a fully qualified Maths teacher supported by a QUB mentor. Pupils also took away Maths resources to support their revising at home.

The aim of the project was for pupils who attended the GCSE Maths revision week to obtain a grade C or above in their Maths GCSE to increase their chances of progressing to year 13 - A-levels, further education, employment or apprenticeships.

Participant feedback has been very positive as many pupils said at the end of the course that they felt less anxious, were better prepared and more knowledgeable about areas in maths they had been struggling to grasp.

A participant at the revision week said "The Tutors and their assistants are very helpful, before I came to revision class I was nervous about my GCSE maths but now I feel a lot more confident about my GCSE maths".



Start Date Approaches for the Twinbrook Link



TWINBROOK LINK

Environmental Improvement Scheme



Starting Autumn 2018

New pedestrian and cycle routes with lighting scheme and landscaping

Contact: info@urbanvillagesni.org

Project funded by the Urban Villages Initiative, delivered by the Department for Communities



TRANSFORMING COLIN

Work on the Twinbrook Link Environment Improvement Scheme is scheduled to begin in the Autumn and to be completed by early 2019.

The Twinbrook Link will provide better connectivity across the Colin area; between the Colin Connect Transport Hub and Civic Square, the new Brook Leisure Centre in Twinbrook and the New Park planned for the centre of Colin.

The Urban Villages Initiative is investing in new pedestrian and cycle routes with an improved lighting scheme and landscaping to create an open, safe and well-connected route through Colin. This project is being delivered by the Department for Communities.

Twinbrook Link new pedestrian and cycle routes

Extensive environmental scheme with improved lighting for safety and accessibility

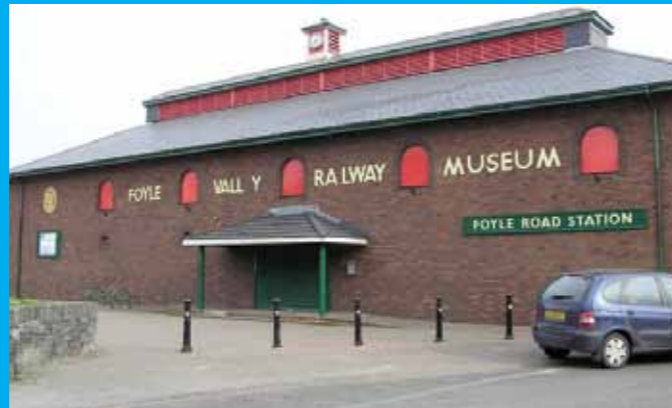
The New Colin Connect Transport Hub



Destined for Change!



The learning support organisation, Destined, has recently relocated to the Foyle Valley Railway Museum and has successfully secured major funding to construct a new service facility adjacent to the existing Foyle Valley Railway.



The organisation has secured £1m from the Big Lottery Fund for a new build centre and a further £95,000 funding from the Urban Villages Initiative for the refurbishment works to the existing railway museum.

Destined promotes social inclusion and enhances good relations between the learning disability community and mainstream society. They identified the need for better facilities to support a comprehensive programme of development and training which would allow participants to become more involved in their community.



Sandy Row Play Park – Community Consultation



In August this year a community consultation was held in the Sandy Row Community Centre to ask the local community for their views on the upgrade of Sandy Row Play Park. The park area currently has no play equipment and the MUGA is not usable due to the poor quality of the surface.

The Urban Villages Initiative will be reviewing the findings of the community consultation with a view to reflecting the various ideas in the design of the project. Next steps will be seeking planning permission and developing a final design for the Play Park. It is hoped that work will start early in the new year with the park due to be completed in the Spring 2019.

Local children gave their views on what play equipment they would like to be included and parents were asked for their thoughts on the Park. All this took place during a children's fun day at the Community Centre Hall. There was great discussion with lots of enthusiasm shown for bringing the park back into use.



Update on Colin Connect Transport Hub



Construction work is progressing on the Colin Connect Transport Hub and Civic Square, the cladding is being applied to the impressive building structure and the granite is being placed on the Civic Square, it's really taking shape!

The Urban Villages Initiative and the Department for Infrastructure have invested substantially in this state-of-the-art facility that will support the growing number of passengers travelling to the city centre and bringing visitors to Colin. The building and square are being finished to a high standard and they will create a landmark public space at the heart of Colin.

development of the Colin Connect Transport Hub and Civic Square will be completed and opened for all in November 2018, look out for information about the opening event on [twitter@urbanvillagesni](https://twitter.com/urbanvillagesni)

The new Glider and feeder services have been operational, using a temporary shelter, since early September. However, our partners at Translink and the Department for Infrastructure anticipate that the Transport Hub will be fully operational in late September/early October, and the full



Aerial view of Colin Connect Transport Hub and Civic Square



What's On



"Twenty years on - Our Peace Process - an example to others?"

To mark International Peace Day 2018 TASCIT (Twaddell Ardoyne Shankill Communities in Transition), a panel of peace-builders - politicians and community representatives - will discuss the issue.

Speakers confirmed to date - Gerry Kelly (Sinn Féin), Monica McWilliams (ex-Women's Coalition), Denis Cunningham (UPRG) & Noreen McClelland (SDLP).

DATE: 21st September, 10:00 - 13:00

VENUE: The Houben Centre, 432 Crumlin Road, Belfast BT14 7TF

To confirm attendance, please RSVP to sean@nbin.info

Supported by The Executive Office /Together: Building A United Community and The International Fund for Ireland Peacewalls Programme

Women's Connecting Communities Programme

These activities are part of the WOMEN'STEC programme for women living in Ardoyne or Ballysillan, supported by the Urban Villages Initiative.

DATE: 26th September - programme start and team building day

DATE: 3rd October - Sampling day with glass etching and window box making

DATE: 10th October - Carpentry and Mosaics (8 weeks)

VENUE: WOMEN'STEC, 29 Chichester Avenue, Belfast BT15 5EH

For information on how to take part, please contact Patricia Fleming on 028 9074 9810



Courses for young women with Ardoyne Association

Pass Project - 12-week programme;

Must be 16-24 year old, not already in employment, education or training (no restriction on area)

- Confidence building/ personal development
- Soft skills
- Assistance with CVs
- Application forms
- Role play mock interviews
- OCN in Community Development
- OCN in Health and Fitness
- Healthy Cookery Programme

DATE: October 2018, Tuesdays 10:00 - 14:00

VENUE: St Gemma's (ABC Trust, Ardilea Street)

Help with child care costs

Tea, coffee and lunch provided

If interested please contact Lynn 028 9071 5165

Create Project

A Make-Up course starting in October 18th

If interested please contact Lynn 028 9071 5165

Safeguarding adults and children

DATE: 11th October, 9:30am - 12:30pm

VENUE: Belfast South Community Resources

To register contact Helen Donnelly by email helen@cmworks.co.uk or Garnet Busby by phone 028 9024 4449

GDPR Implementation Practitioner Description

The GDPR Implementation Practitioner Course is to assist all those who are trying to progress to become fully GDPR compliant.

DATE: 11th October, 13:15 - 15:30

VENUE: Belfast South Community Resources

To register contact Helen Donnelly by email helen@cmworks.co.uk or Garnet Busby by phone 028 9024 4449

South Belfast Market Days

A community market will be held in Donegall Pass; the market will focus on food, street food, locally made crafts and the promotion of

local community groups.

DATE: 29th October, 12:00 - 18:00

DATE: 6th December, 16:00 - 21:00

DATE: 26th March 2019, 12:00 - 18:00

VENUE: Donegall Pass

All dates are subject to change please check Donegall Pass Community Forum's Facebook page for updates.

If there are any community groups wanting a stall please contact Anne McAllister 028 90326256.

'Challenging Conversations' in North Belfast

Twenty people from across upper North Belfast are currently taking part in a cross-community course to raise awareness and understanding of each others identity, politics and cultural heritage.

The course has involved sessions taking place in Ardoyne, Woodvale and Glenbryn so that all the participants are spending time in areas they may never have set foot in before.

DATE: October - December 2018, 12 week course

If you are from BT13 or BT14 and interested in taking part, contact TASCIT at the offices of LSCA (028 9024 9740), TWRA (028 9071 0202), CRUA (028 9071 4110) or NBIN (028 9075 1362).



Halloween and Parenting Week

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership has teamed up with local organisations once again to bring the Colin community lots of family friendly activities to mark Halloween and parenting week in Colin.

DATE: 26th October - 2nd November

For updates on events visit www.newcolin.com or Colin Neighbourhood Partnership's social media pages.

Halloween Event EastSide

DATE: 29th and 30th October

VENUE: Location will be a surprise!

For more information, contact Roz Small: 028 9045 2020; email: roz.small@hotmail.com

Who wants to be a social entrepreneur?

The session will enable participants to; recognise key features and skills of social entrepreneurs; recognise differences and similarities in social and private entrepreneurs; assess

own strengths and gaps as a social entrepreneur. There is no cost for attendance.

DATE: 15th November, 10:00 - 14:30

VENUE: Belfast South Community Resources

To register contact Helen Donnelly by email helen@cmworks.co.uk or Garnet Busby by phone 028 9024 4449



Donegall Pass Christmas Celebrations - The 'Big Switch On'

There will be a Carol Service, lighting of the Christmas tree and lights along Donegall Pass and lots of Christmas themed activities and the arrival of Santa in usual style!

DATE: 30th November, 18:00

VENUE: South Belfast Elim Church, Donegall Pass.

Sandy Row Community Forum - Small Business Saturday

Event with local traders to include Christmas Tree and Lights switch on

DATE: 1st December

VENUE: TBC

WHAT'S COMING UP

What's On



For more information contact Sandy Row Community Centre 028 9032 5403 or Sandy Row Community Forum 028 9023 8446

Christmas Event - EastSide

DATE: 1st December

VENUE: To be announced (Santa hasn't made his mind up yet!)

For more information, contact Roz Small: 028 9045 2020; email: roz.small@hotmail.com

Donegall Pass 'Winter Wonderland'

There will be Christmas crafts, petting farm, funfair rides, Christmas market and much more.

DATE: 6th December, 16:00 - 21:00

VENUE: 'The Garden of Eatin' Donegall Pass

Check our Donegall Pass Community Forum's Facebook page for updates or for more information contact Anne McAllister 028 9032 6256.

Christmas Céilidh

DATE: 19th December

VENUE: TBC

For more information contact Sandy Row Community Centre 028 9032 5403 or Sandy Row Community Forum 028 9023 8446

Santa Comes to Colin

Don't miss Santa arriving at the new Colin Connect Civic Square on the Stewartstown Road.

DATE: November 2018

For more information visit www.newcolin.com or Colin Neighbourhood Partnership's social media pages.



Wildflower Alley Gardening and Neighbourhood Improvement

East Belfast Mission engagement sessions scheduled for Sept/Oct 2018 have been postponed.

The Wildflower Alley concept with Hosford Clients will help to transform the area in Chadolly Street.

DATE: February 2019
VENUE: TBC

This project is funded by The Urban Villages Initiative in partnership with Belfast City Council.

For further information sessions, contact 'Going Green' on 079 1214 4906

Culture Night - Derry-Londonderry

Open Arts Exhibitions and Masterclasses

DATE: 21st September, 18:00 - 21:00

VENUE: Gasyard Centre Derry-Londonderry

Roaring Meg Bike Show

Family funday, live music, dance, food, arts & crafts, live entertainer, carnival rides

DATE: 22nd September

VENUE: Grand Parade, Bishop Street Carpark, Bishop Street Peacewall, Derry-Londonderry



Halloween Event

Haunted House and Awakening the Walls

DATE: 25th - 30th October

VENUE: Longtower Youth Club & across the Urban Villages area.

Gasyard Centre Funday

Flaunt Your Step Dance Academy hosting 'Little Red Riding Hood meets Ghost Busters Dance Performance'

DATE: 31st October, 13:00 - 15:00

VENUE: Gasyard Centre Derry-Londonderry

Christmas

Santa's Magical Reindeer Garden, Winter Market & more

DATE: 7th - 8th December

VENUE: Bishop Street Peacewall Derry-Londonderry

Gasyard Christmas Fair

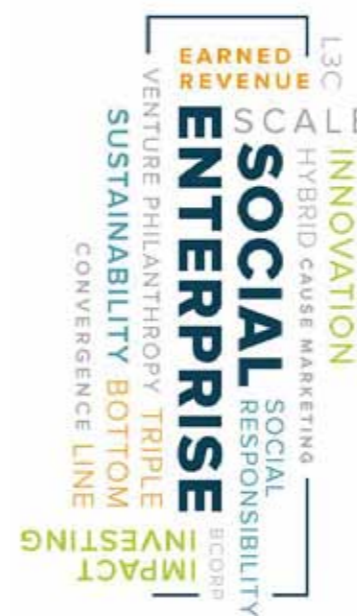
Silent Santa and Mrs Claus cookie making workshop

DATE: 9th December

VENUE: Gasyard Derry-Londonderry

All Gasyard events are Autism friendly. For further information contact The Gasyard 028 7126 2812; gasyardtrust@hotmail.co.uk

News



TRANSFORM - Social Enterprise Opportunity!

Feedback across the five Urban Village areas highlighted social enterprise as a major theme to help build the capacity of local groups and enhance the long-term sustainability of projects they deliver.

In response, a collaboration between the Urban Villages Initiative and the Ulster University Business School and the Flax Trust is targeting a programme of support and financial assistance primarily to participants from Urban Village areas.

The 'TRANSFORM' Social Enterprise Development Programme will help local groups start or grow a social enterprise and diversify income streams. Course content includes best practice study visits, mentoring, and master-classes from business leaders and social innovators.

The application process has closed and participants completing the programme by June 2019 will graduate with an Advanced Diploma in Social Enterprise. Ongoing work with other partners across central and local government will support enhanced targeting of other social enterprise programmes and signposting opportunities for community groups.

Uniting Communities Next Move - Ardoyne & Ballysillan

Collaboration across Government departments at the planning stage of the Uniting Communities T:buc headline action, led to an early agreement with the Department for Communities (DfC) to locate their urban youth projects in the heart of Urban Village areas.

Following the success of this good relations and capacity building programme in the Colin and EastSide Urban Village areas of Belfast, The Department for Communities (DfC) is currently rolling

out its next programme in the Ardoyne and Ballysillan Urban Village area of North Belfast. The initial stage will run from August 2018 to March 2019.

DfC is leading on this 'Uniting Communities through Sport and Creativity Programme', it is one of the seven headline actions in the T:buc Strategy.

For further information contact tbuc@communities-ni.gov.uk or **028 9051 5011**.

News

European Social Fund (ESF): delivering more and better in Urban Village areas

The Urban Villages Initiative is working in partnership with employability programmes across Belfast and Derry-Londonderry to maximise opportunities for residents living in Urban Village areas. This will help over 800 people annually.

A match funding partnership with **Belfast City Council** will enhance delivery of three ESF projects in Urban Village areas across Belfast.

LEMIS+ is delivered by a consortium which is led by Ashton Community Trust in partnership with East Belfast Mission, GEMS NI, Job Assist Centre Greater Shankill (Impact Training) and Job Assist Centre West Belfast (Upper Springfield Development Trust). It supports those most removed from the labour market and helps them back into employment. Mentors will help people on a 1-2-1 basis with career, education and training advice. Training opportunities are also available across a wide range of subject areas. Find out more by calling **028 9074 2255** or visit www.lemisplus.eu

JobWorks+ is Springboard Opportunities Limited's employability programme. It offers young people from 16-24 support in getting into education, employment or training. Mentors work with participants on a one to one basis to identify and access appropriate employment options.

Participants receive support in job searching, application forms, CV building and interview preparation. A host of programmes also allow young people to enhance their employability through accredited and non-accredited training – this will include guaranteed interviews with an employer in their chosen sector.

Find out more by calling **028 9031 5111** or through the **Facebook page 'Jenny Spring'**

Path 2 Employment (P2E) is delivered by Workforce Training Services for adults currently not in employment. The programme offers a wraparound service combining training and qualifications with career planning, CV building, job searching, interview preparation and 1-2-1 support. Level 1 qualifications include Childcare, Business Support Services, Food Preparation/Cooking, Accommodation Services, Employability and Personal Development.

Other training includes CSR, First Aid and Basic Food Hygiene. P2E is supported by a network of employers who provide job trials and employment opportunities. Find out more by calling **028 9074 7676** or visit www.workforceonline.org

The Urban Villages Initiative is also supporting two other ESF projects:

Building Your Future is delivered by the Poleglass Community Association @ Sally Gardens and will support unemployed job seekers and economically inactive individuals in the Colin area through provision of an employability programme. This will prepare individuals to access, secure and sustain labour market opportunities. It will include a wide range of training, volunteering and employment opportunities across many industry and business sectors. Find out more by calling **028 9062 7250** or visit www.sallygardens.org

Skills North West will reach participants most removed from the labour market with low or no qualifications and will include support to residents living in the Derry-Londonderry Urban Village area. It will improve employability prospects and promote skills and lifelong learning. This will include 1-2-1 mentoring and guidance; personal development/confidence building; accredited training and qualifications and wider employability skills including communication, teamwork, problem solving and workplace skills. Find out more by calling **028 7126 9327** (Dove House) or **028 7126 2812** (Gasyard Centre) or visit www.skillsnorthwestproject.com

Uniting Colin & EastSide

The advertisement about how the new Glider buses would connect the areas of Colin & EastSide, inspired the Uniting Communities Colin and EastSide: Young Leaders Group to think - that's what we do too!

The goal of the Young Leaders Group is, a better future, together, for our communities. The group make it their mission to promote positive relations from a young age, to break down the barriers between the areas and to not let the events of the past prohibit a better future together.

During a good relations workshops with 11-16 year olds, the young people involved voiced what they believe to be good and bad choices that affect not only their life but their community. Then with input from the local groups in Colin and EastSide, a local artist designed a piece of art to reflect the views of the young people.

The artwork was presented to Holywood Arches Library in East Belfast, then they travelled on the new Glider route from EastSide to Colin collecting friends along the way, and finally stopped at Suffolk Library in West Belfast where the other part of artwork will be on display.

Aaron Smyth, one of the programme's Young Leaders commented, "the Uniting Communities programme is a fantastic opportunity to inspire young people to make better choices in their lives and helps improve the opportunities and experiences that they are offered."



Reclaiming Space through Community Allotments

A Shared Learning Event, Reclaiming Space through Community Allotments, took place in August 2018 at the ABC Trust Centre, North Belfast. The event was jointly hosted by The ABC Trust and Forward South Partnership's Connecting Communities project and aimed to connect garden and allotment projects in Urban Village areas.

Participants heard from gardening groups from across Urban Village areas, building on their experience to deliver high quality, innovative, community focused allotments that promote stronger communities and strengthen partnerships.



Connected Futures

The Connected Futures Project is a new partnership programme between Ballysillan Community Forum, Ardoyne Association and North Belfast Advice Partnership (NBAP) funded by the Urban Villages Initiative. This good relations programme promotes social mobility and increase the use of shared safe spaces and services across Ballysillan and Ardoyne areas.

DATE: Oct-Dec 2018 / Jan-Mar 2019

The Connected Futures Development Programme wants to recruit participants from the Ballysillan and Ardoyne areas who would like to develop their knowledge of welfare rights, employability and active citizenship.

Contact: Ballysillan Community Forum

E: tcconnectedfutures@gmail.com

T: **028 9039 1272**

News



Gliders are GO!

Glider, the innovative new mode of travel for Belfast, was launched on the 3rd September.

The impressive Glider vehicles will operate direct cross city services between the Urban Village areas in West and East Belfast (G1) and connecting with the Titanic Quarter (G2), helping to transform public transport in line with Translink's vision to be your first choice for travel.

The Urban Villages Initiative has invested in the Colin Connect Hub and Civic Square, an important stopping point on the Glider route to west Belfast. The Urban Villages investment has provided an integrated community space that significantly enhances this key interchange both for local residents and visitors to the area.

A local resident commented, "The Glider... it's going to be brilliant. It's going to open up so many more things for us as a community. Hop on the bus and go to so many places we wouldn't think

of going to and it will help us mix as well, with other communities."

Robin Totten, Glider Senior Programme Manager at Translink, said: "We are delighted that communities and stakeholders right across the city see Glider as a positive development and are enthusiastic about the introduction of this iconic new service and the benefits it will bring to the city."

An Executive flagship project led by the Department for Infrastructure, the project represents an investment of around £90m and is a key element in the delivery of the draft Programme for Government.

For information on how to use the new service and new ticketing visit www.translink.co.uk/gliderbelfast/



Keep in Touch

Stay updated with what's happening in your Urban Village area. To join our mailing list send your contact details to info@urbanvillagesni.org

Focus Magazine

Next issue - January 2019. If you have any local community stories or events that you would like included, just let us know.

Ezines

Ezines will keep you updated throughout the year on what's happening in your Urban Village area and beyond.

Twitter

Keep the conversation going @urbanvillagesni Connect with us online to keep up to date with what's happening across all five Urban Village areas.

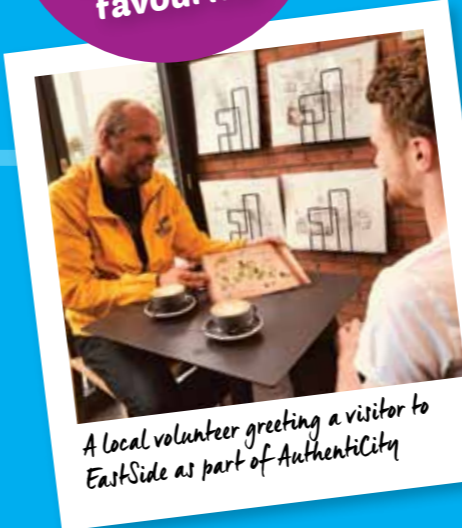
New Community Connections

Each Urban Village area now has a local communications contact that will liaise between the community and the Urban Villages communications team.

- North** - Catherine Couvert, AYE
- West, Colin** - Colin Neighbourhood Partnership
- South** - Kevin McGarry, SBPB
- Derry-Londonderry** - Gareth Stewart, Gasyard Wall Féile
- EastSide** - Jonny Currie, EBCDA

Pic ops!
Upload your favourite!

Send us your best pic!



A local volunteer greeting a visitor to EastSide as part of AuthenticCity



The Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council at the launch of the New Gate Fringe Festival



Pupils from St Cecilia's College in Derry-Londonderry hit the right beat with Bounce Culture as part of the Creative Schools Partnership Programme.



Participants in the 'Hallion that stole my Giant Marrow' project, East Belfast Mission



Ardbone Festival: Carezone Family Fun day in Marrowbone Park, North Belfast promoting health and wellbeing



Daniel Rae enjoying the Amazon Jungle Show at the Colin Summer Festival



Young people receiving study support from BSCR, South Belfast in partnership with QUB



The YAP project engages with young people from The Charter Youth Club (Sandy Row), St Malachy's (The Markets) and South Belfast Alternatives (Donegall Pass)



Fire dancers at the Festival of Fire during the Finale of Féile 2018 in Derry-Londonderry

Send your best pics to: info@urbanvillagesni.org

WE WANT
TO HEAR
FROM
YOU...

URBAN VILLAGES FOCUS MAGAZINE will tell you what's happening and what the Executive is supporting across the Urban Village Areas in Belfast and Derry~Londonderry.

The local stories you have read have come from community groups and individuals in Urban Village areas. We want this magazine to reflect the great things that are happening where you live and welcome your comments and ideas!

If you would like to receive future editions of FOCUS Magazine, sign up at info@urbanvillagesni.org or contact us at The Urban Villages Initiative, Room E4.15, Castle Buildings, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3SR



Contact us:
info@urbanvillagesni.org