



# eNews

Issue 26 - July 2019

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## Hello and welcome...

...to the July 2019 issue of the eNews from Community Relations Council (CRC)! The eNews arrives in your inbox every quarter, with each edition showcasing the work that we do in CRC and also highlighting the work of the groups that we fund.

The eNews is structured in three broad sections. The first section includes important **diary dates** and notices. The second section includes updates on **Funding** with the third section covers **Engagement** work.

Since the last issue, the CRC Engagement Team has continued to deliver the Shared Learning Forums for Core funded groups. The Forums took place in April and in June. In May the T:BUC Engagement Forum had 140 people participate in a programme highlighting and discussing - Strengthening Diversity - Embracing Cultural Expression. That's an event every month this quarter. Regular meetings and events are a key element of our engagement work and the team look forward to many more events to come in the months ahead. Right now we are also preparing for Good Relations Week 2019 which runs between 16 and 22 September. We look forward to receiving the entries for the brochure before 19th July 2019.

The Funding Team have been working hard as the application process for small grants has moved online. We are delighted to see so many applications coming

in and the new online system has received very positive feedback. Now the team are working on transitioning the remaining grant programmes online.

As always, CRC want to help and support your organisation in community relations work. So, if you have an idea or project you think might help us build united communities together, then please get in touch to discuss opportunities for grant funding or showcasing your work. Remember we have a number of funding schemes in operation and please check our website to see which schemes are open.

[Click here for CRC website](#)

## New CRC Board appointed



We are delighted to announce that The Executive Office has appointed Martin McDonald as the new Chairperson of the Community Relations Council.

Mr McDonald will be joined by new Board Members Dr Maire Braniff, Rory Campbell, Claire Harris, John McCallister, Sheila McClelland, Michael McDonnell, Audrey Simpson and Nisha Tandon. All appointments will be for three years.

Mr McDonald said "*Tremendous thanks go to the outgoing Board for their hard work and dedication over the past number of years. I look*

*forward to working with the new Board of CRC as we work to build united communities together."*

[Read more here](#)

# Diary Dates!

## **Good Relations Week 2019**

People Making Change for Peace

16-22 September

Submit entries online using the click button below

Submit your event entries before 19 July to be included in the GRW19 brochure



[Register my Good Relations Week event now](#)



## **T:BUC Engagement Forum**

17th September 2019

Belfast City Hall

9.30am - 1.30pm

[Register for the T:BUC Engagement Forum](#)

## **Srebrenica Memorial Week**

7 - 14 July

## Bridging the Divide Confronting Hate



Watch the video here

**Thursday 19 September 2019**  
Registration 9.30am  
Starts 10am, ends 12.30pm

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Rural Community Network and Libraries NI invite you to attend a Good Relations Week 2019 half day conference entitled:

# A Time of Change ~ Ireland 1919 - 1921

Guest speakers include Peter Osborne, Sean Collins, Martin Snoddon and Dr Myrtle Hill. There will also be a panel discussion.

Free of charge to attend, please register by Friday 13 September with **Pauline Clarke**, Good Relations Officer Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

T: 0300 303 1777  
E: pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com

Register here

# CRC FUNDING

## CRC Core Funded Groups



The Core Scheme provides support for organisations considered of strategic importance in promoting community relations work across Northern Ireland. The scheme contributes towards salary and organisational running costs. Here are some news updates from groups that receive funding from the scheme.

This edition we have updates on Shankill Parish Caring Association, Peaceplayers and Shankill and Falls Womens Centres



Representatives of Core funded groups celebrating their success at the launch of the 2019/20 programme hosted by An Gaelaras on 11th April 2019.

## 174 Trust



174 Trust are Core funded by CRC. The Trust is based in a former Presbyterian Church in north Belfast. The venue, Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts is helping to bring together communities at an interface area through the gift of music.

[Read More](#)

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## Holywell Trust



Holywell Trust is a CRC Core funded group. Gerard Deane and Paul Gosling have been working together to create a series of podcasts. The podcast interviews aim to promote a wider, more inclusive and engaged conversation about how we make progress and further solidify peace in Northern Ireland.

Gerard and Paul have produced 22 episodes to date. Listen to all or some of them by clicking the button below.

[Read more and listen to the podcasts](#)

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# YouthLink

YouthLink, a CRC Core funded group have created a new video. Featuring Busy Bee the video forms part of the Remembering the Past, Shaping the Future YouthLink resource aimed at promoting peace building in Northern Ireland and across the island of Ireland. This project is also funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



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## PeacePlayers



The **T:BUC Good Relations Programme** supports and enables young people to become agents of social change and impact positively on the lives of their peers, families and their communities. It does this through the delivery of a unique training programme designed and delivered by **Dame Kelly Holmes Trust** and **PeacePlayers International Northern Ireland** on behalf of the Department for Communities.

PeacePlayers International NI receives Core Funding from the Community Relations Council.

**Young People meet Snow Patrol!**

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## Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme

This is a grant fund of approximately £400,000 spent each year on community relations projects. The fund is designed to help community/voluntary groups in Northern Ireland to undertake community relations projects using grants up to £10,000. Average grants tend to be between £2,000 and £5,000. Here are some news updates from groups that receive funding from the scheme.

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# Church Leaders Dialogue Initiative



On Tuesday 14th May, church leaders met with the Secretary of State, Tánaiste and the leaders of Northern Ireland's main political parties engaged in inter-party talks at Stormont House. At the meeting, church leaders presented the report from their civil society dialogue initiative, which took place between December 2018 and February 2019. Supported by CRC, these dialogue events organised by Irish Council of Churches brought together approximately 120 people for facilitated discussions in Newry, Belfast, Ballymena and Derry-Londonderry.

[Read more here](#)

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## NW Tongues, Tones and Tappin'

The aim of this project was bringing Communities Together through Expressions of Culture. 13 musical and cultural workshops and 3 discussion sessions were organised in Dungiven, supporting the wider North West community. The cross cultural workshops, seminars and end of programme celebration event will promote cultural diversity and provide opportunities to share, learn and perform music and dance from different traditions and cultures.





[Read more here](#)

# The Suitcase



In this article we are delighted to have Playwright, Jane Coyle explain how an inconspicuous Jewish Museum artefact inspired her award-winning play, The Suitcase and how working with funders including the NI Community Relations Council has brought this play to new audiences.

It all began in the Jewish Museum in Vienna in September 2014. The first exhibit in its permanent collection is no precious artwork but a shabby leather suitcase on which is written the name and address of a certain Frieda Jakobowitz from Berlin.

[Read more from Jane Coyle](#)

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## North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme

The North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme is a Ministerial funding scheme set up by The Executive Office with the key aim of improving relations between and within communities in North Belfast. The Executive Office is responsible for the strategic direction of the Programme which is delivered by eleven contract holders and partner organisations. The Community Relations Council administers the scheme on behalf of The Executive Office.

[Click here for more info on NBSGRP](#)

## Showcase event and Award Presentation

Beautiful Belfast Castle was the venue for the North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme (NBSGRP) Showcase event and Award presentation on 5th July. 40 people representing the 11 NBSGRP Contract Holders heard about the schemes achievements over the past year. Paul Jordan from CRC presented the slides below detailing quantitative and qualitative data from the programme and how it is changing peoples lives.



North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme	
What was delivered?	
❖ Budget	£680k
❖ Organisations	11
❖ Number of individual programmes	51
❖ Number of sessions delivered	793
❖ Age range of participants	5 – 94yrs
❖ Number of project participants	Direct 7,025 In-direct 6,850

North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme

### Quotes

- "I have better understanding of others peoples views and experiences and I feel I have a lot more empathy for people affected by the conflict".
- "I have learned a lot of new things around cultures, religions, individuals and countries, very eye-opening".
- "I didn't believe the youth workers that the Battle of The Boyne site was in the Republic but now I have visited It I know it is and the Irish Government makes sure its really well looked after".
- "I made new friends and felt very comfortable with the facilitators who were always on hand, even outside of the course time.."

Presentations from Intercomm, Shankill Womens Centre and Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum highlighted the importance of building strong trusting relationships to sustain peacebuilding efforts. Suzanne and Lisa from Shankill Womens Centre and Chloe and Courtney from Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum spoke about how engaging in Good Relations programmes had transformed their lives.

The event finished with the presentation of the Joe McGouran Award. Congratulations to Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum for receiving the award in recognition of their outstanding efforts.



## Ardoyne Youth Enterprise



The "Welcoming Newcomers to North Belfast" project has contributed to improving the integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in their host North Belfast communities. Read more about the project including testimonials and comments from participants by clicking on the button below.

[Read more here](#)

## CRC ENGAGEMENT

CRC facilitates community engagement and sharing of best practice on effective approaches to peace-building, reconciliation and good community relationships. We do this in a number of ways some of which you can read about below.

## T:BUC Engagement Forum

### **Strengthening Diversity - Embracing Cultural Expression**

Live music and dancing, discussion and debate, a market place showcasing support and opportunities, powerful presentations and excellent expert panel insight - all part of the Together: Building a United Community Engagement Forum. Over 140 people took part in our event in The Guildhall in Derry/Londonderry to contribute to the theme "Strengthened by diversity - embracing Cultural Expression. Thanks to all the contributors and helpers.







## Shared Learning Forum - Core Groups

Shared Learning Forums continue to be useful ways for Core funded groups to meet and talk about issues that they face in delivering their peace building and good relations work. On 11th April CRC launched the new core funded projects in The Guildhall.

[Read more about this launch event](#)

In Corrymeela on 25th June Core groups met again to discuss measuring the impact of the projects they deliver. Thanks to Lisa from An Gaelaras, Lisa from CRIS and Tony from Youth Initiatives for sharing their innovative ideas on collecting qualitative impacts.



The Shared Learning Forums are designed for Core groups to

- Learn from each other.
- Understand the work being delivered by other Core funded groups.
- Acknowledge the challenges in delivering good relations work.
- Awareness of delivery methods and means of addressing challenges.
- Feel supported in shared network.

Next event is 25th October 2019—hosted by Shankill Parish Caring Association in the Jethro Centre, Lurgan.

Remember if you have any project examples or contributions you might want to share with us please do get in touch. Just click on the button below.

Email my info to CRC



Facebook Twitter YouTube Website

**Our email address is:**

info@nicrc.org.uk

We have updated our [Privacy Notice](#) to reflect changes we've made that strengthen your privacy rights. This is part of the Community Relations Council's commitment to how we use your data and keep it safe. We have included changes to address the new standards introduced by the data protection law known as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The unsubscribe option below is only visible as a function of MailChimp. We may continue to process your personal data because it is necessary for the performance of our public tasks.

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