

CRC e-News



19th – 25th September 2016

Issue 76

September 2016



Community Relations Council

Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week

#CRWeek16

www.nicrc.org.uk

BUILDING THE FUTURE TOGETHER



This is a *Together: Building a United Community* initiative

COMMUNITY RELATIONS/CULTURAL AWARENESS WEEK—19–25 SEPTEMBER 2016

Jacqueline Irwin, CEO, CRC

Welcome to Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week 2016. Many years ago Abraham Lincoln said “the best way to predict the future is to create it” and we have taken that as our inspiration. This year our theme is “Building the Future Together”.

This is a reminder that we all have a part in creating what is yet to be. We can all help to build the future and possibly make the difference to how positive it is. Even in the smallest of actions we can contribute as we learn to live together in peace.

The week is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of our culture and heritage, promote cultural diversity and tackle sectarianism and racism. It is about inspiring new ideas, promoting understanding, respect and engagement between and amongst all sections of our community.

It gives us a chance to showcase the wide range of ways in which people are shaping the future together right now, including performances, sporting events, discussions, and the launch of resources to help others who will, in the future, make their own contribution to this work.

There is something going on in every part of the region involving all sorts of people. Wherever you are, you have a chance to help build a positive future – play your full part and help others to do the same.

Young people have the greatest stake in the future but we all have a responsibility to co-create the context in which they will live, work and play. Thank you for being a part of it.

For a list of events please see the online copy of the printed [brochure](#) but for an updated version please check our [website](#).

Community Relations Council



If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

THE ROLE OF WELL-BEING IN PEACE-BUILDING

Article by Helen Henderson—St Columbs Park House

Past and current approaches to peace and reconciliation have taken us so far as a society emerging from armed conflict towards peace, with initiatives focusing on rebuilding relationships, human rights and democracy. With rapid changes in our own society and in the world at large perhaps it is time to look to new sources of learning and practice to support our local journey out of enmity and towards 'living well together'.

Perhaps it is time for a new story, a new narrative for our society that better connects and sustains us in a spirit of inter-dependence. Is now the time to bring the practice of peace-building into a deeper conversation with new insights and practices that challenge habitual perspectives, build solidarity and nurture personal and community wellbeing within our fragmented world.

Recent debates and initiatives on well-being and cultivating inner peace have captured the interest of practitioners working in the field of 'peace and reconciliation' and 'good relations'. There is interest at two levels; the practitioners themselves and the communities that they work with and for. In policy circles, including our Northern Ireland Executive, there is a conversation about 'wellbeing' and the need to move away from a narrow, one-dimensional view of how we measure what matters to people. The wellbeing policy conversation is about the values and sustainability of current economic priorities, and the price people pay for inequality and the relentless drumbeat of consumerism. Practitioners are feeling stressed, burnt out, overwhelmed with the task ahead of developing cohesive, peaceful, safe communities. People living in marginalised communities continue to witness ongoing violence and are also suffering disproportionate mental and physical health problems.

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

THE ROLE OF WELL-BEING IN PEACE-BUILDING

Cognitively based compassion therapy is one approach that aims to develop compassion as a skill, build impartiality and inoculate against burn out. It is a tool that when used appropriately, has the potential to transform the way we work, live and interact with people and the world around us. The research and science behind it is starting to give it some weight and build support but what does this look like in practice and how could this practice enhance communities emerging from an ethno-political conflict?

St Columbs Park House are hosting an explorative roundtable conversation on what peace and reconciliation practice might look like in light of these new conversations around well-being. This initial event will be held on Thursday 22nd September 10am but we welcome any ideas or input into this debate.

Key questions we would like to address are:

- What are the new and emerging challenges for peace and reconciliation practitioners and our communities at this moment?
- What insights and practices can ‘communities of practice’ engaged in cultivating personal and collective wellbeing bring to our understanding and the pursuit of a peaceful and inclusive society?
- What are the main points of connection between ‘wellbeing’ (personal and collective), peace building and questions of sustainable economic development? (We want to consider this question in the context of urgent questions about the sustainability and values of the dominant economic model of development.)

Contact Helen Henderson on helen@stcolumbsparkhouse.org or 02871343080 for more information or to add to the debate.

BALLYNAFOY CLOSE COMMUNITY ART PROJECT



The Executive Office is promoting a programme of 10 Shared Neighbourhood social housing schemes under the ‘Together : Building United Community’ (TBUC) Strategy.

The TBUC strategy outlines a vision for a “a united community, based on equality of opportunity, the desirability of good relations and reconciliation – one which is strengthened by its diversity, where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced and where everyone can live, learn, work and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance”.

Apex’s housing scheme at Ballynafoy Close, Ravenhill Road is the first completed TBUC development in Northern Ireland. To celebrate its success and to promote the TBUC vision, Apex organised a community art project for the Ballynafoy young people. The aim of the project was to create an eye-catching mural at the entrance to Ballynafoy designed by the young people that would capture the TBUC vision.

The process began with the young people spending two weeks with [Alternatives NI](#) youth workers doing team building activities, playing games, art activities and coming up with their own ‘kid friendly’ version of the TBUC strategy. They also visited Belfast City Hall and went on a bus tour of Belfast to see for themselves how Belfast is changing and becoming more diverse.

After the first two weeks the young people then worked with two local artists, [Marian Noone](#) and Tim McCarthy to create the design. The young people decided they wanted the mural to reflect ‘Play’ with different images of typical activities that they do with their friends such as reading, listening to music, talking, texting and having fun!

The young people then spent a full day designing the mural. They worked very hard and were involved in every step of the process. Each child designed and painted an image of their own home with their distinctive coloured doors and solar panels. People walking past commented on how good the artwork looked and the young people had a great day.

If you would like to be more involved in your community please complete our [‘Have your say – get involved’](#)

EVENTS

Creative Centenaries

Free Walking Tours

Creative Centenaries are offering free walking tours of sites around Belfast city centre linked to the Easter Rising, Somme, WW1 and other events within the Decade of Centenaries.

The tours are led by historian John Gray and are available for interested history, community, heritage groups etc. to book for free.

For more information and to register, contact Niall [Kerr](#) at the Nerve Centre on 028 7126 0562.

Trademark

NVTV programmes for Trademark

<https://vimeo.com/175352443>

<https://vimeo.com/175506183>

Queen's University Belfast PhD Studentship

The proposed topic for research must relate to 'Apologies, Abuse and Dealing with the Past'.

This is a fully funded PhD studentship which is now available for an October 2016 start.

Further details can be obtained from [here](#)

Application deadline—9 September 2016 4pm.

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

EVENTS (CONTD)

Contemporary Christianity

Halfway House Tour

Halfway House by Philip Orr is a one hour long play set in 1966 half way between 1916 and today in a snowed in pub. It reflects on the Battle of the Somme and the Easter Rising and how these anniversaries were dealt with 50 years after 1916.

Saturday 10th September at 7.30pm. MAGHERAFELT The Bridewell, 6 Church Street. Public Performance. Places are free. Organised in partnership with Mid Ulster Council Good Relations Department. Contact: Oliver Morgan/Deirdre McCann.

Oliver.Morgan@midulstercouncil.org &
Deirdre.McCann@midulstercouncil.org

Monday 12nd September at 7.30pm. BALLYWALTER VILLAGE HALL.

Public Performance. Places are free. Organised in partnership with Ards and North Down Council Good Relations Department. Contact: Donna Mackey—email: donna.mackey@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk

Tuesday 13th September at 1.45pm in University of Ulster -Coleraine Campus. A performance for Post Graduate History Students (PGCE). Not open to the Public. Anyone wishing to attend must contact Alan McCully in advance to enquire about attending this performance. Email: aw.mccully@ulster.ac.uk

Thursday 15th September at 12.30pm: BELFAST BIBLE COLLEGE, Glenburn Road South, Dunmurry. BT17 9JP

Public performance. Entrance £5.00. Pay at the door. Unreserved seating. Tea/coffee at 12.30, Play starts at 12.45pm followed by discussion after the performance. Contact David Smyth at EANI d.smyth@eauk.org or Belfast Bible College principal@belfastbiblecollege.com

Thursday 15th September at 7.30pm: BELFAST BIBLE COLLEGE, Glenburn Road South, Dunmurry BT17 9P. Public Performance. Doors open 7.00-tea/coffee. Play starts at 7.30pm. Entrance £5.00. Pay at the door. Unreserved seating. Discussion after the performance. Contact: Maureen Bennett Principal@belfastbiblecollege.com and see website <https://www.belfastbiblecollege.com/halfway-house-drama>

EVENTS (CONTD)

Halfway House contd:

Tuesday 20th September at 8.00pm: SACRED HEART PARISH Centre, Glenview Street off Oldpark Road, Belfast BT14 7DP. Doors open 7.30pm tea/coffee Entrance £5.00. Unreserved seating. Performance at 8.00pm followed by Panel discussion. Contact: Martin Magill.
sacredheart@downandconnor.org

Wednesday 21st September at 8.00pm DOWNPATRICK: St. Patrick Centre, Market Street BT30 6LZ. Public performance. Doors open 7.30pm. Entrance £5.00--pay at the door. Unreserved seating. Performance at 8.00 followed by a facilitated discussion. Contact: Henry Hull.
henryhull@downcathedral.org or adriandorrian@gmail.com

THURSDAY 22nd September at 8.00pm DUNGANNON Ranfurley House Arts and Visitors Centre 26 Market Street Dungannon BT70 1AB. Public Performance. Places are free. Organised in partnership with Mid Ulster Council Good Relations Department. Contact: Oliver Morgan/Deirdre McCann. Oliver.Morgan@midulstercouncil.org & Deirdre.McCann@midulstercouncil.org

FRIDAY 23rd September at 8.00pm CASTLEWELLAN The LODGE, 1 Dublin Road BT31 9AQ. Public Performance. Doors open 7.30pm. Entrance £5.00--pay at the door. Unreserved seating. Performance at 8.00pm, followed by a facilitated discussion. Organised in partnership with Castlewellan Inter-church Group in collaboration with Soma Festival Group. Contacts: Mary McAnulty & Ronnie Hamilton ronjham@gmail.com & mary.dara@gmail.com
For further information and updates on other venues please contact us and check our website: www.contemporarychristianity.net or email info@contemporarychristianity.net

Lisburn Museum

Events Programme

<http://www.lisburnmuseum.com/2016/08/2016-autumn-talks-programme-featuring-eamon-phoenix-donal-mcanallen-lar-joye-jason-burke-tom-hartley-marja-almqvist-fearghal-mcgarry-pat-geary-sept-oct/>

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

EVENTS (CONTD)



Building Communities Resource Centre
For the community, by the community, with the community

Showing your True Colours

Wednesday 21st September 2016

10.30am-3.30pm

A dialogue workshop exploring different cultures and identities.

Come and join us for a unique opportunity to discuss your own and other people's cultures and identities.

Please note that all participants are asked to bring with them an item which represents them and their culture, that they would be willing to talk about on the day.

A Light Lunch will be served.

This one day session will take place in

Building Communities Resource Centre,

Units 22-23 Acorn Business Centre, 2 Riada Avenue, Ballymoney BT53 7LH.

Contact Angela or Shauna at BCRC on 028 2766 5068, or email info@theresourcecentre.org. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis.



Community Relations Council

EVENTS (CONTD)

NW Play and Resource Centre

Date: Wednesday 21 September

Time: 11am—Derry Playhouse, Artillery Street, Derry/Londonderry

Title: Amazing The Space – Live Screening

Description: **Amazing the Space** is a major celebration of diversity and peace held on world peace day at the Maze / Long Kesh site. A main aim of the project is to give a prominent platform to and empower young people from all backgrounds and faiths to give expression to their aspirations for peace, prosperity, and a better tomorrow for Northern Ireland. The Playhouse will host a live screening of the day's events as they happen at Maze / Long Kesh.

The key concept of Amazing the Space is to bring all sides of the community together, particularly the young, who may be less weighed down by the baggage of a divided past, to empower them to drive a message of unity and peace across this place – Northern Ireland.

Date: Thursday 22 September

Time: 10am – 5pm Derry Playhouse, Artillery Street, Derry/Londonderry

Title: Lives Under The Radar Workshop

Lives Under The Radar is a project funded by Derry City & Strabane District Council that will enable the local LGBT community to share and dramatize their experiences of growing up and living in Northern Ireland, particularly through the Troubles. The workshop, one of many to be run before Jan 2017 will be facilitated by award winning writer Hillary McCollum who will share stories, artistic processes and film footage from last year's highly successful "Lives Below The Radar" project in Strabane. It is hoped that this workshop will encourage individuals to become involved in this important and pertinent project.

Northern Ireland has long been understood as a difficult environment for those in the LGBT community – from all sides – this project seeks to be specifically cross community, and one of the key aims is to give a platform for experiences of growing up during the Troubles: the age of the gun, as a member of the LGBT community, thus to foreground common ground and give voice to shared experience.

Date: Friday 23 September

Time: 3pm—Derry Playhouse, Artillery Street, Derry/Londonderry

Title: I Remember Documentary Screening "Unlocking The Past"

I Remember is an EU Erasmus+ funded project with partners in Italy, Spain, Portugal, Romania, Armenia and Northern Ireland. The documentary "Unlocking The Past" charts the creative intergenerational workshops organised by The Playhouse, where senior citizens from Northern Ireland described their memories of the Troubles, and young people creatively interpreted them.

The Playhouse represent the UK / Northern Irish dimension of the Erasmus Iremember international partnership, and the focus is the history and legacy of The Troubles, whereby, in a cross-community setting, young people engage with those who have lived through the darkest days of The Troubles. The young people engage with those who experienced the Troubles as individuals with personal stories of lost loved ones or tragedy, and those who were ex-combatants – the key is for the young people to gain a fuller appreciation of their own past, and the uniform tragedy that has been visited upon all sides towards a greater understanding of the preciousness of peace.

EVENTS (CONTD)

The Power of Dialogue in Shared Spaces Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts Wednesday 21st September 9.30 am to 1.00pm

As part of Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week, we are organising a seminar on the power of dialogue in shared spaces.

This seminar is a joint collaboration between 174 Trust, Community Dialogue and TIDES Training and Consultancy and will address:

Obstacles to Dialogue
Barriers to Peace building
How Shared Spaces can work

The seminar will consist of three workshops individually hosted by the three organisations.

Workshop One

Conflict Resolution and Mediation as a Tool for Dialogue facilitated by TIDES

Workshop Two

Dialogue and overcoming obstacles to building a peaceful and prosperous future facilitated by Community Dialogue

Workshop Three

Lessons from developing a Shared Space facilitated by 174 Trust

There will be an exhibition of "Cartoons in Conflict", a series of cartoons illustrating the futility of conflict which were created by a number of internationally renowned cartoonists from all over the world. These were donated to Community Dialogue by Parents Circle Families Forum, an organisation consisting of family members from both the Palestinian and Israeli communities bereaved by the conflict in the Middle East.



EVENTS (CONTD)



Event: The Art of Everyday Peace Building

Venue: Houben Centre, Crumlin Road, Belfast

Date: Thursday 22nd September 2016

Time: 10am to 12.30pm

Details of the Event

- Drop-In Coffee Morning event to reconnect with parents/ carers and school staff from Ardoyne and Shankill who have been actively involved in Community Relations programmes with CRIS through their children's schools.
- Exhibition of art work that was created during CRIS's family Community Relations programme 2016. A documentary artist, Patrick Sanders, attended the programmes and captured aspects of the programme in illustrated form. Some of the images will be displayed in a 'gallery' style, giving participants and other interested people the chance to view the material and be inspired by what the art represents.
- The art work portrays and celebrates the key ingredients of connectivity, building relationships, and of working through issues that have and do cause division.
- It visually represents conversations that matter and that are rich with insights and learning about challenges and potentials for a stronger working peace for all.
- An award will be presented by CRIS to an individual who has shown great energy and commitment to Community Relations and 'everyday peacebuilding'
- The event will give people who have been involved in previous Community Relations programmes with CRIS the chance to see each other again and to plan further cross-community work between themselves, their children, their schools and their communities.
- The theme of this showcasing event is centred on the creation of a shared and inclusive society for all. The medium of art provides a common language that transcends barriers.
- The event is also about the recognition and sharing of 'good news' stories that are empowering and hope filled. The event highlights an inter-generational approach to the building of compassionate and connected communities of which the Macmillan fundraising element champions further through a common cause.

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

EVENTS (CONTD)

Partisan Productions

As part of Community Relations week Partisan Productions will be presenting one of their short plays from their very successful trilogy 'One Hundred Years On'.

'The Postman' explores what went through the Postman's mind as he brings the dreaded Standard Army Form B104-82 to his neighbour's door, informing her of the death of his childhood friend, her husband at The Battle of the Somme. This short drama explores an iconic moment in history from a different angle.

Thursday 22nd September at 7pm Ballynafeigh Community House, 283 Ormeau Road.

FOOTBALL FEST NI

Charter NI would like to welcome everyone to our 5th year **Football fest NI** 7-a side football tournament to highlight anti-racist and anti-hate crime here in Northern Ireland. Over 500 people from local communities participated last year at the Billy Neil playing fields on the Comber Road in East Belfast. Last year proved to be a great success with lasting relationships being established amongst local and ethnic communities.

Tournament consists of 25 male teams (10 members in each team). The first games will kick off at 10am. The first 5 groups of 5 teams and the day will culminate with the winners and runners-up playing in a Cup & Plate. We envisage the tournament ending around 5.00pm

This project will enable the local Unionist and Loyalist community to engage with a wide range of ethnic peoples and, by doing so, improve their network and capacity to interact with them. Thus begin the programme of work to reverse the negative stereotype image that the Loyalist community has in relation to hate crime and ethnic intolerance. This will build the capacity of local people to engage ethnic minorities who come to Northern to find work in a more positive way and be able to welcome those families.

Ultimately it will enable our group to help give people from ethnic minorities a voice and to create opportunities for them so they can be part of Northern Ireland life as equals and by doing so improve community relations.

The project will also address sectarianism by working jointly with volunteers from the Catholic community who will help organise and participate in the programme of work, improving community relations through partnership working to address a common issue that will give a sense of joint achievement.

This year's tournament takes place on Sunday 25th September first kick off 10 am @ Bloomfield Football Club, 8 Houston Park, Belfast BT5.

Peter Osborne Chair of CRC will also be giving out the awards on the day.

If any team wishes to register could they please contact robert@charterni.org

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

EVENTS (CONTD)

STITCHED LEGACIES OF CONFLICTS

EXPLORING MEMORY OF CONFLICTS IN
NORTHERN IRELAND AND ACROSS THE
WORLD THROUGH ARPILLERA TEXTILES

6 OCTOBER - 26 NOVEMBER

ROE VALLEY ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

ADMISSION FREE



EVENTS (CONTD)

Facilitating Difficult Conversations

THURSDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2016

9.30am – 4.30pm

(Note: it was originally Monday, 11th but now changed to 13th)

Rural Community Network, 38a Oldtown Street, Cookstown, BT80 8EF
Cost £30.00 (includes a sandwich lunch and The Peace Builders workbook)
One day Workshop - Tutor Michael Doherty

This one day workshop is designed to help facilitators working in the field of peace building to look at some of the skills and knowledge needed to facilitate difficult conversations when working with sensitive issues.

Part of the day will explore the need to do a lot of self-preparation work and consider different ways of making a group contract in order to establish a safe environment.

Participants will also take part in an experiential learning process that will allow them to look at their own strengths and weaknesses as a facilitator when working with difficult issues.

Who For?

This workshop is more suited to those already working in the field of peace building who wish to enhance their skills in facilitating difficult conversations.

For further information email: michael.doherty@mediateni.com

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.