



Community Relations and Cultural Diversity Scheme (CR/CD Scheme)

Issue 81



The Community Relations Council's, Community Relations and Cultural Diversity Grants Scheme (CR/CD Scheme) will be re-opening to new applications on the 1st April 2017. This is a rolling programme and applications can be made on an on-going basis up to the 1st December 2017. Below is brief outline of the programme aims and grant criteria; more information including guidance notes and application forms will be available soon from the CRC web-site www.nicrc.org.uk.

Aims

The CR/CD scheme is aimed at increasing opportunities for people from differing traditions to develop relationships of trust and understanding and the confidence to address issues of difference between them. Grants of up to £10,000 are available per application to this scheme however most awards are between £2-£5k.

Grant Criteria

1. To develop opportunities for groups to explore their own cultures, beliefs and traditions, thus increasing their capacity to develop relationships of trust with those of different traditions and values.
2. To develop opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding of others' cultures, beliefs, traditions; increasing their acceptance of and respect for diversity.
3. To enable groups to challenge stereotypes of their own and other communities in order to acknowledge and address difference.
4. To increase the ability and confidence of groups and organisations to identify and address those issues that divide them.
5. To develop networks of communication, trust and co-operation between divided communities.
6. To promote models of good practice for community relations work in NI.

Turas

Gordon McCoy, Turas

Turas means 'journey' in Irish and is the Irish language and culture project of East Belfast Mission, based in the Skainos Centre on the Newtownards Road. We provide 13 Irish language classes for approximately 140 learners, the majority (73%) of whom are Protestants with little previous experience of the language. The challenge for us is to teach a language to people who rarely encounter it outside the classroom and who are often unaware of its cultural context – its history, songs, folklore, literature and presence in local place-names. We encourage the learners to attend classes in other Belfast Irish language centres and organise many events – such as concerts or debates – to raise awareness of the language, events which attract many locals who are not learning Irish. We are keen to contribute to debate in the local community and we organise film nights which explore Northern Irish issues, followed by discussions – sometimes heated – of the themes raised.

We explore and promote the Gaelic history of east Belfast to show that we are not 'importing' a culture into the area. Locals often have some passing knowledge of Conn O'Neill, who has left his name in the Connswater and Conn O'Neill Bridge - we will bring this shadowy character into the light. We work with experts, local and otherwise, to reveal the Gaelic place-names of the area, the Ballymacarret branch of the Gaelic League, and the long lost castle of Castlereagh.

The project has two full time staff - Linda Ervine and Gordon McCoy, but we often find the demand to meet groups across Northern Ireland competes with the need to stay put in Skainos - to meet and greet, deal with numerous enquiries, keep teachers supplied with resources and to fill in funding applications. We are training members of a group of learners called Cairde Turas (friends of Turas) to deliver presentations on the language. One successful initiative, which was a huge success in Liverpool, involves showing a short comedy film on the Protestant experience of Irish, followed by a discussion during which a panel of Turas learners of differing religious and class backgrounds reveal their unique approach to the language – from the Short Strand learner who is proud of his Irish-speaking grandfather to the unionist for whom Irish is a welcome antidote to a thoroughly British education which left him feeling 'offshore'.

Edna Longley once described Ulster as a cultural corridor which extremists try to block at both ends. Our hope is to build a bridge in this corridor where the extremists – and everyone else - can meet and explore how they differ and discover what they really have in common.

For more information go to <http://www.ebm.org.uk/turas/>



A family and community initiative
of East Belfast Mission

An Introduction to Healing the Hidden Menace – the BCRC Intimidation Toolkit

Lyn Moffett, Manager, BCRC

BCRC has been working on the theme of intimidation for almost three years now, having brought a number of practitioners together to discuss methods of dealing with what we came to call “the Hidden Menace”. Our project aims to raise awareness of methods for dealing with intimidation, the impact of intimidation on individuals, and then to signpost both members of the public and justice professionals to support services for victims.

We organised two major conferences on the theme and brought together an interagency group made up of good relations practitioners, the PSNI and PCSP members, members of victims and survivors groups including WAVE Trauma Support, Victim Support, Women’s Aid, RCN and mediators to develop a Toolkit for victims of intimidation, with support from CRC and local PCSPs.

The toolkit is a working document that can be used by both service providers and members of the public. It consists of a definition of intimidation and the various forms it takes, plus sections on Safe Ways of Reporting Intimidation; the Effects of Intimidation on individuals and communities and a Directory of Support organisations who provide services for victims and survivors of intimidation. While we devised the project in response to experiences of political intimidation reported to us by local people, the toolkit can have a much wider use.

The Toolkit was then used to develop a Training Course for service providers, which can be delivered over two days with modules on:

- Defining and exploring Intimidation
- Forms of intimidation
- Types of intimidation
- The Effects of Intimidation
- Focus on Power – what motivates people to intimidate others
- Key Influencers
- The role of the media (including social media) and the internet
- What stops us from standing up to bullies?
- Effective Communication
- Who can help? Service Providers
- The Moral Imagination

We hope that the toolkit, alongside work carried out by the PSNI and local groups such as BCRC and WAVE will empower people to report intimidation and hate crime and raise awareness of this critical issue.

For more information contact Building Communities Resource Centre (BCRC) by email on manager@theresourcecentre.org or by telephone 0282766 5068.

The Place Between

Matt Faris, Prime Cut Productions

The Place Between is a project that has been delivered by Prime Cut Productions Theatre company over the last 9 months. Working with 18 - 25 year olds from across North Belfast the participants have explored their shared and individual experiences, teetering between adolescence and adulthood, as well as the identity given to them by their different communities, and their 'true selves'.

Following these workshops, participants have written a play, choosing to explore the different impacts of suicide - The fallout of someone close to you taking their own life. The gratitude to person who was there to listened at the right time. The fear of a self-destructiveness that will spiralling out of control. The struggle to tell someone that a close friend is gone forever.

Throughout these different stories we hear the daily experiences of our young person today. We see the hopes, the fears, the challenges and the changes that are young people strive for.

This is the story of courage, of survival, of the fight to believe in the future.

Performances of "The Place Between" will happen in the first two weeks of April across Belfast.

For more information on the project and the performance dates and venues contact Matt Faris on matt@primecutproductions.co.uk

Writers Glenn Patterson, Jan Carson and Colin Dardis imagine life as displaced people around the world, as part of Oxfam Ireland exhibition touring libraries across Northern Ireland.

Write to Refuge

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Write to Refuge, a new exhibition by Oxfam Ireland, asks authors and poets to picture themselves in the position of millions who have been cast from their homes through conflict, natural disasters and destitution.

Write to Refuge comprises powerful photos of refugees and displaced people from Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan, Syria and around the world, alongside specially commissioned written pieces inspired by each image.

Northern Ireland-based writers Glenn Patterson, Colin Dardis, Jan Carson, Laurence Donaghy and Tony Bailie are amongst more than 20 from across Ireland to contribute with short works of fiction, poetry and personal reactions to the striking stills on display.

Tuesday 28th March to Sunday 30th April.

[Lurgan Library](#).

Admission: Free.

Thursday 1st June to Friday 30th June.

[Bangor Carnegie Library](#).

Admission: Free.

For library contact information, go to the Libraries NI website at www.librariesni.org.uk

Imagine! The Belfast Festival of Ideas and Politics

Patricia O'Neill, CRC

The Imagine! Festival of ideas & politics, based in Belfast brochure has been launched. The festival's aims are;

...to provide a high quality showcase for new ideas on politics, culture and activism in Northern Ireland; to encourage the participation of under-represented groups in political/cultural debate and discussion; to stimulate reflection and debate on difficult and controversial issues; to promote free speech.

They achieve this through a range of events including, discussions and workshops, lectures and talks, music, theatre, tours, poetry, comedy and exhibitions. Most of the events are free and all are open to the public. The events take place across Belfast.

To read more about the festival and to book go to <https://imaginebelfast.com/>

Community-University Engagement in Divided Societies

Patricia O'Neill, CRC

On the 17th February I attended a very interesting and informative workshop on collaboration between academia and the community and voluntary sector. The workshop was held in the George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice, QUB.

The first session was a panel discussion and Q&A. The panel consisted of Barry Fennell from Co-operation Ireland, Liz Griffith, NI Law Centre, Andrea Thornbury, Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action and two QUB student leaders, Aylisha Hogan and Magz McQuoid. The panel members talked about a range of issues, preconceptions of academia and the community sector, use of language, how knowledge is shared and in what format, risks participants take, relevance and will research contribute to the body of knowledge.

The second session looked at '*Practical Steps for Collaboration*' and Cathal McManus, QUB, introduced the *Collaboration Toolkit* a useful check list of dos and don'ts for researchers. Emma McKenna, Science Shop, QUB explained how *the Science Shop works across all university faculties linking the knowledge and skills of students and staff with community needs through course-based research projects and dissertations.*

To learn more about the Community-University Engagement contact mitchell.institute@qub.ac.uk or go to <http://www.qub.ac.uk/Discover/About-Queens/Global-research-institutes/TheSenatorGeorgeJMitchellInstituteforGlobalPeaceSecurityandJustice/>

To learn more about the work of the Science Shop go to <http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/ScienceShop/>

Hit the North Half Term Camp

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CAP's "Hit the North Half Term Camp" took place over half term. The group was made up of teenagers from New Lodge and other parts of the city who gave up their break from school to participate in the scheduled workshops. Although the group was mixed in background, gender, range of age, ability, etc the focus of the interaction was to use the arts to help participants find expression and a way of working together. This was quite a commitment on the groups' behalf but they stayed with the process until the end with almost everyone coming along to the celebration on Saturday afternoon. They were a great bunch to work with and the week proved to be a special time for everyone to get to know each other, express their sense of place in their home city and their hopes for the future.

The first couple of days enabled us to find the pulse of the group, which set the pace for the creation of the artwork. They also went on a couple of tours: the first being the Black Taxi tour to the Shankill, peace wall in Cupar Street, the Memorial in Bombay Street and on to the Falls Road. Here we were shown one approach to visual storytelling and heard a narrative which described Belfast in difficult, darker days which was at least a generation prior to those in the group.

The second tour was of the graffiti street art in the Cathedral Quarter which has been created as part of the Hit the North project over the last few years as part of the wider Culture Night programme. This array of images, themes and techniques were explained to the group and they found them to be inspiring and thought provoking for their idea production of their own artwork.

The group worked with Street Artist, Tim McCarthy over the remaining few days, who demonstrated spray art techniques. Individuals and small groups developed their ideas into designs which they painted on to large 4x8ft boards. These canvases were much bigger than the group were used to and initially, they involved an element of risk to fill the space with paint but confidence grew and the pieces were completed for the showcase event on Saturday. Themes included living collaboratively; issues around sexuality, developing understanding beyond disagreement, creating hope through imagination and empathy were some of the illustrated themes. These young people completed really strong concepts which acknowledged a broken and hurting city but also integrated an aspiring, positive future.

<https://www.capartscentre.com/2017/02/hit-the-north-half-term-camp/>

Together: Building a United Community - (TBUC)

The Central Good Relations Fund programme 2017/18 is now open for applications. Successful applicants under the 2017/18 funding programme will be required to deliver projects by 31st March 2018.

Deadline for applications is Monday 20th March 2017 at 2pm

Application Form, Guidance Notes and Frequently Asked Questions can be found at:

<https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/articles/together-building-united-community#toc-7>

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.

NIACRO Research

Ruth Walker, NIACRO

NIACRO works to reduce crime and its impact across Northern Ireland, working with people who have offended, their families, and people who are perceived to be at risk of offending. NIACRO is funded by the Northern Ireland Prison Service to provide a support service to the families of prisoners, Family Links. Partnering with the Law Centre, South Belfast Roundtable and the Quakers, NIACRO is currently engaged with the Social Innovation Programme and are working through a process of exploring a social challenge and identifying potential solutions.

Our chosen challenge is to identify the particular support needs of BME/foreign national families who have a family member in custody in Northern Ireland.

We are undertaking desk and primary research to help us to understand what types of approaches vulnerable BME/foreign national families may require that would enable them to access the types of supports they require to cope with the period of imprisonment (and beyond).

We would be very interested to hear from any individuals or organisations who have experience of supporting families who have been or are in this situation or who have any other information that would be of interest. We are also keen to speak with families to hear their experiences first hand.

For further information, please contact Ruth Walker at NIACRO by e mail Ruth.Walker@niacro.co.uk or phone 028 9032 0157

Liam Neeson backs parent power through Integrate My School campaign

Maddy Bridgman, Press Officer, IEF

Liam Neeson has joined forces with the Integrated Education Fund (IEF) to launch an initiative which puts integrated education within reach for nearly every school in Northern Ireland. The campaign is called “Integrate My School” and centres on a website where parents can register their interest in developing their children’s school as an integrated one.

Liam has released a powerful online video message of support, saying

“We look to our children for the future, so why do we continue to educate them apart: different religions, different backgrounds, different schools? There is another way. Most people agree that educating children together is a better way forward for our society. It’s time to turn our aspiration into reality, to believe in your children and believe in their future.”

Research has repeatedly revealed that a majority of Northern Ireland parents would support their school becoming integrated. However, although the legislation has been in place since 1989, most do not know this is possible. The process is officially termed “transformation” and is open to all schools except Special schools or hospital schools. If 20% of parents at a school express an interest in integration, the Board of Governors is required to ballot all parents on the matter.

The IntegrateMySchool website features video instructions on a simple three-step registration process. Through a search tool, parents simply find their child’s school, fill in the confidential online form to submit their details and then click on a link to receive a verification email.

Integrate My School continued

Baroness May Blood, IEF Campaign Chair, says:

“By registering their interest confidentially on www.IntegrateMySchool.com, parents could take almost any school in Northern Ireland on the first steps towards integration. This campaign marks the start of a very interesting and exciting period of change in education in Northern whole.”

To see more about ‘transformation’, and to watch the video click on the links below.

Integrate my school leaflet

<https://www.integratemyschool.com/downloads/IMS-Schools-Leaflet-2016.pdf>

Integrate my school video

<https://youtu.be/4JmN0Gdl2gM>

For further information please contact the IEF 028 9069 4099 www.ief.org.uk

ARK invites Expressions of Interest in their 2017 surveys of young people

2017 Young Life and Times Survey

2017 Kids’ Life and Times Survey

ARK is a joint initiative by Ulster University and Queen’s University Belfast. Established in 2000, Ark’s aim is to make social and political information on Northern Ireland available to the widest possible audience and The annual Kids Life and Times (KLT) and Young Life and Times (YLT) surveys are central to this. These surveys elicit the views of children and young people on a range of relevant policy issues and on topics suggested by survey participants. Funding for the surveys comes from a variety of sources - academic, statutory and voluntary sector.

ARK is now inviting expressions of interest for the 2017 survey of 16 year olds (Young Life and Times) and the 2017 survey of 10/11 year olds (Kids’ Life and Times). Fieldwork for both surveys will take place in the autumn of 2017.

If you would like to discuss how to fund or commission some questions, please get in touch with a member of the ARK team (details below). The costs for the inclusion of questions are normally calculated on a modular basis, however specifics can be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

ARK surveys are carried out in collaboration with colleagues in the not-for-profit sector with the aim of producing good and accessible evidence for everyone interested in issues of concern to children and young people. A condition of collaboration is that survey results and datasets are made available on open access six months after the end of fieldwork. Details of survey methodologies can be found at www.ark.ac.uk/ylt and www.ark.ac.uk/klt.

Please contact:

Katrina Lloyd K.Lloyd@QUB.ac.uk for the Kids’ Life and Times survey

Dirk Schubotz D.Schubotz@QUB.ac.uk for the Young Life and Times survey

Department for Communities Implementation of its Fresh Start Agreement Commitments

From <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/articles/department-communities-implementation-its-fresh-start-agreement-commitments>

A Fresh Start - The Stormont Agreement and Implementation Plan (also referred to as the 'Fresh Start Agreement') was published by the Executive and the British and Irish Governments in November 2015.

The following information provides an overview of the Department for Communities' (DfC) ongoing commitments to Fresh Start and the subsequent Executive Action Plan. Fresh Start Agreement

The [Fresh Start Agreement](#) sets out a wide range of proposals for addressing some of the most challenging and intractable issues that impact upon communities, including commitments to tackle paramilitarism and organised crime.

Under the Fresh Start Agreement (at A3.9) there is a commitment for the 'development of a programme to increase the participation and influence of women in community development.'

The Executive also appointed an independent panel to consider and provide recommendations for a strategy for disbanding paramilitary groups. The [Panel's Report on the Disbandment of Paramilitary Groups in Northern Ireland](#) was published in June 2016.

This report recommended (at B5) that the 'Executive's programme for women in community development should be designed not only to enable women's organisations to continue to carry out transformative community development work in our communities but also to ensure that women are equipped to take on more leadership roles in public decision-making.'

The Executive subsequently published its [Executive Action Plan](#) which sets out how these, and the other recommendations, will be implemented.

This Action Plan requires the Department for Communities to 'organise a series of co-design workshops to determine the shape and content of the [women's development] programme. These will include The Executive Office (TEO) and Department of Justice (DoJ) participation and other Executive Departments where appropriate, alongside experts in the community and women's organisations who will be taking forward the delivery of the programme'.

Developing a programme for women

The Department initially engaged with key stakeholders from the Voluntary and Community Sector to consider the need for a multi-year programme that would skill up and develop women who wish to become more involved in community development. This programme has the potential to cover a spectrum of areas as diverse as: health and wellbeing, the justice system, peace building and leadership.

An initial proposal setting out a modular learning and development approach was considered by a Cross Departmental Programme Board tasked with co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of the Fresh Start Agreement's commitments.

Approval was given for the Department to progress this proposal through to the detailed design stage. This will involve a public consultation followed by an open and transparent public procurement exercise.

Department for Communities Implementation of its Fresh Start Agreement Commitments continued

A Co-Design Group was established consisting of some of the stakeholders previously involved in developing the initial proposal and also other interested parties. Its membership is set out within its [Terms of Reference](#). This group first met in June 2016.

The development stages for this initiative are:

Stage 1 Preliminary planning activity

Identification of key stakeholders, including:

- Central Procurement Directorate (CPD) - To ensure that co-design and grant procurement processes are compliant with best practice
- DoJ / DfC
- Community Foundation for NI (CFNI)
- Co-operation Ireland (CI)
- Women's Consortia

These groups/organisations were contacted on a 'without prejudice' basis to discuss bi-laterally the issue of designing a programme and their willingness to further participate in a multi-lateral co-design process.

Stage 2 Detailed Design: (process ongoing)

Stage 3 Consultation

Stage 4: Preparation / agreement of procurement specifications

Stage 5: Procurement and Appointment

Stage 6: Implementation: (During 2017/18 - To be agreed with Delivery Organisation(s))

The work of the Co-Design Group, decisions made and plans produced are being recorded and published on line to ensure transparency.

Co-Design Group - Terms Of Reference

View the [Terms of Reference for the Co-Design Group](#).

Co-design Group - Minutes of meetings

View the [Minutes of the Co-Design meetings](#)

The Women's Early Intervention Programme (DfC's 'Early' Fresh Start)

The ongoing co-design process highlighted the need for an additional Early Intervention Programme for Women in community development, which will identify groups of disengaged women and equip them to engage fully and fruitfully in DfC's main contribution to the Fresh Start Agreement. It is planned that this programme will be delivered to approximately 250 women, across 25 locations, by March 2017.

Promoting Lawfulness

This independent panel's report recommended (at A3) that the 'Executive should work with leading figures and organisations throughout all sectors of society to take a stand against criminality in Northern Ireland and promote responsible cooperation with the authorities as part of a culture of lawfulness'.

Department for Communities Implementation of its Fresh Start Agreement Commitments continued

The Executive's Action Plan commits the Department to bring forward proposals for engagement on this issue via community, voluntary, and sports forums. Work on the promotion of lawfulness will also be undertaken by the Attorney General.

Under Action A6 the DoJ and Northern Ireland Policing Board are ensuring that the strategic objectives of Police and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) focus on building community confidence in the rule of law and embed a culture of lawfulness. In support of this objective DfC has undertaken to work with local government to ensure community planning partnerships also focus on building community confidence in the rule of law. A draft action plan has been prepared and will be discussed and taken forward in conjunction with local government. There will also be ongoing liaison with DoJ and the PCSPs.

In addition Action B4 commits the Executive to supporting ambitious initiatives aimed at building capacity in communities in transition. The Executive Office is working with DoJ to develop an area based approach which supports communities in transition.

Within DfC, the NIHE was allocated funding amounting to £498k in 2016/17 to support its 3E's programme (Enable, Engage, Empower) across 13 hard to reach areas. NIHE is also rolling out a Community Empowerment Programme to provide 70-80 participants with the opportunity to engage in a pre-employment leadership and employability programme. Finally it is expanding its Re-Imaging Communities programme to 8 new areas. NIHE and DoJ will consider how this work can be taken forward in 2017/18 and beyond.

Events

Reflection and Years Ahead - Structured Discussions

The Decade of Centenaries has seen the Home Rule crisis, the Ulster Covenant, the rise of the labour movement, women and suffrage, the events leading up to outbreak of the First World War, Jutland, the Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme - all acknowledged or commemorated in a respectful and thoughtful way.

How we mark, or commemorate the centenary events in the years to 2023, with the end of the First World War and continued turmoil in Europe, the War of Independence, Civil War, violence, the extension of franchise and the foundation of both the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland will be complicated and involve us in difficult conversations. It is timely to think ahead.

This is the third discussion and we will be looking at education, outreach and creativity.

We will finish at 1pm with lunch and networking.

Register here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reflection-and-years-ahead-education-outreach-creativity-tickets-30289817660?platform=hootsuite>

Events continued

The International Network of Museums for Peace

The International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP; www.museumsforpeace.org) will hold its 9th International Conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland, 10-13 April 2017.

The conference also marks the 25th anniversary of INMP, a global network of peace museums, peace gardens and other peace related sites, centres and institutions that share the aim to cultivate a global culture of peace.

The conference theme, "Cities as Living Museums for Peace", will highlight Belfast's social and political transformation from a divided, troubled city to a one which models peace consciousness through post conflict healing and reconciliation.

The 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace is co-hosted by Visit Belfast and Ulster University. The conference invites participation from directors and curators of human rights and peace museums, peace educators, journalists, artists, musicians, architects, policy makers, as well as researchers, scholars, and students of history, museum studies, cultural memory studies, international relations, international ethics, and interdisciplinary subjects.

"Visit Belfast, with funding support from Tourism Northern Ireland and Belfast City Council, has continually promoted the city as a vibrant conference and business tourism destination." said Laurie Scott, Director of Business Tourism at Visit Belfast. "Now, 'Peace, Anthropology & Conflict Resolution' has been identified as a priority for growth within the conferencing sector in Belfast so we are thrilled that INMP has chosen the city as the venue for this 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace."

Ulster University is globally renowned for the impact of its peace and conflict transformation research through INCORE – the International Conflict Research Institute – headquartered at the University's Magee campus in Derry-Londonderry.

Máire Braniff, Director of INCORE at Ulster University said: "The opening day of the Conference (April 10) marks the 19th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement/Belfast Agreement, the most important and far-reaching agreement in the Northern Ireland peace process of the 1990s. The Opening Reception of the Conference will be held at Stormont (Parliament Buildings) on the same estate where the historic agreement was signed. It will therefore help reflect on an historic event in our region whilst refocusing our attention on the importance of conflict transformation work both locally and internationally."

The Conference will include keynote addresses, symposia, workshops, paper and panel presentations, and a poster exhibition, as well as optional visits to historic sites and museums for peace. In addition to the conference theme, current issues and themes related to museums for peace will be discussed. These topics will include new developments in museum studies (museology), and the changing roles of museums for peace in the global age. For example, what is the role of museums for peace in education; in post-conflict healing and reconciliation processes; in the nuclear disarmament movement; in clarifying contested memories and multiple historical interpretations; and in raising awareness about socially-sanctioned, structural violence?

10-13 April 2017

For More Information: conference@museumsforpeace.org or info@bespokenorthernireland.com

Events continued

International Women's Day Rally Celebrating cross-community and cultural diversity in NI

Saturday 4th March @11.00am
Writers Square Belfast
Contact: kellie.odowd@wrda.net

Small Worlds Workshop

Tackling Racism and promoting Cultural Diversity through meaningful engagement
Monday 6th March 12.30pm – 2.00pm Central Hall Rosemary St. Belfast.
Lunch included
Contact kellie.odowd@wrda.net

WRDA Open House Event

Celebrating the cross-community and cultural diversity of women on International Women's Day
Wednesday 8th March 9.30am-11.30am
Light breakfast provided
WRDA 6 Mount Charles Belfast
Contact: info@wrda.net

Lunchtime Lecture: Women's Solidarity in Truth and Justice Campaigns; from the Miners Strike to Orgreave

Tuesday 7th March 12.30pm – 2.00pm
The Central Hall Rosemary St. Belfast
Lunch provided
Contact kellie.odowd@wrda.net

“Resilience, Recovery and Reconciliation”

The Institute for Conflict Research are holding a “Resilience, Recovery and Reconciliation” Brunch to mark International Women's Day at the synagogue on 8th March 2017. As a result of recent security incidents relating to the Jewish Community, entrance will be **strictly** by invitation only.

Interested parties should contact denisehughes@conflictresearch.org.uk and if they cannot be accommodated on this occasion we will contact them for future events.

1916 Front Lines - Easter Rising & Battle of the Somme

15th & 22nd March 2017—£2 per night—Banbridge Old Town Hall Time: 19:00 - 21:00

Host: RCN & REACT Armagh

1916 Blood Sacrifices

2016 was the centenary celebrations of two monumental events, The Easter Rising and The Battle of the Somme.

Events continued

The year 1916 evokes high emotion across the community in N. Ireland, with both main traditions looking back with reverence at the actions of the men of that generation from within their separate communities.

- Who were the people involved? What were their motivations?
- What really happened?
- What were the consequences of their actions?

Setting aside the Orange and Green tainted lenses '1916 Front Lines' takes you back to the time and places where these events occurred.

Ireland, Crisis & Volunteers 1912 - 1914 Ireland, Easter 1916
The Western Front, July 1916 Post WWI, Ireland

Wendy.Shaw@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Healing The Hidden Menace

A two day course for those interested in the Building Communities Resource Centre's Intimidation Toolkit

Dates: Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th March 2017

Time: 10am – 4pm

Venue: Rural Community Network, 38a Oldtown St, Cookstown

(There are bursaries available to cover the cost of this programme if you are a member of RCN or a member of BCRC, non members of either organisation will have to pay £10.00 per person)

This two day course is based on the Building Communities Resource Centre Intimidation Toolkit and will feature modules on defining intimidation, the root causes of intimidation, the effects on individuals and communities, the power dynamic, support services and mechanisms and techniques for addressing the issue.

The Toolkit is designed to act as a resource for those affected as a victim and survivor of intimidation, for community development/youth development and good relations practitioners and for providers of support services.

Delivered by BCRC and RCN Staff

For further information please contact Angela or Shauna at BCRC on 028 2766 5068 or email info@theresourcecentre.org.

To register for the course please email teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org or ring 028 8676 6670. Cost £10 per person.

Facilitating Difficult Conversations

One day Workshop - Tutor Michael Doherty

Friday 10th March 2017

9.30am – 4.30pm

Rural Community Network Cookstown

£30.00 *(includes a sandwich lunch and The Peace Builders workbook)*

Events continued

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.

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 or Mob; 07714494258

Winnifred Carney and George McBride

As part of our ongoing Decade of Centenaries Programme, we would like to let you know of our latest event which will be on the unlikely union between Winnifred Carney and George McBride. Author and Historian, Alison Murphy will give a talk on the lives of these two historical figures, documenting their backgrounds and how they came together in a common cause of fairness and the rights of the working class in Belfast.

Event: Winnie and George
Where: Reception Hall, Belfast City Hall
When: 15th March 2017
Time: 6.30 – 8.30pm

The event is free, but booking is essential. Please RSVP to goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk or call 02890 270663.

Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language Week) celebrations

This event will explore the vibrant Irish language sector in Belfast, the gaelic history of Ulster place names, along with traditional music and dance.

Venue: An Droichead, 20 Cooke St, Belfast BT7 2EP

Date: Wednesday 15 March 10.00am – 12.30pm.

As space is limited, booking is essential. To book contact goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk or call 02890 270663

Details of all of our Diverse City Events can be found on the following link: <http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/events/Event-55261.aspx>

Jethro Centre – Different Strands of Faith

29th March - As part of our ongoing programme of 'different strands of faith', at 7.30pm we will visit the Bridge Community Church which is celebrating its centenary year in Lurgan. Pastor Marcus White will give a brief history of the church and how it seeks to bring the message of the Gospel in a way relevant to the present day needs of its members and to continue with its programme of community outreach to the local populace.

Events continued

Good Relations Networking Event

The Good Relations Unit in Belfast City Council would like to invite you to attend a networking event on Thursday 6 April from 10am – 12 noon in the Reception Room, City Hall.

The event will be an opportunity to learn about good relations projects that have been supported by the Good Relations Unit and to meet with groups who are delivering good relations projects in your area. We will also provide feedback on the recent survey of good relations needs that we carried out in Belfast and the Good Relations Action plan which outlines the good relations programmes of work that we will deliver in 17/18.

There will also be a chance to feedback on areas of work where the Good Relations Unit can provide support.

To register for this event please email goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk or telephone 028 9027 0663 by 28 March. We will send an agenda and further details to those who register.

Launch of International Women's Quilt

Celebration of women from Belfast, Somalia, Nigeria, Sudan and India and their creation of a quilt to celebrate International Women's Day 2017 'Peace, Solidarity and Sustenance...Keeping Mind, Body and Soul Together'.

Join us to hear from the women who created the quilt and their creative journey together.

Sat 11 March 2017: 7pm @ Shaftesbury Community & Recreation Centre

Music and dinner provided.

Please RSVP for catering to amwhite@lorag.org tel: 028 9031 2377



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City Council



Crowdfunding training (Belfast & Cookstown)

Date & Time: 20 March (Belfast) or 21 March (Cookstown) - 10.00am to 3.30pm

Venue: NICVA, Belfast and RCN, Cookstown

NICVA is delighted to offer this one-day training course on Crowdfunding in partnership with Crowdfund UK, Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) and Rural Community Network (RCN). Anne Strachan from Crowdfund UK is coming to NI on 20 and 21 March to deliver two participative and informative workshops on how we can use Crowdfunding as a way to raise money for the work that we do. The same workshop will be delivered on 20 March in NICVA, Belfast and 21 March RCN, Cookstown.

Book your place for the [Belfast session here](#) or for the [Cookstown session here](#).

Events continued

Facilitating Good Relations Accredited Course Level 1 – 1 Credit

Clarendon Street Chambers, 67 Clarendon Street, Derry/Londonderry, BT48 7ER

Thursday 27th April 2017—9.30am – 4.30pm

Cost: £50.00 (includes NI OCN accreditation fee, sandwich lunch and a copy of Michal Doherty's *The Peace Builders Handbook*)

This programme is designed for those who work with diverse communities and want to enhance their skills in facilitating Good Relations programmes.

The workshop is delivered through an experiential learning process that will include tutor input, group activities and discussion.

The programme will give participants the skills and knowledge of what is required to deliver and initiate good relations programmes with diverse groups.

Participants will explore ways to develop group cohesion by looking at the difference between ice-breakers and trust exercises, how groups develop and ways to evaluate different types of programmes.

The background to key developments in the Northern Ireland peace process will be explored to help participants prepare their own Good Relations programme.

Each participant will receive a copy of the tutors resource book 'The Peace Builders Handbook'

Places on this workshop are limited to 10 so early booking is advisable

For further information email; michael.doherty@mediatени.com or Mob; 07714494258

Accredited Conflict Management and Mediation Skills Workshop

Northern Ireland Open College Network (Level 1 – 1 Credit)

Clarendon Street Chambers, 67 Clarendon Street, Derry/Londonderry, BT 48 7ER. Tel; 02871 365636

2nd May 2017 - 9.30am – 4.30pm

Cost £100.00 (includes NIOCN registration fee and course workbook)

**Earlybird Registration Register before 21st April 2016 £80.00*

This course is designed for solicitors, Police Officers, Social Workers, Probation Officers, School Teachers, Good Relations Officers, Project Officers, Health Officers, Care Workers and facilitators who work in group settings

(This course may qualify for CDP points under self-notification)

Events continued

Workshop Aims

- To introduce participants to the principles of Conflict Management and the use of Mediation as tool for resolving conflict.
- Explain to participants that Mediation is a process, which helps people in dispute to have a difficult conversation with each other that enables them to work through their issues and hopefully reach an agreeable outcome.
- To give participants an overview of the Learning Outcomes for the course and explain the Northern Ireland Open College Network Accreditation procedure.

Objectives

At the end of the Workshop the participants will be able to:

- Identify different ways people deal with conflict
- Be aware of the skills of a mediator
- Have an understanding of how mediation works in practice
- Help disputing parties create their own agreements
- Understand the advantages and disadvantages of co-mediation.

Accredited Conflict Management and Mediation Skills Course

Northern Ireland Open College Network Accredited Course at Level 2 – 2 Credit

Clarendon Street Chambers, 67 Clarendon Street, Derry/Londonderry, BT 48 7ER 02871
365636 1st 2nd June 2017 - 9.30am – 4.30pm both days
Cost: £200 (includes NIOCN registration fee and course workbook)

This course is designed for solicitors, police officers, social workers, probation officers, school teachers, Good Relations Officers, Project Officers and facilitators who work in group settings.

(This course may qualify for CDP points under self-notification)

Learning Outcomes: by the end of the course participants will be able to;

- Understand the legal framework of mediation as a conflict Management tool.
- Identify different ways people deal with conflict
- Differentiate between Mediation/Negotiation/Arbitration/Litigation
- Be aware of the skills of a mediator
- Have an understanding of how mediation works in practice
- Be able to understand the difference between Facilitative, Evaluative and Shuttle mediation processes
- Help disputing parties create their own agreements
- Understand the advantages and disadvantages of co-mediation.

Duration: The course will be delivered over two days that will include an experiential learning process involving tutor input and practical case studies that will be supplemented by a course workbook and hand-out material.

The course is restricted to 10 participants and early booking is advisable

For further information email michael.doherty@mediateni.com or phone 07714494258