



COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS  
COUNCIL

Equity | Diversity | Interdependence

## E-News

Issue 25 - April 2019

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### Hello and welcome...

...to the April 2019 issue of the E-news from Community Relations Council (CRC)! The E-news 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 **notices and diary dates**. The second updates on **Funding** with the third section covering **Engagement** work.

The past three months have been busy as usual. The Engagement Team delivered the first of a refreshed format Shared Learning Forum for Core funded groups in January. In February the T:BUC Engagement Forum had over 150 people participate in a programme highlighting and discussing the rural impact of T:BUC. In March the Good Relations Awards were announced at a presentation event which also included the annual David Stevens Memorial Lecture delivered by Dr Derick Wilson. Read more about these events below.

The Funding Team have been working on the Core grant funds assessment and awards which will be launched on the 11th April. The team have also moved the application process for small grants online. Please read more about these below.

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](#)

## Diary Date!

### **T:BUC Engagement Forum**

21st May 2019  
The Guildhall  
Derry/Londonderry  
9.30am - 1.30pm



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

## Peace Monitor 5

The fifth Peace Monitoring Report has been published by the Community Relations Council, written independently by a team of academics based at Ulster University led by Professor Gillian Robinson, and funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Click the read more button below to access copies online. You can also request a hard copy by contacting CRC.

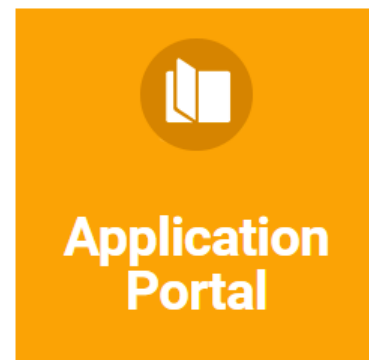


[Read more](#)

## CRC FUNDING

### New Online Application Portal

From 1st April 2019 CRC has moved to online grant applications starting with the 2019/20 Community Relations/Cultural Diversity (CR/CD) Grants and Pathfinder schemes. Applicants will be able to make a grant application by clicking on the application portal on the CRC website.



[Read more](#)

### 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

## Shankill Parish Caring Association - Jethro Centre



On a beautiful sunny day at the end of February, pupils of Lurgan College and St Ronan's College met at the Jethro Centre to travel to Londonderry/Derry as part of the Shared Education Project taking place between the schools.

[Read More - article by Finn Lappin from Lurgan College](#)

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## PeacePlayers

PeacePlayers is a CRC Core Funded group.

At PeacePlayers, they use the power of sport to unite, educate and inspire young people to create a more peaceful world. They offer sport programming, peace education, and leadership development to those living in communities in conflict.





They challenge the hate that is driven by the fear of our differences. They bridge divides between people through the game of basketball and we develop young leaders who help to change perceptions.

Read more below for PeacePlayers update for events coming up in the next months,

[More information](#)

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## Shankill and Falls Womens Centres

Shankill and Falls Womens Centres are both funded by CRC. On 21 February a group of women from across Belfast, including the Falls and Shankill, met at Shankill Womens centre.

[More information](#)

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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.

## We come from far, far away

This play was showing as part of the Young at Art Festival and is part of 'We Come From Far, Far Away' Engagement programme which is well underway and kicked off during



March in Fane Street Primary School.  
The programme is funded by CRC.

[More information](#)

## Legacy - Speaking truth to power

Community conversations with women across Northern Ireland in the last five years have prioritised issues most affecting their positive wellbeing, safety and security and the on-going development of a peaceful, inclusive and shared future for all.

At this conference women articulated these issues and the political panel had a short time to speak to how these issues were being addressed. This event was funded by CRC's Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Scheme.

[More information](#)

## Newry - A diverse city

A Newry based hyperlocal news website has launched an online series celebrating and promoting the city's growing ethnic minority population.

[More information](#)

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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](#)

## Greater Whitewell Community Surgery

Greater Whitewell Community Surgery use North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme (NBSGRP ) funding to deliver four main programmes, which aim to support the development of young people's potential, in the area.

[More information](#)

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## 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



### T:BUC and its rural impact

The Killyhevlin Hotel in Enniskillen was packed out on 12th February 2019 with The Executive Office (TEO) and over 150 community practitioners, policy makers and academics meeting for the eighth Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) Engagement Forum. The event focused on T:BUC and its rural impact. It placed a strong emphasis on what central government and practitioners are doing to engage with rural communities and explore actions that could enable greater participation in promoting good relations.



[Read the Summary Report of the Forum](#)

# Shared Learning Forum - Core Groups





Over 30 people attended the Shared Learning Forum for CRC Core funded groups on the 24th January. The event was hosted in the Barron Hall, home of Community Relations Forum, a Core funded group.

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.

Kathy Wolff from Community Relations Forum made a presentation followed by Claire Heaney-McKee from The Playhouse. Highlights from both presentations are covered overleaf. After some questions and discussion the participants worked in six groups to discuss three focus questions:

- What are the issues that impact upon you in the delivery of good relations in your work?
- What help and support do you feel is important to enable you to deliver good relations outcomes?
- Who should be involved and how?

Overall the event was viewed as either useful or very useful by 100% of evaluation respondents who also indicated they would return and attend future events.

Next event is 11th April 2018—hosted by An Gaelaras.

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## The David Stevens Memorial Lecture 2019





The 2019 David Stevens Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Derick Wilson at Ranfurly House, Dungannon on 26th March 2019. Derick is Reader Emeritus in Education (Restorative Practices and Community Relations) at Ulster University, a Member of the Corrymeela Council and in 2019-20, will be a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at St Philip's, San Antonio. His first community relations job was as a detached youth worker-youth tutor with the Schools Community Relations Project in Kelvin School (Roden Street), with the Community Relations Commission (1970-73).

[To read the lecture click here](#)

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## **CRC Exceptional Achievement Awards 2019 Winners!**



Andy Cole, Director of Good Relations and T:BUC at The Executive Office and Peter Osborne Chair of the Community Relations Council with Marion Jamison and Charmain Jones, CRC Exceptional Achievement Award winners 2019.

Two women's dedication to peace building and good relations education in rural areas has been recognised with the Community Relations Council's (CRC) Exceptional Achievement award.

The Community Relations Council Award recognises exceptional achievement in promoting community relations, intercultural work or peace building in Northern Ireland.

Marion Jamison, from the outskirts of Armagh and Charmain Jones from Portadown have been working together and individually to contribute to positive relations both locally and regionally.





[More information](#)



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[info@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:info@nicrc.org.uk)

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