



CRC e-Bulletin

Sharing Approaches to Peacebuilding

Dorothy Monaghan, Evaluation and Learning Officer, Community Bridges Programme,

On 22 November 140 representatives from community relations and community development met at a Community Bridges Conference entitled 'Sharing Approaches to Peacebuilding' in Belfast Castle. The first event of its kind for the Programme, the agenda for the day was to provide a reflective space for delegates to engage in sharing their experiences and their stories of success from reconciliation practice on the entire island.

The Community Bridges Programme has funded and nurtured over 240 projects since 1996 in a key number of districts and with an astonishing variety of approaches throughout this time. At the event 4 exemplar projects were presented by key speakers: Paul Smyth of Public Achievement gave an overview of the Community Bridges funded project called 'Away from Violence'; Sean Feenan presented the Creating Learning and Sharing Approaches to Peacebuilding project, which is a community mentoring project currently being implemented in 30 districts throughout the North and border counties. Debbie Watters, Northern Ireland Alternatives, described an innovative schools initiative and also an initiative for former men of conflict, which has been successful at transforming loyalism and leadership. David O'Brien reflected on his experiences using history in cross-border and cross-community peacebuilding.

In addition to these presenters, there were keynote addresses from Duncan Morrow, CRC and chairperson of IFI, Denis Rooney. Delegates warmly welcomed the opportunity to meet and reflect on experience and also gathered strength in the diversity and range of approaches outlined within the workshops organised.



From left to right, Jacqueline Rooney, Co-ordinator, Inishowen Women's Information Network, Rodney Green, Consultant, Elaine Devlin, Co-ordinator, Mid Ulster Women's Network, Joe Hinds, Director, Community Bridges Programme and Paul Smyth, Director, Public Achievement.

**December 2010/
January 2011**

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PeacePlayers International

Gareth Harper, Managing Director

PeacePlayers International-Northern Ireland (PPI-NI) is a cross-community charity that uses the game of basketball to unite young people from the Protestant/Unionist/Loyalist and Catholic/Republican/Nationalist communities in Belfast and select surrounding areas. Basketball, unlike traditional sports, is not affiliated with either community, and therefore provides a neutral space to address the cultural divide. By competing together on integrated teams, children from these historically divided communities can discover common ground and forge new friendships. The contact element of PPI-NI's sport programmes is further enhanced through facilitated, age-appropriate community relations conversations and activities that aim to empower children to impart positive change in their respective communities. Community relations sessions are led by committed local and international facilitators to address the complex issues of a post-conflict society. Since the organisation was established in Northern Ireland in 2002, PPI-NI has worked with thousands of young people to successfully challenge sectarian ideology through its Primary School Twinning Programme (8 to 11yrs), Cross-Community League (9 to 17yrs), and through its Leadership Development Programme (16 to 25yrs).

PPI-NI focuses on working with those that are most disadvantaged and those that suffer most from continued sectarianism and division. The areas targeted through our cross-community programmes rank highly against the Noble Index of Multiple Deprivation and PPI-NI currently works in 8 of the 10 most deprived wards in Northern Ireland. The programmes provide coordinated interventions at key life stages and aim to develop young leaders to help address the main challenges that Northern Ireland continues to face: segregated education, divided neighbourhoods, and sectarian violence.

Most recently, in May 2010, PPI-NI became an Open College Network (OCN) recognised centre. The development of three OCN accredited courses represents a significant enhancement to PPI-NI's Leadership Development programming and the three courses: '*Understanding Diversity Through Sport*' (Level I), '*Promoting Diversity Through Sports*' (Level II), and '*Promoting Diversity Through Sports Clubs*' (Level III) aim to support these young leaders to realise their potential and provide them with an alternative progression route to employment and/or further education. Ultimately, all of PPI-NI's programmes endeavour to provide participants with the tools necessary to build peace and tolerance in their communities and beyond.

The work of PPI-NI is complemented by sister programmes in Cyprus, the Middle East and South Africa, all operating on the premise that 'children who play together can learn to live together'. On a global scale, PeacePlayers aims to empower children and young people to bridge divides, change perceptions and build peace in conflict areas around the world.

For further information on the work of PeacePlayers in Northern Ireland please contact: Gareth Harper, PeacePlayers International – Northern Ireland
21 Botanic Ave, Belfast, BT7 1JJ, Tel: 02890 240550
Email: ggharper@peaceplayersintl.org
Website: www.peaceplayersintl.org

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

PEACE III: Theme 1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past

Naomi Doak, Development Officer, European Programme, CRC

The EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (2007-2013) (hereafter the PEACE III Programme) is a distinctive European Union Structural Funds Programme aimed at “reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promoting reconciliation.” A Consortium of two organisations – the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council and Pobal (henceforth referred to as ‘the Consortium’) have been appointed by the Special EU Programmes Body as a joint delivery mechanism for Priority 1.2 of the Peace III Programme, with a single point of entry for all applicants to Priority 1 Theme 2 - Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past.

Acknowledging and dealing with the past in Ireland requires courage, sensitivity and determination. Violence has left a terrible legacy, both in the lives of people and families and in the memories of communities and traditions. In seeking to reach the goals of peace and reconciliation, opportunities to address aspects of the legacy will play a central role. Through PEACE III, the European Union has provided a further and final opportunity to tackle these issues. It is important to undertake this priority with an aim of ensuring that the outcome in 2015 is a society at peace, where issues can be faced and addressed and where services are provided for those most closely affected.

Following a recent review of the implementation of Theme 1.2 commissioned by the SEUPB, it is anticipated that the Consortium will have an open call for new applications in December 2010.

Through this new call, the Consortium aims to support innovative and boundary pushing applications from organisations or consortia interested in delivering peace-building and reconciliation projects which have a specific focus on dealing with the past and building pathways for a better future. All potential projects should have a peace-building and reconciliation focus as part of core project activities. The eligible area for the PEACE III Programme is Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (comprising of Louth, Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim, Sligo and Donegal).

Once the call is open, applications and further details will be available online at www.eugrants.org , www.pobal.ie and www.nicrc.org.uk

It is anticipated that the Consortium will hold information clinics where potential applicants can discuss their proposal with a Development Officer early in the New Year. All events will be publicised on the websites above. Details of the open call will also be advertised widely in the local and regional press.



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Compiled and edited by Patricia O'Neill and Ellana Tomasso

Befrienders

Taken from a CRC Press Release issued by Ray Mullan on 26th November 2010

On the 26th November over 100 volunteers trained to support victims and survivors of the Troubles received special certificates and a 'Gift of Time' badge, in recognition of their work.

The certificate awards were given to Befrienders, who spend time visiting those who have suffered most as a result of the Troubles. Special training in befriending has been provided since 2006, through the Community Relations Council, to individuals within victim support groups enabling them to provide support to the bereaved and injured of the Troubles, widows, parents, children, colleagues, friends and neighbours.

Joan Clements, CRC Victim Support Officer, said:

'There is a high level of isolation among those caring for victims of the Troubles, and many carers are close relatives. The befriending training provides them with additional support in their volunteer activity. The work the Befrienders are delivering is excellent and the 'Gift of Time' ceremony is an important recognition of their contribution to healing the hurt of the Troubles.'

Bertha McDougal, one of the Victims Commissioners, and Paul Clark, UTV presenter, were guest speakers at the ceremony

Bertha McDougal said:

" Many victims and survivors feel abandoned, forgotten and isolated. Befriending supports individuals at the local level and the building of trust between individuals and the Befriender is an essential component of this service and should not be underestimated. A Befriender is a volunteer who gives freely of their time to train and undertake this work and I would like to acknowledge how much they are contributing to society by ensuring that those individuals, who may be amongst the most vulnerable and have suffered the most in the conflict, are not forgotten. "

Paul Clarke said:

"The people who make the greatest difference in our lives are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards. They are the ones who care about us and others. They are people like you."

The Befriending Scheme has provided support to hundreds of victims, survivors and carers. It is provided by a multitude of committed volunteers and has been at the forefront of grass-roots self help group and community action.

Community Faiths' Forum

Rob Fairmichael, Co-ordinator of Community Faiths' Forum

The Community Faiths' Forum in Northern Ireland met for the first time in May 2010 and is now meeting quarterly. This brings together twenty-five experienced individuals from Christian and other faiths to work together on poverty, community development, and related issues.

The Community Faiths' Forum is designed to be a forum for discussion of social and community issues. It includes five members from the Baha'i, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim and Sikh religions alongside 20 members drawn from various Christian traditions. Social issues such as poverty, housing, Shared Future and volunteering, and community engagement will always be the primary items on the agenda for discussion and this will have relevance for the entire community and for all faith groups who seek to help disadvantaged, excluded or marginalised people in local communities.

The work of the Forum is still developing but includes a research element, the sharing of best practice, learning from each other's work and projects, and discernment of the best role faith communities can play in society, particularly in the current era of recession. It is a pilot forum in that it will work in this phase until spring 2012 when a decision will be made whether to continue and extend the Forum's work and remit.

The Forum is funded through the Voluntary and Community Unit (VCU) of the Department for Social Development (DSD). The Forum's work is administered by the Churches' Community Work Alliance NI, and overseen by Eddie McDowell, CCWA Director, on behalf of a steering group consisting of members of CCWA's management committee. Rob Fairmichael took up the post of (part-time) Co-ordinator of the Community Faiths' Forum in May 2010.

Community Faiths' Forum, CCWA, 218 York Street, Belfast BT15 1GY, phone 028 9074 0077, mobile: 077 89224910, Email: rob.fairmichael@ccwa-ni.org.uk and website <http://www.ccwa-ni.org.uk/cff>

Photos available on request.

Interviews with the Coordinator or others associated with the Forum can be set up by contacting as above.



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Game for all Cultures



Completion of a successful youth sports programme, organised by PSNI Community safety Team Cookstown and the Good relations Officer at Cookstown District Council, was marked with a special event attended by Cookstown District Council Chairman Councillor John McNamee.

The programme involved twenty three young people from Cookstown. They engaged in a wide range of sports at the Mid Ulster Sports Arena. The youths played gaelic sports, hockey, rugby, basketball and lacrosse. They also took part in an equality-in-sport event. The programme culminated in an adventure activity in Gortin.

The programme offered a unique way to promote integration and inclusion in our society. It has captured the various sports that are played both by children in schools, in clubs and the street and by our professional sports people across the world to highlight the benefits of living in a diverse society. The range of sports shown highlights the wide appeal of the programme

The project received funding support from the PSNI and Good Relations Office, Cookstown District Council.

For more information contact Sean McElhatton, Good Relations Officer, Tel 8676 4714

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Policy Update

Gemma Attwood, Policy Officer CRC

Assembly Update

During November Assembly members submitted a number of questions which were of particular relevance to community and good relations.

Some of the issues raised included:

Written and Oral Q&A

OFMdfM

How many responses have been received to date on the consultation on the Draft Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration?

What progress has been made in the last twelve months in assisting vulnerable working class communities in the Coleraine area following the recent inter-communal problems?

To outline the site selection process for the proposed Conflict Resolution Centre at the Maze/Long Kesh site.

For their assessment of the responses to the consultation on the draft Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration.

DCAL

Whether the Minister intends to bring a draft Irish language strategy to the Executive before the end of the current Assembly mandate?

For an update on the minority languages strategy.

Does he agree that the interests of the Irish language and those of Ulster-Scots culture would be better served by distinct and appropriate treatments for each?

Whether his Department is working with its counterpart in Dublin on commemorating important events from 1912-1922?

To outline the timescale for the development of the commemoration strategy for 1912-1922.

What steps he has taken to address issues within the Ulster Branch of the Irish Amateur Boxing Association where clubs and competitors from a perceived Unionist background have been subjected to sectarian harassment over a prolonged period of time?

DE

For the Minister's assessment of whether the plan for a shared school complex at Lisanelly could be used as a blueprint for other areas.

How many controlled schools have transformed to become controlled integrated schools over the past three years?

To outline her Department's position in relation to the right of parents to opt for faith-based education for their children.

What is the Department doing to mainstream good relations and shared education across sectors through the development of the entitlement framework?

If her Department has made an assessment of whether educating children in a single education system would (i) assist; or (ii) hinder the delivery of its responsibility to promote good community relations.

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Policy Update continued

DEL

For the Minister's assessment of the extent to which community-based learning opportunities, provided by the community sector, address inequality and increase social inclusion in areas of multiple deprivation in Belfast.

DOJ

What steps the Minister's Department is taking to support communities who wish to have peace walls reduced or removed?

How many people have been convicted, to date, in relations to the violence that took place in Ardoyne over the Twelfth period; and, of those arrested, how many resided in North Belfast?

Pursuant to AQW 985/11, why the PSNI does not record the number of sectarian attacks in the Fountain Estate, Londonderry; and whether there are any plans to start keeping such records?

DRD

When 'Welcome to Northern Ireland' signs will be erected on roadsides of arterial roads connecting Northern Ireland to the Republic of Ireland.

DSD

Given the imminent demolition of Mountpottinger PSNI barracks, what plans the Minister has for consultation with local community and political representatives in the Short Strand area regarding the future of the site; and if his Department would seek to acquire the land for social housing.

If he has any plans to bring the Crumlin Road Court House back into public ownership.

Hansard

Private Members' Business – 22nd November 2010

Seventieth Anniversary of the Death of Lord Craigavon

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/record/reports2010/101122today.htm#4>

Private Members' Business – 23rd November 2010

Integrated and Shared Education

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/record/reports2010/101123today.htm#8>

Consultation Hub

Welcome to CRC's Consultation Finder. This will help you find and participate in consultations that have community/good relations implications.

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

Consultation Hub continued

DSD & OFMdfM

ILEX Urban Regeneration Company – Draft Regeneration Plan for Derry. The deputy First Minister and the Minister for Social Development launched the draft Regeneration Plan (Mark II) for the city. The new draft plan, which was commissioned by Ministers, will set the vision of transformational change for the city in terms of building a more vibrant economy with increased prosperity, in ways which will ensure that opportunities and benefits from regeneration are targeted towards the most deprived groups.

Deadline for response is 9th December 2010.

http://www.ilex-urc.com/userfiles/File/Regeneration_Plan_document_3_FINAL.pdf

Consultation Responses

CRC recently responded to

OFMdfM

Consultation Sustainable Development Strategy: Implementation Plan. The full response can be downloaded at <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/Susdev02112010.doc>

DE

Consultation on the draft Early Years (0-6) Strategy. The full response can be downloaded at <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/DE%20-%20Early%20Years%20Strategy%200-6-FINAL%2030112010.pdf>

Consultation on the draft Community Relations, Equality and Diversity in Education Policy. The full response can be downloaded at <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/CRC%20draft%20CRED%20response%20FINAL%2030%20Nov%202010.doc>

Consultation on the policy framework: teacher education in a climate of change – the way forward. The full response can be downloaded at <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/DE-DEL%20-%20Teacher%20education%20in%20a%20climate%20of%20change-FINAL%20RESPONSE%2029112010.doc>

Assembly

Victims Funding and CSI were discussed in Oral Answers to Questions on 29th November 2010. To view the response click here <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/record/reports2010/101129.htm#h>

You can follow the Assembly on Facebook—go to

<http://www.facebook.com/NorthernIrelandAssembly>



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Publications and Reports

The Return of the Militants: Violent Dissident Republicanism. A policy report published by the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR) by Dr. Martyn Frampton, Lecturer in Modern/Contemporary History at Queen Mary, University of London. 2010

Like all other ICSR publications, this report can be downloaded free of charge from the ICSR website at www.icsr.info.

Prologue to the Report

Since the Belfast Friday Agreement of 1998, the security situation in Northern Ireland has improved immeasurably. The Provisional IRA and the main loyalist terrorist groups have called an end to their campaigns and their weapons have been decommissioned under an internationally monitored process.

In recent years, however, dissident republican groups in Northern Ireland – such as the Continuity IRA and the Real IRA, who continued to oppose the peace process – have grown stronger. Given the understandable focus on Al Qaeda-inspired terrorism in recent years, much less attention has been given to such groups.

However, in the government's National Strategic Defence and Security Review, published in October 2010, 'residual terrorism linked to Northern Ireland' was identified as a Tier One risk to national security: 'There is a calculated campaign of violence from small dissident republican groups. Despite continuing political progress, their activities have increased in the last 18 months and the security situation is unlikely to improve in the short-term. There have been 37 attacks this year, compared with 22 in all of 2009. The ongoing recruitment of experienced terrorists and a younger generation will contribute to a continued high level of threat in

Northern Ireland, as well as in Great Britain where the threat level was recently raised from Moderate to Substantial, meaning that an attack is a strong possibility.' This report, by Dr. Martyn Frampton, the first of its kind in the public domain, analyses the origins and the nature of the threat posed by violent dissident republicans over the last two years. Dr. Frampton – an expert on the conflict in Northern Ireland and Irish republicanism in particular – has just published an important monograph about the history of dissident Irish republicanism in all its forms, which places such groups in their wider context, called *Legion of the Rearguard: Dissident Irish Republicanism* (Irish Academic Press: Dublin, 2010).

The aim of this pamphlet is to take these findings further and offer insight into the current security situation. It provides a timeline of dissident activity, an introduction to each dissident group, examines the relationships they have with each other, and asks what their aims are. Drawing on the expert testimony of former security service personnel, Dr. Frampton looks at some of the problems faced by those whose job it is to deal with the threat – in a greatly altered security environment – and discusses possible responses to the revival of violent republicanism.

Dr. John Bew MA MPhil PhD, Co-Director, International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation, King's College London

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Publications and Reports continued

Beyond Belfast - Contested Spaces in Urban, Rural and Cross Border Settings

Report Commissioned by Community Relations Council and Rural Community Network

Researchers John Bell and Neil Jarman, Institute for Conflict Research, Brian Harvey, Independent Social Researcher. The Report can be downloaded at <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/beyond-belfast-web.pdf>

The Beyond Belfast report was jointly commissioned by the Community Relations Council and Rural Community Network to explore the physical legacy of segregation and division in towns, villages, rural communities and the border areas beyond Belfast. The report also set out to review how such segregation is maintained and extended through forms of behaviour that might range from simple acts of avoidance to serious acts of violence.

One of the objectives was also to consider the extent to which the notion of an 'interface', a term which is principally used to describe the boundaries of sectarian division within Belfast, is also applicable to areas beyond Belfast, and to consider whether we need different terms to describe segregated and contested spaces in more rural communities. The research noted that in most towns, villages and smaller settlements, there are no physical barriers dividing residential areas, and although some previous research has applied the terminology of 'interfaces' to rural areas, in reality this has largely described 'patterns of avoidance' rather than served to reflect the existence of tension and violence.

The report therefore uses the term 'contested space' to describe the situation where there is tension over access to public space in a largely segregated community but where no physical barriers have been constructed to reinforce those divisions. The term 'interface' is reserved to describe the small number of locations where divisions and contest over space have resulted in persistent and recurrent acts of violence and subsequently, in the construction of walls, fences and other visible barriers to divide and separate, protect and secure.

This research reviews the different forms that segregation and division take in the wide range of different types of communities that are found 'beyond Belfast'.

Taken from the executive summary of *Beyond Belfast – Contested Spaces in Urban, Rural and Cross Border Settings*

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Publications and Reports continued

Good Relations Guidelines for Coaches

North West Leisure and Sports Social Inclusion and Cohesion Project have produced *Good Relations Guidelines for Coaches* for its United Through Sport Programme which is supported by the Peace III Programme, managed for the Special EU Programmes Body by the North West Peace Cluster (Derry City Council, Strabane District Council and Omagh District Council)

The document is available upon request in a number of formats including large print, Braille, PDF, audiocassette and minority languages.

It also contains the helpful Glossary of Terms below.

Glossary of Terms

Prejudice – 1. An opinion formed beforehand without informed knowledge. 2. An opinion which is likely to be sustained even in the face of evidence to the contrary. 3. Intolerance of or dislike for people of a specific race, religion or group.

Discrimination – 1. Unfair treatment of an individual because of his/her membership of a particular group. 2. Prejudice in action.

Ethnic – 1. Of or relating to a human group having racial, religious and linguistic characteristics in common. 2. Characteristic of another culture

Race – 1. A group of people of common ancestry, distinguished from others by physical characteristics, such as hair type, colour of skin or stature. 2. An unacceptable and meaningless categorisation of peoples in biological terms as we are all part of the human race.

Racism – 1. The belief that races have distinctive cultural characteristics determined by hereditary factors and that this endows some races with an intrinsic superiority. 2. The philosophy and practice of racial superiority.

Sectarianism – 1. Discriminatory, oppressive, abusive or aggressive behaviour arising from political or religious (ethnic) prejudice

Bigot – 1. A person who is intolerant especially regarding religion, politics or race.

For further information on alternative formats please contact: phone 7136 5151 or text phone 7137 6646 or email equality@derrycity.gov.uk.

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Publications and Reports continued

‘The Troubles Aren’t History Yet’ Young People’s Understanding of the Past by John Bell, Ulf Hansson and Nick McCaffery, CRC 2010.

Report Commissioned by Community Relations Council.

Available to download at <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/the-troubles-arent-history-yet.pdf>

Background Context

A review of literature and discussions with academics and educationalists on the teaching of history within the education system highlighted the limited coverage of recent local history within the formal curriculum and that many young people stop studying history around the age of 14 when it stops being compulsory and before recent events are addressed. Furthermore, the potentially sensitive nature of teaching about the recent past meant that some teachers were reluctant to teach certain topics, in particular those relating to the Troubles. The review suggested that a segregated education system, based on a strong sense of communal identity, and with a limited formal teaching of local history would lead to a narrow understanding of past events. The discussions highlighted the role that could be played by formal education outside of the curriculum and by less formal education through the community and voluntary sector to broaden knowledge and understanding and provide young people with wider perspectives of the past. The survey and focus group discussions sought to explore these and other themes with young people.

Places and Spaces—a directory of venues, organizations, projects, training courses and historical links in the North West.

This publication came out in the Spring of 2010 and is available to download from the Derry City Council website. <http://www2.derrycity.gov.uk/goodrelations/downloads10/DC%20Good%20Relations%20Places%20and%20Spaces.pdf>

This Good Relations Resource has been compiled by the Community Relations Officers in Derry City Council with input from the Community Relations Officers in Strabane District Council.

This resource aims to highlight and showcase the Good Relations work, which takes place in the Derry City Council and Strabane District Council areas. This should facilitate any visiting groups in deciding where to visit, hire of venues, booking of training courses, etc. This publication is user friendly with entries presented in alphabetical order by council area.

In compiling this publication, Derry City Council and Strabane District Council are not seeking to endorse or promote any or all of the entries included therein and are not showing preference to the said entrants, rather highlighting the scope and depth of the Good Relations work which is taking place in both council areas.

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News and Events

Sounding Off

10am – 4pm on the 4th December in the Carrickdale Hotel, Co. Louth

Investing in Our Future, on behalf of the Southern Partnership, invites you to a youth issues conference using music, drama, dance and film workshops to consult with young people on the issues that concern them. Join Cool FM DJ Sonya Mac, for this fun, interactive event to have your voice heard.

Conference open to age 14+ and youth leaders must accompany young attendees. Bus collections in Craigavon, Armagh, Banbridge and Newry from 9am (details to follow). Morning refreshments and lunch will be served. For further information or to register your attendance see www.macpr.co.uk/events or Telephone 028 41739017

Strabane Good Relations Planning 2011 – 2014

You are cordially invited to attend the above Planning session. The purpose of the session is to review what Good Relations work has been done over the last three years and what issues you would like to prioritize for the next three years. This is your opportunity to influence the planning process and the opportunity to have your say with regard to Good Relations in Strabane District.

Thursday 9th December 2010 at 1.00 – 4.00pm in The Civic Room, Strabane Community Library

A light lunch will be provided

Contact Amanda Biega, Good Relations Officer for more information.
Email abiega@strabanedc.com or telephone 7138 2204

An Update to Equality Law

The Equality Commission will provide a succinct update on current developments in equality legislation and recommended employment practice at this event at NICVA on 8 December from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. This event provides voluntary sector employers with an opportunity to have an update on anticipated legislative developments relating to equality and employment; consider recent significant tribunal decisions and what they mean for employers; and explore support options if seeking to develop best practice in a specific area.

There is no charge to attend. Please email margaret.thompson@nicva.org to register.

This event is part of a [programme of seminars developed by the Equality Commission](#) in partnership with NICVA aimed at assisting voluntary sector employers to meet responsibilities under employment equality legislation.



News and Events continued

Christmas Party

Ashton Centre are having a cross community/neighbourhood Xmas Party for local children and parents on the 11th December at St Kevin's Hall North Queen Street North Belfast- 12.00pm to 3.00pm plenty of fun and goodies and free of charge!

Contact Jim Deery REAL Project 028 90 751973 for more details

Carols Together

Monday 13th December 2010

7.00pm St Patrick's Parish Church - Queen St
 7.20pm Church of Our Lady & St Patrick (Parish Hall) Castle St
 7.40pm Ballymoney Methodist Church —Seymour St
 8.00pm First Ballymoney Pres Church- Meetinghouse St
 8.30pm Supper at First Ballymoney Pres ChurchHall

Everyone Welcome!

Please wear warm clothing

Funded by Ballymoney Borough Council's Good Relations Programme

Support for Peace-building Practitioners

14 December 2010 to 15 December 2010, 11:00am to 3:00pm, Corrymeela Ballycastle

This workshop will involve between 2 and 4 trainers working with no more than 30 participants

Our suggested areas of exploration are:

Self-care in challenging situations; Workshop looking at practical methods for reducing or managing stress in difficult situations

Learning from failure – defining success; An opportunity to step back from our work and look at what works and what doesn't

We are also interested in exploring the following themes: *Spirituality and faith in peace-building; Exploring the new questions of peace-building in Ireland*

There will be other workshop opportunities during this event focused on maintaining our personal energy, strength and enthusiasm for this work.

If you want to register or clarify anything please contact Owen Donnelly (IPC Learning Development Officer) at: donnelly@cooperationireland.org



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News and Events continued

Spirit of Enniskillen Trust

The Spirit of Enniskillen Trust (SOE) is now open for applications for the 'Explore 2011' leadership programme from young people between the ages of 16 to 19 and resident in Northern Ireland. The final closing date for applications is Friday 14th January 2011.

Through the Explore 2011 programme forty young participants will travel to overseas projects four different destinations across Europe where they will work alongside others coming from diverse and conflicting backgrounds. As well as learning through the discussion of difficult issues that divide communities, the work is balanced with enjoyment, social activities and fun. In exploring how these regions are dealing with their differences, participants will also be encouraged to develop the skills necessary to lead dialogue and learning within their own communities at home. Explore is fully accredited through the Open College Network NI.

This programme is an excellent and well respected opportunity for young people to learn more about themselves and others and to broaden their horizons on life generally. On their return the SOE provides well-structured programmes where participants can continue to make their own civic contribution back to their school, community or youth club.

To maintain a balance from across the community, the SOE will particularly welcome applications of those coming from marginalised and disadvantaged backgrounds.

Details of all SOE learning programmes (including Explore application forms) can be found on our new website www.soetrust.co.uk due to be launched on 30th November. Please subscribe online in order to stay up to date with all the latest Spirit of Enniskillen news.

For further information contact Rebecca Bell, 028 9038 1500

The David Ervine Foundation - Guidelines for Grant Applicants

The aim of the David Ervine Foundation is to provide opportunities that enable children and young people from disadvantaged communities to reach their full potential. To this end we welcome applications for projects that:

- ◆ offer educational, training and/or personal development opportunities
- ◆ are focussed on young people or children
- ◆ are located in socially and economically deprived areas

Projects should:

- ◆ include cross community and/or cross cultural relationship building.
- ◆ be based in Northern Ireland (priority will be given to projects in Belfast but exceptions may be made)

A number of small grants between £500 and a maximum of £1,000 will be made

Deadline for grant applications: **4.00pm on Thursday 20th January 2011**

Please submit requests for support on the Community Foundation's Small Grants Application Form ([available to download here](#)).

Please enclose a copy of your group's constitution, a copy of your most recent accounts and a list of committee members.

For further information please contact: Sharon Killen, The Community Foundation for NI
Tel: 082 9024 5927

News and Events continued

Holocaust Memorial Day 2011 Untold Stories



Building on the commitment made in becoming part of a Legacy of Hope on HMD 2010, the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2011 provides us with the opportunity to make this pledge a reality.

On HMD 2011 – 27 January – we're asking you to consider the role you can play in sharing **Untold Stories**.

It's easy to talk about the numbers murdered and persecuted during the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. It's less easy to appreciate what these figures mean. The millions murdered under the Nazi regime of hatred aren't a statistic. They were individuals. Somebody's friend. A mother. A father. A child. A colleague. A neighbour.

There are millions of stories we will never know. But we can still honour the memory of those affected by genocide by playing a part in these **Untold Stories**. We can listen and learn from them, we can tell others the stories we hear. Some stories are not easy to hear. They can speak of danger, pain and suffering. We must not shy away from these stories – it is vital to recognise the consequences of exclusion and persecution in order for us to learn the lessons of the past.

[HMD 2011 Theme](#) (PDF document)

Visit www.hmd.org.uk for more information.

Question and Answer Session at Mossley Mill

Newtownabbey Community Relations Forum is hosting a Question and Answer Session with local MLA's under our CAN Peace 3 funded programme called "Ourselves- A work in progress"

DUP Paul Girvan
 UUP Danny Kinahan
 SF Mitchel McLaughlin
 All David Ford
 SDLP Tommy Burns

This will take place on Thursday 27th of January 7pm at Mossley Mill. Anyone interested or requiring more information please contact Kathy Wolff Community Relations Forum 90849314 or 07801989917

CRC Dungannon

A Seminar on the issue of Sustainability on Thursday 27th January 2011 from 9.30 – 1pm, followed by lunch and networking.

For more info contact:
 David Gilliland, Project Officer. CRC, Dungannon Office - (028) 8772 0430,
 email: dgilliland@nicrc.org.uk

The views expressed in this magazine by contributors are their own and may not necessarily be attributed to the CRC.

Compiled and edited by Patricia O'Neill and Ellana Tomasso



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News and Events continued

ARK seminar series

The next event in the 2010-11 ARK seminar series takes place on Tuesday 18 January 2011. Sheena McGrellis (London South Bank University/University of Ulster) will discuss 'Biographical stories of transition to adulthood: Growing up in Northern Ireland 1997-2010'. Based on a qualitative longitudinal study, this seminar uses a case history approach to give voice to a small number of young adults navigating their way through the overlapping, and often conflicting, demands and challenges of life in Northern Ireland since 1997. In so doing, the ways in which identities are constructed and shaped will be considered; and how critical moments and responses to these feed into this process.

The seminar will be held at NICVA, 61 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast, from 12:00-13:00, followed by a sandwich lunch. Everyone is welcome, and the seminar is free.

However, places must be booked by email info@ark.ac.uk, or by telephone 028 7137 5513

Understanding Society

Jonathan Burton will present a joint ARK and NISRA (Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency) seminar on Understanding Society. This major new research study is designed to provide valuable evidence about the people of the UK, their lives, experiences, behaviours and beliefs. Jonathan will highlight its usefulness to academics, policy makers and everyone with an interest in the lives of the people of Northern Ireland. The seminar will be held on Friday 21 January 2011 in the Boardroom, McAuley House, Castle Street, Belfast from 11.30-13.00, followed by a sandwich lunch. Everyone is welcome and the seminar is free. To book a place, please email joanne.robinson@gub.ac.uk

For information on past and forthcoming events, view the [Events](#) section on the [ARK website](#).

PRONI Records on CAIN

The CAIN website contains a selection of digital version of public records that are held by the Public Record Office NI. The records are one which relate to the conflict and politics in the region. They mainly cover the period 1968-1979. The records have been made available to CAIN with the permission of the Deputy Keeper of Records at PRONI. The records can be downloaded at <http://cain.ulster.ac.uk/proni/index.html>

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