



# CRC e-Bulletin

## Sustainable Peace?

*Belfast-born academic Alison Jeffers*



Belfast-born academic **Alison Jeffers** is one of 18 researchers who have been shortlisted for the Images of Research Photography Competition, 2011 at the University of Manchester. The theme of the competition is Sustainability and Alison’s image is called ‘Sustainable Peace?’ which shows one of the murals from Mount Vernon in North Belfast . This is what Alison says about the research project that this image comes from.

“I am investigating a social archiving project called ‘Mount Vernon: more than just a mural’ on Mount Vernon estate, Belfast, a place that has been hugely affected by ‘the Troubles’ in Northern Ireland. The residents are discussing what to do with images like this one following the dramatic reduction in violence since the late 1990s. Although government money has been made available to re-paint Belfast’s murals to create less threatening images, the people in Mount Vernon have rejected it. They want to have a full discussion about why the mural was painted initially, to find out why some people want to keep it while some want it changed. They feel that it is only through these difficult community discussions that they can begin to come to terms with the violence and loss that has dominated life in Northern Ireland, something they feel is essential in producing a sustainable peace.”

<http://www.manchestersciencespectacular.co.uk/?p=519>

November 2011

### Inside this issue:

Sustainable Peace?	<b>1</b>
Bombs that make no noise	<b>2-3</b>
Compromise after Conflict Research Programme	<b>3-4</b>
Playboard launches innovative peace toolkit	<b>5-6</b>
NI Political Collection	<b>6-7</b>
Policy and Development update	<b>8-10</b>
News and Events	<b>11-19</b>

## Bombs that Make No Noise in Northern Ireland

*Kenneth Bush, INCORE, University of Ulster*

In the bad old days, bombs made a lot of noise in Northern Ireland. They sent political shock waves through the conversation and lives of ordinary people. More than 16,000 bombs shrapnelled the lives of long-suffering -- and pugnaciously resilient -- people of Northern Ireland and the border region. The number balloons further when you consider all the unexploded, defused, and hoax bombs.

Twenty years later, the bombs in Northern Ireland don't sound the same. Indeed, they don't seem to make much of a noise at all. Not even in the places where they once had such useful concussive resonance -- within the media, university, and policy-making circles. If this is true, why is it true? To explore these questions, I consulted colleagues with more acute political hearing than myself. A number of hypotheses tumbled out -- which may, or may not be, mutually exclusive.

**The petrol hypothesis:** that the very mention of such things may generate/exacerbate tensions between still-divided communities, leading to an exceptionally loud silence -- the kind of silence that smells like gasoline, and that may combust with one lit word.

**The deafness hypothesis:** that, after years of intimate violence, no one wants to hear explosions any more. This may be related to **the inconvenient story hypothesis**, where any story that does not fit into the official meta-narrative of reconciliation and integration are muted or ignored -- as with the cases of post-Apartheid South Africa and post-colonial policies concerning indigenous peoples.

**The dehumanization hypothesis:** that protracted exposure to political violence has had a dehumanizing societal impact. Consequently, no one much cares about anyone else's suffering anymore. The most cynical of colleagues added, "except if the suffering can be commodified and packaged for project funding."

**The hyper-compartmentalization hypothesis:** that Northern Ireland has become so compartmentalized that a bomb blowing up out of ear shot, doesn't send a ripple across a cappuccino somewhere else in Northern Ireland. As an ex-policeman put it, "someone in Bangor doesn't care if a bomb goes off in Derry or Armagh."

**Modern world hypothesis.** Life has become modern: modular and insular. A globalised consumerist culture exercises more influence on daily lives than the atavistic divisions of the past.

**The acceptable levels of violence hypothesis hypothesis:** that the current level of violence is nowhere near as bad as in the dark days of The Troubles, and therefore does not bludgeon its way into public consciousness -- not that this in any way diminishes the human devastation to the lives of those ravaged by the violence of today. But while the bombs of today are high on the irritation and inconvenience scale (something familiar to motorists on Belfast's Westlink, and Newry's A1), they are low on the carnage scale.

## Bombs that Make No Noise in NI continued

### Listening to Noiselessness

How do you explain something that did not happen; a reaction that did not occur? If indeed, bombs are being muted, then what has changed in Northern Ireland today that accounts for this noiselessness? Is that change permanent? Should it be welcomed? Such are the questions riddling our understanding of this particular phenomenon.

What if, tomorrow, dissidents succeed in detonating “a spectacular,” causing wide-spread carnage? Would the arguments here be consigned to the dust bin? Possibly. But, noiseless bombs should force us to look critically at ourselves as a society. We would need to ask: was the phenomenon of noiseless bombs related to the subsequent, unignorable, atrocity? Perhaps the present is precisely the time to examine and address these bombs that make no noise – before the situation tilts precipitously from the smugness side, to the panic side, of the political continuum.

*Kenneth Bush, INCORE, University of Ulster. [K.bush@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:K.bush@ulster.ac.uk) A version of this article appeared in Fortnight, No 475. March/ April 2011.*

## Compromise after Conflict Research Programme

*This research is funded by the Leverhulme Trust for five years, and began in September 2009. Funding exceeds £1.26 million. **Professor John Brewer** is Principal Investigator, co-investigators are Professor Bernadette Hayes and Dr Francis Teeney, all based in the Department of Sociology at the University of Aberdeen. It employs three post-doctoral fellows (Dr Katrin Dudgeon, Dr Natascha Mueller-Hirth and Dr Corinne Caumartin) and funds 4 PhD students (Laura Fowler, Sandra Rios, Rachel Anderson and Clare Magill). Two other PhD students have been incorporated into the programme funded from elsewhere (Dave Magee, University of Aberdeen funded, and Aimee Smith, ESRC-funded). Details of personnel and the interlinked projects on which they work can be found on the programme website (<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/compromise-conflict>). Ongoing contributions by members of the programme also feature on Twitter @Compromisestudy. What follows is a brief outline of the programme.*

Compromise is a general feature of social life. However, it is thrown into particularly vivid relief in post-conflict societies, where the processes and resources that underpin compromise operate in extremis. Our research programme addresses the processes and resources that develop and sustain feelings of compromise amongst victims of communal conflict, and involves a series of related projects that collect cross-national, multi-method data, covering contemporary and historical conflicts. Our research design entails empirical investigation of what is a slippery concept in order to get a firm hold over its meaning and practice in societies emerging from conflict.

The programme has a series of interlinked projects. We focus on three contemporary arenas of conflict, Northern Ireland (Brewer, Hayes, Teeney, Dudgeon), South Africa (Brewer, Hayes, Mueller-Hirth) and Sri Lanka (Brewer, Hayes and Mueller-Hirth), using surveys and qualitative interviews, as well as in several historical case studies. The historical case studies address the recovery of historical memory in post-Franco Spain (Magill), religious peacebuilding in Columbia (Rios), and the social reintegration of girl child soldiers in Sierra Leone (Anderson). In addition we have projects on examining verbatim witness testimony at truth commissions (Caumartin),

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## Compromise after Conflict Research Programme

victim support groups in Northern Ireland (Fowler), particularly with respect to their role in social capital, work on Catholic youth identity post-Good Friday Agreement (Smith) and the deconstruction of violent masculinities in Loyalist paramilitary groups (Magee). All PhD work is supervised by Brewer, mostly also with Hayes.

The research programme is designed to tease out the features of compromise amongst victims of communal conflict. The contemporary case studies form a naturally occurring experiment in that Northern Ireland, South Africa and Sri Lanka are at different stages of a peace process and have different priorities and policies towards victims. The historical case studies allow the development of compromise to be assessed over time.

Northern Ireland is the major case and is being studied in three stages: qualitative interviews with victims; a broader survey amongst victims; and a survey amongst the general population on conflict and victim-related issues. The first two stages are being replicated in Sri Lanka; stages 1 and 3 in South Africa. The Northern Irish project has been running since 2009 and is the most advanced. Qualitative interviews are near completion and the survey of the general population completed. The PhDs on victim support groups and their potential to act as bridging social capital, and the deconstruction of violent masculinities amongst Loyalists, are now in the writing up phase. The PhD on Catholic youth identity today has only just begun.

Academic outputs from the programme are planned – books, edited collections, articles, chapter contributions – and will be complemented by public engagement. The latter is achieved through more popular forms of writing, talks to grass roots and civil society groups, and a series of workshop programmes. The primary strategy, however, is to mount a radio and/or television series on compromise. All survey data will be archived for public access.

'Compromise after Conflict' research programme <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/compromise-conflict>

Follow us on Twitter @Compromisestudy

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## Playboard launches innovative peace toolkit

PlayBoard, the lead agency for children's play in Northern Ireland, recently launched an innovative peace toolkit called 'Spaces to Be: Mapping Identity and Belonging'.

The toolkit, which was developed through the YESIP (Youth Education Social Inclusion Partnership) Peace III programme, uses a playwork methodology to support children and young people to examine issues such as identity and belonging, and how to build reconciliation through play.

**Jacqueline O'Loughlin**, Chief Executive, PlayBoard, explains why the toolkit was developed and the benefits that it will bring:

"Northern Ireland is in a process of rapid change as migration into the country increases. To be a child or young person in Northern Ireland is simultaneously exciting, challenging and difficult. The legacy of the conflict and the increase in the number of different cultures and languages remains a significant aspect of children and young people's lives.

"In response to this changing environment, PlayBoard sought to develop a new resource that aims to help children and young people develop an understanding of, and build their capacity to manage issues of equity, diversity and interdependence.

"The toolkit comprises of a series of play activities that will bring a child on a journey. Play practitioners will be shown how to create a culture of reflection, as well as use creativity and appropriate media as tools to help children to explore and communicate emerging thoughts and feelings."

Jacqueline adds: "Play is the universal language of childhood. Children and young people's lives and learning need to be full of play and leisure experiences. It is through play that children understand each other and the world around them. In play, we are all equal and this is where our children and young people learn cooperation and conflict resolution skills begin."

The toolkit was launched during PlayBoard's Peace conference and play gathering, entitled 'Play Works! - Accessible For All.' The two day event, funded by Special EU Programmes Body, explored factors and issues which impact on children and young people, and stimulate debate and discussion on the issues of inclusion, equity, diversity and interdependence.

**Dr Derick Wilson**, Reader in Education - University of Ulster, Coleraine Campus, a keynote speaker at the conference comments:

"Separateness is never benign - it always conceals hostility, violence and threat. Separateness is the enemy of good relations between different citizens from diverse backgrounds. Adults have a responsibility to create safe places where children develop their potential and experience being at ease with different others.

## Playboard launches innovative peace toolkit cont.

“Local councils and community organisations need to work collaboratively to promote and sustain play spaces and activities that invite and include children from all backgrounds and abilities—such spaces are foundation blocks in building a more inclusive society.”

**Theresa Casey**, President of International Play Association and author of ‘Inclusive Play’ 1st and 2nd editions and ‘Environments for Outdoor Play’, who will also address conference delegates, explains the importance of assisting child development through play:

“I’ve been extremely fortunate to spend time with playing children in different cultures and contexts, some of them not growing up in the kind of environments any parent would choose for their children. Those children have taught me what the right to play means for children at a very profound level. Of course it is about joy and laughter but also about dignity, survival and children’s very best interests.”

PlayBoard Peace conference delegates will include play development officers, children’s service planners, landscape architects, local councils, educationalists, extended schools, childminders, playworkers, early years specialists, parents, schools, youth workers, community workers, and policy makers.

For further information on PlayBoard log onto [www.playboard.org](http://www.playboard.org) or call 028 9080 3380.

## The NI Political Collection (NIPC)

The Linen Hall Library’s NIPC is a unique resource no other institution in a localised conflict has systematically collected material from all sides. Much less has it been done in the field, and often literally across the barricades.

The Collection documents the activities and views of all parties to the conflict, from paramilitaries to government. It covers publications by organisations on the margins of the direct political process, as well as by those chiefly concerned with social issues. A large proportion of these items are held by the NIPC alone.

The literature ranges from the most ephemeral - stickers, leaflets, posters and Christmas cards - to more substantial collections of books, pamphlets, manifestos, photographs and audio-visual items. The enormous range of periodicals includes both single issues and complete runs of enduring journals of record. This material is complemented by a complete press cuttings service spanning the entire period of the 'Troubles'.

Over the years, the Library has gained a reputation as a 'neutral space'. Within it, the Northern Ireland Political Collection is a place where any opinion can be consulted. It is a place where decision-makers can find material on which to base opinions, or where political opponents can view each other’s material.

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## NIPC cont.

By documenting the conflict and making the material available, the Library aims to play a vital role in contributing to a better understanding of the conflict. In a conflict more renowned for division than common ground, the Northern Ireland Political Collection has been endorsed by opponents right across the political, religious and social spectrum.

The Collection welcomes all visitors. Experienced staff are on hand to answer general queries. Substantial material is available to all researchers.

While all books and pamphlets in the Political Collection are for reference use only, and are catalogued online, for much of the more ephemeral material the direct assistance of staff should be sought. Donations of material are always welcome.

### The Troubled Images Exhibition

The *Troubled Images* Exhibition includes some of the most iconic political and paramilitary images produced during the Northern Ireland 'Troubles'.

The 70 posters (selected from the Library's collection of almost 3,500) reflect all sides of the conflict. They are hugely important, not only in terms of their historical significance, but also their visual impact and artistic style.

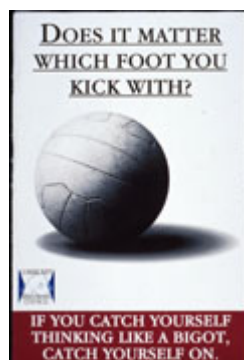
The exhibition was launched in the Linen Hall Library in 2001 and has since travelled extensively in three continents, including venues in the United States, the Basque Region and the West Bank.

For further information on hiring the *Troubled Images* Exhibition, please contact the Deputy Director, Patricia Saunders on 028 3032 1707 or email [p.saunders@linenhall.com](mailto:p.saunders@linenhall.com). The *Troubled Images* CD-Rom and Book are available for purchase at the Linen Hall Library.

See below the Belfast Telegraph link for viewing some of the Linen Hall Library poster series in *Troubled Images*.

[http://photosales.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/app/WebObjects/BelTel-Shop.woa/wa/p?p=QVLivEyYLzfSNd-1\\_Nqj\\_iq6lMQKoOilQ0jd1Fa6v7k.a](http://photosales.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/app/WebObjects/BelTel-Shop.woa/wa/p?p=QVLivEyYLzfSNd-1_Nqj_iq6lMQKoOilQ0jd1Fa6v7k.a)

The *Troubled Images* CD-ROM contains over 3000 posters and images on the Northern Ireland conflict, drawn from the Linen Hall Library's world-renowned Northern Ireland Political Collection. Features include descriptive notes for each of the entries, essays on the main events and issues and voice recordings of the key players who have created posters and used them in major campaigns.



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## Policy and Development update

*compiled by Kelan McClelland. CRC Policy Department*

### Summaries of CRC responses to consultations

#### Equality Impact Assessment Intercultural Arts Strategy

- CRC welcomes the fact that research has used to identify the needs of minority ethnic communities but notes the limitations of local data on ethnic minority participation in the Arts.
- CRC notes that the Racial Equality Strategy 2005-2010 (OFMdFM) recorded that monitoring is essential to achieve racial equality and recommended that ethnic monitoring classifications that are better adapted to reflect the reality of Northern Ireland today are introduced. The Framework for Monitoring Minority Ethnic and Migrant People has now been completed by NISRA (March 2011).
- CRC welcomes the strategy's plan to monitor and evaluate all projects/programmes throughout the duration of this strategy. On-going monitoring will enable a baseline to be established and progress ascertained against the performance indicators identified in the strategy.
- CRC reiterates the importance (already noted in the draft strategy) of monitoring the Intercultural Arts strategy's impact and welcomes the plan to update the strategy when the results of the 2011 Census are released.
- CRC recommends that analysis should be undertaken to identify the impact of the National Action Plan Against Racism in the Republic of Ireland on intercultural arts in Northern Ireland.
- CRC would welcome further research on the potential for adverse impact on any political grouping in relation to this strategy and would be willing to discuss this further with the Arts Council.

#### 'Towards a Youth Assembly for Northern Ireland' document

CRC makes a number of points on the consultation. These include:

- Welcoming the 'committed to mitigating possible negative outcomes', but there's no indication of what these mitigating factors are;
- The proposal departs from the survey results on occasion. The proposal is that Youth Assembly members can put themselves forward and will be selected through an interview process. A high proportion of respondents suggested an election process second, but no elements of election have been introduced;
- A substantial cross-over with the existing NI Youth forum;
- A recommendation that good relations training for all Youth Assembly members is introduced;
- Recommends a commitment to ensuring access for all young people, including those not in formal education or with links to community and voluntary organisations.

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## Policy and Development update cont.

### Draft Equality Scheme, Strategic Investment Board

CRC makes a number of points to the importance of incorporating good relations policy into the work of the SIB and makes a number of recommendations. These include:

- A welcoming of the commitment to ensure that effective arrangements and resources will be put in place to fulfil s75 duties;
- note that Economic policy and good relations policy are interdependent, not alternatives;
- suggestion that additional actions are included to demonstrate how the SIB will mitigate against adverse impacts on people as a result of their political opinion, religious belief, race or ethnicity. CRC encourages the SIB to consult stakeholders to explore further relevant actions which would support the SIB in addressing inequalities and enhancing good relations. We welcome the fact that organisations representing young people have been consulted as a key group;
- a belief that, in working with government departments and agencies to deliver major public infrastructure projects, the SIB has a key role to play in addressing inequality;
- suggestion that the SIB also has a key role in supporting government departments and agencies to develop existing assets (one of the strategic priorities listed in the Audit of Inequalities and Equality Action Plan document) to create shared space, helping to address division and hostility;
- recommendation that that the SIB Equality Action Plan addresses **links with the Cohesion, Sharing and Integration (CSI) programme.**

To view responses in full go to <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/about-the-council/background-info/policy-and-development/responses/2011>

### Social Investment Fund

OFMDFM have launched a period of consultation on the Social Investment Fund, with a deadline of 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011.

The Social Investment Fund aims to reduce poverty, unemployment and physical deterioration in a number of specified Investment Zones delivered in partnership with communities.

Have your say! A number of public meetings have been arranged (see below) and the consultation documents are available online at: <http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/index/equality/social-investment-fund.htm>

Date	Venue
Tuesday 1st November 7pm	City Hotel , Derry/Londonderry
Tuesday 8th November 7pm	Dunsilly Hotel, Antrim
Wednesday 16th November 7pm	Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen
Monday 21st November 7pm	Civic Centre, Craigavon
Wednesday 30th November 7pm	Town Hall, Newry

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## Policy and Development cont.

The Policy Department track Assembly questions relating to community relations to read the Q and As go to <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/about-the-council/background-info/policy-and-development> scroll down and follow the links.

One question asked on the 18th October related to commemorations see below;

### Northern Ireland's 100th Anniversary

**5. Mr T Clarke asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure what preparations her Department is making to mark Northern Ireland's 100th anniversary in 2021. (AQO 593/11-15)**

### Ulster's Solemn League and Covenant

**13. Mrs Overend** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to outline any plans to commemorate the centenary of the Ulster solemn league and covenant. (AQO 601/11-15)

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** With your permission, a Cheann Comhairle, I will answer questions 5 and 13 together.

I am keen to build on the work already undertaken by my Department in relation to commemorations and to develop a suite of events and activities, which will include the themes established by my predecessor around the Titanic, the plantation and 2012-22. However, I also want to explore how DCAL can expand on those themes and deliver a truly inclusive programme of events. Therefore, I have asked my officials to work with the Community Relations Council to assist in the development of an overarching framework for commemorations, and to ensure that we develop a process that acknowledges the legacy and supports engagement.

For the full interchange go to <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/NI%20Assembly%20Update%20wc%20171011.doc>



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## News and Events

Responses, Analysis and OFMDFM Response to the Cohesion, Sharing and Integration Strategy are now available on line.

### Consultation Responses CSI

<http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/index/equality/community-relations/csi-consultation/csi-consultation-responses.htm>

### Analysis report on the consultation

A copy of the independent consultation analysis report can be accessed from the link below.  
[http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/final\\_web\\_version\\_-\\_csi\\_analysis\\_report\\_-\\_pdf\\_1.12\\_mb\\_.pdf](http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/final_web_version_-_csi_analysis_report_-_pdf_1.12_mb_.pdf)

### OFMDFM Response

OFMDFM has produced a response to the issues raised during the consultation and this can be accessed from the link below.

[http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/ofmdfm\\_response\\_to\\_csi\\_consultation](http://www.ofmdfmi.gov.uk/ofmdfm_response_to_csi_consultation)

### CRC Media Grants Scheme

The Community Relations Council (CRC) has re-opened its Media Grant Scheme and invites applications from film, radio, DVD, digital and web-based projects which address themes of community relations or cultural diversity.

The Council is interested in themes related to the building of a shared society and addressing the legacy of the past. This could include interface communities, victims and survivors, young people, housing and education. Cultural diversity themes also of interest are those dealing with minority ethnic and faith communities, and those examining the marking of anniversaries in public space, particularly politically significant centenaries and legacy issues.

“Short films that explore the stories of people behind the headlines allow us as citizens and viewers to feel empathy for their tragedies and difficulties or to admire the human spirit. In Northern Ireland today there are many such stories that help us to understand better how this society is emerging” says Deirdre Mac Bride, CRC’s Cultural Diversity Director.

The grant scheme amounts to £40,000 and one or more awards may be made. Applications need to indicate a strategy for dissemination. The projects need to begin in January 2012.

Application forms are available from the CRC website at [www.nicrc.org.uk/funding](http://www.nicrc.org.uk/funding) The application deadline is 4.00pm on **18 November 2011**.

**For further information contact Ray Mullan or Deirdre McBride at CRC, tel 02890 227500.**

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## News and Events continued

### Here come the Girls

The world of sport whether it be playing, managing, making worldwide decisions could often be seen in the past as a male domain, but in the ever evolving modern landscape of sport the contribution, skill, knowledge and experience of females in the world of sport on a variety of levels is continually coming in to the forefront. Female participation in sport and physical activity is high on the agenda of national frameworks on sport and health along with many initiatives to give as much opportunity for growth in complimentary areas that can derive from involvement in sport such as event organisation, leadership, teambuilding to name only a few.

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2011 the IFA are hosting a women in sport seminar “Kicking Forward – The strive for success for women in sport” with funding support from the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council and Pobal via EU Peace III. The seminar will focus on some areas where females are flourishing, and showing a range of areas for involvement at all levels with high quality speakers, who all have their own experience and story to tell, and want to share, encourage and support all attending in making the most of their passion for sport in whatever way possible. The seminar is set up focusing on women in sport but using Football as the case study to illustrate the topics, therefore all the information given can transfer across to other sports, groups and individuals, so whatever your interest, come along and there will be something for you.

The day will consist of a mix of keynote speakers including Steffi Jones – UEFA Womens ambassador, former international player and chair of 2011 Womens World Cup organising committee and Kelly Simmons head of the national game with the English FA and recently involved in the creation and promotion of the first women’s semi professional league in the UK, along with those taking womens football forward in Northern Ireland.

The day will also have a series of workshops so that everyone gets good opportunity for more in depth information in the selected topic areas of women in leadership, PR marketing & media, and Barriers to participation and inclusion. The seminar is a great opportunity to get new information for yourself, your club, meet others with the same passions and interest as you

### **Kicking Forward – The strive for success for women in sport**

Where: Stormont Hotel, Belfast

When: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Registration 9.30am Seminar 10.00- 16.00

GO TO: <http://irishfa.com/news/item/6796>

To book a FREE place or for further information please contact [sarnold@irishfa.com](mailto:sarnold@irishfa.com)

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## News and Events continued

### Faces and Spaces Children's Shared Spaces Programme Kicks Off

An exciting new initiative by Early Years – the organisation for young children has begun in a number of contested spaces throughout Northern Ireland. The project is funded by OFMDFM and the Atlantic Philanthropies under the Contested Spaces/Interface Programme and aims to build on the role of early intervention in promoting good relations by focusing on young children and their influencers and bringing about long term change starting from the home and reaching across the local community. The project will embed the Media Initiative for Children Respecting Difference Programme in contested areas by supporting pre-schools and primaries to implement the programme over the next three years. Five contested areas will be supported under the project across Belfast, Craigavon and the North West and training on the Media Initiative for the groups involved begins in early November.

For further information on the project please contact Early Years on 028 9066 2825.

### Mastery Foundation Course

***This unique programme is for those individuals who, through their work and activities, are directly involved in making their communities better places to live.***

This program is not about negotiating, resolving conflicts, solving problems, or coming up with answers. Instead, it is designed to empower people in their relationship to their communities, giving them a new power and new tools to help make their communities the places they want them to be.

It is based on the idea that if you bring people together in a way that creates relationship, respect and authentic dialogue, they can work out their own solutions and create new conversations and new possibilities for themselves and their communities

The workshop is designed to shift the common experience of a “lack of connection or power within a community”, into the experience of “having real power to make things happen”, and “having a central role in creating the future”

#### Course Details

You are requested to attend all sessions of the conference.

- Tuesday & Wednesday 8th & 9th November 2011
- 9.00 am to 5.30 pm (lunch 1-2pm)
- Venue Clooney Hall Centre, 36 Clooney Terrace, Derry/Londonderry BT47 6AR
- Cost £50.00 per person (bursaries may be available)

Lunches are provided

The course will be offered and facilitated by the Mastery Foundation. This is an invitation for you to participate with us in an event we believe to be important for the future of your/our community.

**For further information contact:** Tony Carlin  
Tel : +44-28-7135-0026 or +44-78-4358-7757  
Email : [tony.carlin@btinternet.com](mailto:tony.carlin@btinternet.com)

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## News and Events cont.

### Peoples History Initiative Courses

The Ulster Peoples College is pleased to announce that it is delivering the Peoples History Initiative programme in collaboration with the SS Nomadic Trust until December 2013. Courses include:

#### Introduction to Peoples History Courses

These short introductory courses facilitate learning and discussion around key events in local history and what these events mean for course participants. The course is 7 sessions, each session is 2 hours. The courses are:

#### **1916: The Easter Rising & the Battle of the Somme and the Development of Nationalism and Unionism in Ireland (unaccredited).**

Participants will learn more about how Nationalism and Unionism developed, the involvement of soldiers from Nationalist and Unionist communities in Ireland in World War One, the Easter Rising, the Battle of the Somme, the Partition of Ireland and the formation of the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland. A range of perspectives on key events will be explored.

#### **The Birth of Two States: exploring the creation of the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland from Partition to Sunningdale.**

This course follows on from Introduction to Peoples History 1. Groups will explore the period from Partition to Sunningdale, examining key ideas such as 'state', 'nation', constitution and identity; a range of perspectives on key events will be explored.

#### **Peoples History Exhibition/Book Courses**

Choosing an area of history to explore and research you will be facilitated by UPC staff in collecting, collating and presenting your research in the form of either an exhibiton or book. These courses, delivered in collaboration with the SS Nomadic Trust, place an emphasis on communities of interest and exploring the social, economic and labour history of greater Belfast and beyond.

You will learn how to study old photographs and newspapers, how to interview people and collect their stories and how to use other resources to find out about the past. You will learn how to present the information of the history of their choice in exhibition or book form. This exhibition or book can then be launched locally before being displayed in the Peoples Museum space when it is open to the public.

The course also allows you reflect on your findings and use this in future plans for their community. This course is 24 hours and delivered over a number of sessions organised to suit the group. The book course requires a number of follow on editing sessions. It is accredited at OCN Level 2.

#### **Shared History Exhibitions**

Peoples History Initiative will work with recent migrant and ethnic minority groups to use a Peoples History approach to explore and present the stories of how different communities have come to live in Belfast with a focus on their working lives and experiences. Do you or any groups in your community, group or organisation want to work together to collect their stories, exhibit them locally and then add them to the materials to be displayed onboard the SS Nomadic?

#### **Lectures and Workshops**

A range of lectures and workshops delivered by Dr John Lynch will support this initiative. All participant groups will be welcome to sign up for these lectures and workshops.

For further information contact Karen Brennan, Ulster Peoples College, 68-72 Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 1GW  
Tel: 9033 0131 eMail: [info@upclearn.org](mailto:info@upclearn.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](mailto:poneill@nicrc.org.uk) or Ellana at [info@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:info@nicrc.org.uk).

## News and Events cont.

### Shipyards at War

Belfast Barge, 1 Lanyon Quay, Belfast, BT1 3LG. Tel: 028 90232555

The next Peoples History Initiative lecture to be delivered in collaboration with the SS Nomadic Trust, '**Shipyards at War**' takes place at The Belfast Barge at 10.30am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

The Belfast Barge is located on the River Lagan, behind the Waterfront Hall, Belfast. Disability access is available

Parking is available for a small fee at the nearby Hilton Hotel Multi Story car park or on street parking if available

If you would like to attend please contact the Project Manager, Karen Brennan (028) 90941695 [karenb@ulsterpeoplescollege.org](mailto:karenb@ulsterpeoplescollege.org)

### Looking at Legacy Conference

The Good Relations officers from Ballymoney, Moyle, Limavady and Derry are doing a joint project. A conference called 'Looking At Legacy'

It's taking place on the 15<sup>th</sup> November in the Radisson Hotel in Limavady. Space in each area is limited so first come first served.

If people wish to attend they need to contact the Community Relations officer in their area. Closing date is the 4<sup>th</sup> November.

[goodrelations@ballymoney.gov.uk](mailto:goodrelations@ballymoney.gov.uk)  
[goodrelations@moyle-council.org](mailto:goodrelations@moyle-council.org)  
[patricia.cameron@limavady.gov.uk](mailto:patricia.cameron@limavady.gov.uk)  
[sue.divin@derrycity.gov.uk](mailto:sue.divin@derrycity.gov.uk)

### Become a Cultural Coach

Are you interested in representing, encouraging and coaching young people from a minority group in the UK to become involved in a variety of youth projects within the UK and EU?

If you are, you might like to become a Cultural Coach for the Youth in Action programme.

For further information Contact Bernice Sweeney, European/International Officer  
 T: 02890.643882; E: [bsweeney@ycni.org](mailto:bsweeney@ycni.org)

### 'The Trouble with Interfaces'

**The Interface Practice Collective** cordially invites you to its rescheduled first workshop event: 'The Trouble with Interfaces', to be held on Tuesday 29th November, 9.30 - 1.00pm in the Wellington Park Hotel

We hope to see you there.

To book places, please rsvp to [interfacepracticecollective@gmail.com](mailto:interfacepracticecollective@gmail.com) by Friday November 24th.

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**Compiled and edited by Patricia O'Neill and Ellana Tomasso**

## Events cont.

### Belfast City Council, Good Relations Unit, St Patrick's Day Small Grants Scheme

Belfast City Council is inviting applications from voluntary and community groups in the Belfast area to support the organisation of local events and activities associated with the celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

Funding up to the value of **£1,000** is available for events or activities organised and held prior to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012. Further information, application criteria and forms will be available from 31st October 2011 and can be downloaded from [www.belfastcity.gov.uk/goodrelations](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/goodrelations), or by contacting:

Good Relations Unit  
Chief Executive's Department  
City Hall  
Belfast  
BT1 5GS  
Telephone: 028 9027 0663  
E-mail: [goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:goodrelations@belfastcity.gov.uk)

Completed applications must be returned to the above address **not later than 12.00 noon on Friday 25th November 2011. Applications will not be accepted by fax or email. Late applications will not be accepted.**

### 'Sharing the Learning...'

Please join us at the Inclusive Neighbourhood Project (INP) showcase event where we will be bringing together all the learning from the project since 2009. We'll be launching the project evaluation report, with an opportunity to hear about how INP has made a difference in neighbourhoods in Belfast to individuals and organisations.

The launch of the Visual Welcome Book with exhibitions and forum theatre will provide an opportunity to look at creative practices and interactive experiences.

Guest Speaker, Tiffy Allen, from City of Sanctuary, will share learning and best practice from other cities that have built a culture of hospitality for people seeking sanctuary in the UK.

The morning will be rounded off with certificate presentations by the Mayor of Belfast to INP community facilitators.

**DATE:** Tuesday 29 November 2011  
**TIME:** 9.45am – 1.00pm  
**VENUE:** Belfast City Hall  
**RSVP:** by 04/11/11 [inp@corrymeela.org](mailto:inp@corrymeela.org)

Contact Ann Marie White email: [amwhite@corrymeela.org](mailto:amwhite@corrymeela.org),  
Tel: 028 9050 8080



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](mailto:poneill@nicrc.org.uk) or Ellana at [info@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:info@nicrc.org.uk).

## News and Events cont.

### Songshed Presents: Community Relations through the Arts

All along the Western Front there is serenity and a tragic beauty that preserves the memories and secrets of a lost generation of young men from all over Ireland. They had different backgrounds and different faiths but on those battlefields of France and Flanders, they fought and died together, all boys of the island.

An evening of evocative music of World War One

On this Remembrance Sunday Songshed bring you an evening of evocative music of WW1 featuring some of the songs of award winning composers Richard Laird, Sam Starrett and Tracey McRory.

A number of specially invited guests will join Tracey and Richard on stage

Richard Digance has performed to half a million at Knebworth with The Beach Boys and Dire Straits. He has earned a BAFTA Nomination and a Gold Award from The British Academy of Composers and Songwriters. This is Richard's first ever performance on the Island of Ireland!!

Sean Donnelly is the authentic voice of Northern Irish folk singing..... This is as real as it gets". *Andy Irvine*

Janet Dowd Co Armagh folk singer released her highly acclaimed CD 300 Miles' in 2010 and continues to get rave reviews for her pure, sweet and powerful vocal Performances.

Playhouse Theatre Derry/Londonderry  
13th November @ 8pm

Tel: 028 71 268027

Fax: 028 71 261884

E: [info@derryplayhouse.co.uk](mailto:info@derryplayhouse.co.uk)

### Our Children..Their Education

The Integrated Education Fund, with Rural Community Network and the South Tyrone Empowerment Programme, is holding an evening discussion, chaired by William Crawley, on the challenges, changes and opportunities for local schools and communities in the Dungannon District Council area.

Date: Thursday 17th November

Time: 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Location : Corick House, Clogher

Please register with Charmain Jones at RCN on 028 867 66670 or [charmain@ruralcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:charmain@ruralcommunitynetwork.org)

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## News and Events cont.

### Senate Chamber Debate organised by the Integrated Education Fund

You are cordially invited to a debate in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings on **Thursday 24 November 2011** from **5.00pm – 7.00pm** chaired by William Crawley.

The motion for the debate is: *This house believes that the time is right for a fully integrated system of education.*

There will be a range of respondents at the debate providing, for example:

- Experiences from England and the Republic of Ireland on their challenges in growing inclusive, multi-denominational schools;
- Perspectives of educationalists from a range of sectors on their different views on the motion.

There will also be ample time for you to have your say about whether you are for or against the motion.

As spaces are limited, registration will be on a first come first basis - please contact Sharon Gregg at the IEF on 028 9033 0031 or [Sharon@ief.org.uk](mailto:Sharon@ief.org.uk) to let us know whether or not you will be attending.

### 'Blessed are the Peacemakers'

**Wednesday, 30th November 2011**  
**CRC offices, Ballygawley Road, Dungannon**

This event is aimed at clergy and church based groups from Christian faiths who are involved in peacebuilding work.

We will explore examples of a range of actions which groups have used to serve their communities. We are looking specifically at 'faith in action / good news stories' about the work groups are undertaking.

Below are examples of stories that may help to inspire those who are only starting out or those who have lost direction.

The group that prays together, silently to respect different faiths, but prays for the same cause is an important one – it helps to overcome the different theological perspectives and compromises no one.

The group which brings in different voluntary and community based projects to speak to their group in order to help the members of the church forum to understand the challenges they face – domestic violence, poverty, isolation, alcoholism etc. The forum then asks the various churches to support these groups through prayer and other positive action such as volunteering.

The church group which bought oil as a collective and the savings they made in bulk purchase went to help provide oil for some elderly people in a local community. The event will be a showcase of stories from across Northern Ireland and the border counties. It should help to inspire individuals to take risks for peace building and also help them to understand what it is they can offer to their communities.

For more information contact Kate Clifford at [kate@ruralcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:kate@ruralcommunitynetwork.org) tel 028 8676 6670.

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## Community Relations Council

Glendinning House  
6 Murray Street  
Belfast

Tel: 028 9022 7500  
Email: [info@nicrc.org.uk](mailto:info@nicrc.org.uk)

***Promoting a peaceful and fair  
society based on  
reconciliation and mutual  
trust***

[WWW.NICRC.ORG.UK](http://WWW.NICRC.ORG.UK)

## News and Events cont.

### Sharing Our Stories—Across the Divide

Women's Information Day this month will be on cross community/cross border theme. On the day participants will get a chance to hear about a recently successful joint Cross Border project, "Cross Border Women's Collective". This is a learning & sharing project that has taken place between Atlantic View Community Development Partnership in Ballyshannon, Ballybeen Women's Centre and Ardmonagh Community & Family Centre in Belfast. These 3 groups have worked together over eighteen months and developed and produced a DVD "The Women's Story'. The DVD gives a glimpse of women's lives before, during and after the Troubles. This Project has allowed people to see that there are more similarities than differences between the two communities and across the border.

We will start the Information morning with speakers from 3 groups involved in the project, giving an introduction and overview of the project and their experience during the journey. Also we will showcase the DVD which was developed during this project, there will be a questions & answer session regarding the DVD or the project.

Our speakers will be:

◆Anne Walker from Ballybeen

◆Ann McKeown from Ballyshannon

◆Lily McGeough from Ardmonagh

Venue: Greenway Women's Centre  
19 Greenway , Cregagh Rd  
Belfast BT6 0DT  
Tel: 028 90799912

Date: 15th November 2011, Time: 10.30—12.30

Crèche, transport and refreshment will be provided.

For more Information please contact Women's Information Northern Ireland

Tel: 028 90382022