



CRC e-Bulletin

CR Week 2011



This month's E-News features selected highlights from Community Relations Week which ended on 28 May. Around 160 events took place across Northern Ireland and the border counties in the course of the Week which aimed to showcase some of the work already taking place to tackle sectarian and ethnic division and to encourage renewed discussion of the way ahead. This has been the largest events programme since CR Weeks began in 2003. The theme of the week was 'Division- No Quick Fix'. Key to the success of Community Relations Week has been the involvement of a wide range of voluntary and community groups who ensure that the work of building a shared society is rooted within communities. Also crucial has been the involvement of a number of statutory organisations, and in particular District Councils whose Good Relations Officers have been partners with CRC in pulling the programme together.



**Jonathan Bell
MLA**

OFMDFM junior Minister Jonathan Bell MLA, in his first week of office, addressed the CRC Policy Conference on 26 May: "I can reaffirm that the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister is absolutely committed to building a shared, better and brighter future for all in Northern Ireland.

"This will mean much hard graft, political and financial support and the united determination to tackle head-on the key challenges across our province. This can only be achieved if we work hand-in-hand with you, our partners in the statutory agencies and those from across and within the community.

"We want to support and build on the good work done thus far. The expertise and best practice must not be lost but taken forward and used more widely where appropriate. Those who work on the coal face day in and day out know what the problems are and many have found innovative solutions which are bringing about meaningful changes on the ground. The work you do is vital, and your experience and knowledge will be critical as we move forward in our shared future agenda."

For the full speech see http://www.community-relations.org.uk/fs/doc/speeches/Jonathan_Bell_speech.pdf

Issue 29

June 2011

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CRC Policy Conference

The Case for Sharing

“Informative”, “challenging”, “encouraging” and “refreshing” were the words used by some of the 200 delegates to describe CRC’s Policy Conference **Reconciling the Books: The Economic Case for Sharing**. The event, held as part of CR Week 2011 and chaired by BBC’s Yvette Shapiro, provided an opportunity for a vital and grounded debate around the development of an economy that realises greater savings, prosperity and a resilient peace.

The key message emerging from the conference was there was an immediate need to address division through enhanced sharing.

Those attending the conference were welcomed by Tony Kennedy, chair of the CRC’s Policy Committee, who suggested that segregation and a history of conflict had significant economic costs and social consequences. These included limited economic opportunities and the diversion, at a time of fiscal constraint, of much needed funding from health, education, tackling poverty and social disadvantage.

Guest speakers Mark Magill (Oxford Economics) and Ben Collins (RICS) presented participants with an overview of the economic costs of sustaining segregation and division and explored the financial and social opportunities to be seized in investing in creating greater sharing.

CRC also called on the new Assembly and Executive to prioritise the need to invest in building a sustainable peace that delivers real dividends for all people in the region. This need was highlighted through a series of interactive ‘Ask the Audience’ style questions conducted by Qwizdom where the majority of those attending responded by voting for strong political leadership as the single change that would have the greatest impact on building a shared society.

The conference also provided a platform for discussion, analysis and exploration of the economic and societal challenges and opportunities for communities business, housing, education, policing and children and young people. Delegates were joined by a thematic panel which included Deputy Chief Constable Judith Gillespie, Grainia Long (Chartered Institute of Housing), Roisin McGlone (Interaction) and Anne Hardy (Children Services Planning, Health and Social Care Board) to probe from a economic perspective how savings could be realised but also the social benefits in addressing the legacy of the conflict and social divisions.

Conference attendees also had the opportunity to view a pre-recorded interview by Nigel Roberts (World Bank & Co-Director of the World Development Report 2011) who noted that from international experience it is a long journey from a political process to something which works at a social level and that it was important to have a strong social base for reconciliation.

CRC Policy Conference (contd)

He warned, however, that it took an average of 20 years for countries emerging from conflict to reach similar levels of trade, investment and economic dynamism. He recognised the whole economic dimension was critical but tough and warned against complacency. He said societies and governments seeking to move away from violence needed to address security, injustice and economic opportunity.

Following an analysis of the community relations content of the Assembly party manifestos by Robin Wilson, political representatives Cllr Conor Maskey (SF), Chris Lyttle MLA (Alliance), Robin Newton MLA (DUP), Conall McDevitt MLA (SDLP) and John McCallister MLA (UUP) discussed how political representatives and the Executive had and could demonstrate leadership in building a cohesive and shared society.

The closing address was made by Junior Minister for OFMDFM Jonathan Bell who recognised the important role of community relations in the peace process and the imperative need for Executive action to address the significant social and financial cost of division. He also called on those attending to “be the change we want to see.”

Junior Minister Bell, also presented the Community Relations Award to Rab McCallum and Michael Acheson for their dedication and hard work to community relations.

Duncan Morrow concluded by highlighting that: “we need to think where we need to invest to achieve our goal of an inclusive, reconciled and cohesive society, and while as with the CR theme there is no quick fix solution to this, we need to start now to seriously develop a robust strategy and action plan that move us closer to attaining our vision.” Building a shared society is not just a luxury – it is integral to our economic and social development.

Community Relations Council will be compiling a highlights DVD of the coverage from the conference. Links to presentations, and video interviews along with other conference material will be available by visiting our website, Facebook page or CR Week twitter page. For further information contact Behhinn McKinley CRC Policy Officer 028 90 227 500



Michael Acheson and Rab McCallum, recipients of the 2011 Community Relations Award for Exceptional Achievement

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Compiled and edited by Ray Mullan and Ellana Tomasso

“Are We Winning”-

Last in a Trilogy of Conferences in North Belfast – Friday May 27

(by Jim Deery, Co-ordinator of REAL Project)

The core theme of the conference was ‘Is the Community and Voluntary Sector winning the battle to reduce Sectarianism and Racism?’.

Ashton Community Trust and Mount Vernon Community Development Forum through its REAL Good Relations Project in North Belfast - as its contribution to Community Relations Week (23-28 May) - facilitated a third annual conference hosted by: **Nuala McKeever on the subjects of sectarianism and racism on Friday May 27 2011.**

Speakers on the subject included: Duncan Morrow CRC, Patricia McKeown Unison, Neil Symington and John Cameron from the Northern Ireland Youth Forum and Les Allamby from the Law Centre. They were asked to comment on the current situation and put forward ideas on how the local community can play a role in “winning” the ongoing battle against sectarianism and racism”. There was a plenary session afterwards where questions were put to the panel to which Angela Chada from Springboard and Harry Mahler from Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group were added.

There was a good buzz about the conference despite the bomb scares and in general participants and speakers were upbeat about the future in terms of good relations and there were some great stories and some startling statistics particularly from Les Allamby in regards to what is happening in America. The organisers apologise that there would not be a report about the conference (no resources for this) but did state that just reading about something was too easy. If people were interested and wanted to put forward an idea or point of view then they should have been at the conference particularly as there were no real presentations and speakers spoke brilliantly - mostly off the cuff.

There was some concern about the future, given the spectre of cuts to public services and the effect they will have on the most disadvantaged communities who have also suffered from the troubles and its nefarious legacies. Also the core message was that young people need not only to be listened to but that they should be in positions of being able to influence decisions- the fact that the new mayor of Belfast was 25 years old was welcomed.

The event took place at NICVA, Duncairn Gardens on Friday May 27 2011 commencing at 9.30am for registration. A light lunch was served at approximately 1pm to give participants the chance to continue the debate and conversation

Open Hands

Open Hands is a new initiative to develop the former St Luke's Church of Ireland in Northumberland Street, Belfast into a shared space for the wider community of the Shankill and Falls Road. The Church has been derelict since 2006 and the Committee has decided to put the building to good use and to try and bring people together under one roof for a range of activities. Marion Weir is the Community Relations Development Officer for Open Hands and coordinated an arts project that was launched on Friday 27th May as part of Community Relations Week. Marion worked in partnership with Upper Springfield Development Trust, Shankill Women's Centre and Greater Shankill Alternatives on a new anti-racist mural which was unveiled on Friday. Young people from both sides of the interface were involved in the creation of the mural which has Frederick Douglass as the centrepiece. Douglass was an African American abolitionist who escaped slavery in 1838. He toured Ireland in 1845 speaking out against slavery and advocating Human rights.

The mural includes other iconic people such as Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King. The process of the development of the mural included a series of cross community workshops to discuss who would be included on the mural and why. Professor Bill Rolston from the University of Ulster provided information and background research into the characters that were chosen to be depicted.

The three local artists Mark Ervine, Danny Deveney and Marty Lyons worked with young people from the Greater Shankill Alternatives and Falls Women's Centre and some international students to paint the mural. It is a work in progress as the bad weather hampered the completion but the artists are still working away and hope to have completed by next week. It is already drawing crowds of tourist who are interested in seeing artists at work but more importantly, hearing that the project involved people from both sides of the interface working collaboratively.

Following the unveiling of the mural where Professor Rolston explained the thinking behind the project, people were invited to Small Wonders II (ST Luke's Church Hall) to hear one of Ireland's greatest musician's and composer, Tracey McRory who played one of her own compositions on the harp followed by pupils from Malvern Primary School who entertained the crowd by singing. The keynote speaker was Duncan Morrow, Chief Executive of CRC.

Open Hands hopes to build on the success of this launch and to continue to build relationships across the interface allowing people to meet together and develop projects that unite communities rather than divide.



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Beyond Skin and Homely Planet

“Connections – greater than the software facilities scattered about the globe”

With a vast amount of content online via project websites and social media, not to mention adding the internet radio service, Homely Planet, Beyond Skin could not be accused of not embracing internet media. But we have always expressed that a balance for physical interaction is needed, Homely Planet internet radio being the best example of this with 90% of programmes recorded on location, focusing on the dialogue process. They do say 80% of communication is through body language.

For Community Relations Week 2011, the events we designed were based on our experience that the biggest impacts are made through sharing physical space. The Cultural Quiz was developed through evidence we had found through many of our projects across Northern Ireland with schools and local community groups facilitated by our diverse team. Our findings showed that the majority of people, especially young people from Catholic and Protestant communities, knew very little about their own history and culture; and most of their negative views towards the other community were based on inaccurate stereotypes and myths.

To address this issue we have introduced the global dimension facilitating artistic projects that provide a forum for people representing international communities to challenge local attitudes. The genuine lack of understanding from people born outside of Northern Ireland about the sectarian issues is used in a positive way to question both Catholic and Protestant communities about their culture and traditions.

As an example a person from Ghana could get away with questioning a Protestant community about why they light bonfires, because the perception would be “he genuinely doesn’t know”. Whereas if the question was asked by someone from the Catholic community, the reaction would more than likely be more defensive and aggressive.

It is very evident that getting people to think more globally does affect local race relations, the reality being that Northern Ireland sectarianism does not travel outside of the country where global communities just see Christians fighting Christians. This does challenge local attitudes. In Community Relations Week 2011 we took this a stage further by hosting a cultural quiz putting the ‘locals’ up against an international team with all the questions based on Northern Ireland culture. Many of the questions were to challenge and dispel cultural myths on religion and migration and also including some live music, a lot of humour and ‘quiz buzzers’. The format worked a treat!

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

Beyond Skin and Homely Planet (contd)

Even though the Quiz was designed for Community Relations Week, due to its success and the demand for more quiz events, Beyond Skin are going to roll it out to become a touring quiz.

Complementing Community Relations Week was Africa Week, driven by ACSONI but allowing the inclusive opportunity for other organisations to take part, which *Beyond Skin* did. Again through our projects we have found that Africa is very much misunderstood in other communities, most still seeing it as a country rather than a diverse continent with over 50 countries. From ideas within the African artists working with Beyond Skin many projects were launched during Africa Week including

- Africa Beyond The Media – A series of radio programmes exploring African culture
- Akrowa – An African drum course and touring group production
- Global Jukebox – a monthly live world music event at the 4 Corners Bar, Belfast, complementing global Village events in the City of Derry managed by SEEDS

In all we see Community Relations Week and Africa week as a huge success. Accessibility is the community relations challenge, giving people opportunities for learning beyond the mainstream media, giving them the un-judgmental environment to share the questions and experience culture in a creative way.

www.beyondskin.net

www.beyondskinglobal.org

www.homelyplanet.org

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Talking Heads

Irish Congress of Trade Unions were delighted to work alongside the Equality Commission NI and Community Relations Council on a project named "I Came Here For.....". The project looks at the experiences of Migrant Workers, why they came to these shores and their experiences here. As part of the project the participants took part in a residential weekend where theatre practitioner Doug Holton coached them in theatre skills. This produced two pieces of drama: one of the pieces is silent - this is specifically to make a point about language and barriers.

The outcome of the project is a three part pack. Firstly, there is a twenty minute DVD where issues are discussed from work to family. This is interspersed with facts and myths, interviews are held with the participants and with representatives of the three organisations involved.

Secondly, an educational booklet accompanies the DVD. This booklet looks at the issues raised in the DVD and sets questions around these; included are questions around asylum, racism and case law. This is for use by tutors and teachers.

The third part is a document produced by the Equality Commission and this specifically sets out case law and recent cases taken on the grounds of Race Discrimination.

The pack was launched during CR Week in the Grand Opera House with over eighty people from Trade Unions and community groups present. Pauline Buchanan, Equality and Social Affairs Officer ICTU, said 'This is a great resource which is new and innovative. We want as many people as possible to use the resource and to give us feedback.'

The pack can be downloaded from the ICTU website www.ictu.ie and go to equality. It is also available by contacting Pauline Buchanan at Pauline.buchanan@ictuni.org or on 02890247940.

Building Relationships in Communities

Community Relations Week (May 23rd -27th) was an opportune occasion for front line and strategic NI Housing Executive staff from the North East Area to undertake Good Relations training as part of the 'Building Relationships in Communities' (BRIC) programme. The programme is aimed at putting Good Relations at the heart of social housing.

The bespoke training programme, delivered by programme partner TIDES Training, is aimed at giving practical tools to Housing Executive staff to build good relations both internally and externally. Participants were given an opportunity to begin to unpick issues around the legacy of the conflict which is still experienced in the community. During the day experiences were shared, small group and plenary sessions took place and participants listened to presentations and considered case studies. The day sought to create a safe environment in which different perspectives and good relations issues could be heard, examined and debated.

The training was part of an initial set of five sessions covering all Housing Executive areas across Northern Ireland. So far 100 Housing Executive staff have benefited from the BRIC Good Relations training, with another 600 due to receive Good Relations training over the next 3 years.



TIDES trainer Alan with participants in a small group

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The Journeys Out Project

As part of the 'Journeys Out' project Rural Development Council Good Relations Officers Yvonne Breen and John Kelly along with the other project participants from across Northern Ireland and the border counties undertook a study visit to South Africa from 7th – 15th May 2011.

'Journeys Out' aims to engage a new generation of community leaders in the debate about 'dealing with the past'. It allows participants explore these issues within local communities and learn more from international experiences following conflict. The project has been funded under Peace III programme and is being delivered by a consortium of partner groups, namely University of Ulster, INCORE, Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation Intercomm Belfast and the Peace & Reconciliation Group, Derry. All of these project partners are well established and long experienced community activists in peace building work across Ireland.

The purpose of the visit was to look at the South African conflict and the approaches the South African authorities have used to deal with the legacy of their past. In particular the visit facilitated participants to look at dealing with the past from a grassroots perspective and explore the similarities and differences between lived experiences in Northern Ireland and South Africa. The dynamics of the South African conflict are very complex and therefore there cannot be a direct comparison with the Northern Ireland situation. Seventeen years since Apartheid government formally ended, it is fair to say that some progress has been made towards achieving reconciliation and healing however much work is still needed to reach a situation where there is mutual understanding and integration between the different racial groups within the country.

During the trip the RDC Good Relations Officers along with the other participants heard informative presentations in relation to the outworking of the Truth Commission in South Africa. One of the key outcomes of the Truth Commission was the notion of 'narrative of reconciliation' as promoted by Bishop Desmond Tutu. This demonstration of leadership had a very positive impact at a number of critical points during the process in that it successfully binded the nation and helped prevent the process from becoming derailed.

As a result of what was a truly valuable and enlightening experience there have been a number of other key learning points.

On a practical level the RDC Good Relations Officers have established links with a Community Healing Practice project which is being delivered by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation. The hope is to exchange information in terms of training resources and approaches with a view to aiding future programme delivery at grass roots level.

For more information contact Yvonne Breen or John Kelly on 028 867 66980 or view the Journeys Out website by following the links from the INCORE web page www.ulster.ac.uk/incore

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Shared Education or Shared-Out Education?

This was amongst a number of key questions raised at the “*Sustaining Schools, Sustaining Communities*” Community Relations Week Conference organised by Rural Community Network, in partnership with the Integrated Education Fund, at Ballyronan Marina Centre, on Thursday 26th May 2011. A high number of delegates, from rural community groups, local schools, trades unions, government departments and education sectors along with politicians, considered the current economic, political and educational context as outlined by Neil Gibson, Director of Oxford Economics, and Professor Tony Gallagher, QUB. Both speakers highlighted that it is within citizens’ power to shape education and that with a collective voice we can strive towards an education system “fit for purpose” for the needs of all children across Northern Ireland. The heart of the discussion focused on “what’s best for children” and highlighted that a recent Ipsos MORI poll, commissioned by the IEF, indicated a large majority of people across Northern Ireland (88%) supported integrated education and 91% of people supported shared education.

Tony Gallagher gave a brief historical overview of education on this island, clearly showing that the debate around building a shared education system is an old conversation woven into the politics of this contested place. His presentation highlighted why we have the system we have today and probed a little deeper into the complexity of feelings and views around shared and integrated education specifically within rural communities. Framing this conversation were the commitments made by all the political parties in the NI Executive towards greater sharing.

Four case studies followed: the Primary Integrating/Enriching Education Project (PIEE) (an NEELB initiative); the Fermanagh Trust (a community-initiated project); the West Tyrone Educational Partnership (a school-led model) and Brownlow Integrated College, (a parent-driven process). All the case studies gave an insight into what different kinds of education systems might feel and look like; they also showed that there are different starting points on this journey with different solutions for different areas. These examples highlighted the point that shared and integrated education needs to be incentivised by government, rather than external donors, with schools rewarded through funding and the inspection process for becoming shared spaces and community-based schools. Michael Hughes, CEO of Rural Community Network, commented: "Despite the fact that shared education is over 180 years in existence in Northern Ireland most of our children are not able to experience being educated with children from the other community. However during the course of the event I was heartened to hear from practitioners across rural Northern Ireland of the quality shared education that is going on at present. With a series of questions developed through the workshops to be asked to our local politicians this event is hopefully the start of a much wider discussion on how sharing educational resources can sustain primary school education within rural communities therefore contributing to the well being and the future of our rural areas".

Shared Education or Shared-Out Education?

Karin Eyben, Public Affairs Manager with the Integrated Education Fund, concluded “The depth and range of connections and relationships between a school and its wider community are critical to both the sustainability of the school and the local community. When a school closes, particularly in a rural area, this often has an impact on local shops, employment, and services. However, to sustain local quality education for children in rural areas will require “doing education differently. Rural people have a right to have a voice and be part of deciding education delivery and provision in their areas. To do this effectively will require an investment in skills, confidence and knowledge so citizens can sit as equals around the table with education sectors.”

RCN and the IEF agree we need to stop treating schools as autonomous competitive units and there needs to be political vision and leadership to shape an education system driven by sharing. All the parties have made a commitment to doing this; civic society now needs to hold them to their promises.

For further information in relation to the conference:

<http://www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org/news/news.aspx?ID=299&type>

Events

Storytelling & Positive Encounter Dialogue

The aim of this six day accredited programme is to enable participants to further develop their skills in facilitating storytelling and dialogue within the evolving context of peace-building.

Programme Units:

Rationale for Storytelling

Methodology of Storytelling

Ethics of Storytelling

Dialogue and the cost of the Troubles

The Politics of Victimhood

Truth and truth Recovery

Remembrance and Commemoration

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Dates : June 3rd 10th 17th and 24th; July 1st and 8th

Times: 10 am until 3.30 pm

Venue: Sean Hollywood Arts Centre , Bank Parade , Newry

Tutors: Maureen Hetherington and Eamonn Baker from Towards Understanding and Healing

Cost : Free as this programme is funded by Peace 111 Programme 2007-2013

For further information and to book a place, please contact: Jackie@cheersdogears.com

Events (contd)

In Our Time: Creating Arts Within Reach

This documentary has a community relations ethos and was completed with Peace monies ... it spans 40 years of history.

In Our Time: Creating Arts Within Reach

<http://vimeo.com/channels/64772#23866322>

Belfast has an outstanding record in innovative community arts. This documentary celebrates and preserves that extraordinary heritage and knowledge. The long-term benefits of this in-depth insight into Belfast's contemporary arts heritage are vast and made available on film with extensive archive from the 1970s to present day.

WAVE events

What **'What Ever You Say Say Something'** – This is a trip down memory lane for all you 40 somethings. From Chopper bikes and Bay City Roller trousers, to Punk Rock music and Barry McGuigan winning the world title. Set against the backdrop of 40 years of the 'Troubles', this event aims to get you talking about past years, the good, the bad and the ugly. So come along and share your own memories, space is limited so you are advised to book early.

When Please confirm with WAVE

Where Black Box, Belfast

What **WAVE'S Got Talent** – You are warmly invited to the launch party of the 'WAVE's Got Talent' DVD. WGT was a unique event in the history of WAVE when a cast of around 40 (the majority of whom had suffered loss and/or injury during the 'Troubles'), took to the stage at the Old Courthouse Theatre Antrim. The show was a sell out and this DVD captures the highlights of the evening, including acts, interviews with the cast and back stage nerves. Some of the acts will perform at the launch and there will be a bite to eat included. To reserve seat contact Sinead at WAVE on 90779922

When TBC

Where Black Box, Belfast

To check dates and times and to book please contact Sinead at WAVE on 028 90779922

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Events (contd)

Ballymoney Community Resource Centre

Ballymoney Community Resource Centre is holding an evening of shared history/shared future which will be held at Lissanoure Castle on the evening of Tuesday 14th June 2011 at 7pm.

The evening will involve the newly formed cross community choir from the two local primary schools, The William Pinkerton Memorial PS in Dervock and Saint Patrick's PS in Loughguile.

The evening will include music, dance, poetry and knowledge of the shared history of Dervock and Loughguile and will be presented by Jon DC Marshall, Author/Historian.

Ballymoney Community Resource Centre is also holding an evening of Shared Culture on Thursday 23rd June 2011 at 7pm to 9.30pm at the Social Club Centre, Edward Street, Ballymoney. The evening will be hosted by Fab Femme a local women's group from Ballymoney and in association with Rasharkin Womens' Group and Luncheon Club. This event is sponsored by Peace III, under Programme 4b, The Community Integration Programme. This evening will bring Section 75 of the NI Act 1998 into the public domain, and contribute to making the Act relevant to integrating local communities in a real and meaningful way.

The evening will go some way to highlighting the similarities rather than differences that these sections of our community share and in so doing will assist in addressing the notion of sectarianism and racism by challenging groups to move out of their comfort zones and to gain a more informative understanding of what is meant by community integration and a cohesive society. The festival format has been used before, but this event will be different from other cultural events in that it is seeking to address, acknowledge and bring together all those members of the community referred to in Section 75 of the NI Act 1998.

The Causeway Giants (local disability rock group) who recently won the Ballymoney Borough Council Good Relations Awards in March 2011, which was funded by the Good Relations Programme Cultural/Art/Leisure project which contributes to Good Relations, will be performing on the evening.

The Guest Speaker on the evening will be Ms Pauline Buchanan, Irish Congress of Trade Unions. There will also be a buffet provided on the evening and there will be an opportunity to view the stands and displays on offer.

Please can you confirm your attendance on the evening so that we can arrange the necessary catering and seating arrangements

**Unit 1 Doltone Business Park, 25 Ballymena Road,
Ballymoney, BT53 7EX
Tel: 028 2766 5068 E-mail: info@ballymoneycrc.org.uk**

Events (contd)

15th International Conference on Thinking – Thinking for Democracy

The 15th International Thinking Conference will be held on 20th to 24th June at Queen's University Belfast. It brings together leading thinkers, researchers and practitioners from around the world to debate and discuss the nature of high quality thinking and learning in a variety of real world contexts. Given the Northern Ireland political context the conference is devoting **Thursday 23rd June** to debating **Thinking for Democracy** (e.g., shared thinking, ethical thinking, post-conflict thinking, negotiation skills, peace education, citizenship education).

- The keynote address is being given by Professor Gabriel Salomon, Centre for Peace Education, University of Haifa, Israel, one of the pioneers of peace education, who will address the conference on the theme of how research findings can help us to face the general challenges of peace education in a divided society.
- The conference will also include papers from a number of the leading local experts -including Dr Claire McGlynn (QUB), Professors Tony Gallagher (QUB), Alan Smith (UU) and Brandon Hamber (UU), who employ their extensive national and international experiences in papers that address issues associated with promoting, designing and delivering peace education and transformational post-conflict change in society.
- There is also a choice of workshops that enable participants to explore the practical issues involved in delivering a range of projects in schools and in the community. Examples include a workshop from Lesley McEvoy (QUB) on learning from the experience of ex-prisoners; from Liam McCusker and his colleagues from the Spirit of Enniskillen on the work they have been conducting on peer-led dialogue with young people in schools; and from Paul Smyth's Public Achievement group on civic engagement with teenagers. There are additional presentations from abroad – about civics education (Anat Zohar from Israel), on teaching global citizenship in the primary curriculum (Mary Young, UK), and on cultural identity maps (Elaine Martin, Republic of Ireland).
- The final session provides an opportunity to debate some of the issues arising during the days events, with a roundtable panel chaired by Professor Evanthia Lyons (QUB) and led by Professor Mari Fitzduff (Brandeis University) and Quintin Oliver (Stratagem, Northern Ireland).

For more information about the full conference, and registrations details see

www.qub.ac.uk/sites/icot2011

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Events (contd)

**Healing Through Remembering
Will be marking the Day of Reflection**

on Tuesday 21st June 2011

with a reflective opportunity

at: The Linen Hall Library

**Call in for a few minutes anytime
from**

10:30am to 2pm

**There will be a space for reflection,
and an exhibition as well as
occasional guest readings and song.**

Tea and coffee will be available

The Day of Reflection is a day for personal and private reflection on the conflict in and about Northern Ireland; a day to acknowledge the deep hurt and pain caused by the conflict, to reflect on our own attitudes, on what more we might have done or might still do, and to make a personal commitment that such loss should never be allowed to happen again. It provides a voluntary opportunity for everyone in Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Great Britain and further afield to reflect upon the conflict in and about Northern Ireland and the future that is before us

Events (contd)

Peace III in Belfast Celebrate and Collaborate

A conference to celebrate the successes of the Peace III Programme and to promote co-operation and joined up working across all sectors to build positive relations in the city.

To mark the end of phase one of the current peace plan, Belfast City Hall's Good Relations Unit would like to invite you to a one day conference taking place on 21 June in Belfast City Hall.

The event will be hosted by BBC's William Crawley and will feature a keynote presentation from Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA).

Through keynote speeches and workshops, the conference will look at the importance of collaborative working, and highlight good practice examples of local communities and the voluntary sector engaging and working with agencies in the city to effect positive change.

The conference will also reflect on successes of the past two years, and look towards the second phase of the funding, from 2011-2013. An interactive exhibition will give delegates the opportunity to engage with those who have participated on the programme, and to help build links and generate ideas for the next phase.

DATE: Tuesday 21 June

VENUE: Belfast City Hall

TIME: 10am Registration 4pm Conference close

To register for the event, or for further information please contact Nicola or Julie at event-ful on **02890 434320** or email julie@event-ful.co.uk

Alternatively, please visit www.event-ful.co.uk/PEACEIII

RSVP by Wednesday 15 June

Celebration at Restoration House

'Thanksgiving for the Peacemakers' event on Wednesday 22 June at 7.30 pm

For more information please contact office@restorationministries.co.uk



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

WWW.NICRC.ORG.UK



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