



The Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme

The Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme was established by the Community Relations Council (CRC), with the support of Government, to help local community/voluntary groups across the region.

This funding support aims to help develop and support their capacity to deliver positive community relations projects in their local communities aimed at tackling sectarianism and racism and promoting cultural diversity.

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Organisation: The Churches Trust Ltd
Project Name: Columba Heritage Trail
Council Area: Derry City and Strabane District Council

Grant Awarded: £5,735
T:BUC Priority: Our Cultural Expression
Delivery Method: Filming Making and Guided Tour

Project Overview:

The Churches Trust in Derry-Londonderry commissioned the production of a 20-minute film documenting a guided tour of the Columba Heritage Trail. The film is narrated by a local artist who provides an invaluable insight into the collaborative cross community approach to the creation of the Columba Heritage Trail and how themes of peace and reconciliation were fundamental to the development of public art pieces located along the trail. The Columba Heritage Trail promote a better understanding of a shared heritage that unites people of different traditions and values.

Project Impact:

- Participants representing different faith traditions and values attended a filmed guided tour of the Columba Heritage Trail.
- The production of the film entitled 'Columba Heritage Artwork Tour' showcases collaboration between four Christian denominations on the creation of the Columba Heritage Trail.
- Enhanced the development of tourism experiences with the development of Peace Tourism products within the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.
- Production of a training tool for developing ethical tour guiding skills and undertaking Diversity and Good Relations based courses.

"This trail links the past with the present and gives us the opportunity to reflect on – and to heal – the divisions in our community. Anyone who walks this trail can only be aware of the rich heritage of this city. And the great thing about Columba is that he is a unifying figure who carried the message of Christ across ethnic, cultural, religious, and political divides. The Churches Trust have as their mission statement the aim of standing together with a united voice in an area plagued with a legacy of division, aiming to create a shared and better future for all. We think it's a message Columba would wholly endorse."

Fiona Fagan, Chief Executive Officer of The Churches Trust Ltd

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For more information on The Community Relations/Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme visit: www.community-relations.org.uk