



DONEGAL COMMUNITY BULLETIN NUAHTÁN POBAIL DHÚN NA NGALL

September / Meán Fómhair 2009

ISSUES/EAGRÁIN 28

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1. General/Ginearálta

Ballymacool Town Park Mini-pitch launched by Packie Bonner

Letterkenny Town Council in association with the Football Association of Ireland and Donegal County Council officially opened a multi-functional mini pitch at Ballymacool Town Park on 25th September. The project aims to encourage young people to get involved in sport through offering free access to the facilities.

The mini-pitch was opened by the Assistant Mayor of Letterkenny Town Council, Cllr. Jimmy Harte in association with Mr. Packie Bonner, Technical Director of the Football Association of Ireland.

The project has been funded by the Football Association of Ireland in conjunction with the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism amounting to €35,000 with the balance of the funding in the region of €55,000 being provided by the Letterkenny Town Council. The facility is one of a number created in the county through an application made to the FAI by the Donegal County Council.

This project has been undertaken in conjunction with a number of partners. Letterkenny Town Council would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Donegal County Council, the FAI and the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism.

For further info contact Ciaran Martin, Development Officer, Letterkenny Town Council. Ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie or at 0868261760.

Social Inclusion Awareness Week

The Council's first Social Inclusion Awareness Week was launched on Monday, 21st of September by Cllr. Brendan Byrne, Mayor of Donegal County Council and Mr. Michael McLoone, Co. Manager. As part of the official launch, the presentations of Junior Achievement Certificates to 18 Council volunteers took place as well as the launch of the Social Inclusion

Staff Handbook. Students from St. Patricks National School, Murlog also attended and participated in the official launch.

Over 40 events were organised and successfully carried out as part of the inaugural week of activities. All events held were very well attended and supported by staff, management and elected members of Donegal County Council as well as participants and attendees from the community & voluntary sector and agencies such as the HSE, VEC, Pobal, FAS, CIS etc. All events including workshops and training were provided free of charge and included:

- **Planning for Inclusion Workshop** – This event was aimed at technical Council staff as well as staff involved in community services and representatives from external organisations. The group was addressed by two keynote speakers, Professor Merrit Bucholz, University of Limerick & Mr. Simon Mannion, National Building Agency and provided an opportunity for discussion and debate on the challenges facing local authorities, other public bodies and communities in terms of creating safe and healthy sustainable communities.
- **Dealing with Racism & Sectarianism Workshop** – Provided by Donegal Community Workers Coop, very well supported.
- **Waiting to be Irish play**
- **Disability Awareness Training**
- **Coffee Morning with Raphoe Friday Club**
- **Schools Soccer Blitz and launch of Letterkenny Mini-pitch**
- **Culture Night**

The main aim of Social Inclusion Week was to raise awareness of social inclusion related issues amongst staff, management and elected members. We feel that this objective has been achieved but also believe that some of the positive work that Donegal County Council is involved in, in our attempts to reduce poverty and social exclusion in our communities has been highlighted to our customers.

**Invitation to Green Gym Workshop
(ON BEHALF OF Ecohealth, Health Promotion, HSE West)**

I am writing to invite you to a workshop to introduce the concept of the "**Green Gym**" which will take place on **Friday, 9th October 2009** from **10:00-1:00pm** in the **Boathouse, Gartan Outdoor Education Centre, Church Hill.**

This workshop will:

- Provide an overview of the "**Green Gym**" as it already operates in Northern Ireland.
- Explore the potential benefits that this innovative and exciting concept would have for Donegal.
- Develop an integrated approach to move this concept forward.

The *Green Gym* is a health initiative delivered by *Conservation Volunteers Northern Ireland*, which offers individuals an outdoor alternative to conventional gyms. It provides people with the opportunity to increase their physical activity levels. This is achieved through participation in locally based practical conservation work that has a proven impact on physical, mental health and social well-being whilst also benefiting the environment.

Diane Quays, Co-ordinator of the *Green Gym* in Northern Ireland, will provide an overview of the *Green Gym* project, present examples of *Green Gym* projects highlighting tailored approaches and best practise for specific target groups, including communities in areas of disadvantage, mental health, service partnerships, food growing / allotment and conservation work.

There will be opportunities for feedback and discussion as well as exploring the possibility to move this concept forward in Donegal. A light lunch will follow.

If you would like to attend this workshop, please confirm by ringing Louise at (074) 9178539 by **Monday 5th October 2009**.

Look forward to seeing you on the day.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Marie Crosse
Ecohealth,
Health Promotion, Letterkenny

Issue 4: "Donegal - community in touch / Dún na nGall - pobail i d'teagmháil" E-zine

Donegal County Council in association with Donegal County Development Board is actively involved in a Diaspora Project, promoting the North West of Ireland over the last number of years. Building on the success of the Diaspora project, we have produced an e-zine entitled "Donegal - community in touch / Dún na nGall - pobail i d'teagmháil" E-zine. The e-zine is distributed to people all over the world who have a connection to or interest in Donegal and provides information on local news, events and stories of interest.

The fourth edition of the Donegal e-zine was published at the beginning of July 2009 and is available on the CDB website at:

<http://www.donegalcdb.ie/publications/DonegalCommunityInTouche-zineIssue4.pdf>

For further information on the e-zine, please visit our website at www.donegalcdb.ie or contact Ms Maria Ferguson at maria.ferguson@donegalcoco.ie / 0749724466 or Ms Roisin McBride at rmcbride@donegalcoco.ie / 0749172562

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2. **Cultural Services/Seirbhísí Cultúrtha**

"All Change - The Railways of County Donegal and Northern Ireland"

Donegal County Museum's new temporary exhibition, **"All Change - The Railways of County Donegal and Northern Ireland"** has just opened in the Museum. This exhibition gives visitors a glimpse of the railways, which ran through County Donegal including the County Donegal Railways, The Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway and the Great Northern Railway. It highlights the importance of these railways to the people and economy of the county.

Items on show include a scale model of the CDR station at Letterkenny, footage of railway journeys all over Donegal, archives and photographs and many more items for the railway enthusiast young and old. Admission is free and all are welcome to come and remember the railways of Donegal.

The exhibition runs until January 2010.

Opening hours: 10am – 4.30pm Mon – Fri 1- 4.30pm Saturday. For further information contact Donegal County Museum, High Road, Letterkenny T 074 9124613 E museum@donegalcoco.ie

Donegal Libraries – A Great Place to Learn

Donegal County Library is delighted to join with FÁS in offering an **eLearning Project** to adults across its library and Taobh Tíre network. The project provides a range of online courses, accessible in the library or from home, supported by a facilitator in participating libraries and Taobh Tíre Centres. 81 people have already signed up to courses.

13 libraries and 3 Taobh Tíre locations across the county are taking part, offering training opportunities in the heart of the community. In addition, libraries have user-friendly opening hours, which enable people to learn at their own time and pace.

The programme is free and open to everyone over 18. It will benefit those new to computers and those who wish to update their skills through workshops and the use of online courseware. Facilitators provide support and guidance at the learner's own pace and participants can use library facilities for coursework during library opening hours.

Extensive courses include Introduction to Computers, Internet and E-mail, ECDL, Microsoft Office Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Participants can also access additional online courses including Introduction to Project Management, Effective Administration Skills, Book-keeping, Digital Media, Practical Budgeting Skills for Business, Finance Fundamentals and many more.

Participating Libraries and Taobh Tíre Centres include Ballybofey, Ballyshannon, Buncrana, Bundoran, Carndonagh, Donegal Town, Killybegs, Letterkenny, Lifford, Milford, Moville, Na Rosa, Ramelton, Kilcar, Pettigo and Downings.

For further information please contact
Donegal County Library: 074 91 21968
FÁS: 071 91 59509 / 074 91 20519.

Wainfest 2009

This year's Wainfest, County Donegal's largest arts and book festival for children & young people, is in its thirteenth year. Wainfest incorporates the Children's Book Festival, a national celebration and promotion of books, which takes place in libraries throughout Ireland during October. The main programme will take place in libraries, Taobh Tíre Centres throughout Donegal & the Regional Cultural Centre (RCC) between the 12th and the 23rd October.

Without a doubt, Wainfest promises to entertain children and young people all over Donegal this October, with an exciting mixture of festival favourites and talented newcomers. For further details about events in your area or to make a booking, please contact your local library or Taobh Tíre Centre or visit www.donegallibrary.ie. All library and Taobh Tíre events are free. For the full programme of events at The RCC or further info on ticket prices or booking, please contact Sally Murphy, Education Manager: 074 91 29186 / sally.murphy@donegalcoco.ie.

Full programme information will be available in the Wainfest 2009 brochure, available in all libraries and RCC. It is essential to pre-book all events.

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3. Funding Opportunities/Deiseanna Maoiniú

About Fundingpoint.ie

Fundingpoint.ie provides information on all the funding sources available to voluntary and community organisations. It provides a range of online tools for tracking down funds to support an enormous range of good causes. It also offers guidance on how to fundraise and links to a huge library of other resources. It helps funders promote their news and funding criteria.

Fundingpoint.ie helps funding specialists in advising others.

Check out www.fundingpoint.ie

Approaching deadlines

Donegal Sports Partnership Funding Opportunities for Sports Clubs

Donegal Sports Partnership is currently advertising the Annual Club Development Grants Scheme for 2009. The programme provides grant assistance to sports organisations based in Donegal under two separate categories (Education & Training Initiative **OR** Participation Initiatives).

1. Education and Training Initiatives: These projects focus on enhancing the knowledge, skills and abilities of people in your organisation. An example of the type of education and training initiatives eligible under this measure include Coaching Ireland's Coaching Courses and the National Governing Bodies (NGB's) Coach Education Programmes, Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshops, Children's Officer Training, Active Leadership Award and Disability Awareness through Sport Training etc...

2. Participation Initiatives:

These initiatives aim to attract new members/volunteers and enhance their ongoing participation. Projects must demonstrate how these relate to the provision of sport or recreational physical activity in their club/community. Clubs/organisations must demonstrate that these initiatives are offered in addition to the current programmes provided by the club/organisation.

Projects that prioritise inclusion in sport and physical activity of groups with low participation rates, such as, Young People, Women, Older Adults, People with Disabilities, Travellers, People from Ethnic Communities and the Unemployed are encouraged.

Donegal Sports Partnership Coordinator, Myles Sweeney has advised that clubs applying should read all the information provided carefully as to ensure that they understand the funding conditions. Grant application can only be made under **ONE** categories as listed above (Minimum grant of €200 and a Maximum €1,500). Capital Projects are not eligible nor are day to day running costs, such as, transport, rental or venue hire, registration, affiliation fees or insurance etc.

The closing date for receipt of applications under the scheme will be **Friday 23rd October 2009 at 12 noon**. Late applications will not be considered.

Further information and an application forms are currently available by applying in writing, enclosing a A4 self-addressed envelope with a 95c stamp to:

Donegal Sports Partnership, Office No. 7, First Floor, River Front House, Pearse Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

Tel: 074 9116078/79

Email: info@activedonegal.com

Application forms may also be downloaded from: www.activedonegal.com

Peace III Programme – SEUPB
The call for applications under both themes will close on
Friday 13 November 2009 at 5pm.

Today (01 September), the Special EU Programmes Body announces calls for applications under two themes in the PEACE III Programme. These are:

- Priority 1 Reconciling Communities, Theme 1 Building Positive Relations at the Local Level - Regional Projects
- Priority 2 Contributing to a Shared Society, Theme 1 Creating Shared Public Spaces

Applications may only be submitted through www.eugrants.org.

[Please click here for general information about the PEACE III Programme.](#)

For further information on the call under Priority 1, Theme 1 click [Building Positive Relations at the Local Level - Regional Projects](#).

For further information on the call under Priority 2 Theme 1 click [Creating Shared Public Spaces](#).

OLC Ireland Trust Fund: A New Grants Scheme for Marginalised Women
Grants are awarded four times per year with
the next closing date for applications being December 31st 2009.

- **The Community Foundation for Ireland** has launched a new nationwide fund, the **OLC Ireland Trust Fund**, and has called for applications from registered charities and not for profit organisations around Ireland who work with marginalised women.

The OLC Ireland Trust Fund is managed by The Community Foundation for Ireland on behalf of The Sisters of Our Lady of Charity. The Fund will endeavour to support projects that most closely respond to issues concerning addictions, prostitution, trafficking, violence and abuse of women. The goal of the fund is to provide resources, which will help educate, develop and enhance the lives and dignity of marginalised women.

This new Fund has been opened with a total of EUR 85,500 available for grant-making in 2009.

Value Notes: Grants will be in the region of EUR 500 to EUR 5,000 except in exceptional circumstances when a maximum of EUR 10,000 will be awarded. Grants will be made for once-off projects that are not the core of ongoing activities of the organisation concerned.

Application forms for the OLC Ireland Trust Fund are now available at www.communityfoundation.ie/grants or by contacting The Community Foundation for Ireland directly: tel 01 874 7354 / email info@foundation.ie

Community Leadership Programme
Deadline for applications is 8th October 2009

Practical and financial assistance is available to boost the leadership capacity of community groups in Northern Ireland and the border counties of the Republic of Ireland.

Participating groups are entitled to a bursary worth £2,500 (€2,750) to carry out a learning project of their choice.

Addresses and Contacts:

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Community Leadership Programme

Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action
61 Duncairn Gardens
Belfast , BT15 2GB
Tel: 028 9087

Ray Murphy Fund for leadership education and training 2009**2009 Closing Dates:**

30th October (successful grantees will receive their grants in December)

The Ray Murphy Fund – managed by the Community Foundation for Ireland - will make grants to build leadership within the community sector for the next 10 years, 2008 - 2017. The grants will be for a maximum of euro 4,000 each and 5 grants will be awarded per year. The fund is envisaged to assist people managing organizations within the community and voluntary sector access leadership - education or training.

The Ray Murphy Fund Application Form is not freely available. Potential applicants must contact the Grants Officer to discuss the suitability of a proposed project prior to making an application: email info@foundation.ie tel 01 874 7354

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4. Training opportunities/Deiseanna oiliúina**Community Work Course**

The Community Worker's Coop HELP project in association with the Inishowen Development Partnership is offering a **FETAC level 6** module on Community Development Theory and Practice **commencing in October 2009**.

The module is being provided by the CWC through the 'Harnessing Equality for Lasting Peace' (HELP) Project that is supported by the Peace III Programme managed for the Special EU Programmes Body by the Community Relations Council/Pobal Consortium.

The module will be delivered over two Saturdays and 4 Tuesday evenings.

Cost: Free

For further information please contact:

Annette Patton
Policy and Training Development Worker
Community Workers Co-op – Donegal Network

Tel: 074 9128792

E-annettepatton@cwic.ie

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5. The Environment/*An Timpeallacht*

Civic Amenity Sites

Attachments include

- Donegal Civic Amenity sites -Addresses and opening hours
- €10 recycling CAS
- Free recycling
- Materials accepted at Civic Amenity Sites



Litter Campaigns Spring Summer Clean UP Programme

Donegal County Council offer assistance to the general public every spring/summer season to clean up litter and illegally dumped waste from their local environs e.g. approach roads, local beauty spots, beaches and general public areas. It is also intended through the programme to develop a community led approach to the problem of litter and fly tipping. The programme runs from April to September.

Who Qualifies for the Programme?

Groups that may apply include the following: Bona Fide Clubs, Organisations, Associations, Environmental Groups and Tidy Towns Committees. Groups of individuals not necessarily attached to a group may also qualify for assistance provided it is a public area they are

intending to clean up. Private household clean ups will not qualify for the scheme and skips in particular will only be distributed to group led clean ups in public areas. Groups interested in organising an environmental clean up can apply for assistance through their local area office. Bags, Gloves and Litter pickers are available at the offices below. Any groups organising a major environmental clean up can apply for a skip. They must however register and complete the application form, which is available at the main council offices in Carndonagh, Dungloe, Donegal Town, Letterkenny, Lifford and Milford.

2009 COMMUNITY COMPOSTING WORKSHOPS ***Don't delay; book your composting workshop today!***

In 2009, the Waste Awareness Officer plans to deliver a number of Composting Workshops to local community groups. These workshops are becoming popular and there is a lot of interest among local community groups for information on composting etc.

1/3 of our household waste is organic waste that can be composted. This can be done using a compost bin or heap and will turn food waste into rich compost that can then be used as a garden fertiliser. Diverting this food waste from you regular waste bin will also cut down on waste to landfill and waste costs for the householder.

If you are involved in the local Tidy Towns committee why not consider a composting workshop, as it will help with you next application for the Tidy Towns competition next year.

If any group would be interested in hosting a composting workshop please contact me directly at (074) 91 76276 or email suzanne.tinney@donegalcoco.ie

WANTED: BATTERY RECYCLING COLLECTION POINTS!

To increase the number of waste batteries that are collected for recycling, Donegal County Council is interested in hearing from any community groups that would like to become a collection point for waste batteries in their local area.

Battery Boxes will be provided to any interested groups and when boxes are full they may be brought to any Donegal County Council Civic Amenity Site, Public Service Centre or make arrangement with Mr. David Friel, Recycling Officer (074) 91 76274 or Suzanne Tinney, Waste Awareness Officer (074) 91 76276 for their recycling.

Waste Batteries

Waste Batteries must never be placed in your waste disposal or recycling bins. There is a bin for small batteries in your local store. Battery Recycling is free.

What to do with Waste Batteries:

Under the new Battery Regulations that came into effect on the 26th September 2008 waste batteries can be dropped off **FREE OF CHARGE** at any retailer supplying similar batteries and with no obligation to purchase batteries.

Retailers do not have to accept leaking batteries or more than 5kg at a time. Batteries can also be dropped off **FREE OF CHARGE** at your local Civic Amenity Site. Donegal County Council also has collection points for batteries at all the Public Service Centres.

On all new batteries there is a crossed out wheelie bin sign, this is to remind you not to put the waste battery in the ordinary bin.

For more information on the Waste Battery Collection and Recycling log onto www.weeeireland.ie or [www.viron.ie](http://www.environ.ie)

Tax Relief On Bin Charges: Lo Call Revenue 1890 777 425

Did you know that you can claim tax relief on the bin charges you pay each year. Tax can be claimed back on annual charges and pre-paid tags, receipts are not necessary. To make your claim call into your local Revenue Office or Lo call 1890 777 425 and quote your P.P.S. number.

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6. Insurance/Árachas

The Irish National Community and Voluntary Forum has teamed up exclusively with leading insurance broker BHP Insurances to assist in minimising insurance costs for its members. The INCVF is the umbrella body for the community and voluntary sector and this arrangement will give its 22,000 members direct access to the most competitive and comprehensive insurance package for their sector. Savings of up to 45% can be expected.

If you wish to avail of this competitive insurance package, you must have your ID number to hand when contacting BHP Insurances, together with your existing insurance arrangements where applicable.

To obtain your ID number you should contact **Breid Neely, Community Development Officer, Community, Culture and Enterprise Directorate, Donegal County Council at 074 91 72 573.**

A dedicated BHP Forum helpdesk and free phone number has been set up to deal with all enquiries on 1890 666 111. You can also find out more information on the insurance package at BHP's website, www.bhpinsurance.ie.

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7. Flight of the Earls /Imeacht na nIarlaí

Flight of the Earls Commemorative Poster Postéir Cuimhneacháin Imeacht na nIarlaí

2007 saw Donegal County Development Board and the County of Donegal commemorate this landmark event in our history. To mark this year and the landmark event that was commemorated, a limited edition of numbered Flight of the Earls/Imeacht na nIarlaí Posters has been produced. The poster denotes a lasting reminder of 2007 and the Commemoration, which took place.

The posters cost (€20) unframed and (€75) framed.

Posters can be acquired from –**Michelle McGill**
Community & Enterprise Division, Donegal County Council, Lifford, Co Donegal
(074) 9172568 michellem@donegalcoco.ie



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