



*Donegal Public Participation Network
Do Chontae - Do Ghuth*

Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Dhún na nGall Donegal Public Participation Network

Nuachtlitir LRP - PPN Newsletter - Eagrán Márta - March Edition

Fáilte go dtí an chéad eagrán de Ríomh Ráiteas míosúil Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Dhún na nGall.

Welcome to the first edition of Donegal Public Participation Network's monthly newsletter

Gach mí, beimid ag tabhairt eolas daoibh air LRP Dhún na nGall, Imeachtaí Áitiúla agus Réigiúnacha, Maoiniú, Oiliúint, Nuacht Pobail agus aon nuacht ábhartha eile.

Each month we will be bringing you information on the Donegal PPN, Local and Regional Events, Funding, Training, Community news and any other relevant news.

The deadline for submissions for the April edition of the newsletter is the 31st March, 2017.

Contents

[Eolas ar LRP / PPN Update](#)

[Maoiniú / Funding](#)

[Imeachtaí Pobail agus Nuacht / Community Events & News](#)

[Oiliúint / Training](#)

Eolas LRP- PPN Update

The Donegal Public Participation Network (PPN) is the link through which your organisation can have a direct role in the policy making and oversight of local government. The PPN is a network of organizations representing the Social Inclusion, Environmental and Community & Voluntary sectors in the county. Through this network organisations can co-operate, share information and ideas and elect members to Local Authority decision making bodies and relevant

community structures. Donegal PPN now has over 40 representatives on 15 different decision-making committees and structures and work is ongoing to ensure the reporting mechanisms are now in place for these representatives.

Information on the PPN structure, representatives, reports and updates as well as registration forms for those groups interested in joining can be found on the website: <https://donegalppn.com/>

If you have a query or would like more information regarding the PPN, please contact:
 Mary Clyde, PPN Resource Worker, Donegal County Council, Milford PSC -074 9153900
 Email: mary.clyde@donegalcoco.ie

PPN Municipal District Meetings

Each County is organized into Municipal Districts. There are 5 in Donegal: Glenties, Inishowen, Letterkenny, Stranorlar, and Donegal. These Municipal District meetings provide an opportunity for locally based PPN members to come together, share information, address locally based concerns collectively as well as receive information on what is happening countywide. The following dates have been scheduled to hold the first round of PPN Municipal District meetings:

Municipal District	Date	Time
Letterkenny	30 th March 2017	7pm
Donegal Town	6 th April 2017	7pm
Inishowen	27 th April 2017	7pm
Glenties	25 th May 2017	7pm
Stranorlar	20 th June 2017	8pm

Further information, including venues and agendas will be provided closer to the dates.

Donegal PPN Secretariat Membership

The PPN Secretariat is an elected body from the PPN membership whose role is to sure the proper functioning of the PPN, coordinate PPN activities, communicate with the PPN membership and work with DCC staff to enable delivery of objectives. The members of the secretariat are:

Name	Organisation	Email
Paul Kernan	Pobal le Chéile	coordplc@eircom.net
Trish Murphy	Irish Basking Shark Group	trishjmurphy@gmail.com
James Trearty	Termon Clean Up Group	jamestrearty@hotmail.com
Annette Patton	Community Development Alliance	annettebpattton@hotmail.com

Ralph Sheppard	Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland	rsheppard@eircom.net
Helen Nolan	Spraoi agus Spórt Family Centre	helen_nolan@eircom.net
Dermott McLaughlin	Wild Inishowen	dermottjmclaughlin@eircom.net
Anne McGowan	Letterkenny Tidy Towns	annemcgowandromore@hotmail.com
Joseph McNulty	Bundoran Childcare	josephmcnulty8@gmail.com
Joanne Butler	Community Gardens	joanne.butler@me.com
Francis Coyle	Isaac Butt Heritage Centre Committee	brockagh1@gmail.com
Finola Brennan	NCCWN - Donegal Women's Network	donwomnet@eircom.net
Louise Breslin	Ardara Parish Council	lfob@eircom.net
Máirín Uí Fhearraigh	Comharchumann na nOileán Bheaga	ancaire@eircom.net
Martin McBride	North Donegal Community Network	martinmcbrideportsalon@eircom.net
Andrew McNulty	Balor Developmental Community Arts	andrewsmcnulty@hotmail.com
Joe Boland	19th Donegal Scout Group	joe.akela@gmail.com

Linkage Group Convenors

Linkage Groups allow PPN member groups with a common interest to meet for topic discussions with similar community groups and organisations, with a view to having these concerns raised and dealt with at the relevant Council Committee. Each linkage group has a convenor:

1. Social Inclusion – Paul Kernan- coordplc@eircom.net
2. Heritage - Máirín Uí Fhearraigh- ancaire@eircom.net
3. Community Safety & Joint Policing – James Trearty- jamestrearty@hotmail.com
4. Environment – Trish Murphy- trishjmurphy@gmail.com
5. Tourism – Martin McBride- martinmcbrideportsalon@eircom.net
6. Older Persons Forum – Louise Breslin- lfob@eircom.net

7. Fishing & Aquaculture – Joseph McNulty- josephmcnulty8@gmail.com
8. Community & Voluntary – Joe Boland & Andrew McNulty- joe.akela@gmail.com
andrewsmcnulty@hotmail.com

Representatives

To see the committees that the PPN is represented on please click the following link:

<https://donegalppndotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/ppn-representation-by-reporting-body.pdf>

Maoiniú - Funding

The Fisheries Local Area Development Scheme

Call for Project Applications

Ireland's seven Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs), invite applications for grant aid under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund Operational Programme 2014 -2020, co-funded by the European Union and Irish Government.

Save the [Fisheries Local Action Group Programme 2016-2023 Grant Application Form](#) (pdf 1,608Kb) or as Gaeilge [Clár na nGrúpaí Gnómháíochta Iascaigh Áitiúla 2016-2023 Foirm Iarratais ar Dheontas](#) (pdf 1,518Kb)

Closing date: 15th March 2017

Community Heritage Grant Scheme

The Community Heritage Grant Scheme aims to: promote appreciation and enjoyment of heritage, to make a lasting difference to heritage, people and communities and reach out to new audiences and make heritage accessible to people with special needs, young adults and minorities, for example. They are looking for creative, engaging projects that provide a way for the public to learn about and manage our natural and cultural heritage. They want you to share your knowledge, project ideas and experiences more widely.

Closing date: 24th March 2017

Heritage Council Áras nOidhreacht Church Lane, Kilkenny. 056 777 0777 mail@heritagecouncil.ie
www.heritagecouncil.ie. [Read more . . .](#)

Clann Credo's Loan Fund

Clann Credo's €25m Community LEADER Loan Fund can help your community project maximize your leader grant through Bridging or Match funding. Community groups have big ideas and LEADER grants but Bridging and Match funding can be obstacles to making those visions realities. Clann Credo's new loan fund can help your community group access the LEADER grant.

Clann Credo has provided over €34m to 319 LEADER projects, creating, sustaining and supporting almost 3,000 jobs during the last LEADER programme.

For more information:

Find out more about how Clann Credo's €25m LEADER Loan Fund can help your community group access community loan funding click [here](#) .

Imeachtaí Pobail agus Nuacht - Community Events & News

Mná 1916: Women 1916 exhibiting at Donegal County Museum

A special exhibition telling the stories of 300 of Ireland's mothers, daughters, sisters, and wives involved in the 1916 Rising, is on display at the **County Museum, in Letterkenny until Thursday, 30th March 2017.**

Visitors to the exhibition can explore this remarkable variety of previously unseen items, from personal objects, images and documentation, to newly digitised birth, death, marriage and census records from private and public collections. The exhibition outlines how members of Cumann na mBan mobilised to support the Volunteers, arriving in Dublin from places such as Glasgow, London, and Liverpool. Visitors can hear the story of music teacher Annie Higgins, dispatched from the GPO with a message for rebels in the North but arrested along her way, the note confiscated, its contents never revealed. Previously unseen images of key female characters, on loan from the collection of Sorcha MacMahon, are also on display.

Mná 1916 – Women 1916 is curated by Sinead McCoolle, an author and historian whose collaborations and expertise in many areas of Irish civil history, including the Rising, have been received with acclaim both at home and abroad. Enhanced by material from the Military Archives, the National Library of Ireland and the National Museum of Ireland, it's a fitting tribute to the resilience and ability of those previously considered the 'fairer' sex.

Befriending Service in the Milford Rosguill & Fanad Areas and in the Lifford & Castlefinn Areas

The Good Morning Service Co Donegal have a telephone and Befriending Service offering free and confidential support to people who are over 60, living alone, or who are housebound due to illness or mobility issues.

The Service has been running in Inishowen for four years, it is now being extended to two new Primary Care areas, Milford/Rosguill/Fanad and Lifford/Castlefinn. The Community Befriending Organisers, Emma Lou Kerr and Sarah Breslin will be based in the offices of Premier Services on the Diamond Milford, and Lifford/Clonleigh Community Resource Centre, Lifford, respectively. (see details below) The Befriending Service matches a volunteer with a person

who requires the service, the volunteer provides companionship, friendship and a supportive relationship that lessens the effects of isolation and loneliness.

The volunteer Befriender is Garda vetted and receives training that supports them in carrying out this role. The Befriender also receives continuous support from the Befriending Organiser for the duration of the relationship.

Volunteers needed now in the Milford, Rosquill & Fanad Areas and in the Lifford & Castlefinn Areas

Please contact:

Emma Lou on Mobile: 086 1716984 or email: emmaloubefriending@gmail.com Address: Emma Lou Kerr Community Befriending Organiser, C/O Premier Services, The Diamond, Milford, Co. Donegal

Sarah Breslin on Mobile: 086 7858799 or email: sarahbefriending@gmail.com Address: Sarah Breslin, Community Befriending Organiser, C/O Lifford/Clonleigh -Community Resource Centre, Croaghan Heights, Lifford, Co. Donegal

Finn Valley Community Forum

The Health Forum Directory contains useful contact numbers

Online Link: <http://www.communityhealthforum.net/finn-valley-online-directory/>

Féile Dóchas

Amazing Grace Festival - Féile Dóchas (Hope Fest) is a free dynamic all-age creative arts festival to mark the anniversary of John Newton's arrival in Lough Swilly on 8 April 1748 with loads to see and do along Buncrana's shorefront.

Tour the outdoor exhibition of giant sculptures (made out of recycled plastic). Enjoy a programme of live music, interactive music workshops, performance poetry, dance, arts and crafts, games and family fun.

The festival will raise awareness of the negative impact of plastic waste on our community and on the world and provide practical and positive suggestions for change.

See more info at www.amazinggrace.ie/festival- **Saturday 8 April- Buncrana Shorefront- 2 - 10pm-Free**

Donegal Tourism Seminar

Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism Ltd are pleased to announce that the **Donegal Tourism Seminar** will take place on **Thursday 23rd March 2017 In An Grianan Theatre, Letterkenny**

The objective of this Seminar is to provide those who are operating in the tourism sector in Donegal with the necessary skills to enhance the competitiveness of tourist management.

This seminar will provide an excellent platform for tourism providers to engage with industry experts and learn how to grow your business. It is the perfect forum for those in the tourism sector to come together, to network with their peers, to look at the tourism sector as a whole and developing the tourism product that Donegal as a County has to

offer both nationally and internationally. This event is open to tourism providers from across County Donegal, is free of charge and everyone with an interest in tourism in Donegal is most welcome. **Click on the link below to view the [agenda](#). Please [register](#) today for this event.**

Active Retirement Ireland and Home Instead

Marigold Festival Kurling Tournament

3rd May 2017- Aura Leisure Centre Letterkenny

Cost: €7 to include lunch

Open to all people over 50. Kurling is played on a wooden floor by teams of four. Easy to play, it can be enjoyed by all levels of abilities. Contact Rory Cleary on 0872 767939 or rory.cleary@tesco.net.

Ardara GAP Heritage and History Group

The Warp and Weft of Heritage

The Ardara GAP Heritage and History Group are organising a 'Warp and Weft of Heritage' weekend celebrating heritage from **Friday the 13th to Sunday the 15th October**. There will be engaging and lively talks ranging from shipwrecks, folklore, geology, local history, heritage and more of the greater Ardara area.

Also included in the weekend's programme are a series of workshops, storytelling, demonstrations and field trips. Special weekend rates from the Nesbitt Arms Hotel, Ardara: 0749541103 (info@nesbittarms.com) €45 for weekend

Spraoui agus Sport Family Centre Ltd

Couch to 5K

Buncrana, Carndonagh, Clonmany, Malin & Moville. Runs for 10 weeks

27th March – 2nd June 2017

9:30am and 7:00pm. Cost:€70

Weekly weigh-ins (optional) - 2 x training sessions weekly in Buncrana, Carndonagh, Clonmany, Malin & Moville
Suitable for adults and teenagers aged 16+- 5k Fun Run at the end of the programme on Friday 2nd June at 7.30pm
Cost €70 per adult, €35 for children aged 16-17 years

Mórtas Ceantair: Pride of Place

Is comórtas uile-oileánda é Mórtas Ceantair, agus é dírithe ar aitheantas a thabhairt d'fheabhsúcháin atá déanta ag pobail áitiúla le bród an phobail a chothú as a gceantar. Tá béim sa chomórtas ar dhaoine a theacht le chéile le gach rud atá maith agus fiúntach ina gceantar a mhúnlú agus a athrú, agus sult agus pléisiúr a bhaint as. Tá sé de chuspóir aige fosta aitheantas a thabhairt don obair iontach tábhachtach a dhéanann na pobail áitiúla ar fud na tíre. Is é Comhoibriú Éireann (Co-Operation Ireland) a reáchtálann an comórtas faoin Chlár Údaráis Áitiúil atá acu, i gcomhar leis an Fhóram Stiúrtha uile-oileánda d'Údaráis Áitiúla, ar a bhfuil oifigigh ó údaráis sa dá chuid den tír.

Pride of Place is an all-island competition, which is directed towards recognising improvements by local communities to create civic pride in their area. The competition focus is on people coming together to shape, change and enjoy all that is good about their area. It aims to recognise and celebrate the vital contribution that community groups make to society. The competition is hosted by Co-operation Ireland under its Local Authority Programme in conjunction with the all-island Local Authority Steering Forum. Listing will take place and a further interview will be held within Donegal County Council.

Closing date for Applications is 16th of March 2017, for further information contact mairead.cranley@donegalcoco.ie

Get involved in the Big Donegal Clean Up '17

Donegal County Council support groups of any size intending to carry out a clean up by providing bags, gloves, litter pickers etc. If you are interested in organising a community clean-up contact the Environment Section of your local Donegal County Council Public Service Centre 074 91 53900, or apply [online here](#) it couldn't be easier. The Council would like to share photos of and information on clean ups etc. on our social media sites including Facebook and Twitter. You can either share your photos etc via these sites (@DonegalCouncil or Facebook/DonegalCountyCouncil.com or email your photos and a short piece of information about the event to suzannebogan@donegalcoco.ie.

Don't forget to register with national spring clean for extra resources. To register for National Spring Clean call the National Spring Clean Hotline on (01) 4002219 or register online:
[Register Your National Spring Clean Here](#)

Public Consultation on Multi-Modal Transport

The European Commission is currently looking at a possible initiative to protect passengers when using multimodal transport, and is seeking views from the general public on the issue. Attached is a link to the public consultation below should it be of interest to you or your organisation. Please note that the consultation period ends on the 25th of May, so all questionnaires should be returned before this date.

[Public consultation on a possible initiative at EU level in the field of passengers rights in multimodal transport](#)

Older Women and Pensions - Regional workshops

The National Women's Council of Ireland are inviting older women to take part in three workshops in your local area. Participants will get a better understanding of current pension policy and how it impacts on older women in Ireland. Participants will get a chance to find out how to make changes to improve the situation for older women and get active in bringing about change.

Dates for your diary

Letterkenny Workshops

Venue: Donegal Womens Centre, Port Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

Monday 10th April - 10am - 2pm

Saturday 13th May – 10am – 4pm

Wednesday 14th June – 10am – 4pm

Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, registration and venue details for these workshops, please phone Eilís or Catherine on 01 679 0100 or email catherinel@nwcs.ie

Creative Ireland

Donegal County Council invites you to attend an open meeting and discussion on Creative Ireland, a major new culture and creativity initiative of the Government of Ireland in the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny on the 3rd April from 7-9pm.

To RSVP please contact abrogan@donegalcoco.ie or call 074 91 63837

Oiliúint - Training

Inishowen Development Partnership & SICAP

St. Mary's Road, Buncrana Keeping Records Workshop Saturday 8th April 2017

074 93 62218

Cost: €10 per person

Inishowen Development Partnership Course Content:

Topic 1 – Good Documentation for Book Keeping

Topic 2 – Cash Books and Bank Reconciliations

Topic 3 - Sales

Topic 4 - Purchases

Topic 5 – Cashflow / Budgeting

Topic 6 – Overview of VAT Returns and Profit & Loss Calculations

Enquiries: Rosemary Lyons, Enterprise Officer-074 93 62218

Inishowen Development Partnership & SICAP

St. Mary's Road, Buncrana – Start your own Business Thursday 25th & Friday 26th May 2017 - 9.30am-4.30pm-074 93 62218

Cost: €20 per person - 2 Day Fee

Start your own business courses are being held on the dates above. For enquiries please contact Rosemary Lyons, Enterprise Officer- 074 93 62218

Mental Health First Aid Courses

Mental Health First Aid Ireland are running 5 Mental Health First Aid Courses in Donegal this year.

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is the initial help given to someone who is developing a mental health problem or who is in a mental health crisis. The first aid is given until appropriate professional support is received or until the crises resolves. **Courses take place on the following dates:**

20/21 March – Tir Hugh Centre, Ballyshannon

20/21 May – Moville Family Resource Centre, Inishowen

23/24 June – St Johnston Family Resource Centre

12/13 Oct – Dunfanaghy Family Resource Centre

18/19 Nov – Portnoo Family Resource Centre

For more information or to book a place visit <http://www.connectmentalhealth.ie/events/>

Heritage Week Training Day for Event Organisers

National Heritage Week takes place from Saturday, August 19 to Sunday, August 27, 2017. The Heritage Council is holding a National Heritage Week Event Organiser Training Day:

George's Hall, Dublin Castle, Dublin

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

It's a great way to learn how to plan your National Heritage Week event. Training will share ideas, inspiration and practical tips covering every aspect of event planning. Some of Ireland's best event organisers will share their secrets to running great National Heritage Week events.

The training day is free to attend but registration is required as places are limited.

Register now at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHWTrainingDay2017>

For further details, visit the Heritage Week website at: <http://www.heritageweek.ie/news/event-organiser-training-day>

Sail Training Ireland for Youth Development

Funding for voyages through various funding schemes is made available through their network of youth and community organizations. They rely on these "Nominating Organisations" to identify young people that are in need of and will benefit from funded opportunities. They are able to offer important support to trainees during their preparation for voyages and when they return from the voyage. This helps to maximise the benefits of the experience for the participants.

A list of voyages for 2017 is on their website www.sailtrainingireland.com and they are now taking bookings through the website.

If your group would like to make a submission to the next edition of the PPN newsletter please contact Mary Clyde, PPN Resource Worker before the 31st March.