

Community

newsreel



Know the Facts!

Parental Drug Education – Mephedrone

Following the recent publicity surrounding 'legal highs' and in response to requests from parents and community groups Newtownabbey Community Safety Partnership has placed improved drug education for parents at the top of its agenda. The following information will be invaluable to parents, enabling them to spot the signs of drug taking and/or talk to their children about this issue. The more information that parents have on this topic the better.

What is it?

It is one of a group of synthetic drugs called cathinones, which have chemical structures similar to amphetamine. It comes in the form of a white powder or sometimes in capsule or tablet form. Mephedrone produces euphoria, alertness, talkativeness and feelings of empathy. It can



also cause anxiety and paranoid states and risks overstimulating the heart and circulation, and the nervous system to cause fits. Other side effects can include hallucinations, palpitations, vomiting, sweats, chills and nosebleeds. There is developing evidence on the risk of death from using mephedrone. Other 'slang' names for this drug include Meph, m-cat, MCAT, Miaow miaow, bubbles, white magic, plant feeder to name but a few.

Is Mephedrone addictive?

Reports suggest it can be compulsive to use and can create a state of psychological dependence (and consequent compulsive re-dosing may itself lead to increased risk to health). It has been reported that once users start a session, they can find it very difficult to stop until they've used their entire supply.

The Law

The importation of mephedrone into the UK has been banned. Mephedrone became controlled as a Class B drug on the 16th

April 2010 meaning it is illegal to have, give away or sell. Possession can get result in up to five years in jail and an unlimited fine (or both). Supplying someone else, including friends, can get up to fourteen years in jail and an unlimited fine (or both).

Now Mephedrone has been banned is this the end of legal highs?

No. Mephedrone and other cathinones have become very popular and are likely to remain in circulation. Reports also suggest that alternative legal highs are being developed to get round the law. Websites which previously sold Mephedrone are now selling other legal highs.



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Due to the nature of our work we may at times be unable to answer your phone calls.
Please do leave us a message giving your name and number
and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Good Relations Grant Aid Programme

Applications are now invited from suitably constituted Community/Voluntary Sector organisations working within the Borough of Newtownabbey to apply for financial assistance.

Funding is available under the following categories:-

Category	Description	Maximum Award
Good Relations Special Grant	To assist individual groups in promoting 'good relations' in an inclusive and considered manner.	£2,500 (exceptional projects may be awarded up to £5,000)
Good Relations Cluster Grant	To assist groups to work together in the promotion of good relations on a cluster basis.	£5,000

Exclusions – Grants are aimed at specific projects or schemes they will NOT cover on-going costs e.g. salaries. Nor will they pay for major capital expenditure, competitions, uniforms and sporting equipment, cash generative schemes, retrospective events or party political activities. Grants are primarily for activities in the Newtownabbey area.

This programme is open all year, with recommendations for funding presented to Development Committee on a monthly basis.

Details of the applications process, assessment criteria and an application form can be downloaded at www.newtownabbey.gov.uk or by contacting Jo Colville, Community Development Assistant, Newtownabbey Borough Council, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA
Tel: 028 9034 0209. Email: jcolville@newtownabbey.gov.uk

Supporting community effort in 2010/11

A broad range of local community groups and organisations were awarded funding in April through the 1st call of the 2010/11 Community Development Grant Aid Programme and Festivals Fund.

In excess of £90,000 was awarded to the community and voluntary sector in Newtownabbey to support a variety of innovative projects that the groups will be running in their local communities from April 2010 to March 2011. We would like to congratulate all the groups on their awards and look forward to working with them this year.

Final call for Community Development and Community Festivals Fund Grant Aid Applications



The first call for Community Development and Community Festival Fund grant applications closed in January 2010. If you missed the call your group now has the chance to apply for projects/events running within the period 1 September 2010 to 31 March 2011 through a second call which closes on **Wednesday 30 June 2010 at 4pm.**

Details of the application process, assessment criteria and an application form can be downloaded at www.newtownabbey.gov.uk/funding or by calling 028 9034 0060.

For further information contact Jo Colville, Community Development Assistant, Newtownabbey Borough Council, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA, Tel: 028 9034 0209, Email: jcolville@newtownabbey.gov.uk

Community Capacity Building Programme September 2010 to March 2011

Child Protection

**Wednesday 22 September 2010,
6-9pm in Mossley Mill**

This course will cover: What to do if you have concerns about the safety of children and young people, what happens once concerns have been shared, The legislative framework within which we operate to safeguard children, your role in implementing the policy and procedures, your own and others attitudes/ values regarding child abuse and how this can influence actions/ decisions made.

Web Development

**Thursdays 14 Oct, 21 Oct, 28 Oct, 4 Nov, 11 Nov, 18 Nov 2010
(Must attend all sessions), 6-9pm in Monkstown Community Centre.**

(This course is limited to 1 representative from each group. Max 8 participants)

These will be practical hands-on sessions allowing participants with an interest in developing a simple website for their organisation an opportunity to do so with the help of a professional web developer. Ideal for anyone who wants to develop a website but is not sure where to start. Basic awareness of operating a computer and using a web browser are required.

Please note: each group will be required to pay for a hosting and domain name (approx £60) to be able to participate in this class.

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Level II Award in Food Safety in Catering

Tuesday 23 and 30 November 2010 (Must attend both sessions), 6-9pm in Mossley Mill

To provide community development practitioners with a basic understanding of the principles of food safety and how to apply this knowledge in order to control hazards and prevent illness, injury or any other food related

problem. It is a legal requirement to hold this qualification if you are preparing/serving food.

Emergency First Aid for Appointed Persons

**Tuesday 18 and 25 January 2011
(Must attend both sessions),
6-9pm in Mossley Mill**

Upon completion of the course you can be the appointed person for your group/organisation to take charge of the first aid arrangements, including looking after the equipment and facilities, and calling the emergency services when required.

Sourcing Funding Workshop

**Monday 7 February 2011,
6-9pm in Mossley Mill**

This course will help you understand the grant-makers' perspective, identify funders and obtain advice on what makes a grant-winning project. With over 1,000 funding opportunities available to organisations, causes and projects in Northern Ireland this course will seek to inform and inspire.

Practical Skills in Completing Funding Applications

**Monday 21 February 2011,
6-9pm in Mossley Mill**

This course will explore the essentials of planning your project, the reasons for applying, reasons why applications may fail, what to include in your application form, as well as some examples of actual funders' application forms. Get your share of the £3billion available in the UK from grant making trusts and foundations!

An Introduction to Event Stewarding

**Wednesday 2 March 2011,
6-9pm in Mossley Mill**

This course will examine the Roles and Responsibilities of stewards,

Health and Safety, Emergency Procedures, Customer Care and Personal safety. This course is essential if you plan to organise any Community Festivals in your area.

'Everyone has a part to play' – An insight into organising a successful community festival or event

**Wednesday 9 March 2011,
6-9pm in Mossley Mill**

This training course is designed for local community groups who aspire to be in the position of planning and managing their own festival or event or improve upon previous events. This is a practical course which contains planning aids, group and individual exercises and is backed up by the tutors' personal event experiences. It is relevant to many types of events and festivals, including arts, culture, sport and history.

Booking is essential

Places are restricted and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Places are restricted to 2 members per community group/organisation.

All courses are free of charge, however a £5 per course refundable booking deposit is required upon registration.

Applicants must be involved in community work within the Borough and be over 16 years of age.

To obtain an application form please contact:

Community Development
Administration
Development Services
Mossley Mill
Newtownabbey
BT36 5QA

028 90340060

Email:

dleonard@newtownabbey.gov.uk

Community Services Projects ...



community centre summer schemes 2010



rushpark
community centre
19 July - 30 July



rathfern
community centre
2 August - 13 August

For further information or an Application Form
please contact Jean or Dawn on 028 9034 0060

Celebrating Success!

The 3rd Annual Newtownabbey Borough Council Celebrating Success and Community Graduation Evening took place on 18 March 2010 at the newly opened Theatre at the Mill. The evening was held to recognise the achievements of the many community representatives who have completed training organised by the Community Development Section of the Council. The event also celebrated the success of the many projects that received funding from the Community Development Section: Community Services Funding, Good Relations Funding, Local Community Fund and Community Festivals Fund.

Over 80 people attended the various courses which included Child Protection, First Aid, Risk Assessment, Food Safety, Event Stewarding, Event Management and Leadership for Engagement skills. The appeal of these courses has been reflected in the level of demand which continues to grow steadily. In addition this year 12 participants undertook an OCN Level II in Community Development Practice which is the first step for some towards a career in Community Development and we wish them future success if they choose this path.



2010 Newtownabbey Volunteer Accolades

The vital commitment of volunteers to the local community is in the spotlight again with the launch of the 2010 Newtownabbey Volunteer Accolades. This year's scheme was launched on Thursday 13 May 2010 in Mossley Mill by the Mayor of Newtownabbey, Alderman John Scott and Wendy Osborne OBE, Chief Executive Officer of Volunteer Now. Newtownabbey Borough Council hopes that the accolades will help to recognise the invaluable role of existing volunteers and recruit new volunteers.

Speaking at the event Wendy Osborne said:

"Research has shown that the majority of volunteer involving organisations cannot operate without volunteers yet it is becoming increasingly difficult to sign up new recruits. Volunteers are motivated by wanting to improve situations within society and their contribution really makes a difference. Volunteer Now aims to enhance recognition for the contribution of volunteers, provide greater access to opportunities and increase the number of people getting involved and I am delighted to support the Volunteer Accolades, to recognise the involvement of local people in their communities."

Volunteers come from all walks of life and bring energy and commitment to community activities across the local area. If you know someone who gives up their free time regularly to volunteer and help others in the local community please nominate them.



There are eight volunteer categories, which cover young people, senior citizens and groups within the Borough and also include activities in arts and heritage, sport, good relations and a good neighbour of the year.

The closing date for nominations is 4pm on Wednesday 30 June 2010. Nomination forms are available from the Council Offices or can be downloaded at www.newtownabbey.gov.uk

Journey of Remembering



Young men from three schools headed off on a "Journey of Remembering" study visit to France and Belgium to visit the battlefields, cemeteries and other places of historical interest relating to World War I in March 2010.

The Young Men's programme was organised by the Council's Community Services and Good Relations Sections. The students aged 16-18 years took part in a number of history seminars and excursions prior to their European trip including an education programme covering events in Ireland during the lead up to World War I.

Speaking as he and the group returned home, The Former Mayor, Alderman John Scott commented:

"Those of us who have travelled to the battlefields of Europe before have been deeply moved by the emotional experience. This study visit gave the students the opportunity to come together with other young people from different traditions and viewpoints and help them to appreciate the contribution and sacrifices made by so many in international conflicts. I hope they too will find this a life changing experience, as I did."

The schools taking part were Monkstown Community High School, Ballyclare Secondary School and Edmund Rice College.

Political Awareness – A Young Women's Perspective

Young women from four local schools headed off to London in March to find out more about the corridors of power at Westminster. The Young Women's programme "Political Awareness – A Young Women's Perspective" was organised by the Council's Community Services and Good Relations Sections. The students aged between 16 and 18 years were selected after a rigorous selection process to take part in this programme which included several political education classes and a question and answer session with some local MLAs.

The programme started in January 2010 with the aim of giving students an understanding of local, regional and national politics.

Claire Fox, the Council's Good Relations Officer, commented: *"The students have become more confident in dealing with political processes and engaging with political representatives at a local, regional and national level. We hope they have enjoyed coming together with other young women from different traditions and viewpoints to explore issues that are important to them and their peers."*

Mr Holmes, Principal, Newtownabbey Community High School, one of the schools taking part, commented: *"I am grateful to the Council for organising such a worthy educational experience for these pupils."*

The schools taking part on the programme were Ballyclare High School, Ballyclare Secondary School, Belfast High School and Newtownabbey Community High.



Young Women from Newtownabbey meeting First Minister Peter Robinson at the Houses of Parliament, Westminster.

Peace III Priority 1.1 Building Positive Relations at the Local Level

What is it?

The EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation or Peace III is the current round of funding from the European Regional Development Fund. The programme is managed by the Special EU Programmes Body and builds on previous Peace Programmes. The Peace III Programme focuses on working in partnership to address sectarianism and racism.

Who does it involve?

Newtownabbey Borough Council is working in Partnership with Carrickfergus and Antrim Borough Councils as the CAN Peace III Partnership. The Partnership is made up of elected representatives from the three Councils and "social partners" with knowledge of local community issues.

What does it involve?

The Partnership has a budget of c£1.9m to support projects and programmes which address racism and sectarianism across the three Council areas. The current phase of funding ends March 2011.

What does it support?

Information about some of the local projects which have been supported, as well as other wider programmes, is included here. More information on funded projects is available at www.newtownabbey.gov.uk/community/smallgrants.asp

A message from the Chair

Sam Crowe is Chair of the CAN Peace III Partnership. Sam has served on and chaired Carrickfergus District Partnership and Carrickfergus Local Strategy Partnership under the Peace I and II programmes and is a former Councillor for the Carrickfergus area.

'Elected and community representatives from the Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council areas are working together in a combined effort to address sectarianism and racism across the cluster area. Peace III funding provides us

with a key opportunity to really engage with the communities in our areas and to put in place innovative mechanisms to build positive relations at a local level'.

'Each member of our community has a role to play in moving our communities forward ... To achieve this we must offer a broad range of programmes which cut across religious, political and racial divides and which provide different entry points for everyone who wishes to become involved'.

'This final tranche of European funding is our chance to leave a lasting legacy of reconciliation in the Carrickfergus, Antrim



and Newtownabbey areas. We sincerely hope that you will grasp that opportunity with us and be positive about peace'.

A Time to Talk – Opportunity for the Community to Engage

People from the Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council areas are soon to have the opportunity to engage with one another on a range of challenging issues. As a part of its Peace III Strategy & Action Plan, the CAN Peace III Partnership has commissioned Holywell Consultancy to develop and deliver the Dialogue and Civic Leadership Programme.

This programme has a number of key elements that will encourage dialogue to take place within and between local communities from the three Council

areas. The Dialogue and Civic Leadership Programme is focused on improving the confidence and empowering communities to deal with the challenges of sectarianism and racism.

Sam Crowe, Chairperson, stated, "The Dialogue and Civic Leadership Programme, particularly the Sustained Dialogue Programme, is a key element of the CAN Peace III Strategy & Action Plan. We are excited to see the community fully engage with what we think will be a challenging programme."

Holywell Consultancy is currently looking for people interested in participating in a Sustained Dialogue Programme. Participants should be committed to participating in the residential and monthly dialogue sessions.

An expression of interest form can either be downloaded or completed from the Holywell Consultancy website, www.holywellconsultancy.com. For more information, please contact us at 028 7126 7997 or info@holywellconsultancy.com.

We CAN deliver ...

The Partnership has approved more than half a million pounds through its small grants programme.

The projects supported are being led by groups from all 3 boroughs, operating in the community, voluntary and public sectors. Funding awarded includes support for sports clubs, innovative music projects and multi-media history projects. It includes

work with pre-schools, with teenagers, with young adults and with the wider community. The number and range of successful projects demonstrates not just the commitment to moving forward in local communities but also the creative and innovative ways to do so.

Sam Crowe, Chair of the CAN Peace III Partnership has said "the Partnership has been

working hard over the last number of months to provide support to local projects and programmes which will tackle sectarianism and racism. We have been pleased with the level of interest in Peace and Reconciliation work across the cluster area and believe that the projects we are supporting will make a real difference to building positive relations across the Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey areas."

"He that would be leader must be a bridge"

(Welsh Proverb)

Collaboration. Sharing Resources. Enhancing skills. All building blocks in the 'bridge' between youth providers in the Rathcoole area and the local community and young people.

The Bytes Project 'Reaching the Community' programme will encourage working together to tackle local problems. Meetings, workshops, education programmes and social activity will all be used as mechanisms to address issues such as cultural diversity and racism, and how they affect local communities.

For further information, please contact Laura Couser on 02890288810 or lauracouser@bytes.org

"But why?"

Every parent knows the awkward questions kids can ask. The Early Years – Media Initiative Respecting Difference project will provide training and resources to 10 childcare and pre-school providers in each of the 3 CAN council areas, to assist staff and parents to help children understand and respect diversity.

Supporting young children to demonstrate respect and include those who are different will equip them at an early age to grow and live in a diverse society.

For further information, please contact Kevin Fearon on 028-90662825 or kevinf@early-years.org

A Work in Progress?

Only by understanding our past can we share our future. The Community Relations Forum, which is based in the Barron Hall in Glengormley has received funding for a programme of workshops, field visits and public events to explore how economic migration has influenced communities both past and present.

The programme will give participants the opportunity to explore the cultural and historical issues which encourage migration and the barriers people encounter when they arrive in their new home. Bringing people together to learn about each other's heritage and beliefs can break down barriers and help people realise that they have more that unites them than divides them.

A second work in progress is the Barron Hall itself. The CAN Peace III Partnership, along with IFI, is providing funding for the refurbishment of the Hall to become a shared space for the community in Glengormley and Newtownabbey.

For further information, please contact Kathy Wolff on 028-90849314 or kathywolff1@aol.com

Give Yourself a Voice

Making Music Workshops has worked with young people from across the CAN area to create music and songs which voice their opinions on issues relevant to them. Working with experienced tutors and musicians, they have used contemporary and older songs as a basis to write their own compositions. These original songs will be showcased at a free celebration concert on Sunday 4th July at Ballyearl Courtyard Theatre.

For further information, please contact Linley Hamilton on 028-90861657 or info@linleyhamilton.com

Future Kid Gloves Programme

The Future Kid Gloves project from Monkstown Community Sports Facility aims to demonstrate the embracing nature of the sport of boxing.

By exploring the history of boxing as a sport which brought communities together before and during the Troubles, Monkstown Community Sports Facility and Boxing Club will work with marginalised young people and adults.

This cross-border programme includes workshops and field trips to explore history, challenge attitudes and encourage participants to think about their aspirations for the future

For further information, please contact Paul Johnston on 07909-694328 or pauljohnston@sportni.net

Sport and Community Education

Local sports clubs will have the opportunity in the Autumn to participate in a series of workshops facilitated by the Ulster Sports Academy. Workshops will look at how sport has been and can be a vehicle for community development and integration and will culminate in a peace camp and an international conference.

For further information, please contact Kyle Ferguson on 028-90366623 or k.ferguson@ulster.ac.uk

Connecting Faith and Community

On 19th June, the CAN Partnership launched the new Connecting Faith and Community Programme at Antrim Library. This is Partnership's Faith Communities Programme, which has been developed in consultation with local faith based organisations across the cluster.

The programme recognises the significant role of churches within community and has been designed to offer support and training to those who want to positively influence relationships within and between communities. The programme will support faith-based organisations (either on an individual or collective basis) to explore and address sectarianism and racism within their communities.

The main parts of the Connecting Faith and Community Programme are:

- **Connecting Learning:** a training course on approaching sectarianism and racism from a faith perspective, for twenty key individuals from faith based organisations from across the cluster
- **Connecting Creativity:** offering creative workshops and support to twenty faith based groups
- **Connecting Online:** a web-based forum to discuss good relations issues

The CAN Peace III Partnership has appointed Macaulay Associates Network Ltd (www.macaulayassociates.co.uk) to deliver the programme. For more detail on the programme or to express an interest in participating, contact Tony Macaulay Tony@macaulayassociates.co.uk

Play Fair

What are your experiences of being a member of a minority community living and working among a majority from the 'other side'? Are you aware of unwritten rules and limits? Does your name or where you went to school become an issue for yourself or others? How do you deal with these thorny issues of politics, religion or even sport? Do you feel more at ease with your 'own sort'? When is it best to keep your head down, play along and say nothing? Can we find ways to change all this?

If any of this sounds familiar we want to hear your experiences, stories and thoughts and would like you to join us in the creation of an innovative theatre production exploring the effects and consequences of 'silent sectarianism'. For more information, or to register, contact Karen McFarlane or Fintan Brady on 028-90310900 or partisanproductions@hotmail.com

Our Shared Future – Cross Border Programme

On May 24th the Partnership welcomed representatives from the Sligo Peace Partnership to Mossley Mill. The meeting was the second of a series of meetings to develop collaborative work and projects in the CAN and Sligo areas.

The Former Mayor of Newtownabbey, Alderman John Scott, a member of the CAN Peace III Partnership, welcomed the group from Sligo saying, "The CAN Partnership is looking forward to developing a working relationship with the Sligo Peace Partnership and to encouraging our communities to work together on cross border projects and programmes. The community in Sligo is in some ways a mirror image of the CAN area and there is much we have in common to build solid peace and reconciliation projects."

Work with groups in the Sligo area will be part of a programme of opportunities for local community groups and representatives to get involved in or further develop their cross border work.

To register your interest, please email peaceIIIinfo@newtownabbey.gov.uk

Share Your 'Hidden Histories'

The CAN Peace III Partnership is encouraging people in their areas to share their 'Hidden Histories' with each other.

Starting this month, a series of open public meetings will be held in each Council area on key cultural themes. At the meetings, people will be able to speak openly and freely on the chosen themes with the aim of developing confidence, improving trust and tolerance, integrating the marginalised, and reducing racism and sectarianism.

The specific themes for the meetings are the result of consultation with key stakeholders and will include such topics as symbols and traditions; conflict and commemoration; parades, bonfires and interfaces, and immigration and diversity. It is expected that each public meeting will also open into participatory sessions.

The meetings will be facilitated by the Ulster People's College (UPC), an organisation which specialises in education and training for development for key workers and trainers in the voluntary and community sector.

Paul Donnelly of Ulster People's College said, "UPC welcomes this opportunity to work again with the Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey Partnership. We recognise the importance of the project and the challenging issues which we all will be discussing. We look forward to working with community organisations, elected representatives and the CAN Partnership. Along with them, we want to encourage as many people as possible to take an active part in discovering all our 'hidden histories'."

On behalf of the CAN Partnership, the former Mayors of Carrickfergus, Antrim and Newtownabbey, Alderman Patricia Kenny, Councillor Adrian Watson and Alderman John Scott, respectively, said, "Challenging attitudes to sectarianism and racism and supporting conflict resolution and mediation at a local community level is a very important element of our joint strategy and action plan.

"We want to promote respect, understanding and opportunities for integration between communities of different religious belief, political opinion and ethnic and social background in our areas.

"We are very pleased to offer the communities in the CAN Partnership areas an opportunity to share their 'hidden histories' and hopefully, come to a better understanding of their neighbours' culture and history."

Dates for meetings will be publicised soon. Tailored workshops will follow on from the public meetings throughout the CAN area.

For further information or to register your interest, contact Paul Donnelly at the Ulster People's College paul@upclearn.org or 90330131



Hearts and Minds Business Diversity Programme

In May, Newtownabbey Borough Council hosted the official launch of the Hearts and Minds programme.

The programme, which will be delivered over the next five months, by local consultants TIME Associates and Denise Cranston Consulting, has the core aim of supporting 15 Hospitality and Care Sector employers across the three boroughs proactively promote diversity in their workplace as a core strategic driver for the growth of their business.

Launching the programme Alderman Nigel Hamilton, Chair of the CAN Peace III Joint Committee, said: "all sectors of society, including local businesses have a role to play in the peace process. By supporting local businesses to proactively promote and support diversity in their workplaces, the CAN Peace III Partnership can assist them in fulfilling that role."

Denise Cranston, programme delivery manager, added "The Hearts and Minds



programme will support local employers to develop an effective diversity management programme for their company which will promote recognition and respect for the individuality of employees, encourage employees to be comfortable with diversity in the workplace and develop an appreciation for differences in race, religion, gender, background and other circumstances".

Local employers who have enrolled on this programme, which offers a

combination of one to one professional support and group workshops, include The Templeton Hotel, Templepatrick, The Bureau Bar, Newtownabbey, The Joymount Arms, Carrickfergus and Manor Health Care, Ballyclare and Three Islands Nursing Home, Toomebridge.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Hearts and Minds programme contact Fergal Collins, Programme Manager, at TIME Associates on 028 9066 7557.

Peace III Programme 2011 – 2013

Although it may seem it is only getting started, the current phase of Peace III funding ends in early 2011. The Partnership is now commencing consultation for the second round of funding for 2011-2013. The programme continues to focus on challenging sectarianism and racism and on building relationships at a local level.

Therese Hogg and Ann McGeeny from Blu Zebra will be managing the consultation process for the Partnership which will include a number of public consultation events and targeted focus groups.

To ensure that the action plan for the second phase reflects the needs of local communities in regard to these issues, it is vital that the community and voluntary sector take the opportunity to inform its development.

Dates for Consultation events are as follows:

Monday 28th June 7.00pm
The Dobbs Room, Carrickfergus Townhall

Tuesday 29th June 7.00pm
The Winstone Suite, Antrim Civic Centre

Thursday 1st July 7.00pm
The Spinning Room, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey

If you wish to attend any of these events, please register with peaceIIIinfo@newtownabbey.gov.uk

Alternatively, please complete our online consultation survey which is available at www.newtownabbey.gov.uk/community/peace3phase2.asp

The CAN Team:

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Oonagh McMullan
Jill Murray

peaceIIIinfo@newtownabbey.gov.uk
Programme Co-ordinator
Finance & Monitoring Officer
Administrator

02890340196
akeenan@newtownabbey.gov.uk
omcmullan@newtownabbey.gov.uk
jmurray@newtownabbey.gov.uk

For more information about any of the CAN Peace III Programmes, see <http://www.newtownabbey.gov.uk/community/peace3.asp>



This project is part-financed by the European Union's European Regional Development Fund through the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACE III) managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.

Mayor Launches Mallusk Heritage Trail

The Mallusk Heritage Trail was launched at Mallusk Primary School on Saturday 17 April by The Former Mayor Alderman John Scott. At the Launch, local residents and special guests had the opportunity to browse old photographs and books of the area and then had the opportunity to walk the trail and learn about their local heritage.

Mallusk Community Action Group secured £2,500 from the International Fund for Ireland through the NICVA Community Leadership Programme, to create the trail around Mallusk and Hydepark. The Group was also assisted by Newtownabbey Borough Council's Heritage staff, Newtownabbey Borough Council Biodiversity Officer and The Sixmilewater River Trust and Conservation Volunteers. A Community

River and Trail Clean up event was held on Sat 20th March 2010 so that the area was cleared for the launch and a series of education sessions have been held with the children of Mallusk Primary School.

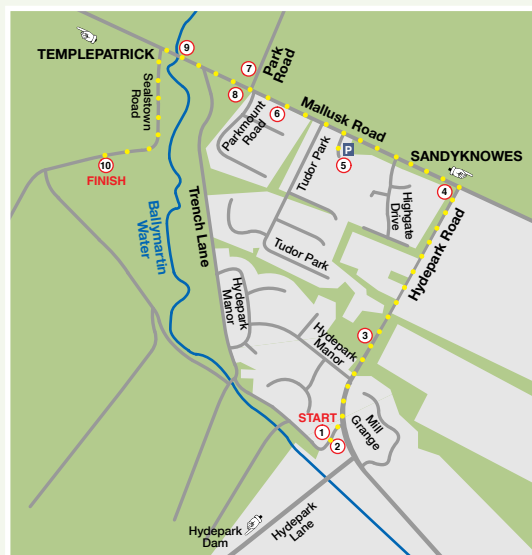
Barry Macaulay, Chairman of Mallusk Community Action Group said 'This project has really engaged the local community, as can be seen from the fabulous turn out today. It has allowed us to educate people on the area's history and environmental issues and has added something positive to the area. We wanted to show people that there is much more to Mallusk than landfill sites and industrial estates and that there has been a thriving community here for hundreds of years.'

Guest speaker at the event was Danny Kinahan, local MLA, who reminisced about his early childhood in the area. Danny showed some stunning old photographs of his

family home at Mill Grange in the '50s and '60s.

This is only the start of a larger Heritage Project planned by the group with hopes of landscaping parts of the trail, erecting interpretive boards, recording oral histories from residents and publishing a book on the area.

If anyone has old photographs or maps of the area please contact the group at malluskcag@yahoo.co.uk. The self guide leaflet is available from Mossley Mill and can be downloaded from www.malluskcag.co.uk



Funding Success!



Good Morning Newtownabbey is pleased to announce that funding has been secured for 2010/11 from Newtownabbey Borough Council's Community Development Grant Aid Programme, Newtownabbey Community Safety Partnership, PSNI and The Health Promotion Agency. This funding package will enable what is an essential service to continue for another year. Good Morning Newtownabbey would like to thank all their funders as well as the Services Users, Volunteers and Staff that make the project a success.

For further information on Good Morning Monkstown please contact Monkstown Community Centre on 028 9086 6385.

Rathcoole Creative Memories

Rathcoole Creative Memories Association was formed by senior citizens from the Rathcoole area who met when they enrolled in a Senior Link Group organized by the Community Empowerment Programme in the Dunanney Centre in Rathcoole.

The project at this time was to produce and publish a booklet of their memories from the area.

The little book, "Reminiscences of Rathcoole", was a huge success and the demand for copies quickly surpassed supply.

Five from the original course realized that there was enough material for a second book and they regrouped under the name "Rathcoole Creative Memories". New skills had to be learnt as the group had to be properly constituted to obtain charitable status and to enable funding applications to be made. Much welcomed support and advice was given by the staff of the Dunanney Centre and from the staff of the Community Development Section of Newtownabbey Borough Council.

The residents of Rathcoole proved rather shy and stories and memories were acquired by holding Story Telling



evenings, Story Exchanging events, Creative Writing Workshops, competitions and social evenings of stories, poems, music and song.

The group planned to launch their book at an evening when family and friends could come along to hear the authors reading some of their own stories. Surprisingly it was not just the residents who were shy, the group had no experience of public speaking or being on stage in front of an audience. So with the help of the Arts Development Department of Newtownabbey Borough

Council, voice and drama tutor Gerri Moriarty was employed to put them through three rigorous two hour sessions when they were taught basic voice techniques, voice projection, and diction and performance skills.

Armed with these new skills and greater self confidence the group launched the book "Life and Times in Rathcoole" at a gala evening in the Courtyard Theatre at Rathcoole on 28th April 2010.

Free copies of the book are available from The Dunanney Centre and Rathcoole Library.



New Website

Through the Department for Social Development Local Community Fund Programme, Rathcoole Somme Somme Society has now developed its own website:

www.rathcoolesommesociety.com

Log on and check out the work of the group.

Sean Fox Memorial Day

On May Day Bank Holiday, 3rd May 2010, St Enda's held a fun filled community/family fun day as part of the annual Sean Fox Memorial Day.

Bouncy castles, climbing walls, lazer quest, face painting, a juvenile disco and underage football and camogie games all take place during the day; with over 2000 people in attendance. The activities got underway at noon and ran right through the day with a traditional music session that evening in the clubrooms.



Organiser Niall Murphy said "On the day we had fantastic weather. There was a really good feeling about the place; and a lot of new faces. People attended the day from all sections of the community and it was clear that everyone really

enjoyed themselves. This was the 12th year of the club hosting the Sean Fox Day and the event has went from strength to strength. The day is a fitting tribute to our former club President," said the St Enda's Clubman.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the three groups from Newtownabbey who graduated from the International Fund for Ireland Community Leadership Programme. The three groups who participated were: Mallusk Community Action Group, Mayfield Village Community Association and Whiteabbey Community Group and they all successfully completed all training courses, and an action learning project.

Rose-Mary Farrell, Board member of the International Fund for Ireland commented: "The Community Leadership Programme allows the Fund to identify, nurture and train potential leaders and agents

for change, particularly in areas of weak community infrastructure. To this end we have been delighted to support the Community Leadership Programme since its inception in 1993.

The aim of this new £2.1 million three year investment Programme is to empower communities to develop their leadership skills to enable them to build more effective communities and improve the conditions in which they live. I am delighted that the hard work of NICVA in designing and delivering this training, along with their partners from Stellar and University of Ulster, has gained such excellent results in year one."



Una McKernan from NICVA commented: "NICVA is delighted that the first year of this fantastic training programme has gone so well. The first 27 groups, over 120 individuals, through the Programme are already showing lots of evidence of improved leadership skills, which can only benefit how their organisations are run and the local communities they operate in."

Volunteer Now leads the way for volunteering in Northern Ireland

Volunteer Now is the new regional and local organisation working to promote, enhance and support volunteering across Northern Ireland. Formed on 1 April 2010 as a result of the merger of nine Volunteer Centres and the Volunteer Development Agency, the new organisation will enhance recognition for the contribution of volunteers; provide greater access to opportunities; and increase the number of people getting involved.

Volunteer Now is about building stronger communities,

connecting with individuals and organisations and changing lives. It will formalise the strong working relationships and shared visions of the merging organisations built over many years and create one integrated infrastructure support organisation.

Volunteer Now combines the economies of being regional with the effectiveness of local delivery and will be in a position to significantly contribute to the Volunteering Strategy for Northern Ireland which is currently being developed.



The objectives going forward are concerned with enhancing and developing the work with volunteers and organisations to provide the best service at a grass roots level in areas where it is most needed.

For more information on volunteering go to www.volunteernow.co.uk or your local contact paul.dinsmore@volunteernow.co.uk or 028 9446 6644.

Native trees rooted in good husbandry

Help, advice and funding can turn under-used areas of farmland into woodland

Native trees have long been the farmer's friend, but current challenges spell out a need for more trees, as an integral part of good husbandry and as a boost to productive agriculture.

Increased planting on farms is now a key plank in the Woodland Trust's drive to increase native tree cover – and with good reason.

Native woods and trees bring a whole range of benefits to farmers. For a start, new native woodland can provide shelter and shade for livestock, while producing sustainable supplies of timber and wood-fuel. In addition, native trees can help prevent flooding by intercepting rainfall and absorbing water from the soil. And, planted in the right

place, trees and hedges can improve water quality. Strips of trees alongside watercourses have been shown to reduce sedimentation and run-off from manure and fertiliser following heavy rainfall by as much as 90 per cent.

The Woodland Trust, through its MOREwoods programme, is now working with farmers and landowners to encourage woodland creation, offering almost four decades of expertise in planting native trees through a specialist team of woodland creation advisers.

"We're offering all the practical tree planting advice you need and, thanks to Forest Service's Woodland Grant Scheme, grant aid is available for planting half an acre or more," says Patrick Cregg, director of the Woodland Trust in Northern Ireland. "The idea that landowners can actually have



their land planted for them – and at little or no cost – has already been well received.'

Applications for the Trust's MOREwoods initiative are being welcomed from this month (May). To find out more telephone 08452 935 689; email woodlandcreation@woodlandtrust.org.uk or visit www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/planting

Ballynure Easter Egg Hunt



On 10 April 2010, taking advantage of the lovely sunny weather, twenty-seven eager litter pickers and Easter egg hunters took part in the annual Ballynure village clean up and Easter egg hunt. The event was organised by Ballynure & District Community Association, with support from Newtownabbey Borough Council who provided the litter-picking materials and local traders who donated prizes and refreshments. The eager collectors managed to fill twenty-eight bin bags full of litter from around the village!

After achieving third place in last year's Ulster in Bloom competition, Ballynure is again entering the Best Kept Village Competition in 2010. This was the Community Association's first event of the year working towards brightening up the village before judging for the competition at the end of June. The Committee is also looking forward to organising the annual Tug-of-War competition as part of the 2010 Village Fair, to be held in the Church of Ireland Rectory field on the evening of 19th June.

Community Support & Development Partnership (CSDP)

CSDP project funded by the Big Lottery Fund, Reaching Communities Programme is now fully operational within the Rathcoole area. Community Development



Officer, Phil Hamilton is based within the NEELB Youth Centre and has delivered a range of projects promoting positive mental health, youth intervention programmes and drug & alcohol awareness education.

A group of 12 young men from the area took part in a 5 week accredited Personal Development and Drug & Alcohol educational project delivered through ACET, held within the Dunaney Centre. As part of team building activities the group also enjoyed trips to Doagh race track, cinema and ten pin bowling.

25 young people involved in the Bonkerz Drama project also took part in drug & alcohol awareness educational sessions during September 2009. The group have also taken part in an activity day held within Belfast Activity Centre during February. Women from the local area are taking part in a 6 week course focused on raising mental health awareness delivered by Community Direct. As part of the course the group will be exploring positive ways to promote your own mental health and will be taking part in a spa treatment day at the Hilton Hotel funded through the Suicide Prevention and Promoting Mental Health small grants programme.

Plans for the future include delivery of 'Lets Talk', a 5 week course designed to help parents feel more confident about talking to their children about sexual health and relationships. Personal development programmes such as 'Choices' for young woman and 'Bout Ye' for young men looking at positive relationships and promoting sexual health are also planned after Easter.

Songs From the Shows

Herbie Baird (on the right) and Richard Wallace (at the back) of Ballynure and District Friendship Club welcome The Former Mayor of Newtownabbey, Alderman John Scott, and the Mayoress, Mrs Audrey Scott to 'Songs from the Shows' in Ballyclare High School. Also included is the MC for the evening, Wilfie Pyper, from the Belfast Operatic Company who were the visiting artistes. The evening was organized by Ballynure and District Friendship Group.



Carnmoney Church

This year with the help of Scripture Union, N.I. we will be launching a new initiative in Ballyduff called 'It's Your Move'. This club is for those who will be in P1-P7 come September 2010. Each morning and afternoon we will be offering children the chance to get involved with a variety of activities such as: arts & crafts, drama, singing, stories, games, quizzes and some light refreshment. The club is free and a limited number of spaces are available. It's Your Move will run from 28th – 31st July 2010. Morning Session 10:30-12:30, Afternoon Session 2pm-4pm.

For further information contact Michael Wylie, Youth Associate on 078 1515 4534 or email michael.wylie@carnmoney.org

South Asian Dance Academy Programme

ArtsEkta, as an organization involved with the promotion of ethnic art, culture and heritage, is pleased to be working with the Heritage Lottery Fund on a new program, the South Asian Dance Academy; the first of its kind in Northern Ireland. The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) invests in all kinds of heritage from buildings, to collections, landscapes, histories, language and customs. The funding they offer helps people to connect with their local communities and celebrate the various cultural elements within that community.

The South Asian Dance Academy

ArtsEkta prides itself in showcasing innovative projects that will cherish the individual artist and encourage diversity. This is especially true with the new program, the South Asian Dance Academy, which hopes to bring Kathak, one of the most important cultural and historic dance forms of South Asia, to the people of Northern Ireland.

What is Kathak?

Historically, Kathak is the classical dance style much revered by South Asians in Northern Ireland. It is important because it is part of the fabric of South Asian's cultural and historical heritage. The word Kathak comes from 'kathars' or storytellers who, from two thousand years ago, used their craft as a source of income as they travelled through the Indian subcontinent entertaining the public.

How does the South Asian Dance Academy Work?

This project will engage local people across school and community settings and educate them as to the meaning and purpose of 'Kathak' story telling through workshop activities, project participants then showcase Kathak performances live at ArtsEkta's annual festivals which include The Belfast Mela, The Holi Festival and the Diwali & Samhain festival, all of which attract an accumulative audience of up to 17,000 people.

Benefits for Participants

The Program will benefit the school, group or organization by bringing highly experienced artists to teach this historic dance form to members of the public. Through the medium of dance and 'storytelling' participants will learn and experience an understanding of the culture of South Asia. The program is flexible and can be tailored to cater for individual's needs. For more information please contact caroline@artsekta.org.uk or phone 02890231381.

Rathfern

Company of Archers

Rathfern Community Centre
Thursday 7pm-8pm 6-11 year olds Archery Club Night
Thursday 8pm-9.30pm Adults Archery Club Night
Saturday 10am-11am 6-11 year olds
Saturday 11am-12.30 Adults