



The work carried out by community and voluntary organisations across Fermanagh is very diverse. One very important area of this is the work of social enterprises in the County. We are currently carrying out research, preparing case studies and are also sponsoring a Social Enterprise Award as part of the Fermanagh Herald Business Awards. Social enterprises are involved in so many parts of life across Fermanagh from providing loans (credit unions), family support (childcare), early years development (playgroups), to local economic development (enterprise centres). The work of the hundreds of volunteers and staff who make such a valuable contribution to everyday life here should be celebrated, we hope the Social Enterprise Award will contribute to this.

Lauri McCusker, Director

FERMANAGH TRUST SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD – Fermanagh Herald Business Awards

Are you involved in a social enterprise which makes a difference, which inspires and motivates and whose work is both entrepreneurial and makes a fantastic contribution to the community? Yes....

The Fermanagh Trust in partnership with the Fermanagh Herald is inviting social enterprises in Fermanagh to enter for the Social Enterprise Award, one of eight awards being presented in the Fermanagh Herald Business Awards. The Business Awards are aimed at celebrating success, talent and all that's good about business, the awards will highlight and promote positive stories from throughout the County. For the social enterprise award the judges are looking for a Social enterprise organisation in Fermanagh which makes an outstanding contribution to their local community in terms of social issues, economic development or environmental issues. A social enterprise is a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are principally reinvested for that purpose in the enterprise or in the community. The winner will have made an outstanding contribution to their local community in terms of social, economic or environmental improvements. The winner of this category will also receive a £1,000 grant from the Fermanagh Trust towards its work. Applicants will be assessed on the following criteria: Community impact • Creativity • Leadership and management • Volunteerism. **Closing date for entries is Friday 24th August 2012. For further information visit <http://fermanaghherald.com/business-awards-categories#SEA>**



Marilyn Quinn, Centre Manager, Fermanagh House pictured with Heather Fallis, Fermanagh Herald Advertising Sales Executive at the launch of the Business Awards

SHADOW SECRETARY PRAISES Fermanagh'S SHARED EDUCATION

Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Vernon Coaker MP, accompanied by Michelle Gildernew MP, along with his political advisor, Conor McGinn, visited the Fermanagh Trust on Friday 20th July 2012 to learn about the success of Shared Education in the County. The visit took place the day after the Minister of Education, John O'Dowd announced the establishment of a Ministerial Advisory Group on advancing Shared Education. Fermanagh schools have ample evidence & good practice that can be fed into the Advisory Group. By working co-operatively on a cross-community basis, schools in Fermanagh have been able to strengthen curriculum delivery & enhance educational opportunities for pupils. The delegation spent considerable time with Catherine Ward (Shared Education Programme Manager) & representatives of the Shared Education Advisory Committee, Marie O'Shea, Principal of St John the Baptist Primary School, Roscor & Victoria Wilson, Principal of Newtownbutler Primary School & also Kate Doherty, Chair of the Board of Governors, Tempo Primary School. During the lengthy meeting, the MPs learned about the progress of Shared Education in Fermanagh, from its inception in 2009, when it was a new initiative designed to enable schools deliver the curriculum jointly with a neighbouring school from a different sector. Now 3 years later, Shared Education is largely embedded in the weekly timetable for the majority of schools in the County. Schools, & ultimately pupils, are benefiting from being able to tap into the teaching skills & expertise, resources & facilities of their partner school & they realise that they can achieve much more jointly than operating as a single stand-alone unit. The MPs were impressed with the success of the Programme, but the Fermanagh representatives stressed to the delegation that the sectoral bodies & the Department of Education need to 'catch-up' with the school communities in Fermanagh. The fact that Shared Education represents two priorities in the Programme for Government, (i) ensuring that all children have the opportunity to participate in shared education programmes by 2015, & (ii) substantially increase the number of schools sharing facilities by 2015; was welcomed. However, meaningful delivery of these commitments impacts on a number of

policy areas, e.g. how schools are funded, so that collaboration & good educational outcomes is encouraged over competition & perhaps, most importantly, the current area planning process on the provision of education needs to take cognisance of the priorities in the Programme for Government relating to Shared Education. The Fermanagh school representatives emphasised that a number of schools wish to explore shared education models. They hope that the managing authorities tasked with area planning adhere to the Terms of Reference issued by the Minister of Education, which state that realistic, innovative & creative solutions to address need, including opportunities for shared schooling on a cross sectoral basis, are identified. The area plans could shape the schools estate for the next 30 to 40 years, so it is very important that local communities make their views known during the consultation process, which is already on-going for the post-primary sector, & will start for the primary sector when the primary school area plan is published at the end of the summer.



Kate Doherty, Maria O'Shea, Catherine Ward, Vernon Coaker MP, Michelle Gildernew MP & Victoria Wilson.

WIND FARM REPORT PRESENTED TO MINISTERS

Following the publication of the Maximising Community Outcomes from Wind Energy Developments' in January 2012 the Fermanagh Trust has had a number of very encouraging meetings with a wide range of organisations & agencies. This has included meetings with Minister for Enterprise Trade & Investment Arlene Foster, Minister of the Environment Alex Attwood and Minister for Agriculture & Rural Development Michelle O'Neill. Most recently The Fermanagh Trust together with Bryson Energy had a very positive engagement with Minister Michelle O'Neill at Stormont Buildings to discuss the potential for tackling rural poverty & fuel poverty in particular. The meeting was a follow up to earlier discussions based on the Fermanagh Trusts report 'Maximising Community Outcomes from Wind Energy Developments'. "We were greatly encouraged by the discussions with Minister O'Neill on the potential opportunities for being innovative & forward thinking in how the Department can work in partnership with a range of organisations to make a positive contribution to addressing rural poverty & rural fuel poverty in particular which is a very difficult area to tackle successfully" explained Lauri McCusker, Director of the Fermanagh Trust. "The Minister clearly outlined both the challenges facing her Department & her commitment to working with others to ensure social clauses and community benefits are at the heart of her approach." "Renewable Energy & Community Benefits falls into the remit of at least three government departments, it has been encouraging to have such positive discussions with government and we look forward to building on these in the coming months" emphasised Lauri McCusker.



DARD Minister, Michelle O'Neill recently met with Lauri McCusker of the Fermanagh Trust, Phil Flanagan, MLA Fermanagh & South Tyrone, Nigel Brady from Bryson Energy & to discuss proposals for tackling fuel poverty in rural communities.

BELLEEK SCHOOLS TO EXPLORE SHARED MODEL

In North West Fermanagh, Belleek Controlled Primary School & St John the Baptist Primary Schools have put forward a joint proposal to the Area Planning Process stating they are willing to explore a shared model in the future. Belleek Primary & St John the Baptist Primary School have enjoyed a successful relationship of sharing for years. According to the Principal of St John the Baptist, Miss Marie O'Shea, both schools wanted to play an active role in shaping the future of education for the area. "Our Board of Governors have met on a number of occasions to discuss those matters" she said, "Given the Viability Report & the Area Planning, we felt it was pertinent that we began looking at what the possibilities for the future could be. We wanted to see if there was a willingness amongst the parent groups and the wider community for some form of a shared model in the future. We are not saying what exactly that would be, but we just wanted to see whether there was a willingness out there for people to explore it." As a result their joint proposal has gone forward to WELB's Area Planning Process. "Nothing is set in stone," said Miss O'Shea. "But we would rather be in the driving seat on this instead of having something shoved on us as a community. We want to explore it on our own behalf so we can make educated decisions. We are looking at this as a 30 to 50 year plan for future generations, a legacy, & we want to play our role in ensuring that the best proposal is put forward for the community." Before the break up for the summer holiday the 2 schools held a celebration together following their joint Sports Day which was based on the theme of the Olympics. The schools also had the pleasure of welcoming local Olympic torch bearer, Yvonne Bowles to their celebration day.



Yvonne Bowles showing her Olympic Torch to children from St John the Baptist & Belleek PS

SHARED EDUCATION UPDATE— FOCUS ON AREA PLANNING

The work of schools in County Fermanagh continues to serve as an example to those in the education system on how Shared Education can provide a valuable approach to educating our young people. Much of the public debate on future education provision can focus on institutions & structures. What is striking in the work taking place across Fermanagh is when the leaders in our local schools are giving the opportunity to work together & share resources & expertise children & local school communities benefit. Recent months provided the Trust with the opportunity to attend joint Boards of Governors meetings & events, get together with principals & teachers & hear from the young people involved in shared education classes across Fermanagh. The Fermanagh Trust has learned a great deal from these discussions including possibly the most valuable of all lessons is children, parents & local schools want to work together & share with their neighbours. In rural areas in particular people understand the benefits of sharing which includes helping ensure minority communities continue to have a key foothold in the community. In the coming months school communities are going to hear a lot about area planning, schools being under threat, & the potential opportunities for Shared Education going forward. What is most important is putting our children & future generations & their education needs first. School communities face many challenges & with these

FISHER FOUNDATION AWARDS SURPASS THE ¼ OF A MILLION POUND MARK!

The Fisher Foundation held a special award presentation event in Fermanagh House, Enniskillen presenting grant awards of £15,000 to 13 organisations involving 40 local people who are carrying out voluntary work overseas this year.

Amongst the recipients were Livability Ireland, Girlguiding Ulster, USPG (Rossory Parish), sow2reap, Trócaire NI, The Leprosy Mission & The Methodist Missionary Society. The awards event was attended by representatives from each of the organisations receiving grant awards along with representatives from the Fisher Foundation & the Fermanagh Trust. "This year's grants will support 13 organisations' work & a wide range of projects involving 40 people from Fermanagh & they all will make a major contribution to work in 12 different countries across Asia & Africa. We are delighted the Fisher Foundation is able to support these" outlined Ernie Fisher, Chairman of the Fisher Foundation. Richard Finlay from Ballinamallard is involved in a team of 15, 9 of which are from Enniskillen to support various projects in Zambia, he thanked the Foundation for its support; 'The Fisher Foundation grant award has been a real boost in our endeavours to renovate & repair a school & children's centre in Chingola, Zambia. The resources provided by the Foundation will make



Richard Finlay representative from sow2reap receiving the Fisher Foundation Award from Mr Kenny Fisher of the Fisher Foundation

a significant contribution to this work.' Ernie Fisher thanked the Fermanagh Trust, which manages & administers the Fisher Foundation & also thanked all of the members of the Foundation including Father Brian D'Arcy & Rev. Paul Hoey, who played a leading role in the overseas awards on behalf of the Foundation. Over £250,000 has been given out by the Foundation since it was established & began giving out grants in 2003, the Foundation continues to support Voluntary work overseas & the development of Motor Sport Safety Initiatives. If you are interested in finding out further information on the awards contact Lauri McCusker, The Fermanagh Trust, Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen, email: info@fermanaghtrust.org, telephone 028 66 320210 or visit <http://www.fermanaghtrust.org>



Ernie Fisher & Austin Frazer were on hand to present the awards on behalf of the Fisher Foundation

FERMANAGH RECREATIONAL TRUST OPENS FOR APPLICATIONS

The Fermanagh Recreational Trust supports the organisation, development & funding of Recreational activities and facilities in Co. Fermanagh with particular emphasis on young people & youth development. **Who can apply?** - Constituted Community, Voluntary or Sporting Organisations or Individuals based in County Fermanagh. **Potential areas of support include;** Provision of equipment; Support provision of courses, training & coaching; Contribution towards training or training costs; Contribution towards the development of facilities; Bursaries to assist individuals develop their potential; Support activities & events which will benefit children & young people. Complete appropriate application form for individuals or organisations & submit signed form by the closing date **12 noon on 31st August 2012**. For an application form & application criteria visit www.fermanaghtrust.org or contact; charlene@fermanaghtrust.org Tel No 028 66 320210.



YOUTHBANK AWARDS 2012

The YouthBank Awards 2012 received an excellent response. The 2 themes for applications were Mental Health & Creative Expression. The YouthBank Panel which consists of Young People from Fermanagh had the difficult task of short listing these applications, leading to an interview by the panel. 6 applications were successful & the YouthBank Awards 2012 have now been allocated with the applications & ideas deemed as some of the strongest yet. The YouthBank Awards not only give the young people of Fermanagh choices but also responsibility & understanding into some of the challenges met by people on a daily basis. There will be a presentation of the awards in September. Well done again to all successful applicants. The Youthbank Awards are supported by The Fermanagh Trust, Youth Action NI & the Community Foundation NI.

USEFUL LINKS

GRANTS

The funding section, which gives regular updates on relevant potential sources of funding for community and voluntary sector groups in Fermanagh is a very useful tool to our local groups.



INFO

Fermanagh's Community web portal continues to develop and grow, with new groups registering on a regular basis. Thanks to this, and some improvements, the site continues to attract a great deal of interest, particularly each groups own web page. If your group wishes to join this increasing community, you can register free on www.fermanagh.info.



FERMANAGH TRUST SUPPORTS CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S PROJECT

Fermanagh Trust staff was delighted to welcome the Chernobyl children and their host families to Fermanagh House recently as part of their visit to Fermanagh. Each summer Chernobyl Children's Appeal brings children to N Ireland for a recuperative holiday, & this year Gemma Johnston - receptionist in Fermanagh House, & her family, hosted 2 children. The staff organised a fun day starting with games at the Broadmeadow followed by a very welcome lunch in Fermanagh House. We were delighted also to support & host a cake sale to help raise funds for the Children Appeal, the total amount raised was £482.23. Special thanks to all Fermanagh Trust staff who helped make the day so successful, & memorable for the children.



The children from Chernobyl enjoying the Fun Day hosted by the Fermanagh Trust

The Fermanagh Trust & House Directory



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Lauri McCusker—

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WEB PAGES

www.fermanaghhouse.org for Fermanagh House where you can make bookings online & see what we have to offer for all your meeting / conference requirements. Courses available in the area & how to enrol.

www.fermanaghtrust.org for Fermanagh Trust—The news & views in Fermanagh as they happen. All news stories relating to various aspects of the Fermanagh Trust's work e.g. Shared Education, Grant Awards & Grant Guidelines etc.

Fermanagh House Opening Times:

Monday ~ Friday:
8.30am ~ 10.00pm
5.30pm ~ 10.00pm
(Subject to Bookings)

Saturday: 9.00am ~ 6pm
(Subject to Bookings)

The Fermanagh Trust
Fermanagh House
Broadmeadow Place
Enniskillen
Co Fermanagh
BT74 7HR

Tel No: 028 66 320210

Fax No: 028 66 320230

Email:

info@fermanaghtrust.org

Website:

www.fermanaghtrust.org

GREG TURLEY AWARDS SUPPORT A 'CLASS'ICAL ACT

Local Portora student Andrew Irwin has become the latest recipient of a Greg Turley Bursary Award. Andrew's goal to be a Professional Classical Solo Singer has seen him go from strength to strength and with the help of singing lessons from Mrs Gillian Rutherford he has excelled for several years at the Fermanagh Feis and now plans to attend Cheltham's School of Music in Manchester to pursue his ambitions. These places are highly sought after. The Greg Turley Bursary Award has been awarded to support Andrew to follow his dream. Andrew is another shining example of the Fermanagh's home grown talent.



Greg Turley Bursary Award 2012

The Fermanagh Trust—County Fermanagh's Community Foundation

