

Summer 2010

Newsletter



The Fermanagh Trust



County Fermanagh's Community Foundation

Summer time provides us with an opportunity to look back on recent months and plan and build on our work as we go forward. The downturn in the economy presents real challenges for community and voluntary organisations particularly those supporting the most disadvantaged. The Fermanagh Trust is pleased to have been in a position to support much of this work locally and are committed to building on the work.

We are delighted to have this opportunity in our latest newsletter to give a flavour of some of our work. To all of the organisations and individuals we have supported in recent months, from schools, youth organisations to young people travelling overseas volunteering, to senior citizens and disability based organisations we wish you every success in your endeavours.

Lauri McCusker, Director

Fermanagh Trust Grants Shopmobility Enniskillen

Fermanagh Trust Grants Fermanagh Womens Network



Stefan Bukowski, Shopmobility Enniskillen and Malcom Elliott

The Fermanagh Trust was delighted to recently award Shopmobility a grant of £2,000 towards the purchase of two new scooters to assist the group deliver their services in Enniskillen.

The Shopmobility voluntary steering group was established early in 2008 with the aim of providing a free service helping people with limited mobility to get

around Enniskillen more easily. The group has been very busy since those early meetings becoming a registered charity, opening premises at the Translink bus station, securing much needed resources and engaging a co-ordinator.

The Fermanagh Trust was asked to support the groups work as shopmobility was relying on 'borrowed scooters' to meet the needs of members and the general public. The grant from the Fermanagh Trust helped secure 2 scooters. Eileen Drumm the Chairperson of Shopmobility Enniskillen was delighted with the Trusts support; "as a local organisation it's really important to have the backing of our local charitable trust - The Fermanagh Trust's support came at a vital time helping us buy our first two scooters! The new scooters have been very well utilised in recent weeks and we are sure there will be an invaluable asset for the community in the coming years"



Carrie Benn-Fermanagh Womens Network receives grant award from Joanna McVey— Fermanagh Trust Chairperson

The increasingly difficult funding climate has had an impact on many local organisations with the Fermanagh Trust providing support to them where possible. One example is Fermanagh Women's Network who have over many years been supporting women's development across Fermanagh.

Due to a lack of resources the Network was within weeks of losing its offices at the Intec Centre in Enniskillen, with many numerous funding sources exhausted. Following a request to the Fermanagh Trust, the Trustees were delighted to provide a grant to ensure the Network was able to maintain its support work and keep a base for its services.

With this emergency grant aid in place Fermanagh Women's Network is confident it will now be in a position to secure funding to develop its work across Fermanagh in the future.

Greg Turley Bursary Awards

The Fermanagh Special Olympics team received a grant award from the Greg Turley Bursary Awards to support the team's participation in the 2010 Special Olympics All Ireland Games which were held in Limerick in June.

We were delighted to hear the team members did themselves, their family, the coaches and the club proud with a massive haul of medals, including a number of gold medals.

Congratulations to Barry Cos, Eileen McDonagh, Maureen McDonagh, Laura Keenan, Caroline Woods and William Graham who all starred in the Athletics arena.

The swimming squad also performed brilliantly with excellent performances from Conor Morris, Daniel Martin, Darren Foster and John Rogers winning a range of medals. Kalen Hanley starred in the equestrian events, and the football squad also played their hearts out.

Congratulations from everyone involved in the Greg Turley Bursary Award scheme and the Fermanagh Trust. We hope the performances will help some of these brilliant sporting stars secure selection for the World Games in Athens 2011.

Lauri McCusker, Director,
Fermanagh Trust with
Laura Keenan Special
Olympics and Coach
Roisin Henry



Successful Year for Fermanagh Schools Involved in Shared Education

Schools throughout Fermanagh have been celebrating a very successful year of involvement in the Fermanagh Shared Education Programme supported by the International Fund for Ireland and the Atlantic Philanthropies. The Shared Education Programme involves Catholic schools and non-Catholic schools developing partnerships in their locality and delivering part of the curriculum jointly – usually half a day per week, throughout the year. A total of £270k of grant aid was awarded to forty primary schools in Fermanagh which participated in Shared Education, along with three Church of Ireland Schools from across the border, in Counties Cavan and Donegal. Within the post primary sector, five schools in Enniskillen joined forces to deliver a Personal Development and Enrichment Programme for over 200 sixth form pupils, from our two main communities. It was only by coming together and working jointly, that the schools were able to offer their pupils such a broad spectrum of options, which they would not be able to provide on an individual basis.

Almost 30% of primary school pupils in Fermanagh benefited from the cross-community classes. In the process, pupils (and indeed teachers, principals and parents) gained a better understanding of their neighbours, from a different community background. In addition to the friendships established amongst pupils, staff have developed working relationships with their partner school. The benefits of this are immense, as schools share expertise and resources, undertake joint initiatives, which make sound educational and economic sense. A sample of the some of the sharing and collaborations taking place is summarised below.



The Shared Education Programme gave the two primary schools in Tempo, St Mary's and Tempo Controlled, an opportunity to put their heads



together and think up ways that they could work collaboratively for the benefit of both schools. This resulted in the pupils meeting weekly for joint classes involving art and design, culminating in two colourful sculptures designed and created by the pupils. The sculptures are symbolic of the strong bond that has been established between the two schools. The pieces of art were unveiled at a ceremony in June, where guests were entertained by a wonderful brass band ensemble made up of pupils from both schools.

St Martin's PS & Kilbarron NS

One of the many successful partnerships participating in the Fermanagh Trust Shared Education Programme involved St Martin's Primary School in Garrison, working with Kilbarron National School, a small Church of Ireland Primary School in Ballyshannon. Both schools have been working together throughout the year enjoying joint classes on a weekly basis. They proudly launched a joint musical CD featuring the singing talents of the pupils and the music of their joint ceili band, at the end of June.



Staff and Pupils from St Martin's PS, Garrison and Kilbarron NS, Ballyshannon at the CD launch

Looking Forward to Another Year of Shared Education in 2010 / 2011

Such was the success of Year 1, that the applications received and approved for Year 2 commencing in September 2010 will involve a greater number of pupils. In the region of £327k grant aid has been approved for primary schools for 2010 - 2011, which will enable over 2000 pupils to enjoy cross-community classes through Shared Education. This will help develop and consolidate the cross community school partnerships, which are a beacon for promoting good community relations within their respective communities.

South Fermanagh – Post Primary Cluster—The Fermanagh Trust was pleased to approve an application received from four post primary schools in South Fermanagh, in which pupils from Lisnaskea High School, St Comhghall's High School, St Eugene's College Roslea and St Aidan's High School, Derrylin, will come together for shared classes over the next two years, to enhance literacy levels.

Paving the way for a Better Future in Fermanagh. Overall the schools involved in the Shared Education Programme in Fermanagh are pioneers and they are an inspiration to their local communities, demonstrating ways in which we can work co-operatively to build a better future for the next generation. The cross community linkages between schools can make a contribution to developing more integrative, cohesive and sustainable communities. **For further information on the Programme, please contact Catherine Ward (Programme Manager) at The Fermanagh Trust**

**YOUTH
BANK**


ENNISKILLEN YOUTHBANK AWARDS FUND-

Ulster Bank Group

**YOUTH
BANK**


*Recipients of a YouthBank grant
with Ronan Mukherjee-committee member*

Thirteen youth projects across County Fermanagh received grants totalling £6,000 from Enniskillen Youth Bank at a recent awards event held in Fermanagh House in Enniskillen.

Enniskillen Youth Bank is a unique, innovative, grant-making programme which is run by young people for young people. Youth Bank involves members from all sections of the community ranging from 16 to 23 years of age. Some of the members are still at school whilst others were in employment. The young people formed themselves into a local grant-making committee and were ultimately responsible for the distribution of funding to youth led projects in Fermanagh, resulting in awarding grants to 13 youth led initiatives across County Fermanagh. Projects receiving support included Carrowshee and Sylvan Hill Youth group, Fermanagh Guides, Kesh Young Farmers Club, North Fermanagh Youth Council, St. Mary's Youth Club in Newtownbutler, Fermanagh Mallard Junior Ladies and a joint project between Letterbreen Girls Brigade & Mullaghduin Youth Club.

Eimear McAuley,

Chairperson of the Youth Bank speaking at the awards presentation thanked all of her colleagues for their efforts over recent months and summarised the work they had carried out. 'The Youth Bank enabled us young grant makers to take responsibility for making decisions over grants and to be accountable for how the money is spent, adding to our skills, knowledge and experience, learning by doing and evaluation so that the outcomes belong to them. We had to make some difficult decisions but we are confident we have awarded grants that will make a real difference'. Lauri McCusker Director of the Fermanagh Trust congratulated all of the award recipients; 'We are delighted to see the Enniskillen Youth Bank award grants valued at £6,000 to some fantastic projects across Fermanagh. A special word of thanks to the Youth Bank members who working together as a team took tough decisions. It is they who set themes, create application procedures and criteria, undertake publicity work, interview young people, write reports to assist decision making and to undertake the monitoring and evaluation of the entire process'

The YouthBank members also have had the opportunity to complete an OCN Level 2 in Grantmaking. This qualification is unique and an excellent addition to the members' CVs. The Trust was delighted the 2009 Youth Bank members benefited from this opportunity and we are hopeful the 2010 members will be successful in gaining this qualification.



*Some of the members of Enniskillen YouthBank
Committee Members 2010 with Vernon Ringland
(CFNI) & Patricia Maye (Fermanagh Trust)*

Fisher Foundation Overseas Awards 2010

The Fisher Foundation is delighted to announce a number of grant awards to organisations participating in voluntary work overseas. Awards were made to seven organisations including Trocaire, Leprosy Mission NI, CMS Ireland, Operation Rescue, Livability, UFM Worldwide and Kind Fund.

A number of the awards have helped support local people in Fermanagh volunteer overseas with a number due to spend part of the summer volunteering in countries including the Ivory Coast, Ethiopia and Kenya.

Recently some of the grant recipients including James Arnold and Hannah Stewart who are volunteering with Kind Fund visited Fermanagh House in Enniskillen to receive their awards and thank the Fisher Foundation for its support.

"We greatly appreciate the support from the Fisher Foundation. It means so much, we owe a great deal of thanks to our families, friends and the wider community for their support and now the support of the Fisher Foundation means we will be able to really make a significant contribution to Kind Funds work when we are in Kenya" explained James.

Fr Brian D'arcy on behalf of Rev Paul Hoey and himself and all of the Trustees of the Fisher Foundation congratulated everyone on their awards;

"We are delighted these good causes and local people volunteering overseas, especially when we know of firsthand the benefits both in terms of the actual work these organisations are doing overseas and the benefits for the volunteers and the wider community when they return home and share their experiences".

The Foundation will be inviting applications for its 2011 volunteering overseas awards with the closing date the 28th February 2011. For further information contact Lauri McCusker at the Fermanagh Trust.



*L-R - James Arnold,
Hannah Stewart-
volunteering with
Kindfund in Kenya,
Lauri McCusker-
Fermanagh Trust
and Maggie
Muldoon, Livability
Ireland*

More Groups join Fermanagh.info



Fermanagh Trust's online community initiative www.fermanagh.info continues to grow with more and more groups finding the website extremely beneficial. This dedicated e-hub for the county

supports and enhances communication within and between local communities. Community groups in Fermanagh promote their work, as well as accessing the information they need, including accessing the extensive funding database. The internet provides a wealth of opportunities for rural communities, and we are proud to be a part of the 'information revolution' in Fermanagh. This website enables local community organisations to access information from within their own communities, about their own communities. We believe this is a fantastic and accessible resource, and the only county-wide one of its kind in Northern Ireland.

www.fermanagh.info continues to be the best source of information for Co Fermanagh. If your group would like to avail of free training, or you would like further information on the website please don't hesitate contact us.

Fermanagh House Services

Photocopying, Fax, Laminating,
Binding & Poster services.

For further details, please call
028 663 20210

Fermanagh House celebrates its 3rd Birthday

A special birthday bash was held in Fermanagh House recently, to celebrate its third birthday. The Centre has been tremendously busy again over the past year, hosting a wide range of meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, educational courses and exhibitions...

Demand for space in the building continues to outstrip availability. What has made the centre such a success is the number and range of organisations utilising the office facilities, meeting and training rooms. A number of regional based voluntary organisations have their Fermanagh base in the centre. Local organisations including U3A, Toastmasters, Down Syndrome, Autism, and Fermanagh Film Club are also based in the centre.

The Centre has also become a base for a number of voluntary organisations who provide a wide range of services and support to people across Fermanagh and beyond from counselling services to various training programmes.

Fermanagh House offers a unique blend of the very latest facilities housed within impressive and traditional architecture. To this end we offer the provision of the following:

Laptops; Flipcharts; Overhead projector; Lectern; Photocopying and Faxing services; Stationery; Catering Services. Whatever your meeting requirements, you can enjoy spacious and prestigious surroundings supported by modern technology back up and personal and attentive service.

Child Protection Workshops

The following courses are available in Fermanagh House:-

23rd & 30th September 2010 - 2day Child Protection Awareness training course

21st Oct 2010 - 1day Training for Management Committees course

9th December 2010 - 1day Designated Officer Training course

For further information please contact:
Fermanagh House, Broadmeadow Place, Enniskillen,
BT74 7HR.

Tel no 028 6632 0210

Fax no 028 6632 0230

Email: info@fermanaghtrust.org

Web: www.fermanaghtrust.org

Courses delivered by Volunteer Now

Fermanagh House Opening Times:

Monday ~ Friday: 8.30am ~
10.00pm

(5.30pm ~ 10.00pm Subject
to Bookings)

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

For further information contact:
028 66320210 or

Email:
info@fermanaghhouse.org

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