

BUILDING GOOD RELATIONS THROUGH HOUSING















Building Good Relations through housing

For over 40 years the Housing Executive, our staff and tenants have lived through interesting times. Helping our tenants to feel safe, connected and involved is vital to building vibrant communities.

We know a difference can be made when local people are supported to work with others in a spirit of neighbourliness and our work through our Community Cohesion Strategy 2015-2020 aims to continue to help our neighbourhoods become stronger, safer and united.

Through our varied work we aim to build community confidence, increase awareness of and respect for diversity, increase dialogue within and between communities and ensure all our work is relevant and meeting real needs.

We work closely alongside our external colleagues particularly the PSNI, local Councils, DOJ and DFC. As well as our internal colleagues, specifically our Good Relations Officers, local offices, Community Involvement, Social Enterprise and Community Safety Units.

This booklet will give a flavour of the work we do across Northern Ireland and show how we can help you to help your community be the best it can be.

Mission Statement

To work in partnership to ensure that everyone has access to a good affordable home in a safe and healthy community.

What does Community Cohesion mean to the Housing Executive?

- Creating a common vision and sense of belonging.
- Valuing and appreciating people from different backgrounds and circumstances.
- Providing similar life opportunities for people from different backgrounds.
- Developing strong, positive relationships between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods.
- Brokering good relations between groups and communities.

Our work is spread across five main themes

- Communities in Transition
- Race Relations
- Interfaces
- Flags, emblems and sectional symbols
- Segregation and integration

Our Core Values
Making a difference through
Fairness, Passion and Expertise.



WINTER MARKET

West Area

The Project

Bogside & Brandywell Initiative sought funding to organise a Winter Market and Christmas Garden for the residents in the Bogside area. The aim was to promote Fountain & Bishop Street as a safe, positive and inclusive space. There had previously been attacks on Bishop Street, Upper Bennett Street and the Fountain and the group wanted to bring the communities together to develop a feel good event and change the community's perceptions of the area.

Making a Difference

Through the Peace Walls Programme the group was able to engage with all community groups, this ensured that there was participation from a variety of groups to facilitate the workshops at the Christmas Markets. The project made a huge impact on the communities involved as many members of the public visited parts of

the city that they had previously perceived to be unsafe. The Winter Market broke down these barriers and brought the whole community together at this special time of year. During the project the pedestrian gates were opened to the public. They are not ordinarily open however this project resulted in a positive experience that could assist in making this a more regular occurrence.

"We have been working hard to develop an engagement programme that will bring the interface community together, creating festive cheer that local people are confident in participating in. Over a period of two days, we had craft stalls, local school choirs, other live entertainment and Santa's magical reindeer garden. The workshops helped to boost confidence, skills and relations between both communities."

Rachel Mullan-Carlin



SAFER COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUMMER SCHOOL

West Area

The Project

The Shantallow Community Residents Association summer scheme ran over 8 weeks to improve community cohesion around the July period. The group worked tirelessly to engage with new housing areas to ensure that there would not be a bonfire in the area. There were 300 young people who attended the summer scheme and the events that were organised were enjoyed by the whole community.

Making a Difference

There was a group of young people collecting material; however, through a multi-agency approach the group were able to work with the community and remove the material. A contractor was deployed a contractor to remove all materials being gathered. The group assisted

and there was engagement with NIHE and PSNI to resolve the issue. The group have aspirations for a MUGA pitch on the site, which would provide a long term solution to the issue

"The Safer Summer Intervention programme has been made possible through the Housing Executive Cohesion Funds and is proving to be a great success. The project is working with young people who could otherwise get caught up in the negative behaviours that are prevalent at this time of year, particularly around unwanted bonfires. The programme helps improve awareness and more understanding of different cultures, through a series of interactive developmental workshops."

Cathal Mc Cauley



MINIVERSITY

Causeway

The Project

The idea of a Miniversity was a completely brand new concept within the Causeway area. The Miniversity sessions are designed specifically for children and with future careers in mind. The sessions cover university career topics using a variety of computer programs. There is also an emphasis on Presentation Skills, everything children will need later in life. Armoy Community Association brought Catholic and Protestant Primary 6 and 7 pupils together to complete the Miniversity. This helped expose the children to new opportunities that exist for them through education. This exposure to different careers may help these young people to follow their aspirations into their adult lives.

Making a Difference

There was a strong community relations aspect to this initiative as the group is based in a very rural location and

they are not exposed to the same extent as urban areas. There was a huge impact on the young people, their parents and the community as a whole. The participants found it to be a very special experience. They felt that their confidence in forming relationships with families from different backgrounds had greatly improved. There were lasting friendships made and their aspirations raised, something that was desperately needed in this rural community

"What a success this has been for our young people. The children really thrive on this type of interactive education and take the learning home to their families and friends, which expands the learning and engages our community. I'm delighted the whole community has benefitted from this project. Our children are now equipped with the knowledge to pursue careers that might not have been routinely considered in a rural area." **Gerry Burns, Secretary of Armoy Community Association**



FAMILY FUN DAY

Causeway

The Project

The Fun Day was crucial in bringing the area together around a potentially contentious time of year. Glen's Community Association worked well with other agencies to ensure that the day was a massive success. There was entertainment for young people and a social supermarket with fresh produce for the community to enjoy, which was also very reasonably priced. At the end a raffle took place to raise money for the community.

Making a Difference

For the third successive year the area has moved away from having a Bonfire. The fun day was very well attended with huge support from the local community. Following on from the success of the event the group have been able to build relationships with individuals who were involved in antisocial behaviour in the area. There was also the opportunity to offer marginalised

members of the community CSR cards to raise health and safety standards and reduce accidents in the construction industry. This will help participants to secure employment and build confidence in themselves. The group has brought together Bovalley and the Glens areas to collaborate on future projects and further build relations across the communities in the area.

"The Community Association has worked hard to replace a bonfire with other activities in the Glens for the past three years with the help of HE Cohesion unit. Big thanks to Gareth Doran for his support."

Tina Mc Closkey Glens CA



MINILAND

South & East Belfast

The Project

This was an inclusive play programme targeting children from a range of backgrounds and abilities from the Annadale area. Annadale & Haywood Residents Association currently engage with families from 8 different cultural backgrounds. The Miniland targets young people between the ages of 3 to 7 years old to participate in arts and craft in a fun, safe and inclusive setting in the heart of the community.

Making a Difference

There were 252 people who benefited from this programme and the group continue to bring families together throughout the year, ultimately creating a more cohesive community to live in. There is sometimes a lack of services for parents who have children under

the age of 3 and the new facility welcomes parents to use the space. They have many parents who go to university and struggle to find the headspace to work on assignments. The centre provides a room to work on their studies and their young children can safely play in the next room. The group are meeting a gap in the current service provision and engaging with a section of the community who are currently between stages for the majority of childcare programmes.

"My kids really enjoyed Miniland, meeting new people from different cultures, backgrounds, and ages and making new friends. Great way to get the community together." **Jenna Mhic An TSagairt**



YOUTH TEAM SET UP, CROSS CULTURAL OUTREACH

South & East Belfast

The Project

Realta na Cromogie created a cross community programme to provide football coaching to young people in the community. The event took place over 22 weeks in the run up to the 2018 World Cup. There were around 60 young people who got involved in the project; these individuals were between the ages of 14-18 and possibly the most at risk age group of becoming involved in antisocial behaviour in their community. As well as the young participants, a lot of adults got involved and this gave an intergenerational dimension to the programme. It is estimated that around one hundred people benefited from the programme

Making a Difference

The project was doubly successful in that it provided a great opportunity to train 6 extra coaches through the IFA accredited course, this was a great way of increasing the clubs capacity as the group will be able to engage more young people over a longer period of time. Throughout the 22 week period, the group were able to increase engagement as well as volunteers to work on future projects throughout the year. The teenagers who took part were from different religious and cultural backgrounds and were able to build positive relation's as well as learning about healthy lifestyles and positive mental health techniques.

"We were able to bring together young people from different ethnic backgrounds including Roma, Somali, Polish and have been delighted that as word spread after a few months we are now attracting teams across the religious divide from Sandy Row and Cregagh road in East Belfast." Ciaran Hargey



SNAKE PATH ART

North Belfast

The Project

The art teacher from the Hazelwood Integrated Primary school approached the Housing Executive to help support a project with the young people from the Primary 7 class. There is a wall owned by Housing Executive at the entrance of the school which had been defaced with offensive and sectarian graffiti. The graffiti was not only an eyesore but completely went against the ethos of the primary school. The school commissioned an artist to complete workshops with the children to develop positive and inspirational art work to be enjoyed by the school and its community.

Making a Difference

The beautiful artwork created by the young people has brought the community together and the boundary

walls of the school are now much more attractive, welcoming and proudly display the amazing work of the young people involved. There has not been damage to the mural since the project was completed, this is a testimony to all the hard work and sense of ownership from the community.

"The graffiti completely went against the ethos of the school and it was something that the teachers and pupils felt strongly about removing. Thanks to the young people and support from the Housing Executive the artwork on the walls now looks fantastic and the project was a huge success for the area." Mrs Paula Delaney



UNITED TOGETHER

North Belfast

The Project

This project was aimed at addressing violence at the Limestone Road interface. There were some sectarian issues at the interface, which have become more racially driven in recent times. Duncairn Community Partnership thought the idea of using sport seemed appropriate as a diversionary activity. The young people involved were given the opportunity to play football alongside the World United players from countries such as Kenya and Portugal. Part of the groups aim is to work against racism by getting people together through Sport and engagement, sharing the experiences of both teams regarding living in an interface area and living in Northern Ireland after moving from a different country.

Making a Difference

The United Together project engaged with the most at risk youths in the area. Bringing the young people together through sport, promoted a very natural setting

for celebrating similarities and differences. The cultural and religious barriers were broken down throughout the course of the project. There were a total of 45 local young people involved and the teams played against the Extern refugee's team. The funding also helped provide their kit and a cultural night in the community. There will be further projects following on from the success and friendships achieved in the near future.

"For many years World United and Limestone United have attempted to tackle racism and sectarianism within many communities by engaging with local people through the vehicle of football matches and workshops tailored to all ages. The players were overwhelmed by the fun friendship and respect they gleaned from these engagements." Mr Paul Moffat Chairperson World united Multi cultural Football project



BITCH AND STITCH

Lisburn & Castlereagh

The Project

The ladies from Tonagh Community Association run a sewing group once a week for 15 ladies from the community to meet up and work on projects together. The group is open to anyone from the area and for those already attending it is a very important time for them to get away from their worries. One of the most valuable things about the sewing group, is that they are able to be there for one another when they are feeling stressed or low.

Making a Difference

The project is a lifeline to these women and with the funding they were able to go to Crumlin Road Gaol together and strengthen their friendships in a different setting. The ladies were grateful for the support that the Housing Executive has given their group. The group also serves as a meeting point for the women to link in with

their neighbours, feedback any problems in the area and look at what solutions they can come up with. The group love it and find it therapeutic that they can help each other. Once a week this is their safe place to go.

"The programme has brought the ladies together and reduced their isolation. As a result we have now built life-long friends, which have resulted in everyone going to Benidorm for a holiday!!" **Leanne Reid TCA**



MEMORIES REVISITED

Lisburn & Castlereagh

The Project

The Hill Hall Sunset Dollies as they have been nicknamed wanted to develop some new skills and do something not the norm for a senior citizens group. They were formed 20 years ago with only 4 members, this has since grown to 25 active members from the local community. The group worked on making prints and sculptures and have exceeded the communities and indeed their own expectations with the success of their work.

Making a Difference

The artwork was displayed with pride of place in the Island Arts Centre for the whole of Lisburn to enjoy. The group itself and the staff involved are inspirational, constantly coming up with innovative projects to provide brand new interests and hobbies for the senior citizens. The artist. Shirley has been able to nurture the skills of

those involved and the end results which included pop art and a peace tree were all truly outstanding. This type of project connects people to their community and reduces the risk of isolation, allowing a great support network and friendships for those involved.

"This was a very rewarding project bringing three groups with different background together, making new friendships. This helped reduce isolation within the senior citizens and gave them confidence to try new crafts & skills. Giving them the opportunity to re-live there memories and share their stories from their childhood. We learnt a lot form the senior citizens and enjoyed listening to their experience. We are very grateful for the funding to make this project work."

Andrea Wiltshaw Hillhall Regeneration Group



FROM SEA TO TREE

North Down & Ards

The Project

The entrance way to Seapark beach was once dark, uninviting and covered with graffiti. Local people felt unsafe when walking through it and it really took away from the view towards the beach. Holywood Residents Association employed an artist to work with young people from the area and they were able to come up with some really innovative ideas to improve the space.

Making a Difference

Local people and visitors to the town have commented on the huge success of the project and the difference it has made to so many people walking their dogs or with their families. Young children now point out the pictures of wildlife on the art work instead of noticing the graffiti. There was an inspirational quote added to the walls which makes the mural even more uplifting. The group are planning to do a similar project at the train station in the town which has similar problems. It is heartening to see such great work being carried out in the area by people who care so much for the place they are from.

"The tunnel was transformed from a dark, dingy and scary place for people to walk to a gateway from the town to the stunning coastal path. The young people who designed the artwork were involved from start to finish and have helped make a massive difference in this area. Visitors and tourist to the town can't help but comment on how amazing it now looks."

Marilyn Toogood HRA



FOR YOUR FREEDOM AND OURS

North Down & Ards

The Project

The For Your Freedom and Ours project was exploring the history of the Polish squadron of pilots who were fighting for the freedom of people in Northern Ireland during World War 2. During this time the troops although, from different countries were working together and defending one another. In total, 145 Polish airmen fought in 302 and 303 and later the 312 and 315 (Polish) RAF squadrons as well as British units. Many who fought and died in Northern Ireland are buried at Milltown Cemetery and other locations across the country. This project was completely different from anything East End Residents Association had been involved in. It was a great success, demonstrating how Polish and British worked together at that time and laid down their lives.

Making a Difference

The workshops and events have helped let local people

see the huge contribution made by Polish people to this country and helped improve community relations during a time when tensions run high around differences in culture. This funding has helped solidify relationships in the area and the participants have gained so much insight into the topic which would have been previously untold. There were 20 people who participated in the project and there was a local man who had been involved in World War 2 who was able to verify that all this really was a part of their community's history. The group was very proud to host the Polish Ambassador and those involved lay a wreath at the Polish graves. They were also involved in the erection of the monument in the Cenotaph which was another proud moment for those involved.

"I would like to pass my gratitude to all participants and thank them for all the hard work. It would be impossible without support from the Housing Executive. That the project is the start of a long lasting relationship based on mutual understanding" **Maciek Bator**



DISCOVER SAINTFIELD

South Down

The Project

The project was devised by Saintfield Development Association to improve community relations between recent and long-term residents, village and rural residents and those who attend the 5 different churches in the area as well as those who do not attend any church. It was centred on the most influential person to have lived in Saintfield; Frances Hutcheson who was a hugely significant philosopher. His philosophical writings in the eighteenth century, which were highly regarded by the founders of the United States of America when his ideas were incorporated into the Virginia Bill of Rights, which was the forerunner of the American Constitution.

Making a Difference

Throughout the 3 historical talks there were 600 people who attended and the talks were held in each of the different churches. Some of those attending may never have been in a church of a different faith; however, those involved were made to feel welcome and this helped break down the perceived differences between one another and helped improve relations between the different groups in the community.

"Discover Saintfield Community exceeded our highest hopes in attracting hundreds of people to three heritage talks and a guided tour of Saintfield. We could not have done this without the funding granted by the Housing Executive Community Cohesion Fund, for which we are very grateful." Martyn Todd, Chair of Saintfield Development Association



CARNAGAT SUMMER SCHEME

South Down

The Project

Carnagat Community Association wanted to provide positive experiences and memories for families in the area over the summer period. There was a range of events organised including a day trip away to Tayto Park in Dublin. 106 people from the Carnagat community attended the 37 day summer scheme. It was a great opportunity to forget about the day to day and spend some quality time together as families and as a community.

Making a Difference

The events helped build relations between parents and their children from their community. It provided an

opportunity to go to many of the places that otherwise would not have feasible. Many families would simply not be able to afford to bring their children away for the day. The groups are planning on doing more work with young people in the area who may be at risk of getting involved in anti-social behaviour. They also wish to look at doing a link up with a Belfast group from a Protestant, Unionist, Loyalist background, as the people living in Carnagat generally don't have much contact with this community.

"Through the Community Cohesion funding we have been able to bring our community together to build a better sense of community spirit and pride and in the process new friendships were formed and old ones rekindled". James Treanor Carnagat Community Association



SENIOR CITIZENS EVENT

South Area

The Project

This event was organised by Edgarstown Residents Association. 50 people benefited from the senior citizens event. There was a dinner event including dance, an inspirational speaker and young people singing from the local school. The event was intergenerational and offered the perfect opportunity for young and old to come together and learn about one another and gain some mutual respect for each other. More often these types of community events are either for young people or the older generation so it was beneficial for the two groups to come together and it had a positive impact on the community spirit in Edgarstown.

Making a Difference

As the event took place in January it gave the community something to look forward to after

Christmas, instead of the parties and festivities being over this gave the residents another date in their social calendars to come out and spend time with one another. Events like these are so important for these areas, as building relations helps the community look after one another and combat social issues. The group highlighted that this work would not be possible without the support of the Community Cohesion funding from the Housing Executive.

"January can be a difficult time of year, especially for older people in our community as their loved ones are usually back at work now Christmas is over so they spend a lot of time on their own. By holding this event we want to show our senior citizens how much we value them and give them the confidence to play an active role in our community." **Phyllis Abraham - ERA**



COMMUNITY SUMMER SCHEME

South Area

The Project

Community Intercultural Programme delivered a 5 day intercultural summer scheme in Portadown. The event attracted 750 young people from twelve different cultural backgrounds. It was a great opportunity for the young people to build relations with other young people from a different ethnicity or religion. There was also an opportunity for the young people to develop civic leadership skills and be able to volunteer at future events. These types of skills are transferable and hopefully help them in the future.

Making a Difference

The ethos of the events was togetherness and it was hugely successful in bringing the whole community together. Many of the mentors were foreign nationals who were helping the local kids. Following the project there was a massive improvement in children feeling more comfortable in school, the principals had highlighted this and the parents of the local children were also able to see the positive impact the mentors were having on their own children. This helped strengthen race relations in the area. 3 of the young people have gone to Westminster to feed into policy about race relations factors and these will be linked into Family Hubs

"The message of good community and intercultural relations was delivered in a fun and unique way. I commend CIP's work in helping promote positive community development with young people in Portadown and I am pleased the Housing Executive was able to play its part." **Denise McNally Housing Services Manager**



LIFE THROUGH THE LENS

West Belfast

The Project

This project was organised by Falls Women's Centre. The young people from the Falls Road in West Belfast were able gain an OCN in photography. The project involved a partnership between the Women's Centre and Cara Friend. 16 young people took part in the project and were able to work on exploring different topics which they felt strongly about, for example gender and marriage equality. They were also able to increase confidence in themselves by communicating with one another about issues that they may not have opened up about before

Making a Difference

Both the ideas that the young people came up with and the end products were inspirational. It was a wonderful opportunity for local kids to be involved in. Young women from across Belfast are documenting the story of the LGBTQ+ community. The 'Life Through the Lens' photography exhibition was launched in the Long Gallery in Parliament Buildings, thanks to the efforts of the Falls Women's Centre and women from across Greater Belfast. Support from the Housing Executive through the Cohesion team enabled the group to run the project. Through their images they raised awareness around the issues of gender equality and marriage equality. They also helped dispel negative perceptions and demonstrate the difficulties that exist for the LGBTQ+ community.

"Everyone involved has learned so much and we've made great new friendships that will certainly create opportunities for future learning." **Aine Fryers**



FORTNITE DANCE AND SHOOT

West Belfast

The Project

This was a four week project which involved the famous Fortnite Dance and Shoot programme. The programme has become a craze for young people and staff from Greater Shankill ACT Initiative felt it would be a good catalyst to engage with young people in the area. The focus of the programme was to come together, build relationships with one another and also encourage physical activity. There were around 70 young people involved in the project.

Making a Difference

This project has made a big impact to the lives of young people living in the Shankill area. It encouraged them to become involved in more positive types of recreation

and to be engaged with the community services that are available to them in their area. This opportunity gave the young people a chance to just be kids in a safe and nurturing environment. It will also help improve relations amongst their peers.

"We are grateful for the support from the Housing Executive which helped encourage young people to come together socialise, have some physical exercise and have fun together. Programmes like these help prevent the young people from getting involved in antisocial behaviour in their communities."

Stephen Pollock



BILINGUAL ADVOCACY PROJECT

Mid & East Antrim

The Project

The Bi-lingual Advocacy Project is a translation service for individuals and families who move to the Mid & East Antrim Area but are not able to navigate through the services that should be on offer to them, perhaps due to a language barrier. The Inter Ethnic Forum work with members of the community if they have been the victim of hate crime incidents, however their primary purpose is to support the people who are not able to speak fluent English. There were 2820 participants which far exceeded the numbers of the previous year.

Making a Difference

The major outcome of this programme is that the ethnic groups are able to have equitable access to services in their area. The workers at the forum help these people,

if for example they are moving into a home, or if they need appliances or furniture. The group can then liaise with church groups on their behalf. This service allows individuals and families to feel safe and included in the communities they move to. During such a daunting time it is crucial that there is that help available to guide people and aid a smooth transition into a completely new environment

"We are very happy to receive this help. Without it, we would find it very difficult to do things. Until we get to learn the language, we are so grateful for all the help we receive." **Anita Rostas**



GLYNN BATTLE OF BRITAIN, CENTENARY AND FUN DAY

Mid & East Antrim

The Project

The centenary and fun day was extremely successful with the entire community, 2027 people attended the festivities. Friends of the Somme group wanted to celebrate 100 years of the RAF. The project has had a positive impact upon the community, bringing everyone in the community, bringing everyone together regardless of their age. The event also stimulated discussion around the sacrifices made by airmen/woman and communities during the first and second world wars. Learning about this time in history encouraged young people away from antisocial behaviour and allowed residents to enjoy time with their community, while learning about their shared history.

Making a Difference

The community noticed that the area was a lot more cohesive following the events. The local people had the opportunity to meet up with some of the RAF veterans who fought during World War Two. This intergenerational element of the project helped increase interaction between the younger and older population in the community. It helped increase awareness of the contribution made by veterans and helped them gain more respect from those living in the area.

"The support we received from the Housing Executive was fantastic, people of all ages were able to come together in Glynn to enjoy a family fun day but also celebrate the centenary of the RAF and for local people an important period in our shared history"

Ricky Morrow Millbrook community association



PROMOTING POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE MEN'S SHED

South West Area

The Project

The group began when a group of men from the local community began researching men's sheds, the types of plants they could grow and the projects they could work on together. The members of the Omagh Men's Shed were very happy to learn that the land which had been designated for the garden is self-draining, has good soil and sunlight and therefore was the ideal location. The local men have achieved a great deal at the site in a very short amount of time and they are looking into more efficient practices to improve the growth and expansion of the site over time

Making a Difference

The Good Relations Officer, Marilyn Giboney, has been supporting the group to visit other community groups

to see examples of good practice elsewhere. This type of service is of great benefit to the adjacent community as it provides not only friendship but a lifeline for men who may be feeling low or who are recovering from poor health. Due to the groups meticulous planning and in-depth research they encountered no issues along their journey. The men plan to develop capacity in building outdoor furniture and hope to create a nursery as a potential social economy.

"The Men's Shed is a project for men to share skills, socialise and connect with the wider community. It is a place for members to be themselves, a place to work at their own pace, a place to exchange ideas and learn, and a place to support each other and build friendships." **Ernie Coburn**



LOOKING AFTER THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

South West Area

The Project

Campsie Residents Association applied for a new computer to keep up with the demands of running the Hub. The Hub is a family support group that runs programmes throughout the year and provides advice services to residents from Campsie. Cohesion funding was granted to cover the cost, as it was impossible for the group to complete admin or help the community make applications for Universal Credit. The community worker works incredibly hard on behalf of all those living in the area. She is inspirational: the energy and passion she has for driving so many worthwhile projects for Campsie residents really is amazing.

Making a Difference

Campsie Residents Association provides a service for five Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. The equipment has

made a massive difference to the speed and ease that the community worker can organise projects for the area. It also helps the group keep the community up to date with all the latest projects via social media. The Hub is used by the young and old in the area and the range of activities attracts residents to come together throughout the year to keep active and be included in the spirit of the community.

"The Hub was the idea of the Campsie Residents Association, who wanted to maintain a shared future for the area built on mutual understanding and respect. This has been realised through the mosaic depicted on the banks of the Strule River and the ongoing programmes and projects happening at the Hub. The Campsie Hub has made residents feel extremely proud of where they come from. Everyone in the area speaks so highly of what is happening at the Community Hub."

Hazel McGuigan Campsie Residents Group



MEETING THE IDENTIFIED NEEDS OF MOYGASHEL RESIDENTS

Mid Ulster

The Project

The Housing Executive in partnership with Howard Street Primary School worked with artist Fiona Stewart's to form the Bohemian Tree Design. She worked with Year 5 pupils from Howard Primary School to transform a piece of wall on the site of the former linen mill café, now known as Apple Jacks. The project was aimed at re-imaging a very unsightly wall near the school and replacing it with a more positive and educational image. The community decided that it would be fitting for the children to come up with an image showing the history of the Linen Mill industry in Moygashel.

Making a Difference

Before this project took place, the wall was covered in sectarian slogans and graffiti, making the area feel unsafe to certain members of the community, as well as making the area look very run down. The project has made an immeasurable difference to those attending the primary school and to the entire area, as it is now bright, educational and has pride of place in the community. It will leave a lasting impression of history and harmony between the primary school and its community. Those involved should be very proud of themselves.

"This mural is a celebration of the village's linen mill industry interpreted by the creative imagination of our pupils. They really enjoyed coming together to make something that the entire community can be proud of. We are very proud of our Year 5 pupils who had the opportunity to be involved in the design and making of the mural. It really is a reflection of the hard work of every child." Phyllis McWilliams, Principal of Howard Primary School



MINI TATTOO

Mid Ulster

The Project

The Tattoo is a combination of Celtic music, dance and culture; the event brought together 600 people from all over Mid Ulster. The spectacle was organised by Kilyman & District Cultural Group. There was a mixture of artists and parades to entertain the crowds. There were attendees from Cookstown, Dungannon and even some as far as Australia. The event took place on the Hill of the O'Neills building in Dungannon and could be heard far and wide. It was undoubtedly a proud experience for all those taking part. The crowds also enjoyed a treasure hunt and barbecue which took place in the Church of Ireland.

Making a difference

The event was a massive success with numbers far exceeding previous years. The celebrations were able to bring together families, friends young and old. The intergenerational element of this event is very important as it is one of the very few events that happen in the area that can be enjoyed by such a wide range of ages and abilities. Bringing the community together at events like this help promote the positive wellbeing of our tenants and build lasting relationships among neighbours.

"It was fantastic to experience the culture on show at the Mini Tattoo; I had never attended an event like this in the past and will definitely be attending in the future." **Nelio Goncalves**



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