‘Tea in the Park’ Launched

THE Playtrail’s new ‘Tea in the Park’ initiative was joint winner of this year’s Social Enterprise Competition run by Derry City & Strabane District Council as part of Enterprise Week 2019.

£2,000 from Council’s ‘Social Enterprise Innovation Seed Fund’ was up for grabs as budding social entrepreneurs from throughout the City & District pitched their creative ideas for innovative projects.

The prize went towards retrofitting (in partnership with FabSocial Shantallow) a traditional ‘Horsebox’ with tea and coffee making facilities which will provide customer service training for a group of 15 - 20 young people with disabilities who will serve refreshments to visitors at the Playtrail site in Belmont. The initiative will also provide training in Barista service & cash handling whilst providing work placements & volunteering opportunities.

The ‘Tea in the Park’ initiative also aims to address the limited education & training programmes that are currently available for young people with disabilities, increasing their confidence and independence.

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SPRINGTOWN CAMP ART INSTALLATION

Updated image of the proposed Art Installation dedicated to celebrating and keeping the remarkable story of Springtown Camp alive.

The commemorative piece is to be located within the next few months on the Springtown Road – taking the form of a 1/3 scale replica of a Model Nissen hut which would have housed the Springtown residents, and 2 plaques / totems. The project has been shaped & driven by the local Springtown Camp Historical Group and supported by ex-residents of the Camp. Check out their ‘Springtowncamp Derry’ facebook page.

On Street Community Youth (formerly Off the Streets Init.) recently launched a new promotional video which gives a wonderful insight into the crucial work they’re doing with our local young people. The video was funded by the National Lottery Community Fund Northern Ireland - check it out at www.facebook.com/OTSCYI/videos/632850187142156/

Year of Youth
1st Jan - 31st Dec 2019

Following the record breaking engagement with over 10,000 young people in 2016 as part of the #eyc19 campaign, Council are celebrating the fantastic contribution that young people make to our community.

Youth19 is a year dedicated to you!

Throughout the year we’ve got an exciting programme of festivals and events, opportunities to get creative, learn new skills, have your voice heard and make important decisions about how funding is allocated.

We’ll support you to take a leading role and Make.Change.Happen.

- Health and wellbeing;
- Engagement and Participation
- Skills and career pathways

Get involved at www.youth19.com/

2 Outer North Neighbourhood Partnership
‘Tea in the Park’ Café

The Playtrail launched the "Tea in the Park" Café last week - supporting young people with disabilities into meaningful work placements. Tea in the Park will be open 7 days a week at the Playtrail site from 3.00pm - 5.30pm

Some information about our products:

♦ Our Coffee is triple certified - certified by Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and the Soil Association

♦ We only use Compostable cups, lids, forks & napkins

♦ Our Coffee grounds will be given to our community allotment scheme which will act as a fertiliser for crops

♦ We only use Fairtrade White & Brown Sugar

Why not come along and support our young people in their new social enterprise - and enjoy some of our lovely coffees, traybakes & snacks!

For more details contact Jennie on Tel: 7136 8173

Using & Understanding the Register of Charities

The register of charities is a growing public resource which anyone, anywhere in the world, may use to find out key information about charities registered in Northern Ireland.

It contains individual entries including a charity’s name, contact address, charitable purposes & certain financial information. The information on the register of charities is made available as part of the government’s Open Data Initiative.

In May 2019 there were over 6,000 registered charities, and the Charity Commission is continuing to build the register. The guidance sets out what information is available on the register & how to conduct a range of searches using the general search function or applying a range of filters.

The guidance also provides information for a range of stakeholders on how to download information from the register on individual charities, a collection of charities or all registered charities.

Download a copy of the Guidance at:-
The County Derry Fleadh 2019 will be hosted in Derry city from the 23rd - 27th of May this year. All of the competitions will be held in St Brigid’s College, Glengallagh Road.

Solo, duets / trios and the comhara will take place on Saturday May 25, with group and dancing competitions being held on Sunday 26 May.

Why not get along and support the musicians and dancers—for more details check out the Fleadh Cheoil Dhoire 2019 facebook page.

2019 Irish National Road Cycling Championships

Foyle Cycling Club are hosting the very best cyclists in Ireland for the Cycling Ireland National Road Championships in June.

The three-day festival of racing draws the very best Irish racers from at home and abroad for a series of solo time trials on Thursday June 27th followed by the road race action on Saturday and Sunday 29th and 30th.
The route will include a section within Greater Shantallow – descent from Foyle Bridge down the Culmore Road to the finish line on Shipquay Street.

International full time professionals will do battle with top locally-based amateurs for the title of national champion and the right to wear the coveted shamrocks on their jersey for the next 12 months.

Both the women’s and men’s elite road races will be filmed for a highlights TV programme to be broadcast in the week after the event.

It’s the first time that the national cycling championships will be based in the city.

Check out the Race Course: www.strava.com/routes/17307068

For a better flavour of the programmes check out the Foyle Ambassador’s short youtube video - www.youtu.be/dZp-jbdzLDw

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Loughs Agency are recruiting 13-16 year olds for several Foyle Ambassador programmes over the coming months.

The [free] programmes are designed to connect young people with the River Foyle, its tributaries and wildlife through recreation, volunteering and conservation opportunities. Since 2014 over 100 teenagers from the NW have graduated as Foyle Ambassadors with a greater understanding and respect for the river that so many of us take for granted.

Ambassadors do not only build lasting connections with the river, they also build lasting friendships with people from different backgrounds. The experiences they gain provides them with skills for life through fun, friendship and adventure. ‘Foyle Ambassadors’ has the potential to reach many more young people, creating a stronger community & inspiring everyone to love our waterways.

These are fantastic programmes and can make a real difference to not only the young people but also to the wider community.

If you are interested or know young people who may be interested there is additional information and an application form at www.loughs-agency.org/foyle-ambassadors-an-action-packed-week-of-adventure/

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Subject to confirmation, the women’s elite race will be four laps of the 20.29km circuit with the men’s field set for a five-lap race.

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Foyle Ambassadors

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2019 Irish National Road Cycling Championships
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2019 Irish National Road Cycling Championships
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2019 Irish National Road Cycling Championships
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Feeding Community Spirit

Big Lunch 2019
1st - 2nd June.

Started in 2009 this inter-generational initiative from the Eden Project and the National Lottery celebrates all that is good about where we live, it’s a day for neighbourhood kindness and an opportunity for all ages to get to know each other better, on our streets, in our schools, in local gardens, kitchens, shared spaces and anywhere people can get together.

You are invited to join in and host a Big Lunch. It’s a simple way to enjoy community spirit and reduce loneliness. All it takes is for one person to be willing to kick start the conversation and before you know it you have your community taking part. Register your interest at www.edenprojectcommunities.com/get-your2019-big-lunch-pack

For those registering in 2019 there will be competitions and giveaways and an opportunity for those who need it to gain additional support from Eden Project Communities. If you need any tips, have questions or need a tool kit email: gmccloskey@edenproject.com

Power NI Brighter Communities

Power NI Brighter Communities was founded to support groups across NI to be to the best they can be.

Apply for up to £1,000 in funding to help your group reach its maximum potential – whether for equipment, kits or for a special project that will make a BIG impact!

Applications are welcome from small or large community, sporting, charity, youth and all age groups who can propose a tangible project, activity or item which can be delivered once the funds have been received within an 8-week timescale. In order to qualify, please read the full Brighter Communities Terms & Conditions at www.powerni.co.uk/powerni/my-community/brighter-communities/terms-and-conditions/

Your group must be based in NI, use the money for a tangible cause such as equipment or activity rather than running costs, plus agree to all PR and marketing activity following the journey of spending your Brighter Community grant.

Application forms available at - www.powerni.co.uk/powerni/my-community/brighter-communities/#brighter

One winner will be picked from each month’s applicants and the judge’s decision is final.

Group pictured recently at the unveiling of new artwork at the Galliagh Co-op. Funded by NI Housing Executive, the re-imaging project involved Leafair Youth Group and local artist Joe Campbell.
**Stroke Awareness**

May is Stroke Awareness Month.

Learn the **F.A.S.T test** for signs someone may be experiencing a stroke - it could save a life. Visit [www.pha.site/ActFAST](http://www.pha.site/ActFAST)

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*Get active*

The bright nights are the perfect opportunity to get out and exercise. For ideas on ways to get active visit: [www.pha.site/getting-active-choose-live-better](http://www.pha.site/getting-active-choose-live-better)

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**Comic Relief** has appointed CFNI to make £840,000 available over the next 2 yrs to C&V groups - awarded under four strategic areas; ‘Children Survive and Thrive’; ‘Global Mental Health Matters’; ‘Fighting for Gender Justice’ and ‘A Safe Space To Be’

Year one applications open 3rd June & close 10th July 2019. Applications can only be made via CFNI website.
Joint Inquiry into NI’s Welfare Policy Launched

A joint inquiry has been launched by the NI Affairs Committee and the Work & Pensions Committee into the impact of welfare policy in NI, including a focus on policies such as Universal Credit & the 2 Child Limit.

Welfare Reform came into force in NI at the end of 2015 - many concerns were raised about its impact on our most vulnerable people. Within the NI Fresh Start Agreement, a package of mitigations was agreed to protect people against some of the harshest elements of welfare reform including the bedroom tax and the benefit cap. These mitigations are due to expire at the end of March 2020 when NI will face a mitigation ‘cliff edge’.

The NI Audit Office warned that the full impact of welfare reforms has yet to hit NI and there is a significant risk of hardship after March 2020. The end of mitigation will mean that tens of thousands of households will be hit with the bedroom tax (losing out on £22m support p.a.), around 2,500 families with children will be hit with the benefit cap (affected households set to lose on average £46 p.w.), thousands of sick & disabled people as well as their carers are set to see their mitigation support prematurely end, up to 14,000 people who are worse off following reassessment from DLA to PIP are set to prematurely lose support of up to £19.1m p.a.

Universal Credit is rolling out across NI. Since December 2018, any working age person making a new claim for social security assistance claims Universal Credit. U.C. is already having negative impacts on vulnerable people with reports of increased hardship because of issues including delayed payments of up to 12 weeks, increased debt & rent arrears, issues with the ‘digital by default’ system and being hit with harsh sanctions.

In relation to the two-child cap, it has been highlighted that it will disproportionately impact women and families and will have adverse impacts on child poverty, gender equality and those who are dependants.

The terms of reference for the inquiry include an analysis of the impact of the NI ‘mitigation package’, the likely effects of the mitigation coming to an end, what, if anything, should replace the mitigation package from 2020, what are the effects of having higher levels of welfare entitlement in NI and are they feasible long term, how well is U.C. working and do people benefit from the flexibility to have U.C. paid at a different frequency or with split payments, what is the impact of the two-child limit on families in NI, do social housing tenants in NI regularly experience rent arrears?