

GREATER NEW LODGE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE



March 2017

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twitter.com/ashtoncommtrust

St Patrick's Primary School



A NEW DAWN for OUR COMMUNITY

Architect's drawing of new school

Statement from St Patrick's School

After a long wait funding has finally been provided to enable the building of a new St Patrick's Primary School.

The plans are already in progress to give the children of the New Lodge this brand new school, works will begin soon.

The new, modern, up to date primary school is expected to be ready for the pupils to enter from September 2019.

As you all know there is very limited space in the New Lodge and sites for education are limited to the two being used at present. For the new school to be constructed the building on the Pim Street site will have to be demolished and the pupils there rehoused on Churchill Street site. The Junior Site of St Patrick's PS will house all the pupils while the new school is being built.

Unfortunately this will mean disruption to everyone, pupils, staff, families and residents. Every effort will be made to keep this to a minimum.

However hopefully you agree that our children and community deserve this state of the art resource which will provide benefits for everyone.

The new school will be built on the Pim Street Site...during construction, there will be NO access to the grounds.

There will be twelve 2 storey mobiles placed in the Junior Site for pupils from years 4 - 7 and as a result there will be limited parking

spaces for staff.

This will mean that all staff will be using the surrounding streets for parking cars throughout the school day which will have implications for drop offs and pick-ups and possible inconvenience for local residents.

Furthermore, play space will be limited for the pupils and so the school are talking with local community groups to get access to other alternative areas.

Everyone has been very supportive and indeed anxious that this much needed facility get underway as soon as possible. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the School Principal, 02890351206. **See plans page 4**

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Architect's drawing of new school

WE CAN WORK IT OUT

Do you want to reach your potential?
Free, confidential, one to one sessions for people who are not working and on health related benefits
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Contact your **new** local Wellbeing for Work team today

North Belfast 9074 2255	East Belfast 9045 8560	South Belfast 9033 2313	West Belfast 9032 2003	Greater Shankill 9024 6226
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Belfast Works
LEMIS+ Project

The LEMIS+ Project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy

www.lemisplus.eu/contact

Logos: European Union, Department for the Economy, Belfast City Council

Community Contact Numbers

- 174 Trust - 9074 7114
- Ashton Centre - 9074 2255
- Bridge of Hope - 9074 6737
- Bridges Sewing Group - 9074 2255
- Bunsoil Mhic Reachtain - 9032 2409
- Camberwell Fold - 9096 0552
- Cancer Lifeline 9035 1999
- Carrick Hill Community Centre - 9023 1602
- Carlisle Day Centre - 9023 1227
- Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain - 90749 688
- Employment Outreach - 9020 2440
- Glenravel Local History Project - 9032 2289
- Holy Family Primary School - 9035 1023
- Holy Family Youth Centre - 9087 5150
- Indian Community Centre - 9024 9746
- Kinder Kids Day Care - 9074 2255
- McSweeney Centre - 9032 2289
- New Lodge Safer Streets - 07564 938276
- Newington Credit Union - 9035 1773
- New Lodge Arts - 9074 2255
- New Lodge Youth Centre - 9075 1358
- New Lodge Housing Forum - 9074 2399
- North Belfast Family Centre - 9024 7580
- North Belfast Social Enterprise HUB - 95 609 521
- North Queen St. Community Centre - 9032 3945
- Smile SureStart - 9075 6654
- St. Patrick's Primary School - 028 9035 1206
- Star Neighbourhood Centre - 9074 0693
- Tar Isteach - 90746665 / 90754967

Community Family Support Programme

Our employability programme is here to help families make life changing decisions to enhance and improve their everyday lives.

Eligibility
Each family participating on the programme must have at least one person aged 16+ who is not in education, employment or training
Families must live in North Belfast.

Some of the programmes available

- Basic DIY
- Conflict Management
- First Aid
- Anger Management
- Shape Your Health
- Life Coaching
- Healthy Eating
- Colour Breathing Relaxation Therapy
- Stress Management
- Smoking cessation
- Cook It
- Youth Development
- Safe Social Media
- Money Management
- Positive Parenting

For more information call: Jeanette Burns: 028 9560 9522 or email: jeanette.burns@ashtoncentre.com

Logos: Department for the Economy, European Union

This project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy.

BRIDGES SEWING

Mon - Fri 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Curtain Making, Formal Dresses, Alterations Etc.

Ashton Centre
5 Churchill Street
Belfast, BT15 2BP
Tel: 90742255

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Ashton Community Trust Supports Local Schools

Ashton Community Trust’s ongoing commitment to supporting the community took another step forward with the sponsorship of much needed defibrillators to five local schools. These simple devices can and do save lives of young and old alike.

A defibrillator is an electrical device that provides a shock to the heart when there is a life-threat present. Their presence in these schools will provide that assistance if and when required, although we all hope this is never the case.

Little Flower, St. Malachy’s College, St. Patrick’s PS, Bunscoil Bheann Mhadagain agus Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain were all recipients.

John Fleming from the ACT Board said *“We are delighted to be able to support schools and local young people in this way. We hope to train all the relevant staff in their use and enable the schools to provide treatment when required. We see this project as part of our ongoing commitment to making North Belfast a better place for its residents to live and prosper. It does this through the provision of services, employment, training*

and community development.” Little Flower teacher Mrs Sampson summed up the feelings of all involved. *“The members of Little Flower Student Council are absolutely delighted to accept the most generous gift of a brand new state of the art defibrillator from the Ashton Community Trust. Since the Council were elected in October 2016, one of our main goals was to purchase a defibrillator.*

It has been a pleasure to work collaboratively with John Fleming from the Ashton Community Trust and we are extremely grateful to him and his team for assisting us in achieving our goal”.



New Lodge Arts – Hip Hop Classes

The Hip-Hop revolution continues across Belfast and we are looking for new members!

Rochelle McParland from Kollizion Crew runs New Lodge Arts Hip Hop Classes on Monday nights in Girdwood Community Hub.

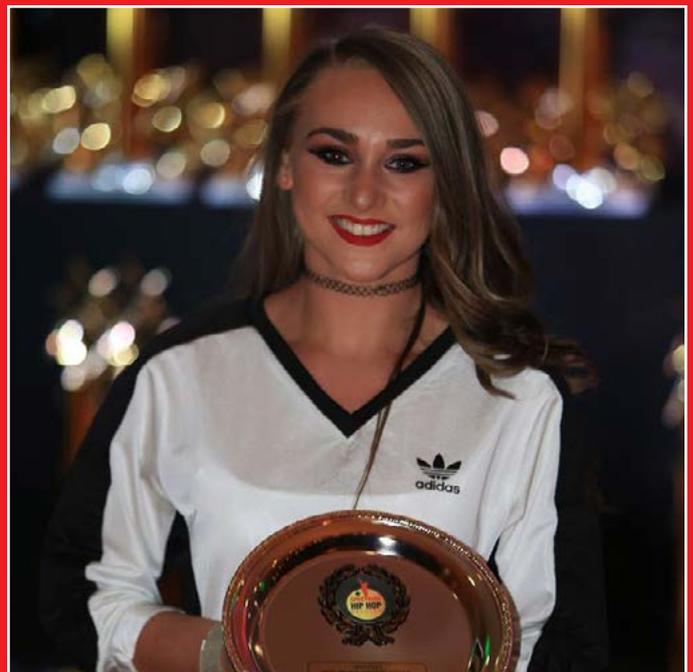
- 7.00 - 8.00pm - ages 9-12
- 8.00 - 9.00pm - ages 13+

Rochelle has been dancing in a variety of styles for many years which enabled her to compete in many competitions around the world. She won titles such as ‘The Irish Hip Hop Masters’, runner-up in Europe, and runner-up in the World Championships.

But why’s Hip Hop proving so popular?

Rochelle explained: *“The style is current and it’s what you see on TV from music videos, advertisements to dance programmes. Many see Ashley Banjo as a TV dance inspiration. Hip Hop has many styles such as: Waacking, Dance Hall, Popping, Breaking, House, and Locking - some dancers will grow to like a certain style more than others.”*

If you are interested in Hip Hop, get along to Girdwood Hub on Monday nights and register on arrival. Classes are £1 each week.



Rochelle McParland from Kollizion Crew

St Patrick's School Plans

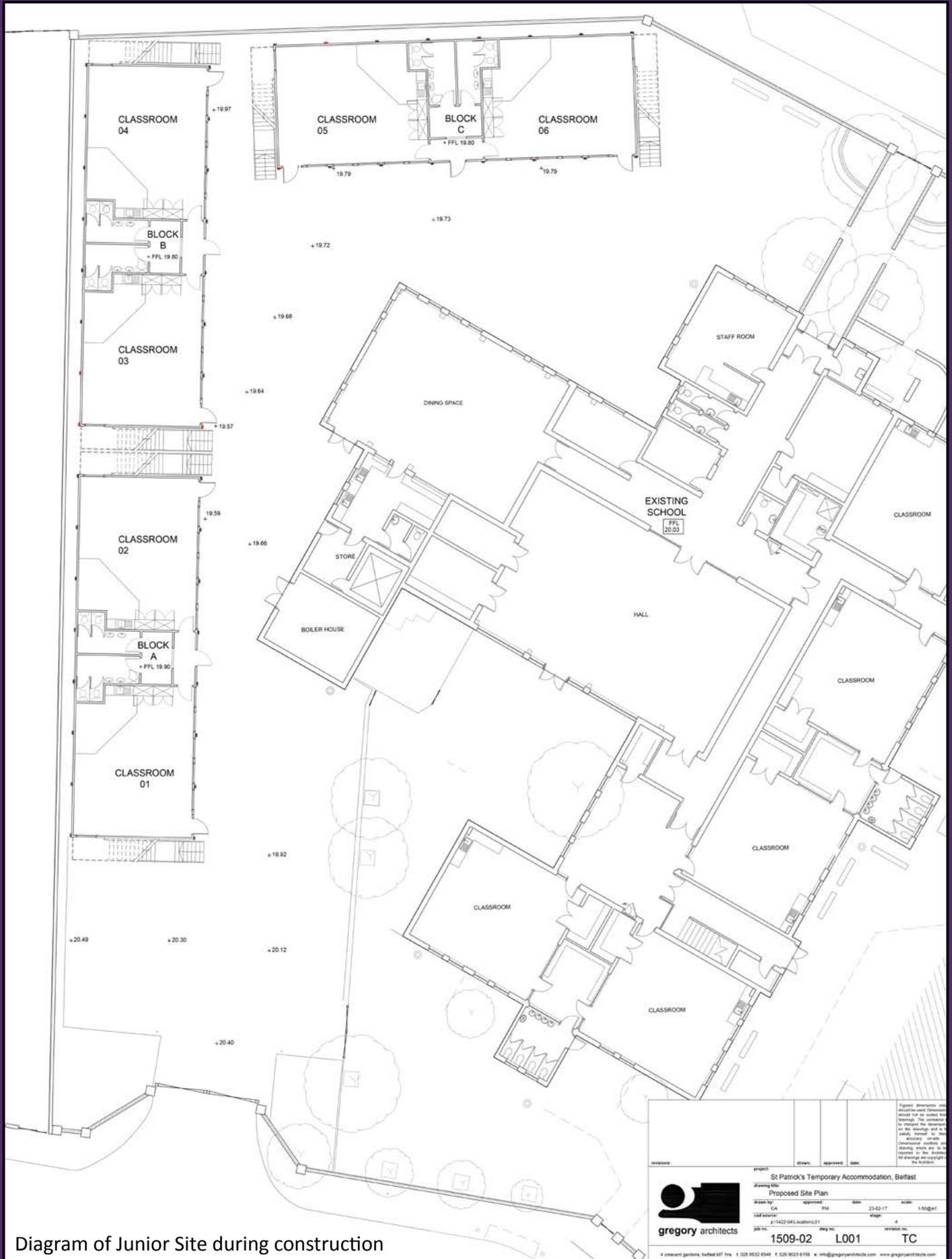


Diagram of Junior Site during construction

Ashton's Paul Roberts Wins Inspiring Leader Award

The Chief Executive of Ashton Community Trust Paul Roberts has won the award for Inspiring Leader of the Year at the recent Chief Officers 3rd Sector (CO3) conference and awards ceremony.

Paul, who has headed up Ashton for the last 22 years was also highly commended in the Social Entrepreneurial Leader category. The prestigious ceremony was hosted by CO3, a leading membership-based organisation that focuses on supporting, developing and connecting Third Sector leaders.

"I'm thrilled to win the inspiring Leader award and to be highly commended social entrepreneurial leader," Paul said.

"Of course these awards aren't about me as an individual but are recognition of the work of the whole Ashton team. There are over 200 of us, staff and board members, working to make North Belfast a better place. To improve the lives of local people is Ashton's mission and through the work of our departments we are helping to achieve significant and positive change".

"Ashton's heart is in the community. To keep on growing, staff work hard to deliver on targets. A robust asset based approach and sound financial management underpins our corporate strategy. Working collaboratively, sharing best practice and keeping a community development ethos to the forefront guides all of this work. Looking to the future we plan to remain on being sustainable, regenerating where possible, keep jobs and keep on making meaningful change."



Ashton Staff Celebrate Award

Ashton Community Trust is a community based charity working on regeneration through social enterprise in North Belfast. It was set up in 1988 through a share drive by local people. The original centre is owned by 450 shareholders from the local community and the organisation now owns nine other Centres. Ashton Community Trust delivers a wide range of services including: childcare, health, education, training, FabLab and economic development. It currently employs around 200 people in some of the most deprived wards. It is recognised as a leading local social enterprise with a turnover of over £6m per annum.

The Inspiring Leader of the Year category is recognition of a person's ability to inspire others to achieve great things. The nominees will place quality at the heart of everything they do; they are innovative and value their staff, volunteers, beneficiaries and external partners. They recognise the value of developing others and work tirelessly to lead change for the benefit of all.

The Social Entrepreneurial Leader category recognises an enterprising individual. They will have achieved the highest and most sustained levels of growth as well as financial and impact performance through a culture of innovation, market knowledge, and leadership development. This category is open to a Chief Officer or Senior Manager/Director who has significantly developed the sustainability of the organisation including its impact measurement, commercial activities, income, funding and investment streams to build a strong operational model.

New Lodge Arts – Leadership in Youth Work

New Lodge Arts are recruiting NOW for their Leadership in Youth Work Qualification course. This will begin after Easter 2017 this year; we have planned to start on Monday 24th April 2017. This course is delivered weekly, on a Monday evening from 5-7pm in New Lodge Art's Culture Shop (Lepper Street). This course is delivered for ages 13-18 years and 100% attendance to all sessions is required in order to complete and achieve the qualification. No previous experience or knowledge required.



This qualification covers a basis of knowledge in youth work, leadership, communication, with an outcome of the ability to plan and deliver their very own youth work session. This qualification is accredited and recognised nationwide. It is basically an opportunity to learn and get qualified in a relaxed environment while having fun! If you are interested in taking part, or know anyone who is please contact Orla Hawkins on 02890742255 or if you use Facebook, message our like page 'New Lodge Arts' <https://www.facebook.com/New-Lodge-Arts>

Christy Moore Performs Concert for Tar Isteach

On Wednesday March 15th hundreds of people packed into St. Mary's College on the Falls Road to listen to the great Christy Moore perform a concert in support of Tar Isteach republican ex-prisoner project. The idea for the concert came about after Christy had paid a visit to Tar Isteach in September 2015. During his visit Christy learned much about the work of Tar Isteach and realising they were under severe funding pressure and struggling to keep their services alive he promised to help out.



Christy visits Tar Isteach

Since 1998 Tar Isteach has provided assistance to republican ex-prisoners and their families including welfare rights advice, training, education and employment services, counselling and emotional support and youth development. They have also conducted research highlighting ongoing issues of need and discrimination affecting republican ex-prisoners and their families. In addition Tar Isteach services have been open to the wider community providing help to others suffering disadvantage.

Yet, despite the huge need for the project, funding shortages have always been a problem and with the ending of the European Peace III Programme in March 2015 all Tar Isteach staff became redundant with funding for services and programmes lost. Despite this, staff members continued to work on in a voluntary capacity. The local community also rallied in support with donations, sponsorships and offers of voluntary help. In addition the project was able to access other limited funding sources and against all odds Tar Isteach has managed to retain services to the community albeit in a reduced form.

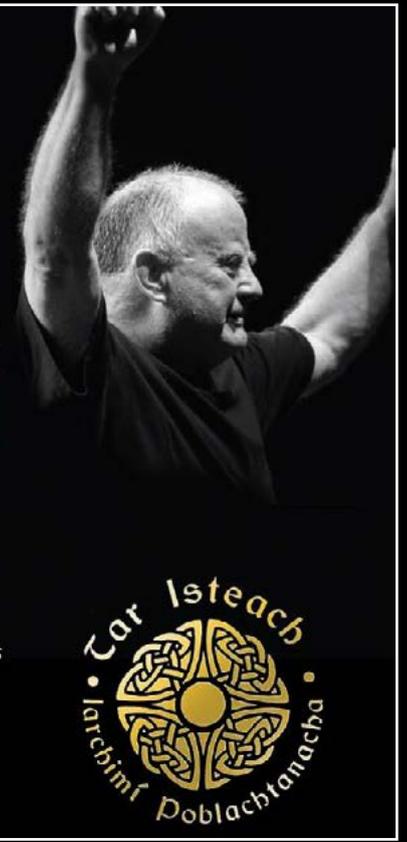
Tommy Quigley Manager of Tar Isteach said, "At one stage we genuinely believed we were going to have to close the project down completely and it is unlikely that we could have managed to survive through this difficult time

without the unpaid efforts of staff, devoted volunteers and absolutely tremendous community support. It was also totally out of the blue that Christy Moore told us he wanted to visit us. This obviously boosted our morale at a very difficult time". Tommy continued, "Christy Moore is loved and revered in Ireland and beyond. Through his actions, words and music Christy consistently supported the republican prisoners during the worst of times. Many will particularly remember his public support during the H Block and Armagh protests, including the Hunger Strikes. His concert at St. Mary's was absolutely brilliant and has provided us with renewed motivation and determination to continue our mission despite all of the obstacles and challenges placed in our way. For Tar Isteach to be honoured by Christy in this way is an enormous privilege. We cannot thank him and all of his team enough".

Christy's pre-concert message

"I'm looking forward to playing on The Falls Road again..its been a good few years now since The Green Briar, The Pound Loney, The Conway Mill, The Marty Forsythe, to mention but a few gigs from bygone days. We've all changed a bit since then but the memories never fade. Its a privilege to stand with the crew from "Tar Isteach" and to offer a small bit of support. Their achievements have given badly needed counsel to many in need of a listening ear, a friendly voice, a guiding hand.... Let us all support their efforts as best we can...Thank you for being here tonight.. Let The Music keep Our Spirits High...."

Christy Moore



Super Connections at the RECY

North Queen Street Community Centre teamed up with Trinity College, Barclays Bank and Linking Generations NI to deliver an innovative project in their Superconnected Communities Hub. The project brings students and older people together to help older participants develop their digital skills. This includes increasing their use of digital and online technology and improving their digital confidence for everyday tasks like keeping in touch, shopping and accessing services online. The project also helped increase:

- Contact between age specific organisations – schools and older people's groups;
- Support and empathy between the generations; and
- Use of Belfast Superconnected Hubs.



All participants were given an IT toolkit to support their learning. We hope they continue their learning and IT use at the Superconnected Hubs across Belfast.

Housing News

Recently members of the Upper Long Streets Residents Committee (U.L.S.R.A.) organised a protest in Lepper Street to demand the completion of the redevelopment of the area. The protest was chaired by myself and the gathering was addressed by the chair of the U.L.S.R.A. Kate Clarke and North Belfast M.L.A. Carol NiChullin. Amazingly in an area of around 240 houses up to 150 people attended the protest showing the determination of the residents to see this campaign through to its completion. Unfortunately due to the political climate we don't have a Minister so we need to wait for support from that direction but Carol is 100% behind us and will be working for us as soon as possible.

The Housing Executive's claim that it is too late due to the advanced stage of the rebuild program doesn't hold water as the majority of the site, Spamount Street through to Hillman Street, has yet to be demolished. It is imperative now that things are taken forward as soon as possible before the same thing happens and demolition and rebuild starts.

This committee has vowed to carry this campaign through to what we see as its logical conclusion and with political support are confident that we can achieve our goal.

The cladding of Eithne House is now complete and all residents agree that the difference, especially to heat loss, is immeasurable. Residents also remarked that they were totally impressed with all aspects of cladding.

All flats now have new front doors and the new security system has been run out to all blocks including the four storey block at 11 Carlisle Road. The problem now is anti-social behaviour, the Seven Towers residents are working closely with the Housing Executive (N.I.H.E.) on allocations and on using the new security to root out offenders. It is incumbent on the Executive to move swiftly and decisively on persistent offenders. We want to ensure the blocks are a safe and comfortable environment for all residents.

The N.I.H.E. are reassessing its policy on high rise right across the North, all blocks will be assessed with a hope of



Big turn out at protest

"decommissioning" some blocks, this will be done on a short, medium and long term basis and since realistically New Lodge will be there longest term we will be demanding any money be used logically, particularly in relation to further cladding. Unfortunately no decision will be taken until the N.I.H.E.'s August Board meeting and we will of course keep you updated.

The Housing Forum is working, through Safer Streets, with all the housing providers in the area including N.I.H.E., Newington, Fold and Choice to ensure they play their part in combating anti-social behaviour among their tenants and to achieve what's best for all residents Through this magazine we will continue to keep everyone informed of all housing projects going on in the area.

Liam Wiggins, Chair, New Lodge Housing Forum.



facebook.com/ashton.centre

facebook.com/ashtoncommunitytrust



Ashton Centre are now on Facebook, you can send us a friend request to keep up to date on all our services, we have also created a Like Page, where we will also post information on a regular basis about all of the Trust's services, please send friend request or like our page to be kept updated. Thank you

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Family Support Hub

As reported in the previous Greater New Lodge Community Magazine Ashton Community Trust has been awarded lead partner status in the Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub.

The Family Support Hub provides early intervention services to families and young people requiring support. The Hub brings together organisations that deliver services to children/young people (0-18 years) and their parents/carers and this includes community, statutory and voluntary family support services.

Since August 24th 2015, Ashton Community Trust has been co-ordinating and receiving referrals and working to connect families to the services they need, at a time when they need them. The wards covered by the Hub are New Lodge, Duncairn, Fortwilliam, Castlevue, Waterworks (part of), Chichester Park (part of), and Bellevue. Since the establishment of the Hub we have worked with our partner service providers to deliver support to almost 300 families and hope that with continued funding until March 2018 to work with many more families to improve their life chances.

The Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub can help your family at many difficult times whether it is dealing with the challenging behaviour of children, debt, stress/depression, alcohol/drug misuse or social isolation. Any adult family member can refer themselves to the Hub simply by completion of a referral form or you may give your consent for another organisation with whom you are involved such as your child's school, your doctor or health visitor or a local community group to make a referral on your behalf. The Co-ordinator of the Hub will then contact you in order to help match appropriate services to your family's needs. At all times your details will be kept confidential until you agree that you would like to avail of a particular service whether it is youth support, advice and guidance or services that offer emotional and well-being support. Your information will only be shared with the organisations who you feel will be of help to your family.

There is now no need for families in our area to struggle alone through life's difficulties because the Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub is here to help through these times and work in partnership with families to improve outcomes for all the people who live in Lower North Belfast.

Should you have any queries about the Hub or should you wish to refer your family to the Hub please contact Edith McManus, the Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub Co-ordinator at the Ashton Centre 02890 749986.



True North: Jobs for the Boys

FabLab Belfast's innovative design and education work featured in a brand new documentary True North: Jobs for the Boys, which was broadcast on Monday 13 March, 10.40pm, BBC One.

The story followed three young men from East Belfast who have struggled with both school and employment and live in the shadow of Belfast's famous shipbuilding once a hive of manufacturing and employment. The journey showed them returning to learning, developing new skills and confidence in 3D design and advanced manufacturing technologies at Belfast's only open access digital fabrication maker space, FabLab Belfast.

Over four months the team at FabLab Belfast provided support, accredited training and a real design challenge to the young men, delivering concrete skills, opening career opportunities and building their self confidence.

They learnt how to use 3D design software, Laser cutters, CNC milling and 3D printing to create a new 3D wall mural for their local community, acting as designers for a community association they had to demonstrate their new skills to themselves and the residents.



Inside Ashton FabLab

FabLab Belfast has engaged over 8000 people since opening in 2012 and deliver a range of training and accreditations in 3D design, design thinking and offers a wide range of prototyping and design services for industry.

<http://www.ashtoncentre.com/latest-news/true-north/>

For more information about FabLab contact Paddy O'Hare on 90742255

<https://www.facebook.com/Fablab-Belfast>

Martin McGuinness



Visiting the Ashton Centre

Martin McGuinness passed away surrounded by his family on March 21st 2017 at the age of 66. He was buried on March 23rd in his beloved Derry. His funeral was attended by tens of thousands including political leaders and dignitaries from home and abroad. Martin will always be remembered by many as an exceptional leader and statesman and a truly great Irishman. In his time as Deputy First Minister, Martin paid a number of visits to the Ashton Centre. During those visits he expressed his huge admiration for Ashton's efforts in relation to peace building and community development and encouraged us to keep up the good work. The Ashton Community Trust deeply regrets his passing and extends its sincerest condolences to his wife Bernie and family. He will always be remembered with great fondness by everyone here at Ashton Community Trust.



Martin explores Ashton FabLab



Promoting Ashton's Respect Programme



Meeting Paul Roberts in Washington

Greater New Lodge Community Festival 2017



Although we are barely into springtime community workers and volunteers in the New Lodge are already busy preparing the way for the next Community Festival Programme in August. Details including information about events and the programme schedule will be made known to the public later. Paul O'Neill who is Chairperson of the Community Festival Committee said, "Last year's programme was an outstanding success with around 40 events taking place attracting over 4,000 participants. So we have set the bar very high for ourselves and will strive to keep this year's programme to the same standard. Once we have a full programme of events ready it will be hand delivered as always to all homes in the area. We will also promote the programme on social and mainstream media outlets. So watch this space".

Ashton Training & Employment Passes With Flying Colours

Ashton's Training and Employment Department recently underwent an inspection by the Education and Training Inspectorate of its Lemis+ and Core projects and passed with flying colours. Both projects got the highest category of result with all aspects of its work being found to be either very good or outstanding. The inspectors highlighted many positive points including;

- The person centred approach we take to working with clients
- The extensive network of support we provide through our outreach centres and community partners
- The broad range of high quality training that we offer
- Our excellent results in getting people into employment.

The results of the inspection are a credit to the hard work of all our staff and are a welcome endorsement of our approach to delivering in and for local communities. The published report will be available soon on the inspector's website and it will provide important evidence for future funding and projects.

For further information on our Training & Employment Services contact 90742255

REACH YOUR POTENTIAL

Personal Development training

- Improve self-awareness and esteem
- Develop strengths and healthy coping mechanisms
- Learn to talk to yourself in a positive way

For more information contact a LEMIS+ mentor:

Ashton Centre
90742255

Belfast Works
LEMIS+ Project

Led by Ashton Community Trust in partnership with East Belfast Mission, GEMS NI, Job Assist Centre Greater Shankill and Job Assist Centre West Belfast.
The LEMIS+ Project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy.

Are you aged 16-24?

Not in Education, Training or Employment

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- Employability Skills Training
- Get a CV & explore job opportunities
- FE Careers Advice
- 1:1 Mentoring Support

Financial Incentives Available

Training available in a wide range of areas:

- Retail - Warehousing - Nails & Beauty - Catering
- Construction & CSR - Health & Social Care - Childcare - First Aid - Food Hygiene
- Call Centre Training with Guaranteed Interviews

Why not pop down and see us today!
At: 20 Cliftonville Road.
Or: Call us on 028 95 609522

Aged 16 - 24?

Not in education, employment or training?

Living in North Belfast?

Looking for training or employment support?

If you are interested then please contact Betty on 9560 9522 or betty.murray@ashtoncentre.com for more information.

This project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy.

www.facebook.com/AshtonEmploymentServices

Michelle O'Neill Visits Ashton

Suicide Prevention

Former Health Minister Michelle O'Neill visited North Belfast recently to meet with members of the Belfast Alliance for Suicide Prevention (BASP) and hear about local efforts on suicide prevention and emotional wellbeing.

The meeting (Wednesday February 22) was held at Ashton Community Trust's Antrim Road offices, formerly known as the Irish School of Ecumenics, so that community groups could informally engage with the Minister on suicide prevention work being carried out across the city and also to hear about developments on Protect Life 2.



Michelle O'Neill addressing audience

Michelle O'Neill said: "I had a very engaging conversation with the Belfast Alliance for Suicide Prevention today in North Belfast and it was so encouraging to hear about the really positive work that is being done to support individuals and families that are affected by suicide, self-harm, poor mental health and addictions. This grassroots work is invaluable and I would like to encourage everyone to continue supporting their family, friends and communities who may be experiencing difficulties and encourage them to seek help and support from services

provided by local groups and statutory agencies."

BASP's lead contact Irene Sherry said: "At the opening of Old See House last November I invited the Health Minister to come and have a conversation with members of the Belfast Alliance to which she agreed for the end of February. So true to her word, the Minister has come out to hear about what we are doing collectively in the field of resilience, emotional wellbeing and suicide prevention and she was really impressed. We were also in a position to update Michelle around plans to develop a transition centre/safe place which would support individuals in emotional distress.

"From experience we know there is strength in learning from each other and working collaboratively. With such a complex issue like suicide we need to connect and learn from those who are working on a daily basis with individuals and families affected by suicide."

BASP lead contact Stephen Barr added: "We will continue to respond and support those most in need within our communities. Suicide prevention is at the front and centre of this work and this Alliance. We hope to proactively contribute to a fresh and innovative way of working around suicide prevention in Belfast."

BASP is a significant development in the field of mental health and suicide prevention. It is the result of years of community campaigning and lobbying by groups that are working on the ground to address suicide levels across the city of Belfast. As part of its core programme of work, BASP involves community members lobbying and positively engaging with stakeholders on suicide prevention. It also provides a forum for cross-sectoral multi-disciplinary engagement with health professionals.

New Lodge Youth Centre - Turas Project

The Turas Youth Project is made up of a group of young men from New Lodge Youth Centre in Upper Meadow Street. The group will be travelling to Poland to study the impact of World War II. While there they will also visit former concentration camps.

Over the last 12 months this group of young men have taken part in various community projects. They have worked with local homeless charities in North Belfast where they helped with homeless outreach and where they gave out warm clothing, sleeping bags and hot meals on the streets in Belfast City Centre. The group of young men have also been involved in workshops and discussions looking at the issues of migration, stereotyping and discrimination. In addition they have linked up with other young people in refugee camps. As a result the Turas group are currently planning a project to help local refugee and migrant young people living in North Belfast.



Paddy Doyle Youth Worker with Turas Group

The young people have worked tirelessly to help fundraise and achieve their target to take part in their Polish study visit. On behalf of this special group of young people I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped us in any way and also those who donated money and attended the fundraising events over the last 6 months.

Paddy Doyle - New Lodge Youth Centre - <https://www.facebook.com/newlodgeyc>

York Street Interchange

The construction of the York Street Interchange has been long regarded as one of the key transport priorities in the North of Ireland. The scheme comes under the remit of the Department of Infrastructure, formerly DRD. The estimated cost £165 million.

Residents Get Organised

In preparation for the formal consultation process a local public meeting was called in October 2014 at North Queen Street Community Centre (The Recy) and a residents group was formed. From the outset the resident's group realised this would be a highly disruptive project with the potential to cause severe impacts on the lives of local residents. They were also fearful that aspects of the design would further spatially separate and isolate this community from the city centre and its associated social and economic opportunities.



Public Meeting To Form A Residents Group October 2014

Community Issues

The residents group began listing a range of serious concerns. These included the physical impact, associated disruption, safety, privacy, light, noise, air pollution issues, McGurk's Bar Memorial site, pedestrian and traffic movement, property devaluation, mitigation, compensation and more. The group realised that it would probably be unable to prevent the scheme from happening, but argued that protections were crucial to offset its worst effects on local people.

Since then, the residents group has argued its case with government officials, lobbied politicians, made written submissions to the formal consultation process and presented to the Public Inquiry (November 2015).

Public Inquiry Recommendations

In November 2016 the Public Inquiry Report was published and advised that the York Street Interchange scheme should proceed but recommended stronger community engagement, mitigation measures and careful resolution with local residents. The inclusion of the positive recommendations in the report is in no short measure down to the efforts of the residents group. Although there is no date for the actual construction phase to start, the Department of Infrastructure has allocated £4million to allow the scheme to be developed to a point where construction could begin at some future point. This budget includes costs to cover a new consultation process.



Residents Group View Plans

New Consultation

To ensure the best possible outcome for local people the residents group is lobbying hard to ensure the consultation is structured in such a way that it puts the concerns of local residents first and has compiled over forty five technical and design issues relating to the current design that they want taken into consideration.

Memorandum of Understanding Proposal

To reinforce their demand for a truly meaningful community consultation it has proposed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' (MOU) be agreed between the Department of Infrastructure and the local residents group. The aim is to create a sustained community engagement workshop process as recommended in the Public Inquiry to address the next stage of design. The residents group believes this MOU is crucial if we are to resolve local design concerns, reduce the impacts on surrounding area and increase the urban

and pedestrian connectivity. The process would also explore and progress community opportunities such as asset transfer, area management and mitigation projects.

Infrastructure Minister Meets Residents Group

The Minister for Infrastructure, Chris Hazzard accompanied by Principal Highway Engineer Stephen Pollock met with the residents group in the Bunscoil, Lancaster Street on February 27th. Also in attendance were Caral Ni Chuilin MLA and JJ Magee City Councillor. The Minister was taken on a walking tour of the area and shown at first hand the various issues of concern relating to the Interchange. During the meeting Mark Hackett who is a local urban designer advising the residents group said,

“Engagement to solve problems locally was clearly instructed by the Public Inquiry. Therefore resources must be made available for the residents to engage with and shape the next design phase of the project in order to reduce its detrimental effects. We made this point very strongly to the Minister and the other department officials who were present”.

Caral Ni Chuilin MLA also strongly supported the argument for the local community to be provided with independent technical expertise, “Independent technical assistance is crucial in ensuring that the local community has confidence in the consultation process and is an active participant in the remainder of the design phase and throughout the entire construction stage”.

Getting Involved

The residents group is made up of local residents supported by community activists and also has pro bono support (work undertaken without charge) from architect Mark Hackett and Niall Murphy, solicitor. If you are a local resident and would like to become more involved contact; Cecilia Heron or Paul O’Neill phone 028 90 742255 and Bernie Caughey 028 90 742399



Minister Hazzard Meets Local Delegation



Minister Hazzard Views McGurks Bar Memorial Site

Urban Development Issues

The Greater New Lodge area sits alongside a huge amount of urban development that is already taking place or is in the planning pipeline. This includes the new university campus, student accommodation tower blocks in York Street, Streets Ahead and Clifton Gateway public realm improvement schemes and York Street Interchange to give some examples.

Historically speaking, planning and design decisions have created a pattern of disconnection for inner city areas like the New Lodge resulting in poor local urban environments and social exclusion. Belfast City Council in its ‘City Centre Regeneration Strategy’ has begun to acknowledge this issue and has publicly stated the need to connect city centre physical regeneration into surrounding inner city neighbourhoods. It is not clear yet how this is to be accomplished.

However the Ashton Community Trust (ACT) in collaboration with residents groups has been putting together its own views about how this could be achieved by conducting a mapping exercise of various spaces and locations in the local area. The basic idea is to document and highlight problems and propose practical actions to resolve all related issues such as physical condition, safety, visual appearance and connectivity. Ashton believes that this will provide an informed basis for a wider engagement process incorporating local residents, community groups, elected representatives and statutory agencies. This process is ongoing and Ashton Community Trust will keep residents up to date as this process develops.



New University Build

Are You On The Electoral Register?

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



During the last election, it's estimated 100,000 people were unable to vote because they were not on the electoral register. If you wish to be registered to vote you need to complete an electoral registration form. You can get an electoral registration form online at:

<http://www.eoni.org.uk/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-vote-change-address-change-name>

If you don't have access to a computer you can contact someone who does, a relative, a friend or a local community centre.

**Electoral Office Headquarters is located at:
St Anne's House, 15 Church Street,
Belfast, BT1 1ER**

You can also ring a Free Phone number to check you are on the register: **0800 432 0712** or write to the Electoral Office

Please read the guidance notes as you may need to send in documents with your form. This form can also be used to apply for an Electoral Identity Card. Visit the Electoral Identity Card page for details of how to apply.

Postal Vote or Proxy!

If you cannot go to the polling station in person you can apply to vote by POST or PROXY (where you appoint someone to vote on your behalf). You must provide a reason why you cannot vote in person.

Voting by Post

Your ballot paper will be sent to you before polling day so you can cast your vote and post the ballot paper back.

Voting by proxy

You can appoint someone (a 'proxy') to vote on your behalf at your polling station.

Permanent Postal or Proxy Vote

To be eligible for a permanent postal/proxy vote you must provide a reason why you cannot reasonably be expected to go to your polling station on a permanent or long term basis.

The only acceptable reasons are:

- A disability
- You are away from home working
- You are away from home studying

To download an application to receive a postal/proxy go to:
<http://www.eoni.org.uk/Vote/Voting-by-post-or-proxy>



Voters Registration

<http://www.eoni.org.uk/Register-To-Vote/Register-to-vote-change-address-change-name>

New Lodge - Romania Project

In February 2017 16 staff, volunteers and young people from New Lodge Youth Centre travelled to Baraolt, Romania for a second year. The project has won awards for the positive change it has made on young people from the New Lodge. In its first year the young people who took part in the first trip designed and developed a programme for their peers in year two. This included volunteering with the 174 Trust Disability Project, and with Homeless Aware and as volunteers in New Lodge Youth Centre itself.

In February, five young people who took part in the first trip



travelled to Romania to set up and prepare for the second group arriving the following week.

The blog below, from Ciaran Murray, one of the young people who travelled out over the two years, sums up how special Baraolt is and the impact it has had on the young people taking part.

"As we're on our way back to the New Lodge after two weeks of being in Romania I am well and truly gutted to be heading home. This has been my second time out in Baraolt and it was just as special as the first!"

Baraolt is a special special place unlike anywhere I've ever experienced and I don't think anyone could understand until they get out here and go through the programme! The two weeks whilst in Romania this year and last has been eye opening to say the least. I think we've all grown as a team and learnt life lessons that will stay with us forever!

As both year 1 and 2 teams are dotted around the plane near me I am proud of the whole group for pushing past their own comfort zones and just getting stuck in. Before going out us as the year 2 group we knew all the feelings and self doubt the year ones we're experiencing but everyone of them we're top class in everything they done while in Baraolt.

Baraolt is a small town in the Transylvania region of Romania with some of the worst cases of poverty in Europe. Despite this the impact the group had on the town was spine tingling. Baraolt certainly blows your mind and your always questioning yourself how the locals are always so happy and smiling from ear to ear in such poor conditions! Whilst in Romania you realise how lucky we actually are to live in a rich country. The hospital in the town is as far back as 100 years previous to us with facilities, equipment and medicine. People give up their babies to orphanages simply because they can't afford to feed and care for them. We even

witnessed multiple times wee kids as young as 7 begging us for money and food!

My journey through the Romania project has been crazy in terms of developing myself into a young volunteer / aspiring youth worker within the centre and a person in general. I always thought I had the qualities to try youth work but never really had the confidence to take it any further. Sean, my youth worker, has given me the belief I never had and learnt me so much along the way. Now I am confident enough to run my own programme 'Busy Buddies' targeted for junior club members along with 3 participants from the Romania project. We as leaders of the project have high hopes for the junior participants and would love to give them the opportunity to experience Romania themselves in years to come!



Looking to the future I am actually excited to see what the next step is for me both as a volunteer and young person. I hope to learn my trade within the next 2 years picking up as much experience and qualifications along the way then hopefully apply for my youth work degree."

On returning to Belfast the group had a great surprise when three visitors from the Family Centre, working with children with a disability, in Baraolt, arrived in Belfast to celebrate with the group on completion of their programme. While in Belfast they visited a local school and got to meet the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor. The project celebration and first viewing of the project video, fantastically put together by Ignition CIC, was screened in New Lodge Youth Centre for family and friends.

The group would like to thank everyone from the Greater New Lodge who supported them, both through donations and on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/RomaniaProjectNLYC>



Youth Information Event

Inner North Belfast Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership is a cross community mechanism that was set up to promote Community, Economic, Social and Physical Renewal in the Inner North Belfast area. Following a recent review of its Children & Young People Action Plan it was recognised that:

- Young people today face many issues and often don't know who to turn to - what information and services are there to help - where to find these and how to access them.
- Parents and carers face similar challenges when looking for support and services for young people and the wider family unit.
- Teachers and youth service providers also find it difficult to navigate the broad offering of supporting services for young people locally.

Information Day

In response to this an information day was held on Thursday 23rd March in Girdwood Community Hub in partnership by Loughview Community Action Partnership (LCAP) and Greater New Lodge Community Empowerment Partnership (GNLCEP) to showcase the range of services available for young people (aged between 10-18years) across North Belfast.

This event is funded by The Executive Office through the North Belfast Strategic Good Relations Programme and is supported by the Inner North Belfast Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership and North Belfast Locality Planning Group for Children & Young People.

Youth Consultation

Following consultation with youth groups locally, the young people selected the following priority issues: Mental Health & Well Being; Opportunities & Engagement; Safety; Positive Relationships; The Family Unit and Disability.

Over 40 organisations providing services or activities under these themes were present offering information on their services, how to access them and answering any questions participants had. This information is available via the Ashton Community Trust Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/ashtoncommunitytrust/>

Katrina Newell, Head of Arts and Youth Development at Ashton Community Trust said, *"The issues and challenges our young people face today is often compounded by not knowing what services are available to help them, and their families. We are delighted to see so many organisations taking part today to showcase the broad range of support available to our community."*

Women's Aid

Belfast Women's Aid who provide support services for women's groups and young, people both primary and secondary age,



Paddy Doyle Youth Worker chats with participants

around health relationships and self confidence said, "We were delighted to take part in this event and are keen to continue to build relationships locally so we can better serve your area. Young people face terrible challenges with issues around alcohol,



Information stalls at Girdwood HUB

employment, drugs, unhealthy relationships and much more. We are keen to work closely with the local groups we connected with today."

Local Parent

A local parent had this to say: "You can have all the services in the world, but if you don't know they are there then what's the use? It'd be great to see more of this type of event so parents feel there is help out there for their kids".

Sr Bernardine Retires After 31 Years

Sr Bernardine has been in Belfast for the last 31years. During that time she has worked in both St Peters and St Patricks Parishes. The last 17yrs Sr Bernardine has been in charge of Gráinne House Family Hostel that has seen over 400 families pass through its doors in that time from Belfast and further afield such as China, Sudan, Somalia, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Ghana and Zambia to name a few. She has ensured that families were made to feel at home and treated everyone with respect and compassion during their time in Grainne House Hostel. She will be sorely missed by all who had the good fortune and opportunity to know her.



New Lodge Youth Centre Upper Meadow Street

Young Men's Group

A group of young males aged 13-14 years have been taking part on personal development project for the past six months. They have been learning about themselves and how others view them as individuals. Recently the group took part in a cross-community residential youth conference led by the North Belfast Area Project looking at different problems that affect them as teenagers such as mental health, school, drugs and the community that they live in. The boys really enjoyed this residential as it took them out of their comfort zone. It was something that none of them had ever done before and was a great experience for them all to have. The boys built a strong relationship with another group on the residential and very soon will be working alongside them doing cross community work. This group will come together and continue to work through the summer months.



Harbour View

Staff from the New Lodge Youth Centre, have recently just started working with two groups of young people at Harbourview in Sailortown. The Junior Group for young people aged 8 - 11 years from and Senior Group for young people aged 12 - 14 years take place every Tuesday evening and are open to new members joining. Both groups took part in an introduction to drumming and will be continuing this for the next few weeks. The groups will be then moving on to different activities such as DJ skills, arts and crafts and heading up to Belfast Activity Centre for a few weeks.

Winter Youth Exchange, Switzerland

Back in January young people from New Lodge Youth Centre and Bloomfield Community Centre took part in an

international youth exchange project in Switzerland (Swiss Alps). The programme involved young people from here, Switzerland and Israel. Kerri-Lee Bright from New Lodge Youth Centre said "This was an experience of a lifetime. It was hard work as we all faced challenges such as no water, no showers and hikes through snow storms but everyone showed great inner strength to overcome them. We also went skiing on the Alps which was amazing. It was very challenging learning about different cultures and living and working together but it was great fun and the memories will last forever. The exchange has given both Karen (Bloomfield Community Centre), myself and the young people the desire and motivation to get involved in more international work. Young people built amazing friendship with others from countries like Switzerland and Israel and hope that they can work with them again in the future. The project has enabled the young people that took part to feel a sense of who they are and what they want to be! The staff were honoured to have a great group of young people who are a credit not only to us but to their parents and themselves!"

Katrina Newell
Head of Arts and Youth Development - Ashton

Belfast Works

LEMIS+ Project
ITQ Spreadsheets Course
 6 Week Course

Topics covered:

- Introduction to Spreadsheets
- Editing documents
- Data analysis and Interpretation
- Formatting documents
- Document storage
- Check and print documents

For more information contact a Mentor at

The Ashton Centre
 on
 028 9074 2255

The LEMIS+ Project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014 - 2020 and the Department for the Economy

Belfast Works

LEMIS+ Project
Looking for work?
Need qualifications?
Want to learn new skills?
 Sign up to our
ITQ Word Processing Course
 6 Week Course

Topics covered:

- Introduction to word processing
- Editing documents
- Formatting documents
- Document storage
- Check and print documents

For more information contact a Mentor at The Ashton Centre on: 028 9074 2255

The LEMIS+ Project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014 - 2020 and the Department for the Economy

Belfast Works

LEMIS+ Project

Live in Belfast?
Looking for work?
Need qualifications?

Why not sign up for our
ECDL Essentials Course

12 Week Course

Modules include:
IT user fundamentals
Using Email and the Internet
Security for IT users

For more information contact a Mentor at
the Ashton Centre on: 028 9074 2255



The LEMIS+ Project is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014 - 2020 and the Department for the Economy






Ashton Community Trust has a Like Page on Facebook, where we will post information on a regular basis about all of the Trust's services, please like the page to be kept updated.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



Interested in Music?

Always wanted to learn to play an instrument – but didn't fancy going to classes?

Some Ageing Hippies are starting a new participant led Opera Company to go on tour in 2-years. Maybe this is the way for you to start your own Musical Mystery Tour!

For More Information contact
New Lodge Arts 028 90742255 or
alternatively pop into the Culture Shop,
Ashton Centre (beside Spuds) on
Tuesday 12-4, Wednesday 1pm-4 or
Friday 12-4 for more info! For Over 18's only.



Kinderkids Daycare: High Quality Childcare, Local & Professional

Kinderkids Daycare is a department of Ashton Community Trust that was established in 2000 as a social enterprise. Since then, Kinderkids has expanded in response to local need and now operates three childcare centres in North Belfast from Carlisle Circus to the Cliftonville Road. This long history of providing high quality childcare services means we understand that choosing the right childcare for your child is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Kinderkids wants to support you in making this decision and invite you to visit us at any of our childcare centres.



The aim of Kinderkids Daycare is:

To provide high quality childcare services to children, thereby supporting their development and improving parent's access to education, training, employment and family support services.

Kinderkids operates 50 weeks per year from 8am - 6pm and caters for children from birth to 12 years.




Play & Early Learning

Kinderkids understands that play is paramount to a child, has a purpose and is a step towards the learning and understanding of valuable skills.

At Kinderkids Daycare we implement the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) for children aged 0 to 5. The EYFS ensures that children are supported in their learning and development. The EYFS comprises of four main themes;

- A Unique Child
- Positive Relationships
- Enabling Environments
- Learning & Development

For more information, contact us at:

Kinderkids Ashton Centre - Manager: Wenda McNeill
Telephone: 028 90742255 Email: wenda.mcneill@ashtoncentre.com

Kinderkids Cliftonville - Manager: Fionnuala Black
Telephone: 028 90 749146 Email: fionnuala.black@ashtoncentre.com

Kinderkids McSweeney Centre - Manager: Sharon Rooney
Telephone: 028 90 333966 Email: sharon.rooney@ashtoncentre.com

Or call into any of our 3 Daycares

Ashton 'Wellbeing for Work' Service

The Belfast Works LEMIS+ Project operates out of the Ashton Centre to help local people overcome any barriers they may have to employment and enable them to fulfil their potential.



Marina

Recently, the new 'Wellbeing for Work' service has been

developing links with GPs and health professionals in the area, as well as offering taster sessions for community groups in North Belfast about how the service helps people with health issues move towards learning, volunteering or employment.

Belfast Works has developed a partnership with the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, offering support to people interested in applying for the Band 2 and 3 roles currently being advertised. The Ashton Centre held an information day to help local people through the registration and application process. Mentors are available to help anyone through the process at Ashton when required.

The successful Hospitality Employment Academy has had four groups of students pass through its doors for the two week course. Here is one North Belfast hospitality student's story.

When Marina came from Portugal to live in Belfast in May last year, her language barrier prevented her from finding a job, or even getting help. She began to lose confidence and struggled to find work to support herself. This all changed when Marina joined the LEMIS+ project. Her mentor worked closely with her to establish Marina's interests and skills and devised an individual action plan to help her move closer to employment.

Marina took part in the Hospitality Employment Academy, completing the two week course with flying colours and four industry qualifications, and has been successful in getting a job.

If you're not working and are interested in getting some help, call 9074 2255 or visit www.lemisplus.eu for more details.



Ashton Community Trust

Essential Skills Training & Employment Services Ashton Centre

Calling all New Lodge Residents!
Do you have the Essential Skills for everyday life and work?

English + Maths + ICT = Essential Skills
New English and Maths courses are starting in September in your area. Computers (ICT) are used in English and Maths classes.

Courses are LOCAL + FREE

If you would like to find out more:

- + phone Hilary on 90322289
- + email hilary.adair@ashtoncentre.com
- + call in person at the Ashton Centre





Junior Showcase Aladdin

A showcase by our Junior Performers from:

Tiny's Drama & Junior Drama
Fancy Feet 1 & 2
Ballet 1 & 2
Pop Video Dance

Tuesday 11th April 2017 @ 6pm

VENUE: Girdwood Community Hub












Arts Academy

Weekly Classes New members welcome!

Monday's
 Tiny's Drama (P1-P3) 3pm-4pm New Lodge Youth Centre £1
 Junior Drama (P4-P7) 4pm-5.30pm New Lodge Youth Centre £1
 Fancy Feet (Nursery-P1) 4.30pm-5.30pm Macrory Hall £1
 Fancy Feet (Nursery-P1) 5.30pm-6.30pm Macrory Hall £1
 Fancy Feet (P2-P4) 6.30pm-7.30pm Macrory Hall £1
 Pop Video Dance (P5-P7) 7.30pm-8.30pm Macrory Hall £1
 Hip Hop (10-13yrs) 7pm-8pm Girdwood Hub £1
 Hip Hop (14-18yrs) 8pm-9pm Girdwood Hub £1

Tuesday's
 Tiny's Art Class (P1-P3) 3.30pm - 4.30pm New Lodge Youth Centre £1
 Junior Art Class (P4-P7) 4.30pm-5.30pm New Lodge Youth Centre £1
 Junior Visual Arts (5-10yrs) 3pm-4.30pm The Recy £1
 Adult Art Class (11am -2pm) Culture Shop, Ashton Centre
 Senior Drama (1st - 6thyrs) 7pm-9pm Duncairn Art Centre £2

Wednesday's
 Youth Theatre Class (13-18yrs) (audition only) 7pm-9pm Girdwood Hub £2

Thursday's
 Ballet (Nursery-P1) 3pm-3.50pm The Recy £1
 Ballet (P2-P5) 3.50pm-4.50pm The Recy £1
 Ballet (5-10yrs) 5.30pm-6.30pm White City Community Centre £1
 Tiny's Drama (P1-P4) 6pm-7pm Girdwood Hub £1
 Junior Drama (P5-2ndyr) 7pm-8.30pm Girdwood Community £1

Register at the start of class - more info contact Anne on 07736389968




CURRENT Childcare Vacancies

Kinderkids aims to provide the highest quality childcare in an environment that is fun, exciting, nurturing and caring.

Features of the Childcare Service Include

- Fully Registered with Belfast Health & Social Care Trust
- Social Economy Project
- High Quality Play and Learning environment
- Implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum
- Quality Assured
- Competitive Rates

Current Full & Part-time Childcare vacancies. Telephone to arrange a visit or to register a place for your child.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT Christine McKeown at the Ashton Centre on 90742255 OR via email christine@ashtoncentre.com



High quality Daycare and After school services in North Belfast




Arts Academy

Ballet

@ North Queen Street Community Centre

Thursday's

Ballet 1: Nursery-P1 3pm-3.50pm
Fancy Feet 2: P2-P5 3.50pm-4.50pm
Tutors: Brona Jackson

Come along and register at the first session.
 More info contact Anne Delaney 07736389968
£1 per class



Greater New Lodge Safer Streets Committee

If you are the victim or the witness of crime, drug dealing or anti social behaviour you can contact the number below. If no one is there to answer always leave a message on the voice mail.

Remember If You Don't Report Then We Can't Help You. Do Not Suffer In Silence

Greater New Lodge Safer Streets Committee - 0756 493 8276

Another community number you can ring is, Community Restorative Justice Ireland (CRJI) - 028 90 753043

If possible provide the following details;

- Your name and contact number (If you feel comfortable doing so)
- The nature and location of the offence
- The date and time of the offence
- The name/details of the offender (If known)



Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues (THAMI)

The THAMI Project was established for the purpose of tackling awareness of mental health issues. THAMI works closely with a range of local community and youth groups as part of the Greater New Lodge CEP network. This February 2017 TAMHI was involved in delivering a Mental Wealth Games project which will benefit over six hundred students from both St. Malachy's College and Belfast Royal Academy.



As part of the project 50 students from both schools have been working closely with TAMHI to help coordinate the project. Over 12 separate sessions were delivered enabling the students to incorporate the theme of having fun and being active, whilst learning about important mental health issues. These students will go on to act as mentors to their younger peers in the coming months by getting involved with TAMHI's 'Legacy Project', which aims to get various schools in the North Belfast competing against each other in a range of games. The money raised will be distributed between the mental health charities associated with the event as well as the Year 13 Missionary Project.



Kevin Niblock of St Malachys College thanked Joe Donnelly and Michael Meehan from TAMHI for their work, saying, "Both are experts in this field and have provided the excellent informative resources each leader has used to help educate their peers. St. Malachy's looks forward to working closely with THAMI in the coming years to continue to develop their unique programme in schools".

Joe Donnelly TAMHI manager said, "The project was a great success in terms of raising awareness and getting the message out that it is ok to talk and that it is ok to ask for help. Learning about mental health through play is more fun than sitting in a classroom; the young leaders who we have trained are credits to both institutions".

Safer Streets Fridge Magnet

The Greater New Lodge Safer Streets Committee will soon be providing all residents in the area with a fridge magnet showing the Safer Streets phone number. The committee is made up of community volunteers and relies on the good will and support of residents and community groups. Over the years it has developed a multi-agency approach to addressing community safety problems, involving collaborative working with a wide number of organisations. An important aspect of the work is the Safer Streets phone helpline which allows residents to report or discuss a particular issue in a safe and confidential way. The key purpose of the Safer Streets Committee is to empower residents by holding statutory agencies to account to deliver practical results on community safety. If you want to get involved or feel you have something positive to offer do not hesitate to make contact. **0756 493 8276**



Life with ASD

New Lodge Youth Centre in conjunction with Mountcollyer Youth Centre recently completed a project exploring Autistic Spectrum Disorder, ASD, and the challenges young people and families face living with ASD locally.

Over 10 weeks young people from both youth centres designed and developed the programme themselves and co-ordinated a series of interviews, peer to peer, with young people with ASD and also with parents talking about the realities of day to day life. They captured these powerful and emotional stories and were able to create a short video "Life with A.S.D." which will be launched soon. Follow the New Lodge Youth Centre Facebook for more information. <https://www.facebook.com/newlodgeyc>



New Lodge Arts – Event Management OCN (level 2)

For the first time, New Lodge Arts are delivering an accredited programme in Event Management OCN (level 2). This project was designed to accompany a programme already being delivered within New Lodge Arts. The young people taking part in the programme will gain experience in event planning and delivery, and will receive an accredited qualification for this. This qualification will be delivered during weekly sessions, over a course of 12 weeks. The group are currently half way through completing this. As an outcome they will deliver a community event. This time round the young people delivered a section of the ‘Spring into Girdwood’ event on Saturday 25th March at Girdwood Community Hub. The event was a huge success and the team did great as always.



Event planning at Girdwood Community HUB

Interested in drawing?
Enjoy drawing?
Want to draw?

DRAWING WORKSHOPS

Free drawing workshops for adults. Twice a week, drop-in as little or as much as you want. All welcome!

#1 - The Tuesday Drawing Studio
Bring in your drawing projects and learn more about drawing for watercolour, comic books, digital arts and design. Tuesdays 11am - 2pm.

#2 - Friday Draw-in
Develop your drawing by studying real-life subjects. Learn composition, perspective, tone and much more... Fridays 11am - 2pm

At The Culture Shop,
Ashton Centre, 5 Churchill Street, Belfast BT15 2BP

Art materials, tea and buns provided!

email: info@duncross.org

NEW LODGE ARTS

Arts Academy

Hip Hop

Girdwood Community Hub
Monday's

10 - 13yrs: 7pm-8pm
14-18yrs: 8pm-9pm
Tutor: Rochelle (Kollizion Crew)

Come along and register at the first session.
More info contact Anne Delaney 07736389968

£1 per class

Ashton Community Trust | arts council | Lottery Funded | Belfast City Council | Children in Need | ULSTER GARDEN VILLAGES LIMITED

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SUPPORT SERVICES

BELFAST HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST AREA

Date of publication: NOVEMBER 2016
 Disclaimer: Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this directory, we do not accept any responsibility or liability for any errors that have occurred. It is recommended that you always check directly with providers that their service or organisation meets your requirements.

This publication can also be downloaded from www.drugsandalcoholni.info



Services for Adults

Community Drugs Programme

One to one and family support, auricular acupuncture, mentoring and onward referral service.

Open Access

Falls Community Council

Tel: 028 9020 2030

Alcohol Intervention Service

One to one support for alcohol misuse (brief/ extended interventions). **Family members can also get advice and support - regardless of whether their significant other is seeking help.**

Open Access/Self Referrals Accepted

ASCERT

Tel: 0800 254 5123

Low Threshold Services

Aimed at those who misuse alcohol and/or drugs at harmful levels and/or in harmful ways but who are unable to commit to formal treatment (including chronic drinkers & injecting drug users).

Open Access/Self Referrals Accepted

BHSCT Drug Outreach Team

Tel: 028 9504 1433 or 028 9504 7301

Extern Alcohol Housing Support Service

Tel: 028 9033 0433

Community Based Adult Services

One to one therapeutic treatment and support service for those aged 18+ misusing alcohol and/or drugs. **Family members can also get advice and support - regardless of whether their significant other is seeking help.**

Open Access/Self Referrals Accepted

Addiction NI

Tel: 028 9066 4434

Dunlewy Addiction Services

Tel: 028 9039 2547

Statutory Addiction Service

Provided by a range of specialist teams within community and hospital settings

GP/Health Professional Referrals

BHSCT

Tel: 028 9073 7547

Residential Addiction Treatment Centre

6 week residential programme.

Addiction Service Referrals

Carlisle House

Tel: 028 9032 8303

Young People/Family

One Stop Shop

A youth friendly, holistic health and wellbeing service where young people, aged 11-25, have opportunities to socialise and to get advice and support on a range of issues.

Open Access

Extern

Tel: 028 9084 0555

Community Drugs Programme

Drug and alcohol education and awareness programmes, accredited and non-accredited, targeted at young people and/or parents.

Open Access

Falls Community Council

Tel: 028 9020 2030

Strengthening Families Programme

Parents and children participate in the 14-week SFP, both separately in teen and parent sessions, and then together in family sessions.

Targeted at At-Risk/Vulnerable Families

ASCERT

Tel: 0800 254 5123

Targeted Lifeskills Service

For young people, aged 11-25, focussed on lifeskills and harm reduction.

Targeted at At-Risk/Vulnerable Groups

LYMCA

Tel: 028 9267 0918

Steps 2 Cope

Provides one to one support and self help resources to young people, aged 11-18, affected by a parent's use of alcohol.

Open Access/Self Referrals Accepted

ASCERT & Barnardos

Tel: 0800 254 5123

www.steps2cope.co.uk

DAISY

One to one and group therapeutic treatment and support service for children and young people aged 11-25. **Family members can also get advice and support - regardless of whether their significant other is seeking help.**

Open Access/Self Referrals Accepted

Start 360 & ASCERT

Tel: 028 9043 5815

Pharos

Therapeutic treatment and support for families and children affected by parental alcohol and/or drug misuse.

Social Services/Addiction Services Referrals

Barnardos

Tel: 028 9066 3470

DAMHS (Drug and Alcohol Mental Health Service)

A range of therapeutic support services for young people aged under 18 with significant mental health and substance misuse difficulties.

GP/CAMHS Referrals

BHSCT

Tel: 028 9063 8000

Specific Groups

Needle and Syringe Exchange Sites

Boots

35 Donegall Place

Tel: 028 90242332

McGregors

30 Botanic Avenue

Tel: 028 9031 0045

Group Support

Call or go online to find a meeting near you.

Alcoholics Anonymous

12 Step Programme/Group Meetings

Tel: 028 9043 4848

www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

AlAnon

Group Support for Family Members

Tel: 028 9068 2368

www.alanonuk.org.uk

Alateen

Group Support for Teenagers

Tel: 028 9068 2368

www.al-anon.org/for-alateen

Narcotics Anonymous

12 Step Programme/Group Meetings

Tel: 07810 172 991

www.nanorthernireland.com

Community/Stakeholder Support

Belfast Drug & Alcohol Coordination

Team/Connections Service (BDACT)

The DACT Connections Service provides information, advice, signposting and awareness raising (via info sessions and by organising local, and supporting regional, events and initiatives) to a range of community and stakeholder partners.

Tel: 028 9590 1845

www.drugsandalcoholni.info

connections@bdact.info

Workforce Development Training

Programmes

A range of drug and alcohol training courses for those working with adults, children and young people.

ASCERT

Tel: 0800 254 5123

Drink, Work and Me

Offers one to one and online support alongside training to enable employers to recognise the impact of alcohol related harm on the individual and the workplace.

Addiction NI

Tel: 028 9066 4434

www.drinkworkandme.com

AD:EPT2

Provides throughcare support (on release from prison) for prisoners and their families where alcohol is an issue.

Start 360

Tel: 028 9043 5810

For more detailed information on services available in your HSC area visit: www.drugsandalcoholni.info



In Crisis? Lifeline

24/7 CRISIS RESPONSE HELPLINE
 0808 808 8000

ASHTON 'serving North Belfast for over 25 years'

Ashton Community Trust is an award winning regeneration charity that has been delivering services in North Belfast for over 25 years. It employs over 160 people delivering a wide range of services. The Trust has a number of departments who have an online presence, please visit their websites, like their pages on Facebook or follow them on Twitter to be kept up to date on activities of Ashton Community Trust. Ashton's service delivery outputs are an important element in community and social development in North Belfast. In each of our service delivery areas we are constantly working to improve and grow the services we provide. Below is a brief summary of some of our key services.



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ashtoncommunitytrust>

Website: <http://www.ashtoncentre.com/>

Main Ashton contact number: 028 90 74 22 55

Bridge of Hope is a community based health and emotional wellbeing service that works with individuals, families and communities affected by the conflict. Our services include complementary therapies, life coaching, psychological therapies including trauma counselling, personal and professional development, legacy and conflict analysis, as well as accredited VTCT training. We take a person centred approach to all of the work we do. You can easily access support by self-referring or by asking your GP or health care worker to refer you into us. Our local clinics operate from the Ashton Centre and McSweeney Centre. We also deliver services in outreach locations right across the city of Belfast.



Bridge of HOPE

If you would like to take steps to better health and wellbeing please phone and talk to the team on: 028 9022 1022 or 028 9543 8707. You can read lots more about Bridge of Hope by checking us out on Facebook or logging onto our website.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bridgeofhope.org>

Website: <http://www.thebridgeofhope.org/>

New Lodge Youth Centre

In 2012 the management of the Youth Centre in Upper Meadow Street, locally known as the Grey Gables, was officially handed over by the Belfast Education and Library Board to the Ashton Community Trust (ACT). The decision by ACT to take over management was based on the need to improve usage by local young people, increase programme delivery and maximise the overall potential. Some of the services provided include creative thinking skills, drama, arts and crafts, issue-based group work, cultural awareness, community relations, healthy lifestyles, positive behaviour and the 'Mind Your Mate' and 'Amazing Buddies' programmes. For further information contact 9075 1358



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NewLodgeYouthCentre>

Website: <http://www.ashtoncentre.com/youthcentre.php>

North Belfast Social Enterprise Hub is a pilot signature project of the Northern Ireland Executive through their Delivering Social Change Fund.



This project is based at the McSweeney Centre, Henry Place, opening Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. Within the Hub we are offering facilities such as hot desking, information library, conference/training facilities and market research. The Hub activity will range from best practice visits, ideas generation, business clinics, peer to peer matching, mentoring support to help produce business planning, marketing, legal structures and training on topics such as finance, governance, human resources all of which are tailored to your needs.

The Hub is a great opportunity for the community sector to demonstrate the benefits of social enterprises, help to increase economic growth and provide a clear insight for government into the benefits and potential for further developing the social-enterprise sector going forward.

If you wish to contact us please call 95609521 or 95609522 or email nbsehub@ashtoncentre.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthBelfastSEHUB>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NBSEH>

Website: <http://www.ashtoncentre.com/hub.php>

FabLab (Digital Fabrication Laboratory) is halfway between a laboratory and a workshop it's a place



FABLAB

BELFAST

where you can make (almost) anything, where both small children and inventors can turn an idea into reality. We can make products out of wood, acrylic, composite moulds, silicon, cardboard, sheet aluminium, plastics, copper foil and vinyl using various technological methods. FabLab works with young people, students, community and voluntary organisations, arts groups and individuals, schools, universities and businesses helping people to develop their creativity, skills and life opportunities. For further information contact: 9075 5412

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fablab.nervecentre>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FabLabNI>

Website: <http://www.fablabni.com/>

The **Employment & Training Service** has a 20 year track record of delivering training and employability initiatives to unemployed people in North Belfast. Unemployed clients get one to one mentoring, access to high quality training and help identifying and applying for work. The organisation has developed strong links with local community groups, schools and employers and operates from over 20 outreach centres across North Belfast to ensure that all sections of the community have access. For further information contact 9074 2255



Ashton Community Trust
Employment & Training Services

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AshtonEmploymentServices>

Website: <http://www.ashtoncentre.com/employment&training.php>

New Lodge Arts provides an exciting and packed programme for young people of all ages in dance, drama, film-making, carnival arts, visual arts, volunteer development and youth leadership. We work with approximately 2000 children and young people each year. Our key aim is to make the Arts accessible to all in our communities regardless of age, gender or background. For further information contact 90742255



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nlarts?fref=ts>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/newlodgears>

Website: <http://www.newlodgears.com/>

Kinderkids Daycare was established as a social enterprise by Ashton Community Trust in 2000. Since then, the daycares have



expanded in response to demand and now operate three daycare centres in North Belfast. Kinderkids provides childcare services to over 250 children aged from birth -12 years. Each daycare is committed to providing high quality, day care and after schools services to children, thereby supporting their development and improving parents' access to education, training, employment and support services.

Kinderkids believes that learning begins at birth and has a profound effect on lifelong development and adult wellbeing. They acknowledge that quality child care promotes healthy child development at the same time as it supports families, reduces child poverty, advances equality, and deepens social inclusion. For further information contact 9074 2255

Website: <http://www.ashtoncentre.com/kinderkids.php>

The community magazine is produced by Ashton Community Trust with support from Belfast City Council

