



## Clare PPN Newsletter January 2020

**Dear Members,**

Happy New Year to you all, we look forward to working with you through 2020 around the Banner County. We have a number of funding notices for you – including reminders of the fast approaching January deadlines for the Community Support Scheme, Funding for arts events and artists available through Clare County Council, and the national Historic Structures and Built Heritage Investment Scheme. We have notices below for some forthcoming consultations, in particular the one on a new Volunteer Strategy for Ireland-which we will be hosting workshops on in collaboration with Clare Volunteer Centre, and the Housing and Planning and Development Bill which has been causing concern to Environmental groups around Ireland. Please read on for more details of all of the above and more. Also there's a fair amount of election fever in the air at the moment and so as always we are advising all of our member groups to check the register on [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie) to make sure you can vote for your chosen candidates or parties to represent Clare on a national level.

Hoping that storm Brendan has been gentle in your area today and with our very best wishes for a peaceful year full of all that is good about communities and how we can work together,

Sarah Clancy  
**Clare PPN Coordinator**  
Clonroad Business Park  
Ennis, Co. Clare  
V95 N62T  
Mobile: 087 1617375

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### **Clare Mid-West Hospital Campaign Seeks Volunteers.**

Clare Mid-West Hospital Campaign, a group of people campaigning for access to health care including mental and maternal health care in Clare and for the opening of a centrally located Emergency Department in Clare are seeking new members and volunteers. They need volunteers to help them organise participation from Clare in the February 1<sup>st</sup> demonstration which is taking place in Limerick with groups attending from Clare, Limerick and Tipperary.

They will be organising a street stall in Ennis on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January at the Height at 1.30 pm and welcome anyone interested in the campaign to come and talk to them there or to contact them via facebook at this link

<https://www.facebook.com/MidWestHospitalCampaign/> or by phone on 087 2835769

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### **Funding: Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund – Deadline Jan 24<sup>th</sup> 2020.**

As in previous years, the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and the Historic Structures Fund will support the owners and custodians of protected structures in every local authority area across the country as they carry out hundreds of small-scale, labour-intensive projects to repair and conserve our historic built environment. The projects will also provide vital support – and in some cases, training – for local jobs in conservation, traditional skills and construction.

The funding announced by the Minister includes up to €2.5 million in Exchequer funding for the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and up to €1.8 million for the Historic Structures Fund. This Exchequer funding will attract matching funds, yielding a total investment in our built heritage of over €8 million in 2020. You can find all details and application forms at this link:

<https://www.clarecoco.ie/services/planning/news/2020-historic-structures-fund-and-built-heritage-investment-schemes.html>

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## **Funding: Community Water Fund Deadline February 7<sup>th</sup> by post, or online by February 11<sup>th</sup> 2020**

The fund is open to all community and voluntary groups who want to get involved in the protection and restoration of clean and healthy waters in their local area. Improvements in water quality in turn benefits our health and well-being, wildlife and the local economy. The fund is also open to Rivers/Lake Trusts and Catchment Partnerships, these groups tend to adopt a wider catchment-based approach. The closing date for applications submitted by post or email is Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 5.00 pm. A new development for 2020 provides for online applications via this link <https://consult.watersandcommunities.ie/en/content/community-water-development-fund-grant-application-form-2020>

The deadline for online applications is extended to Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 8.00 pm. To encourage applications via the new facility a draw will take place, for online applicants only, with one lucky group receiving a prize of €500. Grants awarded will range from up to €5,000; up to €10,000 and up to €25,000.

Further details here: <http://watersandcommunities.ie/community-water-development-fund-2020/>

## **Reminder: Community Support Scheme Deadline January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020**

Clare County Council is pleased to announce its Community Supports Scheme for 2020. The scheme is available to support community and voluntary groups wishing to undertake specific projects under the relevant categories of the scheme.

The purpose of the council's Community Supports Scheme is to encourage and assist community and voluntary groups to take an active part in the development of their communities and to improve the quality of life experience in their areas.

Closing date Completed applications must be lodged not later than 4:00 p.m. on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020**

Application form and scheme guidelines can be downloaded below or email [css@clarecoco.ie](mailto:css@clarecoco.ie)

Incomplete, emailed and late applications will **NOT** be considered. All details and application forms at the link below:

Link for more info: <http://www.clarecoco.ie/services/community/grants/community-supports-scheme/>

## **Reminder: Arts Grants and Funding Available from Clare County Council- Deadline for Applications - January 17th 2020.**

As part of Clare's 2020 Creative Ireland programme, Clare County Council invite applications for project awards that will develop bodies of work with a public interface/engagement. Funding may be used to support events/projects that focus on cultural activity involving the arts, creative industries, heritage, film and animation. Projects /events as Gaeilge are welcome. They envisage that a series of awards will be granted in the region of €1,000-€2,000. They invite individuals and groups to make applications to creatively explore the following themes through any format:

- Well-being of communities (geographical or communities of interest)
- Cultural Heritage and Traditions
- Sense of place /heritage (which may include historical exploration)
- STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics)

A project which combines two or more themes is desirable but one principal theme is also acceptable. Projects can be submitted through any format e.g. visual art, film, music, theatre, dance, etc. and may cover the arts and heritage sector. Projects can either be new initiatives or, in the case of projects/programmes of activity currently underway, they should be able to show a marked development in how this award would impact on the local community, in terms of scale or scope of the project.

Please refer to the Clare Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 for further information on Creative Clare – <https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/creative-communities/clare>

Application forms and details are now available from:

Creative Ireland Project Awards, Clare County Library, Mill Road, Ennis, Co Clare V95 FX32.

Email: [library\\_mailbox@clarecoco.ie](mailto:library_mailbox@clarecoco.ie) or Tel.: 065 6899082

Link for more information: <http://www.clarecoco.ie/services/arts-recreation/news/creative-ireland-project-awards-2020.html>

## **Reminder -Decade of Centenaries Project Awards -Deadline January 17<sup>th</sup> 2020**

This initiative is supported by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the Community Strand of the Decade of Centenaries Programme.

Applications are encouraged from community, historical and commemorative groups who wish to commemorate events which happened in Clare during 1920. The aim of this commemorative funding is to ensure that events are remembered at community level in a respectful, measured and non-partisan manner. The terms of the scheme are based on the guidance of the Expert Advisory Group on Centenary Commemorations.

We envisage that awards of €1,000 will be granted per project. We invite community, history and commemorative groups to make applications. Please note that the following activities are not eligible for funding:

- Provision of commemorative gardens, memorials, plaques, busts or statues
- Hiring or purchase of replica weapons or uniforms
- Production of commemorative medals or pins
- Administration fees
- Insurance cost
- Application forms and details are now available from:

Decade of Centenaries Project Awards, Clare County Library, Mill Road, Ennis, Co Clare V95 FX32.

Email: [library\\_mailbox@clarecoco.ie](mailto:library_mailbox@clarecoco.ie) or Tel.: 065 6899082

Downloadable application forms are available on: <http://www.clarecoco.ie>

Link for more info: <http://www.clarecoco.ie/services/arts-recreation/news/decade-of-centenaries-project-awards-2020.html>

## **Climate Action Fund Call for Expressions of Interest Deadline 28th February 2020**

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment has opened a Call for Expressions of Interest from public and private sector bodies, as well as non-governmental organisations, for the Government's Climate Action Fund. The Climate Action Fund is one of four funds established under the National Development Plan 2018-2027 as part of Project Ireland 2040.

All the information needed to take part in this Call for Expressions of Interest is in the documents available at the link below. Please read all these documents carefully before applying.

<https://www.dccae.gov.ie/en-ie/climate-action/topics/climate-action-fund/Pages/default.aspx>

The closing date for submitting applications is Friday, 28th February 2020.  
For further information, contact: [ClimateActionFund@dccae.gov.ie](mailto:ClimateActionFund@dccae.gov.ie).

## **Age Action Free Computer Classes for the Over 55s Ennis Library, Wednesdays 10.30 – 12.30**

The 'Getting Started' programme aims to make over 55's comfortable using a computer / tablet / ipad / smartphone and the internet. Tutoring is usually on a 1:1 basis in a relaxed atmosphere. Classes are 2 hours once a week for 5 weeks.

**Terrified by Technology? Confused by Computers? Illiterate about the Internet? Scared of your Smartphone?**

**For more information email [gettingstartedgalway@ageaction.ie](mailto:gettingstartedgalway@ageaction.ie) or call 091 527831**

## Clare Biodiversity Training with Clare Local Development Company

There are three great opportunities for training in Biodiversity issues coming up from Clare Local Development in February: The three separate workshops will deal with **Farming and Nature**, **Ecotourism and Wildlife** and lastly **Tidy Towns and their Landscapes**. For more details check out the images below or contact **Gerry McDonagh on [gmcdonagh@cldc.ie](mailto:gmcdonagh@cldc.ie)**

**Clare Biodiversity Training 2019-20**  
**Farming & Nature:**


Exploring some ideas & opportunities that can maximise a range of benefits for both the farm business and the environment

**Workshop Schedule:**

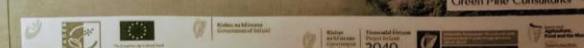
9.00	Registration
9.30	Sustainable & Resilient Farming; An Overview
10.15	Case Study: The Burren Programme & the HNV-Link
11.00	Break
11.15	Case Study: a farmer led approach to improve farm business using natural solutions (Pontbren, Wales)
12.15	Case study: Swards, stock and business diversification (A farm resilience approach from Ulster)
1.00	Lunch
2.00	All Ireland Pollinator Plan & Farming
3.00	Questions & Answers Session

**Venue:** Clare Local Development Company, Ennis      **Date:** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020

To register for this workshop please contact Clare Local Development Company: [gmcdonagh@cldc.ie](mailto:gmcdonagh@cldc.ie)  
Please note that lunch is not provided. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided during the morning break.



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**Clare Biodiversity Training 2019-20**  
**ECOTOURISM & WILDLIFE**

Exploring opportunities for wildlife tourism in Co. Clare

**Workshop Schedule:**

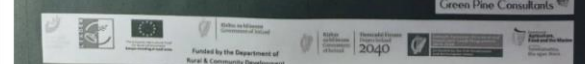
9.00	Registration
9.30	The Value of Wildlife Ecotourism
10.00	Case Study: Ecotourism in the Burren
11.15	Break
11.30	Sustainable Tourism Code of Practice
12.45	Lunch
1.45	Case Study: Mounthannon & the White-Tailed Sea Eagle
2.45	Wildlife Ecotourism for Communities & Landowners
3.30	Discussion Session: Ideas & Opportunities for Co. Clare



**Venue:** Clare Local Development Company, Ennis      **Date:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

To register for this workshop please contact Clare Local Development Company: [gmcdonagh@cldc.ie](mailto:gmcdonagh@cldc.ie)  
Please note that lunch is not provided. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided during the morning break.

Green Pine Consultants



**Clare Biodiversity Training 2019-20**  
**Tidy Towns & their Landscape**

Exploring ideas and opportunities for Tidy Towns groups to engage with, and enhance, their surrounding rural landscape


**Workshop 1: Tidy Towns & Farming**  
*Clare Local Development Company, Ennis*  
**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

9.00	Registration	11.15	Complex Swards for Stock & Pollinators
9.30	A brief history of farming in recent decades	12.15	Working Together; examples of actions that deliver for Tidy Towns and landowners
10.00	Farm Green Infrastructure; steps toward sustainability & biodiversity enhancement	1.00	Lunch
11.00	Break	2.00	Field Trip

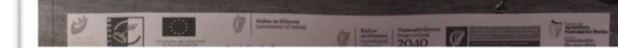
**Workshop 2: Tidy Towns & their Built, Cultural & Natural Landscape**  
*Clare Local Development Company, Ennis*  
**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2020**

9.00	Registration	12.00	Rekindling old connections; place names, mythology, and history & the natural world
9.30	The built landscape; a blend of past, present & future	12.30	Online Biodiversity Resources
10.15	Children & Nature; nature deficit disorder	1.00	Lunch
11.00	Break	2.00	Trees in Ireland; reconnecting with our roots & values
11.15	Working with nature; examples from around the world	3.00	Discussion & Ideas for your Area

To register for one or both of the workshops please contact Clare Local Development Company: [gmcdonagh@cldc.ie](mailto:gmcdonagh@cldc.ie)  
Please note that lunch is not provided. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided during the morning break.



Green Pine Consultants





## Clare Women's Network Forthcoming Activities: Consent Workshop and Creative Writing Workshops:

For more information on either of these events below please contact NCCWN Clare Women's Network on [nccwnclarewomen@gmail.com](mailto:nccwnclarewomen@gmail.com)



### An Introduction to Consent; a life skill for all Relationships

Free workshop hosted by NCCWN Clare Women's Network

Facilitated by Gráinne Carr

**Where:** NCCWN Clare Women's Network, Clonroad  
Business Park, Ennis, Co. Clare V95R8YT

**When:** Feb 6th 2020 10am - 5pm  
*Light lunch provided*

Places are limited and booking is essential. For more information or to book your place please contact:  
[nccwnclarewomen@gmail.com](mailto:nccwnclarewomen@gmail.com)



### Creative Writing Course

Free course hosted by NCCWN Clare Women's Network

Facilitated by Ruth Marshall

**Where:** NCCWN Clare Women's Network, Clonroad  
Business Park, Ennis, Co. Clare V95R8YT

**When:** Beginning weekly Monday February 10th 2020  
*Time to be confirmed*

Places are limited and booking is essential. For more information or to book your place please contact:  
[nccwnclarewomen@gmail.com](mailto:nccwnclarewomen@gmail.com)





## Migrant Forum Clare PPN Offices, January 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 6.30 pm.

Following on from our inaugural meeting which took place on December 4th 2019, Clare PPN are happy to host another meeting open to anyone who has migrated to Clare from another country. This meeting, like the last one will have the purpose of getting a migrant forum up and running in Clare and to help ensure that diverse voices and communities can have their voices heard within Clare PPN and within the county. We'll have refreshments, maybe even cake! and we look forward to meeting and learning from all who attend. Please contact Clare PPN on 087 1617375 if you have any questions.

2020

Tuesday, 21st January, 6.30pm  
Clare PPN  
Clonroad Business Park  
Ennis, Co. Clare

admin@clareppn.ie  
www.clareppn.ie  
087 1617375

**Migrant Forum**  
'Coffee, cake & community'

Clare Public Participation Network

Have you come to live in Clare from another country? Would you be interested in getting more involved and having your voice heard in the community and local government in Clare? if so, join Clare PPN to discuss the issues affecting you and your community?

## **Volunteer Opportunity from Suas.ie- help children in Ennis with learning Maths this February and March**

If you'd like to help children in Ennis learn maths there's an 8 week, two mornings a week great volunteering opportunity available with [www.suas.ie](http://www.suas.ie) who run some great programmes in Ireland and abroad to help learners who might need an extra hand. Contact Elaine Murphy on 01 662 1400 for more information or fill in the form at [www.suas.ie/ireland-placements](http://www.suas.ie/ireland-placements)

## **Open Public Consultations:**

- **Public Consultation on Draft National Volunteering Strategy 2020 – 2025 – Deadline for submissions- January 31<sup>st</sup>**

You can read the draft strategy and instructions on how to make submissions here

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/fc55b9-public-consultation-on-draft-national-volunteering-strategy-2020-202/>

Clare Volunteer Centre and Clare PPN will be organising two public consultation sessions on this draft strategy. The consultation events are opportunities for volunteers and organisations who facilitate volunteering to discuss the draft strategy. The events will be documented with outcomes fed back to the Department by the Clare Volunteer Centre. They will take place on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at 11.00 - 1.00 pm in Ennistymon Courthouse Gallery and at 5.00 pm in the Clare Education Centre, Kilrush Road, Ennis. All welcome and refreshments will be served.

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/public-consultation-draft-national-volunteering-ennis-tickets-89737913515?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/public-consultation-draft-national-volunteering-ennistymon-tickets-89749223343?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

- **Public Consultation on Housing and Planning and Development Bill Deadline January 27<sup>th</sup> 2020.**

You can read the proposed legislation at this link: <https://www.housing.gov.ie/housing/public-consultation-general-scheme-housing-and-planning-and-development-bill-2019>

and you can find details of how to make a submission here - <https://www.housing.gov.ie/housing/public-consultation-general-scheme-housing-and-planning-and-development-bill-2019> In regard to this particular consultation the Irish Environmental Network has asked us to raise their concerns with members about the scope of this legislation. They are concerned that it reduces the rights of communities to seek judicial review of planning decisions and imposes new restrictions on who is eligible to take such cases. It is their view that this legislation will undermine and reduce the mechanisms through which developments can be objected to and as such that it will impact those campaigning for environmental protection severely. You can read their statement on it here <https://greennews.ie/shock-bill-engos-access-justice/>

Should any environmental college member group wish, Clare PPN is happy to organise a meeting and group submission in January – please email [sarah@clareppn.ie](mailto:sarah@clareppn.ie) if you want us to do this.

