

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2021



Dear Clare PPN member,

Welcome to our February newsletter. Spring is here, there's a new energy about, and we've unleashed a mighty gust of fresh air through our newsletter – we hope you like the new format. It's as packed as ever with news, funding opportunities, events, training workshops and more.

As organisations embrace online organising, more events are happening virtually. Clare County Council is planning an online St Patrick's Day, in which you can participate, while also in March the Ennis Book Club Festival will be a virtual affair, as will the Bealtaine festival in May.

We have two opportunities relating to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), one is a training for community groups, hosted by Clare PPN, and the other is a programme which allows individuals to become champions of the SDGs.

Scroll to the end to see news of current public consultations.

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hederman

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County Clare Vision for Community Wellbeing for this and Future Generations

January 2021



'A COUNTY TO BE PART OF AND TO BE PROUD OF'

Last October we asked, "What kind of Clare do you want to live in?". That was the start of a process of creating a 'Vision for Community Wellbeing' for the county and one for each Municipal District. We have now launched the final Wellbeing statements on our website. They are aspirational, describing what our members and participants would like for their communities, a shared vision for a future in which all people can thrive. They will inform the work of Clare PPN and its representatives on Clare County Council committees. They are living documents that will be revised annually.

<http://clareppn.ie/wellbeing-statements/>

UNDERSTANDING AND USING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ONLINE TRAINING
WEDNESDAY, 10TH MARCH 2021
12-2 PM

- 1. WHAT ARE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?
- 2. HOW CAN THEY BE USED TO IMPROVE YOUR WORK?
- 3. HOW CAN THEY BE USED TO IMPROVE YOUR COMMUNITY?
- 4. HOW CAN THEY BE USED TO IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS?

Clare PPN

FOR MORE INFORMATION & BOOKING, SEE: <https://www.developmentperspectives.ie/advocate.html>

WORKSHOP: UNDERSTANDING & USING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Wednesday, 10th March at 7pm: Join Development Perspectives and Clare PPN for a two-hour interactive workshop on how you can implement the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in your work and activism. The training will highlight the potential that development education has in creating transformative change in communities. In 2015, world leaders agreed 17 goals for a better world by 2030. These goals have the power to end poverty, fight inequality and stop climate change. Book your place by emailing admin@clareppn.ie or call 087 1617375.

Separately, Development Perspectives is running an SDG Advocate Training programme that offers 26 active citizens an opportunity to become one of Ireland's SDG Advocates: <https://www.developmentperspectives.ie/advocate.html>

CLARE PPN MEMBER GROUPS

The updated list of our member groups shows we now have 312 member groups. Use the link below to view the current list. If you would like to get in contact with any of these groups please let us know at admin@clareppn.ie and we will pass on your contact details in line with our Data Protection Policy Statement.

<http://clareppn.ie/clare-ppn-member-groups-updated-february-2021/>

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RETHINK IRELAND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE FUND

Deadline 5th March: This €3.2 million fund backs social enterprises that add to the social and economic fabric of their community by way of social impact. Social enterprises are at the heart of facing the greatest social challenges in Ireland. The money they make from their work is used to grow what they do so that they can reach all the people who need their help. Delivered from 2018-2022, the fund was created in partnership with Local Authorities Ireland and funded by IPB Insurance and the Dept of Rural and Community Development through the Dormant Accounts Fund. Details here: https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/social-enterprise-development-fund-2021/

Deadline 29th March: The Ignite Midwest Fund aims to spark meaningful social impact in Clare, Limerick and Tipperary by supporting charities, community groups and social enterprises in the area. Applications are invited from organisations working to empower communities, tackle inequality, poverty or social exclusion; and/or promote recovery and prevention. The Fund offers cash grants and non-financial supports of €55,000 – €75,000 for up to seven projects. Two awards are specifically for innovative projects using music as a means of enhancing wellbeing and promoting social inclusion. https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/ignite-midwest-fund-2021/

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NEWS

Together for a better world

4 Friday workshops

Are you interested in learning/contributing to what it means to be a woman living in a changing world? Women Together for a Better World is a project delivered by Clare Women's Network (CWN) and AkiDwA, exploring how gender equality can be achieved by exploring equality and human rights through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals. The project targets both indigenous and migrant women in Clare and will be delivered in four online sessions of three hours each, beginning on 26th February. Contact CWN for an application form: ncwncclarewomen@gmail.com

**AGE ACTION – GETTING
STARTED KIT**

As part of its Getting Started digital umbrella, Age Action has developed Keep In Touch (KIT) in response to Covid-19. This remote national learning initiative helps older people improve their digital literacy skills, so they are more connected, informed and supported during social distancing. Up to five hours' tutoring, by phone, is offered to anyone who feels they need support to use their smart device. Learners will be matched with a volunteer tutor and will be sent a 40-page learning booklet. For more information call Age Action on 01-4756989 or click on this link: <https://www.activelink.ie/community-exchange/services-requests/79822-age-actions-getting-started-kit>

BEALTAINÉ FESTIVAL 2021

Bealtaine is Ireland's only festival that celebrates creativity as we age. While we may still be fighting Covid-19, Age & Opportunity wants you to know they are busy preparing for an exciting new online Bealtaine 2021 and they need you to join them. The festival will take place throughout May, with a wide range of activities that will be shared soon. The theme for 2021 is In(ter)dependence. <https://bealtaine.ie/bealtaine-festival-event-registration-is-now-open/>

Tips for an organising an event: <https://bealtaine.ie/resources-for-organising-an-event/>

ENNIS BOOK CLUB FESTIVAL

5th-7th March: Ennis Book Club Festival has been launched. In line with Government regulations all events in March will be online and can be viewed by reserving tickets at the link below. The organisers look forward to the time when we can all return to Ennis but in the meantime they present a programme of creative and engaging events. Your support is a great help, whether financial, providing services, spreading the word or simply logging on to events. www.ennisbookclubfestival.com

**ONLINE STRESS CONTROL
PROGRAMME**

HSE Health and Wellbeing are offering a free, evidence-based Stress Control programme that teaches you practical skills to deal with stress. The programme helps participants recognise the signs of stress. It covers topics including how stress affects our bodies and our thoughts. It teaches skills to overcome panicky feelings and tips to getting a good night's sleep. Dr Jim White will live-stream the classes, free-of-charge. You can watch the sessions either in the afternoon or evening. This is a free programme. Click here to find out more: www.stresscontrol.ie

ST PATRICK'S DAY ONLINE

Clare people at home and abroad are invited to come together virtually to celebrate St Patrick's Day 2021 online. Clare County Council is organising the event with the theme of 'Connecting Clare', and everyone can actively participate in the online event or join the global audience on the day. We would love as many people as possible to take part and make this an enjoyable and memorable St Patrick's Day for us all. [More details here](https://www.clarecoco.ie/your-council/news/clare-county-library-announces-details-of-clare-reads-this-is-happiness-initiative.html)

**UNDERSTANDING MENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES**

Thursday, 25th February at 10am: Join Mid West ARIES for this workshop looking at the current mental health services and how to access when you need help, providing a broad understanding of its structures, function and staff. Learners will be empowered to feel confident in accessing services and make recovery gains. Open to anyone aged over 18 with an interest in mental health and wellbeing. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/free-workshop-understanding-mental-health-services-registration-136837503657>

**CLARE READS . . . 'THIS IS
HAPPINESS'**

Clare Reads is a new initiative from Clare County Library that encourages reading for pleasure. A designated book connected with the county during the month of February, this new project is part of both the 'Ireland Reads' and 'Keep Well' campaigns. 'This Is Happiness', a novel by Niall Williams, is available to borrow from all public libraries, electronically via BorrowBox, and to purchase from bookshops. There will be a programme of online events in March to accompany the reading initiative. This Is Happiness is a novel set in Faha, a small Irish parish unaltered in a thousand years. <https://www.clarecoco.ie/your-council/news/clare-county-library-announces-details-of-clare-reads-this-is-happiness-initiative.html>

**POSTAL WORKERS HAVE A
COMMUNITY FOCUS**

An Post is promising to leave no one behind in the pandemic, as delivery staff continue to provide Community Focus supports, including check-ins, newspaper delivery and free post for nursing home residents. Staff check in regularly with 'seniors' along their postal routes. Family members can register for a specific free check-in for a relative. Staff can also pick up items for older people. Postage of letters to and from residents or nursing and care homes is free, if FREEPOST is written on the envelope. Finally, customers can nominate a Temporary Agent to collect social welfare payments at the Post Office. Find out more at: www.anpost.com/CommunityFocus

CONSULTATIONS

Review to Renew Review of National Development Plan (NDP)

**NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
– FINAL REMINDER**

Deadline tomorrow, 19th February: A final reminder about the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's 'Review to Renew', the public consultation element of the National Development Plan. The consultation period has been extended to 5pm tomorrow, 19th February. Stakeholders are asked to respond to a number of questions which can be found here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/d3f3a-review-to-renew-the-public-consultation-of-the-review-of-the-national-development-plan/>

NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES PLAN

Deadline 1st March: Irish Water has extended its public consultation for the first National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) until 1st March. Clare PPN has been asked by our member groups to hold an information and consultation event with a view to making a community informed submission. It will be a chance to identify the issues and challenges around water supply in your area. This will take place next Monday, 22nd February at 6.30pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend please email: admin@clareppn.ie

The draft Framework Plan can be viewed here: <https://www.water.ie/projects-plans/our-plans/nwrp/>

The consultation information leaflet can be viewed here: <https://www.water.ie/news/irish-water-publishes-its-nwrp-information-leaflet.pdf>

ABOUT US

County Clare's Public Participation Network – bringing our diverse voices into policy making for the county now and in the future.

CONTACT US

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