

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021



Dear Clare PPN member,

Welcome to our March newsletter.

As Covid restrictions continue, it's more important than ever to have access to supports, services and help with keeping connected and active – especially for those who are more isolated. In this newsletter we have news about several initiatives for older people, English conversation classes for migrants, a positive psychology and happiness webinar, and a new webchat advice service from Threshold for those experiencing difficulties in renting their home.

We have details of five funding opportunities for community groups, and please scroll down to the end of the newsletter to read about the latest public consultations.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



REMINDER – COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANT SCHEME

Deadline 29th March: The 2021 Community Heritage Grant Scheme aims to support capital projects that improve access and inclusion to heritage sites and that apply good heritage practice. It also supports the purchase of equipment. The scheme is open to voluntary and community groups and heritage NGOs.

<https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding/community-heritage-grant-scheme-2021>



EQUALITY GRANT SCHEME

Deadline 22nd April: The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission's Human Rights and Equality Grant Scheme is open for applications. Civil society groups can apply for between €6,000 and €20,000 to advance projects under three themes:

- Advancing Social and Economic Rights and Equality
- Combating Racism and Racial Discrimination
- Progressing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

More details here:

<https://www.hrec.ie/our-work/human-rights-and-equality-grants-scheme-2021-22>



CLAR 2021 FUNDING SCHEME

Deadlines 23rd April - 21st May: The CLAR 2021 funding scheme has been launched. The scheme aims to provide funding for small scale infrastructural projects for schools and community projects in areas that have suffered the greatest levels of population decline. Suitable projects include those that make school/community facilities safer or that upgrade recreation facilities. Community gardens and allotments are also supported. Clare Co Council will be operating the scheme in Clare. Guidelines and application forms are available at:

<https://www.clarecoco.ie/services/community/grants/clar/>



HEART OF THE COMMUNITY FUND

Deadline 8th April: Up to €5,000 is available to community groups responding to Covid-19. The Ireland Funds is a global philanthropic organisation which supports not-for-profits and charities across the island of Ireland. The Heart of the Community Fund is aimed at smaller organisations meeting direct needs in their local communities. It will provide critical and timely funding to a wide range of not-for-profit and community organisations. See more here:

<https://irelandfunds.org/grants/>



HSE / NATIONAL LOTTERY GRANTS

Deadline 16th April: Applications are invited by the HSE for National Lottery Funding Grants. This funding is distributed by the HSE each year to community and voluntary organisations under the Respite Care Grant Scheme and the National Lottery Grant Scheme. Groups and organisations involved in the provision of Health and Personal Social Services can apply for once-off funding of €500 to €10,000. Information and application form here:

www.hse.ie/lotterygrants

NEWS



ONLINE TALK TONIGHT: BEE GARDENS AND FARMS

25th March, 8pm: Pollinators – who are they and why do we need them? Why are bees under threat? These and other questions will be answered in a fascinating online lecture this evening at 8pm, hosted by the Clare branch of An Taisce. The lecture is entitled 'Pollination Project: Bee Gardens and Farms'. To book a place email: clare.antaice@gmail.com



LGBTQ+ CLARE SURVEY

Are you part of Clare's LGBTQ+ community? LGBTQ+ Clare is a new project that would like to hear from you about the supports and services that would make your life better. Please take a few minutes to complete the short survey at the link below. Clare PPN is proud to be one of the organisations behind this new initiative that aims to make our LGBTQ+ community more visible and more connected. Survey closes 31st March:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LGBTQ_Clare



CLARE MIGRANT FORUM

Are you a migrant living in Clare? Would you like to be part of a migrant-led forum to discuss issues and have your voices heard? Please email admin@clareppn.ie for more information.



JUST TRANSITION CHAMPIONS

Community Work Ireland and Friends of the Earth are joining forces to help upskill youth work and community work practitioners to play a vital role in the just transition to a decarbonised and climate resilient future. Following five online sessions, participants will be eligible for €150 seed funding to deliver a multiplier workshop in their local community:

<https://www.activelink.ie/community-exchange/training/80167-community-work-ireland-friends-of-the-earth-the-just-transition-champions-programme>



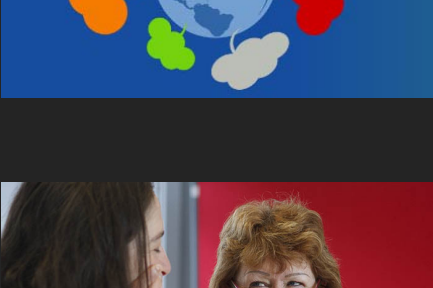
FITLINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Some find it easy to be physically active but for others it's not so simple. FitLine is a volunteer helpline to assist older people who want to feel a bit healthier, but perhaps don't have the motivation, confidence or information on where or how to take that first step. The service is free. Freephone 1800 303545 and after you've made the first call, a mentor will arrange a time to ring you every two weeks until you're happy with your progress. You can also email fitline@ageandopportunity.ie or visit: <https://ageandopportunity.ie/active/fitline/>



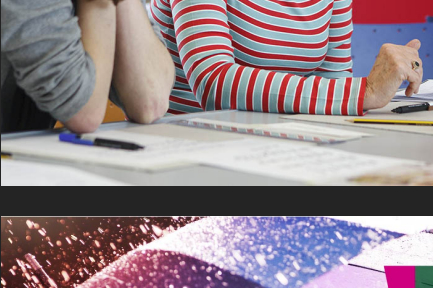
FÁILTE ISTEACH ENGLISH CLASSES

Fáilte Isteach is a community project in which volunteers welcome migrants through conversational English classes. The next round of classes with Fáilte Isteach in Clare starts on 12th April. If you would like to learn English OR be a volunteer tutor for seven weeks, please email faileisteachennis@gmail.com



BEALTAINÉ HERO AWARD

Deadline 26th March: Age & Opportunity's Bealtaine Festival wishes to recognise two innovative grassroots arts projects through the Bealtaine Hero Award. Applications are invited from individuals and / or organisations who wish to create an exciting new online festival event which will be presented during the Bealtaine Festival 2021. Read more here: <https://bealtaine.ie/bealtaine-hero-2021/>



POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY & HAPPINESS WEBINAR

31st March at 2pm: As we continue to adapt our lifestyles to deal with COVID-19 and face difficult challenges, HSE Health and Wellbeing are taking the opportunity to share some tips on how to build happiness into your life using positive psychology. Guest speaker, psychologist Paula King, will discuss the importance of creating meaning in our lives, look at the studies carried out on optimists and pessimists. The webinar is at 2pm on Wednesday, 31st March. Register here: https://lms.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hQvB3xQSOQ-yFUBEs4ER3w



JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

Clare PPN representative Madeline McAleer will be in attendance at the next meeting of the Clare Joint Policing Committee (JPC) on Monday, 12th April at 10:30am. Please forward any comments or suggestions you may have about policing in Co Clare to: admin@clareppn.ie. If you would like to attend the meeting virtually, email clarejpc@clarecoco.ie before 3rd April.



RENTAL ADVICE & SUPPORT

National housing charity Threshold would like to remind all renters that if you are experiencing difficulties in renting your home, Threshold continues to provide free, independent and confidential advice and support to individuals and families via its new webchat service or its freephone helpline. The freephone helpline is open Mon-Fri, 9am-9pm at 1800 454 454 and the webchat operates Mon-Fri, 9:30am-5pm via: www.threshold.ie



CEOL 21 VIRTUAL CONCERT

30th March: ILMI presents Ceol 21 at 8pm next Tuesday. This exciting virtual stage is sure to be "an evening in" like no other, with a line-up that includes Emille Conway, Glen Hansard, Tolu Makay, Hubert McCormack, Mundy, Robbie and Richard Sinnott and Daniel O'Donnell. If you are a disabled person ILMI wants you to be part of their audience. To reserve your ticket please email info@ilmi.ie

CONSULTATIONS



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

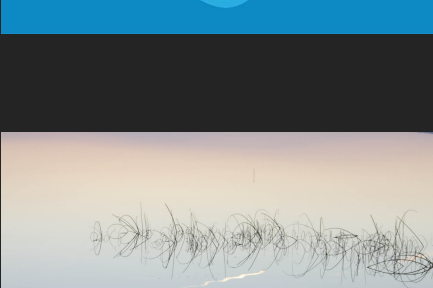
Deadline 18 May: A consultation has just opened for the Government's Climate Action Plan, Ireland's roadmap to becoming a climate neutral economy and resilient society by 2050. The Government wants your views on how we can transform Ireland and support people to take their own climate actions. You don't need to be a climate expert for your opinion to be valued. This consultation is open until 18th May:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/5bd95-climate-conversation-climate-action-plan-2021/>



CLARE LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN GUIDELINES

Deadline 31st March: The Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) for County Clare contains 14 high-level goals along with specific actions to drive economic, social and community development in the county over the next six years. We would like your input into the guidelines that will inform the next LECP 2022-2027. Please send your feedback to admin@clareppn.ie before next Wednesday, 31st March. You can read more about this on the Clare PPN website: <http://clareppn.ie/the-local-economic-community-plan-guidelines-feedback-needed/>



NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Deadline 26th March: A review of the National Parks & Wildlife Service is currently underway, headed up by Prof Jane Stout and Dr Michael Ó Cinnéide of TCD. The review will be informed by a stakeholder survey comprising multiple choice questions, with an option to make comments. NPWS staff feel very under-resourced and this review could help to change that. The survey can be accessed from this page: <https://www.npws.ie/news/review-npws-stakeholder-survey>