

# NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023



Dear Clare PPN member,

Welcome to our March newsletter! The equinox has passed, the days are now longer than the nights and there's more time for the outdoors. We have news of a free sustainable gardening course in in Miltown Malbay, as well as Easter art camps for children with life-long health conditions and a coffee morning for older people with lost skills to discuss taking part in a festival this summer. And, as always, lots of funding news.

Our member group in the spotlight this month is Clare Immigrant Support Centre, which has been working with immigrants in the county for more than 15 years to ensure their rights are upheld and to support them in integrating into their local communities.

If you'd like to see something included in a future newsletter, please email newsletter@clareppn.ie.

Finally, please forward this email to others in your group – or to anyone you think will find it useful.

All the best,

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hederman

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



## MEMBER GROUP IN THE SPOTLIGHT: CLARE IMMIGRANT SUPPORT CENTRE

Clare Immigrant Support Centre (CISC) has been active in the Banner County since 2007, when it took over from the Irish Refugee Council, which had been working in the county since 1994. The small but dedicated team at CISC aim to make sure everyone in Clare's immigrant community has access to services and that all their rights and entitlements are upheld. They work hard to support immigrants integrating into their local communities by responding to their individual needs and also by engaging with local service providers, agencies and groups.

CISC organises or supports events that offer integration, fun, friendship and creativity. CISC is a part-time service with an office in Ennis, which provides a range of services to all immigrants living and working in Clare, including International Protection applicants, refugees and the Ukrainian community. They support people through targeted drop-in and outreach sessions around the county, both in-person and online, providing casework, information, advocacy, training, event and media organising.

CISC works together with immigrants, groups and agencies so that immigrant issues are addressed and individuals can have good outcomes in their everyday lives. You can contact CISC at ciscennis@gmail.com or 065-6822026 and their website has lots of useful information.

<https://www.clareimmigrantsupportcentre.com>

The photo above shows an Africa Day event on 25th May 2022 in Ennis – the launch of a portrait exhibition celebrating the African community in County Clare.

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



## CREATIVITY IN OLDER AGE SCHEME

**Deadline 12th April:** Creativity plays an important role in promoting positive health and wellbeing because it creates a space for social connection, enhancing self-esteem and resilience. It helps people to de-stress and relax, and supports people to manage their health and wellbeing and enable recovery. The Creativity in Older Age scheme supports specific creative initiatives to support positive ageing and wellbeing programmes for older people. Should you have any queries please email us at [creativeireland@tcagsm.gov.ie](mailto:creativeireland@tcagsm.gov.ie) or you can also contact us through submit.com. A full briefing document is available here.

<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2023/03/Creativity-in-Older-Age-Briefing.pdf>



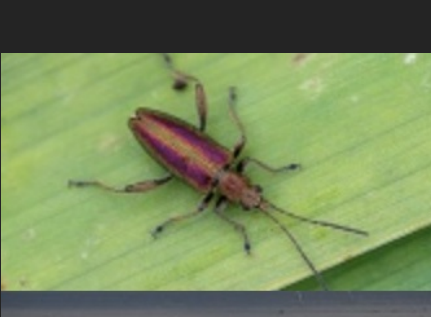
## MONEYPOINT WIND FARM COMMUNITY FUND

**Deadline 26th April:** The 2023 ESB Wind Farm Community Funds are now open for applications. The only such fund in Clare relates to Moneypoint Wind Farm and can be applied for by community and voluntary groups within 10km of Moneypoint. The Funds will prioritise projects and initiatives that support and benefit the areas surrounding the wind farm, in the following categories: Education and skills; Health, safety and wellbeing; Environment and habitat conservation; Energy efficiency and sustainability; Culture and heritage; Recreation, sport and social inclusion; and Covid-19 related supports. Applications may be made online at: [www.communitybenefitfunds.ie](http://www.communitybenefitfunds.ie)



## DECADE OF CENTENARIES BURSARY SCHEME

**Deadline 5th April:** The Decade of Centenaries Bursary Scheme acknowledges the important role local historians often have in communities, as informed and trusted researchers, whether amateur or professional. The Royal Irish Academy welcomes applications as part of the final year of the Decade of Centenaries. This scheme encourages and supports new local research and history studies focusing on the struggle for independence and Civil War period. Read more here: <https://www.ria.ie/news/decade-centenaries-grants-and-awards/decade-centenaries-bursary-scheme-open-applications>



## GRANTS FOR SMALL RECORDING PROJECTS

**Deadline 31st March:** Applications are being sought from the recording community for Irish natural history-related projects. The aim of these grants is to support the network of naturalists recording in Ireland and develop the next generation of specialist recorders. These NPWS grants are aimed at volunteer, unpaid recorders, or groups, societies and associations of recorders who have limited/no access to financial supports for their work. More info here: <https://www.npws.ie/news/nps-grants-small-recording-projects-2023>



## TRAVELLER WELLBEING THROUGH CREATIVITY

**Deadline 31st March:** This is a call to relevant groups and organisations to deliver an innovative project in 2023 focused on enhancing Traveller wellbeing through the medium of creativity. Grant funding between €30,000 and €50,000 per project will be provided in 2023 under this initiative up to a total of €200,000, including a new Shared Island grant for one project of up to €50,000. A full briefing document is available here: <https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2023/02/Traveller-Wellbeing-through-Creativity-Call-Brief-2.pdf>

# NEWS / EVENTS ...



## FREE SUSTAINABLE GARDENING COURSE

**1st April:** In conjunction with Healthy Clare and the Heritage Office, Clare County Council is offering voluntary community groups a FREE Sustainable Gardening Course on Saturday 1st of April from 10am to 4pm in the LCETB premises in Miltown Malbay. This one-day course covers organic gardening, pollinator planting, veg growing, mini pond building, pruning, cuttings and more. The course, run by horticulturist and environmentalist Aoife Munn, is lively and interactive – expect to get your gardening gloves dirty. Book your tickets here: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/sustainable-gardening-course-sponsored-by-clare-county-council-tickets-569851610507>



## FREE SMARTPHONES/TABLET TRAINING FOR SENIORS

**24th & 31st March:** Would you like to get more out of your Smartphone/Tablet? Cyberseniors training is designed for participants aged 55 and older and is provided by Age & Opportunity. Their two sessions cover introduction to smartphones/tablets and safe use (cyber security), and using your smartphone/tablet for leisure, health and communications, daily tasks and banking. You can take part on Friday 24th and Friday 31st March at the Clare Co Council chamber, New Road, Ennis. Times: 11am-1.30pm. Free refreshments provided. To book please phone Fiona on (01)865 7796 or email [engage@ageandopportunity.ie](mailto:engage@ageandopportunity.ie)



## EASTER ARTS CAMP FOR CHILDREN WITH HEALTH CONDITIONS

**4th-6th April:** Registrations are now open for Helium Arts' upcoming free Easter Art Camps for children aged 8-12 with lifelong physical health conditions. Their camps will take place in Ennis, Limerick, Galway and Nenagh. A lifelong physical health condition is one which can be treated and managed but usually not cured. Living with a lifelong physical health conditions is hard – children can face loneliness, stress, anxiety, and feel defined by their condition. The camps are a great opportunity for children to explore their creativity and make new friends, learn new life skills, grow in confidence and self-esteem and have fun. Please email [hello@helium.ie](mailto:hello@helium.ie) for a 2023/02/27/easter-art-camps-2023/



## SLIDE PRESENTATION ON REFUGEES

Clare PPN would like to thank Bulelani Mfaco of the Movement of Asylum Seekers Ireland (MASI) for being with Clare PPN earlier this month when he co-hosted an information session on Refugees and International Protection applicants. We could have been there all night with the questions being asked and the myths being debunked. You can view the presentation slides here: <https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Refugees-and-International-Protection-Applicants-Final-Version.pdf>



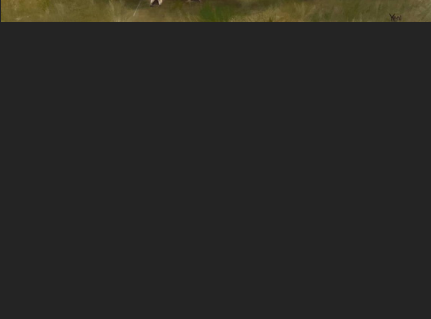
## FESTIVAL SEEKS OLDER PEOPLE WITH LOST SKILLS

Rekindle is an intergenerational festival of lost skills showcasing the knowledge of older people. Building upon the success of the first Rekindle Festival last year, it will take place on Sunday 14th May at the Courthouse Gallery Ennistymon. Festival co-ordinator Katie Cogan said: "We're looking for older people with skills involving making useful things, repair, creating beautiful crafts, growing materials or foods, mending belongings or building habitats. Anyone with a skill diminishing in popularity and in danger of being forgotten." They're hosting a coffee morning in advance of Rekindle on Thursday 6th April, 10am-12pm at The Courthouse Gallery. If you'd like to come along, contact Katie at 083 1500 535 or email [rekindle@ourcommonknowledge.org](mailto:rekindle@ourcommonknowledge.org)



## ROOM FOR HIRE IN ENNIS

One of Clare PPN's new member groups has a super premises in the centre of Ennis and is offering their state-of-the-art training facility / meeting room for hire at a reasonable rate. Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Ireland was set up in 2021 to be the 'go to' hub for everyone living with FASD. Their HQ is in Ennis and they raise awareness and lobby for practical strategies to reduce and prevent FASD. Room hire is €75 per day, including tea, coffee, water and biscuits. To book, please email [scott@fasdireland.ie](mailto:scott@fasdireland.ie) or call 085 670 3096. See more details on their website: [www.fasdireland.ie/room-hire](http://www.fasdireland.ie/room-hire)

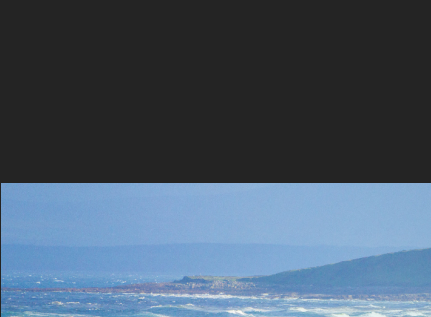


## 'UKRAINIAN VIEW OF IRELAND' – PKAINTINGS

**Until 7th April:** The Cultúrlann Sweeney Gallery in Killee is delighted to present an exhibition of paintings by Yeni, an award-winning artist from Ukraine. Born and raised in a small town, Yeni is inspired by nature, the world of animals, characters from children's cartoons, love between mother and cubs, and she also likes to depict a family idyll on her canvases. "It is a huge pleasure to enjoy participating in art exhibitions here in Ireland," says Yeni. The exhibition, in conjunction with Clare Arts Office, runs until 7th April and everyone is welcome.

# CONSULTATIONS

## Open Government Partnership Ireland



## OPEN GOVERNMENT NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

**Deadline 6th April:** Open Government Partnership in Ireland recognises that the active engagement of citizens and civil society is an essential element to the co-creation of Ireland's Open Government National Action Plan. Every two years Ireland's Open Government Partnership Round Table commits to the co-creation of a National Action Plan that will make the State more transparent, accountable and inclusive. Members of the public and civil society are invited to submit their priorities under four thematic areas. Read more and make a submission here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/4f0b8-public-call-for-submissions-for-irelands-fourth-open-government-national-action-plan-2023-2025/>



## OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN II

**Deadline 24th March:** This is Ireland's new national spatial strategy for offshore renewable energy (ORE), one of the key building blocks of the long-term model for the offshore renewable energy sector. The State must ensure that the economic, environmental and social benefits of ORE are realised for everyone. This includes choosing the right offshore technology to use in the right places. The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communication is holding an eight-week public consultation on the draft OREDP II, from Friday 24th February to Friday 20 April. Full details of the consultation, including the draft report and feedback survey, can be found at: [www.gov.ie/OffshoreEnergyPlan](http://www.gov.ie/OffshoreEnergyPlan)