



### **Galway City Partnership - Westside Project**

We coordinate and support community work and participation in the Westside area and are actively engaging with numerous individuals, agencies and service providers to ensure the needs of the community are being met and to empower local people for positive change. Activities supported by Galway & Roscommon Education & Training Board, HSE West and Galway City Council. (Contact Vernice: 091-528325 or 087-9303468).

### **Big Brother Big Sister**

Big Brother Big Sister is an internationally renowned youth mentoring programme that forms friendships between a young person and an adult volunteer. This programme is operated in Ireland by Foróige, the national youth development organisation. The Galway regional office is based in the Westside Resource Centre. (Contact Andrea or Kate on 091-554420).

### **Westside Crèche & Pre School**

Westside Crèche & Pre School is a community based childcare service which aims to support and assist families and children in the Westside area through the provision of accessible, affordable, high quality childcare. (Contact Pauline on 091-581707).

### **EPIC – Empowering Young People in Care in Ireland**

EPIC is an independent association for young people in care and with care experience. We provide information, advice and support as well as an independent advocacy service for young people in care, aftercare or with care experience. (Contact Brenda on 091-395605 or 087-6249344).

### **National Advocacy Service**

The National Advocacy Service aims to provide independent advocates to people with disabilities who find it difficult to speak for themselves. (Contact Rebecca or Andrea on 091-528325).

### **Gorta - Self Help Africa**

Gorta - Self Help Africa works with rural communities to help them improve their farms and their livelihoods. (Contact Ronan on 087-6189094).

### **Community Workers' Cooperative (CWC)**

The leading national membership organisation that promotes and supports community work to address poverty, social exclusion and inequality. Our work includes developing and influencing policy as it affects communities living in poverty, research, campaigning on issues that affect communities experiencing poverty and inequality and supporting our members in their work for social justice at grassroots and national level. (Email: info@cwcc.ie. Website: www.cwcc.ie. Phone: 091-528325 / 087-2998619 / 087-9326467).

### **MEAS Garda Youth Diversion Project**

The GYDP is a community based and supported youth development project which seeks to divert young people from becoming involved (or further involved) in anti-social or criminal behaviour. These projects facilitate personal development and promote civic responsibility. (Contact Ruairí or Anthony on 086-7741623, 086-0479707 or 091-554421).

### **OBAIR – Local Employment Service Network**

If you are unemployed and in receipt of a Social Welfare payment, the LESN staff can assist you with free and confidential information and guidance to explore your options for work, education and training. We can also provide assistance with CV preparation, application forms and interview preparation. (Contact Mary or Pádraig on 091-581955).

### **Epilepsy Ireland**

Epilepsy Ireland provides a professional information service to support and empower people with epilepsy and their families, who have problems coming to terms with the condition and its implications. (Contact Edel on 091-587640).

### **Galway City Community Network**

Galway City Community Network (GCCN) is a network of community, voluntary and environmental organisations active in Galway City. GCCN is the main link through which the local authority connects with the community, voluntary and environmental sectors. (Contact Ann on 087-9326467).

## Remembering 1916

People in the Westside and Ballybane areas of Galway will be able to access a free lecture series to commemorate 1916 in this, the Centenary year. The talks are being hosted by Westside Resource Centre and Westside Library in the west of the city and by Ballybane Library in the east.

Local historian William Henry gave the opening talk on January 13<sup>th</sup> and it proved very informative and enjoyable. Further talks by a variety of speakers and on a variety of themes are scheduled right throughout the year.

The events are sponsored by Galway City Council and are supported by Westside and Ballybane Resource Centres, Westside and Ballybane Libraries and Galway City Partnership.

The "Remembering 1916" lecture series is part of the nationwide programme marking the centenary of 1916.



Further details available from Westside Resource Centre or Westside Library

## Classes in Westside Resource Centre

An increasing range of educational providers are opting to use Westside Resource Centre as their venue of choice in the Westside area. Classes and courses are available on topics ranging from creative skills such as writing, painting and music to more practical matters such as gardening and computers.

The classes cater for adults of all ages and walks of life. Westside Resource Centre is situated in the heart of Westside and is an integral part of the community. The building is fully wheelchair accessible and offers comfortable, modern spaces for learning and creativity.

More information is available from reception and on:

www.westsideresourcecentre.ie  
www.facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre  
091-528325  
info@westsideresourcecentre.ie

## Galway City Community Network

Galway City Community Network - the main representative voice for community organisations in Galway City - has just opened an office in Westside Resource Centre. The network currently has about 100 member organisations from right across the broad community, voluntary and environmental sectors.

Resource Centre Manager, James Coyne said that "...the resource centre is delighted to welcome Galway City Community Network. The network plays an important role in representing community groups at Local Authority level and we wish the network every success in its work."

Full details about Galway City Community Network are available from the website – www.galwaycitycommunitynetwork.ie





Mayor of the City of Galway, Cllr. Frank Fahy opening Westside Christmas Market on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

## Directory of Services for Older People



Copies of the Directory of Services for Older People are available from Reception at Westside Resource Centre. 091-528325.

**Westside Resource Centre provides photocopying, faxing and laminating services to members of the public.**

**Westside Resource Centre, Seamus Quirke Road, Galway. 091-528325**

## Worldwise Global Schools and Gorta-Self Help Africa's "Science For Development" Award

Three young science students from Kildare are set for the trip of a lifetime to Africa, after winning a top award at this year's BT Young Scientist Exhibition.

Ben Conlon, Ruaidhrí Jordan and Mason Scallan from Salesian College in Celbridge won the 'Science for Development Award' at the annual science fair at Dublin's RDS, recently.

The boys' project looked at ways of preserving water in developing countries using a chemical compound called sodium polyacrylate. "It's a substance which can absorb 800 times its own weight in water," said Ruaidhrí about the project. "By absorbing the water it can reduce evaporation, and thus preserve the already scarce water supply in developing countries," he added.

Gorta-Self Help Africa has been running the 'Science for Development' award at the BT Young Scientists event, in collaboration with WorldWise Global Schools and Irish Aid for the past eleven years.

The award encourages students across a broad range of science subjects to consider the challenges affecting the people in the developing world and present potential scientific solutions to these issues.



A government travel bursary provided by WorldWise Global Schools, Irish Aid's Development Education unit, was awarded to the boys to enable them to travel on a schools study visit to sub-Saharan Africa with Gorta-Self Help Africa.

The award has been presented in the past to students who have developed fuel-efficient cooking stoves, solar-powered water purification devices, and devised methods to preserve dairy produce in hot climates. The award is organised annually by Gorta-Self Help Africa with post-primary science teachers across the country.

by Aishling McGrath

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Galway City Partnership  
Comhpháirtíocht Chathair na Gaillimhe



Ireland's European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014-2020  
Go funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Comhthionól: Peibil agus Rialtas Áiríall  
Environment, Community and Local Government



European Union  
European Social Fund  
Investing in jobs and skills



SICAP  
Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme

## Westside Men's Club



Members of Westside Men's Club and guests at the Club's Christmas Dinner in December 2015

## Foróige's Big Brother Big Sister Programme Galway



Foróige's "Big Brothers Big Sisters" is an internationally recognised youth mentoring programme that forms supportive friendships for young people inspiring them to brighter futures.

Big Brother Big Sister, Galway is being supported by a fabulous new foundation set up by Pat Divilly, a leading youth mental health ambassador. He's passionate about people's ability to achieve their personal goals and his "Project Impact" (set up with some close friends) hopes to change many lives in 2016.

The first event organised by this foundation is called "Heart of Galway Challenge" and aims to raise €12,000 for Big Brother Big Sister in Galway. The funds raised will pay to bring 100 young people and their Big Brother/Big Sisters to Lilliput adventure centre with food, activities and accommodation covered.

The 'Heart Of Galway Challenge'- takes place on February 14th and involves a 7km walk or jog along Galway's most scenic route with lots of quirky challenges along the way.

It's going to be a great event with refreshments and prize giving in 56 Central afterward. There is a €20 deposit to enter and we want each participant to raise a further €80 all of which go directly to the BBBS.

See <https://www.facebook.com/PatDivillyFit/> to become involved..



Art, Craft and Educational Classes

Meetings, Seminars & Social Gatherings



Your local Resource Centre hosts a wide variety of different functions and courses.

**Westside Resource Centre**  
091-528325

**DISCLAIMER:** The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the author(s) of each individual piece and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Westside Resource Centre or Galway City Partnership.