

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. (Contact Suzanne: 091-528325 or 086-0433376).

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 091-554420).

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 076-1073000).

Special Heroes Ireland

We support families with children who have Special Needs or Life Limiting illness in Galway City & County. (Contact 087-4047816)

Galway City Community Network

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

Community Work Ireland (CWI)

Through our network of members CWI promotes and supports community work to address poverty, social exclusion and inequality. Our work includes developing and influencing policy, research and campaigning on issues of social justice at grassroots and national level. (Contact: info@communityworkireland.ie 091-528325 / 087-2998619 / 087-9326467).

MEAS Garda Youth Diversion Project

We are 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 Robert 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).

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).

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).

**“Painting the Planet”**

A new community art project entitled “Painting the Planet” is now under way in Westside Resource Centre. The project ties in with the resource centre’s focus on the UN Sustainable Development Goals throughout the year. Participants in “Painting the Planet” will create artistic representations of what the Sustainable Development Goals mean to them, their communities and the planet as a whole.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals were formulated and ratified by over 150 countries in 2015 with the aim of making our world a more equal and safer place to live for everyone. The Goals address issues such as hunger, access to clean water, education,



gender equality and many more critical issues in today’s world. The targets set out by the UN can only be met by concerted action on the part of governments, communities and individuals and the “Painting the Planet” art project is an excellent example of these principles in action at a local level.

Our Place – Our Story

As part of the consultation process for the National Planning Framework’s Ireland 2040 - Our Plan, Westside Public Library has organised a number of community workshops in Westside Resource Centre. The theme of the national consultations is “Our Place - Our Story” and the community workshops are on the topic of “Westside now and in the future”.

The workshops are free of charge and are being held at different times on three Thursdays (7th September 7:30-9:00pm) (14th September 3:00-4:30pm) (28th September 11:30am-1:00pm) in order to allow as many people as possible to attend. All are welcome and there will be light refreshments available during the workshops.

The culmination of the event will be a round-table discussion in Westside Public Library on Wednesday 4th October at 6pm.

Heritage Week 2017

A range of events took place in Westside during Heritage Week 2017. Westside Public Library hosted the launch of the Galway Butterfly Project and also held the “Westside Story” exhibition. Photographs from the Lawrence Collection were also on display; showing Galway in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Westside Resource Centre screened the documentary “Fís na Fuisseige” (The Lark’s View). The director Aodh Ó Coileáin was on hand to introduce the film and give some background to how it came to be made. “Fís na Fuisseige” explores the sense of place and the connection between people and the environment in which they live.

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.

La Leche League

La Leche League hosts meetings at Westside Resource Centre on the 4th Monday of each month at 10am. Open to all mothers interested in learning and sharing more about breastfeeding. Babies and toddlers welcome. Tea and snacks provided. Lending library available. Contact Eileen: 091-793964, Ulwen: 087-6982493 or Cindy: 091-555866.

Westside Community Garden

This spring, well-known Galway chef J.P. McMahon visited Westside Community Garden for a photo-shoot in aid of Concern Worldwide's 'Kitchen Garden' initiative that aims to fight poverty in Burundi. Westside Community Garden volunteers were delighted to welcome J.P. to the garden and assist with the photo-shoot.

Galway City Council has confirmed that the much-anticipated extension to Westside Community Garden has been ratified. The additional area has been marked out and plans are afoot to put in a polytunnel to allow for year-round production.



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An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government



SICAP
Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme



Galway City Partnership
Comhpháirtíocht Chathair na Gaillimhe



a tide for change
an t-ádh arís arís



Westside Arts Festival 2017



Westside Arts Festival would like to thank all of the volunteers, facilitators and participants who helped to make this year's festival a great success. Thank you also to all of our supporters and funders across the community.



Westside Age Inclusion Services for people over 55 living in the local area

Wash/Dry Clothes:

Large Bag: €12, Medium Bag: €10, Small Bag: €8

Multiple Loads Wash Only (priced on load): €7 per load

Multiple Loads Dry Only: €5 per load

Grass Cutting: €15 - €20

Hedge Trimming:

Large Area: €7 - €10, Medium/Small Area: €5

Westside Age Inclusion Ltd. **091-589861**
info@westsideageinclusionltd.ie

The Open Door

September's Open Door welcomed Dr. Michelle Comber of the School of Geography and Archaeology in NUI Galway. Michelle is a native of Westside and heads up a dig in Caherconnell in the Burren each summer.

The Open Door takes place on the first Tuesday of every month from 10:30am. Drop in for a cup of tea and a chat and an informative talk by our speaker of the month. These monthly events are free of charge.

Galway Dyspraxia Support Group

The Galway Dyspraxia Support Group host regular morning and evening meet ups for parents/ guardians of children with DCD/ dyspraxia. They also run activities such as sports and summer camps for the children. For more info email daigalway@gmail.com

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

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

www.facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre
www.westsideresourcecentre.ie
info@westsideresourcecentre.ie

From Dublin Bay to Galway Bay... and back again!

Westside Resource Centre would like to extend warmest congratulations to Ronan Scully on his successful completion of the "Bay to Bay" Challenge. Ronan, who works for Gorta – Self Help Africa, walked across Ireland from Dublin Bay to Galway Bay before Easter; a distance of 250km.



€30,000 was raised by Ronan for Gorta – Self Help Africa's work with some of the poorest people in the world. A portion of the money raised will also go to Galway Rape Crisis Centre and a Midlands charity.

Inspired by Ronan's feat, Westside Resource Centre held a "Bay to Bay" cycle during Bike Week in June. We installed two spinbikes (kindly loaned to us by Aidan Reade from Black Rose Racing) and set ourselves and all comers the challenge of covering the 250km between Galway Bay and Dublin Bay in the space of one day. We ended up reaching 300km and raised much-needed funds on the day for Gorta – Self Help Africa.



James Coyne and Ronan Scully crossing the finish line