

Westside Resource Centre – Many Services Under One Roof

Galway City Partnership - Westside Project coordinate and support community work and participation in the Westside area and engage 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 Ciara on 083-0234390).

Big Brother Big Sister are 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 Miki on 086-0319457).

WorldWide Global Schools is Ireland's national Global Citizenship Education (GCE) programme for post-primary schools. The aim of the programme is to increase the number of post-primary schools engaging in quality global citizenship education by providing a comprehensive range of supports and training.

Galway City Community Network 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 Brian on 085-2145179).

Westside Resource Centre provides meeting and training rooms for meetings, seminars and social gatherings. Suitable for community and voluntary groups, residents' associations etc. Reasonable rates. Contact Diana on 091-528325.

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).

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

Warm Home Hub helps people to upgrade to a warmer, healthier home with lower energy costs. If you have questions about enhancing insulation, draft removal or incorporation of renewable energies - all while maximising available grant support and delivering household savings – contact info@warmhomehub.ie or 091-398125.

Corrib YDP 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 Anthony on 086-0479707 or 091-554421).

Local Area Employment Service Network (LAES) If you are out of work and looking for career guidance on employment, training or educational opportunities, we can help. Our service is free, respectful and client- focussed. All meetings are held in private. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL INTREO OFFICE.

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 Catherine on 085-8766625 or ccaffrey@epilepsy.ie).

RISE Service is a community service which provides supports for individuals with an Intellectual Disability, Autism and/or a physical or sensory disability to be more connected, active and included in their community. (Contact Niamh on 086-6072933 or niamh.faherty@rehabcare.ie)

Patient Advocacy Service is independent, free and confidential. We can support you to make a complaint about the care you have experienced in a Public Acute Hospital or a HSE-operated Nursing Home. (Contact <https://www.patientadvocacyservice.ie>)

National Advocacy Service aims to provide independent advocates to people with disabilities who find it difficult to speak for themselves. (Contact 0818-073000).



WESTSIDE NEWSLETTER

Volume 14, Issue 1
Spring 2025

Supported by Westside Resource Centre and Galway City Partnership - Westside Project

Westside Homeowners Benefit from Galway's Net Zero Cities Project

The 'Warm Home Hub' is currently operating very successfully in Westside Resource Centre as part of Galway's Net Zero Cities project. The Hub provides support and guidance to homeowners on how to retrofit their homes and many local people have already availed of the service.

If you live in the Westside area, be sure to contact the friendly and knowledgeable staff at the Warm Home Hub to avail of this free service. Retrofitting is a great way to make your home more comfortable and energy-efficient...Good for the environment and good for your pocket.

Warm Home Hub: 091-398125
info@warmhomehub.ie



See Special Supplement Enclosed

Westside Arts Festival

The organising committee of Westside Arts Festival has announced the dates for this year's event. The Festival is scheduled to take place from Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th July. Details of the programme will emerge over the coming months and will be made available on Westside Arts Festival Facebook page.

<https://facebook.com/westsideartsfestival>

Sharing & Showcasing Inspirational Stories

Do you have a tale to tell about reducing your carbon footprint, has your local community group contributed to local sustainability...has your family reduced their usage of fossil fuels through energy improvements to your home? Yes? Then please consider submitting your story to the Climate Connected project.

The project is in the process of building up a website as a central resource and repository for useful information that people can access to support them on their sustainability journey. Climate Connected is actively looking for inspirational personal stories from individuals who are making a positive environmental impact.

Please do follow the link below and share your story as an inspiration for others.

<https://climateconnected.ie/story>

The Climate Connected initiative is funded by Pobal and seeks to assist communities and individuals to take climate action.



Spring Blooms in Westside Community Garden

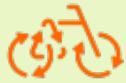


Opening hours: Wednesdays 10am to 12pm
Volunteers Welcome

Recycle Your Old Bike

Do you have an old bike you no longer want? An Mheitheal Rothar, a local social enterprise, operates a 'Recycle Your Cycle' initiative. The programme takes unused bicycles and refurbishes them. The upcycled bikes are either sold in our shop opposite Fisheries Field, or provided to those who need them via projects such as the University of Sanctuary programme at the University of Galway.

Our Bike Recycling Centre is located in Westside Enterprise Park. The team is there 9-5 Monday to Friday for drop-offs. Call workshop manager Noel on 091 725874 if you have a bike to donate.



AN MHEITHEAL ROTHAR
GALWAY'S COMMUNITY BIKE WORKSHOP

Westside Resource Centre works with an Mheitheal Rothar on the Up-cycling of Bicycles and eBikes Pilot Initiative is supported by the Dept of Rural and Community Development and the Dept of Transport.

Newcastle Active Retired Association

The weekly meeting of the Newcastle Active Retired Association (NARA) continues every Tuesday afternoon at 2.15pm in the Westside Library. New members always welcome.



Art, Craft and Educational Classes

Meetings, Seminars & Social Gatherings



Meeting & training rooms available. Suitable for community and voluntary groups, residents associations etc. Reasonable rates.

Westside Resource Centre
Seamus Quirke Road 091-528325

History & Heritage in Westside

As part of its community outreach programme, Galway City Museum recently presented a series of educational events at Westside Resource Centre. These included – 'Old Galway Photographs' with Tom Kenny, 'History of Galway 1124 – 1691' with Brendan McGowan and 'Surrounded by Stone' with Damien Donnellan. The series also welcomed food historian Anna O' Donnell who facilitated two very tasty talks: one on 'Traditional Irish Christmas Fare' and, to finish the series, a very informative talk and demonstration on 'Butter & Butter Making'.

These events were held in conjunction with Westside Resource Centre. The Centre is very grateful to Galway City Museum and to the guest speakers for providing this excellent programme and we look forward to hosting similar events again in the future.

<https://galwaycitymuseum.ie>



Artistic Workshops March and April 2025



Westside Resource Centre is hosting a series of six creative workshops focusing on air quality. Local people are invited to join artists Paula McCloskey and Sam Vardy as they set out to create an exhibition textile piece in conjunction with local artist Karna Ryan. Working collectively, each participant will help to embroider the artwork whilst exploring the air we breathe through folklore and science.

Full details available at facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre

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.

Creative Community

The Air We Share is a creative project with a focus on air quality and involves a fascinating mix of science, creativity and community action. The initial phase of the project involved collecting detailed air quality data in the Westside neighbourhood through an array of fixed air quality monitors. The scientific information which has been gathered to date is now helping to inform three innovative artistic residencies led by a team of creatives.



Pictured from left to right: Christopher Steenson, Paula McCloskey, Sam Vardy and Leon Butler.

Over the next few months these residencies will respond to the broad issue of air quality in the local community, in people's personal health, in the climate etc.

For local people interested in art, for people who fancy a turn as 'citizen scientists', for those working to enhance the local community and play a part in climate action... The Air We Share is a great opportunity to explore the issues and imagine the solutions!

The Air We Share project is being coordinated by Galway City Council and is funded by Creative Ireland. Westside Resource Centre will host a range of events as part of The Air We Share project... please keep in touch with developments through our website and facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre

Further details about the project available on theairweshare.ie

THE AIR WE SHARE

Free Activities for Adults

Westside Coffee Morning

Coffee, chat & local information
Fridays 10.00am-12.00pm
Westside Resource Centre

Westside Walking Group

For all walking abilities
Thursdays 11.15am-12.30pm
Meet outside Westside Library

Westside Community Singing Group

For all singing abilities
Wednesdays 2.00pm-3.30pm
Westside Library

Westside Social Club

Bingo and activities for older adults
Call 091 589861 to book
Wednesdays 2.00pm-4.00pm
Westside Resource Centre

Westside Parent & Toddler Group

For Parents/Guardians & Children 0-3 years
Thursdays 10.00am-11.30am
Westside Resource Centre

Westside Community Organic Garden

Garden volunteer roles re-start early March
Wednesdays 10.00am-12.00pm
Next to Westside Resource Centre

Westside Arts Group

For adults with their own art projects to meet and work together
Mondays 4.00-6.00pm
Westside Resource Centre



Contact Ciara
ciara@gcp.ie
083 0234390

Laundry Services

Westside Age Inclusion Ltd. is a social enterprise that provides laundry services to people aged over 55.

Wash & Dry: €14 per load
Drying Only: €12 per load
Single Duvet Wash & Dry: €14
Double Duvet Wash & Dry: €16
Kingsize Duvet Wash & Dry: €18



Open Monday to Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm.
091-589861