



Rathcoole Neighbourhood
Renewal Newsletter
June 2015
Volume 8



RIO DE RATHCOOLE !

Over the coming months there are a range of programmes and activities organised to ensure that children and adults will not be bored! The local community and voluntary groups have compiled a list of activities that will run from July-August 2015 with something for everyone to participate in (See back page for full list).

The main day is Saturday 15 August which will see Rathcoole transformed into Rio De Rathcoole Carnival. There will be stilt walkers, circus skills, world music and dance, a petting Farm, pony rides inflatables, craft stalls, games and much more.

We plan to have a soap box derby (Gyder racing) and the Newtownabbey Men 's Shed group has agreed to help groups design creative Gyders in the weeks coming up to the Carnival. There will be a procession from the Dunanney Centre at 1pm on the day. The plan is to have people as colorful as possible. Everyone is encouraged to come in fancy dress with the theme being carnival wear.

We hope that this event will bring people from all over the Estate together young and old. This is definitely an event not to be missed.

For further information contact: Sara Barkley (028) 90 340197 or Mark Johnston 07736769744

Welcome to our new volunteers

Maire King

Fiona Mehaffey

Mark Mc

Granghan

Flo Beckett

Evelyn Mc Guigan

For further information on how to get involved in volunteering in your community please contact: Sara Barkley

Rathcoole Neighbourhood Re-



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RATHCOOLE YOUTH FORUM



After many months of group meetings, the Rathcoole Youth Forum has successfully completed a Good Relations OCN, organised numerous community fundraising events and completed a visit to Krakow, Poland (Thank you all for your support!)

During our time there we had the opportunity to explore the beautiful city, get underground and visit the Wieliczka Salt Mines as well as some reflection time during a very emotional experience at the Auschwitz Concentration Camp.

To say the group embraced this experience would be an understatement, one young person couldn't understand why anyone would leave this beautiful city to come to Northern Ireland unless it was their only option, this trip left plenty to be grateful for and appreciate what a privilege it is to be a part of this generation: as noted in Auschwitz 'the one who does not remember history is bound to live through it again'

With the support from CRAIC NI, Polish Group the young people came back from Poland and presented their experiences to their peers at a session in the Dunanney Centre. It was the hope the Youth Forum could share their learning and help to motivate their peers to also get active in their local communities. It is hoped that young people can be a part of positive change and the Youth Forum recognises that this also comes with responsibilities. Going forward the group wants to look at 3 main themes: local volunteer opportunities, further engagement and support for their peers and also to establish links with youth from multi-cultural backgrounds. This next stage of the group's journey begins with members undertaking an OCN level 2 in Peer Leadership and running a number of initiatives over the summer months ahead... watch this space!!! Below is a mural the young people completed at the back of Rathcoole Youth Centre..



Schools projects

Nine parents attended a 6 week advanced sewing course which enabled them to progress from the beginners sewing class that was run earlier in the year. The photo shown is from their last day of class. It is evident to see how much skill these women actually have. This course was funded through the Community Education Initiative Funding which was provided through the Education Authority. Recruitment for next year will take place in Newtownabbey Community High School on Friday 11 September. Anyone interested in finding out more about our courses please contact Martin on Tel: (028) 9036 4688



Know your family tree

Newtownabbey Family Connections ran a Genealogy Course which 10 parents have taken part in. As part of this course the group visited the Public Records Office NI. The group have thoroughly enjoyed their first Family Tree course and have arranged to return to PRONI in their own steam.

Newtownabbey Family Hub

The Newtownabbey Family Hub meets once per month to look at the best ways of offering family support to those families most in need in the Newtownabbey Area. Referrals to the hub are made by a range of agencies and also self referrals.

Some families are struggling with home life on a daily basis and need a bit of extra help.

The Family Hub is made up of a range of partners who can step in and offer support which prevents issues escalating to such an extent that social services, PSNI or courts have to intervene.

The hub is managed by Action for Children and referrals can be made through schools, doctors, social workers and self referrals.

For further information please contact :

John Clements, Action for Children, 4A Steeple Road, Antrim, BT41 1AF. Tel. 02894469644.



NEW PROJECTS

Rathcoole Dementia Café

In the coming months we will be beginning a Dementia Café at Inniscrole Day Centre in Rathcoole. It is hoped that this will run once per month in the early evening for people with Dementia to socialize with others that have this illness. This will be a Café like setting and we will have a number of activities for individuals to participate in.

It will give carer's an opportunity to engage with other carer's who go through the same caring difficulties on a daily basis.

There will be the opportunity for speakers, relaxation and time out from caring duties.

For further information contact :
Judith Mayne (028) 90 854333

C.V. Building Clinic

Do you need to know how to design a C.V.?
Do you need to update your C.V. for a job?

We are hoping to run a C.V. Clinic once per month

Venue: To be confirmed

If you would like to book a place contact: Sara Barkley (028) 90 340197
Or Fiona Mehaffey, EOS, (028) 95 213222
For regular updates on employment and training opportunities look on the Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Facebook Page.



Abbotts Cross Foodbank

Abbotts Cross Foodbank opened its doors on Tuesday 19 May 2015. To date the group has already helped 18 parents and 11 children.

The people who present to the Foodbank are in extreme despair, not being able to make ends meet. The volunteers at the Foodbank offer a Cup of tea and listening ear as well as providing

food that will assist them with meals for 3 days.

The Foodbank is opened on Tuesdays 10-12noon and Thursdays 6.30pm-8.30pm. Various community groups have vouchers for the Foodbank for further information please contact: Mark Johnston 07736769744

UPDATES

The new Chair and Vice Chair of Rathcoole Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership were elected on Tuesday 09 June 2015.

Chair—Councillor Paul Hamill

Vice Chair—Councillor Billy Webb.

Rathcoole sporting provision

A planning application has been submitted for a Multi Use Games Area adjacent to the Dunanney Centre.

When this has been approved the work will go out to tender.

Open Day

Bryson Future Skills is holding an open day on Tuesday 28 August 2015 for further information contact : Rab Guiney (028) 90 369808

Newtownabbey Men's Shed

Newtownabbey Men's Shed is a relatively new group who meet every Thursday from 10am-1pm in Merville House. To date the men have completed wood carving and wood turning workshops and have now moved on to glass painting. The men are now a constituted group and have bonded and



grown as a group very quickly ensuring that they have the right governance in place to progress. They have had speakers attend such as Mallusk Enterprise and CAB giving advice on self enterprise and Pension wise.

The men have many ideas for the future including photography, painting, cooking, gardening and spot welding. This is subject to funding.

The men plan to complete training in manual handling, first aid and working with machinery etc...

The group has their own web site:<http://www.newtownabbeymensshed.org.uk/>

For further information or to join this group please register with Mark Mc Granaghan 07721711795



Start360's new EDGES service has just become operational in the Newtownabbey area. Funded by the Early Intervention and Transformation Programme, EDGES will provide early intervention services for young people, primarily between the ages of 13 - 17, who are on the edge of care, custody and/or education. The service also operates in the Enniskillen area.

EDGES is aimed at young people who are coming to the regular attention of the Police and/or whose attendance or behaviour in education indicates a need for intervention. They are also likely to be at risk of homelessness in later adolescence and to feature in the Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETS) population post-compulsory school education.

The young person must be referred by a member of the Local Implementation/Operation Team - contact



Start360 for more details on how this works. The criteria for referral are:

- Young people aged 13 – 17

- Young people living in defined pilot areas

- Young people and their family willing to engage

- Risk of family breakdown – e.g. having to leave the home/care/custody/homeless

- Young people presenting with challenging behaviour and/or multiple issues (e.g. mental health issues, drug/alcohol issues, family instability/breakdown/ school exclusion/behaviour)

- Young people at risk of committing further offences and/or entering custody

To find out more, contact Evelyn McGuigan at Start360 on 028 9043 5810 or email edges@start360.org

Summer programmes

Spark Summer Programme

Monday 11th– Saturday 15 August 2015

Community street parties

Tuesday-Friday, 2.30pm-4.30pm

Crossreagh Drive, Rosslea Way, Ardfarm Close, Derrycoole Way.

Community Clean up

Monday-Friday afternoons

Free gardening projects and litter picking. Contact Andy 07817125832

Football Coaching and tournament

Monday-Friday 2pm-4pm, Rathcoole Diamond Pitches

Kids Club (P1-P7)

Monday-Friday 6.30pm-8.30pm

Rathcoole Primary School

Senior activities (Singing, crafts, gardening)

Tuesday-Thursday afternoons

Clonmore House, Inniscoole Day Centre, Drumcore Fold.

Friday 14 August 2015

Tea dance 2-4pm Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church Hall

Booking essential Tel Mark 07736769744

Drop in for young people (10-15 years old)

Tuesday-Thursday, 7.30pm-9.00pm

Rathcoole's got talent, Friday 14 August 2015,

7.00pm for 7.30pm show

Rathcoole Primary School

Rio De Rathcoole! Saturday 15 August 2015

12.30pm assemble at Dunanney Centre for Carnival parade

Carnival event 1pm-4pm Diamond

Rathcoole Youth Centre Summer Scheme

15 July –31 July 2015

Monday-Friday 10am-12noon and 1.00pm-3.00pm

Contact : Ray Orr (028) 90 851172

Newtownabbey Family Connections Summer Scheme

Monday 27 July 2015-Friday 14 August 2015

Monday-Thursday, 10am-12.30pm, Outings Friday.

Tel (028) 90 364688 to book a place.

Belfast City Mission Holiday Bible week

Monday 27 July—Friday 31 July 2015.

Contact davidbell711@btinternet.com

Merville House Summer Scheme

Monday 20 July –Friday 07 August 2015.

Book online: antrimandnewtownabbeyboroughcouncil.gov.uk



Summer Youth Zone at the Valley Leisure Centre

5 Saturday Nights from Saturday 18 July 2015-Saturday 15 August 2015.

7-10.30pm.

Activities include:

Bubble football, Climbing wall, Circus Skills, Arts and Crafts, Hockey, Football and many more.

Age 9-18 years

Cost: 50p

Registration essential

Contact Debbie Taylor for more information (028) 90 340079