

PEACE IV Louth Programme Newsletter No 8 – April 2021



Welcome to the 8th and Easter edition of the Louth PEACE IV Newsletter.

The PEACE IV projects are supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special European Programmes Body (SEUPB) and supported locally by Louth County Council and Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).



COVID – 19

The impact of the Coronavirus pandemic continues. Many of the Peace IV projects in Louth quickly moved to online delivery to continue with implementation.

We are extraordinarily impressed by how the PEACE IV funded projects continue to find new and innovative ways to deliver upon their outputs.

New Appointment - PEACE IV-Louth Programmes Manager



Following the departure of Therese Mc Ardle, the role of EU Programme Manager in Louth County Council has been taken over by Mary Capplis. (above)

Mary said 'I am looking forward to working with and supporting the various projects as we complete the roll-out of the current PEACE IV Action Plan. It is an important time too for all of us to begin looking ahead and prepare for the PEACE PLUS Programme (2021-2027)'. Contact Mary on Mary.Capplis@Louthcoco.ie



Adapting Aftermath Archives

This project was tendered at the start of the year and the award of the contract is imminent. We look forward to the project launch.

Project Outline: The development and coordination of a Youth Project – Adapting Aftermath Archives, a follow on from the PEACE IV project Aftermath. This is an informal educational programme in collaboration with a 10-member Young Person's Advisory Group (YPAG). The project will engage 10 12–18-year-olds from a range of community backgrounds. There will be a youth centred approach to the programme design and delivery aimed at educating young people from both sides of the border about conflict, its legacy and transition to peace.



So many projects have adopted novel ways of working so that meaningful and safe contact can occur for their participants, thereby ensuring the continuation of their services.

A quilting course took place in Muirhevnamor for 15 participants. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and the need for social distancing, the course was split into groups.

Creative Interventions

Within the Muslim Community and Muirhevnamor Community Council element of the Creative Interventions PEACE IV funded project, two courses have taken place in Muirhevnamor. The projects focused on creativity and positivity psychology.

Additionally, a Youth Creativity Project between Muirhevnamor and Coxes started with 8 participants.

The experience is positive but additional time is required to develop relationships and trust within the projects. However, the communities bought into the whole concept of peace building through creativity and suggested course contents themselves.



Participants taken part on the Quilting Course, Muirhevnamor as part of the PEACE IV funded project Creative Interventions



The Good Relations Initiative

International Women's Day 2021
#ChooseToChallenge

The Good Relations Initiative would like you to join us for a dynamic interactive virtual event celebrating the contribution of Women to our communities for International Women's Day

Monday 8th March 2021
11-1pm
Via Zoom

To register your name for this event please contact Mairead
Project Co-Ordinator on: 00353861714155
or mairiad@volunteerlouth.ie



On International Women's Day, 8th March 2021, Louth Volunteer Centre's Good Relations Initiative held a celebration event via zoom built around the day's "Choose to Challenge" theme.

The event focused on celebrating the role of women in creating stable, sustainable communities and also looked at the challenges in doing so, particularly in the border region. Local historian, Úna Walsh gave a talk exploring, acknowledging, and celebrating the role women have played in border communities over time.

This was followed by an interactive round table discussion with Good Relations Initiative participants from Drogheda, Cooley and South Armagh. Teasing out not only the roles that women have played in the border region but the roles that they themselves play, the challenges they face and the issues they will #ChooseToChallenge in their communities in the current year.

Word clouds were produced, capturing emergent themes and the Good Relations Initiative team are aiming to produce a short report later in the year reflecting the feedback received in the session.

Finally, the event closed with a celebration of the achievements of Good Relations Initiative women's group participants over the past year including a very inspiring reflection on the experience by Loretta Brennan, one of the South Armagh group participants. Participant feedback in relation to the event was very positive, including that of the SEUPB representative in attendance who felt that it really brought to life a PEACE funded project and demonstrated the value of such projects.

For more information on The Good Relations Initiative, please contact Máiréad or Tracy at 041 9809008 or email info@volunteerlouth.ie.



From Oriel to Brexit

A cross-border, cross-community project using the arts.

The project has three elements to it: Creative writing and photography for women-only, Music workshops in primary schools, and Theatre.

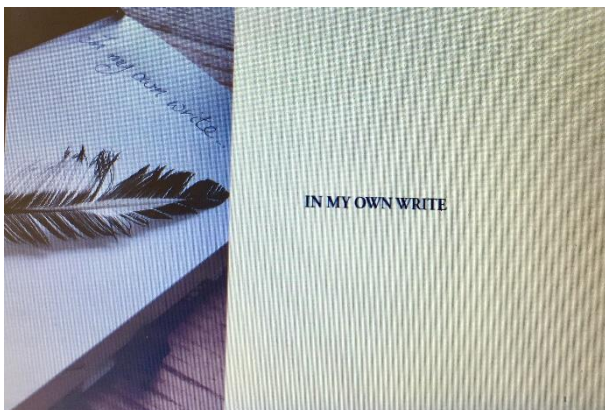
The aim of the workshops was to encourage participants to artistically express their thoughts, feelings, views and observations on the themes of home, place, identity, borders, and boundaries – whether geographical, social, emotional, or psychological.

Creative Writing and Photography Element

A book of poetry/prose and photographs arising out of those workshops was published. The book, titled, “In My Own Write” comes from the title of a poem in the collection, composed by Angie Corr, from Carlingford, Co Louth. It was the first writing workshop Angie had ever attended.

The Book, “In My Own Write” can be viewed at:

<https://issuu.com/laurencemckeown5/docs/inmyownwriteinside2>



The Book, “In My Own Write”

By way of pre-publicity for the book, Project Manager Laurence McKeown designed facemasks with “In My Own Write” written on them and had participants photographed wearing them, which was shared on social media, without providing any additional information as to what the word referred to. It engendered a lot of curiosity!



Inesa Svaikauskaite wearing a facemask

Several of the participants in the workshops also recorded, on film, readings from a selection of their works. Filming took place at The Ulster Screen Academy, Ulster University, Belfast last year.

The filmed readings were broadcast as part of International Women’s Day by Féile an Earraigh and are still available to view on their webpage archive. www.feilebelfast.com. The screening was voted in the top three events for the day.

On Friday 29 January, Dundalk FM broadcasted an interview with Project Manager Laurence McKeown about the project and played selected clips from the recording.



Theatre Element

The Theatre element of the project involved Kabosh Theatre conducting workshops with 25 pupils in Transition Year from the Bush Post-Primary school in Cooley, Co Louth. Based on the conversations and feedback in those workshops Laurence McKeown wrote a play titled, **“Before You Go”**.

The play was set in Carlingford, Co. Louth. A filmed performance (in lieu of a live performance) followed and screening took place on the 2nd – 4th March 2021.

A total of 1600 people viewed the performance.

15 Indian community artists in Calcutta attended a special screening and post-show discussion with Paula McFetridge, the Artistic Director of Kabosh.

116 people viewed the Q&A with the Artistic Director and Laurence McKeown on the last screening on 4th March.

Paula McFetridge hosted a post-show discussion with 12 students in the Ulster University studying Irish Studies and linked to a university in the US.

In total, Kabosh has shared special screenings with 15 community groups and offered a Post-show discussion with them. One of the groups who participated was the Shankill Women’s Centre.

Over 100 people who watched the play have returned completed evaluation sheets.



“Before You Go” play was set in Carlingford, Co. Louth. It is part of the PEACE IV funded project **From Oriel to Brexit**, a cross-border, cross-community arts project, which is funded through the EU’s PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body. Kabosh acknowledges the support of Louth County Council.

Music Element

The music element of the project, with workshops in primary schools will continue via online workshops.

From Oriel to Brexit is due to conclude by the end of April 2021.

PEACE PLUS Programme Update

PEACE PLUS is the new EU cross-border programme that will contribute to a more prosperous and stable society in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. The overall objective of the PEACE PLUS Programme will be to build prosperity and peace within the region, to ensure that this Programme will leave a lasting and tangible legacy.

SEUPB recently launched a public consultation for the new PEACE PLUS Programme (2021-2027). The consultation started on **Wednesday 10 March 2021** and will close at 5pm on **Wednesday 12 May 2021**.

Click here to complete the consultation survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PEACEPLUSConsultation>

A special **animated video** to help illustrate what the programme is about, as well as providing advice on how you can submit a response to the consultation. To watch the video click [HERE](#)

For full details on the programme, a copy of the consultation document and a link to the response survey click [HERE](#)

Special EU Programmes Body
Comhlacht na gClár Speisialta AE
Special EU Schemes Board

Northern Ireland
Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk

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Government of Ireland

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION
EU PEACE PLUS PROGRAMME
(2021-2027)**

STARTS 10 MAR 2021
ENDS 12 MAY 2021

Peace & Reconciliation
PEACE PLUS Programme Leaving a Lasting Legacy
Economic & Environmental Development

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

PEACE PLUS PROGRAMME - 6 THEMES

Theme	Budget
Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities	€210m
Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation	€143m
Empowering and Investing in Young People	€110m
Healthy and Inclusive Communities	€155m
Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future	€265m
Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration	€47m

Indicative Budget: Approx €1BN

SHARE YOUR VIEW!
As part of the consultation we want to hear your views on the draft Programme, Equality Screening Findings and the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

To access the survey and other relevant information go to:
www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS

Documentation relating to this consultation can be requested in other languages and accessible formats such as MS Word, easy-read, large print, audio-CD and braille by emailing:
PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu or Text: 07841 367052

Next steps...

- Your views are analysed
- Information used to finalise the Programme
- Negotiation and approval from the European Commission, NI and Irish Governments
- Funding calls open late 2021/ early 2022



**Wishing you all a very Happy Easter from Mary,
Marie and Aisling at the PEACE IV office, Louth
County Council.**

