



Public Participation Network Cork County

Bonus Edition!

E - Bulletin Newsletter 09/10/2026

Dear PPN Member,

Welcome to our E-Bulletin!

Our E-Bulletin is designed to keep you up to date with Cork County Public Participation News and to keep you connected to other communities, events, training, and information.

Whilst Cork County Public Participation Network has **almost** 800 member groups, it has the potential to reach so many more - so forward this email to your committee members and volunteers!

I hope you find this helpful. Get in touch if there is anything you would like to include in future editions, we may even make you our next Group of the Week!

Watch a short video animation about Cork County PPN - Click the following [link](#).

Check Out our Website [Link](#)

And be sure to engage with us on the socials!

Facebook – [Cork County PPN](#)

Instagram – [@corkcountypn](#)

Happy Friday,

Anthony & Noelle xx



Public Participation Network Cork County

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Public Participation Network Cork County

News & Events:

Winter Plenary



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**
Your County • Your Voice • A Stronger Cork

Cork County PPN WINTER PLENARY

Connect | Discuss | Shape a Stronger Cork



**Thursday
29th October**



7:00 PM



Online (Zoom)



PPN Updates



Networking & Discussion



Opportunities for
Member Engagement



Questions & Feedback Session



GUEST SPEAKER
Louise Weir
University of Galway

The event will begin with an engaging presentation from University of Galway lecturer, **Louise Weir**.

A timely and thought-provoking session you won't want to miss!

ALL WELCOME

PPN Members and members of the public are invited to attend.



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

We are delighted to invite you to the **Cork County PPN Winter Plenary**, taking place online on **Thursday 29 October at 7.00pm**.



Public Participation Network Cork County

The evening will kick off with what promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking presentation from **Louise Weir, University of Galway lecturer**.

The plenary will also provide an opportunity to:

- Hear the latest PPN updates
- Connect with fellow community representatives
- Share feedback and ideas for future PPN activities

Date: Thursday 29 October

Time: 7.00pm

Location: Online (Zoom)

Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/x8wOFi2MQhKTq9WPlgX-Aw#/registration>

Whether you are a long-standing member or newly involved with the PPN, we encourage you to attend and have your voice heard.

All welcome. Members of the public are also invited to attend.



Public Participation Network Cork County

Bantry Roots of Resilience

Roots of Resilience

*Building coping strategies-empowering
wellbeing through nature, learning, connection.*

OCTOBER 2026

*Made with care by real humans, not AI.

Listening to Nature with Leeanne O'Donnell THURSDAY, 1ST | 10:30AM-12:30PM

📍 Bantry House Gardens
*Explore the sounds of the natural world
and learn how to listen more closely
to your surroundings.*

Seed Saving with John Baker

SATURDAY, 3RD | 10:30AM-3PM
📍 Bridge Street Community Café, Bantry
Learn the basics of saving and sharing seeds.

Photography in Nature with Claire Osborne SUNDAY, 4TH | 10AM-12PM

📍 Meet at Supervalu at 9:50AM, Bantry
*Slow down, connect with nature and capture its
beauty.*

Seeing the Woods for the Trees with Nikki Keeling SUNDAY, 4TH | 2-4PM

📍 Bantry House Gardens
*Learn to identify local trees on a guided woodland
walk.*

Self-Compassion with John Douglas THURSDAY, 8TH | 10AM-12:30PM

📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Explore gentle practices for self-compassion
and wellbeing.*

Mindful Movement with Claire Osborne THURSDAY, 8TH | 10AM-12PM

📍 An Sanctoir, Ballydehob
*Gentle movement to connect with your body,
breath and surroundings.*

Introduction to Permaculture with John Baker THURSDAY, 8TH | 1-5:30PM

📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*A gentle introduction to permaculture and
sustainable living.*

Drawing From Nature with Sharon Dipity

FRIDAY, 9TH | 11AM - 1PM
📍 Westlodge Hotel, Bantry
Discover the beauty of nature through drawing.

An Eco-Art Journey | Birds and Nests: Where do I belong? with Anya Spark

SATURDAY, 10TH | 10AM-12PM
📍 Meet at the Bridge street community Café
*An art therapy gathering exploring belonging,
connection and nature.*

Nature and Its Beauty Poetry with Dave Dealy MONDAY, 12TH | 11AM-12:30PM

📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Explore nature through poetry and creative
writing, finding inspiration in its beauty.*

Eco & Social Mapping with John Baker

SATURDAY, 17TH | 10:30AM-3PM
📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Explore our relationship with place, community
and the environment.*

Relaxation & Art Making with Claire Osborne TUESDAY, 20TH | 10AM-12PM

📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Relax, slow down and explore your creativity
through gentle, mindful art-making.*

Healing Water Cycles with John Baker

THURSDAY, 22ND | 10:30AM-3PM
📍 Bantry Community Gardens
*Discover simple ways to conserve water and
connect with this vital resource.*

Basket Weaving Workshop with Yvon O'Flynn MONDAY, 19TH | 1-3PM

📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Create a cone-shaped calf-muzzle-style wall
basket, perfect for holding pens, chargers, dried
flowers and more.*

Tending Your Inner Garden with Doerthe Dolata TUESDAY, 27TH | 2-3:30PM

📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Explore mindfulness through the connection
between your inner and outer garden.*

Group Art Making with Claire Osborne

THURSDAY, 29TH | 2-4PM
📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Create together, share ideas and explore
creativity through group art-making.*

Wilding Our Words with Leeanne O'Donnell

THURSDAYS, 15TH, 22ND | 10:30AM-12:30PM
THURSDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER | 10am-12pm
📍 Bridge Street Community Café
*Explore nature through creative writing, words
and observation.*

FREE WORKSHOPS | BOOKING REQUIRED

**To book a place: text 083 437 4096 or
email bantry@corkmentalhealth.com.**

*For any changes or updates check our
What's On Group and our Social Media.*

*A huge thank you to our wonderful facilitators,
welcoming venues and REACH funding
for making Roots of Resilience possible.*

*And thank you to everyone who joins us,
you bring the programme to life!*

*Here's to connecting, creating
and growing together.*

Bridge Street Community Café

Cork Mental Health Supported by **ReachFunding**
FOUNDED IN 1962 2026
SOLAS An tSeirbhís Oideachais
Leanaínaigh agus Scileanna
Further Education and
Training Authority



Public Participation Network Cork County

Nature Networks Ireland

Peatlands Visioning Workshops

Choose from:

SATURDAY 10TH | 11:00 AM - 3.00 PM
OCTOBER 2026 FORREST HALL, MITCHELSTOWN

SUNDAY 11TH | 11:00 AM - 3.00 PM
OCTOBER 2026 DEEBERT HOUSE HOTEL, KILLMALLOCK



PRE-
REGISTRATION
ESSENTIAL
FREE TO ATTEND



SHARE YOUR STORIES, TALK ABOUT PEATLANDS &
HOW IMPORTANT THEY ARE TO US!



NPWS
An tScribhín Náisiúnta
Náisiúnta agus Iascháilte
National Parks and Wildlife Service



BALLYHOURA
DEVELOPMENT CLG



Nature
Network
Ireland

Peatlands Visioning Workshops – Have Your Say on the Future of Local Peatlands

Nature Network Ireland, in partnership with Ballyhoura Development, is inviting local communities to take part in a series of free **Peatlands Visioning Workshops** as part of



the **Peatlands and Climate Change Project 2026**. These workshops will explore the future of important conservation peatlands in the Ballyhoura and Galtee regions and provide an opportunity for participants to share their knowledge, experiences, and ideas.

Attendees will learn about the benefits of healthy peatlands, discuss ways to support biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, and help develop a shared vision for these valuable natural landscapes.

Workshop Dates:

- **Saturday, 10 October** – Forrest Hall, Mitchelstown
- **Sunday, 11 October** – Deebert House Hotel, Kilmallock
- **Time:** 11.00am – 3.00pm

Participation is free, but advance booking is essential. Join the conversation and help shape the future of our peatlands.

[Galtee Peatlands Workshop](#)

[Ballyhoura Peatlands workshop](#)



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

Halloween activities in Conna Hall

Get into the Halloween spirit with two fun filled community events taking place in Conna Hall this season!

Conna Community Council
Fundraiser
with Blue Cottage Kitchen

HALLOWEEN COOKERY DEMO

OCT
Wednesday **28** At 7:30pm

Conna Community Hall
P51 RW62
Witch's Brew, Food Tasting,
Prize for Fancy Dress
TICKETS: €15
Booking Link:
<https://conna-community-council.sumupstore.com>

Halloween Cookery Demonstration

Join Blue Cottage Kitchen for a Halloween-themed cookery demonstration on **28 October**. Tickets are available in advance online, at the Post Office, and from English's. [Book tickets here.](#)



Public Participation Network **Cork County**



HALLOWEEN JUMP, BOUNCE & PLAY



INFLATABLES DAY

K&M Bouncing Castles
Conna Community Hall P51 RW62
SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER



Sensory-Friendly Hour: 10 AM - 11 AM

General Admission: 11:30 AM - 5 PM (Last Entry at 4 PM)

* Parental supervision required*

ENTRY: €12.50 (cash event)



Inflatables Day & Community Café

The popular Inflatables Day returns on **1 November**. No booking is required - simply come along on the day and enjoy the activities. The Community Café will also be open.

Oiche Shamhna shona daoibh!



Public Participation Network Cork County

Dementia Awareness Workshops



West Cork
Dementia Inclusive Project
✉ sinead@locallinkcork.ie



Upcoming Dementia Awareness Workshops

October



**Maritime Hotel
Bantry**



**Module 1: 13th
Module 2: 20th**



11am – 12.30pm

November



**NLN,
Clonakilty**



**Module 1: 10th
Module 2: 17th**



11am – 12.30pm



These Workshops are **free** and suitable for everyone aged 18+ but **registration is required.**

Please contact Sinéad Crowley at
sinead@locallinkcork.ie or 087 338 9483

The **West Cork Dementia Inclusive Project** is hosting a series of free Dementia Awareness Workshops this autumn, aimed at building greater understanding and confidence in supporting people living with dementia within our communities. Participants will gain practical knowledge of dementia, explore the experiences and needs of people living with cognitive differences, and learn how to provide effective support and ensure positive interactions in community and service settings.



Public Participation Network Cork County

Workshops are delivered by experienced facilitators from the Alzheimer Society of Ireland.

Workshop Dates:

Bantry

- 13 & 20 October 2026
- 11.00am – 12.30pm
- Maritime Hotel, Bantry (P75 XW35)

Clonakilty

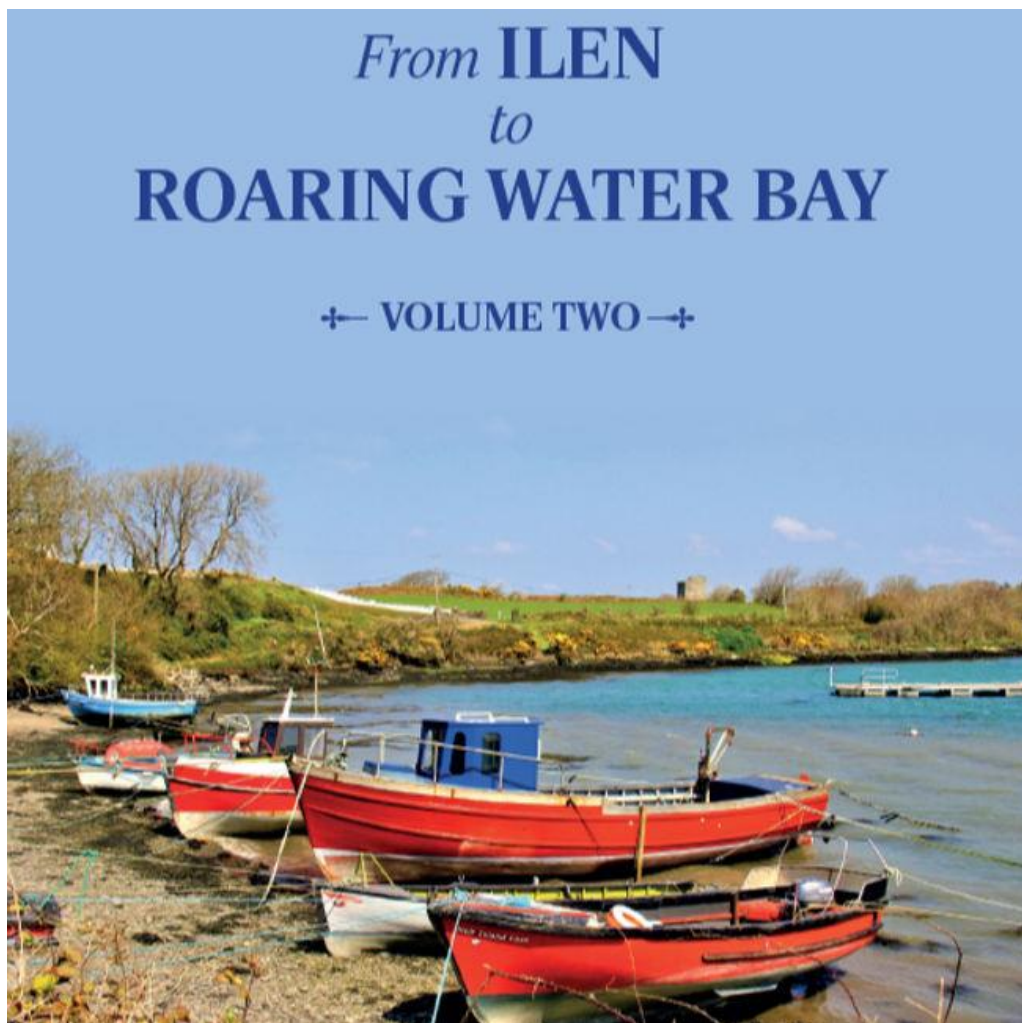
- 10 & 17 November 2026
- 11.00am – 12.30pm
- NLN, Faxbridge, Clonakilty (P85 DK07)

Registration is free but essential. To book a place or find out more, contact Sinéad Crowley at sinead@locallinkcork.ie or 087 338 9483.



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

Historic Aughadow stories captured in new local history book



The Aughadow ICA has launched *From Ilen to Roaring Water Bay – Volume Two*, a new publication celebrating the history, heritage and memories of the Aughadow parish. Featuring local stories, photographs, poetry and research, the book preserves generations of community life and will be officially launched on 16 October 2026 in the West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen.

More information: [Press Release: Historic Aughadow stories brought to life in new local history book - Cork County PPN](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

Forest Futures 16–17 Oct



Co-funded by
the European Union



Green Skibbreen
Skibbreen Climate Action Network

Northern Periphery and Arctic





Climate change
and resources
sufficiency

FORESTCARBOVISION | Forest Futures

Introduction to Forest Carbon Farming for Ireland's Land Use & Rural Communities

Skills for carbon. Space for nature. Benefits for all.

Friday 16 October & Saturday 17 October

O'Rahilly Building, University College Cork, T12 ETP6 | Saille Sports & Community Centre, Kinsale, P17 WD21

Join Green Skibbreen and the FORESTCARBOVISION project for a free two-day skills development and capacity-building event on forest carbon farming. This event is designed for anyone curious about how carbon farming can work for Ireland's land use and rural communities. No prior knowledge is required.

Featuring expert speakers from:
DAFM | Origin Xero | Wilderway | LUKE | Leuker 1818 | Pro Silva Ireland
This event qualifies for CPD points for foresters registered on the Society of Irish Foresters CPD programme.

This stakeholder session will:

- Introduce how carbon markets work in Ireland and what they mean for landowners
- Provide practical guidance on getting started with carbon farming
- Explore biodiversity co-benefits and how they integrate with carbon farming
- Share real-world case studies from Ireland and Europe
- Offer expert mini-clinics and interactive workshops
- Include a guided field walk to a local forestry site on Day 2



Free to attend. Registration essential. Accessibility accommodations available on request.
Funded by the Interreg Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme 2021-2027 and co-funded by the European Union.



What if your land could do more?

Carbon farming. You've probably heard the term. But what does it actually mean for Irish landowners, farmers, and communities?



Public Participation Network Cork County

That's what **Forest Futures** is all about. Join Green Skibbereen on 16–17 October for a free two-day event designed to answer that question.

Whether you're a forest owner, farmer, community representative, researcher, policymaker, or simply curious, this event will give you the knowledge and confidence to understand Ireland's emerging forest carbon sector. No prior knowledge is required.

[Forest Futures | Introduction to Forest Carbon Farming for Ireland's Land Use & Rural Communities](#)

Friday 16 & Saturday 17 October 2026

Day 1: Cork | Day 2: Kinsale

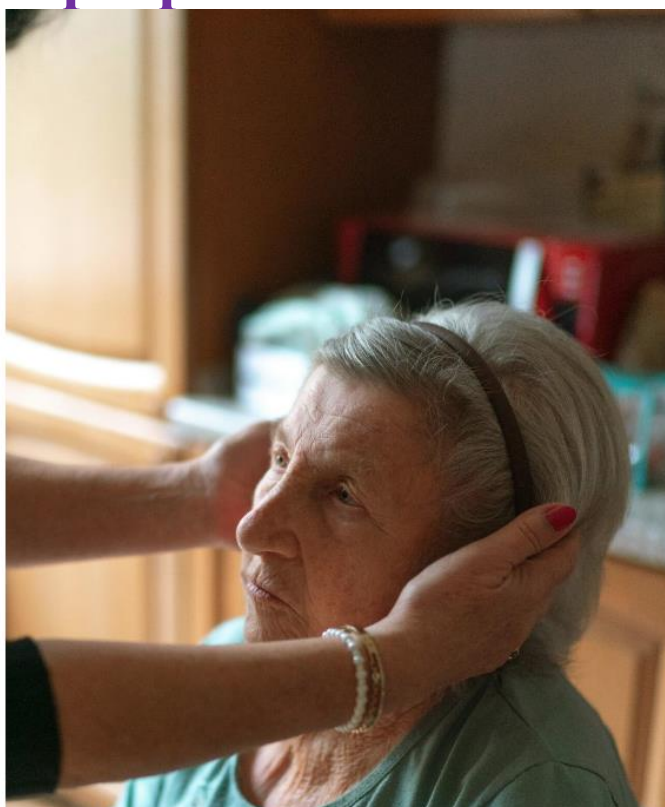


Public Participation Network Cork County

Help shape the future of home support for older people

Welcome to the Attune Project: A study to inform home support in Ireland

If you are 65 years of age or older and have home support, or care for a person that does, we would like to hear from you! The research will inform the statutory home support scheme in Ireland. Have your say in the survey at the link below.



Researchers from **RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences**, through the ATTUNE project, are seeking feedback from people aged 65 and over who have experience of receiving home support services in Ireland. The survey aims to inform future home support policy and help ensure services better meet the needs of older people.

The survey is voluntary and anonymous, and can also be completed by a family carer or trusted person on behalf of someone receiving support. Participants may also volunteer for a 30-minute interview to share their experiences.

To learn more and take part, visit the ATTUNE project website: [ATTUNE Project](#).

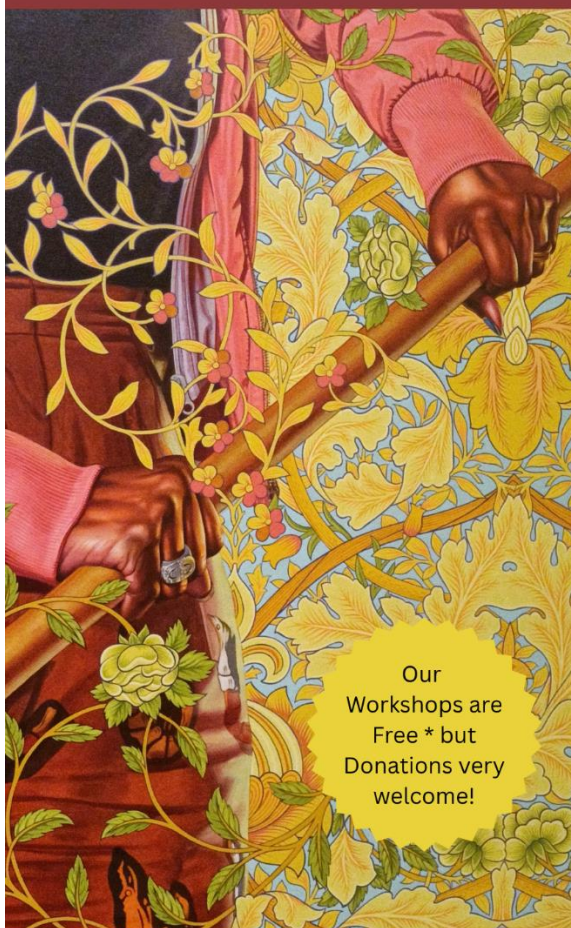


Public Participation Network Cork County

Kinsale Skill Shares

KINSALE SKILL SHARES AUTUMN 2026

CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF RESILIENCE



Our
Workshops are
Free * but
Donations very
welcome!

Our skill shares offer ways to discover basic techniques, and connect with community members. They are very relaxed, friendly & inclusive

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER
2.30pm Fire Craft (Adult Forest School) with Tara @Kinsale Community Orchard near Saile

THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER
7.30pm Sea Shanty Sing-a-long with Eidin, Ami & Roisin @Kinsale College

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER
7.30pm Milk Kefir- how to make it and different uses with Raffaella @ Kinsale College

MONDAY 7 DECEMBER
7.30pm How to make your own laundry liquid with Alex @Kinsale College

For further details and to book please email:

info@transitiontownkinsale.org

WWW.TRANSITIONTOWNKINSALE.ORG

Regenerate





Public Participation Network Cork County

Geoff Lawton Permaculture Masterclass

10 & 11 OCT 9-5PM €300



DAY 1 - KINSALE CAMPUS - KINSALE - P17NN67
MAINFRAME LAND DESIGN, WATER MANAGEMENT, DROUGHT PROOFING.

DAY 2 - KINSALE CAMPUS & LOCAL FARM SITE VISIT
ABUNDANT FOOD FOREST SYSTEMS THINKING, DESIGN & SPECIES SELECTION

Geoff Lawton is a world-renowned Australian permaculture consultant, designer, teacher, and speaker who leads The Permaculture Research Institute. Since 1995 he has specialized in permaculture education, design, system establishment and community development. His Greening the Desert project in Jordan is also a fantastic example of permaculture in action. This will be his first time teaching in Ireland !

Regenerate

Contact
info@regenerateourecosystem.ie
for further course info & payment details



Transition Town Kinsale and Regenerate are happy to announce that Geoff Lawton, one of the world's top Permaculture Designers is coming to Kinsale this October from Australia. Learn how to design abundant and regenerative landscapes with this experienced masterclass teacher.

If you are a landowner, farmer or you just want to redesign your garden, this workshop is not to be missed.



Public Participation Network Cork County

Geoff Lawton giving his personal message to Ireland below. He is one of the world's top Permaculture Designers & is coming to Cork College of FET-Kinsale Campus on the 10th & 11th of October. This may be his only appearance teaching in Ireland ever, so it is not to be missed. Details in the comments

[Geoff Lawton - Teaching Permaculture in Ireland for the first time ever.](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

East Cork Railway Alliance Table Quiz

ECRA
EAST CORK RAIL ALLIANCE
PEOPLE • PLACES • PROGRESS

A Brighter Tomorrow for Youghal

**FUNDRAISER
TABLE QUIZ**
EAST CORK RAIL ALLIANCE

 FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2026	 DOORS OPEN 8:00PM	 QUIZ STARTS 8:30PM
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THE WALTER RALEIGH HOTEL, YOUGHAL
EVERYONE WELCOME



Public Participation Network **Cork County**

Cork Pop Up Volunteer Centre



**Cork
Volunteer Centre**
Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Corcaigh

POP UP VOLUNTEER CENTRE MITCHELSTOWN LIBRARY

**13TH OCTOBER
TUESDAY
10:30-12:30**



A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO:



Any questions? Contact: gosia@volunteercork.ie

- Speak 1:1 with Cork Volunteer Centre staff
- Find out more about the services Cork Volunteer Centre provides to volunteers and non-profit organisations
- Register as a volunteer and apply for volunteer opportunities
- Advice on recruiting and managing volunteers for community groups



Public Participation Network Cork County

HUGG Walks



HUGG is the national suicide bereavement organisation in Ireland. We provide support to people who have lost a loved one to suicide through peer support groups, a support line and community activities.

Soft Pastels Workshop - For adults bereaved by suicide

A hands-on, immersive creative experience to explore soft pastels and experiment with colour and texture. Become absorbed in the moment and focus on the piece at your fingertips.

Being alongside others who have experienced suicide loss can offer a sense of connection and understanding.

No previous experience needed. All materials provided, and you'll create your own piece of art to take home.

Led by soft pastel artist **Emma Phillips**.

Date: 10th October

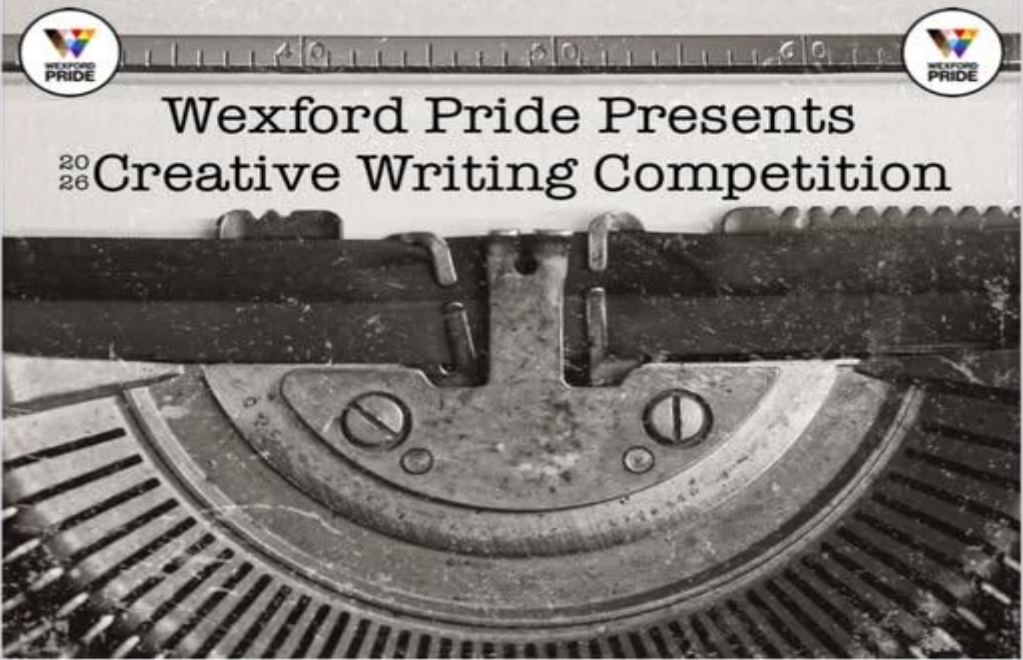
Time: 10.45am–1pm

Location: Westlodge Hotel & Leisure Centre, Bantry, Co. Cork

Registration is FREE and ESSENTIAL: <https://hugg.ie/news-events/soft-pastel-creative-workshop-for-adults-bereaved-by-suicide/>



Public Participation Network Cork County



Wexford Pride Presents
2026 Creative Writing Competition

Theme: Queer Joy
Any genre or writing style
2,500 words or less
Submission deadline: October 31st, 2026
Young adult (under 23) and adult (over 23) categories
Follow QR code for submission form



<https://wexfordpride.ie/creative-writing-competition-2026>

Wexford Pride Creative Writing Competition

"If there's a book you really want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it" (Toni Morrison)



Public Participation Network Cork County

Wexford Pride has launched a creative writing competition intended to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community. The theme is Queer Joy. The competition is now open to submissions with a closing date of October 31, 2026.

<https://wexfordpride.ie/creative-writing-competition-2026>

Submissions can be in any genre or writing style and up to 2,500 words. There is no fee to enter. After the competition, some submissions may be published (with the author's permission) in the queer zine, Aiteach.

Our panel of judges includes LGBTQIA+ activists and a published writer, with entries judged anonymously in two categories: young adult (writers up to 23 years of age) and adult (writers over 23 years of age).

The rules are laid out on the website, which includes a submission form. We have attached a flyer to this email and would be grateful if you could print it and display it on your library noticeboard as well as promoting the competition to any writers' groups connected with your library.



Public Participation Network Cork County



**An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta**
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

PPN Stakeholder Training

We would like to remind you that the online only self-paced videos programme for PPN stakeholders has been developed with SJI. Registrations for the online only training is now open. Social Justice Ireland is providing this training on behalf of the Department.

The online only training covers the following:

- An Introduction to the PPNs (2 Modules)
- Local Government Budgets
- PPNs and Local Government
- Effective Participation in Consultations
- Effective Facilitation
- Strategic Planning
- Measuring Outcomes and Impacts

This is online only training and is intended for self-directed learning at the learner's own pace. Social Justice Ireland will provide some support via the webform on each Module page. There are no scheduled classes as part of this training.

This training is available to the following PPN Stakeholders:

- PPN Workers
- PPN Secretariat Members
- PPN Representatives
- PPN Member Groups
- Local Authority Staff
- Elected Councillors

To register, please complete the Registration Form at the following link : [Register for Training | Social Justice Ireland](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

Get involved!

Secretariat Vacancies:

Cork County PPN has a number of vacancies available, some on the various Committees within the County Council - the SPCs and LDCDs, but at the moment we also have a number of positions we are looking to fill on our Secretariat - the incredibly important group that keeps the PPN show on the road !

The Cork County PPN Secretariat provides a coordinating and oversight function for the PPN. Its role is to:

- Facilitate the implementation of decisions of the PPN
- Ensure the proper functioning of the PPN between plenary meetings
- Coordinate the activities of the PPN Communicate extensively and regularly with all PPN members and disseminate information concerning all PPN activities as widely as possible
- Manage and support PPN staff The Secretariat is made up of two representatives from each of the Cork County Municipal Districts i.e. Carrigaline, Macroom, Cobh, East Cork, Bandon-Kinsale, Fermoy, Kanturk-Mallow and West Cork, as well as, two representatives from each of the PPN colleges i.e. Community & Voluntary College, Social Inclusion College and Environmental College.

Commitment Involved:

The Secretariat role is voluntary and requires approximately two hours per month to attend meetings, which generally take place at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of each month, alternating between in-person and online formats. Travel expenses for in-person meetings are reimbursed. Additional involvement may be required from time to time, such as participation in sub-groups or events.

This is a rewarding opportunity for individuals to contribute meaningfully to the social fabric of our communities. Secretariat members receive access to training and national events, develop key skills, and play a crucial role in shaping supports for community groups, particularly those representing marginalised voices.

Applications forms for all our available roles can be found on our website [Cork County PPN Nominations - Cork County PPN](#)

- or reach out to PPN@corkcoco.ie and we can have a chat with you about any of the roles available.



Current Vacancies:

2 x Vacant seats – Carrigaline Municipal District

Vacant seat – East Cork Municipal District

Vacant seat – Kanturk/Mallow Municipal District

Vacant seat – Macroom Munciple District

2 x Vacant seats – Environmental Electoral College

[Cork-County-Secretariat-Nomination-form](#)

Further vacancies:

SPC Vacancies:

Economic Development & Enterprise SPC: 1 seat vacant

Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development SPC: 2 seats vacant

Arts, Culture & Language SPC: 1 seat vacant

Please submit your nomination by completing this form:

[Cork-County-SPC-Nomination form final](#)

LCDC Vacancies:

- **North Cork** (1 Social Inclusion vacancies)

Please submit your nomination by completing this form:

[Cork-County-LCDC-Nomination-form](#)



Public Participation Network Cork County

Free Online Training for Community Groups: Fundraising & Grant Applications

As we head into Q4, that time of year is coming – the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP), the Municipal District Community Fund Scheme, etc – they will all be reopening for applications between now and early January 2027, and we want to ensure you are prepared!

Cork County PPN is delighted to offer a series of **four practical online training sessions** delivered by experienced community development consultant **Tom O'Leary**. These **interactive workshops** will provide tools, templates and practical guidance to help your group secure funding and plan successful fundraising initiatives.



O'LEARY & ASSOCIATES

Sessions 1 & 2: Fundraising Skills for Community Groups

Learn how to develop a fundraising strategy, identify new income opportunities, engage sponsors, and plan effective fundraising campaigns. Topics include budgeting, online fundraising, sponsorship, marketing and campaign evaluation.

 **Monday 23rd November** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm

 **Tuesday 24th November** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Sessions 3 & 4: Preparing Grant Applications

Gain practical skills to identify suitable funding opportunities and prepare strong grant applications. The training will cover needs analysis, application planning, funder requirements, scoring systems, procurement guidelines and online application processes.

 **Tuesday 1st December** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm

 **Wednesday 2nd December** | 7.30pm - 9.00pm



Public Participation Network Cork County

Who should attend?

Community and voluntary groups, residents' associations, local projects and anyone involved in fundraising or applying for grants on behalf of a community organisation.

Booking details will be issued shortly. Spaces are limited, so early registration is encouraged – we will circulate the registration link in the coming days.

Additional Free Nonprofit Training Webinars:

The Deloitte logo is displayed in white text on a black rectangular background. The word "Deloitte" is in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by a small green dot.

As part of Deloitte Impact Month 2026, Deloitte Ireland and Business in the Community Ireland are offering a series of free online webinars for charities, community groups and NGOs. Topics include AI, wellbeing, workforce development, project management and the EU AI Act. Places are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

More information: [Deloitte Impact Month 2026 - Learning & Development Webinars for the Irish Nonprofit Sector this October - The Wheel](#)



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

#fundingfriday

RETHINK IRELAND

AI for Good Fund – Funding Opportunity for Non-Profit Organisations

Rethink Ireland has launched the **AI for Good Fund**, a €1.75 million initiative designed to help not-for-profit organisations across Ireland explore and adopt artificial intelligence to strengthen their work, support communities, and drive social innovation. The fund is being delivered in partnership with Google.org and the **Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht** under the **Dormant Accounts Fund**.

Up to 30 organisations will be selected to take part in an AI Accelerator Programme and will receive:

- A cash grant of up to **€15,000**
- AI training and upskilling opportunities
- Tailored non-financial supports to assist their AI adoption journey

The fund is open to not-for-profit organisations that have identified an organisational challenge or opportunity that could be addressed through AI and have staff interested in developing AI skills with leadership support. Applications are open until **9 November 2026**.

Rethink Ireland is also hosting free online application clinics to provide guidance on eligibility and the application process:

- **7 October 2026, 11.00am**
- **21 October 2026, 12.00pm**

For full details and application information, visit the [Rethink Ireland website](#).



Public Participation Network Cork County

**DR
UR
Y.**

Cash4Clubs

The scheme at a glance

Grants of €2,000 for 225 clubs, plus five major awards of €10,000

Unrestricted, so the club decides how best to spend it, whether that is facilities, equipment, coaching qualifications, activity programmes or something else

Applications open 1 Oct and close 1 Jan 2027, with grants awarded early in the New Year

For adult clubs and groups. The scheme funds adult participation, so it is open to not-for-profit clubs, groups and charities whose members are aged 18 and over. Clubs with junior members or junior activities are not eligible, so a quick check before applying saves anyone time

Priority groups. Groups in areas of high deprivation, and those involving women, older adults, people with disabilities and other under-represented groups, are especially encouraged to apply

Apply at cash-4-clubs.com.

Who funds it

Cash4Clubs is delivered by the charity Sported and funded by Flutter UKI. The adult-only rule follows from that, which is worth knowing if a club asks why it applies.

Is it worth applying

Sported's review of last year found 95 per cent of funded groups said the grant made a positive difference, 94 per cent were able to run more activities as a result, and 91 per cent said it made it easier for people to take part. Strong applications that missed out were held in reserve for further awards, so a good application is never wasted.

What have clubs spent it on

Last year in Dublin, a grant bought 100 lighter weights for an over 60s gym class. In Pettigo in Donegal, another put a village GAA club in new training gear. Across the programme, the scheme has supported more than 100 different sports and activities.

Contact

Carlos Gatterdam, Drury, carlos.gatterdam@drury.ie, 085 168 2268

Conor Mulligan, Drury, conor.mulligan@drury.ie, 083 341 1780



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

#OurEUStory Awards Are Now Open!

Irish organisations involved in EU-funded projects are being encouraged to enter the **#OurEUStory Awards 2026**, which celebrate the positive impact of EU funding on communities and organisations across Ireland. Marking their fifth anniversary, the awards showcase inspiring stories of how EU-funded initiatives have delivered real benefits and helped organisations achieve their goals.

To enter, organisations are invited to create a short video of up to 140 seconds highlighting their EU-funded project and share it on LinkedIn and/or Facebook using the hashtag **#OurEUStory**. Entries must also be submitted through the online application form by **5.00pm on 23 October 2026**.

The competition offers cash prizes of **€1,000 for first place** and **€500 each for second and third place**, with winners to be announced at the #OurEUStory Awards Ceremony in December.

Further information: [#OurEUStory Awards Are Now Open! - The Wheel](#)

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 Inviting Expressions of Interest

The Heritage Council is pleased to announce that Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for the Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 are now open.

Community and voluntary groups and non-governmental organisations are invited to begin preparing their applications for this new funding opportunity, which supports projects that protect, conserve, celebrate, understand and share Ireland's heritage.

Expression of Interest deadline: 16 October 2026 at 5.00pm.

More information: [Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2027 Inviting Expressions of Interest - The Wheel](#)



NTR Wind & Solar Farm Community Benefit Funds 2026 Now Open

Community groups located near NTR wind farms are invited to apply for funding through the NTR Wind & Solar Farm Community Benefit Funds, which are now open and will accept applications until **Friday, 13 November 2026**.

Funding is available for a wide range of community projects, with a particular focus on **Youth Facilities and Services** for applicants in the Boolard & Rathnacally area of County Cork.

Support is also available for larger multi-annual community infrastructure projects. Further information, guidance notes and the online application form can be found via the Community Benefit Funds website.

For more details and to apply, visit [NTR Community Benefit Funds](#).

If you previously registered, you should [log in](#) using the same username and password to apply for the 2026 Fund. If you have lost or forgotten your password, please use the ["Forgot Password"](#) feature or contact SECAD for assistance. New users should [register](#) before applying.

Please don't hesitate to contact **SECAD** if you need any help or assistance with your application. If there are any other community groups in your area that you feel may be interested in finding out about the NTR Wind Farm Community Benefit Funds, please don't hesitate to pass along these details and contact information.

Further information and the Online Application Form can be found at www.communitybenefitfunds.ie/ntr



Public Participation Network Cork County

Consultations:



Stronger Charities.
Stronger Communities.

Research in Ireland 2026 Barometer – Invitation to Participate

The Wheel, in partnership with **Research Ireland**, is inviting community and voluntary organisations to contribute to the **Research in Ireland 2026 Barometer**, a national initiative exploring how people across Ireland experience research in their everyday lives. The project aims to capture lived experiences and broaden participation in research through a community-focused approach.

To ensure the voices of the community and voluntary sector are represented, The Wheel is hosting a series of online discussions on themes including disability, education and lifelong learning, and rural communities. Interested participants can register their interest by **19 October**.

Register: [Research Ireland Meeting Registration Form](#)



**Public Participation
Network Cork County**

Public Consultation on Ireland's Maritime Oil Spill Contingency Plan



An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport



Irish Coast Guard

The Department of Transport and Irish Coast Guard (IRCG) are inviting feedback on the review of Ireland's National Maritime Oil and HNS Spill Contingency Plan. The public consultation is open from **30 September to 4 November 2026** and seeks views from individuals and organisations with an interest in pollution prevention, emergency preparedness, and environmental protection.

Open from 30 September to 4 November, IRCG have designed an [online survey](#) to help capture public and stakeholder views, particularly those with an interest in pollution prevention, preparedness and response management – having regard to the potential impacts that a major maritime pollution incident could have on wildlife, local industries, and the environment. In addition, in an effort to further assist respondents, IRCG have also prepared an Issues Paper for context - this can be accessed on the relevant Gov.ie webpage [here](#).



Public Participation Network Cork County

Carrigaline to Ringaskiddy cycleway



Cork County Council has unveiled proposals for a new **5.5km pedestrian and cycle route** connecting Carrigaline and Ringaskiddy, designed to provide a safer and more accessible travel option for walkers, cyclists, commuters and families.

The planned route will run from **Fernhill/Rock Road** in Carrigaline to the **Castle Warren/Barnahely Castle** area near Ringaskiddy.

Largely off-road and approximately four metres wide, the scheme aims to improve active travel links between local communities, schools, sports clubs and workplaces.

In addition to the new shared walking and cycling path, the project includes:

- New footpaths, verges and shared pedestrian and cycle facilities
- Upgrades to existing roads, crossings and junctions
- New public lighting and signage
- Sustainable urban drainage measures
- Public realm and landscaping enhancements
- A reduction of the speed limit on Old Post Office Road to **30km/h**

The proposed route has been developed in conjunction with the M28 motorway project to support sustainable transport options along the corridor.

Residents, businesses and other stakeholders are encouraged to review the plans and provide feedback. Submissions can be made online through Cork County Council's consultation portal or in writing to the Cork National Roads Office.

The consultation period remains open until **5:00pm on Friday, 16 October 2026**.

How can I make a submission?

- You can do so by tapping on the 'Make a Submission or Observation' button on the [Council's website here](#).



- Alternatively, you can do so in writing, clearly marked: 'Part 8 – Fernhill to Ringaskiddy Pedestrian and Cycle Route', Senior Engineer, Cork National Roads Office, Richmond, Glanmire, Cork, T45 WA44.

UCD Research Survey for Partners of People with Prostate Cancer

Researchers from **University College Dublin (UCD)** are seeking participants for an anonymous survey examining the experiences, information needs and support needs of current and former partners of people diagnosed with prostate cancer in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The survey is open to adults aged 18+ whose partner has been diagnosed with prostate cancer, including those on active surveillance or watchful waiting, as well as those who have received treatment. The survey takes approximately 10–15 minutes to complete and has received ethical approval from UCD.

Further information and access to the survey are available via the following link: [Take the survey](#).

Survey on Barriers to Accessing Bank Accounts for Small Community Groups

We are interested in learning more about any barriers that small community groups faced when trying to open bank accounts. They usually need them in order to apply for and receive small grants and funds. The survey is short and not too onerous. We would appreciate if you could share with your relevant networks please.

The survey is here - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FVCFB9S>



Public Participation Network Cork County

Job Vacancy:



CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

REQUIRES

Part-time Pool Assistants - Mallow Swimming Pool (26/083)

Closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is 2pm on Monday, 12th October 2026.

Further details and application forms for the above posts are available on the careers' section of the website: www.corkcoco.ie; or by e-mailing: recruitment@corkcoco.ie

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TÁ COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHORCAÍ

AG LORG

Cúntoir Linn Snámha Páirt-aimseartha - Linn Snámha Mala (26/083)

Ní foláir foirmeacha iarratais chomhlánaithe a chur isteach roimh 14:00 iarnóin De Luain, 12ú Mí Dheireadh Fómhair, 2026.

Tá foirmeacha iarratais agus tuilleadh eolais ar fáil anseo - www.corkcoco.ie; nó trí ríomhhost a chur chun: recruitment@corkcoco.ie

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