NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of Rural Community Network will be held on Friday 20th November 2015 at Tirgan Community Hall, Moneymore. The business of the meeting will include the adoption of the audited accounts and annual report for the year ended 31 March 2015, the appointment of auditors and deal with any other business which the meeting is competent to transact. Please submit any resolutions in writing to Kate Clifford, Director of RCN before then. Resolutions must be proposed and seconded by two fully paid up RCN members or by the RCN’s Board and may be accompanied by an explanatory text of up to 500 words. Submitted resolutions will be circulated in advance to RCN members.

Please note that only paid-up members are eligible to submit resolutions and vote at the AGM.

MINDSET TRAINING

RCN is pleased to say that there will be a free training event called MINDSET on Tuesday 17th November from 1.30pm - 5pm at the Hub Cookstown. Many thanks to Carol at the Hub for working in partnership with us on this. The training is funded by PHA, it is a 3.5 hour bespoke programme, to suit adults and young people. There will be a maximum number of 20 participants, in this instance. The training is FREE of charge. A cup of tea and a wee biscuit will be provided. Please register your interest with Teresa at the office.

Rural Brief
November 2015

RCN’S AGM & ANNUAL CONFERENCE - THINK RURAL! YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Friday 20th November 2015 – Tirgan Community Hall, Moneymore BT80 8QW

RCN is delighted to announce the date and time of the first ever NI Rural Parliament event. This fun, interactive and participative workshop aims to get to the core issues and concerns facing rural dwellers across N Ireland. We promise an open and creative conversation-based workshop experience. We will be supporting people to share ideas and insights and gain a deeper understanding of the issues involved in rural community development. Rural voices matter to us and we will listen to you when you tell us what needs to change or happen to address the issues you have identified. We would love to have you with us for this event. Book early as we only have limited places available. We promise a warm welcome, hot food and plenty of chat.

We would like to thank the Big Lottery for helping us to make this happen through its Awards for All funding.

Invitations have been issued for the conference, to book your place, contact Teresa at RCN on 028 8676 6670 or email teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE TRAINING

Friday 13th November – 10am to 1pm at RCN’s office.
£20pp (including refreshments and participant materials)

Do you work with or manage people from different cultures? Culture influences how we work, behave and communicate with others. Today, more than ever intercultural competence skills are essential when we live and work with colleagues, clients and customers from other cultures. Technology and increased mobility means that even if we don’t move the world comes to us! Intercultural competence explores how culture shapes how we act and behave and influences our expectations when communicating with people from other cultures. Intercultural competence training provides the knowledge, skills and expertise to communicate effectively across other cultures. This training is suitable of all levels of staff across a range of sectors including business, health, education, youth etc.

To register contact Teresa at the office. Places are limited.

RCN MEMBERSHIP

Are you beginning to feel the squeeze on the community and voluntary sector? Feel left out of the loop or not sure what’s happening within the funding and local government reform environment? Feel you need a critical friend who can offer advice support and provide up to date information? Then become a member of RCN. A range of options for all budgets. #ThinkRural Think RCN.

Visit our website for further information www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org

Supporting Rural Communities
ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE HOME - GETTING THE MOST FROM THE ENERGY WE USE

NEA is offering to hold a limited number of workshops on energy efficiency in the home for community groups in Northern Ireland.

The two hour interactive workshops are focused on making energy efficiency come alive for those who attend. Feedback from previous events is positive with participants expressing that much of the information included could be used at home. The workshops are supported by the NIHE.

For further information and for booking please contact Paul Wallace on email address paul.wallace@nea.org.uk or telephone 028 9023 9909.

CRC COMMUNITY RELATIONS/CULTURAL DIVERSITY GRANT

Application Deadline 21st November 2015

Community Relations Council funding is intended to help community/voluntary groups throughout Northern Ireland develop their capacity to engage in community relations work and to enhance the community relations potential of projects they undertake. The maximum award payable is £10,000 but in the main most grants are much smaller than this. This grant scheme seeks to achieve the aims listed below by providing advice and financial support for projects:

• To develop opportunities for groups to explore their own cultures, beliefs and traditions, thus increasing their capacity to develop relationships of trust with those of different traditions and values.
• To develop opportunities for groups to extend their knowledge and understanding of others’ cultures, beliefs, traditions; increasing their acceptance of and respect for diversity.
• To enable groups to challenge stereotypes of their own and other communities in order to acknowledge and address difference.
• To increase the ability and confidence of groups and organisations to identify and address those issues that divide them.
• To develop networks of communication, trust and co-operation between divided communities.
• To promote models of good practice for community relations work in Northern Ireland.

The scheme is aimed at locally based groups such as community development groups, cultural organisations, women’s groups, church groups, tenants associations and other organisations and groups involved in community relations, reconciliation projects and cultural engagement.

The scheme is aimed primarily at projects involving adults.

For further information visit - http://www.community-relations.org.uk/ or telephone 028 9022 7500.

SORP2015 –THE ESSENTIALS

This one hour session will cover the essential changes arising out of SORP 2015 and the new Financial Reporting Standards to enable those preparing accounts to become aware of areas which will be of most relevance to their organisations. Alan Bermingham from CIPFA NI will provide an insight to the SORP essentials.

Date: Monday, November 16, 2015
Time: 12:30 to 14:00
Venue: Ulster Bank Limited. Mid Ulster Business Centre, Molesworth Place, Molesworth Street, Cookstown, Co Tyrone. BT80 8NX
To book a place at this event, please contact rachel@co3.bz

NATIONAL LOTTERY – AWARDS FOR ALL

Awards for All is a small grants programme delivered and funded by the Big Lottery Fund in Northern Ireland giving groups a quick and easy way to get small Lottery grants of between £500 and £10,000.

The main aim of the programme is to bring real improvements to communities and to the lives of people most in need by funding projects which involve people in their communities, bringing them together to enjoy a wide range of charitable, community, educational, environmental and health-related activities:

The Awards for All aims to help:
• People to participate in their communities to bring about positive change
• People to develop their skills and widen their experiences
• People to work toward better and safer communities
• Improve people’s physical and mental health and well-being.

For enquiries contact the Big Lottery Fund on Phone: 028 9055 1455 or Email: enquiries.ni@biglotteryfund.org.uk

If you would like anything included in Rural Brief, please forward to: teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org or if you would like information on membership or RCN’s work visit www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org for further information. ☎️ 028 8676 6670