

# Organisations at Westside Resource Centre

**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 Suzanne: 091-528325 or 086-0433376).

**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 091-554420).

**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 Ann on 087-9326467).

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

**National Advocacy Service** aims to provide independent advocates to people with disabilities who find it difficult to speak for themselves. (Contact 076-1073000).

**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).

**Community Work Ireland (CWI)** Through our network of members CWI promotes and supports community work to address poverty, social exclusion and inequality. Our work includes developing and influencing policy, research and campaigning on issues of social justice. (Contact: info@communityworkireland.ie 091-528325 / 087-2998619 / 087-9326467).

**MEAS Garda Youth Diversion Project** 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).

**OBAIR – Local Employment Service Network**  
If you are out of work and looking for 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 OFFICE. Please Note: If you are in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance/Benefit, the Dept. of Employment Affairs & Social Protection will send you to us if deemed appropriate. (Contact Robert or Pádraig on 091-581955)

**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 Edel on 091-587640).

**EPIC – Empowering Young People in Care in Ireland** is an independent association for young people in care and with care experience. We provide information, advice and support as well as an independent advocacy service for young people in care, aftercare or with care experience. (Contact Brenda on 091-395605 or 087-6249344).

**RISE Service** is the provider of choice of person-centred, health and social care services that facilitate people who are disadvantaged to participate in the life of their local community in ways that match their choices, aspirations and needs. (Contact Louise on 086-8371638 or Louise.Kenny@Rehabcare.ie)



## WESTSIDE NEWSLETTER

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



### New Art Project Launched in Westside

Westside Resource Centre has just launched its new community arts project entitled "ARTiculate". This project will bring together a diverse range of people from across the community to explore human rights in an inclusive and creative environment.

Participants have a choice between 5 Monday morning sessions (10am to 12pm) or 5 Tuesday afternoon sessions (2pm to 5pm). The project begins on the week of Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November.

This project is an artistic social inclusion initiative organised by Westside Resource Centre and supported by Galway City Council, Galway City Partnership and Westside Arts Festival.

The ARTiculate project aims to create a collection of thirty paintings which will be displayed at Westside Resource Centre for Westside Arts Festival in 2020.

Please contact  
Westside Resource  
Centre on 091-528325  
for further project details.



[facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre](https://facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre)

### Self Help Africa Charity Dinner

The seventh annual Charity Dinner in aid of Self Help Africa takes place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November in the Galway Bay Hotel in Salthill. Tickets are available from Ronan Scully on 087-6189094 or [ronan.scully@selfhelpafrica.org](mailto:ronan.scully@selfhelpafrica.org)

### Westside Christmas Market

This year's Westside Christmas Market takes place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Among the items for sale will be: produce from Westside Community Organic Garden, patchwork from the Westside Patchwork Group, crafts from Westside Community Craft Group and baked goods and floral arrangements created by participants in the annual Christmas Workshops organised by Galway City Partnership – Westside Project.



### 21 New Community Representatives For Galway

Galway City Community Network (GCCN) has elected 21 new representatives to help enhance democracy and represent the community, voluntary and environmental sectors on a variety of policy and decision-making structures in Galway City.

The elections were held on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, and more than fifty GCCN members - representing groups and organisations from all around the city - came to cast their vote. The meeting elected representatives to the Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs), the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the Joint Policing Committee (JPC).

Speaking on behalf of GCCN, Tommy Flaherty, stated, "We are pleased to elect these highly qualified representatives to represent communities in Galway City and to be making a contribution to participatory democracy in the city. We are looking forward to working alongside councillors and others that share our vision for Galway".

Full details about GCCN are available at <https://galwaycitycommunitynetwork.ie>

## On the "Write" Track

The art of creative writing is surely thriving in Westside Resource Centre. We are currently hosting three different writing groups. The very wonderful Write-On Writers Group meet weekly on a Thursday evening. The ever knowledgeable Kevin Higgins teaches his keen students on Wednesday mornings whilst the celebrated Charlie Adley convenes his creative cadets on Thursday evenings.

Writer-On Writers: 086-2269330.

K. Higgins: 087-6431748. C. Adley: 085-7294204.

## Autumn Classes in Westside

Galway City Partnership, in conjunction with GRETB, ran three very successful courses: Art, Barbering and Cookery. These classes have now concluded and we look forward to further classes in 2020. Contact Galway City Partnership on 086-1424904 or email donnacha@gcp.ie or geraldine@gcp.ie

## Westside Community Patchwork Group

This time of the year the Patchwork Group are very busy preparing for the annual Christmas Market. Every year the group produce some amazing Christmas gifts and feedback is always very positive.

The group took a trip to the Knitting and Stitching Show in Dublin on 7th November and brought back some new ideas.



## Informative Talks at Westside Resource Centre

On the first Tuesday of the month, Westside Resource Centre hosts the Open Door event. This informal community gathering has been taking place regularly for a number of years and is an ideal opportunity for neighbours to meet and chat over a cup of tea and hear from a range of invited guest speakers.

The Resource Centre welcomes enquiries from community, voluntary, heritage and not-for-profit groups who wish to give a short, informal presentation on the work that they do. This allows organisations to describe their activities and provides an opportunity for people to engage with them and learn about their services.

Please contact Westside Resource Centre on 091-528325 for full details about the Open Door or other occasional informative talks.

[facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre](https://facebook.com/westsideresourcecentre)

## Weekly ISL Group

Every Thursday  
(starting Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November)  
2:45-4:15pm in Westside Resource Centre.

All are welcome to come along to this informal group and learn or improve signing skills and knowledge of Deaf culture. Light refreshments provided.



*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

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.

## Artistic Greeting Cards

Westside Resource Centre's popular Greeting Card Collection has been reissued. The collection features work by artists in the local community and the cards are ideal for any occasion. A pack of 12 cards costs €10 and they are available from Westside Resource Centre. All proceeds go to support the work of the Resource Centre, which is a registered charity working to support the local community.



## Gáirdín Orgánach an Taobh Thiar

The Healthy Harvest Day brought a good number of new visitors to the Gáirdín. We had several enquiries regarding how the garden operates and how people can become volunteers. Therefore, we hope to welcome some new people to the work and pleasure of gardening.

The workshop for children on seed planting was well attended. Many children went away with seeds in pots and the instructions on how to care for the plant as it grows. We hope in time we have started an interest in growing in the next generation.

To date this year, we have grown a good crop of potatoes, which we have now harvested. We have been using tomatoes, cabbage, kale, spinach, onions and beetroot as well as salad crops as they have matured.

It will soon be time to rest most of the garden for the Winter. There are some crops which benefit from an early start the following year if they are planted in Autumn. It may be worth

giving it a try this Autumn if the ground is not too wet! We can use the polytunnel in the really cold months, that will be a big benefit.

A beginners course in Organic Gardening is planned. If you are interested, please leave your name contact number into Westside Resource Centre (091-528325). Beidh fáilte mór romhat. More advanced workshops on various gardening topics will also be conducted in the near future.

Tá an Togra Gaeilge ag dul ar aghaidh go maith agus tá Gaeilge á labhairt againn sa gháirdín le daoine atá Gaeilge acu nuair atá muid ag obair, chun cleachtadh a fháil sa teanga.

Westside Community Organic Garden depends completely on the work of volunteers. New Volunteers are always welcome. Wednesdays, 10am to 12pm.

Westside Community Organic Garden



Rialtas na hÉireann  
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Westside Newsletteris supported by Galway City Partnership