

Rural Community Network is pleased to announce an investment of £35,000 for a new project working across rural Northern Ireland called *“100 Years of Change – Rural Shared History Programme”*.

The project is part of the Shared History Fund, which The National Lottery Heritage Fund is delivering on behalf of the Northern Ireland Office, to help groups mark the centenary of the creation of the state of Northern Ireland in a thoughtful, inclusive and engaging way.

This project aims to work with all sections of the community right across rural NI through a wide range of programmes.

## Contact Details

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# Rural Shared History Programme “100 Years of Change”



## Rural Community Network

### The following is an outline of the various elements included in the “Rural Shared History in NI - 100 Years of Change” Programme

#### Beyond Belfast Capacity Building programme in partnership with The Junction and the University of Liverpool

For Beyond Belfast practitioners, their organisations and volunteers - training, workshops and events to support others in the field – how to run commemorative events, things to consider, inclusivity, audience targeting, learning from others who have done this work, challenges and issues as well as ethical and shared principles.

**Dates: June 2021 - September 2021**

#### Rural storytelling and digital arts - Personal memories and experiences of rural living

RCN is seeking stories and personal accounts from rural community groups and individuals in Northern Ireland expressing what it means to you to be a rural community in NI today and how life has changed over the last 100 years. These stories will then be transformed into digital animations to produce a film capturing those accounts. We are keen to capture as wide a range of diverse rural voices as possible and welcome contributions from all sections of the rural community including BAME, LGBTQ+, women, sport, industry, agriculture, etc, especially in the border regions. So be part of “I’m NI in ‘21” and share your stories with us.

**Starting: September 2021**

#### Beyond Belfast Partition course in partnership with The Junction

Designed as a follow-on programme to the Capacity Building Ethical and Shared Remembering Course for Beyond Belfast Forum groups exclusively (see details on the Partition course below, and attached flyer for this run of the Partition Course)

**Starting: 19th August 2021**

#### State of NI course with Martin Snoddon (x2 programme runs)

Examining the State of NI since its inception on 3rd May 1921. The Anglo-Irish Treaty of December 1921 was an international treaty that give birth to what was then the Free State and to the state of Northern Ireland. How did it come about? Who was involved? What were the challenges? All questions when answered will help people understand the changes in Ireland at that time. Then what happened in Northern Ireland after 1921?

**Starting: East Bann – 7 x Mondays from 4th Oct – 15th Nov 2021  
West Bann - 7 x Mondays from 31st Jan – 21st Mar 2022 (except 14th Feb).**

#### Partition course in partnership with The Junction (Regional Programme open to anyone)

On the 23rd December 1920, the Government of Ireland Act was signed off by King George V and the Partition of Ireland became a legal reality. Much violence took place. Out of the violence two confessional states emerged from centuries of colonial domination and rule, and from centuries of political and religious sectarianism. On 3rd May 1921 Northern Ireland officially came into existence. The Act of 1920 not only partitioned Ireland, but it also partitioned the Province of Ulster, Irish Unionism and Irish Nationalism. All of this had consequences and has left legacies, still experienced and felt to the present. This programme will critically examine the road to Partition, the content of the Government of Ireland Act, and how it left two minority communities; northern Nationalists and southern Unionists, each beached on the wrong side of the border. The programme will also look at the Boundary Commission, tasked to make appropriate changes to the boundary or border between the two states. (see attached flyer for this run of the Partition Course)

**Starting: 14th October 2021**

#### 100 Years of Change Lectures

A series of six online lectures and public dialogue sessions with renowned academics and historians, covering topics of interest from the period 1921 - 2021. Contact RCN for dates and further details, or check out RCN’s social media platforms

**Dates: October 2021 - February 2022**

#### Centenary Activity Support

RCN will support Beyond Belfast organisations to assist them in holding activities related to “100 Years of Change - Rural Shared History in NI”.

**Dates: August 2021 - March 2022**

Keep an eye on the RCN website, Twitter and Facebook page for more updates

 [www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org](http://www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org)

  @RuralCommNet

## RURAL COMMUNITY NETWORK

In partnership with  
**THE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND PEACE BUILDING**  
Seamus Farrell and Craig Barr

# PARTITION: WHAT DID IT DO FOR US?

**THE ROAD TO PARTITION**  
19TH AUGUST, 2.00 PM – 3.30 PM

**STATE SECURITY AND STATE RELIGION**  
26TH AUGUST, 2.00 PM – 3.30 PM

**THE PARTITION OF IRISH UNIONISM**  
2ND SEPTEMBER, 2.00 PM – 3.30 PM

**THE PARTITION OF IRISH NATIONALISM**  
9TH SEPTEMBER, 2.00 PM – 3.30 PM

**THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION: AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY**  
16TH SEPTEMBER, 2.00 PM – 3.30 PM

**WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE FUTURE?**  
23RD SEPTEMBER, 2.00 PM – 3.30 PM

THIS COURSE WILL BE DELIVERED ONLINE THROUGH ZOOM  
PLEASE REGISTER AT:  
[craig@ruralcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:craig@ruralcommunitynetwork.org)



## RURAL COMMUNITY NETWORK presents

**100 Years of Change - Rural Shared History Programme**  
*"Our Story in the Making: NI Beyond 100"*

In partnership with  
**THE JUNCTION COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND PEACE BUILDING**  
Seamus Farrell and Maureen Hetherington

# PARTITION 100: WHAT DID IT DO FOR US?

**THE ROAD TO PARTITION**  
14TH OCTOBER, 7.00 PM – 8.30 PM

**STATE SECURITY AND STATE RELIGION**  
21ST OCTOBER, 7.00 PM – 8.30 PM

**THE PARTITION OF IRISH UNIONISM**  
28TH OCTOBER, 7.00 PM – 8.30 PM

**THE PARTITION OF IRISH NATIONALISM**  
4TH NOVEMBER, 7.00 PM – 8.30 PM

**THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION: AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY**  
11TH NOVEMBER, 7.00 PM – 8.30 PM

**WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE FUTURE?**  
18th NOVEMBER, 7.00 PM – 8.30 pm

THIS COURSE WILL BE DELIVERED ONLINE THROUGH ZOOM  
PLEASE REGISTER AT:  
[teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org)  
Tel: 028 8676 6670

This project is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund on behalf of the Northern Ireland Office



**The State of NI**  
(6-week online course, including virtual tour)  
Delivered by Mr. Martin Snoddon, Northern Spring

The Anglo-Irish Treaty of December 1921 was an international treaty that gave birth to what was then the Free State and to the state of Northern Ireland. How did it come about? Who was involved? What were the challenges? All questions when answered will help people understand the changes in Ireland at that time. Then what happened in Northern Ireland after 1921?

You will travel through time and experience some of the most pivotal moments in history including:

- The competing interests at the time of the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921
- Early troublesome years of N.I
- Economic and political challenges of the 30's & 40's
- Operation Harvest - Border Campaign of the 1950's
- The Civil-rights of the 60's and the violent conflict that led to the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement of 1998.

Two course dates to choose from:

**Mondays from 4<sup>th</sup> Oct – 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 21, 7pm-9pm**  
Or

**Mondays from 31<sup>st</sup> Jan – 21<sup>st</sup> Mar 22 (except 14<sup>th</sup> Feb), 7pm-9pm**

*Every opportunity will be given to examine events, share information and acknowledge the past.*

This is a very popular course, it is free to participate however places are limited, therefore please register your interest asap. To register contact Teresa at RCN via email [teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org](mailto:teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org) or ring 028 8676 6670.

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**'Our Story in the Making: NI Beyond 100'**

