



Introduction to the Heritage Trust Network

An opportunity to find out what support and opportunities are on offer for rural groups. Heritage Trust Network brings together charities, community organisations and social enterprises rescuing, restoring and managing historic buildings and spaces. If you are thinking of rescuing or reusing a local heritage building, come along to hear more.

Date: **Thursday 16th February**

Time: **7pm - 8pm**

Location: **Online on zoom**

(you will be sent a link when you sign up)

Sign up here - <https://forms.gle/XbJ2T9UsQ9c8uUXn8>



The Protocol – Everything you need to know but were afraid to ask

Those working in the faith sector and in our communities are being challenged to understand the detail and implications of the changes that have come about because of Brexit.

This event is an opportunity to gain an understanding of what the Protocol is, the implications involved, what it means for us living in this place, etc.

The presentation will be given by Prof. Katy Hayward and Prof. David Phinnemore from Queens University, Belfast.

This event is taking place on the **6th February from 2pm to 3.30pm**, in person and online.

To register click the link [here](#).

Using NISRA Data to Support Your Community/Voluntary Work

This workshop will explore the data available on the NI Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA) website and their NI Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS).

Participants will learn about some of the basic concepts underpinning area-based statistics and how data available on NISRA and NINIS can be used to benefit their organisation's understanding of the place they are working in or of the group / community they are working with.

This is an interactive session and we would encourage you to bring your own internet enabled laptop or tablet with you to explore the websites and learn together.

To register email kelly@ruralcommunitynetwork.org

When: Thursday 2nd March 7-9pm

Where: Gate 1, Board Room, Unit 10, Annagh Centre 2 Beechvalley Way, Ballysaggart Business Complex Dungannon, BT70 1BS

Facilitator: Aidan Campbell

Faith and Social Media: Using Facebook

The Covid-19 pandemic has meant that 'going digital' is no longer solely for the technically savvy. Many organisations have already taken the plunge but where do you even begin if you've never engaged online before? With the huge range of digital platforms available, many charities with no digital specialists are feeling a bit adrift and fear falling behind. This webinar aims to prove that going digital isn't just for the big 'fish' smaller faith-based charities can find ways to innovate.

As the biggest & most popular social media platform, can your group afford not to be on it or using it well?

To register click [here](#).

When: Wednesday 15th February, 10am – 11:30am

Where: Online via Zoom

Facilitator: Conor McGale





Ours to Share Project Updates

Rural Community Network are delighted to have supported Hilltown Community Association and the Mourne Storytellers achieve their NOCN Level 2 qualifications in Storytelling Skills for performance. Twelve storytellers from across South Down completed the course which was led by Liz Weir and Stephen O'Hara. This project was funded through our 'Ours to Share' grant scheme supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Congratulations to everyone involved.



Faith and Social Media: Using Twitter, Canva and Insta

Using other Social Media Platforms combining Twitter, Canva & Instagram. Being on social media is essential for generating visibility and helping people find out what you do. But how do you know which is better for what you need as a small faith-based charity? This webinar will help you navigate your way through each platform and signpost you to tools that can help make things easier. To register click [here](#).

When: Wednesday 22nd February, 10am – 11:30am

Where: Online via Zoom

Facilitator: Conor McGale

Grounded – Under Pressure

With the cost-of-living crisis biting harder in recent months, the network of food support services and charitable support has never been under as much pressure. Are food banks the only solution? Are they here to stay as a permanent fixture of social support? How might we change the system to decrease the need for foodbanks/ charity support for those in need?



Jonny Currie has been a leading voice in the community and voluntary sector for some time. He is working with Trussell Trust and his strategic leadership role with them is designed to help achieve the vision of ending the need for emergency food in Northern Ireland.

When: Monday 13th February 1pm- 2pm

Where: Online via Zoom

To register click [here](#).

Why is there no Anti-poverty strategy?

Northern Ireland still has no Anti-poverty strategy despite the fact that the Community and Voluntary sector has lobbied and made recommendations to the Department.

Members of the Department for Communities [Anti-Poverty Strategy Co-Design Group](#) have produced a paper that details their key recommendations for development of an Anti-Poverty Strategy for Northern Ireland.

Kathy Maguire will take us through the work that has been done to date, and we will open the discussion about what needs to happen next.

When: Friday 24th February 12pm- 1pm

Where: Online via Zoom

To register click [here](#).

