

South Belfast Spring Newsletter



@southbelfastpb

South Belfast Partnership

forward south partnership







A word from our Chief Executive Officer

As the green shoots of spring try to pop their heads through the soil and we notice a stretch in the evenings, we can't help but notice the late snow and freezing conditions March has brought and the impact it has on so many people. All of this serves to remind us of the need to keep looking after each other as we continue to deal with the cost of living increases alongside the pain and difficulties it can bring to many.

FSP is a backbone organization — this means we are an organization that serves to bring a diverse range of groups and stakeholders together to coordinate our collective efforts towards a common goal. FSP is here to work with and coordinate local community efforts to regenerate South Belfast. We want to bring together the many community groups we have in our locality, to work collaboratively and help us deliver across all parts of south Belfast. In this spring edition, you will see how the sector has continued to step up to support us to quickly respond to the cost-of-living crises and the many initiatives that our groups are delivering to keep people warm, healthy, and connected. I want to Thank You and say a huge Well Done to all our community partners for your support in helping us to deliver to those most affected throughout these tough times. It is important that the strength and the resilience of the sector is recognized and resourced. I would urge you to complete the survey for the Review of the Voluntary and Community Sector infrastructure and support so no matter how big or small you are, your voice can be heard.

If you are interested in any of our work and want to join up with us, please feel welcome to contact any of us in the team. enquiries@forwardsouth.org or our website www.forwardsouth.org

Review of Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure and Support gets underway: Survey link below

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the review is: To contribute to an innovative and sustainable voluntary and community sector in NI, supported by a refreshed policy and funding framework, and an enabling and supporting Charity regulator. This will be met through the achievements of the following –

Objectives:

To develop a framework of outcomes for Voluntary and Community Division's support for the voluntary and community sector, including advice, supported by new and progressive commissioning

arrangements, based on fair and enabling funding principles and a move to longer-term funding creating stability in the Sector.

Sector Infrastructure
Support – future plans

Have your say

Survey closes 7 April 2023

Communities | Pobal | Communities

Community and Voluntary

To improve charity regulation for charities and their beneficiaries, through supporting a change in culture and a more enabling, collaborative, and proportionate approach by the Charity Commission NI.

Infrastructure support can be viewed as the combination of capacity, skills, physical resources and structures which support voluntary and community organisations in serving their communities and delivering outcomes. By reviewing all existing Infrastructure-based programmes, the refresh will draw on recommendations from previous evaluation work, including the review of the Regional Infrastructure Support Programme (RISP) in 2015/16. By working closely with a wide range of sectoral representatives, the refresh will identify the right community sector outcomes that we should focus on in future years.

Have your say: http://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/vcse-infrastructure-and-support/

More information below.

Review of Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure and Support gets underway cont'd

If you are interested in taking part in any of the initial engagement sessions, you can sign up for the following events. Events are open to all and will include a roundtable discussion of key questions of interest.

When	Where	How to register
Thursday, 30 March 9.30am - 12.30pm	Clifton House, Belfast	Register here
Tuesday, 4 April 12.30pm - 3.30pm	Playhouse Derry	Register here
Wednesday, 5 April 10am - 12pm	Virtual (Zoom)	Register here

Additional policy workshops will be held in between April and June: further details to follow in the coming weeks.

You can find out more information on the DfC website.

If you require any further information, please email: cssp@communities-ni.gov.uk.



ROMA Hub Celebration – December 2022

Forward South Partnership was delighted to host a Peace IV celebration event for the Roma Support Hub recently which filled the Ormeau Bowling Pavilion with much joy and laughter. Roma Ladies who have been participating in activities at the Roma Hub, all those treated attendance to traditional Roma singing and moving inputs were made by those who had worked with the Roma people over the past 2 years since the Hub's inception.



The Roma Hub has provided advice, English classes and cultural and craft activities for almost two years at the offices





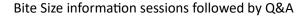
of Forward South Partnership in University Street, and is a pioneering initiative funded by Belfast City Council through Peace IV funds. The Chair of the Shared City Partnership, Cllr John Kyle, spoke at the celebration event, saying how delighted the Partnership was to see the success of the Roma Hub. Traditional Roma food was served and enjoyed by all and this auspicious event was highlighted by Belfast Live. See Link below: https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/belfast-event-celebrates-work-roma-

25813338?fbclid=lwAR1mVEdprygDNvU4H8R5ABjfUGNA3HSC8oOJ7UTl0KyJF9Xy7_pwA9_6bh8

Information Evening for ROMA Community

Tuesday 21st March 5:30pm-7pm







- Housing Rights for those living in private rental and social housing
- Employment Rights







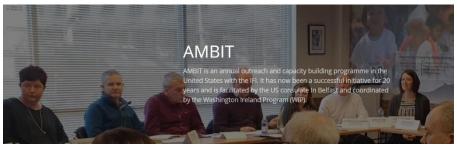
For further information ring Jacqueline on 07708695243.



Thankyou to The National Lottery Community Fund / Awards for all programme to allow us to continue our work delivering the Belfast ROMA Support Hub in University Street.

Congratulations to Emily Brown, Our Strategic Health Officer

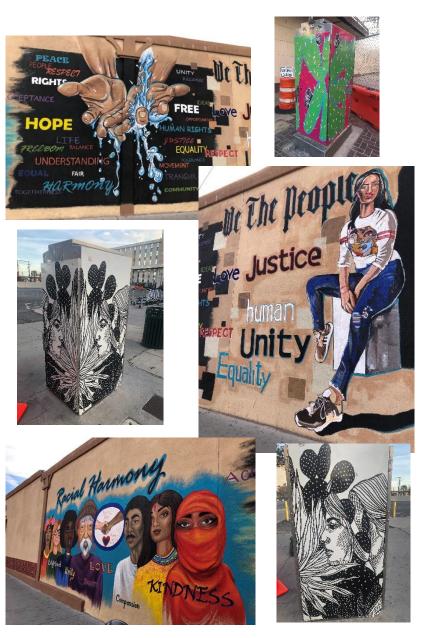




Emily Brown is currently in America after being accepted for the Ambit 2023 programme.

The AMBIT programme with IFI is a project that invests in 16 community leaders across Northern Ireland and Ireland each year 1. The participants visit their peers facing similar challenges in US cities and learn from their experiences 1.

Emily sent us these pictures of local murals in El Paso, Texas. Art connects us all and we think these images will be great inspiration for future murals in South Belfast.







Farewell to Glen, our community Health worker.

In February we said goodbye to Glen McCrum our Health Capacity worker. He goes to begin a new journey in a new exciting role in the arts. We had food in the Holyland at Bo Tree Thai. Thanks for the amazing food.





Keeping South Belfast Warm Project

Forward South Partnership were successful in securing funding from Community Foundation Northern Ireland Older People Food and Fuel Grant Process to deliver the Keeping South Belfast Warm Project to support individuals over the age of 55 years through the cost-of-living crisis. So far, we have supported over 60 individuals with gas / electric and food vouchers. Additionally, we have been delivering community meals with supportive services such as British Red Cross, Consumer Council (NI), Advice (NI) and many more attending to provide advice and practical support.

Our next Community Meal is taking place on Tuesday 25th April at 1pm in Donegall Pass Community Forum at CRI Building. Please contact Elaine Mansfield directly if you would like to attend



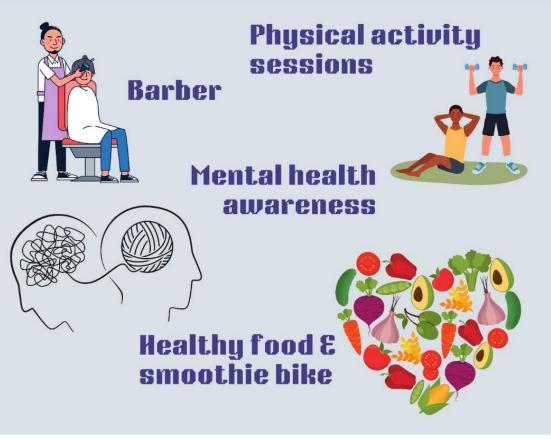
on: elaine.mansfield@donegallpass.org / 028 9032 6256

Save The Date - South Belfast Men's Mental Health Event

Forward South Partnership are working in partnership with Ballynafeigh Community Development Association and Belvoir Men Shed to facilitate a South Belfast Men's Mental Health Event on Monday 20th March 10am-1pm at Cooke Hall. Lots of activities are planned for the day including haircuts, physical activity, and health lunch. Please circulate wide with your contacts and everyone is welcome!

Men's Health Event

Monday 20th March 10.30am - 12.30pm @ Cooke Church Hall (11 Park <u>Road)</u>













Building Health Capacity in South Belfast Our Community Health Capacity Worker recently delivered a Women's Health Event with Belvoir ASD Group in Belvoir Youth Centre. Some of the activities included Yoga, Smoothie Making and holistic therapies to promote positive mental and emotional well-being



South Belfast Women's Health Event

Our next Women's Health Event is on Tuesday 28th March in Taughmonagh Community Forum to promote positive physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Everyone one is welcome! Thank you to Belfast City Council Health Development Unit for proving funding to facilitate the events.



Health and Well-being Self Care Packs

Emily, our Strategic Health Officer has been busy delivering 150 Self Care Packs that included Hot Water Bottles, Hot Travel Mug, Tea Bags, Coffee and more, with supportive literature including Take 5 leaflet and South Belfast Cost of Living Plan. We will have a further limited supply of packs, if your organization or you know an individual or family that would benefit from a pack, please directly contact Emily on Emily.brown@forwardsouth.org

Social Supermarket Funding



Forward South Partnership was allocated some funding to support community Meals in Outer South Belfast. We are funding two community meals that include:

- Agape Centre Community Meal happens every Friday Evening at 6-7pm at 236-266 Lisburn Road BT9 6GF
- QUB Catholic Chaplaincy next community meal will take place on Monday 20th March at 5pm. This is open to wider university community

As part of the funding we have a limited supply of food vouchers to support individuals and families in the Outer South Belfast Community. Please directly contact Emily on emily.brown@forwardsouth.org for a referral form.



CWA is currently in the process of developing an app with the purpose of making the process of reporting racial hate crimes and hate incidents in Northern Ireland more understandable and accessible. The general idea behind the app is to have it available in multiple languages with key information about resources and support networks. In order to develop this app, CWA is surveying the broader minority ethnic (ME) community in Northern Ireland so that we can gain a thorough understanding of the types of experiences they may have had; where, when, and how hate crimes occur as well as what circumstances may discourage victims from reporting.

This survey is open to everyone, including residents and students. Additionally, we have made it available in five different languages: English, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Arabic, and Romanian (labelled below). This survey is completely anonymous and will simply go towards helping us to understand how we can design our app to better assist people who face these types of incidents.

Survey Links: Deadline: April 15th

AprilEnglish: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HVWRA0SLWUe3rPCi39kaXgsLCcEuwe BKvOB3BaffQcBUOTdDN09aN05ONUoxQ001N1RNTkJTN0pRTS4u

Mandarin

chinese: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HVWRA0SLWUe3rPCi39kaXgsLCcEuweBKv OB3BaffQcBUNjRPS0dJN0pCSzJMNFpXQ09XWDIyTVdUQy4u

Polish: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HVWRA0SLWUe3rPCi39kaXgsLCcEuweBKvOB3BaffQcBUQ0c2MUdVVIBBOVdFWEIJNEZMMDY5MThFTi4u

Arabic: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HVWRA0SLWUe3rPCi39kaXgsLCcEuweBKvOB3BaffQcBURFpPRVBPWVJXQVpaN1Y0TDVFTDZFSUxRRS4u

Romanian: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HVWRA0SLWUe3rPCi39kaXgsLCcEuweB KvOB3BaffQcBURDITMVI5R1FFS0czVVZLM05SU1AxWTIUNi4u

W.H.O. Update: Press CTRL and Click below for details

Public health news from around the WHO European Region.



News highlights March 2023

New local Business Association



The Lisburn Road has long been known as a vibrant and desirable destination whether it be for shopping, eating, recreation or just for a spot of people watching. With many well established and new independent shops and eateries along with well known, global chains, it is a vibrant and eclectic road with something for everyone.

Whilst everyone agrees that the Lisburn Road is a fantastic hub in South Belfast, it has suffered from a lack of funding and development over recent years.

In response to the current situation and in an effort to build community and links, the businesses on the road have recently come together to create a Business Association. With many businesses already on board, the group are hopeful that a constituted group will be set up in the very near future and be in a position to apply for funding to help in improving the road and surrounding infrastructure.

Contact: enquiries@forwardsouth.org and we can pass on your details.

Spring Gathering & Clean-Up

class to learn what it was like during the 5th century.

Forward South Partnership has this year amalgamated the annual spring gathering, together with Queen's University's annual Spring Clean and Belfast City Council's Alley gates transformation event. The event is taking place on Thursday, 23rd March 2023 and you are welcome to come along for another day of celebrating the area with food, child-friendly activities, planting, transforming alley gates and the beginning of the Horsey Hill mural. For more information contact our Holyland Capacity Worker Siri – siri@forwardsouth.org.

St Patricks Day

As part of the St. Patrick's Day week Siri, our Holyland Capacity Worker has worked closely with Botanic Primary School to organise fun filled and educational activities for the children in relation to spring. This included imaginative play and dance workshops with P2 & P3 classes and several history workshops with the P7





Creating Community cohesion in the Holyland: Holyland Winter Festival



In December 2022, Forward South Partnership with collaboration local residents in the Holyland, Botanic Primary School, the Roma Hub, Chinese Welfare Association and Fitzroy Presbyterian Church held our second highly successful Winter Festival. The festival



was funded by Belfast City Council and celebrated the cultural diversity in the area through food, activities, workshops, performances, and music. The full-day event started with Santa Clause visiting Botanic Primary School handing out selection boxes and offering art workshops and storytelling sessions. We continued the day on the Community Green where food stalls and family friendly activities were provided from across the world. Chinese Welfare Association held an open day with a variety of different activities and performances. This year we were delighted to have Fitzroy Presbyterian Church joining us with their carol service which was held together with the pupils at Botanic Primary School. We finished off the day with the annual International Cultural Parade which walked through the area, from Fitzroy Presbyterian Church to Chinese Welfare Association, brighten up the area with dance, drumming, performances, and a wonderful atmosphere. It has been incredible to see so many people attending and participating in this event and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Forward South Partnership would like to say huge THANK YOU again to everyone who supported, attended, performed and was part of this day filled with activities, workshops, great food and beautiful performances.

This is some of the feedback we received as part of the evaluation report:

Feedback from adults:

"A really wonderful atmosphere. It is always lovely to experience things from different cultures"

"Nice to have something in the Holyland, sometimes it feels left out"

"I really enjoyed chatting to people, the music, and the atmosphere"



Feedback from children:

"It was fun to be out with my family"
"It felt like the start of Christmas"









Big Spring Clean Up Thursday 23 March 11am









Holyland Residents Q & A Meeting

Forward South Partnership organised a resident's Q & A meeting on Monday evening, 6th March in the Holyland to give residents the opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns. Representatives from PSNI and Belfast City Council attended as part of the panel, and we had good discussions in relation to safety in the area.

A follow up meeting is planned to take forward any questions posed that weren't readily answered.

Take 5 week organised by Chinese Welfare Association

Siri our Holyland Capacity Worker supported Chinese Welfare Association in the delivery of a Take 5 week which took place in the beginning of March. As part of this event the Capacity Worker arranged a mindful walk through Botanic Park with the P5-P7 classes at Botanic Primary School as well as kids yoga classes held at the school. Several other events took place at Chinese Welfare Organisation to support the health and wellbeing of the community.







Seamless Transition Education Programme 2023

Áine Groogan our STEP Coordinator has been coordinating with local Primary schools. Events like the one Holy Rosary Primary School promoted on Twitter. We are very grateful our partners in running these programmes in your very busy schedules.

Donegall Road Primary School also participated recently.



If your primary school would like to get involved please don't hesitate to contact our STEP Coordinator on email below: aine.groogan@forwardsouth.org

"MayWe" events are working in collaboration with Belfast City Council to deliver a range of projects over the coming weeks. We would love to have your organisation involved in the project and wish to invite you to attend one of the creative workshops



on a date and time that suits. *The workshops are completely free, fun and informal! Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.*



More details on the sessions and booking information is provided below. <u>Please note - tickets are allocated on a first come, first served basis.</u>

St. Patrick's Day

A series of St Patrick's Day Consultations on behalf of Belfast City Council will be taking place this year in 2 Royal Avenue (Old Tesco Building in Belfast city centre). Belfast City Council has recently created a new approach to designing and delivering city events, which supports the ambition and creativity of our city. These workshop have been designed to creatively engage the public in thinking about the future of city events.

Make Your Mark: Stitching Stories. Facilitated by Great British Sewing Bee's Angeline Murphy, teaches participants the skills to leave their mark on a shared 7metre length of Belfast linen.

14th & 15th March - Various sessions available: Book here

Tales of Our City: Tales of our City is a community led oral history and reminiscence programme that encourages participants in Belfast to explore their personal perspectives and memories on Belfast's unique cultural heritage. **15th & 16th March - Various sessions available: Book Here**

Belfast Festival of Learning

There are a number of free events with Belfast Stories as part of Belfast Festival of Learning that all are welcome to attend, please see below for details and to book!

Show & Tell: This facilitated reminiscence workshop invites participants to explore objects and images that hold significance to the heritage and history of Belfast to share and discuss related memories.

Belfast Festival of Learning

20th & 23rd March - Various Sessions available: Book here

Matchbox City Mapping: This creative arts workshop explores the connection between our memory and places or spaces in Belfast. Each participant is invited to add their own matchbox memory to build an alternative cityscape.

23rd & 26th March - Various Sessions available: Book here

Craic and Chronicles: An evening of drop-in creative workshops that encourage including creative writing, storytelling and craft in an informal social atmosphere with light refreshments accompanied by a performance of musical storytelling. 23rd March: **Book Here**

Anyone who has been bereaved by suicide is being encouraged to have their voice heard in a public consultation on support services. The consultation runs until Sunday 9 April. Find out more on Twitter

@publichealthni

Click Here: https://publichealth.hscni.net/news/four-weeks-go-suicide-bereavement-consultation...

Public consultation on suicide bereavement services

4 weeks left to have your views heard your views April 2023

HSC Public Health Agency



Briege Arthurs met new Chief Executive officer of NICVA, Celine McStravick and they discussed the third sector and our further collaboration including discussions on the Review of Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure and Support survey for community groups.

PEACEPLUS 1.1 – Local Community Action Plan - Continuing the process.



Local residents and community organisations encouraged to engage in the development of the PEACEPLUS Local Community Action Plan.

Belfast City Council has received notification that SEUPB have approved an indicative allocation of €17,437,277 for their PEACEPLUS Local Community Action Plan under theme 1.1 of the PEACEPLUS Programme. In the coming weeks we will be encouraging local communities and residents to engage in the PEACEPLUS consultation and co-design phase to develop the local plans.

Under Theme 1.1 councils will develop a co-designed Local Community PEACE Action Plan which will enable our communities, led by the local authorities, to establish priority actions for their local areas and collectively address Peace and Reconciliation issues to make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation across Belfast.

The local community PEACEPLUS action plan will be centred around three core themes:

- 1. Local community regeneration and transformation;
- 2. Thriving and peaceful communities; and
- 3. Building respect for all cultural identities.

Over the coming weeks and months, council officers and appointed consultants will be hosting a series of engagement events across the city.

If you haven't been involved in these please contact the PEACEPLUS Team via email on peacepluslap@belfastcity.gov.uk or ourselves on enquiries@forwardsouth.org

Community Support Group

The Community Support Group will be recruiting new members this year. The role of the CSG acts a voice for South Belfast and the issues raised are brought to our board to take action on. If you are interested contact Maggie: urbanregeneration@forwardsouth.org





UP TO £1k, YOUR WAY!

Do you have an idea that you feel would have a positive impact on your community? Do you think this idea could be turned into a project and brought to life?

If so, look no further than Move More and Eat Well to feel better.

WHAT IS Move More and Eat Well – to feel better?

It is a Participatory Budgeting initiative which means that local people get to decide how public funds are used to address needs in their area.

Groups can apply for up to £1000 for a project they think will benefit their area – and best of all, it is the local residents who decide which projects should go ahead!

IS THERE A THEME FOR PROJECTS?

All project ideas must be based around Moving More and Eating Well.

Criteria

- Safe
- Legal
- Feasible within the timeframe and budget
- In keeping with the theme "Move more, eat well" one or both parts
- Benefit people within the Belfast City Council area
- Attendance at the Celebration Event in Autumn 2023 to share positive impact that has been achieved

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Both Constituted and non-constituted groups can apply
- Non-constituted groups will require a sponsor organisation (get in touch if you need help with this)
- Any groups of young people under the age of 18 will need a sponsor to support them through the process
- A maximum of two applications can be received from groups from within any one organisation
- Groups must contain a minimum of 2 or more people

WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Come along to one of the information and support sessions in February to find out more - details will be available soon via Your Say Belfast https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/hub-page/participatory-budgeting

Stage 1: Complete a short application form to tell us about your project idea. Applications will open on Monday 06 February for 6 weeks and will close on Monday 20 March 2023 at 4pm.

Stage 2: Successful groups will be invited to a Market Stall Decision-Making Event in April 2023 where the community will vote for the projects they want to see happen.

To find out more about 'Move More and Eat Well to Feel Better' get in touch with:

Active Belfast Team

kim.kensett@bhdu.org grainne.mcmacken@bhdu.org Telephone: 02890 320202

Local Area Co-ordination

North: Greater Shankill Partnership, Dympna Johnston, BHSCT, Justine Brown

Dympna@spectrumcentre.com Justine.Brown@belfasttrust.hscni.net

South: Forward South Partnership, Emily Brown Emily.Brown@forwardsouth.org

West: West Belfast Partnership Board, Terry Quinn/Joe Duffy

Terry@wbpb.org joe.duffy@wbpb.org

East: East Belfast Community Development Agency, Jim Bailey/Linda Armitage

Jim@ebcda.org Linda@ebcda.org







MENS HEALTH ξ UELLBEING FAIR

FRIDAY 24 MARCH 7PM-9PM SANDY ROW ORANGE HALL



- HEALTH STALLS
- FREEBIES
- GIVEAWAYS
- FREE COMPLIMENTARY
 THERAPY SESSION

COME & SEE

EVERYTHING
ABOUT HEALTH
AND HEALTHY LIFE

ORGANIZED BY:

GVRT, Alternatives & BSCR







Thursday 13 April 10am-12pm & 1pm-3pm
Crescent Arts Centre, 2-4 University Road, Belfast BT7 1NH

Help your local community to reduce waste, reuse, recycle, and swap!

Bring along an unwanted, preloved toy to donate to another home and pick up a replacement.

- Toys should be in good condition and cleaned before drop off.
- We cannot accept soft toys or electronic toys.
- A maximum of three toys can be swapped.









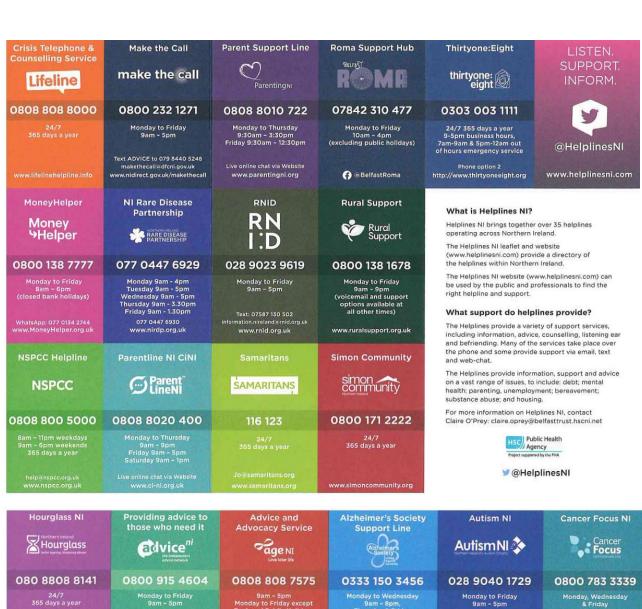




With support from: Crescent Arts Centre, Asda Shore Road & Lidl NI.

Persons taking part in a toy swap event do so at their own risk. PlayBoard accepts no responsibility for items swapped and gives no warranty as to the condition, suitability or provenance of any item swapped. Please take all reasonable measures to check the condition, suitability and provenance of any item swapped for your own protection. PlayBoard accepts no liability for any claim or loss resulting from any transaction taking place at the toy swap.

PlayBoard NI is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104724, company limited by guarantee no. NI30225, charity no. XR86639.







What's On in March 2023



in Belfast Libraries

14 March

Féile AN Earraigh

Storytime for children age 4 and over with storyteller Aodán Jaff Mac Séafraidh from 4:00pm until 5:00pm in Falls Road Library. Booking is essential. To reserve a place telephone 028 9050 9212.

9 March

Ulster Scots Traditional

Music Workshop

Adults are invited to Shankill Road Library from 6:00pm until 7:30pm for a traditional music workshop. Booking not required.

20 March

Robot Day

Fun with Robots and science in Lisburn Road Library from 3:30pm until 5:30pm. Suitable for children age 8 – 12. Booking is essential. Telephone 028 9050 9223 to reserve a place.

21 March

Alice in Wonderland Unbirthday Party!

Children over the age of 4 are invited to Holywood Arches Library for fun crafts and the poems of Lewis Carroll from 3:30pm until 4:15pm. Booking is advisable. Telephone 028 9050 9216 to reserve a place.

29 March

1-2-1 clinic

Adults who are beginners to IT are invited to Woodstock Library for help with mobile devices and general IT assistance from 10:00am until 4:00pm. Booking is essential. Telephone 028 9050 9239 to reserve a place.

30 March

Holiday Spanish

Holiday Spanish for beginners in Grove Library from 6:30pm until 7:30pm. Booking is essential. Telephone 028 9050 9244 to reserve a place.