

People Place Progress



**Inishowen
Development
Partnership**

Comhpháirtíocht Forbartha Inis Eoghain

First part of 2025 has been busy!

It has indeed been a very active start to the year, with the Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP) team dedicated to promoting the People, Place, and Progress of Inishowen. During this time, we held a large number of events and courses and successfully engaged with hundreds of individuals from across the peninsula and beyond. The team continued our mission to promote the People, Place, and Progress of Inishowen through a wide range of complementary Social Inclusion & Rural Development programmes, always keeping the individual, community inclusion and wellbeing at its heart. Notable large events included the **ChangeMakers** Annual Conference, the cross border/community **IFI EMBRACE** Harmony & Heritage final celebration event, the annual **Inishowen Job Fair** - a huge success, attracting over 400 attendees and 26 employers; and the **Celebration of Learners** event in Buncrana which honoured more than 100 local people, acknowledging their achievements and their dedication to personal growth. Furthermore, we initiated the rollout of the new **LEADER** programme aimed at stimulating & supporting sustainable & innovative rural development, building a diverse & sustainable economy, and creating greater ownership of the environment. The **SICAP Small Grants** Programme awarded funding to 27 Community & Voluntary groups and Social Enterprises to support a more sustainable, inclusive, and empowered community. The first ever **INISHOWEN CONSTRUCTION WEEK** addressed the demand for tradespeople with free and subsidised training courses, while the **Active Inishowen** Project began making great strides in promoting walking and cycling, developing hubs and showcasing new trails along with our community partners. Through various initiatives like the **Care4Carers** programme, parenting support programmes and skills training such as Payroll5, Power BI, Event Management, IT classes, and Child Safeguarding, and community consultations for projects like Eco Buncrana, IDP demonstrated a significant impact on personal development, employability, community wellbeing, and local initiatives across Inishowen. Enjoy the read and you may even spot yourself in our pictures.

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First Aid For Farmers in Buncrana

Based on feedback from the Fit4Farm Life programme at the end of 2024, we have organised a Basic First Aid programme in January. This was tailored for farmers and individuals working in the agriculture sector. Well done to everyone who completed our First Aid for Farmers in our Buncrana office over the course of three weeks. Thanks to Safetech for carrying out the training.



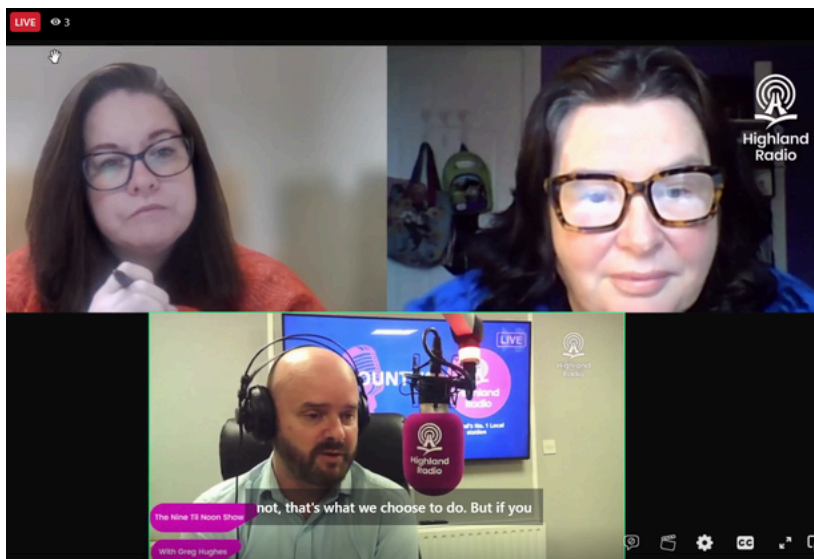
Social Soccer with Finn Harps FC

In January we started our Connecting Communities Free Social Soccer with Finn Harps FC coaches in Buncrana Youth & Community Development Centre. This was a great opportunity to come together in sport in a fun and relaxed environment and meet new people. This was funded under the International Protection Integration Fund and was a great way to bring people together every week. For info: Maggie@inishowen.ie



Webinar to support parents in talking about having defective blocks at home

In January IDP's Defective Concrete Block Facilitator Michelle Coyle was joined by child counsellor Olive Morrissey on Highland Radio to promote an online webinar IDP hosted. The webinar, organised by the IFAN DCB Subgroup, was designed to provide guidance for parents and guardians on how to talk with your family about defective concrete blocks in your home. Local homeowners joined the webinar where Olive provided tips and advice on how to talk to your children, how to answer their questions, ease their worries and reassure them about DCB/mica. Contact: Michelle@inishowen.ie



First Career Planning workshop of 2025

NEW YEAR – NEW CAREER
KICKSTART YOUR FUTURE: CAREER PLANNING FOR 2025!

CAREER PLANNING & JOB SEARCH WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY 22ND JANUARY 2025

10.00 AM – 12.00 PM

Inishowen Development Partnership
St Marys Road, Buncrana
F93 PW61

TO BOOK USE LINK OR QR CODE: [BOOKING LINK](#)



In January IDP held their first Career Planning & Job Search Workshop for people who wanted to take charge of their career or land their dream job in 2025.

The Workshop involves:

- Proven strategies for effective job hunting
- Personalized career planning tips
- Resume and interview preparation techniques
- Networking skills to stand out in any industry

Employment Support workshops are free to attend and open to all adults. Call IDP on 07493 62218 for more information.

Storm Éowyn Community Response

IN NEED OF SUPPORT AFTER STORM ÉOWYN LOCAL ASSISTANCE

Storm Éowyn Community Response Service

Call: 1800 832 015

Email: humanitarianresponse@donegalcoco.ie

If you or someone you know needs support, don't hesitate to contact us.

Donegal County Council Library Services

Offering support to those who need it following the impact of Storm Éowyn. Libraries welcome anyone in need of Wi-Fi, computer access and charging facilities to call in during opening hours. Updates on individual branch services available will issue throughout the week as branches open. Full details can be found at <https://www.donegalculture.ie/en/visit-us/libraries/opening-hours-and-branch-details/>

Department of Social Protection

Community Welfare Services (DSP) 0818 60 70 80

The Exchange, Buncrana F93 F109

Is available for people to use for wifi, phone charging, printing, use of kitchen facilities to cook, heat water, etc. They also have a chest freezer available for people who want to store frozen food (suitably bagged and labelled).

Sliabh Sneacht Centre, Drumfries F93 K6PH

Can offer a warm space for cooking & charging. They are open 9-5pm Mon- Fri

Quigley's Point Community Centre F93 R57X

Is open to the public

Muff CD Co-op Ltd. F93 E03Z

Is open to the public

Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana F93 P790

Open for charging medical devices

Greencastle Community Centre F93 VX49

Open & offering boiling water (flasks), charging, wifi

Spraoil agus Sport, Carndonagh F93 A160

Happy to help as they have showers, washing machine, charging facilities etc

Moiville GAA F93 YXD2

Is open to the public

Women in leadership – health and wellbeing event



In January IDP's Community Development team and The Breen Centre brought the women of Inishowen together with the women of Rathcoole to mark the end of the first cohort of Women Crossing Borders.

Women Crossing Borders is a 20-week programme which connects women from Inishowen and Newtownabbey to learn, share, connect and inspire each other. It is funded by the International Fund for Ireland – Communities in Partnership Programme. As part of their social action, they organised a Health and Wellbeing event called Connecting Hearts & Minds. It was an empowering and inspirational event, which also supporting meaningful connections and understanding on the issues for both communities.

Healthy Food Made Easy at Sliabh Sneacht Centre

Our popular Sláintecare Healthy Communities cookery programme Healthy Food Made Easy got underway Sliabh Sneacht Centre in Drumfries on Wednesday 29th January from 7pm – 9pm. The program runs for 6 weeks, are free to attend and open to everyone over the age of 18.

Healthy Food Made Easy follows a healthy eating programme in a simple family friendly way and in a relaxed social and fun environment.

It teaches you the basics of healthy eating on a budget and straight forward recipes that will suit all cooking abilities. There is also free health checks included



January 2025

"Not So Serious Burns" a barrel of laughs at Embrace event in Burt



In January we had a great time at our performance of Not so Serious Burns at An Grianan Hotel in Burt.

This lighthearted musical drama about the life of Robert Burns was held in collaboration with New Gate Arts and Culture Centre as part of the cross border

International Fund for Ireland project Embrace. Thanks to all the actors dancers and musicians and to everyone who joined us for the afternoon



Healthy Food Made Easy a hit in Greencastle

There was a great response to the popular Sláintecare Healthy Communities cookery programme Healthy Food Made Easy in Greencastle in January.

Facilitated by Maureen Doherty there was great

participation from people every week. They made a variety of simple family friendly meals in a relaxed social and fun environment. It teaches you the basics of healthy eating on a budget and straight forward recipes that will suit all cooking abilities. Find out more about these courses email niamh@inishowen.ie



Celebrating IDP's 2024 Learners in Buncrana

We had such a special night at our Celebration of Learners event in the Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana as more than 100 local people were honoured. The event celebrated individuals who completed training with us in 2024. Learners and their families came together to

acknowledge their achievements and their dedication to personal growth. The evening highlighted QQI accredited courses coordinated by IDP, with support from Donegal ETB Community Education Support Programme.



February 2025

Start Your Own Business course Buncrana

Our first Start Your Own Business course of 2025 got underway in Buncrana in February.

We had a full class and a great variety of business ideas.

SYOB will help you test the viability of your business idea and learn the steps involved in becoming self-employed, including financial support available and key market research. It is free to attend. Thanks to Stephen Friel Friel Consulting for facilitating.



For future Start Your Own Business courses email sinead@inishowen.ie

Changemakers host Trocaire exhibition in Letterkenny

We were delighted to support our colleagues at Change Makers Donegal and project partners Trocaire at the launch of their The Eyes of the Storm photo exhibition in the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny on Thursday 30th January. Fidelma O'Kane from Save Our Sperrins, Nicholas Hanrahan from Trocaire, Sikhanyisile Dube from ChangeMakers and Lorraine Arbuckle from Donegal County Council all shared their diverse perspectives. It was an inspiring evening dedicated to climate justice with some thought provoking conversations. Contact Myra@inishowen.ie



“..I think of climate justice as a human right”

-Fidelma O'Kane,
Save our Sperrins



Changemakers launch Donegal Short Documentary Bursary

Now Open
Donegal Short Documentary Bursary
An initiative of the Disappear Here Film Club

Local filmmakers, apply for funding to create a documentary exploring themes of global justice, aligning with ChangeMakers Donegal and Concern Worldwide's mission to promote a fairer world.

Deadline: Thursday 20 February 2025 at 1pm

Email bursary@disappearherefilmclub.com for an application form.



The Donegal Short Documentary Bursary is a joint initiative between Disappear Here Film Festival, Change Makers Donegal, Concern Worldwide and IDP. In February Changemakers Donegal with DHFF launched their Donegal Short Documentary Bursary. They called on all Donegal filmmakers interested in connecting local and global issues to apply for the Bursary. There was a great response and we look forward to the premiere of the new Donegal-made 15-minute documentary at the Disappear Here Film Festival in 2025 in October.



Women Crossing Borders launch part two of their IFI funded project



Introducing our second cohort of women who have signed up for our Women Crossing Borders Project pictured in the sun in Buncrana. We are excited to see new friendships forming and discussing plans for the next number of months for the project. The women will meet the 15 women from the Newtonabbey area to increase cross-community & cultural understanding, share,

connect and inspire each other; Enhance good relations and cross border collaborations and friendships. Women Crossing Borders is funded by the International Fund for Ireland – Communities in Partnership Programme and IDP manage it along with the Breen Centre in Co. Antrim.



Creating your CV with IDP

In February IDP's employment support team held a workshop dedicated to Creating Your CV at our Buncrana Office.

Here the employment support guidance counsellors went through:

- How to draft a standout CV that captures attention
- How to highlight your skills and achievements.
- Tailor your resume for the job you want

It was open to jobseekers and those looking to refresh their CVs.

Help with **Creating your CV**

IDP
Inishowen Development Partnership

Curriculum Vitae

- Wednesday 12th February 2025
- 12 noon – 2.00 pm
- Inishowen Development Partnership
St. Mary's Road, Buncrana F93 PW61

Book by scanning QR code or telephone 074 93 62218

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Arna chomhchistiú ag an Aontas Eorpach
Co-Funded by the European Union

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.

Registered Charity No: 20067786 CO. REG. 447893 CHY17949

Celebrating Ulster- Scots and Irish traditions at Harmony and Heritage

We had an unbelievable night at the Harmony and Heritage event at An Grianan Hotel in February. This was the finale of our cross border IFI funded Embrace project and a wonderful celebration of Irish and Ulster Scots music and dance.

A massive well done to all the performers-your talent knows no ends; and to the organisers, it was a seamless, special evening that we won't forget

Embrace is a cross border project between IDP and North West Cultural Partnership and New Gate Arts and Culture Centre and is funded by the International Fund for Ireland .



North West cultural partnership

IDP
Inishowen Development Partnership

International Fund for Ireland

Healthy Food Made Easy popular in Muff and Moville

Two more Sláintecare Healthy Communities cookery programme Healthy Food Made Easy got underway in Muff and Moville in February.

Both classes were full and there was great feedback from the participants who created a variety of dishes using the air fryers and traditional cooking methods.



HEALTHY FOOD MADE EASY

Healthy Food Made Easy is a fun course where you will learn to cook healthy meals on a budget

The course is usually run over 6 sessions (2 and a half hours). The emphasis throughout the course is on group learning and talking rather than formal teaching.

- Prepare, cook and taste healthy recipes
- Learn about healthy eating
- Get tips on food shopping
- Plan meals on a budget
- Relaxed and fun approach
- For all ages and abilities

Further details

Muff Community Centre will be hosting a FREE Healthy Food Made Easy programme on the 7th of February from 10-12pm for 6 weeks, please get in touch if you are interested in attending by contacting Niamh on 0749362218 or emailing niamh@nishowen.ie



HEALTHY FOOD MADE EASY

Healthy Food Made Easy is a fun course where you will learn to cook healthy meals on a budget

The course is usually run over 6 sessions (2 and a half hours). The emphasis throughout the course is on group learning and talking rather than formal teaching.

- Prepare, cook and taste healthy recipes
- Learn about healthy eating
- Get tips on food shopping
- Plan meals on a budget
- Relaxed and fun approach
- For all ages and abilities

Further details

Moville Methodist Hall will be hosting a FREE Healthy Food Made Easy programme on the 18th of February from 7-9pm for six weeks, please get in touch if you are interested in attending by contacting Niamh on 074 93 84572 or email Niamh@nishowen.ie



First IDP Construction Week a big success

 CONSTRUCTION WEEK 24TH- 28TH FEB 2025 		
MONDAY 24TH 9 am - 4pm NZEB Fundamentals €25 pp	TUESDAY 25TH 9 am - 4pm NZEB Retrofit - Day 1 €45 pp for 2 day programme	WEDNESDAY 26TH 9 am - 4pm NZEB Retrofit Day 2 <i>Both days must be covered for certification.</i>
5:30pm - 9pm Work at Height - External €30pp	5:30pm - 9pm Manual Handling €30pp	5:30pm - 9pm Work at Height - External €30pp
THURSDAY 27TH 9 am - 4pm QQI L4 Health and Safety Awareness Free	FRIDAY 28TH 9 am - 4pm NZEB External Insulation Theory €55 pp	DATES TO BE CONFIRMED 9 am - 4pm QQI L5 Health & Safety Representation- 4 Days €250 pp
5:30pm - 9pm Abrasive Wheel €35pp	For further details contact ana@inishowen.ie 083 3022262	Booking links in the full post.
<small>Courses will run subject to numbers!</small>		
    <small>The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Social Fund (ESF) under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme (2014-2020).</small>  <small>Registered Charity No: 20067766 CO. REG. 447853 CHY17949</small>		



At the end of February, IDP hosted their first ever INISHOWEN CONSTRUCTION WEEK. This was the perfect opportunity for anyone thinking about starting a career in construction or for existing workers to upskill and boost their

opportunities. With a huge demand in the peninsula for tradespeople, IDP worked closely with the construction sector to bring a variety of free and subsidised training courses and upskilling options, designed to help people take the next step! Courses included: Abrasive Wheel, Manual Handling, Near Zero Energy Building course, QQI L4 in Health and Safety Awareness, and much more! We were delighted with the uptake and the feedback we received.

Connecting with AONTAS on their Just4All program

February: IDP & ChangeMakers Team member Shauna McClenaghan, Denise McCool and Kate O'Callaghan had a meet up in the Buncrana office with Lorraine O Connor and Conor Thompson from AONTAS. Conor and Lorraine were briefing the team about their new Just4All programme ahead of the AONTAS Star Awards in March.



Eco Buncrana consultations

In February we kicked off our Eco Buncrana co-creation sessions by engaging with schools, agencies, community groups & businesses. The sessions were key in developing Buncrana's eco-strategy and action plan to understand where we are now and what we need to change. The insights will directly inform how Buncrana can meet the challenges and opportunities ahead while respecting both social and ecological boundaries. We had great feedback from our initial focus group sessions and this helped work towards the wider public events in March.

Contact: Denise/Rachel



Donegal Digital Action Plan meeting in Buncrana

In February we were delighted to attend Donegal Digital Action Plan Meeting: Advancing Digital Growth at the Inishowen Innovation Hub in Buncrana. We joined key stakeholders the Donegal Digital Action Plan (DDAP) meeting.

This focused on shaping the county's digital future. Discussions centred on finalising the action plan, enhancing digital skills, and strengthening links between industry and research.



Shared Island Initiative at ATU

We were delighted to attend the Shared Island Initiative social entrepreneurship event in ATU Donegal in February. IDP chairperson Helen Nolan spoke about the growth of social enterprise and the expansion of Spraoi agus Spórt. It was great to hear from SER Ireland CEO John Logue who gave us an insight into acquirepreneurship.



An inspirational morning with Mary Reynolds in Moville

A great response to Mary Reynolds Talk on February 22, which was organised by ChangeMakers Donegal in collaboration with IDP ECO Inishowen and Rights of Nature. Nature activist and reformed landscape designer Mary Reynolds, is author and founder of the global movement We Are The Ark. She touched hearts, shifted perspectives, engaging over 100 people. We are grateful to Mary for travelling from Wexford to join us and support the Rights of Nature campaign, it was an inspiring morning.



A Big Wee Night at Cecil's Cottage

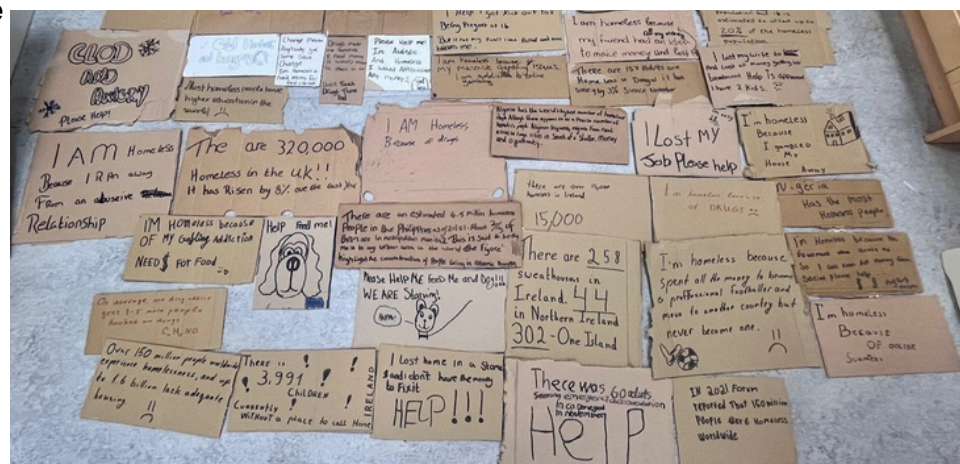
We had such a wonderful evening in February in Cecil's Cottage outside Buncrana at 'A Wee Big Night' as part of the EMBRACE project with **North West Cultural Partnership**

The warmth of the fire, the sound of laughter, and the magic of songs, stories, poetry, music and dance brought generations together, celebrating our shared cultural traditions and creating an unforgettable evening. Embrace is a cross border project between IDP and North West Cultural Partnership and is funded by the International Fund for Ireland.



Changemakers host workshop at Youthreach

Homelessness and the meaning of a home were top of the agenda for a group of Inishowen teenagers during a recent workshop series by ChangeMakers Donegal. The workshop series, which took place at Donegal ETB's Youthreach Centre in Buncrana, was delivered by ChangeMakers and explored the local and global dimensions of homelessness through art. The young people explored the reasons for homelessness and discussed what issues need to be addressed both locally and globally to allow for change. Eve Li, Facilitator with ChangeMakers Donegal, who carried out the three workshops with the young people at the Youthreach base in Lisfannon, said she was really impressed by the response she had from the young people.



Changemakers Bookless Book Club

Changemaker Bookless Bookclub started in March. This year's theme is Climate, Chaos & Change: A Path to Hope. Join Francine Blache-Breen & Ailbhe Hines of ChangeMakers Donegal for a five-week series to talk about the defining issues of our times

through the lens of poetry, visual art, music and film. Email changemakers@inishowen.ie if you'd like to join us.

Tax/financial workshop for new arrivals

In March IDP invited new arrivals to Inishowen to a free 3-hour workshop. The aim was to provide new arrivals with basic yet important information about the tax/financial systems in Ireland.

Needs analysis for Children and Young People

In March We were honoured to be part of the launch of the Donegal Children and Young People Needs Analysis in Letterkenny. So much work has gone into this and we look forward to working with our fellow members of CYPSC Donegal to implement it for young people in Inishowen



TASC workshop in Carndonagh

The Carndonagh 2050 vision workshop was held in March in the Colgan Hall. TASC - Think-Tank for Action on Social Change presented findings from all their community consultations and based on this, set out a vision for Carn in 2050. Participants selected actions to develop to help achieve people's vision of a healthy, thriving, inclusive Carn.



Thanks to everyone who attended and your participation. Our next steps will be the further development and then launch of the plan – watch this space for more information in the weeks head or contact Denise/Rachel

Donegal Age Friendly Strategy focus group

In March IDP collaborated with Age Friendly Donegal by inviting over 55s to have their voice heard on what the actions of the next Donegal Age Friendly Strategy should be. We had a great conversation on what are the priorities and actions necessary to make Inishowen and Donegal a great place to grow old. Contact Aine for more info

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE DONEGAL AGE FRIENDLY STRATEGY 2025-2029

Your input is important and valued and will help shape the work of the Donegal Age Friendly Programme over the coming years.

When: 21st March 2025 **Time:** 12.30 - 2.00pm

Location: IDP Office, Pound Street, Carndonagh F93 TK32

To Book: email aine@inishowen.ie or ring 086 1028846

A light lunch will be provided

Marking International Women's Day

To mark International Women's Day on 8th March, participants from our IFI Women Crossing Borders programme worked together with Danielle Bonner from Women's Collective Ireland- Donegal on the One Million Stars project. One million Stars is a community arts project connecting communities across Ireland in solidarity against domestic abuse and all forms of violence centred around a discussion on what are the characteristics of healthy love within relationships. We also welcome An Garda Síochána Donegal Community Garda Anne McGreal, who



told the women about the available services within of the Gardai and associated support services in the community. She reassured the women that the gardai are always available to help. The women worked together to create their own stars, shared their own experiences, and united in solidarity in raising awareness on this important issue. #internationalwomensday #AccelerateAction #womensupportingwomen ♡



Women's
Collective
Ireland
Donegal



International
Fund for
Ireland

Chance team take part in youth mental health training with Jigsaw

The project is going from strength to strength thanks to an investment from International Fund for Ireland.

The Team at IDP met with the IFI Programme Manager Mary Moy to discuss the plans for 2025 and into 2026 and to give a flavour of the group of young people supported. One of the events in March involved working with the youth mental health service JIGSAW on meeting needs in the community and supporting young people with any mental health challenges they have.



International
Fund for
Ireland

Great response to Eco Buncrana community consultations

There was a great response to the Eco Buncrana public consultation sessions at the Library on March 22nd. This follows on from the turnout by the general public throughout the course of the consultation sessions. Amicitia will now write up the findings and recommendations. This will inform the next stage on how we all together, can make Buncrana a greener, more sustainable place.



First Aid courses in Moville & Buncrana

Well done to all the community volunteers who took part in first aid training in March. The first session took place in the Methodist Hall Moville with the second taking place in our Buncrana office. Big thanks to Survive It Training for delivering the first aid training and Donegal Volunteer Centre for collaborating with us to provide the training.



Sustainability for Women in Business

As part of Local Enterprise Week IDP and Changemakers teamed up to deliver a workshop Sustainability for Women in Business event in Redcastle Hotel in March. The event was facilitated by Orla Hasson of Change Makers Donegal. The event focused on how you can become more sustainable in your workplace

A huge thanks to Caroline Doherty from Buildcost and Carlene Lyttle from Spraoi agus Spórt who spoke about their experience of completing the ChangeMakers Sustainability Passport. And also to Grace Korbel - Assist Head of Enterprise at Local Enterprise Office Donegal for attending



Free personal effectiveness course in Carndonagh

In March we started our free Personal Effectiveness Course in the Colgan Hall in Carndonagh. The course is a great way to boost your confidence, improve communication, and set clear goals for your future. Topics covered included:

- Self-awareness & reflection
- Identifying strengths & setting goals
- Confidence, communication & resilience
- Overcoming barriers & kickstarting your future



IDP relaunches new Website

In March IDP relaunched our website – It was designed to be more user friendly, faster, and packed with even more resources[or information] just for you!

It has a fresh, modern design with easier navigation & faster browsing.

Check it out now!

www.inishowen.ie



Fit for Business with Donegal Women in Business Network



Our Enterprise Officer Sinead McDaid represented IDP at the Donegal Women in Business Network Local Enterprise event Fit For Business on International Women's Day. It was a great afternoon of networking and learning from other women. Above is Sinead with IL manager Annemarie McLaughlin

Exploring Me with Care4Carers

In March we launched our new Care4Carers Exploring Me program. The new initiative, which aims to support unpaid carers through personal development and mentoring has been designed by IDP.

We had a great response to our new Care4Carers 'Exploring me' programme. Exploring me will give you some much needed time out to reconnect with yourself and explore new opportunities. When caring for others, it can be easy to forget about yourself, but our new program has been



specifically designed to support and empower family carers just like you! It is funded by the Department of Social Protection through the Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2024.

INBusiness HR Sessions take place at IDP Buncrana

In March IDP held their popular HR Sessions at the Buncrana office. These are perfect for local small/medium business who need to know more about all the ins and outs of human resource obligations for their business.

HR expert Noeleen Farnan provided an overview on all the essentials in a practical jargon free way. Topics covered include: Statutory Sick Pay and National Minimum Wage changes, Key legislative updates for 2025 including work-life balance provisions and flexible/remote working rights. And much more. well done to everyone who took part.



IDP are hosting Human Resource (HR) Sessions

The course will cover the main issues of Employment:

- Key legislative updates for 2025 including work-life balance provisions and flexible/remote working rights
- Anti-discrimination measures and the 2025 budget implications
- Statutory Sick Pay and National Minimum Wage changes
- Work permit updates, including seasonal and spousal permits
- Additional topics that incorporate key HR changes in 2025

Presented by: Noeleen Farnan Chartered MCIPD

Date: 12th & 19th of March 2025

Time: 6pm to 9pm

Venue: IDP Offices Buncrana (F93PW61)

Price: €20pp

For more information contact: ana@inishowen.ie


Use the QR Code to book a place



DCB support at Inishowen Co-Op Home Build Event in Buncrana

In March we were delighted to once again be invited to attend the Inishowen Co-Op Home Build event. IDP's defective concrete block community facilitator Georgina Gallagher attended the IDP stand at the event. She was available to give people on the spot advice about the redress scheme and also be available to make one to one appointments for those who were in need.

VISIT IDP STAND AND SAY HELLO TO



Georgina Gallagher
Inishowen Development Partnership
Defective Concrete Block
Community Facilitator

This is a great community event and we are delighted to be able to support it and continue our great relationship with Inishowen Co-Op.

**FREE
ADMISSION**



HOME BUILD EVENT

& Energy Efficiency Hub

**NEW
FOR
2025**

Movies and Tea back to Buncrana

The ever popular Movies & Tea returned to Buncrana Cinema on Tuesday 4th March. The first session of 2025 the team started by showing old footage of Buncrana thanks to Hugh Quirke.

Movies and Tea continues every Tuesday from 12.30pm in St. Mary's Hall. Entry is €6 and carers enter for free. Keep an eye on socials for updates on this.



Active Inishowen Project making great strides

The Active Inishowen Project (Donegal Sports Partnership & IDP) has been making great strides in promoting walking and cycling across the peninsula. A key part of this effort is ongoing media and marketing campaign. Over the past few weeks, four days of filming at various stunning trail locations, have captured the beauty of Inishowen landscape and the essence of outdoor activity in the region. Led by videographer Alan McLaughlin, the footage showcases newly developed trails by NWCD, participant engagement, and the growing accessibility of walking and cycling routes. Filming has taken place in a variety of terrains, including upland trails in snowy conditions, coastal routes, and key community hubs. The final video will be used to highlight the work of the project, encourage participation, and promote the soon-to-be nationally registered trails. To find out more contact Kevin@inishowen.ie



First We Can Quit of 2025 a hit in Carn

Our first We Can Quit (WCQ) Smoking Cessation

Programme of 2025 got underway in the Pastoral Centre in Carndonagh in March.

Financed by the HSE and delivered by IDP this Sláintecare

Healthy

Communities

Programme saw ten people starting and here are some of them pictured on their final night in April. The feedback was great all saying they couldn't have



done it without the support of the WCQ team and all involved from IDP.

Many of the participants were members of Inishowen Rugby Club – well done to you all with IRC leading the way!



Healthcare CE Scheme Vacancies in Buncrana

Have you been unemployed for more than 12 months and are interested in getting employment in the healthcare sector in Inishowen? Then our new CE scheme could be the perfect opportunity to ease back into the labour sector at a pace that is suitable to you.

There are currently TWO vacancies in the BUNCRANA area on our Health and Social Care Community Employment Scheme To find out more contact our CE Supervisor Shauna by calling her on 086 1990219 or email: shaunagallagher@inishowen.ie

Celebrating Social Prescribing Day

On March 19th we had a special event at Buncrana Library to celebrate Social Prescribing Day 2025. Our Link Worker Carmel Gallagher was joined by people who brought their favourite poem/ passage or news article to "read aloud" in a small group setting from 11.30am till 1pm.



We heard some beautiful recitals from individuals, some very emotional, some very funny and others thought provoking. There are some very talented people in

Inishowen, hopefully there will be more opportunities in the future to share their wonderful work Thank you also to the library for hosting us in their beautiful premises.



Financial Workshop for SMEs in Buncrana

It was fantastic to host a room full of budding entrepreneurs and new business owners at Inishowen Innovation on April 3rd for our Financial Workshop. A big thank you to Enda Kelly (AIB Buncrana), Fintan O'Reilly (Bank of Ireland), Alan Crowe (Crowe McLaughlin & Co Accountants), and Joanne McCormick (Inishowen Credit Union) for providing valuable insights into the range of business supports available."



Adult Literacy Resources launched at Buncrana Library

IDP team members were delighted to attend the Launch of Adult Literacy Resources at Donegal County Library Services in Buncrana Library in April.

The suite of resources aim to help adults improve their English language skills. They cover reading, writing, grammar & comprehension.

Resources are available online and at any of the libraries in Donegal

The Adult Literacy for Life National Programme office funded this project through Donegal ETB



Literacy Champions at Donegal ETB

IDP's PR/Communications officer Katie Barr took part in Literacy Training at Donegal ETB's Training Centre in Ballyraine in April.

This was carried out through the ALL [Adult Literacy for Life] Strategy of which IDP are members.

Katie learned lots of tips that she can put into action in her workplaces.

We had lots of good ideas to help organisations become more literacy friendly.



One Donegal Social Inclusion Week 2025



Self Care for the Soul during Buncrana walk

A beautiful morning at our One Donegal Social Inclusion week event 'Self Care for the Soul' at the start of April. Participants enjoyed a relaxing meditation led by Patricia Higgins followed by a stunning walk in glorious sunshine along the banks of Lough Swilly. Participants talked of how they felt grateful, peaceful and joyful during the event by taking time out and meeting new people.



Beginners IT in Carndonagh

For One Donegal Social Inclusion Week in April our IT trainer Denis Kelly started a new IT class at IDP Carndonagh.

This class focused on teaching people beginners Excel and the group are really 'excelling' at it.

The classes are free to attend and open to everyone. If you or someone you know is in need of some basic IT skills email denis at: denis@inishowen.ie.



Career workshops for Social Inclusion week in Carn, Moville

For One Donegal Social Inclusion Week in April our employment support team held two workshops to help gain the skills, advice, and confidence you need to kickstart their career.

The workshops took places in IDP Carndonagh and Moville Resource Centre. They were free to attend and open to everyone.

Employment Support WORKSHOP

Our FREE workshop will provide information, advice and support on your journey to employment.

TOPICS COVERED WILL INCLUDE:

- Where to look for work
- Creating a CV
- Preparing for interview
- Access to training opportunities

To book your place call 074 93 62218 or use the QR code:

LOCATION: Carndonagh: Tuesday 1st April 2025
Moville: Wednesday 2nd April 2025

One Donegal Social Inclusion Week 2025



Day-tripping to the IOSAS Centre

A wonderful day out for our Social Prescribing Inishowen day trippers to the IOSAS Centre & Celtic Prayer Garden as part of One Donegal Social Inclusion Week. They enjoyed a lovely meal in the centre afterwards and listened to some beautiful singing from Bernie and Charlie. Looking forward to meeting up again in the not too distant future.



Solar Meitheal community meeting in Carn

Thanks to everyone who came to our information session on the Solar Meitheal at the Colgan Hall in April. The information session in Carndonagh gave people the unique opportunity to join a collective effort to install solar panels on their homes at a reduced cost. We had a great turnout and lots of important questions were asked and answered. We look forward to continuing to work with Paul McNama SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities - Border and West Region mentor and bringing the results of the meitheal back to those who have participated in the near future.



Active Inishowen Launch at Sliabh Sneacht Centre Drumfries



The Active Inishowen Project was officially launched at the Sliabh Sneacht Centre in Drumfries in April.

The Active Inishowen Project aims to encourage physical activity and improve well-being by developing walking and cycling hubs across the peninsula.



It is a joint collaboration between Inishowen Development Partnership [IDP] and Donegal Sports Partnership [DSP] and is funded under the Dormant Accounts. The project was launched by Charlie McConalogue, Minister of State with Responsibility for Sport and Postal Policy.

Introduction to Admin a popular course in Muff

April marked the launch of our popular 6-week Administration Programme, this time hosted at the Muff Resource Centre.

This practical, tailored course equips participants with the essential skills needed for today's workplace. Whether you're looking to upskill, return to the workforce, or embark on a new career path, this hands-on programme is designed to support your success every step of the way.



QQI Food Safety course gets underway in Buncrana

We had a full house for our QQI Level 4 Food Safety Course in April.

The popular course, which incorporates HACCP certification is running for four weeks at our IDP office in Buncrana.

Facilitated by Martin Lynch and funded by Taste4Success the course teaches you the essential knowledge in HACCP, food hygiene, legal responsibilities, and food safety processes. It also includes QQI Level 4 certification—a key step for food industry professionals!



Providing DCB Support to students at ATU

Our DCB Community Facilitator Georgina Gallagher was delighted to attend ATU Donegal Healthy Campus Week in April. Georgina teamed up with DLDC DCB facilitator Neil Gallagher to provide support to students whose home may be affected with defective concrete blocks. Thanks to ATU for inviting us along it is a great week long event that is focusing on promoting health and wellbeing among the students.



Screening of Wilding with ChangeMakers



IDP were delighted to team up with our colleagues at Change Makers Donegal for their next Disappear Here Film Club. They held a screening of the film **WILDING**, based on the bestselling book by Isabella Tree at Buncrana Cinema on Thursday 10th April. There was also a post film discussion featuring Claire Moore from Foraging Donegal & KPM Soils and Laura McGoran from Future Oak Farm.

Parenting Support with IDP

Under Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme IDP is supporting parents as one of our core target groups. In all we have held four intensive parenting programmes supporting over 40 parents already this year: -

- parents who are separated and co-parenting,
- parents of children with ADHD - in partnership with HSE CAMHS in Buncrana

parents focusing on healthy families

and gathering for At the Family Table in partnership with Carndonagh Community School for one (CCS) and St Patrick's Girls

- School for the second.
- The Team also supported parents for a range of parenting workshops on: -
- Mindfulness and Relaxation
 - Managing boundaries for Technology in the home for parents
 - Self-care and minding you
 - Nutrition for the family.

For June we are planning a wonderful self-care and wellness morning for those parents who have taken part so far. If you are interested be sure to watch this space for the second half of 2025 and all on offer for parents.

Rainbows Ireland

IDP has been engaged in training a new group of Rainbows facilitators in collaboration with Rainbows Ireland. This is a voluntary role however we are working with practitioners and services in the community to ensure a joined-up approach. Rainbows supports children who have experienced loss through bereavement or through separation and divorce and has been successfully offered in south Inishowen with plans to offer across North Inishowen in the Autumn



Easi bookkeeping for small businesses



We had a full house for our Easi Bookkeeping for Small Business course during quarter one. This popular SICAP funded two day course takes you through all the ins and outs of basic bookkeeping and give you the tips and templates to assist you in keeping control of your business activities. The 2 evening course will run again in June and September. **Email sinead@inishowen.ie to find out more**



Small Grants Programme 2025

The SICAP [Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme] 2025 Small Grants Programme launched in Spring. A total of 27 Community & Voluntary groups and Social Enterprises were awarded funding for their projects to support a more sustainable, inclusive, and empowered community in Inishowen. A broad range of activities featured

in the programme including projects for young people, older people, refugees, family fun and environmental projects.



Tour Guiding Training available

Through our cross border EMBRACE project we started our FREE course Level 2 Unit in Tour Guiding in April.

This informative and engaging short course introduces participants to the tour guiding industry from a practical perspective. For this accredited programme, participants are required to plan, produce & deliver a short tour commentary in Derry or Donegal.



Parents Plus ADHD Programmes in Buncrana and Greencastle

For 2025 we are collaborating with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) offering two Parenting Children with ADHD courses in Buncrana (March-April) and Greencastle (April-June). This involved a co-facilitated 8 week group programme for parents of children with or awaiting an ADHD diagnosis.

We have inputs from consultants within the CAMHS service, and a session on managing boundaries for technology with a community facilitator. In Buncrana we were also so lucky to have had an input from the lived experience of a mammy and her now adult daughter – showing all that there is lots to hope for in the future. This is one of many parent support programmes offered by IDP and funded under the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme in 2025.



The Parents Plus ADHD Children's programme is a free, practical, solution-focused and evidence-based course that builds on parent strengths.

Job Fair a huge success

We had a fantastic day on April 26th at our annual Inishowen Job Fair, held at the Inishowen Gateway Hotel in Buncrana.

With over 400 attendees and 26 employers on site, the event was a huge success – many employers reported filling multiple vacancies on the day! It was truly inspiring to see people of all ages coming through the doors. The calibre of employers was exceptional, and we're already looking forward to collaborating with them again next year.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success – your dedication and effort were key to delivering a fantastic event!



INISHOWEN JOB FAIR



IDP's Defective Concrete Block(DCB) Facilitators attend DCB Conference in Burt

Our Defective Concrete Block(DCB) Facilitators Michelle Coyle and Georgina Gallagher participated in the very informative Defective Concrete Conference 2025 In April in Burt. Congrats to everyone on the organising committee- it was a very informative seminar.



IDP staff complete Basic Literacy Training



In April staff from IDP took part in Basic Literacy Training with the Adele McElhinney, Regional Adult Literacy Coordinator with Donegal ETB. The session was engaging, insightful, and a great step towards building awareness and understanding around adult literacy challenges in our community. Huge thanks to Adele for sharing her expertise and passion, and to Donegal ETB for supporting lifelong learning across the county.

Childcare students complete Year 1 of Early Learning Care

Well done to our Community Employment Childcare Scheme participants who recently completed the first year of the Early Learning Care stage one. The childcare participants joined our Childcare CE scheme and are now carrying out the training free of charge through Donegal ETB. The participants are also

placed in local childcare centres giving them unique hands on experience. If you want to find out more about opportunities we have under the CE scheme contact Pauline on: 086 173 9920 or email: pauline@inishowen.ie for more information on the terms and conditions



Pictured are some of our participants at their class at Donegal ETB in Buncrana last week

IDP attend launch of the North West Digital Employment Pathways Training Hub

At the end of April our Joint CEO, Shauna McClenaghan along with SICAP Team Lead for Enterprise, Employment and Training, Sinead McDaid attended the official launch of the North West Digital Employment Pathways Training Hub (NW DEPTH) at ATU Letterkenny. This innovative cross-border initiative has been developed by the

North West Tertiary Education Cluster and supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body. Over the next four years, NW DEPTH will invest in digital upskilling and reskilling across the North West, delivering structured, learner-centred pathways in digital and cybersecurity skills. IDP as a community



partner will do all we can to support this project in creating a resilient, inclusive and digital workforce

promoting opportunities and in supporting the Donegal Digital Action Plan.

Care4Carers program gets underway

Our Carer4Carers "Exploring Me" programme launched in April – an inspiring 8-week self-discovery journey designed for those with caring responsibilities. This programme offers carers a valuable opportunity to focus on themselves, prioritise their health and wellbeing, and explore personal growth and development in a supportive environment. For more information on this programme: email mary@inishowen.ie



Social Prescribers attend launch of Bealtine Festival

Our social prescribers had a great time at the launch of the Age & Opportunity Bealtine Festival at Donegal County Library in Buncrana at the end of April. This year's Bealtine Festival – Ireland's national celebration of the arts and creativity as we age, takes place from the 1st – 31st of May, 2025.



The programme is available at the library or for more see: <https://www.donegalculture.ie/en/events/2025/may/bealtaine-festival-event-25/>

DCB schools project

The third run of the DCB Schools Programme took place during March and April 2025. In collaboration with Lifeline and Merville FRC. Funded by Tusla. Children in four primary schools took part in 6 x weekly sessions covering mindfulness, building resiliency, regulating emotions, and developing coping skills. In two of the schools, a parent's workshop is included to help support these new skills at home. The children receive a toolkit with items to use at home as a reminder of what they learned and to continue using their new skills after the school sessions are completed.

Field to Fork & Zero Waste

12 women took part in the 4-week Field to Fork programme held in Clonmany Community Centre – a joint collaboration between Slainte Care Healthy Communities and IDP SICAP programme – to raise awareness and offer simple solutions to reduce food waste, plan meals, save money and eat healthier.



Engaging with the Supreme Court with Citizen's Information

IDP were honoured to be part of the North Connacht & Ulster Citizens Information Service 50th anniversary at the end of April. This was a special gathering of local community and voluntary organisations, to engage with The Supreme Court, as part of their celebrations.

The gathering was attended by Ms. Justice Iseult O'Malley, Mr. Justice Séamus Woulfe, and Mr. Justice Maurice Collins. The judges engaged with representatives from various organisations, providing a unique opportunity for direct interaction with the Supreme Court.



Women crossing borders visit Donegal County Museum

In April our group of women from the Women Crossing Borders project visited the Donegal County Museum in Letterkenny. The women from Inishowen attended the exhibition, Mná na nGall which celebrates the women of Donegal from 1922 to the 1980s, and how they worked to break down barriers to make the lives of Donegal women better.

Thanks to Caroline Carr from the museum for giving us a lovely guided tour. It was a very positive day our women from both sides of the border.



Completion of accredited Payroll course

Congratulations to all our dedicated participants who successfully completed the 10-week Payroll – Manual & Computerised course (QQI Level 5), facilitated by Trainer Emma Farren. Throughout the course, learners gained valuable skills in both manual and computerised payroll

systems, enhancing their employability and confidence in administrative and financial roles. This accredited course was part-funded by the Donegal ETB Community Education Support Programme, which continues to support lifelong learning and upskilling within the community.



IDP at Donegal PPN event in Letterkenny

At the end of April IDP were invited to attend the Donegal PPN Community Plenary Event in the The Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny. This year's event focused funding opportunities and

advice. It was a great evening of information sharing and networking. IDP and Spraoi agus Sport Chairperson was one of the keynote speakers. Thanks to Donegal PPN for organising a great event



pictured is Stephen Barrett of PeacePlus speaking to the crowd on funding opportunities

IDP team up with FoodCloud to try and tackle food waste together



At the end of April IDP teamed up with FoodCloud to host two inspiring workshops at our Buncrana office. These were dedicated to tackling food waste and sparking local food-sharing projects!

We had a great turnout from local volunteers and community groups as well as individuals who are passionate about reducing food waste!

It was an inspiring session which is dedicated to working together to help reduce food waste together!



IDP has vacancies under the TUS scheme

IDP currently has multiple opportunities for people to get themselves back into the workforce through the TUS scheme. The TUS Scheme provides short-term, quality, and suitable work opportunities for individuals who have been unemployed for 12 months or more, while also supporting valuable projects within communities.

IDP has 80 Tús places in the community and voluntary sector. We are currently recruiting for the following positions at the IOSAS Centre in Muff: Gardener, Café Assistant, Shop Worker and Cleaner.



Additional opportunities are available in Newtowncunningham, Carrigans, and Killea, with roles ranging from environmental workers supporting Tidy Towns initiatives to positions in charity shops.

For more contact Tina: 086 051 6072/ tinaurbas@inishowen.ie or Kasia on: 086 601 5086/ kasia@inishowen.ie

Active Inishowen's Walk With Me program on Highland Radio

In April our Active Inishowen Officer Kevin McLaughlin spoke to Greg Hughes on Highland Radio about a new Walk with Me program starting in Greencastle Centre "Walk With Me" is a 6-week indoor walking program designed to benefit people with mobility challenges and

help mentor the carers or family members who support them. The program takes place in an indoor relaxed and social environment and is free to attend.

For more details on the program contact Kevin: Ph: 086 201 2676 Email: Kevin@inishowen.ie



Text/WhatsApp: 086 60 25000 | Call: 074 91 25000 | Email: comments@highlandradio.com

MAY 2025



ChangeMakers Annual Seminar in Burt

In May we joined together for the 13th ChangeMakers annual seminar at An Grianan Hotel in Burt. We heard powerful messages on food justice, culture, and sustainability. Speakers included chef Funke Egberongbe of FUNKÈ Afro Caribbean Restaurant, farmer Brendan Guinan of Fionbha Farm, seed advocate Clare O'Grady Walshe, and nutritionist Katherine Kelly of Renua Nutrition. We explored how food connects us to identity, health, and global justice. And heard inspirational uplifting stories of how local action can shape a fairer and more resilient food system.



Trauma Informed Practice Training

In May the Connecting Communities team organised Trauma Informed Practice Training in Buncrana. This training aims to help participants understand trauma, how it affects human thinking and emotions, and the impact it has on the relationship between people using services, and people providing them. Thanks to Quality Matters for providing the informative training. It was organised by IDP as part of our Healthy, Well and Welcome Programme, funded by International Protection Integration Fund.



Care4Carers collaborates with Active Inishowen



Our Care4Carers Exploring Me program continued in May with the participants enjoying a refreshing and uplifting session in collaboration with the Active Inishowen Project.

Kevin, the Active Inishowen Officer, shared insights into the project before guiding everyone through some gentle outdoor movement—perfectly tailored to fit busy lifestyles.

The session continued with some employment support and advice from the IDP team.



Women crossing borders take part in Leadership workshop



Women Crossing Borders residential programme featured an engaging and thought-provoking workshop led by Annette Patton and Paddy Hannigan, facilitators of The 5 Chairs .

The session focused on enhancing mindful, empathetic, and effective communication as part of women's leadership skills development.

Women Crossing Borders is funded by the International Fund for Ireland Communities in Partnership Programme is managed by Breen Centre

Regenerative farming documentary

Thanks to everyone who came to our Disappear Here Film Festival Film Club tonight for a screening of Grounded in Soil's The Longest Malin to Mizen featuring Fiorbhia Farm & @colman_power_organic_fitness. Brendan and comrades toured Ireland to highlight that regenerative farming is national. thanks to @concernworldwide for funding our Film Club as it opens up important conversations on topics like food. Thanks to Donegal ETB for collaborating with us this evening. Inishowen Development Partnership



First Climate Justice Support Workshop

In May SICAP Team Lead Denise McCool and Development Worker Rachel Grant attended the first Climate Justice Support Workshop Athlone with Pobal and the Dept of Rural and Community Development. Denise presented to Pobal Officials on the climate action work which is ongoing at IDP and the need more continued support in this field. Denise's presentation received very positive feedback and we were thankful for the opportunity.



An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development



Donegal Women in Business Network Coffee Morning

Thanks to the Donegal Women in Business Network for hosting their annual coffee morning at the II in Buncrana in May. As proud members of the DWIBN we were delighted

to attend the coffee morning and connect with current and new members of the network.

Donegal Women in Business Network – the largest independent women's network in Ireland. Thanks to Annemarie in the II for hosting us.



Joint CEO represents IDP in Finland

This week our Joint CEO Andrew Ward was delighted to represent IDP in Tampere Finland as part of a delegation to create the conditions to support the AI ecosystem in our region under the Interreg Europe project embrAlsme initiative. Andrew led the discussions on marine AI possibilities.

He is pictured here with David Bermingham from Advancing Innovation in Manufacturing – AIM Centre and Ian Branigan Western Development Commission



People Moving and Handling Certification

IN MAY IDP were delighted to have the opportunity to host a one day course to give people the chance to get certified in People Moving and Handling. The training took place at St Columbcille Village, Clonmany.

This is essential training for anyone working with clients or patients who need support with mobility. The course taught participants more about manual handling, anatomy, safe practices and equipment use, while also providing them with the formal certification required for many roles.



Committee Skills Training with Donegal Volunteer Centre

As part of National Volunteer Week we were delighted to collaborate with Donegal Volunteer Centre to support volunteers in Inishowen with Committee Skills training at our Buncrana office last night. Well done to all those who attended And we hope it will help you in your organisation



**Donegal
Volunteer Centre**

Ionad d'Obair Saorálai Chondae Dhún na nGall



Local Development Week

12th -17th May

IDP marks LDCN Local Development Week

Leave no Trace Training takes place in IDP

In May, during Local Development Week, IDP hosted certified Leave No Trace Training in Buncrana.

This training teaches you how to protect our beautiful environment through responsible outdoor recreation. The training gives you a greater understanding of the Seven Principles

of Leave No Trace Ireland and discover how to minimise the impact of recreational activities on nature.



Pathway to Progress in Buncrana

In May held our Pathway to Progress workshop in Buncrana. This was an informal overview of the services which are available through IDP.

Thanks to our Tús, RSS and CE Supervisors for informing people about their schemes and details on current vacancies. And to our Social Prescribing and Employment Support officers for proving details on the wellbeing and employment supports available with IDP.



Insight into Employment in Inishowen

We had a great turnout for our Insight into Employment and Training in Inishowen workshop at our Buncrana office. Held as part of [#localdevelopmentweek2025](#) this workshop gave an informative insight into the various employment and training opportunities in the peninsula. Thanks to our employment support team for leading out on this and Connecting Communities officer Patricia Higgins for collaborating.





Local Development Week

12th -17th May

INBusiness Power BI training



During Local Development Week, IDP hosted a dynamic 2-day Power BI training programme delivered by Claire from Nexus Human, with support from Tech North West Skillnet. Power BI is a powerful data visualisation and business intelligence tool from Microsoft – helping users turn complex data into clear, actionable insights through interactive dashboards and reports.

Bringing cutting-edge tech training to local businesses is a



key part of the collaborative work of our INBusiness Enterprise team here at IDP, as well as supporting local enterprise growth through skills and innovation

Child and vulnerable adult training with IDP

As part of Local Development Week 2025, a fantastic group of volunteers and community members took part in our Child Safeguarding Training at IDP Buncrana.

The session, expertly facilitated by Gary Duffy, focused on safeguarding practices for those working with vulnerable adults and children, providing vital awareness and practical tools to support safe, inclusive environments in our communities. This training is an important step



in supporting local organisations and individuals in their essential work— and a great example of collaboration in action. Thanks to everyone who participated for their engagement and commitment!

Bike week events in Muff

As part of the Active Inishowen Project we held a successful event in Muff during Bike Week in May. There was a range of services on offer including free bike maintenance, a guided tour along the Muff Greenway and the chance to try out e-bikes at the free bike rental station! There was a great turnout especially for the guided tour along the Greenway into Derry with local Tour Guide Peter Mullan.



ChangeMakers: Mothers in support of Palestine

Mothers from Carndonagh sang in solidarity with the mothers and children of Palestine during ChangeMakers 'Mothers for Palestine' workshop. The topics included how to talk to young children about the situation and what actions families can take at this time. Those who attended expressed feeling "emotional" and "moved" by singing together as the event created a safe space and "somewhere for people to go" for discussion about this heart-breaking crisis in Palestine. A big thank you to local mother and facilitator Clare McCarroll who led us in song and worked with ChangeMakers Donegal to organize the event for local mothers and babies.



A warm thank you also to facilitator Nora McQuaid who is also a member of the local Inishowen Palestine Solidarity Group

Great Insights Shared at Succession Planning Workshop

Thanks to everyone who joined us on May 29th at Simpsons, Carndonagh for our Succession Planning Workshop for Farmers. A special thanks to Joe Lambe of Ifac for sharing his expert knowledge and practical advice on planning for the future of the family farm.

For more information on farming supports, contact our Farm Support Officer Joe Sweeney



Event Management training in Buncrana

We had a fantastic day at our Event Management Training Workshop on May 24th, run in collaboration with IDP and the Buncrana Night time Economy Team. The workshop attracted a fantastic mix of local community groups, volunteers and SMEs, all eager to learn, connect, and share ideas. A huge thank you to Colm Croffy from AOIFE Festival & Events for delivering such an insightful and practical session. Together, we're building stronger, more vibrant events in our communities.



Free basic IT training ongoing with IDP

If you or someone you know is in need of some basic IT skills look no further than our IT trainer Denis Kelly!

Email him at denis@inishowen.ie for details on upcoming classes or check out the 'What's On' page on our website.

Here are some photos of recently completed courses in Buncrana and Carndonagh. These include Introduction to Excel and Introduction to MS Word. These classes are free and funded by our SICAP program.



Shared Island Civic Society Fund

IDP in conjunction with RAPID have completed six workshops being delivered under the Networking Community Collaboration for Environmental Stewardship (NCCES) and funded under the Shared Island Civic Society Fund working in conjunction with community and environmental groups from Inishowen and Derry.

These workshops included:

- 1. Protecting our threatened Wildlife:** delivered by Trish Murphy, Inishowen Rivers Trust
- 2. Birds Surveys and Wetland Bird Identification:** delivered by Annie Mullan and Rachel Bain – Inch Nature Reserve
- 3. Peatlands and Water –** delivered by Trish Murphy and John Doherty at Meenletterbale, near Kinnagoe Bay – Carrowmenagh
- 4. Using your Smartphone to photograph Wildlife:** delivered by Adam Rory Porter – Fort Dunree
- 5. Gardening with Wildlife:** delivered by Annie Mullan and Rachel Bain – Butterlope Farm (Plumridge)
- 6. Garden and Woodland Birds:** delivered by Annie Mullan and Rachel Bain – Faughan Valley Woodlands.



IDP Inishowen Development Partnership

RAPID



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach

Co-Funded by the
European Union



The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021-2027.



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