



WELCOME to REACT's quarterly newsletter, providing information on local community events and training.

REACT CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

On Thursday 11th March, REACT hosted a night of celebration in honour of the 10 years the organisation has served the community. The night was well attended by almost 100 guests, including community group members, members of statutory bodies that REACT has worked with, Councillors and members of the PSNI. Mary Wright, Chairperson opened the evening, and speeches were made by Marion Jamison, Community Relations Officer and Mayor Thomas O'Hanlon. There was excellent musical entertainment by Natalie Chambers who played two fantastic drumming pieces, Derek Boyce who piped and Stonewall rounded off the evening with some wonderful Ulster Scots music.

The night was enjoyed by all and we look forward with great anticipation as to what the next 10 years will have in store for REACT.



L-R Paul Berry, William Bradshaw, Charmain Jones, Clare Irwin, Mary Wright, Alan Hutton, Mayor Cllr Thomas O'Hanlon, Marion Jamison, Cllr William Irwin MLA, Cllr

Issue 3: April 2010

NEWSLETTER

REACT LOOKING FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

REACT is a registered charity and wishes to invite interested people to register for the position of voluntary Board Member.

REACT, is focused on addressing community needs through reconciliation and community relations work, community based education, youth development and training. The core area of the organisation is to develop whole communities with an emphasis on

reaching out to those most marginalised whilst also encouraging diversity.

Members of the Board should possess a wide range of interests and skills and REACT would particularly welcome interest from persons who have knowledge of finance, accounting, law, lobbying and marketing.

The Management Committee normally meets once a month, so if you feel you can make a contribution to the work of REACT and are willing to make a commitment, please contact Charmain Jones, REACT, 8 Victoria St, Armagh, BT61 9DT, call 02837 526869, email charmain_react@yahoo.co.uk.

HAVE A LOOK AT OUR YOU TUBE VIDEO www.youtube.com/watch?v=PX7IFiu2zY8

MAYORS AWARD

Ivan Walker, a member of REACT's management committee, has recently had the honour of receiving a Mayor's award. Ivan has been instrumental in the formation of the Armagh bands forum. He has dedicated much time over the last 3 years in conjunction with REACT on parading and bands issues, to help promote positive relationships across the community divide. Ivan shows great initiative, leadership and determination by making the forum work and by ensuring parades and contentious issues are addressed and resolved. He gives the community a more positive and uplifting outlook on life.



L-R Marion Jamison, Ivan Walker and Charmain Jones.

50+ TRIP TO KILMAINHAM GAOL

REACT in partnership with Redrock Community Group arranged a day trip to Kilmainham Gaol back in February. The trip was funded by CRC and the Turkington Fund. Almost 100 people travelled down to Kilmainham. The tour was incredibly informative and greatly enjoyed by all.



This was part of our ongoing 50+ initiative, if you would be interested being on our mailing list for any future projects please contact Nadine or Anne on 028 37526869 or email nadine_react@yahoo.co.uk, with your contact details.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS WEEK

As part of Community Relations Week, REACT in conjunction with Armagh Unemployed Group are hosting a special event on Thursday 29th April, at the Rotunda Theatre in St Patrick's Trian, Armagh. Mrs Amanda Moreno, Head of Collections from the Royal Irish Fusiliers Regimental Museum will be presenting an informative talk on local men who fought in the first world war and sharing with us many of their experiences which led them to join up and what life was like for them, those who were fortunate to return home. Mr Arthur Clarke will also be addressing an informative talk on the Armagh War Memorial Project.

Everyone is welcomed to attend the event which starts at 7.30pm.

For further information, please contact Marion at REACT@ 02837526869 .

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YOUTH NEWS & EVENTS

SUICIDE AWARENESS PROGRAMME

This programme will be delivered by Melissa Nugent of the Niamh Louise Foundation and will look at suicide and mental health using drama and role play. It will run over 3 Tuesday nights, beginning Tuesday 27th April from 7.00p.m. - 8.00p.m. and is aimed at young people aged 13-18.

For information on this event or any future youth events please contact our youth co-ordinator Sarah McNeill on 028 37526869 or email sarah_react@yahoo.co.uk

SUCCESSFUL EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA!

REACT in conjunction with the PSNI Neighbourhood Team had an Easter Extravaganza of events which was greatly enjoyed by all those that attended. 23 young people took part in the activities over the Easter Holidays which included a day at W5, Bowling, and Surfin' Dirt (that's mountain boarding for those not in the know!).

REACT NEED YOUTH VOLUNTEERS!!

REACT is desperately seeking energetic, youthful minded members of the community to come forward as volunteers to help our Youth Co-ordinator, Sarah, with the many projects and programmes she delivers for young people in the local area. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Sarah on 02837526869

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UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

We are currently taking names for a range of upcoming programmes:-

- **Walking Club** will be starting again soon, now that the sun has come out once again!
- **Weigh to Health** - a 7 week programme to improve your health, become more active and lose weight.
- **Be Positive** - A 3 week programme on positive mental health and goal setting

If you are interested please contact Nadine or Anne on 02837526869 or email nadine_react@yahoo.co.uk or anne_react@yahoo.com.uk

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT REACT

Training, Funding Advice, Grant Tracker, Meeting Room Facility, Youth Drop-in, Photocopying, Equipment Hire.

REACT is a registered charity and would welcome any donations to aid us in our community work. We would also welcome any fundraising ideas from the local community or local businesses. Or if you are holding an event and would be willing to allow us to fund raise at it please contact us on 02837526869.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

ARMAGH

FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP

The Fibromyalgia Support Group, is a relatively new group set up to help and support those suffering from Fibromyalgia. It is there to give help and advice to sufferers and their carers. Meetings are usually held once a month and everyone is welcome. The next meeting is to be on 7 June 2010, if you are interested please contact Dierdri Connolly on 02837510673 for further details.

CALLING LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, WHY NOT JOIN REACT?

Priority booking for REACT events and training

Make an appointment for funding information and support

Receive all our publications and leaflets including our Newsletter.

Use of REACT's website and newsletter to promote your group.

CONTACT ANNE FOR MORE DETAILS

CONTACT DETAILS

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www.reactni.org

