

Greater New Lodge CEP Magazine

Greater New Lodge
Community Empowerment Partnership

CEP

Make A Difference Get Involved

Issue 23 December 2005

Ashton Centre, 5 Churchill Street, Belfast BT15 2BP Tel: (028) 9074 2255 email: info@newlodgecep.com

98% Support For CEP Plan



As you will remember in July of this year the Greater New Lodge CEP delivered to all residents a summary of a draft plan for the future development of the area. This plan is called 'A Way Forward'. The plan was circulated to every home and every community centre in the area in order to find out the views and opinions of local residents on the proposals contained within it. After several months of collecting and collating your responses we are pleased to announce that the people of this community have shown overwhelming support for the proposed strategy of the Greater New Lodge CEP. More than 98% of all people that responded said that they supported the strategy with less than 2% expressing doubts about some or all of the proposals. In the questionnaires that were distributed there was space provided, for comments to be made by you the residents and in this months edition we will carry a centre page spread of these comments. Copies of the plan summary are still available at the CEP office in Lepper St. In the coming year the Greater New Lodge CEP will endeavour to implement this plan. As we proceed be assured that we will continue to consult with and inform you the residents of this area on any developments. In the meantime we would like to wish all of you a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year, and thank all of you for your support in 2005. We would also like to congratulate Rosaleen Harmon from Hillman Street who won the £50 draw.



Results of Greater New Lodge Community Consultation See Centre Pages For Your Responses

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Community Contact Num-

174 Trust - 9074 7114
An Loiste Uir - 9074 2255
Artillery Youth Centre - 9035 1332
Ashton Centre - 9074 2255
Belfast Safaris - 9022 2925
Bridges Sewing Group - 9074 2255
Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain - 9032 2409
Camberwell Fold - 9096 0552
Cancer Lifeline 9035 1999
CEP Office 9074 2255 / 9020 0900
Carlisle Day Centre - 9023 1227
Community Interface - 9059 0552
Computer Connections - 9032 4633
Corner House Family Centre - 9074 0380
Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain - 90749 688
Droichead an Dóchais - 9022 1022
Edmund Rice Primary School - 9035 1206
Employment Outreach - 9020 2440
Glenravel Local History Project - 9020 2100
Greater New Lodge Youth Forum - 9035 1332
Holy Family Primary School - 9035 1023
Holy Family Youth Centre - 9087 5150
Indian Community Centre - 9024 9746
Kinder Kids Day Care - 9074 2255
Newington Residents Association - 9074 0919
New Lodge Arts - 9074 2255
New Lodge Duncairn Community Health Partnership -
90745588
New Lodge Festival - 9074 2255
New Lodge Youth Centre - 9075 1385
New Lodge Area Project - 9075 2069
New Lodge Housing Forum - 9074 2399
North Belfast Family Centre - 9024 7580
North Queen St. Community Centre - 9032 3945
Parkside Community Association - 9080 6303
PIPS Project - 9075 2990
Radical - 9035 1003
Smile SureStart - 9075 6654
Star Of The Sea Primary School - 9035 1478
Star Neighbourhood Centre - 9074 0693
Tar Isteach - 9074 6664/5

Greater New Lodge Community Magazine

Do you have anything you would like to see in the CEP magazine? Have you an event coming up, e.g. award ceremony, training etc. or even the day to day work of your group? Remember the CEP magazine is here for every group in the Greater New Lodge area to promote their activities, events and projects. We are constantly looking for articles for the magazine every month.



You can also arrange for us to attend the event and take some photos. If you require further information, don't hesitate to contact our Communications Worker Leo Morgan on 90742255 or via email at leo@newlodgecep.org

Are you Recycling?

Do you need another black box because of the amount of materials your recycling. You can ring and request additional boxes from Bryson House on 0800 1691 287



Keep Our Area Clean

Are There Old Mattresses, Fridges etc.
Lying About The Area? Do You Need
Something Removed From Your House?
Get It Lifted & Shifted.
Phone 90 270 230
Free Service From The City Council

Corner House Women's Group

Tuesday Buffet Lunch
£3.00
Thursday Fry
£2.00
Friday Toasties
£1.00

Why don't you call in and try
our grub, we also provide a
take away service.

Greater New Lodge Community Empowerment Partnership

90 742 255

90 200 900

info@newlodgecep.org

CEP

Community Inclusion Event

Health Day

Open To The Public

Everyone Welcome

Cancer Awareness

16th January 2006

10.00am – 2.00pm

Event will take place in the Recy
(North Queen Street Community Centre)

Action Cancer Bus 10.00am - 2.00pm

For the Action Cancer Bus Appointments must be made through the CEP Office in Lepper Street on 90 200 900. There are only 20 places available, so you would need to book early.

Introduction 10.00am - 10.15am

Cancer Lifeline Drama - Living With Cancer 10.15am - 10.30am

Community Dietician Workshops 11.30 - 12 noon

Healthy Lunch 12.00 noon

Breast Awareness Workshop & 1 to 1 con

Men to Men Cancer Awareness

Welfare Rights & Advice

Information Displays

Dental Health Oral Cancer

McMillan Cancer Relief

NI Hospice

Action Cancer

Citizens Advice

Belfast Carers

Marie Currie Centre

Ulster Cancer Foundation

Cancer Lifeline

Community Health Development

New Lodge Duncairn Health Partnership

Smile SureStart

Other information stalls to be confirmed for the day.



Attacks on Black Taxis

There are rising concerns among black taxi drivers who operate the North Belfast route that attacks on their vehicles will result in tragedy unless they stop immediately. In recent times there has been an increase in attacks on the taxis particularly on North Queen St. and at the lower end of the New Lodge Road. Various missiles have been thrown at the taxis as they ferry passengers back and forth and although so far no one has been hurt the taxi drivers believe this has been due to good luck rather than any lack of intent from those carrying out the attacks. The culprits involved are young people and the black taxi drivers are appealing to the parents of those involved to get their children under control. Speaking on behalf of the black taxi drivers in North Belfast, local man Gerry Loughlin said, "The disturbing thing about these attacks is that it is obviously local kids who are involved. They probably think that this is all a bit of a laugh but I can assure everyone it is anything but funny. Although a lot of the time it is fruit and eggs that are being thrown they are also hitting us with bricks and bottles. When something like this happens it could easily result in the driver losing control of the vehicle and the possibility of an accident. A brick coming through the window is clearly life threatening but even eggs and fruit pose obvious dangers as they can splatter over the windows and obscure the vision of the driver. We are demanding that this behaviour stops now before someone gets hurt or worse. We have always tried our best to provide a decent service to the people of this community. We did this even through the worst days of the troubles when we lived with the constant fear of violence, so it is a bit soul destroying when it is the kids from our own community that do this type of thing". The Greater New Lodge CEP is calling for these attacks to stop. If you know of any of those that are involved please tell them to stop now. The black taxi drivers provide an important community service so treat them with respect.



**For further information look out for the posters
or contact the CEP Office on 90 200 900**

Tar Isteach AGM Report

Tar Isteach held its Annual General Meeting on Friday December 16th at North Queen St. Community Centre (The Recy)

Although the Tar Isteach office is based in Hillman St in the New Lodge, the membership of the Tar Isteach management committee is representative of the North Belfast ex-prisoners network including, Amach Agus Isteach, Ardoyne; Marrowbone Ex-Prisoners Association, Oldpark; An Loiste Ur Association, New Lodge and Newington. Tar Isteach is also a member of the Greater New Lodge Community Empowerment Partnership, and the North Belfast Advice Partnership of independent advice providers. It is also represented on the executive committee of Coiste na n-Iarchimi, the all Ireland umbrella network of ex-prisoners groups.

The Tar Isteach project incorporates a welfare advice service, a counselling service, and youth development programs, training courses, employment guidance, and social economy employment. Each element is interlinked and dependent on the other components. Through this integrated strategy the project attempts to address the needs, and the social exclusion issues facing ex-prisoners and their families and to improve their mental health and social well-being. The aims and objectives of Tar Isteach are to attain

equality and full citizenship for Republican ex-prisoners and their families in North Belfast. However, Tar Isteach has an open door policy and is a community resource utilised by everyone: no one is turned away for any reason.

The need for the project is evidenced by research and by the demand for its services. For example in the period Sept 2004 to Aug 2005 the Welfare Rights Advice worker has assisted 2,676 clients with 3,950 queries, and over £403,064.00 recovered for clients in the same period. Since the project began in Sept 1999 to date the advice service has a client base of over 11,199 clients dealing with 17,516 queries. It has also recovered over £3 Million in benefits and grants for clients. At Friday's AGM the following people were elected on to the Tar Isteach management committee.

Chairperson – Paul O'Neill
Treasurer – Kathy Stanton
Secretary- Sean Campbell
John O'Hagan
Martin Og Meehan
James Toal
Robert McCallum
Gerry O'Reilly
Christine Beatty
Leo Morgan
Denise Burns
Joe Doherty
John McAllister
Mary Ellen Campbell
Mike Ritchie
Joe Vallely



Tar Isteach AGM (Inset Management Representatives)

CEP Physical Survey



Local community activists carry out physical survey

On Tuesday the 15th of November CEP workers and volunteers carried out a physical survey of the area. The purpose of the survey was to check the condition of things like roads, lighting, pavements, drainage, walls, litter hotspots etc, to assess what actions and repairs are necessary. The CEP made a list of items of concern that will be raised with the appropriate statutory agencies. One of the main issues of concern is the state of some of the roads in the long streets area. In Stratheden St., Spamount St., and Upper Meadow St. there is clear evidence that the roads there are badly in need of upgrading. However because of continuing uncertainty over

redevelopment in the upper long streets it is difficult to get any undertakings from the Department of Environment (DoE) on upgrading. In Lower Spamount St however, redevelopment has been completed and the CEP is in negotiations with the DoE to try to ensure that the road there, which is in a very bad condition, is resurfaced. In talks with the DoE they have indicated a willingness to try and resurface Lower Spamount St. before the end of their financial year in March 2006. As a result of the survey the CEP has also identified a number of spots where additional public bins are needed and we are currently speaking to the City Council in relation to this.

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A STAR IS SHINING IN NEW LODGE THIS CHRIST- Star Neighbourhood Centre Celebrates Transformation



Jim Deery, Caral Ní Chuilín, Trish O'Kane and Walter Rader from the Big Lottery

On Friday December 9th about 100 people gathered at the Star Neighbourhood Centre in Hillman St to celebrate the transformation of this vital community facility. The centre received a £171,743.50 grant from the EU Urban II Community Initiative Programme managed by the North Belfast Partnership. A further £101,640 of support was secured in the form of a Building Quality Childcare grant from the Big Lottery Fund. As a result of the new development the centre now incorporates two children's rooms, disabled access and toilets, extra office space and an upstairs room for training. There are 12 pre-school children in its morning crèche, 12 in the homework club, and it has 24 places in the after schools club. Local pensioners, a residents' group and a number of youth projects, also use the Star.

Speaking at the event Trish O'Kane who is manager of the centre said, "The transformation of the building has been fantastic. If you remember, we used to have

only one big hall, and it was a bit like a conveyor belt, with one children's group having to move on before another group could come in. Now we have a bright new environment for all the children, and disability access. The redevelopment has benefits for the whole community. Before, all we could do was provide respite, now we have the extra space to provide training and parental support. A facility like this is very important because in this area people are still suffering from the effects of the troubles, and any form of respite care is very important for parents. Another development is that the centre is able to do school runs. Since we started doing pick-ups from schools, around nine of our parents have accessed employment because we are providing full after-school care". Also attending the event was local City Councillor Caral Ní Chuilín, who is also joint Chair of the Board of North Belfast Partnership and the Urban II Programme Management Executive,

Caral commented, "The Inner North Belfast Urban II Programme is about regenerating the most disadvantaged areas in North Belfast by enhancing physical resources, improving services and developing the skills and capacity of local people. In an area that suffers from multiple deprivation, it is encouraging to see an organisation like the Star Neighbourhood Centre proactively tackling social issues. Urban II were delighted to fund this project, which not only provides bigger and brighter premises for the area, but also provides extra childcare facilities and offers parents the opportunity to undertake employment and training."

Advertise In The CEP Magazine



The Greater New Lodge Community Empowerment Partnership is a collective of all community organisations in the greater New Lodge area working for the betterment of the whole area. We are offering all local businesses in the area the chance to advertise in the local community magazine and thus help to make the community magazine bigger, better and a more effective resource for the whole community. We deliver the community magazine to 3500 homes every month in the New Lodge, Newington and Parkside areas with an estimated readership of 9000 people. The readers of our magazine are your potential customers; we have very competitive rates with ads to meet all needs. We want to promote businesses that are committed to this area and its improvement.

If you would like to take this opportunity to advertise in the Greater New Lodge Community Magazine then contact:

Leo Morgan
Communications Worker
Greater New Lodge CEP
5 Churchill Street
Belfast, BT15 2BP
Tel: (028) 90742 255
Tel: (028) 90200 900
e-mail: leo@newlodgecep.org

McCracken Christmas Message

Ba mhaith le Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain Beannachtaí na Nollaig agus Bliain Úir faoi Mhaise a rá le gach duine i dtuisceart Bhéal Feirste.

The McCracken Cultural Society wishes everyone in North Belfast a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New year.

Dawson St Garden / Hartwell Place

Following consultation between local residents, the CEP, Housing Executive and Groundwork N.I. we are pleased to inform our readers that work has commenced on the garden area at Dawson St. Workers began the first stage of the task by removing overgrown shrubbery and foliage in the garden and the next stage pupils from Star of the Sea Primary School replanting the whole area. All work was based on the wishes of residents that live in the immediate proximity. When the work is completed residents will be able to use the garden by bringing their own tables and chairs etc to relax and enjoy each other's company particularly when the summer weather returns.



Members of the CEP with local resident Paddy Allsopp and members of Groundwork NI

The CEP can also report that plans have been drawn up for refurbishment of the open space triangle area behind Hartwell Place. Consultations with residents are ongoing and in the New Year residents will be shown the proposed plans in order to give their opinions. Work will only commence with the approval of residents. Some of the ideas being considered are to seclude the area by putting alley gates in place and to repaint and replant the area. A tricycle track and games area for younger residents is also under consideration.



Pupils from Star of the Sea PS

Merry Christmas From The Housing Forum

The New Lodge Housing Forum would like to wish all residents of the area and resident committee's a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If anyone would like to become involved in any of the residents committee's in the area, they can contact the Housing office at 23 New Lodge Road or on 90742 399

Smile SureStart

Learning Language & Loving It



Local early years educators complete Hanen "Learning Language & Loving It" training programme.

The Learning Language & Loving It programme focuses on the important role that early years educators have in encouraging good social, language and early literacy skills in young children. Early years educators learn how to use play and daily activities to create rich language learning environments that include all children.

Following the initial success of Learning Language & Loving it, Smile SureStart hopes to deliver this training programme again in the New Year.

If you require further information, you can contact Smile SureStart on 90 756 654

Corner House Residential II



Corner House Women's Group enjoy their creative writing at the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum. Corner House Tales II should be ready for June 2006. For further information contact Colette on 90740380.



Star of the Sea Christmas Bazaar

New Lodge Youth Centre Mural Project



The New Lodge Youth Centre's young people took part in the Indian community festival of light in November. The festival parade took the young people to the Water Works where a festival day was held in celebration of both Irish and Indian cultures.

This had lead young people to think more about their own culture and the myths and legends that surround it. The theme the young people used during the festival of light was the Children of Lir. They decided to paint a mural in the centre not only about the Children of Lir, but about other myths such as banshees, mermaids and little people.

As a result of this activity. This has encouraged young people to get a better understanding of their own culture and that of the Indian Community Centre.

The BELB funded the club to take part in the parade and they are also funding the mural. The finished mural will be mounted on the wall of the youth centre for everyone of the members to enjoy and encourage parents to come along and experience what their children are doing in the youth centre. Emma Meaney and Leanne O'Halloran worked with young people from the centre to paint the mural, not only was it great fun it was very educational.

Ashton Centre Job Club

Do you live in North Belfast? Are you unemployed or want to return to work? Aged 16 yrs+? We can offer:

- Careers/Educational Advice
- 1-1 Support
- Advice Benefits/Childcare
- Job Club
- Improving employment skills
- Interviewing techniques, completing applications, CV building etc.
- Essential skills help
- Computer skills

If you are interested or would like to know more information please contact Claire or Kirsty on 90 74 2255 at the Ashton Centre.

Lantern Making Classes at New Lodge Youth Centre



New Lodge Youth Centre are taking part in four workshops. The aim of these workshops is to teach young people and their youth workers to make candles. These workshops are preparation for the East Belfast Lantern Parade. The workshops will provide young people with the opportunity to take part in the arts and crafts sessions with Claire Kelly before taking part in the parade. By participating young people will learn to develop skills in team work and cooperation. The parade will provide an objective to work towards and promote the growth of confidence, self esteem and a sense of achievement.

Participants will meet young people from a variety of cross-cultural and cross community backgrounds and will join them in the celebrations.

Students Receive Certificates



Celebrations for the end of September- December term candidates. Pictured above is a group of learners receiving their Certificate of Achievement, through the ICT Project, for training completed to date.

Further accredited certificates will be presented in the new year. Congratulations to all from the Ashton Community Trust Centre.

CEP's Meet With Cancer Lifeline

A meeting took place on Monday, November 14th between Cancer Lifeline and representatives of the Greater New Lodge, Ardoyne/Marrowbone and Cliftonville CEPs. The meeting was organised to explore how Cancer Lifeline could work more closely with community groups on the ground to promote its services and to raise awareness about the type of support it offers for individuals and families that are affected by Cancer. The project was established in October 1999 and is situated in 44 Alliance Avenue. The aim of Cancer Lifeline is to assist people to access up to date information and advice in order to help them cope with their symptoms and treatments. Speaking after the meeting the Communications Worker for Greater New Lodge CEP, Leo Morgan said, " One of the main purposes of the CEP is to ensure that the citizens of this community have access to all information that is relevant

or that can have a positive impact on their lives. As we all know cancer is a terrible illness that has touched almost every family in some way or other. This is why we in the CEP feel that the type of support that Cancer Lifeline offers is extremely important. We know from experience that beyond the physical impact there are a whole range of emotional, psychological and other practical difficulties that impact on families. It is vital that in this situation people have someone to turn to for help. In this month's CEP magazine people will see details of a Health Awareness Day that will take place in the New Year on January 16th in North Queen St. Community centre (The RECY). The main focus of this day will be on living and dealing with cancer, it is open to the entire community and is part of the CEP's ongoing schedule of 'Community Inclusion' events".

Edmund Rice PS Choir



Edmund Rice School Choir performing for shoppers at Castlecourt shopping mall in aid of the Caring for Children with Cancer charity. As usual the choir will "tour" the community focusing on bringing some of the Christmas spirit to the elderly and sick. Besides taking part in Belfast City Council events at the Ulster Hall the choir will visit Bruce House, Carlisle Day Centre and the Mater Hospital. The boys will have a busy two weeks as they also contribute to the KS1 Christmas concert.



Members of the CEP's with Cancer Lifeline

Cancer Lifeline 90 351 999

Greater New Lodge Community Directory

The CEP are presently compiling an updated community directory of community organisations in the greater New Lodge area. The directory should be completed in January and delivered to every house in the area. If you haven't been contacted by the CEP and would like to be included in the community directory contact Leo Morgan on 90 200 900 or via email @ leo@newlodgecep.org.

Edmund Rice Pupils Raise £484



Key Stage 1 pupils from Edmund Rice Primary School presenting Mrs Valerie Saunders with a cheque for £484 which was collected for the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association at the school's recent fund raising event. Thanks to everyone for their generous support.



Carers' Rights Day At 174 Trust

Supporting Carers Rights Day the 174 Trust held a coffee morning. The focus of the day was on older carers.

If you would like further information contact Deena Nimick, Disability Coordinator 174 Trust Duncairn Avenue, Belfast BT14 6BP on 90 357 847.

A Look At Our Local History With Joe Baker

I remember years ago when Ardoyne was the favourite watering hole the craic we had slegging off each others street names. Quite often the Ardoyners would poke fun at Lepper Street in the New Lodge and state that it was so called because everyone in the New Lodge was You get the picture. The only problem was that they pronounced it Leeper Street. Needless to say we retaliated with Ardoyne's Hooker Street.

But on a more serious note how many of us think off how our streets got their names? Very few, so in the next few issues of this magazine I will do articles relating to street names throughout the New Lodge.

NEW LODGE

I suppose the obvious place to start is the New Lodge Road itself. In the late part of the eighteenth century a large mansion house stood in the Oldpark area known as The Lodge and the road



leading to it known as the Lodge Road. However, in the early decades of the 1800's, a new house was built in the same area and when completed this was also named The Lodge the reason being a bit of a mystery. Therefore the old house became known as the Old Lodge with its road becoming the Old Lodge Road and the new house becoming the New Lodge. I don't think that I need to point out what its road became known as but one interesting point is that the New Lodge Road was in two sections. The lower section (which was once called Pinkerton's Row) retains the name today but the upper section was renamed the Cliftonville Road in the 1880's.

MYSTERIOUS FIRES

The New Lodge Road divides the area and criss-crossing this is Lepper Street which divides it again. This street was named after the Lepper family who owned the Lodge Cotton Mill which stood roughly where the Ashton Centre is situated today. This mill was established by two brothers named Francis and Charles Lepper and opened in 1811. The family decided to build their homes in this area also with Charles building Laurel Lodge and Francis building Trainfield House both of which were on the New Lodge Road. Shortly after the mill opened the cotton trade began to decline. A 'mysterious' fire destroyed the building in 1813 and it was reopened as a linen mill and was

disposed off to a Lancashire firm in 1868 when, surprise surprise, it was destroyed in yet another 'mysterious' fire. The land was sold and the houses around the old Annadale Street were constructed.

TRAINFIELD

Although the old street is long gone one name which survives to this day is Trainfield Street. This was named after the mansion house which stood opposite it on the New Lodge Road.



As mentioned above Trainfield House was built by Francis Lepper and was named this due to the fact that it was constructed on the ground which was used as the training fields for soldiers from the nearby Artillery Barracks. This house remained with the Lepper family up until 1866 when it was sold to the Rev. John Macnaughtan who was the minister of the Rosemary Street Presbyterian Church. Five years later it was in the possession of Joseph Bigger, chairman of the Ulster Bank and father of the more widely known Joseph Gillis Bigger, the famous Home Rule M.P. and Parnell's most trusted lieutenant. He retained Trainfield House for some years after his fathers death but it was eventually sold to the War Office and



became part of Victoria Barracks. The house eventually became an officers mess and was destroyed during the German Luftwaffe Blitz of 1941.

ARTILLERY

Another street which was named after military barracks was Artillery Street. This street was laid out in 1819 and in 1825 the first row of houses were erected. From the station book of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons for 1838 it is noted that the houses were adopted as billets for the soldiers. The extract reads 'paid to the house keepers of Artillery Street, Belfast, the sum of two pounds eight and six pence sterling for men's billets there'.

The street was demolished in the 1960's

with Artillery Flats constructed on its site.

CHURCHILL

When the tower blocks were built in the 1960's the Artillery Flats were the only block not named after World War 2 people and places. One such block was Churchill House which was named after the British war time Prime Minister Winston Churchill but this was a name which already existed in the New Lodge area in the form of Churchill Street. This street was named after his father Randolph Churchill, a leading Tory statesman. He was in Belfast on the 22nd of February 1886 to speak at a meeting of the Ulster Unionists in the Ulster Hall in opposition to Gladstone's Home Rule policy.

It would appear that the builder of this new street (which was also built in 1886) was so impressed with Randolph's speech that he named his new street after him.

You can read Joe's local history features every week in the North Belfast News



Local Historian Joe Baker

**Bingo At The Recy
Every Friday Night
8.30pm - 10.00pm**

CEP Consultation - Res

Emma – There is nothing for the children to do but go to the youth club there should be more for young children to do.



Young people at this years festival

Kathleen – This area needs more done for the needs of younger children 1-8 year olds. It needs some play parks. Older ones have clubs and football pitches. Cavehill Rd. Park is the nearest park for babies.



Community reps in North Queen St Park

Thomas – Better clubs that work with our age group 12-14 year olds.



Young people at New Lodge Youth Centre

Laura – I feel that this area should be a lot cleaner now with the new houses.



Lower Long Streets new houses

Eilish - I think young people should get involved in finding solutions for anti social behaviour they need to see what the effect is on older people and children. Adults and parents need to know that anti-social behaviour is not just young people.



Young people at youth jury on anti-social issue

Gail – The housing need in this area is being dealt with by the Housing Executive very poorly. People in our area should no longer be expected to live in squalor and redevelopment needs to be continued in the long street houses.



Housing reps meet minister David Hansen

Danny – The more people are educated then the community gets stronger.



Community Development Training

Sean – Pride in our environment will have a knock on effect to making everyone feel better about this area.



Volunteers during clean up days

Eamon – I will want to see if this is just a set up of ideas with no substance or if it will be acted upon.



Local youth & community reps meet with funders

Terry – I think you are doing a great job keep up the good work.



CEP members at community event in the Recy

Mary – Education, Education, Education. Not Tony Blair's views - my own. We need to educate our young, so they can use those abilities to access jobs, universities and approach life with a better judgement and more choice.



Young people on environmental project

Peter - There is a great number of young teenagers starting to drink and to be out of order. Especially outside my flat early and late at night and they make a terrible mess of the place which I have to clean and the smell of the place is terrible.



CEP worker surveys damage to Lepper Street

Residents Have Their Say

Yvonne – Lets consider older residents for a change



Local volunteers carry out senior citizens survey

Brogan- We need a place for the young ones at night to go to.



Local youth at Corner House

Ciara – There is nothing for young ones, a leisure centre would help.



Girdwood could provide a leisure centre

Delia – I think safety in the community is of great importance, especially for the elderly so I think that a community safety network is a great idea.



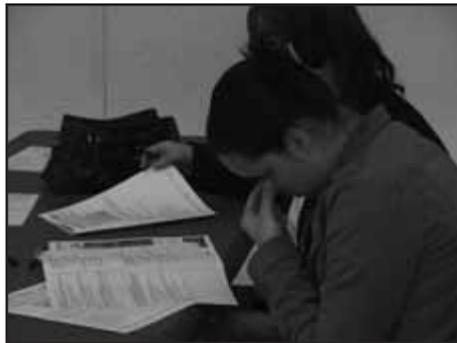
CEP members look at community safety

Nicola – Litter graffiti and dog mess need to be tackled. Improve job prospects.



CEP members meet City Council on litter issues

Ciaran – I believe that the development of an overall integrated urban plan is the key project that could deliver regeneration that will include housing and all the other community spatial needs. A plan linked to an implementation plan and timetable has been the key ingredient of all quality, renewed areas throughout Ireland.



Local residents at consultation event

Lisa- Work with local secondary and grammar schools career teachers to enable school leavers to begin training or further education immediately.



Susan- The housing waiting lists are too long.



Local activists at housing protest

Bridie – Health care could be better. Lots of elderly on their own and isolated.

Kevin- Childcare is a big problem. Training that gives real hope of a job especially for young people.

Terry- We need more bins and dog mess is a real problem.

Julie- Parents need to be more responsible and more involved with their children. More activities for senior citizens.

Resident of Victoria - Fear needs to be eliminated in order to live in area. Steps need to be taken Dogs barking, parties in flats joy riders.

Frankie – Anti social behaviour, prevention is better than cure. Give the people something to be proud of and it will generate pride in themselves. Promote the skills and talents of the people particularly the young.

Theresa – I hope everything you are trying to do works out. At the moment there seems to be some work going on with public bins and better lighting.

Positive Thinker- I feel that all people must support all community groups in this by becoming involved at various levels.

Larry- Community pride is the over arching issue for every ill in our community.

Gary – We need a non-aggressive way of dealing with anti social behaviour.

Bernie – Suicide is a real worry for parents and families. Mental health needs addressing.

Mac- It would be nice to go to the shops without a crowd of yobs standing about giving people abuse.

Sean- Start a young peoples job club run by young people.

Rab- Suicide needs addressing.

Lisa – More job opportunities.

Natalie – Include young people more.

Larry- Community pride is the over arching issue for every ill in our community.

Susan- The housing waiting lists are too long.

Bridie – Health care could be better. Lots of elderly on their own and isolated.

Graffiti Lets Get Rid Of

As part of our ongoing strategy to improve the appearance of the area CEP workers and volunteers conducted a graffiti clean up on Tuesday 29th of November. Despite the very cold weather there was no lack of enthusiasm amongst the graffiti clean up team who went about the task with gusto wiping out graffiti at 25 different sites in the district. Some people who daub graffiti on the walls of the area may feel there is no harm in it, as it is just a name or a mark to show that someone was there at a particular date. It is true that sometimes graffiti can look better than what it covers up, some slogans are funny, some may see graffiti as a legitimate form of community art, there are also politically-motivated graffitiists who feel they are carrying out an important political function. However the reality is that most of the graffiti on show is ugly and makes the area look shabby. This type of drab appearance contributes to the lowering of the quality of life in our community. In some cases the graffiti writers resort to vandalism for example splattering paint all over the

place. All vandalism is unacceptable on every level. It looks bad, it costs time, resources and money to repair, it reduces the quality of life for those it affects, and often frightens vulnerable people such as the elderly.

The main purpose therefore in removing graffiti is not to dictate to people what they can or cannot do but simply to improve the visual appearance of the area. As we have said before there are many reasons why some people engage in vandalism and mischief. Boredom, alienation, family and community breakdown, lack of leisure opportunities and unemployment. While the CEP does not have all the answers we are working on a daily basis to tackle these issues. However what we do know is the problems of this community are harder to resolve when the damage is caused from within the community. Once again we would appeal to anyone defacing or causing damage to please stop and think about what you are doing, remember if you respect others then others will respect you.



Local volunteers and youth groups take part in graffiti clean up

Artillery Christmas Party

Artillery Youth Centre are holding a Christmas Party for members and young people over 15 on Wednesday 21st December 8 - till late.

On the night there will be BINGO with cash and other prizes. There will be food and a late night movie. For any further information contact Cathy on 90351332



Women's Training Project

Are You A Women Living In North Belfast And Interested In Free Training With Free Childcare Places? Training Courses Include:
Computer Courses
Word-Processing
Personal Development
Driving Theory
Employment Support
If Your Interested Call Rosey On 028 9074 2255

The Greater New Lodge CEP are Providing Education and Training Courses Commencing January 2006

Courses available include:

- Introduction to Computers
- European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)
- ECDL Advanced (Word)
- Text/Word Processing
- CLAIT
- Sage Accounts Level 11
- Brush up on your Maths & English
- Confidence Building & Personal Development
- Conversational Spanish
- Counselling level 11
- Driving Theory

Individual Support Available.
Limited number of free childcare places available.

For more details contact Maureen Hughes or Cathy Rooney on

028 9074 2255

Corner House Drummers Enjoy Night Out



Corner House Drummers hit the Rotterdam for a session before Christmas. We would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone interested in joining the group in the New Lodge to contact Colette on 90 740 380

174 Trust NOMO Support Group



Do you know a child who has a sibling with a disability or has a parent or guardian with a disability or long term illness?

If so, why not tell them about.....
The 174 NOMO Support Group

The 174 Nomo Support Group is for children (aged 7 – 11 years) living in North Belfast and meets one Monday night each month between 6.30pm and 8.00pm.

Activities will be decided by the members and will include arts and crafts, baking, games, bowling and lots more. There will be an opportunity to meet other children who live with someone who has a disability or illness in their family.

If you want to find out more – contact:

Deena Nimick, Disability Co-ordinator,
174 Trust, Duncairn Complex,
Duncairn Avenue, Belfast BT14 6BP
(02890 357847 or 02890 747114)

**(NOMO stands for
Not On My Own)**

Uncertain Future for CEP

On Friday the 9th of December the Department of Social Development Minister David Hanson announced that money is to be made available to support the continuation of Community Empowerment Partnerships (CEPs) in North Belfast. With current funding for the CEPs due to end in March 2006 the announcement of new funding is to be welcomed. However the reality is that the funding extension will only keep the CEPs in place until September 2006. In the meantime an evaluation of the work of the CEPs including our own here in the New Lodge is to be carried out. Responding to David Hanson's announcement, the Greater New Lodge Community Empowerment Partnership made the following statement.

“Community Empowerment Partnerships (CEPs) were originally established throughout North Belfast in 2002 under the Northern Ireland Assembly following recommendations carried in the Dunlop Report (2002). This initiative was a direct response to deteriorating community relations, serious street conflict, ongoing and widespread socio-economic exclusion and disadvantage. Since then the exceptional value of CEPs has become clearly evident in developments on the ground. It is generally acknowledged within the community sector that the CEPs provide an extremely valuable strategic mechanism for developing the capacity of communities of greatest need in North Belfast. There is also a view that the Dunlop recommendations were about providing additionality, and were intended to form the basis of a long- term plan embracing statutory

commitments to community activity thus helping to avoid duplication, maximise investment and partnership working. It is therefore a matter of great concern that the entire project is now faced with an uncertain future. We have been informed that when the current funding ends in March 2006 there will be a continuation for a further 6 months (what will be funded has yet to be agreed) and at this stage no one is in a position to tell us where the CEP will be after this 6-month period ends. This short-term approach is worrying, damaging to the morale of the CEP and disrupts our ability to work and plan in a strategic way.

Dunlop's recommendations provided the basis for the type of long-term strategic vision that is necessary for the regeneration of North Belfast. As we all know the huge problems that he identified continue to prevail and will take a long time to resolve. We would argue in the strongest possible terms that the CEPs are an essential building block for future, positive inter-community contact and the infra-structural reconstruction of North Belfast. However if we are to be effective in our mission what we require is long- term commitment not short- term expediency. Serious problems remain in North Belfast and it is essential that the government remains committed to regeneration and the aims of the Dunlop Report. We are concerned that after a period of calm there will be a decision to ignore the long-term problems of the area. It is with the greatest urgency that we will be asking for a meeting with the minister to discuss our concerns”.

St. Pats FC 2006 Calendars

St. Patrick's FC Calendars are now on Sale. If you want to order any copies of the calendars contact Terry Mulvenna at the Star Neighbourhood Centre on 9074 0693.

Plans For Westlink Walkway



Fra Gunn with pupils from Edmund Rice



Pupils from Star of the Sea

Creating Common Ground Consortium have selected 'The Carlisle Westlink walkway' as one of the housing executive areas to be awarded funding for regeneration. New Lodge Housing Forum, as a key member of the Project Team, also applied to Urban 2 and secured funding to create 'community art projects' and landscape from the North Queen Street steps to Carlisle Road. New Lodge Arts and Groundwork NI as part of the consortium have put together a design plan to engage the children and young people of the area giving them an opportunity to participate in the project.

imaginings and designs for the project and have created a story involving the myths and legends of six of our native trees taking us on an adventure into the otherworld.

In the New Year, New Lodge Arts will be working with youth and afterschool groups to illustrate this story and with the help of professional artists create murals, mosaics, and sculptures to be placed along the pathway. Groundwork NI will carry out the essential landscaping to the area and with the help of the schools plant bulbs, shrubs and over 30 mature trees around the artwork.

It is hoped that the project should be completed by March 2006

If you have any queries or wish to know more about the project contact

Clare Lawlor, New Lodge Arts.

Storyteller Fra Gunn has been commissioned to work with pupils at Edmund Rice Primary School and Star of the Sea Primary to produce a story which will take us on a journey along the pathway. A total of 58 children have been sharing creative ideas,

Corner House Christmas Crafts



Corner House Young Women's Group enjoyed four weeks of making Christmas crafts including tree decorations and moulds and finishing with their own unique Christmas Willow tree. The tree was made from willow and colourful crepe paper with a lamp underneath to light it up. Thanks to Julianne Mc Cormick and New Lodge Arts.

Recycling At Christmas

If you have a real Christmas tree this year, remember to recycle it! Belfast City Council is providing a tree chipping service at the following locations on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th Jan (10am – 4pm and Sunday 8th Jan (12noon – 4pm)

- Palmerson Road Recycling Centre
- Alexandra Park Avenue Recycling Centre
- Blackstaff Way Recycling Centre
- Boucher Road Civic Amenity Site

Christmas cards can be recycled in your kerbie box during January (please tie in a plastic bag).

Parkside Young Women's Group taking part in DJ workshops



Cancer Lifeline Launch Report At City Hall

Cancer Lifeline recently visited the City Hall to celebrate the launch of a recent independent evaluation carried out by Locus Management.

The Chief Medical Officer Dr. Henrieta Campbell took time out to help Cancer Lifeline toast its success as a vital user led cancer supportive organisation, offering support to people affected by cancer in North Belfast.



The independent evaluation noted that of Cancer Lifeline's 200 members;

- 58% are living with cancer and 42% are family members
- 29% are male and 71% are female
- 64% are from North Belfast
- 43% are aged 55plus
- 54% are catholic and 30% are protestant.

Cancer statistics reveal that:

- The number of new cancers diagnosed each year are split almost equally between males and females
- Belfast City Council area has significantly high levels of cancer in males
- In males, as deprivation increased there were significant increasing trends for incidence and mortality for cancer.

Cancer Lifeline recognises that there is more work to be done in targeting men. This is currently being addressed through the targeting of the Cancer Lifeline drama project, "Living With Cancer" to male audiences in North Belfast in the hope of educating men and raising awareness of male cancers.

Cancer Lifeline currently provides a range of support services which are available at the project base in Alliance Avenue. These include counselling, complementary therapies, welfare benefits advice, acupuncture, support groups, and information sessions. Services at Cancer Lifeline are not only for the person diagnosed with cancer—they are also for family members, as quite often family members can also feel quite isolated and unsupported.

If you feel you could benefit from any of the services at Cancer Lifeline, please feel free to contact us at the office.

44, ALLIANCE AVENUE, BELFAST. BT14 7PJ. TEL 02890 351999

Useful numbers for the holidays

Housing Executive
Emergency Services
90 246 111

NIE
08457 455 455

Phoenix Gas
08454 555 555

Water Service
08457 440 088

Newington Housing Association
90 744 055

Promoting Your Group

Are you involved in a community, youth or sports organisation, does your group require publicity materials, the CEP Communication Worker can help with the publicity of your group, presentations, posters, invitations, display banners, calendars, even your own publications. If you would like to learn more about publicising the work of your group contact Leo Morgan on 90 200 900

5 STAR TAXIS

DEPOT AT: 271 ANTRIM ROAD.

9075 2222

9075 2323

OPEN 24 HOURS 7 DAYS A WEEK

YOU DRINK - WE DRIVE

OUR BUSINESS IS GOING PLACES



Newington Credit Union wishes all our members a Happy and Peaceful Christmas. Christmas is an expensive time and lots of parents feel under pressure to buy presents beyond their means. Don't fall into the debt trap. Borrow wisely – come to the credit union where you will get fair deal loans.

£100 repaid in 20 weeks is £102.41 less interest rebate this year at 20%

Some money lenders are there to take advantage of you. In one case a loan of £1000 over 55 weeks cost £650 in interest from a money lender. The same loan from Newington Credit Union would cost £64.15 interest and this year you would get an interest rebate of 20% so the real cost would be only £51.83. as well, your loan and savings are insured, there is no start up cost and no problem with early settlement.

Most financial institutions that lend money are in business to maximise profit. Your credit union is different. Because credit unions are owned and run by their members, you can be sure you will get a fair deal loan at your credit union. So call or visit Newington Credit Union for details on 90351040.

Winners Of Newington Credit Union Art Competition

Over 400 entries from 5 different schools. The standard was so high that the judge, a professional artist, had a very hard job to do. The Credit Union picked the work of Jamie McKee who came 3rd in the 11 - 13 category to be the cover of our annual report. The winning poster will now be entered into the Credit Union Chapter competition and if successful into the National League competition. Winners of this year's art competition:

7 Years and under

- 1st Declan Mc Aree (St. Therese Of Lisieux)
- 2nd Maya Mc Cathie (St. Therese Of Lisieux)
- 3rd Dylan Mc Mullan (Edmund Rice Primary School)

8 - 10 Yrs.

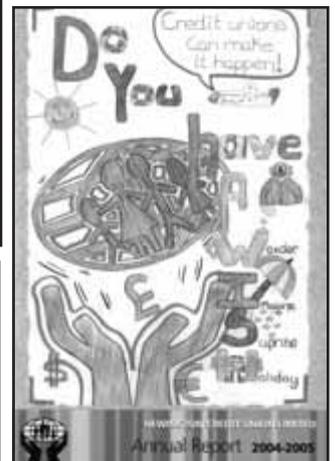
- 1st Orla Campbell (St. Therese Of Lisieux)
- 2nd Aoife Goodwin (St. Therese Of Lisieux)
- 3rd Adrienne Maginness (St. Therese Of Lisieux)

11 - 13 Yrs.

- 1st Laura Toal (Dominican College)
- 2nd Patricia Mc Guigan (Dominican College)
- 3rd Jamie Mc Kee (Dominican College)

14 – 17 Yrs.

- 1st Jennifer Hughes (Dominican College)
- 2nd Nicole Crymble (Dominican College)
- 3rd Laura Gribben (Dominican College)



Newington Credit Union
90351040

Newington Credit Union Opening Hours:	
Monday	9.30am - 5.30pm
Tuesday	10.00am - 7.00pm
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday	9.30am - 5.30pm
Saturday	9.30am - 12.00 noon





Welcome to the New Lodge Duncairn Health Partnership update. Each month your local CEP magazine will contain information on our current and planned programmes as well as relevant and helpful healthy living advice. If you have any particular topic you wish us to cover please contact us at the address below.

FIBROMYALGIA AND CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS SUPPORT GROUP

The first meeting of the Fibromyalgia and chronic pain sufferers support group will be held on Tuesday 10th January 2005 between 10-30am and 12-30pm at 174 Trust, Duncairn Avenue, Belfast. Health information, relaxation therapy and complementary therapy will be available for those attending. Contact Patricia on 90745588 for further information.

Your natural medicine chest

Digest Aid Drink

4-8 ounces tomato juice or fresh grapefruit juice
2-3 tsp fresh lemon or lime juice
Optional: ¼ tbs fresh squeezed ginger juice

or

6-8 ounces club soda
2-3 fresh lemon or lime juice and/or ½ tsp fresh squeezed ginger juice

Blood Sugar Balancer

Juice 6-8 carrots with 1 small beet and 1 clove of garlic
Optional: ½ tsp barley green or spirulina powder

Hangover Helper

Add a few dashes cayenne pepper and ½ -1 tsp ginseng or dark misso to the Blood Sugar Balancer.

ROOM FRAGRANCERS

Essential oils can be purchased in health shops and chemists. They are natural and have therapeutic effects. Add one drop each essential oil to 100ml and use in diffuser (oil burner) and fill to the top with water. (Always make sure to add plenty of water to your burner)

Calming blend

Lavender, Orange, Geranium, Cedarwood, Marjoram, Frankincense

Relaxing Blend

Cedarwood, Orange and Ylang Ylang or Cedarwood, Orange

Restful Blend

Lavender, Mandarin, Marjoram, Chamomile-Roman and Spikenard

Purifying Blend

Eucalyptus, Bergamot, Grapefruit, Cinnamon and Thyme

Respiration Blend

Sage, Hyssop, Eucalyptus, Spruce, Thyme and Myrtle

Evergreen Blend

Eucalyptus, Peppermint, Spearmint, (two drops of each essential oil).

Refreshing Blend

Eucalyptus, Lemon, Myrtle, Lemongrass and Litsea Cubeba

New Lodge Duncairn Community Health Partnership
206 Duncairn Gardens
Belfast
BT15 2GN
90745588



Panto Time With The Recy Girls Group



The Recy Young Women's group successfully performed their Christmas pantomime "A Christmas in the New Lodge" on Wednesday December 14th to a packed Recy.

The girls would like to give a special thank you to Katrina Newell, Sean Uprichard and their two drama coaches Nikki and Antionete, as well as all those who helped make it such a brilliant success. A collection was lifted on the night and donated to help the CEP Earthquake appeal.

Seasons For Growth



Corner House in conjunction with Cloona Contact Centre starts their 1st programme in North Belfast up at the 174 Trust with a group of young men. It is an internationally recognised education programme which explores the effects of change, loss and grief.

It provides a safe creative way to explore these issues in a safe environment for children, young people and adults.

If you are interested in finding out more about the programme contact Colette on 90 740 380

Edmund Rice Primary School

There has been some reports in the media over the past week concerning the future of Edmund Rice Primary School. The school would like to take this opportunity through the CEP magazine to inform local residents and parents that reports that Edmund Rice Primary School is "in Jeopardy" are completely unfounded.

John Devine (Principal)

Recycling Pilot Scheme for Tower Blocks



Bryson House recycling have commenced a pilot recycling project at Maeve House. The success of the scheme is to be monitored over the coming weeks in order to measure its success, in other words if the residents of Maeve House make sufficient use of the scheme then it will be spread to the other high rise flats in the area. So far there has been good use of the recycling facility by the residents of Maeve House. The recycling facility caters for paper, card/cardboard, plastic bottles, glass, food and drink cans, foil, textiles and tools.

For further information contact Bryson House on 800 1691 287

North Belfast United proudly show of their impressive trophy collection for this year.



New Vision for Star Neighbourhood Centre Youth Work

Following on from the recent employment of our two part-time Young Women's Workers, Cathy Valente and Emma Steele the Star is proud to announce another new face and the introduction of a new project.

We would like to welcome Eamonn ÓCuilin to the organisation. Eamonn will be replacing Seamus Hamilton as our part-time Young Men's Worker. Seamus has also moved post and is now involved with a new project aimed at working in partnership with Challenge for Youth to deliver a programme aimed at "Hard to Reach" young people to re-engage or engage them in current community activity. Seamus will be the Project Development Worker and will be looking to work in partnership with other youth providers, schools and voluntary organisations in delivering the programme to the young people who don't normally engage with community organisations.

Star Neighbourhood Centre Youth Programme 2006

- Sexual Health Awareness
- Drugs & Alcohol Abuse Awareness
- Personal Development
- Recreational & Sporting Activities
- Arts & Crafts
- Health & Fitness
- Drama
- Video Production
- Youth Work Training

If you and your mates are interested in being part of a new group please feel free to contact the youth project at the Star on 90740693.

The Star also offers a one to one support for Parents and Young People, if you need advice or support please feel free to contact Michael or any other youth team member, all issues are dealt with utmost confidentiality.



Eamonn Ní Chuilín & Seamus Hamilton

Hip Hop Classes at New Lodge Youth Centre

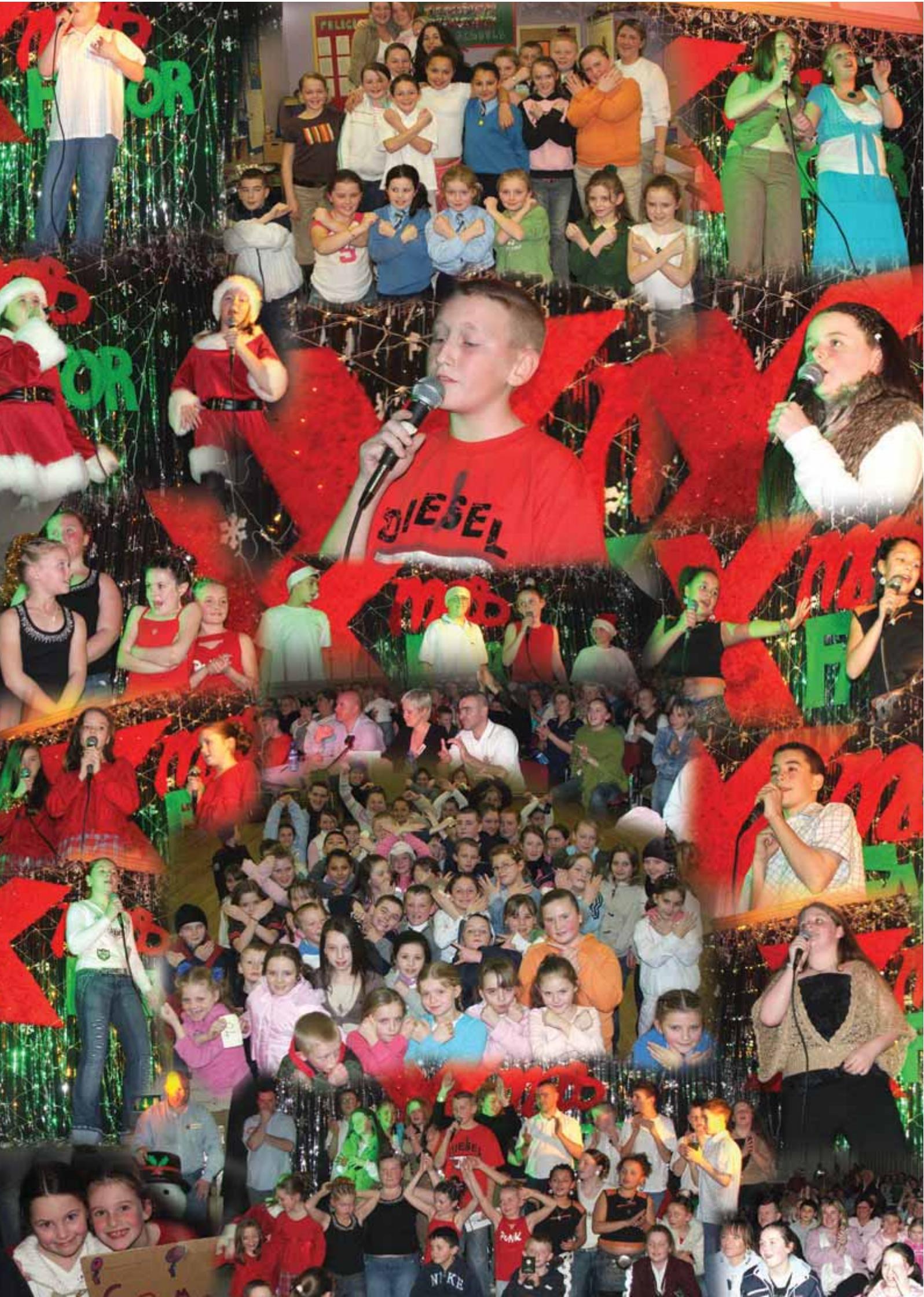


Monday the 28th November saw the start of hip hop dance classes at New Lodge Youth Centre. The classes, organised by New Lodge Arts and funded through the Arts Council are open to any young person, whether male or female, over 12 years of age from the area. Hip-hop is taught by dance instructors Sara McNeilly and John Rice from Tribal Dance who have extensive teaching and choreographing experience. Sara has trained in Jazz, Tap, Musical Theatre, Latin, Hip Hop and cheerleading. She has performed in shows in Russia, Amsterdam, Austria, Israel and Palestine and in most theatres across Belfast. John has danced professionally with Tribal Dance Company for two years and has performed at various events including fashion shows and City Council events. In March competed in Euro Dance, a European Dance Competition held in Bristol and came first in Adult Champ freestyle. With both male and female teachers the class can only go from strength to strength.

The classes will run until Christmas and, depending on their popularity, will continue in the New Year. Places are limited but if anyone would like to take part they should contact Katrina at the Ashton Centre on 028 9074 2255. Dance is a great form of exercise and keeping fit so go on give it a go!!!

Xmas Factor

Congratulations to Pearse Murphy for winning the first ever New Lodge Xmas Factor. Although there could only be one winner, the organising committee have congratulated all the young people who took part and said they were all winners. The 174 Trust was packed to the doors on the night of the final. All the young people performed brilliantly and choosing a winner was extremely hard. Young Pearse will now record his very own three song album spending a full day in a recording studio. The organisers would like to take this opportunity to thank the following groups and people for whom without the night wouldn't have happened, first and foremost the young people themselves, well done again, the audience who sat very patiently while some technical problems were sorted out, Seamus and Kevin for sorting out the technical problems, the New Lodge Festival, New Lodge Arts, the CEP, the 174 Trust, Tar Isteach, New Lodge Youth Centre and all of the volunteers who helped out. Well done to all our stars. See the back page for photos of the Xmas Factor.



DIESEL

MOB

MOB

MOB

DIESEL

NIKE

Handwritten text on a cardboard sign, partially visible at the bottom left.