



ATLANTIC VIEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Main Street, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal, Ireland. TEL: 071 98 22833 / FAX: 071 98 22806 / Email:atlanticview01@eircom.net

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A Very Happy, Peaceful & Healthy Christmas & New Year to Everyone



Some Thoughts at Christmas

Many people in our community will be spending a very sad Christmas this year. Unfortunately with the epidemic of cancer now affecting one in three people a lot of us have lost dear friends and family during the year and others among us have received bad news personally. We in Atlantic View CDP send our heart felt condolences to those of you who have lost someone and to those who await treatment or appointments our very best wishes for a positive outcome.

In conjunction with others have fought a hard fight for the retention of cancer services in Sligo General Hospital this year and the development of a ninth Centre of Excellence there and the fight goes on. We have no intention of stopping until the Government and the HSE listen and provide us with the services we so vitally need and are entitled to in the NW. Most of you know all the reasons why the retention of these services are so important in Sligo General Hospital and you will also understand why we need you all to come out and support us in our endeavours to get our message across to the Government and the HSE.

We would like you to make this one of your New Year's resolutions — That you will make a big effort to attend all the protest marches, debates etc.. which are being planned in the future.

Hopefully in 2008 the Government and HSE will concede that we have a right to these services in the NW and agree to develop the Ninth Centre of Excellence in Sligo General Hospital.

Life Long & Intercultural Education

Our Community Development Co-ordinator Ann Mc Gowan recently spent four days in Prague at a seminar working with sixty participants from twenty different countries. The objectives being the different methodologies of Life Long and Intercultural Education. There were seven different groups created who will visit each participants base and through involvement with the projects experience the different ways of learning. The group Ann is involved with are from Sweden, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany and East Germany. It is hoped that this group will visit Atlantic View CDP sometime in 2009. In the meantime members of Atlantic View CDP will visit all the other projects bases in these countries. This is all subject to funding being granted from the Grundvig Leargas.

The Scratching Hens

The creative writing group 'The Scratching Hens' which takes place in Atlantic View CDP every second Tues from 10am to 1pm are accepting new members who wishes to take part in this course. Why not come along in the New Year? You may have a hidden writing talent you would like to nurture. Now is your chance.

Photographic Exhibition

The Cross Border Women's Collective has had its roving Photographic Exhibition 'Our Communities' in Bundoran and Dundonald Public Libraries over the last few months. Next is the turn of Ballyshannon Library where the exhibition will take place from the tenth of December until after Christmas. Why not drop in. Afterwards the photos will be on display in the Atlantic View CDP Centre.

Brass & Reed Band

The Brass & Reed Band had a very busy year with St Patrick's Day parade, Corpus Christi procession, the opening of the Ballyhanna site and hosting the Brussels Concert. Local lad Niall Gallagher stole the show with the bands with his great renditions of big swing songs.

He also performed in the Hawk's Well Theatre to a great reception. Congratulations from all at Atlantic View CDP, Niall.

The band hope to go on a trip to Brussels with the Sligo Concert band in 2008.

We would also like to say well done to Michael Gallagher and others in the band for all their hard work throughout the year, their 109th year in existence.

Plans for the New Year

Atlantic View CDP have applied for funding for a few exciting projects in the New Year so we are keeping our fingers crossed. One of these is a community gardening project should provide jobs for a few people if it comes off.

There are also some exciting projects in the pipeline for some of the Community Groups including currach building. All of course depending on funding.

We are also delighted at being awarded a grant for a lift for our Centre from the Department of Community Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs which will result in our upstairs meeting room being accessible to everybody

We will as usual continue to give assistance to all the community groups who contact us. This year many of the Community Groups acquired funding through our office to carry out different courses including arts and crafts, yoga, supervision and management, first aid and many others. We also helped with promoting and advertising events and running fund raisers.

If you would like our help in the New Year why not drop into our centre and chat to us. We are always willing to listen and help where we can. We also have a room available for meetings which will hold up to twenty people. We look forward to working with you in the New Year.

Carers Support Group

The Carers Support Group spent a great night Ten Pin Bowling in Bundoran and a very restful respite evening at dinner for the group.

They have plans for various courses in 2008 and anyone who is a carer of a family member or friend are very welcome to attend the meetings on the third Wed of each month in the Sheil Hospital Day Care Centre.

To all Carers out there “ Be good to yourselves this Christmas. You are very special people.”

Saimer Residents

Saimer Residents Association wish to inform everyone who bought tickets for their fashion show on the 22nd Nov which was cancelled that these tickets are valid for their next show in the New Year.

They are now running a raffle for a large Christmas Hamper, a smaller Christmas Hamper and a Tin of Roses. Tickets can be bought from Rosaleen Branley and other Residents Association members.

Saimer Childcare Centre

Saimer Childcare's new state of the art premises is developing beautifully on the Rock Road and will open early in the New Year. We wish all involved the very best of luck and we look forward to continuing to work with them when they move to their new premises.

Don't forget their 'Buy a Brick' project which they are running to raise funds for the refurbishing of the centre. Bricks are €20 each or three for €50. They are also running a raffle with prizes of a €400 voucher from An Dunai Mara boat Charter Company (you can charter the boat for ten anglers or twelve sightseers for the day). Second prize is a hamper. Lines are three euro each or two for five euro. Good luck everyone.

Community Information Directory

Atlantic View CDP has developed a small booklet with contact numbers of community agencies and groups. This includes Churches, Emergency numbers, Health Services, Public Services, Schools/Educational Centres, Resident Associations, Community Centres and Community groups from Sport to Childcare. The areas covered are Ballyshannon, Bundoran, Cashelard, Rosstown, Creevy, Tullaghan and Kinlough. If you would like a copy of this booklet drop into our office on Main St, Ballyshannon and you can have it for free. If you are a member of a group which you feel should be included in future editions of this booklet please contact us with your details and we will be delighted to oblige.

We would like to thank Matthew Salisbury for his input in the development of this booklet while he was on placement with us from Youth Reach.

Thank you

To all those we forgot on the back page we would also like to say a big Thank You. To the voluntary workers active in the Erne Catchment area, we believe it would be a poorer place without you. Many of our youth centres, educational centres and community groups would not exist except for your hard work. . So to the dozens of people who give their time free to all these activities, well done and thank you.

People we would like to Acknowledge

As it is Christmas time we would like to say a big thank you to a few special people who have been very involved in activities in the area over and above the call of duty. Most of these people have throughout the year put in a lot of work voluntarily which means they receive no money and very little thanks for all they do. Some of these people are listed below.

Beating the odds; Two very brave people we would also like to acknowledge at this time are Anthony O'Malley Daly and May Gallinagh. Thank you both for all the work you have put in to make this a better place to live in, not only this year but for many years. You are very brave people and you have our greatest respect.

Chamber of Commerce; We would like to say well done to Sinead Donagher and the other members of the Chamber of Commerce for all the work you have put in throughout the year and particularly with the Christmas lights. Without your months of hard work it would be a dull town over the season.

Town Cleaning; We would like to acknowledge Sean Mc Garrigle for not only his hard work in keeping the streets clean but also for his good humour and his humanity. People like Sean are a treasure in any town.

Town Events; We would like to say well done and thank you to all those involved in the St Patrick's Day Parade, the Rory Gallagher Festival, the Folk Festival, the Carnival, the Ballytour. All these events take a lot of work and organising to say nothing about accessing funding and organising fund raising events. They make a big difference to the town. Well done everyone.

Quietly in the background; We at Atlantic View CDP would especially like to say a big thank you to our Chairperson Michael Tunney who not only works very hard in a voluntary capacity in community development for Atlantic View CDP but is also very involved with the local conference of St Vincent de Paul which does do a huge amount of work that few people know about. Thank you Michael.

Residents Associations Members; To PJ Mc Grath who for many years now has cut the grass in the huge green areas in lower Erne Dale as well as maintaining the lawn mower and fighting a long battle against litter in the area. Thank you PJ. To Rosaleen Branley who continually runs events and lobbies for better services and facilities for Saimer Drive. If only we could clone you, Rosie. To Ena Cline and Margaret Berrigan who have kept the cutting of the grass going in Upper Erne Dale despite many hitches over the years. Well done.

Carers; To all the Carers who look after family and friends often on a twenty four hour basis without respite; our community would be lost without you. Thank you

**We in Atlantic View CDP work with a lot of the above group during the year and we know the work they put in and we would like to say
“ You are worth your weight in gold. Thank you”.**

Directors, Michael Tunney, Gerry Doherty, Laura Robinson, Margaret Doyle, Roisin Lee, Geraldine Mc Parlene, Mary Monaghan, Michael Gallagher, Catherine Maguire, Michael Devanney, Ann Mc Gowan
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