



RESURGAM NEWS

News and Updates from within the Resurgam Community

FOREWORD

The Resurgam Trust staff and volunteers remain extremely busy working hard on behalf of our local community and it is hard to believe that we are already over halfway through 2025. (Time fly's when you are working hard and having fun). In this edition of the Resurgam News you will read about some of the great work taking place throughout the community which will include our support for children and young people, our charitable activities and our extensive work and investment within the social economy.

The creation of meaningful employment has always been at the forefront of the Resurgam Trust strategy, and I am delighted to announce the establishment of two new social enterprises, Little Weavers Day Care and the Tea Rooms at Hilden Mill. Both new businesses will be based in the former Hilden Integrated Primary School and will create employment for up to twenty people. It is our aim to have the Tea rooms open in September 2025 followed by the Day Care opening its doors to children late November 2025.

This new venture has been over 16 years in the making and was instigated by the Hilden Community Association who initially lobbied the Education Authority to save the school from closure. Unfortunately, the school closed in 2008 and was in danger of falling into dereliction, but Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council purchased the beautiful building and following a public procurement process appointed the Resurgam Trust as their development partner.

The revitalisation and reinvigoration of the school has been made possible with substantial financial support from Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Community Ownership Fund. The Resurgam Trust have also invested heavily in this development both financially and with time and resources.

The Resurgam Healthy Living Centre continues to deliver excellent community-based health

interventions throughout our community with among other things our community fridge going from strength to strength. The Resurgam Community Fridge is supported by the Resurgam Trust staff but is run entirely by 16 volunteers. The fridge is open to the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11.00am – 2.00pm and supports hundreds of local members of our community who are assisting us in our quest to address food wastage.

Our community-led housing model remains a key element of our daily work providing homes and temporary accommodation for members of the community. We work in partnerships with many agencies including the Housing Executive and Radius Housing. The model that we have developed works for our tenants and ensures that they remain safe and supported throughout their stay in our accommodation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lisburn Safe for their continued support, especially during the weekends and late nights; your contribution to our community-led housing is invaluable.

The Resurgam Trust will continue to support our member groups and volunteers to ensure that our community remains stable and safe and a place where everyone wants to live. We will continue to support our social events and fundraising activities for both our internal and external charities and we will continue to engage with all political representatives, statutory organisations and government departments to ensure that we secure the resources needed to address the many challenges that our community face.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Resurgam Trust Board, Staff and Volunteers for their continued dedication, support and hard work. I would also like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere condolences to our Board member Trish McCormick on the passing of her husband, Thomas McCormick, (Big Ta), who was a dedicated member and volunteer of the Resurgam Trust. He was also a valued and loyal friend who will be severely missed by us all.

Trust Director, Adrian Bird

THOMAS MCCORMICK (BIG TA)

On the 6th June 2025 it came as a huge shock to everyone at the Resurgam Trust to hear that our good friend and volunteer, "Big Ta" had passed away. Ta had been ill for several months but none of us were prepared to hear the sad news that he had died.

Thomas McCormick, known as Ta to everyone, was an active volunteer in several of the Resurgam Trust projects. Alongside his wife Trish, they ran the Hilden Community Association, which instigated the campaign to save the Hilden Primary School and have it retained for community use. Ta worked two days each week as a volunteer in New Horizons Credit Union and was also a member of Lisburn Safe. As if this was not enough, he also helped on a regular basis with the Resurgam Youth Initiative supporting their outreach programme, community festivals and events. Ta was a keen gardener and handyman and loved to take responsibility for all maintenance and repairs and could be found on his days off in the grounds of the Hilden Community House attending to the flower beds.

Ta was well liked and respected by everyone, and he loved nothing more than to stop for a bit of banter and chat. He had a wealth of knowledge and could engage with anyone on any subject, should it be local politics, community, youth, hunting or his love for greyhound racing. Ta was a dedicated community activist but first and foremost he was a family man. He loved



his wife Trish and adored the entire family and would spend hours chatting about them, should it be about their holidays to Benidorm or the long weekends at their caravan in Millisle, or their quality time at the family home in Lisburn.

The passing of Big Ta has been a huge blow to everyone at the Resurgam Trust, as he was involved in so many projects. The Board, Staff and Volunteers of the Resurgam Trust offer our sincere condolences to our Board Member Trish McCormick on the passing of her husband Thomas, (Big Ta) and we extend our deepest sympathies to Trish and the wider family at this very sad time.

Resurgam Trust Charity Golf Day

On Friday 27th June 2025 the Resurgam Trust held our annual charity golf day at the Down Royal Golf Club, to raise funds for our nominated charity, "Papyrus, Prevention of Young Suicide".

This year we raised the fantastic amount of £2336.00. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the participants, sponsors and everyone who supported this event.



LANGUAGE LAUNCHPAD LAUNCH

Help Kids Talk recently partnered with Royal College of Speech & Language Therapy NI (RCSLTNI) in the Language Launchpad Initiative funded by the Department of Education. In response to the findings of the nationwide



Lorraine Coulter (SEHSCT), Ugne Gircuite (EIL), Mabel Scullion (EIL), Philip Dean (RCDT)

Language Launchpad survey, the HKT team used our own experience of best practice alongside listening to many professionals, parents, children and young people to develop a range of downloadable resources and 'bitesize' recordings which are now readily available for practitioners, parents and carers.

These recordings and resources were created in collaboration with children, young people and adults with lived experiences of difficulty with some aspect of Speech, Language and Communication and give tips and guidance on what support is most useful.

You can access all of these resources, and more, on the Help Kids Talk website.

You can also register for the HKT Basic Awareness session and Level 1 Training on our website. These free, monthly online sessions are suitable for parents, carers or practitioners who want to support the speech, language and communication needs of the babies, children or young people in their care.

The Language Launchpad Initiative was launched at the Long Gallery at Stormont on Tuesday 6th May 2025 and both Minister for Education of Northern Ireland, Paul Givan and Minister of Health for Northern Ireland, Mike Nesbitt addressed the delegates which included many of the HKT partners.



Looking for a space to host your next meeting, event, or workshop?

We provide versatile, affordable rooms to suit community groups, local organisations, and businesses alike:

Whether you're planning a training session, support group, team meeting, or community activity – we've got the ideal space for you.

Our facilities include:

- Flexible room sizes
- Free on-site parking
- Tea, coffee and full catering options available on request

We're based right in the heart of the community – a welcoming, professional space for groups of all kinds.

To book or find out more: 028 9267 0055

**“DATE FOR
YOUR DIARY”**

**ANNUAL
MACMILLAN CANCER
Coffee Morning is
Friday 3rd October
from
10am-12pm**

HELP KIDS TALK TEAM

During the Language Launchpad Initiative and other developments we have had a really busy time! Kerry Mulholland (HKT Co-Ordinator) has really appreciated the ongoing support from previous coordinator Sarah Ratcliffe and new team member Roberta Marshall in creating these new resources.

Roberta has brought over 40 years' of experience to the team! She has worked with babies, children, young people and their families across the statutory, voluntary and community sectors. She most recently co-managed the Specialised Parent Infant Relation Team within the South Eastern Trust area. She is the former Chairperson of the Association for Infant Mental Health in Northern Ireland and of the Stronger from the Start Infant Mental Health Alliance for Northern Ireland.

Roberta is passionate about the power of the First 1001 days and is delighted to have this opportunity to partner with others in the community, to focus on the speech, language and communication skills of our babies, children



Sarah Ratcliffe (SEHSCT), Lorraine Coulter (SEHSCT), Pauline McMullan (PHA), Kerry Mulholland (HKT) Ruth Sedgewick RC SLTNI), Sue McBride (RC SLTNI), Roberta Marshall (HKT), Mabel Scullion (EIL).

and young people. Roberta said 'I have always admired the work of Early Intervention Lisburn and am delighted to have joined such a dedicated team which works in partnership with families and professionals to provide resources, guidance and support to foster a culture where everyone has responsibility for developing the speech, language and communication of our babies, children and young people'

The Connected Minds Empowering Youth Project

is a young person led, emotional health and wellbeing, strength based mentoring and support project for children, and young people aged 8-24 years in Lisburn.

We offer emotional health and wellbeing support for young people and their families through the following interventions

Early Intervention Lisburn, Connected Minds Empowering Youth Project
Logansview Enterprise Centre, 69 Drumbeg Drive, Lisburn BT28 1NY
connectedmindsyc@resurgamtrust.co.uk
028 9267 0755 (option 6)

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PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE

PAPYRUS
Socials are as follows:

https://www.tiktok.com/@papyrus_charity

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_y_k9yZih75co_PCLOoyUA

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/papyrus-prevention-of-young-suicide>

https://www.instagram.com/papyrus_uk

<https://www.facebook.com/PAPYRUSCharity/>

https://twitter.com/PAPYRUS_Charity

https://www.threads.net/@papyrus_uk

Hilden Primary School - Press Release -



A local landmark is being transformed into a vibrant hub for the Hilden community. Councillor Craig, Chair of the Communities & Well-being Committee, recently visited the former Hilden School site alongside Adrian Bird, Director of the Resurgam Trust, to see first-hand how the long-awaited restoration is progressing.

Originally opened in October 1912 to serve the children of Hilden Mill workers, the school closed in 2008. Since then, the local community has championed its restoration. The refurbishment will see the building repurposed to include a tearoom, childcare services, and a permanent heritage display with community space.

Lisburn Museum will collaborate with community partners to create an annual program of events and offer training for Volunteer Heritage Advocates, ensuring the history of the site is preserved and shared with future generations. Hilden Community Association welcomes the news. Chairperson Trish McCormick said "we as a community group have been lobbying from day one and are delighted that it is now in the final stages of completion. We have been involved



since the school closed infact we also lobbied back in 2007 to keep it open, we also took our concerns for the building to EA met with them numerous times opposed an attempt to turn the building into town houses with the help of the then MLA Edwin Poots and the then Councillor Jenny Palmer. We are glad that being a member of The Resurgam Trust has brought us to where we are now as Adrian Bird believed in us that this building should be saved and used for community use, this development will bring not only jobs to our area but also a sense of pride.

Youth Consultation - Growing Up In Lisburn

Early Intervention Lisburn carried out a consultation with young people on what is it like growing up in Lisburn. Over 300 young people took part in the consultation.

- 77% of children and young people reported feeling listened to by adults at home, 68% by adults at school/college and only 52% by adults in the community.

- Positive response rates are consistently lower for mental health – “I understand how my brain and emotions work” 69% compared to “I understand how my body grows and changes”, “I feel mentally well most days”. 60% s.a/a compared to “I feel physically well most days.” 76% s.a/a

- 85% of children and young people said they had someone to talk to, is hugely positive. That adults in school, youth, community, or health settings account for such small percentages of those trusted relationships, is an area for development - 173 respondents used the ‘tick all that apply’ to “Who do you talk to about your feelings & emotions”, with 71% saying they talk to parents or grandparents and 67% saying they talk to friends. Response rates for all other categories were much lower: Other family members (29%); Adult in youth/community setting (27%); Health professionals (19%); Adult at school (18%).

- When children and young people tell us that only 52% of them enjoy school or college and only 60% feel confident about asking for

help at school or college, we need to ask more questions to better understand which children and why, with a view to improving ‘enjoyment’ of learning as a driver of achievement.

- Only 47% of respondents said that their lives had been affected ‘a great deal’ or ‘a lot’ by Covid-19 and lockdowns. Of the 87% reporting any, including moderate or little, impact, only 27% said their lives continued to be affected.

Feedback on community life in Lisburn is very positive, but respondents do outline a number of areas in which children and young people want to see community improvements. These include, but are not limited to:

- Free and affordable activities
- Shops and social settings that welcome children and young people
- Recreational and green spaces with longer opening hours
- Amenities for older young people to socialise in groups
- Safe environments, particularly at night

Highlighted quote from young person: “If Lisburn invested more in its young people, we’d have a generation that actually wants to stay here and give back — not one that can’t wait to leave.”

As part of the consultation, we will hold a follow up event and invite all of the young people and parents who took part. This event will highlight the findings of the consultation and support the development of an action plan to address the findings.

LISBURN’S GOT TALENT CHEQUE HANDOVER

In January we met with Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Mayor, Curtis Dickson. The Connected Minds Youth Committee raised £2000 from Lisburn’s Got Talent in November 2024, and this was donated to the Mayor’s chosen charity for the year, Emerge Counselling.



Car Wash & BBQ April 2025

The Connected Minds Youth Committee fundraised £415.75 from a Car Wash and BBQ. The Connected Minds Youth Committee operate with a Youth Bank fundraising model which means we add this to all other fundraising for the year. Then in January we will welcome applications from other community and youth groups to apply for small pots of this funding under criteria such as mental health, physical health, and connecting with others.



Training Trip to Vienna

In July, Ugne Girciute from the Empowering Youth Project travelled to Vienna, Austria to partake in a 3-day Training of Trainers upskilling session. This opportunity was fully funded by the Foundation of European Progressive Studies (FEPS) and its partners.

The training was challenging, but it gave Ugne the opportunity to put her skills of planning, designing and delivering training to the test which would prepare her for the launch of the Youth Well-being Programme Training Manual which Ugne has written and designed this year. The trainees were tasked to design and plan a training session in groups which will be delivered at the upcoming PES Congress in Amsterdam.

Ugne's group focused on youth as that is where her expertise lies, and together they have designed a training session which highlights the importance of meaningful youth participation, how to engage with young people about issues that are important to them, and social media strategies.

The training has been very beneficial, and Ugne was thrilled to have this opportunity to represent the Resurgam Trust internationally. She hopes to continue her involvement with the pool of trainers to further her development and ensure that young people are well represented and that their voices are heard.

Connected Minds Youth Committee Leaders

My name is Kevin Donnelly, and I am one of the Connected Minds Youth Committee leaders. I have been in this position since the start of January; I was a member of the committee when the position of youth leader became available. When this job was discussed, I instantly raised my hand because I wanted to get involved, and the interview for this job was really helpful for my development.

Prior to this, I worked in construction, so I never really got to go through an interview process. On Mondays, before the committee starts, I come into the office and my first task is to establish how many of the committee members are attending the weekly meeting. I do this through a poll on the Connected Minds WhatsApp group chat. I then work on the meeting agenda so we can tell the committee members what is happening and help plan for any upcoming events.

Grace Cooper, the other Connected Minds leader, and I are currently working on a presentation for Co-op, as they're funding us this year and want to see what the committee is all about. Even though things have gotten much busier over

the past few months, I still have no regrets about taking on this role. It's given me so many opportunities that I'm really grateful for.

Some of the opportunities I am grateful for are the leadership training, where I learned that to be a leader, I have to be strong and confident and the committee skills training, which helped everyone in the committee grow as a team. This job is good for me because we are all about helping people who struggle with their mental health, and I'm really passionate about men's mental health as I have struggled with my own mental health in the past.



My name is Gracie Cooper, I'm 17, and I'm proud to be a leader of the Connected Minds Youth Committee!

Kevin and I started as young members, and thanks to Mabel and Connor, we were able to step into leadership roles this year. Since January, we've had great training and hands-on experience that's helped us grow professionally and personally — building confidence and learning to lead.

We're currently preparing for a big presentation in Manchester this October to our funders the CO-OP. It's exciting and a bit scary, but I'm proud of our work and eager to share it.

The whole team has been so supportive, and I've already learned so much. I'm excited for what's next!



Resurgam Youth Initiative Activities

Beyond Borders

Beyond Borders was a good relations programme between Resurgam Youth Initiative and Féile an Phobail which explored difference and understanding of others. Two activities in the programme were The Living Library and Small worlds. The living Library brought together people who were involved in the conflict to tell their stories and explain why they all now work for peace in the community. The Small Worlds brought people from various countries around the world to tell their stories. As part of the project there was a weekend residential to London at the end of February 2024 which included a tour of Westminster, the tower of London and much more.

Cookery Project

Also, as part of the beyond boundaries project the young people participated in a six-week cookery project where they learned how to prepare a four-course meal from scratch which they made for sixteen invited guests.

Our Generation

Our generation is a newly designed programme specifically for children in NI which explores a range of different topics through interactive sessions, such as resilience, healthy habits, mental health and cross community.

This program will run for 8 weeks which consists of 6 weeks in centre, and 2 weeks cross community, meaning the youth group will merge with a similar group participating in the same programme from another area.





PAPYRUS – Prevention of Young Suicide, is a UK wide charity which operates in major cities across the UK, including Belfast and Derry/Londonderry. PAPYRUS was established 28 years ago by a group of parents who had each lost a child to suicide. Our aim is to prevent

suicide in young people under the age of 35.

Did you know that suicide is the biggest killer of young people under 35 years across the UK?

What do PAPYRUS do?

- Our helpline HOPELINE247 is a confidential, anonymous support and advice service for young people or those concerned about a young person. HOPELINE247 is staffed by a multi-discipline team of professionals trained in suicide prevention skills.
- We engage volunteers and communities in our mission to save young lives
- We offer a range of suicide prevention training, advice and support
- We campaign for change, and influence national and regional policy
- We raise awareness and challenge the stigma surrounding suicide
-

Helpline – HOPELINE247

If you are having thoughts of suicide or are concerned for a young person who might be you can contact HOPELINE247 for confidential support and practical advice by:

Calling: 0800 068 4141 Texting: 88247 Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org

Our webpages have lots of advice and information too <https://papyrus-uk.org/>



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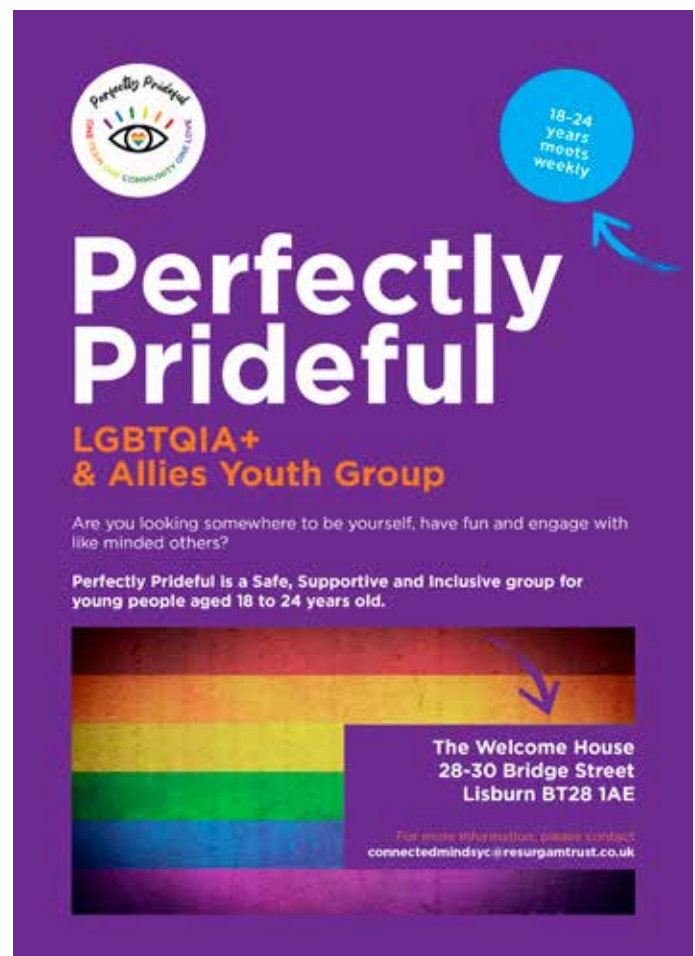
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Perfectly Proudful

LGBTQIA+ & Allies Youth Group

Are you looking somewhere to be yourself, have fun and engage with like minded others?

Perfectly Proudful is a Safe, Supportive and Inclusive group for young people aged 18 to 24 years old.

The Welcome House
28-30 Bridge Street
Lisburn BT28 1AE

For more information, please contact connectedmindsync@resurgamtrust.co.uk

18-24 years meets weekly

Highway Inn Bar and Kitchen – Charity Fundraising Breakfast

On Friday 2nd May 2025 the Resurgam Trust Social Enterprise, The Highway Inn Bar and Kitchen hosted a charity fundraising breakfast to raise funds for this year's nominated external charity Papyrus. Papyrus Prevention of suicide is a UK charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide and the promotion of positive mental health and emotional wellbeing in young people. This breakfast was very well supported with over 80 members of our local community, community partners, political representatives, family and friends turning up to support the event. This fundraising event was organised by the staff at The Highway Inn, Bar & Kitchen and raised the magnificent amount of £628.00.

The Resurgam Trust would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and volunteers at The Highway Inn, Bar and Kitchen who helped make this fundraising breakfast such a great success.

Note: If you would like to support the Resurgam Trust to help us raise funds for this excellent charity by organising fundraisers or making a donation please get in touch by calling 028 926700755 or by emailing the Resurgam Trust on info@resurgamtrust.co.uk



CONNECTED MINDS LISBURN

Presents

Lisburn's

**T GOT
TALENT**

2025

FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2025

7PM START

**Lagan Valley Island Centre
The Island, Lisburn BT27 4RL**

**Ages 8-24 years
Applications close Friday 29th August**

**FOR AN APPLICATION TO ENTER PLEASE EMAIL US AT:
connectedmindsync@resurgamtrust.co.uk**