

Community Relations and Cultural Awareness Week takes place later this year from Monday 28th September - Sunday 4th October. The theme is "One Place, Many People". The week provides a platform for organisations and groups from the community and voluntary sectors, education, and the public and business sectors to showcase innovative approaches to good relations and building a united and shared society. This high profile initiative also supports the Together: Building A United Community strategy. It is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of our culture and heritage, promote cultural diversity and tackle sectarianism and racism. It will help to inspire new ideas and approaches to break down barriers and increase understanding and engagement between and amongst all sections of the community.

Community Relations Week, co-ordinated by the Community Relations Council, is now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year. Last year, over 200 events were held throughout Northern Ireland and we are looking forward to another busy and varied programme this year. Increasingly public bodies, which have a statutory responsibility to promote good relations, have become involved in Community Relations Week and have organised events that can showcase good relations initiatives. District Councils have been particularly supportive. We hope this will continue to be the case this year. The many voluntary and community groups active in Northern Ireland are also encouraged to come forward and demonstrate the rich diversity of civic life. Events can take many forms from artistic performances, exhibitions and competitions to lectures, discussions and debates.

Community Relations Week 2015 Entry Form needs to be completed (by 30 June) for participation in the programme. Please pass this to anyone interested in organising an event and publicise the week through your own information channels. Appropriate events organised by voluntary and community groups may be eligible for small grant support from CRC's Community Relations and Cultural Diversity Grant Scheme for which a separate application needs to be made. Grant applications are available in the normal way from the CRC website www.nicrc.org.uk. Support may also be available from some District Council programmes.

We look forward to your involvement.

For queries contact

Ray Mullan at CRC 90-227500 email rmullan@nicrc.org.uk or Kathryn Kirk/Claire McKeeat JPR 90-760066

Event entry forms should be submitted to <a href="mailto:CRWeek@jprni.com">CRWeek@jprni.com</a>
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- See more at: <a href="http://www.community-relations.org.uk/2015/04/community-relations-cultural-awareness-week-2015/#sthash.7UkYubGB.dpuf">http://www.community-relations.org.uk/2015/04/community-relations-cultural-awareness-week-2015/#sthash.7UkYubGB.dpuf</a>