

GARRISON COMMUNITY GROUP

NI Charity Commission Annual Report 2023

NI Charity Commission Number

109143

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I.

NAME OF CHARITY AS APPEARS ON REGISTER AND NI CHARITY COMMISSION NUMBER

Garrison Community Group

Charity Commission Number 109143

II.

PURPOSE OF THE CHARITY

The public benefits that flow from our Charity are (i) enhanced quality of life and sense of well-being through engagement with and participation in activities and events that bring people together, leading to a more stable and cohesive community; (ii) strengthening the connection between young people and their communities and increasing active, positive citizenship (iii) heightened mental, physical and emotional well-being, leading to improved health outcomes and a better quality of life. The beneficiaries are the inhabitants of the area of benefit. These benefits can be evidenced through feedback from the beneficiaries, evaluations of the work and impact of Garrison Community Group, the findings of community surveys and research carried out into the link between participation in physical activity and health. No harm or private benefit arises from these purposes.

III.

NAMES OF SERVING TRUSTEES DURING REPORTING YEAR

Olivia McManus

Sharon Treacy

Aine Latten

Rosemary Lyons

Frances Merrett

Katie Carty

Jane Carney

Siobhan Morris

Anthony Feely

Pauline Treacy

IV

FINANCIAL REPORTING YEAR

Financial Year Ending 31 October 2023

V

SUMMARY OF MAIN ACTIVITIES (FURTHERING THE CHARITY'S PURPOSE FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT) AND MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS/TARGETS ACHIEVED IN REPORTING YEAR

Garrison Community Group (GCG) organised a Christmas tree lights switch on with Santa arriving in the village as well as Carol singing. It was a great get together for all the community and ended with a hot beverage and mince pie in the Hub afterwards which everyone enjoyed.

Santa, Mrs Claus and an Elf also made a visit to the 3 local Schools and gave each of the 150 kids a selection pack whilst enjoying some Festive fun.

At Easter time, GCG held a cake and flower sale which is very well attended and supported with a wonderful display of traybakes, scones, cakes and jam as well as several flower display pieces.

During the Summer months, GCG organised summer activities for local children to attend at a reduced rate, subsidised by grants which GCG apply in advance for. The activities included Core Kids, Futsal, Arts and Crafts, Fishing and Surfing, All of these activities take place in the village of Garrison apart from Surfing which is in Rossknowlagh. These activities are very popular with over 100 children benefiting from them each summer. GCG members also supervise these summer activities.

Summer 2023 also seen the return of Melvinfest, the family fun day in the local park 'The Rusheen' for the whole community and surrounding areas. There had been a 4-year break from Melvinfest due to Covid 19 so it was a welcome return. Families enjoyed bouncy castles, a rodeo bull, duck race, face painting, burgers, coffee dock whilst being entertained by a local DJ.

For Halloween, GCG held a Trick or Treat event where kids dressed up in their Halloween costumes and visited the Hub for a trick or treat bag and some Halloween fun.

Other GCG events held throughout that particular year were weekly Coffee mornings held in our Hub. These proved very popular and offered a way for a weekly get together. Also popular were the monthly Traditional music sessions held in the Hub on a Sunday evening where local musicians gathered to play together enjoyed by local people. Traditional music was played by young and old, story telling, songs and dancing with tea, scones and home-baking provided.

GCG provided 2/3 flower arranging classes during this year which are very well attended.

VI

TRUSTEE STATEMENT

We can confirm the Trustees have had regard to the Commission's Public Benefit Requirement.

VII

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF REPORTING YEAR

No financial issues in this reporting period.

DETAILS OF ANY FUND HELD BY THE CHARITY THAT WAS MATERIALLY IN DEFICIT AT THE END OF THE YEAR AND STEPS TAKEN BY THE CHARITY TRUSTEES TO ELIMINATE THE DEFICIT:

The Charity did not have a deficit balance at the year end.

TRUSTEE SIGN OFF

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Olivia McManus

Aine Latten

Chairperson

Treasurer