



The Village Voice

Cullybackey Community Partnership



Meet Cullybackey's Best Gardeners

In our Autumn Edition we featured the best kept garden. In this edition we will meet the people who have created the most colourful gardens the best designed gardens, the best hanging baskets/window boxes and the best overall garden.

All involved have used their enthusiasm and creativity to produce very pleasing gardens which brighten up the neighbourhood and strengthen

community spirit. Everyone has their reason for gardening, some because they just love being outdoors in their garden others because flowers and plants bring them enjoyment.

Gardening is great for our physical health and mental wellbeing whatever our age and fitness. It keeps you fit and active and being out in the fresh air is a great way to de-stress and feel more positive.

Our winning gardeners are much appreciated and we know that

there are many other gardeners in the village who also put a lot of effort into their gardening.

All of this helps us to be successful in our In Bloom competitions. Here are the gardeners at their presentation of prizes together with the judge Mrs Karen Frew. On display are some of the flower arrangements she made at the presentation.

TOP TIP: Dry out mint in a brown paper bag then hang in the house to eliminate flies

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



The Village Voice is kindly supported by John Cummings, NISA Cullybackey. For all your grocery needs Newspapers and Magazines .



Volunteering in the Community

As we come to the end of another year we would like to acknowledge all who volunteered their services during the year. This includes the many youth groups as well as the individuals and organisations who helped in so many ways. Volunteering is an essential part of community work and we are grateful that we have so many people willing to give their time and energy to the community.

If you are interested in volunteering it can offer a great way to meet new people and learn new skills. If you have been unemployed for a while, took time out to raise a family or had to give up work for health reasons volunteering can help build your self confidence and get yourself back in the job market.

Cullybackey Community Partnership can offer various forms of volunteering including environmental work, office duties and retail experience.

To learn more contact Joanne on 028 2588 2281 or e-mail on cullybackey@nacn.org



Cullybackey Cubs and Scouts have been doing their bit to keep Cullybackey looking clean and tidy over the festive season



Elizabeth Boyd and Margaret Murphy enjoying a chat on the chatty bench on the Millennium Path.

Chatty benches are designed to help tackle loneliness and support positive mental health.

These benches are popping up all over the country to provide a place for people to come together and chat and connect.

They are a great initiative to tackle loneliness in our community.

The Hub @ Maine Business Centre

The Hub is a new and exciting venture. As well as having an up market gift shop it also provides a place for locals to come to make friends and lessen social isolation. It provides a range of activities including advice and guidance. It also provides an opportunity to get involved in a lot of different activities and to do creative things. Run by the Bann Maine West group, it services a large area but is of particular benefit to the people of Cullybackey. We hope that you will take advantage of the facility and recommend it to your friends. Image below: Getting some advice and guidance at the Hub.



Congratulations to local Cadet, Taylor Ashe

Taylor Ashe, aged 14, was recently presented with the Medal of Honour, as part of The British Citizen Youth Award ceremony at the Palace of Westminster.

For the last two years, Taylor has collected ringpulls for prosthetic limbs for ex-service men and women, undertaking activities such as litter picks. In addition to this, Taylor distributes food parcels

and has involved herself heavily in various online celebrations for VE Day and Remembrance Day.

Taylor has arranged community litter pick and collection points, her commitment has helped keep the village tidy and safe and Taylor has earned a John Muir Environmental Award.

The British Citizen Youth Award recognises exceptional under 18's who have positively impacted their communities through the county.



You could star in our next issue!

The Village Voice is a chance for you to share your thoughts, ideas, photos or creative words. This could be winter photographs, a short poem or an interesting story. Anyone of any age can submit their article to cullybackey@nacn.org. You may also consider submitting a regular item on a particular subject such as gardening. Feel free to get in touch as we would love to hear from you.

Christmas Lights Switch on 2021

Thank you to all who braved the elements and came along to the Cullybackey Christmas Lights switch on. We hope you enjoyed the evening as much as we did. Despite the terrible weather Santa was there to meet the children and give them their gifts. Prior to the switch on Darren Cumberland provided some Christmas Music which was a welcome diversion from the torrential rain.

Following the switch on of the tree and Millennium Path lights by Mr Colin Johnston, Managing Director, Galgorm Golf Resort and Spa, the children were entertained on their way to meet Santa, by Bob Boccock, stilt walker and juggler. For those who chose not to visit Santa there was an opportunity to shop in the local supermarkets, enjoy a cup of coffee at Blessings Cafe and browse in the lately arrived Hub for that special gift.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who assisted us with the Christmas Switch On and indeed all who have supported us throughout the year. Their help is much appreciated.

This year has been challenging for us all and we can only hope that 2022 brings something better and brighter.



We cannot end the year without saying a big thank you to the local organisations that have provided financial support.

Without their support we would have to find alternative sources of income and would be largely dependent on grant aid.

These include:

Galgorm Golf Resort and Spa
NISA
Eurospar
The Grassmen
Maine Medical Centre
The W.I.
The Bridge Garage

Their support enables us to bring about improvements in the village which benefit the whole community.

Thank you and a Happy New Year to you all.

For more information on any of the articles in the newsletter or to submit your own, contact Cullybackey Community Partnership by Email cullybackey@nacn.org or Telephone: 028 2588 2281

Check out our Facebook page, Cullybackey Community Partnership, and like and share our posts.

We are also online at cullybackeycommunitypartnership.co.uk

The Village Voice is supported by John Cummings, NISA Cullybackey

Nisa