

Annual Report 2015



Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd trading as

Meath Travellers Workshops

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Meath Travellers Workshops

Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd trading as Meath Travellers Workshops is a voluntary Community Development Organisation.

Since 1965 it has been a partnership of Travellers and Settled people working together to improve and enhance the social and economic situation of the Travelling community in Co. Meath.

Our Mission Statement

Meath Travellers Workshops is proud to be a Traveller-led community development organisation that is approachable and accessible to all.

We cherish and promote Traveller values and identity, and through partnership, training and education, seek to promote equality for all.

Forward

2015 was an important year for Meath Travellers Workshops (MTWs).

Our ground breaking Traveller prisoner education programme “Prison Link” entered its second year and as you will see in this report is proving an important support and credible service to both Prisoners and Prison Authorities.

Traveller accommodation was once again in the National headlines this year. In Meath, MTWs’ position on the Local Traveller Accommodation Committee ensures that Travellers voices are heard during this debate and, most importantly Travellers are sitting around the decision making table. Unfortunately, the situation around the country is not so positive, highlighted this year with tragic consequences. MTW’s are proud to stand in solidarity with other groups around the country in securing safe and appropriate housing.

A crucial element of effective community development is having the space and capacity for advocacy, campaigning and contributing to national, regional and local policy. We continued to sit on committees and groups to inform policy and gather information.

The cuts in statutory agencies supports had a huge knock on effect on our work as the absence of a Visiting Teacher coupled with the housing crisis has resulted in huge numbers of people contacting our community workers for advice, advocacy and support.

The usual landmarks of our work year were also present this year. The Living History project was a regular sight at local and national fairs and also visited organisations around the country. Our Community Employment Scheme provides education and training for participants. Our work experience programme for third level students continued with the now regular feature which requires the visiting student to hold a charity coffee morning. Supports to preschool and school aged children continued through our Preschool and After School facilities, as well as, our youth activities through Involve Youth Groups and are cornerstones of our organisation.

As this Annual Report illustrates, our work load increased yet again this year ensuring we continue to be a strong and respected Community voice for Travellers in Meath and beyond.

In the coming year we hope to build our projects at Carnaross, the land we were fortunate to inherit a number of years ago.

Lastly, I would like to express sincere gratitude to everyone involved in the Meath Travellers Workshops: the Directors, staff members and volunteers for their enthusiasm, work ethic and creativity during austerity times; and everyone in the Community who has offered their support and advice to us. We look forward to this continuing our work into 2016.

Joe Reilly and Barbara Bolger

*Outgoing **Chairperson** Incoming **Chairperson***

Childcare and Education



The Preschool and After School Services are led by Marie McDonagh, Childcare Coordinator with 2 support staff members, supported by the CRANN Support Group.

Pre-School

Attendance in the Pre-School rose from 8 last year to 13 children this year. A maximum of 11 attend each day. The group is a mixture of Traveller and settled children in the 3-5 year age group. It is a well-run and well-equipped facility which provides a comfortable and safe environment for all the children attending.

The Preschool curriculum includes various methods of play, arts and crafts, music and cooking. Cooking is particularly enjoyable for the children. So far the group has made a wide range of delicious treats. They have baked brownies, gingerbread men, Halloween themed buns and mini pizzas. The children also enjoy learning, drawing pictures and the chance to play both inside the pre-school itself and every day have an hour outside in the special play area.



After-school

There were 15 children in our care. The children receive support in completing their homework; have access to the internet for research, learn arts and crafts and play games. The children receive a hot meal before going home. A healthy eating programme is being followed and the children are enjoying the variety of food being served. On regular occasions the after-school group enjoy cooking class. All ingredients used are seasonal and the food ranges from savoury to sweet.

The Crann Support Group

The Crann Support Group supports 11 different community groups throughout the county, of which Little Angels Childcare Services is one of these groups. The Crann Support Group administers the finances for Little Angels and provides back up and support to staff members including access to knowledge, expertise and training. This support ensures we provided an excellent quality service for the children in our care.



Mickey Lawrence (second on right, back row) receiving his National Education Achievement Award in 2015.

Involve Youth Project Meath



Our Youth Work department is overseen by a youth work co-ordinator Kay Mc

Cabe and 1 assistant youth worker, 3 CE youth Workers and 2 volunteers. Kay and the assistant Youth Worker, Michael Mac Donnachada are employed by Involve (formerly National Association of Traveller Centres).

Kay is one of over 10 Youth Workers placed in Traveller Youth projects around the country by Involve. This link works very well for MTW Ltd as it allows us to share ideas by meeting up with lots of other Traveller youth groups around the country.

The Youth Project also takes part in important National competitions like Show Racism the Red Card and has in fact won again this year for the second time. Also we have been strongly involved in the National Youth Strategy workshops that have taken place over the past two years. In 2015 we were also involved in an

Erasmus KA2 project to develop a toolkit for other Youth Service providers to provide, engage and retain young people from the Travelling Community in mainstream youth projects. This is an initiative led by Youth Work Ireland and links Youth in Action Northern Ireland, An Munia Tobar and Bryson, it is a trans-national project.



The Youth Project operates on a Monday and Wednesday evenings in Navan. It now runs 3 evenings a week in Trim Tuesday-Thursday in Castle Meadows Community Building with over 17hrs of direct contact with over 100 young people in County Meath, where specific activities or programmes are run for 6-8 weeks. These programmes are chosen by the young people themselves. We also operate on occasional Saturdays and Bank Holidays throughout the year for such events such as St. Patrick's Day Parade, Youth Conferences and Football Blitz.

Some obstacles still remain such as funding issues, which is never far from our mind. It remains difficult to deliver professional culturally programmes on a very tight CDYSB Activities fund. Issues such poor literacy skills, poor school attendance, transition into secondary school and anti-social behaviour still remain a huge problem for the young people who attend our Trim Youth Club.

Some of the highlights of our 2015 activities included summer activities for under 12's and an overnight trip for our over 12's with a trip to Lilliput Adventure Centre, The Witches Hovel fundraiser, Navan Pride of place, National Youth Strategic Planning Conference and Show Racism the Red Card to name but a few.



A mural and community garden was also designed and created by the young people in our Trim youth club with great success. This was done with the help of the Trim Men's Shed project. We see this as a great

addition to the Trim Youth Club and will be used as an on-going project that will be utilised to deliver many Gardening and Eco based programmes for many years to come.

We also retained great links with many other Youth organisations such as Trim FRC, smart and NYPD (Garda Diversion Projects), Navan School Completion Programme, local Youthreaches in Navan and Trim.

The Youth work team undertakes training regularly ensuring good practise and high skills in all levels of their work. Some of the training undertaken this year includes; with Kay Mc Cabe obtaining a first class honours in a Youth Health Promotion Specialist Certificate, Mental Health Training, Child protection, Youth Leadership training and NQSF training.

We foresee that the project will continue to grow over the coming year.

Photo Exhibition Celebrating

50 YEARS OF MEATH TRAVELLERS

Monday 24th August 2015

11.30am - 4.30pm

Solstice Arts Centre

Official Launch at 12.00 pm



Kindly sponsored by Meath County Council Community Heritage Grant



Michael McDonagh, John and Anne Duddy and
Carmel Rennicks enjoy our exhibition

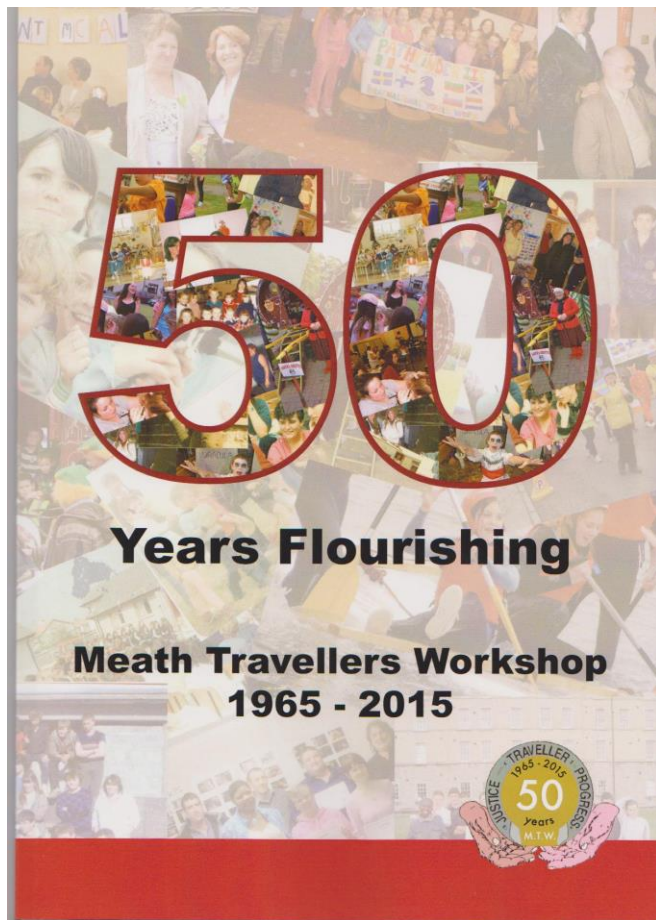
Meath Travellers Workshops are 50 years young!



A fantastic night was held in the Headfort Arms hotel on November 12th to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Meath Travellers Workshops. As the longest running Traveller project in the country, we marked our special birthday by holding a celebration dinner. The main speaker on the evening was Anastasia Crickley, lecturer in NUI Maynooth and respected social campaigner. A special book, "50 years Flourishing" was launched during the evening. The book charts the story of the Workshops so far through photographs, newspaper clippings, and interviews. It is available from Meath Travellers Workshops for €10.

Over 140 people attended the function, including National Traveller organisations, local members of the community and staff and supporters from over the 50 years. A special presentation was made to Dr Michael Sinnott, who was the very first chair of the organisation, originally called "St Judes Committee for the Travelling People of Navan". A minute of silence was held at the start of the proceedings for the victims of the Carrickmines fire tragedy.

Speaking on the evening, manager of Meath Travellers Workshops, Mr Michael McDonagh said he was incredibly proud of the work done by the organisation over the past 50 years and commended everyone involved in striving to break down barriers of discrimination. It was a fantastic night and a great opportunity to meet up with old friends.



50 Years Flourishing

A huge amount of work went into compiling a special anniversary book to mark our 50 year birthday. Old folders were raided, photographs of past achievements were compiled and personal experiences of the Workshops were gathered to make this publication a very special compilation of everything achieved over our time in existence. The book has turned out to be a lovely and useful reference source of everything the Workshops has done over the years and the work of pulling it all together reminded us of how important our work is.

Family Support

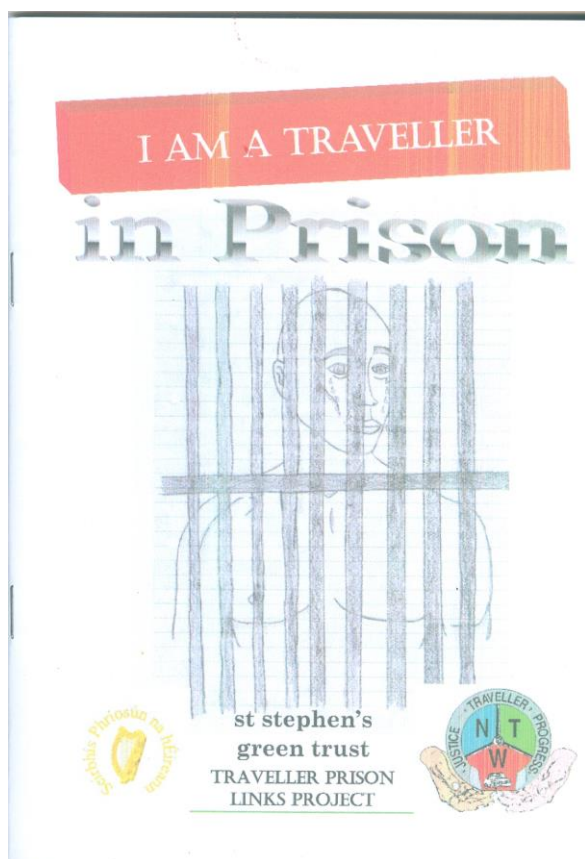
Meath Travellers Workshops Ltd continues to provide Family Support. This is particular to Traveller families seeking support when dealing with statutory agencies such as HSE and local County Council. We have also been providing support to members of the Travelling community in areas such as Community Welfare, Citizens information, local schools and other public departments. Housing in particular is taking up a huge amount of our time. The two community development workers, Ellen McDonagh and Sinead Burke and extremely busy helping local families' access housing supports. As the national crisis worsens, this new work load increases.



Traveller Housing Campaign

The provision of suitable Traveller accommodation has always been a key issue for Meath Travellers Workshops. The tragic deaths in Carrickmines have focused this campaign. MTW attended a solidarity event in Dublin, remembering the victims and highlighting the lack of safe Traveller accommodation in the country. We will be using our seat

on the Local Traveller Accommodation Committee to continue to further this campaign and are also linking in with other groups nationally keep raising the profile of this issue.



Prison Links Project

Going from Strength to Strength

2015 was our second year of this ground breaking 3 year project.

This is a pilot programme, the like of which has never been carried out in an Irish prison before. From September to March, 4 MTW staff visit the prison every Thursday. Michael, Ellen, Sinead and Anne work with three different groups, Travellers from the main prison population, under 18's and "vulnerables"; these are prisoners whose safety would be

compromised in the main prison population.

Since the start of the programme, we have honed and revised a schedule of content

that is engaging and enjoyable for the participants. Topics include Traveller history and heritage, prejudice and racism and the effect prison has had on their lives. The main theme of the project is encouraging Traveller prisoners to take the educational opportunities available in prison. So far so good, members of the groups have started enrolling in school classes in the prison and they seem to be enjoying it.

Unfortunately, some members are getting on so well they have started to be released so the group is regularly open to new members as spaces arise.

Part of the programme is working with prison staff and services. We have had two sessions so far with the prison staff, explaining and discussing Traveller culture and exploring how relationships between staff and prisoners can be improved. This is going very well also. More staff sessions are planned in 2016.

**Traveller Prison Links
Programme
Pilot Project
2014-2015**

Year one – May 2014 – June 2015



Meath Travellers Workshops

Working in conjunction with
Wheatfield Place of Detention

Programme funded by **st stephen's green trust**

The culmination of our work in 2015, was printing a book “I am a Traveller in Prison”. This publication was made up of reflections by the prisoners on their feelings about prison. Participants enthusiastically contributed both stories and artwork and were very proud when they were presented with the finished book. Copies of this book were circulated to Prison Governors, government departments, and Traveller groups around the country.

At the end of the first term of Prison Links, Meath Travellers Workshops also published an interim report on how the project was going. This was also circulated widely and drew many positive comments from Prison

Governors, agencies and other groups.

Following on from this work, MTW now sit on the Traveller Prison Initiative which looks at the welfare and situation of Traveller prisoners around the country. We are incredibly grateful for the support of St Stephens Green Trust who fund both Prison Links and the Traveller Prison Initiative.

Navan Shamrock Festival 2015

Meath Travellers Workshops again played a crucial role in this event in 2015. The festival office is based in Meath Travellers Workshops, where we are involved in a lot of the organising of the festival including the parade logistics and volunteer management. The festival was held from March 1st to March 17th this year with lots of things and events for everyone to enjoy.

The theme for the parade in 2015 was International Music and Dance.

Highlights this year included the “Salmon of Knowledge Table Quiz” and the “King and Queen Ball”. It was at the ball, we were sad to hear that Paddy Pryle, long time co-ordinator of the festival and MTW director would be stepping down after 14 years. All the MTW team would like to wish Paddy well and thank him for all his enthusiasm and hard work over the years. We still expect to see him at our MTW directors meetings though!



Information Services

The Information Office in MTW Ltd has a very busy workload. Sinead Burke, the Information Officer who is ably assisted by Patrick Rattigan.

The office generates press releases, updates the Facebook page and website. We also run a media monitoring service and are also responsible for producing many reports and booklets. This year a huge amount of work was put into producing a special 50th Anniversary book, “50 Years Flourishing”, which documents the history of MTW. The office has also taken over minding and updating our mobile displays which are themed on MTW’s different areas of work and are incredibly useful when we are asked to visit other groups.



Newsletters

Newsletters continued to be produced every two months this year. Copies are available for download on www.travellerheritage.ie and content is posted on the Facebook page.

Patrick is the newsletter editor for Meath Travellers Workshops and does an excellent job. Plans for 2016 include making sure that every Traveller

family in Meath receive a copy of the newsletter through email, mail or personal delivery.

Website

Travellerheritage.ie has links detailing all our activities, facilities, news and achievements. It continues to attract many visitors each month. It is a very attractive and colourful site which is easy to navigate and can be updated easily and efficiently from the Information office. The most popular part of the site is our online old photo gallery which contains hundreds of rare photos of Irish Travellers. Newsletters, MTW publications and reports are also available for download from the site.



Pinterest is a place to discover ideas for all your projects and interests, hand-picked by people like you.

Meath Travellers Workshops are on Pinterest. It is another way to make ourselves known on social media. You can look us up on Meath Travellers Workshops and add some pins to our boards that may interest you or us!!

Information Outreach Work

An important part of the Information Offices work during 2015 was engaging productively and positively with several local committees. These included: Meath Equality, Rights and Anti-Poverty Network, the Cultur Intercultural Committee, the social inclusion pillar of the Public Participation Network and the Local Community Development Committee. Our presence on each of these groups allow us advocate on Meath Travellers behalf and also informs us of what other groups are doing. From this engagement meant we have made very good practical relationships with other organisations which compliments our work greatly.

Employment and Training

Community Employment Yearly Report

Our Community Employment Scheme is led by Peter Martin, CE Supervisor, We are now in the second year of our three yearly contract with the DSP.

Overall the scheme is achieving its goals and also improving on training and employment.

Currently there are 19 places for CE participants. Seventeen places are filled to date in the following areas: 3 in Youth; 2 in Administration, 4 in Carnaross, 1 in reception, 2 Cleaners, 2 Maintenance, 1 placed in Cultur and 1 in the library. There are three vacant positions at the moment.

Due to Health and Safety issues our Library service in St Patricks has been suspended. The learner from the Library is currently working on reception in MTW's until a solution can be found that will allow us to reinstate our library service to St Patricks.

There was a marked improvement in the take up of training this year with most learners taking part in some form of training.

Our challenges include the following:

- We have over spent on our training budget. Discussions are ongoing with with the DSP about the over spend and are advocating an increase in the budget for the year to cover the over spend.

- There is a lack of affordable quality training programs. This has been highlighted to the LMETB and the DSP as an issue and a lot more work is needed to improve this situation.
- Younger people, under the age of twenty five are applying for positions for monetary reasons as opposed to using the scheme for what it is intended for. This is a challenge to progressing training and development of the learner.
- Our materials grant is a little over budget (in the region of €600) and any overspend has to be covered by the sponsor MTW's. A review of the contribution DSP pays on rent and contributions to utilities is required.

Going into next year CE scheme insurance throughout the country is being increased by over 100% and this will put a huge strain on the materials budget.

Work Experience Opportunities for Students

Volunteers and Students regularly request placements with our organisation.

Following on from a Volunteer Management Training course we attended through Meath Volunteer Centre, we have now in place a simple contract to ensure that the expectations of the volunteer and ourselves are clear from the outset.

For students on structured plan in place to see all areas of our encouraged to decide like to plan and deliver area.

This year John Parnell second year student social work in Trinity a nine week work split between MTW and

Trim. John quickly became part of the team, making good friends and has continued to keep in touch.

During his time in MTW he worked mainly in the heritage area and with Involve in Trim. In Heritage he was involved in renovating a Barrell top wagon. He worked closely with some of the CE participants on the wagon and they also helped build a community garden at the back of the Involve premises in Trim, ready for the young people to grow flowers and vegetables while learning about nature along with birds and bugs.



John Parnell on placement in Meath Travellers Workshops

placement, there is a to explore and enable them work. After which they are themselves if they would an initiative in a particular

joined us as a mature studying social science and College in Dublin. His was placement with time was the Involve youth Group in

Trim. John quickly became part of the team, making good friends and has continued to keep in touch.

John took an interest in the Programme we were running in Wheatfield Place of Detention. As Part of the Traveller Prison Links Programme he carried out research and formulated information booklets which will be helpful to those looking for information on a variety of services, in particular for Travellers in Ireland and the United Kingdom.

As part of his college placement, John had to write the following report for his college...

“My name is John Parnell, I am a mature student studying social science and social work in Trinity College in Dublin. I have just completed a nine week work placement with the Meath Travellers Workshop (MTW) in Navan. While I was based in Navan my time was split between MTW and the Involve youth Group in Trim, summer work placement is a requirement as part of completing my course.

Last year I worked in Beaufort House Nursing Home in Navan and in September we will be sent on another and the same in 2016. The idea is to give the student as wide an experience as possible through working in varied environments prior to completing the course and taking up employment.

I really enjoyed working in MTW and met some very interesting people. There is a good team in MTW under the leadership of Michal McDonagh who manages the centre on a day to day basis, Michael holds a university degree and has unique knowledge regarding Traveller history and culture. He is backed up by Anne Hyland who is the full time admin worker, you could equate to the Roy Keane of MTW as everything passes through her, Peter Martin is the full time CE supervisor who ensures everything is running smoothly in all the various projects MTW are involved in and is responsible for over twenty CE staff being taught a variety of new skills through MTW. Ellen (Nell) McDonagh, Michael’s wife works part time looking after community and cultural issues as does Sinead Burke who has just finished her time in office as the Mayor of Navan, Sinead is the information officer. Sinead is currently involved in promoting the fact that Meath Travellers Workshop is FIFTY YEARS OLD this year and celebrations are planned from August onwards to mark this fantastic achievement.

MTW offer a wide range of child care services managed by Marie McDonagh. The workshops also provide community services, employment and enterprise training, primary health care programmes, youth work and the living history programme promoting Traveller history and culture throughout Ireland and displaying skills such as tin-smithing by Tom who is a master craftsman in producing goods by hand made out of nothing but tin.

It was hard to leave MTW at the end of my placement as I made many new friends and it was a great experience working there. I would recommend it to anyone wishing to work as a volunteer to help in the community or to any student like me who wants to learn about different aspects of culture and history within Irish society.

Well for me its back to the books now, just received a list of three we have to have read before going back in September. One thing is for sure, I learned a lot through MTW and will not lose touch with my new friends”

Meath Traveller Employment Initiative

MTEI had a productive year we engaged with 81 clients in 2015

They had 11 participants move into Community Employment. 3 Into Internships, 4 gateways and 6 Open Employment.

There were 43 participants referred to the service and also 17 participants exited the service in 2015

Clients also completed various training course like Manual handling, Door and Static Security, Safe Pass and First Aid.

Some clients went back to Further Education attending various courses thru the VEC in Navan like Literacy and Numeracy, Computing, Mathematics; therefore the clients are improving their skills and making themselves more jobs ready.

The MTEI Service helps Travellers who are looking to get into employment holding one to one meetings, identifying their skills and interests and matching them to suitable job roles. We also offer advice on appropriate training and Education opportunities. We support the individual with pre-employment guidance and support, supporting with application process (CVS, cover letters, interview skills and preparation)

We have various outreach facilities within County Meath with Trim being the newest area to work with.

We are also able to contact employers on the behalf of the jobseeker therefore giving the employer a background of the candidate before interviewing and selling them to the employer.

Heritage

In many ways our Heritage programme is the jewel in the crown of MTW's work. It certainly attracts the most interest from the public both Traveller and settled and is as enjoyable as it is important.

Living History



The living history project in Tullamore this year

Our Barrel Top wagon forms the centre piece of our Living History project. The wagon, complete with story teller, tin-smith, campfire and tent brings this part of Traveller culture to life in an entertaining and educational way. The Living History project has visited a number of schools, traditional fairs and organisations over the past year. This project has become very effective in delivering its message.

The Living History project is becoming extremely popular at the Traditional Heritage Fairs in Meath and its surrounding counties. We now find ourselves been requested from different organizations and schools which are very much welcomed by Meath Traveller Workshops Ltd. The individual parts of our exhibition are made in house by our Heritage CE team.

During 2014 our Living History project visited many events, including the following fairs & schools: Trim Schurlogstown Haymaking Festival, Tullamore, Waterford, Carlow and Pavee Point 30th Anniversary celebrations. A special day out this year was a visit to the only school in Meath with a Yellow (anti-racism), St Fiach's NS, Oldcastle. Although no Travellers attend the school, St Fiach's were very eager for us to introduce Traveller culture to their pupils.

The following is a newspaper article written by Offaly Traveller Movement following our visit in 2015...

Offaly Traveller Pride Week Event– 18th June

The Traveller Living History Celebration was hosted by Offaly Traveller Movement with record attendance. 100 people crowded the exhibit to hear Michael Mc Donagh of TV fame speak of Traveller history and identity.

‘I am here to cause confusion’ he quipped. *‘Many people, Travellers among them think that Travellers are displaced small holders from the Famine times, but history suggests that Travellers have a far older history.’*

His talk brings us back into the history of Ireland dating back before the flight of the earls, and indeed brings us back to the early settlers of Ireland. There are tantalising clues, historic references to *‘counterfeit Egyptians’* and DNA clues as shown in the programme *‘The Blood of the Travellers’* which found shared DNA lineage between bog bodies and some Travellers. The earliest known reference to Tinceir or tin worker goes back to the 1100’s. As a language, Cant, the language of Travellers, is closest to Old Irish which Michael informed us is pre-1200’s.

In a month that celebrates Traveller Pride Week and 20 years of the Lough Boora Parklands with its Mesolithic camp site it was a timely reminder that we in the Midlands all have a long and proud lineage which extends back into the mists of time. The discovery of ancient campsites at Lough Coura in Boora in the 1950’s opened up a different history of Ireland where evidence was found showing that the first people to arrive in Ireland actually explored the Midlands at the same time that settlers were setting up camps on the Antrim coast some 8000 years ago. Irish history still holds many surprises. Michael’s talk opened up many new things for consideration such as the number of Traveller men who fought for crown and harp in the different wars as well as the tantalising glimpses of a Traveller history that extends back hundreds of years into Irish life, and one which is not always known about.

Offaly Traveller Pride week event was funded by the Department of Justice & Equality and administered via Offaly County Council. The project was coordinated by Offaly Traveller Movement.

Traveller Heritage Park, Carnaross, Kells, Co Meath



*Brian Mongan hard at work in
Carnaross*

Meath Travellers Workshops own nearly 70 acres of land in Carnaross, Kells. Several years ago, we commissioned a feasibility study to help us decide what to do with the land. The report also compared what was on offer in other heritage parks around Ireland. We feel that our Traveller Heritage Park will be a unique experience for all visitors both Traveller and the wider community.

This project will be a long and hard process so we are breaking it up into small and progressive parts. Our first aim is to establish a horse care programme. Funding has been secured for this and we hope to see it off the ground in 2016. We also intend looking at installing poly tunnels in the near future. This year was spent clearing the site and renovating the farmhouse on there. The kitchen has been restored and the bathroom is done. It's taking a lot of time, energy and valuable resources. We have been fortunate with CE participants who have worked extremely hard working on the land and the house. It is our aim for the future is to provide a valuable interactive, educational and entertaining facility for everyone.

Meath Travellers Workshops Governance

Our Credo is as follows:

“We recognise that meaningful change for Travellers can only take place when we have both the skills and confidence to organise ourselves and articulate our own needs and this Organisation can best achieve this by supporting the appropriate inclusion of Travellers with area-based Programmes of Local, Social & Economic development”.

Meath Travellers' Workshops aims to:

- Prevent the erosion of the economic base of Travellers.
- Enable participation of Travellers in the Education system.
- Develop Programmes that will encourage ownership and empowerment.
- Promote respect for Traveller identity and culture.
- Provide sufficient validation to create an atmosphere of self-determination and reduce dependency.

This year we begin a process of reviewing our governance in line with the New Charities Act

The Board of Directors will continue with the responsibilities as follows:

- To prepare Financial Statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company for that year.
- In preparing those Financial Statements, the Directors are required to:
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare financial statements on a going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business
- To keep proper Books of Account, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Acts 1963 to 1990.
- To safeguard the assets of the Company and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board of Directors have delegated some responsibilities for the day to day running of the organisation to a Management Committee. The management Committee will report to the Board of Directors:

Management and Staff of Meath Travellers Workshops Ltd 2015

Board of Directors

Barbara Bolger – Volunteer, Chairperson

Ellen McDonagh (Company Secretary until July 2015)

Paddy Pryle (Company Secretary from July 2015)

Paddy Pryle (Treasurer), Volunteer

Joe Reilly, Councillor, Volunteer

Marie Daly, CRANN Support Group

Kathleen Connors Traveller Representative, Volunteer,

Kathleen McDonagh, Traveller Representative, Volunteer,

Christine Nestor, School Completion Programme Volunteer Director from July 2015

Julie Power Traveller Representative, Volunteer until July 2015

John McDonagh Traveller Representative, Volunteer until July 2015

John Mc Cabe Volunteer Until July 2015

Jenny D’Arcy Volunteer until July 2015

Additional members of the Board

Leonard Callaghan, HSE Representative

Board of Management

Barbara Bolger – Chairperson

Marie Daly

Paddy Pryle

Michael McDonagh

Leonard Callaghan

Peter Martin

Staff Members

Manager - Michael McDonagh

Secretary - Anne Hyland

Finance Officer – Tracy Donohue

Little Angels Childcare Co-ordinator - Marie McDonagh

Youth Work Co-ordinator – Kay McCabe

Youth Worker – Micheal Mac Donnachada

Community Development and Heritage Worker – Ellen McDonagh

Community Development and Outreach Worker, Information Officer – Sinead Burke

Community Employment Supervisor – Peter Martin

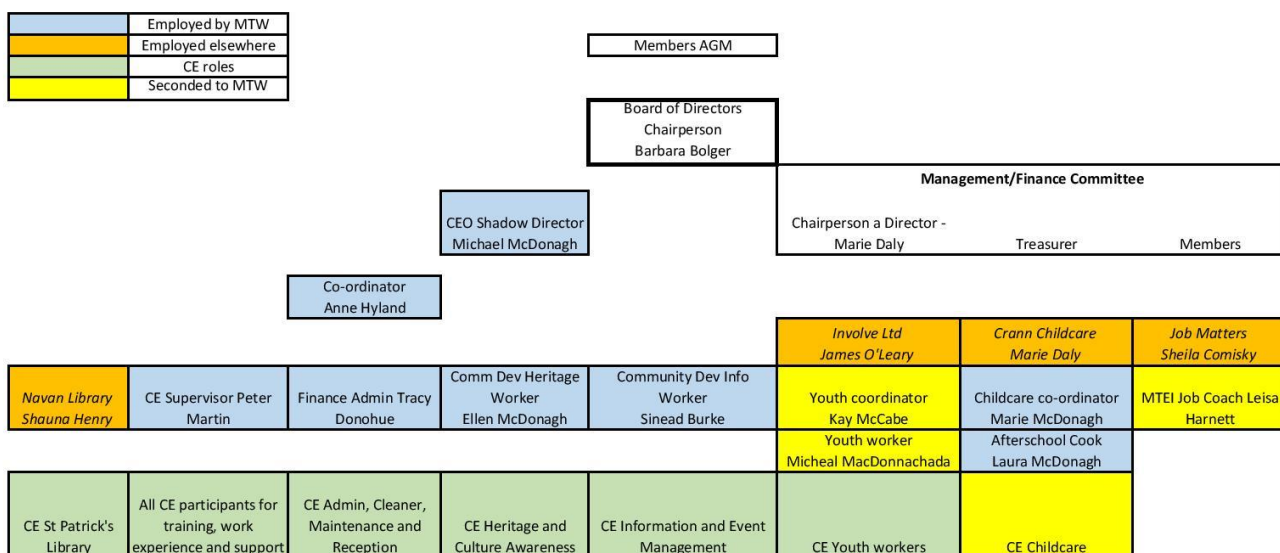
MTEI Facilitator – Leisa Colligan

There are also 17 Community Employment Participants working in MTW Ltd.

1. Leanne McDonagh
2. Theresa Rattigan
3. Patrick Rattigan
4. Brian Mongan
5. Martin Stokes
6. Cathy Powderly
7. Patrick Gavin
8. Martin McDonagh
9. Mary Ellen Stokes
10. Anthony Stokes
11. Mena Doyle
12. Gary Hand
13. Mary Kerins
14. Bernard Ward
15. Micky Doyle
16. Martin Tormay
17. Dorota Sowula

Meath Travellers Workshops Ltd

Management structure



A List of all Meeting dates to be supplied to ALL

Board of Directors	Quarterly Weds	Jan (Plan), Mar, May (AGM), July, Oct, Dec (Review)
Board, Staff & Management	13th Jan Strategic Plan	AGM 25th May 14th December Review
Section Heads	Every Monday at 2.30pm	
Project meetings separate	When necessary	
One on one meetings between staff member and Manager/CEO		Jan, Apr, June, Sept, Nov
CE, Staff and Manager/CEO		Jan, Apr, June, Sept, Nov

Management / Finance Committee every six weeks Jan (Plan) Feb, April, May (AGM)
June, Aug, Sept, Nov, Dec (Review)

Acknowledgements

Funding & Support

The continued work of Meath Travellers Workshops relies on funding and support from a wide range of sources which is crucial to our operations. We appreciate both the funding and our excellent relationships with all our sponsors. Some of these include:-

FAS, HSE Lottery Funding, HSE TUSLA, Pobal, St Stephens Green Trust, Meath County Council, Louth Meath Education and Training Board, Meath Partnership, Involve, Crann Support Services, Department of the Environment Community and Local Government and Department of Justice and Equality.

Links to other organisations

We are also delighted to link in with local, regional, national and international organisations. Some of these include:-

Local: *Cultur, Navan Springboard, LTACC (Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee), Local Traveller Health Advisory Committee, Comhairle Na nOg, Meran Group(Meath Equality Rights and Anti-poverty Network), Youth and Family Support Forum, Meath Youth Federation, St Mary's Parish, Claremont Stadium, Meath Local Sports Partnership, Navan Girl Guides, Meath County Childcare Committee, Kells Peoples Resource Centre, Trim and Navan Family Resource Centres, Navan Library, Navan Town Council, Navan Shamrock Festival, Meath Primary Healthcare Project, Unity Centre Windtown, Meath Interagency Strategy for the Support and Delivery of Services to the Traveller Community, Joint Policing Committee, Citizens Information, Jobmatters, Youthreach Progression, Meath Giant Puppets.*

Regional: *Traveller Health Unit, Regional Drugs Task Force, Traveller Suicide Working group, Blanchardstown Institute of Technology, Cavan Institute Of Technology*

National: *National Travellers Health Network, Irish Traveller Movement, Pavee Point, The Wheel, National Traveller CDP Network, Irish Penal Reform Trust, Traveller Prisoner Initiative and the St Stephen's Green Trust*

And we must not forget... **Thank You!**