

# Pathfinder III Youth Work Seminar



## Ireland - March 2010

As the name suggests, it was the third in a series of bi-annual seminars. The fourth seminar – Pathfinder IV, will take place in Bulgaria in 2012. The purpose of Pathfinder is to bring together international partners who are involved with youth in order for them to learn from each other.



# Index

Content	Page No.
Front Page.....	1
Index.....	2
Pathfinders III Irish Conference.....	3
About the host organisation.....	4
	5
Central themes of Pathfinder III.....	6
Participant organisations.....	7
	8
	9
Timeline.....	10
Diary of events.....	11
	12
	13
	14
	15
	16
So, what did the participants think?.....	17
	18
Finance.....	19
Acknowledgements	20

## ***Appendix I***

Presentation by Maurice Devlin NUI Maynooth

## ***Appendix II***

Presentation by Liz Loftus & Theresa B Ward

National Association of Traveller Centres

## ***Appendix III***

Presentation by John McDonagh & Teresa

O'Leary Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd

Report compiled by  
Anne Hyland Kim O'Connor & Sinead Burke  
Navan Travelers Workshops Ltd

## Pathfinder III - Irish Conference

The Pathfinder III seminar was held in Navan, Co Meath, Ireland from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 2010. It was hosted this year by Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd and visiting participants came from Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Bulgaria, Slovenia, and Scotland. In total 24 people took part in a very successful week.

There were three key themes for the week

- European Citizenship
- Participation of Young People
- Cultural Diversity

Highlights from the week included presentations given by each visiting group explaining their own work, guest lectures focusing on the three themes of the week and taking part in entertaining and cultural activities such as the Navan St. Patrick's Day parade and a traditional Irish music and song evening.

The level of participation was extremely high, with a high degree of energy and enthusiasm shown by all the seminar participants. It was a fantastic week of sharing and learning, and the feedback from the international partners highlights the enjoyment experienced by all who took part.



*Pathfinders Participants meet with the Mayor of Navan on St Patrick's Day*

## About the host organisation Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd



We are a Traveller led community development organisation. Since 1965, we have been working in partnership with Travellers and the settled community improving the situation of the Travellers in Co. Meath. From our busy premises on the Fairgreen in Navan, we run a wide variety of programmes and services, focusing mainly on education and facilitating Travellers to get more involved in their own self-determination.

### **Our programmes include:**

- Women's groups
- Men's groups
- Heritage programme
- Local Newsletter and website
- Mediation Traveller - Traveller or Traveller - Settled
- Linking into other community groups for Drama and Community Events
- Providing Culture Awareness to Schools and Statutory Organisations
- Supporting smaller community groups
- Providing training supports
- Employment Initiatives and support programmes



**In addition to these, we are particularly proud of our education and youth services programme. NTW Ltd provides programmes for children aged from 3 years to 16 years. These include:**

### **Pre-School**

“The Little Angels” Pre-School caters for both Traveller and settled children in the 3-5 year age group. It is a well-run and well-equipped facility and is unique in that it is a Traveller led pre-school which strives for an ethos of equality.

### **After-school**

“The Little Angels” after-school runs from 2pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday. The children in our care are supported by a full childcare team. The children get a hot dinner, a snack and help with their homework. We also run a wide variety of activities such as arts and crafts and games.

### **Youth Group**

“The Glitter Girls” youth group is for girls aged between 11 and 16 years. The group meet weekly, go on trips and complete courses.

### **Summer Project**

The NTW Ltd Summer Project is running for nearly 30 years. This week of fun and sports activities for children aged from 3 to 16 years is the highlight of the year for many children in the town.

### ***The aims of Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd are:***

- To prevent the erosion of the economic base of Travellers
- To enable participation of Travellers in the education system
- To develop programmes which will encourage ownership and empowerment
- To promote respect for Traveller identity and culture
- To provide sufficient validation to create an atmosphere of self-determination and reduce dependency

### ***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”.***

### **Mission Statement**

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

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

## Central Themes of Pathfinders III

*This year there were two central themes for the Irish Pathfinders conference:*

- **European Citizenship –‘What the EU means to Young people’**
- **Cultural Diversity –‘Minority groups and Cultural Awareness in the European Multicultural Society’.**

The participants were actively involved in each stage of the development of the conference. Throughout the preparation stages Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd Youth Work section liaised with the participating groups on preparation for the programme. This resulted in all groups coming fully prepared and ready to participate in the activities to ensure maximum learning and fruitful outcomes.

The planned activities and working methods contributed to the process of non-formal learning and to the promotion of social and personal development of participants involved in the project.

The groups took part in a workshop to prepare for a presentation to the seminar about their own youth work and experiences. The groups also took part in a workshop to create visual ways of representing Youth Work and their country or culture in a creative and artistic way for their participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Along with the academic learning and sharing of work practices there were evening activities to experience Irish culture also on the programme. These included a trip to the Hill of Tara, several Irish music nights and of course taking part in the St Patrick's Day Festivities in Navan.

The group discussed the meaning of European Citizenship from a young person's perspective. They also held discussions about the multi-cultural society of today and how Youth work can help to explore this and create an appreciation of cultural diversity.

We hope the participants developed social and personal skills such as presentation skills, discussion led multi-cultural sessions, the broadening of horizons through interaction and discussions with youth workers from all over Europe and a more in depth cultural awareness.

Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd as a community development organisation came into existence because of the work that needed to be done to combat the social, economic and cultural exclusion of Irish Travellers. With its involvement in local, regional, national and international activities, this has given the organisation a deep understanding of these issues and the skills to deal with them in a positive way.

Throughout the seminar there were opportunities to discuss and compare good practice when addressing the issue of multiculturalism that exists in modern day Europe.

The seminar used a plethora of ways to explore and increase cultural awareness. Events such as the participation in the Traveller living history display had a positive impact on the understanding of the group with regard to cultural diversity. The participation in the St Patrick 's Day parade also encouraged group interaction, which is an ideal way to overcome barriers: the sharing of a common goal that brings people together to meet that objective.

## **Pathfinders III – Key participants of the Conference**

### **Balkan Youth Festival Sofia**

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Represented by:** Ivelina Hristova, Marina Georgieva

We are a non-governmental organisation Balkan Youth Festival, “the Balkan Youth” (BYF) from Sofia, Bulgaria, which is working with young people and is involved with their interests and needs. We produce the BYF by the motto, “The Youth of the Balkans Today – Future for Europe Tomorrow”.

([www.myspace.com/byfestival](http://www.myspace.com/byfestival))

BYF is the biggest international youth event in South-East Europe and every year it is organised by youngsters. The first event started in 1996. Our main goal is: To assist young people from Bulgaria, the Balkan and European states in the achievement of their aspirations to get to know each other, to exchange information, to expand the network of contacts in various fields related to their interests and problems, skills and opportunities of participation and collaboration. It is motivated by the fact that:

- Young people are the cornerstone of positive changes
- Through their joint efforts, they will build up the Balkans with no frontiers
- In the new era of a United Europe, they will be the ones to build up the future!

### **Drustvo zaveznikov menkega pristanka (DZMP) (Society of Allies for Soft Landing)**

**Country:** Slovenia

**Represented by:** Dzeni Rostohar, Jana Drasler

DZMP was founded in 1995 by a group of young people who were tired of the lack of cultural events for youngsters. We are active in the areas of youth culture (there are 60-70 young people involved in our activities at the moment). We work with the Roma community through non-formal education, contemporary art and social and humanitarian arts. Our main aims are to encourage young people to actively get involved in their society and to empower marginal social groups through media and education. By training young Roma to engage in making short documentaries and video reports, we have gained many national and international awards through the last years. Roma people are also employed directly by our organisation and we are active on local, national and international levels, exchanging knowledge, experiences, working methods and intercultural perspectives. DZMP presented three short films at the Pathfinders III conference.

### **Grey Lodge Settlement Dundee**

**Country:** Scotland

**Represented by:** Catrina Gourlay, Kerri Louise Sutherland

We are a non profit organisation which works at a local level in Dundee. Grey Lodge Settlement is a charitable and community organisation, working with all ages of the community, to promote leaning, leisure and local action. The organisation has been in existence for over 120 years.

## **Inga Ungdomsgard Inkoo Nr Helsinki**

**Country:** Finland

**Represented by:** Kai Sirvio, Dennis Backman

We are a non profit youth organisation which works at local level in the town of Inga. Inga, (*Inkoo* in Finnish) is a municipality in Southern Finland. Our main activity is running a Youth Club House for over 300 young people every week. The age group we deal with is 12 years to 17 years.

## **“Kultur – och Fritidsförvaltningen”, Kalstad Kommun**

**Country:** Sweden

**Represented by:** Holger Bryntesson, Pers Anders Persson

We are a cultural and recreational group with responsibility for cultural activities, sports, leisure, recreation and youth work in Kalstad. We run 8 youth clubs, one is for girls only, four adventure playgrounds and one youth centre. Our youth clubs run programmes such as open door activities, group and youth activities and international youth exchanges for teenagers. The playgrounds cater for both children and families. Our Youth Centre is for older young people, it has the same contents as our youth clubs but also focus on cultural activities. We are a member of the Swedish national organisation “Fritidsforum” and the international organisation “ECYC”. We have many years experiences of youth exchanges and volunteer service in the EU programme “Youth in Action”.

## **Meath County Council Comhairle Na nOg**

**Country:** Ireland

**Represented by:** Cathy Martin and members of the committee

Comhairle Na nOg is Meath’s first ever Young People’s Council. This council is made up of a group of 12 young people aged between 12 and 17 from areas all over Meath. Comhairle na nOg is about giving children and young people the chance to talk about local and countrywide issues important to them and also to have a say in the future of the County in which they live. The Comhairle Na nOg Committee meets every three weeks and have recently been working on the development of a website.

The Committee has developed a work programme and would be interested in working with other groups/agencies on issues which affect young people. Our important activities include: Youth seminar, Young Social Innovators and Dáil Na nOg

The Comhairle also consult and report on County-Wide issues (i.e. Meath Local Authority Play Policy, Meath Local Sports Partnership Strategic Plan, Meath County Council Heritage Plan etc.)



## National Association of Travellers' Centres

**Country:** Ireland

**Represented by:** Theresa B Ward, Liz Loftus

The National Association of Travellers' Centres (NATC) is a voluntary representative association whose role is vocational, educational, and training. Our main areas of work include:

- **Education and Training.** The National Association of Travellers' Centres is the recognised representative body for the 36 Centres of Education and Training nationwide with the Department of Education and Science.
- **Youth Service.** NATC is the main provider of Youth Services to young Travellers nationally since 1988. Currently, we fund 24 Youth Service Projects and directly employ or fund 18 Youth workers.
- **Voice of the Traveller magazine.** NATC produces and distributes the Voice of the Traveller magazine, a key communications mechanism between the Traveller and settled communities and internally within the Traveller Community.

## Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd

**Country:** Ireland

**Represented by:** Anne Hyland, Kim O Connor, Michael McDonagh, Sinead Burke, Theresa O Leary, John McDonagh, Michael MacDonnachada, Ellen McDonagh and Daphne van Baten.

We are a Traveller led community development organisation. For over 40 years, we have been working in partnership with the settled community improving the situation of the Travellers in Co. Meath. We run a wide variety of programmes and services, focusing mainly on education and facilitating Travellers to get more involved in their own self-determination. Our programmes include women's and men's groups, a heritage programme, information service and employment initiatives and supports. In addition to these, we are particularly proud of our education and youth services programme. NTW Ltd provides programmes for children aged from 3 years to 16 years. These include: a Pre-School, After-school, Youth Group, Children's Summer Project.

## University of Maynooth

**Country:** Ireland

**Represented by:** Maurice Devlin

Maurice Devlin is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth. Originally from County Derry, he is a graduate of the University of Hull (BA in Drama and English), University College Dublin (MA in English, MSocSc in Sociology), NUI Maynooth (PhD in Sociology) and Trinity College Dublin (MSc in IT in Education). He is a member of the National Youth Work Advisory Committee and Joint Chair of the North South Education and Training Standards Committee (NSETS), the all-Ireland body for the professional endorsement of youth work training. He is the Irish correspondent for the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (European Commission/Council of Europe Partnership Project).

Date and Time	Venue	Event
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar evening	Navan	Arrive Evening walk around Dalgan Park, time to settle in and informal chat
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar am	Dowdstown House	Ice breakers What are we trying to achieve with the Pathfinders Seminar? Keynote Speaker Michael McDonagh Guest speaker: Senior Lecturer in the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth Maurice Devlin Workshop ‘ <i>Minority groups and cultural awareness in the European multicultural society</i> ’ Youth work with Irish Travellers; Guest Speaker Angela Lennon from National Association of Traveller Centres
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar pm	Dowdstown House	Workshop on entry into the St Patrick’s day Parade and prepare for Presentations
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar am	Dowdstown House	Presentations by the Swedish Finnish and Irish groups
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar pm	Dundalk DKIT	Multicultural Festival food, dance, and music from groups all over the world. This event is based in the Dundalk Institute of Technology and was to be a multi faceted event including academic lectures and workshops on the subject of multicultural societies and cultural diversity. Unfortunately DIT cancelled the planned lectures at short notice but proceeded with the multicultural festival.
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar evening	Dowdstown House	Presentations from some of the participating groups and Showcase entries into the St Patrick’s day Parade
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar am	Navan town	Activities available are:- Historic walking tour of Navan, opportunity to experience Mass as Gaeilge, preceded by Navan Forrester’s Band. Cornmarket Fair, and other St Patrick’s Day attractions etc.
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar pm	Navan town	St Patrick’s Day Festival taking part in the Parade at 4pm to showcase your Country and European Youthwork
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar 9pm	Ardboyne Hotel	Ceile Mór in local hotel where the participants get to experience a typical Irish social night
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar am & pm	Dowdstown House	Cultural Diversity Workshop facilitated by Ellen McDonagh Presentations from the remaining participating groups, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Scotland.
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar 5-6.30pm	Meath County Council Chambers	<i>What does being part of the EU mean to young people?</i> This will be approached in the form of discussions and debate. The local Youth Council, Comhairle na Og, a group of 12-18 year olds will be invited to meet and discuss with the group, their ideas. Comhairle na Og will prepare and lead a debate with a questions and answer session.
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar am	Dowdstown House	Poster Workshop and Evaluation
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar pm	Dowdstown House  Navan Town  Hill of Tara	Conclusion to the Conference and ceremony to pass on the Pathfinder symbol to the next host country. Free time to shop for souvenirs or optional Visit to the Hill of Tara- Though best known as the seat of the High Kings of Ireland, the Hill of Tara has been an important site since the late Stone Age when a passage-tomb was constructed there. Tara was at the height of its power as a political and religious centre in the early centuries after Christ. Attractions include an audio-visual show and guided tours of the site.
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar evening	Rathcairn	Traditional Irish Ceile session to give an opportunity for participants to experience and witness people speaking in As Gaeilge (Irish language) and to appreciate Irish music and “The Craic”.
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar am	Return to the airport	Groups could decide individually to extend their stay at their own expense to explore all that Ireland has to offer

## Pathfinders III – A Diary

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Arrival Day!

Groups from Europe and Ireland arrived over the course of the day. Many were tired after their journeys, some had come further than others!

A welcome team from Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd stayed throughout the day at Dowdstown House to make sure a refreshing cup of tea and snack were available to revive the weary travellers. After dinner people were given time to settle in and meet in an informal way.

Dowdstown House is where all participants stayed during the week and also where most of the activities took place. It is an historic house on lovely wooded grounds and gave all of our visitors a taste of how beautiful the Irish countryside is.



Some of the group took refreshing walks in the grounds in between activities.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Getting to know each other**  
Michael Mc Donagh, Manager of Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd opened the proceedings formally by explaining what was planned for the rest of the week and welcoming each group.



The “getting to know you” game took place in the morning which was enjoyed by everyone with many participants vowing to use it themselves with their own groups when they got home. It was a game where you ‘stepped into someone’s shoes’ and named for example what type of food they were, the results were very interesting. Everyone joined in the spirit of the activity.





Two lectures were given to the group on Monday. The first was delivered by Senior Lecturer in the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth Maurice Devlin on “European Citizenship”. You can find a copy of this excellent presentation in the back of this report. The presentation provoked a lot of discussion on what makes an active citizen and how minority groups can also participate as national citizens.



The second lecture was delivered by Liz Loftus and Teresa B Ward from the National Association of Traveller Centres. Liz and Teresa explained how they carry out youth work both locally and nationally to Traveller young people in Ireland. This exchange is the first time many of the European participants of Pathfinders have met Irish Travellers and they were very interested in learning about Traveller culture and identity.

***“It was great to meet the group and work with everybody, there was great interest in Traveller culture and the group really got to know each other during the banner making workshop”.***

As part of preparing for the groups’ participation in Navan’s St. Patrick’s Day parade, the participants worked together on producing a banner that would identify them to the parade spectators. It was during the course of the banners preparation, debate took place organically between the group as to what constituted being a European citizen. This promoted an intense discussion on what is Europe and that by being part of the European Union was exclusive, and therefore excluding, and that there were some countries located in Europe but excluded from the Union. This discussion resulted in the banner reading ‘Pathfinder III International Youth Work’





**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

The day started with presentations by the Swedish, Finnish and Irish groups who impressed everyone with their activities and excellent delivery of their programme – despite some technical difficulties which were beyond their control! There is a copy of the Irish presentation at the back of this pack.



***“It was great to see what the other participants do in terms of activities, how their organisations work and where their funding comes from. Brilliant to see the amount of international exchanges that Finland and Sweden are involved in. Very interesting and entertaining.”***



Some of the group were very new to making presentations, what they lacked in experience they made up for in content and enthusiasm.

The group were due to hear some lectures of Multi-Cultural themes in the Dundalk Institute of Technology. Unfortunately the college had cancelled the planned lectures. However there was still a multi-cultural festival taking place on the campus so the Pathfinders gang was able to enjoy food, dance and music from around the world. This change of plan gave time to fit in some unexpected shopping in the nearby town of Newry, over the border in Northern Ireland before coming back to Navan to meet the Navan Travellers Workshops Girls Youth Group, “The Glitter Girls”.



Meeting “The Glitter Girls” in the evening gave the group a chance to informally hear about life from a young Travellers perspective and also allowed the youth group to share what they get up to every week when they meet up. The young women enjoyed hearing about the countries where the youth workers came from.

### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March – St Patrick’s Day!**

For many, this day was the highlight of the week. During their stay, Navan town had been running daily events to celebrate its Shamrock Festival. Today, these events culminated in the town’s St Patrick’s Day Parade. In order to soak up the atmosphere and play a central role in the parade, Pathfinders relocated for the day to the Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd premises in the middle of the town.

After putting the finishing touches to a Pathfinders III banner and decorating each other in national flags and colours of all the participating countries, the Pathfinders group proudly took their place with the other entrants in the parade. Marching through the town and waving to all the spectators was great fun for everyone.

*“Experiencing a real St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Ireland was brilliant. It’s something I can’t wait to tell people about when I get home!”.*



The evening was then spent enjoying all the amusements set up around Navan as part of the holiday, with everyone then experiencing a bit of traditional Irish dancing in a “Ceili Mór” (big party) that was held in a local hotel. During the evening, some of the group enjoyed a very frank and informative informal discussion about different cultures and the multicultural society that we all live in this was great Craic! It had been a long and enjoyable but tiring day, one to be remembered.



**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

## **Cultural Diversity Workshop**

This activity highlighted how prejudices effect how we judge other people. Some of the group were given roles to play and they had 45 minutes to decide who to throw off the boat. It seemed like a long time, but in the end the time flew. The 'actors' were very protective of their characters flaws which effected the end decision and also people were making their decisions based on their character rather than their own opinion, this created a wave of discussion. If this exercise was used with young people it would benefit from being more structured i.e. by each person having to reveal a part of their character and everyone decide who is to be thrown off the boat. The activity would continue with a further reveal and a revised decision, and then the final reveal and final decision. This would highlight that depending on what information we have, it would alter our opinion of people. This exercise was enjoyed by everyone, with members of the audience also contributing.



### ***Slovenia, Bulgaria, Scotland Presentations***

After lunch the group enjoyed the presentations from the remaining groups. The Slovenia group had been working with Roma in their country and they showed an interesting DVD where a Roma woman talked about her life. The group found this very interesting.



It was clear that there is brilliant work taking place in the Balkans. There is the Youth Eco Happening initiative looking at creative recycling, inspiration in various media such as music, film and the arts.

The Scottish presentation showed how young and old people can work together and learn from each other in a fun way.

***All the presentations during the week had been very thought provoking, and will inspire future youth work in the participating organisations and beyond.....***

## Comhairle Na nOg



On Thursday evening, the group met with the Meath Comhairle Na nOg (Youth Council) in the Council chambers in Navan. The event was launched by Willie Carey, Cathaoirleach (Chairperson) of Meath County Council. The young people gave a presentation followed by a short film they had made about the function of the council and the importance of European Union Membership.



There were questions and answers afterwards, and everyone had a chance to chat informally over tea and biscuits at the end of the session. There was some good discussion, and much was learned by both groups; about different cultures, different countries, European Youthwork, about the youth council and how young people feel about Europe.

## Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March

An evaluation of the week took place in the form of a banner workshop, it was envisaged that the group would design a canvas that would depict the Pathfinder III Youthwork seminar showing their experiences and learning. One of the group, Ivelina, was very good at portraits and offered to draw everyone's faces on the banner, this was a mammoth task, but she achieved her aim. The others added to the canvas showing some of the activities in a visual format. This creation can be seen on page 17. During the workshop the group were also asked to complete a simple written evaluation of the week to inform this report and to help learn for another time. The results are included in the section 'So what did people really think?'



**The Pathfinder symbol has been passed on.  
Thank you to all the participants for making it a  
week to remember! We look forward to when our  
paths will cross again. Hopefully in Bulgaria  
when the Balkan Youth Festival will be hosting  
Pathfinder IV in 2012.**





## **So, what did participants really think?**

As part of our overall appraisal of this year's Pathfinders Conference, we decided to ask the participants to fill in short evaluation forms after each day and also a more comprehensive one at the end of the week.

Both these forms were filled in anonymously to ensure respondents were as honest as possible. The results were a great help to us and hopefully will be of use to future host groups.

We're including the positive and negative answers to give a true assessment of how the week went for people. We've put the answers in order of popularity.

### **What did you most enjoy about the seminar?**

- Eight participants said meeting old friends and making new was the most enjoyable part of the week.
- St Patrick's Day
- Presentations
- Relaxed atmosphere
- Venue
- Well organised
- Comhairle na nOg

### **Is there anything you would change about the seminar?**

- Would have liked a little more on the future of youth work
- More Traveller participation would have been better
- More time for discussions
- It would have been good to get the group together for a fun activity on the first night

### **What were the most important learning outcomes for you?**

- Every participant said learning from the skills and work of other youth leaders
- Five people said they enjoyed learning information about Irish Travellers

**We then asked the participants to rate the following on a scale on 1 – 5 (1 = very poor, 5 = excellent)**

<b>Lectures – 4</b>	<b>Intercultural day in Dundalk – 3</b>
<b>Presentations by partners – 4</b>	<b>Food and accommodation - 4</b>
<b>St Patrick's Day – 5</b>	<b>Comhairle na nOg - 5</b>
<b>Cultural activities including nightlife – 5</b>	

**Did the seminar meet your expectations?**

- Yes, It was a great learning experience
- Liked having time to chat with others
- We needed an introduction to Pathfinders for new people
- Nice to have a smaller group
- Presentations were very good
- Icebreakers were very good
- Some seminars were not well prepared
- There were some computer problems

**Overall, how would you rate the experience of Pathfinders III?**

- It's getting better each year
- It was very interesting
- This was the first one I attended, now I want to go to more
- I really enjoyed learning about other cultures
- It was very useful

**Is there any other feedback you would like to offer?**

- It was a lovely group of participants
- It would be good to try to get more countries involved
- It will be important to maintain new links and friendships

**And finally...**

- I really enjoyed the week
- I'm looking forward to taking ideas home to put into practice
- It would be good to have more managers participating
- I was really satisfied with everything

## Financial Cost of Pathfinders III

<b>Transport</b>	<b>€3556*</b>
<b>Activities</b>	<b>€3169</b>
<b>Accommodation</b>	<b><u>€7100</u></b>
	<b>€13,825</b>

*\*The Youth in action Programme provides 70% of the travel costs, the remaining 30% must be sponsored by the partner organisation where the participant originates from.*

*Travel costs are paid by the participating organisation and 70% of the costs refunded during the seminar. All travel documents including boarding cards must be retained by the host organisation and submitted to the funders.*

## Pathfinders III Acknowledgements

We feel the success of this programme only came about because of the input of a wide range of people and organisations. In attempting to acknowledge the contribution made by these people is always dangerous, as there are many unsung heroes working behind the scenes. This list does not reflect in any way the order of importance.

### Organising Group

Anne Hyland	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Daphne van Baten	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Ellen McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Frances D'Arcy	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Kim O'Connor	National Association of Traveller Centres
Michael McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Micheal MacDonnachada	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Sandra Hand	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Sinead Burke	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Teresa O'Leary	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd

### Guest Speakers - chronological order

Maurice Devlin	Senior Lecturer NUI Maynooth
Liz Loftus	National Association of Traveller Centres
Teresa B Ward	National Association of Traveller Centres
Glitter Girls Youth Group	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Cathy Martin	Comhairle na Og Youth Council

### Hosting, entertainment and transport

Mary and all the staff	Dowdstown House
Larry McKenna	A to B Taxis
Peader Farrelly & Michael McGoldrick	Irish Social Night in Ardboyne Hotel
Paddy Pryle	Athlumney Tour Guide Service - Hill of Tara
Eamonn McDonagh	Singer and musician Rathcairn Gaeltacht Community
Padraig Fitzsimons (Chairperson)	Navan Shamrock Festival Committee
John McDonagh (minibus driver)	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd

### Partner groups participants

Ivelina Hristova	Balkan Youth Festival Sofia Bulgaria
Marina Georgieva	Balkan Youth Festival Sofia Bulgaria
Dzeni Rostohar	DZMP Slovenia
Jana Drasler	DZMP Slovenia
Catrina Gourlay	Grey Lodge Settlement Dundee Scotland
Kerri Sutherland	Grey Lodge Settlement Dundee Scotland
Dennis Backman	Ingo Ungdomsgard Inkoo nr Helsinki Finland
Kai Sirvio	Ingo Ungdomsgard Inkoo nr Helsinki Finland
Holger Bryntesson	Kultur - och Fritsforvaltningen Karlstad Kommun Sweden
Pers Anders Persson	Kultur - och Fritsforvaltningen Karlstad Kommun Sweden

### Additional Participants

Dave McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Elaine Sherlock	Traveller from Galway
John (Stud) McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Laura McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Marie McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Michael (Dundee) McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Nathanya McDonagh	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Ricky McDonagh	Traveller from Dundalk
Shirley Ward	Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd
Elisha McDonagh (baby)	Stephen McDonagh (baby)

### Venues

Dowdstown House	The Hill of Tara Visitor Centre
The Lantern	Meath County Council - Council Chambers
Dundalk Institute of Technology	Newry Shopping Centre Northern Ireland
Navan Travellers Workshops Ltd	The Valley Café
Ardboyne Hotel	Rathcairn Community Centre

Funding was gratefully received from the Youth in Action Programme 4.3 through Léargas.

With Special Thanks to Patricia Dalton from Léargas for all her help and support



