the workspace group

Newsletter 2017

Delivered to 31,400 homes and businesses across Mid Ulster

COMING FULL CIRCLE

In this Newsletter, we wanted to take the opportunity to come full circle and remind both the local community and ourselves what Workspace is all about, why it's needed, and how and why we do the work that we do.

In 2005, we redesigned our branding and it has been central to all of our communications since.
At the core of our brand is the circle, a symbol of continuous strength and unity. Always moving, always protecting, the circle symbolises the proactive and protective role that we play in the community.

Over the years we have introduced the circle to all sectors of The Workspace Group.
This family of circles shows how we've grown over the years, bringing more ventures and projects to life.
Each and every circle represents progress and a commitment to protect those within its boundaries.

As you will read in the pages that follow, the Workspace circles are moving freely throughout our community.
They are moving with energy and momentum, continuously evolving without ever forgetting where they started.
They are making a positive impact and putting people first, everywhere they roam.

network personnel
Together Towards Employment

workspace enterprises ltd.

network recruitment
Connect | Achieve | Grow

workspace recreation centre

workspace after school club

homeseal

workspace community fund

ThermTech
Waste Heat Recovery Systems

The Circle of **Wellbeing**

workspace recreation centre

The Workspace Recreation Centre is a story of health and wellness. Built in 2008, it was born out of our desire to help the people of Draperstown improve their wellbeing. At the time, there was a real need for leisure and exercise facilities in the area so we stepped in to provide them.

We are incredibly proud of this centre, which boasts a four-court sports hall, four one-wall handball walls, a 22-spin bike facility and third generation pitches. The Workspace Recreation Centre is used by the local community, numerous sporting groups and also by the local high school for Physical Education classes. It's always busy; it's always active...just like us!

Our Workspace circles like to keep people moving, offering a range of exercise classes here including Ladies Only, Early Morning Bootcamp, Men's Circuits and Girls' Keep Fit. We love to work up a sweat!

Averaging 25,000 usages by the local community every year, the facility helps people look after the single most important thing – their health. For more information, give us a call on 028 7962 8113.

Now that we have our workout done, let's keep rolling...

The facility helps people look after the single most important thing – their health

The Workspace After School Club is all about helping you protect your own inner circle – your family.

We established the Club in 1998 to help local parents take up job opportunities without having to worry about finding reliable afterschool care for their children.

We like to think that our After School Club circles represent harmony and protection. In this homely, safe and stimulating environment, we look after up to 40 children aged 4-11, every single week. We pick them up from school, offer them healthy snacks and drinks and supervise their homework.

We have a full range of indoor and outdoor activities and even a fully equipped exercise room to keep their bodies moving as well as their brains!
Our facility has recently been refurbished and so is the perfect environment for children to develop their social, intellectual, physical, communication and emotional skills.

We also understand that work doesn't take mid-term breaks, so we stay open when the schools are closed. During the summer holidays, we offer an All Day Club. This means you can get on with business, while we take care of the business of fun!

For more information, contact Marion on 028 7962 9224.

Keep reading, we're on a roll...

The Circle of **Skills**

network personnel

Together Towards **Employment**

Network Personnel was set up in 1989 in response to high levels of unemployment in the Mid Ulster area, and it remains one of the most critical parts of the Workspace offering.

Network Personnel is dedicated to helping unemployed people broaden their circle of opportunity and ultimately make the move into employment. To achieve this, we offer people invaluable employability support – this support is all encompassing and includes everything from helping them develop their CVs and complete application forms to sourcing job opportunities and helping with interview preparation.

A number of our programmes offer additional training in areas such as Retail, Beauty, IT, First Aid, Food Hygiene, Forklift Operation and much more.

The circles in our Network Personnel logo represent our mission of continuous progress. This mission sees us tailoring our advice and support to individual needs whilst also working in partnership with local employers to address labour market needs. This ensures that we are encouraging the progress of the wider community as well as individuals themselves.

Helping people already in employment to further enhance their skills is another important part of our work. Our apprenticeships are invaluable in this context and we offer them in a wide range of sectors such as Health and Social Care, Childcare and Retail.

We're proud to say that Network Personnel helps in excess of 1,000 unemployed people to find jobs every year.

If you need help getting your career in motion, call us on 028 7963 1032 (NI) / 047 84616 (ROI) or email info@networkpersonnel.org.uk

Let's keep moving on...

The Circle of **Giving**

workspace community fund

Over the years, we realised that as much as we wanted to, we couldn't do everything ourselves! So in 2009, we established the Workspace Community Fund to empower the community by providing small grants to finance projects within the local area. By allocating a proportion of our surpluses each year to this Community Fund, we have provided over £86,000 to 134 community projects.

How does it work? This circle of giving distributes grants of up to £250 to community and voluntary groups in the Magherafelt area of Mid Ulster District Council towards projects that might not happen otherwise. Some of the projects supported so far include the Draperstown Traders' Busking Festival, Glasgowbury's Summer Music Programme and the provision of play equipment for children attending Ballinascreen Early Years and Slieve Gallion Preschool.

We have also given grants to groups from other locations in which we work, such as Manchester, Omagh, Cavan and Letterkenny. These are small projects, but they have a big impact locally, and that's the most important thing.

The Workspace Community Fund is currently open for applications, so if you have a project in mind, circle November 3rd on the calendar, as that's the deadline!

You can download an application form from theworkspacegroup.org/workspace-community-fund/

We look forward to reading all of your ideas...

The Circle of **Warmth**

Now that we're warm, let's get down to business...

We established Homeseal back in 1995 to tackle the problem of fuel poverty locally. The business has grown hugely in that time, but it still centres around one core goal – to help keep families safe and warm.

If you look at the Homeseal logo, you'll see that the red circle represents keeping heat inside the home, thereby protecting the people within its boundaries. We do this by installing loft and cavity wall installation to make homes more energy efficient, therefore helping families save significant money on their heating bills. We are proud to have installed more than 69,000 insulation measures in homes since starting out 22 years ago.

Through our Keep Warm Scheme, families can avail of free insulation grants. To find out if you are eligible, or to avail of a free energy survey, contact our

Keep Warm Team on 028 7962 7474 (lines are open from 8.30am-5pm Monday – Friday) or email info@homesealni.co.uk

homeseal

the workspace group

workspace enterprises ltd.

This section takes us right back to where Workspace began. As the first of our circles, Workspace was originally set up for exactly the reason the name suggests – to provide work space for people looking to start their own business. Our focus was, and still is, on the provision of affordable industrial and office units, as well as practical support, for those making the start-up leap.

We have a lot to offer new businesses with c90,000 sq. ft. of industrial and office units across three sites – Draperstown, Magherafelt and Castledawson. We are delighted that many of our tenants have flourished and grown, their success and expansion leading them to move on to other locations with more space. From small circles grow big ones, and we are proud to have been part of their support circle as they established their roots.

If you have a business idea and are looking for support and advice, or you are an existing business or social enterprise looking to expand or develop, maybe we can help you too.

To meet with one of our experienced business advisors, you can contact us on 028 7962 8113 or email info@theworkspacegroup.org

While we're on the subject of growth...

From small circles grow big ones, and we are proud to have been part of their support circle

The Circle of **Growth**

The ThermTech story is about Workspace widening its circle and embracing something new, without ever losing sight of where we began.

We bought ThermTech back in 2011 as we felt it would be a natural addition to our range of energy saving activities. The company designs, builds and installs bespoke industrial waste heat recovery and gas cooling/cleansing systems which save large manufacturing businesses money on their energy bills. These systems are designed for a range of large and well-known businesses such as Heineken, McCains, Polyfor and McVities.

While ThermTech is based in Manchester, its value to the local community is of paramount importance. In fact, its success allows us to do much more to benefit our local community in Draperstown. Sometimes you have to broaden your outer circle to benefit your inner circle, and ThermTech is a prime example of this.

ThermTech was named Manufacturing & Engineering Business of the Year 2016 at the Manchester Business Awards. The business has grown considerably over the last few years and we have big plans for its future growth so watch this space!

From making moves across the water to making a difference at home...

Manufacturing & Engineering Business of the Year 2016

Network recruitment

Connect | Achieve | Grow

If you look at the Network Recruitment logo, you'll see that the three Workspace circles are an integral part of it. In this particular logo each circle stands for a specific goal – they are invitations to 'Connect', 'Achieve' and 'Grow.' That's what Network Recruitment is all about – opening up circles of opportunity to help jobseekers and businesses alike to connect, achieve and grow together.

Set up in 2003, Network Recruitment was born out of a real need for a recruitment service for local employers. Working across a range of sectors, its offering is of huge benefit to both employers and candidates alike. It helps employers fill both temporary and permanent positions, while supporting individuals to reach their full career potential.

Operating out of two locations in Magherafelt and Letterkenny, we are market leaders servicing both the UK and Ireland. An example of our work is the sourcing of 80 staff for polling stations across Scotland for the recent General Election.

If you're an employer or a candidate looking to find your match, get in touch online at network-recruitment.net

Our talent is finding your talent

Other **circles** we move in...

The Circles of **Impact**

DRAPERSTOWN LIBRARY

When Draperstown Library came under threat of closure in 2011, we couldn't stand by and let it happen. Libraries are an invaluable community resource and we had to do something, full stop (this was a very definite circle!). So The Workspace Group worked with the local community and Libraries NI to source and build a new purpose-built location for the Library.

In 2013, the new Draperstown Library opened giving residents of the Draperstown area a modern, bright and comfortable library offering a range of services. Without our intervention, Draperstown Library would most certainly have closed, depriving the local community of a vital service.

SOCIAL HOUSING

In 2011, the Workspace Group built 23 social housing units on the site of our initial premises on the Tobermore Road. In building these units, we were responding to a very real and urgent need. These houses have been fully occupied since they were developed and we like to think of this project as The Workspace Group encircling the community and helping people to feel safe and rooted.

COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATORS

Circles are designed to protect, and the Workspace circles are no different. We understand that time and time again defibrillators have proven to be the difference between life and death. A community needs to have the ability to respond to emergencies and so we have provided two automated external defibrillators for the Draperstown community – one is located at the Workspace Recreation Centre and the other more centrally on the main street beside Ballinascreen Credit Union.

WORKSPACE CARERS' PROJECT

The Workspace Group acknowledges the vital role that carers play in their community and understands the need for them to look after themselves as well as the person they care for. In an attempt to help carers live a well-rounded life, we provide a programme of workshops that encourages a care/life balance, with advice on how to achieve it. 28 local carers participate in this programme, attending one workshop per month.

WORKSPACE OVER 60s PROJECT

Following on from the success of the Carers' Project, we also developed a programme of workshops aimed at encouraging local people over 60 to live a well-rounded, healthy and more balanced lifestyle. 12 over 60s from the Draperstown area participate in this wonderful programme, attending one workshop per month.

INDUSTRIAL PARK

In response to a lack of industrial land for local growing businesses to relocate to, Workspace developed a small five-acre industrial park on the outskirts of the village in 1994. As the park is fully occupied we are now looking to develop a second industrial park to provide for the longer-term needs of local businesses. Essentially, as our circle of local businesses prospers, we want these companies to have the space they need to fully expand.

THE WORKSPACE TEAM

The Workspace Group currently employs 182 staff in 19 locations across the UK and Ireland. We are well aware of the importance of social circles, and all group events such as team days and Christmas parties are held in Draperstown using local suppliers for catering and activities.

FREE SPACE TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

The Workspace Group offers free facilities to various different local organisations for worthwhile purposes. Examples of those benefitting from this circle of space are Glasgowbury (to help develop and encourage creative arts), St. Colm's High School (for a sixth form study hall), the Cornstore Youth Club (for evening activities for local young people), STEPS Mental Health (to raise awareness of mental health issues locally), St. Vincent de Paul (to store donated furniture) and Ballinascreen Historical Society (for meetings and events).

FORMER RURAL COLLEGE/DERRYNOID CENTRE

The former Rural College/Derrynoid Centre has been vacant since 2011. The Workspace Group is working to bring the centre back into use as a multi-use community facility and we want to hear the views of the local community as to how it best be utilised. Watch this space!

ABOUT THE the workspace group

The Workspace Group is a social enterprise that was set up in 1985 by 170 local people (its members). It is a 'profit for purpose' organisation, which means that the surpluses generated from its more commercial activities are used for the benefit of the Draperstown community through initiatives such as the Workspace Recreation Centre, the Workspace After School Club and the Workspace Community Fund. As a group, our vision is to create 'A Prosperous, Dynamic, Healthy Draperstown Community'.

The Workspace Group is led by a voluntary Board of Directors who are appointed by our members – Laurence O'Kane (Chairman), Sammantha McCloskey (Vice Chair), Damian Heron, Catherine McCoy, Patsy McShane, Willie McKeown, Graham Mawhinney and Cllr Brian McGuigan.

We recently brought 40 new members on board who will play a part in ensuring that Workspace continues to undertake its much needed community work for the long term.

If you are interested in becoming a member, we would love to hear from you. Please call the office on 028 7962 8113 to request an application form.

We look forward to welcoming you into the Workspace circle and creating a thriving future for Draperstown together.

Our vision is to create 'A Prosperous, Dynamic, Healthy Draperstown Community'

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