

CARLETON STREET COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Chairperson's Report

May 2022 – April 2023

This last year has been one of a continuing recovery from the issues brought about by Covid.

We have been involved with some events with the Over 50's group, the David Graham Shillington Veterans Association and the Chinese Welfare Association.

In February 2023 we helped Portadown Heritage Tours with manpower to setup and staff some exhibits in a very large exhibition. This exhibition ran for a full week and covered Portadown's contribution to the 1st World War which showcases over a thousand people and their input into the War Years. Stands showcasing weapons, uniforms, photographs, a mock cemetery with headstones giving the names of the soldiers who had come home from the war and lived out a more normal life before passing away.

Research was undertaken by CSCDA into Chinese soldiers who fought with the Chinese Labour Corps and the connections some of these men had with our local men. Headstones were photographed in France/Belgium and then translated by members of the Chinese Welfare Association.

We accompanied the David Graham Shillington Veterans Association on a joint trip to the 1st World War Battlefields for five days, from 28th June 2022 until 2nd July 2022.

A successful grant from the National Lottery enabled us to refurbish our disabled toilet and the men's toilets. We are now trying for grant-aid to refurbish one of our meeting rooms including replacement of a floor which has partially collapsed. We have further activities planned to include arranging a Quiz Night every two months and further trips.

Dated: 29 August 2023

Chairman: Wm McClean

Mr W McClean