



INTERNATIONAL FREE ONLINE CONFERENCE

Ripples... The Power of You

October 2023

We acknowledge the support of the Scottish Government through a CYPFEIF and ALEC Fund Grant. Cyrenians is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered charity SC011052.



Check out our exciting programme of events below!

Following the success of our previous two online international festival of events Connections & Bridging the Divide in 2020 and The Power of Reconnection in 2021 we are once again inviting speakers, collaborators, professionals and families from across the globe to join us for SCCR'S International FREE Online Conference, October 2023.

Ripples...The Power of 'You' will cover a series of talks, panel discussions and workshops that explore how the acts of individuals can 'ripple' outwards, causing others to make decisions whose consequences then ripple out further. The talks will not only look outwards, but also inwards; we are best placed to contribute to our community when our minds and relationships are in good health. Our programme of online events and workshops will bring together speakers to share their experience whilst also addressing the importance as well as the complexities of reducing family conflict.

Our events include:

[Nurturing Positive Relationships with Billy Burke - 5th October 12noon](#)

[How to Create More Trauma-Informed Responses in Schools with Gerry Diamond - 5th October 16:00](#)

[Every Act of Kindness Leaves a Trace! with Kevin Neary - 11th October 13:00](#)

[Ever Increasing Circles: How Family Support Ripples Out with Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs - 12th October 12:00noon](#)

[Mediation: A Success Story? with Alan Jeffrey - 19th October 10:00](#)

[The Influence of Adults - A Young Person's Perspective with SCCR team and Aidan - 25th October 11:00](#)

[Off Beat Relationships with Scott McEwen - 26th October 10:00](#)

[Unwrapping the Power of the Teenage Brain: A Neuroscience Perspective with Professor Judith Pratt - 27th October 10:30](#)

Meet our speakers!



Billy Burke, Head Teacher, Renfrew High School

Billy Burke is a Scottish head teacher with a particular interest in leadership of wellbeing, equality and inclusion and how we can nurture the conditions for sustainable development. He contributes at a national level to education policy and strategy, and co-hosts an international podcast 'Changing Conversations.' Most importantly, he is Sofia's Dad.

Gerry Diamond, Nurture Lead, Clydebank High School

Gerry Diamond supports young people in a secondary school context with managing emotions such as anxiety and stress. He delivers talks internationally helping schools with trauma informed responsive practices including the biological underpinnings.



Kevin Neary, Co-Founder & Mentor, Aid&Abet

Kevin Neary is one of the co-founders of the charity Aid&Abet who help and support people leaving prison over their first 72 hours of freedom, helping them integrate back into society. Kevin's passion is in prevention, knowing that through his experience he can prevent young people having to suffer what he did when he was their age; he supports young people on to more positive destinations now, rather than treating the problem later in life after the criminal justice system, prisons, addiction, and poor mental health that stems from childhood trauma have all left their mark.

Gill Harmon, Senior Virtual Family Support Practitioner, SFAD

Gill Harmon's work is informed by her passion for working with family members affected by a relative's alcohol or drug use. Gill feels that families should have the right to their own support. As well as being an integral part in their loved one's recovery, families' needs in this period should be recognised in their own right.





Alan Jeffrey, Senior Mediator, Cyrenians

Alan Jeffrey has worked for Cyrenians, tackling the 'causes and consequences of homelessness' since 2014. Alan has recently completed an MSc in Mediation & Conflict Resolution and is the Senior Mediator for Cyrenians: mediation and support. Alan, alongside his highly trained and skilled team are dedicated to further developing mediation as a tool for keeping families together, improving relationships, and encouraging collaboration.

Duncan Gordon, SCCR Trainer

Duncan is a qualified trainer and has worked in various roles within the third sector, working and managing projects related to the employability of ex-offenders and young people at risk of offending. Duncan's last position saw him involved in workforce development, designing and delivering staff development programmes and performance management workshops. As the SCCR's Trainer, Duncan delivers Conflict Resolution training to those who work with young people and families and to young people and families across Scotland.



Andrew Boyd, SCCR Mediation and Conflict Resolution Advisor

Andrew is a mediator and has worked with young people and their families for the Cyrenians Mediation & Support Service. Andrew has also worked in community mediation, landlord/tenant mediation, workplace mediation and in the small claims court at Glasgow Sheriff Court. Following completion of an LLB in Law, Andrew completed his MSc in Mediation and Conflict Resolution at Strathclyde University. In SCCR, Andrew inputs his conflict resolution experience to the SCCR resources and events, and also delivers training throughout Scotland to young people, parents/carers and professionals



Ellie Goddard, SCCR Emotional Health & Wellbeing Lead

Ellie studied Human Geography and Psychology at the University of St Andrews and has a Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work. She's particularly interested in mental health and wellbeing and has worked with young people in voluntary and professional roles. As a social worker, Ellie gained insight into family conflict and the importance of effective communication. In SCCR, Ellie hopes to increase the focus on emotional health and wellbeing following the pandemic and work with young people and the existing evidence base to develop and deliver resources in the most accessible and collaborative way.





Scott McEwen, Training and Development Officer, Scottish Violence Reduction Unit

Scott completed 30 years in Strathclyde Police/Police Scotland in various departments, management and specialist roles before graduating with a BA in Teaching from Stirling University to become the Training and Development Officer for the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit. He also has a PG Diploma in CBT Therapy and Groupwork.

Professor Judith Pratt

Judith is multidisciplinary neuroscientist. Her research focuses on understanding how the brain affects behaviour, is changed by risk factors that contribute to mental illness and how this understanding can inform new therapies. Judith is a mental health research ambassador and engages in a diverse range of public communication activities.

