

National Updates



Don't forget we are on social media so why not follow us for all the up to date information and live updates on all things Age Friendly happening around the country 😊

Twitter: [@agefriendlyirl](https://twitter.com/agefriendlyirl)
Facebook: [Age Friendly Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/agefriendlyireland)



Research Project: Climate Change in Rural Ireland: Older People's Perspectives



Are you aged over 55 years?
From a rural or agricultural background?
Maynooth University and Age Friendly Ireland Research Manager would like to hear your thoughts of climate change on older people in rural Ireland

If interested in taking part, please contact Adrienne at:
Adrienne.mccann@mu.ie for further information

Or

You can complete the survey here:
<https://maynoothuniversity.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/climate-change-in-rural-ireland>

Dr Adrienne McCann is a researcher and part-time farmer, concerned with how climate change will impact older people living in rural Ireland or from traditional agricultural areas.

This study aims to explore the older person's perspective of climate change, and how proposed changes may impact life in rural Ireland, particularly on agricultural practices and rural living.

National Age Friendly Ireland Programme
A Shared Service Function of Local
Government



Link to survey: <https://maynoothuniversity.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/climate-change-in-rural-ireland>

Global walking summit, Walk21, shares programme and speaker line-up for this year's conference 19-23 September 2022 in Dublin, Ireland

Walk21, the global walking summit previously held in Rotterdam, Hong Kong and Seoul, will take place this September 19-23 in Dublin, Ireland. The conference will bring together around 500 delegates and an incredible speaker line-up of over 60 experts including practitioners, academics, planners, politicians and citizens to celebrate the importance of walking and to re-imagine a world that is more liveable and sustainable.



Over five days, the packed programme will address this year's theme, ***The Decade to Change***, and will explore how supporting and encouraging walking can help deliver Sustainable Development Goal commitments by 2030. The programme incorporates plenary sessions and parallel workshops, led by global experts on high profile subjects including:

- Walking infrastructure/the built environment and accessibility
- Case studies from around the world
- Links between walking and wellbeing/mental health
- Relationships between transport providers and walking



View the full programme at <http://walk21ireland.com/programme/> and follow #Walk21Ireland
In person and virtual delegate registration information is available at <http://walk21ireland.com/registration/>
Speaker information is available at: <http://walk21ireland.com/meet-the-speakers/>

You can also get more information on our website
<https://agefriendlyireland.ie/news/global-walking-summit-walk21-shares-programme-and-speaker-line-up-for-this-years-conference-19-23-september-2022-in-dublin-ireland/>



TFI Travel Assistance Scheme Cork

The NTA are funding a pilot of the Travel Assistance Scheme in Cork which will be managed by Bus Éireann. It is based on the Travel Assistance Scheme managed by Dublin Bus in the Greater Dublin Area.
<https://www.dublinbus.ie/Travel-Assistance-Scheme.html>

Two travel Assistants have just been hired and they hope to start assists from September 1, 2022. They hope to help people travelling on Bus Éireann, Irish Rail Cork Commuter Services and Local Link (Cork) to gain confidence whilst travelling on public transport services within Cork.

Please email Travel Assistance Cork travelassistancecork@buseireann.ie if you would like more information.



Beach mat rolled out for wheelchair users in Rosslare

A 50m-long beach mat has been rolled out at one of Co Wexford's most popular beaches to improve access for wheelchair users and people with other mobility issues.

The specially designed durable mat at Rosslare Strand is part of an initiative to make beaches more accessible across the county.



Annette Healy wheeling on the new beach mat at Rosslare Strand

The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) has welcomed the introduction of the mat. However, it called for more facilities at beaches to support wheelchair users.

Please see the full article by Joseph Okoh here:

<https://www.rte.ie/news/leinster/2022/0802/1313399-beach-mat-rosslare/>



ENACT Osteoarthritis Qualitative Interview Study

Research project called ENACT which is being conducted in the Department of Physiotherapy in RCSI, Dublin. This project is focussing on improving the management of osteoarthritis in primary care in Ireland. For further information, I am linking the project website here [ENACT – \(managemENT of osteoarthritis in primAry Care in Ireland\) \(enact-ireland.eu\)](http://enact-ireland.eu) . As part of this project, researchers in RCSI are conducting a qualitative interview study ***Service Providers' Perspectives and Experiences of Primary Care Management of Osteoarthritis in Ireland***, which has gained ethical approval from the RCSI Ethics Committee. Individuals with OA and primary healthcare professionals including GPs are being recruited to take part. They are also recruiting people with lived experience of Osteoarthritis to get a broader range of views and perspectives on the management of osteoarthritis.

Do you have Osteoarthritis?

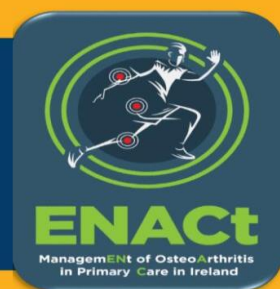


Are you interested in getting involved in research on Service Users' Perspectives and Experiences of Primary Care Management of Osteoarthritis in Ireland?



We would love to hear from you about how your osteoarthritis has been managed to date.

For more information about the study, please contact Dr Helen French by phone or email Telephone (01) 4022258; Email hfrench@rcsi.com, or Dr. Joice Cunningham; Email joicecunningham@rcsi.com



Study to Improve Health Screening for People with Disabilities

DO YOU CARE FOR A FAMILY MEMBER WITH A DISABILITY?

Seeking Family Carer Research Participants: Understanding and Improving Health Screening Access for People with Disabilities

A research project conducted by Dublin City University on behalf of the National Screening Service

The National Screening Service provides four types of screening services for the Irish public. These are

- Breast Cancer Screening – for women aged between 50 and 69
- Cervical Cancer Screening – for women aged between 25 and 65
- Bowel Cancer Screening – for all individuals aged between 60 and 69
- Eyesight screening for people with Diabetes – for all individuals with diabetes aged 12 and over.

Screening services can catch signs of an illness early and greatly improve outcomes, reducing the numbers of deaths due to cancer and blindness due to diabetes.

HOWEVER - People with disabilities are less likely to use screening services than others resulting in poorer health outcomes.

We are inviting Family Carers of people with disabilities to take part in a discussion to help us find out what needs to be done to make screening easier for people with disabilities.

For more information please email Dr. David Joyce at

david.joyce@dcu.ie

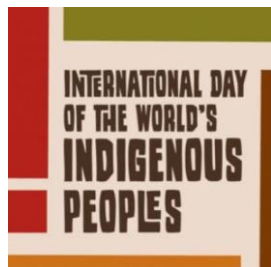




Your monthly UN Decade of Healthy Ageing update



More opportunities to get involved

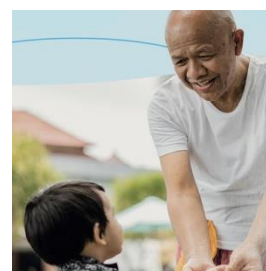


9 August 2022: [International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples](#)

Our work to foster healthy ageing during the next Decade must #LeaveNoOneBehind. [Join us on the day](#) to celebrate the voices and contributions of older indigenous people.

9 August 2022: [Launch of WHO's position paper on optimizing brain health across the life course](#)

Brain health is an important aspect of fostering healthy ageing. Join this online event to learn more about WHO's approach to optimizing brain health across the life course.



12 August 2022: [International Youth Day](#)

This year's theme is '*Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating #AWorld4AllAges*'. Use the [Global Campaign to Combat Ageism's resources](#) to get involved online, and stay tuned for details of an online commemoration of the day.

19 August 2022: [World Humanitarian Day](#)


On this day, advocate for older people's needs and contributions to be recognised in emergency contexts – and [share what you know](#) on the Decade Platform.



Newsletter from HSE National Office for Human Rights and Equality.

'Why commencement of the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act Matters'.

The Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) (Amendment) Bill 2022 is currently progressing through the Dail. The proposed Bill will amend the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015. The rationale provided for drafting an

	<p>amending piece of legislation is to improve processes and safeguards for those who will make use of the new decision-making supports.</p> <p>In summary, the Bill provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and procedural amendments to allow for the commencement of the 2015 Act in order to bring an end to wardship in Ireland and provide for a functional model of capacity assessment for relevant persons. • Amended definitions of personal welfare and treatment decisions, to allow for participation by persons with capacity difficulties in health research and to clarify for medical professionals which person has authority to make decisions regarding actual medical treatment or clinical care where another person has capacity difficulties. • Improved safeguarding provisions throughout the 2015 Act. <p>Please click here to view the full newsletter on Assisted Decision Making https://agefriendlyireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Newsletter-Summer-2022-FINAL.pdf</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">National Heritage Week, August 13th - 21st 2022</p> <p>National Heritage Week, an initiative by the Heritage Council, celebrates all things heritage. It brings together communities, families, organisations, cultural institutions, academics and enthusiasts, to build awareness about the value of heritage and support its conservation.</p> <p>Each year many national and hundreds of local community organisations participate by organising events throughout Ireland.</p> <p>Many of the events that take place during the week are free and the programme highlights the abundance of great work that is carried out in all communities in Ireland to preserve and promote our natural, built and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Whether it is nature and wildlife, folklore, or built heritage, National Heritage Week aims to deliver messages and events that are positive, engaging and relevant in people’s day to day lives. Any person or organisation can actively take part in the Week and organise an event which educates people and promotes an aspect of Irelands Heritage.</p> <p>Events hosted nationwide are hugely diverse in subject and many are organised by local communities lending great authenticity and variety to the events.</p> <p>National Heritage Week is a unique opportunity for everyone to get involved in Ireland’s heritage, learn more about it, preserve it for future generations and above all, enjoy it!</p> <p>For a list of events taking place all over Ireland - https://www.heritageweek.ie/event-listings</p>

Local Updates



Dementia Adviser Service

County Meath has a new Dementia Advisor with the Alzheimer's Society of Ireland.

What is dementia?

Dementia is the name for a range of conditions that cause damage to the brain. This damage can affect memory, thinking, language and the ability to carry out everyday tasks.

There are many conditions that cause dementia, including: Alzheimer's, vascular dementia, Lewybody dementia and fronto-temporal dementia.

About The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

We work across the country in the heart of local communities providing dementia specific services and supports, and advocating for the rights and needs of all people living with dementia and their carers.

For information about our work in your local area:

To find your local services

- 📞 Call Helpline: 1800 341 341
- @ Email: helpline@alzheimer.ie
- 🌐 Visit: www.alzheimer.ie

How do I contact this service?

Your local Dementia Adviser is:

- 👤 **Contact:** Danielle Timmons
- 📞 **Phone:** 087 947 5037
- @ **Email:** danielle.timmons@alzheimer.ie
- 📍 **Area covered:** Meath



Dementia Adviser Service

People with dementia and their families can contact their local Dementia Adviser directly.

We also welcome referrals from health and social care professionals.



Funded by the HSE



National Office Phone: 01-207 3800
Temple Road Fax: 01-210 3772
Blackrock Email: info@alzheimer.ie
Co. Dublin Web: www.alzheimer.ie
Charity Number: CHY 7868



EXCURSION TO SCATTERY ISLAND AND VANDELEUR GARDENS

On the 22nd July 2022, the Clare Age Friendly programme took 49 Clare Cultural Companions on an excursion to Scattery Island and Vandeleur Gardens. The weather was warm and the seas calm what better way to spend a morning.



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council



**Clare
Cultural Companions**
An Age & Opportunity arts initiative



Scattery Island is situated in the Shannon Estuary, off the Coast of Kilrush, County Clare, and is an early Christian settlement founded by Saint Senan. St Senan, who was born in the area and built his monastery in the early sixth century. It included a mighty round tower, which at 36 metres is one of the tallest in Ireland. St Senan's biggest legacy is the fact the River Shannon is named after him.

The Scattery Islands has been part of history throughout the ages. They were invaded by the Viking, the Normans, The Spanish Armada, and Napoleon even tried to settle on the Islands, all failed to keep Scattery Islands for long. In 1000 AD women were finally allowed on the island and this changed its history as well. Families settled and families visit to this day to discover the charm and beauty of the Islands.



Built in the early 6th Century, stands 36 metres tall. One stormy night it was hit by lightning and a split occurred in the tower. In 1855 on the initiative of the Catholic Curate of Kilrush, the split was repaired with a grant of £40 from the Limerick Harbour Board.



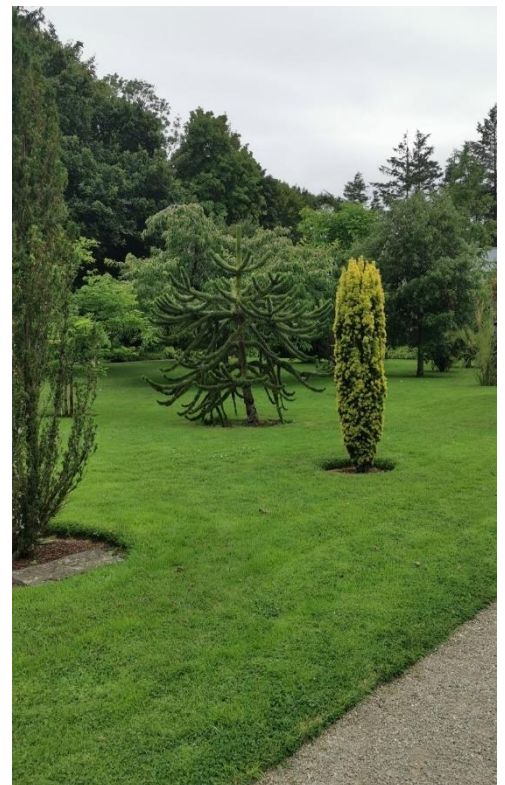
To the west of the round tower, you can see St Senan's Well. Legend says it appeared when the saint plunged his staff into the ground while praying for water during a drought. The well still features in pilgrimage today, and it is visited during the pattern on March 8th, Senan's feast day. It was said to cure ailments particular those relating to eyes.

The Vandeleur family were the descendants of Maximillan van der Leur, a Dutch Merchant, who settled in Ireland by the early 17th Century. In 1712 the Earl of Thomond leased the Kilrush estate to Boyle Vandeleur in trust for his brother the Reverend John, and from him descends the Vandeleurs of Kilrush.

By the mid-19th Century the estate was estimated to be approximately 20,000 acres in County Clare. Kilrush House was built in 1808 by John Ormsby Vandeleur on a 400-acre plot when the family had control of 3,400 acres. The garden is typical of designs in the late 18th Century. During the 1840's, the Vandeleurs were involved in the mass evictions during the Famine period. A compromise was reached and tenants reinstated when the Land war forced a compromise. In 1910 the Land Commission took over the Estate.

Today the gardens have numerous trees, plants, a labyrinth, and a maze, as well as a garden chess set.

The Head Gardener, Karai, was very passionate about his job and was happy to answer any question that were raised. A good day was had by all and thanks expressed to all those involved.





Age Friendly Consultation in County Laois - Older people have their say

Our Age Friendly Consultation took place on 26th July in Bloom HQ in Mountrath.



We had activities in the afternoon – Musical Bingo, Exercise with Laois Sports Partnership and dancing also. A great attendance on the day which was brilliant to see, and it was great for us to get the feedback from Laois’ older community, in a nice setting. The afternoon activities were great fun too!



The Road of Life

The West region’s creative initiative ‘The Road of Life’ is a travelling roadshow of music and song writing. Sessions took place in two Limerick venues this week, one in Newcastle West and one in Limerick City.

Musician Ger Wolfe led the session with ballads and participation opportunities. Participants people are pictured here learning the tin whistle. The programme is funded by the Creative Ireland Programme and managed by AFI's regional managers working with local Programme Managers.



Your Voice



We've heard about so much good work going on all around the country, please let us know what's happening in your area so we can share those innovative ideas with everyone.

Please email us your news to us at agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie for inclusion in our weekly newsletter.

International Updates



IFA Global Cafe | In Conversation with Dr. Victor Kuperman and Ms. Nancy Siciliana on "The Impact of Storytelling on Isolation in Older Adults"

ifa GLOBAL CAFÉ
in conversation with experts

The Impact of Storytelling
on Isolation in Older Adults



5 Aug 2022



7 a.m. EDT



Victor Kuperman
Director
Reading Lab - McMaster University



Nancy Siciliana
Program Manager
Cyber-Seniors - Niagara Region

The International Federation on Ageing held a Global Cafe event this morning called - **In Conversation with Dr. Victor Kuperman and Ms. Nancy Siciliana on “The Impact of Storytelling on Isolation in Older Adults”**.

A recording of this event will be available on the Federation’s website <https://ifa.ngo/ifa-global-cafe/> and <https://drbarometer.com/community/resource-library>

Useful Contacts and Info

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service Office Telephone: **046 9097413**

Or Email: agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie

Twitter: [@agefriendlyirl](https://twitter.com/agefriendlyirl)

Facebook: [Age Friendly Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/agefriendlyireland)

Website: www.agefriendlyireland.ie / www.agefriendlyhomes.ie

HSE Advice Line: Callsave 1850 24 1850

Call from 8am – 8pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday