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18th July 2025

National Updates



PhD Position in Data Governance Best Practices and Open Data Space - Project: Data Governance and Evidence based Policy Making-Partnership for Research on Ageing and Older People

Offering an exciting opportunity to join a project on Data Governance and Evidence based Policy Making-Partnership for Research on Ageing and Older People funded by Lero, the Research Ireland Centre for Software and industry partner, Age Friendly Ireland, a Local Government led service. The project aims to combine insights into age-friendly policy making with advancing best practices in data governance, allowing for an efficient data gathering, sharing, and exploitation approach within Age Friendly Ireland.

[Find out more >](#)

Dementia: Understand Together Updates



Check out the latest updates from Dementia: Understand Together June Updates. Three recent dementia and brain health activities took place which are great examples of community spirit, solidarity and support.

[Find out more >](#)

Old Cork Suburb House to be Knocked for 24 New 'right-size' Homes



An old former family home on Cork's southside will be knocked to make way for the Council's latest 'rize-sizing' development. The sheltered housing will be for older people wanting a smaller, more manageable home.

[Find out more >](#)

LGIU News – Reviving urban living by reducing property vacancy and dereliction: Waterford City and County Council's award winning initiative



'Reviving Urban Living by reducing property vacancy and dereliction' is an initiative that substantially promotes urbanism through improving and enhancing the lived experience in urban environments, by activating and encouraging reuse of vacant and derelict properties. An outstanding example of the efforts to enhance urban

living in Waterford includes St.
Joesph's House.

Find out more >

TFI Wheelchair Priority Campaign



Transport for Ireland (TFI), partnered with The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) and Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind (IGDB), have created a national campaign to raise awareness to allow wheelchair users to board first and priority to use the designated wheelchair space.

Public transport should be accessible to everyone — but for many wheelchair users, that access depends on more than just getting on board. It depends on being given the space and time they need to travel safely.

TFI's new fleet of buses include a designated space for wheelchair users, a designated space for buggies and a space to store luggage.

Most passengers have choices. For wheelchair users, this space is the only option. So please:

- Allow wheelchair users to board first
- Keep the wheelchair space clear for those who need it
- Make space when asked — it's not just polite, it's necessary

Let's work together to make public transport a place for everyone.

For more information, visit the TFI Website:

<https://www.transportforireland.ie/accessibility/wheelchair-priority-space/>

Local Updates



Monaghan Libraries Age Friendly Events **Carrickmacross Library**

Monday 21st July

11-12.30: Croissants and crosswords

Wednesday 23rd July

11-12pm: App attack - Library staff help with any enquiries you may have about your smart phone e.g. BorrowBox

Thursday 24th July

11am: Knit n knatter – Conversation and group knitting or crochet
Castleblayney Library

Tuesday 22nd July

11 – 5pm: Coeliac Roadshow – A drop-in session to find out more about Coeliacs Disease.
Clones Library

Monday 21st July

11-12pm: Puzzle Club - Enjoy the craic and solve some problems.
6pm-8pm: Adult art classes - Release the artist in you.

Monaghan Library

Tuesday 22nd July

2.30-4pm: Adult Mindful Colouring - Lose yourself in the joy of colouring.

Friday 25th July

2pm-3pm: Adult Scrabble Club – An afternoon on the tiles.



Offaly's Older Peoples Council Honoured at Civic Reception

Cathaoirleach Cllr John Leahy, on behalf of Offaly County Council's Elected Members, hosted a civic reception to honour Offaly's Older Peoples Council and its wider network in the Áras an Chontae on Thursday evening.

"Thanks to the work and dedication of the Older Peoples Council, the older residents of Offaly are recognised as essential contributors to initiatives that directly impact their daily lives. Their active participation in public consultations has ensured that a diverse range of needs are reflected in Offaly's current Age Friendly Strategy 2024-2029." said Cathaoirleach Cllr John Leahy addressing the reception.

[Find out more >](#)

Community Linkage Programme



**Age Friendly
IRELAND**

If you wish to Volunteer

Contact National Healthy Age Friendly
Homes Office
Tel: 046-9248899

Email Project Coordinator
alison.lynych@meathcoco.ie

Express your interest online through the
Volunteer Centres
[Volunteer Opportunity - I-VOI Roscommon](#)
[Volunteer Opportunity - I-VOI Leitrim](#)

**Announcing a new
Community Linkage Project**

A Pilot project is being set up in Roscommon and Leitrim to improve the health and wellbeing of women living in long-term residential care. The project will increase access to social and leisure activities, information and services available to women in nursing homes.

The Project Coordinator will recruit befriending volunteers and complete individual support plans with nursing home residents.






Killarney Sporting Memories Event Celebrates the Power of Soccer and Community Connection



The Killarney Soccer Memories Café was a hive of energy and emotion on Saturday, 28th June as it hosted a heart-warming Sporting Memories event dedicated to celebrating the legacy of soccer in Killarney and beyond. The gathering drew a turnout of local soccer enthusiasts, families, and community

members eager to share stories, relive the glory days, and honour the town's sporting spirit.

The atmosphere was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and nostalgia as attendees' swapped memories of memorable matches, favourite players, and treasured moments from Killarney's rich soccer history. The event was part of the broader Sporting Memories initiative, which supports older adults and people living with dementia by using the power of sport to spark conversation, improve mental well-being, and foster inclusion.

Speaking at the event, John Don O'Donoghue reflected on its significance: "This gathering wasn't just about football – it was about creating a space where every voice, every memory, and every individual matters. Events like this remind us of the strength of community and the importance of inclusion in towns like Killarney."

The café welcomed individuals from all walks of life, and organisers emphasised that people living with dementia are always welcome. The event showcased Killarney's commitment to being a town where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued.

Brian McCarthy, one of the participants, shared how much the day meant to him:

"It was a lovely morning, to sit and chat with others who remember some of the same games and moments I do and remind me of games I had forgotten. You feel part of something – part of a team again. That means more than words can say."

The stories shared throughout the day were touching, funny, and sometimes emotional – from tales of muddy pitches and last-minute goals to the enduring friendships built through the love of the game. The event left many attendees already looking forward to the next gathering.

The next Killarney Soccer Memories Café will be held on:

Date: Saturday 26th of July 2025

Time: 11am -1pm

Location: Clann Housing, Coill na Darrach, Killarney, V93 VXY8 (Near Rock Road Day Centre)

For more information, please contact Triona on soccermemoriescafe@gmail.com.

International Updates



We're taking a short break, but the conversations continue soon!

Thank you for your interest in the IFA Global Café.
Our next series of sessions will begin in the fall/2025, with more inspiring conversations from around the world.

[Find out more >](#)

If you would like a PDF version of the newsletter, please click [HERE](#)

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HSE Advice Line: Call save 1850 24 1850

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

Saturday and Sunday



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