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17th October 2025

Please note our National Age Friendly Recognition & Achievement Awards Ceremony 2025 are taking place next week, so there will be no news letter next Friday. We will return the following week with a bumper spread featuring all our wonderful winners.

National Updates



Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme Local Co-ordinator, Clare, (3-year fixed term contract)

Closing date for receipt of applications: Wednesday, 29th October 2025 at 1.00pm

Meath County Council hosts the national Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service on behalf of the local government sector.

Healthy Age Friendly Homes (HAFH), is a programme run by the shared service, which has the overall objective of enabling people to remain at home (where they might otherwise have been at risk of multiple attendances and hospitalisations or premature admission to long-term nursing home care) by coordinating more integrated community-based services, providing more sustainable housing supports, supporting better connection to good public realm and providing more assistive technologies in an age friendly way.

This programme is now being rolled out nationally, through all local authorities and Meath County Council invites applications from suitably qualified persons who wish to be considered for inclusion on a panel from which permanent and fixed-term contract vacancies for the position of Healthy Age Friendly Homes Local Co-ordinator shall be drawn (for Clare).

Read the Candidate Information Booklet Here>



John Spillane named as Cork City Age Friendly Ambassador

Award-winning musician and songwriter, John Spillane, has been named Cork's new Age Friendly Ambassador, the Cork City Age Friendly Programme

has announced.

The voluntary role is designed to raise awareness of age friendly practices supporting our ageing population, both locally and nationally.

Find out more >

Seniors + Place: Placemaking with Seniors Webinar



Join Declan Gaffney our National Technical Programme Manager for Seniors +

Place: Placemaking with Seniors Webinar

October 23 | 10am PST

Free RSVP: https://www.placemakingus.org/seniors--place

A free webinar about designing spaces for ageing, belonging, and intergenerational connection.

We'll explore how placemaking can counter ageism and isolation—lifting up elders as leaders, designers, and culture keepers in their communities. From plazas and parks to housing and transit, our speakers will share models where older adults are shaping more caring, walkable, and connected places. Let's reimagine what it means to grow older in place—and together.



Together Against Fire – National Fire Safety Week 2025 urges communities to help protect older people from fire deaths

National Fire Safety Week, which launched this week, is urging people to check in on vulnerable neighbours to help ensure their homes are safe from fire.

National Fire Safety Week (13 – 19 October) is an annual North/South event which focuses on enhancing fire safety, particularly in the home. This year's theme is 'Together Against Fire' and aims to support and protect the most vulnerable members of our community through simple actions and shared knowledge among neighbours, friends and family.



Report on Loneliness Among Older Men in Europe



A new report, Loneliness Among Older Men in Western and Eastern Europe, authored by TASC and commissioned by Friends of the Elderly Ireland, explores these questions across Ireland, Poland, and Romania. Published to mark the 20th anniversary of the EU's Eastern Enlargement, it provides fresh insights into the causes of loneliness, its impact, and solutions that can make a difference.



Cars Parking Illegally in Disabled Bays a 'Huge Problem' in Wexford Town



Wexford town has a "huge problem" with cars parking illegally in disabled bays and on footpaths. Results of a walkability audit carried out by Wexford County Council Age Friendly Programme Manager Niamh Bolger which analysed how safe it is for those with mobility issues to get around Wexford. "Ensuring people can safely access the town is not an option it is a core requirement for quality of life and independence," said Ms Bolger. "Studies show that improving accessibility directly increases the amount of time older adults spend outside."

Find out more >



Nursing Homes Ireland Announces 2025 Care Awards Celebrating Excellence Across Ireland's Nursing Home Sector

34 finalists from 13 counties to be honoured at Ireland's premier celebration of nursing home care

Nursing Homes Ireland (NHI) is delighted to announce the NHI Care Awards 2025, in association with Homecare Medical, will take place on Thursday, 6th November 2025, at the historic Round Room, Mansion House, Dublin.





UL Age Friendly University - Spring 2026 Courses

This programme is specially designed for older adults who are retired and/or consider themselves to be in the 'third age'—a post-career phase of life

focused on personal enrichment and lifelong learning. Open to individuals without any prior formal qualifications, the programme offers a unique opportunity to engage in university-level study in a supportive and flexible environment together with undergraduate students. All modules are integral parts of UL's regular undergraduate programmes.

Participants may enrol in one module per semester, places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Participation in assessments is optional. Regular attendance and engagement with course materials are expected, and students will enjoy full access to university facilities, including the library and sports amenities.

The modules offered are <u>NFQ Level 8</u> undergraduate modules and require no prior knowledge of the subject matter.

All modules are delivered in-person, on-campus. Students will require access to a home computer. The modules typically consist of three hours per week with a combination of lectures and practical, interactive tutorials but this can vary from case to case.

Upon completion, a certificate of attendance will be awarded to those who participate consistently.

For further information please click on the following link: <u>UL Age Friendly</u> <u>University | University of Limerick</u>

For all enquiries, please contact Maria Hickey at Maria. Hickey@ul.ie

DCU Musicology Research Seminars Semester 1

DCU Musicology Seminar Series Autumn 2025 WEDNESDAYS 5PM-6.00PM ALL HALLOWS CAMPUS, ROOM PG11 9 OCTOBER Dr Barbara Dignam, Dublin City University Warning! This Research is Already Out of Date: Evaluating GenAl Tools and LLMs for the Teaching of Applied Stylistic Techniques Professor Jane Alden, Wesleyan University Nosing Through Notational Objects Across Time 2 NOVEMBER Dr Seán Doherty, Dublin City University Annotations in the Francis O'Neill Collection at the University of Notre Dame 19 NOVEMBER **DCU Postgraduate Student Seminars** Hamidreza Golestanisani and Michael Young NOVEMBER Dr Adam Behan, Maynooth University Eurovision on a 'Troubled' Island, 1970-88 sean.doherty@dcu.ie blaithin.duggan@dcu.ie

DCU have announced the lineup of presenters for the DCU Musicology Research Seminar Series (Semester 1). This semester's programme promises to be an engaging one, featuring contributions from DCU colleagues, PhD researchers, and guest speakers.

The seminars are open to all, and we warmly encourage your attendance and participation.

If you have any questions, please contact them directly.

TFI Local Link to introduce route between Kells and Cootehill



From the Monday, 20th October,
TFI Local Link Cavan Monaghan will
introduce a new bus route
connecting Kells and Cootehill. This
new route is part of the Connecting
Ireland Rural Mobility Plan, a major
national public transport initiative
developed and funded by

the National Transport Authority (NTA) as part of the Transport for Ireland (TFI) Network.

Find out more >

UN Decade of Healthy Ageing update – October 2025



The Voices of Older Adults Survey seeks to hear from older people on their lived experiences at the midpoint of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing. Adults aged 60 years and above are invited to share their experiences to inform the next five years of the UN Decade. The survey is available in all 6 UN languages.

Find out more >

Mayo Project Scoops Prestigious National Housing Award



A Mayo project has won a national prize at the Irish Council for Social Housing Community Housing Awards 2025. Carnacon Social Housing Development, which is managed by Mayo County Council, topped the Small Family Housing Project category, beating competition from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown and Fingal in Dublin. The ceremony was held at the Slieve Russell Hotel in Cavan.

Find out more >

Leading Lights in Road Safety Awards



Every day, remarkable individuals and organisations across Ireland work tirelessly to make our roads safer. Now in its sixteenth year, the RSA Leading Lights in Road Safety Awards celebrate these champions, and we need your help to nominate them! This is your chance to shine a spotlight on those making a real difference in road safety.

Submit your nomination by: Friday 24th October 2025

Find out more >

Local Updates



Age Friendly Information Day, Longford, 2025

Longford County Council through the Age Friendly programme team, together with the Longford Age Friendly Alliance and Longford Older Person's Network, hosted a successful Age Friendly Information Day at the Longford Arms Hotel, bringing together older residents and key service providers in an atmosphere of community spirit and shared learning.





Offaly Older Person's Network celebrated Positive Ageing Week with another successful Event at Rambling House

Offaly Older Person's Network celebrated Positive Ageing Week with a very successful and entertaining Rambling House event, on Thursday 2nd October, in Tullamore Rugby Club, where attendees enjoyed an evening of music, song, stories, set dancing and craic. The evening was a fundraiser to support Family Carers Ireland carers in Offaly



Meath Cares About Older People Event



The annual Meath Cares About Older People event was held in the Ashbourne Convent Community Centre on Wednesday 8th October. There were information stands with details on supports and services available, and talks were given by service and support providers. Our Meath Age Friendly Ambassador, Sean Boylan was our very special guest speaker. Irish Heart Foundation Nurses provided blood pressure checks and pulse checks and the Meath Local Sports Partnership provided a fun chair dance taster session to round up the day.





Healthy Age Friendly Homes attend the Clare Age Expo



The Healthy Age Friendly Homes team attended the Clare Age Expo hosted by the Clare Older People's Council & Clare Age Friendly Programme. The Expo was held in Treacy's West County Hotel, Ennis. Local Coordinators Donal Clancy & Tracey Thompson, attended on the day to provide information for attendees and answer questions



Minding Your Wellbeing - Thurles, Co. Tipperary



Minding Your Wellbeing

A programme to support positive mental health and wellbeing for older adults

Programme content

- Practising self-care
- Understanding our thoughts & emotions
- Benefits of mindfulness
- Practising gratitude
- Building resilience
- Creating positive relationships



When & where?

Millennium Family Resource Centre Glengoole, Thurles Co. Tipperary E41AO65

Thursdays 11.30am-1pm

Dates: October 30th, November 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th and December 4th Light refreshments included 6 week programme

To register or for further information contact:

Alice Teehan Tel: (052) 9157992 or 083-1014313

The programme does not cover diagnosis of mental illness. Participants will not be asked to discuss their own mental health experiences



Annual Lovely Leitrim Awards 2025

Leitrim County Council hosted their annual 'Lovely Leitrim Awards' which recognises the good work carried out by volunteers and community groups across the county.

Age Friendly Ireland Regional Programme Managers for the North, Mairead Cranley, was invited to judge the Age Friendly Category. The awards night was held on Thursday the 2nd of October in Lough Rynn Castle.















Bunclody Library, Co.Wexford Age Friendly Events and Services



Bunclody Library Knitting Group every Thursday 10.30am to 12.30pm



Writing for Children and Young
Adults with author Caroline
Busher – Thursday 23rd October

New members always welcome to join our weekly knitting group. No booking required.

To book events, please telephone 053 9375466 or book online at wexfordcoco.libcal.com.

at 7.00pm

Learn about writing for Children from Irish Times bestselling Children's author Caroline Busher. Caroline will give you practical advice on writing for children such as getting your manuscript ready for submission and contacting agents. She will also answer any questions that you have on getting your children's book published. Booking required.

Loughboy Library, Co.Kilkenny Age Friendly Events and Services

Loughboy Library Weekly Online Clinic Tuesday 21st October from 2.30 - 3.30 pm

Would you like to learn more about the wealth of online resources available from Kilkenny Libraries?

Pop in to see us at our weekly online clinic and we can demonstrate to you how to use such fabulous online resources as Borrowbox, Universal Class and more!

No booking required. Just drop in!

Ciorcal Comhrá Gaeilge / Irish Conversation Group Thursday 23rd October from 11.00 – 11.30am

This is an enthusiastic gathering, seeking to use their cúpla focail. It is open to all levels of fluency, beginners, improvers and advanced.

Just come along agus beidh fáilte romhat!

MRHT Launches Irish Delirium Awareness Flag During Positive Ageing Week



Tullamore (MRHT) Older Persons
Team proudly launched the Irish
Delirium Awareness Flag as part of
Positive Aging Week 2025.
The Irish Delirium Awareness Flag
aims to raise awareness of delirium
across health services in the
Midlands, including the acute
hospitals and community services.
Molly Buckley, Chair of Offaly's
Older People Council attended the
event and spoke a few words.

Find out more >

Chime- Outreach Clinic



International Updates

If you would like a PDF version of the newsletter, please click HERE

- This Newsletter is prepared and circulated by Age Friendly Ireland
- The Newsletter is published weekly, every Friday
- If you wish to provide information that may be included in the Newsletter please email it to: agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie no later than midday on the Thursday. Age Friendly Ireland retains full editorial responsibility for content of the Newsletter.

Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service, Meath County Council



Age Friendly Ireland Shared Service Office Telephone: 046 9032170

Email: agefriendlyireland@meathcoco.ie

Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme (Referrals) Telephone: 046 9248899

Email: healthyagefriendlyhomes@meathcoco.ie

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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