

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland Newsletter

Issue 1 Spring 2018

# THE VOICE



## IN THIS ISSUE

**The latest campaign from IDWG & DCCN, and how you can become an advocate for the ASI**

Pictured above: Attendees at the ASI National Conference celebrating 35 years at Royal Marine Hotel in Dublin.



THE ALZHEIMER  
SOCIETY of IRELAND

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Welcome to the spring edition of *The Voice*. Firstly, I would like to say how delighted I am after The Alzheimer Society of Ireland celebrated 35 years of operating dementia-specific services and supports in Ireland at our internal conference at the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire last November.

It was a wonderful event and it was great to see so many of our board members, branch members, volunteers and staff from all over the country there to celebrate the organisation's many achievements over the past 35 years.

It was so great to see the history videos of the ASI down through the years and it gives you a huge sense of achievement at how far the organisation has come since 1982. A special mention here for Winifred Bligh and Imelda Gillespie who met in January 1982 and having been unable to find even the most basic information about dementia supports and services in Ireland, set about changing the landscape of dementia care in Ireland forever.

We also saw some wonderful panel discussions and the wonderful *Forget Me Nots* to finish off the day. A quick reminder that for all staff who couldn't make it on the day, there is a collection of materials from the day, including history documents and videos, available on our intranet.

Thanks again to everyone for playing their part and making the conference so successful.

The 35th Anniversary conference was also the first opportunity to speak about our new Strategic Plan 2018-2020. Following an extensive consultation period with our stakeholders last summer, we have been able to put together our plan for the coming three years.

I must say the consultation period was a very exciting and worthwhile experience and gave everyone in the organisation the opportunity to have their say on our vision, our mission, our values and what we should be concentrating on over the coming years.

On the day of the conference, I outlined that, over the next three years, our strategic priorities will be to: advocate for rights and resources for people with dementia and their carers and communities; promote and deliver sustainable dementia supports and services; Value and develop volunteering and branches; create a culture throughout the organisation where our values and mission are understood and lived; and strengthen our organisation's capacity to deliver our strategic priorities.

Our strategy is currently being developed into a document that we will shortly be distributed across the organisation.

Building on the success of the internal conference, I know our communications team are keen to showcase our local supports and services all around the country using social media and the hashtag #WhoWeAre. I think this is a great initiative as I feel it's a great way for us all to showcase the best of ourselves from wherever you are in the country and offer our social media followers across



Pat McLoughlin, CEO ASI

all platforms a real feel for what we are about.

I was happy again to see ASI services continuing to grow steady within the community. Day care is up 3% and we delivered just over 570,000 hours in 2017. Our helpline service had 5,294 service users for the year, a 6% increase. Also, the Mobile Information Bus Service had a hugely successful year in 2017 with 55 outings across 19 counties to end of the year. These figures are very impressive – well done to all involved.

It was great to see our training team win a very prestigious award at the Learning Technologies Awards 2017 in London in November. They won a Bronze Award in the Best Online Distance Learning Programme in recognition of our Home-Based Care-Home-Based Education online course for family carers. It is great to get recognition like this – well done to all the training team and all involved.

Our fundraising is really going from strength to strength with so many events planned for this year, not least the upcoming Denim Day for Dementia on March 9th, the Great Ireland Run on April 15th and, of course, the biggest fundraising event in our calendar, Tea Day which will be taking place on May 3rd.

It's also great to see so many new corporate partnerships being made. I am looking forward to the Sláinte Ball that will be taking place on Friday, March 16th in Croke Park along with our GAA charity partners Breakthrough Cancer Research and Make a Wish.

We were also delighted to be chosen by UDG to be one of their charity partners in 2017 and to be part of the PwC - The People Giving Scheme 2017. These partnerships are so important to the organisation in terms of raising extra funds, but also in terms of raising public awareness of dementia among members of the public.

Finally, it really is very heartening to see in these pages so many regional and local fundraising events and information events taking place all over the county – from staff, branch members and volunteers. This really is great to see and I am looking forward to seeing more of this in the busy year ahead!

And 2018 will also be the year that we continue to advocate for the voice of persons with dementia and their carers and family members. We can see this with the new campaign and video that the our advocacy groups the Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG) and Dementia Carers Campaign Network (DCCN) have just launched to educate healthcare professionals about the supports people need when receiving a diagnosis. We really want to press home the need for more home care and post-diagnostic support for people with dementia this year. We will be doing this along with advocating for progress on the National Dementia Strategy along with our partners in the Government and the HSE.

**I am really looking forward to the year ahead.**

**Pat McLoughlin.**



## ASI NATIONAL CONFERENCE CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

On the 20th of November 2017 we celebrated our 35th anniversary. Our focus on the day was to showcase 'Who We Are' and 'Who We Work For' & we did this with a selection of panel discussions throughout the day.

From the feedback we have received we achieved this and more. Thank you to everyone who was able to make the journey to be part of the day, many of you had a very early start and also to staff members who were unable to attend in order to keep our services fully functioning.

We produced a lot of content in-house including four videos chronicling the history of the ASI over the last 35 years.

If you would like more information on how you can view these please email [lisa.gernon@alzheimer.ie](mailto:lisa.gernon@alzheimer.ie)



Forget-Me-Nots Choir with CEO Pat McLoughlin



ASI Staff & Volunteers attendees



ASI Dementia Advisers Maeve Montgomery and Ana Dalton



John Clifford ASI Board Chairman giving the opening remarks

## IDWG & DCCN JOINT CAMPAIGN ON EDUCATING HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

The Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG) and Dementia Carers Campaign Network (DCCN) have launched their first joint campaign, which will focus on educating healthcare professionals about the supports people want and need when receiving a dementia diagnosis.

This issue was selected by the groups as members are passionate about ensuring that people with dementia receive a clear diagnosis with sufficient information about follow-up supports, including The Alzheimer Society of Ireland helpline number.

As part of this campaign a video has been developed which highlights different experiences people have had of receiving a diagnosis including people of different ages, genders and with different types of dementia. This video features Ronan Smith, Kathy Ryan and Anne McGeown from the IDWG, alongside Micheál Rowsome and Laura Reid from the DCCN.

It also features Dr Tony Foley from the PREPARED project (Primary Care Education, Pathways & Research of Dementia), a three-year national primary care dementia project that is being delivered as part of the National Dementia Strategy.

In the coming months, the IDWG and DCCN will seek opportunities to present to healthcare professionals – including GPs, Public Health Nurses, Geriatricians, Neurologists, Memory Clinics, Physicians, Nursing Homes and third-level students – about this important issue. Healthcare professionals are also being encouraged to visit [dementiapathways.ie](http://dementiapathways.ie) which is a web-based clinical education resource designed for GPs and community based healthcare professionals across Ireland.

Please visit [www.alzheimer.ie](http://www.alzheimer.ie) for more information on this campaign and to watch the video.



Photo: Members of the Irish Dementia Working Group and Dementia Carers Campaign Network with Dr Tony Foley

## RESEARCH ROUND UP

We are currently involved in 11 research projects ranging in topic from lifestyle and risk factors to resilience in caregiving and our range of partners includes UCD, NUIG, DCU, TCD, the Irish Cancer Society, Irish Heart Foundation and Diabetes Ireland. Making decisions about what research projects we will support is our Research Review Committee. *Meet the Committee:*



Des O'Grady

Des O'Grady, "I am a Chaplain in the Central Mental Hospital and I also organise retreats. This work takes a lot of planning & organisation which I enjoy. I feel my strengths would be listening and thinking things through, then giving the necessary feedback and contributing my thoughts where appropriate." (Person with dementia)



Ciara O'Reilly

Ciara O'Reilly, "I'm the Administrator for ASI Wicklow Services and also coordinate events. I have a background in finance and BA Hons in Psychology. I've always enjoyed research and I look forward to seeing what's coming up in the study of dementia / Alzheimer's".



Ann Twomey

Ann Twomey "I can offer a unique and valuable perspective representing the greater world outside the Research Community, given my role as carer for my late husband who lived with vascular dementia."



Annie Dillon

Annie Dillon works with the ASI and is currently the Project Lead for Quality, Safety and Practice Development. Previous roles in ASI include management of the national helpline and information service, project management of service development, research and funded pilot projects.



Mary Bolger

Mary Bolger, "I have been working with ASI for 15 years and I manage the Home Care Services for Kildare and all of Wicklow. I also am an in house family carer trainer and I facilitate the Dementia Awareness Training for the care staff. I have a nursing background & I have cared for my own mother who has dementia."



Joanna Joyce

Joanna Joyce is Advocacy Officer and coordinates our Dementia Carers Campaign Network.

Joanna is responsible for supporting national and local political engagement and coordinating national advocacy campaigns.

We are also developing a research panel that aims to amplify the voices of people with dementia and their carers, and give them the opportunity to take part in different research activities. If you would like more information, get in touch with Dr Bernadette Rock, Research and Policy Manager, [Bernadette.rock@alzheimer.ie](mailto:Bernadette.rock@alzheimer.ie)

## CALL OUT FOR ADVOCATES

We are building up a database of national and regional spokespeople for Tea Day 2018.

We are looking to broaden the panel to see if any ASI staff might be interested in putting themselves forward as spokespeople should media opportunities come up in the coming months around Tea Day 2018.

Our Communications Team will be providing information on key aspects of the campaign and messaging etc. Let me know if you might be interested and I can give you more information.

We will be putting a huge focus on regional and local Tea Day events this year and want to promote all of the events around the country this year.

We hope by developing local representatives, we can make this happen.

If anyone is interested, please email [lisa.gernon@alzheimer.ie](mailto:lisa.gernon@alzheimer.ie)

## NEW ASI PROJECTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

### Heskin Court's Adapted Physical Activity Programme



Terrabands, Batons, Boxing Gloves might be more likely to be found in a gym instead of a Day Care Centre. But these are just some of the equipment used at Heskin Court's Adapted Physical Activity Programme.

And the effects are visible: Clients experience not just the physical

benefits of greater strength, balance and endurance, but also an increase in their overall well-being and happiness.

Heskin Court was selected by the HSE in 2017 for a three month pilot programme of weekly Adapted Physical Activity classes provided by the charity Siel Bleu. The skilled trainer designs each class to meet clients needs and abilities and utilises the different tools, so that everyone can participate and enjoy the hour long session, regardless of their abilities and health status.

The benefits for our clients over the three month period were so great, that we have decided to continue with the programme now that the pilot is completed. The breathing techniques at the end and start of the programme



help our clients to focus inwards and have a calming effect.

The group exercises encourage everyone to partake and besides the above effects confidence levels of clients have increased. And despite the physical effort there is still plenty of space for laughter and a great banter.

### Orchard Bealtaine Artist Residency



The ASI's Orchard Day Care Centre in Blackrock, Co Dublin was honoured to be successful in the application to host the first Bealtaine artist residency in 2017.

The Artist in Residence, Joanna Hopkins, which was funded by Bealtaine, was a wonderful experience for persons with dementia, staff, family and friends of The ASI.

The ASI supported the artist by offering Dementia Awareness and

Safeguarding Training as well as mentoring throughout the residency.

The work of the artist brought meaningful artistic participation to persons with dementia at The Orchard Day Care Centre. "The residency had many benefits, in particular that the voice of the person with dementia was at its heart," said former Orchard Manager Clodagh Whelan.

"Persons with dementia were valued and respected throughout the



process. Bealtaine funding ensured that the diagnosis of dementia was not a barrier to creative endeavour. Something has shifted in The Orchard. The residency has left sustainable benefits; a legacy of creativity that will continue. We cannot unlearn how to work creatively."

Here is a selection of pictures from the sharing event which was the culmination of the artist's residency at The Orchard in December 2017. Pictures credit: Tony Kinlan.

### Kilkenny Day Care & Butler Gallery join forces.

The Butler Gallery is located in the basement of Kilkenny Castle and is inaccessible to people using wheelchairs or those with mobility difficulties. Since January they've been bringing objects from their permanent collection out into the community, engaging with people living with dementia who otherwise would not

be able to access the Gallery. The programme was proposed by Butler Gallery following their participation in the European Commission funded Museums, Art & Alzheimer Project - see [www.maaproject.eu](http://www.maaproject.eu) and this current project is a six-part series of workshops taking place in the ASI Village Day Centre in Kilkenny.



## AWARDS SEASON

### ASI Training team success at The Learning Technologies Awards

Big congratulations to our Training Team Fergus Timmons, Training Manager, Davina Smith Stakeholder Training and Compliance Officer, Christine Carr our Administrator and Julie Greene our online tutor for picking up a Bronze Award at the Learning Technologies Awards 2017.

The Award was in the Category of Best Online Distance Learning Programme and was recognition of

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland's Home-Based Care-Home- Based Education online course for family carers looking after a loved one with dementia.

The course was one of the products of our Erasmus+ project which ASI coordinated, and featured partner organisations from Belgium and Norway. The course has proven to be a great success.



Pictured above are Julie Greene, Christine Carr, Fergus Timmons and Davina Smith.

### 'Eating well with Dementia' booklet scoops two awards



Ipsos MRBI recently won two awards – in the Grand Prix and Public Policy & Social Research sections – at the Marketing Society Research Excellence Awards 2017 for research for our 'Eating well with Dementia' booklet which was launched in September. Big thanks to our project partners Nutricia Ireland.

Pictured here is ASI Communications Manager Cormac Cahill, ASI Head of Advocacy & Public Affairs Tina Leonard, Nutricia Head of Public & Strategic Affairs Fiona Rafferty and Director of Ipsos MRBI Tarik Laher.

### Public Sector Honour for ASI

We were awarded Outright Winners for our Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) in the Public Sector Magazine Excellent in Business Awards 2017. The ASI was awarded Pobal funding to run a CST programme in a number of locations in Ireland.



The project was a great success and research confirms the benefits. Collecting the Public Sector Award for CST are ASI Communications Manager Cormac Cahill & ASI Head of Operations Miriam Enright.

### Bethany House Nomination



Keep your fingers crossed for our colleagues in Bethany House in Carlow who have been nominated for Day Care Centre of the Year Award with the Irish Healthcare Awards taking place on Friday, March 9th

### European Recognition

Vice Chair of our Irish Dementia Working Group Kathy Ryan and Advocacy, Engagement & Participation Officer, Clodagh Whelan accept the European Foundations' Initiative on Dementia award for our Learn, Listen, Link campaign in Sofia, Bulgaria in January.



## INFORMATION SERVICES

### Helpline & Mobile Information Service Updates

Our National Helpline provides a free, confidential, information and support service for people with dementia and their families 6 days a week (Monday to Saturday). Staffed by advisers and volunteers the service had its busiest year on record, with 5,294 service users contacting us, a 6% increase on 2016.

3,097 (59%) contacted us because a diagnosis of dementia has been confirmed; including 84 people had themselves received a diagnosis of dementia or mild cognitive impairment. 2017 saw an increase of 17% in the number of people contacting us who were concerned about their own or a loved one's cognitive health. The increase is likely to be largely attributed to the 'Understand Together' campaign across radio and T.V.

A huge thank you to the all the team who work so hard to deliver this professional, supportive and important service.



We particularly welcome new members to the team and thank those who retired following amazing work. A special mention to acknowledge the passing of Carmel O'Neill who volunteered with our helpline for over 10 years, 'Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h'anam'

Our Helpline is available at **1800 341 341** and [helpline@alzheimer.ie](mailto:helpline@alzheimer.ie)

## MOBILE INFORMATION SERVICE

**2017 was the first full year our Mobile Information Service travelled the highways and byways of Ireland. We visited 19 counties and participated in 55 events.**

The service delivered information and support to people with dementia and their families visiting shopping centres, town centres, local agricultural shows, local festivals, a farmer's mart, age friendly events, three hospitals, two universities and attended the three days of the National Ploughing Championship. We are planning great events in 2018 and hope to reach more people.

If you would like information about how to bring this service to your community call **(01) 207 3819** or visit [www.alzheimer.ie](http://www.alzheimer.ie)



## STAFF PROFILE CHRISTINE CARR

**My name is Christine Carr and I have worked for The Alzheimer Society of Ireland for over six years now. I gained employment with ASI, through the Community Employment scheme, as the part time administrator in our Fáilte Day Care centre.**

Over time, I built relationships with the family carers of the clients as they dropped their loved ones into the centre. The staff in Fáilte Day Centre were always so passionate about caring for the clients and also made me feel very welcome and part of the team.

After two and a half years, I applied for the part time permanent position of Training Administrator in National Office with Training Manager, Fergus Timmons. As part of my new role in the Training Department, I assisted Fergus in organising, developing and delivering training across ASI to staff and also to family carers. It is a very busy department and we were delighted to welcome Davina Smith to the team last April.

I am now responsible for the organising of our Insights into Dementia, Family Carer Training courses around

Ireland. I really love this role as it involves daily contact with family carers. Part of my job includes managing the waiting list, recruiting, inviting carers onto the course, advertising, booking the tutors and venues and organising the materials, equipment for each course.

Last year was a very successful year. We delivered 22 face to face Insights into Dementia courses, as well as four online Home Based Care - Home Based Education courses. In total 380 family carers attended these courses. We ran courses in nine counties - Dublin, Cork, Laois, Kildare, Wicklow, Monaghan, Limerick, Clare and Galway. Demand is so high in Dublin that we ran 11 courses there in 2017.



## FUNDRAISING CORPORATE UPDATES

2017 was a very busy and successful year with our corporate partners and we'd like to thank them all for their amazing support of the work we do to provide supports and services for the 55,000 people living with dementia in Ireland.

We were delighted to be selected for PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) - The People Giving Scheme 2017



ASI Head of Fundraising Mairéad Dillon accepting a cheque for €17,772.78 from Mary McCluskey, PwC.



UDG Healthcare raised €20,000 from their Annual Golf Day fundraiser.

We are delighted to announce our Sláinte Ball on Friday March 16th in Croke Park, hosted by The Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Breakthrough Cancer Research and Make a Wish.



Celebrate the "best of Irish" with us! Drinks reception on arrival followed by a three course dinner. The Sam Maguire & Liam McCarthy cups will be available for photos on the night. Evanne Ni Chuillín will MC the night and our special guest speaker is Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh. Spring Break 80's Super Group will provide the music and there will be a "best of Irish" goodie

bag for each guest. To book your seat contact the Fundraising team on **01 2073835**. Pictured at the Sláinte Ball Launch: GAA Ticketing and Training Executive, Kevin Sexton; Breakthrough Cancer Research Campaigns Manager Eoghan O'Sullivan; The ASI's Fundraising Manager Nikki Keegan; and Make A Wish Head of Corporate, Gareth Crowe.

In 2018 we hope to continue building our corporate charity partners and are delighted to announce we will be working closely with the following partners:



## FUNDRAISING NEEDS YOU TO GET INVOLVED IN 2018



### Alzheimer's Tea Day

Tea Day will take place nationwide on Thursday May 3rd. We are calling on members of the public to show their support by holding a Tea Day or by joining friends, family or work colleagues at a Tea Day event in your community.

This year we are also calling on the building community to get involved and join us for Builders Brew. To register for your pack visit [www.teaday.ie](http://www.teaday.ie). #teaday2018



### Denim Day for Dementia

Join Rugby Player Dave Kearney in supporting The Alzheimer Society of Ireland's Denim Day for Dementia. Join with Dave and ditch the every-day uniform and don the Denim for ASI on Friday March 9th.

Call Nikki on 01-2073816 or email [nikki.keegan@alzheimier.ie](mailto:nikki.keegan@alzheimier.ie) for more information. #denimday4dementia



### Ancient East Cycle Challenge

It would be difficult to find a route with as much historical significance along its route. From the Swords Castle to the wonderfully preserved medieval streetscape of Carlingford, from the Battle of the Boyne to Drogheda's St Laurence's Gate.

Along the way there are wonderful little roads with views of the coast and mountains popping up as pleasant surprises. Taking place July 13th & 14th. To register your interest contact Jarlath call 01-2073826 or by email [Jarlath.coyle@alzheimier.ie](mailto:Jarlath.coyle@alzheimier.ie)



### Camino Challenge

We are delighted to announce that TV3's Deric Ó hArtagáin along with Kathy Ryan from our Irish Dementia Working Group will lead our Camino Challenge this September. Join Deric and Kathy and journey with them as they follow in the footsteps of many pilgrims throughout the ages.

Enjoy the rustic landscape as the trek leads you through quaint villages and blossoming trails. To register your interest contact Jarlath by email [Jarlath.coyle@alzheimier.ie](mailto:Jarlath.coyle@alzheimier.ie) or call 01-2073826

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

## WICKLOW

Well done to the ASI Wicklow Services staff from Bray and Rathdrum who completed their Fire Training with Gendist Fire and Safety in January.



## WICKLOW

Wicklow Day Centre Manager Laurence Collins collected a cheque €1,665 from the Wicklow Chamber of Commerce as part of being selected as the Chambers charity for 2017.



Pictured above are Chamber President Diana Sheridan, Laurence Collins and Ciara O'Reilly.

## WICKLOW

Many thanks to International Charity Bazaar which donated a €8,000 to Wicklow Day Care Manager Laurence Collins at a ceremony at The Mansion House in Dublin. The donation will be used towards a new bus for Rathdrum and Bray DC.



Pictured above: Papal Nunzio Jude Thaddeus Okolo with ICB Chairperson Suzanne Gachukia and Dublin Lord Mayor Micheál MacDonncha and Laurence Collins.

## KILDARE

ASI's new Head of Finance Marie Kelly popped into Dunmurry Day Care services to meet the clients and see first-hand the work carried out.



## KILDARE

Thank you to the Muiriosa Foundation for their support over the last number of years in facilitating the ASI in providing excellent day care services in Kildare.



Pictured above are: Michael Nolan Operations Manager for Muiriosa Foundation & Kildare branch members Margaret Nolan (Chair) & Claire McNally (secretary) at Moore Abbey in Kildare.

## KILDARE

RTÉ cameras were on hand to catch all the excitement at Dunmurry Springs Day Care official opening, as part of the new series of Francis Brennan's 'At Your Service' airing in April. ASI Chairman John Clifford delivered the opening remarks and was attended by the ASI's Kildare Branch, people with dementia, their family carers and Fianna Fail TD Fiona O'Loughlin.



## LONGFORD

Tom Kelly, Breda Dunne Co-ordinator of Care Longford & Brian Murray presenting a cheque for €400.00 from a variety concert held in the Backstage Theatre recently.



## GALWAY

Well done to the 6th class pupils from Killeeneen National School who raised €770 carol singing to fund ASI services and supports in Galway City & Council.



## GALWAY

Big congrats to all the Galway Transition students who took part with Yann studios to create a calendar with photos inspired by the Alzheimer society of Ireland.

The Top 12 made the calendar and Minister of state Ciaran Cannon awards the students with their prizes.



# NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

## KILKENNY

Many thanks to the Mahony family from Kilkenny for organising their fantastic Fun Run and raising €9,400 and for their continued support. Shane Mahony presents Day Centre Manager Moira Knowles with the cheque.



## TIPPERARY

ASI Southern Region Operations Manager Catriona Lavelle and Christina McKenna from Watermans Lodge receiving a cheque from Hugh Blaney who raised €31,064.30 by running the Dingle Marathon.



## TIPPERARY

Watermans Christina McKenna with Bridie and William Bleach from the East Clare Tractor Run which raised €3,835 and they also donated smart TVs to Watermans.



## WATERFORD

A big thank you to Mount Melleray Community Silage Committee for raising €14,319 for South Tipperary and West Waterford Services. We wish to thank all who supported the event in August and the organisers John O'Brien, Ann O'Brien, Mary Byrne and all the volunteers who helped out on the day.



## WEXFORD

Thank you to our wonderful carer Mary Redmond and all her family and neighbours in Clonroche who joined forces during the Halloween festivities to raise €478.09 to help fund ASI supports and services in Wexford.



## LAOIS

Laois Branch and Laois home care coordinator Ann Munnely had a great day at Killeshin Hotel Portlaoise at Age Friendly Business Recognition with Laois County Council PPN and Level 5 QQI students who showed great interest in working in dementia care. Laois Branch member Norma Booth gave a great description of life as spouse carer to Level 5 QQI students.



## SLIGO

A great day was had by all at the Aughamore Day Care centre in Sligo when Irish Traditional group Dervish popped in to give a performance.



## CLARE

Great fun is always had when the Dominos are brought out in the Ennis Day Care Centre. As a group activity it encourages social interaction, stimulation and concentration but results in lots of messing, joking and laughter which can be heard throughout the Centre.



From left to right, Breege, Rose, Noreen, Reg and Maureen enjoying a game of dominos.

## DUBLIN

Thanks to everyone involved with our 'Dining with the Stars of Fair City' at Enigma Restaurant in Dublin especially Ramon Massey and Alan O'Braoin who made it such a special occasion for everyone who attended. €1,800 was raised on the night to help fund much needed supports and services to people living with dementia and their families.



## BIDING A FOND FAREWELL...

### Galway

Bridget Ann Hynes has retired after 13 years working with the ASI as a home carer.

She was such a great asset to the Galway team and much loved by clients and families alike. We wish Bridget Ann all the best for her retirement.

### North Cork

Ann Hickey has retired from the North Cork Home Care team after 12 years as part of the team. Ann was a valued member of our team and is held in high esteem by all those she worked with.

Ann's commitment to Our Vision ensured that the people she provided a service to were treated with respect, compassion and dignity.

In the weeks leading up to her retirement, we received many calls from the families she worked with expressing their gratitude for the care and support she had provided.

Ann made a difference to so many people and is a true advocate for people with dementia and their families. We wish her all the best for her retirement.



Above, from left to right: Galway Homecare Manager Bernadette O'Grady, Home carer Bridget Ann Hynes (Centre) retiring after 13 years working with ASI & Maureen Mannion ASI Dementia Adviser.

## #WHOWEARE



In 2018 we want to build on the success of #WhoWeAre social media posts that we used during World Alzheimer Month 2017 to showcase local supports and services – and we need your help. We'd like photos from all aspects of ASI daily life – Day Care, Home Care, the DAs, Alzheimer Cafes, Social Clubs, Information, Fundraising, Advocacy, Training etc anything that showcases to the public #WhoWeAre.

Please send your photos or queries to [lisa.gernon@alzheimer.ie](mailto:lisa.gernon@alzheimer.ie)



If you have any queries or would like to submit a piece for The Voice please email - [thevoice@alzheimer.ie](mailto:thevoice@alzheimer.ie)



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