

THE VOICE



IN THIS ISSUE

Latest from launch of our Pre-Budget Submission 2020, Tea Day Events marking 25 years and lots more news from around the country.

Pictured above: Our inspirational dementia advocates Kathy Ryan and Kevin Quaid launch Tipperary v Limerick Legends Hurling Match at Semple Stadium.



THE ALZHEIMER
SOCIETY of IRELAND

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Welcome to the summer edition of The Voice – what a busy year it has been so far for everyone. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.

As you would have seen, we launched our Pre-Budget Submission 2020 'Dementia Supports Across Ireland – Still Asking, Still Waiting, Still Struggling' in Dublin on Wednesday, July 3rd and have called on the Government to fund vital community supports and home care that are so desperately needed across Ireland.

At the launch event, member of our Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG) Dr Helen Rochford Brennan, who has campaigned relentlessly since her own dementia diagnosis in 2012, spoke so honestly about her life as someone living with dementia, as an advocate and now a carer herself for her husband. Despite all of her years as a dementia advocate she's still asking, still waiting and still struggling and does not believe that her own Government has actually listened to her.

We know that no county in Ireland provides even a minimum standard of care for people with dementia and our funding call on the Government for Budget 2020 would triple the number of services and supports available, including an increase of 13 day centres and 118 Alzheimer Cafés. Currently there are only nine Dementia Advisers covering the whole country and our funding call would mean that families in every county in Ireland would have access to this key service.

This funding could represent a first step in dealing with the inadequate and glaring gaps in services and supports so recently identified across the country – let's see will the Government listen on Budget Day, Tuesday October 8th.

Our 25th Anniversary of our biggest annual fundraiser Tea Day was fantastic this year with a huge number of events taking place across the country. We asked the nation to support us on this, in any way big or small, and we had a tremendous reaction from members of the public and from within the organisation this year. We really need national events like Tea Day just to keep our services open. That is the reality. So thank you everyone for playing their part in such a successful event this year.

Minister for Health Simon Harris attended our National Tea Day event at our Orchard Day Care Centre in Blackrock, Co Dublin and made a commitment in front of our South Dublin branch members, staff, people with dementia and their families to meet with us to discuss dementia supports further. We were delighted to take him up on his offer and a delegation met with the Minister at Government Buildings in Dublin on Thursday, May 30th. It was very constructive. We will be progressing with the discussion on the issues and a further meeting will be arranged with the Minister. I will keep you all updated.

It's very encouraging to see on these pages that our services continue to perform very strong and between January – April, we provided 182,669 hours of day care; 50,937 hours of home care; 24,436 hours of respite; and 15,518 hours of support services across the country. These are very impressive figures.

In addition to this, already this year our Mobile Information Service has had 28 outings – double the amount compared to last year. I am delighted that our Alzheimer National Helpline service now provides an online Live

Chat option; this ensures people browsing our website have an opportunity to link directly with our Helpline Advisers in a confidential and secure way. I know the information team is continuing to develop their range of information resources available to people with dementia and their carers, providing them with vital practical tips and suggestions for managing day-to-day. Well done to all involved.

As you will see from the cover of this edition, our two leading Munster dementia advocates Kevin Quaid and Kathy Ryan have called on the public to rally behind a Tipperary v Limerick legends hurling match fundraiser. This event, which was the brainchild of Kevin and Kathy as they wanted to do something to give back to the ASI, will be held in Nenagh during World Alzheimer's Month 2019 and will be a terrific event.

Our advocacy groups are going from strength to strength. I was delighted to speak at the Dementia Carers Campaign Network (DCCN) event to mark Carers Week 2019 in June. I feel having the voice of family carer advocates to the fore gives our organisation real integrity and there is a huge value in having the voice of carers in working to create change. This group has had a fantastic impact on our organisation

in putting the real issues that are affecting people with dementia and their family carers on the table.

I know that our Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG) has also been extremely busy and you will read on these pages that members of the group recently had the opportunity to work with our National Theatre – the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. What a fantastic and original way to have the voice of people living with dementia heard. I look forward to seeing their work.

Well done to everyone from our Bloomfield Social Club in Rathfarnham in Dublin who helped to inspire the Dementia: Understand Together 1950s show garden 'Memories are Made of This' at the Bloom Festival. The garden was awarded a Silver Gilt Award and the People's Choice award. What a brilliant result, well deserved. I am really pleased to see the new Branch in Malahide and surrounding areas coming on stream. This is a very positive development as the new Branch has set up a new Day Care Dementia Service for the community starting this September 2019. I am really looking forward to working with the volunteers and staff who are helping to make this happen.

Finally, I was delighted to see our Home-Based Care-Home-Based Education online course for family carers being selected as a success story by the European Commission. This was high praise indeed. Frontline services like this offer a genuine lifeline to family carers right across the country. They are so important.

Thanks for reading – I hope you enjoy the summer edition.



Pat McLoughlin



Pat McLoughlin, CEO ASI

IRISH DEMENTIA WORKING GROUP UPDATE

In early June, our Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG) had the opportunity to work with the Abbey Theatre in Dublin.



The Abbey Theatre put out a call to work with communities who felt marginalised and silenced to take part in their 5x5 development series. These projects received five days' worth of space, technical assistance and €5,000 to help in the development of a theatre piece.

The members of the IDWG know dementia is a topic which has inspired many artists in recent years and have observed theatre makers, film makers, visual artists and writers responding to this condition. Now though they want their own voices to be heard by creating their

own work based on the lived experience of dementia. They want to lift the lid on the complex realities of cognitive impairment. During their week at the National Theatre, members of the IDWG participated in a series of workshops, facilitated by theatre producers Bow Productions, about issues which matter to them.

The goal is to create a theatre piece which reflects the voice of people living with dementia. Watch this space for further details.

DEMENTIA CARERS CAMPAIGN NETWORK UPDATE

DCCN members have been working hard to amplify the voice of carers. Here is a quick update on some of our work.

Over the past few months our members featured in national media such as the Independent, Irish Times and RSVP magazine to highlight the needs of carers. Our members spoke at engagements such as the Understand Together national partner event, Engaging Dementia conference and at St. Mary's in the Phoenix Park. Members also



attended the Dementia in Rural Ireland conference in Boyle. At our Leinster meeting in Dublin and our Munster meeting in Limerick our members met with Dr Emer Begley and Mary Manning from the National Dementia Office.

The Annual Carers forum was held on the 21st of May by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. Several Committee, Leinster and Munster members of the DCCN attended. Members strongly represented both the urban and rural voice at this important forum.

On the 13th of June, to mark Carers Week 2019, the DCCN hosted an event to empower carer advocates. The aim of the event was to give people the skills, confidence and knowledge to lobby, represent, campaign and highlight the issues and challenges facing family carers. Speakers included Kevin Deegan who coordinated Carers



Week 2019, Pat McLoughlin CEO of the ASI, Averil Power CEO of the Irish Cancer Society, journalist Teena Gates (Pictured above) and Jillian Garvey, senior manager at Carr Communications. The event concluded with focus groups discussing the value of the carer voice and opportunities to work together.

Thank you to everyone who supports the DCCN. If you would like to join the DCCN please contact laura.reid@alzheimer.ie

THE DEMENTIA RESEARCH ADVISORY TEAM

The newly established Dementia Research Advisory Team is a group of Experts by Experience who wish to take part in research in a Person Public Involvement (PPI) capacity.

The team is made up of people living with dementia and carers, and is supported by The ASI. The first meeting took place earlier this year and it was a great success. All are looking forward to their first project.

PPI occurs when people with dementia and carers work in partnership with researchers on projects. This might include setting research priorities, co-designing study materials and information, planning research studies and putting results into practice.

It is a way to ensure that the real life experiences are considered in designing research. In addition to being involved in various research projects across Ireland, team members come together three to four times per year for capacity building workshops.



Pictured; Standing L-R: Mary McIntyre, Ciara O' Reilly, Máire-Anne Doyle, Padraic Egan, Laura O' Philbin, Michael Foley.

Sitting L-R: Ray Cregan, Kathy Ryan, Helena Quaid, Kevin Quaid, Una Caulfield, Helen Rochford Brennan.

We are grateful to Michael Foley from PPI Ignite Trinity College Dublin for facilitating the meeting.

To learn more about the Dementia Research Advisory Team, please contact laura.ophilbin@alzheimer.ie

PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2020

"Government is ignoring the health crisis of our time"

This was the emotional message from Dr Helen Rochford Brennan, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2012, at the launch of The Alzheimer Society of Ireland Pre-Budget Submission 2020 'Dementia Supports Across Ireland – Still Asking, Still Waiting, Still Struggling'.

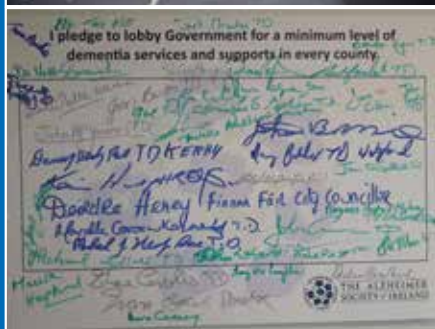
The ASI is calling on Government to urgently fund community supports and home care for people living with dementia. The Submission details what the €18.4m national investment proposal could begin to do, to support people with dementia and their struggling families across the country.

At the launch we had our highest ever turnout of TDs, Senators and Representatives - 58 in total, over 40 of these also signed a pledge to commit their support to lobby Government for a minimum level of dementia services and supports in every county, a very encouraging start to the campaign.

The speakers included Chair of ASI, John Clifford, our CEO Pat McLoughlin and carer, journalist and advocate



Teena Gates. Dr Helen Rochford Brennan also gave a moving presentation, emphasising the theme of the campaign "Still". Helen is tired of still asking, still waiting and still struggling.



Her presentation was accompanied by a video capturing her advocacy work over the last 6 years. Helen has witnessed numerous false dawns as successive Budget Days have come and gone without ring-fenced funding for dementia-specific supports and services. All of the presentations and this video are available to view on The Alzheimer Society of Ireland YouTube channel.

Of course this event just kicked off what will be a three month campaign leading up to Budget 2020. We hope that we will have your support with this campaign and we look forward to working together with you to achieve investment in dementia care in Budget 2020.

For more information, please contact **Avril Easton, Advocacy Manager**, at avril.easton@alzheimer.ie or on 01 207 3813.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Irish online Erasmus+ dementia training garners European Commission praise

Our Home-Based Care-Home-Based Education online course for family carers looking after a loved one with dementia, recently received high praise from the European Commission.

This online course was one of the products of our Erasmus+ project which was coordinated by The ASI with partner organisations Ic Dien, a further education college in Belgium, and Flexible Education Norway. The course has proven to be a great success. It features the same content as our existing face-to-face course Insights into Dementia, but is held exclusively online and can be completed from the comfort of your own home.

The European Commission wrote to our Learning and Development team last week to praise the project and to



explain that it has been selected as a "success story" by a panel of experts from the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture of the European Commission. It is understood that praise of this nature is extremely rare.

"Success stories" are finalised projects that have distinguished themselves by their impact, contribution to policy-making,

innovative results and/or creative approach and can be a source of inspiration for others. The selection of this course as a success story was made on the basis of rigorous criteria regarding its quality, relevance and results.

Our External Learning and Development Manager, Fergus Timmons said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive this recognition from the Commission. It really validates the approach we have taken to delivering person centred online education courses for family carers. And of course thanks to Erasmus+ for the funding which we used to develop the programme."

The course also won a National Training Award for Excellence in Digital Learning at the Irish Institute of Training and Development (IITD) Gala in 2018 (pictured).

For more information, go to www.alzheimer.ie

ASI INFORMATION ADVICE & SERVICES TEAM UPDATE

Mobile Information Service:

Our Mobile Information Service hit the road during the first six months of the year, travelling across 11 counties and attending farmers' marts, a hospital and local health centre campuses, libraries, shopping centres and civic plazas. The service provides an on-board meeting space where staff such as our Dementia Advisers, Service Managers and our Branches can offer one-to-one information and support. An on-board library ensures communities have access to a wide range of resources.

If you would like this service to visit your local community contact our Information & Helpline Officer, **Maria McEnery** on **085 804 7517** or mobileinformationservice@alzheimer.ie



National Helpline 1800 341 341

Our National Alzheimer Helpline is open 6 days a week and our Helpline worked with 5,634 service users in 2018, which was our busiest year on record. A dedicated team of staff and volunteers deliver this service and we were delighted show our appreciation and thanks to our volunteers during National Volunteering Week in May.



Our Helpline Service is now just a click away through our new 'Live Chat' option. People browsing www.alzheimer.ie can connect with our Helpline Advisers who are on hand to answer questions and highlight services and supports week days from 3pm to 5pm.

Live Chat's opening hours are Mon-Fri 3-5pm

Information Resources:

We continue to develop a wide range of information resources for people with dementia and their families. Our latest fact sheet for family carers 'Promoting Continence' was written and reviewed with Margaret Tiernan, Continence Advisor at the Roscommon Primary Community and Continuing Care and Fiona Beattie, ASI Community Dementia Support Nurse in Roscommon.

We are thrilled that our Assistive Technology book 'Practical Steps to Support your Independence' has received a 'Special Recognition' in the category 'Best use of plain English by an organisation' as part of Plain English Awards 2018. If you would like to order any resources or publications you can contact the Helpline on **1800 341 341** or email us at helpline@alzheimer.ie



TEA DAY 2019

We would like to thank everyone who hosted, attended and donated to our Tea Day this year.

It was an extra special year as we marked 25 years of getting the kettle on to support the 55,000 people living with dementia and their families all across the country.

Minister for Health, Simon Harris T.D. even popped into our Orchard Day Care Centre in Blackrock, Dublin for a cuppa. Here is a taste of the various Tea Day events all around the country.



DEMENTIA: UNDERSTAND TOGETHER UPDATE



Dementia: Understand Together is a public support, awareness and information campaign aimed at inspiring people from all sections of society to stand together with the half a million people whose families have been affected by dementia.

The campaign is gaining momentum as we highlight the role communities play in the lives of people with dementia and their families. At a recent National Partner event over 40 representatives from the retail, transport, banking, health and voluntary and community sector came together to explore their collective role in making our communities inclusive.

It was a deeply moving and motivational day at which Kathy Ryan, vice chair of the Irish Dementia Working Group and Helena Quaid



member of the Dementia Carers Campaign Network shared their experiences of living with dementia and caring for a person with dementia, and how important "understanding communities" are to their health and

well-being. In his passionate address Ruairi McKiernan, Irish Social Entrepreneur and founder of the leading youth organisation SpunOut.ie joined their call for action and encouraged everyone to play a part in supporting a person with dementia and their families.

Participants exchanged experiences and actions taken and left inspired to continue on their journey of supporting the Dementia: Understand Together campaign to change the culture around dementia in Ireland.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Save the Date! Thursday November 21st. Alzheimer's Memory Ribbon Day

We need you! If you can spare an hour on the day to assist with the collections then please get in touch; email: fundraising@alzheimer.ie or call 01 207 3833

Just an hour out of your day could help to change someone's life.



Mini Marathon

On Sunday June 2nd, over 300 amazing ladies joined #TeamASI & completed the VHI Women's Mini Marathon.

Our day kicked off and ended at Brooks Hotel, where we hosted a meet and greet before the event and some well-deserved refreshments after. Brooks Hotel kindly supported us and our wonderful participants for the third consecutive year, offering their kindness and hospitality to everyone involved. **Thank you to everyone who supported #TeamASI!**



ASI SERVICES UPDATE

The garden at Lily of the Valley Day Centre in Rathdrum is undergoing a bit of a metamorphosis of late and has been wonderfully supported by a number of amazingly kind donations and contributions from various local entities and businesses.

Team Zurich did an amazing job helping us transform the gardens for summer.

Thanks to Bolands in Arklow for the garden seat, to Abwood in Newtown Mount Kennedy who donated a fabulous picnic bench and Shelton Abbey in Avoca who provided a huge amount of potted plants which the clients have really enjoyed transplanting and nurturing.



The Annual Big Fry Up at the Drumkill Day Care Centre in Monaghan raised a sizzling €10,510 this year. Well done to every single person involved. Special guests on the day were the Monaghan GAA senior football team and managers and we can't forget the local farmer who generously donated a calf as one of our raffle prizes. MOO!



And we have to mention the very special Easter Afternoon tea we had at Drumkill, topped off by a little visit from the bunny rabbits. How cute!

The Cairdeas Day Centre in Raheny has recently received a face-lift! Members of The Life Centre along with family, friends and volunteers worked tirelessly to paint and plant our centre and garden.

A fresh splash of colour added life to the garden area with kind donations of plants & flowers helping to put Cairdeas in bloom! The day room has been transformed and puts a smile on the face of all who enter.



To celebrate the centre's new look a special Tea Day took place with support from the local shops, musicians and even Elvis (AKA Martin Hunte) came by to give a show-stopping performance. The support shown was outstanding and a new lease of life has made the centre a joy to behold. **Thanks to everyone who has made this possible.**

ASI SERVICES UPDATE

Well done to everyone at the Bloomfield Social Club who inspired the Dementia: Understand Together dementia-inspired 1950s show garden 'Memories are Made of This' at Bloom this year.

Not only was the garden awarded with a Silver Gilt Award but it also picked up the coveted People's Choice Award.

The garden features gnomes, pink flamingos, haycocks and tea roses, a fruit and vegetables patch and a High Nelly bicycle, all memorabilia from the 1950s and was created by award-winning horticultural designer Robert Moore.

The garden will be relocated to St Ita's Community Hospital in Limerick where it will be enjoyed by residents for many years to come.



Pictured L to R - David Bateman, husband of Mary, Dr Suzanne Timmons, Clinical Lead of the HSE's National Dementia Office, Rita & Tim O'Looney from Bloomfield Social Club, Adrienne Mc Avinue, ASI Homecare Co-ordinator South Dublin and Mary Bateman, Bloomfield Social Club.



There was great community spirit and integration in action at Bethany House Day Care in Carlow, when the residents from Sonas Nursing Home in Tullow popped in for afternoon tea.

It was lovely to see everyone getting on so well and we look forward to visiting them in the coming weeks.

The Valentia Nursing Home in Camolin Co. Wexford held its first social group back in May and from the success of it they will now hold a monthly support group on the second Friday of every month.

It is hoped that by having the support group in a nursing home that it may interest carers and family members that are considering long term care. Some of the areas that will be discussed over the next few months are:

- Advice for families or carers considering long term care
- Location of memory clinics and how they can help
- Fair deal – How it works



SOCIAL MEDIA SHOUT OUTS...

If you want to get in touch with the Alzheimer Society on Social Media you can find us on Twitter and Facebook



@alzheimersocirl



TheAlzheimerSocietyofIreland



On Twitter Chloe O'Connor commented on our advocate Helen Rochford Brennan's candid interview on RTÉ Radio One's Today with Sean O'Rourke...

"@TodaySOR Helen Rochford Brennan @rochfordbrennan is a legend and it is shameful that her and her husband, Seán, are not looked after properly by the state and the health services. Thankful for @IrishDementiaWG & @alzheimersocirl"

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

TIPPERARY One of the activities offered to clients at the Le Cairde Day Care Centre in Clonmel is Art Therapy and it is hugely popular. Pictured is some of the fantastic work they have completed this year.



Thank you to our Community Garda Kieran O'Regan who Le Cairde Day Care Centre did a fundraising event with and raised €3,350 for each of the charities involved: The Alzheimer Society, Cancer Care and Irish Heart Foundation.



Pictured are L to R - Kieran O'Regan, Lisa O Dornan, Grainne Hedvant, Cancer Care, Ann O'Riordan, Irish Heart Foundation, Paddy Derivan, Trustee Catherine Bartels, Alzheimer Society of Ireland & Sgt William Leahy.

Well done to Brendan O'Reilly from Eolas Money Management in Clonmel, who completed a 24 hour Charity Golf Classic - Awake for Alzheimer's.



He raised over €10,000 for South Tipperary and West Waterford Services. Here he is pictured presenting the cheque to Catherine Bartels, ASI with all his friends & family.

MEATH Well done to all the 6th Class students in Fore National School, Castlepollard, Co Westmeath who raised over €500 at their bake sale for the Oldcastle Day Centre.



Here they are presenting the cheque to Jamie Sherlock-Walsh, ASI Meath Home Care Coordinator.

LIMERICK While on a tour of Limerick, Sinn Féin's Liadh ní Riada called in to the Garryowen Day Care Centre to say hello. L to R - John Nugent, Liadh ní Riada, Maurice Quinlivan, Gabrielle Malone, Marilyn Sheehan, Hilary Hurley, Paul Gavin and Malachy McCreesh.



Garryowen Day Care Centre also celebrated their 20th anniversary this year. Congratulations to all the staff, volunteers and clients over the years.



Pictured above L to R Bridget, Maura, Mary, Margaret, Marion, Avril, Nuala, Grainne, Hilary, Anna, Marian, Maura, and Lillian.

Thank you to everyone from the Mary Gleeson Bridge Club for raising €600. Breda Murphy (on the left) from the club presented the cheque to Lillian Sullivan from our Limerick Branch.



LONGFORD There was a great turnout for the Longford Rose selection night back in April and the €500 raised at the raffle was donated to our Longford Branch. Thanks to everyone

for their support. Pictured L to R - Maureen Brady, ASI Home Care, Ellie Farrell, Maria Walsh, 2014 Rose of Tralee, Jo Canning, ASI Branch Chair and Geraldine Halpin.



Massive thanks to the Longford County Choir who presented a cheque for €1,000 to Jo Canning, Branch Vice Chairman and Breda Dunne, coordinator of care at the ASI Longford Branch.



Thanks to everyone from KCI Athlone who presented a cheque for €2,500 to our Longford Branch.



ROSCOMMON Mrs Elizabeth Donlon presented a cheque for €1,555 to the staff at Castlereagh Day Care after the success of her Tea Day. Thanks Elizabeth for all your support.



L to R - Freda Taylor, Care Assistant, Kathleen Callaghan, Care Assistant, Elizabeth Donlon, Fundraiser, Anne Leetch, Care Assistant and Marion Murphy, Nurse Manager.

KILDARE George the dog loves popping in to see everyone in Dunmurry Springs Day Care Centre, he always gets everyone smiling and

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY



then live music keeps everyone on their toes on a Thursday afternoon.

Marie Conlon, Chair of ASI Kildare Branch volunteered at Bloom and is pictured with Robert Moore who designed the Dementia: Understand Together campaign's dementia reminiscence garden, 'Memories are made of this.'



LOUTH The Drogheda Memory Café were honoured to have Dr Gemma Jones (pictured), the world renowned Dementia Care Consultant and founding member of the first Alzheimer Café in the UK, as one of their guest speakers this year.



SLIGO Big thank you to Majella O'Donnell, community dementia nurse who attended the Alzheimer café in Sligo. Majella gave a very informative talk on the myths that are often associated with dementia. L to R - Margaret Hallahan, Deirdre Fallon, Pauline Kilgannon, Majella O'Donnell, Clair Culkin & Caitriona Lavelle.



WICKLOW Our Wicklow Day Centre Manager Laurence Collins and our Wicklow Services Administrator Cíara O'Reilly were at the unveiling of Arklow Library's Tovertafel.



The "magic table" allows people living with Dementia and individuals with sensory needs to interact with a variety of games projected onto the table top - each one designed for social and cognitive stimulation.

Huge thanks to Pettitts Supervalu Arklow for allowing an army of Volunteers to take part in a three-day bucket collection in aid of ASI Wicklow Services.

€2,412.90 was donated so thanks to everyone who contributed and to our longstanding volunteer Carol O'Connell who organised everything with military precision. We salute you!



DUBLIN Well done and thanks to Eileen Walsh (below) who completed the Women's Mini Marathon on behalf of our Curlew Road Day Care Centre. We greatly appreciate all your support.



Thank you to everyone who helped raise over €9,643.00 at the Lucan Golf Club Captains Charity Day Golf Classic in aid of In Aid of Bloomfield & Lucan Social Clubs.



Above L to R - Catriona Graham from Automatic Fire & Integrated Solutions who sponsored all of the prizes, Carole Lakes, Lady Captain, Adrienne Mc Avinue, ASI Homecare Co-ordinator

South Dublin & Jimmy Somers, Captain.

LAOIS We are offering a new service of respite beds in Waterman's Lodge to people with dementia in Laois through funds raised in Laois. Please contact Ann Munnely on 057 866 3398/086 8372168 Home-care Coordinator for information and eligibility requirements.

CARLOW Caroline Kennedy, ASI Home Care Coordinator and Catherine Kelly, ASI Care Worker received a cheque for €4,810 from The Ladies Friendly Society & friends which was raised at their recent Tea Day in Ballyconnell, Carlow.



This fantastic group of women have raised a whopping €25,000 for the ASI Carlow Branch to date and we cannot express how grateful we are for their continued support.

A great day was had by all at Bethany House Day Care when they headed off to Altamont Gardens for a wonderful morning of exploring the beautiful grounds. Isn't it grand!



WEXFORD Thank you to everyone who donned their gladraggs for the second annual Wexford Charity Black Tie Ball to raise money for Wexford Hospice Homecare, South East Radiotherapy Trust (SERT) & Wexford Alzheimer's Home Care. Over €6,000 was raised and everyone had a great night dancing the night away.



BRANCH NEWS UPDATE

Drogheda Former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern and iconic Olympic athlete Dr. Ronnie Delany joined the Drogheda Branch on Wednesday 29th May to mark the re-launch of the Drogheda Branch's funding campaign for a new Day Centre to replace its temporary home at Tredagh Lodge.

For over two decades, fund-raising for a purpose-built centre on a site at Greenhills has been very active with over €600,000 raised. There is now a new urgency to get the new building underway and reach the final figure needed of €950,000. Contact Ann Shortt if you have any enquiries on how to support this building fund; **087 269 3698**.



Patsy Rice, former Drogheda Branch Chair, Jenny Heeney, former Drogheda Branch member and Former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern at the Drogheda Branch Campaign Launch for a new Day Centre. Photo: Jimmy Weldon

Cavan held a magical fundraiser night where €9,450 was raised with performances from The Garda Band, The Cavan Rugby Club Choir and The Wee Daniels. Carol Beattie, Chair, wishes to thank all who took part and contributed to a wonderful night.



Malahide We are delighted to announce the setup of a new Branch in Malahide and surrounding areas. The Branch has set up a new Day Care Dementia Service

for the community opening in St. Sylvester's Parish Centre on Monday 2nd September 2019.

For further information, contact Day Care Manager, Maeve Quigley **086 7703432**.



Members of Malahide Branch. L to R - Members of new Branch formed in Malahide with Donal Murphy, ASI Eastern Region Operations Manager, Noel McCormish, Nora Owens, former Minister of Justice, Mary Flannery, Jim Lawler, Mel Sorehan, Colm Mullen, Michael Howard & John McLoughlin.

South Dublin Has been very busy including meeting Minister for Health, Simon Harris during his visit to The Orchard in Blackrock for Tea Day, pictured here with Eilis Walsh, Chair of South Dublin Branch. They held a fun and successful Table Quiz fundraiser and were involved in the Blackrock Frascati Centre Coffee & Fashion morning. Their AGM had a fantastic turnout on June 18th.



Eilis Walsh, ASI Chair of South Dublin Branch and Simon Harris, Minister for Health visiting The Orchard in Blackrock for Tea Day.



South Dublin AGM 18th June.

If you have any queries or would like to submit a piece for The Voice please email - thevoice@alzheimer.ie

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