

# THE VOICE



## IN THIS ISSUE

Alzheimer Europe Conference roundup, celebrating World Alzheimer's Month plus lots more ASI news.

Pictured above: Our latest ASI Ambassador, Love Island Winner, Greg O'Shea.



THE ALZHEIMER  
SOCIETY of IRELAND

## THE CEO

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

Firstly, we were happy to welcome the Government's decision to provide funding for 10 more Dementia Advisers in Budget 2020 in early October. Believe me, this has been a long time coming. We had a very strong political advocacy campaign this year and I know our own staff and our grassroots supporters worked tirelessly in the build-up which resulted in well over 6,000 letters being sent to TDs across the country urging them to pledge their support to lobby for investment in dementia care.

As we all know, people with dementia and their family carers have been ignored in the Budget for years, so this announcement was a first positive step in the Government taking the dementia services crisis more seriously. And don't get me wrong, the announcement means there will now be a Dementia Adviser in every county which is a good thing – but the job really only starts here. The sad reality is that this country is still nowhere near being in a position to support people with dementia and their carers.

I was delighted to be part of a deputation, led by our Chairman John Clifford, which allowed me to convey that message to the Minister for Health Simon Harris at our recent meeting with him. I am happy to say that the Minister knows the extent of the issues and we are happy to work with him in addressing these issues. As we head into a General Election next year, we must build on the important political steps made in Budget 2020. I can guarantee you that The ASI won't be found wanting in lobbying the political parties and the Government in this regard.

In the meantime, our fundraising campaigns remain so important to us – in particular our corporate charity partnerships. I was delighted to see the recent success of the Peter Mark #Petermarkathon fundraiser that took place across the country. A big thank you to our staff and volunteers who visited a Peter Mark store. It was a brilliant event and the staff from Peter Mark were so grateful that we covered all salons in the country!

In addition to this, our annual nationwide Flag Day collection Memory Ribbon recently took place. Again, it was great to see so many of our staff and volunteers putting their names down to play some part in selling our purple ribbons on the day. I'm hugely encouraged by this as I really like to see everyone in the wider ASI coming together to play their part on marquee days such as this.

This year, of course, we secured Greg O'Shea to be our ambassador for the campaign – having someone of Greg's status involved in this campaign was a major coup for us! It proved so successful in getting volunteers on board through social media and raising awareness of dementia with a younger generation. I know that Greg's grandmother had dementia and passed away last summer, so it's something very close to his heart and we are just so grateful to him for getting involved with us.

It's very encouraging to see on these pages that our services continue to perform very strong and between January-June, we provided 277,514 hours of day care; 75,376 hours of home care; 38,258 hours of respite; and almost 20,000 hours of support services across the country. These are very impressive figures.

Our Helpline and Information team continue to have great impact. Our Mobile Information Service has made 56

outings this year – with another four planned before the end of the year; a great increase on 2018. I am delighted that our National Helpline service has applied for a helpline quality standard. The team have completed their onsite assessment and we expect to have results over the coming weeks, we look forward to sharing this with you. The Helpline, our Mobile Information Service and our range of information resources for people with dementia and their families continue to be in high demand across the country.

It might feel like a long time ago now, but a big thank you to everyone who played their part in making it such a successful World Alzheimer's Month 2019 in September. Whether you organised an open day or an Alzheimer Cafe, attended an information evening or supported someone living with dementia in one of our

services, you played a key part in raising awareness of dementia on a national scale during the month.

We had some fantastic events – not least our Hurling Legends fundraising match in Tipperary which I enjoyed immensely; we had our 30 adventurers with presenter Deric Ó hArtagáin and our own Kathy Ryan on the Camino Trail; and our Mobile Information Service was very much in demand at the National Ploughing Championships in Carlow. You can see the full variety of the events during the month on these pages, so well done everyone involved.

During the month, it was also great to see Kathy Ryan being voted in as the new Chair of our Irish Dementia Working Group at their first national meeting with Kevin Quaid voted in as new Vice-Chair. I really enjoyed the day and it was also an opportunity to recognise the work of Ronan Smith whose two-year term as Chair came to end. Ronan really has been a leading light for dementia advocacy and is so passionate about representing the voice of the person with dementia.

I am also really excited to see our Learning and Development department coordinating an Erasmus+ funded project looking at a new training course for family carers of people with dementia that mixes face-to-face and online. Our Training Manager Fergus Timmons was in Norway recently with our partner organisations to see how this might work. It's very important for all family carers to have the support that suits their needs the best.

We had a very productive time at The 29th Alzheimer Europe Conference in The Hague in late October. This year we had the opportunity to meet our counterparts from across Europe and share experiences under the motto 'Making valuable connections'. The ASI was extremely well represented there with a lot of work going into presentations, talks and supporting each other over the few days. Well done to everyone involved for all your efforts. Our work really is held in very high esteem among our colleagues in Europe.

Finally, it makes me so proud to see all the work and activities that you are engaged in all over the country in this edition. We truly are a nationwide organisation and when I look at the variety of events that are taking place including cycling and golf fundraisers, volunteering, people making donations, taking part in memory walks and people making a real difference in their villages and towns, it makes me immensely proud. Thank you to each and every one of you for giving up your time and for making a difference for The ASI. You are a credit to your communities.

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

Pat McLoughlin



Pat McLoughlin, CEO ASI



## BUDGET 2020 OUTCOME

Following our Pre-Budget Submission 2020 - 'Dementia Supports Across Ireland - Still Asking, Still Waiting, Still Struggling' we welcomed the Government's decision to provide funding for 10 more Dementia Advisers in Budget 2020. This was a first step in dealing with the inadequate and glaring gaps in dementia services and supports across the country. This follows years of neglect of people with dementia in recent Budget Day announcements.



The ASI also welcomed the one million additional home care hours which will be provided in 2020 as home care was another key ask of our Pre-Budget campaign. This will help support people with dementia to live at home in an environment that is familiar to them and where the majority of people with dementia want to be.

Our Pre-Budget Submission was launched in early July and had the highest ever turnout of TDs, Senators and political representatives - 58 in total. At the launch we asked TDs and

Senators to sign a pledge to commit their support to lobby Government for a minimum level of dementia services and supports in every county and since then we have secured over 80 signatures.



The speakers at the launch 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 six years. Helen had witnessed numerous false dawns as successive Budget Days have come and gone without ring-fenced funding for dementia-specific supports and services.

Kathy Ryan, Chair of IDWG and Sean Donal O'Shea from the DCCN also made videos about their advocacy work over the years. Their videos were emotive reminders about why

funding for dementia care could not be ignored in another Budget. All of the presentations from the launch and the videos made by our advocates are available to view on The ASI YouTube channel.

In the build up to Budget 2020 we worked tirelessly with our grassroots supporters to get the Minister for Health Simon Harris and the Government to understand the scale of the dementia crisis. This resulted in well over 6,000 letters being sent to TDs across the country urging them to pledge their support to lobby for investment in dementia care. We are glad to see that this support has not been ignored and that two of our key asks were recognised in Budget 2020.



As we head into a General Election we must build on the important steps made in Budget 2020. Given the scale of the challenge that dementia presents to Irish society, funding must be an integral part of the overall health budget and we will all have to keep working on this together.

## DEMENTIA: UNDERSTAND TOGETHER – COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS CAFE

**dementia**  
under stand together

Dementia: Understand Together aims to raise awareness and understanding for dementia and inspire people from all parts of society to stand together with the 500,000 people whose families have been affected by dementia. Now over 250 Community Champions have joined this movement and are at the heart of it, as they bring people in their communities together & inspire them to take one of the six actions to make their communities inclusive.

Champions have taken steps, such as hosting information evenings for the public, encouraging businesses to review their services, or started local support groups. To help grow and support our Community Champions' network, the campaign hosted the first two of a series of Community Champion Cafés held across the country. In Dublin and Dungarvan champions came together to participate in "Dementia Awareness" and



See the person,  
not the dementia



Talk about  
dementia



Stay in  
touch



Ask how you  
can help



Support the person  
to keep up hobbies  
and interests



Make sure your  
service or space  
is easy to use



"Social and local media" workshops. Both days were a great success as champions met one another and shared their experiences over a cuppa. Story-telling is key to the campaign and champions told many stories and highlighted the numerous activities happening in their communities. They explored the various forms of social and local media which can help spread their work and inspire people to join the campaign and take action for dementia, be it parish newsletters, notice boards, community facebook pages, libraries, partners, radio stations and many more.

To find out how you can get involved and take action in your community, you can contact Fiona Foley, National Coordinator of Dementia: Understand Together in Communities at [fiona.foley1@hse.ie](mailto:fiona.foley1@hse.ie)

## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



The ASI's Learning and Development Department are coordinating an Erasmus+ funded project called Later Stage Dementia Care - Blended Learning for Families. The project will develop a new training course for family carers of people with dementia. It will also examine the best way to present a 'blended' (mixture of face-to-face and online) learning course of this type.

The project is at the half-way stage and Fergus Timmons, ASI, External Learning & Development Manager recently attended a transnational meeting in Oslo, Norway with our partner organisations, Flexible Education Norway and Ic Dien further education college from Belgium. Fergus provided an update to partners especially about the two pilot courses we are running at the moment in Galway and Cork. Plans are already being made for our final Multiplier event which will take place in September 2020, at which

we will present the final version of the Later Stage training course. For more information on the project contact Fergus Timmons at [fergus.timmons@alzheimer.ie](mailto:fergus.timmons@alzheimer.ie)



L-R Kari Olstad, Flexible Education Norway, Fergus Timmons, ASI, Eva Vansteenkiste and An Ghesquière, Ic Dien.

## ALZHEIMER EUROPE CONFERENCE

**The 29th Alzheimer Europe Conference took place in The Hague on October 23rd to 25th and The Alzheimer Society of Ireland was well represented.**

CEO Pat McLoughlin who sits on the Board of Alzheimer Europe (AE) attended both the Board Meeting and the AGM of Alzheimer Europe. Pat is pictured here with Dr Helen Rochford Brennan who lives with Alzheimer's disease. Helen is the Chair of the European Working Group of People with Dementia and also sits on the AE Board.



Northwest / Midwest Operations Manager Mary Callanan attended the Conference and was interested to hear about international best practice, she is pictured here with Dr Helen Rochford Brennan.



Advocacy Engagement and Participation Officer Clodagh Whelan presented her work with our Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG) on travel. European delegates were interested to learn about the approach taken in Ireland and how the ASI's unique approach and work is leading to positive outcomes. Clodagh is pictured here with the IDWG members at the Conference.



Advocacy Engagement and Participation Officer Laura Reid spoke at the Conference regarding the carer experience when a person with dementia moves to long-term care. Laura was a strong advocate for the carer voice to be a more integral part of the Conference. Laura is pictured here with Helena Quaid who cares for her husband and is

a member of our Dementia Carers Campaign Network (DCCN).



Kathy Ryan, Chair of the IDWG and Kevin Quaid, Vice-Chair, presented at the Conference on Dementia as an Invisible Disability. They spoke about the challenges of living with Younger onset dementia and researchers and clinicians from across Europe were eager to learn from their lived experience.



Dr Helen Rochford Brennan spoke at the Opening Plenary Session of the Conference and encouraged delegates to remember 'people in Nursing Homes, people fighting for homecare and people caring

across Europe, they are why we are here'.



Research Officer, Laura O'Philbin, and Vice-Chair of the IDWG, Kevin Quaid, presented to a packed room. Laura and Kevin told delegates about the Dementia Research Advisory Team. This is a group of people with dementia and carers (Experts by Experience) who get involved in the design, planning, and execution of research. They become part of the research team and help to advise researchers on how to make their research more relevant for people affected by dementia. Kevin spoke about the positive impact that being involved with research has had on him.





## CELEBRATING WORLD ALZHEIMER'S MONTH 2019

**World Alzheimer's Month took place in September and was an opportunity to build understanding about a health issue that will affect more and more people as the years pass. This year's theme was #LetsTalkAboutDementia. We had numerous events all across the country including Alzheimer Cafés, Social Clubs, Information Stands, media appearances and much more. Here is a sample of the some of the events across the month.**

Dementia Adviser Maeve Montgomery (L) spoke with Marissa Lucchesi from Dundalk FM's 'Town Talk' about the new Alzheimer Café that opened at the River Café, Marshes Shopping Centre, Dundalk, Co Louth. It's on every Wednesday from 4 – 6pm.



Clair Culkin and Paul Baumel from ASI Sligo services attended a dementia information day at Sligo Regional Hospital, which was a huge success. It was a fantastic opportunity to spread awareness about dementia and local services.



Athlone rallied together with our Eastern Operations Manager Donal Murphy to increase awareness of the need for more dementia-specific supports in Westmeath. They hosted an information evening at the Shamrock Lodge Hotel. Pictured (L-R) Eileen Cuniffe; Cllr. Frankie Keena; Donal Murphy; Linda Jo Quinn, SICAP Community Development Co-Ordinator; Eileen Kenny, ASI Home Care Coordinator.



Wicklow Services were delighted to welcome a host of Public Health Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Community Mental Health Nurses and Social Workers to the Lily of the Valley Day Centre and Cíara O'Reilly, ASI Wicklow Services Administrator had the opportunity to speak on EastCoast FM with presenter Laura Woods to talk about all the services Wicklow has to offer.



Our Advocacy Engagement & Participation Officer Clodagh Whelan interviewed member of the DWG Kevin Quaid (R) and member of the DCCN Helena Quaid (L) in front of a packed audience about living with dementia at the Healthy Ireland tent at the National Ploughing Championships. When Minister for Health Simon Harris stopped by the tent it was a great opportunity for them to advocate for dementia in Budget 2020.



The sun shone down in Co. Carlow at the National Ploughing Championships in Fenagh. Our Dementia Advisers, staff and

volunteers were there with our Mobile Information Service to offer people support and advice. Pictured L-R Dementia Advisers Amy Murphy and Vanessa Bradbury.



Inspirational dementia advocate Kathy Ryan was voted in as the new Chair of the Irish Dementia Working Group (IDWG), when the group held their first national meeting at the Ashling Hotel. This meeting brought together the three regional groups for the very first time. Kathy was voted in as the new Chair of the IDWG, with a two-year term of office, by her fellow advocates, with Limerick native, Kevin Quaid, voted in as new Vice-Chair.

A new steering committee was also voted in: Jacinta Dixon, Sean Mackel and Marguerite Keating and Dr Helen Rochford-Brennan, Chair of European Working Group of People with Dementia remains a member of steering committee. Pictured are members of the IDWG in attendance at the vote.



Research Officer Dr Laura O'Philbin delivered a presentation on our research function and how we are developing Person

Public Involvement (PPI) with our Dementia Research Advisory Team at the Health Research Charities Ireland conference. There was a very large appreciative audience and her speech received a fantastic reaction from all.



Dr Helen Rochford Brennan, Chair of European Working Group of People with Dementia and our Policy & Research Manager Dr Bernadette Rock attended the Dementia European Workshop in Malta organised by the World Health Organisation earlier this week looking at a number of topics including the need to look outside the box and be creative in addressing dementia care.



Ray Cregan a member of the DCCN took part in a podcast called Grief Encounters with Urban Media. It's an excellent interview where Ray talks about becoming a carer for his dad, Paddy, who had dementia and the support our Curlew Road Day Care Centre gave to his dad and his whole family.





## FUNDRAISING UPDATES

### LATEST ASI AMBASSADOR

We were delighted to announce that Love Island winner Greg O'Shea as our latest ambassador. Dementia is something that is close to Greg's heart as his nana, who passed away last summer, had dementia.

Greg joined forces with the ASI to support our annual nationwide Flag Day collection Alzheimer's Memory Ribbon recently.



He helped us recruit volunteers to sell our Memory Ribbons on the day. We are so grateful to Greg for

becoming our latest ambassador and look forward to working with him on future campaigns to help raise

awareness and much needed funds to support the 55,000 people living with dementia in Ireland.



On Saturday, 20th of September our 30 adventurers arrived into Santiago de Compostela after six days of walking through the stunning countryside on the Portuguese Coastal Camino. The group included Kathy Ryan, chair of the IDWG and our star ambassador, Virgin Media Television presenter Deric Ó hArtagáin. The walk stretched 120km from Baiona through Vigo and finished in the square of Santiago de Compostela. Together they raised over €70,000. What an amazing achievement!

If you are interested in finding out more information about Camino 2020, you can register your interest by contacting Jarlath in the fundraising team at [jarlath.coyle@alzheimer.ie](mailto:jarlath.coyle@alzheimer.ie)

On Saturday, 5th of October a group of almost 50 athletes braved the elements and made the journey to Wicklow to take part in Hell and Back, one of Ireland's toughest physical and mental endurance challenges.

The rain was pouring down on the day but that did not deter the group and against all odds they completed the obstacle course.

Congratulations on completing this tough task under the difficult conditions.





## FUNDRAISING UPDATES

### PETERMARKATHON

We were delighted to be the selected charity for the Petermarkathon which took place over the October Bank Holiday Weekend.

Over 64 Peter Mark and Style Club salons across the country hosted their own special events in order to raise funds for vital education and support services for The ASI in the community to help people with dementia and their families.

Here is a snapshot of some of the events across the weekend. Thank you to everyone who supported this fantastic fundraiser.



The ASI was partnered with Permanent TSB from June 2018 until the end of June 2019. The staff at PTSB got involved in many events over the yearlong partnership including Denim Day, The VHI Women's Mini Marathon, Hell and Back, Memory Ribbon and Alzheimer's Tea Day. PTSB have also been very creative and hosted many of their own events including Wine & Cheese night, Quiz Night, Bumper Raffles, Bake Sales, Coin Collections,



A Pop Up Swap Shop, Q&A's and of course the big Rugby Match between PTSB and AIB. The ASI recently attended a cheque

presentation in PTSB St Stephen's Green, where members of the fundraising team were presented with a cheque for a fantastic

€109,000. Thank you to all of the staff in PTSB for their wonderful fundraising efforts over the duration of the partnership.

### 2019 CHRISTMAS CARDS

The festive season is just around the corner and we are delighted to let you know that our Christmas Cards for 2019 are now in stock and available to order.

To order your cards please email [fundraising@alzheimers.ie](mailto:fundraising@alzheimers.ie) or contact William on the fundraising team on 01 207 3833.





## BRANCH NEWS UPDATES

### Malahide ASI Branch

Had the opening of the new day care service at the Malahide Parish Pastoral Centre in September. Well done to everyone involved and they gave our Mobile Information Service a fantastic welcome when it was visiting Malahide.

L-R Maeve Quigley, Day Care Manager, Father Kevin Moore and Sharon O'Sullivan from the Parochial Centre at St. Sylvester's Church with Malahide ASI Branch members, Patsy McGuirk, Noel McComish and Colm Mullen.

and all her family and friends for their generous donations.



### Cork City Branch

They've been fundraising over the last few years to replace the day care service bus in Cork city.

And their hard work has paid off; the brand new bus has arrived! Rather than sell the existing bus the branch has donated it to Waterman's Lodge where the existing bus has reached the end of its useful life. Thanks to everyone involved.

Pictured L-R, Willie, Paramount; Rhona Gerrard, ASI; Barbara O'Connell, Cork City Branch; Jon Hinchliffe, ASI; Siobhan O'Connor, ASI Head of Operations; Jerry Foley and Tess Hogan Cork City Branch; John Keating, Johnson & Perrott and Tony Cowell, Mercedes.



**Regional Branch Meeting – Limerick, Clare, Adare and North Tipperary**  
Branch members from Limerick, Clare, Adare and North Tipperary all came together alongside Northwest/Midwest Operations Manager Mary Callanan for a very productive meeting sharing updates, learnings and ideas at the Garyowen Day Care Centre in Limerick.

Pictured L-R Lillian Sullivan, Gabrielle Malone, Phyllis Brockert, Mary Callanan, Marilyn Sheehan, Hilary Hurley, Claire Rainsford and Nora Hill. Also in attendance were Liz Price and Mary Reidy.

### Cavan Branch

In September Cavan ASI Branch launched 'The Garden Singers' a new choir for people with dementia, their families and carers and anyone that lives on their own in the Cavan community.

The Garden Singers is led by musical director Dr Ann Noelle Bennett and is bringing much joy to all. The choir takes place the first Sunday of every month at the new beautiful dementia friendly garden at the Cavan Day Care Centre on Cathedral Road in Cavan town and all are welcome. A very special thank you to Carol Davis and Irene Gaffney who put their heart and soul into the planning and planting of this unique space.



### Donegal Branch

It was a weekend not to forget in Killygordon/Crossroads in Donegal over the August Bank Holiday when the community rallied together to hold a festival to beat all festivals to help raise over €6,250 for dementia specific services in Donegal.

Pictured are the organisers L-R John Devine, Michael Gallagher, Alastair McKinney, ASI Branch Chair and Stephen Gallagher. Thank you all and looking forward to 2020 A Weekend Not to Forget.



### Drogheda Branch

Their building fund for the new day care centre is growing thanks to all the support from people like Mary Leddy Monk who sky dived in memory of her mum Marie Leddy and raised €1,680 (pictured) and to Nancy Carroll

### Join a Branch!

Would you like to use your skills, knowledge and experience to help in your community? Yes! WE NEED YOU! Support and join our Branch network nationwide who do tremendous work in their communities.

Find out how and more by contacting Davina Smith, Branch Development Officer, [davina.smith@alzheimers.ie](mailto:davina.smith@alzheimers.ie) or call 086 1450542.



## ASI SERVICES UPDATE

### End of Summer Party in Sligo

Everyone was smiling at Aughamore Day Care Centre in Sligo. The staff, clients and their families had such a great time at the end of Summer Garden Party and was the perfect opportunity to promote our services to the local area. Thank you to everyone who attended.



### Latest Galway Social Clubs

Our social clubs are for people with dementia, their families or carers. People can drop in to chat, access information and support and meet other people to exchange ideas and experiences. We are delighted to announce two new social clubs in the Galway area:

*Loughrea Social Club* is held every Thursday in the Loughrea community & family resource centre, Piggott Street Loughrea, Co Galway from 12pm to 2pm.

*Tuam Social Club* is held every Friday in SVP House, Dublin Road, Tuam, Co Galway from 11am to 1pm.

### Make Over For Lily Of The Valley

As part of The ASI's nationwide Charity Partnership with Argos we recently welcomed a bunch of volunteers from the local Arklow store to our Lily of the Valley Day Centre. Spearheaded by new manager Edel, the staff offered a number of ways in which they could support their local Day Centre. Naturally they jumped

at the chance of getting some help to freshen up the interior paintwork in the Day Centre!



Thank you to Arklow Building Supplies for kindly donating paint and DIY paraphernalia to the project! Plans to transform one of the sitting rooms into more of a sensory experience for clients was fulfilled when Argos generously provided supplies to get that project underway - curtain poles, lava lamp and material



decorations.

Looking forward to future collaborations with the Argos Arklow staff. They are also delighted to have been awarded National Lottery funding to construct an all-weather, insulated, steel shed in the Garden. This is such an exciting development for Wicklow Services as it will allow their clients to engage in meaningful woodwork, painting and horticultural therapies all year round.

These activities as a form of tactile reminiscence therapy will encourage autonomy and sensory stimulation with maintenance of personal choices and independence. They can't

wait for construction to get underway. Watch this space!

### Helpline Volunteers

Our Helpline Volunteers had a very busy day at the Senior Times 50's Plus Expo at the RDS. The day was a huge success with lots of people looking for information and support on dementia and Alzheimer's.



Pictured above are Helpline Volunteers (L-R) Bob Quinn and Merle White.

### Newly Qualified Trainers

There was a lack of People Moving & Handling trainers in the North West. The Learning and Development Department funded training for Clair Culkin in Sligo back in May and most recently Therese Shannon (pictured below) in Galway. Congratulations on completing your QQI Level 6 Certificate in People Moving and Handling Instruction Course. They are now both delivering training in their regions.



### Halloween Fun at Clonmacnoise

Shade and Joe are work place students at Clonmacnoise Day Centre in Crumlin, Dublin 12.

They joined in the fun at Halloween and helped all the clients celebrate the spooky season with a fancy dress party. Thank you both for all your hard work.



### Family Generations at Rose Cottage

Seamus Cunningham, dementia advocate who attends Rose Cottage brought his newest great-granddaughter,

Charlotte in for a visit. Charlotte was born on 20th June 2019, at 27 weeks and weighed just 390 grams. Currently she is the smallest little bundle of joy to have survived in Ireland.

Everyone was delighted to welcome her and get a cuddle.

Seamus is pictured here with his other great-grandchild Morgan, his grandson Kevin (Charlotte's Dad) and the little lady herself.



## NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

### KILDARE

Thanks to everyone who supported the fundraiser at Clane Golf Club which raised over €900 to help support dementia-specific services in Kildare.

Pictured at Clane Golf Club are club members Maurice Byrne and Eamonn Howlin, with Kildare Branch members Claire McNally and Marie Conlon.



A massive €7,440 was raised at the Tut Tut Charity Golf Classic 2019 held for the Limerick Branch day care services. The cheque presentation took place in Flannery Bar with members of the branch and Tut Tut Gold Classic present. Well done to all involved.



all donated their time and talent to perform.

### KILDARE

Everyone looks fabulous and it's all thanks to the Staff from Peter Mark in the Whitewater Shopping Centre who came along to Dunmurry Springs day care centre and provided free styling to all our clients.



### LIMERICK

Well done to Keith Cantillon who took part in our Wild Atlantic Cycle Challenge fundraiser and raised over €1,700 to support dementia specific services in the Limerick area.

Pictured (L - R) are Gabrielle Malone, Branch Secretary, Robin Bowe, Branch Member, Keith Cantillon, Maura Cantillon, Hilary Hurley, Branch Chair, Audrey Clogan, Nurse-Manager Garryowen Day Care Centre, Lillian Sullivan, Branch Member.



And a massive thanks to everyone who took part this year. Your support is greatly appreciated.



### WICKLOW

Our amazing Wicklow Branch volunteers organised a spectacular night of entertainment in the Arklow Bay Hotel with three local bands performing - Gravity, Black Cherry and Those Lazy Babies. Over €3,000 was raised!



(L-R) Wicklow Branch members Joan, Gretta, Carol, Kathleen, Lisa and Shelly



Wicklow Band Members - Kathleen's three sons Shane, Darren and Brian all members of one of the bands who

### LONGFORD

Well done to Robert Kilemade who did a parachute jump and raised €2,893 in aid of the Longford Branch. He was delighted to present the cheque to Breda Dunne Co-ordinator of Care for Longford and Westmeath.



The Canal Walk at Tarmonbarry was a great success and raised over €5,000 for the Longford Branch. Thanks to everyone who joined in.



Pictured L-R Jo Canning, Breda Dunne, Josephine Donoghue, Mary McGarry and Marie Deely.



## NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

### CLARE

Congratulations to Marike Peek who received an award from the Older Person Volunteer Awards for her hard work and dedication to Waterman's Lodge.

Her peers put her forward for this greatly deserved award. Here she is pictured with the Pat Dowling, Chief Executive, Clare County Council.



fundraising team who have given so much over the years to make Drogheda a dementia-inclusive town. Well done Ann – this award is richly deserved. Ann (L) is pictured here with Mary Deary and Helen Barron.



### WEXFORD

Well done to everyone from Wexford's four nursing homes - Kerlogue, Wygram, Castle Manor and Knockeen - who took to the pitch as part of a special fundraiser for The ASI. Organised by Eddie Broaders and Linda Kearney the Kerlogue Nursing Home retained the trophies and made it a clean sweep, winning in both the men's and women's section. Training has started for next year!



Michelle O'Neill and Eddie Broaders, Kerlogue Nursing Home



Michelle O'Neill and Karen Jones, Kerlogue Nursing Home

Congratulations to brother and sister team, Thomas and Mary McDonald who completed the 26-mile long Memory Walk in London in honour of their mother Breege Shevlin. Monies raised will be split between The ASI and Alzheimer Society UK.



### DONEGAL

Well done and thank you to Elaine McConnell and her dog Lucy who walked 145 km on foot over three days on their Home to Home walk from her home in East Belfast to her family home in St. Johnston, Co. Donegal.

They raised over €12,726 split between Donegal ASI Branch and Alzheimer's Society in Northern Ireland and also raised so much awareness along the way.



### LOUTH

There was a great turn out for the latest dementia café to open its doors for people with dementia and their families. Thanks to our guest speaker Liz Hughes an Occupational Therapist at the Memory Technology Resource Rooms for the locale. A great afternoon was had by all.



Huge congratulations to Ann Shortt, the Chairperson of the Drogheda Fundraising Committee, who received a Louth PPN Award in recognition for her valued Community & Voluntary contribution made to improve quality of life in Louth. Ann is extremely modest and dedicated her award to all the local hard-working committee members and

### KERRY

Thank you so much for the generous donation from Miriam Goulding who celebrated her 21st birthday and requested the guests at her party to make a contribution to The ASI in lieu of gifts. Here she (R) is presenting the €550 raised to Kathleen Herlihy (L), ASI Home Care Co-ordinator, North Kerry.



## SAD TO SEE YOU GO

Anita Fleming-Smith, one of the nurses at Whistlement Day Care in Navan, Co Meath recently retired. A special afternoon tea was held for Anita attended by clients, staff and branch members.

Anita was a very special person and a valued member of staff. She will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best on her retirement.

Anita (left) is pictured with Lorna Govern, ASI Care staff member who made this wonderful cake to mark the occasion.



## HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to Nancy Costello who celebrated her 90th birthday at The Baths in Clontarf surrounded by her family and friends. Nancy chaired the Raheny branch for many years raising much needed funds for services in North Dublin. At 90 years young there is no stopping her. Here she is pictured with three of her five children.



## SOCIAL MEDIA SHOUT OUTS



**Facebook** – Mary Gaughran commenting on Kevin Quaid's, Vice Chair of the IDWG, presentation at the Alzheimer Europe conference...

"Kevin is so correct in saying dementia is an invisible illness."

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

on Twitter: **@alzheimersociarl**

and on Facebook: **TheAlzheimerSocietyofIreland/**

**Twitter** - Bernadette Brady commenting on Minister Simon Harris announcement, that funding for 10 additional dementia advisers and 1M extra home care hours was in #budget2020...

Well done to everybody who worked so hard for so long to achieve this @alzheimersociarl you helped us so much when we were struggling. You continue to be a tower of strength & support for patients and carers. Thank you.



THE ALZHEIMER  
SOCIETY of IRELAND

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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*The comments and views expressed in this issue are often personal and do not necessarily represent the position of The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.*