



THE ALZHEIMER
SOCIETY of IRELAND

oASIs

Quarterly Newsletter of the Alzheimer Society of Ireland

Volume 25 Issue 2/3

Summer/Autumn 2007



Caring for 25 years
The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

World Alzheimer's Day

**The Emotional Impact of
Alzheimer Care**

25 Years Prosperi-TEA Day

Nuala is Our Star



Shaping the Future

A message from the Chief Executive



Over the last six months, our campaign to have dementia recognised by Government as a National Health Priority has gained profile and some momentum. Starting with the launch of the Dementia Manifesto in February, the campaign continued throughout the recent general election campaign, saw the Alzheimer Society of Ireland becoming a nominating body for the Seanad Éireann elections and most recently resulted in our nominee, Senator Tony Kett, being successfully returned to the Seanad for another term.

Throughout the last 25 years The Society has been leading the way in dementia care practice in Ireland. In recent years, the organisation is gaining greater public recognition as experts in understanding and providing dementia-specific care, as evidenced by our growing influence on a broad range of key networking and advisory groups both nationally and internationally.

Looking further to the future, the implementation of new standards of care by HIQA for residential long stay facilities, the development and implementation of the proposed Fair Deal for Long Term Care initiative and the implementation of the Dementia Manifesto will form the cornerstone of our political activity in conjunction with ongoing lobbying for 100% core funding for services (currently running at 70%).

During the coming weeks and months I will be meeting with the Minister for Health and Children, the newly appointed Minister for State with responsibility for Older Persons, senior management of the Health Services Executive and other senior Government officials to lobby for funding and service contracts into the future. I will also be meeting with Senator Kett to fully brief him on all issues so that we can maximise his leverage within the Seanad. I will keep you updated of my progress in the next edition of this newsletter.

Finally, I would like to offer my thanks to everyone who helped us campaign in recent months, writing letters, lobbying canvassers, telling their stories through print and broadcast media etc. I look forward to your continued support and assistance in our ongoing campaigning.

Maurice O'Connell



Taoiseach Bertie Aherne is briefed on the Dementia Manifesto before the election by Kate Brennan, Regional Manager.

Shaping the Future

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is a key influencer contributing to a network of national and international organisations / advisory groups including:

- **chair** of Alzheimer Europe;
- **board** of Alzheimer's Disease International;
- **board** of Disability Federation of Irl., Neurological Alliance of Irl. and Care Alliance.
- **member** of expert advisory group on Older People to the CEO of the HSE; HSE working group on Residential Services for the Person with Dementia; HSE Physical Restraint Advisory group; HSE Chemical Restraint Advisory group; HSE Consumer Affairs Older People's Forum (Advocacy Sub-Group); HSE North East Working group on Elder Abuse; HSE national working group on Day Care services; HSE North East dementia working group; HSE West Working group on Elder Abuse; HSE West Working group on Training & Development; HSE West Working group on Policies & Procedures; National Primary Care and Mental health group sub-group; HIQA working group on Residential Services for Older People and DFI Steering Group for Skill Project.
- **active participants** in the following networks: Irish Mental Health Coalition, Ageing Well Network ; Older and Bolder campaign; Senior Citizen's Parliament; The Wheel; Helplines Network; IBEC, and Longford Special Needs Carers Ltd and various lobby groups in the areas of disability and older persons issues.

Annual Conference to Celebrate 25 Years

Towards a Voice: 25 Years of Dementia Care and Advocacy 1982-2007

To celebrate our silver jubilee year and World Alzheimer's Day The Society is holding a conference "Towards a Voice: 25 Years of Dementia Care and Advocacy 1982-2007" in The Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel, Killiney, Co. Dublin. Of relevance to everyone involved in the Alzheimer movement, the programme will continue the Society's 25 year-long tradition of leading the way in understanding and providing dementia care.

Focusing on the value of advocacy and the importance of enabling the voice of the person with the dementia and the carer to be heard in providing person-centred care, the aim of the conference is to create open and lively debate about how and why these issues are important.



Through a series of workshops the programme will deliver practical tools to enable dementia care providers to engage in advocacy within their day to day setting.

The conference will bring together national and international experts who will open the door to enable much greater discussion of the future issues and challenges in a variety of care settings. Speakers include: Tracey Cooper (HIQA), Ann Coyle (Health Services Executive), Professor Murna Downs (University of Bradford) and John Killick and Kate Allan (authors of 'Communication And The Care Of People With Dementia')

Towards a Voice: 25 Years of Dementia Care and Advocacy (1982-2007) will take place in The Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel, Killiney, Co. Dublin from 9 am to 4 pm on Friday 21st September 2007.

Further details on programme and registration are available from The Alzheimer Society of Ireland at (01) 284 6616, by e-mail at conference@alzheimer.ie or by visiting www.alzheimer.ie.

Towards a Voice: 25 Years of Dementia Care and Advocacy 1982-2007 is part funded by The Equality Authority.

World Alzheimer's Day

On 21st September – World Alzheimer's Day - people with dementia, carers, healthcare professionals and Alzheimer Societies around the globe will rally together to highlight the realities of living with dementia and the role that people with the condition can play in shaping services, policy and planning in this area.



Themed 'No Time to Lose!' this day of solidarity will unite millions of people with one clear, consistent message i.e. dementia must be recognised a global health priority. People with dementia and their carers will be taking centre stage to raise their issues, concerns and needs through media interviews, public talks and conferences.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is marking World Alzheimer's Day by hosting 'Towards a Voice: 25 years of Dementia Care and Advocacy (1982-2007) Conference focusing on the value of advocacy in dementia care.

World Alzheimer's Day is co-ordinated by Alzheimer's Disease International and supported by 77 Alzheimer associations including The Alzheimer Society of Ireland.

Wider brief for new Minister for Older People

Following the recent general election the new Government is indicating an increased commitment to strategically addressing the issues of older people by widening the brief of the Minister for Older People at the Department of Health and Children to include attachment to the Departments of Social and Family Affairs and Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The Minister will also, for the first time, be a member of the Cabinet Committee on Social Inclusion.

With a background in teaching, the new Minister, Marie Hctor T.D. was elected to Nenagh Urban District Council in 1994 and Tipperary NR County Council in 1999. She has been representing the people of North Tipperary in the Dáil since 2002. As a deputy she was a Member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Education and Science: and the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Equality, Defence and Women's Rights.

At the time of going to press, the Society is preparing for an October meeting with Minister Hctor and looking forward to welcoming the Minister to the Annual Conference on World Alzheimer's Day. We look forward to working successfully with her in her new role.



A person who cares for someone with Alzheimer's disease or any of the related dementias is so often preoccupied with the contingencies of caring that he or she tends to disregard the emotional impact of caring on the self – the carer. It is as if the primary focus of the carer is always on the person with dementia, attending to his or

her daily needs, worrying about the immediate problems being experienced, supporting the person in what is an ever-growing list of needs – without giving much regard for their own well-being and very commonly without understanding the emotional impact which the caring role is having.

It is important therefore that carers look after their own needs and well-being and that they recognise the impact that the caring situation is having on their own lives as well as on the life of the person for whom they are caring. If one does not look after their own health and well-being they may soon become unable to look after others to the standards they desire. Far from being selfish this will help one to cope and care more effectively over time. It's many the carer known to this author who has ended up in the doctor's surgery or even in hospital because they have neglected their own health and emotional needs through caring for others.

There are many feelings which are commonly experienced by people who care for a family member with dementia. These include anger, guilt, frustration, sadness, embarrassment, loneliness and a sense of deep loss. The accumulative effect of any or some or all of these will undermine even the best carer's endeavours. Depression and stress reactions are common. It is likely that the carer will try to deny these feelings and struggle on for a time. But the first rule is to recognise these in ourselves and to understand that it is perfectly legitimate for us to experience these feelings and associated thoughts. Anybody in the same situation would almost certainly experience some of these feelings also. We as carers must recognise that to provide the best possible quality of care we must recognise our limitations, seek and accept help and emotional support from others. In the long run this benefits not only the carer but also the person with dementia.

10 Ways to Help Reduce Carer's Stress

1. **Your emotional well being.** Every carer needs support and people with whom they can discuss their feelings. Friends and family can be a wonderful source of support, your GP and other healthcare professionals such as a Public Health Nurse can also help. Carer support groups can be a way of connecting with people who are dealing with similar experiences as you.
2. **Know what is available to help you.** For your own well-being and for the person you are caring for, get to know what is available. The Alzheimer Society of Ireland can help you source this information. To find out more, call the Alzheimer National Helpline on 1800 341 341.
3. **Become an educated carer.** As the disease progresses, the demands on you as a carer will change. Information will help you better understand and cope with the many difficulties and changes that often occur as a result of Alzheimer's disease.
4. **Get help.** The support of family, friends, and community resources can be of vital help. It is important to accept help from others and not to carry the whole burden of caring on your own. If assistance is not offered, ask for it. It may be helpful to call a family meeting. Don't be afraid to ask for professional help. If your situation is too much to bear, take action. Carer support groups, the Alzheimer National Helpline and the GP can be a good source of comfort and reassurance.

5. **Take care of yourself.** Carers frequently devote themselves totally to those they care for, and in the process, neglect their own needs. Pay attention to yourself. It is essential that you make time for yourself by taking a break from



caring. This will allow you to spend time with others, enjoy your favourite hobbies and, most importantly, get some rest. Avail of any local support services to allow for social outings for yourself. Those close to you, including the person you care for, want you to take care of yourself.

6. **Monitor your level of stress.** Stress can cause physical problems (blurred vision, stomach upsets, raised blood pressure) and changes in behaviour (irritability, lack of concentration, lack of appetite, panic attacks). Be aware of these symptoms. Consult your GP for advice and use relaxation techniques that work for you.
7. **Know that change will occur.** People with Alzheimer's disease change and so do their needs. If possible, care options could be investigated before they are required or as early as they can be, in order to make the transition easier for all concerned, and to avoid long waiting lists or delays in receiving support services.
8. **Legal and financial planning.** Consult a solicitor and discuss the options of Enduring Power of Attorney, Trusts, future medical care, wills and any other considerations. Early planning will reduce stress later on. If possible and appropriate; involve the person with Alzheimer's disease and other family members in this planning process.
9. **Be kind to yourself.** Until a cure is found, the progression of Alzheimer's disease is inevitable. The care you provide is invaluable. Neither you nor the person you care for can control many of the circumstances that will occur. Give yourself permission to grieve for the losses you experience, but also focus on the positive moments as they happen and enjoy your good memories.
10. **Give yourself credit, not guilt.** You are only human. Occasionally, you may lose patience and at times, be unable to provide all of the care the way you would like. Remember you are doing the best you can, so give yourself credit. Being a devoted carer is not something to feel guilty about. Your loved one needs you and you are there. That is something to be proud of. And if the person you care for could - they would thank you.



The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is a national voluntary body dedicated to supporting the carer as well as the person with dementia. It does this by means of information giving, the provision of day care and home care services in so far as resources permit, and the provision of carer support through family carer support groups around the country.

Of course family and friends are very important as a source of practical help and support. Sometimes, but not always, it is possible to share the responsibility of caring. If it is not possible to share the care with other family members it is worth remembering that friends and extended family members may be able to offer practical support and a listening ear.

Professional help is available through your GP who is also a channel to other practical supports such as the public health nurse and the community psychiatric nurse, respite care services and so on. But all of these people cannot help you if you do not ask for help. So the carer needs to acknowledge his or her need for help and seek this rather than retreating into an emotional and stressful maelstrom of caring alone.

If you are caring you are likely to need a good deal of support. The person with dementia will find it ever harder to cope with everyday life and you will not be able to provide all the help they need without help.

For further support, practical advice or information on the work of the Society contact the Alzheimer National Helpline weekdays from 10am to 4pm on 1 800 341 341.

*Trevor McCay-Morrissey MA Psych
Regional Manager, Alzheimer Society of Ireland.*

Helpful News



Support at the end of the phone Alzheimer Helpline 1800 341 341

The Society runs a confidential Helpline service offering direct access to practical information and emotional support for people with dementia, their carers, families and friends. Operated by trained

volunteers, the Helpline provides the caller as needed with dementia-specific information; details regarding ASI and state services; advice on rights and entitlements; and simply a listening ear when needed.

In 2006 the Society responded to more than 5,000 requests for information, predominantly through the helpline service, which is manned by a team of 28 highly trained and experienced volunteers. Their time, professionalism and commitment to providing this important service is much appreciated.

The Helpline is free to the caller regardless of where they live and is open Monday – Friday 10am - 4pm on 1 800 341 341.

ASI Guidelines to Choosing a Nursing Home

In 2005 the Society introduced a new information product entitled 'Guidelines to Choosing a Nursing Home', which aims to assist people when choosing a nursing home suitable for a loved one with dementia. The guidelines are available through the Helpline Service on 1 800 341 341, weekdays 10am - 4pm.

HSE Guide on Medical Services and Community Schemes

The Health Services Executive (HSE) has launched a new guide to explain six schemes and assist readers in clarifying if they qualify for the schemes including, Medical Cards, GP Visit Cards, Drugs Payment Scheme and the Long Term Illness scheme. You can obtain further information / a copy of the guide by calling the HSE National Information Line on 1850 241 850, contacting your local Health Office/CIC office or logging on to www.hse.ie.

Grants to Adapt Housing for the Needs of Older People and People with a Disability

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government's statement on housing policy entitled 'Delivering Homes, Sustaining Communities', outlines three revised schemes which are to be rolled out during 2007, on a phased basis starting in June. A brief outline for each scheme and where to apply follows:

Mobility Aids Grant Scheme

This new scheme will provide grants to cover a basic suite of works to address mobility problems, primarily but not exclusively, associated with ageing. It will fast track limited grant aid to people on lower incomes (maximum annual household income threshold €30,000). The maximum grant available will be €6,000 and may cover the cost of 100% of works.

Housing for Older People

This new scheme will amalgamate the existing Essential Repairs and Special Housing aid for the Elderly schemes. The aim of the scheme is to make habitable the homes of older people. The maximum grant available will be €10,500 and may cover 100% of the cost of works for applications with an annual household income of less than €30,000 and tapering to 30% for those with annual household incomes of €54,001 to €65,000.

Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability

This scheme will assist in the provision/adaptation of accommodation to meet the needs of people with a disability who are not covered by the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme. The current grant for people with a disability will be increased from the current effective maximum of €20,320 to a maximum of €30,000 and may cover up to 95% of the cost of works.

Administration of the revised schemes – where to apply

All applications for support will be made to local authorities.

Further details are available from www.enviro.ni.

HSE National Information Line

The HSE operates a National Information Line at 1850 241 850 Monday to Saturday 8am to 8pm to provide information about health services in your area, entitlements and how to access services.

Research Updates

The Society is currently engaged in a number of research projects and pilot initiatives aimed at increasing our understanding and bettering our responses to the needs identified by individuals and families affected by dementia. These initiatives are dependent on the participation, input and goodwill of you, our members, clients and client families. Thank you for helping us to continually improve the work we do. Current projects include:

Telecare Research Project (Wicklow & Dublin)

The Society has begun a two-year pilot technology project to examine the use of telecare technology for persons with dementia and their carers within the home. Telecare is the continuous, automatic and remote monitoring of real time emergencies and life changes over time in order to manage the risks associated with independent living. In practical terms, it is the expansion of the existing social alarm services by providing a way to manage additional risk using a tailored package of unobtrusive sensors in the home such as property exit sensors, flood detectors and natural gas detectors.

The findings of the project will inform the Society's campaign to provide better supports and more appropriate equipment to individuals and families wishing to live at home. The limited scheme is being rolled out in Dublin and Wicklow through a network of home and day care co-ordinators. For further information contact Catherine Keogh on (01) 284 6616.



Service Managers from Wicklow and Dublin photod at the launch of the Telecare Pilot Project following training on assessment and usage of telecare products to support independent living.

Healing Arts Initiative (Waterford City)

Pinegrove Day Centre has been exploring the use of Natures Trail DVD - developed by Amy Furlong (artist) and piloted in St. James Hospital – to increase socialisation, stimulate the mind and provide opportunities for choice for persons with dementia. The DVD focuses on 4 different natural settings, with views and sounds which a person chooses according to their taste. Initial findings are very positive for use for both relaxation and to stimulate reminiscence sessions and debates. The staff of Pinegrove will continue to review the benefits of the DVD over the coming weeks.

Social Club Research (Eastern Region)

In 2006 The Society piloted a new once weekly service in the Eastern Region to meet the social needs of people with a dementia and their carer. Commonly called 'Social Clubs', there are now three operating in Kildare, Wicklow and Dublin. The philosophy of the social clubs is to provide an outlet for couples to socialise together, where one of the partnership has a dementia. The social clubs help combat social isolation felt by the person with dementia, and by their carer.

A small scale piece of research was recently completed to explore the philosophy, uniqueness and workings of the Alzheimer Society of Ireland's social clubs. The findings are very positive and clear that the social clubs, by including the carer of the person with dementia, address a unique and important need. This involves the recognition of the couple and their identity in relaxed and social environment. The initial findings will be highlighted at the upcoming National Conference and the report will be published in the coming months. The Society hopes that these evidence based findings show the value of and need to roll out a programme of social clubs throughout the country.

The Society would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who has participated in our research projects.

For further details on the above research contact: Grainne or Catherine on (01) 284 6616 or e-mail info@alzheimer.ie.

Charity You're a Star

Nuala Carey's Our Star!



RTE Weatherperson and National Lottery presenter, Nuala Carey, shone brightly on behalf of The Society when she participated in Charity You're A Star to raise funds and

profile about dementia and the work of the Alzheimer Society. Despite the wrath of the judges from the early stages, Nuala proved fearless and committed in her resolve to 'make it all the way'. Volunteers, carers, staff and friends of The Society throughout the country mobilised quickly and effectively, generating a substantial support-base of voters of all ages. This outpouring of support saw Nuala through all the way to a fantastic semi-final with The All Stars, the ultimate winners, and SBB.

Although, at the time of going to print, we are not yet sure how much money has been raised overall, a minimum of 40 cent from every vote cast will be donated to The Society. We would like to take this opportunity to say a big THANK YOU and well done to Nuala Carey for all her efforts on our behalf. Thank you also to everyone who helped to make our involvement in CYAS so successful – voters, supporters, sign makers, organisers etc. etc. etc.

After Party Interview ...

Nuala, why put yourself at the mercy of the CYAS judges?
Why not?! The only thing that held me back initially was 'fear'. But deep down I felt that if I said 'no' to the show - it would be the same as saying 'no' to The Alzheimer Society and those living with the dementia. This was a great chance for us all to make a difference.

Scariest CYAS moment?

Walking out on 'Night 1' to sing for the first time. I was very anxious to know could I cope with the pressure and was curious as to what the Judges would say.

Where did you look for inspiration during the difficult times?

I tried to put the whole show in perspective. It is a television show which is meant to be fun and raise money for good causes like The Alzheimer Society. That kept me going when the Judges weren't so kind to me!

How did it feel looking out to a live audience?

Fantastic. I could see so many enthusiastic faces looking up at me from the audience singing along and waving banners and posters. The live audience really made the show.

Nicest thing that happened because of the show?

Lovely letters and cards I received and people texting/ voting for me and my charity

Finally For the inside scoop ... Brendan O'Connor Mature Cheddar or Easy Single ???

He's a mature cheddar!! I met him at an event recently and it was the first time I spoke to him outside of the show. He is actually very gentle really... but don't tell anyone I said that!!



Tea Day 2007

Celebrating 25 Years of Prosperi-TEA!

Our Silver Anniversary Tea Day has proved to be the Society's best one ever! Thank you one and all for taking time out from your busy schedules to show your support by making your cuppa count. No matter how your tea party totalled up, it really counted this year with an average of €327 raised per party.

Our corporate outreach programme focused, with great success, on strengthening our relationships with the Irish Nursing Homes Organisation and the Irish League

of Credit Unions. Both organisations play an active and important role in meeting the needs of communities all over Ireland.

Almost 100 nursing homes held parties this year, an increase of 25% over last year. The numbers of Credit Unions holding parties rose by 66% to almost 40 parties reflecting a common focus on person-centred care and maximisation quality of life of members.



€1355 raised at the Glenageary ICA tea day was donated to the Blackrock Orchard Fund to purchase a bed and a medicine trolley. Presenting the proceeds to Ruth Matz (Fundraising Manager) recently were Hilda Conroy (outgoing president) and Mary O'Loghlin (incoming treasurer).



(l to r) Cork City Committee Member Paula Crowley and Ursula Collins Regional Manager welcome then Mayor of Cork City, Cllr. Michael Aherne, to their Silver Jubilee Tea Party in Cork.



Tea Day Bellfield

Showing that there's an art to hosting a great tea day party, organizers of a party held in Bellefield GAA combined a strong cuppa with tasty treats, an art exhibition and poetry reading to music. In total €700 was raised and Maria Nolan would like to thank everyone who attended, sponsored or contributed to the organization of the event

Dropping in to join the National Office

Tea Party were ...

Fair City Actors Bryan Murray and Una Crawford O'Brien; Doriann Ni Chorrágáin; Minister Mary Hanafin; Barry Andrews TD with staff and volunteers.



Some Tea Day lodgements are still outstanding. Please don't forget to use your personal bank giro so that we can identify your contribution and credit it to the branch you designated for support. Should you have any queries please contact the fundraising department on (01) 284 6616 or e-mail fundraising@alzheimer.ie

Fundraising News

25 Years Running- Women's Mini Marathon

Monday June 4th saw the running of the 25th annual Women's Mini Marathon around the streets of Dublin. While the weather wasn't as sunny as in years gone by, it couldn't dampen the spirits of the 40,000 women who took to the streets to raise money for their chosen charity.

Over 300 ladies gave up their bank holiday (not to mention numerous evenings to train) in order to "Run to Remember" on behalf of The Society. While the funds are starting to come in, we will not have the final tally until the next issue. In the meantime, on behalf of everyone who will benefit from the funds raised, Thank You!

Special congratulations to Una Breen, mini marathon regular, from the Birches team who finished No. 41 in the elite group this year.



Celebrating the success of the 300 strong 'A-Team' in this year's Women's Mini Marathon.

We'd love to hear what you have to say about how to improve the Mini Marathon for 2008. Please contact the Fundraising Team by calling (01) 2846616 or fundraising@alzheimer.ie.

An Evening To Remember

We're celebrating the 25th anniversary of our founding by holding our inaugural gala ball on Friday 16th November 2007 in the Shelbourne Hotel, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. This evening to remember will mark a milestone for the organisation which began with the meeting of two carers in 1982 and has grown into the leading national provider of dementia-specific services.

The evening promises to be a wonderful event with a drinks reception, full gala dinner and a live auction and raffle. Entertainment will be supplied by the lively Boogie Nights, guaranteed to get everyone up dancing! The event will help raise awareness of The Society and the work that we do as well as raising much needed funds to help us continue the provision of care and support to those living with Alzheimer's and dementia.

Tickets are available at a cost of €250 per person or a table of 10 for €2,000. Should you wish to join us to celebrate 25 years, please contact the fundraising office on 01-2846616.

Congratulations to the winners of our Tea Day Raffle which took place in July.

- First Prize:** Two Nights break in Marriot Johnstown House Hotel, Enfield, Co. Meath.
Winner: **Maggie Murray, Killarney, Co. Kerry.**
- Second Prize:** Weekend break in the Talbot Hotel, Co. Wexford.
Winner: **Caroline Kelly, Moate, Co. Westmeath.**
- Third Prize:** Weekend break in the Talbot Hotel, Co. Carlow.
Winner: **E. Conway, Dublin.**
- Fourth Prize:** Weekend break in Stillorgan Park Hotel, Dublin.
Winner: **Mairead Harvey, Kilkee, Co. Clare.**

Sincere thanks to the Marriot Johnstown House Hotel and the Talbot Hotel Group for sponsoring this year's wonderful prizes.

Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...

25 Years of Fundraising

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland is the leading provider of dementia services in Ireland. We rely on the generosity of our members, volunteers and supporters to help raise more and more money every year in order to continue providing care, information and support services for individuals and families living with Alzheimer's disease / dementia, and also to fund our national capital development programme. Over the 25 years of the Society this support has grown and been unfailing. More than €3 million is needed each year now.

To all those who have organised, participated in or donated to our fundraising campaigns, big and small, during the last 25 years - THANK YOU for everything. You have helped us to make a real difference!

Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You...

Branch News

Cork City Branch

Student Fashion Statement

Teachers and students of Coláiste Choilm in Ballincollig made a fashion statement of their own when the recently presented a cheque for €800 to the Cork City Branch. The donation comprised half of the proceeds of a monster fashion show staged in the school on March 21st. Many thanks to all involved – organisers, sponsors and supporters.

Offaly Branch

Pushing the bed out



Members of the Killoughy Foroige have raised €10,660 for services in Offaly by pushing the bed out – literally - for an exhausting 11 kilometres from Tullamore Hospital to Tom Doolan's Texaco garage in Blue Ball! The sponsored bed push was fun filled from start to finish thanks to the great weather; generous donations; fantastic support from Gardai, Order of Malta and many organisers; and the tremendous encouragement along the route beginning with Simon Casey who started the event off right through to Olwyn Enright TD who brought the proceedings to a close. The organisers would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the tremendous success of this event.

Wexford Branch

Fundraising Raft Race and BBQ

The Wexford branch is delighted to have raised €2,191 following a raft race and bbq which was held on 3rd June in Enniscorthy and Clonroche. The event was a terrific success and a fun-filled day for all involved. The branch wishes to thank everyone who sponsored and supported the event.

Galway Branch

Galway carers catch a break

To mark National Carers Week 2007, the Society with support from Care Alliance Ireland raffled a special prize amongst the 28 carer support groups in the country. The Galway Support Group, which is now meeting for close to 3 years were the lucky winners of the prize package which comprised a group prize of €100 voucher for a celebratory luncheon and an individual prize of a relaxing weekend break for 2 in the Sligo Park Hotel to be raffled among the group members. Best wishes for a lovely lunch to all the group and special congratulations to Iris O'Rourke, winner of the individual prize.

Limerick Branch

A Midsummer's Dream Fundraiser

An inaugural charity Midsummer's Day Golf Pro-Am and Black Tie Gala was held at Limerick County Golf Club on 21st June to raise funds towards the ongoing maintenance and development of Waterman's Lodge Respite Centre, the first dementia respite centre in Ireland to be located outside the Dublin area. Thirty nine Irish-based PGA golf professionals competed for a share of the large Pro Am €20,000 prize fund. The black tie gala was held in an extravagant Saracen-style marquee, glitteringly outfitted, on the course grounds. Many thanks to the Ice Broadband and Elan Pharmaceuticals and Limerick County Golf Club for their generous sponsorship and support; the fundraising and organising committess; and all the players. Hopefully the Pro-Am and Gala Ball will an annual event and fundraiser.



With Gerry McKeon and Declan Hayes on the Fundraising Committee are: Ivan Graydon; Paula Keating; Ted McNamara; Liam & Eileen Meade; Niamh Power; Joe Quane; Jane Howlett; Gerry Reeves and Lillian Sullivan.

What are you willing to do for People in Need ?

REMEMBER, the People in Need Telethon is happening on Friday 26th October and the sky is the limit in what you can do to raise much needed funds for projects all over Ireland. Monies that are raised in a particular county are used in grants to charities in that county. Further details on how to get involved from the fundraising team by calling (01) 284 6616, e-mailing fundraising@alzheimer.ie or logging on to www.telethon.ie.



Christmas Cards 2007

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland Christmas cards have a new look for 2007 comprising Children's Wonder Pack; Cherubs Pack; Silver Celebrations Pack; Irish Greeting Pack; and the limited edition Warming Christmas Tea Pack. Full details on prices and ordering are available by calling (01) 284 6616, or e-mailing fundraising@alzheimer.ie or visiting www.alzheimer.ie.



† IN MEMORIAM

Sr M Fidelma (Maura Keane)
Patricia Austin
Mr Duncan Bain
Ms Millicent Bennett
Ms Nancy Bennett
Ms Stephanie Brady
Ms Florence Breen
Ms Ellen (Nellie) Brophy
Mr Frank Byrne
Ms Maeve Clarke
Mr Thomas Corbett
Mr William Crean
John Cusack
Ms Isabelle Delenne
Ms Johanna Doyle
Ms Gladys Dunne
Ms Rosaleen Earley
Ms Lucy Eates
Mr Christy Fahey
Bea Feeney
Mrs Baby Flanagan
Mr & Mrs Patrick Flanagan
Mr Martin Flatley
Ms Marguerite Gallagher
Mr Tony Garbutt

Mr Brendan Gibbons
Mr Billy Gilhooley
Ms Bernadette Glancy
Ms Mary Gleeson
Mr Patrick Gleeson
Mr Paddy Griffin
Mr Ivan Hart
Mrs Mary Heydon
Mr Harold Hoffman
Mrs Catherine (Kitty) Holland
Mr Douglas (Dougie) Howard
Mrs Phyllis Hoy
Mr Sean Ingoldsby
Ms Olive Johnston
Mrs Catherine (Kitty) Jones
Mr Denis Kelly
Mr PJ Kelly
Mrs Ruth Vigne Kenny
Mr Mick Kiersey
Mr Frank Lee
Mr Patrick Lennon
Ms Sheila Looney
Ms Mary Lynch
Mrs Maureen Maguire
Ms Olive Malone

Ms Lily McCarney
Mr Jack McElligott
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Mr Brendan O'Dwyer
Ms Rose O'Halloran
Mrs Rosemary O'Hara
Mrs Mamie Prendergast
Dr Joe Preston
Mrs Violet Rafferty
Mr Jimmy Sheilds
Ms Kitty Slattery
Mrs Kathleen (Judy) Slevin
Mrs Ita Sloan
Ms Catherine Smyth
Mr Sean Sweeney
Mr Michael Tierney
Mr J Noel Traynor
Mr Paul Watters

May they Rest in Peace

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