Healthy Clare Newsletter June 2025

www.clarecoco.ie/services/community/healthy-clare/



healthyclare@clarecoco.ie



@HealthyClareIRL



@healthyclareireland





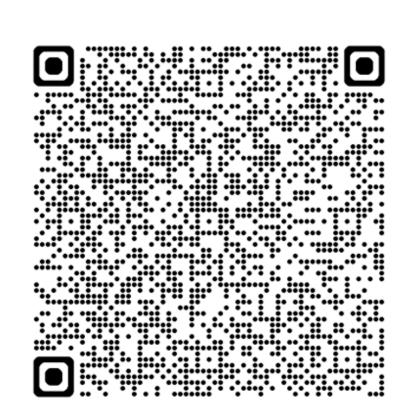
Follow us on Social Media

Clare County Council Free Period Products Campaign as part of the Dept. of Health Period Poverty Initiative.

We are delighted to continue rolling out Clare County Council's Free Period Products Campaign in Local Authority spaces, libraries and leisure facilities. We have seen many benefits of supporting these facilities to have a supply of period products that are freely available to members of the public. If your community would like to be involved in this programme we would love to hear from you. For more information about the campaign, please visit Clare County Council's Free Period Poverty Campaign at clarecoco.ie.

To give feedback on the campaign please scan the QR code or visit

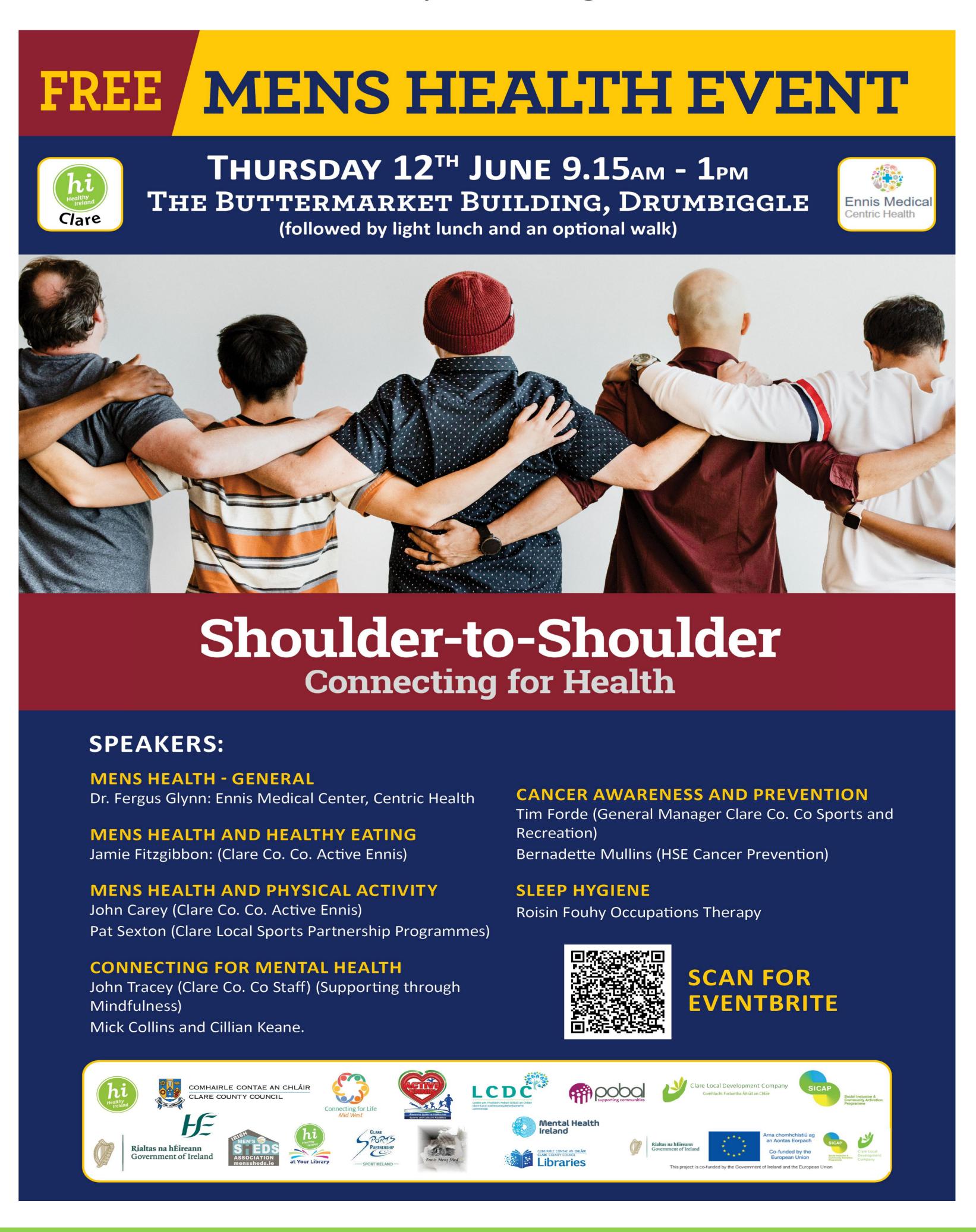
https://yoursay.clarecoco.ie/free-period-products/ surveys/clare-s-la-free-period-products-campaign-2





Dear Readers,

Welcome to the June edition of the Healthy Clare newsletter. As always, this newsletter is packed with lots of great activities for you to enjoy across the county. In particular, this month I would like to spotlight the coming together of Healthy Clare with our colleagues in Clare County Council, Ennis Medical Center and a host of other partner organisations. Details are below and I can be contacted for further information. I hope to see as may men there as possible on the 12th June at the Buttermarket. Please share widely. Kind regards, Sam



Physical Activity: Active Ennis

Move Well with Jamie

Áiseanna Spóirt is Fóillíochta Sports and Leisure Facilities

Benefits of exercise for heart health

Regular exercise offers numerous, well-documented benefits for heart health, both for those seeking to prevent heart disease and for those already managing cardiovascular conditions.

- Lowers Blood Pressure and Heart Rate

Exercise, especially aerobic activity, strengthens the heart muscle and improves its efficiency, leading to a lower resting heart rate and reduced blood pressure. Over time, exercise encourages blood vessels to become more flexible and responsive, further lowering blood pressure.

- Reduces Risk of Heart Disease and Heart Attack

Engaging in regular physical activity reduces the risk of developing coronary heart disease and suffering a heart attack. For those with existing heart disease, exercise can improve heart function and reduce the risk of further cardiac events.

- Helps Maintain Healthy Body Weight

Exercise helps control body weight by burning calories and reducing body fat, which is a significant risk factor for heart disease.

- Improves Cholesterol and Triglyceride Levels

Regular physical activity increases high-density lipoprotein (HDL, or "good" cholesterol) and helps lower triglycerides and low-density lipoprotein (LDL, or "bad" cholesterol), all of which are important for reducing heart disease risk.

- Reduces Inflammation

Exercise has anti-inflammatory effects throughout the body, which helps protect against the development of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries) and other cardiovascular diseases.

- Enhances Blood Vessel Function

Exercise promotes the production of nitric oxide, a molecule that relaxes and widens blood vessels, improving blood flow and reducing the risk of vascular problems.

- Improves Cardiorespiratory Fitness

Regular aerobic exercise increases the heart's ability to pump blood efficiently and improves the body's ability to use oxygen, which is measured as cardiorespiratory fitness (VO₂ max).

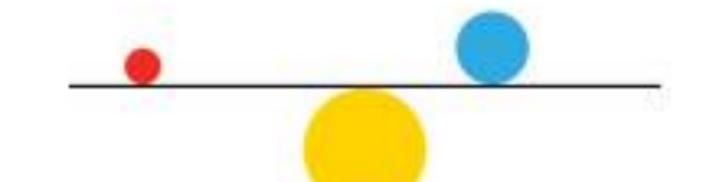
- Reduces Stress and Improves Mental Health

Physical activity lowers stress hormones, which can reduce the burden on the heart. It also helps alleviate anxiety and depression, contributing to overall well-being.

Brought to you by Jamie Fitzgibbon. (Active Ennis) Msc. Sports Nut)

Mental Health





Balancing Stress

Practical skills to cope with stress



- 1 Understanding stress
- 2 Managing worry
- **3** Managing anxiety
- Managing low mood and depression
- 6 Stress and relationships
- 6 Balancing stress now and into the future



A free HSE online stress management programme

What is it?

Balancing Stress is the HSE's free online programme to manage stress, worry, anxiety, low mood and relationship difficulties.

How do I take part?

www.hse.ie/balancingstress
No registration is required. There
are six sessions you can watch
anytime, at your own pace.

Presented by:

Dr Niamh Clarke HSE Principal Psychologist



Childline by ISPCC

For young people experiencing from low to moderate anxiety and for parents/carers looking to support their anxious child or teen, Childline by ISPCC can offer a solution – the Digital Mental Health and Wellbeing Programmes service!

Space From Anxiety: aimed at 15 -18-year-old young people with low to moderate anxiety.

Supporting An Anxious Child: aimed at parents/carers looking to support their 5 – 11-year-old who experiences low to moderate anxiety.

Supporting An Anxious Teen: aimed at parents/carers looking to support their 12 – 18-year-old who experiences low to moderate anxiety.

These FREE online programmes have been created by SilverCloud, a leading digital mental health provider, are based on the principles of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), incorporate mindfulness practices and are specifically designed to help manage anxiety. The programmes include interactive tools, activities, mood monitors and journals to encourage users to apply CBT to their own lives and aim to empower participants to think and feel better. Throughout the duration of the early intervention, 12-week programme, users will be guided by fully trained ISPCC volunteers who provide confidential support. For more information about the programmes and how to make a referral, please visit https://www.ispcc.ie/ or email: spacefromanxiety@ispcc.ie

Eating Well

Eat Well with Jamie

NUTRITION

HEART-HEALTHY DIETARY CHOICES

Heart disease

Is a major health concern in Ireland. The risk of hearth disease can be reduced by making Dietary changes.





Leafy Greens

- Leafy greens such as spinach and Kale are rich in Vitamin K, Nitrates and antioxidants.
- They help reduce blood pressure and improve arterial function

Fibre (Wholegrains)

- Foods such as Brown rice, Oats and Wholegrain bread are rich in Fibre.
- Fibre cand help reduce LDL cholesterol and blood pressure





Fatty Fish

- Salmon, Mackerel, Sardines and Tuna are excellent sources of Omega 3 Fatty Acids
- Omega 3 can help lower triglycerides and reduce risk of Heart disease

JAMIE FITZGIBBON MSC IN EXERCISE & SPORT NUTRITION







Healthy Eating for Older Adults - Top Tips

(Based on Healthy Ireland's "Healthy Eating for Older Adults")

For older adults in good health, a healthy varied diet can help nourish your body and keep you strong. Aim for 3 meals and 2-3 snacks each day. Remember to drink enough fluids throughout the day.

Make sure each meal has:

- High fibre starchy foods (e.g. brown cereals/bread/rice/pasta or potatoes)
- Plenty of fruit or vegetables
- High quality protein foods (e.g. eggs, meat, poultry, fish, dairy, nuts, pulses)

It is best to limit alcohol, fat, sugar and salt intake. Healthy Eating helps your muscles, brain, weight, bones and gut.



Mind your muscles

- It is important to eat foods which are a good source of protein to maintain muscle mass
- Good protein sources are: eggs, milk, cheese, yoghurt, meat, poultry, fish, nuts, peas, beans, lentils
- Include these foods with each main meal and after exercising to help repair your muscles

Keeping a healthy body weight

helps to reduce your risk of

diabetes and heart disease

developing diseases such as

Limit foods high in fat, sugar and

salt e.g. cake, biscuits, crisps &

alcohol. Be mindful of portion

sizes

Maintain your

best weight



Boost the brain

PROTEIN)

- B vitamins can boost brain function
- Choose fruit & vegetables and high quality protein foods (e.g. meat, poultry, fish, eggs, beans, peas, lentils, nuts, dairy)
- Also, opt for foods that are "fortified" with B Vitamins such as some milks and cereals
- Aim to consume oily fish once per week such as salmon, trout, mackerel





Brought to you by Jamie Fitzgibbon. (Active Ennis) Msc. Sports Nut)

Visit the Irish Nutrition and Dietetic Institute for more information.

Tobacco Free, Reducing Drugs & Alcohol Related Harm







Freephone the HSE Drugs and Alcohol Helpline on 1800 459 459 for confidential information and support. How alcohol affects your health and wellbeing. Visit Ask About Alcohol at HSE.ie for information and support on alcohol use.

Tobacco Free, Reducing Drugs & Alcohol Related Harm







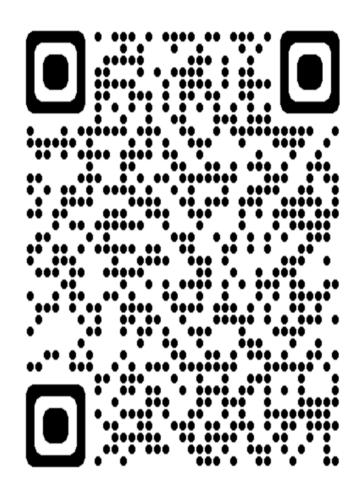
Need Support to Quit Smoking? Visit HSE Quit Services

HSE QUIT Mid West is your free, local QUIT service. From setting a QUIT date until you are 12 months smoke free QUIT Mid West offers in-person, telephone / telehealth support and free NRT if you sign up to the programme. Everyone who uses the QUIT service is given a stop smoking advisor to guide them on their QUIT journey. QUIT Mid West can be contacted on 065 6865841 / Email quit.midwest@hse.ie

Sexual Health







Find out more at www.sexualwellbeing.ie

Parenting courses and support

- National Parents Council: npc.ie

Runs workshops for parents on talking to your child about relationships and sex. Call 01 8874475 or 01 8874481 for more information. They also have a helpline number: 01 887 4477.

- Irish Family Planning Association: IFPA.ie
Runs Speakeasy - a course for parents on talking to your child about relationships and sex. Speakeasy Plus - for parents of children with a disability.

- Parentline.ie

Runs courses about parenting teenagers in schools, community groups or places of employment. They also have a confidential helpline offering support, guidance and information for parents and guardians. Information and support for all age groups

- Webwise.ie

To promote the safer use of the internet by children and young people through providing information and awareness to them, their parents and their teachers.

- Belongto.org

National organisation supporting young LGBTI people and their parents.

Sexual Health



Next gatherings:

Limerick June 11

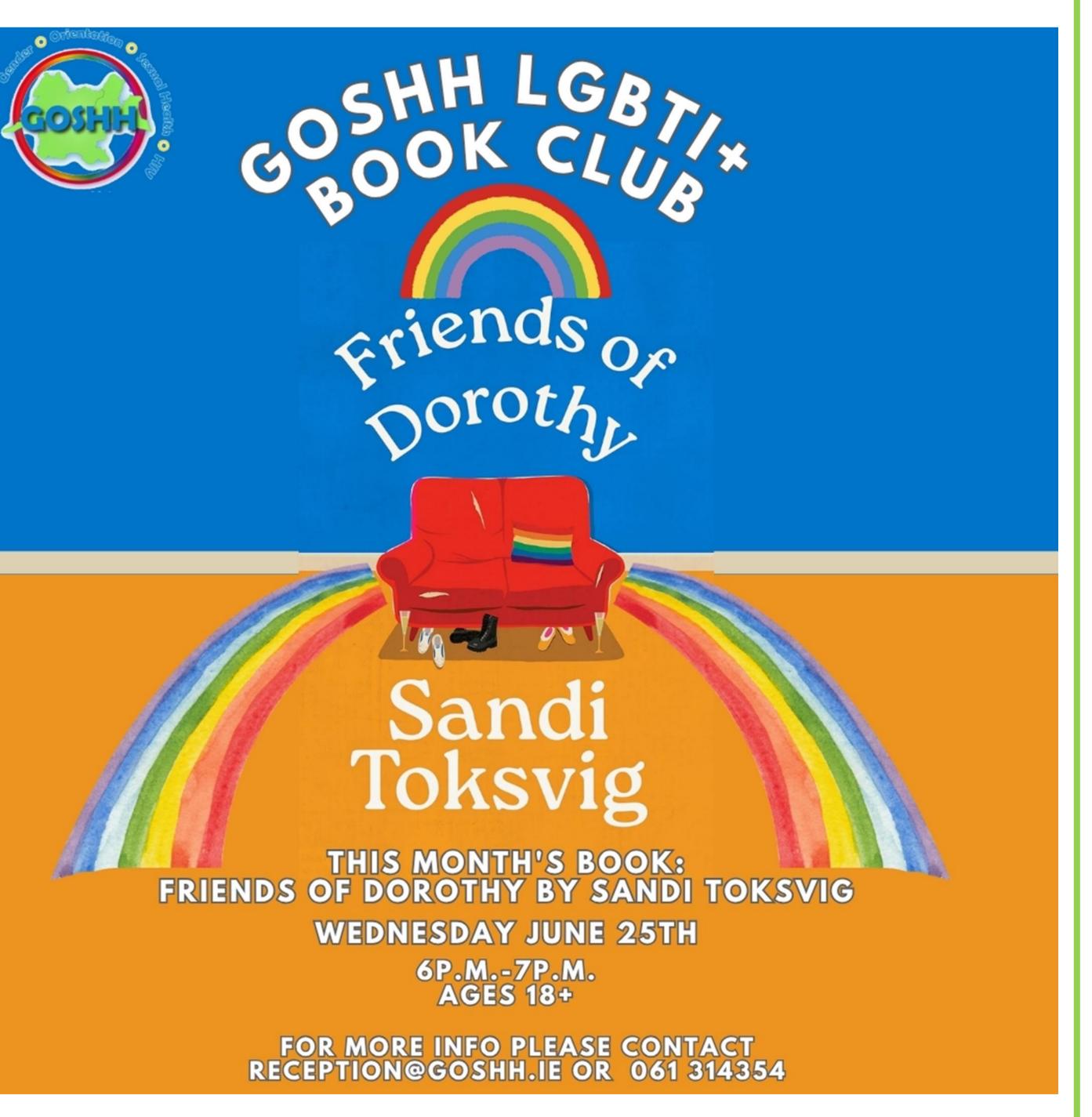
Ennis, Co. Clare June 18

If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please contact

communitydev@goshh.ie or text 086 458 8680







Other Health & Wellbeing News Clare Library Services







My Little Library bag scheme is back!

All children aged 4, 5 or 6 who are due to start school in September 2025 are invited to visit their local library to collect their free My Little Library Bag and sign up for library membership.

Each bag includes books, a glossary of terms for the Irish-language titles, a selection of information leaflets, along with a wallet to hold your new library card.

All families are welcome to join the library too, if they aren't already members.



O'Dea Clan Exhibition at Clare Local Studies Centre Clare Local Studies Centre is delighted to host a special exhibition in partnership with the O'Dea Clan Convention, taking place from 13–16 June. County Librarian, Helen Walsh will welcome the Clan Chief during a meet and greet on Friday 13 June. That same day Clare Local Studies and Archives staff will be available for general assistance for those researching genealogy, or to look through the O'Dea archives, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm For more information about the O'Dea Clan Convention, visit https://odeaclan.org/.

Other Health & Wellbeing News Clare Library Services





Join us for Cruinniú na nóg 2025 Saturday 7 June 2025

A day of free creativity for young people.

Ireland is the first, and only, country in the world to have a national day of free creativity for children and young people under 18.

Cruinniú na nÓg is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth Plan to enable the creative potential of children and young people.

Workshops will take place in libraries at Ennis, Ennistymon, Kilrush, Scariff and Shannon. Scan the QR code for details or visit https://clarelibraries.ie/events/



Get ready for Summer stars 2025 at Clare Libraries Summer Stars is the free national reading programme for children that takes place in all public libraries and online each summer from June to the end of August.

Register your child at the library starting June 1 to receive free activity books, a plantable seeded bookmark, bags, and pencils. Libraries will also offer free workshops, clubs, and story times during July and August. Schools are invited to bring their classes to the library to hear about the programme and sign up. Reading even one book/e-book completes the program.

Find out what's happening at your library by visiting www.clarelibraries.ie/events.



Other Health & Wellbeing News Mid West Aries in the Community Libraries



Kilkee Library Journaling for Wellbeing, June 5th









Discover a simple tool to support your wellbeing and mental health

- Learn how journaling can support wellbeing and mental health
- Explore different ways to journal
- Learn tips and techniques to keep you motivated
- Get started with simple journaling prompts
- Thursday June 5th 2025 10.30am - 1.00pm
- Kilkee Public Library Sweeney Memorial Public Library O'Connell Street Kilkee

Co. Clare, V15 P960



BOOK NOW:

https://midwestaries.eventbrite.ie https://midwestaries.ie/events Email: bookings@midwestaries.ie



West Clare Family Resource Center Creativity for Wellbeing, June 10th











What does creativity mean to you?

- How does creativity support wellbeing and mental health?
- What are the barriers to starting your creative journey?
- Start your personalised Creativity Planner



Weds, June 18th 2025 10.30am-1.00pm

West Clare Family Resource





BOOK NOW: https://midwestaries.eventbrite.ie https://midwestaries.ie/events Email: bookings@midwestaries.ie



Men's Health Week 2025 - Men's Health Webinar



Grow Mental Health

Peer support groups for anyone experiencing mental health issues, with community recovery through friendship, support and encouragement

Grow meetings are held in Ennis each week

Venue- Maria Assumpta Hall, Ennis

Monday 7-30pm to 9-30pm
Tuesday 2-4pm
Communication and human interaction is the key to mental wellness

Contact Celia 086 1526966 for more information

You are invited to attend our upcoming webinar, Men's Health Week 2025 – Men's Health Webinar, which will mark the beginning of Men's Health Week, Monday, June 9th – Sunday June 15th.

Men's Health week is about shining a light on Men's Health and encouraging all men to think and talk about their health in a positive way. This year's theme "Shoulder to Shoulder - Connecting for Health" is all about the importance of connectivity and helping each other. Reminding everyone about the importance of not going it alone, that there are supports available and that it is important to take action. Be it, personal action relating to your own health or reaching out and connecting to a service or group to help in your journey towards maintaining both a heathier physical and mental lifestyle.

Hosted by Lorcan Brennan, Men's Development Network, featuring;

- Bernard Jackman Former Irish International and Leinster Rugby Player, Coach and Sports Commentator,
- Michael Darragh Macauley Former Dublin GAA Senior Football player, GAA/GPA Footballer of the Year and CEO Sanctuary Runners,
- Sean Blake living with anorexia,
- Joe Grogan BowelScreen champion.

Join us to hear some very engaging conversations, insights and advice from our guest.

Reister at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN XkmyffvTS4e5TfeNjQcGew#/registration

What's On



June 2025

Free Online Mental Health & Wellbeing Workshops

For anyone aged 18+ with an interest in mental health

TUES

ANXIETY SERIES: Part 1 Exploring Anxiety



During this workshop we will examine and reflect on our understanding of anxiety. We will discuss a range of topics including the causes of anxiety. The session ends with a grounding exercise to help you to manage anxiety.

WEDS U4

ANXIETY SERIES: Part 2 Managing Anxiety



This second workshop in the series focuses on managing anxiety. We explore practical tips and tools that you can put (1) 10am - 12pm into practice when anxiety strikes. In particular we will discuss who or what can help when managing anxiety.

THURS

Let's Talk Depression



This workshop provides a space to discuss the impact of depression. We will explore practical tips that can be used when managing depression and reflect on the personal and individual nature of depression.

Self Care - Building My Resilience



In this workshop we will will explore how we can build our resilience through the practice of simple daily self care routines. We will discuss how we can support the four basic areas of wellness - Physical, Emotional, Social & Intellectual.

BOOK NOW

https://midwestaries.ie/events/ https://midwestaries.eventbrite.ie



For More Information Contact: bookings@midwestaries.ie









For anyone aged 18+ with an interest in mental health

Self Care -Building My Resilience



Learn How to

Prioritise & Practice Self Care

- What does self care mean to you?
- How does self care help us to support our wellbeing and be resilient?
- What are the barriers to practicing daily self care?
- What can you add to your self care toolkit?



Tues. June 17th 2025 10.30am-1.00pm



City Library Limerick City & County Council Barrow House Michael Street Limerick, V94 RF63

Book Now on the Limerick City Library Website https://tinyurl.com/Limerick-Lib-Bookings







The Clare Older People's Council, in collaboration with the Clare Age Friendly Programme, is thrilled to present the "Health & Wellbeing" Expo, a cornerstone event of Positive Ageing Week! This exciting expo aims to shine a spotlight on the incredible supports and services available for older adults throughout County Clare.

We are delighted to invite your organisation to host an information stand at this event. It's a unique chance to:

- Showcase your services and resources to an engaged audience.
- Network with other organisations and build meaningful connections.
- Raise awareness of the impact you make in the community.
- Engage directly with attendees who could benefit from your support.

Join us in making this day an unforgettable celebration of health, happiness, and community spirit. Let's work together to empower the older generation in County Clare!

If you are interested in hosting a stand at the Expo please register here.



Join Toddles and Waddles, two lovable penguins, on a heartwarming adventure that teaches love and understanding. This touching story about dementia is perfect for children of all ages, and a wonderful resource for parents and educators.

By Lindsay Martin-Fenlon



- Meet Employers from the Healthcare
 & Childcare Sectors and find out about current vacancies available.
- Information will be available on Certified courses within the Healthcare / Childcare areas.

<u>Location:</u>

College of Further Education & Training, Ennis Campus, Ennis, V95 KT95

Date:

10th June 2025

Time:

10.00am - 12pm







Explore the Wild:

A Must for Nature Lovers!

Clare Local Development Company presents Citizen Science Training Series 2025-2026





Date: June 7th | Time: 2pm-5.30pm

Join us for a hands-on, immersive Land Biodiversity Training on the topic of Citizen Science (identifying and gathering information about the natural world around us). At this training session, you will:

- · Learn what citizen science is and how it works
- · Discover local projects in biodiversity, water quality and wildlife monitoring
- Get hands-on training in spotting and recording species, using simple tools and apps
- Connect with local experts and like-minded nature enthusiasts

For Further Information | Email: dmorrissey@cldc.ie
Ticketing by TicketTailor BOOK TODAY

What to Bring: Sturdy footwear, waterproofs, notebook and lots of curiosity!









Connect with like-minded nature enthusiasts in the beautiful surroundings of Flagmount, Co. Clare for FREE!

Join us for an engaging few hours, Sat, June 7th from 2-5.30pm for a stand-alone training session to explore practical tools for spotting, recording and monitoring wildlife species.

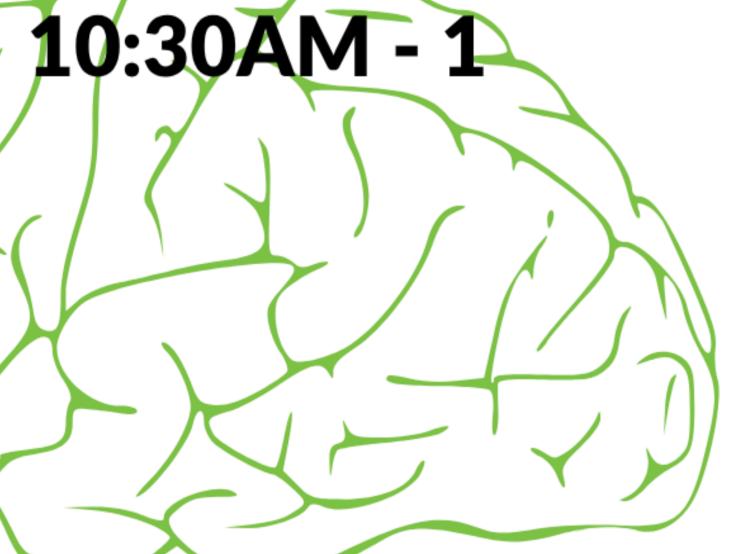
To get your free ticket click here http://bit.ly/43HgTFF or contact Deirdre at dmorrissey@cldc.ie

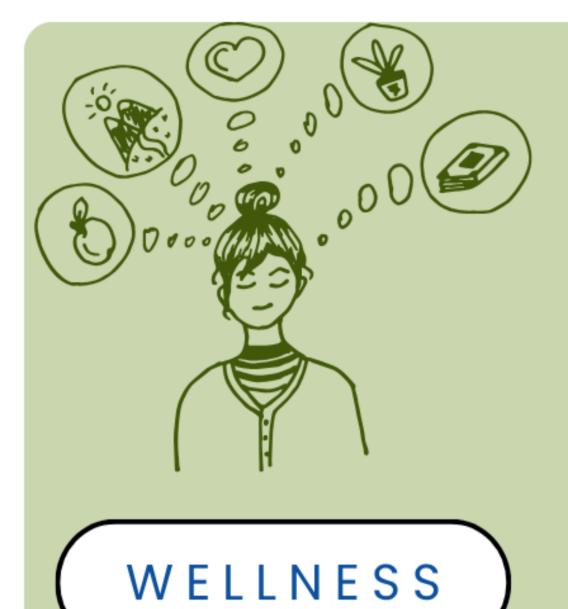


CONTACT: JDUFFY@CLDC.IE PHONE: 087 421 9473 **ELIGIBILITY &**

REGISTRATION APPLY

BUILDING CONFIDENCE & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT ENNIS LIBRARY: JUNE 11TH





Any of the workshops





- Building confidence through identifying strengths, talents, and skills.
- 2. Focus on identifying blockages in your current situation.
- 3. Work on communication skills and self awareness



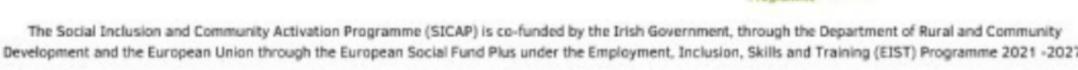
















Clare Growing Communities GARDEN MORKSHOP

Growing under Cover
(in Polytunnels)
With Rebecca Hussey



Thursday, 19th June 11am-12.30pm



Rebecca Hussey has been growing vegetables, herbs and flowers for many years. She delights in helping people transform spaces in to productive, beautiful gardens. Once you have tasted food straight from your own garden there will be no turning back

WHERE?

Ennis Mens Shed, free of charge







This project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.





Kilrush Parenting/Caregiver Workshop

Parents/caregivers in the Kilrush/Kilkee area are invited to attend a free workshop in Kilrush Community Centre on 24th June between 10am and 12pm. This is the fourth such workshop organised by Clare CYPSC as part of a restorative initiative in the area and will focus on giving parents and caregivers some practical ideas and skills in a relaxed setting. The session will be facilitated by Joe Power (powerjoseph1@gmail.com, 087-2879679)



The Clare Parenting website launched in February 2025 aims to inform parents about the various ages and stages of children's development, as well as provide information for parents on local services offering help and support to families in Co. Clare.

The website was funded and developed over two years as an action under the auspices of the Clare CYPSC (Children and Young People's Services Committee) Safe and Protected from Harm subgroup. The project was also informed by Tusla's Parenting Support Strategy 2022-2027, along with parents' voices, and the vast experience of child and family support professionals who work with families in Co. Clare.

In developing the website, parents and services were consulted (via surveys and focus groups) to gather their views on what they believe is most helpful for parents.

Feeback from parents included a desire for reliable and dependable local information related to parenting support services, as well as comprehensive and practical guidance on a wide range of parenting-related subjects. Parents also wanted this presented in a user-friendly and visually engaging format.

The website will be of great help to professionals working with children and families, who felt there was a need for a co-ordinated, interagency communication mechanism to advertise, collaborate, and communicate with each other about parent supports and services.

The online information service now means that agencies, practitioners, and parents can access and update vital information.

If you are seeking advice on parenting, looking for support, or information on local events, Clare Parenting offers a one-stop support for parents, families and caregivers on local support services and parenting events in the area.

The agencies involved in developing the website are: Clare CYPSC, Tusla, Clarecare, ISPCC, Clare County Co Childcare Committee and HSE Primary Care Psychology.

You can check out the site, here www.clareparenting.ie



FREE Drop-in Workshop – Ennis!

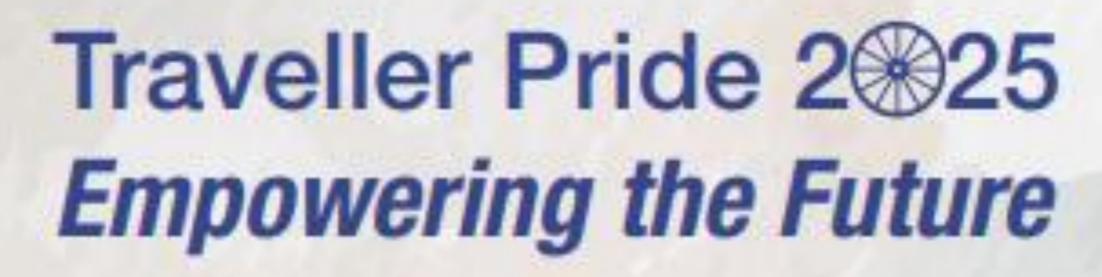
Join Helium Arts at **Súil Gallery** on **7 June, 2-3:30pm**, for an inspiring art taster with a professional artist – as part of **Cruinniú na nÓg**.

- Art, stories, and free fun for all ages!
- Don't miss this special drop-in workshop.
- Súil Gallery, Ennis.
- FREE ENTRY Everyone welcome!

Visit <u>www.helium.ie</u> for more information!

We hope you can join in the celebration!

Catch 'Journeys: Everything Begins Somewhere', an art exhibition by young Helium Arts creators, 24 May-7 June, Súil Gallery, Ennis.





Doors open at 7pm with music from Trish Reily and light refreshments, show starting at 8pm



ALL ARE WELCOME

The Dead

Thouse

Written and performed by Martin Beanz Warde

Thursday 5th of June 2025 Glor, Clonroad Beg, Ennis Co. Clare V95 VHPO

We are gathered at the dead house. Such a morbid name, I mean, there is still another person alive in that place, my granny. My grandfather's cold and lifeless body is laid out so that we can all have a final moment to say goodbye. "Goodbye grandad", as if he can even hear us." Patrick is an Irish Traveller who hasn't been home in 10 years but returns from self-exile for his grandfather's funeral.

"The Dead House"

had a sold-out run at

Dublin Theatre Festival,

Galway Theatre Festival,

Scripts - Ireland's Playwriting Festival and

Listowel Writer's Week.

Comedian and writer Martin Warde's debut play is a powerful and moving dark comedy that explores complex themes of family, tradition, and self- acceptance. The play is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of finding one's voice and identity.











Call for participants for Citizen

Curator Panel for

Bealtaine Festival 2026

Bealtaine Festival

An Age & Opportunity arts initiative

Open Call: Citizen Curator Pilot for Bealtaine 2026

Deadline: 23rd June, 12 noon

We are currently seeking individuals aged 50+ to join a pilot Citizen Curator Panel for Bealtaine Festival 2026. This voluntary group will help shape one event in the 2026 Bealtaine Festival by offering ideas and input on its programming. Panel members will meet in June/July and possibly again in September 2025 to collaborate, brainstorm, and learn. All work will be guided by the Festival Curators and Director, and participants will have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in arts programming.

Eligibility:

To apply, you must:

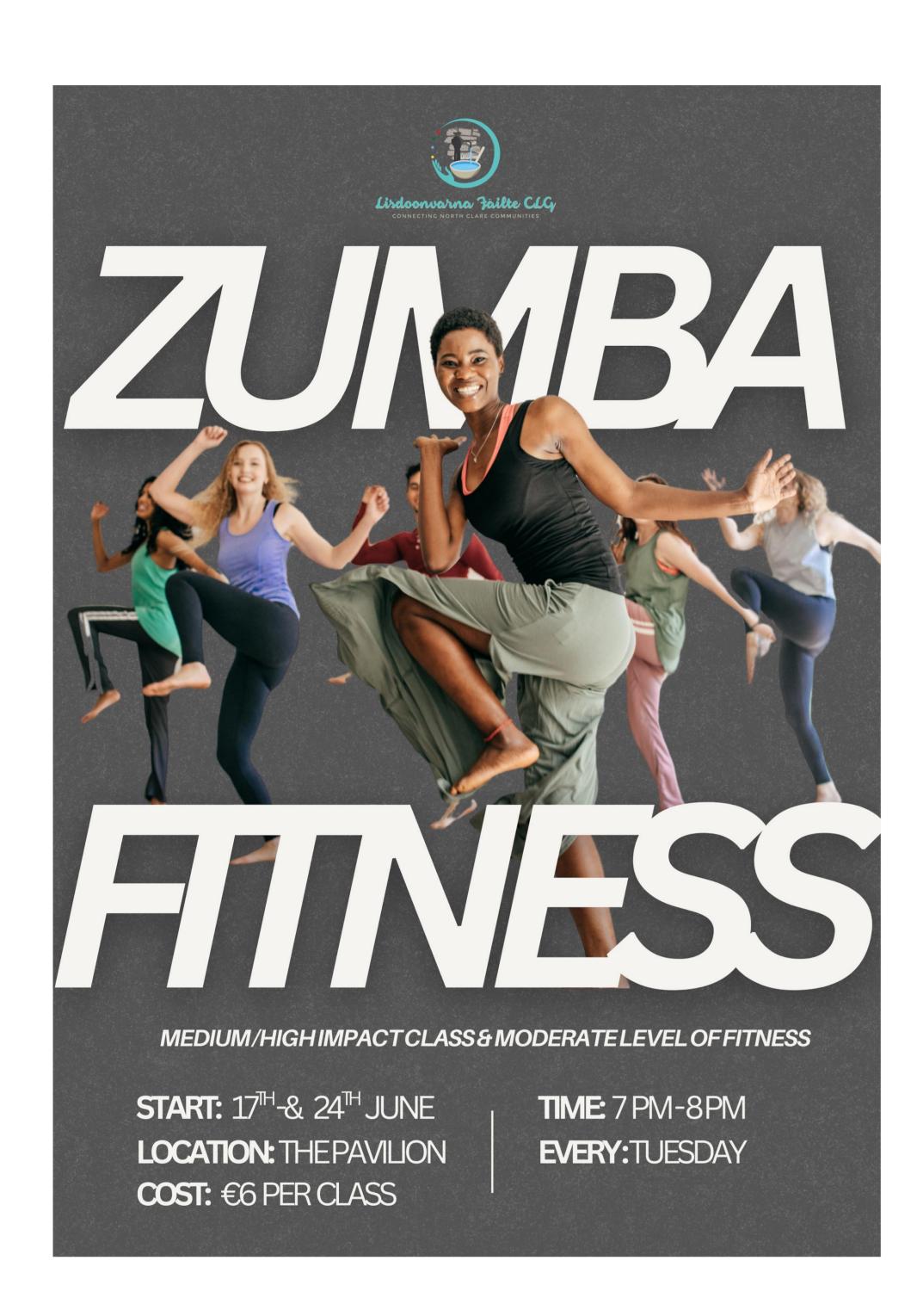
- . Be aged 50 or over
- Have previously attended or participated in a Bealtaine Festival
- Demonstrate an interest in the arts
- Be willing to contribute time to this initiative Please note that while this is a **voluntary role**, a stipend will be provided to cover travel and subsistence for in-person meetings.

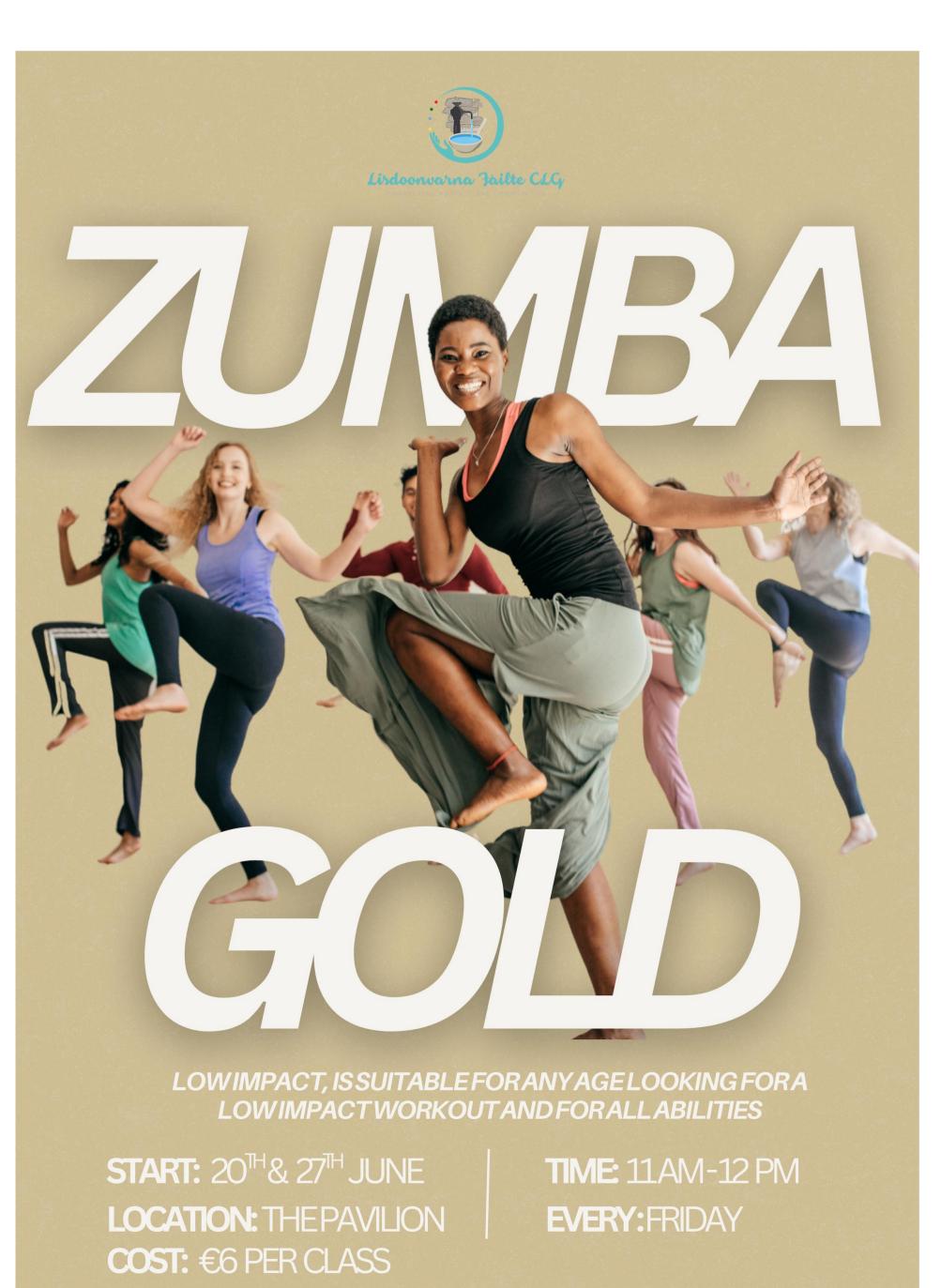
To Apply:

Visit our website to read the full guidelines and download the application form:

https://bealtaine.ie/open-call-citizen-curator-pilot-for-bealtaine-festival-2026/

20

















June 2025: Creative Spaces

JUNE | The state of the state

Across

- 6. thankfulness or grateful
- 7. expectation of positive outcome
- 9. achieved successfully
- 10. to accept or tolerate
- 11. prepared to do something Down
- 1. let go of negative emotions

- 2. give support, confidence or hope
- 3. emotional state of satisfaction
- 4. consent to receive or undertake
- **5.** concerned with needs and wishes of others
- 8. being humble

