Lionra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Chiarraí
Public Participation Network Kerry

Kerry PPN Weekly Newsletter

Friday 9th October, 2026

Welcome to the Kerry PPN Weekly newsletter packed with information, funding opportunities, community events and upcoming public consultations. Please share this newsletter with your group so all members can keep up to date.

If a group member would like to subscribe directly to the newsletter please ask them to email their name and email address to ppn@kerrycoco.ie

Due to the ongoing work to rule, we are only in a position to share local community news. We apologise for any inconvenience it may cause.

To have your community event included in our upcoming newsletter please email the details to ppn@kerrycoco.ie

Kind Regards

Caroline and Kathy.

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Website: www.kerryppn.ie

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Have you news or an event you would like to share?

The Kerry Public Participation Network (PPN) is a network of 1,000+ community & voluntary, social inclusion and environmental groups in Kerry.

We connect Kerry County Council with our member groups facilitating community participation in local government decision making. We work to make sure our member groups have a say on local issues that concern them.

Check out more information at:

Write to us at: Áras an Chontae, Ratass, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92H7VT

Kerry PPN Update

Due to the ongoing work to rule, we are only in a position to share local community news.

We apologise for any inconvenience it may cause.

Cancelled - Global Citizenship Education - Kerry Mental Health and Wellbeing Fest 2026

Due to the ongoing work to rule, we have to regrettably cancelled the upcoming workshop.

We apologise for any inconvenience it may cause.

Positive Ageing Morning

We were delighted to attend the **Positive Ageing Morning** hosted by the **Sliabh Luachra Active Retired Network**, in partnership with the **HSE Community Work Department**, at **Knocknagoshel Community Centre**.

It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with older people from across the Sliabh Luachra area, connect with local organisations, and share information about the services and supports available in our community.

A fantastic morning of connection, conversation and celebrating positive ageing!

Thank you to everyone involved in organising such a welcoming and worthwhile event!

Kerry Community Awards 2026

A night of celebration at The Rose Hotel

The annual Kerry Community Awards ceremony took place in The Rose Hotel on Thursday 1st October.

The **Kerry Community Awards 2026 were a great success**, providing a fitting celebration of the contribution made by the community and voluntary sector across County Kerry.

The 21 shortlisted groups and seven category winners demonstrated the exceptional quality and diversity of community activity throughout the county, while the overall award to **Forbairt na Dromoda** provided a fitting recognition of outstanding community achievement.

This fantastic event, strengthens the relationship between The Kerry Community Awards Committee which is an independent committee with Kerry County Council, Kerry PPN, the Local Development Companies, The Newmarket and the wider organisations involved in supporting the community and voluntary sector.

Most importantly, the evening gave community groups and volunteers the opportunity to come together, celebrate their achievements and the value of the enormous contribution they make to County Kerry.

A particular highlight of the evening was a special message from Taoiseach Micheál Martin to Kerry's community and voluntary groups.

The message provided national recognition of the contribution being made by community organisations and volunteers and reinforced the importance of the work taking place at local level.

The inclusion of this message added a significant dimension to the awards and demonstrated the importance of recognising community activity not only within Kerry but at national level.

Congratulations to one and all for making the Kerry Community Awards 2026 such a memorable night. We look forward to 2027 when we will be celebrating 20 years.

Next week, we will look at the category winners.

Further Information

Community News

Do Not Consume Notice issued to protect customers supplied by the Ballyheigue Public Water Supply

Customers supplied by the Ballyheigue Public Water Supply in Co Kerry are being advised not to consume water until further notice. The notice has been issued following the detection of an issue affecting the source water. We have taken this measure to protect public health while our teams undertake emergency works to address the problem and restore a safe water supply.

Customers served by the Ballyheigue Public Water Supply should not use their tap water for drinking, preparing food, cooking, or brushing teeth. The Western catchment regions of the Clanmaurice Group Water Scheme, which serves the townlands of Kerry Head, Ballyongane, Boolenshane,Cleandries, Cloghaneleech, Doonaspickaun, Ballincomeeg and Rathmore is also included in the Do Not Consume Notice.

Boiling the water will not make it safe to drink, and it is particularly important that water from the tap is not given to bottle-fed babies.

Our team at Uisce Eireann understands this will be concerning and disruptive for households, schools and businesses in the area. Everyone relies on having safe drinking water in their homes and workplaces and we want to reassure the community that protecting public health remains our top priority. The safety of Uisce Eireann Customers is always a last resort, taking proactive action to protect public health is our responsibility. Unfortunately cases like this do occasionally come from, the impact it is having, how we identify and address it.

Our team are doing all we can to restore a safe drinking water supply as quickly as possible.

Customers can check if their property is affected by Ballyheigue Water Quality section of water is and entering their Eircode or by contacting Uisce Eireann's customer service available 24/7, on 1800 278 820. A map of the affected area is also available on the Supply and Service section of uisce.ie. Vulnerable customers who are registered with Uisce Eireann will be contacted directly.

Listowel Autism Friendly Town Update

Listowel Autism Friendly Town committee had a busy week visiting local businesses & organisations to issue Autism Friendly Champion certificates to those who have been accredited under the AsAN Autism Friendly Town programme.

This involves:

- Staff trained in Autism Awareness
- Visual guide in place, helping visitors know what to expect
- Assistance dog friendly
- Sensory accommodations in place: Sensory Tool Kit available

Here are their first 9 businesses / organisations who are fully accredited Champions:

On Thursday 1st October they had the privilege of being a finalist at the Kerry Community Awards. They were absolutely delighted to win the Inclusive Community Award.

Massive thanks to all involved it was a wonderful night & very well organised.

Listowel Autism Friendly Town Facebook

Volunteer Opportunity: National Circus Festival of Ireland

When: 5th-8th November
Where: Tralee, Co. Kerry – Munster Technological University, Siamsa Tire Theatre and locations throughout Tralee
Ever wanted to join the circus? Here's your chance!

Volunteers are needed for the **National Circus Festival of Ireland**, taking place in Tralee from 5th to 8th November.

Volunteers will be required to support activities at **Munster Technological University** and **Siamsa Tire Theatre**. Help is also needed for the **Tom Cream – Endurance Over Ice** exhibition, including the movement of the ice sculpture through the streets of Tralee.

If you'd like to be part of the Circus Crew and help bring this exciting festival to life, find out more and sign up.

Further Information

Regional Age Friendly Sports Taster Day 2026

Members of Kerry's Older People's Council, accompanied by the Kerry Age Friendly Programme Manager, were delighted to take part in the Regional Age Friendly Sports Taster Day at the LIT Arena, Limerick, on 28th September 2026.

The group enthusiastically took part in a fantastic range of taster sessions, including Walking Football, Go for Life Games, Functional Fitness, Activator Pole Walking and Pickleball. There was plenty of fun, laughter and perhaps a little friendly competition along the way!

It was a brilliant opportunity for older adults to try something new, discover enjoyable ways to stay active and have a go at activities they might have never had tried before. It was a day to show us the many ways we can keep moving, have fun and meet new people.

Many thanks to An Garda Síochána for kindly providing the Garda Community Bus and our sincere thanks to Kerry Man Gardner for accompanying us on the day.

A heartfelt thank you to the Age Friendly Limerick team and Limerick Sports and Recreation Partnership for organising such a wonderful, welcoming and inclusive event. We are already looking forward to the next one!

Volunteer at Buds

Bud's Resource Centre Ballyduff is looking for volunteers under the following positions:

- After Schools Positions
- Creche and Pre-school
- Reception
- Parent & Community Supports
- Fundraising
- Kitchen and Café Duties
- Administration and IT

It is a fantastic social aspect and a way of making new friendships

It is very fulfilling and satisfying to support a cause that helps others. You will be part of a welcoming, supportive and dynamic teal. 98% of people who volunteer say it makes them a happier person.

You will get experience and learn new skills, or maybe develop on skills you already have. This is helpful if you wish to pursue a career in social childcare/ community/ family support areas. Also, prospective employers like to see volunteering on CVs

It is great fun!

Upcoming Events

Kenmare MD

Kenmare Drop-In Information mornings

Recovery Haven's Kenmare Community Outreach Service is coming up!

Pop in for a chat, a cuppa, meet their staff and learn about the free supports and services available to those affected by cancer from Recovery Haven Kerry

Dates: Tuesday October 13th, Tuesday November 10th

Time:10am - 12.30pm

Where: Kenmare Community Nursing Unit, Hospital Road, Dromnevanne, V93 AW24

Contact them at: 066 7191222 or
recepkerry@recoveryhavenkerry.com

Kenmare Memory Café

When: Tuesday 27th October, 11am - 12.30pm

Where: The Lansdowne Hotel Kenmare, Main St. V93 YRC8

Guest Speaker: Pharmacist Angela Brosnan from Vital Pharmacy (Brosnan's) Kenmare. Speaking about tips for staying well through cold & flu season and more

Refreshments and a singsong with the talented Suzanne and Tracy - song requests welcome!

For more information, contact Niamh Murphy at niamh.murphy@alzheimer.ie or 087 216 8504

Cahersiveen Coffee 'n' Chat

When: Wednesday 14th and 28th October, 11am - 1pm

Where: Kerry Coast Hotel, Frank's Bistro - 8/9 Church Streetm Cahersiveen V23 RV07

Come for a chat, Stay for the company!

Everyone is welcome!

For more information, contact Niamh Murphy at niamh.murphy@alzheimer.ie or 087 216 8504

Killarney MD

Quilt Ireland Expo

Two days of workshops, exhibitions, vendor stands and community in the heart of Killarney.

Whether you are there to learn, to shop, to exhibit, or simply to be in a room full of people who understand exactly why you own that much fabric — there is a place for you!

When: 23rd and 24th October 2026

Where: Heights Hotel, Killarney, Co Kerry

Further Information/book Tickets

Killarney International Film Festival

KIFF 2026 is bringing an exciting mix of international cinema and homegrown filmmaking to Killarney this October

When: 15 - 18 October

Further information

Brochure

Listowel MD

BASE Gym Listowel Winter 2026 Offer

Ready to finish 2026 feeling fitter, stronger and healthier?

Get 3 months' gym membership for just €125 at BASE Gym Listowel!

- Membership runs 1 October- 31 December 2026
- Offer ends 14 October!

Your membership includes:

- Full gym access
- Gym induction
- 6-week gym programme
- No contract
- No joining fee
- 7-day money-back guarantee

Start your winter fitness journey at BASE Gym Listowel.

Contact today:

Telephone: 068 22244

Email: info@listowelcommunitycentre.ie

Listowel Community Centre - Kerry Mental Health and Wellbeing Fest 2026

All three events are free, with booking required. Places are limited, so they encourage you to book early at Welcome to Kerry Mental Health & Wellbeing Fest.

Come along, get active, connect with others and take a positive step towards your wellbeing.

Strength, Stability & Fall Prevention

When: Monday 12 October | 1:00-1:45pm

A practical session focused on improving strength, stability and confidence in everyday movement.

BASE Gym Intro Day

When: Wednesday 14 October | 8:00am-5:00pm

Come along and discover BASE Gym, meet the team and learn more about how exercise can support your health and wellbeing.

3. Chair Yoga for Older Adults

Friday 16 October | 12:00-12:45pm

A gentle, accessible session designed to support movement, flexibility and relaxation.

Chair Yoga for Older Adults

When: Friday 16 October | 12:00-12:45pm

A gentle, accessible session designed to support movement, flexibility and relaxation.

Sean Kelly MEP to join North Kerry and Europe event at Teach Siamsa Finuge

Sean Kelly MEP will be the guest speaker at a special North Kerry and Europe evening

When: Friday, October 23 at 7.30pm

Where: Teach Siamsa Finuge

The event is being held in conjunction with Teach Siamsa as part of the Communicating Europe Initiative (CEI) and coincides with Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union. It will bring together European affairs, local culture, music and storytelling, exploring the connections between North Kerry, Ireland and Europe.

The evening will be moderated by Jimmy Deenihan and Audrey Galvin, with Sean Kelly MEP discussing Ireland's place in Europe and the importance of the European Union in rural communities such as North Kerry. This will be followed by an open discussion with the audience.

A central part of the evening will be Rambling Europe – Stories Across Borders, inspired by the traditional Irish ceilidh house and the importance of storytelling in preserving the experiences and memories of communities.

Members of the public are being invited to become part of the evening by contributing their own stories. These might be traditional rambling house stories or local memories, stories that cross borders, or personal reconsiderations of Ireland's membership of the European Union and how Ireland and local communities have changed during that time.

Contributions on the night will be recorded as part of the Communicating Europe Initiative, capturing local voices and experiences and celebrating the stories that connect North Kerry with communities across Europe.

Traditional music will also feature during the evening, celebrating North Kerry's rich cultural heritage and its connections with a wider European identity.

Everyone is welcome – whether you have a story or memory to share or simply want to come along, listen and join the conversation. If you wish to contribute on the night please contact us in advance at kerryrambling@hotmail.com with subject "North Kerry and Europe Event"

Numbers are limited and advance booking is required.

Registration Link

Buds Family Resource Centre Breakfast Time

Buds Family Resource Centre

Ballyduff men's shed

Breakfast Every Friday 9am – 12pm

Thrift Extravaganza 2026

YOU ASKED, THEY LISTENED ...

They're going BIGGER & BETTER than ever!

Get ready for their BIG THRIFT EXTRAVAGANZA – their biggest market yet!

Date: Saturday, 10 October

Time: 1.00pm – 4.00 p.m.

Venue: Listowel Community Centre, V31 VK13

Expect racks packed with pre-loved and vintage clothing, accessories and hidden gems, plus this time we're bringing a little something extra including:

- Kids' Preloved Corner
- Face Painting
- Sweet Treats

For any queries, please contact Thrift Kerry Therapy at https://www.facebook.com/thrift.therapy.kerry or Listowel Community Centre at 068 22244 or email info@listowelcommunitycentre.ie

Further Information

Tralee MD

Change of Date: Anam Cara Kerry Parent Support Evening

Anam Cara Support meetings for bereaved parents continue monthly from September until June each year. These peer group meetings offer a space of compassion and understanding for those grieving their child - at any stage.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE OCTOBER PARENT SUPPORT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE A WEEK LATER THAN USUAL

Details for this month's meeting are as follows:

Anam Cara's Kerry Parent Support Evening is taking place a week later than usual. The meeting will now take place on **Tuesday 20th October 2026 at 7.30pm in the Meadowlands Hotel, Tralee Co. Kerry.**

No registration needed.

To find out more about the support they offer please email at info@anamcara.ie or call 085 288 8886

Le Chéile Are we Ready for the Challenge- Rooting Resilience in Communities

This is a NEWKD (North East West Kerry Development) project with Transition Kerry, funded by LEADER.

Join for an interactive and engaging **Learning Exchange** as they launch Phase II (outreach to NEWKD communities) of the community Climate Adaptation and Resilience Programme

Themes include emergency planning, nature based solutions, food sovereignty and health

When: Saturday 10th October, 9.30am to 3.30pm

Where: Mercy Secondary School, Mounthawk, Tralee, V92 A409

Registration is essential!

Please email:

adaptationkerry@transitionkerry.org

Halloween Scavenger Hunt 2026

Join the Tralee Bay Wetlands Ecology & Activity Park this October for a fun-filled Autumn adventure! The team at Tralee Bay Wetlands needs your help find the monster this Halloween.

Ever wondered what creatures lurk around Tralee Bay Wetlands at autumn. During Halloween, take part in our Halloween Scavenger Hunt and see what spooky creatures might be hiding around the park. Follow the clues on the map to solve this case and enjoy hands-on activities along the way, leading you to whereabouts of the victim and the perpetrator.

Dates: 17th October - 31st October 2026
Times: 11:00am & 2:00pm
Price: €15 Child | €6 Adult
Perfect for ages 5–12 years

Pre-booking is essential – spaces limited!

Booking Link

County Wide

Upcoming Carer Meetings with Family Carers

Upcoming Peer Support Groups where family carers connect, learn and enjoy a cuppa together

If you are interested, please contact:
kerrycp@family-carers.ie

Tralee

Peer Support Group Meeting

Location: Rahoonane Community Centre, Tralee, V92 D9HF

Time: Tuesday 13th Oct, 10.30-12.00

Details: peer support group meeting and , we will have Joan Browne doing some self-care in form of Chi Gong

Upcoming EFT and CBT wellness workshop with Helen Ryle

Location: Rahoonane Community Centre, Tralee, V92 D9HF

When: November 6 - 7.30pm

Killarney

Location: Torc Family Resource Centre, Ballysplaine, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 FD1H

Time: Thursday 15th Oct, 11.00am – 12:30pm

Details: peer support group meeting we will have a speaker (details being finalised)

Upcoming Killarney November – Health and Nutrition Talk with Paula Dugan of Balance Nutrition - www.balancenutrition.ie

Glenbeigh

Location: Glenbeigh Hotel, Curraheen, Glenbeigh, V93 DX90

Time: Wednesday 21th Oct, 11.30am – 1.00pm

Details: peer support group meeting first and we will have Joan Browne doing some self-care in form of Chi Gong

****carers asked to bring €€ for tea/coffee at hotel if desired.**

NEWKD Craft Circle

Creativity Thrives in Community

Join a NEWKD Craft Circle near you!

Everyone is welcome!

- Adults only
- All abilities welcome
- No crafting experience needed

Weekly groups meeting up all over Kerry

For more details, contact Kristina 066 660 2147 or Dee 087 635 6353

Check out their Facebook page for more information

Training & Education Opportunities

LGBT+ Winter Webinar Series 2026

Listowel Community and Family Resource Centre are running a free LGBT+ Winter Webinar series

When: Starting on Monday 19th October at 7pm and running every second Monday until 14th December.

Where: Online

All are open to anyone interested and are free to attend.

Please email daniel.ryckie@listowelfrc.ie for the Zoom link.

- **Monday 19th October 7pm**
  - Topic: De-mystifying LGBT+ terminology and language
    - **Description:** This is a one-hour webinar open to everyone who would like to learn the meaning of LGBT+, including information on sexual orientation, gender identities, and pronouns. They will not only discuss the meaning of the acronyms, sex and gender, and what it all means, we will also discuss Irish LGBT+ history, and suggestions on how to approach the conversation of pronouns when you are unsure of their identity and how to ask questions in a respectful manner.
- **Monday 2nd November 7pm**
  - Topic: Understanding and supporting your LGBT+ child
    - **Description:** This is a one-hour webinar open to parents and caregivers who would like to learn more about what it means to be LGBT+, and how this impacts the young person in our life. They will discuss how to support your child or young person in navigating school, family, and social lives, mental health, and figuring out their identity. They will work through scenarios around asking questions, fears, and what to say to friends and family, as well as bust some myths.
- **Monday 16th November 7pm**
  - Topic: Creating safe spaces for LGBT+ people
    - **Description:** This is a two-hour webinar open to anyone who works or volunteers in the community who would like to make their organisation or group an open and safe space for LGBT+ individuals. They will discuss the meaning of LGBT+, as well as how to be an ally to the LGBT+ community. This includes how to make your organisation or community more open and inviting, make it clear that LGBT+ people are welcome, identify and address barriers to access, and how to create or adapt policies/ procedures and actions to make your group or organisation as inclusive as possible.
- **Monday 30th November 7pm**
  - Topic: Bullying disinformation and the impact of hate
    - **Description:** This is a one-hour webinar open to everyone who would like to learn more about misinformation, disinformation, and myths being spread about the LGBT+ community in recent years, and the impact that this is having on both LGBT+ people and the wider community. They will discuss the facts and fiction, where this is coming from, the impact it is having, how to identify and address it.
- **Monday 14th December 7pm**
  - Topic: How to handle discrimination, bullying, and harassment
    - **Description:** This is a one-hour webinar open to everyone who would like to learn more about discrimination, bullying, and harassment of the LGBT+ community. They will discuss the different forms of discrimination, bullying, and harassment one might encounter, and how to address it in communities. They will go through scenarios and struggles on how to protect yourself and fellow LGBT+ in a school, work, family, and public situations.

Frontline Professionals supporting families after traumatic bereavement

The Anam Cara workshop for frontline professionals supporting bereaved families is now accredited by the **IACP for CPD Credits!**

Following the success of our in person workshops earlier in year, we are now holding **two online workshops in October & November**

Who is the workshop for?

- Garda Síochana and PSNI Family Liaison Officers
- Emergency First Responders
- Funeral Directors
- Hospital and Hospice Staff
- Emergency Departments Medical staff
- Social Workers
- Chaplains/Clergy
- Therapists/Counsellors
- Community workers supporting bereaved families

Dates: Tuesday 13th October & Tuesday 10th November 2026

Cost: €20 per person

We encourage you to **register as soon as possible** for this event, as places are limited. Please share the attached flyer with anyone who may benefit from this accredited training.

Register for Online Workshop on Tuesday 13th October

Register for Online Workshop on Tuesday 10th November

If you would like further information please get in touch with us on info@anamcara.ie or call 085 288 8886

Equality and Human Rights Training Programme: Equal By Design

"Transform your understanding transform your work "

In today's world, both locally and globally, the need for equality and human rights is more pressing than ever. This is now rightly reflected in organisational obligations across a range areas from Public Sector Duty to tendering and funding applications requirements. With increasing inequality and challenges to fundamental rights, fostering a strong culture of equality and human rights is crucial.

This training provides a comprehensive foundational framework to help you achieve that goal.

Who Should Attend?

- NGOs seeking to strengthen their capacity in equality and human rights
- Public sector professionals working with socially excluded groups
- Businesses committed to advancing diversity and inclusion

Delivery Format

Two half-day workshops (9:30 AM – 1:00 PM)

Workshop 1: Key Concepts and Historical Evolution of Equality & Human Rights (E&HR)

Workshop 2: Legal Frameworks and Practical Applications of E&HR

Both workshops are designed as standalone modules, so while attending both is recommended, it is not required.

If you would like further information or would like to discuss delivering the training in your area, please feel free to contact Robert at clareyouthcouncil@gmail.com

Check out more information about Kerry Public Participation Network at:

Write to us at: Áras an Chontae, Ratass, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92H7VT