Healthy Clare Newsletter February 2025

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



healthyclare@clarecoco.ie



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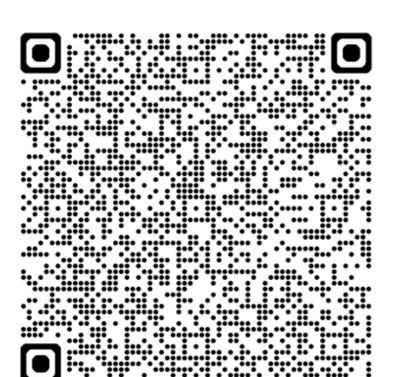
Clare County Council Free Period Products Campaign as part of the Dept. of Health Period Poverty Initiative.

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,

As always, I hope you are all keeping well and safe. Healthy Clare is delighted to bring to you the February edition of the Healthy Clare Newsletter. As always, it is packed full of great information about community and service offerings for wellbeing.

Healthy Clare is pleased to announce the Healthy Clare Micro Fund 2025, which will open for submissions on Friday 14th of February.

Clare's Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) will launch the Healthy Clare Micro Fund 2025 on 14th February. This fund is aimed towards recognising the importance of supporting initiatives around the county that promote health and wellbeing across the lifespan. The micro fund is dedicated toward supporting community led, grassroot projects that promote the themes of Healthy Ireland Round 4. The fund will support targeted actions in response to the identified 2 priority outcomes for a Healthier Clare:

- 1. Healthy Weight
- 2. Positive Mental Health Promotion

More details will be made available over the coming weeks.

Kind regards, Sam

Physical Activity



PALs (Physical Activity Leader) Training Course

A 6-week initiative which trains individuals how to lead sport and activity sessions for older adults in their local groups and communities.



St. Joseph's Doora Barefield,

V95 PD36



Beginning Monday Feb 10th



10am - 3pm

If you are interested in participating in a PALs course please contact James Murrihy.

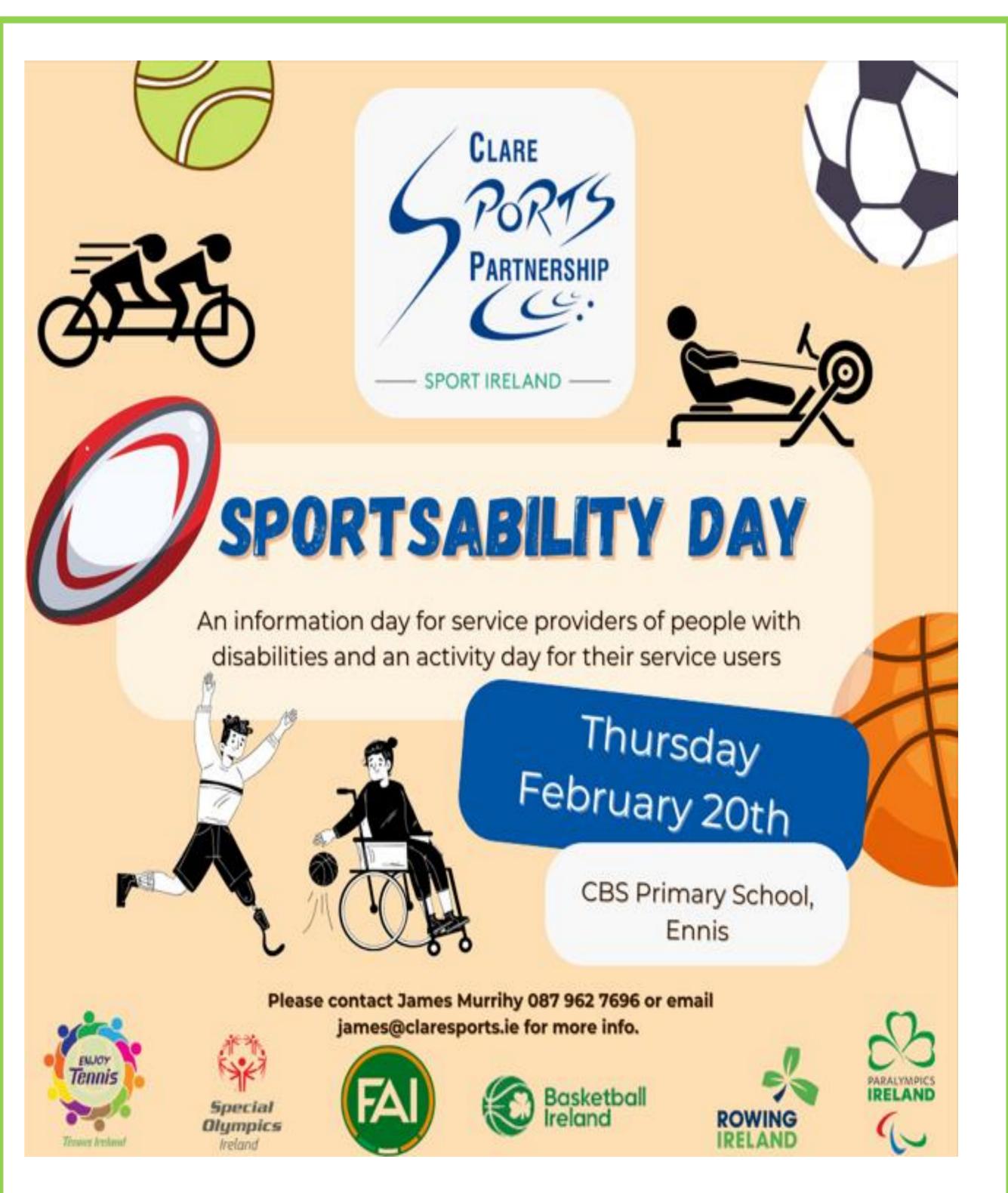
james@claresports.ie 087 962 7696





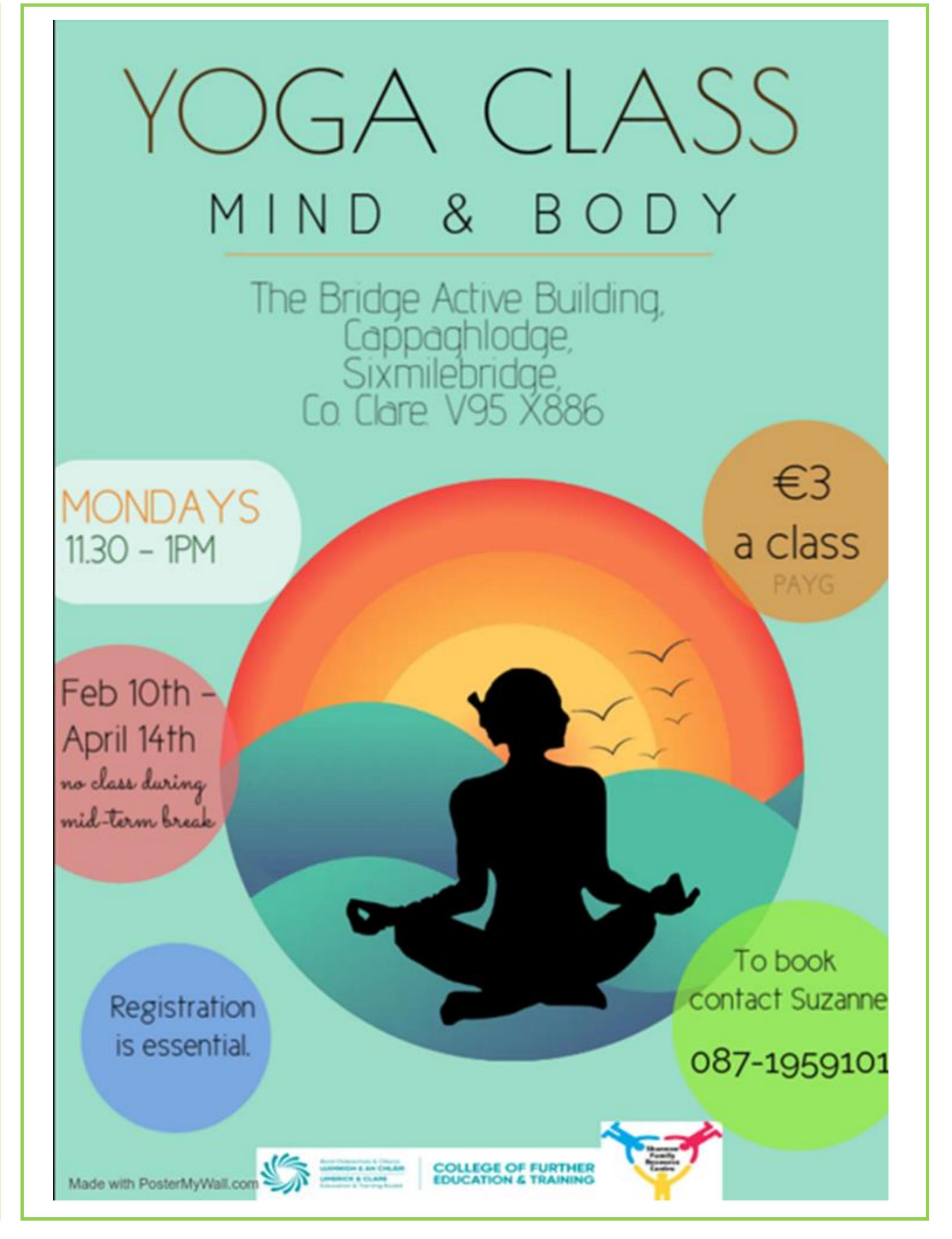






Physical Activity





Physical Activity

Ennis Hockey Club: Building Community Through Sport



Ennis Hockey Club is more than just a sports organization, it's a thriving community hub dedicated to inclusivity, fun, and athletic excellence.

Inclusive Hockey for All: One of our club's standout initiatives is our hockey group for individuals with disabilities, including those who are autistic or have Down Syndrome. This program is completely free of charge and provides a welcoming space where participants can meet friends, enjoy themselves, and feel part of a supportive community.

Opportunities for Everyone: Ennis Hockey Club caters to players of all ages and genders, with dedicated teams for kids, adults, boys, and girls. We're deeply committed to engaging with the broader community, participating in school sports days across Clare to introduce more young people to the joys of hockey. Ennis Hockey Club continues to bring people together, whether on the pitch, through volunteer opportunities, or at community events. Together, let's keep the spirit of hockey alive in Clare and create a brighter future for sports in our county. For more information visit: https://www.ennishockeyclub.com/

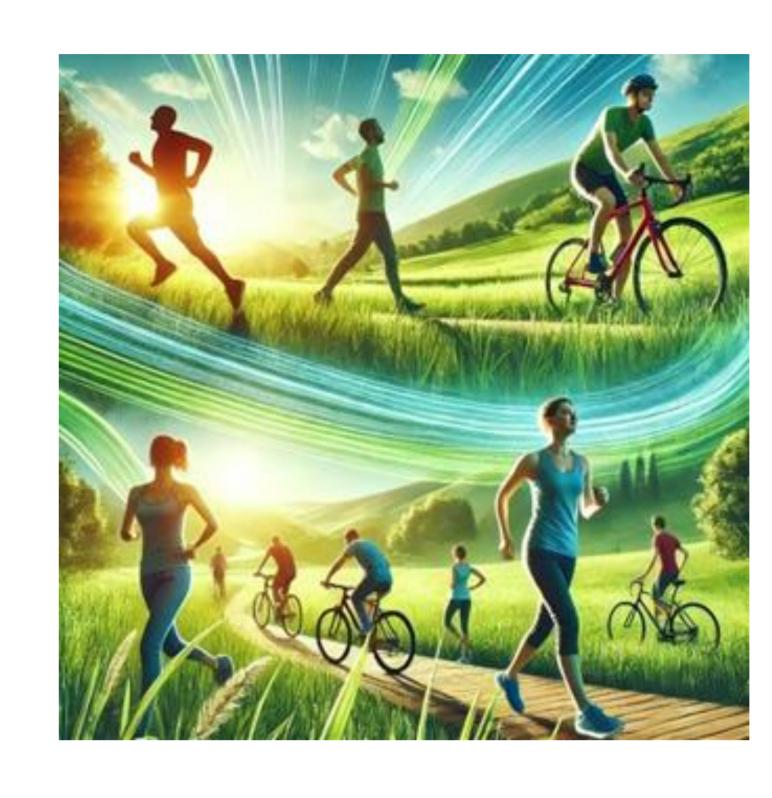


Are you thinking of putting your running shoes on this February.

All proceeds go a local athletics club which serves its community by promoting a healthy lifestyle in its members through movement and athletics, as well as providing a social network for members, young and old.

There will be tea, coffee and music after the run, so it is a very social event.

Get Fit with Active Ennis this February Benefits of Cardiovascular (Cardio) Training





- **1. Improves Heart Health:** Strengthens the heart muscle, improving its efficiency in pumping blood. Reduces the risk of heart disease, hypertension, and stroke.
- **2. Enhances Lung Capacity:** Increases oxygen intake and improves the efficiency of the respiratory system. Strengthens the diaphragm and other respiratory muscles.
- 3. Supports Weight Management: Burns calories and helps in reducing or maintaining body weight. Boosts metabolism, aiding in fat loss.
- **4. Boosts Endurance and Stamina:** Increases energy levels and reduces fatigue during physical activity. Improves overall athletic performance.
- **5. Regulates Blood Sugar Levels:** Enhances insulin sensitivity and helps in managing or preventing type 2 diabetes.
- **6. Reduces Stress and Anxiety:** Triggers the release of endorphins, which improve mood and reduce stress. Helps clear the mind and alleviate symptoms of depression.
- **7. Improves Sleep Quality:** Promotes deeper and more restorative sleep by reducing stress and physical tension.
- **8. Enhances Cognitive Function:** Improves memory, focus, and decision-making by increasing blood flow to the brain.
- **9. Strengthens the Immune System:** Stimulates circulation, enabling immune cells to detect and fight infections more efficiently.
- **10. Supports Longevity:** Regular cardio is linked to a longer lifespan and reduced risk of chronic diseases.

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

Mental Health

Peer-Led Wellness Cafe

When: Monday between 10:30am-12pm (except closed public holidays).

Where: Glór

Purpose: Drop in and get yourself a cuppa and sit for a chat.



Grow Mental Health Peer Support





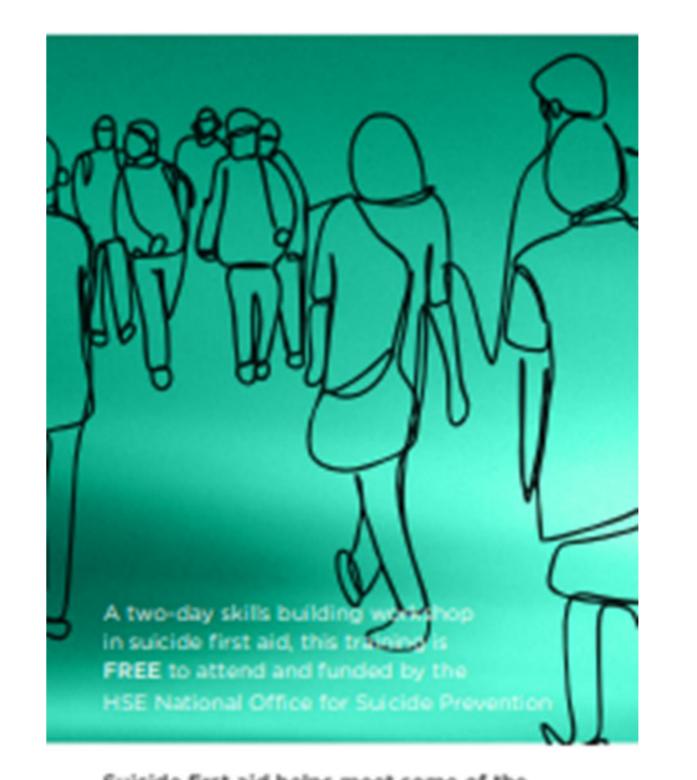
GROW meetings are held in Ennis each week for anyone experiencing mental health issues.

Venue: Maria Assumpta Hall, Mondays from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Tuesday 2pm Maria Assumpta Hall, Ennis

Contact Celia on 0861526966 for more information.



Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training



challenges in reducing suicidal behaviour

ASIST training on the weekend of March 1st & 2nd 2025.

https://bookwhen.com/ suicidepreventiontrainin gmw/e/ev-se49-20250301000000









Cillian joined Mental Health Ireland in January 2025 after working in the area of recovery education in mental health for a number of years. Having previously run his own business as a personal trainer and a wellbeing speaker, he has always been motivated to make a positive difference in people's lives. Cillian holds an MA in Leadership in Workplace Health and Wellbeing at TUS Mid West and enjoys continuously upskilling and learning. He enjoys connecting with people and communities around the topic of mental health and wellbeing, making every interaction invaluable.

For more information about Mental Health Ireland and our work in County Clare, 5 contact Cillian at cillian.keane@mentalhealthireland.ie or 0877122890

Eating Well

Eat Well with Jamie



Micro Nutrients Spotlight



Getting enough micronutrients (vitamins and minerals) in your diet is essential for good health. Here are some practical tips to help you meet your micronutrient needs.

- 1. Eat a Variety of Foods.
- 2. Prioritize Whole Foods.
- 3. Incorporate Leafy Greens.
- 4. Choose Whole Grains.
- 5. Snack on Nuts and Seeds.
- 6. Consume Dairy or Fortified Alternatives.
- 7. Include Lean Proteins.
- 8. Don't Skip Fruits.
- 9. Cook Strategically.
- 10. Embrace Fermented Foods.

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



The Food Pyramid shows how much of what you eat overall should come from each shelf to achieve a healthy, balanced diet.

The shape of the Food Pyramid shows the types of foods and drinks people need to eat most for healthy eating. It is divided into six shelves and each provides you with the range of nutrients and energy needed for good health. Healthy eating is all about choosing the right amounts from each shelf.

For more information on the Food Pyramid and Eating Well, visit https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthwellbeing/our-priority-programmes/heal/heal-docs/food-pyramid-leaflet.pdf

Tobacco Free, Reducing Drugs & Alcohol Related Harm

'Your cancer prevention questions answered'

Covering healthy eating, melanotan, alcohol, tobacco and vaping

Date

4th February 2025

Time

12:00-13:15

Visit www.hse.ie/cancerprevention to register

Brought to you by the Irish Cancer Prevention Network

Irish Cancer Prevention Network











COMMUNITY ADDICTION STUDIES

ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course aims to create awareness of drug/alcohol related issues and impacts on the individual, families and local communities while developing a shared understanding of effective, evidence based community responses.

PROGRESSION ROUTES

On successful completion of this component applicants may work in a range of community development work settings, using some initiative and independence while under general direction.

APPLICANTS WHOSE FIRST LANGUAGE IS NOT ENGLISH A minimum English language proficiency of B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFRL) is required at entry to QQI Level 5 for those whose first language is not English.

THIS COURSE IS:

- Evening course
- Part-Time
- · QQI accredited.

May include 2 x Saturday classes.

Start Date: 18/02/2025. End Date: 27/05/2025. 14 Weeks

For more information, visit:

https://www.fetchcourses.ie/course/finder?sfcw-courseId=464397





Tobacco Free, Reducing Drugs & Alcohol Related Harm







What is Not Around Us?

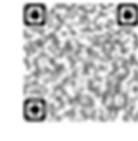
Not Around Us is about promoting an environment where it is easier for those who smoke to quit, and stay quit, and to help de-normalise smoking for the next generation.

The purpose of Not Around Us

- Help to protect children and young people from second-hand smoke exposure.
- Contribute to the de-normalisation of smoking for children and young people.
- Reduce the environmental nuisance, cost of cleaning and damage that discarded tobacco products create.
- Signpost to HSE QUIT services.

What can you do to support Not Around Us?

- Don't smoke in places where children and young people are likely to be.
- Support participating organisations and be a positive role model for children and young people.
- Spread the Not Around Us message with family and friends.























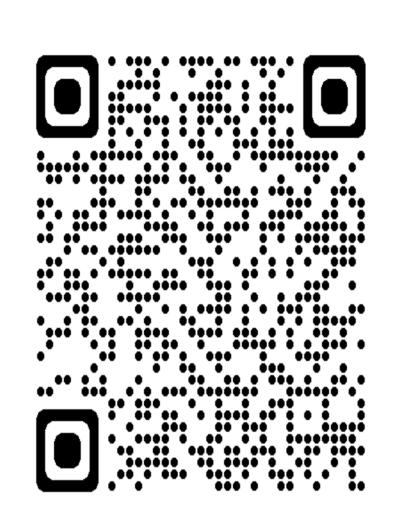
QUIT for good this January with free Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) from the HSE

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 inperson, 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









Menopause and Me

"The many ways to manage your Menopause"

Join us for a free webinar on Wednesday, 12 February 2025, 7pm - 8.30pm



Aisling Mulcahy Clinical Nurse



Dr Brian Kennedy GP & BMS Menopause Specialist



Dr Cathy Casey Consultant Gynaecologist &



Dr Elmear Farrell Senior Clinical Psychologist



Charlene Hyland & Michelle Maher Clinical Specialist Pelvic Health Physiotherapists

- Perimenopause & Menopause
- The Complex Menopause Clinic and who is it for?
- What your GP can do to support you
- Minding ourselves through menopause
- Menopause and your pelvic floor
- Health resources including how to stop smoking, alcohol use, healthy eating, sexual wellbeing and physical activity





Sexual Health





GOSHH Volunteer Information Evening



Where: GOSHH office, 18 Davis Street, Limerick





- O Come learn about our work
- Get involved and volunteer
- Make a difference in your community!



Other Health & Wellbeing News Clare Library Services







Clare Library Services





Ireland Reads Saturday 22 February

Throughout February, and especially on Ireland Reads
Day, 22 February, we're encouraging everyone in Ireland to enjoy a good book.
It doesn't matter what, where, or how you read—just read.

Reading helps you relax, lowers your heart rate, eases muscle tension, and can reduce stress by up to 68%, improving your mental health. Ireland Reads, supported by Healthy Ireland, public libraries, and other organisations, celebrates the joy of reading.

So take a moment—whether it's a few minutes or longer—and lose yourself in a story. Go on, get lost!

Find out more at www.irelandreads.ie



LULLABY WORKSHOP

with

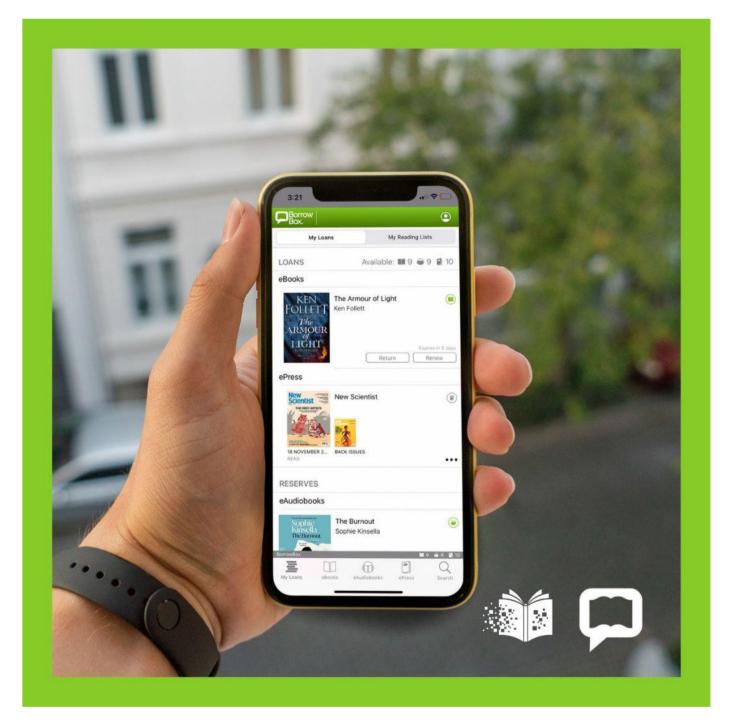
Ciara Thompson

Edna O'Brien Library Wednesday 5 February at 10.30 am

Lullaby Workshop and Performance at the Edna O'Brien Library in Scariff, designed for toddlers (ages 3-5) and their parents! Enjoy soothing melodies, storytelling, and interactive musical play led by singer, researcher and teacher, Ciara Thompson.

Discover traditional and contemporary lullabies, learn tips for bedtime routines, and bond with your little one through the power of song. Perfect for fostering creativity, relaxation, and parent-child connection.





Learn to Use the BorrowBox Library App at Kilrush Library

If you would like to know how to download and use the BorrowBox Library App, drop in to Kilrush Library any Friday morning between 11am – 1pm.

Bring your phone, table or iPad and staff will show you how to use it. Enjoy reading eBooks, eMagazines & eNewspapers or listen to eAudiobooks all free of charge.

Contact Kilrush Library at tel: 065 9051504 or email: kilrush@clarelibrary.ie for more information.

What's On



February 2025

Free Online Mental Health & Wellbeing Workshops

For anyone aged 18+ with an interest in mental health

TUES 04

Creativity for Wellbeing

(2pm - 4pm

In this workshop, we will discuss how we can each tap into our creativity to enhance our daily lives and improve our wellbeing. We will explore how creative activities can support mental health and how we can overcome barriers to creativity. Includes a Creativity Planner.

TUES

Part 1: Exploring Self Care

In this workshop we explore how we can build our resilience through the practice of simple daily self care routines. We will explore what self care looks and feels like, the barriers to practicing self care and why it is important to support our wellbeing.

weds 12

Part 2: Building My Self Care Toolkit

In this second workshop we will explore how we can look after our **Physical** and **Emotional** health. Using worksheets as prompts we will start to build our own personalised Self Care Toolkit to fit our own unique needs and self care goals.

THURS 13

Part 3: Building My Self Care Toolkit

In this final workshop we will explore how we can look after our **Social** and **Intellectual** health. By exploring these two wellness dimensions we will then complete our own personalised Self Care Toolkit.

(1) 10am - 12pm





WEDS 19

My Mental Health - Staying Connected

In this workshop we will explore the importance of having healthy social connections to support our mental health and wellbeing. Together, we will examine the challenges of maintaining these connections and explore strategies to overcome potential barriers.

weds 26

My Mental Health - Finding Meaning

In this workshop we will explore the importance of finding meaning and purpose in life. We will discuss ways to cultivate a true sense of fulfilment and purpose, identify potential challenges, and discuss strategies to overcome them.

THURS \angle

7 My Mental Health - Exploring My Identity

In this workshop we will explore the relationship between identity and mental health. We will discuss how mental health influences our sense of self and discuss ways to enhance our wellbeing. Together, we will identify, share, and celebrate our unique strengths and talents.

All of our workshops are free to attend.

Our workshops are for anyone (aged 18 and over) with an interest in mental health and wellbeing.

All of our workshops are co-produced. This means that the topics are created by people with lived experience of mental health challenges, people using the services, family members and service providers.

All online workshops are 2 hours in duration.

BOOK NOW

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

For More Information Contact: bookings@midwestaries.ie









Free art workshops for children with lifelong physical health conditions

We're nationwide!

Castlebar, Cork, Dublin, Ennis, Galway, Limerick, Mallow, Nenagh and Online!



"Looking forward

to the workshop

lasts all week"

Parent



Sign up today!

Professional artists | Onsite medical support Meet new friends | Learn new skills | Ages 6-16

Registered Charity No. 20075200



Supported Conditions Include:

Diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, juvenile arthritis, heart conditions, spina bifida, cystic fibrosis, allergies, rare conditions & more.

RETHINK

IRELAND





Community Foundation





Living Well A programme for adults with long-term health conditions





Living Well is a free group programme for adults living with any long-term or chronic condition. It takes place over six weekly workshops (6 x 2.5 hours) - either online or in-person. It is delivered by trained leaders, most of whom are also living with a long-term health condition.

You will develop self-management skills and confidence to live well with your health conditions. You will also meet other people who live with long-term health conditions and learn from each other's experiences.

Upcoming Living Well Programmes: Clare

Venue	Day	Time	Start date	Finish date
Ennis Primary Care Centre	Tuesday	10.30am-1pm	4th March 2025	8 th April 2025
Shannon Family Resource Centre	Wednesday	10.30am-1pm	23 rd April 2025	28th May 2025

"Long-term health conditions include (but are not limited to) COPD, asthma, diabetes, stroke, heart conditions, multiple sclerosis (MS), arthritis, cancer, Crohn's disease, chronic pain and depression.

To book your place contact Philip Hennessy Tel: 087 1799396

Email: philip.hennessy2@hse.ie www.hse.ie/LivingWell







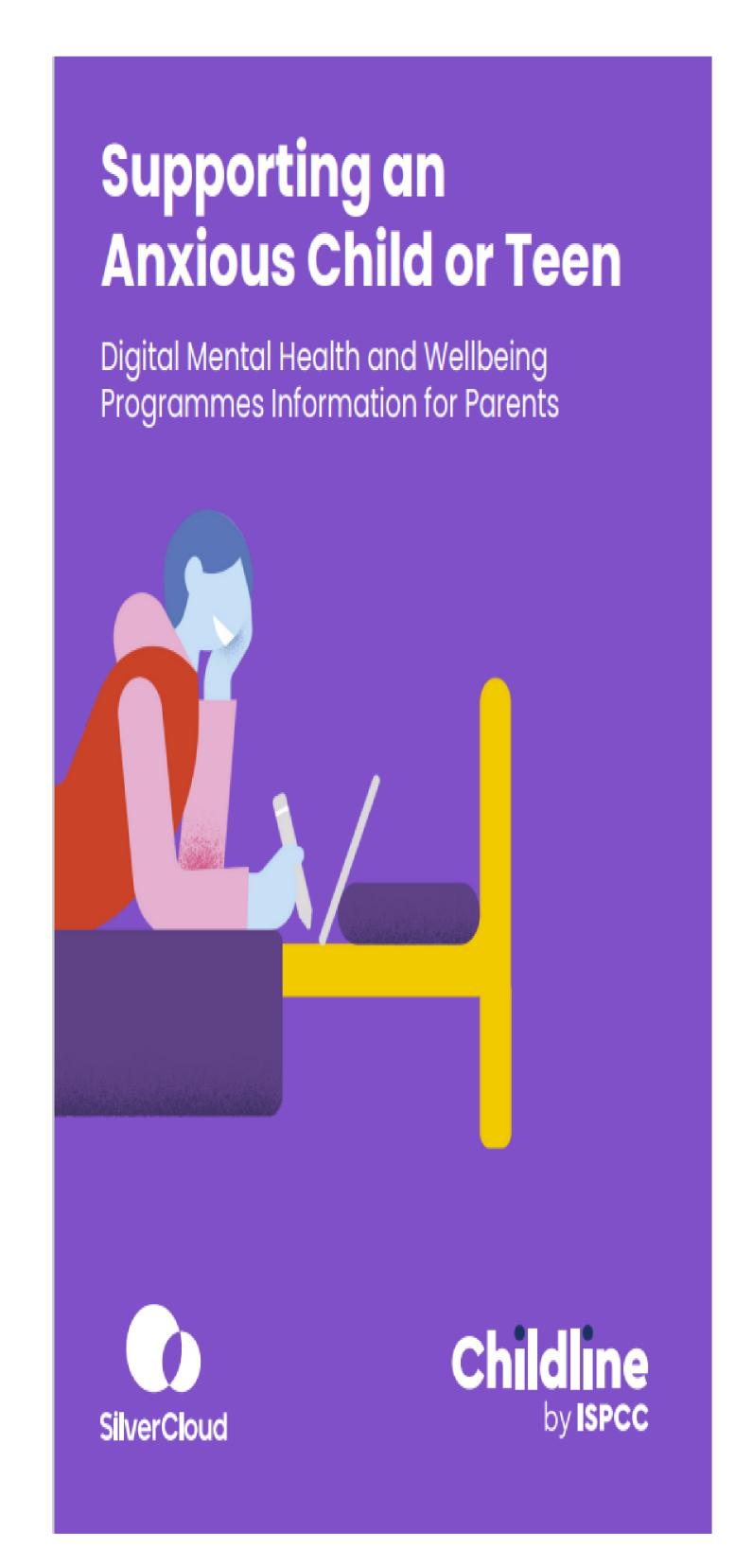








Living Well is an SMRC Evidence Based Self-Management Programme originally developed at Stanford University.



In our interactions with young people and families, we often hear of the challenges brought on by the psychological distress associated with anxiety and difficulties around mental and emotional wellbeing. While anxiety is a normal human response to danger or threat, it becomes an issue when it is more severe than it should be relative to the situation, lasts longer than it should, or influences the way we function in our daily lives. Childline by ISPCC offers FREE online anxiety management programmes, created by SilverCloud, a leading digital mental health provider, that are based on the principles of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), incorporate mindfulness practices and are specifically designed to help manage anxiety. The programmes, one aimed at 15 – 18year old young people and two aimed at parents/carers of 5 – 18-year-old children, 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 details, email spacefromanxiety@ispcc.ie or check out our website: https://www.ispcc.ie/



Free Easter art camp in Clare for children with lifelong physical health conditions

Professional artists | Onsite medical support Meet new friends | Learn new skills | Ages 8-12

Supported Conditions Include:

Diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, juvenile arthritis, heart conditions, spina bifida, cystic fibrosis, allergies, rare conditions and more.



















College of FET Ennis Campus will hold an open day on Tuesday, March 11th.

Full-time and part-time courses include;

- Health Care, Nutrition,
- Sports and Recreation,
- Food Science,
- Mindfulness,
- Healthy Food, Cookery and much more.

Register on

https://collegeoffet.ie/open/#:~:text=Join%20us %20on%20Wednesday%2028th%20February%20 2024%20from, Clonroad%20Business%20Park%2C %20Ennis%2C%20Co.%20Clare%2C%20V95%20K T95.



FEBRUARY COURSES AT COMMON KNOWLEDGE

8th - 9th Introduction to Steel Fabrication

& Welding

15th - 16th Furniture Making & Design

15th - 16th Introduction to Weaving

15th - 16th Woodturning for Beginners

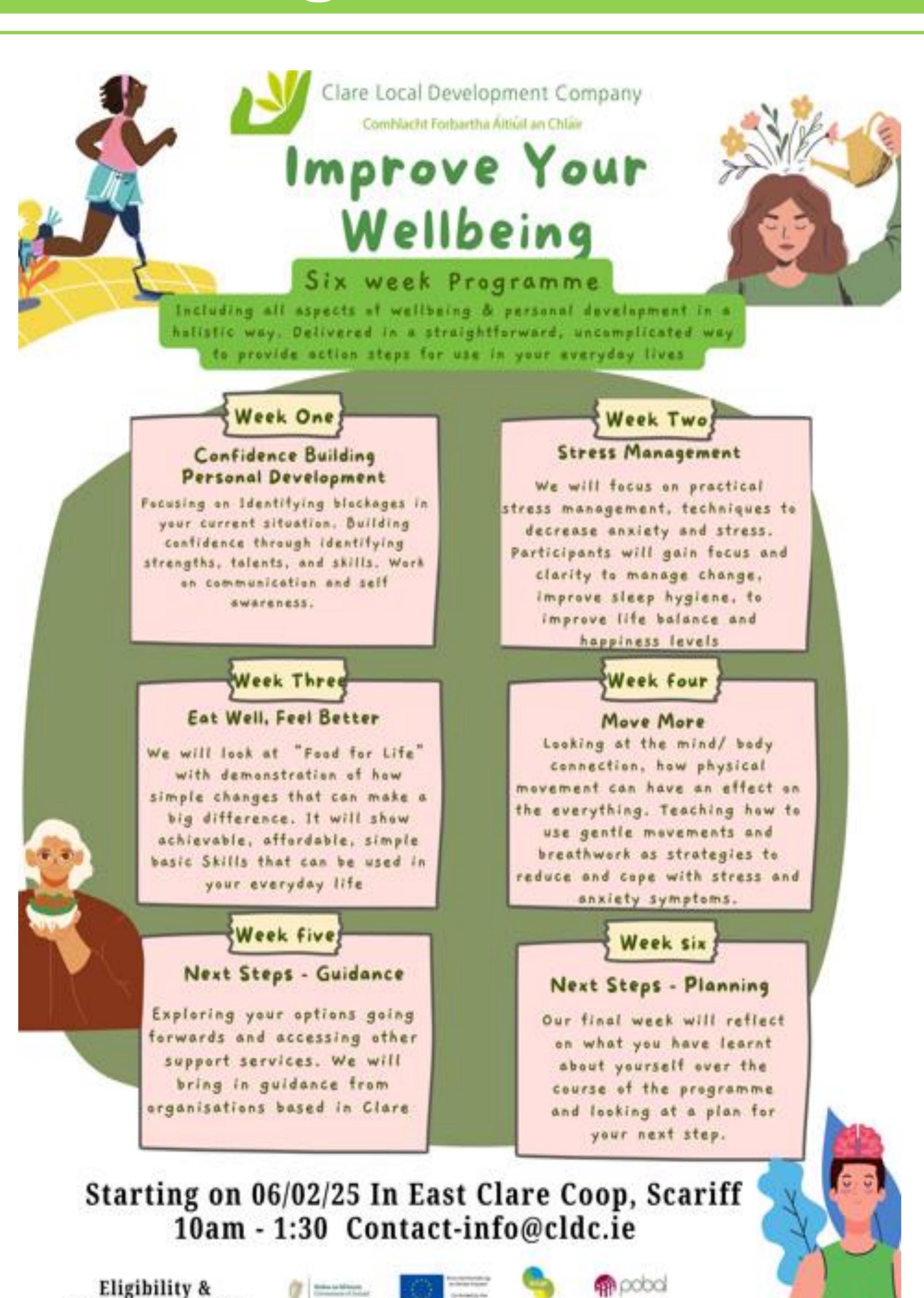
22nd - 23rd Cooking with Confidence

22nd - 23rd A Weekend of Willow Weaving



5 MINUTES FROM KILFENORA - EIRCODE V95DK38 FOR COURSE LISTINGS SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT OURCOMMONKNOWLEDGE.ORG

info@ourcommonknowledge.org / t:085 129 7601



Registration Apply



What's on in February



Phone us: 065 707 1144

NWCFRC Closed to new entrants

Private Groups

Groups hosted by

Feel free to walk-in and

Parliament Street, Ennistymon, Co. Clare

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	ORGANISED BY	
Monday	4pm-6pm Teen Club 7pm-8pm Irish Class		Anastasiia Kate	
Tuesday	10am-12pm 10.30 - 12.30 2.40-3.45 4pm-6pm 7pm-8pm	Kids Club (Lisdoonvarna) Drop-in Service (Parliament Street) Homework Club Teen Master Chef Yoga Class	Anastasiia Jenny Jane Anastasiia,Jenny Kaye	
Vednesday	7am-8am 9am - 4pm 10am - 1pm 11am - 12pm 1pm-2.30 2.40-3.45 2pm - 5pm 4pm-6pm 7pm	Yoga Class Employability Textile Crew (Parliament Street) Food Cloud English Classes "Fáilte isteach" Homework Club Money Advice & Budgeting Service Traveller Teen Girls Group Men's Shed	Kaye Jennifer Jenny Barbara Jenny, Anastasiia Jane Barbara Emma Jenny	
Thursday	9am - 2pm 10.30 - 12.30 2.40-3.45 4pm-6pm 6pm-8pm 6pm - 7pm	Employability Kids Club (Lahinch Leisure Centre) Homework Club Youth Club Leaders Group Youth Club Ukrainian Language Classes	Jennifer Anastasiia Jane Emma Emma Anastasiia	
Friday	9.30-12.30 10am - 12pm 11am - 1pm 1.20pm-3pm 3pm-4pm	Intreo: Employment and Income Supports Parent & Toddler Group Kids Club (The Pavilion, Lisdoonvarna) Breastfeeding Group (every 2nd week) Teen Drop-in Youth: Soccer	Tommy Jenny Anastasiia Jenny Emma Emma	



We also offer:

- Childcare (Little Deers)
- General Counselling & Play Therapy



ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASSES ENNISTYMON

Local people engage in everyday English with Newcomers

Every Wednesday 1-2.30pm @ North West Clare Family Resource Centre, Parliament Street, Ennistymon V95 NX86

All welcome, but please book a place!



CONTACT: Jenny:086-152-5843, Anastasiia:086-152-5846





February 2025: Creative Spaces

