



Co-operative Housing News

Autumn 2021

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Co-operative Housing News.

I hope you and your families are safe and well. We've been delighted to learn of the ongoing activities that CHI Members have taken part in over the last few months from energy saving initiatives to photography competitions. We're pleased to share some upcoming opportunities that may be of interest to you and those in your household.

The last few months have been busy for Members and staff alike, with CHI estates across the country being visited by several national representatives: Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Education Norma Foley TD, and Minister for the Environment Eamonn Ryan TD. It's paramount for CHI as an organisation to highlight the importance of secure and affordable housing at every opportunity. Thank you to Members for your contribution at these events.

Remember, if you have any events or activities that you have organised in your community please contact us at **admin@cooperativehousing.ie** to have them featured in our next newsletter - we're always interested in hearing your stories and learning how Members are supporting each other throughout the pandemic.

We endeavour to ensure the highest level of support and services to our Members, especially during these challenging times. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact us and we will help you in whatever way we can.

The team wishes you and your loved ones a pleasant Autumn and looks forward to engaging with you throughout the end of the year and beyond.



Kieron Brennan



Energy Saving

On 23rd August, Dwr Uisce, a collaboration between Trinity College and Bangor University in Wales which focuses on energy use and water conservation, were invited to Kilcronan Court to deliver a workshop. There was a great turnout, and everyone involved learned some tips on how to save energy and water. The facilitators shared interesting information on the value of water from how much water it takes to make a beef burger or a pair of jeans. If you want to learn more about Dwr Uisce look at their website www.dwr-uisce.eu or follow their journey on Twitter [@dwr_uisce](https://twitter.com/dwr_uisce)



Photo Competition

During the month of July, Members from all over Ireland were invited to take part in a photo competition for all ages. The theme of the competition was 'a snapshot of my community'. With the support of two professional photographers, Jack Quach and Bernard Van Geesan, we were able to shortlist shots from the very impressive photographs submitted that truly represented the CHI communities this summer. Thank you to all involved for your participation! It was wonderful to see your photos coming through our emails during the month of July.

Congratulations to all the winners and runners up. It is a major achievement as there were some tough decisions made during the judging process.

0-13: Leah Hartnett (winner)

Mya Sue (Runner Up)

14-26: Liana Hennessy (Winner)

Naomi Hindmarsh (Runner Up)

26- Above: Elena Chikanchi (Winner)

Magnimabou Amedegnato (Runner Up)



Pictured above Leah Hartnett 0-13 winner being presented with her prize by Anthony Burrowes of CHI.

Residents Committee Setup

During summer, our Member Engagement Manager Anthony Burrowes visited CHI communities that are interested in setting up residents groups

Anthony showed them what a residents association is and the potential setting one up has. These communities want to set up residents committees because they believe that they can:

- Create and develop their community
- Meet their neighbours socially
- Celebrate achievement and pride in their estate
- Provide services and activities for the residents
- Gain new skills and knowledge
- Share skills and knowledge
- Achieve more as a group for the wellbeing of their community

If your community is interested in setting up a residents committee, have a conversation with your housing officer or contact Anthony directly by email: Anthony.burrowes@cooperativehousing.ie



Community Clean Up

To be a part of a positive environmental change and to have a significant impact in their community, Members of Fruithill Manor estate took part in a community clean-up morning.

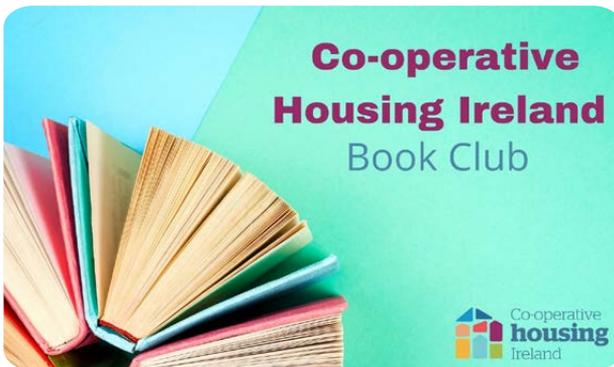
Over 30 adults and young people from the estate enthusiastically gathered on a Saturday morning for the litter pick. The sun was shining and everyone who participated enjoyed working together with one cause: to have respect and concern for their community. Congratulations to everyone involved.

Zoom-E-Oki

Do you like music? Whether you are a vocal extraordinaire or someone who enjoys singing in the shower CHI's family fun evening in November could be for you.



CHI will be throwing a Zoom-E-Oki event suitable for all the members of the family young and old. Zoom-E-Oki is a karaoke night hosted through Zoom. The evening will be open to all Members across the CHI network. Get your vocal cords warmed up and ready! We'll be sending Members details of how to join closer to the date.



With the success of CHI's Book Club in 2021, we're establishing a new book club for Members who are interested in reading and discussing books in a group setting online.

There's no cost involved, however, there are only 20 spots, so don't miss your chance!

You can sign up here: <https://buytickets.at/cooperativehousingireland/583571>

Once everyone has signed up, we will email you a link to the [CHI bookclubz.com](https://www.chi-bookclubz.com) page. Bookclubz is a free online management tool for book clubs. Here you can design your own profile and vote on the book that will be chosen to read. Each chosen book will be delivered to you for free. Book Club Members will have between four and six weeks to read each. Book club meetings will be held on Zoom and are an opportunity for an informal chat about the book, what you liked and didn't like.

Minister visits CHI estates in Kerry and Dublin

In early September, CHI welcomed Minister Darragh O'Brien TD, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to its housing developments in Barraduff, Co. Kerry and Finglas, Dublin 11. In Kerry he was joined by Minister for Education and TD for Kerry, Norma Foley. The visits took place after the publication of Housing for All - A New Housing Plan for Ireland - the government's housing plan to 2030.

CHI's new development at Barraduff consists of 56 three and four bed homes. It was developed in co-operation with Kerry County Council in response to the housing need in the county and is located on the Killarney side of Barraduff village enroute to Mallow. CHI Member and Barraduff resident Tracey Brosnan spoke to visiting dignitaries on the day. The visit was featured in local newspaper the Kerry's Eye where members Niamh and Steven told the story of their housing journey. Thank you to all Members for your involvement on the day.



Norma Foley, Minister for Education and TD for Kerry, Marie Moloney, Cathaoirleach Killarney MD, Pearse O'Shiel, Chairperson of CHI, Tracey Brosnan, CHI Member and Barraduff resident, Darragh O'Brien, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and Jimmy Moloney, Cathaoirleach of Killarney County Council.



Pictured at CHI's development, St Canice's Hall in Finglas- Head of Development at CHI, Padraic Clancy, CEO of CHI, Kieron Brennan, and Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien.

Canice's, CHI's scheme in Finglas, contains two blocks of 32 apartments, consisting of 16 two-bedroom and 16 one-bedroom units with terraces, balconies, and roof terraces. The scheme has been designed to include homes for older people in the community.



“

I never thought I'd have a home like this. It really is lifechanging for us.

CHI Member Róisín

CHI was delighted to launch Inbhear na Sionna, an estate of 47 two storey houses and apartments delivered in partnership with Clare County Council in response to the housing need in the area. The estate was launched on Monday 30th August.

We spoke to CHI Member and new resident of the estate Róisín Fisher about life in her new home.

“I was delighted to move into our new home in Inbhear na Sionna. Before moving into this apartment, my daughter Laia and I were in homeless accommodation. For nearly two years we lived in a BnB in Ennis. As you can imagine, it's very difficult to live in just one room with a small child. After that, we moved into the Family Hub in Ennis, which was a big improvement in many ways as I was able to cook for myself and my daughter.

My daughter did a lot of talking during the interview process for the house, so I had a good feeling about it. She's a very outgoing child, which is lovely. When I got the news that we got the place I couldn't believe it, I rang absolutely everybody I knew. My parents were the first people to see our new home. They've been very supportive of me moving in, helping to transport appliances and so forth. I can have people over now and I don't feel as isolated as my family are here and I have friends and relatives in the estate itself. The Housing Officer Niamh has

been helpful to us since day one too, which is fantastic.

Laia started school down the street, and a friend of hers from the estate joined her. My own little sister is in first class in the same school so it's wonderful to know when I drop Laia off at the school gate that she is among good friends.

We have so much on the doorstep here in Shannon. There's plenty of shops with Lidl, Iceland and Dunnes. There's a cinema too, though we haven't been in ages with the pandemic. I'm looking forward to bringing Laia soon. Thinking back over the last number of years, I never thought I'd have a home like this. It really is lifechanging for us.”

Marianne discusses the history of the Community Centre and the Committee

CHI was delighted to have Minister for The Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan TD, visit the Community Centre and Kilcronan Court and Place recently after it was upgraded using and SEAI grant. Marianne Ward-O'Leary Maughan, chairperson of the Local Co-operative Committee spoke to us about the history of the Centre on foot of the visit.



"The Centre has been active for more than 25 years having hosted homework clubs and community events as well as running a local lotto for residents.

While there were earlier committees to run the centre the more recent formation of the Kilcronan Court and Place Committee put the management of the centre on a sounder and more formal footing.

We were supported by local representatives whom residents reached out to in order to learn how to successfully run a committee.

The newly formed Committee began expanding the number of activities including the establishment of a community garden, planting vegetables, flowers, and herbs. Since Christmas 2018 we've established a community library



within the Centre. Of course, more recently, with Covid-19 we haven't been able to lend books, but once things return to normal we'll re-establish the library.

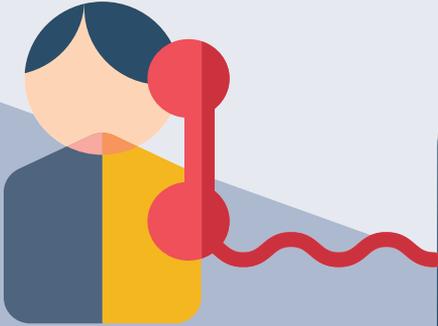
The local Housing Officer uses the Centre to meet people when she has business in the estate. We can use the building for storage of community items, which is a great asset. The committee holds a soup run around Clondalkin at the weekend, so we use the Centre as a base to store supplies. We're also hoping to set up a new homework club for the kids, and we're delighted because with the upgrades the building will be a warm space for children to come into once restrictions ease. We applied for funding to have a proper kitchen and cooking facilities so we can prepare and store food for a local soup run and future events.

As a committee we're committed to doing things for our community and running fun events for Members, as well as dealing with

more practical things like having the verges cemented. Members here love the raffle at Christmas. Everything is done properly and fairly. It was decided last year that the raffle would be of gift vouchers rather than gifts because of the risks of Covid-19. The gift vouchers were from local shops and businesses, the ethos being to support local in whatever way we can. We also organised Christmas lighting in the estate. I loved driving home in the evenings to see the glow off the trees.

Overall, having the Centre as a base for community activities has been wonderful. We're looking forward to getting Members back into the space, especially with the improvements that have been made."

Housing Notices



Out of Hours Emergency Number

You should contact the out of hours emergency line when the following occurs:

- Where major damage is caused to the property
- Where damage may cause a risk to life or safety
- When CHI's offices are closed. Please do not contact the emergency number unless you are certain it is an emergency and there is a risk to your life or the property.

Out of Hours **1890 444888**

The out of office service is available from 5pm to 9am, weekends, public holidays and over Christmas.

Insurance

You are responsible for insuring your personal and household items against any accidental damage, fire, theft or leak.

CHI will insure the structure of your home, i.e. the walls & roof. CHI is not responsible for your furniture or personal belongings.

It is important to note that broken glass in windows or doors is also your responsibility and ask if your insurance company covers this.

CHI would advise you to get quotes from numerous insurance companies and remember to include the broken glass.

We always recommend that you have contents insurance or else you run the risk of personal belongings being damaged which are expensive to replace after a flood/leak/fire or burglary.



Photo Competition Winners



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- 1 **Mya Sue** (Runner Up 0-13) Castle
- 2 **Leah Hartnett** (winner 0-13) hands of the community
- 3 **Naomi Hindmarsh** (Runner Up 14-26) Emotions
- 4 **Liana Hennessy** (Winner 14-26) Beach Tree
- 5 **Elena Chikanchi** (winner 27 above) Riverside connection
- 6 **Megnimabou Amedegnato** (Runner Up 26 above) Night and Day

