

IMPACT REPORT 2017

# For every stage of the journey, we're there



**Irish  
Cancer  
Society**



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# 2017 Highlights

## 2017 Jan

We launched our lung cancer campaign urging people to check their lung health online using our lung health checker.



## 2017 Feb

We marked World Cancer Day by highlighting the fact that one in four cancer deaths are caused by smoking and that high tobacco taxes are one of the most effective ways of reducing the number of people who smoke.



## 2017 Mar

Daffodil Day celebrated its 30th anniversary and aimed to raise funds for life-saving research and care for people affected by cancer.

**Daffodil Day**  
celebrated 30 years

over  
**€3.5m raised**

**over 3,000**  
people signed up and got involved





# 2017 Apr

April was bowel cancer awareness month. Bowel cancer continues to be one of the most common cancers diagnosed in Ireland, with over 2,500 people diagnosed every year.

# 2017 May

One in four skin cancer deaths are from the construction and farming sector and in May we teamed up with the Irish Farmers' Association and the Construction Industry Federation to urge all outdoor workers to protect their skin and reduce their risk of skin cancer.



# 2017 Jun

Our Colour Dash came back with a splash – due to popular demand! Sponsored by Aldi, Ireland's most colourful 5K event returned for the fifth year in a row, with all money raised used to support cancer patients and to fund vital cancer research.



# More 2017 Highlights



## 2017 Jul

As part of the X-HALE Awards over 350 young people from 40 youth and community groups across Ireland came together to showcase their short films featuring anti-tobacco messages.

## 2017 Aug

More than 30 organisations, including leading health, children and women's groups, signed a 'contract against cancer' and to express their alarm at reports that uptake of the HPV vaccine has fallen to as low as 50 per cent among teenage girls.



## 2017 Sep

From coffee mornings to quiz nights, expert advice to patient stories, communities throughout Ireland got involved in Cancer Week Ireland 2017, which took place from Monday, 25 September to Sunday, 1 October.





# 2017 Oct

Majella O'Donnell supported the fight against breast cancer as she launched the Society's 'Cups against cancer' campaign.



# 2017 Nov

John (Coach) Kavanagh and brother, James Kavanagh, kicked Movember 2017 into action by calling on Irish people to 'grow a mo' and raise much needed funds and awareness for men's health.

# 2017 Dec

At our annual Charles Cully Memorial Lecture we highlighted new research which showed that 15 per cent or 3 in every 20 cancers during 2010–2014 were diagnosed in hospital emergency departments across the country.



## Chairman's statement

# Being there at every stage of the journey

People dealing with a cancer experience across the world are benefitting from remarkable advances in cancer research and quality of care. This is reflected in better cancer survival rates (and reduced death rates), greatly improved quality of life for patients and for those who have come through a cancer experience. In Ireland alone, the 170,000 people who have survived cancer are testimony to the progress that is being made both in the science behind cancer research and improving care services.

However, the persistence of cancer remains one of the great health challenges of our time. Expanding and aging populations, combined with the realities of the human condition, mean that cancer incidence is expected to double within the next 25 years, creating the need for considerably expanded cancer care services, enhanced patient wellbeing, and importantly, much greater efforts around cancer risk awareness and prevention.

This means that, in time, as many as 70,000 people in Ireland (and their families) will face a new cancer experience every year. All will require care and support. At the same time, survivors in Ireland will exceed 300,000 with many relying on follow-on care.

This is the challenge that inspires the mission and work of the Irish Cancer Society. We are driven by a desire to help people who will face the challenge of cancer, and to ensure the highest possible levels of survival and patient wellbeing before, during and after their cancer experience.

During the past five years, the Society has sought to reflect the ongoing challenge of cancer and the needs of patients in our strategic planning. These growing needs inspire our work and that of our volunteers – and much has been achieved.

Built around four goals and clearly defined values, we have set out to: reduce the risk of cancer; improve lives; lead excellent collaborative research; and inform and influence public policy.

Our programmes have progressively engaged with the people of Ireland to identify and actively reduce the risk of cancer through healthier living, quitting smoking, alcohol reduction, sun protection and other measures. (Full implementation of the Healthy Ireland programme is central to further progress.) People are now better informed about how to avoid cancer, recognise the symptoms and understand the treatment options available. People dealing with cancer are now better enabled to talk about

their needs and are better supported through their cancer experience.

Our initiatives in public information and education, community engagement on cancer prevention, psychosocial supports, and end of life care are practical models for Government action.

Our investments of €17 million in diverse cancer research programmes since 2013 are delivering new hope and supports for patients, enabling new therapies, and building an advanced cancer research infrastructure which will enhance the country's cancer care capabilities for many years ahead. Much of our investment has acted as catalyst for incremental research funding from European, State and philanthropic sources. A commitment in the current National Cancer Strategy to develop a national cancer research strategy is encouraging.

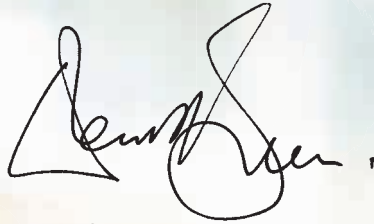
Government attention to cancer policy development, to improved cancer care services and to patient wellbeing, as well as an enhanced focus on the needs of patients have all been greatly strengthened through our advocacy agenda. The third National Cancer Strategy, Healthy Ireland policies, the Sláintecare reform proposals, assertive action around tobacco control and alcohol restrictions, and reduction in reducing the costs of cancer for patients are tangible outcomes of our efforts.

The publication of a third National Cancer Strategy 2017-2026 is a highly commendable blueprint for bringing cancer care in Ireland to new levels of performance and patient benefit, building on two previous ten-year strategies. Structured around preventing cancers, early diagnosis, and on providing optimal care to patients and maximising quality of life, the strategy provides a welcome focus around 'the patient as person' in their experience through the cancer care process. This is a notable evolution of policy from system management to people care.

We have contributed significantly to the development of the strategy and are engaging proactively to assist its implementation, while also acting assertively to ensure its ambitions and objectives are delivered in the best interests of patient wellbeing and population health.

Underpinning the effectiveness of the cancer care services is public trust in their integrity and efficacy. Cancer screening is an essential lifesaving service. However, trust in the service has been challenged in recent times by revelations surrounding cervical screening in Ireland which have emerged through litigation





**DERMOT BREEN**  
Chairman



initiated by a number of courageous women who have sought clarity and redress for apparent system failures affecting their care. A review by Dr Gabriel Scally and possible further inquiries will, it is hoped, establish the facts surrounding the issues and identify corrective changes that may be required.

We are concerned that any reviews or inquiries should

- Identify and rapidly correct any system failures or shortcomings
- Action any changes in policy or culture that are needed (including possible overlay of the National Cancer Strategy)
- Ensure that patient rights, needs and wellbeing (including open disclosure) become paramount concerns of our cancer services
- Ensure that the conduct of reviews and inquiries does not have the effect of further undermining trust in cancer screening and, by extension, wider cancer care services
- Ensure that patient and public communication policies and capabilities are enhanced to ensure clarity and transparency about cancer services
- Ensure better understanding that screening greatly increases the likelihood of early detection of cancers, but does not guarantee detection in every case.

We are committed to supporting the over 200 women so far identified as being affected by the shortcomings in the screening operation.

The Irish Cancer Society will remain engaged and committed as a driver of change in cancer care in Ireland and will continue to act as watchdog to ensure that the interests of patients and all those affected by cancer are upheld throughout the cancer care process. Doing so requires visionary leadership and we are pleased to welcome Averil Power as Chief Executive of the Society. We also acknowledge and thank John McCormack for his committed leadership during the past 20 years.

The Society depends on the extraordinary commitment of many thousands of volunteers throughout Ireland, as well as our valued donors and other supporters. We are forever grateful and encouraged by the energy and compassion they bring to our work. I also wish to acknowledge the dedicated team of over 300 professionals (including 180 night nurses) working with the Society and the voluntary commitment of members of the Board and committees in providing effective governance and leadership.

The work we do is important for the many thousands of people who will need our help in the years ahead, and indeed for Ireland in our efforts to alleviate the burden of cancer. We are driven by a desire to lead real and lasting change for all those affected by cancer. We enter a new era with new ambitions and new ideas to make that difference, working on our own initiative and in collaboration with partners who share our commitment to patient wellbeing and overcoming the challenge of cancer.

**Dermot Breen**  
Chairman

## CEO Review

When the Irish Cancer Society first started Daffodil Day just over thirty years ago, only three out of ten patients survived a cancer diagnosis. Today, six out of ten do. This is due in no small part to the research and advocacy work of the Irish Cancer Society and the kind generosity of everyone who supports us.

As only 2 per cent of our funding comes from the State, your support of our individual donors, volunteers and corporate partners is vital.

Thanks to your generosity, we are the largest voluntary funder of cancer research in Ireland. Since 2010 alone, we have invested €25 million in research – all coming from public donations.

Right now, over 100 Irish Cancer Society researchers are working to find new and better ways to prevent, detect and treat cancer. This complex disease will not be stopped by one scientist or one lab. That is why we invest in researchers working together, pooling resources and expertise.

Huge strides have been made and survival rates have increased dramatically. However, our researchers, staff and volunteers won't give up until ten out of ten patients survive and no-one has their life cut short by cancer.

In the meantime, we continue to do everything we can to help those affected by the disease.


In 2017, 40,000 Irish people heard the words 'You've got cancer'. Your generosity ensured we were there for them and their families at every stage of their journey, providing information, advice and practical support.

As the number of Irish people with cancer increases, record numbers are turning to the Irish Cancer Society for help.

Last year, 924,000 people concerned about cancer accessed free information on [www.cancer.ie](http://www.cancer.ie) and over 320,000 cancer information booklets were distributed nationwide. In addition to helping those currently impacted by cancer, our information services also helped people reduce their risk of getting the disease. Four in ten cancers are preventable. Therefore, empowering people with the information they need to make smart choices for themselves and their families can make a big difference.

In 2017, our nurses provided confidential support and advice to 44,000 people through our freephone Nurseline and Daffodil Centres in thirteen hospitals nationwide. We funded counselling for over 1,500 people in local cancer support centres across Ireland and drove 1,300 cancer patients to chemotherapy appointments across the country. Our night nurses also provided care to 1,800 terminally ill patients, enabling them to stay in their own homes surrounded by their loved ones.

As well as providing direct support to people affected by cancer, we also lobby the Government to improve services. As the trusted independent voice of cancer patients, we make sure policymakers are aware of patients' concerns and we put pressure on them to deliver improvements.



Averil Power

**AVERIL POWER**  
CEO

In 2017, we campaigned on issues like car parking charges, prescription charges and inpatient charges, all of which cause added stress to cancer patients. We also lobbied successfully for an increase in tobacco tax and a rise in the VAT rate on sunbeds.

I was honoured to join the dedicated and successful team at the Society in January 2018 and look forward to working with all the team to deliver real improvements for patients in the years ahead. I would like to extend my thanks to the Society's staff, volunteers, Chairman and Board for their support to date.

I would also like to acknowledge my predecessor John McCormack who stepped down as CEO of the Society in December 2017. His leadership and vision over fifteen years as CEO made a huge difference to thousands of cancer patients and their families.

All our team are committed to building on that success, ensuring we are there for everyone who needs us and helping to deliver a future where no-one's life is tragically cut short by cancer.

**Averil Power**  
Chief Executive

## Thank you!

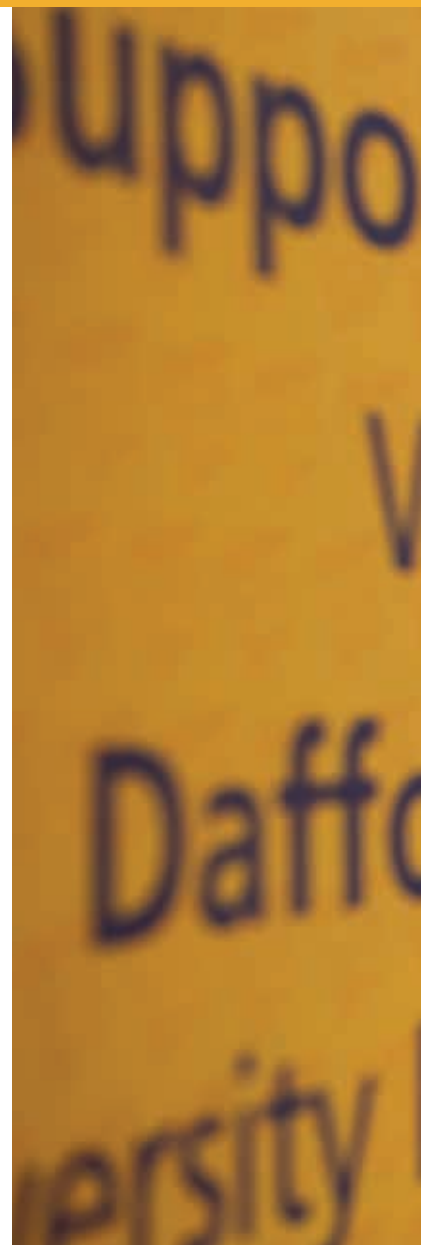
Every year people across Ireland generously give their time, energy and hard-earned money to the cause of the Irish Cancer Society. On Daffodil Day, our army of volunteers paint their local communities yellow to raise over a fifth of our annual income on one day. Throughout the year, people come up with all kinds of fun, creative – and in some cases crazy – ways to raise money from their families, friends, work colleagues and complete strangers. Many of our services, from our volunteer drivers to our peer support service, depend on people giving their time freely to our cause. On behalf of all our team, and everyone who benefits from our services, thank you! We really could not do what we do without you.

Sheyla Ryan from Limerick remembers the exact minute when she found out she had breast cancer. Sheyla said, 'It was 11.08am on 2 September, 2013. That's the time my life turned upside down.'

Thankfully following extensive treatment Sheyla made a full recovery and is now helping other cancer patients by driving them to and from their chemotherapy appointments, as part of the Irish Cancer Society's Volunteer Driver Service.

'When I was undergoing treatment my wonderful husband dropped everything for me, I had great family and friends and I was living 15 minutes from the hospital. All of that made it easier for me but I became aware of patients who stayed in hotels the night before their appointments because there was no transport from their home to get them to the hospital in time. I could only imagine the horror of it, at a time when you are feeling at your lowest and most vulnerable so when I heard about the Volunteer Driver Service I got involved straight away.'

Sheyla also helps out in her local Daffodil Centre at University Hospital Limerick. As a trained Daffodil Centre Volunteer she welcomes visitors to the Centre and shows them the range of information available to them.





**...when I heard about  
the Volunteer Driver  
Service I got involved...**



# Cancer in Ireland

In 2017 alone, more than 40,000 people in Ireland have heard the words 'you have cancer' and by 2020, it is predicted that one in two people will develop cancer at some stage in their lifetime. This is mainly because of changing lifestyles and an aging population. The good news is that four in ten cancer cases are preventable.

However, a national survey found that people in Ireland are largely unaware of cancer risk factors.

This highlights a need to both raise awareness about the causes of cancer and to provide services that support people to live healthier lives. People are surviving cancer for longer. Cancer survivorship begins at the time of diagnosis and continues until the end of one's life. Currently, there are over 165,000 cancer survivors in Ireland and the rate has increased from 44 per cent for patients diagnosed between 1994 and 1998 to 61 per cent for those diagnosed between 2009 and 2013.

## CANCER IN IRELAND

### CANCER INCIDENCE

- 40,000 new cancer diagnoses each year
- 150 people diagnosed every day in Ireland with cancer
- Every 3 minutes someone is told they have cancer

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 4 out of 10 cancer cases are preventable
- Watching what we eat CAN PREVENT CANCER
- Not smoking CAN PREVENT CANCER
- Sensible alcohol intake CAN PREVENT CANCER
- Regular exercise CAN PREVENT CANCER

### Lung Cancer

2,500 new cases each year | 18% survival rate

**WHO GETS IT** [Icon: 10 people, 1 highlighted]

**PREVENT IT** Don't smoke. Avoid asbestos and radon. If concerned about symptoms, consult your GP.

### Breast Cancer

3,100 new cases each year | 83% survival rate

**WHO GETS IT** [Icon: 10 people, 8 highlighted]

**PREVENT IT** Eat well. Exercise. Breastfeed. Cut down on alcohol. Go for screening when called.

### Bowel Cancer

2,800 new cases each year | 62% survival rate

**WHO GETS IT** [Icon: 10 people, 6 highlighted]

**PREVENT IT** Eat well. Exercise. Cut down on alcohol. Go for screening when called. If concerned about changes in your bowel habits, consult your GP.

### Skin Cancer (Melanoma & Non-Melanoma)

12,000 new cases each year | 98% survival rate

**WHO GETS IT** [Icon: 10 people, 9 highlighted]

**PREVENT IT** Be smart in the sun. Get noticeable changes in moles checked by your GP.

### Prostate Cancer

3,500 new cases each year | 92% survival rate

**WHO GETS IT** [Icon: 10 people, 9 highlighted]

**PREVENT IT** Eat well. Exercise. If concerned about symptoms, consult your GP.

**Cancer Nurseline**  
Contact our Cancer Nurseline on Freephone 1800 200 700  
cancernurseline@irishcancer.ie www.cancer.ie

**Irish Cancer Society**

# What we do...

At the Irish Cancer Society, we know that being told 'you have cancer' is life changing, and we are determined to continue to play our part in reducing the number of people who hear those words. We will support people with and beyond a diagnosis, we will fund lifesaving cancer research, and we will continue to campaign to inform and influence public policy.

## STAGE 1

### Preventive



- At the first stage, we work to prevent cancer – by encouraging people to quit smoking or to make other changes for a healthier, more active lifestyle.

## STAGE 2

### Supportive



- At the next stage, we offer support to those who have cancer or who are affected by the cancer of a family member or friend. These include services that offer information and confidential advice through our Cancer Nurseline and Daffodil Centres, but also provide practical help with driving people to their hospital appointments.

## STAGE 3

### Survivorship



- At the third stage, our services are for survivors of cancer, including peer-to-peer advice and counselling.

## STAGE 4

### Palliative



- The fourth stage offers support to people who need end-of-life care, which we provide primarily through our night nursing service.



Cancer affects all of us at some level – as patients, as relatives or friends, or as workers in the medical and care professions. And the services that the Irish Cancer Society offers reflect that diversity and seeks to map onto the four stages of the cancer journey.

These are services that make a real difference to people's lives. This is at the heart of our work.

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### PREVENTIVE STAGE

At the preventive stage we aim to educate and support people who are concerned about cancer and want to reduce their risk. We do this through programmes that support smoking cessation (**We Can Quit** and **X-HALE**), and promote wellbeing and health literacy (**Fit for Work and Life**), and through our free **cancer publications and website information**.

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### SUPPORTIVE STAGE

At the supportive stage we provide practical and emotional support for people who have recently been given a cancer diagnosis and their friends and families. We do this by providing confidential information and advice through our **Cancer Nurseline** and **Daffodil Centres**, arranging transport for chemotherapy patients (**Volunteer Driver Service**), and administering a travel fund (**Travel2Care**).

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### SURVIVORSHIP STAGE

At the survivorship stage we hold an annual national conference (**National Conference for Cancer Survivorship**). We connect people with a recent diagnosis to someone who has lived through that experience (**Survivor Support**). We also fund peer-to-peer educational and wellbeing programmes in affiliated cancer support centres (**Living Life, Strides for Life, Prostate Cancer Psycho-educative Programme**), as well as funding **counselling** for survivors.

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### PALLIATIVE STAGE

At the palliative stage we provide end-of-life support for patients and emotional and practical support for their friends and families. We do this through the provision of a home nursing service (Night Nursing). We also give palliative advice and guidance through our Cancer Nurseline and Daffodil Centres.

Hilary Gough, who lives in Co. Clare, started working as an Irish Cancer Society Night Nurse 20 years ago. Her job is to support patients and their families as they approach the end of their cancer journey. Her role involves the administration of drugs for symptom control, personal care and most importantly, psychological support for the patient and their family.

'Cancer has to be one of the most feared words in the English language. We all know someone who has been affected by this awful disease.

Although there has been a lot of progress in so many areas sadly, there are still those who do not have a good outcome after a cancer diagnosis, and that's where I become involved.

Families take the brave decision to care for their loved ones at home and we have a part to play in that. At a very difficult time we have to make this the best experience possible. In each home the need is different. Sometimes we are alone all night with a sleeping patient, another night may be spent with someone who needs to talk and ask questions about death and in some houses we are surrounded by people all night.

Whatever way the night shift goes, it is good to go home knowing I have made some difference to my patient and their family. It is a privilege to work as an Irish Cancer Society Night Nurse.'





**It is a privilege to work  
as an Irish Cancer  
Society Night Nurse.**

# We are working to prevent cancer: community prevention programmes

## We Can Quit

**We Can Quit** is a 12-week programme offered to women in Dublin and Cork, from target communities where smoking prevalence is high. This free programme offers women a supportive environment in which to quit smoking. It offers one-to-one support, group support and Free Nicotine Replacement Therapy.

In 2017, **We Can Quit** continued to show that it could reach its target population and help women to quit smoking for good, and to become advocates themselves for a no-smoking lifestyle.

- 11 new community facilitators were trained
- 20 courses were delivered and completed in Dublin and Cork
- Delivered in two new areas and three new pharmacy partners were established (Lloyd's, Kilbarrack; Hickey's, Balbriggan; and Moore's, Donore)
- 229 women registered to take part in **We Can Quit**
- Approximately 108 women had quit smoking by the end of the course
- 51 per cent of participants said that they had stayed quit following the smoking cessation programme; 19 per cent had relapsed and quit again; 29 per cent had cut down, preparing to stop; and 1 per cent had not stopped
- Over 90 per cent of the women felt more hopeful about a non-smoking future, and this was mainly due to the support shown by the other women in the group as well as the group leaders.

In March 2017, an interdisciplinary research collaboration led by Professor Catherine Hayes of Trinity College Dublin's School of Public Health was successful in gaining a HRB Definitive Interventions and Feasibility Awards (DIFA) 2017 for research on **We Can Quit 2**, the Irish Cancer Society's new **We Can Quit** programme.

Professor Hayes will be working with researchers from Trinity College and the University of Stirling, and the research is being supported by the Irish Cancer Society and by the HSE.

The sites chosen to be part of the research include Charlemont Street, Meath Street and Ballyfermot in Dublin and Gurranaברה, Fairhill and Fermoy in Cork. The intervention is due to begin in January 2018 and will run until autumn 2019.

We Can Quit: WCQ2: A free, friendly and supportive 12 week programme to help women quit smoking in their own communities



## Fit For Work and Life

**Fit For Work and Life** is a community health and wellbeing programme. The purpose of the programme is to build participants' understanding of the importance of health and keeping well for their family and their working lives. It introduces unemployed and low income participants to the European Code Against Cancer through a 24-hour workshop style course delivered by the Irish Cancer Society.

In 2017 we progressed our collaborative work by establishing three advisory groups in the regions of Monaghan, Limerick and north inner city Dublin. A total of 20 **Fit For Work and Life** participant programmes (24–32 hours) have been delivered in communities by 18 Irish Cancer Society trained community facilitators.

A total of 196 participants have completed the **Fit For Work and Life** programme in four regions: Dublin North/Coolmine, Dublin North Inner City, Monaghan and Limerick.

A team from Carlow Institute of Technology is currently evaluating the knowledge, awareness and attitudes of participants.

## X-HALE

(**X**'ing out **h**armful and **l**ethal effects of smoking) is an initiative rolled out by the Society that aims to educate young people, youth leaders and educators as part of the fight to prevent young people aged 10–24 years old from smoking. Highlights from 2017 include:

- Four training days were held in Dublin, Cork, Athlone and Sligo in February 2017 with 53 youth workers who work or volunteer with young people in attendance
- The Society awarded €8,875 in total to 32 youth organisations to support participation
- Four Film Making and Sharing Workshops held in Dublin, Galway, Limerick and Cork with 67 young people and youth workers from participating organisations in attendance

- 40 organisations across 20 counties working with 483 young people created and promoted their films through their online and community campaigns
- **X-HALE** playlist of films received over 25,000 views and widespread regional and national media coverage
- The national **X-HALE** Youth Awards event was held on Thursday 6 July in the Odeon Cinema Point Village with over 300 young people, youth workers, tobacco control specialists and health promotion professionals in attendance
- A documentary film was produced to communicate the programme aims, the impact and the potential for young people to drive the tobacco free generation movement from the perspective of past participants, youth workers and supporting organisations
- A consultation process began to explore opportunities for development within the programme.

## Cork Cancer Action Network (CCAN)

**Cork Cancer Action Network (CCAN)** is a collaborative network established to address health inequalities (the burden of cancer on low income groups) in Cork City. CCAN is tackling cancer prevention and reduction in levels of other chronic diseases for local disadvantaged communities through listening to the needs of the community and involving the community in this process. The role of the Irish Cancer Society has been to build the network, facilitate cross-sectoral working on cancer prevention in health inequalities and to build the capacity of local staff and leaders to engage with and develop cancer prevention and healthy living activities in their own communities.

In 2017 **CCAN**:

- Developed a community health needs assessment toolkit for use at local level to assist a community to identify their health needs and priorities as well as any gaps in provision

- Worked with a pilot community to identify and progress priority actions that support cancer prevention and early detection as well as reduction in levels of other chronic diseases
- Supported the Irish Cancer Society with the delivery of We Can Quit in Cork City (and they will also support the collaborative research for WCQ-2)
- Presented at the Irish Cancer Society's Cork Showcase event and launched the CCAN Action Plan (February 2017)
- Put in place a strategic action plan to further investigate what works best at a local and regional level (for individuals, for community participation and capacity building) through the delivery of targeted innovative health education programmes to reduce the risk of cancer and other chronic diseases.

## PREVENT

PREVENT is a programme that involves trained volunteers delivering information stands and talks to adults in the community, which aims to raise awareness about cancer prevention and early detection and services of the Irish Cancer Society.

In 2017, 62 community and work place events were facilitated by volunteers and cancer prevention staff. Over 2,000 people attended these events.

## Our work in HPV

In 2017, the Irish Cancer Society set up the HPV Vaccination Alliance to help address concerns around the life-saving HPV vaccine. The HPV vaccine gives us a chance to eradicate cervical cancer in women. In Ireland, around 300 women are diagnosed with this disease each year. Ninety Irish women die from cervical cancer, and those who survive will need intensive treatment to help them overcome this invasive disease. This treatment almost always results in infertility.

The HPV vaccine prevents cervical cancer, and is offered by the HSE to school girls each year. However, the number of girls receiving the vaccine plummeted from 87 per cent to 50 per cent in just two years. This is largely due to misinformation about the vaccine on social media, creating fear about alleged side effects which in reality are not caused by the vaccine.

The Irish Cancer Society has been working to address these concerns, but we knew that the more respected voices we could gather together with the same, unified message about the vaccine, the better chance we had of

changing minds. That's why we set up the HPV Vaccination Alliance, pulling together more than 30 organisations, including leading health, children and women's groups, to unite in a single, clear message: the HPV vaccine is safe and saves lives.

## Publications and information development

In 2017, the Society distributed over 327,000 publications, free of charge around Ireland to hospitals, healthcare professionals, GP surgeries, schools, community health groups and cancer support centres. Our aim is to get the message out to people affected by a cancer diagnosis, as well as to people interested in reducing their risk or in becoming more aware of signs and symptoms.

The Information Development Team have been working closely with the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) since 2015 to ensure the Society becomes a literacy-friendly organisation. As part of this work, the Society has begun submitting publications to NALA for review. In 2017, we were successful in achieving the NALA Plain English mark for two publications, our *Manual for Men* and our *Healthy living and cancer – A woman's guide*. Both publications are what-you-need-to know guides on how to reduce your risk of cancer and spot the early warning signs.

This is a first for the Society. The Plain English Mark is a logo that indicates our materials meet international plain English standards and shows that we have made the effort to make our materials as clear as possible.

A European Adult Skills Survey in 2013 showed about one in six Irish adults are at or below level 1 on a five-level literacy scale. This means that these adults have only very basic literacy skills and have difficult reading, writing and understanding written material. This can have huge implications for people's health and wellbeing so it is vital that we continue to make our cancer information as accessible as possible.



# Supporting people with and beyond cancer

Thanks to the generous support of people around the country, the Irish Cancer Society is able to provide a range of supports and services to people who have cancer and to their families and friends.

## Daffodil Centres

The Irish Cancer Society's Daffodil Centres, in thirteen locations around the country, provide a wide range of information and support to anyone affected by cancer – whether they are patients, family, friends or simply someone with worries or concerns. Daffodil Centres are managed by experienced cancer nurses who, together with specially trained volunteers, provide information on any aspect of cancer in clear and easy-to-understand language, and in a relaxed, non-clinical setting. Daffodil Centres are open to everyone and no referral or appointment is necessary.

The questions that come up in Daffodil Centres cover all sorts of topics, from the causes of cancer, the symptoms, testing procedures, treatments and side effects, to the likely outcomes and the availability of clinical trials, and to the latest cancer research results. Patients want to learn about the Irish Cancer Society's services, and about what financial and practical supports are available. Family members often want advice on how best to support and talk about cancer with their loved ones.

In 2017, the Irish Cancer Society's Daffodil Centres had contact with 40,722 people including:

- Patients diagnosed with cancer
- Relatives or friends of people diagnosed persons
- People seeking information about healthy lifestyles and cancer prevention
- Healthcare professionals
- People with symptoms who had not been diagnosed
- People without symptoms who had worries or concerns.

Altogether, 8,409 people attended Daffodil Centre Cancer Awareness/Early Detection Stands, where they were informed of the importance of early detection and cancer risk reduction. Daffodil Centre volunteers in the main managed these events across all locations.

## Daffodil Centres

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University Hospital Galway

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Bon Secours Hospital Cork

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Mater Misericordiae University Hospital

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St Vincent's University Hospital

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Beaumont Hospital

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St James's Hospital

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University Hospital Waterford

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University Hospital Limerick

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Cork University Hospital

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Tallaght Hospital

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Letterkenny University Hospital

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St Luke's Hospital, Rathgar

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Hermitage Medical Clinic

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## Understanding Chemotherapy

The Irish Cancer Society's Understanding Chemotherapy education sessions for patients starting chemotherapy is also run through the Daffodil Centres. When patients are diagnosed with cancer, a wide range of emotions begin to surface. Understanding what chemotherapy is, how it works, and what to expect during administration can lessen patients' and their families' fears and anxieties. Education is essential for patients and their families to understand how to take care of themselves by managing side effects and knowing when to call the hospital for assistance. From the roll-out of the chemotherapy education programme so far, high levels of satisfaction have been expressed by the attendees.

During 2017, 1,526 people (up 46 per cent on 2016) attended Understanding Chemotherapy sessions in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, University Hospital Limerick, University Hospital Galway, St James's Hospital, Tallaght Hospital Dublin, Cork University Hospital and Beaumont Hospital.



Found this very helpful and what is a difficult time. I feel less stressed now about starting treatment. It has relieved a lot of my fear.



I feel that I can support my wife better through chemo having gone to this. The nurse told us to write down our questions before attending the clinic and this will help us as we tend to forget what we want to ask.



## Cancer Nurseline

Throughout 2017, the Cancer Nurseline continued to provide support, advice and information on Freephone 1800 200 700, by email and to walk-in, face-to-face enquirers. Through a partnership between the Irish Cancer Society, Deaf Village Ireland and the Irish Remote Interpreting Service (IRIS), the service is now available to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

During 2017, the Irish Cancer Society's Cancer Nurseline dealt with 3,656 requests for information.

Work continued on research (supported by Pfizer) to develop and deliver a national programme to improve the quality of life of Irish metastatic breast cancer patients. The Cancer Nurseline worked with key members of the medical oncology, nursing, psychiatry and psychology communities to identify the interventions that could most benefit these patients. This was done with a view to establishing an intervention delivered by the Cancer Nurseline that would support patients and alleviate symptoms affecting their quality of life.

## Volunteer Driver Service

The Volunteer Driver Service continues to grow by leaps and bounds with the number of active clients accessing the service growing by 10 per cent in 2017 (from 1,226 to 1,345). This was due to both the increase in patient referrals from our existing 23 partner hospitals and the opening of the service in two new hospitals in 2017 – South Infirmary, Cork and South Tipperary Hospital, Clonmel. As a result, our wonderful army of 1,217 volunteer drivers were kept busy accommodating 12,156 appointments as they clocked up 1,257,627km – the equivalent distance of 31 times around the world or a trip and a half to the moon!

## Financial support: Travel2Care

Also in high demand is the financial support that we provide to cancer patients experiencing a decrease or a cessation in their income. In 2017, €526,506 was provided to patients in need (€361,506 through the Travel2Care fund and €165,000 through the Financial Support programme for children). Travel2Care helps patients who need financial assistance for travel to hospital appointments, and the Children's Fund assists parents of children who have been recently diagnosed.



**'Your financial support was really needed because for nearly a full year both of us were out of work minding our 4 year old, with no source of income. It helped with buying some of the things he needs and subsidising what small amount we have for petrol and groceries. You gave us some breathing space to concentrate on our very ill son.'**

*Parent of a recently diagnosed child*

## Survivor support volunteers

When a person is diagnosed with cancer, they have a thousand questions and a thousand worries. The Irish Cancer Society's survivorship programmes give cancer patients the practical and emotional support they need at that difficult time. These programmes use trained volunteers who have personal experience of living with cancer to talk with – and more importantly to listen to – patients and provide them with the practical and emotional support they need. In 2017, 88 referrals were made to Survivor Support Volunteers.

Among the other supports we provide for people diagnosed with cancer are:

- A psychoeducative programme for men diagnosed with prostate cancer
- The Living Life Programme for people living with secondary/advanced cancer
- Strides for Life.

## CASE (Care, Advice, Support and Education)

The annual average numbers of prostate cancer cases in Ireland is now 3,364, and there are over 30,000 prostate cancer survivors living in Ireland. The Irish Cancer Society and Movember jointly fund two CASE (Care, Advice, Support and Education) nurse posts in St James's Hospital and Galway University Hospital. These two posts enable us to provide:

- Care and support including treatment information
- Lifestyle advice
- Experiences of other prostate cancer survivors
- Better access to healthcare professionals
- Assessment and rehabilitation support for treatment-related side effects, so improving the quality of life of men.

Case Nurses: Rachel Dalton, University Hospital Galway (commenced in March 2015) and Mary Cremin, St James Hospital (commenced in April 2016).

CASE nurses provide specialist hyphenate nurse-led follow-up care to all men who receive a diagnosis of prostate cancer. They participate in health promotion activities aimed at men diagnosed and treated for prostate cancer. They support prostate cancer patients by liaising with cancer support centres in the community as well as in the promotion and integration of Irish Cancer Society support services. The CASE nurses are fully integrated members of their hospitals' urology teams and see patients at assessment and diagnosis, and help them to make the right treatment decision for themselves – treatments for prostate cancer can have long lasting effects on bladder function, sexuality and overall quality of life.

The CASE nurses participate in nursing research and recruit patients for cancer clinical trials where relevant. In University Hospital Galway, Rachel Dalton and colleagues have commenced a vacuum pump study for patients affected by erectile dysfunction.

## Medical Need Toilet Card

In 2017, we developed the Medical Need Toilet Card, for use by men and woman who need urgent access to toilet facilities when outside their home. The card is shown to a shop or restaurant proprietor when requesting access to toilet facilities without having to explain why each time.

## Community-based cancer support services

To date, the voluntary sector in Ireland has been the main source of care for cancer patients in the community, helping them to deal with the emotional and practical challenges of the disease. The Irish Cancer Society has played a lead role in the provision of this care, particularly in its role as the national umbrella body for community-based cancer support services through our Cancer Support Services Affiliation programme. The overall goal of the programme is to increase the access to and use of community-based cancer support services, using a proven model of practice and a network of support groups. We believe that building the capacity of community-based cancer support services and helping them to achieve the

best possible standard of practice will greatly benefit people who have or who have had cancer, particularly in the way that this will help enhance their quality of life and their psychosocial well-being.

In 2017, as part of this effort, the Society invested €450,000 in grant aid, training and networking for affiliated organisations, to help ensure that cancer patients and their families receive high-quality services in their own communities. The majority of that funding (€360,920) was spent on providing professional counselling services to more than 1,600 people affected by a cancer diagnosis across Ireland. Of that number, 55 per cent had been diagnosed with cancer themselves, while the other 45 per cent were people who loved someone with cancer – husbands, wives, partners, children, parents, siblings and friends.

## Night Nursing Service

The Irish Cancer Society provides a Night Nursing Service to support cancer patients who are nearing the end of life. The service helps them to remain in their own homes, in comfort, surrounded by the faces, sights and sounds with which they are familiar.

The night nurses deal with the complex and demanding care needs of these patients. They have the confidence, competence and resources necessary to ensure that the patient's palliative care needs are anticipated, assessed and responded to. The Irish Cancer Society provides ongoing education and training to the nurses to ensure that they are fully equipped to maintain this standard of care.

In 2017, the Irish Cancer Society's Night Nursing Service:

- Employed 180 night nurses – most of whom have over 20 years' nursing experience
- Provided night nursing services for a total of 7,348 nights to 1,819 patients.

The Irish Cancer Society's night nursing service, in common with almost all the Society's services – is funded primarily by voluntary donations.

## Survey of Night Nursing Service users: key findings

In 2017, we decided to ask users of the Night Nursing Service for their feedback. We sent surveys by post to 380 families and friends of individuals who had used the service between 1 July 2016 and 31 December 2016. We received 160 responses.

The key finding from the survey was that home is by far the preferred setting for end-of-life care, with 84 per cent of respondents indicating that this was their loved one's wish. In meeting this wish, however, family members felt a strong sense of duty, but many felt ill equipped to provide such intense care. One third of participants said that their loved ones would not have been able to die at home without a night nurse.

Satisfaction rates were extremely high across 13 of the 15 objectives measured. The Night Nursing Service excelled in the areas of clinical care and emotional support. Signposting to other services and access were highlighted as areas for improvement. While respondents were overwhelmingly positive about the service, they felt that having access to it for a longer period would make it easier to cope, practically and emotionally, in a very stressful situation.



**“The night nurse who nursed our lovely father gave us hope, strength and comfort and allowed us to get some sleep. She was a beautiful, happy, kind person and we will never forget how good she made us and dad feel.”**

*June, 43*

The Night Nursing Service is a crucial and necessary component of palliative care in this country, and plays a vital role in enabling patients to have a dignified death, while also providing emotional support to the families and friends of the patient.

Chris Latham from Dublin is 31 years old and is the proud father of two-year-old Jack – despite all the odds being stacked against him. After being diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma at the age of 19 and undergoing treatment that he was told could leave him infertile, Chris feared he would never hold his own child.

Chris, who got the all-clear two years ago, contacted the Society in 2017 and offered his services to help anyone struggling with cancer. Since then, he has been actively involved with a youth support group that helps young people who have had a cancer diagnosis.

‘I never worried about dying from cancer, but I did worry that I might not be able to have children. Thankfully, Jack arrived naturally and is as healthy as can be and now my fiancée Marie is pregnant with our second child. It was everything for me to be a dad and I’m so happy we got what we wanted most of all, despite everything that could have gone against us.’





“ ”

**...I'm so happy we got  
what we wanted most  
of all...**

# Campaigning and advocacy: our role in informing and shaping public policy

As Ireland's national cancer charity, we are working towards a future without cancer. Advocacy plays a vital role in achieving that vision.

We are the independent and informed voice of those affected by cancer. We instigate and drive discussion about cancer in Ireland as well as wider health policy. We lobby elected representatives and policy makers, and use our knowledge and expertise of cancer to influence national policy and to hold the State to account. Ultimately this helps to save lives and improve the lives of people with cancer.

## Pre-Budget submissions

Every year, we make pre-Budget submissions to the Government to campaign for changes that will support cancer patients through a difficult time and reduce the risk of cancer across the population.

## Making life easier

In 2017, we published a pre-Budget submission called *Making Life Easier* which focused on three proposals that would go some way to helping cancer patients in a time of great need. All three of these aim to tackle the huge financial burden that cancer patients face – as we highlighted in our report, *The Real Cost of Cancer*. We called on the Government to take the following steps:

- To abolish prescription charges – phased over four years
- To reduce the reimbursement threshold of the Drugs Payment Scheme (DPS) from €144 to €85 on a phased basis
- To abolish inpatient charges in Budget 2018.

Following a lengthy campaign by the Society, in Budget 2018, Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure, Paschal Donohoe, announced a reduction in the DPS threshold to €134 a month from €144, and a cut in the prescription charge to €2 per item. These are small steps towards our aims, and will mean cancer patients save up to €120 a year, which can make a real difference to their day to day lives.

## Sunbeds VAT rate and tobacco tax

Over the summer months, we campaigned to pressure the Government to increase the VAT rate on sunbed sessions from the reduced rate of 13.5 per cent to the standard VAT rate of 23 per cent. We discovered a bizarre anomaly which meant that sunbeds were charged at a considerably lower VAT rate than sunscreen, and we wanted to fix this as a first step to help reduce the use of sunbeds among young people, who are at the highest risk of skin cancer.

There is a 75 per cent increased risk in the most serious form of skin cancer when people begin tanning regularly before the age of 35. And between 2010 and 2017 we saw 46,000 more people aged 15–34 using sunbeds.

Thanks to our effective public and political campaigning, and ‘in recognition of the clear evidence of a link between sunbeds and skin cancer’, Minister Donohoe adopted our proposal.

The higher VAT rate will increase the cost of using sunbeds, and we hope that this will act as a disincentive, particularly among young people.



We also lobbied successfully, in partnership with the Irish Heart Foundation, for an increase in the price of a pack of cigarettes by 50 cent per pack and for an increase in the cost of roll-your-own tobacco. A pack of cigarettes now costs up to €12. The high cost will encourage people to quit and reduce the number of smoking-related deaths in Ireland.

## Park the Charges campaign

This year, we continued working to lower the cost of car parking at hospitals. We asked the HSE to implement new guidelines that will see people undergoing cancer treatment receive free car parking for themselves or for a nominated family member. The high cost of car parking adds considerably to the ‘real cost of cancer’, and for many people who are already struggling with high costs that are not covered by Government schemes, parking charges can be the last straw.

Currently, a number of hospitals offer free parking to cancer patients undergoing treatment. Thanks in part to our efforts, three in five hospitals now offer either free or reduced parking for cancer patients. We believe that, along with greater transparency and openness around the advertising of car parking charges, this can be replicated successfully at hospitals right around the country.

We have worked at a national and local level to spread our message, and have had an overwhelming amount of public support with 3,500 people signing up to our petition to ‘park the charges’. We have also engaged with politicians at local level, and this has led to the South Infirmary Victoria Hospital in Cork agreeing to reduce its charges, while the South/South West Hospital Group is now looking to review its policy on car parking charges.

May Ryan has been volunteering on Daffodil Day since the very beginning and still arranges the flowers each year for the Irish Cancer Society's Daffodil Day launch as well as decorating churches around Dublin.

A retired teacher and dressmaker from Templeogue, Co. Dublin, May has had to beat cancer several times in her life. In 1985, she was diagnosed with breast cancer, then in 2004, she was treated for colon cancer and she has recently been given the all-clear after treatment for liver and bowel cancer.

'There is no comparison with Daffodil Day 30 years ago and what it is like now. Back then it was a case of selling daffodils to your neighbours and friends and people would offer you the daffodils out of their gardens. It was all very exciting. The first year I raised the princely sum of £100!

When my husband Tom passed away, a lot more of my friends stepped in to help with fundraising and many are still doing it every year.'







**When my husband Tom passed away, a lot more of my friends stepped in to help...**

# Cancer Research

Supporting ground-breaking, world-class research is central to the Irish Cancer Society's strategy for a future without cancer, and we have invested over €25 million in cancer research since 2010. We are Ireland's largest voluntary funder of cancer research.

This is research that seeks to identify improved treatments, but also to improve prevention and to assist with earlier and less invasive diagnosis leading to better outcomes. Research is also focused on how cancer specialists and other scientists can be helped to communicate better with lay audiences about cancer.

In 2017 the Irish Cancer Society committed **€2.9m** to cancer research in Ireland. This included funding **new** areas of research as well as ongoing projects.

## **BREAST-PREDICT**

BREAST-PREDICT, the Irish Cancer Society's first Collaborative Cancer Research Centre (CCRC) has been up and running for over four years, and is now gaining significant momentum. In that time, BREAST-PREDICT's 50-plus researchers have produced 87 scientific publications, comprising 56 original and 31 review articles published in high-profile journals, several of which describe promising research advances likely to improve patient care. More than 2,500 patients have joined nine BREAST-PREDICT-affiliated clinical and translational studies to date across thirteen Irish hospitals. In 2017, BREAST-PREDICT had seven breast cancer diagnostic tests in development, and sixteen novel drug therapies in pre-clinical testing.

## **Blood Cancer Network Ireland (BCNI)**

Blood Cancer Network Ireland (BCNI), is a national collaborative group of doctors and scientists that was established in 2015 with the aim of increasing our understanding of blood cancers and developing new

treatments for them. BCNI clinical trials have seen Irish patients become the first in the world to receive promising new drug treatments for multiple myeloma and acute myeloid leukaemia. BCNI is jointly funded by the Irish Cancer Society and Science Foundation Ireland.

## **Irish Prostate Cancer Outcomes Research (IPCOR)**

Irish Prostate Cancer Outcomes Research (IPCOR), is a national prostate cancer registry of men newly diagnosed with prostate cancer. Together with National Cancer Registry Ireland, the Clinical Research Facility in Galway and Molecular Medicine Ireland, IPCOR has collected the clinical information of more than 1,300 men for the country's first prostate cancer registry. The goal of the registry is to assess the treatment outcomes for men with prostate cancer in Ireland and to understand the processes of care that contribute to these outcomes. IPCOR is a five-year prostate cancer research centre funded by the Irish Cancer Society and the Movember Foundation.

## **The Clinician Researcher Award**

Professor Peter O'Gorman, Consultant Haematologist at Mater University Hospital, was been awarded this two-year Clinician Researcher grant to advance high-quality blood cancer research. This grant will allow Professor O'Gorman to dedicate two days a week to developing and growing new areas of cancer research for the benefit of patients in Ireland. His research will focus on multiple myeloma, a cancer of the plasma cells in the bone marrow.



The work which the Irish Cancer Society has agreed to fund will now allow me to provide more patients in Ireland with access to the next generation of treatments. Hopefully they will be among the first in the world to benefit from the latest advances in multiple myeloma research.

*Professor Peter O’Gorman*

### **Survivorship PhD scholars**

Dr Conor Murphy will pioneer a personalised approach to dealing with the harsh effects of treatment which an oesophageal cancer patient can go through. For many oesophageal cancer patients, treatment will involve the removal of all or part of their oesophagus. This can have a huge impact on a survivor’s quality of life. In particular, digestive problems can lead to unwanted weight loss. Conor plans to set up a research clinic in St James’s and expects that this research will establish a structure for survivorship care that in future can be applied post-treatment for a range of cancers.

Shauna Malone is looking at the effects that surgery has on physical fitness and on the quality of life of patients with lung cancer. Her work will examine the effectiveness of exercise training before and after surgery on improving fitness, quality of life and ultimately recovery from treatment. It is hoped that the results of this research may be used to prepare patients better for surgery and ensure more satisfactory overall recovery from surgery.

### **Biomedical PhD scholars**

John Daly will search for a new, better way to treat multiple myeloma, a form of blood cancer. A patient’s natural killer (NK) cells can be used to destroy

cancerous cells in the body, so aiding recovery.

However, for multiple myeloma patients, the cancerous cells are difficult for NK cells to recognise and therefore a lot harder to kill. John’s research aims to make the NK cells more powerful and effective in killing these multiple myeloma cells. He will aim to do this by changing the way in which these NK cells detect multiple myeloma cells, so making them more effective at killing the cancerous cells. The results of John’s project will give researchers more knowledge of how multiple myeloma cells interact with our immune systems, and potentially this could lead to clinical trials with patients.

In partnership with UCD School of Medicine, we are co-funding a Biomedical PhD Scholarship for Romina Silva. Romina wants to understand the development of treatment resistance in cancer. Ultimately, this is why many cancers prove lethal. To do this, her work will focus on two cancers 1) prostate and 2) ovarian, chosen because poorly understood treatment resistance is a major cause of mortality in both. She will look at specific ways genetic material is changed in cancer in response to treatment. With this information, we can predict how individuals will respond to treatment, and therefore select a personalised approach that will work best for each patient.



Fostering the development of strong Irish cancer research careers is key to ensuring that Ireland continues to play an ever more important part in efforts to overcome cancer. We want the donations we receive from the public to go towards world-class cancer research, and so have developed a stringent three-tier review process that research applicants must get through before receiving funding for their work. To apply you must be a cancer expert. To be awarded you must stand out in this very competitive field.

*Dr Robert O'Connor, Head of Research, Irish Cancer Society*

### **Lung cancer needs assessment**

In Ireland, we do not know enough about what needs patients with lung cancer or their caregivers have and what supports or services might be necessary to meet these needs. For this reason, Professor Pamela Gallagher is carrying out research that aims to identify what these needs are and how Irish services can support them.

### **Letterkenny survivorship research**

It is becoming increasingly evident that lifestyle factors are fuelling cancer rates globally. The main lifestyle risk factors identified by research are diet, weight, smoking, alcohol use, sun exposure, tobacco use and exercise. International research has shown that somewhere in the region of 30–50 per cent of cancers are preventable where people make healthier lifestyle choices. This is the focus of research being carried out at Letterkenny University Hospital and NUI Galway, which aims to provide education within a structured support programme to individuals who have been assessed as having an increased risk of developing cancer because of their lifestyle.

The results that come out of this study will be used to advise health education practice and policy in Ireland and will subsequently benefit other cancer survivors. In addition, depending on the results, this model for cancer prevention could be made available nationally for use in primary care. Dr Janice Richmond, Advanced Nurse Practitioner in the Oncology Department at Letterkenny University Hospital and Dr Jane Walsh, Director of the mHealth Research Group in NUI Galway and Co-director of the Health and Wellbeing Cluster in the Whitaker Institute, will play lead roles in carrying out this research.



The number of people in Ireland getting cancer is going up but the good news is that more people are living longer after cancer and even being cured. Cancer treatment is tough and can affect how someone is able to get back to work, care for their loved ones or just be involved in life again. Often there are follow-up hospital appointments which are focused more on physical symptoms and wellbeing after treatment, but these rarely help people get their overall general health back on track.'

*Dr Janice Richmond, Letterkenny University Hospital*

## **Cancer Trials Ireland**

Cancer Trials Ireland is one of the leading national cancer clinical trials organisations, whose mission is to foster the growth of cancer clinical trials and translational cancer research across the island of Ireland. Over 500 cancer treating specialists are members of Cancer Trials Ireland, which includes the majority of oncologists and haematologists in Ireland, as well as specialists such as research nurses and translational researchers. Importantly, over the past 20 years, Cancer Trials Ireland have recruited more than 15,000 patients into over 350 cancer trials.

Since its inception, the Irish Cancer Society has invested substantially in Cancer Trials Ireland, and is committed to ensuring support for this vital clinical research resource. In 2017, the Society invested almost €435,000 for the provision of core and strategic funding for Cancer Trials Ireland.

Figure 2: Number of people funded by cancer type in 2017

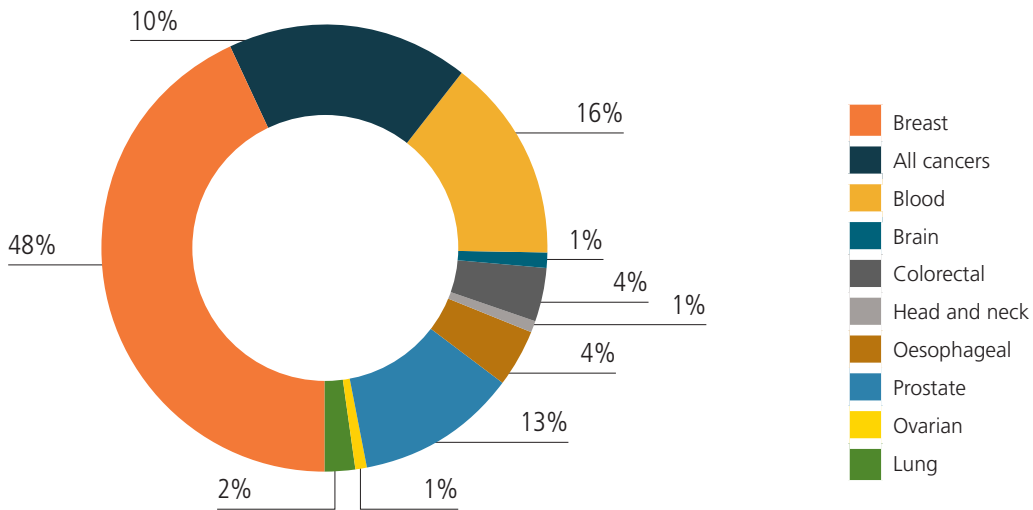


Table 2: Numbers of research professionals funded in 2017

<b>Cancer Trials Ireland 2017</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Breast-Predict 2017</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>BCNI 2017</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>IPCOR 2017</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Other/individual awards 2017</b>	
Scholarships	13
Fellowships	9
Project funding	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>



Katie O'Brien is in the third year of her Irish Cancer Society PhD scholarship at Trinity College Dublin. Her research is investigating how to make our immune cells better able to fight and kill cancer cells.

Katie's focus is on an immune cell called the Natural Killer (NK) cell which has the ability to search for and kill cancer cells. Unfortunately, in many cancer patients, NK cells don't function properly and fail to kill cancer cells. Katie's work examines why this might be the case, how NK cells get their energy to kill cancer cells and new ways to restore or increase their ability to fight against cancer.



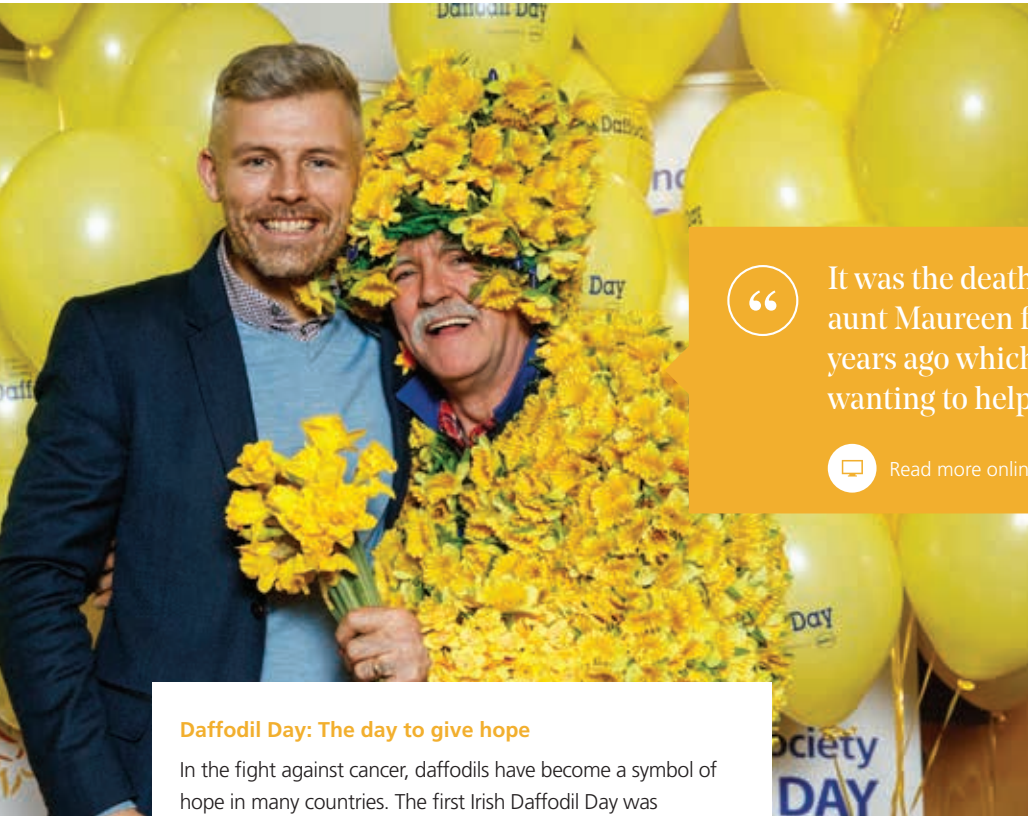




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**Through my research I want to find out if cholesterol has any effect on the body's own ability to fight cancer**

# Fundraising campaigns



Des Bishop with 'Daff Man' James Gilleran



It was the death of my father Mel and my aunt Maureen from cancer over 20 years ago which prompted me into wanting to help the Irish Cancer Society.



Read more online [www.cancer.ie](http://www.cancer.ie)

## Daffodil Day: The day to give hope

In the fight against cancer, daffodils have become a symbol of hope in many countries. The first Irish Daffodil Day was organised in 1988 by Professor Austin Darragh, and by the Society's then CEO, Tom Hudson. Daffodil Day quickly became an annual March tradition, and in 2001, we adopted the daffodil as the Society's logo and symbol.

In 2017 Daffodil Day, was on 24 March and celebrated its 30th year. It brought in over €3.5 million, money that we use to provide information, care and support to those with or affected by cancer in Ireland. This money is especially important to enable us to provide the Irish Cancer Society Night Nursing service.

Daffodil Day has been an annual event thanks to the support of thousands of volunteers all over the country. In 2017, over 3,000 people signed up to get involved in a huge variety of fundraising events, selling daffodils on the street and turning the country yellow for the day.

Along with street sales, in the days and weeks around Daffodil Day there are coffee mornings, cake sales and sponsorship events all working towards the same end – to raise money to help fund the Society's free nationwide services for those affected by cancer.

## Daffodil Day

celebrated 30 years

over

**€3.5 million raised**

**over 3,000**

people signed up to get involved



## over 240 supporters

taking on a dare and using the occasion to raise money

### Dare to Care

Our partnership with Today FM continued in 2017, with the second year of Dare to Care. The campaign calls on people to dare their family, friends or even themselves to do something crazy and fun, something they wouldn't dare do in their normal everyday life.

We asked members of the public to 'dare to care' again in September 2017 – this saw over 240 supporters taking on a dare and using the occasion to raise money from sponsorship. One of the dares put to the public was 'Wedding Dress Wednesday', which saw supporters all over Ireland wearing their wedding dresses to work, to their local shops and so on. Even Ian Dempsey got in on the act, broadcasting one of his shows in a wedding dress.



Yesterday was crazy. Having almost 80 ladies in their wedding attire. It was by far one of the best experiences in my life and to think we had so much fun while raising funds for TodayFM's Dare to Care and the Irish Cancer Society. The money raised exceeded all my expectations.

*Michelle Hanlon, on Wedding Dress Wednesday*



I climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in July 2017, on behalf of the Irish Cancer Society, in memory of my wonderful fiancé, Shane. It was an incredible experience, which was physically, mentally and emotionally challenging. However, sitting on the summit with amazing people, admiring the blue sky, and looking down on the clouds and the Tanzanian countryside, it was simply breathtaking and made it all worthwhile!

*Edel, Kilimanjaro 2017*



### Active Challenges Programme

Within our Active Challenges Programme, we have people with all levels of fitness taking on a challenge to raise money for people affected by cancer in Ireland. Our supporters took on Colour Dashes, marathons in New York and Boston and all over Europe, and we had supporters trekking on Kilimanjaro and in Peru too. Together these supporters brought in over €830k.

# Fundraising campaigns contd.



## Marathon in a Month

July 2017, saw us launch our new campaign Marathon in a Month, where we asked supporters to take on the distance of a marathon across the month of July. They could run, walk or jog, finish it in a day or over a few weeks – as long as they covered the distance of a marathon before the end of July. Over 600 supporters got behind the campaign in its first year and covered over 6,300 kms. They ran to support cancer patients across Ireland.

“

My mum is 12 months post chemo and surgery. What started out as an emergency appendectomy ended up being a year of recovery from a second surgery, as well as the chemo cycles. Thankfully she is recovering now. My sister emailed me info for the Marathon in a Month and as I run anyway it seemed like a no brainer. I never thought I'd even raise €250. Just shows how many people have been touched by cancer.

*Ciara, on Marathon in a Month*



## Movember

4,110

answered the call  
raising over

€779k

### Movember: hair-raising fundraising

In 2017, the Movember Foundation were calling on people to take action to stop men dying too young. They called on people to grow a moustache for men's health, and 4,110 answered the call, and did just that in the effort to battle cancer, in the process raising over €779k.

The broader aim of Movember is to raise awareness of men's health issues, particularly in relation to prostate cancer. Effectively, the Mo Bros (as participating men are called) 'donate' their faces for the 30 days of November and ask their friends, families and colleagues to sponsor them. They become walking billboards and help to prompt conversations about men's health wherever they go. Movember is not just for men, though, and Mo Sistas (as they are called) play a vital role in the success of Movember by signing up at [Movember.com](http://Movember.com) and helping to raise funds – essentially, Mo Sistas do everything the Mo Bros do... without the Mo.

# Corporate fundraising

**Charity of the Year** – over 25 organisations made the Irish Cancer Society their Charity of the Year Partners for 2017. These included Friends First, Ding, Pat McDonnell Paints, and Slimming World. All of these organisations worked hard to raise funds and also to build awareness among their staff of how the funds are used.

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**Daffodil Day** – over 345 organisation took part in Daffodil Day, raising €390k. Activities included bake sales, 'turn your office yellow days' and staff taking part in street sales of daffodils.

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**Pink Partners** – we had 11 pink partners in 2017: Boots, Corby Rock Mill, Dairygold, GHD, Henry Schein, Inglot, Kevin Dempsey/Prestigious Textiles, Little Greene Paint Company, and Miss Designer Golf.

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**Colour Dash** – Aldi were the main sponsors of Colour Dash in 2017, and we also had a huge participation from Aldi staff, who helped to run the event and who provided 'goodie bags' on the day.

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**Sponsorship** – our friends in the corporate world sponsored different areas of our activities in 2017. Medtronic sponsored our lung cancer campaign, Merck sponsored our bowel cancer campaign; while Roche helped us with the Sunsmart campaign. Our Living Well with Cancer conference at the Aviva Stadium was sponsored by Janssen Ireland, AbbVie, Takeda and Pfizer, while Roche sponsored our Night Nursing Conference.

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## **Boots ongoing partnership exceeds €1 million!**

Boots Ireland is a leading pharmacy-led health and beauty retailer with 86 stores in the Republic of Ireland. Since the beginning of the relationship in 2012, Boots Ireland stores, their staff, customers, family and friends have come together to raise funds for the Society. Money has been raised through a number of initiatives including the Boots Night Walks for Night Nurses which take place annually in August, Daffodil Day, Shave or Dye events, Paint It Pink activities and numerous in-store events throughout the year. They have now raised over €1 million for the Irish Cancer Society's Night Nurses!

The aim of the Boots Ireland partnership with the Irish Cancer Society is to increase awareness, promote cancer prevention and support people living with cancer in Ireland. Along with supporting the Night Nursing service, Boots has trained their pharmacists to become qualified Boots Irish Cancer Society Information Pharmacists to help support and advise people dealing with cancer. They also distribute our leaflets to their staff and customers around the country. In addition to this, Boots Ireland regularly host cancer prevention advisory information stands in-store to ensure people affected by cancer can receive information and support in their local communities.

## **Boots, the official sponsor of Daffodil Day 2018**

This year Boots also came on board as the official sponsor for Daffodil Day 2018. Their sponsorship will be a wonderful addition to Daffodil Day. We are delighted to have extended our already very close partnership with Boots to include Daffodil Day.

## **Centra supports the Irish Cancer Society's Cups against Cancer campaign**

The year 2017 was the eighth year of Centra's support of the Irish Cancer Society's breast cancer campaign in October. All funds raised by Centra during Breast Cancer Awareness month go directly to fund essential services needed including information, advice and support services for women and men throughout the country affected by breast cancer.

Pippa O'Connor, one of Ireland's top bloggers and radio DJ and Snapchat superstar Doireann Garrihy launched Centra's Breast Cancer Awareness month initiatives to support the Irish Cancer Society's Cups against Cancer campaign. Centra joined the Irish Cancer Society in the fight against cancer as stores across Ireland got their cups at the ready and the coffee brewing for Cups Against Cancer coffee mornings. Centra's local pink walks also took place across the country once again as well as their limited-edition water bottle in pink or black costing €5, which was available in stores nationwide, and the proceeds of which went to the Society.

Centra's goal in 2017 was to raise €200,000 in tandem with their Cups against Cancer activity and for the Irish Cancer Society's Action Breast Cancer programme. This campaign to date has helped raise over €2 million for people affected by breast cancer across Ireland.

## **Aldi**

The Irish Cancer Society is one of several charities to benefit from Aldi Ireland's community support programme and in 2017 Aldi staff continued their amazing support of our services. Through a combination of their sponsorship of the Society's Colour Dash race series, a staff 'Bric a Brac' collection, staff donations, Colour Dash entry fees and sales of Daffodil Day daffodils and charity cards at Aldi's stores, Aldi and its staff raised over €153,000 for the Irish Cancer Society in 2017.

The Colour Dash is our five kilometre fun run, whereby at each kilometre, a different colour of powder paint is thrown at participants as they run, walk or dance their way to the finish line and Aldi employees signed up in their hundreds to support the event. Over 600 Aldi staff across their 128 Irish stores participated across various Colour Dash locations in 2017 with many bringing along their families to join in the colourful fun! In addition Aldi assisted the Society in providing prizes for radio competitions, volunteers to help at each Colour Dash event and lots of great Aldi products for goodie bags!

## **Argos**

Since March 2015 Argos has raised over €176,000 for the Irish Cancer Society. Although 2017 was the final year of the partnership, however, this was extended into 2018 to both our delight and that of the Argos staff. Argos raised these funds through the participation of staff in their 40 stores across Ireland. They have held Super Hero Days and bucket collections, and have supported Daffodil Day and our Breast Cancer campaign, all of which raised funds for our Night Nursing services.

## **Prestigious Textiles**

Over the last nine years Prestigious Textile and their retailers have raised an amazing €271,000 for our breast cancer services. We so appreciate their support and are looking forward to working with them again in 2018 as one of our Pink Partners.

## **Grant Thornton**

After colleagues and loved ones had experienced Irish Cancer Society services, the staff at Grant Thornton chose to hold a Retro Sports Day on our behalf. After a great fun day with sack races, an inflatable obstacle course and sunshine they raised over €14,600! We are delighted that they have chosen us as their charity of the year for 2018.



# Community fundraising highlights

Once again in 2017, communities in cities, towns and villages all over Ireland came together to organise a range of vibrant, fun and colourful community fundraising events. These events are important for the money they raise, but also for the sense of community spirit they foster and for the awareness of cancer they build. The Moylagh JFK 50 Mile Challenge took on cancer once again on a spectacular and scenic route across counties Meath, Cavan and Westmeath. The Innishannon Steam and Vintage Rally celebrated its 20th year in support of the Society. The rally is the biggest steam and vintage rally in Ireland with over 22,000 visitors each year. The Pink Ribbon Walks, one of our most colourful national institutions continued with their walks in Kinsale and the Boyne Valley. These established events continued to make a very valuable contribution in the fight against cancer. We cannot describe all events individually here, but we would like to let all involved know that we are deeply grateful for the commitment, energy and hard work they put in. The examples we describe below give a flavour of the events that took place in 2017.

## Relay For Life

Relay For Life is a 24-hour event that brings the whole community together to **celebrate** the lives of cancer survivors, to **remember** those whom we have lost to the disease and to **fight back** by increasing our knowledge of cancer and by raising money to fund vital research and services of the Irish Cancer Society.

In 2017, Relay For Life events took place in communities and colleges across Ireland from Midleton to Letterkenny, and from Castlebar to Carlow. Each Relay For Life event is organised locally by a wonderful team of hard-working volunteers who are passionate about bringing their community together in the fight against cancer.

Everyone in the community can play a role in Relay For Life and all are welcome to get involved. The VIPs however at every Relay event are cancer survivors. At Relay, a survivor is anyone who has heard the words 'you have cancer'.

## Martha Tiernan – cancer survivor and Global Hero of Hope

One such VIP is Martha Tiernan, a cancer survivor from Kilkenny. Martha was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 42. The mother of four underwent a mastectomy followed by chemotherapy.

Martha was determined to remain positive and active throughout her treatment and trained as a green belt in karate – a true example of the 'fight back' spirit of Relay For Life!

A year after her diagnosis Martha got involved in Relay For Life Kilkenny as a survivor. Martha has been a Relay For Life Team Captain for two years in a row and the hope for a cure and the need for services in local communities drives her to continue her support of the Irish Cancer Society and Relay For Life.

Martha said, 'Relay For Life is such a special and poignant event and one I'm very proud to be associated with. Not only is it an opportunity to remember those we have lost to cancer and celebrate survivors, but it is a chance to raise awareness and fund important support services provided by the Irish Cancer Society.'



## **Mac and Norman Vintage Tractor Rally**

15 years ago, Peter (Mac) Scully and Norman Egar were chatting and decided they would like to do something for the Irish Cancer Society as Norman's mother Thelma had passed away 23 years previously from ovarian cancer at 45 years of age. They discussed the different possibilities and came up with the idea of the Mac and Norman Vintage Tractor Rally.

The fifteenth Mac and Norman Vintage Tractor Rally took place on 13 August 2017. The event would not be possible without the support of the local community and the many volunteers who help out on the day. The day starts at Mac's home in Brannockstown, Co. Kildare, where all participants are served tea, coffee, scones and sandwiches by a team of volunteers. Registration is at the front of the house and is organised by another team of volunteers. Large crowds lined the streets of Kilcullen to support Mac and Norman as they led a convoy of over 90 trucks, 110 tractors and a number of bikes and cars in the rally. The event finished with a reception and continued late into the evening with entertainment and a charity auction. The event raised €25,550 in 2017, making an incredible total of over €435,000 that Mac and Norman have raised in the fifteen years that they have been running the rally.

## **Fitter Faster Stronger Gym**

Fitter Faster Stronger Gym, based on Leeson Street, Dublin 2 organises an annual fundraising event for a different charity each year. As many members of the gym had been affected by cancer in some way either themselves or through a friend or family member, they decided to fundraise for the Irish Cancer Society in 2017. The gym organised a day of fitness challenges whereby members and non-members of the gym took on one or more listed challenges set by the gym instructors.

Once the date was chosen, members and non-members took to training and fundraising in equal measure, raising funds through sponsorship, donations and online fundraising in the lead-up to the challenge day itself, 10 December. Over a hundred people took part in the event, taking on different challenges throughout the day – for example, rowing 10km in less than 40 minutes. The day was a huge success, not only promoting fitness and wellbeing but also raising just over €70,000 for the Irish Cancer Society.

## **Ceiliúradh Seanie**

The Roche family lost their much loved Seanie on 8 April 2016. Seanie Roche, was a young man from Ballyvourney, a small Gaeltacht village in Co. Cork. He was a butcher in the village and loved music and craic and is missed by everyone in the community and beyond. With the support of our night nursing service, Seanie passed away at home surrounded by his family. Pauline Lovell, Irish Cancer Society night nurse was struck by the welcoming atmosphere in the home as she nursed Seanie. Friends and family arrived during the night to say goodbye to Seanie from as far away as Australia and the UK.

The family were extremely grateful to the Society for the support they received from the night nursing service and wanted to do something in Seanie's memory and raise money for the night nursing service. One year later, on 8 April 2017, the family organised *Ceiliúradh Seanie* in celebration of Seanie's life – it involved great music and a unique auction selling loads of turf, pure breed cattle, original artwork and piglets, all of which reflected Seanie's interests and the close community he lived in. Pauline Lovell, the night nurse who nursed Seanie was very happy to accept a cheque for €14,500 on behalf of the Society.



## Hurling for cancer

For the seventh year in a row, Irish horse-racing and hurling legends clashed the ash in a celebrity hurling match in Co. Kildare – all in the name of cancer research. A who's who of celebrity referees, lineswomen, umpires and players (including Brian Cody, Liam Griffin, DJ Carey, Davy Fitzgerald, Rich Ricci, Joe Brolly, Henry Shefflin, Jim Bolger, Davy Russell and Colm O'Rourke) lined out at St Conleth's GAA grounds in Newbridge on 15 August, ready to battle it out on the hurling pitch in aid of the Irish Cancer Society. To date the event has raised over €640,000 for cancer research.

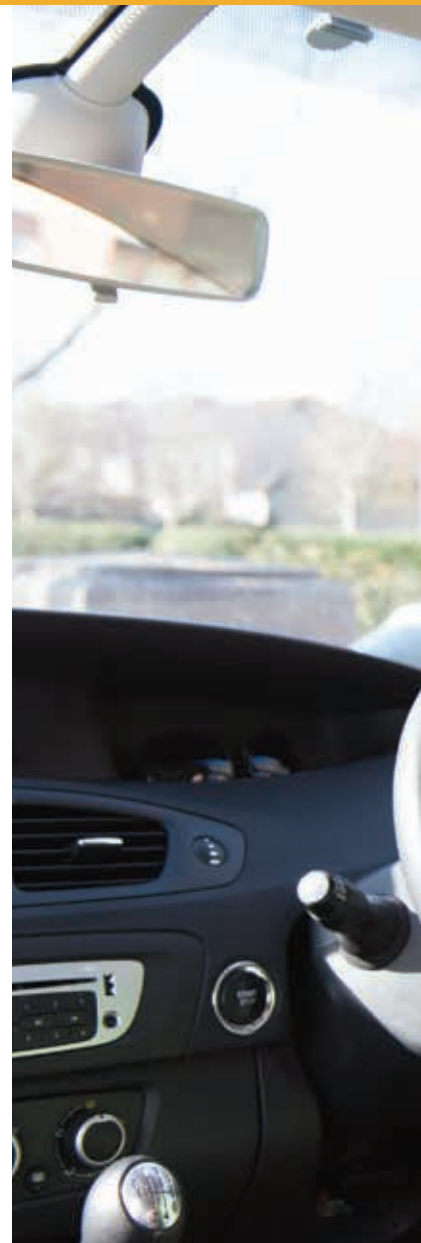
## Irish Cancer Society shops

The Society has a network of 20 shops nationwide selling a range of donated clothes, books, shoes, bric-a-brac and household items. And at Christmas time, they sell our branded Christmas cards. As well as generating income for the Society's programmes, the shops play an important role in Ireland's Green agenda, reusing or recycling more than 2,700 tons of clothes or textiles every year. This operation is supported by an outstanding team of more than 600 volunteers, some of whom have been involved for over 25 years.

Declan Dockery from Leixlip, Co. Kildare, became involved with the Volunteer Driver Service in December 2016 and is one of over 1,200 volunteer drivers who brought more than 1,300 cancer patients to their chemotherapy appointments in 2017.

'I saw an ad in the local Parish bulletin looking for volunteer drivers and it was something that was very natural for me to become involved with. My family has very much been affected by cancer through the years and I've seen first-hand how difficult it can be for families.

I really enjoy being a volunteer driver. The reaction you get from the patients is amazing. They are just so appreciative and can't believe we provide this door-to-door service. Some patients want to talk while others prefer not to but we've been specially trained to deal with either situation.'





**My family has very much been affected by cancer through the years and I've seen first-hand how difficult it can be for families.**

## Governance and finance

### Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2017

	2017 Total €'000	2016 Total €'000
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Donations and legacies	8,826	3,505
Funds raised	12,688	13,727
Charity shop trading activities	3,784	3,916
Investments	173	149
Charitable activities	1,406	1,517
Other income	12	7
<b>Total income</b>	<b>26,889</b>	<b>22,821</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>		
Charitable activities	12,852	13,858
Fundraising activities	4,497	4,377
Charity shop trading activities	2,971	2,930
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>20,320</b>	<b>21,165</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>6,569</b>	<b>1,656</b>
Taxation	-	-
Transfers between funds	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) after transfers and tax</b>	<b>6,569</b>	<b>1,656</b>
Funds balances brought forward	15,644	13,988
<b>Funds balances carried forward</b>	<b>22,213</b>	<b>15,644</b>

## Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2017

	2017 €'000	2016 €'000
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Tangible assets	9,792	10,001
	<b>9,792</b>	10,001
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Investments	5,378	5,195
Stock	152	169
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	867	488
Cash at bank and in hand	10,826	4,943
	<b>17,223</b>	10,795
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(3,851)</b>	(4,806)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>13,372</b>	5,989
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>23,164</b>	15,990
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>		
Long term liabilities	(951)	(346)
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>22,213</b>	15,644
<b>Funds:</b>		
Designated income funds	7,000	1,000
Restricted income funds	302	518
Unrestricted income funds	14,911	14,126
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>22,213</b>	15,644

## Irish Cancer Society Board

# A diverse board of directors, striving to deliver the best

### 1. Dermot Breen

#### CHAIRMAN

Dermot has been a director of the Irish Cancer Society since 2008. He has had an extensive career in public affairs management including 17 years as Corporate Affairs Director at Tesco Ireland. He is also a member of the Governing Body of University College Cork.

### 2. Fergus Brennan

Fergus is a retired chartered accountant with a career in finance and senior management in Clondalkin Paper Mills, Jones Group PLC and Lufthansa Technik Airmotive Ireland. He holds a number of directorships across the aviation sector.

### 3. Dr Sinead Brennan

Sinead is a radiation oncologist in St Luke's hospital, Rathgar and in St James's Hospital, Dublin. She is Chair of the Head and Neck DSSG at Cancer Trials Ireland.

### 4. Geraldine Clarke

Geraldine Clarke is a practising solicitor, and is head of Gleeson McGrath Baldwin Solicitors' Litigation Department. She has extensive experience in all aspects of commercial and general litigation practising in the areas of banking, intellectual property, employment, EU law, product liability and general contract disputes. Geraldine is a past President of the Law Society and is the Founding Director of the Irish Centre for European Law.







### **5. Kieran Crowley**

Kieran Crowley is a chartered accountant and a chartered director. He is a business consultant advising boards and business owners on change, risk management, strategy and governance, with experience as a board member in many companies.

### **6. Sean Dorgan MRIA**

Sean was formerly Secretary General of two Government departments, Chief Executive of Chartered Accountants Ireland and CEO of IDA Ireland. He holds a number of directorships currently.

### **7. Professor Liam Grogan**

Liam is a Consultant Medical Oncologist in Beaumont Hospital and is an Honorary Clinical Associate Professor in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.



### **8. Cormac G. Kilty PhD**

Cormac is a biotech entrepreneur retired from executive functions; managing a biotech investment portfolio and involved with two angel investment groups in Ireland. He was voted one of the top 100 influential Ireland–US business leaders by *Business and Finance* in 2007 and 2008 and was awarded the Biolink USA Ireland award for contribution to Irish life sciences in 2007.

### **9. Dr Helen McAvoy**

Helen is Director of Policy with the Institute of Public Health in Ireland focusing on progressing the Government's health inequality agenda in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Helen has a primary medical degree and a Masters in Health Promotion and worked for several years in both hospital and general practice.



### **10. Willie O'Reilly**

Willie O'Reilly is former Group Commercial Director at RTÉ. He was previously Chief Executive of Today FM, President of the Institute of Directors and a director of the Health Service Executive. He is a Council member of the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital.

### **11. Professor Ray Stallings**

Ray is Director of Research and Professor of Cancer Genetics at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Ray has held a number of academic and professional positions both in Ireland and the US.

### **12. Andrew Craig**

Andrew Craig was an audit partner with extensive experience in advising construction, property, retail and manufacturing companies, and was an engagement leader with a number of multinational corporations and Irish PLCs. He is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

# Corporate sponsors

11850	Aramex	Bloomberg Polarlake Limited
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24hourcareservices	Arthur Cox	BNY Mellon
A & L Goodbody	Arup Consultant Engineers	Boc Gases
AA Ireland	Arvato Finance Services Limited	Body Raze
Abbott Ireland	Ashdown Controls Group	Boots Ireland
Abbott Nutrition	ASL Airlines	Bord Gais Energy
AbbVie Limited	Aspiracon Ltd	Bord na Móna
ABTRAN	Astellas Ireland	Boyne Valley Group
Accenture	ASVS Ltd	Brookfield Renewable Ireland
Actavis	Atlantic Industries Ireland	BSH Home Appliances Ltd
Adare Human Resource Management	Aura Holohan Group	Bulgari
Adrian Dunne Pharmacies	Aura Sports & Leisure	Bus Eireann
AdRoll	Avaya Ireland	Butterslip
Aegon Ireland	Aviva	Calor Gas
Aer Lingus Commercial Department	Avolon	Cameron Ireland Ltd
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Agrigear Limited	Axa MPS Financial	Canada Life
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Alcon Ireland	Backstage Theatre	Carol Jermyn & Co. Solicitors
ALDI Ireland	Bagenalstown Credit Union	Castle Vets
Alkermes PLC	Balfour Beatty CLG	Celestica Ireland
Allcare Pharmacy	Ballina Beverages	Centra
Allen & Company	Ballygowan	Central Bank of Ireland
Allergan Pharmaceuticals Ireland	BAM Building	Central Statistics Office
Allianz Ireland	Bank of America Merrill Lynch	Certification Europe
Alucraft	Bank of Ireland	Chanelle Veterinary
Amaya Group Limited	Barclay Chemicals Manufacturing Ltd	Charities Aid Foundation
Amazon CS Ireland Ltd	Baring Investment Funds PLC	Charities Trust
Amazon Data Services Ireland	Barry's Pharmacy	Charleville Credit Union
Ambit Financial Services	Barry's Tea	Chartered Accountants Ireland
American Cancer Society	Battle For Trademarks Ltd	Chemistry
Amgen (Europe) GMBH	BDO Simpson Xavier	Chuckleberries Montessori & Crèche
Analog Devices	Beckman Coulter	Cinnamon Restaurant
Ancestry Information Operations	Behan & Associates	Citi
Andrews Construction Limited	Behaviour & Attitudes	Clancourt Management
Anixter Ireland	Belgard Solicitors	Clearstream Global
Anthony Neville Homes Limited	Beta Active PI Pharma Limited	Clinch Wealth Management Limited
Apleona Ireland	Bioclin Research Laboratories	Close Brothers
Apple	Biomnis Ireland	Cloud 10 Beauty
	Bizquip	

Codex Limited	Department of Education and Skills	Fáilte Ireland
Cognex	Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection	Fanagans
Colliers International	Depuy (Ireland) Limited	FBD Holdings Plc
Colour Trend	DFL Fitouts and Joinery	FBD Insurance
Comgest Asset Management International Limited	DH Architectural	FCOS Ltd
Commercial Engineering Solutions Ltd	Diageo Ireland	FDC Accountants
Commission For Energy Regulation	Ding	Felicity Fox Auctioneers
Communicorp One	Doneraile Pharmacy	FFH Management
Compass Catering	Drimoleague Pharmacy	Fia Nua
Computershare	Dublin Bus	Fidelity Investments
ComReg	Dublin Port Company	Fine Gael
Contracting Plus	Duggan Steel Group	Fingal County Council
Convergint Technologies	Dundalk Institute of Technology	Fingal Revenue
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Copper Face Jacks	Dyno-Rod	Fleetwood Paints Ltd.
Coral Leisure Centre	EagleSky Media	FleishmanHilliard
Corby Rock Mill Ltd	Eastway Technical Solutions Ltd	Flynn & O'Flaherty Construction
Core Software	eBay Inc.	FMC International
Cork College of Commerce	Eden Recruitment	Focus Scientific Solutions Ltd
Cork County Council	Ego Boost Hair Salon	Forcefield Active Technology
Cork International Airport Hotel	Ei Electronics	Forest Tosara
Cornmarket	Elavon Financial Services	Frank Keane (Naas Road)
Corporate Catering Services	Electric Ireland	Friends First
Counterpoint Wholesale Ireland Ltd	Element 78	FTI Consulting
Coyne Research	Eli Lilly Kinsale Limited	Fullwood Packo
CPL Resources	EMC Ireland	Gas Networks Ireland
Creane & Creane Ltd	Emirates Skycargo	GE Capital US Holdings Inc
CRH PLC	Endress Hauser (Ireland) Limited	GE Money
CRM Limited	Epicom Food	GHD
Curves	Epsilon	Gilead Sciences Ltd
DAC Beachcroft Dublin Solicitors	Equator Design	Give Together Initiative (Bank of Ireland)
Dairygold	Erin Horticulture Limited	Glanbia
Dairygold Co-Op Superstores	Ernst & Young	Glanbia Performance Nutrition
David Ward & Co.	Ervia	Gleeson Fruit & Veg Ltd.
Dawn Meats Group	ESB	Global Giving
DB Schenker	ESB Trading	Globoforce
DCC Vital	Euro Car Parks ( Ireland) Ltd	GoFund Me
DCM Compliance Ltd	Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories	Goldens Pharmacy
Dell Ireland	European Express Road Freight	Google
Deloitte	European Refreshments Ltd	Grant Thornton
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Greenval Insurance	Inishowen Partnership Board	Ladbrokes (Ireland) Limited
Guinness Medical Centre	Insomnia	Lake Region Medical
.....	Invesco	Lavada Talent
H & K International	Investec	Law Society of Ireland
H2 Group	Ipsos MRBI	Leargas
HA O'Neil Ltd	IRD Duhallow CLG	LeasePlan Fleet Management
Hallmark	Irish Blood Transfusion Service	Leeside Shipping Ltd.
Hardiman Wallace Accountants	Irish Cement Limited	Leica Biosystems
Harmac Medical Products Ltd	Irish Charolais Society	Lennox Laboratory Supplies
Hartley People	Irish Distillers Pernod Ricard	Leo Pharma
Havas SO Group	Irish Emerald Stud	Life Pharmacy
Haven Pharmacy (IndePharm Ltd)	Irish Life	Lifestyle Sports
Hays Recruitment	Irish Light Aviation Society	Lifewave
Health and Safety Authority	Irish National Teachers' Organisation	Liffey Trust Ltd.
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Hedgeserve	Irish Payroll Association	Linesight
Helsinn Birex Pharmaceuticals Ltd	Irish Prestige Signs	LinkedIn Matching Gift Program
Henkel Ireland Ltd	Irish Red Cross Society	LK Shields
Henry Ford & Son	Iron Mountain	Loved Again
Henry Schein (Ireland) Ltd	Ironshore Europe DAC	Lufthansa InTouch
Hertz European Service Centre	.....	.....
Hibernia College	James Riordan & Partners	Magee
Hoeyes DIY	Janssen Cilag Limited	Mainport
Holden Leathersgoods	JC Decaux Ireland	Maples Fund Services Asia Limited
Hollister ULC	John Sisk & Son Ltd	Maples Fiduciary Services
Homebase	Johnson & Johnson Medical	Marsh Management Services
Homecare Medical Supplies Ltd	Jones Engineering Group	Mason Hayes & Curran
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	JP Morgan	Mastercard
Hovione	Jury's Inn	Mater Private Hospital
HSE	.....	Matheson Solicitors
HSE, East Coast area	KBC Bank Ireland PLC	Mayo County Council
HSE South	Keeling's	Mazars
Huskies	Kerry Biofuels	MCA Architects
.....	Kerry Business Services	McCambridge Limited
Icon Clinical Research	Kerry Group	McCullagh Wall
IDA	Kevin Dempsey Distributors Ltd	McDowell Purcell Partnership
IFDS Percana Group Limited	Kildare Village	McGinty O'Shea
IFFPG Ltd	Kilgallon Stairs	McGowan's Printers
Imagine Communication Group	Killashee Hotel	McGrath Refrigeration
Indeed	Kirby Group Engineering	MCI Management
Independent News & Media	Kostal Ireland GmbH	McKeon Group
Informatica	KPH Construction	Meath Primary Care Centre
ING Bank	KPMG	Media Central
Inglot	.....	Media Cube

Medical Council	Orchid Accountants	Rachro Limited
Medipharm Pharmacy	Ove Arup & Partners	Radical
Mediskin	-----	Radisson Blu Hotel
Medtronic Ireland	Paddy Power Betfair	Rational FT Services Ireland Ltd
Menapia Properties	Pat McDonnell Paints	RBC Investor Services
Merc Partners	Pathfinder	Reagecon
Mercer	Paypal	Real World Analytics
Merck	PCO	Realex Payments
Mercury Engineering Ltd	PE Global	Réaltaí Cúram Leanáí
Merrion Capital	Peamount Hospital	Reconair Services Ltd
Microsoft Ireland	Penneys	Recorded Artists Actors Performers
Molex	Pensions Authority	REDC Research & Marketing Ltd
Mondelez Europe Services GmbH	People First Credit Union	Regeneron Pharmaceuticals
Morgan McKinley	Permanent TSB	Rehabcare
MSD	Peter Gregory Hair Studio	Reidy's Pharmacy
Multi Packaging Solutions	Peter Mark	Reputation Inc
Murex Advanced Technologies	Pexus	Revenue Commissioners
Murray Consultants	Pfizer Ireland	Richmond Marketing
Musgrave Group	Pharmagraphics Guy Limited	River Island
MVCI Services Ltd	Philip Lee	Roadtrain
Mycold Limited	Phloor Ltd	Roche Products Ireland Limited
Mylan Ireland Limited	Phoenix Ireland	Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Mytaxi	Pioneer Investments	RR Donnelly Global Turnkey Solutions
-----	PM Group	RSA Insurance
Naas Retail Skills	Polar Capital Fund	Rusal Aughinish Limited
National Botanic Gardens	Portakabin	-----
National Gallery of Ireland	Precision Healthcare Limited	Sam McCauley Chemist Ltd
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NSAI	Prodieco Pharmaceutical Components	Sebela Pharmaceuticals
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NUA Naturals	Property Registration Authority	Servier Laboratories (Ireland) Ltd
-----	Propylon	Sheil Hospital
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Oasis Group	Punch Consulting Engineers	-----
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OCS One Complete Solution	Quality Freight Limited	Sisk Healthcare
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Openhydro Technologies Limited	Quest Systems	Sky Ireland
OR Plant Hire Limited	Quoteme.ie	-----
	-----	

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SMC Print & Design  
Sogeti Ireland Ltd  
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St Anthony & the Claddagh Credit Union  
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Starbucks  
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Stryker Ireland Ltd  
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Sun Life Financial  
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Swords Laboratories  
Symantec Limited  
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Tab Financial Services  
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Teagasc  
Teleflex  
Telegael  
Teva Pharmaceuticals  
The Community Foundation for Ireland  
The Concentrate Manufacturing Company of Ireland  
The Connacht Hotel  
The Doyle Collection

The Edinburgh Woollen Mill  
The Insurance Institute  
The Irish Rugby Union  
The Lawrence Life Assurance Company  
The Lisheen Mine  
The National Lottery  
The Panel  
The Printed Image  
The Shelbourne Hotel  
The UK Online Giving Foundation  
The Wolfe Group  
The Zip Yard  
The Court restaurant  
Three Ireland  
Ticketmaster  
Ticknock Pharmacy  
Tilman Brewin Dolphin  
TJH Ltd  
Today FM  
Top Flight Holidays  
Tourism Ireland  
T-Pro  
Tradecraft Building Products Ltd  
TransferMate Global Payments  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland  
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Turmec Engineering  
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Unipolre  
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Volac Ireland

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VWR International  
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Walk  
Walls Construction Ltd  
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Waters Technologies Ireland Ltd  
Wellman International Ltd  
West Limerick Resources  
White Horse Administration Services Ltd  
Wicklow local authorities  
Wilkinson Jewellers  
William Fry Solicitors  
Wincanton  
Windsor Motors  
WK Nolan Real Estate Advisors  
Workday Inc  
Wrights of Marino  
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YourCause LLC  
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Zurich Insurance

# Friends of the Society 2017

## Board of Directors

See pages 54-55.

## Finance Committee

Fergus Brennan (Chair)

Sean Dorgan

Jane Neill

Ger Penny

## Audit & Risk Committee

Andrew Craig (Chair)

Geraldine Clarke

Cormac Kilty

## Governance and Nominating Committee

Willie O'Reilly (Chair)

Kieran Crowley

Prof. Liam Grogan

## Ordinary and Life Members

Paul Anderson

Prof. John Armstrong

Marie Armstrong

Lady Antonia Beckwith

John Bowman

Dermot Breen

Fergus Brennan

Gay Byrne

Veronica Campbell

Prof. Desmond Carney

Geraldine Clarke

Kieran Crowley

Vernon Crowley

Margaret Cully

Barry Dempsey

Noeleen Donnelly

Sean Dorgan

Tom Finlay

Dr Grainne Flannelly

Bernie Godley

Prof. Liam Grogan

Dougie Heather

Prof. Bernadette Herity

Tom Hudson

Prof. John Kennedy

Dr Cormac Kilty

Vincent P Koziell (RIP 01/09/2017)

Bill McCabe

John McCormack

Dr Ray McDermott

Mark Mellett

Dr Michael J Moriarty

Dr John F Murphy

Niamh Ní Chonghaile

Prof. Cliona O'Farrelly

Padraig Ó hUiginn

Gerry A O'Mahony

Pat O'Reilly

Willie O'Reilly

Caroline Preston

May Ryan

Ursula Sheridan-Grace

Jackie Ward Ramos

Tonia Lawlor, a mother of two young children, living in Dublin, was diagnosed with leukaemia in December 2016. When Tonia was told she had cancer she felt like a bomb went off in her head followed by an avalanche. Tonia said 'Other than the bruising, I was symptom-free so when I was diagnosed with leukaemia I was really shocked.'

Tonia relied on the Society's Volunteer Driver Service to get to her chemotherapy appointments. The Service enabled her to get home from hospital to be with her children, and also saved her the expense of a taxi journey. Tonia is one of over 1,300 cancer patients who benefitted from the Irish Cancer Society's Volunteer Driver Service in 2017.

'The Volunteer Driver Service really helped during my cancer treatment and just made life a little easier. A driver would bring me to and from St James's Hospital and unlike when you get in a taxi, the drivers know what you're going through. They are there to listen if you want to talk but they also understand if you don't want to.'





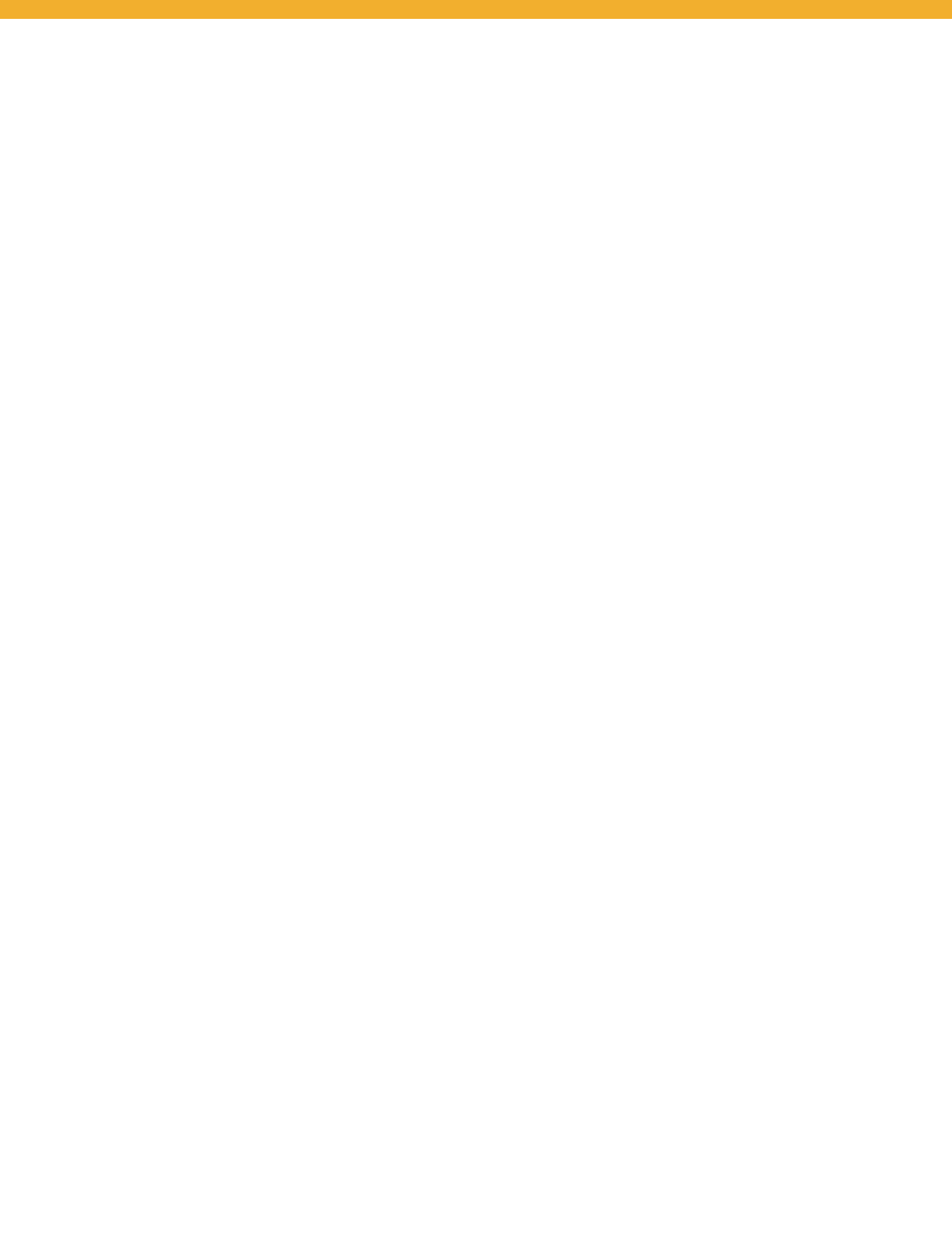


**They are there to listen  
if you want to talk but  
they also understand  
if you don't want to.**

# Thank You















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Dublin 4, Ireland

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E: [info@irishcancer.ie](mailto:info@irishcancer.ie)

Charity registration number  
CHY5863 (Ireland)