

## Thursday 4th October

### Sexual Awareness and Substance Misuse Workshop

To create awareness among participants of the importance of responsible sexual behaviour. Organised by Mary O' Neill, HSE Sexual Health.

**Venue:** Birchgrove Community Centre, Portlaoise, Co Laois **Time:** 10am -12pm  
**Audience:** By Invitation **Further Info:** Antoinette Kinsella 086 3800517

### Travellers and Substance Misuse

#### - *What's going on and how can I help?*

A seminar on capacity building for frontline workers and volunteers in relation to current trends and priorities on the issue of Traveller substance misuse. Organised by HSE Traveller Health Unit, Merchants Quay Ireland, Ana Liffey Drugs Project.

**Venue:** Clonbrusk Resource Centre, Athlone, Co Westmeath **Time:** 2pm - 4.30pm  
**Audience:** Service providers working with the Traveller Community  
**Further Info:** Please book by contacting Colette Anderson on 057 9357801 or email: colette.anderson@hse.ie

### Peer to Peer Programme Substance Misuse Information Leaflet

Launch of the substance misuse leaflet developed by young people in the Mullingar Youth Health Project as part of the Pass it on Peer Education Programme. Organised by Mullingar Youth Health Project.

**Venue:** Mullingar EYE building, Spout Well Lane, Mullingar, Co Westmeath  
**Time:** 7pm **Audience:** All welcome  
**Further info:** Catherine McEntee 086 7955354

### Information Seminar & Art Exhibition

Information Seminar on the effects of addiction on individuals, families and the wider community. Exhibition of art work by students of Heywood Community School on display. Organised by HSE Abbeyleix/Durrow Primary Care Counselling Service.

**Venue:** Abbeyleix Heritage Centre, Abbeyleix, Co Laois **Time:** 10am - 12pm  
**Audience:** All welcome **Further Info:** Ann Fanning 057 8730891

## Friday 5th October

### Launch of Open Door Project Athlone

Formal launch of Merchants Quay Ireland Open Door Project Athlone. Barbeque and music provided on the day. Organised by Merchants Quay Ireland.

**Venue:** Open Door Project, Ball Alley Lane, Parnell Square, Athlone, Co Westmeath  
**Time:** 1pm-3pm **Audience:** By Invitation  
**Further Info:** Miranda Keenan 09064 98909

### Laois Local Drug Network, Service Providers Networking Event

Information morning on services offered by members of the network. Organised by Laois Local Drug Network.

**Venue:** Laois County Council, Portlaoise, Co Laois **Time:** 10am -12.30pm  
**Audience:** Members of the Laois Local Drugs Network  
**Further Info:** Sylvia Rouget 057 8662732

### Laois Local Drug Network Information Day

Information will be available to the public on a range of services available in Laois. Organised by Laois Local Drug Network.

**Venue:** Laois Shopping Centre, Portlaoise, Co Laois **Time:** 2pm- 6pm  
**Audience:** General public **Further Info:** Sylvia Rouget 057 8662732

### Event in the Tent

Launch of the Drugs & Alcohol Handbook for Parents. This event will highlight the drug services and emergency services available in the Athlone area. Organised by Athlone Drug Awareness Group.

**Venue:** Athlone Civic Square, Civic Centre, Athlone, Co Westmeath  
**Time:** 2pm-5pm  
**Audience:** All welcome. **Further info:** Frankie Keena 085 7474074

### Adult ADHD - Fireworks on the Brain Seminar

Aim of the Seminar is to bring together experts, professionals and patients to share their knowledge, best practice and experience. To present the latest innovations and research ie the links between Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Substance Misuse. Organised by: Irish National Council for ADHD Support Groups.

**Venue:** Sheraton Hotel, Athlone, Co Westmeath **Time:** 9am-4pm  
**Audience:** Service Providers  
**Further Info and booking email** info@incadds.ie

For further information contact  
Antoinette Kinsella, Co-ordinator MRDTF  
on 086 3800517 or mrdtf@hse.ie



Midland Regional  
Drugs Task Force  
[www.mrdtf.ie](http://www.mrdtf.ie)



Midland Regional  
Drugs Task Force

Drug & Alcohol  
Awareness Week

Timetable of Events  
1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> October 2012

## Monday 1st October

### Launch of Midland Regional Drugs Task Force (MRDTF) Drug & Alcohol Awareness Week 2012

The Awareness Week to be officially launched by Roisín Shortall, TD Minister of State, Department of Health with responsibility for Primary Care and Drugs Strategy.

**Venue:** Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly **Time:** 11am

**Audience:** By Invitation **Further info:** Antoinette Kinsella 086 3800517

### A Sporting Chance - Challenges for Sport on and off the Field

Two events taking place in Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) aim to open discussion on all aspects of sporting life. The first event aimed at students looks at many issues from player health and well being to balancing a sporting career with the demands of student life.

**Venue:** Athlone Institute of Technology, Douglas Hyde Theatre **Time:** 3pm-5pm

**Audience:** Students

The second event turns its attention to Sport Coaches and participants. Topics for discussion include Coach Education Programmes, sport and alcohol, consideration of athlete needs etc.

**Venue:** Athlone Institute of Technology, Douglas Hyde Theatre **Time:** 7.30pm

**Audience:** Sports Coaches and participants

These open panel events will see contributors from experts in the field as well as some well known sporting heroes. Organised by MRDTF, GAA's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) Programme, AIT Healthy Campus.

**Further Info:** Lynn Farrell 086 6032930

### Alcohol Awareness Poster Competition

Presentation of prizes to young people involved in the Alcohol Awareness Poster Competition, which was designed to highlight the harmful effects of alcohol on young people. Organised by the Attic Drug Education Initiative and County Longford Drugs Forum.

**Venue:** Attic Youth Café, Temperance Hall, New Street, Longford **Time:** 7:30pm

**Audience:** Teenagers **Further Info:** Theresa Connell 086 7811535

### Art Exhibition

Display of art work by 8-12 year olds who took part in a workshop on healthy lifestyles. Organised by Edenderry Addressing Substance Abuse (EASA) and Offaly Local Development Company.

**Venue:** Edenderry Library **Time:** Art on display all week

**Audience:** All welcome **Further info:** Marye Meehan 087 7673507

## Newsletter

Distribution of Edenderry Addressing Substance Abuse (EASA) Newsletter detailing local and mainstream services and providing drug awareness information to the local community. **Further info:** Joe Lawlor 086 2305785

## Tuesday 2nd October

### GET "REAL".... Realistic, Educated, Aware and Listen

Students will be encouraged to take part in some interactive games and activities which aim to dispel common alcohol myths and to encourage safety and self regulation. Organised by MRDTF, AIT Healthy Campus, HSE, Foroige.

**Venue:** Athlone Institute of Technology, Campus Canteen **Time:** 10am-2pm

**Audience:** Students **Further Info:** Lynn Farrell 086 6032930

### Its all about the 'HIGH'.... Having Information, Getting Healthy

This session will give students an insight into current drug issues, categories and practices. An overview of good practice guidelines for drug prevention strategies will also be included. Organised by MRDTF, AIT Healthy Campus, HSE, Foroige.

**Venue:** Athlone Institute of Technology **Time:** 3pm- 4pm

**Audience:** Students **Further Info:** Lynn Farrell 086 6032930

### Communicating with your Child

This talk will look at a very simple way of communication that will explain the roles we play, recognising how and what we communicate and ways of improving communication. Organised by Tullamore Town Council, Joint Policing Committee.

**Venue:** Tullamore Central Library **Time:** 7.00 pm

**Audience:** Parents/Public **Further Info:** Rose O' Keefe 057 93 46800

## Wednesday 3rd October

### Cardiovascular Health Promotion

Information around the risk factors of Cardiovascular Health Disease. Organised by HSE Health Promotion. Carbon monoxide testing available.

**Venue:** Athlone Institute of Technology, Campus Canteen **Time:** 11am-2pm

**Audience:** Over 18's **Further Info:** Gail McNeill 086 8157708

### Simon Week Information Briefing on Services of the Midlands Simon Community

This event will give an overview of the services provided by the Midlands Simon Community.

**Venue:** Darmagh Centre, Lanello, Clontarf Road, Tullamore, Co Offaly

**Time:** 9.30am-1.00p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

**Audience:** Service Providers **Further Info:** Irene Keenan 087 9601200

### Launch of the Ana Liffey Drug Project in Mullingar

The formal launch of the Ana Liffey Drug Project in Mullingar (formally the Open Door Project Mullingar).

**Venue:** 1 Fairview Terrace, Patrick St, Mullingar, Co Westmeath

**Time:** Light refreshments from 10.30am. Information session from 11am-12noon.

**Audience:** By invitation **Further Info:** Dawn Russell 01 8786899

### Sexual Awareness and Substance Misuse Workshop

To create awareness among participants of the importance of responsible sexual behaviour. Organised by Mary O'Neill, HSE Sexual Health.

**Venue:** Ana Liffey Drug Project, Mullingar, Co Westmeath **Time:** 1pm- 3pm

**Audience:** By Invitation **Further Info:** Antoinette Kinsella 086 3800517

### Attic Youth Café Longford Open Day

Young people aged 12-18 years are invited to attend a drug and alcohol awareness day at the Attic Youth Café. Organised by the Attic Drug Education Initiative.

**Venue:** The Attic Youth Cafe, Temperance Hall, New Street, Longford

**Audience:** Teenagers **Time:** 3pm-5pm

**Further Info:** Theresa Connell 086 7811535

### Young People and Drug Awareness for Life

A youth friendly interactive seminar for young people aged 13-18 years. Organised by Westmeath Comhairle na nÓg and supported by Westmeath County Council and Midland Regional Youth Services.

**Venue:** Annabrooke Hotel, Mullingar, Co Westmeath **Time:** 5pm-6-30pm

**Audience:** Young people 13 to 18 year

**Further Info:** Edweena Dully 086 7955684

### Communicating with your Child

This talk will look at a very simple way of communication that will explain the roles we play, recognising how and what we communicate and ways of improving communication. Organised by Laois Local Drug Network.

**Venue:** Portlaoise Youth Café, Portlaoise, Co Laois **Time:** 8pm

**Audience:** Parents Councils and parents

**Further Info:** Sylvia Rouget 057 8662732

### Youth Health Talk

Introducing the Ana Liffey Service to Traveller Youth, building relationships and creating awareness of service provision. Organised by Offaly Traveller Movement.

**Venue:** Scurragh Community Hall, Birr, Co Offaly. **Time:** 7pm to 8pm

**Audience:** Traveller Youth **Further Info:** Sorcha Lewis 087 986 4448