

The Heatherly Life



November 2023



Welcome to the latest edition of The Heatherly Life. We hope everyone had a fantastic Summer.

Although the weather wasn't exactly on our side, we didn't let it dampen our spirits at The Heathers. We've had lots of exciting adventures over the past few months; barbecues, birthdays, day trips, holidays and much more...

We look forward to sharing our Summer highlights with you throughout this issue...

Scheme News

But first of all, let's update you with some scheme news;

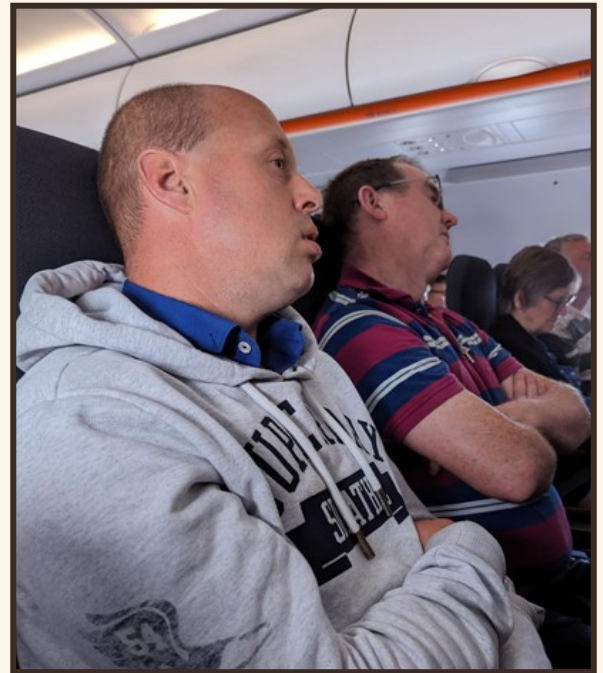
- On 22nd September 2023, The Heathers received an unannounced inspection from RQIA inspector Aveen Donnelly. As well as completing a thorough review of service documentation, Aveen spoke with management, staff and service users. We are pleased to reveal that the inspector provided positive feedback on the day and was full of praise for the service and the entire staff team.
- On 28th September 2023, The Heathers received a further inspection from Supporting People. Again, we are pleased to report that the inspectors were very complimentary about the service and commended the staff team for their efforts in delivering high standards of housing related support to each of our service users.
- Since our last edition we are delighted to welcome the following members of staff to The Heathers;
 - * Amy Carson (Relief Team Leader/Support Worker)
 - * Ethan Gallagher (Relief Support Worker)
 - * Jill Gillanders (Support Worker)
 - * Catherine Monaghan (Support Worker)
 - * John McArdle (Support Worker)

Highland Show

Back in June, Ivan and Liam travelled to The Highland Show, an annual event showcasing the best of food, farming and rural life at Ingliston, Edinburgh.

Supported by staff member Danielle Girvan, Ivan and Liam had an early morning start to catch their flight and spent their day enjoying everything the show had to offer; cattle, sheep, horses, food stalls and of course some highland dancing.

However, the highlight of the day was definitely the display of farm machinery and vintage motors.





BBQ Season @ The Heathers

At the first hint of Summer Sun, the bbq is never far behind.

We enjoyed lots of fun activities throughout the Summer, but without doubt, barbecues will always be a highlight for our Service Users.

Team Leaders John Quigg & Andrew McMurray have become our resident Pitmasters. We can always rely on John and Andrew to serve up a super spread for all to enjoy.



Team Leaders Andrew McMurray & John Quigg

Pitmaster:
Someone who has mastered the skills and techniques to create outstanding barbecue









Lucy Leckey Birthday

Firstly let's introduce Lucy.

Lucy moved into The Heathers in June.

Lucy settled in immediately and wasted no time in making new friends, so much so that she wished to celebrate her birthday by having a bbq on scheme so that all service users could join her in celebrating her big day.

Lucy even had the weather on her side. As you can see, Lucy's birthday was a great success!





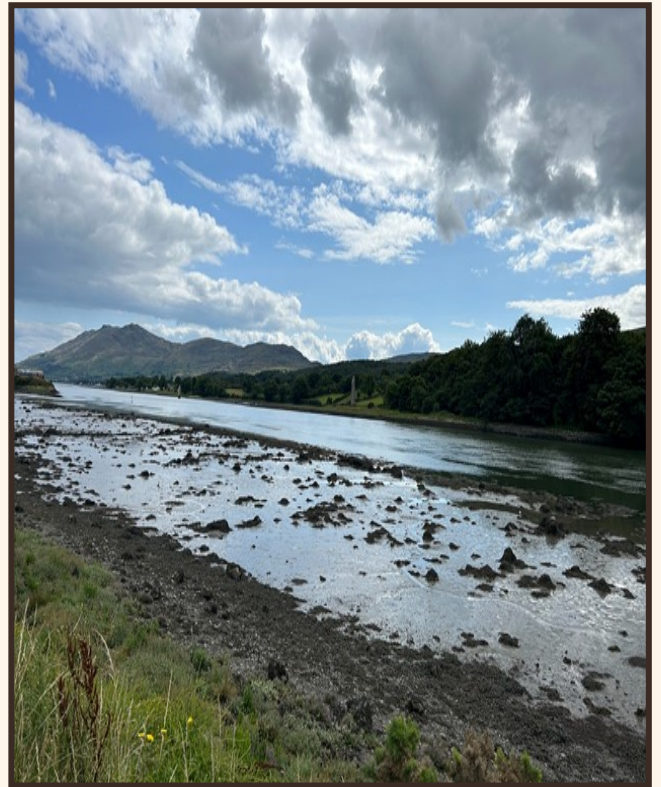
Summer Breaks

From Donegal, Westport, Newcastle to Portrush, we are delighted that many of our Service Users enjoyed mini breaks away throughout the Summer.

Joe & Robert Newcastle, Co. Down

So preferring not to have too long a journey, Joe and Robert travelled to the coastal town of Newcastle. Here they enjoyed strolls along the promenade, sandy beaches, amusements and a tour of the local area where they took in the sights of Newcastle's outstanding natural beauty.





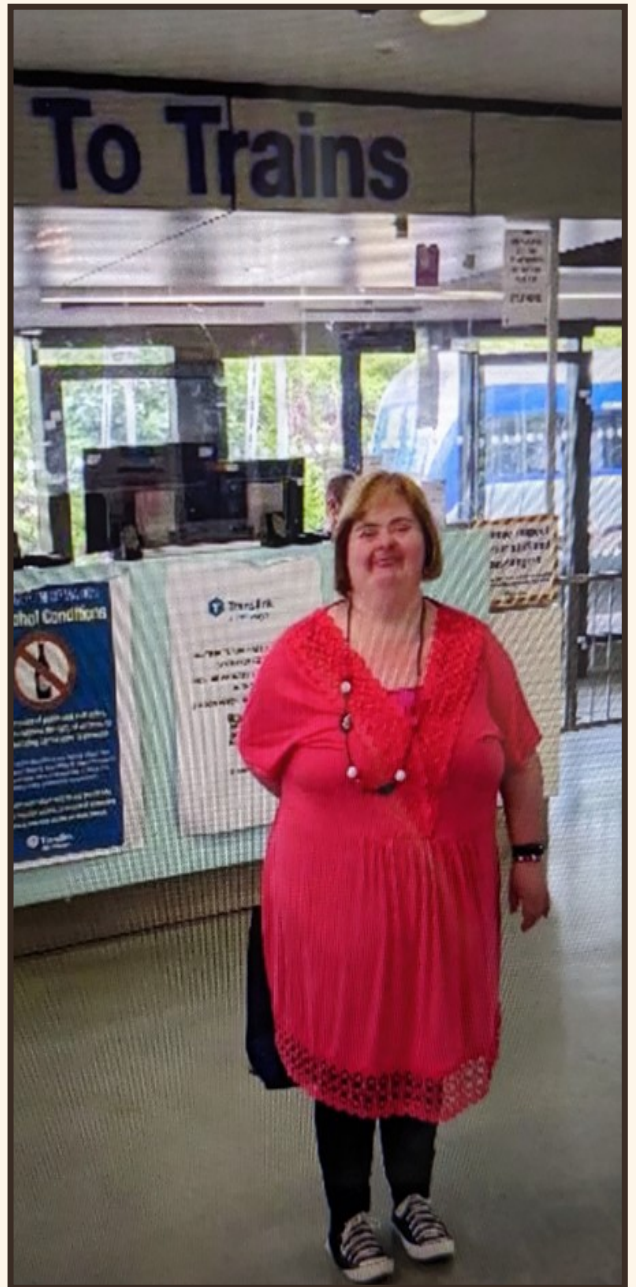
Catherine travels to Westport, Co. Mayo

Catherine Donaghy, along with staff member Julie Keenan headed off on a 5 night break to Westport, Co. Mayo.

To get Catherine's holiday off to an exciting start, Julie arranged for them to set off on the train to Dublin first, as this was something Catherine was eager to experience. Although Catherine is glad to have experienced the train journey, she will not be in a rush to hop onto another one anytime soon.

That said, Catherine had a fantastic holiday in Westport. They were well prepared and made an itinerary for each day. Amongst her highlights were; a cruise along Clew Bay, a day trip to Knock Shrine, views of the Wild Atlantic Way, shopping, and a very well deserved and relaxing spa treatment.







Vincent meets Daniel

Did you know that we have Daniel O'Donnell's no.1 fan living at The Heathers? Vincent Doyle has been a loyal fan of Daniel for decades. In August, accompanied by Team Leader John Quigg, Vincy headed off to see his idol perform in The Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran.

Vincy had a fantastic time at the show, joining in with the crowd, singing and swaying the whole night through. However, his night was made all the more delightful when he encountered Daniel in person.

Ever the gentleman, Daniel was more than delighted to stop for a chat and a photo with Vincy, making it truly a night to remember.



Abseiling Fundraiser

On Sunday 8th October two very brave staff members from The Heathers, Jayne Nesbitt (Team Leader) and Danielle Girvan (Support Worker) participated in an abseil down The Europa Hotel in Belfast to celebrate World Mental Health Day.

Not only did the ladies impress us by completing this thrill seeking challenge, but between them they both raised just over £250 which has been put towards much needed funds for The Heathers.

Well Done Jayne and Danielle!!!



Coming up next time...

We hope you have enjoyed this little catch-up.

In our next edition, we look forward to sharing with you some spooky and festive highlights from our Halloween and Christmas celebrations

**We will also share photos from;
Laurence's 60th birthday party
Petting Farm visit to scheme**



The Heathers Supported Living Service is managed by Inspire Learning Disability Services, a division of the Inspire Group providing Care & Support for young people and adults with learning/intellectual disabilities within the community.

The Heathers provides Care and Support for 23 Service Users within 6 shared living houses within the Armagh area.

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