



JANUARY 2023

# SUNBEAM News

Sunbeam House Services, Southern Cross House, Southern Cross Business Park, Wurzburg Road, Ballymorris, Bray, Co. Wicklow A98 RH93  
Tel: (01) 286 8451 Website: www.sunbeam.ie Email: news@sunbeam.ie



## COMPANY NEWS

### Updates from our Board of Directors



It is great sadness that we announce the resignation of Joe Lynch as CEO. Joe joined the organisation in early 2020 and, with the support of management and staff, steered the organisation through the unprecedented challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. During his time with SHS, Joe has been entirely committed to improving the circumstances of our clients and there is no doubt that his resignation represents a significant loss to the organisation.

In his engagement with the board of directors, Joe has always commended the hard work and dedication of staff and management, often in extremely difficult circumstances. We realise that news of his departure will be concerning, particularly in the current environment. As a board of directors, we will do all that we can to make the transition to a new CEO, as straightforward as possible.

The Nominations Committee has begun working on a recruitment campaign to appoint a new CEO. We anticipate that Joe will remain in his role until at least, the end of March. We will keep you updated as we progress.

We thank Joe for his commitment to Sunbeam House Services and wish him the very best for the future.

We wish to notify you that the term of the Chairperson of Sunbeam House Services, Ms Dawn Leane, has expired. Ms Leane has not offered herself for re-election although she will continue as an ordinary board member. Accordingly, the board is in the process of appointing a new Chairperson and will notify you when they have done so.

*The Board of Directors, Sunbeam House Services*

## SHS CALENDAR 2023



Our SHS Calendar for 2023 is now available for €5 from shops, newsagents and SHS locations, or from Shirley Redmond (Ballyraine) or Angie Heffernan (Bray). The calendar is crammed with stunning photos from SHS's Photo Competition taken by clients and staff. A massive

thank you as always to Choice Media in Arklow, who created these calendars for us free of charge, and to Brian Manning for his assistance with providing the photos.

The calendars provide us all with a great opportunity to help raise vital funds for SHS and so we ask for your help. Please consider buying some this year for you and your family or friends, and please encourage clients/families to buy some also. Thank you for your support.

*Jacqui Lockhart*

## FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Staff and clients in SHS were greatly saddened to learn of the following recent deaths:-

**Gavin O'Reilly** who passed away unexpectedly at home on 24th December 2022. He is deeply missed by all the staff and his friends in Aistear and the other services around Arklow. SHS extends its sympathies to Gavin's family and to everyone who knew him.



**Lisa Browne** (formerly Albertie), who passed away unexpectedly on 25th December 2022 whilst on holiday. Lisa was a Pathways Home Support client who also attended Eolas Day Service. She was married to Stephen Browne for over 20 years. SHS extends its sympathies to Stephen, to their families, and to all staff, clients and friends.

**Kevin Kelly** who passed away in hospital on 21st January 2023. Kevin joined the Garden Team in 2004, and attended the Cube in later years. SHS extends its sympathies to Kevin's family, and to all staff, clients, friends and neighbours. He is greatly missed.



May they rest in peace.



## COMPANY RAFFLE

We received some very generous gifts from one of our suppliers in the lead up to Christmas, so we raffled them for all SHS Staff. There were lots of goodies including chocolates, whiskey, wine, snazzy biscuits and jams. A big thank you to 24 Hour Care Services who were the kind benefactors behind the gifts. Thanks also to Laura O'Toole, Mark Cantwell, Maureen Rowden and Jenna Doyle who adjudicated the raffle. The 19 lucky winners were:-



*Charlotte Wolohan, Karenza Annesley, Catherine Murphy, Kate Mockler, Sophie Curran, Orlagh Connor, Kim Dunne, Sean O'Reilly, Patricia Fox, Danny Byrne, Diane Parsons, Annette Smyth, Stephen Foster, Niamh Power, Miriam Lott, Maryann Doyle, Brian Farrell, Jennifer O'Donovan, Justine Breeds.*

Please contact Laura O'Toole to arrange collection of your prize if you haven't received it yet.

*Amanda Mannix*

## EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

This service is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week to employees of SHS and up to 5 members of their family - freephone 1800 995 955.

*Please contact your CSM or SSM for any queries on items in this newsletter.*



### VIEWPOINT'S TIME CAPSULE

The Wicklow News published an article on the Viewpoint Time Capsule event that took place on 1st December 2022. The article is reprinted below.



'Viewpoint', Sunbeam House Services rights based advocacy group celebrated their Time Capsule event last month at Ballyrairie Campus, Arklow. This was a community celebration attended by Sunbeam clients, staff, families, local councillors, Wicklow county council staff and

the broader Wicklow community.

This project was made possible by the group's successful application to the Creative Wicklow grant scheme, who recognised the value of this creative idea in promoting the inclusion of all Wicklow people.

The group led proceedings by unveiling two memorial benches dedicated to the memory of all lives lost to Covid. The benches were specially decorated in bright coloured leaves in collaboration with Arklow based social enterprise entrepreneur Rachel Tyrrell of the innovative Arklow based community well-being project The Colour Club.

Viewpoint members also planted a native Rowan tree on the site of the Time capsule to symbolise growth and hope for the future. The Time Capsule

contained memories, stories, photographs and memorabilia of Covid Times as well as a video made by Viewpoint about their lived experiences during covid times.

Sadly, one of the team members involved in the tree planting, Gavin O'Reilly passed away unexpectedly just 3 weeks after the capsule was buried, making the project and memories even more poignant.



This video will also be provided to the National Library of Ireland to archive this valuable record of the experiences of people with intellectual disabilities during the pandemic. Following the outdoor ceremony, Viewpoint members invited all who attended the event to the new Ballyrairie cafe for some wonderful refreshments, while we enjoyed a screening of Viewpoint's video.

You can view the full video here <https://youtu.be/pGVPX4jMmNs>

Viewpoint are a rights-based group that meet once a month to speak up for ourselves and for all men and women who attend Sunbeam services. Working together with Sunbeam management to make sure people have an equal say in how services are provided.

### ARDU FILM FESTIVAL

SHS's first film festival entitled 'Ardú' (Irish for 'rising') will be held on 3rd February 2023 in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy. This (now sold-out) black tie event will showcase twelve movies put together by clients with the support of staff. There will also be two documentaries. Independent adjudicators will judge the films and present awards during the evening. The award categories are: Best Film, Highly Commended, Best Group Performance, Best Comedy, Most Creative and Most Original. The evening will end with music from the fantastic band Breakaway. A big thank you to Ciaran Coogan and Brian Manning for their film-production expertise, and to Bernadette Archer and all staff and clients for their help with the movie-making and the running of this event.

Melissa Byrne



### HIQA INSPECTIONS

There was an unannounced HIQA inspection in Redwood on 19th December 2022. It was a themed 'Protection Against Infection' inspection. On 10th January 2023 there was an inspection in Claraville, on 16th January an inspection in Valleyview, and on 19th January an inspection in Hall Lodge.



### ORGANISATION OVERVIEWS

We continue our overview of organisations whose whole or part purpose is providing information and support to individuals and/or disability organisations like ourselves.



The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission is a national independent public body that accounts directly to the Oireachtas. Its purpose is to promote and protect human rights and equality in Ireland, and to build a culture of respect for human rights, equality and intercultural understanding.

The organisation's work is determined independently by the fifteen members of the Commission, and ranges from working at policy level to review the effectiveness of human rights and equality law, policy and practice in the State and within public bodies, to working with communities and civil society to monitor and report on people's real life experiences of human rights and equality on the ground.

Its legal powers include giving practical help, including legal assistance to help people defend their rights, and contributing to legal cases (in an advisory capacity) that deal with someone's equality or human rights. Its vision is of an inclusive Ireland where human rights and equality are respected, protected and fulfilled for everyone, everywhere.



### Vacancies

There are a number of roles available on our website at this link [www.sunbeam.ie/careers](http://www.sunbeam.ie/careers), including Client Services Managers, a Deputy Client Services Manager, Care Assistants, Community Support Workers, Staff Nurses, Instructors/Supervisors, a Procurement Manager, and a Domestic Assistant.

Visit [www.sunbeam.ie/careers](http://www.sunbeam.ie/careers) for a full list of roles available.  
Email CV's to: [careers@sunbeam.ie](mailto:careers@sunbeam.ie)