



**Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail An Longfoirt**  
**Public Participation Network Longford**

**County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)**

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## **PPN Newsletter February 2025**

### **LOCAL NEWS**

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#### **Community & Enterprise Supports Briefing**

Laois County Council is the lead authority on the EU JTF Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan Pathways to Transition Project, in partnership with Longford, Offaly and Westmeath County Councils. The EU JTF MREP Pathway to Just Transition project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the EU JTF Fund 2021-2027.

Under Work Package 1 - Midlands Pathway to Transition, county briefings on Community & Enterprise Supports will be held over the coming weeks. In the case of Longford, this will take place on March 12th in St Mary's Hall in Lanesborough, commencing at 9.30am



**Midlands**  
IRELAND

## Overview of Community & Enterprise Supports available in Longford

Learn more about Supports available to Communities and Enterprise, including Capacity Building, Mentoring, Regenerative Tourism, Climate Action Measures and Training from Longford Local Enterprise Office, Longford Community Resources, SEAI, Tóchar, Longford Climate Action Team and LWETB.

**Free Event**  
**To register, email:**  
[eomeara@midlandsrep.ie](mailto:eomeara@midlandsrep.ie)

**Date:** Wednesday, 12 March 2025, 9.30am - 1.30pm  
**Venue:** St. Mary's Hall, Main St., Lanesborough, Co. Longford, N39 R8K6



The Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan Pathway for Transition is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the EU Just Transition Fund Programme 2021-2027. This Project is an initiative of the Local Authorities of the Midlands region, comprising Laois (lead partner), Longford, Offaly and Westmeath.

## Ireland Reads Day 2025

Throughout February and especially on '**Ireland Reads Day**', **February 22<sup>nd</sup>**, people across Ireland are being called upon to get lost in a good book.



On February 22nd, as part of Ireland Reads day Ballymahon Library's own writing group "Ballymahon Scribblers" will hold an Open Mic session from 11am to 12Noon showcasing some of their wonderful work to date.

Following this, best-selling author Patricia Gibney will read an excerpt from one of her best-selling books engage in a Q & A session and meet and chat with attendees.

There is no charge for this event, but registration is required. Please click on the link to sign up [Ireland Reads at Ballymahon Library](#) . (You do not need to be a member to register)

## Get lost in a good book!

Ireland Reads is a campaign to get the whole country reading during February in the lead up to a national day of reading on Saturday, February 22nd.

The campaign aims to celebrate reading and all the benefits it can have for wellbeing and enjoyment. It is asking everyone to 'Get lost in a good book' during February and especially on February 22nd, Ireland Reads day.

Ireland Reads presents opportunity to focus on the value of reading, its benefits and to have a conversation at national and local level regarding its important role in our lives and Irish society. Libraries can lead the conversation and will be hosting events across the country to mark the campaign.



**Ballymahon Library**  
11am

Open Mic Session with special guest author Patricia Gibney in Ballymahon Library

**Longford Library**  
1.30pm

Open Mic session hosted by Longford Writer's Group with guest author Gerry Boland in Longford Library

**Edgeworthstown Library**  
11.00am

Poetry Workshop with local poet Noel Monahan in Edgeworthstown Library

**Granard Library**  
11am

Poetry Workshop with John Noonan in Granard Library

**Lanesborough Library**  
11.30am

Turn The Page – The Joy of Reading Workshop with Nicole Rank in Lanesboro Library

**Drumlish Library**  
11am

Kids' Open Mic session with guest author Lorena Spalla in Drumlish Library

Enter our free draw for a chance to win family tickets to the Longford Lights Festival. Entry forms available in your local library



## Backstage Theatre Group – Calendar Girls

*Backstage Theatre Group  
proudly presents*

# *Calendar Girls*

*written by Tim Firth  
Directed by Charlie McGuinness*



*March 13th 14th 15th 2025  
Backstage Theatre Longford*

*Tickets €17/€15 conc*

Midlands Louth Meath Education Services, REGARI & TUS- Recovery Education Modules/Spring 2025



# Wellbeing Workshops

**In TUS, The Technological University of the Shannon, Athlone Town, N37 HD68**

**Do you want to connect with others? To learn ways to be well?**  
 Our **free**, community-focused, Wellbeing Workshops are for you! They are co-created by people with lived experience of mental health challenges, family members, mental health professionals, and people with an interest in mental health. We will share information, collaborate and learn in an inclusive and welcoming environment.  
**All voices welcome!**

Dates Wednesdays	Workshops	Location	Time
26th February	Introducing Co- Production	Room # J1033 (East Campus, Nursing Building)	2pm - 5pm
5th March	Let's Talk Anxiety		
12th March	Exploring Stigma		
19th March	Trauma and Healing		
26th March	Self-Care		

**Limited places:** For more information or to register please contact Anne O' Reilly :087 185 4893 / [anneoreilly@mentalhealthireland.ie](mailto:anneoreilly@mentalhealthireland.ie) Or Amanda Hunt: 087 191 8897 / [regarirecoverycollege@gmail.com](mailto:regarirecoverycollege@gmail.com)



 Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar  
 Community Healthcare West
 




# Community Tourism Clinics



To find out how **Regenerative Tourism** and being part of a tourism network in County Longford can help you, your business and your community, come along to one of our **Community Tourism Clinics**

## What is Regenerative Tourism?

Regenerative tourism goes beyond being sustainable by ensuring that tourism creates a benefit to the host community.

### How?

Tourism that is better for locals as well as the visitor through involving the local community, environmental restoration and cultural preservation.

### Why?

Increased benefit to the local economy, protection of local resources and biodiversity, and promotion of local culture and heritage.

## SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Tourism is an industry

Minimises the social and environmental impact of tourism growth

Aims to lessen impact on ecosystems and communities

## REGENERATIVE TOURISM

Tourism is a living system

Tourism that enables communities to evolve, renew and restore

Tourism that aligns with nature and achieves harmony in economic, social, cultural, spiritual and ecological development

Book your appointment to meet Longford's Tourism Activator Colm Croffy, and discuss your tourism ideas: Email: [ccroffy@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:ccroffy@longfordcoco.ie) • Mobile: +353 (0)86 206 6597

### Monday, 3rd March 2025

10:30am to 12:30pm in Granard Library  
12:45pm to 4:30pm in Edgeworthstown Library

### Thursday, 6th March 2025

9:45am to 1:30pm in Tourism Office, Longford  
3pm to 5:30pm in Ballymahon Library



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach  
Co-funded by the  
European Union



Tanál Roinneach Oirthir agus Lár The  
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly



Fáilte  
Ireland



Turasóireacht  
An Longfoirt  
Longford Tourism



AN LONGFORT  
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