

CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE TO MAN 24 HOUR HELPLINE



L to R: Thomas Concannon (Chairman of the Committee), Caitriona Duggan, Helen Greally, Jacqueline Daly, Dr Frances Drummond, Honor Geraghty.



L to R: Dr Mary Rogan, Edel Chadwick, Dr Frances Drummond and Jacqueline Daly.



Launch of a booklet titled "Living Well During Cancer Treatment". L to R: Honor Geraghty (Nutritionist), Robert Greene (ECPC Member and founder of HungerNDThirst Foundation), Lisa O'Looney (Physiotherapist) and Jacqueline Daly (Director of Services)

Due to the recent Corona virus outbreak, the Cancer Support Centre based in Brackernagh, remains closed to those attending for treatments/therapies/classes. However their radiotherapy bus to Galway cancer centre is still running and all counselling sessions are available through telephone or skype.

Critically a 24 hour helpline is still open and you can be put through by ringing the centre number 090 96 42088.

A large group attended the East Galway and Midlands Cancer Support Centre for the launch of the booklet titled "Living Well During Cancer Treatment". The booklet was first published in 2018 by ECPC (European Cancer Patients Coalition) to help cancer patients understand the importance of nutrition during and after a cancer diagnosis. The book is free to download on the ECPC website.

There were presentations given by Jacqueline Daly (Director of Services) and Honor Geraghty (Nutritionist) who spoke about the importance of nutrition for patients. Robert Greene (ECPC Member and founder of HungerNDThirst Foundation) spoke on taste alteration during cancer treatment and Lisa O'Looney (Physiotherapist) examined the role of exercise during and after a diagnosis.

The centre also held an event in the Shearwater Hotel which launched the survey results that was undertaken by Dr Frances Drummond; highlighting how East Galway and Midlands Cancer Support Centre meets the unmet needs of cancer patients. This highlighted the supports the centre offers to help struggling locals in the area.

Jacqueline Daly and Dr Mary Rogan (Psychosexual Therapist) gave some insightful presentations as well as Honor Geraghty who talked about the importance of nutrition along with Caitriona Duggan from the ANP Oncology Unit Portlucan Hospital.

The Director of Services in Cancer Care West, Helen Greally addressed the gathering, followed by Lisa O'Looney (Physiotherapist), Edel Chadwick (Patient Advocate), Dr Frances Drummond (BreakThrough Cancer Research) also explained the work he has been doing in cancer research.

They also organised an HPV Awareness Day (Human Papillomavirus – a viral infection passed between people between skin to skin contact). The centre launched a campaign (Breakthrough in Cancer Research) along with the European Cancer Organisation. The aim of this group is to have effective strategies in place by 2030 in order to eliminate cancers caused by HPV.

A greater explanation, by Dr Donal Brennan, of the campaign launched is available on their website egmcancersupport.com.

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