Specialist Care Units for People with Dementia in Ireland: A Guide for Family Caregivers and Health Service Professionals.

Complied by Suzanne Cahill and Dearbhla O’ Caheny,
The Dementia Services Information and Development Centre (DSIDC), St James’s Hospital, Dublin
Introduction

People with dementia have unique and complex needs, and for many family caregivers, despite their best efforts to provide home care to relatives with dementia for as long as possible, a time will come when decisions need to be made about long-term residential care. Specialist Care Units are one such model of long-term residential care designed for people with dementia. They are domestic purpose-built units, established to provide specialist long-term care to small groups of people with dementia who wish to live in a homely, personalised and safe environment. Specialist Care Units are currently a rare feature in the Irish long-term care landscape where the more traditional model of nursing home care continues to prevail. Nonetheless, more Specialist Care Units are currently being built around the country.

These units employ professionally trained staff, nurses, care attendants, household and support staff skilled in understanding some of the challenges and dilemmas that having a dementia poses to the individual and who are knowledgeable in helping residents cope with behaviours that might otherwise be considered as challenging. Specialist Care Units emphasise the importance of psychosocial stimulation and meaningful activities for improved quality of life. They demonstrate an awareness that people with dementia can become easily frightened and can get lost even in familiar surroundings. Accordingly, the design reflects an unobtrusive concern for safety and security, and where possible they use signage and cueing to help their residents negotiate the environment.

These Specialist Care Units usually have single rooms large enough to accommodate personal belongings. To avoid further confusion, different rooms within the facility are used for different functions; for example the activity room is only ever used for activities and not for dining purposes or Mass on Sunday. As access to outdoor areas is very important for people with dementia, multi-sensory gardens are also a feature of Specialist Care Units. Stated simply, these units are usually a home away from home, designed to build on the strengths and retained abilities of people with dementia.
"Home is a place in which the day to day routines of human existence are performed"

Depuis & Thorns, 1998
Models of Long Term Care for People with Dementia internationally and in Ireland

Many overseas countries including Australia, Canada, France, Norway, Sweden, and the Netherlands have compared with Ireland, longer histories of providing this model of specialist dementia care to their older people in need of long term residential care. In some of these countries, government policies dictate that a set proportion of all long-stay residential care units must be small scale and dementia specific. In the Netherlands for example, approximately 25% of all long-stay care is small-scale dementia specific, and Government policy in the Netherlands is now committed to increasing this proportion to 33% by 2015, (Verbeek, 2011). Referred to as small-scale living facilities, these units accommodate between six to eight residents who live alongside each other and are cared for by trained nursing staff who form part of the household. Staff encourage residents to participate in meaningful activities and within the facility, ordinary domestic chores are considered as important as therapeutic activities. Some positive effects from this model of care, on quality of life have been convincingly demonstrated by a large number of studies (Day, Carreon & Stump, 2000; Doody et al., 2001; Lai et al., 2009; Sloane et al., 2005).

In Ireland, recent research has also reported some positive effects of Specialist Care Units on the well being of their residents (Bobersky, 2013). A small-scale study has shown benefits for the individual both in the short and long term by virtue of their being admitted to such facilities. Benefits noted include improved mood, better eating habits with significant weight gain, new friendships formed, increased levels of physical activity and alertness and for some, rekindled interest in former activities and hobbies. Despite these findings, until recently no information was available in Ireland on the numbers and location of this model of dementia care.

“Home is where people feel in control of their lives because they feel free of the surveillance that characterizes life elsewhere”

Padgett, 2007
A Survey of Irish Nursing Homes

During Autumn 2013, the Dementia Services Information and Development Centre undertook a survey of all 602 Irish Nursing Homes, to ascertain which of these facilities had Specialist Care Units and to find out about their location, size, admission, discharge policies and provider type. This study has shown that across the country, there are a total of 54 of these facilities currently operating, a figure which represents 12% of all long term care facilities. Findings have shown much diversity and inequities regarding the location, size, and ethos of such units. The majority of these units are located in rural and town areas and not in cities (see map, page 19).

The average number of residents with dementia living in these units is estimated to be 19. In Ireland, private providers operate the majority of these units.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide details of where these Specialist Care Units are located, and to outline who the key contact person is at such facilities. We hope the information compiled will be of assistance to you when in search of this type of accommodation for your relative. For ease of reading we have listed the facilities in relation to the counties where they are located, and wherever possible we have attempted to provide a website to help you in your search.
Private Specialist Care Units by County

**HAMILTON PARK CARE FACILITY: NIGHTINGALE SUITE**
Balrothery, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin
01 690 3190
info@hamiltonpark.ie
www.hamiltonpark.ie
Person in Charge: Deborah Lynch

**HIGHFIELD HEALTHCARE**
Alzheimer Care Centre, Swords Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9
01 8374444
info@highfieldhealthcare.ie
www.highfieldhealthcare.ie
Person in Charge:

**NEWPARK CARE CENTRE**
The Ward, Co. Dublin
01 864 3465
01 864 3472
info@newparkcc.ie
www.newparkcarecentre.com
Person in Charge: Rita Gallagher

**KILTIPPER WOODS CARE CENTRE**
Kiltipper Road, Dublin 24
01 462 5277
01 462 6652
info@kiltipperwoods.ie
www.kiltipperwoods.ie
Person in Charge:
LOUTH

Moorehall Lodge
Moorehall Living,
Hale Street,
Ardee,
Co. Louth

- 041 685 6990
- Lo Call: 1890 33 55 33
- @ info@moorehallliving.ie
- www.moorehallliving.ie

Person in Charge: Michael McCoy

LONGFORD/WESTMEATH

LONGFORD

Laurel Lodge Nursing Home
Templemichael Glebe
Longford
Co. Longford

- 043 334 8033
- @ laurellodgelongford@eircom.net
- www.laurellodgenursinghome.ie

Person in Charge: Guy Walton

MEATH

Gormanstown Wood Nursing Home
Gormanstown,
Co. Meath

- 01 841 4566
- @ gormanstonwood@guardianhealthcare.ie
- www.guardianhealthcare.ie

Person in Charge: Eimear Hickey

Knightsbridge Nursing Home and Retirement Village
Longwood Road,
Trim,
Co. Meath

- 046 948 2700
- care@barchester.ie
- www.barchester.ie

Person in Charge: Gillian Mc Donald

Moorehall Lodge
Drogheda,
Dublin Road,
Co. Louth

- 041 981 8400
- sean@moorehalllodge.ie
- www.moorehalllodge.ie

Person in Charge: Brigid Lynch

WEXFORD

Kerlogue Nursing Home
Wexford

- 053 917 0400
- 053 917 0499
- info@kerloguenursinghome.com
- www.kerloguenursinghome.com

Person in Charge: Mairéad O’ Sullivan
CLARE

Carrigoran House
Newmarket on Fergus,
Clare

📞 061 368 100
打通 @ info@carrigoranhouse.ie
网址 www.carrigoranhouse.ie

Person in Charge: Frances Neilan

CORK

CORK SOUTH

Beaumont Residential Care
Woodvale Road,
Beaumont,
Cork

📞 021 429 2195
打通 @ admin@brccork.com
网址 www.brccork.com

Person in Charge: Bronagh Craig

Glendonagh Residential Home
Dungourney
Midleton
Co. Cork

📞 021 4668327
打通 @ info@glendonaghnursinghome.ie
网址 www.glendonaghnursinghome.ie

Person in Charge: Anju Menon

Padre Pio Nursing and Convalescent Home
Sunnyside,
Upper Rochestown,
Cork

📞 021 484 1595
打通 @ padrepiorochestown@eircom.net

Person in Charge: Eileen Mc Carthy

CORK NORTH

Abbeylands Nursing Home
Carhoo,
Kildorrey,
Co. Cork

📞 022 25090
打通 @ info@abbeylandsnursinghome.com
网址 www.abbeylandsnursinghome.com

Person in Charge: Joys George

Araglen House
Loumanagh,
Boherbue,
Mallow,
Co. Cork

📞 029 76771
打通 @ araglenhouse@gmail.com

Person in Charge: Norah Naughton
Bridhaven Nursing Home
Spa Glen,
Mallow,
Co. Cork

☎ 022 22205
@ info@bridhaven.ie
☑ www.bridhaven.ie

__Person in Charge: Anita Turner__

Brookfield Care Centre
Leamlara,
Carrigtwohill,
Co. Cork

☎ 021 464 2112
@ brookfieldcc@eircom.net
☑ www.brookfieldcc.ie

__Person in Charge: Clodagh Drennan__

Oaklodge Nursing Home
Churchtown South,
Cloyne,
Co. Cork

☎ 021 464 6080
@ info@oaklodgenursinghome.ie
☑ www.oaklodgenursinghome.ie

__Person in Charge: Una Cronin__

SOUTH LEE

Ballincollig Community Nursing Hospital
Aonad Altranais Pobail Bhaile
A Chollaigh
Murphy’s Barracks Road
Ballincollig
Co. Cork

☎ 021 462 0600

__Person in Charge: Ms Kay O’ Mahoney__

CORK WEST

Fairfield Nursing Home
Quarry Road,
Drimoleague,
Co. Cork

☎ 028 31881
@ fairfielddrimoleague@eircom.net

__Person in Charge: Ms Maeve Daly__

LIMERICK

Abbot Close Nursing Home
Askeaton,
Co. Limerick

☎ 061 601 888
@ denis@abboctclose.ie
☑ www.retirementservices.ie/abbotclose.html

__Person in Charge: Denis Mc Elligott__
TIPPERARY

Ashlawn House
Limerick Road,
Nenagh,
Co. Tipperary

067 31433
@ info@ashlawnnursinghome.com
www.ashlawnnursinghome.com

Person in Charge: Arlene Curtin

ULSTER

CAVAN/MONAGHAN

Castleross Nursing and Convalescent Centre
Castleross,
Carrickmacross,
Co. Monaghan

042 9692630
@ info@castleross.ie
www.castleross.ie

Person in Charge: Sheila O’Donoghue

DONEGAL

Aras Mhic Shuibhne
Mullinasole,
Laghhey,
Co. Donegal

074 9734810
@ arasmhicshuibhne@eircom.net
www.drumhill.ie

Person in Charge: Jennifer Glenn

Brentwood Manor Private Nursing Home
Letterkenny Road,
Convey,
Co. Donegal

074 9147700
@ brentwoodmanor@brindleyhealthcare.ie
www.brindleymanor.net

Person in Charge: Patricia Mosgrove

Esker Lodge Nursing Home
Esker Place,
Cathedral Road,
Co. Cavan

049 4375090
@ info@eskerlodgenursinghome.ie

Person in Charge: Binimole Santhosh
**CONNACHT**

**GALWAY**

**Castleturvin Nursing Home**
Athenry,
Co. Galway

📞 091 850 800  
✉ carmel@castleturvin.ie  
🌐 www.castleturvin.ie

*Person in Charge: Carmel Killeen*

---

**Central Park Nursing Home**
Memory Lane,
Clonberne,
Ballinasloe,
Co. Galway

📞 093 45 231  
✉ maguire667@hotmail.com  
🌐 www.centralparknursing.ie

*Person in Charge: Stella Grogan*

---

**Coral Haven Nursing Home**
Headford Road,
Galway

📞 091 762800  
✉ info@coralhavengalway.com  
🌐 www.coralhavengalway.com

*Person in Charge: Siobhan Finnerty*

---

**Corrandulla Nursing Home**
Corrandulla,
Co. Galway

📞 091 791540  
✉ aishlinghayden@hotmail.com

*Person in Charge: Michael Hayden*

---

**MAYO**

**Blackrock’s Nursing Home**
Foxford,
Co. Mayo

📞 094 925 7555  
✉ blackrocknursinghome@eircom.net

*Person in Charge: Anne Maloney*

---

**ROSCOMMON**

**Abbey Haven Care Centre**
Carrick Road,
Boyle,
Co. Roscommon

📞 071 967 0111  
✉ accounts@abbeyhaven.ie

*Person in Charge: Breege Mulryan*

---

**Cloverhill Nursing Home- Sonas Care Centre**
Lisagallan,
Cloverhill,
Co. Roscommon

📞 0906 628 882  
✉ cloverhillcc@sonas.ie  
🌐 www.sonas.ie

*Person in Charge: John Mangan*
Public Specialist Care Units by County

**DUBLIN**

**DUBLIN SOUTH CITY**

*Cherry Orchard Hospital: Beech Unit*
Ballyfermot, Dublin 10

- **Phone:** 01 6206000
- **Email:** Fiona.cleary1@hse.ie
- **Website:** www.hse.ie

*Person in Charge: Fiona Cleary*

**KILDARE**

*St. Vincent’s Hospital*
Woodstock, Athy, Co. Kildare

- **Phone:** 059 864 3000
- **Email:** Helen.dreelan@hse.ie
- **Website:** www.hse.ie

*Person in Charge: Helen Dreelan*

**LAOIS**

*St. Brigid’s Hospital*
Shaen, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

- **Phone:** 057 864 6717
- **Email:** Mary.Ferns@hse.ie
- **Website:** www.hse.ie

*Person in Charge: Mary Ferns*

**LOUTH**

*Boyne View House*
Dublin Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth

- **Phone:** 041 983 7495
- **Email:** seamus.mccaul@hse.ie
- **Website:** www.hse.ie

*Person in Charge: Seamus Mc Caul*

*St Oliver Plunkett Hospital*
Dublin Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth

- **Phone:** 042 933 4488
- **Email:** Kay.OKeeffee@hse.ie
- **Website:** www.hse.ie

*Person in Charge: Kay O’Keefe*

**ULSTER**

**CAVAN/MONAGHAN**

*Sullivan Care Centre*
Cathedral Road, Cavan

- **Phone:** 049 432 6000
- **Email:** Pauline.townsend@hse.ie
- **Website:** www.hse.ie

*Person in Charge: Pauline Townsend*
St Mary’s Hospital
Castleblaney,
Co. Monaghan

042 979 5080
@ Margaret.McNally@hse.ie
www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Margaret Mc Nally

DONEGAL

Carndonagh Community Hospital: Ard Aoibhinn
Convent Road,
Carndonagh,
Co. Donegal

074 937 4164
@ Maura.gillen@hse.ie
www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Maura Gillen

St. Josephs Community Hospital
Stranorlar,
Co. Donegal

074 913 1038
@ Cathy.thatcher@hse.ie
www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Cathy Thatcher

MUNSTER

CLARE

St Josephs Community Hospital: The Holly Unit
Lifford Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare

065 684 0666
@ maeve.oconnor@hse.ie
www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Maeve O’ Connor

CORK

CORK WEST

Clonakilty Community Hospital and Long Stay Unit
Clonakilty,
Co. Cork

023 883 3205
@ carol.mccann@hse.ie
www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Carol Mc Cann

CORK NORTH

Unit 1 St Stephen’s Hospital
Sarsfield Court,
Glanmire,
Co. Cork

021 482 1411
@ Clare.griffin@hse.ie
www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Clare Griffin
KERRY

St. Columbanus Home & Killarney Community Hospital
St. Margaret’s Road,
Killarney,
Co. Kerry

☎ 064 663 1018
✉ KillarneyHospitals@hse.ie
🌐 www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Ber M Power

CONNACHT

GALWAY

St Brendan’s Community Nursing Unit
Lake Road,
Loughrea,
Co. Galway

☎ 091 871 200
✉ Bernie.austin@hse.ie
🌐 www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Bernie Austin

WATERFORD

St Joseph’s Hospital & Dungarvan District Hospital
(St. Vincent’s)
Dungarvan Community Hospital
Donavan
Co. Waterford

☎ 058 20900
✉ barbara.murphy@hse.ie
🌐 www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Ms Paula French

LEITRIM

St Patricks Hospital
Summerhill,
Carrick on Shannon
Co. Leitrim

☎ 071 962 0011
✉ Anthony.wadd@hse.ie
🌐 www.hse.ie

Person in Charge: Anthony Wadd
Please note, this booklet is solely for information purposes. The Specialist Care Units listed here have been self-identified by the respective service providers. The Dementia Services Information and Development Centre takes no responsibility for the quality of care and standards of practice provided in the listed Specialist Care Units.

Please also note that the information provided in this booklet was up to date in January 2014, but like all information it may change over time. For example, based on our survey 57 more Specialist Care Units will be built in the foreseeable future.
References


Useful websites

www.alzheimer.ie
www.alzheimercafe.ie
www.dementia.ie
www.hse.ie
www.livingwithdementia.ie
www.nhi.ie

Other publications available through www.dementia.ie

- Future Dementia Care in Ireland: *Sharing the Evidence to Mobilise Action*
- Creating Excellence in Dementia Care: *a research review for Ireland’s national dementia strategy*
- Life for Caregivers after Placing a Relative with Dementia in a Nursing Home: *A Guide for Family Caregivers and Nursing Home Staff*
- Cognitive Impairment and Dementia: *A Practical Guide to Daily Living for Family Caregivers*
- Living in a Nursing Home—Quality of Life: *The Priorities of Older People with a Cognitive Impairment*
- Finding a Suitable Nursing Home for a Relative with Dementia: *A Guide for Family Caregivers to Placing a Relative with Dementia in a Nursing Home*
- Coping with the Early Stages of Dementia: *A Guide for People worried about Memory and Cognitive Problems or those recently Diagnosed with Dementia.*

Available from www.dementia.ie or alternatively by contacting

Dementia Services Information and Development Centre on 01-4162035