

E—NEWSLETTER



National Care Home Open Day 19th June 2015

We need you to sign up please !



Please note that this newsletter provides only a brief outline of ihcp issues and full details can be found on the ihcp website – www.ihcp.co.uk

The National Care Home Open Day 2015 is being held on 19th June and the website is open for homes to register. This year's theme is the Arts and Valuing staff and we have also been in discussions with the NI Arts Council and 'The Big Lunch' event to try to widen interest and participation. (information on the 'Big Lunch' appears later in the Newsletter)

We would like to encourage ihcp members to take part, and we are hoping to increase the number of homes across NI participating this year. This is a great opportunity for you to open your doors to the local community, showcase the care you provide and also gain some positive media coverage. The website page for registering your home and creating an account is located at -

<http://www.nationalcarehomeopenday.org.uk/user/login>



The website has lots of helpful information and a resources page. Even if you haven't yet decided what activities you will be having on the day, you can simply list your home and put a holding message stating that you are still in the process of planning your events for the day. Ihcp will be writing very soon to all MLA's and local councillors encouraging them to visit a care home in their area and we are keen to have as many listed on the website as possible. Can you please contact Liiz Marshall if you want to find out more information or wish to participate.



Labour Relations Agency—Free advice - 3 March 2015 - Legal Island Training Centre

We are hosting a short seminar on employment relations in the workplace in which the Labour Relations Agency will provide information on their range of free training and advice services. This will also include guidance on statutory obligations relating to trade union recognition. A number of members have also been asking about trade union recognition agreements and a representative of UNISON will join the meeting to answer questions about the possible business benefits and how employers and unions can achieve good working relations. If you would like to attend this event please contact Liz.



RQIA—NISCC— Access NI

Information seminar— 23 March 2015



RQIA have advised us that they will not be holding their annual road-shows this year and that they are also currently consulting on a number of changes to the inspection process which they will introduce from April 2015. We have therefore decided to host a half day information seminar where the RQIA will outline their inspection themes for the incoming year and will also discuss the changes they plan for the inspection process. NISCC and Access NI will also present on changes to processes and on-line improvements to registration and Access NI checks. This seminar is open to all members and non-members can attend for a small fee. Further information and registration details have been issued by email and are available on our website or by contacting Liz.



The Big Lunch— Do you want to participate?

The Big Lunch is a very simple idea from the Eden Project. In 2015 the aim is to get 10% of the population of the UK to turn off the TV and sit down to share food fun and friendship across the generations in our local areas as a simple act of community spirit. The main date is the first Sunday in June each year but the [FREE Big Lunch pack](#) is undated making it even easier to try it out in your neck of the woods.

And get some useful media coverage

Since starting in 2009, thousands of Big Lunches have taken place in all types of communities. The Big Lunch is the perfect way to get people together, to share an idea, to encourage action or simply to start conversation and create stronger community spirit as it's great for bringing all ages together in a low cost way. Post event research shows having a simple Big Lunch can reduce isolation and loneliness and give people an opportunity to become more involved locally.

If you want to make good things happen where you live, join The Big Lunch by ordering your own [FREE Big Lunch pack](#) today. Members may wish to consider combining this event with their own Care Home Open Day? Contact Grainne.mccloskey@thebiglunch.com 02821772370 to find out more.

Northern Ireland Stroke Conference 2015 NIMAST / UK Stroke Forum

Wednesday 20 May at La Mon Hotel & Country Club, near Belfast.

- Join the debate with key players shaping the stroke agenda
- Learn about the latest research and service developments in stroke care
- Gain an MDT perspective and network with colleagues from across the whole care pathway
- Find out about the latest industry developments and innovations in the exhibition



For more information please visit <http://www.ukstrokeforum.org/northern-ireland-conference>.

Welcome to our new members

We wish to welcome the following new members to ihcp and look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events.

- Peninsula
- North West Care
- Advanced Community Care
- Safe 2 Share

Ihcp communication improvements

We want to provide members with as much information as possible about the work we do on your behalf. We are therefore working hard to widen our communication channels and make sure you are fully informed. You have seen a number of these and we hope now to improve communication further through the following:

- * Weekly email activity updates giving a short outline of the CEO diary and meetings and also what information has been added to the website. This is a brief sign-posting email as a quick up date only.
- * E- newsletters—we hope you find these useful and we ask you to provide ideas and input—particularly relevant topics you want to see and also your own good news stories.
- * An area on the website where you can read the letters issued by the CEO/Chair
- * Workshops and seminars on key topics—events will be emailed and added to the website.





Nurse Staffing shortages

Pauline Shepherd together with Janice Smyth, RCN and JP Watson, Four Seasons have recently met Caroline Lee from the Nursing, Midwifery and AHP Department at DHSSPS to discuss their serious concerns over the shortage of nurses and the impact this has on the overall costs of the provision of care. It has been acknowledged that

the issue is also causing problems in the statutory sector and they are currently reviewing their recruitment practices. The review of the current graduate nurse programme was also discussed and how this could be developed to encourage nurses to remain in the independent care sector. Janice Smyth will be attending the next ihcp Nursing and Residential SIG meeting to discuss gathering information on the current and future nurse staffing levels through a survey of members. The need for up to date information on dependency levels was also discussed and Janice and Pauline are working on how this piece of work can be taken forward.

Annual review of the regional rate for nursing and residential homes.

We have submitted our response to a request for information regarding the annual tariff review and Pauline, Colin Nimmon, ihcp Treasurer and Janet Montgomery, ihcp Secretary will be attending a meeting with the Finance Director, Health and Social Care Board to discuss the ihcp submission in detail. The letter to the Finance Director, Paul Cummings is available on the website.



Members good news stories



We would like to have a regular feature on good news stories about members. The first is Bannview House Care Home who won the prestigious Best Quality Assurance and Improvement Award in the 2015 UK Pride Awards. Bannview was also shortlisted and runner up in a number of other categories. Our congratulations goes to all of the staff and residents—very well done.

Pat McCormick and Valerie Costley are pictured receiving the award from Dr Phil Hammond. **Can you please let us have your good news for future newsletters and inclusion on the website—contact Liz.**

Consultation on Adult Safeguarding - ihcp responded on behalf of members—copy on website.

Contact us please !

Thank you for taking the time to read our e-newsletter. We are keen to engage with members and to receive feedback and ideas so please email Pauline or Liz with your suggestions. Or feel free to pick up the phone and speak to Pauline.

Contact Pauline at Pauline.shepherd@ihcp.co.uk or mobile—07703754574

Or Liz at Liz@ihcp.co.uk

