



# Newsletter



## Welcome - come on in!

It's a huge pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of our **Adult Literacy for Life Newsletter**.

We aim to publish four newsletters during the year. They will share some of the work of the Adult Literacy for Life Strategy that is happening all around Ireland.

From **Regional Literacy Coalitions** popping up all around the country, to **Literacy Ambassadors**, this year's **Collaboration and Innovation Fund** to festivals and events, there's so much going on. We hope you enjoy reading it!

Big thanks to the ALL Team and the Regional Literacy Coordinators all around the country. You'll find contact details at the end of the newsletter so please feel free to get in touch!

[www.adultliteracyforlife.ie](http://www.adultliteracyforlife.ie)



## Updates from the ALL Office

- There are 14 **Regional Adult Literacy Coalitions** set up. They have developed their action plans for the year.
- We are holding a showcase event on Monday 17 June called **'Literacy Changing Lives'**. We will hear from projects funded by Adult Literacy for Life in 2023.

Scan to view  
2023 projects



- **'Let's Talk About Literacy'** campaign starts this June
- **Literacy Ambassador Training:** We are organising for learners in regions. The first one took place in Waterford and Wexford ETB and the next is in Donegal ETB at the end of May.
- **Collaboration and Innovation Fund** panels met in late April/early May. Out of 131 applications, over 100 projects will be funded this year.



# Cork Lifelong Learning Festival

The Regional Literacy Coordinator organised two events for Cork Lifelong Learning Festival.

Events were held in partnership with ALONE, Vodafone Foundation, Hi Digital, and Cork City Libraries.



## Donegal Ireland Reads and Family Learning

Family Learning talk at Bundoran Library as part of Ireland Reads campaign.

Adele McElhinney gave a talk to parents and caregivers in Bundoran Library on 23 February.

Attendees discussed the importance of reading and family learning. Parents learnt tips on how to encourage reading and family learning at home.

# Donegal

## Celebrating Social Inclusion

### Regional Literacy Coalition's Social Inclusion Week

The Regional Adult Literacy Coalition brought together members of the public to celebrate social inclusion on 19 March as part of their Social Inclusion Week.

Partners included:

- Donegal Co. Library
- Europe Direct LK
- Donegal Education and Training Board (Adult Literacy, Community Education and YouthReach)
- Home School Community Liaison Network
- HSE Health & Well-being
- Donegal Intercultural Platform
- Donegal Local Development Company
- Inishowen Development Partnership
- Family Resource Centre Network
- Citizen's Information Services
- Read DL

The event held in the Central Library in Letterkenny showcased and celebrated social inclusion.

Coalition member organisations showcased parts of their work that demonstrated social inclusion.



# Galway Roscommon ESOL Tutor Conference

- The conference took place on the 17 February in the Maldron hotel, Oranmore.
- Presentations covered topics like English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and employability and pre-literacy learning.
- This conference helped tutors network, exchange resources, and gain expert advice.



## Laois and Offaly Ireland Reads Day 2024

“Past memories of never being successful have all faded because of this achievement,” said David, learner and prizewinner.

Students from the Adult Literacy Service celebrated by holding a writing competition based on a book they have read in the past, listened to, or used in class. Classes also visited local libraries, with some digital classes practicing how to use Borrowbox, the library’s online resource, during their classwork. The initiative showcased our student’s creativity and encouraged both reading, writing and digital skills.

Entries for the writing competition included short stories, poetry, and letters. As a result, four students received recognition for their exceptional work and achievement, and we are very proud of all of the entries we received.



Scan for  
BorrowBox

# Tipperary

## Integrating Literacy

### Professional development for Youthreach teachers

Ester Mackey, Regional Literacy Coordinator for Tipperary, worked with Literacy Resource staff to design a training session for teachers in Youthreach Cappawhite.

They explored what staff do, how to do a literacy audit in their area, and how to use Artificial Intelligence.

This marked the first time that Literacy Resource staff and the RLC co-facilitated Integrating Literacy training to FET staff.

This project provided a training opportunity for Youthreach staff and 'on the job' training for literacy staff.

The goal is to enable Youthreach staff to deliver Integrating Literacy training over time.

There was a really positive response to this training and everyone's confidence has grown as a result!



# Tipperary Launch

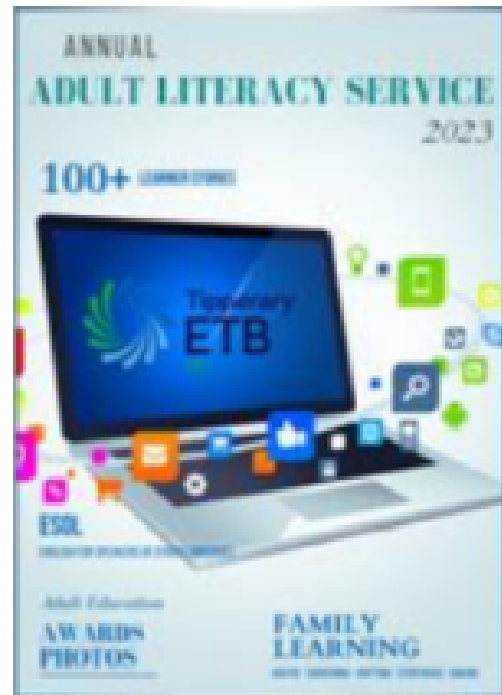
## 2023

### Annual Learner Writings

Adult Literacy for Life Director Yvonne McKenna launched the Tipperary ETB Adult Literacy Service 2023 Annual on 11 March 2024.

Regional Adult Literacy Coalition members, Tipperary Education and Training Board and Further Education and Training (FET) managers, tutors, and more than 200 learners attended the virtual event.

Six learners read out their own stories at the event. We will have videos available soon.



## Tipperary

### ETB Literacy Awareness Quiz for Administrative Staff

This project created a fun atmosphere as a taster for further Literacy Awareness training. The RLC and Literacy Resource Staff made a short quiz and ran it in three main centres.

The quiz was really enjoyable. It broke down barriers and helped with team building.

Quotes for team members:

“This was great fun. We should do it more often!”

“I think you might be onto something here Ester, I can see an opportunity for a major organisation quiz with lots of teams!”



# Waterford and Wexford Connecting Communities Roadshow

Waterford County Council and community services created a roadshow that helped people find out more about services and funding opportunities.

The roadshow was a one stop shop for anybody looking to find out more about learning opportunities.

Roadshows moved around County Waterford in February and March and will continue into April and May.

This was a great opportunity to connect with new communities, make introductions, and promote the Adult Literacy for Life strategy.





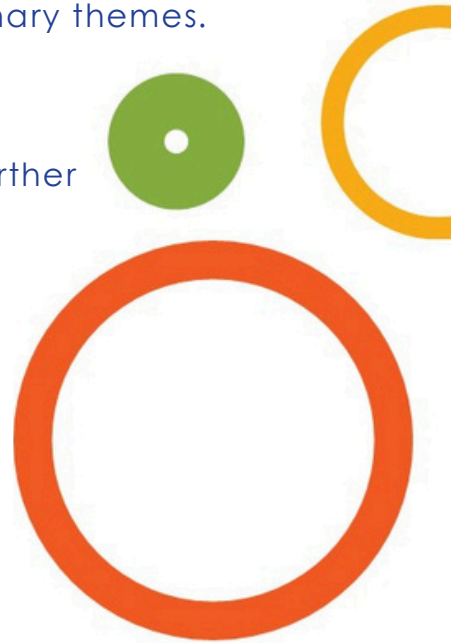
# Waterford and Wexford CookLit Toolkits

Cooking toolkits helped learners in Wexford, Tramore, and West Waterford transfer skills they learnt in courses into everyday life.

Learners who received these toolkits took part in classes that developed their literacy skills through culinary themes.

Tutors in WWETB identified learners most in need of this resource to empower them further in their daily lives.

Cooklit toolkits allow learners to continue building their literacy, numeracy, and health literacy skills at home.



# Get Involved!

Contact the National Programme Office or any of our Regional Literacy Coordinators around the country.



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