

Rehabcare and Moate Community School team up for Creative Day



On Thursday 6th October, over 150 people with disabilities who use RehabCare services in the Midlands and North East regions attended a Regional Creative Day in Moate, Co. Westmeath which was organised by Rehabcare staff in the Midlands. Over 50 RehabCare staff and volunteers from the local communities also attended. Eleven workshops were run in the morning and included ceili dancing, painting, pottery, jewellery design and flower arranging, to name but a few. Participants then enjoyed a hot lunch in the Grand Hotel in Moate and returned to the Community centre in the afternoon where some participants performed drama productions, sang and played instruments followed by a disco. Students from Moate Community College and Moate Business College volunteered on the day and assisted with facilitating various workshops.



The students of Moate Community School facilitated a ceili dancing workshop where they taught adults with varying abilities to dance the “Walls of Limerick”, “Staicin Eorna”, “The siege of Ennis” and “The bridge of Athlone”. The students danced from 10am until 12.30pm and also provided live traditional music for the dancers and for the

entertainment of all involved. It was a very successful and enjoyable event and the students gained some valuable experience.

The students said "meeting the clients was the highlight. It was enlightening to see we could have a chat together and have fun! "We expected it to be very difficult but it wasn't, would definitely do it again!"

Rehabcare service users reported "I did flower arranging, woodwork and pottery. I thought it was very interesting and was something different to do. The dancing with the school pupils was great as was the singing and disco. I enjoyed meeting people and joining in new activities".

"I did jewellery making, art and pottery. I thought the best part was the disco. Because I am new to the centre, I enjoyed meeting new people from other centres".

"I did flower arranging, woodwork and pottery. I really enjoyed the disco, the music and the dancing. It is hard to pick the best part".

"I did painting, pottery and Reiki. I enjoyed the disco and the meal"

Rehabcare provides person centred health and social care services which facilitate people who are disadvantaged to participate in the life of their local community in ways which match their choices, needs and aspirations. Rehabcare strives to enable each individual they support to reach their full potential and to live as independent a life as possible.

Rehabcare operates a wide variety of responsive health and social care programmes for people with disabilities and their families, older people and children. These personalised programmes are all designed to meet the wishes and needs of each person. Services provided include residential services, supported accommodation, resource centres, respite care, outreach and specialised day services. Rehabcare currently have services in the Midlands based in Athlone, Tullamore, Longford, and Portlaoise.