**Press Release**



**ARAS MHUIRE NURSING HOME, GREENVILLE, LISTOWEL, NAMED AS ONE OF THE RING OF KERRY CHARITY CYCLE BENEFACTORS FOR 2019**

*Event Registration Opens this Thursday 28th February2019*

*Event date: Saturday 6th July 2019*

**#ExperienceTheFeeling**

**Monday 25th February 2019:** The annual Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle is back, with registration for the 2019 event opening this Thursday at 12:00PM via their website [www.ringofkerrycycle.ie](http://www.ringofkerrycycle.ie).

If you’re looking to do something special this summer, why not experience the feeling of taking part in Ireland’s largest single day charity fundraising event? Thousands of leisure cyclists are expected to take part in this year’s 175km Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle, with places limited to 8,000 this year to ensure the safety of everyone involved. This year’s theme, #ExperienceTheFeeling, highlights the different ways everyone can experience the cycle. Whether its volunteering, cycling, fundraising, or attending the event on the day – all support is equally important to the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle and is truly an amazing experience to be part of.

Every year, the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle opens an application process for several charities to apply and become a beneficiary charity for the event. Aras Mhuire Nursing Home from Greenville, Listowel has been named as one of this year’s benefactors.

Aras Mhuire Nursing Home is home to people requiring 24 hour nursing care and rehabilitation. It serves the areas of North Kerry and West Limerick. It is designed to recognise older people’s ongoing right to home and connectedness to their family and community.

“We endeavour to enhance the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of all who pass the threshold of this home.”

Speaking at the launch, **Bridget McGuire, Chairperson for the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle, said;** “I am delighted to be working with the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle this year. For the past 36 years, it has been a significant charity fundraising event and I know it holds a special place in the hearts of Kerry people. After raising over €1 million last year, our goal for 2019 is to continue to raise as much money as possible for our six new charities. We’re encouraging everyone to experience and participate in this year’s Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle in some way - whether it’s participating in the cycle, volunteering, working with the charities involved or supporting the event on the day.”

The registration fee for 2019 is €100 plus a 3.5% service fee. Cyclists can choose to fundraise for their selected charity through the online fundraising platform, Everyday Hero, or sponsorship cards (available in Aras Mhuire Nursing Home, Greenville, Listowel. 068-21470) The Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle official merchandise includes a jersey or neck buff, both of which can be pre-ordered online once registration opens this Thursday.

**Cathal Walshe, PRO for the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle, added that;** “Registration for the event is on a first come first served basis. We’re encouraging everyone who signs up to follow The Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle on social media so they don’t miss any important announcements, training tips or details on how fundraising efforts will help your chosen charity. Every euro raised, will go directly to your chosen charity.”

As mentioned above, places are limited this year. To ensure your spot, visit the website below to register and have the chance to experience the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle, there’s no feeling like it.

For more information and to register visit, [www.ringofkerrycycle.ie](http://www.ringofkerrycycle.ie)

To set up your fundraising page visit, <https://ring-of-kerry-charity-cycle-2018.everydayhero.com/ie/sign-in>

Facebook: [@RingofKerryCharityCycle](https://www.facebook.com/RingofKerryCharityCycle/)

* Instagram: [@RingofKerryCycle](https://www.instagram.com/ringofkerrycharitycycle/)
* Twitter: [@RingOKerryCycle](https://twitter.com/RingOKerryCycle)
* **#ExperienceTheFeeling**

\*\***ENDS\*\***

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**About the Event**

The Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle is a non-profit organisation of everyday people who come together every year to make a powerful difference to the lives of thousands of people in need across our local communities.

Over the past 36 years, The Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle has raised over €15 million for 150 charity organisations through the annual support of participating cyclists and volunteers. Outside essential costs to run the 175km Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle, all funds raised go directly to carefully selected charity organisations. Funds raised to date have contributed towards new hospital extensions, special needs facilities, care for the elderly, suicide prevention, sea and mountain rescue, cancer, kidney and end of life support and much more.

For many of these charity organisations, their work would simply not be possible without the generosity and support of our volunteers. For more information, visit [www.ringofkerrycycle.ie](http://www.ringofkerrycycle.ie)

**2019 Charities**

This year, cyclists will be raising funds for six carefully selected charities in Ireland.

* **Aras Mhuire Nursing Home *–*** Aras Mhuire endeavours to create a home environment and enhance the quality of life for their residents. Jimmy Deenihan will their ambassador this year
* **Cúnamh Iveragh** –Cúnamh Iveraghsupports children and young adults with special intellectual needs. Kerry football legend, Maurice Fitzgerald, is a proud ambassador for Cúnamh Iveragh and the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle this year.
* **Breakthrough Cancer Research *-*** The primary aim of Breakthrough Cancer research is to implement funding and support for their phenomenal research into cancer treatments in Ireland. Former Olympian David Gillick is their ambassador this year for the Ring of Kerry Charity Cycle
* **Kerry Rape & Sexual Abuse Centre -** KRSACprovides professional, free and confidential counselling, information and support to those in need. Well known Irish journalist, Billy Keane, is an active ambassador for the centre this year.
* **Recovery Haven *–* Cancer Support House -**Recovery Haven is a cancer support house which provides free cancer support services to the people of Kerry. Captain of the Irish Ladies Rugby Team and Recovery Haven Ambassador, Ciara Griffin, will be cycling the ring herself this year to raise vital funds for the cancer support house.
* **St. Mary’s of Angels** *-* SMOA is a home for people with physical and intellectual disabilities ranging from mild to moderate, and for many, it has been their home for most of their lives.

There are also an additional five charities who will be allocated funds from the registration proceeds;

* **Camphill Community Dingle**
* **Brú Columbanus, Cork**
* **Ard Curam (Day Care Centre)**
* **Southwest Counselling Centre**
* **National Rehabilitation Centre Dublin**

**Transfers/Cancellations**

In the event cyclists are unable to participate, the booking can be transferred to a friend/family member/colleague. However, the transfer does not permit a change of selected charity. If cyclists are unable to transfer, they can cancel attendance and the space will be offered to an individual on a waiting list. The Ring of Kerry Charity cycle operates a strict no refunds policy as per the registration terms and conditions.

**Additional Donations**

Cyclists will have the option to make a direct additional donation through their account on the registration system. 100% of additional funds raised will go directly to the selected charities.