



Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service



Foxford & District Alzheimer's Trust, Irish Prison Service, and Men's Shed Team Up for Restoration Project

In a remarkable show of community collaboration, the Foxford Alzheimer's Community Trust CLG (FACT) Social Club has partnered with the Irish Prison Service. The project focuses not only on restoring a 1950s Massey Ferguson tractor but also on fostering community engagement and awareness about dementia-related issues, ensuring that families and caregivers receive essential resources. This unique project not only brings history back to life but also supports individuals with Dementia, and those facing rural isolation.

The collaboration brings together an unlikely team of people, each with their own reasons, to give back, to create awareness and to show that together really is better. By generating funds through the sale of the restored tractor, this project aims to provide ongoing assistance to families grappling with dementia's complexities while simultaneously raising awareness about these critical issues within the community.

Castlerea Prison is at the heart of this restoration effort. Prisoners, alongside work and training staff, will undertake the hands-on work, contributing their skills and dedication to this meaningful cause. Local businesses and volunteers have generously donated the necessary parts, making this a true community-driven initiative.

Theresa Beirne, Governor of Castlerea Prison commented, ***"This restoration project is a shining example of how collaboration and community involvement can create positive change. Our prisoners, alongside our dedicated work and training staff, are excited to contribute their skills to this meaningful cause. It's a chance for them to give back to the community and support the incredible work being done by FACT Social Club."***

FACT's commitment to reducing the stigma around Dementia and building an inclusive community is reflected in their participation in the "Understand Together Campaign" initiated by The National Dementia Office Ireland. The club's support system includes the Memories Charity Shop in Foxford, volunteers, and funding from Pobal's CSP Programme.

Declan Howley, Manager of FACT Social Club said, ***"This project exemplifies the power of community and compassion. Restoring an antique tractor serves as a tangible reminder of our collective responsibility towards vulnerable populations, it symbolises how communal efforts can lead to meaningful change."***

Frances Casey Maloney, Chairperson of the Trust, along with the Board of Directors, have played a pivotal role in leading this initiative. FACT continues to grow and by doing so will be relocating to their brand new purpose built home in Foxford in the coming months, reaching more families and its services to more rural areas in the County.

Join us in this inspiring journey. Follow Foxford & District Alzheimer Trust on Facebook & Instagram. Learn how you can support our mission and be part of this transformative project by clicking [HERE](#).

ENDS



**Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann**
Irish Prison Service



Notes for Editors:

The Community Dementia Tractor Restoration Project represents a significant opportunity to enhance the lives of individuals affected by Dementia and Rural Isolation in County Mayo.

By choosing Foxford District & Alzheimer's Community Trust Support Services/FACT Social Club as the beneficiary, this initiative highlights the pressing need for sustainable support systems in rural areas. The project focuses not only on restoring a 1950s Massey Ferguson tractor but also on fostering community engagement and awareness about dementia-related issues, ensuring that families and caregivers receive essential resources.

Rural communities often face unique challenges when it comes to healthcare access and social support. In County Mayo, where geographical isolation can exacerbate feelings of loneliness among those with dementia, initiatives like the tractor restoration project are vital.

They create an environment where individuals feel included and supported and rehabilitated. The collaboration brings together an unlikely team of people, each with a goal in their hearts, to give back, to create awareness and to show that together really is better. By generating funds through the sale of the restored tractor, this project aims to provide ongoing assistance to families grappling with dementia's complexities while simultaneously raising awareness about these critical issues within the community.

The collaboration between Mens Shed, The Irish Prison Service, and Vintage machinery enthusiasts underscores a model of community partnership that is essential for success. This coalition not only brings together diverse expertise but also promotes social cohesion by involving various stakeholders in a shared mission. Restoring an antique tractor serves as a tangible reminder of our collective responsibility towards vulnerable populations, it symbolises how communal efforts can lead to meaningful change. It allows a vision of what's important but also a mission of destigmatising how dementia is viewed. Inclusion means everyone, it doesn't discriminate.



Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service



I-Donate link



Key Highlights:

- **Restoration Project:** The restoration of a vintage tractor, undertaken by Castlereagh Prison with support from local businesses and volunteers.
- **Dedicated Bus Service:** Ensuring members can be picked up from their homes and brought to the club, making attendance easy.
- **Wide Range of Activities:** Including music, yoga, arts, cookery, and outings to various locations.
- **Modern Facilities:** Featuring a sensory garden and special cognitive technology, such as the magic cover table, to enhance members' experiences.
- **Family Support:** Providing peace of mind to family members and carers with clear and honest communication.

For more information, contact:

Name: Declan Howley, Manager Foxford Alzheimer's Community Trust (FACT) Social Club

Email: factsocialclub1@gmail.com

Phone: 094-925-6662

Website: Follow us on Instagram @factsocialclub – Our new website to be launched soon

Pictures



Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service

Foxford Alzheimer's
Community Trust CLG
Investing in the care you deserve
Company Number
681004





Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service

Foxford Alzheimer's
Community Trust CLG
Investing in the care you deserve
Company Number
681004

