

FREE

Roscommon people

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The Local Paper

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All-Ireland Talent show

VOTE FOR
OLWYN ON
SUNDAY
NIGHT



FEIGHAN: Reverse cowardly closure

The decision to temporarily close day care services at Plunkett Home, Boyle, first reported in

last week's Roscommon People, was raised in the Dáil on Tuesday night by Deputy Frank Feighan,

who called on the Minister for Health and Children to reverse the move. "The service has

been suspended for three months but...it may never be restored again. There is a moratorium on replacing health staff that are sick.

"It is a shame on the Government and all politicians not to accede to the wishes of the people in question. The moratorium must be lifted and these jobs must be replaced. We must ensure these 50 elderly people receive compassion from the Government. I ask the Minister of State to ensure this disgraceful decision is reversed. If so, I will be the first to thank and praise him and the Government. This is a cowardly decision."

Responding, Deputy Áine Brady said the HSE is responsible for the delivery of services at Plunkett Home, Boyle. "All developments must be addressed in the light of

the current economic and budgetary pressures. In line with what is happening around the country, the HSE in Roscommon is currently reviewing its use of resources and facilities for all care in the county. The HSE is to temporarily close the day care service at the Plunkett community nursing unit in Boyle from Monday, 8th March.

"The HSE has a number of vacancies in the service and due to the moratorium it is unable to recruit replacement staff. It appreciates that this is an inconvenience for clients of this service but the HSE must have appropriate staffing levels to run any service safely.

"The service is suspended for three months and the HSE will make every effort to restore it as quickly as possible."

Bomb scare at Athlone head shops

Two suspicious devices were left outside head shops in Athlone early on Wednesday, but the Defence Forces say the devices found were hoaxes.

They were discovered outside two separate head shops in the Irishtown and Mardyke Street areas yesterday morning. The devices may have been left at the shops overnight.

Members of the Bomb Disposal Unit from Customs Barracks in Athlone were quickly on the scene and dealt with the devices, which turned out to be harmless. Traffic restrictions were imposed by the Gardaí and roads were closed for a time, but were opened after the all-clear was given.



Pictured in the Coachman's on Friday night last were (l-r) Sarah Cawley, Catherine Naughton, John Rogerson, Brian Cormican and Kayley DeJong, Four Roads. Pic: Andrew Fox.

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in the Percy French Hotel, Strokestown
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