

Drumcondra Carer Receives Dublin Carer of The Year Award

The Carers Association has announced Drumcondra carer, Catherine Petherbridge, Dublin's Carer of the Year as part of the organisation's National Carer of the Year Awards. In a special award ceremony held last night in Clontarf Castle Hotel, Catherine's commitment to caring full-time for her daughter, Hannah, was celebrated. Catherine was presented with her award by Lord Mayor of Dublin, Cllr. Eibhlin Byrne.

Catherine Petherbridge was chosen from a substantial number of nominations as Dublin's Carer of the Year. Catherine (33) provides full-time care for her daughter Hannah (1 ½ years), who was born with half a heart and a 30% chance of survival. At birth, Hannah underwent difficult life-saving emergency surgery in Crumlin Hospital and remained in intensive care for 3 months. Now at home with Catherine, Hannah is doing well but requires full time care.

"We are delighted to acknowledge the incredible full-time care Catherine provides for her daughter Hannah, ensuring that she can have as normal a home-life as possible" says Jacqueline Millman, Centre Manager of The Carers Association Blanchardstown.

All carers nominated for the National Carer of the Year Awards receive special commendation. Regional award recipients will attend the National Carer of the Year Awards celebrations in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Dublin on November 22nd, where one among them will be announced as Ireland's Carer of the Year by hosts and patrons of The Carers Association, Marty Whelan and Mary Kennedy.

The Carer of the Year Awards 2008, sponsored by Emergency Response, were established to recognise and reward the remarkable and tireless contribution of Ireland's family carers in the home. The overall Carer of the Year is chosen to represent all of Ireland's family carers.

The Carers Association is the National voluntary organisation of family carers in the home, providing support services, respite, training and information to carers throughout Ireland. The Carers Association can be contacted on the National Careline Freefone 1800 24 07 24 or see www.carersireland.com

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For further information or to arrange interviews please contact:

**Orla Nolan, Purcell Masterson on 056 7723211
orla@purcellmasterson.com**