

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Labour Councillor Dermot Lacey pens song in aid of older person charity, ALONE

The Ballad of Rosie Hackett available to buy on iTunes

Dublin, 14th August 2014 ALONE, the charity that cares for older people in need, has released a new charity single titled *The Ballad of Rosie Hackett*. Inspired by the new Rosie Hackett Bridge spanning the Liffey, the song was written by Councillor Dermot Lacey, composed by Martin Tourish and the beautiful vocals were provided by Geraldine Finn.

CEO of ALONE, Sean Moynihan said, "All money raised from the sale of *The Ballad of Rosie Hackett* will directly fund vital services for older people. We are truly thankful for the time, efforts and talent of Dermot, Martin and Geraldine, their support is really appreciated. We hope that people will make an effort to take two minutes from their day and download the song from iTunes in support of ALONE".

In May of this year, the new bridge over the Liffey, The Rosie Hackett Bridge, was officially opened. **Councillor Dermot Lacey was the head of the naming committee and did a wonderful job involving the public and considering people from some many walks of Dublin life.** ~~The naming selection process for the new bridge was extremely extensive and democratic with the naming committee using a 'Borda Count' to whittle down the 85 very worthy submissions to just one eventual winner. The De Borda institute asserted that the name selection process was the first time an Irish elected chamber had used a non-majoritarian decision-making methodology.~~

The five names that made the final shortlist for the naming of the bridge were; Bram Stoker, Rosie Hackett, Kay Mills, Frank Duff and founder of ALONE, Willie Bermingham. Motivated by Rosie, the woman who founded the Irish Women Workers Union, head of the naming committee Councillor Dermot Lacey put pen to paper and wrote a ballad. Having written the song, Councillor Lacey drafted in Geraldine Finn, a singer from Co. Galway to sing the vocals and Martin Tourish, a Dublin-based accordionist, composer and producer, originally from Co. Donegal to compose the track.

Councillor Lacey felt that it would be a fitting tribute for all proceeds from sales of *The Ballad of Rosie Hackett* to go to ALONE, the charity founded by shortlisted Willie Bermingham. With the finished track, he approached ALONE and generously signed over full copyright of the song to the charity.

Labour Councillor Dermot Lacey said of the track, "I hope that over the years these two great Dubliners, Rosie Hackett and Willie Bermingham, will be forever associated and that ALONE can raise some vital funds to help fund services for older people from the sale of this song".

The Ballad of Rosie Hackett is available for download on iTunes for \$0.99.

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/ballad-rosie-hackett-single/id900106716>

ALONE can be contacted on (01) 679 1032 for those who have concerns about their own wellbeing, or the wellbeing of a vulnerable older person in the community or visit www.alone.ie

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About ALONE:

Established in 1977, ALONE provides vital supports to the one in ten older people who are in need. The charity provides a volunteer befriending service, campaigning services, a community response service and provides 100 age-friendly homes to older people in need. ALONE receives no state funding for their day to day activities, it is through the donations from members of the public that the organisation can carry out its essential activities.

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