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Issue #13



Welcome!

In this edition of Care and Connect, read about our Ladies' Lunch, sign up for the upcoming Kiltwalks, and find out how we're celebrating Scottish Learning Disability Week. Send your feedback to communications@sensescotland.org.uk.

In this issue...

- Celebrate the success of our Ladies' Lunch
- Read about our plans for Scottish Learning Disability Week
- Enjoy the latest edition of Loud and Clear
- Find out about our Dundee Information Day for Support Practitioners
- Discover our upcoming events

Ladies' Lunch

Our Ladies' Lunch on Saturday, 25 March in Glasgow was a massive success! The atmosphere was electric and the fizz was freely flowing as our guests settled in for a day of food, fun, and fundraising, and we could not have been more amazed by the £60,000+ total our fantastic supporters raised on the day.

We were honoured to be joined by some of the best entertainers in the business: Edward Reid, who never lets us down with his perfect hosting skills; I Love The 80s, who got our guests onto the dancefloor for a number of throwback classics; and last but not least, the amazing Susan Boyle, who brought down the house with her incredible singing voice.

Thanks must also go to Lyndsay Fleming, who took to the stage to tell the audience her story and to talk about what Sense Scotland means to her; to Mark Niven, who gave Edward a helping hand in auctioning off his acrylic painting "Discovery" for £270; and to all of our wonderful volunteers who made sure the day ran smoothly.

We are excited to share professional photos from the day with you all, courtesy of the very talented Iain McLean. You can find them on our website at sensescotland.org.uk/ladies-lunch-2023.

Scottish Learning Disability Week 2023

Scottish Learning Disability Week runs from Monday, 1 May until Sunday, 7 May 2023, and is an opportunity to celebrate the rich contribution that people with learning disabilities make to society. Every year the week has a specific theme, and this year that theme is "lead to change".

As an organisation which supports people with a variety of learning disabilities across Scotland, we are planning a number of activities, events, and social media content during this week, including sessions with our Physical Activity and Wellbeing Lead Caitlin Bain, information about our ASDAN and Duke of Edinburgh awards, and an open day for supporters at TouchBase Glasgow. Make sure you follow our Facebook page at bit.ly/3mk4GVS to keep in the loop about what we're up to!

If you are interested in getting involved in Scottish Learning Disability Week, the Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities (SCLD) is running a number of online sessions during the week which you can join for free. Find out more at bit.ly/3UCbLOv.

Loud and Clear

The Spring edition of Loud and Clear, our newsletter for supporters, was sent out this month. In this issue, we focus on our Supported Living services and how we are able to provide a lifetime of care, realising the dreams of our founding families. You can read Loud and Clear online at bit.ly/3zX3zOI. If you've read it already, what did you think? Let us know at bit.ly/402uByT.

To receive future copies of Loud and Clear, you can sign up at bit.ly/3zSHaIS or email our Fundraising Team for postal copies at fundraising@sensescotland.org.uk.

Dundee Information Day

Our Recruitment Team is hosting an information day at the DCA in Dundee on Tuesday, 2 May, for those interested in becoming full-time or part-time Support Practitioners in the Dundee area. This is the perfect opportunity to explore the options we have available, with onsite managers onsite to guide, advise and answer all your questions. If you or someone you know may be interested in attending, please book a free slot via Eventbrite at bit.ly/413cOc8.

Upcoming Events

Twinkle Tots

Our weekly Toddler group for children under 5yrs who have complex communication needs continues every Thursday from 10am - 11:30am throughout May. It provides a fun safe environment for children to express themselves through singing, dancing and exploring sensory-based activities at their own pace. To join, contact our Early Years team at earlyyears@sensescotland.org.uk.

Connect and Play - TouchBase Lanarkshire

Our Connect and Play sessions continue next month, with our first at TouchBase Lanarkshire on Saturday, 13 May from 10am - 1pm. These sessions offer the opportunity to catch up with Sense Scotland Advisors and meet other families, and are suitable for children aged 0 – 12 with communication and sensory support needs, their siblings and family. To join, contact our Early Years team at earlyyears@sensescotland.org.uk.

Connect for All - TouchBase Dunbartonshire

Our Connect for All sessions are for anyone with a communication support need arising from a range of disabilities, and their families. On Sunday, 21 May, at TouchBase Dunbartonshire, Maureen Malcolm-Gourley from Music for All will come along and provide a relaxation sound bath session as well as a drumming session. If you wish to join, contact our Early Years team at earlyyears@sensescotland.org.uk.

Aberdeen Kiltwalk

The next Kiltwalk will take place in Aberdeen on Sunday, 4 June. Whether you're up for the Wee Wander (3-5 miles) or the Mighty Stride (25 miles), you can sign up for free at sensescotland.org.uk/kiltwalk.

Please let us know what you think of Care and Connect. Send your feedback to communications@sensescotland.org.uk.