

Care and Connect *for families*



July 2024 Issue #28



Welcome!

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Deafblind International Outdoor Network

We are very excited to be hosting the Deafblind International Outdoor Network this year! The Outdoor Network is a week-long annual event which enables deafblind people from across the world to enjoy the outdoors, with previous excursions to England, Norway and Denmark. This year, we are excited to welcome people from Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, Denmark and the Netherlands to Largs where they will have the chance to take part in a range of outdoor activities, including clay making, Highland Games, castle visits, and a ceilidh, all in a seaside town setting.

The Outdoor Network will take place in September and is fully booked, but we look forward to sharing photos and stories from the week with you.

Employee of the Year

It's that time again - our Staff and Volunteer Awards are coming up in October, and we need your help to choose our Employee of the Year - an outstanding individual that has had a significant impact on the lives of the people we support and their family members. If you or the person you care for would like to nominate a member of staff, you can nominate them online at bit.ly/sava-2024-employee.

Donations Needed

Our Blantyre Short Breaks short break service is holding a garden party on Saturday, 17 August - and we're looking for your donations!

This will be the first garden party the service has had since prior to the pandemic and we want to make it as special as possible. We're looking for tombola donations, raffle donations, books, and bric-a-brac. If you can help, please email Sam Taylor at staylor@sensescotland.org.uk.

Fundraising Opportunities

Sense Scotland is a charity. Many of our services rely on funding from trusts, foundations and the public. We need to raise at least £1million every year. Can you, your family, friends or employer help? To find out more about our fundraising activities and opportunities, please sign up to our fundraising newsletter at bit.ly/sense-scotland-fundraising, give the team a call on 0300 330 9292 or email us at fundraising@sensescotland.org.uk.

Masquerade Ball

After the massive success that was last year's A Night at the Museum Ball, our Fundraising team are excited to announce Sense Scotland's Masquerade Ball! Join us on Saturday, 16 November 2024 for an enchanting fundraising event in aid of Sense Scotland, set within the splendid surroundings of the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.

Promising a night of opulence and elegance, the ball will commence with a drinks reception, sponsored by WoodWinters Wines & Whiskies, followed by a sumptuous three-course dinner, a number of guest speakers, and captivating Broadway-style entertainment.

Guests have the option to select from Platinum, Gold, or Silver tables, each offering a different level of indulgence. Find out more and book your tickets at sensescotland.org.uk/masquerade-ball.

Dundee and Edinburgh Kiltwalks

We are halfway through 2024's Kiltwalks, with only two left! Will you consider supporting Sense Scotland by signing up to either the Dundee (11 August) or Edinburgh (15 September) Kiltwalks – Scotland's largest mass-participation walking event? It's free to sign up and you can raise funds for a worthwhile cause in the process. If you're interested in signing up, go to sensescotland.org.uk/kiltwalk.

Upcoming Events

National Play Day – Wednesday, 7 August

To celebrate National Play Day, North Ayrshire Council is holding a free event on South Beach, Ardrossan, featuring a bouncy castle, soft archery, festival glitter, glitter tattoos, badge making, and much more! Come along on Wednesday, 7 August from 12 – 4pm and celebrate National Play Day.

Summer of Fun – Thursday, 15 August

Join us at TouchBase Lanarkshire for our annual Summer of Fun festival! Come along on Thursday, 15 August from 10am for a coffee morning, followed by live music and refreshments.

Connect and Play – Saturday, 17 August

Our next Connect and Play session, for children aged 0 – 12 with additional support needs, will take place at TouchBase Lanarkshire on Saturday, 17 August. Come along to our drop-in session between 10am - 1pm and take part in summer Olympics-themed games and sensory activities. Book your free space at bit.ly/connect-play-august-2024.

Twinkle Tots (Online) – Weekly from Tuesday, 20 August

Our weekly toddler group for children under five with additional support needs resumes on Tuesday, 20 August. This offers a virtual opportunity for toddlers to get together, play and have fun. Book your free space at bit.ly/twinkle-tots-online.

Coffee and Connect – Wednesday, 28 August

Our next Coffee and Connect session, for parents and carers of people with additional support needs, will take place at TouchBase Glasgow on Wednesday, 28 August. Come along and join us for an in-person catch-up and a cuppa with parents/carers from all over the country and Sense Scotland's advisors. A group of parents and carers will join us to talk about 'Recognition to Rights'. Nerhys will also join us from Voiceability who will explain how their organisation can help with applying for disability-related benefits. Book your free space at bit.ly/coffee-connect-august-2024.

Connect and Sensory Play – Thursday, 5 September

Our next Connect and Sensory Play session at Abbeyview Community Centre in Dunfermline will take place on Thursday, 5 September, from 10am – 12pm! Drop-in anytime and see the wide range of sensory toys we have on offer and take part in our fun activity of the day. The sessions are available for parents and carers with a child aged 0-18 with additional or complex needs. Children and their siblings are welcome to come along. This is also a good opportunity for professionals working with families to come along and find out more about our services and how we can help support the families you work with. If you would like more information, please email LindaMitchell@sensescotland.org.uk or call us on 01592 646015.

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

You can find past issues at sensescotland.org.uk/care-and-connect.