

Care and Connect for families



August 2024 Issue #29



Welcome!

In this issue...

- Get involved in our **40th Anniversary celebrations**
- Join our next **Annual General Meeting**
- Celebrate the many years of service from **Paul Hart**
- Final call to nominate your **Employee of the Year**
- Receive an update from our **Fundraising team**
- Join our **upcoming events**
- Read **news from your service**

40th Anniversary Celebrations

Next year marks the 40th anniversary of the foundation of Sense Scotland! Plans are already in place to ensure that 2025 is a very special year for looking back on the past 40 years and forging a path ahead for the next 40. In order to ensure that the people we support are at the very heart of our celebrations, we are forming a group of parents and carers to get involved in planning and designing events for our anniversary. If you would like to be a part of this group, please email joanneodonnell@sensescotland.org.uk.

Annual General Meeting

Our next Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place next month on Wednesday, 11 September 2024. For the first time, we will be welcoming members of the public to join our AGM remotely. If you would like to receive a link to this meeting, please email lmcquarrie@sensescotland.org.uk.

Paul Hart

In October, Paul Hart – our Head of Operational Support, Practice Development & Quality – will be retiring after over 35 years working at Sense Scotland. Our longest-serving staff member, Paul has worked with countless people we support over every region in Scotland, and his knowledge and expertise has had immeasurable influence on both Sense Scotland and communication support research over the decades.

To celebrate Paul's many years of service at Sense Scotland, we're looking to present him with a collection of memories, photos, videos, voice notes, messages and best wishes from the people we support and their families who have interacted with him over the years. If you would like to submit anything for this, please send them over to communications@sensescotland.org.uk.

Employee of the Year

The deadline to nominate Sense Scotland's Employee of the Year is coming up... get your nominations in by **5pm on Friday, 30 August!** Our Employee of the Year is 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.

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

Have you booked your tickets for Sense Scotland's Masquerade Ball yet? 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.

Hosting the event this year will be Greg Summers, renowned TV and radio presenter. He will be joined by previous host Edward Reid – providing outstanding vocals and charming banter – alongside Broadway singer Sarah Galbraith and viral sensation The Vintage Explosion.

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.

Edinburgh Kiltwalk

The final Kiltwalk of the year, in Scotland's capital city, will take place on Sunday, 15 September – will you consider supporting Sense Scotland? 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.

Light Up the Track

Grab your tartan and join Knockhill Racing Circuit's biggest-ever fundraising event this St. Andrews Day (30 November 2024). Knockhill has partnered with Sense Scotland – alongside four other charities – for an extraordinary mass-participation event, filled with entertainment, food, and more, and you can get involved by signing up to be part of this very special day. Every penny of your registration fee will be equally divided among the five charities, including Sense Scotland. Find out more at bit.ly/sense-scotland-knockhill.

Upcoming Events

Twinkle Tots (Online) – Weekly on Tuesdays

Our weekly toddler group for children under five with additional support needs occurs weekly on Tuesdays from 10:30am – 11:30am. This offers a virtual opportunity for toddlers to get together, play and have fun. Book your free space at bit.ly/twinkle-tots-online.

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.

Car Boot Sale – Sunday, 29 September

Calling all bargain hunters - TouchBase Lanarkshire is having a car boot sale next month! Come along on Sunday, 29 September between 10am and 12pm for the chance to grab a bargain. If you'd like to book a spot at the sale, get in touch on 01698 422280 or email gmcgrory@sensescotland.org.uk.

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.