

Care and Connect *for families*



January 2026 Issue #46



Welcome!

In this issue of Care and Connect...

- Read our **2024-25 Annual Review**
- Find out about an update to **Contact Scotland BSL**
- Help your family's budget stretch further with **Family Fund**
- Get involved in our **upcoming fundraising events**
- Check out our **upcoming events**
- Read **news from your service**

Annual Review

We are excited to announce that our Annual Review for 2024-25 is now available to read online!

The issue covers the April 2024 - March 2025 period and includes features on many of our teams, the Deafblind International Outdoor Week, some big birthdays for the people we support, and an overview of the career of Dr Paul Hart, who retired last year after 37 years at Sense Scotland.

You can read the full issue online at www.sensescotland.org.uk/who-we-are/annual-review.

Contact Scotland BSL

Since 1 December 2025, deaf and deafblind BSL users who use Contact Scotland BSL will now need to use the new app or the Contact Scotland BSL website to access the service.

More information can be found in this video: bit.ly/contact-scotland-bsl-update. To download the Contact Scotland BSL app, visit contactscotland-bsl.org. If you or your loved one uses Contact Scotland BSL, please make sure to be aware of this change.

Family Fund

In partnership with the Scottish Government, Family Fund is offering a series of practical online workshops designed to help families and carers feel more confident managing money and accessing support online.

These workshops are free and will take place throughout January, February, and March 2026.

They deal with topics like:

- The benefits of being online
- Switch and save online
- Using online budgeting tools
- Completing an online grant search
- Supporting your young person moving into adulthood

To book yourself onto one of these free workshops, visit familyfund.org.uk/support/discover-digital/workshops/.

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.

Gingham and Glitz

Tickets are still available for Gingham and Glitz! Join us on Sunday, 15 February at Glasgow's Grand Ole Opry for another unforgettable afternoon of country-themed fun to beat those January blues. Enjoy line dancing, a prize draw, bingo, fundraising activities, and entertainment from Edward Reid, Nicole Flynn, and Bella Houston - all for just £35 a ticket.

Book your tickets now at www.sensescotland.org.uk/ingham-and-glitz or give us a call on 0300 330 9292 to find out more.

Sporting Dinner

We're excited to announce Sense Scotland's first-ever Sporting Dinner at the Mouldsdale Foundation!

Enjoy fantastic guest speakers, auctions, a prize draw, a glass of fizz upon arrival, a three-course dinner, as well as access to the museum – with a breathtaking collection of over 400 classic cars and motorbikes – all to raise funds for the people we support.

Sponsored by the Mouldsdale Foundation, the event will be hosted by Alex Fleming (who hosted our 40th Anniversary Ball) and will feature two exciting guest speakers: British racing driver Ben Collins, better known as the Man in the White Suit (formerly The Stig on Top Gear), alongside renowned motoring journalist Jonny Smith, former Fifth Gear host and founder and frontman of The Late Brake Show.

To find out more and book your tickets, visit www.sensescotland.org.uk/sporting-dinner/ or call us on 0300 330 9292.

Upcoming Events

Singalong Burns Bash – Sunday, 1 February (2:30pm – 4:30pm) – TouchBase Glasgow

The Early Years and Arts teams are excited to announce an afternoon of dance, singing and musical celebration to celebrate the life of Rabbie Burns at TouchBase Glasgow (43 Middlesex Street, G41 1EE). To book your free ticket, visit bit.ly/singalong-burns-bash.

Connect and Play – Saturday, 21 February (10am – 1pm) – TouchBase Lanarkshire

Join our Early Years team for a Connect and Play session at TouchBase Lanarkshire (43 Leys Park, Hamilton). Drop-in any time between 10am and 1pm and take part in Chinese New Year-themed activities. These sessions are suitable for children aged 0 - 12 with communication and sensory support needs, their siblings, and families. To book your free ticket, visit bit.ly/connect-play-tbl-february-26.

Coffee and Connect (Walk and Talk) – Tuesday, 24 February (10am – 12pm) – Bellahouston Park

Join Sense Scotland's advisors and other parents and carers of people with complex needs for a walk and talk at Bellahouston Park in Glasgow. To book your free ticket, visit bit.ly/coffee-connect-feb-26.

Twinkle Tots – Every Wednesday (10:30am – 12pm) – TouchBase Lanarkshire

Our weekly toddler group for children aged 0 - 5 with additional support needs continues at our TouchBase in Lanarkshire (43 Leys Park, Hamilton). Book your tickets at bit.ly/twinkle-tots-25 or email advisory@sensescotland.org.uk to find out more.

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.