Care and Connect *for families*

October 2026 Issue #55



Welcome!

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Perceptions

We are excited to announce that Perceptions – a new exhibition of artwork from artists supported by Sense Scotland across the country – will be available to visit from Tuesday, 27 October – Friday, 30 October at the Community Lifestyle Gallery, Glasgow Campus, 1 Clyde Place Lane, G5 8DP. The exhibition will be open from 10am – 3:30pm Tuesday – Thursday and 10am – 12:30pm on Friday.

The venue requires people who are planning to attend the exhibition to register in advance. This request is due to the exhibition taking place within a restricted building. To register, and to find out more information, please visit www.sensescotland.org.uk/exhibitions/perceptions.

A selection of works featured in the Perceptions exhibition will be available to view on our website after the exhibition closes.

Council Election Priorities Survey

Inclusion Scotland is inviting disabled people across Scotland to take part in their Council Election Priorities Survey.

Local councils make decisions about many of the services that affect our daily lives, from housing and transport to social care support, education, leisure facilities and public spaces. With Scottish local council elections taking place in 2027, Inclusion Scotland wants to make sure disabled people's priorities are heard loud and clear.

The survey will help Inclusion Scotland create their Manifesto for Inclusion, which will set out the changes disabled people want to see from local councils across Scotland. They will share this manifesto with council candidates ahead of the elections and use it to influence local decision-making.

If the person you care for would like to take part in this survey, please visit inclusionscotland.org/have-your-say-on-the-future-of-local-council-services-in-scotland. The survey closes on 13 November 2026.

Christmas Cards and Gifts

It's only a couple of months until Christmas, and we can't quite believe it! If you're already starting to think about gifts and cards for the festive season, our Christmas collection is now available on our online shop – including beautiful Christmas cards featuring artwork by talented artists

supported by Sense Scotland, a Christmas Fruit Organza Bag, a festive Mystery Box – and, of course, our Mecoco candles and wax melts, crafted by our team of disabled makers.

To view the full range, visit www.sensescotland.org.uk/mecoco.

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.

Firewalk

We are excited to announce a charity firewalk on Wednesday, 25 November, at TouchBase Glasgow (43 Middlesex Street, G41 1EE), allowing you to take part in one of the most exciting ways to raise funds for Sense Scotland - walking barefoot on hot embers. This event is perfect for those who are ready to take on an incredible experience to raise funds for Sense Scotland, while increasing their own confidence and self-esteem.

Please note that the minimum age for a firewalk is 14 years old. Parental consent is required for anyone aged 14 or 15 years old. After completing the firewalk, you'll receive a personalised certificate and a chance to celebrate with friends and family.

To sign up or find more information, visit www.sensescotland.org.uk/firewalk.

Ho-Ho-Hoedown

Tickets for our Ho-Ho-Hoedown are now on sale! Join Sense Scotland on Sunday, 29 November at Glasgow's Grand Ole Opry for a Christmas afternoon to remember! Round up your friends, dust off your cowboy boots and prepare for a glitter-filled Christmas hoedown like no other.

Enjoy a raffle, prize draw, bingo, line dancing, festive fun, live music, laughter, plenty of hoedown spirit, and a chance to buy Christmas cards and festive-scented premium candles and wax melts from Mecoco, our charitable enterprise.

Book your tickets now at www.sensescotland.org.uk/ho-ho-hoedown.

Upcoming Events

Perceptions Art Exhibition – 27 – 30 October - Community Lifestyle Gallery

Our next public art exhibition, featuring artwork created by the people we support, will take place between 27 – 30 October at the Community Lifestyle Gallery, Glasgow Campus (1 Clyde Place Lane, G5 8DP).

The exhibition will be open from Tuesday, 27 October, and we hope you will come along and see the fantastic works on show, created by people across Scotland. For more information, please visit www.sensescotland.org.uk/exhibitions/perceptions.

Connect and Play – TouchBase Lanarkshire – Saturday, 14 November

Join our Early Years team for a Connect and Play session at TouchBase Lanarkshire (4 Leys Park, Hamilton) for children aged 0 – 12 with communication support needs, their siblings, and their families. This will be an early Winter Wonderland-themed session with messy activities, so please make sure to bring old clothes! These sessions offer the perfect opportunity for parents and carers to catch up with our Early Years Advisors and meet other families. To book your free ticket, visit bit.ly/connect-play-TBL-Nov-26.

Christmas Fayre – TouchBase Dunbartonshire – Saturday, 21 November

TouchBase Dunbartonshire's (59 Springfield Road, Bishopbriggs) Christmas Fayre will take place from 1pm – 4pm on Saturday, 21 November, and will feature stalls offering home baking, a tombola, arts and crafts, hot food and drinks, Christmas gifts, and items created by the people we support.

Christmas Fayre – TouchBase Lanarkshire – Saturday, 28 November

TouchBase Lanarkshire's (4 Leys Park, Hamilton) Christmas Fayre will take place from 10am – 1pm on Saturday, 28 November. Come along and enjoy stalls with toys, Christmas crafts, bric-a-brac, bags and clothes, wax melts, skincare, and more.

Christmas Fayre – TouchBase Ayrshire – Thursday, 3 December

TouchBase Ayrshire's (41 Princes Street, Ardrossan) Christmas Fayre will take place on Thursday, 3 December from 4:30pm - 7pm for a festive evening, with gift stalls, pre-loved clothing, the best home baking in Ayrshire, hot drinks, and of course... a visit from Santa and his elves!

Christmas Fayre – TouchBase Glasgow – Saturday, 5 December

TouchBase Glasgow's (43 Middlesex Street, Glasgow) annual Christmas Fayre will take place from 11am – 2pm on Saturday, 5 December, and will feature stalls with Christmas crafts made by the people we support, a tombola, a raffle, home baking, Christmas games, Santa's Grotto, food and drinks, and a toy stall.

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.