archway
care + support built around you

ARCHWAY NEWS AUTUMN/WINTER 2024

WELCOME TO OUR

Autumn/ Winter Newsletter

There's been lots going on and we hope you enjoy reading all about it!

It's been a busy few months at Dyce

With lots of summer holiday breaks there were even more activities going on. We had craft sessions, bracelet making sessions, gaming and cinema nights, sensory time in our snoezelen, picnics, barbeques on the lovely new BBQ we purchased with funds from our friends at M&S Stoneywood.

We had lots of outings on the bus to the cinema, Satrosphere, Hazlehead, lots of discos and our old favourite bowling! We also had a great day out at the Splash Park in Montrose. We have been making the house nice and spooky for Halloween and are already looking forward to all the festive activities we have planned. On the staff front, we recently welcomed Sharon Francis as our new Respite Manager. Staff members Emma and Lucy took on the Banchory Beast in September and raised £400.

Over the next few months we are also planning a major refurbishment and upgrade at Dyce – more details will be sent out soon!

Archway Family Socials

Over the last few months, we held an Information Evening and Family Fun Day which were both well attended and enjoyed.

We will be in touch soon with details of the next event to be held in the New Year.

Save the Date

Archway Christmas Party

at the Beach Ballroom on Sunday 8th December from 1.30 - 4pm

DON'T FORGET TO RSVP BY 18th NOVEMBER!

GREAT FUN OUT & ABOUT!

As the weather has turned a bit colder, TMC have taken to doing lots of indoor activities, along with some lovely walks around Garthdee.

Everyone at TMC has been enjoying getting out and about. There have been some good trips including to Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh and the science centre and Camperdown Park in Dundee. We've enjoyed trips to the beach, bowling, cinema, shopping, and lunches. When the weather was good, we had BBQs in the garden and got the pool out. The children in for respite loved this. We've done lots of baking and had arts and crafts/games nights in the service when the weather wasn't so great.

We are delighted with the results of our recent refurbishment and upgrade. We had new windows fitted, new flooring in the lounge and corridor, fresh décor, and a new adjustable spa bath fitted.

And our new snoozelen will be installed soon. Thanks to TAQA, we are delighted to have taken delivery of our new minibus that can take up to three wheelchairs. We are already planning some great trips that everyone can enjoy!

TWO MILE CROSS

ARTS, BAKING AND BOARD GAMES!

The ladies at Anest House continue to enjoy a range of weekly activities. Valerie works hard doing her tapestries and loves socializing with others. Morag and Claire focus on keeping healthy doing seated exercises and Zumba at Inchgarth Community Centre and continue this at home!

Anna enjoys dancing with staff on occasions to her favourite music. All the ladies enjoy various activities in house including baking and board games. They really enjoy their visits from a massage therapist and from Bridget the Therapet.

All of them have been enjoying going to local coffee shops for teas and treats and occasionally to a local restaurant for a fancy meal. They have also going to various parks for walk and picnics, the beach for ice cream when the weather was nice or for a game of bingo at Mecca when it wasn't. Morag and Claire both had their birthdays in October so we have lots of celebrations going on!

ANEST HOUSE

BETTY'S PLACE

Having fun at Betty's Place

Betty's Place, our stunning wheelchair accessible holiday home at Lochloy Caravan Park in Nairn was almost fully booked this year with lots of families taking their own special memories home with them. And as we approach the end of the year, now is maybe the time to think about next years' holiday.

We have exclusive, budget-friendly rates for Archway's service users and their immediate family members. These rates are designed to cover only the essential annual running costs and mean you get an incredible price for your holiday To secure your date and find out more, visit our website at

www.archway.org.uk/service/holiday-home/

7till9

Our 7till9 Club, continues to meet weekly on-line and regularly face to face.

Open to any adult with a learning disability it's a great way to meet socially, make friends and have some fun.

Girls just want to have fun!

Mary and Beth have been enjoying lots of activities at Berryden Mills. Mary has been going to cooking classes at AMZ and is now a dab hand in the kitchen at Berryden Mills. She has also been enjoying shopping for the ingredients beforehand.

Mary was overjoyed to see her sister and her husband who live in Australia. It had been a long time since they'd seen each other and they were so happy to catch up.

Beth has been enjoying her carriage riding sessions, walks at the beach, up to see the animals in the Petting Zoo at Hazlehead and trips to the Science Centre, as well as a trip to Wynford Farm.

Both ladies have also enjoyed spending time together on holiday and at home – celebrating birthdays, doing crafts and other activities including giving hugs to Bridget the Therapet!

BERRYDEN MILLS

Charity Shops

A huge thank you to all the managers and volunteers who help us run our Charity Shops in Aberdeen, Stonehaven and Banchory – and our lovely customers and donors for all their support.

Donations are always welcome - and please ask family and friends to donate too.

OPENING HOURS	Aberdeen & Banchory	Stonehaven
	10am - 4pm • Mon - Sat	12.30 - 4pm • Tue 9.30am - 4.30pm • Wed - Sat

Looking forward to more days out

Kirsteen, Nicola and Lesley have been busy with all their weekly activities at Inchgarth Community Centre including Chance To Dance and Feel Good Fridays.

We have had some lovely days out including strawberry picking at Easter Anguston, a fun fair at Crathes Castle, and the Archway Family Fun Day as well as picnics and walks at Hazlehead and Duthie Parks.

At home the ladies enjoy lots of activities in the garden on sunny days. Inside we have been baking, doing jigsaws and reading stories as well as listening to music and doing our own karaoke.

We were so very sorry to lose Rhona earlier this year, but were delighted to welcome Pauline to St Margaret's Place in September. She has settled in so well. She has such a banter with Kirsteen and the other ladies - it's a joy to watch them all.

We had our first day away altogether to Camperdown Park recently and were really pleased at how well it went. We will be planning some more days out soon and getting ready to enjoy all our Christmas activities.

A Lovely Gift

Thank you so much to Caroline, one of the volunteers at our Charity Shop in Aberdeen.

She gifted a voucher for a visit to Coull Alpacas to Archway Westburn Road.

Susan and Eilidh enjoyed a fantastic day out there feeding, walking and petting the alpacas.

ST MARGARET'S PLACE

EVERYONE HAS BEEN ENJOYING LIFE

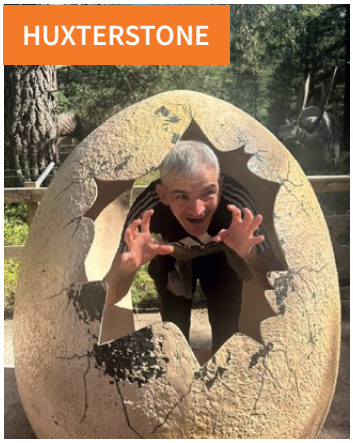
Laura is enjoying her AMZ Cookery Classes. Her cooking skills are growing and now include pizza. Not only is she making some delicious foods, she is sharing some good times with friends and taking some lovely tea home to Archway Huxterstone.

Mark and William had an amazing adventure at Landmark braving the heights, exploring, climbing nets, going down the flumes and rock climbing. They had such a great day rounded off with a picnic before heading home. They also had a great time at the trampoline centre in Aberdeen.

All have enjoyed doing activities together both at home and out and about. They had a special day celebrating the Euros Final with a pool party and mocktails followed by yummy food before they watched the game.

They also had a great day out at Wynford Farm. Everyone got a chance to feed the goats and pigs and brush the guinea pigs. We are gearing up for all the festive activities we are going to enjoy!

HUXTERSTONE



Gearing up for fun and activities

Life is busy at Westburn Road with something on almost every day either as a group or individually.

On Monday nights, everyone attends the Phoenix Club. On Tuesday it's Zumba classes for Eilidh, Susan and Michelle and wheelchair dancing for Ann, working at the Breadmaker for Davey while Carolyn volunteers at the Hub.

On Wednesdays Marissa, Davey, Nicola, Susan and Eilidh go bowling and every second Wednesday evening Paul is the resident DJ for disco and karaoke. Thursdays mean dance classes for Eilidh, Susan and Michelle and cookery classes for Marissa. Nicola, Michelle, Susan, Carolyn and Eilidh go swimming on Friday. John is our resident gardener taking care of all the pots and plants while Rosalind has been enjoying bingo sessions at Mecca Bingo. All the residents have also been away on holiday. Rosalind and Nicola went to Manchester to do the Coronation Street experience while Carolyn and Sheila had the Beatles experience in Liverpool.

We have had regular theme nights in house including game nights and pamper sessions as well as cooking, crafts and of course birthday parties! We've been to the circus, the theatre, discos, out for coffees and ice creams and days out to the MacDuff Aquarium and the water park at Dundee.

We are gearing up for the fun and extra activities that Christmas will bring as we do love a good party at Westburn Road.

WESTBURN ROAD

ARCHWAY CARE AT HOME SERVICE CLOSURE

When the Granite Care Consortium (GCC) was created in 2020, Archway actively supported the development of this new organisation that won the contract from Aberdeen City Council to deliver all the Care at Home services across the City.

Archway planned to set up its own Care at Home service to extend the services it delivered to people with learning disabilities. Like many organisations, we faced the challenges of the covid pandemic which took precedence over developing new services during that unprecedented time period.

We appointed a Co-ordinator for the Care at Home service in 2023 which strengthened the management and service delivery of support packages that we were already providing. We hoped that this investment would serve as a springboard for developing packages of care that would increase the service income to enable a team of staff to be employed to support further development.

However, the available work from GCC that Archway could have taken on has reduced, due to the contract budget being more or less fully utilised. This has meant that we have been unable to add support hours in sufficient volume, which in turn has led to financial losses.

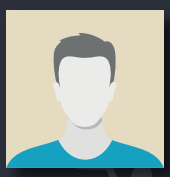
Due to the continuing financial losses and the outlook that these will continue for the unforeseeable future, the Archway Board made the decision to regrettably withdraw from membership of GCC and to close down the Archway Care at Home service.

An alternative GCC member organisation – Specialist Resource Solutions (SRS) - has now taken over the small amount of support packages that Archway provided. Two Archway Care at Home staff transferred across to SRS which helped minimise the impact on the people supported and their families.

We are pleased to retain the services of Lisa Donnelly, Care at Home Co-ordinator, who was successful in her application for a Support Manager role and recently transferred to take up this position at our Anest House service.

Who's Who And What Do They Do!

There have been some new staff joining us and some others changing roles so we thought it might be helpful for you to know who is who and what they are doing.



NAME	NEW/ CHANGING ROLE
Abby Laing	HR Co-ordinator
Adriana Pilkington	Business Services Manager
Angi Wood	Head of Services (Respite Care) temporarily until 31 March 2025 as well as retaining her permanent role of Quality Improvement Manager
Edindra Ezek	ER Advisor
Erzsebet (Betty) Keresztes	Assessor (L&D)
Lisa Donnelly	Supported Living Manager (Anest House)
Matthew Reid	Head of Services (Permanent Care and Supported Living) temporarily until 31 March 2025 when he will re-assume full responsibility for all Services
Mhairi McLean	HR Manager
Naomi Stevenson	Trainer/Assessor (L&D)
Nicolle Wiseman	Service Manager (Berryden Mills)
Oladayo Olaoye	Assistant Service Manager (Huxterstone)
Sharon Francis	Service Manager (Respite Care) (Dyce)

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Archway is an independent, parent led charity.

Every year we must fundraise to afford the special projects, equipment, wheelchair adapted vehicles, outings and activities that benefit everyone coming to Archway and that are enjoyed by everyone coming to Archway.

PLEASE MAKE SURE ARCHWAY IS ONE OF THE CHARITIES YOU SUPPORT THIS YEAR.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Tell people about Archway and what we do and ask for their support
- Nominate Archway at work
- Ask for donations to Archway in lieu of occasion or birthday gifts
- Set you own sporting, or other challenge
- Make a donation or set up a regular monthly donation plan or remember us in your will
- Support our fundraising events

If you have any queries, ideas, or would like more information please contact Janine our Fundraising Manager at **janine.davies@archway.org.uk or call 07833 208089**

Thank You TAQA

Staff at TAQA UK chose Archway as its nominated charity for 2023/24 and took on a range of fundraising challenges.

Initiatives to raise funds including participating in Run Balmoral, Ride the North, organising a football tournament, raffles, a sponsored swim, quiz night, Christmas events and even the Banchory Beast which in total raised close to £35,000.

Thanks to their support we were able to purchase a new wheelchair adapted mini bus for Two Mile Cross.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts over the last few months.

We don't have space to mention everyone individually but please know that your contribution is valued and does make a difference.

And there's more!

We received a fantastic donation of £1000 from the Rotary Club of Dyce, Archway Mum Kelly Cruden took on the Loch Ness Marathon and raised over £1000.

Our 25 strong team at the Banchory Beast - including Dyce staff members Emma and Lucy, raised over £7000.

Fiona Kelly and The Kingswells Singers donated over £600 after a recent concert.

NEW SENSORY ENVIRONMENT

A daring sponsored bungee jump by TMC staff members Amy and Sophia.

Along with donations and grants from The Bakers Incorporation, The Shoemakers Incorporation and The Trade Widows Fund at the Seven Incorporated Trades of Aberdeen meant we could upgrade and replace the snoozelen at Two Mile Cross so it better meets the needs of our current service users.

GIVING AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas is fast approaching, and while we all love the decorations, tasty food and jolly music, the festive season is also a great time to give something back.

If you or your company want to support a charity, please consider Archway. Donations help us fund special equipment, wheelchair adapted vehicles, even amazing new services like our supported living services at Anest House and St Margaret's Place.

You can donate easily and securely via our website – **www.archway.org.uk**
or to find out more contact Janine at **giving@archway.org.uk**

NEVER TOO YOUNG TO HELP ARCHWAY

A huge thank you to 2 amazing young ladies - Aila & Edith. Their Gran, Avril, volunteers at our Charity Shop in Aberdeen.

They wanted to do something to help too, so they cleared out their cupboards and set up a stall at Thainstone raising a whopping £300.

We are just so touched by their kindness and support - and we're sure Gran Avril and all the family must be very proud of them too.

BP 60th Anniversary in the North Sea

We were one of 3 local charities selected to benefit from the celebrations marking this special anniversary and were also given the opportunity to exhibit at the OEUK Conference at P&J Live in September.

And thanks to Craig Donaldson and our friends at BP Subsea who volunteered to come and give the outside of our Two Mile Cross Respite service a fabulous makeover.

A Lovely Way to Remember

Our heartfelt thanks to Emma Anderson. Her husband Tony was a keen golfer and stalwart at Old Meldrum Golf Club.

After he passed away almost 11 years ago, a special annual tournament, The Tony Anderson Memorial Competition was set up. Emma kindly nominated Archway to benefit and every year we receive a donation in his memory.

We hope that knowing his memory lives on in such a positive way is a lovely way for Emma and her family to remember a very special and much loved husband and Dad.

SPORTSCHALLENGE24

We were delighted to be one the beneficiaries at this year's Sportschallenge event, which was sponsored by Piper Sandler with support from CNR International.

A huge thanks to all involved organising and attending the event - and to the team of Archway Mums and friends who volunteered to help on the night.

You can find us on social media and the internet:

www.facebook.com/archwayaberdeen
7till9 Club www.facebook.com/7till9ClubAberdeen
www.instagram.com/archwayaberdeen
www.twitter.com/archwayaberdeen
www.linkedin.com/company/archwayaberdeen/

If you can help with fundraising, have any questions or ideas, please contact our Fundraising Manager

Janine.davies@archway.org.uk or **call 07833 208089**

YouTube
We are also on YouTube – search for Archway Aberdeen

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