

Dear Carer

First I must apologise this newsletter isn't up to Kirsty's high standard but with her not here anymore I'm afraid it's back to basics. We are hoping to recruit a new Administrator very soon.

SENSORY ROOM – There is a very nice sensory room at the Picky Centre that is available for hire, you have to register for the use of it by filling in a form, you will receive an induction to learn how to use the equipment. The room is available for hire between 0800 and 2200. It can be booked through the lifestylesroomhire@orkney.gov.uk or by ringing Ross on 886394, evenings and weekends can be booked through Tom Lynch at the Picky Centre on 879900. Hire charges are £4 per person per hour or £15 per hour for exclusive us.

INTEGRATED JOINT BOARD – There is now a Carer representative on the IJB, if you have anything you would like her to raise or you would just like to speak to her, we can pass your details on and you will be contacted.

EPILEPSY TRAINING - We are happy to say that Denize is now trained to deliver Epilepsy and Rescue Medication training, please contact us if you or any Carers you may employ need that training. Also remember we can deliver People Handling and Risk Assessment and First Aid training. If you have a moving and handling problem at home, Denize can visit to give advice.

SURVEYS – Just a peedie reminder that we have sent out our annual surveys and hope you will have time to fill them in and return them. They do give you an opportunity to have your say on how you feel we are performing. We are inspected by the Care Inspectorate every year and they always look at our surveys. If you use our respite care service, remember you can have your care reviewed any time just give us a call and we will arrange a visit.

RESOURCE CENTRE – We have lots of thing in our resource centre we can give out on loan to help you both practically and in the form of information. There are leaflets, books and DVD's. We have aids for people affected by Dementia such as clocks, phones, call blockers, things to twiddle with, jigsaws and lots more. We have wheelchairs and walking aids we can loan out too. There are gloves, wipes and aprons for sale.

TIME TO LIVE FUND – We have been successful in getting more Time To Live money for this year, so if you are caring for an adult or you are a young carer and you are doing a significant amount of caring you can apply for up to £250 for a break of your choice, it doesn't have to be a trip away it can be alternative therapies or activities such as the cinema, horse riding, anything will be considered.

CHILDRENS SERVICE – We have for many years provided a service to children with additional needs to help them access activities that they enjoy, this has been funded for the last four years by Children In Need; this funding is now coming to an end. We have a bid in to another funder but we will not know until March next year whether we are successful or not. If you access this service we will let you know how we get on and should we not be successful we will look at alternative options.

CHRISTMAS TEA AFTERNOON – Our Christmas tea afternoon is this Saturday from 2 – 4pm in the King Street Halls. Our annual raffle will be held and there will be tickets on sale on the day. The star prize this year is B and B for two with an evening meal at the Sands Hotel. If you have any bottles, bric a brac, baking etc. for the stalls it would be very welcome and can be dropped off at our office.

CHRISTMAS CARDS – There is cards on sale in the office, packs of 10 for £3.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS – The office will close on Friday the 22nd of December until the 4th of January 2018. If you need to contact me in that time my number is 811392 or mobile number 07715825462. We do not provide any care on 25th or 26th December or 1st and 2nd of January, if this is going to cause a problem let us know, cares can be re-arranged.

I would, on behalf of all the girls in the office and the board of Crossroads Orkney, like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Manager