

Moray Shared Lives



Edition No 11 – August 2015

Welcome to the summer edition of the Moray Shared Lives Newsletter. As most of you will be aware, we all went along to Logie Steading earlier this month to enjoy our summer outing together. Logie Steading supplied a quality packed lunch in their Long Room and everyone agreed that the staff were all very attentive, friendly and helpful. After lunch people were free to go round the gardens, enjoy the courtyard and selection of shops or wander round the small farm shop and garden centre.

We had wished for a nice day, but it was the hottest of the year! Everyone coped with it very well though and agreed that it was certainly better than the rain that had been forecast for us!



The feedback from our event was very good, on the whole, and everyone reported that they really enjoyed their afternoon. Some comments made:

“Room was nice”

“Enjoyed meeting people and not sitting at home all day”

“I enjoyed the food!”

“meeting people who knew my childhood friends and blethering with people from yester-year”

“everyone was lovely – very helpful..... but I didn’t get a dram!...I love a gin!”

“liked the small shops and bought some lovely earrings and raspberries”

“The garden centre – lady showed me the flowers with the highest perfume as my sight is poor now...enjoyed naming the flowers as I can still remember their long names!”

“friendly atmosphere...very welcoming staff and made people comfortable”

“surroundings are nice and peaceful”

“beautiful setting, lovely welcome, table settings very pretty, lovely food”

“lovely venue”

Service update.....

Welcome to the carer team:



Rosie Breignan, from Elgin has just been passed to offer a service. Rosie has several years’ experience within the NHS and is looking forward to offering a service on a couple of evenings each week and the occasional weekend. She is hoping to start from September.



Carol Isherwood, Findochty has just been passed to offer a service. Carol also has several years' experience in various care settings and is offering her service 2 days per week. This will initially be day support, but she may expand her service to offer an overnight service in future. Carol is also hoping to start in September.

Shared Lives has been continuing to grow steadily. We have increased the number of Shared Lives carers across Moray to 14, as a result of our recruitment events and personal recommendations etc. We are now also assessing another 4 potential carers in the West of Moray. We have planned further recruitment activities to encourage potential carer applications in the East, over the next few months, and we will also be targeting our recruitment across Speyside.

We now have a variety of service users from the age of 17 to 91! As well as continuing to place and support older people, especially those with dementia, we have had referrals from the learning disability team and transitions team since October last year, and these placements are working really well so far.

Spaces tend to be allocated quickly, but we do still have some availability in the West of Moray and also some overnight respite space, with Nanette Grant in Portgordon. We have reopened our waiting list and will hold a few people on the list, whilst they are waiting to be matched to suitable placements.

Please contact the Shared Lives Team on the usual number: 01343 563450 or email sharedlives@moray.gov.uk.

Carer Focus for this edition is Eleanor Black, from Kinloss.....



Eleanor started with Shared Lives towards the end of last year. She came to the service with a great deal of experience, supporting vulnerable people of all ages. She currently supports 4 people, through Shared Lives Placements based in her home, with a variety of needs. Eleanor's day is varied and she has facilitated a variety of outings and activities locally for people.

Eleanor has also helped to support service users to keep track of day to day life, paperwork and appointments. She has helped them and supported families living further afield, to keep track of finances, going to the bank, establishing a filing system and storage to pay bills etc. For many people using Shared Lives, this is an essential part of continuing to be independent and in control of their own lives. Our Shared Lives Carers play a large part in facilitating this to continue, especially for those people diagnosed with dementia.

Eleanor has kept in touch with the Shared Lives Team, and when required, has given weekly updates for service users considered to be more vulnerable. This has proved useful for Care Officers and she has received great feedback for this.

As always, we appreciate your feedback. Please feel free to email or phone us with suggestions, compliments or any other feedback.

**Contact numbers/emails for the support team, are: 01343 563450/
sharedlives@moray.gov.uk. Emailing the team email with any referrals and queries will ensure they are picked up by the team member who is in the office and this will avoid delays in replies. Thank you.**