

Harlawhill Newsletter

Autumn 2022

HERE COMES AUTUMN

My goodness, that's us into September already. Leaves starting to fall from the trees and the days getting shorter (and nights longer)



We have had a fairly good summer with some very warm days and I have been taking advantage of the good weather sunbathing in my garden when I should have been producing the Summer Newsletter.

Ouch!! (that's me getting my knuckles wrapped). Please accept my apologies. What we'll do is keep this "Autumn" edition a bit shorter as the "Winter" edition will be coming out end of November full of Christmas cheer. Again, sorry!!

AS PROMISED

You may have thought you were getting away with it but I said I would do it so here they are. Lovely photos of our latest staff members – I know you'll be treating them kindly.



Jackie



Dougie

ROUGES GALLERY (photos courtesy of Police Scotland)



Lovely day at 'Fees' Bistro



...where did I leave my strawberry tart?



Ladies who lunch – on Fish n Chips



Knitting, Dominoes and Blethering all at the same time – nae bother!



Nancy with a new client – oh no! It's Ina!!

ROUGES GALLERY (photos courtesy of Police Scotland) contd.



There's an awfy cairy-on at Arts and Crafts



Dominoe Champion - Helen



Lovely May – 90 years young



Oor Davie wi' his great grandson Ollie

Young and Old – we love them all at Harlawhill

Day Centre News

I have to say that the Kitchen and new (old) Sitting Room are looking absolutely fantastic. A superb effort and many thanks to our Trustees who have worked very hard behind the scenes in obtaining funds to enable us to enjoy these fantastic facilities. *(I have been in many of the Day Centres in East Lothian and I have to say that nowhere have I found a Day Centre with the standard, quality and variation of support that you have in Harlawhill – well done everyone.....Editor)*

Carers Fund Act Money

This is additional money from the Scottish Government to support unpaid carers and the person they care for. We have started to offer support, and plan some weekend support in our wee car we purchased with this funding or even the bus at times. This will all be paid from this funding including staff payments and expenses for meals etc. If you are a carer and have any ideas on how we can support you, than let us know and we can arrange meetings and keep you informed as we go forward. Any of our staff will be willing to discuss further and supply information on what we are doing.

You said, we did

We wish to involve our members in all aspects of Harlawhill including meals, entertainment and social events. It is important that you have your say in what is happening in the centre so speak to the staff and let us know.

We need to know our strengths and weakness's to help improve your experience of the centre so your voice matters.

Watch this space for a questionnaire coming out for you to fill in and also one for your family or carers

Arrivals and Departures

We have sadly lost two lovely ladies this summer – **Toni Stewart** and **Margaret Stanuil**. Beautiful ladies who were so full of life and both enjoyed their time here at Harlawhill immensely. We also say farewell to **Sylvia Stuart** and **Arthur Bellany** who are moving full-time into a care home. We wish them well on the next step of their journey.

And we say a hearty “Welcome” to new members **John Cormack**, **Helen Hamilton**, **Betty Watters** and **Bunty Marriot** – buckle up and enjoy!

Look into my Crystal Ball

We are always planning ahead and this is coming up to my favourite time of year :- **Hallowe'en** - when we can dress up and get in a mess without getting a row, **St Andrews Day** – an excuse to have a wee dram and a dance – lovely, and **Christmas** – the month of December is always an exciting time at Harlawhill and this year will be no different.....now where did I put my red suit and beard?

Donations

As always, the generosity of others is quite incredible. Thank you all so much. All donations are solely used for our members entertainment, bingo prizes, arts and crafts and exercise equipment as well as all the little extra's we have in the centre.

Cockenzie Drama Group (Jean Thomson's play)	£1,700
Toni Stewart's funeral collection	£ 220
Anonymous member donated (thank you...editor)	£ 100
Frances Clark's daughter's car boot sale	£ 60
Davie Martin	£ 50
Nora Hogg	£ 50
Ian Thomson	£ 50
Molly Morgan's 90 th birthday	£ 50

	£2,280

Daily Payment

As you may well remember, we discussed in the previous newsletter of the likelihood of the daily fees increasing. Please see below an extract of a letter being sent out to all members and their families in the next few weeks.

INCREASE IN DAY CARE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Dear Members and families,

It is with great regret that we have to inform you that from November 2022 we will have to increase our daily attendance fee from its current £10 per day to £12.50 per day.

We have tried to postpone this for as long as we can but due to the increased costs for fuel, energy and food, amongst other costs we incur, this is no longer possible. The daily cost for attending the Centre has not risen in over ten years but unfortunately neither has the block grant we receive from East Lothian Council which previously helped to absorb most of these costs.

Unfortunately, we feel we have no other option at present in order to maintain the high level of service which you deserve. I would also like to assure you that this will not affect the activities we provide as these are all paid for from charitable donations which are dedicated for members use only.

I understand that this is a concerning time with the rise in energy and food costs, affecting us all, and a member of staff or myself are always available if you wish to discuss this privately with one of us.

Kind regards

Ewan McMillan (Trustee)

Fiona and her staff are always available if you wish to chat about this increase. It can be a worrying time at present with the cost of living but you can be assured of one thing – at Harlawhill, you will always be well looked after with the best food, the best entertainment and the sound of laughter and music ringing in your ears.

Quite simply, Harlawhill is the BEST

A "Wee" Quiz

Name EVERYONE in the photos

