

LEITH, NEWHAVEN & RESTALRIG

Newsletter
December 2024



YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Restalrig



Malcolm Kyeyune
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Rosa Abel
Operational Leader



Stijn Baecke
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

Newhaven



Nikki Kelleher
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Vikki Hyndman
Operational Leader



Claire D'Arcy
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

REGISTERED MANAGER'S MESSAGE

As we celebrate the end of the 2024, I want to express my thanks to you all for the dedication and commitment you have shown during a year of many changes and challenges. Without your support to the team and the people we support, we would not have been able to achieve such an amount of progress and success in a relatively short period of time. I also recognise that there are still improvements to be made, and I am confident that we will continue to reach these over the upcoming months. To enable us to continue to advance we will be planning regular staff engagement sessions which will allow us to come together as a team to share your thoughts, knowledge and ideas, which are instrumental to our development.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the leaders who are continuing to grow in their new roles and have shown great resilience and enthusiasm during this transformation.

During the last few months I have enjoyed meeting many of you and the people we support and I hope to get to know those of you who I have not yet had the pleasure, at the upcoming Christmas event and the future engagement sessions.

Thank you all once again and I wish you all wonderful New Year and look forward to continuing to work with you in 2025.



Lorna Patton
Development Manager



Information

Meet Joseph!



We are excited to welcome Joseph who has recently joined The Action Group and will be getting support from the Restalrig Team. Joseph would like to share the following...

My name is Joseph Cox. I'm really enjoying support with the action group and engaging with the people who get support. I have visited the Prentice Centre a few times where I met my best friend Annie. I love hanging out with people. My experience so far is ten out of ten ★



Farewell Our Lady

It is with a warm heart and a big smile that we think of Leslie Cameron who sadly passed away last month. Leslie had been supported by The Action Group for many years, and during this time she touched the lives of a great number of us, and I am sure at Christmas we will all be raising a glass to her.



Updates

Fun was had by all at the Halloween Party at The Prentice Centre. We look forward to more parties being planned in the future!



We are pleased to welcome new staff members Tosin, Aria & Glory to the Newhaven team and are delighted that Debra and Agnieszka have moved to Newhaven from the Seafield Team. And send best wishes to Durojayie who recently left TAG

KEEP UP TO DATE CLICK TO VISIT



For the people we support



For our staff

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

Christmas Event

11

Bowling and Food. More Details to Follow. Please rsvp Nikki or Malcolm if you wish to attend



Fountain Park



3pm

January

Burns Supper

24

The Leith area are hosting a burns supper on 24th Jan at The Prentice Centre to celebrate the life and work of Robert Burns - a famous Scottish poet



The Prentice Centre



12pm



SEAFIELD & EDINBURGH SOUTH

Newsletter
December 2024

THE
Action
GROUP

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Seafield

Edinburgh South



Hillary Appleyard
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Ruxandra Umbres
Operational Leader



Yvonne Walker
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Suzanne Anderson
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Anna Hornig
Operational Leader



Anne Knutsen
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

REGISTERED MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone, We are now nearly 6 months into TAG Evolve and I hope this change has been a positive one for you. It may be too soon for some people to decide however, the leaders are all committed to trying to improve things for the people we support and staff. We welcome any ideas and suggestions to improve our team. The leaders have some plans and ideas for group activities as well as staff get together for team spirit. If you are interested in organising an event for people we support and/or staff please reach out. It has been lovely to see lots of pictures of people we support in the teams out and about/on holiday and living their best lives. Keep these coming as it showcases how great you all are at supporting and encouraging this. Please come along and join in the festivities at our Christmas parties. I look forward to seeing you there and getting to know you all better. Thank you for being part of the team.



Leigh Baird
Development Manager

Information

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Kieran, who has recently started getting support from the Edinburgh South team. William, who is currently supported by Edinburgh South, will be moving to a new home within the Seafield team - we wish you all the best with your move.

We are delighted to share that Shannon and Ola from the Edinburgh South team have increased their contracts from part time to full time, so we will all be seeing a lot more from them!

Updates

There have been lots of fun things going on across Seafield and Edinburgh South. Sean has had some amazing trips to Jupiter Artland and Maid of the Forth.



Cvijeta, Diane and Heather had a fantastic holiday to Piperdam full of relaxation and fun!



Congratulations!

Celebrating Success

We would like to celebrate the success of our colleagues Anna from Edinburgh South and Andrew from Seafield who have all been successful in gaining their SVQ Qualifications. Congratulations!!

Suggestions for your leaders?



Do you have an idea that you think would improve things for staff and people we support? Please let us know - you can send an email to leighbaird@actiongroup.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

December Edinburgh South

11

Festive themed afternoon tea and celebration



The Inch Community Centre



1pm to 4pm

December Seafield

19

Festive themed afternoon tea and celebration



Hibernian Supporters Club



2pm to 4pm



WEST LOTHIAN, FALKIRK, & EDINBURGH WEST

Newsletter
December 2024

THE
Action
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YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



West Lothian and Falkirk



June Thompson
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Maureen Kilgour
Operational Leader



Beverley Reid
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leaders



Mel McFarlane

Edinburgh West



Matt Ogden
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Katelyn Walker



Heather Colvin

Operational Leaders



Tania Adeoti
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

REGISTERED MANAGER'S MESSAGE

As the year draws to a close, we find ourselves in a time of reflection—on where we've been, where we're going, and how we can grow. It's a time to think about the challenges we've faced, the victories we've celebrated, and the lessons we've learned along the way.

At the heart of everything we do lies our Mission Statement: To value, listen to, and involve people so that our every action is judged to be the best. This Statement is both our guide and our goal. It reminds us why we strive so hard to support the people who rely on us. While we don't always get it right, we remain committed to learning, improving, and doing better.

We indeed ask much of our leaders and staff, and they continue to rise to the occasion. Every day, they bring dedication, compassion, and resilience to their work, creating opportunities for those we support to lead their best lives. Their commitment inspires us all to show up as the best versions of ourselves, even on the hardest days.

This time also offers a chance to express gratitude—for the incredible people we work with, the remarkable lives we get to touch, and the shared mission that binds us together.

As we approach the Christmas events, I look forward to reconnecting with you, celebrating your achievements, and sharing hope for the year ahead.

Thank you for your hard work, and unwavering commitment to our shared vision. Let's continue to strive for the best, together. As we move into 2025 Lang may yer lum reek



Linda Matthew
Development Manager



Updates

Keith has recently finished building a Lego model of the titanic.

The model contains over 9,000 pieces and took roughly 6 months to build! Keith is now displaying the model on his mantelpiece.



Information

We are extending a huge welcome to all of the new support workers joining our team, Welcome to Kelly Debbie and Kathy who have joined us as contracted support workers in West Lothian and Falkirk. We said farewell to Nicola, Kunal, Jamie, Mandy, Rab in West Lothian and Falirk. In December we also bid farewell to Anuoluwapo who will be switching to a casual contract in Edinburgh West.

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COMMUNITY WEBSITE

For the people we support

ASC

For our staff





Janet

It's with joy we are remembering Janet. Janet passed away In November, as we called around to let people know each had a happy memory of Janet to share. Janet was a big character in West Lothian, everyone's story had a common thread, her love for people, her willingness to lend a hand, and her belief in being part of something bigger. Whether helping organise local events, joining activities, or simply offering a kind word, Janet was there—fully present, wholeheartedly giving. When we saw her recently she said " The Action Group has given me a good circle of friends" Her legacy is evident in the joyful and appreciative memories people tell of her. She had a way of making everyone feel valued and supported, leaving behind a legacy of kindness.



Robert

Robert has been working over the summer in our work shed building planters and has now shifted his focus to crafting Christmas trees. With Lynne's support, they successfully secured a generous wood donation from a local company, providing a vital boost for their projects.

This collaboration has not only helped Robert maintain his positive spirits but also enabled him to fill a full order book, ensuring that funds are reinvested into his project. It's wonderful to see such dedication and community support driving his efforts forward. Robert said " I look forward to going up on a Thursday because I enjoy doing it. I've learned new skills and to make planters on my own. It took 4 or 5 attempts to get them right and eventually I got them mastered to a tee. It makes me feel good seeing people liking them and wanting them. "



How you can support me
by Sheree Stewart

Sheree

Sheree has been working with her support staff, leaders and the communications team to help devise a video guide to help new staff know how to best support her. This project is well underway and we hope that, once completed, it will give Sheree and her support staff additional confidence and reassurance. We would encourage anyone who feels like a video guide would be beneficial for them to reach out to us and we can work with you to develop this. This format is great at giving an additional platform to express how your support can best fit your needs in your own words.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

18

West Lothian Christmas Bash

An afternoon of festive fun open to all staff and people we support in West Lothian

Uphall Station Institute Hall

11am - 2:30pm

December

19

Edinburgh West Festive Party

An afternoon of festive fun open to all staff and people we support in Edinburgh West

The Prentice Centre

12:30 - 3:30pm

December

23

Falkirk Christmas Bash

An afternoon of festive fun open to all staff and people we support in Falkirk

Elgin Park

11am - 2:30pm

GRANTON, GROUPS, AND CHILDRENS SERVICES

Newsletter
December 2024

THE
Action
GROUP

YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Granton



David Hughes
Practice and Wellbeing Leader

Hayley Cook
Operational Leaders

Charlie Cross
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

Children and Groups



Stefan Holt
Practice and Wellbeing Leader

Rachel Boyle
Operational Leader

REGISTERED MANAGER'S MESSAGE

It has been fantastic to see all the activities and new adventures that you have been doing within the Granton, Children's and Group's teams. It really has been a busy few months for you all. Please make sure you keep sharing all the pictures and stories with me. Building the community for Granton, children and groups is extremely important to me, if you have any ideas of activities or gatherings you would like to see then please get in touch

The festive period is fast approaching and we are pleased to be able to offer a selection of fun activities for staff and people we support to come together. Please get the dates into your diaries and I will look forward to seeing you there.



Paisley Deighton
Development Manager

Information

We have said goodbye to some of our colleagues from the Granton team. Shaima, the Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader, and Jessica, one of our support worker colleagues have moved on. We wish them all the best for their future.

OluYinka, our support worker colleague from Granton is also moving on to another job soon. We wish you all the best.

We are holding interviews for the Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader for the Granton area position late November/Early December. I will let you all know the outcome of this.

We have welcomed Odunola (Joy) to our team recently as a support worker working across both Granton and Groups teams. We extend a warm welcome to Joy.

Dave - Practice and Wellbeing Leader for Granton will be stepping down from his role in December. We are grateful to Dave for all his work in the Granton area. We are happy to share that Dave will remain working with us as a support worker. We will be recruiting for this position in December.



Farewell Tony

Tony has been deeply missed at the day opportunities, and his staff and friends created planet Porter, where his friends are shooting up to space where Tony is dancing to his favourite songs in space, surrounded by pictures of all the fun times they spent with Tony, this has been a great comfort for all and a beautiful idea.

We all miss you Tony.



News

The Day Ops annual halloween party was a massive hit. It was organised by staff from PC day ops and opened out to staff and people we support from all over TAG. We were delighted to share the fun with so many new people.

People we support from the Day Opportunities and Granton team took part in a cooking workshop with a Michelin Star Chef! This was a fantastic opportunity to learn new skills, have fun and create something really special.

KEEP UP TO DATE CLICK TO VISIT



For the people we support



For our staff

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

9

Granton Christmas Party

Festive themed food, disco and games.

Prentice Centre

11am



Xmas Activities

Date tbc

TBC

TBC

January

18

Children's Service Winter Wonderland

Children's games and activities with some special guests.

The Prentice Centre

12-2



PORTOBELLO, EAST LOTHIAN, & MIDLOTHIAN

Newsletter
December 2024

THE
Action
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YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Portobello



Lloyd Sui
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Kirsty Pike
Operational Leader



Rodrigo Fernandez
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

East Lothian & Midlothian



Pam Fish
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Angie Bain
Operational Leader



Ryan Kiddie
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leaders



Ahana Zahman
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leaders

REGISTERED MANAGER'S MESSAGE

As the holiday season approaches, I hope you're all looking forward to Christmas! We have some exciting parties lined up, offering a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate, and embrace the festive spirit. Over the past few weeks, I've enjoyed getting to know some of our new services and staff, as well as reconnecting with familiar faces among the people we support and our incredible teams. I'm excited to see many of you again—or meet you for the first time—at the upcoming parties.

With TAG Evolve now concluded, I'm proud of the progress we've made, but I recognise there's always room to improve. I'm confident we'll see more positive changes in the months ahead. Your feedback is invaluable in this journey, and I'm eager to hear your thoughts. While we've recently shared a survey, please don't hesitate to reach out directly or catch me at one of our upcoming events.

Thank you for everything you do, and I can't wait to celebrate this festive season with you!



Kyle McKenzie
Development Manager

Information

I'm pleased to say we have had no leavers across all of our services before sending this newsletter out. We continue to recruit staff to fill the remaining vacancy we have in the team. Hopefully you will see some new faces soon.

A reminder the December pay date is the 27th of December to avoid a 6 week wait for January's pay date.



Edinburgh Kilt Walk

On Sunday the 15th of September supported by Cammy - Dan and Liam donned their tartan to complete Scotland's favourite mass participation walking event - The Edinburgh Kilt Walk. They raised an incredible £1500 for charity. Dan's chosen charity was One Dalkeith and Liam's chosen charity was the Mayfield and Easthouses development trust. Well done to all involved and it sounded like a lot of fun!!!



Congratulations to Hailong in team Portobello who is the new Equalities Officer - Good Luck!!!



Steven happy to be back home and recovering after spending 2 weeks in hospital. He loves staying cozy in his jammies & enjoying his music group with friends at Sandilands.



KEEP UP TO DATE
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COMMUNITY WEBSITE

For the people we support

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For our staff

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

10

Portobello X-mas Party

Festive themed party with food!!!

Branch Out

10:30am

December

13

East & Midlothian X-mas Party

Showcase your talent!!!

One-Dalkeith

6pm



IT'S CHRISTMAS !!!

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SILVER EMPLOYER

OSCR

Living Wage

CHARTER FOR INVOLVEMENT

HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

disability confident LEADER

DRRR POSITIVE Employer in Scotland

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WORTH ABOVE REPUTATION

SSA Approved Centre

SCOTTISH NATIONAL STANDARDS

EAST LOTHIAN - SALTIRE

Newsletter
December 2024

THE
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YOUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



East Lothian - Saltire



Farzana Islam
Practice and Wellbeing Leader



Vacancy
Operational Leader



Kerry Brash
Depute Practice and Wellbeing Leader

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COMMUNITY WEBSITE

For the people we support

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For our staff

REGISTERED MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone ! This is our first team newsletter! The Action Group officially gained this team on the 1st August this year. I have had the privilege of getting to know all of the people we support, families and staff and it has been a fun journey which I am thoroughly enjoying, I'm so excited to see what we can all achieve together for our team. As we have our management team in place and all of our trusted personal assistants and support workers, the opportunities are endless. I would like to personally thank each and every single person who delivers support, you are the salt of the earth !

I hope you can all come to our Christmas event on 13th December and celebrate the short time we have worked together. Looking forward to seeing everyone and the people we support showcasing their talents !



Lisa Ramsay
Development Manager

Information

We would like to let you know we are still recruiting for our team, the vacancies are live on our website .

Warm welcome to Farzana Islam who is our Practice and wellbeing manager. Congratulations to Kerry brash who is now our Deputy practice and wellbeing manager . Claire Edmond who will be joining the night responder team. Also a warm welcome to Chiamaka Chukwugbo who has joined as a support worker.

Welcome to Louise Wood who has joined us as a casual worker who will be picking up regular shifts.

As people move on , all the very best to Omotolani Oyerinde. We wish you the very best for your future . We would also like to wish a wonderful Maternity leave to Anota Amele

Kimberly Nixon has left the post of Practice and wellbeing manager, however she has kept a casual contract and Yamini Nanda our operational leader who has also left. **We wish you all the best**

Updates

It was Fiona's birthday recently. Her support workers put in a huge effort to make sure she had a special day, it was fantastic. Well done to her team .



Guy was supported to go to Dunbar Garden centre for some lunch and a visit to the Xmas market. Guy was so happy, he was given a free yellow duck and a Santa toy from some of the Xmas stall holders. He was sooooo excited!



Well Done Calum!

Calum overcame a challenge recently by going to the dentist. Like many people, Calum has always found dentist appointments difficult, but with good support and encouragement, he successfully completed his treatments . **Well done Calum!** Calum's dad passed on this lovely feedback:

Hi Folks

I had Calum at the dentist today for the last of his appointments.

The dentist and staff all made mention of how professional and caring Kerry was when she took Calum last week.

Well done Kerry!

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

Portobello X-mas Party

10

Festive themed party with food!!!



Branch Out Together



10:30am

December

East & Midlothian X-mas Party

13

Showcase your talent!!!



One-Dalkeith



6pm

December

Have Your Say

6

The HYS Review of the year. With Linda Tuthill.



The Prentice Centre



1 - 3pm

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
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disability confident LEADER

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