

# NEWSLETTER

## Welcome to JBDC 'Lockdown' August 2020 Newsletter



Hello  
Folks!

Again, I hope this finds you all well and keeping safe?  
Can you believe it's been over 20 weeks since you were last at the Day Centre? You will be forgetting what it looks like!

I am still very unsure of when we will be back and take guidance from East Lothian Council and Scottish Government on moving forward. Will keep you updated as and when we know.

### The Latest Updates.....



I temporarily changed our registration with the Care Inspectorate to allow us to do Visiting Support in your own homes from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020. As I am unsure when we will get back to Centre I felt this was the best way to move forward as visiting in your gardens is not always possible if the weather is not being kind. I hope you are enjoying our daily befriending phone calls, our person centred face to face visits and chats – well as face to face as we can be whilst wearing PPE, as well as your continued home baking treats?

We also introduced bus outings to get folks out and about again with our support.

I know for a few of you there was a real apprehension about venturing out and I hope we were able to alleviate some of your anxiety. We remain very limited to the numbers we can allow on the bus due to social distancing, but are trying to accomplish 3 short bus journeys per day to see as many of you as possible. All is going well so far and feedback from everyone is very positive. We will continue with this form of contact with you all until guidelines change and we can resume our normal service.....until then stay safe and well, and remember we are always at the end of a phone 😊

### Our Future!

As mentioned above we have had to adapt our ways of working to comply with Government guidelines but at the same time we were really keen to be able to offer a service to you all. The feedback from you has been really positive and I can also tell you that the Day Centre staff have so welcomed and enjoyed the opportunity to see you again and provide albeit a different style of service.

I discussed with the Board of Trustees our suggested style of Service that we might be able to offer from April 2020. It was agreed that this interim service should be at no cost to yourselves meantime. You will appreciate however that being able to provide this interim service at no cost cannot continue indefinitely as the Centre still has to meet considerable costs.

At a recent meeting the Manager & Board of Trustees decided **not to** proceed with an earlier proposal to begin to introduce a fee at the moment and to continue to provide our present service arrangements at no cost to you until the end of September 2020.

We understand that the Scottish Government's Health Secretary is due to make an announcement about Day Centre operation nationwide sometime late August / early September.

My staff, the Board of Trustees and I are sure you will be very keen to ensure that we are in a position to function whenever we are able to do so – we just do not know at the moment when that might be or the level of service we will be able to provide. So to enable us to give you an assurance that we can return to the Centre at a future date and we have the necessary funds to finance our support to you, the Board have agreed to review the current no cost service provision before the end of September and it is likely at that time that proposals will be examined to introduce an **appropriate charge** as a contribution to current costs and overheads and ensure we are financially capable to re-open the Centre when it is safe to do so.



## June & July Birthday Celebrations

We have continued to celebrate both service user and volunteer 'Lockdown' birthdays with social distancing doorstep singing to let them know we are all still thinking about them!

**June Birthday Wishes went out to:** Peter Scott, Bella Porteous and a special milestone 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Marian Samson. Staff member Sharon Hay also celebrated her birthday – 21 again, eh Sharon!

**July Birthday Wishes went out to:** Mary Halliday and Gordon Bauld. Jim Anderson our Tuesday Volunteer also celebrated his birthday – hope it was a good one Jim!

We hope each and every one of you had fabulous birthdays and enjoyed your cakes?

Hopefully you were able to celebrate in your own unique 'lockdown' style – we miss not having our usual birthday celebrations at the Centre, but hopefully it won't be too long until we can again.

## So What About the Staff and Volunteers?

All staff are now all back at work socially distancing in the Centre, completing rotas and paperwork to allow us to accomplish home visits and bus outings for those who requested this service. Risk assessments have been completed for those of you requesting home visits to ensure that you and staff are safe at all times.

So our home visits and bus runs have been going well and the verbal feedback from you all has been awesome....if you could do me a favour and write a wee note to this effect as evidence for our Care Inspector that would be fabulous. Hope you continue to enjoy your home baked sweet treats that go along with outings and visits.....if you have any recipes for cookies or scone flavours let me know.

Remember folks if you have not taken up the offer for a visit or bus run and you change your mind then just phone and let me know. There will be some paperwork to complete on our end but just get in touch.

Volunteers continue to remain at home as our service is no longer in the Centre. They will be back with us in the Day Centre when normal service resumes.

*My extreme thanks, as always goes out to my terrific staff team for their continued hard work and dedication in this still very trying time. They have adapted their working routines to ensure that our service provision is second to none for you all. I know that you have been extremely pleased to see them all xxxx*

Quote of the Day:

'The longer you wait for something the more you appreciate it when you get it. Because anything worth having is worth the wait'

## Exercise

**Remember folks to keep moving. Your seated exercises which you learned at the Centre are invaluable at this time. Put on some music and just move! It's important that you keep as active as you can or are able - to keep your circulation going and to stretch those muscles! Now that we are coming in to see you at home we can also go out a wee walk with you if you are able to do so....just ask us is that's what you want**

**Take care, stay safe and look after yourselves**

**Missing you all heaps**

**Lots of Love, Anne Mercer (Manager)**

