

NEWSLETTER

Hello
Folks!

Welcome to JBDC

May / June 2022 Newsletter

Where is this year going? Month 5 already of 2022!

I hope you were all up bright and early to wash your face in the Mayday dew. No, me neither!

It is good to know that we are heading towards sunnier weather (fingers crossed!) so you can relax in the garden and enjoy Al Fresco dining on the Patio.

*'But I must gather knots of flowers
And buds and garlands gay
For I'm to be Queen o' the May, mother
I'm to be Queen o' the May'*

- Alfred Lord Tennyson

So, What's Our Upcoming Plans?

We are in the process of planning lots of Celebratory Days at the Centre for you all to enjoy.



- VE Day will be celebrated on Monday 9th May with Bill Richardson on his accordion

- Queen's Jubilee Celebrations will run for 3 days -1st, 2nd & 3rd June.

It would be lovely if you all dress up in your finery to help us celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 70th year Reign. We have differing entertainment for these days and your menu choices are from our discussions at your Service User Meeting. It should be magical and lovely to be make this historical event.

- The Wednesday Club at Longniddry, which JBDC assist to support will also be celebrating on 1st June – double the fun that day!
- There will also be a full week of parties – please keep reading this newsletter to find out why! I bet the suspense is killing you now....

May & June Birthday Celebrations



Our warmest Birthday wishes go to the following people:

May Birthdays: Sally Hooker (6th), Helen Johnstone (our Wednesday Volunteer 7th), Ken Bradbury (21st), Susan Rodgers (27th), Robert Bryson (31st)

June Birthdays: Marian Samson (15th), Allanah Jamieson (Monday & Tuesday Volunteer 17th), Sharon Hay (Care Staff 26th)

We hope you all have the best birthdays ever and that we can celebrate with you at the Centre xxx

Quote of the Day:

'If you have good thoughts, they will shine out of your face like sun beams, and you will always look lovely' - Roald Dahl



Congratulations – Let's Celebrate!

Frances Robertson is officially our longest serving service user member at the Day Centre. Frances and I both commenced our John Bellany journey in June 2002. I started at the Centre on the Monday, Frances on the Wednesday. We were 'newbies' together! Twenty years Frances – I think that's good going for both of us! Can I just say too Frances you are wearing better than I am.



Frances has seen many changes throughout her time with us – new décor throughout to update and modernise our Centre. In fact, Frances was part of the service user steering group who tried and tested furniture to ensure that it was suitable and appropriate for all who attended JBDC. Her opinion for colour options for chairs and fabrics for soft furnishings were most helpful when it came to making a final decision for the furnishings you see in the Centre today. She also helped choose the outdoor furniture for our lovely new enclosed patio area. It has an electric awning for all to relax under for Al Fresco dining (weather permitting).

There has also seen changes in the Trustees, Volunteers, and the odd staff member retiring.

So, we think this deserves a wee celebration Frances, so not only will we celebrate the Queens Jubilee on Wednesday 1st June but you're your 'Double Decade' Birthday at the Centre too! That's quite an accomplishment. So folks, it's time to party, party, party!



LET THE SUNSHINE!

We are having a Sunflower Growing Competition at the Day Centre to see who can grow the tallest flower. There will be a special prize (Sharon has yet to decide what that is!) for the winner.

So, we will see who the Percy Thower's and Carol Klein's are of the Day Centre truly are. Good Luck Everyone!



*Fundraising Event in Memory of
Agnes Banks
It's Prosecco Time Again!*



On Saturday 14th May the family of former service user Agnes Banks held a Fundraising Prosecco Afternoon Tea at the Community Centre, Port Seton 1pm – 7pm for funds for our Day Centre.

Agnes joined the John Bellany family in October 2015 and was with us for 3 years before leaving us in 2018. She loved the Centre and made some fabulous friends whilst attending.

We held a previous Prosecco Afternoon in 2015 which Agnes and her family all attended. Agnes had the best time with lots of dancing and singing with us all – fabulous memories of the Bay City Rollers ‘Shang-a-Lang’ which was one of Agnes’s favourites

Lynn and William Edmond (Agnes’s daughter & son-in-law) and their family have always been extremely supportive of our Day Centre and have continually kept in touch.

The Edmond family organised everything and all that we as a Day Centre had to do really was sell tickets and collect raffle prizes for this event.

The bands and singers on the day were fabulous and kept the crowd entertained and all happily danced the afternoon away. Sair feet and hoarse voices went to show a guid time was had by all with all the singing and dancing!

We cannot thank the Edmond family enough for their continued support. It is very much appreciated by all at the Centre. An amazing effort and such an enjoyable event.



A huge thank you also to former service user families for all your contributions which made the Fundraiser a great success.

Janis McClure (Helen Bush’s daughter) who made petit four tablet – it was delicious!

Elizabeth Ormiston (Ann Dickson’s sister) who very kindly donated all the floral arrangements for the tables. They were beautiful and really set off the tables

A huge thank you to all the businesses and individuals who donated raffle prizes which helped us raise an incredible **£1,905.00**. What an amazing amount of money that I’m sure we will be happy to spend!

The Community Centre staff were amazing too – thank you all who assisted on the Friday night and everyone on the Saturday. A special thanks to Jordan, Audrey, and Susan for all their hard work during the Fundraiser and the clearing up at the end – Superstars each and every one of you xx

Lynn, William, and family have requested that the monies raised be used for entertainment, day outings, meals, and afternoon tea outings and for all the service users. A huge thank you to all – you were absolutely amazing. Think you should be an Event Planner Lynn!



It is with a heavy heart....



After 20 years as Manager at John Bellany DC I am moving on to the pastures new. My final day at the Centre will be Friday 10th June 2022. It has been an extremely difficult decision for me, and I have had very mixed emotions about leaving. To be honest, I thought I would be working at the Day Centre until I retired.

My life at JBDC commenced on 1st June 2002 when I job shared with Merle Steele. The Day Centre was open 6 days per week then and Merle and I split this between us. Me working Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, one week and then Monday, Tuesday, Saturday the following. We shared this role for years and then our Trustees decided a change of rota would best suit our service and we moved to week on, week off. Keith continued his role full-time and was there to support us both as Assistant Manager/Driver.

We happily worked this way for years until Merle decided she was going to retire in 2015, where I was asked by the Board of Trustees to step into the role full time, which I graciously accepted. And the rest they say is history!

I have seen a great many changes at the Day Centre throughout my years and I have been truly blessed to have supported and worked with some amazing individuals. It is thanks to the Trustees, Staff and Volunteers that I have had such an enjoyable work life at the Day Centre and believe me when I say I have enjoyed every minute.

My Trustees and Volunteers at the Centre are wonderful individuals who give up their personal time to benefit the Day Centre. With their guidance and support they assist the staff to make the Day Centre the best it can be for all who attend. For all your years of dedication, support, and hard work I can't thank you enough. I will miss you all xxx

It's my staff team though who have been my rock, and without them I couldn't do my role. We have worked together for years which shows their true commitment and dedication to our amazing Centre and to you as service users. We just gelled as individuals which I think you will agree helps to make your days attending the most fun. We have laughed, cried and had so much fun over the years that often it didn't feel like work at all. They have helped me grow as a manager, as a colleague and as a friend – thank you all from the bottom of my heart – it's been an honour and a privilege to work with you all.

I saw this quote which says it far more eloquently than I ever could....

**'We are not a team because we work together
We are a team because we trust, respect and care for each other'**

Thank you all for everything, it's been a blast! Just remember me for the nights out – I still love a guid pairty!

But it's you as service users that I must thank the most. Without you there would be no John Bellany Day Centre, no Staff Team, no Volunteers, and no Board of Trustees in fact we just wouldn't be.

You bring us all together like one big extended family in the 'hoose' we call the Day Centre!

And, just like any family we laugh, we cry, we sing, we dance, we gather for food, fun and nonsense and have the most fantastic time together every day.

I count myself extremely lucky to have been welcomed into all your families and to have had the best time over the years.

So, to each and every one of you I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the past 20 years. I'm going to miss you all (more than you will ever know).

Take care, much love.....*Anne xxx*

