

Welcome

Hello, and welcome to the latest edition of Inspire's monthly Family Matters newsletter for the families and loved ones of the people we support.



I am delighted to have returned to the business in earnest this month having had some time away to attend to a family health matter in the early part of the year. I am looking forward to getting out and about to visit our services and speak to staff on a face-to-face basis over the coming months, as well as attending future Family Engagement sessions.

We were pleased this month to be able to announce details of pay increases for all Inspire staff, with immediate effect, following consultation with our Board, and in line with the commitment from the Scottish Government to provide vital extra funding to the health and social care sector to ensure that frontline support staff are paid a minimum of £10.50 per hour. In line with previous years we will be paying an additional uplift of 1%, meaning that the rate of pay for contracted, front-line Inspire support workers has gone up from £10.12 per hour to £10.61 per hour. All of our other operational and business support staff not impacted by the £10.50 related increases have also seen their salaries increased by £1,000 per annum (pro-rata).

We have made this decision, prior to any definitive commitment from our funders, to go some way towards recognising the continued loyalty our staff have all shown the organisation over the past year and for the huge, positive contribution they all continue to make to the lives of the people we support - your loved ones.

As ever, if you have any queries at all about any aspect of your family members' support then please don't hesitate to get in touch with us via email on families@inspiremail.org.uk or by speaking to staff at their service.

Linda Gray, CEO

Use Of Face Masks

We know that everyone will be aware of the changes which came into place on April 18th which mean people in Scotland are no longer legally required to wear face masks in indoor settings such as shops and restaurants or on public transport.



However, we wanted to reiterate that these changes relate to the general population and that Inspire staff are continuing to follow guidance for health and social care staff which state they must wear an appropriate, fluid resistant surgical mask when in a service or when supporting a person outside in the community.

Inspire...By Charity Shop To Open In Inverurie

We are delighted to be able to announce that we will shortly be opening a new Inspire...By Charity Shop & Workshop in the centre of Inverurie.

The service will run along similar lines to our existing Inspire...By premises in Huntly and Stonehaven and we hope to open for business to the public in early Summer.

We will be moving out of our existing Inverurie base, with those who currently attend day service there moving the short distance to our new base on Market Place (formerly Yvi's House of Tea), right next door to the Ashvale Restaurant and McLeish's Convenience Store. We have already begun a phased introduction to the new building for those supported by the Day Service to ensure a smooth and stress-free transition for all.



As well as providing us with the opportunity to establish the charity shop element of our Inspire...By model - which has proven so successful in both Stonehaven and Huntly - within Inverurie for the first time, the new building also features a far larger day service activity space than our existing base. This opens up the possibility for us to expand the activities we can offer as well to run community coffee mornings and added-value events for the people we support, such as Supper Clubs or movie screenings, bingo, rts and crafts etc. in the future.

As everyone will appreciate, a successful charity shop needs lots of donations! We would therefore be delighted to receive any of your unwanted clothes, shoes, books, toys, bric-a-brac, small furniture, electrical goods etc. now to ensure we are well-stocked ahead of opening. In the first instance, please contact Mark Murison or Louise Pugh on mark.murison@inspiremail.org.uk or louise.pugh@inspiremail.org.uk to arrange drop-offs or collections of any donations and spread the word to friends and family of this exciting new establishment that will soon be opening in Inverurie. You can get a sneak peek [here](#).

June Family Engagement Session

Many thanks to all of those who attended our latest Family Engagement Session on Zoom on April 21st.

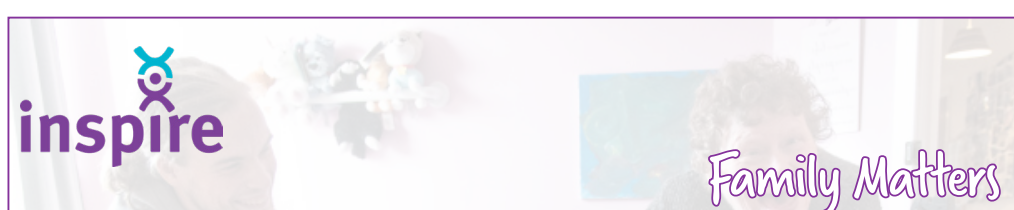


Our next scheduled session will take place on **Thursday, June 23rd from 6pm-7.30pm** and is again open to all the family and friends of the people we support.

Whilst our hope is to be able to consider hosting in-person sessions of some form in 2022, the June session will again be held on Zoom following discussion and agreement with those present at the April event.

Anyone who would like to book a slot can do so by contacting Andrew Reid on andrew.reid@inspiremail.org.uk or by calling 07779108894.

Newsletter Feedback & Contact Information



We hope that you continue to find Family Matters a useful and interesting resource.

Please do get in touch with us with any comments - positive or negative - that you may have and any thoughts on what you would like to see more, or indeed less of, in the newsletter going forward throughout 2022. Your feedback is vital in ensuring this communication continues to achieve its aims.

You can contact us on families@inspiremail.org.uk or call Andrew Reid on 07779108894 to pass on any feedback you might have or if you wish to speak to us about anything at all.

Inspire's 2021 Annual Review

Inspire's Annual Review for 2021 has now been published and we would encourage everyone to go and have a read of it and share it with their friends and family.

This publication highlights all of the hard work done by everyone at Inspire last year as well as showcasing the amazing efforts of the people we support during such a challenging period.

The document can be accessed and downloaded from our website [here](#).



Positive Care Inspectorate Reports For Two Inspire Services

We are delighted to be able to share some positive news following Care Inspectorate inspections of two of our services recently.

Both our **Sycamore Way service**, in Banchory, and **Community Living Project (CLP) service** supporting people in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Moray, received grades of **5 - Very Good** - for the Key Questions: **How well do we support people's wellbeing?** and **How good is our care and support during the Covid-19 pandemic?**



Both inspection reports praise staff's knowledge of infection prevention and control (IPC) and use of PPE and highlight their enabling attitudes. There is also acknowledgement of opportunities for people to be involved in activities - both through Inspire and within the local community - being maximised.

New Weekly Interactive Quiz In Aid of Inspire

We are delighted to have teamed up with local company SSK to launch a weekly interactive quiz in aid of Inspire.



Full details on how to enter the quiz each week can be found by clicking [here](#) and then selecting Inspire as the charity you wish to support.

Entry is £5 - with a minimum of £3.50 coming to Inspire from each entry - and there are cash prizes available every week.

Please spread the word amongst your family and friends as if an average of 10 people took part in aid of Inspire each week then more than £1,600 would be raised towards our Added Value activities over the course of a year.

Funding Success



Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership
A caring partnership



We wanted to share some good news with everyone this month following a number of successful funding applications recently.

The Aberdeen City Health & Social Care Partnership has awarded us more than £5,000 through the Health Improvement Fund to cover the costs of our monthly Aberdeen Supper Club for the next twelve months, while the Aberdeen Student Show has confirmed we will receive a Silver Grant Award (around £2,500) from the proceeds of their performances in April.

A grant of £5,760 has also been awarded to Inspire by the NHS Grampian Endowment Fund to enable us to develop our face-to-face added-value activity sessions across our areas of operation over the coming year, whilst a further grant of £1,000 has been made by the Meikle Foundation.

Aberdeen Sports Village Experience Day



Five people we support were treated to a great experience day recently. Thanks to the generosity of Aberdeen Sports Village - Bobby, Irene, Grant, Emma and Marie got to try out a range of sports before attending an important football match at Pittodrie.

The people we supported thrived at sports such as football, badminton and table tennis. Bobby showed off his awesome goalkeeping skills whilst everyone else had fun trying to score a goal against him.

Everyone enjoyed trying out badminton - so much so that Emma is really keen to play regularly. She has been put in touch with a local group in Inverurie that plays weekly so she is going try it out.

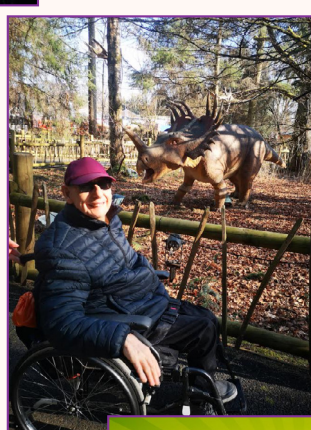
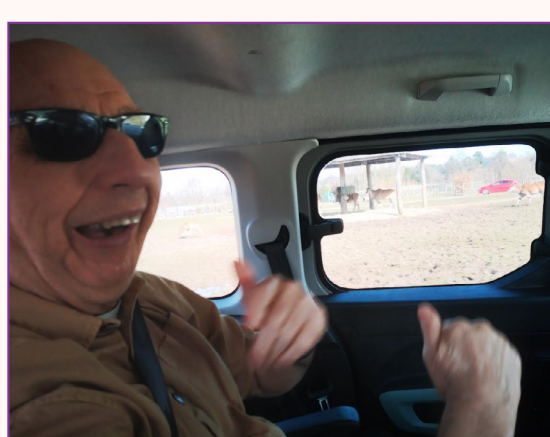
Grant treated himself to some goodies at the Aberdeen Football Club shop before the game. The football score didn't go in their favour but everyone enjoyed cheering on the Dons and enjoyed a warm drink and pie at half time. A great time was had by all!

What's up Inspire!?



St James's Court Wii Bowling

St James's Court recently took part in a Wii Bowling Competition. The semi-final saw it come down to Andrew, Marie, Stuart and Emma all battling it out for place in the final. All are great players and gripping matches were played out that saw Marie and Emma go through to the final which Marie won!



Alistair from Holland Street had a wonderful day out to Blair Drummond Safari Park for his 65th Birthday.



Johnny at Donald Dewar Court celebrated his birthday recently.



Sharon from Edgar Road playing the bongo drums to music at Dreamtime. She goes there three times a week.



Ronan from Aberdeen CLP has been baking lately. He made a batch of scones, they were lovely!

your life, our support



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