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GRAMPIAN AUTISTIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Winter 2017 newsletter where we will update you on what we at Grampian Autistic Society have been doing since our last newsletter in Autumn.

Christmas Lunch

On the 8th of December, Grampian Autistic Society with some of the clients and staff went to The Globe bar for its Christmas lunch. Some of the staff got a certificate for how long they have worked with Grampian Autistic Society.



I got a certificate for 10 years for being its Domestic Assistant. It was so good to be appreciated. I would like to wish you all a happy new year for 2017.

Mhairi Hay

Valentine's Afternoon Tea

Our annual Valentine's afternoon tea fundraiser in February was a great success! About 80 ladies gathered at Hazlehead Park Cafe for the occasion. As ever, Pat Kennedy and her team worked really hard to create a fantastic event, which raised an amazing £4600 - around £500 more than last year! This will be a huge help in enabling GAS to provide a welcoming and appropriate autism-friendly environment through carefully selected equipment and outings.

As well as everyone attending, many others were very generous in their support for our fundraiser – a number of local businesses provided raffle prizes, prosecco, and pampering gifts for those who attended. A thank you also goes to Sandy Davidson for providing a good selection of tunes on the day.



Vacancies

GAS are currently looking for new team members in a variety of roles. If you are interested then please get in touch on 01224 277900.

Grampian Emeralds CFC Donation



We would like to thank Grampian Emeralds Celtic Fans Club for donating £500 to us after holding a raffle for a signed shirt. This money will go towards new equipment and future activities for our service users.

Pictured is our Rota Coordinator and Admin Assistant, Becky Rafferty receiving the cheque for £500 after giving a brief tour of our Playscheme.

FREE GAS Membership

Would you like discount on any training from us? Would you like the opportunity to help support GAS in the future? Would you like to receive our quarterly newsletter? Would like to have a say in our services by having a vote at our AGMs?!

Then you'll be glad to hear that for 2017 and 2018 it is absolutely free to become a member of Grampian Autistic Society. All you need to do is fill in the Membership Application at www.grampianautisticsociety.co.uk/membership and you can experience all the benefits of being a GAS member for free and help support our services.



Public Training Dates for 2017

Our public training dates and topics for 2017 are as follows:

- Thursday 9th March – Introduction to Autistic Spectrum Conditions
- Thursday 11th May – Challenging Behaviour
- Thursday 29th June – Making Sensory Toys and Games at Home
- Thursday 14th September – Introduction to Autistic Spectrum Conditions
- Thursday 26th October - Challenging Behaviour
- Thursday 7th December – TBA

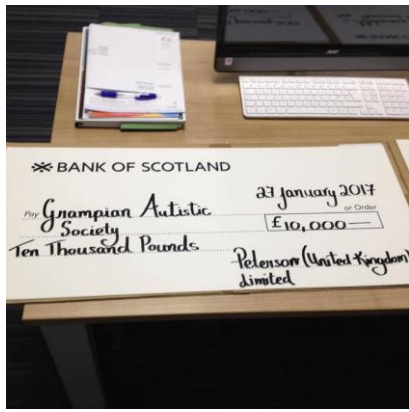
All training sessions take place from 10.30am to 1.00pm at our premises on Carnie Drive and come at a cost of £10 per person/£5 per member.

Please contact Craig Henderson if you would like to book a place on any of these training sessions.

Donation

A big thank you to Debbie Ann Park who held a craft fair and raffle fundraising event in Fraserburgh that helped raise £410 for GAS!

Peterson Donation



Peterson (United Kingdom) Limited recently chose Grampian Autistic Society as one of two local charities that it wished to donate its charity fundraising to.

This led to a donation of £10,000! Our Service Manager, Pearl Begbie, was thrilled to pick up the cheque and express our thanks in person.



This money will go a long way in supporting our service users with day trips, outings, and new equipment.

Clairvoyant Night Fundraiser

Our fundraiser event, An Evening with Maureen Smith, was a huge success and helped us raise more than £1300.

The night went very well with some people receiving very touching messages and everyone having a lot of fun.



Everyone who attended was given a gift bag with GAS bracelets, sweets, coupons, and information on ASCs.

The raffle prizes went down a treat and the winners seemed very pleased.

Once again, we wish to thank Nicolle Housden-Lambert for arranging the event and Maureen Smith for providing her services.

Co-op Funding

Great News! The Co-op Local Community Fund is now over and there was £1430.96 raised for GAS.

This money will be used for purchasing new equipment and planning trips for the children in the Playscheme service as well as updating some games and facilities.

We wish to thank co-op as well as all of the members who chose Grampian Autistic Society as their chosen charity to support.



Do you have anything that you would like included in the next newsletter? Feel free to contact us with your ideas on 01224 277900. If you would like to contact any of our staff about the above mentioned training, services, or events then see email addresses below.

Brian Walsh – brian.walsh@grampianautisticsociety.co.uk

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Shona Hepburn – playscheme@grampianautisticsociety.co.uk

Craig Henderson – training@grampianautisticsociety.co.uk

