

## Moderator's Golf Challenge raises £4,000



The Moderator's Golf Challenge, held at the Royal Burgess Club in Edinburgh in September, raised the fantastic sum of £4,000. The event was hosted by Rt. Rev. Dr. Russell Barr, who wanted to be a professional golfer before he entered the ministry. At 8am, more than 70 players exchanged their teas (and bacon rolls) for different types of tee and the competition got underway. Right on cue, the rain stopped, the sun came out and continued to shine on an immaculate course for the rest of the day. Dr. Barr positioned himself on the par 3 13<sup>th</sup> hole where he took on all comers to pitch nearest the pin. Perhaps not surprisingly, not many players 'beat' the Moderator! The awards for the various challenges were presented during lunch

in the magnificent clubhouse. The overall team championship was won by a Salvation Army team from Govan who received an engraved salver. The highlight was a moving account from Clare telling of the support she had received from CrossReach when she was struggling with postnatal depression and didn't know where to turn. Clare told the audience: "I felt panic and fear for the future and totally helpless to change it, but once I had made that initial call to CrossReach, I immediately felt understood." An auction of donated lots and other fun activities took the total for the day to £4,000 which will be used to support CrossReach's Children and Family Services.



## CrossReach sponsors Recovery Walk



On Saturday 17th September CrossReach was one of the sponsors for the National Recovery Walk from the Kelpies to Callendar Park in Falkirk. Head of Service Vic Walker explains more: "The Recovery Walk seeks to celebrate the fact that people can and do recover from Addiction, to help remove the stigma of addiction and to promote the range of services and supports that exist for people and for their families. CrossReach services from Glasgow, Edinburgh,

Dundee & Angus, Inverness and the Highlands took part in the day, with staff and service users present. The sun shone as over 2,000 people walked the three miles to a 'Recovery Village' in front of Callendar House. CrossReach was promoting a healthy living theme and gave out fruit juices, cold drinks and over a thousand pieces of fruit!"



## MSP commends Morven Day Services in Kilmarnock

Brian Whittle, MSP for the South Scotland Region, has lodged a motion in the Scottish Parliament commending the work of Morven Day Services in Kilmarnock following a recent visit. The core aim of Morven is to promote personal responsibility and provide users with a sense of ownership of their own care, including the ability to self-refer themselves without having to visit their GP; giving people the tools now to make it easier to solve their problems in the future. Among the facilities provided are group sessions in art and music. The service's volunteer chef serves up quality, freshly cooked meals as well as running classes in how to cook and eat more healthily at home. Mr. Whittle said: "The user led approach Morven Day Services take to providing care and support to those in need is exactly the sort of approach we need to see more of in health and social care across Scotland. The work they do is vital to the community they serve and they deserve much greater recognition and support as they continue it." Allan Marshall, Deputy Manager at Morven said: "It was a pleasure to chat with Brian about his vision which he is hoping to lay out in his report. It was beneficial for all of us and will help to strengthen our links with the Scottish Parliament."

## CrossReach delivers 'life changing Social Care' says Bill Steele



The Church of Scotland is going 'On the Road' this autumn to ask its 400,000 members to shape the direction it should take into the future. So what does it mean for CrossReach, our professional social care provider? The Church's efforts in the 19th century were vital because health and social care were low on the Government's agenda. Funded by its members, the Church established many innovative services, such as free schools, which proved to have enormous value to society. But, as the Welfare State developed, these were handed over to the state because it had the resources to develop them to their full potential. Today, CrossReach continues to work in partnership with the state. We are an independent charity and receive funding from the Church of Scotland,

but we are also contracted by local and national government to run some social care services. This allows us to work across the country to support people who are experiencing homelessness, learning disabilities, mental health issues, addictions, childhood trauma, dementia, and many other circumstances. Yet the Welfare State, which took over the Church's key role in social care for much of the 20th century, is in a period of flux. Public funding for social care is falling but the need for support is increasing, primarily due to our ageing population. So we cannot rely solely on public funding, or solely on private funding. The way forward is to connect the outstanding, professional social care services of CrossReach with the inspiring, voluntary social care projects being run by local churches across the country. Even small voluntary projects can make a huge difference. For example, Lochbroom and Ullapool Parish Church in the West Highlands is working with a local garage and dedicated volunteers to provide the Ullapool Hospital Car service, which helps local people travel the 60 miles to Inverness for hospital appointments. The Church today has the ethic, will, passion and – through CrossReach – expertise to make a real difference in society. We have done so in the past and it is our ambition to continue this legacy of co-operation and co-production so we can continue to support communities in Scotland.

- **Bill Steele is Convener of the Social Care Council (CrossReach)**

## New developments at Queen's Bay Lodge

The beautiful garden and grounds at Queen's Bay Lodge in Edinburgh have long received admiration. Residents and their families enjoy taking in the beautiful flowers, listening to the glorious birdsong and to generally enjoy this outdoor space. Seeing the appreciation for the existing space, volunteer gardener Maureen Robertson and handyman Iain Pratt wanted to develop the area further. The tired summer house was being used as a makeshift greenhouse and a grassy area was in need of something new. Working with manager Helen Somerville and her team,

ideas were discussed and a plan drawn up. Following several fundraising initiatives and a generous donation from Carrick Knowe Church of Scotland Guild, a new greenhouse was purchased (currently housing capsicums, cucumbers and tomatoes) and the summer house was renovated and reclaimed as a place to sit and enjoy the garden. Maureen's design for the building became a reality thanks to the skills of Iain and the help of friends and staff. A putting green was established in the grassy area and golf-loving residents have already enjoyed connecting with old passions. These new developments will undoubtedly be enjoyed for many years to come.



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