

## CrossReach Week 2015: 9th - 15th November



CrossReach Week is from 9th- 15th November when the Moderator of the General Assembly will spend a week meeting people who use our services, as well as staff and volunteers. Rt. Rev. Dr. Angus Morison and his wife Marion will begin the week in Stornoway at Lewis Street and the Dochas Project which offer help to those with substance misuse problems. On Tuesday, the Moderator will be a guest at a gathering of CrossReach Dementia Ambassadors in Inverness, before heading to Hamilton on Wednesday to be one of the guest speakers at the Learning Disabilities National Forum. Also on the agenda is a chance to tour some of CrossReach's Children and Family Services on Thursday.

- CrossReach and Social Care Sunday is on 15th November and to help churches plan a CrossReach themed service there will be 'Starters for Sunday' on the Church of Scotland and CrossReach websites. These will include readings, hymn suggestions and video clips of the Moderator which can be shown during worship. In addition, a DVD resource of CrossReach Week 2014 will be posted to ministers in charges.

## Supporting Older People

Writing for 'Friends of the Scotsman' CrossReach Chief Executive Peter Bailey says professionals and volunteers both have a role in supporting Scotland's older people: "As CrossReach it is our privilege to support people across Scotland to retain and regain control over their future and to choose how they will live their lives as they get older. In seeking to address the challenges our society faces, we have the advantage of experience and expertise. CrossReach has been involved in social care in Scotland for nearly 150 years, adapting the support we have offered as the needs of people in Scotland have changed. Colleagues working across the country whose vocation it is to offer excellent, person-centred, and life changing support to the people who choose to use our services. Having such a dedicated team means we can support people through the most difficult of circumstances. It also means we can develop innovative initiatives like our creative arts project for people with dementia, Heart for Art. But, while I believe we have a vital role in ensuring people can participate in their communities as equals, social care is not solely the preserve of the 'professionals'."



- You can read the full article at: [www.crossreach.org.uk/news](http://www.crossreach.org.uk/news)



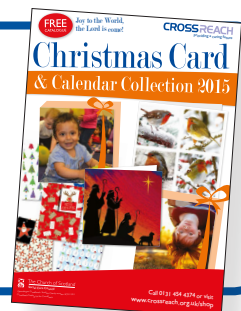
## New childcare legislation welcomed

Viv Dickenson, CrossReach's Director of Children and Family Services, recently highlighted the Scottish Government's Childcare campaign, and welcomed the efforts being made to inform parents and carers of the legislation changes which will allow additional free childcare hours to be provided for 3 and 4 year olds, as well as some 2 year olds from August 2015. Parents and carers can get more information and check their entitlement at: [www.scottishfamilies.gov.uk](http://www.scottishfamilies.gov.uk)

## Christmas Card and Calendar Collection 2015

Watch out for our catalogue which has been sent to ministers and Congregational Supporters.

You can request a copy by calling: **0131 454 4374**



## Honouring a Special Arrival

How do you celebrate the birth of a princess? At Kinning Park Parish Church in Glasgow the suggestion of having a traditional afternoon tea to mark the birth of Her Royal Highness Princess Charlotte of Cambridge



was only the start. Having excitedly awaited her arrival on 2nd May, the congregation wanted to do something more meaningful. Rev. Marnie Johnston suggested having a Baby Shower to accompany the afternoon tea. The plan would be to donate the collected gifts to CrossReach Children and Family Services. So on Saturday 27th June the event was attended by around 30 ladies, all of whom brought appropriate gifts. The next question was: "How do we get these to CrossReach?" Answer - Viv Dickenson, Director of Children and Family Services, was invited to receive the 'collection' at a morning service resembling a Harvest Thanksgiving with baby gifts! Viv shared some examples of the services CrossReach delivers to children. Her presentation highlighted outreach to families with children under

3 years old which are delivered at: Perth Prison Visitors Support and Advice Centre, CrossReach Postnatal Depression Services and Daisy Chain Early Years Project. Viv thanked the congregation for supporting the work of CrossReach and assured them that their thoughtfulness would improve the lives of many children.

## 'Generating' Support for Oversteps

Oversteps Care Home in Dornoch lost power last winter in poor weather so Royal Dornoch Golf Club stepped in to ensure it won't suffer another blackout during winter storms. The club spent more than £8,000 to buy a diesel generator as a back-up in case the problem arises again. The money was donated from the club's Captain's Charity Fund which is built up annually by two fundraising weekends. A ceremony was held when a cake in the shape of the generator was made for the residents. Allan Logan, Director of Services to Older People, said: "CrossReach is hugely grateful for the gift of this generator. Oversteps is particularly well supported within the local community and have established excellent links with the golf club. The generator will enhance our contingency planning arrangements and ensure that inclement weather doesn't disrupt the quality of service to the 24 residents." Catriona Taylor, manager of Oversteps, said: "We are delighted by the continued support from Royal Dornoch. Previously they donated money which enabled us to purchase new garden furniture, and Oversteps has been fortunate to have been chosen as the Ladies Members' Charity for the last two years. The club also provided practical support by cooking meals for the residents when the power failed. We have strong links as several of our residents are ex-players or life members and we have hosted a joint Golf Reminiscence afternoon for residents and ex-members in the community."



**CROSSREACH**  
providing a caring future

Prayer Diary  
1 Jun 2015

**MORVEN DAY SERVICES,  
KILMARNOCK**  
MORVEN OFFERS SUPPORT TO ADULTS WITH A  
MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM LIVING IN EAST  
Ayrshire.

As staff minister in the vast and complex  
area of mental health, pray that they would  
not lean on their own understanding but  
remember that Christ once walked where  
they walk, stood where they stand, felt  
what they feel and so he understands their  
circumstances.

Help us realise that when God says no, it's  
because he doesn't want us to have second  
best or to settle for less, but has greater  
things ahead.

Give thanks that the centre provides a  
supportive environment where people can  
learn new skills, meet and make new  
friends.

The Church of Scotland  
Social Care Council

## Has your website got the CrossReach widget?

A new 'widget' featuring the weekly CrossReach Prayer Diary is now available for church websites. Following a successful pilot, the free resource is now being offered to all churches and will eventually be developed to also include news from CrossReach job vacancies and the CrossReach shop.

CrossReach's Head of Service for Business Development Elizabeth Hay said: "We would be delighted if every Church of Scotland congregation added the widget to their website. Through prayer, our work together can reach and change the lives of those we serve in Christ's name." If you would like to be sent the link to add the widget to your church website, please e-mail: [hugh.brown@crossreach.org.uk](mailto:hugh.brown@crossreach.org.uk).

