

## Moderator's Golf Day raises over £5,000

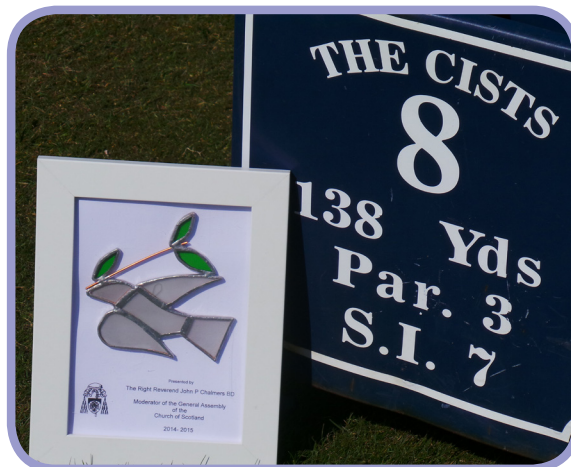


The sun shone on the golfers from across Scotland who took part in the inaugural Moderator's Golf Challenge at Craigielaw Golf Club in East Lothian in April. Over £5,000 was raised for CrossReach's Children and Family Services. Rt. Rev. John Chalmers, himself a life-long golfer, suggested the idea following his week-long visit around CrossReach services last November.

The money raised will go to support the work of children and families who are supported by CrossReach. Director of Children and Family Services Viv Dickenson thanked those who took part: "Many of the children we work with are at risk from a number of factors including poverty, disability, drug misuse, mental health stigma, discrimination and family breakdown. However they also have a wealth of natural talents and abilities. Ensuring that an atmosphere of trust and safety exists in each of the services allows us to support them to overcome these difficulties and to be given a chance to succeed. By participating in our golf day you have helped give them that chance."

The Moderator was delighted with the way the day had gone: "I spent a morning giving golf lessons to the boys from Ballikinrain School and on the spot decided that it would be good to raise some funds for CrossReach. 84 players came along. A lot of these players were unaware of the work the Church of Scotland – through CrossReach – does outside of their congregations. It has been a fantastic event and I'd like to thank all of the people at CrossReach who made it happen."

Craigielaw Golf Club in Aberlady was the venue and the Moderator – using his golf connections – was able to get two well known figures on the Scottish golf circuit. Bill Lockie, one of the best golf teachers in Scotland and John McTear, a former PGA Senior Champion, helped raise the level of play.



Hole 8 was designated as 'Beat the Moderator' and participants who got closer to the pin than the Moderator at the 138 yard par 3 received a framed glass dove made in Bethlehem. After the golf and dinner there was an auction with fantastic lots including a round of golf at Gleneagles and a signed Manchester United shirt.



Following the success of the fundraiser, it's hoped to repeat the event in 2016.



## Running for CrossReach PND

Eleven brave Charis House staff will be taking part in a 5k run on 30<sup>th</sup> May, part of the Edinburgh Marathon Festival, to raise money to refurbish the creche at Bluebell PND services in Glasgow. If you would like to sponsor the runners, please visit: [justgiving.com/crossreach5k](http://justgiving.com/crossreach5k).



Meanwhile someone who ran even further was Tanya Anderson from ConneXions, who travelled to the USA and completed the challenge of the Boston Marathon on 20<sup>th</sup> April in a fantastic time of 3 hours 51 minutes. She is also raising funds for Bluebell PND services. Donations are still welcome at: [justgiving.com/TanyaBluebellPND](http://justgiving.com/TanyaBluebellPND).

## 'Pop-Up Shop' raises over £3,300

Vacant shop units on our high streets make an excellent venue for a 'pop-up shop' – a temporary shop to raise awareness or funds for a particular cause or charity. CrossReach Counselling: Lothian recently took advantage of one such empty shop



front in Dunbar for a week. Selling donated items such as CDs, books and household goods, the shop raised the

fantastic sum of £3,334 (including gift aid) which will be used to provide counselling sessions for people in East Lothian.

[www.crossreach.org.uk](http://www.crossreach.org.uk)

## Cameron House on BBC Scotland

The amazing work at Cameron House in Inverness using Gaelic in helping residents with dementia was featured recently on BBC radio and television. Native Gaelic speakers with dementia are being helped to remember their lives and early memories through conversations in their language with school children at Cameron House. The project is helping older people living with dementia by breaking down language and generation barriers. Residents are visited weekly by pupils from the local Bun Sgoil Ghaidhlig Inbhir Nis School. The project aims to increase the well-being of the residents and to help the youngsters develop their Gaelic and social skills.

Margaret Morrison, activities co-ordinator at Cameron House, said the conversations give the residents a 'sense of purpose.' Speaking on BBC Radio Scotland's Good Morning Scotland, she said: 'The objectives of the project are primarily to enable our Gaelic speakers to converse in their native tongue and to enable the children to develop their language skills by using it conversationally. It gives our service users a sense of purpose and usefulness by assisting the children with their language.' Cameron House's initiative was also featured on Reporting Scotland's news bulletins on television.



Described as an 'excellent platform to break down prejudices and misunderstandings about dementia', the partnership between Cameron House and the primary school won the 'Best Innovation in Continuing Care' category at Scotland's Dementia Awards in 2014. Scotland's Dementia Awards showcase the creativity, innovation and dedication of staff, which impacts the daily lives of people living with dementia and their families. The awards show how, across Scotland, policy is being sustainably put into best shared practice.