



Christmas Lunch 2011



Gentle Exercise with Pat

We asked some of the clients if they had increased there social contacts since coming to our Centre and if doing so makes a difference to their lives –

*Rab said*

*You are definitely making a difference to my life. Thank God we have people in the Neighbourhood who look after us or this would be hell on earth. I see about 20 people each time I come here – other than coming here I don't go out, I don't go to the pub or anywhere - this is my only outlet.*



*Claire said*

*It makes very much of a difference – companionship is the main thing – it has increased my social contacts. I see 12 to 15 or more people – if I did not come here I would spend the day singing to the radio!*



*Bill said*

*You have something to do here that you enjoy – I see people here but nowhere else.*



*Ron said*

*Yes it makes a difference to me - I get to meet people and it gives me something to do – it occupies me – I meet nice people which I would not do if I stayed at home. Coming here stops me going melancholy. If I did not come to Prestonfield I would sit in the flat or go walking by myself. It is also nice to see other people getting so involved in the activities.*



*Cathy said*

*Coming here makes a difference - makes me a lot cheerier – its like getting let loose – when your in the house you are on your own – I feel free coming here – I see more people especially on the Fridays, - having a laugh and having someone to talk to makes the difference.*



*Anne said*

*I like coming here – I feel part of the family and I see different people – you learn things about other peoples lives – I like every day I come – I wouldn't come if I didn't like it – the best part is meeting people.*



Little Monkeys Nursery visit the Project Christmas 2011



Daffodil Tea Party at Prestonfield Primary School



# Project User Group



Andrew McCleary



Cathy Robertson



Isa Galloway



Eddie Ritchie



Anne Dobie



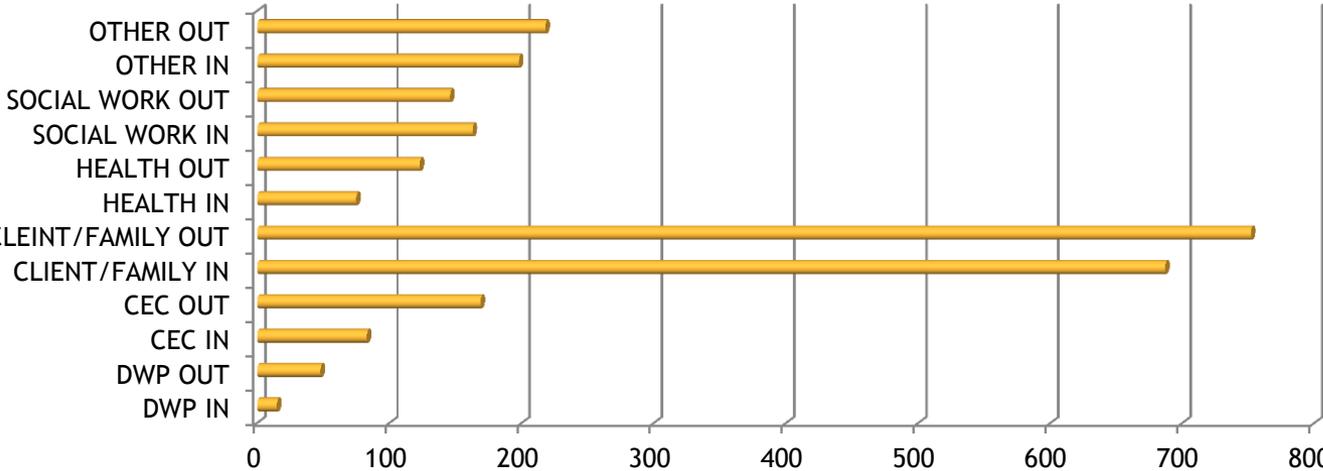
Jimmy Flynn



Betty Croll



Marjorie Kirk



### Some Project Statistics

Total Contacts for the Year 2011-2012 = 2,659

New Client Referrals = 83  
Additional income secured for Clients in the year = £45,047

The **Project User Group** formed in 2011 and meets quarterly with the Project Co-ordinator to review services over the previous quarter, to discuss issues raised by users and works with the Co-ordinator to ensure the services we offer at Prestonfield are what the clients want and need. Anne Dobie is also a member of the Project Management Group and speaks to any issues brought to Management by the Co-ordinator. A recent request for a fridge with a freezer to allow us to serve ice cold drinks proved successful!

As reported by our Chairperson Moira O'Neill, the end of the summer brought very good news for the Project and our immediate future and for some years ahead. The Big Lottery Grant allows us to continue and develop our preventative work and to offer new services for our Carers enabling them to continue in their caring role.

This has meant yet more change for the Project but it is all positive and the staff and volunteer team are looking forward to the New Year as an exciting and challenging time.

At the time of writing this report we welcome four new members to the staff team, Adam Fuller and Caroline Fleming as Neighbourhood Workers, Lisa Redpath as the second Passenger Assistant/Social Care Worker and Helen Stark as a Social Care Worker in the Dementia Day Service.

We have also developed a Client User Group which currently has 8 client representatives, one of whom is also on the Project Management Group. I meet with this Group quarterly to review services and to plan events and activities which the clients themselves have discussed and requested hopefully ensuring a variety of activities to suit *their* needs and aspirations.

Also during the year we have continued with our day to day work of both care and support. In the Spring as well as our Annual Lunch where we were wonderfully entertained by the Southern Senior Light Singers, we were invited to a Daffodil tea at Prestonfield Primary School. The Little Monkeys Nursery visited us in the Autumn and at Christmas, singing songs and bringing small gifts for the clients. Our Summer Outing this year, (at the request of the clients) was a visit to and lunch in the Members Dining Room at the Scottish Parliament – an enjoyable day but everyone was surprised at how small the building actually is! This year we also had two film events presented by Ian Rintoul the Edinburgh Filmmaker which are always popular as the clients enjoy an 'afternoon at the pictures'.

Overall this has been a busy and difficult year for the Project when we have faced the real possibility of losing significant amounts of service – but we have been and we are lucky because all of us involved really believe in what we are doing and care about the services we offer being the best they can be for the people who want and need them. We know we can make a difference.

*Mohammad Ali once said 'You lose nothing when fighting for a cause ... In my mind the losers are those who don't have a cause they care about.'*

We'll *have* a cause we care about and now we have the resources and can continue to fight for it – we look forward to a challenging but rewarding year – and in that year if we change one life, if we make that difference to even one person, then we *have* succeeded.

Linda M Wright Project Co-ordinator

### Acknowledgements

The Project Management, staff and clients would like to acknowledge the following organisations, people and families for their support in various forms over the past year.

Age Scotland, Cameron House Community Centre, City of Edinburgh Council Health & Social Care, Services for Communities and Council Museums, Councillors Burgess, Orr, Perry and Rose, Currie Family, Douglas Family, EVOC, Friends of Prestonfield Project, Jim Eadie MSP, HC Wright Garden & Landscaping, Ipsos Mori Scotland, Lothian & Borders Fire & Rescue Service, Little Monkeys Nursery, Lothian & Borders Police, Lothian Community Transport Service, NHS Lothian Dementia Co-ordinator, NHS Workforce Development Unit, Prestonfield Primary School, Scottish Storytellers, Sheila Gilmore MP, South Central Neighbourhood Partnership, South Edinburgh Amenities Group, Tom Gilzean, Vickerman Family, Warners Solicitors.

## Prestonfield & District Neighbourhood Workers Project



### The Project visits the Scottish Parliament

Once again I am pleased to present to you the Annual Report of Prestonfield Neighbourhood Project for the year 2012-2013.

In my report to you last year I said I hoped 2012 would be a year to celebrate being the 21<sup>st</sup> year of the Project. Well we are celebrating. You will see from the Logo below we are now being supported by the Big Lottery.

After many months of work on an application, the Project has been successful in securing 5 years funding for 3 days of preventative day service, advice and support to promote independent living in the Community and development work to support our Carers in their continuing caring role. Good News indeed and a great relief to everyone involved in the work we do here. We are indeed inspired in continuing to meet our main aim of Care in the Community and ensuring older people can stay at home for as long as possible, as part of a caring community and enjoying quality in their lives.

Moira O'Neill Chairperson

