

# Prestonfield & District Neighbourhood Workers Project ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Our visitors from Caritas, and Hong Kong Social Work Services



Afternoon Entertainment courtesy of Live Music Now



Enjoying the summer sun in the Centre Garden



Christmas Lunch entertainment courtesy of Live Music Now



Joint activities with the Project Clients & the children from Little Monkeys Nursery



thank you!

The Management, staff and clients would like to say thank you to the following organisations, companies or individuals who support the work of this Project in many ways.....

Big Lottery, Bright Care, Cameron House Community Education Centre, CEC Health & Social Care, Councillors Burgess, Dickie, Perry and Rose, Family of the late Agnes Wallace, Cathy Bee, Carol Borthwick, Bill & Gillian Fulton, Diabetes UK, Doris Dalgetty, Family of the late Les O'Neill, Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council, Fiona McMorran, Friends Of Prestonfield Project, Gerald Clark, Gisela Stevenson, Glasgow & Weir, Janet Stevenson, Family of the late Jenny Abernethy, James Haig, HC Wright Garden & Landscape Services, James Andean, Joan O'Donnell, John & Rae Davenport, Janet Stevenson, Little Monkeys Nursery, Live Music Now, Lorraine Graham, May & Bert Russell, May Miller, Nan & Hamish Robertson, NHS Dementia Skilled Training Team, NHS Falls Prevention Service, NHS Podiatry, Pat Lovelock, Patrick Duncan, Prestonfield Primary School, Robert Hawkins, South Edinburgh Amenities Group, T. Armstrong, Tom & Maureen Hutchison.

## Chairperson's Report

Another year flown by and time to give my Annual Report. This gives me the opportunity to say thank you to all the staff, volunteers and Management for the work they do in making this such a worthwhile service in the Community. As you will read in this Annual Report we are once again facing a challenge in funding the services as the final payment of our 5 year Lottery Grant has been received. We have been more than grateful for Big Lottery's investment in us and we have certainly achieved the outcomes of improving older peoples mental well being by reducing social isolation, improving practical support and advocacy and developing the work we do with carers and supporting them in their caring role. Once again if you are interested in the work or the Management of the Project, I invite you to contact the Project office on 0131 620 7222 for more information on how to become more involved.



Móira O'Neill



EDINBURGH  
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



Carer's Christmas Supper 2016



### Co-ordinators Report

I say it every year but the older I get the quicker it seems to come Round. Time once again for the Annual Report.

This has been a really busy year in the Project and what is becoming clear is the speed of the turn over of clients. The clients we now have referred to us have far greater needs which has meant bringing in more equipment, more staff training and additional supports to allow the clients to attend the day centre and participate in the activities but it seems they spend a shorter time with us now.

In the year we had 141 new referrals and added £ 16,500 to the income of older people in the Community due to the advice side of our work.

Moirra mentioned in her report the end of Big Lottery funding which enabled us to focus on preventative work and carer support and we plan to continue this work and are actively fundraising to be able to continue it.

In terms of development work in the year, the homecare plans in partnership with 4 other centres unfortunately came to nothing however our own 'Happy Feet' footcare service is blossoming with over 200 older people from a wide area of South Edinburgh attending Prestonfield for a personal footcare service.

During the year we had our usual events - Spring Lunch, Summer Outing, Film Shows and Christmas Lunch. We had visits from Prestonfield Primary School and from the School Nursery and the School Choir and we have developed our links with Little Monkey's Nursery and now have the children visiting the Centre twice a month for joint activities which are proving beneficial, educational and more importantly - fun for our clients and the children.

We also were very fortunate to be asked to host a visit from a Group of Health & Social Workers from Hong Kong including the CEO's of several of Social Services in Hong Kong who were keen to look at the work we do with our Men's & Women's Groups and particularly our dementia services.

The Carers support services have continued and events have been very well attended as has the Carer's Café on the last Monday of each month and many of those carers and their families supported a recent Sponsored Walk for project funds raising over £2,700.

We face yet another year of challenge and change. I am reducing my working days and Lisa Redpath our Senior Care Worker is now a Qualified Care Manager and taking over many of my roles regarding staffing, staff development and the operational side of the work within the Centre while I focus at the moment on continuation funding.

As always at this time we reflect on the impact we as a Project have made in the lives of our older people, their carers and their families. There is also the impact in the wider Community of the work we do which, can seem to us immersed in it, to go unnoticed or unappreciated, but I know from letters and cards received and from the regular reviews we do with clients and carers that the services we provide are very much relied upon by both our clients and their families and have an impact beyond that which we always see.

Someone mentioned to me recently 'Prestonfield does not have a Logo' - a sign or art work to advertise our services but that person then added 'you don't need one because everyone knows about Prestonfield and what you do.'

Well not everyone knows about us and we use Reports like this to spread the word about us to those in the Community about what we can offer and it is a wide range of services - Lunch Club, day service, dementia day care, carer support, advice & information service, form filling, research, advocacy, personal footcare, telephone shopping service, social activities, art group men's group - a variety of social & therapeutic care which make a difference to the lives of the people we give a service to - a wide range for a small organisation and we plan to continue doing this and are actively fundraising to ensure it happens.

I like to close this report with a thought or quote to inspire us a bit for the coming year - we all know that what we do makes a difference - we have the evidence, we can see the proof daily in the work we do so we must carry on although the task can seem a daunting one.

The late Maya Angelou said :-

*"When you do nothing you feel overwhelmed and powerless. But when you get involved you feel the sense of hope and accomplishment that comes from knowing you are working to make things better".*

Moirra encouraged you all to become involved in the Management or as volunteers in the Project so if you have some time to give contact the Project office. -remember the words of Maya and don't be the one who did nothing.

Linda M Wright