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"This Month in Focus"

A BIG Thank You

We are delighted to announce and acknowledge our thanks to the **BIG Lottery Scotland** for awarding a grant of £4,970 to the Iris Cancer Partnership.

Our professional fund raiser, Mandy Orr, approached the BIG Lottery earlier this year to request support in the development of our free massage therapy services for people living with cancer in Scotland.

To achieve this vision, a necessary first step was to understand current service provision and to identify areas where there are no complementary therapy services available and/or where demand outweighs what is available. Furthermore we wanted to find out what people living with cancer would like from that service.



Funding from the BIG Lottery has enabled Iris to initiate this research and to begin the important process of forging partnerships with organisations, where we can work together to provide a therapy service. In addition the consultation process involving people with cancer is underway and we look forward to sharing the results of this work later in 2013. This vital groundwork will enable Iris to employ Iris Registered Therapists where their specialist skills and expertise is needed most.

Our heartfelt thanks to BIG Lottery Scotland for supporting us on our journey and also to Mandy Orr for helping us secure this valuable funding.

"Getting Involved - Make a Difference!"

Barclays Wealth Management, Glasgow, raises funds for Iris.

On the last Friday of every month, **Barclays** participates in a dress down day. Each year a number of charities are nominated by Barclays staff in Glasgow - these are reviewed by the Charity Committee and 12 are elected as the nominated beneficiaries for one month each.



Earlier this year **Iris** was selected as the charity for October's "dress down day" collection. Across the 3 Glasgow sites staff wore casual clothes and paid a pound for the privilege. A total of £1,252.50 was raised plus an additional £152.50 from a delicious cake sale! The total amount raised from the cake sale was then doubled by Barclays, making an overall total of £1,557.50.

Many thanks to Barclays and in particular to Stephen and Karen Wilson and their colleagues for their amazing efforts.

Highlights this Month

- **Iris wins BIG Lottery funding.**
- **Barclays Glasgow raises funds for Iris.**
- **Dates of Courses in 2013.**
- **How to become an Iris Registered Therapist.**
- **Announcing 2 service pilots in the Beatson and Western General Hospital.**
- **Au Revoir!**
- **Vacancies**
- **Chill & Donate - register NOW!**



“Curriculum Update” from Zana

Three **Communication Skills** workshops have now been run in Aberdeen, Airdrie and Denny, all being well received. Two **Supporting the Therapist** workshops have taken place in Aberdeen and Edinburgh. Reflective papers for these have started to come in already, with some excellent observations and sharings. There is a real sense of community starting to build.

One further workshop is due to be run in **Glasgow on the 1st February 2013**. Please contact admin@iriscancerpartnership.org.uk if you wish to attend this Level 1 workshop.

LEVEL 2 TRAINING

5 Day Hospital Intensive - 2013

28th April–2nd May 2013 – Western General Hospital, Edinburgh

Practicum

8th & 9th June 2013 – Edinburgh Academy Junior School

LEVEL 1 TRAINING

Supporting the Therapist - 2013

1st Feb 2013 – Samye Dzong, Glasgow

Massage for People Living with Cancer – 2013

31st May-2nd June 2013 – Ayr

14th-16th June 2013 – CLAN, Aberdeen

28th-30th June 2013 – Edinburgh Academy Junior School

Review Day - Revise all the MFPLWC techniques

7th June 2013 – Edinburgh

“Registration Process” from Joyce

We will be opening the Registration Process (for therapists who have completed Level 1 of the Iris curriculum) in February and will put the register of therapists online for patients, carers, cancer organisations to see, with the launch of our new website.

The objective of Registration is “to maintain a consistently high standard of care delivered by Iris Therapists.” Registration forms will be emailed to all Level 1 Therapists in the next couple of weeks.



“Service Provision” pilot announced

The **Iris Trustees** would like to announce that after careful consideration of all the data collected from patient surveys, the geography of existing cancer organisations that offer massage to people living with cancer, and the location of Level 1 Therapists, **2 pilot organisations who fit well with Iris’s strategy have been approached** to see whether they would like to participate - one in the West of Scotland and one in the East.

Details of the positions are still being worked out with the 2 organisations, but all Level 2 Therapists registered as an Iris therapist, will be sent application details in due course.



Bill Stewart - au revoir !

It is with sadness that we announce that due to work and family commitments, and after two and a half years as Iris’s Fund Raiser, that **Bill Stewart has decided to step down from the Iris Management Team**. As you will have read in many an Iris Newsletter, Bill was full of successful ideas about how we could all help raise funds for Iris.

Our heartfelt thanks Bill, for everything you have done for Iris.

Next Full Team Meeting - June 2013 (To be Confirmed)

"Vacancies" - paid work available

We are currently seeking individuals for the following roles :

1 - completing Iris's Standard Operating Procedures.

Assemble all the existing processes and operating materials into a single document, and augment by writing some missing parts (including completion of the Therapists' Volunteer Pack) ready for publishing. Dependent on funding from one of Iris's regular funders which should be known late January. Applicant must have excellent written communications skills. Payment: £325 for completed project (approx. 3 days work).



2 - Operations Project Manager - 2 days per week

Run the day-to-day operations of the charity. This will cover activities such as running the Management Meeting and liaising with the Trustees, ensuring the monthly newsletter is published, co-ordinating website content updates, running the charity membership process, running the therapists' registration process, initially leading the volunteer service, and a number of other important operational activities. Applicants must be well organised with excellent verbal and written communication skills. Up to 2 days per week for an initial 6 month period.

3 - Lottery Funding - Scoping Research & Focus Groups

Deliver this piece of research to understand the extent of complementary therapies currently provided across Scotland; applicant must have research experience and excellent written and verbal communications skills to communicate with both patients and other cancer support organisations across Scotland.

Anyone available, or if you know anyone suitable, to complete these projects, please email their CV and a short explanation of their experience to admin@iriscancerpartnership.org.uk by the 21st January 2013.

Chill & Donate - February 2013

This fundraising event is designed for therapists and IRIS members to offer family members, friends, neighbours, and work colleagues an evening of complementary therapies, in return for a donation to the IRIS Cancer Partnership. Any type of therapy can be offered and the wider the range the better for your party guests. You can run your Chill & Donate any time during February 2013 something to look forward to during those dark and dreary winter evenings. This really is a great opportunity to give something in return for your guests' donations a lovely complementary therapy.

Sign up now! Attached is the [Chill & Donate Information Pack](#). Simply complete the registration form and return it to Lorna at: 27 Craigs Avenue, Edinburgh, EH12 8HS.

*Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year*

