



WICCF *Christmas* NEWSLETTER Competition



Guess Clyde's Birthday

Meet **Clyde**, who belongs to **Catriona Macdonald**, a member of staff. If you can guess Clyde's birthday, you could be in with a chance of winning a **£50 Co-op voucher**.

**WIN
£50 CO-OP
Voucher**

Closing date: mid-night on 16th December 2023

Contact WICCF with your choice of birthday – one entry per carer.



01859 502588



info@wiccf.co.uk

If nobody guesses the exact date, the closest to his birthday will win. In the event of a tie-break, the names will go in a hat and a winner drawn.

The aim of Respitality is to provide a short vital break from routine for unpaid carers in Scotland when they need it most. This is achieved by connecting carers' organisations with hospitality, tourism and leisure businesses who are willing to donate a break free of charge.

Catherine has been extremely busy throughout the year contacting local businesses and thanks to their generosity, we currently can offer:

- **Tours of Harris Distillery, Harris**
- **Wash and Blow dry by Katie (Uist)**
- **Slow yoga by Julia – Online or in Uig, Lewis**
- **Jewellery/art workshop - Uist**
- **Tea and Cake at Taigh Chersabhagh, Uist**
- **Glamping in Barra**
- **Glamping in Eriskay**
- **Gents Hair cuts (Lewis)**
- **2 night at the Gearrannan Blackhouses, Carloway, Isle of Lewis**
- **Dinner for 2 at North Harbour Bistro, Isle of Scalpay**
- **Bed and Breakfast at Westend, Achmore, Isle of Lewis (dinner included)**
- **2 night stay for 2 including breakfast or self-catering for 2 adults and 2 children at Stornoway Bed & Breakfast**



Terms and conditions apply to offers. Application forms must be completed for the booking to take place.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS RESPITALITY OR TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LOCAL OFFERS PLEASE CONTACT:

Catherine on 07487 540173 or email carersupport@wiccf.co.uk

We are delighted to announce that we have received another round of Short Breaks funding. Grants of up to £250 can be applied for to get a respite break.

The Short Breaks Fund is to give carers a break from their caring duties which could be a short holiday, pursuit of a hobby, some pampering, meals out, takeaways, driving lessons, purchase of magazine subscriptions, the list of possibilities is immense.



Funded by the Scottish Government



APPLY TODAY Contact the office on: 01859 502 588
for an application form or download one from our website: info@wiccf.co.uk

PPE



WICCF have a small supply of PPE (personal protective equipment) available should you require it:

Masks, disposable aprons, disposable gloves, covid test kits, hand sanitiser

CONTACT:

Lewis Catriona Macdonald 07554 831711
Harris Office 01859 502588
Uist Catherine Macdougall 07487 540173
Barra Cobhair Bharraigh [01871 810906](tel:01871810906)



Thanks to the generosity of the owners, we can offer unpaid carers a week's free accommodation at any of the following properties:

Luskentyre House Annexe, Isle of Harris

www.harrisholidaycottage.co.uk/properties/luskentyre-lodge-isle-harris-self-catering

1 Double, 1 Twin

No pets allowed

An Caladh, 3 Tobair Mairi, Tarbert, Isle of Harris

An Caladh

1 Double Room

Prefer no pets

Fairy Nook Holiday Apartment, Uig, Isle of Skye

www.fairyglenholidays.co.uk

1 Double, 1 Twin

Pets welcome

The Old Post Office, Amhunsuidhe, Isle of Harris

www.oldpostofficehouse.co.uk

1 King, 1 Twin, 1 Single

Pets welcome

Cnoc nan Uan, 12 Tigharry, North Uist

facebook page for Cnoc nan Uan

1 Double Room and 1 Twin Room

No pets allowed

Na Bothain, Sandy Bay Croft Wigwams, Scarista, Isle of Harris

Sandy Bay Croft Wigwams® – Glamping on the Isle of Harris (wigwamholidays.com)

1 en-suite Glamping Wigwam sleeps 4 adults (1 double and 1 pull out double sofa bed)

Pets welcome

Why not take a break and enjoy a few days respite?

Most properties are available from now until March, subject to availability.

Contact the office to arrange your break.



Pottery

Fishing Trip



Candle Making

Eolas



01859 502588



info@wiccf.co.uk

We were delighted to receive funding from the **Creative Breaks Fund** to continue **Eolas** for another year. New dates are enclosed. This coming year we will be introducing more activities following on from the success of a few earlier in the year. Fancy trying out line dancing or yoga? Come and join the fun.

Tea/Coffee and Cakes



Why not take a break from your caring duties?

Come along and join us at **Eolas for Tea/Coffee and Cakes (free of charge).**

Contact us if you require alternative care



Looking for a Christmas gift?

A recipe book packed with **easy to make recipes.**

On sale in local shops or direct from **WICCF**
at £10 plus £2 P+P



Barra: Padula's, Castlebay

Uist & Eriskay: Bayhead Shop & FS; Failte, Lochboisdale; Hebridean Jewellery; MacGillivray's, Benbecula; Maclean's Butchers, Balivanich; Post Office, Daliburgh; Puffin Studio Crafts, Eriskay Shop

Harris: Harris Tweed Shop, Ardhasaig FS, An Clachan

Lewis: Cross Stores, Bethesda Charity Shop, Baltic Book Shop, Campbell's Filling Station, Gordon Diesel Filling Station, Lochs Filling Station, Buth an Rubha, Uig Community Shop, Commun Eachdraidh Nis

TRAINING

We'd like to remind you that **Moving & Handling** training is available to all unpaid carers, any time it is required.

Conditions change and sometimes **refresher training** might be invaluable. If you wish to receive this training please contact:

Lewis & Harris: Catriona 07554 831711

Uist & Barra: Catherine 07487 540173

FIRST AID



Catherine is also available to deliver **First Aid Training** should any of you be interested

Carers Support Payment

Carers Allowance is being devolved to Social Security Scotland and will be known by the new name, Carers Support Payment. Carers currently in receipt of Carers Allowance will have their benefit automatically transferred over from DWP to Social Security Scotland in 2024. You do not need to take any action.

The Western Isles is one of the pilot areas for the new Carer Support Payment which was launched on Monday 20th November. As from 20th November, residents in the Western Isles looking to apply for the first time, for what was formerly called Carers Allowance will apply for Carer Support Payment. Carers wishing help to complete their form, should call Local Delivery to arrange a home visit.

Carers can apply through any of the following routes:



- Applying on-line - click on this link after 8am on 20th November www.mygov.scot/carers-support-payment. The pages will have information about eligibility and will have a button which will take the applicant to the on-line application form.
- Applying via phone - call Social Security Scotland on 0800 182 2222 - wait for the main menu and then it's Option 4 (Carers) then 1 (Carer Support Payment). This is open this week for general queries, but, the agents will be able to take applications from 9am on Monday 20th November.
- Applying using a paper form - phone Social Security Scotland on the number above on Monday 20th (or after) and we will post one out to you.
- Arranging a visit from Local Delivery - phone Social Security Scotland on the number above on Monday 20th (or after) and we will sort out an appointment.

Do you have unwanted Community Equipment?

The Community Equipment Service (CES) is appealing to the public to return any unused or unwanted items. The service can collect, sanitise and repair CES supplied equipment in preparation for future use and by returning the equipment, you're not only helping other people in your community, but helping reduce our impact on the planet.

If you have equipment at your that you are not using, you can arrange a free collection by calling the Lewis & Harris CES Store on 01851 703054 or the Uist and Barra CES Store on 01870 603648.

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Examples of the equipment they are looking for is shown below:

- Commodes (Wheeled & Static Commodes)
- Household Aids (Wheeled Trolleys, Kitchen Aids, Perching Stool)
- Toilet Aids (Toilet Frames & Raised Toilet Seats)
- Furniture Raisers (for Beds, Chairs and Settees)
- Bathing Aids (Bath lifts, Bath boards, Shower Stools, Shower Chairs)
- Bed Aids (Mattress Elevators, Backrests, Bedrails, Profiling Beds)
- Pressure Aids (Cushions & Mattresses)
- Mobility Aids (Walking Frames, Sticks, Crutches)
- Hoists, Slings, Slide Sheets



Available for Community use

Contact Leverburgh Care Home: .



01859 520296 to access the vehicle or wheelchair



leverburghhome@gmail.com



Harris Community Wheels is a new charity which provides wheelchair accessible transport to vulnerable and disabled people in the community of Harris. It could be used to attend appointments, respite, day care and other activities.

The service has now expanded to include the loan of a wheelchair, thanks to the generosity of a former carer.



Wheelchair for Loan in Lewis

Contact Crossroads (Lewis):



01851 705422

Thanks to the generosity of a former carer, we now have a wheelchair available for short term use. Perhaps the person you care for cannot stand for long periods and could make use of the wheelchair to attend special events such as weddings, agricultural shows or to attend a funeral. Maybe you are facing a long journey down a hospital corridor or a long wait at an appointment. Crossroads Lewis are very kindly storing this wheelchair, so if you could make use of this free service please get in touch with Crossroads (Lewis).

Priority Services

If you have a disability or medical condition or any other reason for additional support, you can register for priority services with Scottish Water on the link below:



www.scottishwater.co.uk/Help-and-Resources/Contact-Us/Additional-Support/Priority-Services-Register



www.ovoenergy.com/help/article/priority-services-register

Ovo Energy's Priority Service Register is for anyone who's vulnerable, or just needs a little extra assistance at a difficult time in their life.



If you're not supporting Western Isles Community Care Forum yet, please sign up now. It takes 2 minutes & 5,000+ shops will donate to us for free every time you shop with them!

Visit: <http://easyfundraising.org.uk/.../60a28d9c7e101c2d0ded2fe9/>



The WICCF office will be closed over the festive period from 5pm on 22nd December 2023 to 9am on 3rd January 2024.
All the staff wish you a very happy and restful Christmas.



WESTERN ISLES COMMUNITY CARE FORUM
Room 14, Council Offices, Tarbert, Isle of Harris, HS3 3BG
Telephone: 01859 502 588 info@wiccf.co.uk

