

Winter 2021



CARERS' NEWSLETTER

New Respite Fund is Launched by Scottish Government

The **ScotSpirit Holiday Voucher Scheme** (SSHVS) is focused on supporting individuals and families who have been particularly adversely affected by the impact of the pandemic, while at the same time providing financial support to the Scottish tourism sector.

Due to pandemic restrictions, many unpaid carers have been left without access to their normal support services. Many will have struggled due to extended periods of isolation and the lack of any meaningful breaks. For this reason, it was been decided that unpaid carers will be one of the key target groups.

The Scheme will enable unpaid carers to enjoy a 2-3-night subsidised overnight break or day out in Scotland. The Scheme offers a contribution towards an overnight stay in a bed and breakfast, camping/ holiday park, guest house, hotel or hostel or day visit activities in

Scotland. The Scheme will open for applications from 20 September 2021. Breaks can taken up to 31 December 2022. The scheme is open to carers of all ages, including parent carers.

If your application is successful, WICCF will manage the booking and confirmation process for you and will provide you with all the necessary booking information.

For full details about the scheme and to receive an application form, please contact the office: 01859 502588 or email info@wiccf.co.uk



Warm Home Discount

If you are in receipt of certain benefits such as pension credit, you may be entitled to a Warm Home Discount from your energy supplier. This is a separate benefit to the Winter Fuel Payment which is issued by CNES.

To check if you are eligible, please contact Martha Macleod at Tighean Innse Gall on 07879 455779 or email martha.macleod@tighean.co.uk.

Personal Assistant Directory

If you are looking for private carers, check out our Personal Assistant Directory on our website: www.wiccf.co.uk. Click on the 'Carers' tab and you will find it there. Website also contains useful information including who will provide a Payroll Service, Advocacy WI Self Directed Support Services, template contract of employment and useful contact numbers.

We are always looking for new recruits. Do you know anybody who is looking for work and would be interested in providing support to a family? Would suit somebody wanting part time or full time work.

You can register as a Personal Assistant via our website or contact our office for further information.

Eolas

Eolas is a carers group set up to give carers an opportunity to meet together socially over afternoon tea or morning coffee.

We were delighted to hear that our application to Creative Breaks for continued funding was successful and have booked the venues for 2021/22

If you require alternative care to be able attend, please contact the office and we will endeavour to arrange.

Unfortunately, due to poor attendance, we have to withdraw our Eolas meetings in Barra. However we do hope to organise a special event in 2022—to be confirmed at a later date.

Please do keep the following dates handy, so you don't miss out.

Eolas is funded by:



Lewis & Harris	Woodlands 10.30am to 12 Noon	Borve House Hotel 2.30pm to 4pm	Crown Hotel 2.30pm to 4pm	Harris Hotel 2.30pm to 4pm
December 2021		Tues 7th		Thurs 9th
January 2022			Wed 19th	
February	Mon 7th			Thurs 10th
March		Tues 15th		Wed 9th
April			Wed 20th	
May	Mon 16th			Thurs 12th
July		Tues 5th		Wed 6th
August			Wed 17th	Wed 24th
September	Mon 5th			Wed 14th

UIST	Lochmaddy Hotel 2.30pm to 4pm	Stepping Stones Restaurant 2.30pm to 4pm	Borrodale Hotel 2.30pm to 4pm
December		Tuesday 7th	
2022 January	Tuesday 11th		
February			Tuesday 8th
March		Tuesday 15th	
April	Wednesday 20th		
May			Wednesday 18th
July	Wednesday 13th		
August			Thursday 18th
September		Wednesday 7th	

Easyfundraising

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/>

Co-op Community Fund

Our sincere thanks to all the Co-op members and customers who supported us over the past year, especially the Sollas Branch of the Co-op.



It's what we do

We were delighted to be told we would be receiving £3,104.36. This money will be used to continue the work of our Carers Trainers Project, supporting carers via home visits, providing a gateway for support.

Thank you all very much.

Coronavirus

The full list of local Vaccination Clinics schedules can be viewed at: www.coronavirus.wi.nhs.scot



Covid Vaccination helpline: 0808 1968383

Short breaks fund Short Breaks Fund Is Now Open For Applications!



We were delighted to receive another grant (£6,123) from Shared Care Scotland and also some additional funding from Carers Information Strategy Group (£2,000).

This round of funding is open to carers of all ages, including parent carers.

Applications forms are available from the office (see contact details below) or can be downloaded on our website.

Here are some ideas for what a short breaks award can be used for:

A break away; meals out; driving lessons; pampering; pursuit of hobbies—fishing, photography, knitting, sewing, sports; purchase of a pet or a musical instrument, garden furniture or pots and plants; mindfulness sessions; ipad or laptop; books or magazine subscriptions

Items that cannot be funded:

Clothing (unless special clothing for a hobby), general household items (eg vacuum cleaners, diffusers, candles, ornaments, dishes), heating oil, coal, electricity or any form of household bills

Equipment must be for a specific hobby.



Looking for a Christmas gift?



How about a copy of 'Care to Cook?' - our recipe book packed with easy to follow recipes.

Priced at £10 it's available from the following outlets:

Lewis: Cross Stores, Bethesda Charity Shop, Baltic Book Shop, Campbell's Filling Station, Engebret Ltd., Gordon Diesel Filling Station, Lochs Filling Station, Buth an Rubha, Welcome Inn Filling Station

Harris: Harris Tweed Shop, Ardhasaig FS, An Clachan

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

Barra: Padula's, Castlebay



LARGE PRINT NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE—PLEASE CONTACT US

WICCF is funded by Western Isles IJB

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