



the brain injury association

## HEADWAY AYRSHIRE

### Welcome to our June 2020 Newsletter “Coronavirus Update”

Following NHS Scotland Guidelines, Headway Ayrshire's Office will not be open for face to face appointments or walk ins. We will still be available by phone or e-mail for support and consultations will be done by the phone.

Clients and Carers should note that the following activities will not be running for the foreseeable future:

- Ayr Community Rehabilitation Groups
- Hurlford Community Rehabilitation Group
- Carers Meetings
- Numeracy & Literacy Tuition

Headway Ayrshire will continue to monitor the situation, and ask that you adhere to National Health advice. Given that this information may change frequently, it is important that you keep your knowledge up to date, so please visit <https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus> to ensure that any guidance you are using is the latest version.

If you wish to speak to a member of staff at Headway Ayrshire, please contact the office on Tel: 01292 618090. Or if you wish to chat to one of the Client/Family Support Workers, they can be contacted on the following mobile numbers:

**Alison (07534140293)**

*(Monday to Thursday between 9.00 am and 1.45pm)*

**Linda (07534140296)**

*(Wednesday, Thursday & Friday between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm)*

**Helen (07534140334)**

*(Monday & Tuesday between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm and Wednesday between 9.30 am and 1.30 pm)*

## Fundraising & Donations

**Craig Scott**, a member of our Rehabilitation Group in Kilmarnock, and **Clark Robertson**, one of our Board Members, were due to do the Kiltwalk in March. They were disappointed when this was cancelled due to the pandemic, but between them they raised a fantastic £720. Headway Ayrshire still received the funds which was doubled up to £1440 by the Hunter Foundation.

Thanks to everyone who has donated to Headway Ayrshire, including the family of Abie Bolton, The John Scott Trust, Colin Gourlay and staff at Culzean Oil Platform, and G E Aviation. These donations are very much appreciated and will be put to good use within the Charity in relation to the services it provides.

## Meet Helen Headway Ayrshire's new Client/Family Support Worker



Helen has recently joined our Team, and comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience. She has a background in psychology, counselling and mental health. Helen is looking forward to meeting and working with Headway Ayrshire's Clients

# *Brain Injury Awareness Week May 2020*

## *"Hats at Home"*

Given that we were unable to organise our sponsored walks this year during Brain Injury Awareness Week in May, some of our Clients entered into the spirit of things and sent in their photos wearing 'Hats at Home'. Here is a selection and thanks to all for taking part!



## ***"Great News - We Are Expanding Our Service Provisions!"***

The Team at Headway Ayrshire have made the decision to expand the duration of our Community Rehabilitation Groups in South & East Ayrshire. The Groups normally run for 37 weeks of the year, but we are delighted to advise you that these will now run for approximately 46 weeks per year, with time off being allocated during the Easter Break, October School Holidays and Christmas and New Year. Following our survey results last year, it was evident how important the Groups were to our Clients, particularly during the Summer months, and we have therefore made the important decision to run the Groups throughout the Summer period to accommodate our Client's needs.

As you will appreciate, we are currently operating in unprecedented times due to COVID-19, but as soon as we are able to open our doors and return to some sort of normality, we will be looking to start the Groups back up – we are unsure how they will run, but we are currently in the process of exploring various methods of communication, i.e. Zoom Chats in the first instance, with possible limited numbers at the Groups, with social distancing measures being put in place. As always, we will be following Government Legislation for this and the Client/Family Support Workers will be able to keep you informed of progress during their engagement with you at regular intervals. So, thank you for your understanding and watch this space for our new way of facilitating the Community Rehabilitation Groups during our phased return to normality.

## ***Client Engagement – Preferred Method of Communication***

During July 2020, our Core Clients will receive a letter from the Manager, asking them to sign a new Mandate and to indicate their preferred method (s) of communication with the Charity, i.e. home/office visit, telephone call, e-mail or letter etc. This will enable the Charity to liaise with you via your preferred communication and provide you with a prompt information, advice and support service. So, please keep a look out for your letter and complete the enclosed Mandate and send it back to the Charity in the stamped envelope provided as quickly as possible.

## And Finally

We know that life during lockdown is, and continues to be difficult! Here are some links to websites providing a whole host of information and activities to keep you busy! Further links are posted on our Website also listed below where you'll find lots of useful information:

<https://chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-online-resources-for-anyone-who-is-isolated-at-home>

[www.nhs.uk/health/keeping-well-during-covid19](http://www.nhs.uk/health/keeping-well-during-covid19)

<https://www.headway-ayrshire.org.uk>

Our Client/Family Support Workers will keep in touch with you during this period of uncertainty and we look forward to resuming the activities that are currently on hold as soon as Government Regulations allow . We will keep you updated on our service provisions are regular intervals.

Meantime, if you require any support or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team on the telephone numbers provided on the front page of the newsletter.

Keep Safe!

**From the Team Headway Ayrshire**



Headway Ayrshire, Suite 4, Beresford Court, Beresford Lane, Ayr KA7 2DW  
Registered Office at the above address  
A Company Limited by guarantee  
Registered Company Number: 177535  
Scottish Charity Number: SCO13340