

ScotsCare Newsletter



Help us spread the word

ScotsCare is embarking on a new marketing campaign to reach more clients, potential clients, referral agencies, as well as donors and potential donors. We are motivated by our vision to help and support Scots and their families in Greater London.

We are redesigning our leaflets, posters, and adverts with new key messages that have been tested and developed with a client focus group and ScotsCare staff. Other messages have been drafted to target referral agencies and supporters as we seek to increase engagement with services and expand our donor base. The website will also be re-designed and the case study and photo library expanded.

Scots in Great War London



ScotsCare, along with nine other organisations (churches, charities, clubs and societies, and British Army regiments) is taking part in an initiative to commemorate the centenary of the end of WWI.

Over the next six months, along with launching a new book, **Scots in Great War London, A Community at Home and on the Front Line, 1914-1919**, a series of events will highlight the experiences of Scots in London at that time, including a lecture, a theatrical production, a concert, an exhibition and a ceilidh, in addition to Remembrance Sunday services.

To find out more visit – www.scotsingreatwar.london

Jim's story - From a shoebox to paradise



Jim Andrews from Glasgow was living in a damp, rat infested "shoebox" until his ScotsCare 'Blether Buddy' befriender Tom suggested he ask ScotsCare about accommodation.

ScotsCare client support worker Danny said Jim's case started as a simple repair job but became an opportunity to turn his life around.

Jim's health worsened from a combination of the cold, heart surgery, and a home attack. He says. *"I thought I was indestructible. That nothing could happen to me. Then I got a pacemaker and was shaking so much I could hardly write my name. I never thought I'd see retirement age."*

Jim, who turned 65 in December, credits ScotsCare staff like Danny, and volunteers for getting him out of a potentially harmful and isolated living situation. He hadn't wanted to move until that attack helped him change his mind. *"ScotsCare saved me,"* he says. *"The place I've got now is like paradise."*

His befriender Tom, who has assisted Jim's journey from the beginning, says Jim faced his health problems with *"quiet stoicism and good humour"*.

Jim finds further comfort in weekly phone calls from volunteer Willie, asking how he's getting on. *"Nobody's ever done that,"* Jim says, adding that phoning ScotsCare was the best thing he could have done.

"ScotsCare gave me a chance at life that I never had before. They gave me faith in myself and that's what I was needing."

You can read Jim's full story at <https://www.scotscare.com/stories/jims-story/>. To find out more about our befriending service email volunteering@scotscare.com

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ScotsCare 
The charity for Scots in London

Registered Charity Number 207326

Social events update



We've had a very busy year so far, with 300 people attending our families' outings to Winter Wonderland (actually in December) and the Natural History Museum ice rink. Guests came from across London to our Burns Supper. While William McGowan and Tommy Kent took the train down from Luton to join in the celebrations. Although they both attend the monthly lunches for over 50s there, William says, it was his first time at the Burns supper. He enjoys the lunches. *"I always look forward to them. They're always a giggle."*

At Easter, 100 children and parents came to our Thames Riverboat and Cutty Sark outing, and as a new development Luton families also had an outing to Brighton. This summer we'll be hosting seaside coach trips for our Over50s, a trip to the Harpenden Highland Games for our Luton group and our annual train outing to the beach for families. We also continue to run monthly lunches for over50s in London and Luton.

Thanks to all our volunteers who support these events in so many ways from stewarding to playing Santa.

Sizzling ScotsCare Summer



Look out for us this summer - ScotsCare has stalls at the **Summer Wellbeing Festival**, Manor Gardens in Holloway on 30 June, **London Pride** in Soho on 7 July and the **Lambeth Country Show**, Brockwell Park in Herne Hill on 21 and 22 July. We are returning to **Angel Canal Festival** on 2 September - check out our social media activity to find out more. Events like these offer us a great opportunity to raise awareness about the work of the charity and how we can assist the Scottish community. Be sure to drop by and say 'Hi', it'll be great to see you there.

We're going digital



There are now more ways to keep up-to-date with ScotsCare news. If you would prefer to receive your news by email, please send an email to communications@scotscare.com and include your full name and address and state that you would like to hear from ScotsCare by email. ScotsCare takes data protection very seriously. We promise we will not pass your details on to any other organization. By giving us your email, you agree that ScotsCare may use it to send you information about our work.

Meet our new Chair

ScotsCare is delighted to announce the appointment of James Chestnut as our new Chairman. James has served on the Board of Trustees in varying roles over the last seven years.



James says, *"It's a privilege to serve ScotsCare and help it achieve its goals."*

Fancy going to the theatre?



From the end of July to the end of August, families can enjoy a great London theatre production for only £6, through our partnership with Family First Nights, Mousetrap Theatre Projects.

The programme is open only to new families to the Family First Nights offer. Once a family have participated in this Summer programme they are eligible to go onto their email database to receive further family offers.

To book or for more information, please email ScotsCare on info@scotscare.com

Striving for a better tomorrow



The House of St Barnabas is a social enterprise members' club and Employment Academy aiming to break the cycle of homelessness.

Their approach is to create the strongest community of people who are invested in creating a fair and equal society, and a future where lasting work is a reality for people affected by homelessness.

They recognise that gaining and maintaining paid work is instrumental to independence and that in a society where there is so much disconnect it is important to have an environment where people feel connected.

For more information, please call **020 7437 1894** or email contact@hosb.org.uk, for Employment Academy enquiries email employmentacademy@hosb.org.uk or visit <https://hosb.org.uk/>