

East of Scotland

Newsletter

Hello!

We hope this Newsletter finds you and yours all well and safe. At the point of writing we are still dealing with the daily lockdown challenges from COVID-19. We are so mindful of the concerns this situation has raised for us all, and we do hope that the resources IA have provided directly via its website and through our partners have been of great support to you. These will continue to be available and updated as we progress through the stages of this pandemic and if there is anything you need or have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We were all disappointed that we had to cancel our spring meeting which was, of course, unavoidable. Now, more than ever though our commitment to you all for re-igniting this group to support you is our continued key focus. As such, we have been working hard this quarter and have launched some key initiatives and commitments a few of which we can share here with you:

New Committee Member

Our Committee has expanded and we take pleasure in introducing you to Joy Groat. Joy brings a depth of experience and expertise to our Group – both personally and professionally. We are delighted to have Joy on board and look forward to introducing her to you all at our next meeting.

East of Scotland Web Page

We are excited to say that to ensure group access and communication we have created our own dedicated East of Scotland Web Page www.escotland.iasupport.org. Here you will be able to; Meet the Team – albeit virtually - and find there all the contact details, keep up to date with events, resources, and find links to key topics and partners. There is also the opportunity, via this page, to send us your feedback and ideas that you think would be great to add in, resources you would recommend, top tips etc. It would also be great if any members were able to share some historic content/stories from this group that would be of interest. All comments and input are always very welcome.

Stoma Care Nurses Annual Conference Commitment

The value of our stoma nurses is immeasurable, and these specialist nurses unconditionally, provide such a depth of care to us pre, and post stoma surgery. Up to date training and worldwide knowledge sharing that the nurses undertake helps us massively. Every year there is an annual UK wide Stoma Nurses Conference where much of this knowledge, experiences and future initiatives are discussed and presented www.asnukconference.com. We are absolutely committed to support our local nurses and, this year the Committee have unanimously agreed to provide full funding for two stoma nurses from the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh to attend this conference. We look forward to hearing all about the conference topics and learning which will be shared with you all at our next meeting



Ileostomy & Internal Pouch
Association

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Community Support

The value of providing visitors to patients – pre and post operations is one of the most important support services we can provide. IA UK provide a programme to train members who are able to undertake this key role. The East of Scotland Committee, and local stoma nurses have recently supported our Committee members Joy and Sarah to commence this training and we look forward to confirming their successful completion in due course.

Members Input

In conjunction with our national organisation we, as a local group to you, want to assure you with valuable support and resource access. Please do let us know what you would like to see or receive from us within this group if there is anything additional you would find beneficial. Your input is very much valued.

To that end; as we head into the summer months, we can increasingly enjoy the benefits that we get from our daily walks, exercises and breaks away from home by soaking up the magic that is vitamin D; please stay hydrated.

We look forward to confirming our next meeting date soon and, of course, to seeing you there. In the meantime, please, stay well, stay safe and take care.

With our best wishes,

Sarah Collings

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