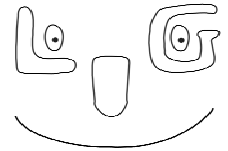




Same As You  
Inverness



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Note next venue is at the Shirlie

[Our next meeting is 7pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010](#)  
Plus we hope to be hosting a week long SAY display

**Calling all transport users or 'wannabe users' – timetable changes are due on November 15. Pick up your timetable and map free from Inverness bus station or your local buses should have a box available**

### **OUR NEWS**

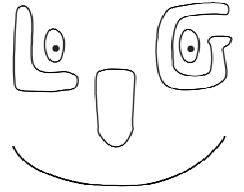
**All – 'experts' thought the involvement with the NHS24 project was good. They were glad they went. They helped put ideas in like speed dial and showed their friends how to do that.**

**All – invited Steve Walker the director of Stagecoach to tell us about the new bus times and routes and disability training. All of tonight's comments are at the end of this newsletter. If you wish to see the past bus meeting notes that led to some of the changes please use the e-mail at the end, we hope you all have managed to get to the station or gone on line for a copy of the new maps and timetables. Steve is also happy to bring a bus out for transition training or for people to book a visit to the depot for things like wheelchair training, should you have received a new or bigger wheelchair**

**[steve.walker@stagecoachbus.com](mailto:steve.walker@stagecoachbus.com) Also day centres and group outings see note about possibility of a group ticket. OTs PLEASE read the notes too**

**Alan + C – Neil will receive a photo of C looking hopeful but impatient (a very good pose!) for her art materials. we thought this method should be used in care reviews so that 'experts' can have their present happiness or disappointment recorded and put on the table so that planners could see the 'expert' even they were not attending. Maybe seeing a present photo of the disgruntled 'expert' would help keep the meeting on the individual and good timescales**

**C – Corbett have started a philosophy group to talk about the news and politics and this week we talked about the wars and how they were just like bullies and bullying also I brought in a photo of a grandfather who had died in the war but we found out where on the web and details we as family had not known with the help of the Corbett worker. it was very interesting – good idea for this club to be in other centres**

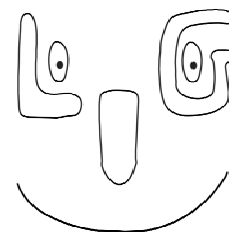


## **Events and links**

- [www.familyfund.org.uk](http://www.familyfund.org.uk) for all families with a young person with a severe disability, to help aid or enable an easier life
  
- [Say here newsletter](#) – put your community news items to [sayhere@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sayhere@hotmail.co.uk) , our media ‘expert’ DJ is the editor of this new community newsletter.
  
- E–mail [tracey.shawcross@abilitynet.org.uk](mailto:tracey.shawcross@abilitynet.org.uk) for a remote accessibility course for groups of staffs any area. All you need is your speakers on and she will give you a link to the 'class'.
  
- ‘leadership in social services’ 11<sup>th</sup> November Drumossie hotel Inverness
  
- ‘changing lives action plan 2010 – 2011’ run by SSSC and SSLN 11<sup>th</sup> November Drumossie hotel inverness
  
- The Autumn 2010 edition of the Virtual Network Newsletter from the National Association for Patient Participation (N.A.P.P.) can be accessed via the following link  
<http://www.napp.org.uk/resources/monthly-ebulletin/>
  
- WISH produce a 16 page newsletter twice a year which aims to promote the sharing of practice and research. The next edition is due to be circulated in March 2011 [natasha.mcinninie@nhs.net](mailto:natasha.mcinninie@nhs.net)
  
- autism and therapy 24 November Hilton Grosvenor Glasgow  
[www.autism-in-scotland.org.uk](http://www.autism-in-scotland.org.uk)
  
- responding to sensory challenges in autism 25 January Hilton Grosvenor Glasgow [www.autism-in-scotland.org.uk](http://www.autism-in-scotland.org.uk)
  
- Highland Child Protection Committee ‘Promoting Equality for all Highland’s Young People: Working with Adversity & Diversity’ 23<sup>rd</sup>

November 2010, 10am-4.30pm Inverness Targeted at front line practitioners [Donna.Munro@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Donna.Munro@highland.gov.uk)

- Learning Disability Research Network- 30 November 2010 30<sup>th</sup> November at the Apex European Hotel, Haymarket, Edinburgh



SAY LIG Dates for 2010 are  
December SAY Xmas exhibition to be confirmed

[www.highland.gov.uk/socialwork/learningdisability/ligs](http://www.highland.gov.uk/socialwork/learningdisability/ligs)

Most meetings will be at the Shirlie 01463 716179

Or contact [rona.mem@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rona.mem@hotmail.co.uk)

### NEW BUS CHANGES Discussion

We were shown the new bus maps then the new bus timetable



- Much easier, big print, like the churches on it and can see Insches Church and other places I go to
- glad Kinmylies is back to 20 minutes – on Culloden side hospital bus is hijacked by school kids so hope it the faster buses that will be used in future as if you miss the hospital bus with school use you can be an hour late and miss your appointment
- I see you can get a 12 single journey 'flexi rider' for price of 10, could you use this for a group outing – we will have to clarify this as some drivers may read this differently, could all groups who use buses regularly like the Saturday group come to the station and we will work out a regular and charity group use ticket, the flexi rider lasts a month.
- a small shop bus used to operate but it was not stagecoach, it was a good idea – we think it may have been the new Tesco build bus – would like it back
- Stagecoach is in Blackpool, our group goes, yes stagecoach is everywhere to other cities but in Blackpool there are other companies
- Our ullapool driver is a good and helpful driver
- I get stagecoach to Buckie and Aberdeen
- what happens if a wheelchair gets on, the drivers turns to people and prams and asks for people to please give up their seat or put the pram down and hopefully people will do this. We hope social conscience works but some people do refuse
- the pole is awkward to get wheelchair around – if it is known a new wheelchair is too big or you have not used one on a bus before, the bus can come round so a person can practice getting on and moving on a bus or you can come to the station and practice
- Most buses are low-rider but we are getting slowly rid of the buses with steps hopefully by a year

- some people on long journeys need help – important to get a supporter card C+ card – yes help can be given at the bus station to get people on and off
- O.T. should note that we need proper brakes on wheelchairs/walkers and we should campaign for straps or seatbelts for them to be used and secured while travelling
- some buses have a rail as well as a pole and the rail comes down to hold a person in but short journey buses don't usually have them.
- Wheelchairs and prams are like weapons if loose or roll away
- Abroad loads of people help you get wheelchairs on and don't mind about health and safety and lifting but once on the bus the wheelchairs were safe and person looked after
- tipping over is a problem and rolling
- O.T. could give tips on travelling and on straps to use and if everyone carried their own straps then drivers would not have to worry as safety would be linked to the person and aid and not person driving.
- buses could have those ceiling hand hold straps on the rails as children and wheelchair users and short people need straps too especially when the bus is full but you have to be tall or reach the ceiling, they could be longer ones, maybe that was when men used to stand up
- more control staff are going to move up to the bus station so they can see bus problems and empty buses and customer enquiries – digital displays are on bus stands now and one a couple of buses so you can see what road you are turning in to, soon you can get iPhone bus times and now you can get web bus times
- Technology can break down as it happened in the news this week twice in Edinburgh, the whole system can go, also GPS for drivers
- The no1 bus will go and be merged in to the 3 but the route is still there, it saves 5 minutes to the other side of town
- Winter problems are a worry
- mega rider tickets don't have a day on them and it can be confusing trying to remember what day rather than date they run out – the future is a credit style card so you could top it up every Monday if that is easier to remember and you could pay it by debit card so it is ready every month or by the year
- if your C+ card does not work the driver is supposed to take it off you but we know some give you time to get them photocopied to take them to get renewed – sometimes your card comes with a ready photocopy on the form but not all do, it is a good idea as it is such a worry trying to remember details
- when are all buses going to get seatbelts – buses that do not go over a speed limit do not have seatbelts and some drivers do wear seatbelts but if seatbelts are there you are supposed to wear them and on long journeys you will be told to wear them.
- Disability awareness training is happening
- Map is fantastic, like the colours, easy to see the route and stops
- I like the large numbers and colours
- I'm over the moon and all staff will get one and staff can see when buses and if buses are leaving for the supported
- Thank you to all who input stories to the first two consultations and tonight