



Headway
East Lothian;
SC10
Newsletter



Issue 15/12

Honorary President
Dr Alasdair Fitzgerald

December 2015

Enjoy your Christmas at Headway



Christmas Lunch

Mon 14th Dec

The Craighouse,
Musselburgh

12.00pm for 12.30pm

Grand Christmas
Raffle Draw

Mon 21st Dec
Musselburgh

Merry Christmas



LOTTERY FUNDED



Lloyds TSB
Foundation for Scotland



Noticeboard



Carer meetings held on Mondays as required



Relaxation classes held on Mondays as required



Next Board Meeting

There will be no meeting in December



Happy St Andrew Day



A special message for all service-users who for one reason or another are unable at the moment to be with us

"Warmest wishes from Headway"



Spotlight on Welfare Rights

Becoming an appointee for benefits

What is a benefit appointee?

A benefit appointee is someone who acts on behalf of a person claiming benefit if they are unable to deal with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for themselves.

An appointee should not be confused with an advocate, advisor or representative. Advocates, advisors and representatives cannot make a benefit claim on someone's behalf.

What can a benefit appointee do?

The appointee takes responsibility for the person's benefit claim and is expected to do everything that the person would normally do in making an application for benefit.

As an appointee you sign the claim forms on behalf of the person and must provide the DWP with information needed in support of the claim.

You can have the benefit paid to you and can spend that money on the person's behalf. You are expected to report any change of circumstances that could

affect the benefit claim. If the person is overpaid benefit it can be recovered from you personally as you are held responsible for the claim.

Although being a benefit appointee allows you to deal with someone's benefits, it does not give you any rights to make any other financial, medical or care decisions on their behalf.

An appointeeship can be removed if it is believed the appointee is acting improperly or not in the best interests of the claimant.

How do I become an appointee?

To become a benefit appointee you will need to write to the DWP to ask to be the claimant's appointee. You will need to give their name, address and National Insurance number as well as your own details. You should give a reason why the person needs an appointee and why you would be suitable for this role.

The DWP will need to be satisfied that the person you wish to be an appointee for is not capable of managing their own affairs, and that you are the most suitable person to be their appointee. They will arrange to visit you and the person claiming the benefit. You will need to complete an appointee application form (BF56) during the interview. If the DWP agrees that you should act as an appointee you will then be sent a confirmation letter called a BF57.

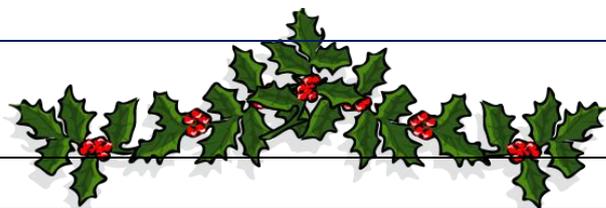
Alternatives to appointeeship

If a person is capable of managing their own affairs but needs someone to collect their benefit for them, then they can make arrangements for you to assist them. You do not need to be an appointee to do this. If they have a Post Office Account for their benefits to be paid into, they can apply for you to have a card and pin to access the account by contacting the office that pays them. If their benefits are paid into a bank or building society account they will need to make arrangements with the bank or building society.

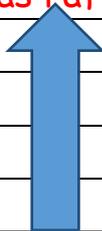
Jacqueline Lange Welfare Rights Adviser Digby Brown Solicitors



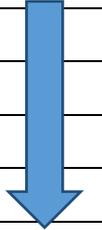
This month at Headway



1	Tues		
2	Wed	Haddington	Headway East Lothian Awards Night
3	Thurs	Dunbar	Awards for All; Christmas crafts
4	Fri		SHIF, Glasgow - Joyce attending
5	Sat		
6	Sun		
7	Mon	Musselburgh	Awards for All; Andy Brown
8	Tues		
9	Wed	Haddington	Christmas crafts
10	Thurs	Dunbar	Digby Brown Awards; Rosalie & Emma
11	Fri		
12	Sat		
13	Sun		
14	Mon	Musselburgh	Christmas Lunch
15	Tues		
16	Wed	Haddington	A Bit of a Do!
17	Thurs	Dunbar	Christmas Lunch
18	Fri		
19	Sat		
20	Sun		
21	Mon	Musselburgh	Christmas raffle draw
22	Tues		
23	Wed		
24	Thurs		
25	Fri		
26	Sat		
27	Sun		HOLIDAYS
28	Mon		
29	Tues		
30	Wed		
31	Thur		



HOLIDAYS



We will resume with the Haddington Meeting on Wednesday 6th January 2016



Meetings



Monday The Musselburgh East Community Association (MECA) building, Wallyford Road, just up from Levenhall roundabout 1pm - 4pm. A chance to meet over a cup of coffee. There is a café where lunch or a snack can be purchased.

Wednesday The Doughty Centre Herdmanflat Hospital Aberlady Road Haddington at 6.30pm evenings with a speaker etc. The meeting finishes at 8.30pm. We are not connected to the hospital.

Thursday we meet at Hallhill Healthy Living Centre, Dunbar on a Thursday 12 noon- 2pm for those who live in Dunbar and surrounding area.

Contact Us

Jim Maryniak Convener	07920 195743 jimmaryniak@hotmail.com
Gordon Wallace Treasurer	01875 853491 csgordon.wallace@virgin.net
Development Officer Joyce Cattanach	07895 193974 headwayeastlothian@live.co.uk

Joyce is also available at The Bleachingfield Centre, Countess Crescent, Dunbar, EH42 1DX, by appointment, Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays and for outreach at other times.

Items for the newsletter to Robert Dalrymple
robert.dalrymple202@btinternet.com Tel 01620 844020



Improving life after brain injury

Charity No **SC035535**



