

News for families who have children with additional needs and the professionals who work with them

Communication and Digital Media Launch

Tues, 1st Sept 7pm - 8pm

CHIP are collaborating with Highland Children's Forum to have our online digital media launch on **Tuesday the 1st of September between 7pm and 8pm.**

Our Facebook pages, Twitter accounts and refreshed websites will go live!

Please join in by finding us on Facebook, following us on Twitter and looking at our updated website. We will be using the hashtag #supportingparentcarers throughout, so please hashtag, like, follow and tweet away - let's spread the word!



Chip+ AGM

The **CHIP** AGM will be held on Thursday, 17th September from 1pm in The Pines, Drummond Road, Inverness. You are welcome to join us for a light lunch, which will be available until 1.30pm.

This year, we have several speakers, including Catriona Mallows, our digital intern who has been working hard bringing CHIP+ up to speed with social media and improving our website.

Marlyn Campbell will introduce the new post-diagnostic pack for Autism, developed and produced by the Highland Council in partnership with CHIP+.

Parents of children with Down's Syndrome will talk a little of their personal journey and about the new parent group they've set up.

All are welcome!

Highland ADHD Group AGM

The Highland ADHD Group are holding their AGM on Wednesday, 30th September from 7pm until 9pm in Inshes Primary School. If you are able to come, please email highland.adhd@hotmail.co.uk to give an idea of numbers.

So...why is there that “+” after CHIP?

A question many people have been asking recently!

First, the background: Children in the Highlands Information Point started in 1993 to give information and advice to the parent/carers of children and young people with disabilities. Much of the information given focused on medical conditions, funding, support groups and parent/carers wanting to understand the role of the different professionals their children were meeting. Shortly before the introduction of the Additional Support for Learning legislation a partner project, Children in the Highlands Education Support Service, ran for 2 years-and when CHES ended in 2004 its work was incorporated into CHIP, hence CHIP+. The development meant that CHIP still carried on with the original work, but now also responded to far more Education enquiries, including supporting families at meetings about their children. And the new Act broadened the definition of “support needs” to include, along with children with disabilities, those who needed extra support for any reason-such as bereavement, family circumstances, or emotional and behavioural difficulties.

What is the “+” about now? Recently we’ve wondered whether we should drop it, until the 13-year old son of one of our Directors suggested that CHIP provides information, + support and advice. We all liked that - so a big thank you to John Anderson for making it all clear! CHIP+ will continue!

Dyslexia Scotland: Talk

Inverness Branch for Dyslexia Scotland will have their AGM on Wednesday 9th September, 7pm – 9pm in Smithton & Culloden free church. Speaker Dr Margaret Crombie, former Support for Learning Manager and Quality Improvement Officer in Highland and chair of the Addressing Dyslexia Online Toolkit Working Group will give a talk on “Dyslexia – the good the bad and the creative”. This will include what Dyslexia is, how it can affect a child/young person's life, early warning signs and how parents and professionals can help.

Thanks!

We’re very grateful to the family and friends of Mr Jock Gray for the generous donations given to CHIP+ in his memory.

And a big thank you, too, to David MacBean, for all his work on the accounts, given as a donation to our work.

Chip + Library

The **CHIP** library has a broad range of books for parents/carers & professionals to borrow from which includes titles on subjects such as behaviour, grief, ADHD, fragile X syndrome & emotional/behavioural issues. You can browse our full library list by going to www.chipplus.org.uk and clicking on Lending Library. Please e-mail info@chipplus.org.uk or phone 01463 711189 to see if we have the book available for you before making a journey or we can post resources out to you.

Events

We are in the process of developing an up-to-date calendar on our website detailing events we think may be important and of interest to you. Please refer to this calendar for a more extensive list of events. If you have anything you wish to add to this calendar, please email: info@chipplus.org.uk

1st September: **Crafts, Karaoke and Spokes with group supporting parents & children with Down's Syndrome**

1pm – 3pm in Hilton Community Centre, Inverness. The group meets the first Saturday of every month. Please come along and join us for the above! There is a cafe on site if you fancy some lunch. Siblings are very welcome.

3rd September: **Pines Informal Coffee Morning**

10am – 12pm at the Pines, Inverness. Come along for a coffee and a chat and meet other parents and carers. Everyone welcome. Call 01463 720056 for more details

9th September: **Dyslexia Scotland**

7-8pm in Smithton Culloden Free Church, Murray Road, Smithton, Inverness IV2 7YU. Question about dyslexia? Come and chat to branch volunteers and look at Dyslexia Scotland's information about dyslexia. Everyone very welcome. Please see <http://www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk> for more info.

17th September: **Autism Information Session: Internet Safety**

10 am – 12pm at the Pines, Inverness. This is a key topic for many families, come and find out more and join us for coffee and a chat afterwards. This is a repeat session from the 7th at 6pm, also at the Pines. Please call 01463 720056 for more information

CHIP AGM

1pm, 17th September in The Pines, Drummond Road, Inverness. A light lunch will be available until 1.30pm. All welcome!

29th September: **Women and Autism**

6:30pm – 8:00pm in the Pines, Drummond Road, Inverness. The Pines welcomes leading speaker, Dr Catriona Stewart, from The Scottish Women's Autism Network to speak to local parents and carers.

30th September: **Highland ADHD Group AGM**

7pm – 9pm in Inches Primary School. The Highland ADHD Group are holding their AGM on Wednesday, 30th September. If you are able to come, please email highland.adhd@hotmail.co.uk to give an idea of numbers.

Please see our [online calendar](#) for more events.



Listening. Informing. Empowering.



Down Syndrome Group

A new group supporting parents & children with Down's Syndrome has been set up by parents and covers the Highlands & Islands area.

Their next meeting will be the 3rd of September from 1pm – 3pm in the Hilton Community Centre, Inverness. The group meet at the start of every month in the Community Centre, and their meetings are open to all the family. There is access to a gym hall for children and a café onsite for lunch, coffees and cakes!



For more information on Down's Syndrome, please visit their website:

www.dsscotland.org.uk or their Facebook page: [DS Support Highlands and Islands](#)

Funding – please help!

CHIP+ urgently requires funding to enable us to keep our services going: we rely on support from our users, local supporters and companies, and elsewhere to survive. Please help-by buying goods through our Easyfundraising page, which costs you nothing; by donating through Just Text Giving (link on our [website](#)), by organising a fundraising event, or by contacting local firms for their support! Any help, large or small, is fantastic!

Comments and Feedback

As part of our new Communication Strategy, we will be sending out 6 bulletins a year in September, November, January, March, May and July.

If you have any feedback on our layout and content, or on our website and us of social media, please email:

social.media@chipplus.org.uk

We would love to hear from you!

Published by CHIP
Birnie Centre
Raigmore Hospital
Inverness
IV2 3UJ



If you would like to be placed on our mailing list or contribute to the bulletin, please contact us:

Tel: 01463 711189

Email: info@chipplus.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number: SCO2485. CHIP is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in Scotland. Reg. No 241635 Red. Office: 28 Queensfate, Inverness, IV1 1YN