

Newsletter September 2015

VAO News & Services

Charities Christmas Bazaar 2015



As interest in taking part in VAO's annual charities bazaar has increased over recent years, we are looking into the possibility of holding a second bazaar on Sunday 29th November (to run in conjunction with BID's girls' day out).

We are currently asking groups who would be interested in having a stall on this date to contact us and register their interest. Please [email](#) or call on 872897.

Orkney Youth Awards

The annual Orkney Youth Awards is planned for November and we are looking for your support. Now in its fourth year, the Youth Workers Forum come together to celebrate young folks' achievements in the community through their participation in various awards including Saltire (for volunteering), Youth Achievement and Dynamic Youth.

We are looking for your support to ensure that young people across Orkney are recognised for their achievements – three ways in which you could help are:



1. We are seeking nominations for the Summit Award which is for an outstanding contribution to volunteering in the community. There are 12 Summit Awards available and we would be keen to hear from anyone who is eligible. The deadline for nominations is 5pm on Wednesday 7 October 2015. Nominations can be emailed to [Laura Leonard](#) or delivered to Voluntary Action Orkney, 6 Bridge Street, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1HR.

Please follow the links for the Summit Award [Guidelines](#) and [Nomination form](#) (paper copies of nomination forms are available from the One-Stop-shop at OIC and Voluntary Action Orkney).

2. If you are working directly with young people (aged 12-25) who are working towards any youth award please support and encourage them to complete the award/ fill out time sheets so as they can receive their award on the night.
3. Spread the word!

The Awards will take place on Tuesday 17 November 2015 at the King Street Halls, Kirkwall.

If you have any questions about the Awards or how to nominate please do not hesitate to get in touch with [Ernie Skea](#) from OIC CLD on 873535 or [Laura](#) at VAO on 872897.

Thanks in advance for your support and we look forward to hearing from you.

SEGO Networking Event – A visit from ReBOOT

Lee McGrath, General Manager, ReBOOT, a computer recycling social enterprise based in Moray, visited Orkney on the 10 September to share his experiences with local social enterprises during a very enjoyable lunch.

Lee explained and discussed the successes and challenges ReBOOT have had and how the organisation has managed to achieve sustainability to continue to provide a valued service to local communities. Lee was an excellent speaker who entertained participants whilst providing a great deal of information and insight into setting up, managing and developing a social enterprise. Everyone agreed that it was a great session with lots of learning points!



More information from www.reboot-forres.co.uk

If anyone is interested in attending the next working lunch they should contact [Hannah](#) at VAO on 872897

Social Enterprise Group Orkney (SEGO) is a partnership set up by HIE, Business Gateway and VAO to promote, support and develop enterprising activity in Orkney.

Legislation, Guidance & Support

Regulating fundraising for the future

Following a great deal of negative media coverage about failings in a small number of charities and public concern about fundraising methods, Sir Stuart Etherington, Chair of the Review of Fundraising Self-Regulation and NCVO Chief Executive, has now published a [report](#).

The review document, entitled, [Regulating Fundraising for the Future](#), recommends creating “a more powerful body with the public interest at its heart, which can ensure that vulnerable people are protected”, to replace the existing regulatory bodies in England.

The report recommends that the new regulator should:

- set the rules which govern fundraising regulation, and should have jurisdiction over all fundraisers, whether they sign up to it or not
- should be funded by a levy, potentially on around 2,000 charities which spend more than £100,000 on fundraising, and would have a budget of between £2m and £2.5m. Contributions would still not be compulsory, however non-compliance would attract the attention of statutory regulators
- should have a wide range of powers to require organisations to stop certain types of fundraising, require fundraisers to undergo training and refer charities to a statutory regular

- have 'the ability to proactively investigate' an organisation even if no complaint has been made

The Report also recommends the creation of a Fundraising Preference Service which would allow a donor to opt out of all charity communications.

A summit will be held to set up the new regulator within six months of the Report publication date.

[These changes will affect English charities.]

Volunteering Opportunities

Orkney Island Cat's Protection

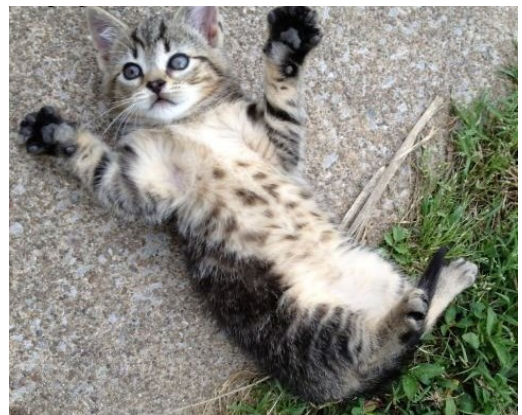
Orkney Cat's Protection have let us know about three exciting new volunteering opportunities for cat lovers in Orkney.

Cat Fosterers - They are looking for people who can provide a temporary home for stray, abandoned or injured cats and OCP will provide a purpose built cat pen or adapt a space in your home. You will spend time socialising and caring for the cats including play, stroking and grooming.

DIY Volunteer – A handy person who can paint, change lightbulbs, fix and build cat pens and carry out basic maintenance.

Transport Volunteer – To collect and deliver funds/donations, equipment, litter and cat food. They will also transport cats to and from vets, foster homes, ferries and airports.

So if you care about cats and would like to help contact [Rob](#) at VAO on 872 897 or Lynn Johnstone on 751 496.



Dates for your Diary

VAO Drop In session in Westray – Friday 30 October

VAO will be at the Hofn, Westray on Friday 30 October between 9am and 5pm to offer free advice and support. If you need advice on financial matters (for instance book keeping, charity accounts, returns to OSCR or Companies House, Independent Examination), governance (for instance committee skills, conflict management), HR Services, Payroll, funding support, training, volunteering or volunteer management please pop in. For more information please contact [VAO](#) on 872897.

Silver Sunday – Celebrating Older People. 4 October 2015 at the Picky Centre

[Silver Sunday](#) is an annual day of fun and free activities for older people across the UK. Led by The Sir Simon Milton Foundation, it celebrates the value and knowledge they contribute to our communities while combating loneliness and isolation.

To celebrate the day, the Pickaquoy Centre will be holding a day of fun filled free activities for over 60s. Please click [here](#) for more details.

Scottish Mental Health Week – An awareness Raising Event on Monday 5 October 2015 in King Street Halls, Kirkwall

To mark Scottish Mental Health Week, Orkney Equality Forum is holding an awareness raising event on Monday 5 October 2015 in the King Street Halls, Kirkwall. The event is in two parts:

From 10.30 until 1.30

Drop in and browse a range of stalls with information and leaflets including Orkney Blide Trust, ChooseLife, See Me, Stonewall Scotland, Reading for Wellbeing and more

From 2.00 until 4.30

There will be a series of presentations, each lasting about half an hour

- Mental Health – Cathie Cowan, NHS Orkney
- Employability and barriers to employment – Karen Greaves, OIC
- Orkney Blide Trust – Blide Hoose members
- ChooseLife – Tom McGuire, Orkney Health and Care
- Health Inequalities for people with Learning Disabilities – Tom McGuire

You can come for all or part of the afternoon

There is no charge and everyone is welcome - whether you work for an organisation, represent a group or are an individual who is interested in the range of topics on offer. Please let [Marie Love](#) know beforehand if you have any accessibility needs to ensure that these are met.

For more information please contact [Marie Love](#), Policy Officer (Equalities), Orkney Islands Council on 873535 Extension 2155. Please click [here](#) for an event poster.