

500 Hours Saltire Success

Karen Hume has been a real champion when it comes to volunteering, giving her time up every Monday for the 1st Holm Brownies and also volunteering on weekend outings as well as behind the scenes work that is essential in ensuring the Brownies continue.

Last year Karen was nominated to gain a Saltire Summit Award for her enthusiasm, commitment and maturity in her approach to volunteering. She has recently achieved her 500 hour Saltire Award which shows the hard work she has put in over the years.



Saltire Award

Congratulations to Megan Foubister, pictured here receiving her 50 hour Saltire Award for volunteering at Smiddybrae House.

Presenting the Award on behalf of the management team, Leigh Dowie said Megan had been really good to have around, and that her efforts were very much appreciated by all the residents and staff.

OSCR visited Orkney

Representatives from the office of the Scottish Charity Regulator were invited to Orkney where VAO held a Drop In Session to discuss issues.

8 organisations attended to raise issues that they have as a registered charity – such as problems with a constitution or Trust deeds, spending of income in relation to your charitable purposes, keeping your charitable accounts, thinking of dissolution, or amending your constitution or Memorandum & Articles.

OSCR also presented a session to the isles Development Trusts, arranged jointly by VAO and HIE in response to the particular issues that Trusts face as rapidly expanding organisations. At the session, Ivan Houston from AJB Scholes had been commissioned by HIE to deliver a presentation on trading subsidiaries and Company Law.

We very much welcomed the opportunity to strengthen our ties with the Scottish Charity regulator as we have 237 registered charities in Orkney, and VAO are commissioned by both OIC and the Scottish Government to support and advise these registered charities and other community groups.

If you have a problem or query as a charity or a voluntary group – **contact Edwina or Meghan for more information on 872897.**



Need space for your next meeting?

Our central location and competitive rates make VAO an ideal venue
contact us for rates...

Dates for your Diaries

Volunteers Week 1st – 7th June – VAO will be holding an event in the King Street Halls on Friday 7th June from 2 - 4pm. For more information on what you can do for your event contact Fraser Devine on fraser.devine@vaorkney.org.uk

Feasibility Design & Project Planning – 6th June, 6.30 - 9.30pm - VAO, a fee will apply.

Making a better funding application – 12th June 6.30 - 9pm - VAO, a fee will apply.

Introduction to PQASSO – 19th June 6.30 - 9.30pm - VAO, a fee will apply.

For more information on the above events, contact VAO on 872897.

VAO AGM - Monday 17th June, 7pm in Orkney College Lecture Theatre. Guest speaker will be Alistair Buchan, OIC Chief Executive. We hope for a good turnout and would encourage all members and interested parties to attend.

Understand Adult Attachment Styles, Help Couples Engage and Reconnect - 10th & 11th June 10am- 4pm, The Life Centre, East Road, Kirkwall. For Counsellors, Therapists, Health & Social Care Professionals who work with Couples and Families. £110 per day payable at registration (scholarships available).

For more information contact Helen Moss: helenamoss@btinternet.com

New Code of Practice for Fundraisers

A new Code of Practice set by and for members of the Institute of Fundraising (IoF) has been launched as part of the self-regulatory approach to fundraising. Based on four key principles, the Code represents the standards set by, and expected of, all members and the Fundraising Standards Board. **For more information visit:** <http://www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/guidance/code-of-fundraising-practice/>

Hi-Scot Credit Union

Did you know that VAO act as an information point for HI-Scot Credit Union?

Leaflets and application forms are available and staff are able to carry out ID verification, meaning new applicants don't need to send original documents through the post.

For more information phone 872897 or visit the HI-Scot Credit Union website www.hi-scot.com

Healthcare Innovation

The Guardian have launched a new awards scheme to recognise and celebrate innovation across the healthcare sector and beyond. The Guardian Healthcare Innovation Awards are an opportunity to celebrate and share best practice across different areas of the healthcare sector both inside and out of the NHS.

For more information visit: <http://www.j4bcommunity.co.uk/Launch.aspx?wusruid=QPL9924G4I&dscod=J4BGR3&newsitemid=252-N46910>

Services Survey

In our recent annual Services Survey, you told us that the most important membership benefits were:

- Access to up to date information, advice and support
- Access to training opportunities
- Funding advice and support

100% of respondents reported that VAO membership was of value, that they would recommend the service to others and that they would use the service again. We were pleased with the 13% response rate but would love to hear more about what services you use, how you rate our service, and what else you think we should be offering. All feedback received is used to develop existing and new services. Please feel free to send any comments to enquiries@vaorkney.org.uk

Redecorating

VAO offices will be getting redecorated during the week beginning Monday 10th June.



There may be some disruption to office services during this time and we would ask customers to advise us beforehand of any photocopying jobs they will need.

We'll try to keep disruption to a minimum.