



23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

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With the General Election less than a week away, we might well reflect on what it means for us in the voluntary sector. Although our interests may not feature explicitly among the big themes the politicians are debating, we should remember that whenever they talk about the economy, or communities, or aid, or social values, the voluntary sector is implicitly invoked.

There is some evidence of a growing awareness - across all political parties - of the huge resources of human effort and commitment voluntary organisations command, and a general perception that they should have a significant role in any economic recovery strategy, as well as in helping communities through hard times.

Election time is one of those rare periods when politicians (or would-be politicians) actually *listen*. So it's an opportunity to make our voices heard, strongly and confidently – to press our interests and secure commitments from our aspiring representatives. Let's make the most of it!

Comments and suggestions for the [website](#) and e-Bulletin are welcome.

Emails to: [lee.stevenson@cvS-stirling.org.uk](mailto:lee.stevenson@cvS-stirling.org.uk) or [donald.saunders@cvS-stirling.org.uk](mailto:donald.saunders@cvS-stirling.org.uk)

Deadline for contributions is the previous Monday. If you have any queries, please call 01786 469916 and ask for Lee or Donald.

## GROUP NEWS

### CARE (Stirling) AGM

Room 3 (Upper Hall), St Columbus Church, Allan Park, Stirling  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm



This will be the first Annual General Meeting of CARE, the organisation formed in March 2009 to campaign for proper care provision for Stirling's elderly. For further information, please contact Lorna on 07794881914.

(You can read more about CARE on the dedicated webpage hosted by CVS Stirling: [www.cvs-stirling.org.uk/CARE.htm](http://www.cvs-stirling.org.uk/CARE.htm) )

## Launch of SEVEN - Stirling LGBT Youth Group

Lesser Hall, Stirling  
Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 5 -8 pm



SEVEN - the new LGBT Youth Group in partnership with Stirling Youth Services and Clackmannanshire Youth Services will host this evening to launch their group and to raise the profile of LGBT people.

For more information or to get involved in this event, please contact LGBT on 0131 555 39 40 or email [info@lgbtyouth.org.uk](mailto:info@lgbtyouth.org.uk)

## Quality Action Group Drop-in

10 Spittal Street, Stirling FK8 1DU



Quality Action Group is a Stirling-based charity run by people with learning disabilities for people with learning disabilities. Among the many services they provide (including advice, training, advocacy etc) is a Drop-in facility in Spittal Street, in central Stirling.

Their Spring/Summer Programme features a wide range of activities: pool, bowling, walking, darts, and bingo as well as coffee and pub nights, film nights and bingo. Drop in times are:

- Tuesdays - 6pm to 8pm
- Wednesdays – 1pm to 3pm
- Thursdays - 6pm to 8pm
- Saturdays - 10.30am to 12.30pm

For more information phone Quality Action Group Contact on 01786 471120, or visit their website at [www.qualityactiongroup.org/](http://www.qualityactiongroup.org/)

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## EVENTS & TRAINING

### The Domestic Abuse Strategy in Scotland: 10 years on

*What's been achieved? What's still to be done?*

King James Thistle Hotel, Edinburgh  
Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> April

Ten years on from the publication of the Scottish Government's first National Strategy to address Domestic Abuse in Scotland, this event will look at what has been achieved in that period and consider what more needs to be done to prevent domestic abuse.

A recent study into women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault, carried out by the National Union of Students Womens' Campaign showed that violence against women students is widespread and serious.

As well as considering what can be learned from the recorded incidents of domestic abuse, the conference will also look beyond the statistics to consider the many impacts domestic abuse has on individuals and families, particularly young people.

***The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Domestic Abuse strategy in Scotland is an ideal opportunity to examine the issue in detail; re-evaluate the strategies in place to tackle and prevent this problem; and develop ideas and approaches for the decade ahead.***

For more information contact Jane on 0131 556 1500, email [jwilson@mackayhannah.com](mailto:jwilson@mackayhannah.com) or visit [www.mackayhannah.com/upcoming-conferences/domestic-abuse-scotland/](http://www.mackayhannah.com/upcoming-conferences/domestic-abuse-scotland/)

## Care with Confidence

Raploch Community Campus, Drip Road, Stirling  
13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> May (see below)



Do you care for someone who has COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)?

Learn more about managing and living with this condition by coming along to the following information sessions at Raploch Community Campus

- COPD An introduction: 13<sup>th</sup> May 1.30 - 3pm  
*What to expect from the group sessions*
- COPD Part 1: 20<sup>th</sup> May 1 - 3pm  
*Information from a Respiratory Nurse Specialist*
- COPD Part 2: 27<sup>th</sup> May 1 - 2.30pm  
*Information on medication, treatment and support from The British Lung Foundation*

To book your place and for more information contact Stella McDonald, Carers Training & Development Co-ordinator, on 07818 592990.

## The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Stirling Event

Municipal Chambers, Stirling  
9<sup>th</sup> June, 10.30 am



The Office of the Third Sector in the Cabinet Office is to host an event in Stirling to encourage nominations for The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the so-called 'MBE for voluntary groups.'

The event, one of 14 across the UK this summer, will offer everyone eligible to make a nomination the chance to learn more about the Award and the benefits for local voluntary groups.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Award Committee Chair Martyn Lewis says:  
"Volunteers play a vital role in community life and it's important to recognise their outstanding efforts. Through these events, we want to show how The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

celebrates the work of exceptional voluntary groups, and encourage attendees to nominate those outstanding volunteer organisations in their local area.”

The Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service was created to mark the occasion of her Golden Jubilee in 2002, and is the highest national honour that can be bestowed upon groups of individuals who give their time freely for the benefit of others in the local community. 750 groups around the UK have won the Award since 2002.

Those interested in attending the event or learning more should call 020 7781 2397 or email [queensawardevent@consolidatedpr.com](mailto:queensawardevent@consolidatedpr.com). For further information on the Award, or to download a nomination form, visit [www.direct.gov.uk/thequeensawardforvoluntaryservice](http://www.direct.gov.uk/thequeensawardforvoluntaryservice)

### **‘Race for Life’ in Stirling**

University of Stirling , Gannochy Sports Centre , Stirling  
Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 11 am



Stirling will be one of the venues in the UK-wide series of events aimed at raising money for Cancer Research UK. Women are invited to tackle the 5k course – that’s about 3 miles, but you don’t have to be super fit: you can choose whether to run, jog or just walk the distance.

Entry costs £12.99 per person, and you can sign up online at <http://www.raceforlife.org/choose-your-event/stirling--13-jun-10-1100.aspx>

## ***VOLUNTEERING & EMPLOYMENT***



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## FUNDING & AWARDS

### Grab a Grant with CSV Action Earth



**Action Earth** provides grants of up to £50 (funded by Morrisons) to assist groups in England, Scotland and Wales in carrying out environmental projects.

There are also a limited number of £250 grants, *only available in Scotland* and funded by Scottish Natural Heritage, specifically intended for biodiversity projects.

Action Earth 2010 will run from 1st March through to 31st July. To find out more, and see if your group might be eligible, visit the Action Earth website [www.actionearth.org.uk/](http://www.actionearth.org.uk/) and click on the relevant button. There is a table showing deadline dates, and you can register your project online.

### Scottish Community Development Centre: Achieving Community Empowerment (ACE) Support Programme

The ACE Programme is designed to provide hands-on developmental support to community groups so that they can improve their skills and confidence to carry out community activity and become more effective organisations.

The more effective a community organisation is, the more likely it is to be able to influence decisions made about their community and improve the quality of life for local people. The support provided will help groups to make thorough assessments of the needs and issues they want to tackle, create project plans to address these needs, identify who can help to carry out the plan, and assess what changes have taken place as a result of group activities and what has been learned from the experience.

The ACE Programme is paid for by the BIG Lottery Fund and is managed by the Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC).

To apply for support for your group to SCDC, see the Guidance Notes ([www.cvsfife.org/temporary/aceguide.pdf](http://www.cvsfife.org/temporary/aceguide.pdf)) and Application Form [www.cvsfife.org/temporary/aceapply.doc](http://www.cvsfife.org/temporary/aceapply.doc) For more about SCDC, visit their website: [http://www.scdc.org.uk/achieving\\_community\\_empowerment/](http://www.scdc.org.uk/achieving_community_empowerment/) or email: [aileen@scdc.org.uk](mailto:aileen@scdc.org.uk)

### 2014 Communities Grants

The 2014 Communities is a small grants programme from the BIG Lottery Fund, offering local sports clubs, voluntary and community organisations, community councils and schools grants of between £300 and £1,000 to support and encourage involvement in sport and physical activity.

The programme aims to encourage people to take part, or volunteer, in sports or physical activity.  
**Applications can be submitted at any time.**

For further information visit

[http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_2014\\_communities.htm?regioncode=-sco&status=theProg](http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_2014_communities.htm?regioncode=-sco&status=theProg)

## Round Table Support for Local Groups

Stirling & Bridge of Allan Round Table has launched its new Small Grants Fund to help local community groups in Stirling, Bridge of Allan, Causewayhead, Cambuskenneth and Dunblane.

Launching the Fund, Chairman, Andy Campbell, said, "Every year Stirling & Bridge of Allan Round Table raises funds through our fireworks display and Santa's Sleigh ...

"We spend that money in the communities where we raise it, and past donations have included support for local schools, toddler groups, old folks Christmas vouchers and much more. But we know that there are many community groups out there doing good work that we never hear about. That's why we decided to introduce a new Small Grants Fund to give those groups the chance to ask for funding to do a bit extra for their community.

"Grants can be from £20 to £250 and can be used for any purpose that makes a difference to the local community."

Application forms are available online from the Stirling & Bridge of Allan Round Table website [www.stirlingboarroundtable.co.uk](http://www.stirlingboarroundtable.co.uk). The closing date for applications is Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

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## OTHER NEWS

### Changes to Charity Accounting

The Scottish Government has announced its intended changes to the accounting regime which is currently applicable to Scottish charities.

Many of the changes are very simple – such as correcting typos or making it easier to interpret the current requirements – but some have a more significant impact on charities of a certain size and legal form. The changes try to reduce the burden of regulation on smaller charities in particular.

These are the main points:

- The threshold for the preparation of accruals accounts for non-company charities, currently set at £100,000, will increase to £250,000.
- The thresholds for mandatory audit of charity accounts, currently £500,000 gross income and £2.8million gross assets, will increase to £3.26million, in line with the threshold applicable to companies under company law. The gross income threshold remains unchanged.

- There will be some changes to a small number of existing definitions within the 2006 Regulations (gross income, permanent endowment funds & Expendable endowment funds) as well as two new definitions for liabilities and contingent liabilities that will hopefully assist in the preparation of receipts and payments accounts. This is to try to address the difficulties that are experienced with the current definition in practical terms.

***These changes will not take effect until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011, so charity trustees should continue to follow and comply with the existing regime for charity accounts under the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.***

Read OSCR's summary of the most significant changes at [www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=f5f48470-039f-4e12-a692-80bd56eb4f4a](http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=f5f48470-039f-4e12-a692-80bd56eb4f4a) For the text of the Scottish Government's full report go to [www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/02/25112420/0](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/02/25112420/0)

### **Third Sector Gets its own Soap!**

Charity and social enterprise advice website **KnowHow NonProfit** ([www.knowhownonprofit.org](http://www.knowhownonprofit.org)) has produced an animated docudrama on life in the voluntary sector.

**Millcaster Tales**, a fictional blog that tells the story of a small town's non-profit organisations and the people who work there, launched on the KnowHow NonProfit website in February 2009 and has attracted a loyal following. Now, KnowHow NonProfit is hoping to reach a new audience by producing an **animated video version** of the Millcaster Tales blog.

This has been recorded using professional actors and features illustrations of the characters. The animated video is available on the KnowHow NonProfit and Society Guardian website in streaming audio and video, or as an MP3.

Each episode of Millcaster Tales is based on real-life situations faced by voluntary organisations. As well as being entertaining, its producers hope people will learn something from each episode and that it will get people talking about how they would tackle the issues raised.

The first podcast features Part 1 of an episode of Millcaster Tales called 'Broken Biscuits'. In this episode, the CEO of a fictional charity called 'Millcaster Aid for Africa' comes back from holiday to find out that the Fundraising Director has upset the wife of a key funder, jeopardising the future of the charity.

Podcasts with parts 2, 3 and 4 of 'Broken Biscuits' will be available on the KnowHow website in the next few weeks, and all future episodes of Millcaster Tales will be available as an animated video.

To view the Millcaster Tales video, visit [www.knowhownonprofit.org/millcaster/](http://www.knowhownonprofit.org/millcaster/) or [www.guardian.co.uk/charity-effectiveness](http://www.guardian.co.uk/charity-effectiveness) For more information, contact Damien Clarkson, Marketing and Communications Assistant, at KnowHow NonProfit on 020 7040 5178 or [Damien.Clarkson.1@city.ac.uk](mailto:Damien.Clarkson.1@city.ac.uk)

## Equality Act 2010

The Equality Bill received Royal Assent on the 8th of April and formally became **The Equality Act 2010**.



Government  
**Equalities Office**  
Putting equality at the heart of government

The Act consolidates all of the various anti-discrimination laws to date into one easily understood piece of legislation. It 'levels up' the law, so that there is the same protection from discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, race, religion and belief, and sexual orientation.

The intended timetable for the provisions in the Act coming into force is as follows:

- **October 2010:** Main provisions.
- **April 2011:** The integrated public sector Equality Duty, the Socio-economic Duty and dual discrimination protection.
- **2012:** The ban on age discrimination in provision of goods, facilities, services and public functions.
- **2013:** Private and voluntary sector gender pay transparency regulations (if required) and political parties publishing diversity data.

You can download the full Act at [www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2010/pdf/ukpga\\_20100015\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2010/pdf/ukpga_20100015_en.pdf)  
The webpage [www.equalities.gov.uk/equality\\_bill.aspx](http://www.equalities.gov.uk/equality_bill.aspx) also has downloads for Equality Impact Assessment and simple guide to the provisions of the Act in the form of an Equality Bill Factsheet.

## Scottish Government Response to PVG Scheme Consultation

The latest issue of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme) can be accessed through the Scottish Government Website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/children-families/pvglegislation/News> Its purpose is to keep people who work with vulnerable groups up to date with progress and plans in the run up to the first phase of the PVG Scheme going live at the end of 2010.

The link will give you access to:

- The Scottish Government **Response to the Consultation** on secondary legislation required to implement the PVG Scheme, draft guidance and draft Regulatory Impact Assessment.
- A **Guide** to the different disclosure types available under the PVG Scheme.
- A sample of the **new application form** for a PVG Scheme Record Update.
- Updates on the **PVG Scheme IT system**, determining unsuitability to work with vulnerable groups and guidance and training activities.
- **Update for the voluntary sector** from the Central Registered Body in Scotland.

## 'MAN & VAN' Removals for Charities



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info@moveurstuff.co.uk

www.moveurstuff.co.uk

The removals/deliveries company MoveUrStuff, which operates throughout the Forth Valley, the UK and Europe, has announced that its **special rates for charities** are continuing through 2010.

For information on their 'man and van' services, visit [www.moveurstuff.co.uk](http://www.moveurstuff.co.uk)

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