

# CVS Stirling e-Bulletin –30 May 2008

**LOTS OF EVENTS coming up in June – just remember to make your registration/reservation/booking in plenty of time. In particular, *The Gathering*, THE charity and voluntary sector event of the year, is coming up (19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> June at the SECC) – don't miss it!**

Comments and suggestions for the website and eBulletin are welcome. Emails to: [lee.stevenson@cvs-stirling.org.uk](mailto:lee.stevenson@cvs-stirling.org.uk).

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



## **SECTIONS IN THIS ISSUE:**

***FORTHCOMING EVENTS***

***GROUP NEWS***

***FUNDING***

***LEGISLATION & POLICY***

***OTHER NEWS***

***FUNDER OF THE WEEK: Awards for All***

## ***FORTHCOMING EVENTS***

### **Personal Safety for Lone Workers Conference**

South Hall, University of Edinburgh, 18 Holyrood Park Road, Edinburgh

4<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30 am-4.30 pm

Admission: £229 + VAT (£189.00 + VAT for Charitable Organisations)

Includes refreshments

This conference, hosted by personal safety training & consultants **personalsafety4u**, is aimed at those with management responsibilities for lone workers, and lone workers themselves, currently working for local authorities. It is also of relevance to occupational health and safety officers and HR personnel within organisations where lone working takes place.

The key objective is to provide specific and up-to-date information for improving the safety of lone workers. Some of the leading experts in personal safety will deliver talks, covering 'tried and tested', 'factual based' and 'straightforward' guidelines and procedures.

For further details and to request a booking form phone 01765 606274 or email [info@personalsafety4u.co.uk](mailto:info@personalsafety4u.co.uk)



### **Heart to Heart Open Day**

Callander Kirk Hall

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June

a.m. session: 10.30-12.00; p.m. session: 1.00-2.30

Refreshments

'Heart to Heart,' the local charity that supports people through divorce and separation, invites you to its first Open Day. This will be an opportunity both to celebrate volunteers' week and to find out about the training on offer to other local support groups.

To register for the morning or the afternoon session please contact Cathy or Lynne on 01877 339966 or e-mail [cathy.scott@hearttoheart.org.uk](mailto:cathy.scott@hearttoheart.org.uk) **All**

**Welcome.**



### **Public Partnership Forum Open Meeting**

Council Chambers, Viewforth, Stirling

7<sup>th</sup> June, 10am-12.30

Stirling's Public Partnership Forum is holding an open meeting, jointly hosted by the Stirling Council Area Community Forum, to discuss **the New Acute Hospital in Larbert** and the **New Community Hospital in Stirling**.

The meeting will feature Presentations on both hospitals, Question and Answer sessions, and a 'Hopes and Fears' session. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

To find out more and book a place contact Jessie-Anne Malcom on 01342 624660, email [Jessie.malcolm@fvpc.nhs.uk](mailto:Jessie.malcolm@fvpc.nhs.uk).



### **Community Seminar: 'Making it Clear'**

John Muir Suite, National Park HQ Building,  
Balloch

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2-7.30 pm.

FREE

This, the second in the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park's series of Community Seminars, will be of interest to anyone involved in a community organisation who wants to improve communication skills and network with like-minded people. Topics and features will include -

- Communication – getting your message across
- Newsletters; Web Sites; Presentations, Making a Pitch; Communication with Members, the Wider Community, Funders, Agencies and the Media
- Workshops, information and surgery sessions
- Experts on hand to give advice
- Includes buffet meal and tour of the new National Park Headquarters

**This event is free to members of voluntary groups.** To find out more, or to register, phone Dorothy Taylor on 01389 722009 or email [Dorothy.taylor@lochlomond-trossachs.org](mailto:Dorothy.taylor@lochlomond-trossachs.org).



## **The Gathering**

SECC Glasgow,  
19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June

A reminder that one of the highlights of the voluntary & charity sector calendar is just round the corner, and this year's event promises to be bigger and fuller than ever. For the latest, visit the website: [www.scvo.org.uk/gatherscotland](http://www.scvo.org.uk/gatherscotland)

We would draw your attention in particular to these events before and during **The Gathering**:

- **The SCVO Dinner and TFN (Third Force News) Charity Awards**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Glasgow  
Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> June

This is an opportunity to celebrate Scotland's voluntary sector and its achievements over the past year and network with some of the key players and influencers in the sector. The evening will be introduced by Scotland's Finance Minister John Swinney, who will also present the TFN awards.

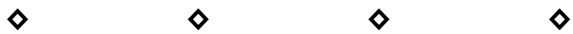
**Tickets for this year's dinner are selling quickly**, so don't miss out! You can purchase individual tickets (£65 each) or a table of up to eight people (£480) by emailing Cathie Rowell ([cathie.rowell@scvo.org.uk](mailto:cathie.rowell@scvo.org.uk)) or

calling her on 0141 225 8003.

- **SCVO Members Reception at The Gathering**

Thursday 19<sup>TH</sup> June, 11.30 am-1 pm

Prior to the SCVO Dinner there will be a reception for SCVO members during The Gathering. There will be a presentation and discussion followed by the opportunity to network with other SCVO members. Lunch will be provided during the reception. Spaces at the venue are limited, so please reserve your place as soon as possible by emailing Gordon Nelson ([gordon.nelson@scvo.org.uk](mailto:gordon.nelson@scvo.org.uk)) or by calling him on 0131 474 6176.



### **Scribblers Picnic a Moveable Feast**

One charity event we've come to look forward to will **NOT** be held this June. Instead, the **Scribbler's Picnic** has moved to **24<sup>th</sup> August** – hopefully, this will give a chance of some better weather. The venue, though, will be the same: Stirling County Rugby Club grounds.

We'll provide further details about this popular music & fun day nearer the time. In the meantime, if you'd like to get involved, email [lottery\\_russell@hotmail.com](mailto:lottery_russell@hotmail.com)

## **GROUP NEWS**

### **Wishes Not Fulfilled**

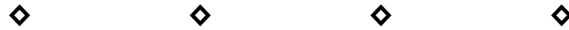
Cancer Research UK is closing its 29 'Wishes' card shops after they were found to be failing to match the performance of its core charity shops and were unlikely to do so in future.

The stores will be converted into traditional charity shops selling donated stock. Staff and volunteers will be transferred to the converted shops, where CRUK will continue selling its range of 'Wishes' cards.

A year ago, Cancer Research UK spent nearly £1m refitting and stocking 16 new 'Wishes' shops. But an internal review has concluded that the chain was not matching the return on investment achieved by the core charity shops and was unlikely to do so - because of the improved performance of the core shops and changes in the greetings card market.

'Wishes' stores should be converted within weeks, though several will continue to operate until September.

CRUK said that suitable alternative employment was available for all 'Wishes' shop staff, and that it was consulting staff and volunteers about the plans.



### **Charities May Merge**

Two of Scotland's leading charities are considering merging to create the country's biggest older people's group.

**Help the Aged Scotland** and **Age Concern Scotland** have agreed to consult their partner organisations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland over the feasibility of joining forces to better represent elderly people's needs.

A joint working group is understood to have met on at least two occasions and each trustee board is expected to reach a final decision at meetings in November. This is the third time in 10 years that the charities have attempted to merge.

The two charities have not yet decided on what the new organisation will be called, though it is expected to be an entirely new name. A massive rebranding exercise is likely to be involved, encompassing services and charity shops for both charities.

Age Concern chair Catherine McLoughlin said, "*We intend to combine the strengths of two powerful organisations into a new charity which will deliver even more for older people.*"

***"Spending time and energy operating separately no longer makes sense."***

Help the Aged chairman Jo Connell said, "*With an increasingly ageing population in the UK and across the world, there has never been a greater need or a more compelling reason for such an organisation.*"

No instant, dramatic changes are planned, and both charities will continue to work independently over the next few months. They will be consulting with partners and funders to gather their views on how the process will work.

## **FUNDING**

### **Small Grants Scheme Open**

Community Food and Health (Scotland) has declared its 2008 Small Grant

Scheme open. The scheme provides for grants of between £500 and £3000 to tackle barriers to healthy eating among people on a low income. Last year, a total of £90,000 was shared among 56 successful applicants.

Groups or agencies working with low-income groups in Scotland can apply.

Closing date for applications is **5pm on 27<sup>th</sup> June**. (Late applications will NOT be accepted.) To apply, phone the CFHS on 0142 226 5261, or download one from the website [cfh@scotconsumer.org.uk](mailto:cfh@scotconsumer.org.uk)

## ***LEGISLATION & POLICY***

### **Dormant Bank Accounts: Consultation Session**

Main Hall, Wynd Centre, 6 School Wynd, Paisley  
13th June 2008, 10am - 12.30pm

Dormant bank accounts – defined as those which have not seen any customer activity for 15 years or more – could prove a windfall for Scotland’s Third Sector, bringing up to £40 million in funding.

#### ***But how would the money be best used?***

The Dormant Bank and Building Society Accounts Bill is currently progressing through the UK Parliament, and the assets released will be invested exclusively in the Third Sector. The money would be distributed by BIG (the Big Lottery Fund), hopefully at some point in 2009.

#### **Scottish Ministers will set the priorities for the Scottish share of funds, and have initiated a consultation process.**

Four local consultations sessions are being held with the sector, following a national scoping session on 13 May involving SCVO, national organisations and intermediaries, BIG and The Third Sector Division of the Scottish Government. Views are also being sought via written consultation responses through SCVO and the Scottish Government.

One of the sessions will be hosted by Renfrewshire CVS. Although this is primarily targeted at local CVS and Volunteer Centres in the Strathclyde and Islands areas, the topics are of concern to the whole sector.

The purpose of the session is to consult the sector on key questions such as:

- What should be the governing principles of the Fund?

- Should the Fund be used for a particular type or mix of funding?
- What should be the timescales for the release of the Fund?
- What are the priority areas where the Fund could make the most impact?

For space reasons, places will be restricted to 50. **Deadline for bookings: Thursday, 5th June.** For further information please contact Anne Keir: 0141 587 2487 [anne.keir@rcvsweb.co.uk](mailto:anne.keir@rcvsweb.co.uk).

If you can't make the seminar but still wish to participate, you can download the consultation document at [http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/consultations\\_and\\_legislation/unclaimed\\_assets/consult\\_unclaimedassets\\_distribution.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/consultations_and_legislation/unclaimed_assets/consult_unclaimedassets_distribution.cfm). (Thankfully, you don't have to type all this out – just CTRL+click.) Then send your comments to Geoff Pearson of the Third Sector Team at [geoff.pearson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:geoff.pearson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

## **OTHER NEWS**

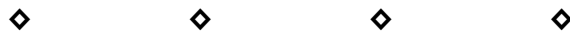
### **Never Too Old ...**

To some of us 'RSVP' is what you put on an invitation when you're looking for a reply. But it also stands for '**Retired and Senior Voluntary Programme,**' a free-standing programme within CSV which has been running in the Forth Valley for six years now.

RSVP, which has the slogan 'Retire into Action', has shown that being 50+ is no bar to making a valuable contribution in the voluntary sector. In fact, the programme particularly welcomes volunteers over 80!

Recently over 100 retired local volunteers were recognised for their contributions at a ceremony in the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling. Among them were 15 who received long-service certificates. Volunteers from Stirling, Dunblane, Doune, Causewayhead, Callander and Sauchie were honoured.

More info about the programme in Forth Valley is available from Stan Sanderson on 01786 475800, or by emailing [rsvpscotstirling@cvs.org.uk](mailto:rsvpscotstirling@cvs.org.uk). They have a dedicated website: [www.csv-rsvp.org.uk](http://www.csv-rsvp.org.uk)



### **Provost's Civic Awards**

Nominations are being sought for Stirling's 2008 Provost's Civic Awards, now in their eighth year.

The Awards are given to individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the life of their community, or achieved eminence in their field.

There are eight categories of Award, including one for the Voluntary Sector.

**This is a great opportunity to raise the profile of the Sector and its work** - and one that only comes around every two years. Anyone can nominate someone for an award, so if you know of a deserving individual or group out there in the voluntary sector...

Nomination Forms can be had from The Provost's Office, Corporate Services, Stirling Council, Room 55, Old Viewforth, Stirling FK8 2ET. Or phone 01786 443380 or email [houstonj2@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:houstonj2@stirling.gov.uk)



### **SCVO Credit Union**

*SCVO Credit Union is here to help you!* We offer Savings & Loans for the Scottish voluntary sector. Our service is available to anyone who is a regular volunteer, or employed by an SCVO member organisation, their partners and family members resident at the same address. To find out more information or to join contact us on - 0131 474 8003 or visit our website, [www.scvo.org.uk](http://www.scvo.org.uk).

### ***FUNDER OF THE WEEK: Awards for All***

**Awards for All** is the small grants scheme supported by the four National Lottery distributors in Scotland: **Scottish Arts Council, Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund** and **Sportscotland**. The scheme makes awards of between £500 and £10,000 to grass roots community groups and voluntary organisations.



**Awards for All grants are characterised by being simple to apply for and quick to process. Applicants get a decision within 8 weeks. And you can apply at any time.**

You can apply if you are a not-for-profit group or you are a parish or town council, school or health body.

The rules stipulate you must have a bank account that requires at least two people to sign each cheque or withdrawal, and you must use the grant within one year.

The types of organisations AFA Scotland prioritise include:

- New groups (except Arts)
- Groups with an annual income of less than £20,000
- First time applicants
- People under 25
- People over 64
- People with disabilities
- People with mental health concerns
- Minority groups
- Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- LGBT groups
- Groups working to eliminate sectarianism

However, AFA stress that this is *not* an exclusive list, and prospective applicants should not be put off if they don't fit into any of these categories. With £13 million to distribute this year, they encourage applications from outside the priority areas, and will consider any applications which fit AFA guidelines.

**Applicants should read the guidance notes, which can be downloaded as a PDF file from their website, [www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland)**

They should then phone 0845 600 20 40 or textphone 0845 755 6656 to request an application pack in hard copy. Completed applications should be sent to: Awards for All, 1 Atlantic Quay, 1 Robertson Street, Glasgow, G2 8JB.

