

NEWS

CVSA office and shops opening hours

magpie
The Charity Shop

 **THE BOXROOM**

Banchory office: closed from 23rd Dec, re-open on 4th Jan
Inverurie office: closed from 23rd Dec, re-open on 4th Jan
Stonehaven office: closed from 22nd Dec, re-open on 4th Jan

Boxroom: closed from 23rd Dec, re-open 5th Jan with sale!
Magpie Shop: closed from 23rd Dec, re-open 5th Jan with sale!
Charity Shop: closed from 23rd Dec, re-open 5th Jan with sale!

**CVSA would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas
and all the best for 2012!**

Lead Artist required for social engagement project in Ellon, Aberdeenshire

This is an exciting opportunity to work with the communities of Formartine, Aberdeenshire, to explore and describe local barriers to social inclusion through photography and image making.

The Lead Artist will:

- ◆ Facilitate an arts-based community consultation outlining barriers experienced when engaging with the wider community
- ◆ Support and advise participants in the use of their own cameras
- ◆ Work with volunteers who will assist with the delivery of learning in photography skills to participants.
- ◆ Develop and deliver an end product that is shared by the participants and the public

The work will be based in Ellon, in the area of Formartine, Aberdeenshire.

The project will run from March to September 2012

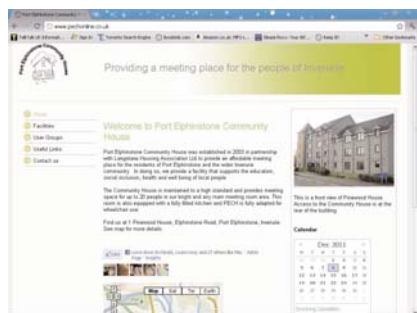
The Lead Artist fee is £3400. The deadline for applications is Friday 20 January 2012 at 12:00.

For further information, please contact
Carla Angus (Arts Development Officer, working days Mon and Thurs)
carla.angus@aberdeenshire.gov.uk, Tel 07919 228146
or Mark Mitchell (Community Planning Officer Formartine)
mark.mitchell@aberdeenshire.gov.uk Tel 01358 726406
or visit <http://aberdeenshirearts.org.uk>.

Introducing DotComUnity - www.DotComUnity.co.uk



DotComUnity is a one stop shop with information on local services and support available across the whole of the UK. DotComUnity is free to use and free to promote your services, so why not use the the website to promote local groups, conferences, services and events in your area.



Port Elphinstone Community House (PECH) have just launched their first ever web site at: www.pechonline.co.uk

Visitors to the web site can find details of the facilities available as well as information and contact details for the groups who regularly use PECH. They can also check on availability using the on line calendar function and download a booking form. There's even a contact page where you can leave a message or ask a question.

"This is an exciting new venture for us" said PECH Co-Chair Alister Strachan "The web site will help us market the Community House to a much wider audience and we hope this will lead increased usage of the excellent facilities we have to offer. So why not pay our web site a visit and take a look for yourself. If you're a Facebook user then feel free to like us when you're there using the Facebook link on the Home Page".

Research support for the third sector

Research4Change has just been launched and is a pilot programme that helps community groups, voluntary organisations, and social enterprises to gather better research evidence. The focus is on small-scale and practical pieces of research work that can help organisations to understand needs, demonstrate their wider impact, and make the case for investment.

Projects are carried out by a pool of qualified researchers ... research graduates, early career researchers, and more experienced researchers who want to make use of their talent and further their career.

The programme has been designed to keep costs low and keep quality high.

Check out www.research4change.org for further details, and visit www.socialvaluelab.org.uk/2011/12/01/news-launching-research4change/ to find out more about the thinking behind the initiative.

Fuel Efficient Driver Training

If you are a high mileage driver, then this training will help you to significantly reduce your fuel costs. We estimate that after training you could save as much as two months' worth of fuel in a year. Adopting fuel efficient driving techniques can lead to:

- An average of 15% savings on fuel costs
 - Less wear and tear on vehicles
 - Lower carbon emissions
- Reduced likelihood of accidents.

Training normally costs £40 per person, but for a limited time only the Energy Saving Trust is able to offer the training session for only £12. Don't miss out, book your place now.

If you would like to book Fuel Efficient Driver Training, or simply want to know more, contact your local Energy Saving Scotland advice centre on 0800 512 012 and speak to a specialist advisor.

EVENTS & TRAINING

The Social Enterprise Exchange - Early Bird bookings available until 31 December 2011

The Social Enterprise Exchange - www.socialenterpriseexchange.com - will take place on Tuesday 27 March 2012 at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow. The sell-out annual events, S2S and Voice, are being combined in 2012 to provide a better-than-ever event for everyone in the growing social enterprise sphere. Please see further details below.

Book your place now to benefit from massive discounts - the early bird discounts end on 31 December 2011, so don't miss out!

Social Enterprise Scotland (formerly Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition) members benefit from additional special members rates at the event, and members who book an exhibition stand also get 15% off next year's membership fee. It's not too late to become a member – click here for more information and to join the other 160+ member organisations.



CVS Training Initiative GENERAL TRAINING PROGRAMME January - March 2012



SCIO Seminar Benchmarked at SCQF Level 5

This half day seminar will cover: Introduction & Legal Framework, Constitution, Creation & conversion, Register of SCIOs, Accounts, Potential advantages & disadvantages

Thursday 19th January 2012, 10am - 1pm
ACVO training room, Greyfriars House, Aberdeen
£25 (Vol. Sector), £38 (other)
Trainer: Sandy Mathers - ACVO. Diane Miller - CVS TI

Recruiting and Supporting Trustees Benchmarked at SCQF Level 6

This course is suitable for anyone who has a role in the recruitment and support of Trustees to their Management Committee/Board. Staff, volunteers or Trustees.

Friday 24th February 2012, 10am - 3.30pm
Venue: Grampian Fire Service, Aberdeen

Using Free Online Marketing Tools Benchmarked at SCQF Level 6

This course will enable you to use tools to market your organisation more effectively.

Tuesday 7th February 2012, 10am - 1pm
Hopeville Club, Inverurie
£30 (vol sector) £45 (others)
Lucy Johnston - Bread and Butter Marketing

If you wish to book a place on any of these courses please contact Shirley/Diane on 01358 722205 or email admin@cvstraininginitiative.org.uk

EVENTS & TRAINING

Business Gateway - Workshops for Growing Businesses January - March 2012

All courses are delivered **FREE OF CHARGE** - pre-booking essential

Advertising & Promotion	January 19, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 28, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Peterhead
Develop Your Website	January 16, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Aberdeen February 08, 2012 Wednesday 0930-1230 Aberdeen February 22, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 19, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
eBay & Online Marketplaces	February 28, 2012 Tuesday 1830-2130 Inverurie March 28, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Employment Law & Regulations	February 07, 2012 Tuesday 1830-2130 Peterhead March 08, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Finance	January 26, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 01, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Funding	February 08, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Aberdeen February 21, 2012 Tuesday 1830-2130 Inverurie
Getting the Most from Networking	January 25, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 15, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Marketing	January 23, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 05, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Media Skills	February 09, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Online Marketing	January 24, 2012 Tuesday 1830-2130 Aberdeen February 15, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Inverurie March 07, 2012 Wednesday 0930-1230 Aberdeen March 29, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Social Media	January 30, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Aberdeen January 30, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Peterhead January 30, 2012 Monday 1830-2130 Inverurie
The Psychology of Selling	January 24, 2012 Tuesday 1830-2130 Inverurie February 15, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 08, 2012 Thursday 0930-1230 Aberdeen March 22, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen
Time Re-management	February 02, 2012 Thursday 1830-2130 Aberdeen March 21, 2012 Wednesday 1830-2130 Peterhead

To book a place on any of these workshops, call 01224 289725
or book online at www.bgateway.com/events

EVENTS & TRAINING

Smoking Cessation Training

Raising the Issue of Smoking - Brief Advice

The aim of the course is to provide participants with an awareness of the purpose, benefits and process of raising the issue of smoking and delivering brief advice. The course is short, easily accessible and has been designed using a blended approach by combining e-learning with face-to-face training. For those working in health care settings completion of the training will contribute to elements of their KSF.

Future Training Dates

Thursday 26 January 2012, 9.30am - 12pm,
CHP Meeting Room, Admin Block, Inverurie Hospital, Inverurie

Thursday 2 February 2012, 9.30am - 12pm,
Laurencekirk Medical Practice, Laurencekirk

If you wish to attend Raising the Issue of Smoking training, please contact:

Jill Smith, Aberdeenshire Smoking Cessation Coordinator,
Inverurie Hospital, Upperboat Road, Inverurie, AB51 4UL

Email: jillsmith1@nhs.net

Tel: 07500 033728

Booking for Gathering 2012 events is now open!

You'll need to be quick off the mark to ensure your space.

Running from 29 February - 1 March, the Gathering is Scotland's unique, free event. If you want to be among the 3000+ visitors attending Gathering 2012 take a look at the packed 2 day programme of events and book now to avoid disappointment.

Visit: www.gatherscotland.org.uk/programme-of-events/attend-an-event/

Crowdfunding Revolution

Friday January 27th, 10am – 4.30pm, Room 608/609 - ABS, Robert Gordon University

Admission FREE, booking essential. Coffee, tea and lunch included.

Who is this for? Arts organisations, venues, groups or individuals who are:

- ◆ Looking for the right funding route but coming up empty handed
 - ◆ Looking for alternative routes to fund their project
 - ◆ Looking for funding that doesn't rely on public bodies
 - ◆ Wanting people to engage with their project now

email: info@ganeaudiences.co.uk

website: www.ganeaudiences.co.uk

Youth Work Training Day - Saturday 28th January 2012

Woodhill House Committee Rooms

There will be at least 6 workshops throughout the day including: Detached Youthwork, LGBT Awareness Training, Bullying, Intergenerational Training, Youth Engagement & Activity Agreements

To book, contact Carole.sneddon@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
no later than Friday 20th January 2012

FUNDING

Nominet Trust £250k Challenge

Launched this week, the Nominet Trust £250k Challenge is supporting digital entrepreneurs over the age of 55 who have a viable idea for an internet start-up project which tackles the social problems afflicting senior citizens, and helps older people access the internet.

The programme was launched following research showing there is an urgent need for more web-based solutions designed for older people, by older people - as senior citizens are more likely to seek support from their peers than from younger age groups. Grants of between £1,000 and £100,000 may be awarded towards projects costing up to £250,000 in total.

Anyone in the UK who is over the age of 55 with a good idea for an internet start-up which uses the web to address specific social problems facing older people may apply. The applicant may be operating as a business, charity, community interest company, working at a university or within the public sector. The deadline for first stage applications is 1st February 2012. Those shortlisted must submit their full applications by 1 March 2012.

For more information visit:

www.nominettrust.org.uk/nominet-trust-%C2%A3250k-challenge

Tullo community fund re-opened for 2012

Organisations in the area around Tullo Wind Farm near Laurencekirk in Aberdeenshire are being invited to submit their applications to the annual community benefit fund set up to support community projects. The fund distributes £17,000 annually - £1,000 per megawatt of installed capacity for the wind farm developed by Eneco Wind UK. The fund is administered by the Mearns Area Partnership, which is inviting applications for projects that should benefit residents in six community council areas: Arbuthnott, Benholm and Johnshaven, Gourdon, Inverbervie, Mearns and St Cyrus.

Susie Brown from Mearns Area Partnership, says, "Last year we had 23 applications, with ten being awarded money from the annual community benefit fund. Each of the awarded applications really benefitted from the fund and people were incredibly appreciative for the financial support they received."

Daniel Badcock, Development Manager for Tullo Wind Farm, says, "The Tullo community fund has truly benefitted worthwhile projects in a close vicinity to the wind farm. We hope next year's fund will continue to provide the same benefits to similar community-run schemes in the local area."

Applications should be submitted by the end of January 2012, and will then be assessed by a grants panel made up of representatives from the local community councils and partnerships. Successful applicants will receive their grants in April 2012. The fund will welcome applications for projects that:

- ◆ Benefit children and vulnerable people
- ◆ Involve community buildings or regeneration
 - ◆ Boost the environment or wildlife
- ◆ Have health, education, heritage or sustainability benefits.

Applicants need to be able to demonstrate a clear need for their projects together with community use and involvement, and value for money.

Full guidelines and applications are available from the offices of the Mearns Area Partnership at 44 High Street, Laurencekirk or can be downloaded from www.meansareapartnership.org.uk or www.tullowindfarm.co.uk.

FUNDING

Short Breaks Fund

Time to Live (2011-2012)



The Scottish Government has made the Short Breaks Fund available to help support and sustain carers (including young carers) through enabling better access to short breaks or respite care. It recognises that not all carers are able to access short breaks and the vital role breaks play in sustaining carers and those they care for.

It also recognises the space provided by short breaks which enables people to live normal, fulfilled and happy lives. Breaks give carers and those they care for space to rest, to be themselves, or be refreshed through outside interests, holidays or other activities – spending some quality time together or apart. The Fund will seek to support a 'preventative' approach to short break provision, recognising the importance of planned breaks in promoting good health and well being.

VSA are delighted to announce that they have been successful in a bid for funding from the Short Breaks Fund for carers in Aberdeenshire. To get more information on Short Breaks or to apply for funding please either:

- ◆ Contact your local Carers Support and Development Worker
- ◆ Phone Aberdeenshire Carers Services on 01779 490 894
 - ◆ Visit our website at www.vsa.org.uk
 - ◆ Email aberdeenshire.carers@vsa.org.uk

For Young Carers funding contact Tanya Morrison, CAIRScotland on: 01467 620582

Clore Duffield Poetry and Literary Awards

The awards are worth a total of £1m over five years, 2011 to 2015, with individual awards ranging from £1,000 to £10,000. They aim to provide children and young people with opportunities to experience poetry and literature in exciting and compelling ways, in and out of school.

Deadline: 30th March 2012

For more information, please visit www.cloreduffield.org.uk



Vodafone World of Difference programme

The Vodafone World of Difference programme will fund 500 people to work for a charity of their choice in the UK, for two months full time or four months part time. Placements start in March 2012. Last year's winners started their placements in March, and have donated themselves to charities all over the UK. They've lent their considerable expertise to diverse causes like children and young people, the environment, animal welfare, poverty relief, health and the arts.

To find out more, visit: <http://worldofdifference.vodafone.co.uk/default.aspx>



Voluntary Action Fund - Community Chest

Small grants of up to £1,000 and free training are available to small community groups (annual income under £25,000) across Scotland. Voluntary Action Fund gives priority to groups working within certain areas.

Visit the Voluntary Action Fund website for more information:
www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/5,40/grants/community_chest

CONSULTATIONS & PETITIONS

Scottish Government Consultations

Consultation is an essential and important aspect of Scottish Government working methods. Given the wide-ranging areas of work of the Scottish Government, there are many varied types of consultation. However, in general consultation exercises aim to provide opportunities for all those who wish to express their opinions on a proposed area of work to do so in ways which will inform and enhance that work.

To view current, forthcoming or archive consultations, visit: www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations

OSCR launches its first Public Focus Strategy

On 3 October 2011 the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) launched a consultation on its new Public Focus Strategy, and is keen to hear from beneficiaries of charities and those who use charity services, now or in the future. Responding to new requirements under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 (2010 Act), this strategy aims to develop and improve on how OSCR involves users (charities and beneficiaries) in its scrutiny functions. OSCR's proposals can be viewed at www.oscr.org.uk. There are eight consultation questions and comments are invited until 23 December 2011.

A quick way to have your say

Had experience of NHS services recently? Want to offer some feedback, suggestions or thanks? Want to see what others are saying too? Then Patient Opinion might interest you. Patient Opinion is a not-for-profit social enterprise, which uses the power of the web to carry your voice, into the heart of health services. It provides a web site where anyone can share their recent experience of local health services, and see what others are saying. Stories can be from patients, carers, service user or staff and you can submit them directly online or by post or telephone. The system is totally confidential and your privacy is one of Patient Opinion's primary concerns.

Submit your story at www.patientopinion.org.uk, telephone 0845 113 0012 or write to Freepost Patient Opinion.

next newsletter

The next CVS Aberdeenshire - Central & South newsletter will come out on the week beginning 30th January 2012.

The deadline for **pre-arranged** contributions for this edition is Monday 16th January 2012.

We are always looking for local groups across the shire to contribute to our newsletters. Whether it be to advertise an event, showcase your work, appeal for volunteers or celebrate a successful funding bid - whatever it is, we'd love to hear about it! If you would like to include any information in future editions, please contact Lindsay Allardyce on 01330 825027 or email Lindsay.Allardyce@cvsa.co.uk

Alternatively, if you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please let us know.

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