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**THIRD SECTOR NEWS**

**[DEMENTIA CARERS COUNT ARE LOOKING AT CARERS' RIGHTS AND WHAT CARERS WOULD LIKE THE GOVERNMENT TO PRIORITISE](#)**

Dementia Carers Count 2024 [annual survey of dementia carers is now live](#). If you provide help and support to a family member or friend with dementia, or have done in the past, they would love to hear from you.

**[COSLA WITHDRAWS SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL CARE SERVICE PLAN](#)**

Council leaders at COSLA [withdrew](#) support for the National Care Service plan on September 27th in light of concerns around the legislation.

**NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR**

**[OSCR LAUNCHES NEW CHECKING FACILITY FOR CHARITY TRUSTEES](#)**

Two new changes to charity law contained in the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023 came into effect on 1 October 2024. These changes relate to a [charity's connection to Scotland and a public Record of Removed Persons](#).

## **[THERE'S STILL TIME TO GIVE OSCR YOUR VIEWS ON IMPORTANT CHANGES TO CHARITY LAW](#)**

Next year, there will be changes to the rules that automatically disqualify someone from undertaking certain functions within a charity. The Charities Act 2023 will extend the range of offences that disqualify someone, and the rules will also apply to staff or volunteers with a senior management function, not just trustees.

We want to hear your opinions on key aspects of the changes. Your views will help to inform our decision-making process, and will ensure that the changes to charity law are implemented in the most effective way. We have [extended the deadline of our short survey](#) to Friday 18 October 2024 to give you the opportunity to share your views.

## **RESOURCES**

### **AGE SCOTLAND-NEW ADVICE GUIDE**

The Health and Wellbeing Team at [Age Scotland](#) have published a new version of their popular, free resource '[Health and Wellbeing in Later Life Information Guide](#)'. Packed with a range of helpful information from sleep and hydration to social connection.

### **H IS FOR HUMAN: STORIES OF STRENGTH, COURAGE AND HOPE**

In partnership with the Peer Support Scotland project at [Terrence Higgins Trust](#), [the ALLIANCE](#) have released the third volume of the Humans of Scotland series. This special edition shares a diverse range of perspectives on HIV. Read more [here](#).

### **NEW REPORT OUTLINES THE SCALE OF SCOTLAND'S INEQUALITIES CRISIS**

A [new report](#) has outlined the significant inequalities facing Scotland's communities. Published by the newly-formed [Scottish Health Equity Research Unit](#) (SHERU), the report has found that outcomes related to inequalities and health are not improving significantly in Scotland, and that some are getting worse.

### **REFRESHED FORCED MARRIAGE STATUTORY GUIDANCE: [FORCED MARRIAGE STATUTORY GUIDANCE](#)**

This guidance outlines the duties of statutory, public and third sector bodies involved in responding to forced marriage.

## FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

### DID YOU KNOW THAT CHARITY LAW HAS CHANGED IN SCOTLAND?

Join OSCR and fellow TSI members for an online information session where we will discuss the changes introduced by the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023 (the “2023 Act”) and what this means for charities in Scotland. In this session, we will cover:

- The legislation
- The commencement schedule
- Details of the changes
- How charities can prepare

There will be an opportunity to submit questions both in advance and during the session.



Choose from one of three dates:

[TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER AT 2PM - 3.30PM](#)

[WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER AT 10AM - 11.30AM](#)

[THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 6.30PM - 8PM](#)

### CHARITY DIGITAL EVENTS

[WEBINAR: DIGITAL INCLUSION IN THE UK CHARITY SECTOR, 22ND OCTOBER 2024, 13.00PM-14:00PM BST](#)

In this webinar, Head of Content at Charity Digital, Ioan Marc Jones, will explore the fundamentals of digital exclusion and inclusion, explore the findings from the report in detail, and look at the ways charities can bridge the digital divide long into the future.

[CHARITY DIGITAL ACADEMY: PRACTICAL USES OF AI FOR YOUR CHARITY, 5TH NOVEMBER 2024, 10:00AM-13:00PM GMT](#)

This course aims, in just three hours, to boost your everyday use of AI. The course takes a hands-on, practical approach, showing charities how to use AI to improve meetings, boost email marketing, smash data analytics, enhance workflow efficiency, and so much more.

[DIGITAL FUNDRAISING SUMMIT 2024, 7TH NOVEMBER 2024, 9:30AM-17:00PM GMT](#)

For the sixth year, the Digital Fundraising Summit 2024 returns with insights from the charity and tech sectors. This event offers charities the chance to strengthen fundraising fundamentals and explore future innovations.

## Shetland Befriending Scheme Tea & Cake at Islesburgh

A free group for adults  
to meet, eat cake, chat  
and make new friends!

Friday 18th October  
2.30–4.00pm

Featuring a chance to  
chat and play games

Future Dates:  
15th November & 20th December



For more details contact Ian Edwards on 01595 743 964



## Heritage Connections



### HERITAGE CELEBRATION – SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2024, SHETLAND MUSEUM & ARCHIVES, 10.00-14.30 (FREE EVENT)

Booking is now open for our celebration of Shetland's heritage which will:

- celebrate and showcase examples of the wide range of heritage projects and groups, including some of the MGS funded Heritage Connections projects
- summarise the activities as part of Heritage Connections project
- highlight support available to heritage volunteers through Voluntary Action Shetland
- provide a networking opportunity for heritage volunteers from across the isles

The free event will comprise a series of short presentations followed by a networking lunch and time to visit displays from a range of heritage groups and agencies, including Bressay History Group, Cunningsburgh History Group, UHI Shetland, Shetland Family History Society, Shetland Heritage Association, Shetland Museum & Archives, Tingwall Agricultural Museum & Heritage Centre, South Mainland History Group, Voluntary Action Shetland, Wild Skies Shetland and the Whalers Memory Bank.

Includes refreshments and lunch. Please book your place [here](#) by Wednesday 16th October and email [info@shetlandamenity.org](mailto:info@shetlandamenity.org) if you have any access requirements or food allergies.

Heritage Connections is supported by Museums Galleries Scotland Forums Fund and The National Lottery Heritage Fund

### [ACE AWARE SCOTLAND EVENT - OCTOBER 23RD 2024, 7PM - 9PM](#)

ACE Aware Scotland will be hosting The Strength of Community event on October 23rd from 7-9 pm which will look at how health communities help people to thrive. The event will feature Sir Michael Marmot as its keynote speaker.

**MAKE YOUR MARK CONFERENCE 2025: VOLUNTEER-CENTRED SUPPORT, 27 FEBRUARY 2025, 9.00AM - 4.30PM, FREE, ONLINE & IN-PERSON AT THE ENGINE SHED, STIRLING**

There will be a combination of talks, workshops and panels that cover inclusive group volunteering, how to fund inclusive volunteer programmes, lived experiences of a diverse range of volunteers.

**NATIONAL RURAL MENTAL HEALTH FORUM, 30 OCTOBER, 11AM**

The next [National Rural Mental Health Forum](#) will be online on October 30th at 11 am. There will be presentations from the Skills for Life Programmes - experiences of promoting children's mental health and resilience, plus Supporting Mentally Healthy Workplaces, from the Scottish Government. More details and to register your place [here](#).

**GENDER BASED VIOLENCE LEVEL 2 TRAINING (FACE TO FACE), MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER, 1PM – 4.30PM AT THE ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL.**

**Description**

This training, developed with input from local specialist services, equips frontline workers with the knowledge to respond effectively to gender-based violence (GBV), strengthening referral pathways to support. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the impact of GBV in all its forms, while also learning practical strategies for supporting survivors and handling disclosures. The course highlights local and national statistics and focusses on improving service coordination, aligning with Scotland's Equally Safe strategy. This ensures that survivors of GBV in Shetland receive the best possible support from an informed and collaborative network.

Bookings can be made through Vor (link below). If you have any queries please contact Sarah Henry, Workforce Development Advisor, Workforce Development Team, HR Service, 8 North Ness Business Park, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0LZ

Tel: 01595 744895 Mailbox: [workforce.developmentteam@shetland.gov.uk](mailto:workforce.developmentteam@shetland.gov.uk)

View/Book/Cancel Training – [Vor Online](#)

Other SIC only platforms - [iLearn](#) [Interact](#) [BookBoon](#)

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN, OCTOBER 15**

This year focus on the incredible contributions of rural women in health.

**FREE TRUSTEES' WEEK CONFERENCE (IN PERSON EVENT, EDINBURGH, 5 NOVEMBER 2024)**

To mark Trustees' Week 2024, Scotland's Third Sector Governance Forum is hosting a free conference, [Good governance - future proofing for trustees](#). This one-day event will bring together trustees who are committed to good governance and future proofing their organisations, offering delegates the chance to network, learn and share experiences. It will be interactive with a range of opportunities for you to join in discussions and access support.

## JUST ENTERPRISE UPCOMING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

### **[MAKING FRIENDS WITH YOUR FINANCES: A MUST FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS, IN-PERSON START UP WORKSHOP \(IN STIRLING\), 18TH OCTOBER 2024 OR 21ST FEBRUARY 2025](#)**

Understanding your finances is crucial to your enterprise's sustainability. This workshop will help you master the basics and give you the confidence to make informed financial decisions.

### **[INTRODUCTION TO TENDERING, IN-PERSON WORKSHOP \(MAINLAND - TBC\), 4 MARCH 2025](#)**

This workshop is aimed at third sector organisations with little or no knowledge of public sector tendering and who want to understand the principles and processes involved. We will look at where to find opportunities, the terminology and processes involved, the information you will be asked to provide, top tips for completing a tender and how to make your bid attractive to a buyer.

### **[INTRODUCING AI IN YOUR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE, ONLINE WORKSHOP, 31ST OCTOBER 2024](#)**

Join us for this workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and explore the transformative power of using AI across various elements of social enterprises, revealing new opportunities for growth, efficiency and impact!

### **[CHARITABLE TRADING, ONLINE WORKSHOP, 5TH NOVEMBER 2024](#)**

More and more charities are trading, or considering trading, as a way to generate income, but it's essential to keep within the law. This session outlines what you can and can't do to trade legally.

## FREE E-LEARNING FROM JUST ENTERPRISE

Prefer to learn at a time, place and pace of your own choosing? [Just Enterprise eLearning programmes](#) are split into short, focused modules that help you fit essential training into your busy schedule. Choose the courses that are relevant to you and your organisation and learn at your own pace via desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone. [REGISTER NOW](#)

### **[UNCRC AND CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO HOME, 30TH OCTOBER, 9.30AM-12.30PM, ONLINE](#)**

This training will connect your day-to-day work with children and young people facing homelessness to UNCRC articles, strengthening your rights-based practice.

### **[THE TEENAGE BRAIN: IMPLICATIONS FOR BEHAVIOUR AND LEARNING, 11TH NOVEMBER, 10AM-12PM, ONLINE](#)**

This webinar will focus on the adolescent brain and how it develops. It will explore why teenagers behave as they do, how they learn, and how they make decisions about their lives.

### **[THRE WEBINAR: MEANINGFUL EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: FROM POLICIES TO PRACTICE, THURS 17TH OCT, 12 - 1.30PM](#)**

This event's theme, Meaningful Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: From Policies to Practice, takes inspiration from our popular resource series '[Beyond Protected Characteristics](#),' which supports third sector organisations to create policies which fit their needs and values. Guest speakers are Iona Rogers (Charter Delivery Officer) and Chloe Rose Alex (Capacity Building Manager) from LGBT Youth Scotland. Iona and Chloe Rose will talk us through how LGBT Youth Scotland support organisations to create inclusive policies, as well as the LGBT Charter process.

**MAKE YOUR MARK SUPPORTS OVER 100 VOLUNTEER-INVOLVING HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS ACROSS SCOTLAND**

**[15 & 16 OCTOBER - A HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITIES FIRST APPROACH](#)**

Learn the basics on human rights and equalities - what are they, and why do they matter?

**[17 OCTOBER - MEANINGFUL EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION](#)**

Discuss how to create policies and practices that meet the human rights and equalities needs of all in your organisation.

**[22 OCTOBER - WHAT IS THE LEGAL STATUS OF A VOLUNTEER?](#)**

Explore key questions around the legal status of volunteers, and the differences between being a volunteer and an employee.

**[23 OCTOBER - MAKING MUSEUMS ACCESSIBLE FOR NEURODIVERGENT PEOPLE](#)**

Build your understanding of neurodiversity and learn how to conduct a sensory audit of a museum.

**[23 & 24 OCTOBER - ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER MANAGERS CONFERENCE](#)**

Gain insights from experts, share best practice and network with a range of volunteer managers across the UK.

**[4 NOVEMBER - VOLUNTEERING: A HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITIES FIRST APPROACH](#)**

Learn how to apply a human rights and equalities first approach to your volunteering programme.

**[20 NOVEMBER - HERITAGE DEBATE 2024: BALANCING THE BOOKS](#)**

Explore the opportunities and pitfalls of public, private and philanthropic funding models.

**[21 NOVEMBER - SCOTLAND'S COMMUNITY HERITAGE CONVERSATIONS 2024](#)**

Build connections to enhance capacity, foster inclusivity and unlock innovative approaches to audience engagement, volunteering and workforce development

**SVN WORKSHOP | [LEGAL PANEL FOR SCOTLAND'S CHARITY SECTOR WITH BRODIES LLP SOLICITORS, NOV 07, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM GMT, ONLINE EVENT](#)**

Are you a charity or third sector organisation operating in Scotland seeking high-level legal advice to move forward and build resilience? Inspiring Scotland's Specialist Volunteer Network are hosting a panel of experts from Brodies LLP Solicitors to share their insights across themes including Charity Law and Governance, Commercial Contracts, Mergers and Acquisitions, Intellectual Property, Tech and Data, Employment Law and Tax and Real Estate.

**CLIMATE NEWS**

No Updates

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

### HM COASTGUARD IS LOOKING TO RECRUIT COASTGUARD RESCUE OFFICERS (2025 RECRUITMENT)

HM Coastguard is looking to recruit Coastguard Rescue Officers for the following teams

- Shetland
- Baltasound
- Mid Yell
- Hillswick
- Walls
- Lerwick
- Sumburgh

Applicants must be able to attend training from:

- Friday 25 to Sunday 27 April 2025
- Friday 16 to Sunday 18 May 2025
- Friday 13 to Sunday 15 June 2025

As a Coastguard Rescue Officer you will be trained and equipped to carry out search and rescue operations along our coastline – at any time during the day or night and in all weathers. Coastguard Rescue Officers are volunteers trained in missing persons search, water rescue, rope rescue, helicopter operations and much more.

No experience is necessary as full training will be given. All that we ask is that you hold a full UK drivers licence and be in good health. Applicants must also live/work within 20 minutes of the Coastguard team you are applying for.

If the Coastguard is for you or if you want find out more about us, please email [area1@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:area1@mcga.gov.uk) and we will get right back to you.

Recruitment will close on Sunday 17th November 2024.

### CHILDREN'S HEALTH SCOTLAND ARE LOOKING FOR NEW TRUSTEES

Are you passionate about supporting the right of every child to the best possible health? Children's Health Scotland is the leading children's health charity in Scotland and they are currently recruiting for new Trustees.

### **SHETLAND BEFRIENDING SCHEME IS CURRENTLY RECRUITING NEW VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteering with us is fun, challenging and can help you gain new skills and experiences. Anyone over the age of 17 can be a befriender. People of all ages and walks of life can volunteer – students, full-time parents, retired folk, people working full or part-time, or unemployed.

We will provide the training and all we ask is that you commit a few hours a fortnight, be caring, tolerant and enthusiastic. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with us, we would be delighted to hear from you!

You can message us on Facebook, email [befriending@shetland.org](mailto:befriending@shetland.org) or call us on 01595 743907. You can read more about our work on our website: [Shetland Befriending Scheme](#)





## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

### REPORTS

[Health, Social Care and Sport Committee \(HSCS\) Report into Rural Healthcare](#) (PDF)  
 Following on from their inquiry into remote and rural healthcare in Scotland, the HSCS have published their report into Rural Healthcare.

### LEGISLATION

**CALLS FOR VIEWS: [THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT IS OPEN TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON A RANGE OF TOPICS:](#)**

**[CONSULTATION LAUNCHED ON CHANGES TO ADULTS WITH INCAPACITY \(SCOTLAND\) ACT 2000](#)**

**Deadline: 17 October 2024**

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on proposed changes to the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000.