



# ANNUAL REPORT

2024/2025

A SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS FOR SUPPORT AND  
ADVICE FOR THE THIRD/VOLUNTARY SECTOR



# Chairperson's Foreword

**Magnus Flaws**

Welcome to Voluntary Action Shetland's Annual Report 24/25. In this report you will read about the range of activities the staff team and direct delivery projects have delivered over the last year. It always amazes me the diversity and amount of work that gets covered by our small, dedicated team.

We had 164 young people receiving Saltire Award certificates at our annual event in June 2024. It was wonderful that we were able to recognise their achievements and support organisations to help develop and enhance young people's key life skills. We also saw increased numbers of local volunteers being nominated by those in our own communities for our local VAS Volunteering Awards: Peerie Trows and Willin Haands. These awards complement the Saltire Awards initiative to celebrate and recognise volunteering efforts locally. Its great to see such rich community spirit, and much of our local activities are so reliant on volunteers helping others in all manner of roles.

The VAS Core staff saw an increase in the number of charities and community groups coming forward for support for a variety of issues and our direct delivery projects continue to be busy to meet local demands. VAS also continues to engage in a number of local strategic plans and annual reports to ensure Third Sector is part of community planning. Market House is our busy Third Sector Hub, providing affordable office and meeting space for our charity organisations tenants, alongside being a key point of contact to people to access support for themselves or others.

All this work could not occur without the funding from our Funders, thank you to all for the financial investment to enable us to deliver our work.

A final HUGE thanks to the VAS staff team, volunteers and VAS Directors for making it all happen and I hope you enjoy reading all about it in this report.

## **VAS Board Directors 2024/2025**

- Mr Magnus Flaws..... Chairperson
- Mr Lindsay Tulloch..... Vice Chairperson
- Mr Steven Laidlaw..... Financial Director
- Mrs Olive MacLeod..... Director
- Mrs Brenda Wilcock..... Director
- Ms Valerie Nicolson.....Director – Appointed June 2024
- Mrs Ingrid Webb..... Director – Appointed March 2025
- Mr Allison Duncan.....Director – Resigned June 2024
- Mrs Marilyn Stewart.....Director – Resigned June 2024

# VOLUNTARY ACTION SHETLAND

**Voluntary Action Shetland (VAS)** is Shetland's Third Sector Interface. They play an important role in the Third Sector landscape. They are a key point of intelligence about local third sector organisations and volunteering. There are 32 Third Sector Interfaces (TSI's) in Scotland with one situated in each local authority area in Scotland.

## The VISION for Voluntary Action Shetland is:

A Strong, Sustainable and Valued Asset for Shetland, playing a leading role in Championing and Supporting Community Needs

## The MISSION is:

To Support, Represent and Develop Community and Voluntary Action in Shetland

## Delivered through CORE Activity:

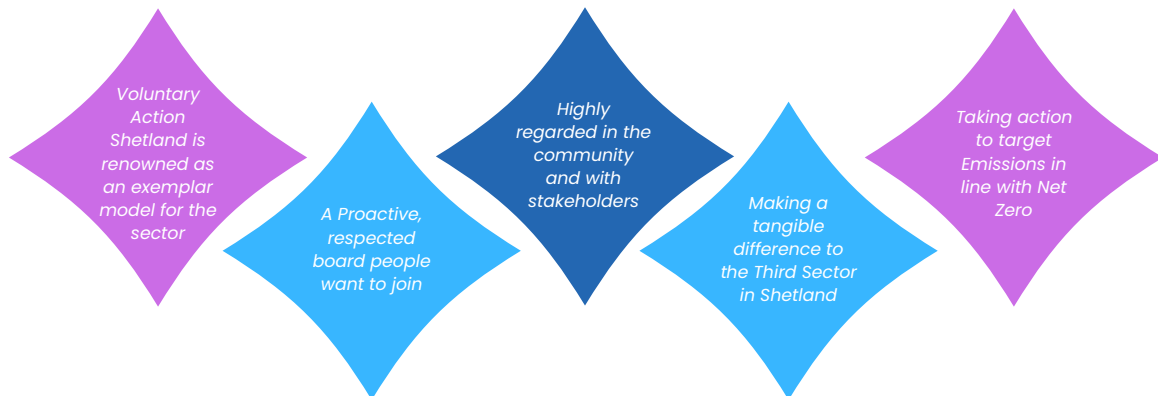
- **To be a Central Source of Knowledge** – About the Third Sector locally
- **To be the Voice** – Ensuring a strong Third Sector Voice at strategic Level within Local Planning Structures and Nationally
- **To Build Capacity** – Developing the capacity of volunteering, community groups, voluntary organisation and social enterprise to achieve positive change
- **To Connect** – Providing leadership, vision and co-ordination to the local third sector to better respond to local priorities, including through partnership and collaboration

## In Partnership with the Shetland Partnership Plan:

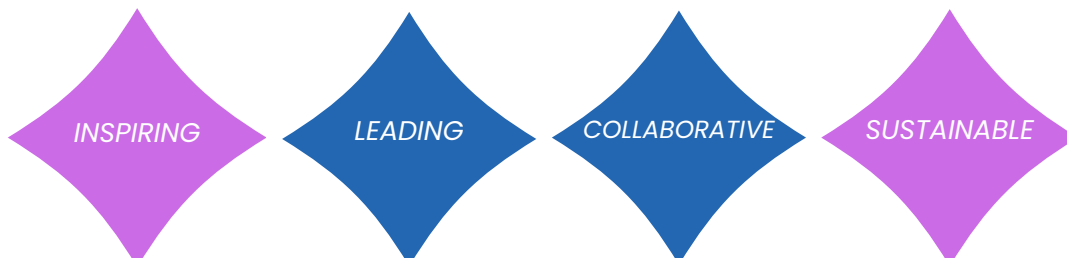
**Participation . People . Place . Money**



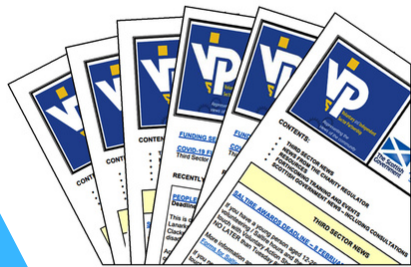
## To Achieve Key Outcomes:



## Our Guiding Values Will Insure We Are:



# TO BE A CENTRAL SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE



VAS regularly distributes the Voluntary and Independent Sector Partnership (VISP) newsletters within the voluntary sector to charities and community groups.

The **Funding Newsletter** provides up to date information on available funding streams for charities and community groups to apply to.

The **General Newsletter** provides relevant information on Third Sector developments, legislation changes, good practice, consultations and notification of events/resources for groups to utilise/attend to support effective running of their organisation/community group.

The **Climate Newsletter** provides information to groups interested in the Climate agenda to stay up to date with news, training opportunities, new resources, legislation and good practice.

27

**Funding Newsletters circulated**

3

**Climate Newsletters circulated**

28

**General Newsletters circulated**

87

**Information e-bulletins**

Approx. **230** people representing **200** organisations/groups receiving the newsletters

## In a recent community annual survey based on 59 responses:

71%

agreed that by receiving the regular funding and general newsletters they were more informed about relevant training/funding opportunities, legislation and policy.

94%

agreed that VAS is the key point of contact for information and knowledge about the Third Sector Locally

92%

of responders agreed that if VAS did not exist, this could negatively impact on their organisation or group

“VAS is the glue that holds the Third Sector together in Shetland. The team are, quite simply, first class”  
- SERVICE USER FEEDBACK

“VAS is very important to the voluntary sector and we would flounder without them. They are very approachable and helpful and if they don't have the answer they will either find out or sign post you in the right direction”  
- SERVICE USER FEEDBACK

“VAS are a fantastic asset for Shetland. Thank you for what you do”  
- SERVICE USER FEEDBACK

# TO BE THE VOICE

VAS engages in a range of National and Local Strategic Partnerships, forums and working groups to enable voluntary groups and organisations to have a voice and the opportunity to contribute to local and national plans.

Working alongside other **Third Sector** organisations, Voluntary Action Shetland enabled Third Sector to contribute to:

- **Shetland Community Learning and Development (CLD) Plan 24-27**
- **Shetland Health and Social Care Partnership Joint Strategic Plan 25-28**
- **A range of Local Partnerships Annual Reports 2023/2024**

VAS also contributed information to support the publication of Shetland in Statistics. The 2023 edition of Shetland in Statistics retains key datasets from previous editions, including population, economy, weather, transport, education and other topics. Additions also include more in-depth information on the Third Sector, including volunteering and grant funding; as well as Energy Usage, including carbon dioxide emissions and registration of electric vehicles.

**103 Meetings Attended**

**31 Multi Agency Groups - Local & National**

**19**

**Opportunities for Third Sector's Contribution on Local Strategies, Local Partnership Annual Reports and Service Developments**

## In a recent Partner Annual Survey based on 11 responses:

**100%**

agreed that VAS was fulfilling the role to maintain an understanding of the Third Sector in order to represent at strategic level.

**100%**

agreed that VAS's role increased Commissioners/key influencers understanding of the role of the third sector in contributing to strategic delivery.

**100%**

agreed that VAS increased Commissioner's/Key influencers access to the range of third sector organisations that can contribute to local outcomes.

**91%**

agreed that VAS's role encouraged stronger existing partnerships and helped develop new strategic partnerships.

**91%**

agreed that VAS's role has enabled Third Sector Organisations to confidently, contribute to policy locally and nationally.

**100%**

agreed that VAS was fulfilling the role to be the lead organisation for engagement with the Third Sector.

**Details of the groups VAS/Third Sector are represented on can be found on the VAS Website: [www.voluntaryactionshetland.com/what/organisations/representation](http://www.voluntaryactionshetland.com/what/organisations/representation)**

“

*“VAS is punching above its weight with the funding it receives to undertake its strategic tasks. VAS is represented in key strategic groups like IJB and Shetland Partnership by its CEO. There has also been good use of the third sector forum to highlight successes and challenges within our third sector. The footprint VAS has is well respected and connects up statutory services and third sector well and enhances that collaborative working for better outcomes for our community”*

**– Partner Feedback**

”

# TO BUILD CAPACITY

## Support

**VAS** provides tailored and flexible support to build the capacity of as many voluntary organisations in Shetland as possible by responding to queries as they arise, and through targeted support and training. In providing the support, it enables local groups to run well which, in turn, supports them to meet local needs/demands.

102

**Organisations/Groups received one to one support on a range of issues**

59

**Independent Examination of Accounts Undertaken for groups**

8

**Charities Provided with Monthly Payroll and Accounts Support**

## Key Development and Support work with organisations have included:

- Identifying appropriate legal structures for third sector organisations and helping groups through CIC registration, the SCIO process and charity registration for both new and existing organisations
- Supporting the establishment of new community organisations and dissolving organisations
- Supporting groups to 'reorganise' and amend trust deeds
- Supporting groups to establish if subsidiary trading companies are required and support to set up suitable legal structures
- Liaising with bodies who have been given devolved powers in Trust Deeds to remove those powers; Liaising with the charity regulator OSCR
- Governance – Modernising constitutions and supporting groups to change their constitutions/writing supplemental deeds of trust and supporting charitable companies to change their Memorandum and Articles of Associations
- Helping groups understand the roles and responsibilities of trustees/directors
- Strategic planning support for groups
- Recruiting committee members/trustees and succession planning
- Advice on establishing policies and procedures (including Conflict of Interest, Equality & Diversity, Fair Work, Data Protection (GDPR), Volunteer Induction)
- Supporting charities to comply with OSCR regulations (Meeting deadlines for Trustee Annual Reports and Annual Accounts)
- Keeping charities up to date with new Charity Law and other changes to legislation such as Martyn's Law (terrorism), PVG's
- Queries around MPLC licence, electricity costs and suppliers, insurance, independent examination, bank accounts, data protection, financial record keeping, fundraising, health & safety, food hygiene training, licensing laws, gambling licenses, conveyancing, employment, trading, land and buildings transaction tax and VAT

“We are a very small charity and have found the service offered by VAS to provide independent examination of accounts invaluable”- **Service User Feedback**

“VAS’s support is invaluable to us and has made all aspects of running our services much easier, more efficient and we are now confident that we are fully compliant with appropriate legislation. All this done in a friendly approachable manner with tremendous good cheer, absolutely brilliant!” – **Service user Feedback**

“I would like to commend the absolutely invaluable help I have received from VAS Development Officer with regard to the Hall becoming a SCIO. I think without her help I would very likely have floundered! Her invaluable knowledge about the working of SCIO and how to approach each step of the way has meant that we are now actually a SCIO Public Hall and have nearly completed all aspects of the change”- **Service User Feedback**

“We have had great help from VAS Development Officer. We are moving from SCO to SCIO and she has been really helpful which is ongoing but we are making good progress with her invaluable help” – **Service User Feedback**

## Training

VAS staff have provided training to groups and organisations. Topics have included:

- Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees training
- Treasurer training
- Understanding Finances training
- Strategic Planning training

“As a group of volunteer committee members, we received excellent training in governance and other organisational matters. Many thanks” – **Service User Feedback**

“The excellent ‘Roles and Responsibilities and Strategic Planning’ training delivered by the Development Officer of Voluntary Action Shetland was so helpful towards us achieving our new ambitions. Her friendly, clear approach to the subject meant that our volunteer committee members went away feeling more knowledgeable and confident to take on new challenges.” – **Service User Feedback**

VAS continues to work in partnership with The Skills Network, a training provider that provides access to interactive and engaging learning content, via distance learning. They offer a vast range of courses to support individual learning needs and are fully funded with no cost associated.



Further details can be found on the VAS website:  
[www.voluntaryactionshetland.com/what/organisations/training-learning/the-skills-network](http://www.voluntaryactionshetland.com/what/organisations/training-learning/the-skills-network)

## In a recent community annual survey based on 59 responses:

**76%** rated the service they received from VAS as excellent

**88%** agreed that when accessing support, VAS understood the organisation and its needs and adapted their support accordingly to fit with their requirements

**82%** agreed that as a result of information/advice/support accessed from VAS, organisations/groups deliver improved services and is better managed

**78%** agreed that as a result of using VAS services, organisations/groups felt confident in continuing to operate well in the community and potentially developing in the future to meet local need

**29%** agreed that, as a result of VAS providing the opportunity to engage in a number of network opportunities, organisations/groups felt more connected with other organisations.

**31%** agreed that as a result of VAS connecting with organisations/groups they felt better able to influence and contribute to Shetland Local and National Policy

## Funding

### Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults

VAS distributed a fourth year of the Scottish Government Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults to support community activity until March 2026. Shetland's allocation totalled £71,944.46. The overarching aim of the Fund was to:

Support community based initiatives that promote and develop good mental health and wellbeing and/or mitigate and protect against the impact of distress and mental ill health within the adult population (aged 16 or over), with a particular focus on prevention and early intervention

### 18 Community Groups/Organisations Received Funding to Support Local Initiatives

#### Vaila fund

The Vaila fund was established in 2009 and is managed by VAS. This fund financially assists disadvantaged young people in Shetland to experience the joy of travel.

### 1 Award Granted totalling £150 enabled a young person to experience travel

#### Pre-School Play Funding

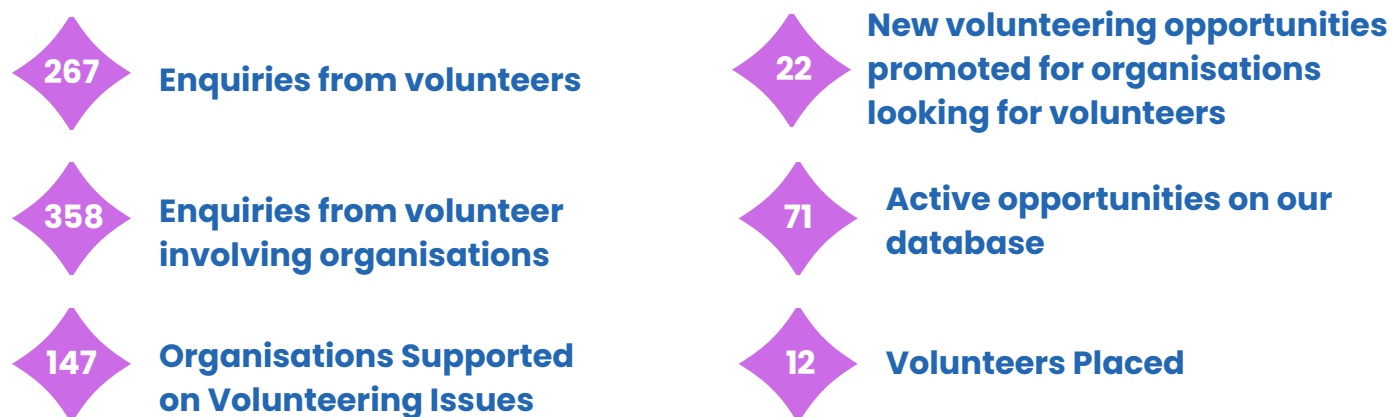
VAS distributed £28,325 of funding following the winding up of the local Shetland Pre-school Play Organisation.

### 19 Pre-school Groups received funding to support their activities

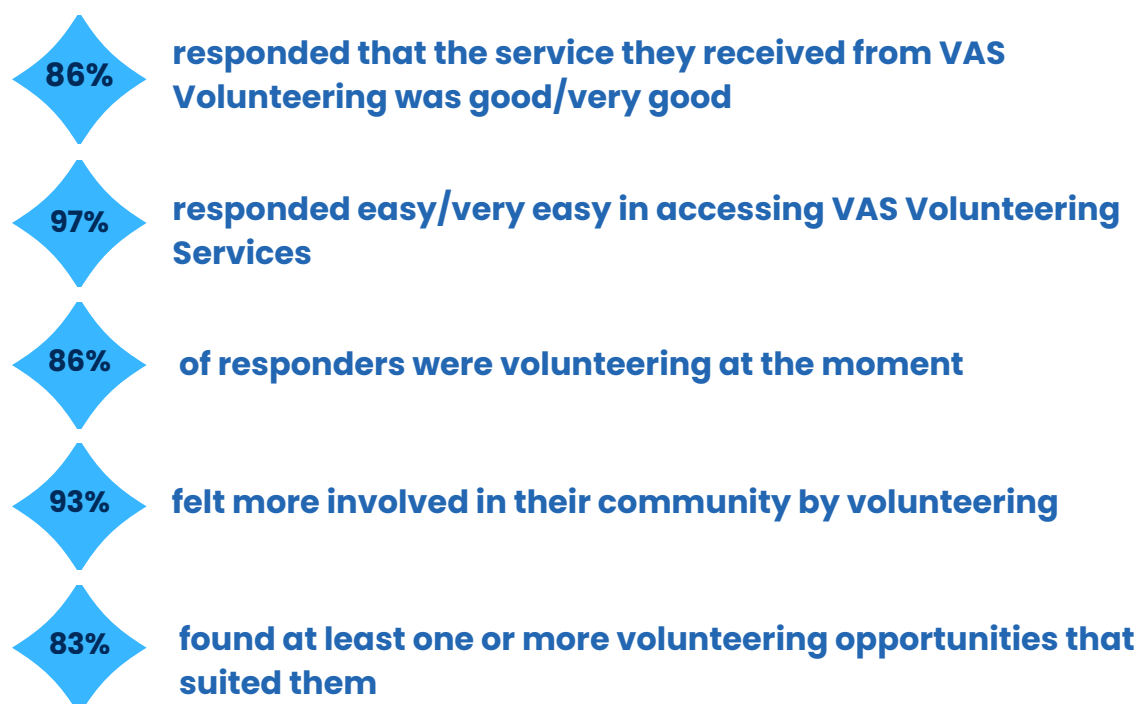
## Volunteering – Supporting, Promoting and Celebrating

The **VAS Volunteering** team have continued to support individuals to find suitable volunteering opportunities and also support organisations to recruit and reward their volunteers in the past year. Highlights included a record-breaking number of volunteers being put forward for our Saltire Awards and a second really successful year of our **'Willin Haands'** and **'Peerie Trows'** Awards.

VAS Volunteering staff were out and about in the community attending the Living Well Hub in Brae, Jobcentre+, Community Hubs, schools and youth groups. Staff once more attended larger events including the Country Shows and Careers Events. One of these events was aimed at Heritage organisations in Shetland, which was held at the Shetland Museum, VAS staff gave an insight on how they can support their organisations.



### In a recent volunteering annual survey based on 29 responses:



## Saltire Awards

On Tuesday, 4th June 2024, **VAS** were delighted to host the annual Saltire Awards Ceremony. The Mareel auditorium was bursting at the seams when a **record-breaking number of 164 young volunteers** were celebrated.



**The 164 young people** between the age of 12 and 25 received a total of 337 certificates between them recognising the over 17,000 hours of volunteering they had collectively taken part in throughout the past year with 45 different local groups, schools and organisations.

The band 'Filskit' who regularly donates their talent throughout various community settings and received awards on the night for this, kicked off the evening with a cheerful set of traditional Shetland tunes.

Following this, Ability Shetland Volunteers Keir Shannon and Andy Anderson opened up the event with a speech about their own experiences volunteering and the opportunities and passion this has created for them in their lives.

Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) Bertie Summers and Joe Smith presented the certificates.

Organisations, which had put forward a large number of volunteers, were highlighted throughout the evening. These groups ranged from sports and drama clubs, Shetland Army Cadets, Blue Light Volunteers all the way to the young people supporting the Junior Up Helly Aa festival.

At the end of the night, 14 volunteers received a Summit Award, the most prestigious Saltire award which is only achieved by volunteers who have been nominated by their supervisors for making an outstanding contribution to volunteering. Volunteers receiving this accolade represented the Burra Hall Youth Café, the OPEN Project, Open Door Drama, COPE Ltd and the British Red Cross charity shop.

Two of those volunteers were Martha Robertson and Emma Coutts who wrapped up the evening with a speech about their impressive volunteering journeys so far.

**VAS** would like to thank all young volunteers and the organisations who continue to provide opportunities for young people and make Saltire Awards so successful in Shetland.

### Saltire Awards Group Photo.



Photo by:  
Dave Donaldson

## VAS Volunteering Awards

**VAS Volunteering Awards (VAS-VA)** returned after a successful pilot in the previous year. The awards aim to recognise the amazing volunteering and acts of kindness happening throughout Shetland. The awards consist of two categories, the **'Willin Haands Award'** for adults aged 26 and over, and the **'Peerie Trows Award'** for children 11 and under, complementing the Saltire Awards which recognise 12 - 25 year olds.

The Awards' second instalment were launched on the 28th August 2024 and VAS were thrilled to receive over 100 nominations within two weeks. **76 adults and one group received the 'Willin Haands Award'** for outstanding volunteering in their communities and **24 children aged 11 or under received a 'Peerie Trows Award'** for their volunteering efforts. VAS celebrated recipients by sharing photos and stories on their social media pages.

Feedback and comments on the posts were overwhelmingly positive towards the amazing voluntary services the recipients provide for Shetland.

The awards recognise both formal and informal volunteering and aim to highlight the importance of community-led volunteering in Shetland. Themes varied widely from lifetime commitments, the running and support of various groups, trustees, fundraising, sports, all the way to keeping Shetland beautiful through Redd-ups, grass-cutting and building maintenance.

In addition to the variety of nominations, VAS was also delighted to receive nominations from the length and breadth of Shetland – nominations came from Unst, Yell, Whalsay, Bressay, and North, West, Central and South Mainland.



## Youth and Philanthropy Initiative

In addition to core activities, VAS continued to support the local delivery of the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) in schools across Shetland for a second year. Each participating school is responsible for directing a grant of £3000 to a local charity championed by its young people through teamwork, research, and competition. VAS supported the hosting of a successful Charity Fair at the Anderson High School where pupils could meet charity representatives. VAS also co-facilitated a final event at all 7 secondary schools where pupils presented their case for their chosen charity to a judging panel.

### Anderson High School YPI Charity Fair



Photo by: Lavinia Schmidt

## Celebration of Key National Weeks

### Volunteers Week June 2024

2024 marked the 40th year of Volunteers' Week, taking place 3rd – 9th June. As well as a crucial opportunity to thank volunteers and recognise the value of their time, passion and skills, Volunteers' Week also acts as a chance to inspire others to give volunteering a go. Alongside hosting the Saltire Awards ceremony in Volunteers' week, VAS had an online Social Media campaign highlighting the week, celebrating and promoting local volunteering opportunities.



### Trustees' Week November 2024

Trustees' Week is all about coming together to celebrate the achievements of almost one million trustees across the UK. The theme for 2024 was "Celebrating, Inspiring and Supporting" trustees from 4th – 9th November. VAS did a daily social media campaign highlighting Trustees Week, sharing useful resources as well as promoting trustee volunteering opportunities.

# TO CONNECT

**Third Sector Forum:** Facilitated by **VAS**, an independent network of third sector organisations in Shetland that meets bimonthly to share good practice. **28 members in the forum.**

**Shetland Community Facilities Network:** The Network aims to provide a regular platform for voluntary groups and organisations who manage a community facility to network, learn, collaborate and share information to improve the management of the facilities for the community. **84 organisations** supported through the network.

**Funders Forum:** In Jan 2025 VAS and Shetland Islands Council hosted a visit from the National Lottery to provide information on their new funding streams. Within this visit local funders came together, shared information and good practice. There was an appetite for future networking meetings to help develop a local funders forum.

**Market House:** Shetland's Third Sector Hub, owned and managed by **VAS**. It is the office base for 13 Independent Charities including **VAS**. Last year Market House had **5646** visits and **3874** room bookings. (337 external & 3537 resident)

**More information on Market House can be viewed at: [www.voluntaryactionshetland.com](http://www.voluntaryactionshetland.com)**



## Climate Action Activity

**Shetland Community Climate Action Network:** **VAS** is working in partnership with the SIC, Island Centre for Net Zero, Islands Community Action Network, Highlands and Islands Climate Hub, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Uplift to support groups and individuals interested in climate related activity in Shetland. The Network aims to bring together interested parties, coordinate activity, resources and sign post where relevant. **VAS** participated in the event 'Community Action for a Greener Future' which brought together climate support agencies and community groups to look at energy saving measures for community buildings and other actions to reduce carbon footprints.

**Shetland Climate Change Community Champions:** Funding from the Shetland Community Led Local Development Fund has seen **50 people** complete the Climate Solutions Professional training course to date.

**Participated in the SIC Climate Festival 2024:** **VAS** co-ordinated two networking events (one for the general public and one for the Shetland Climate Change Community Champions)

**The Shetland Climate Café:** Supported by **VAS** and launched in April 2024 (with a grant of £1500 from Uplift). There have been 9 Café meetings so far including presentations and discussion on Peatland restoration, Apocalypse Fatigue, Just Transition, Community Energy Schemes, Climate Education in the Classroom, Community growing, Climate change and humanitarian disaster relief. **217 people** have attended the café to date. A Facebook page has been set up to support the Shetland Climate Café activity.

**Scottish Parliament 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event:** The Presiding Officer was leading a regional programme of visits to each of the eight Scottish Parliamentary regions. As part of their activities to mark the Parliament's 25th anniversary and in partnership with **Shetland Community Bike Project and VAS**, they visited Shetland to meet with local people to discuss what the Parliament means to them. They had good discussions about issues like transport, social care and equal access to services for those with disabilities. The meetings gave them a much better understanding of what people expect and how they can carry these conversations on in the future to make sure the Parliament is delivering all it can for people. A public report was compiled alongside a graphic image capturing the essence of the day.



Credit: Jenny Capon More than Minutes



## SHETLAND BEFRIENDING SCHEME

The last 12 months have continued to be busy for the Shetland Befriending Scheme with an increased demand for the service supporting **39 face to face matches** over the last year across all sections. Group activities continue to be well attended by those in a match and those currently waiting to be matched with a volunteer. Eight volunteers have completed their training with another five due to complete theirs over the coming months.

Tea & Cake at Islesburgh has been enjoyed and well attended with over **144 people** participating over the last year. The group has enjoyed talks from organisations such as RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People), The Macular Society, Cycle UK and Clan. They have also enjoyed playing bingo, boccia and floor curling. A scenic bus tour and a trip to Frankie's for lunch in October was enjoyed by all and the highlight of their year.

Another calendar was produced by the scheme using both volunteers and staff photos. It has proved to be very popular again and has helped raise funds for the scheme which will be used for group activities.

There are exciting times ahead as the Befriending Scheme goes into **its 25th year!!**

The scheme continues to be immensely grateful for the local and external funding that is secured in order for the service to continue to be delivered to those in the Shetland community. The scheme is also exceptionally grateful to all those who come forward to volunteer as ultimately without them the scheme would not be able to provide the service to those who really need it.



A group activity with Seabirds and Seals enjoyed by Mairi Jamieson Project Co-ordinator and Kenneth MacKay a 60+ Service User.  
Photo by Ian Edwards



# SHETLAND CARERS

The Shetland Carers project has continued to support and empower unpaid carers in Shetland to manage their caring role and have a life alongside caring.

The project had **441 carers** registered with their service at 31st March 2025.

**Short Break Grants** – Funding was received from Shetland Charitable Trust, and also from Scottish Government’s Short Breaks Funding, which is administered through Shared Care Scotland. During the last 12 months, Shetland Carers awarded **113 Short Break grants** to carers, totalling £22,772. Examples of activity included trips to the mainland, staycations, massage sessions, SRT More4Life subscriptions, crafting items, gardening products and plants.

**Respitality Scheme** – Shetland Carers have continued to provide breaks to carers through the Respitality Scheme. Respitality (respite + hospitality) allows Shetland’s hospitality and leisure sector to donate short breaks which Shetland Carers pass onto local unpaid carers so that they may have an opportunity to recharge their batteries and take time for themselves. During the last 12 months, **69 Respitality breaks** have been provided to carers, totalling £9,256.



Shetland Arts Development Agency (SADA) were awarded with a Respitality Certificate in recognition of their support of unpaid carers in Shetland. SADA kindly donate tickets on a regular basis, for upcoming concerts or performances.



Wendy Tulloch of SADA with their certificate  
Photo by Amanda Brown

**Carers Week June 2024** – Activities provided during Carers Week included cuppa and tabnab pop in sessions at Market House, cuppa and cake offer at Fjara Café, Aa Fired up Pottery Painting, Sound Meditation Session and wellbeing taster sessions, i.e. reflexology, massage and mini reiki. Shetland Carers also ran a photo competition to coincide with the theme ‘Putting Carers on the Map’.

**Carers Rights Day November 2024** – The service promoted Carers Rights Day in November 2024, through a number of social media posts and via their Winter newsletter. A Carers Rights leaflet was also created and made available to carers.

**Young Carers Action Day March 2025** – The service also promoted Young Carers Action Day on 12th March 2025. This year’s theme was ‘Give Me A Break.’ A number of social media posts were shared throughout the day including information about Short Break grants, Young Carers grant, Young Carers package and information about a dedicated helpline for Young Carers who may be struggling.

# EXTRACT OF ACCOUNTS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT – YEAR END 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Charitable Income - Grants		675,740		820,097
Other Income		168,488		199,457
		-----		-----
EXPENDITURE		844,228		1,019,554
Charitable Activities	865,433		1,109,925	
Depreciation	92,407		92,743	
	-----		-----	
		957,840		1,202,668
		-----		-----
DEFICIT BEFORE TRANSFERS		(113,612)		(183,114)
Capital Reserves Transfer (to cover depreciation/capital)		93,454		91,771
DECREASE IN INCOME FUNDS		(20,158)		(91,343)
		=====		=====

## BALANCE SHEET – 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Assets		463,814		558,240
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	55,855		135,555	
Investments: Fixed Term Deposits	167,342		161,476	
Cash at Bank and In Hand	379,522		401,874	
	-----		-----	
		602,719		698,905
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors Falling Due Within One Year	(30,982)		(36,086)	
	-----		-----	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		571,737		662,819
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,035,551		1,221,059
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES				
Pension Liability		(1,567)		(1,463)
		-----		-----
NET ASSETS		1,033,984		1,219,596
		=====		=====
REPRESENTED BY				
Restricted Capital Funds		510,281		675,735
Restricted Income Funds		327,907		351,021
Unrestricted Income Funds		195,796		192,840
		-----		-----
TOTAL FUNDS		1,033,984		1,219,596
		=====		=====

The figures contained within the income and expenditure account and the balance sheet shown above were extracted from the company's audited financial statements. These were approved by the board of directors.

A copy of the company's audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 can be obtained from our main office or by writing to the following address: Registrar of Companies, Companies House, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139 Fountainbridge, Edinburgh EH3 9FF (quoting ref SC165677)

# Executive Officer Reflections



## Lynn Tulloch

I can't believe we are at another annual report already, this last year has gone by in a blink! It's been so busy.

We have had continued demand for our VAS support and volunteering services with a steady increase in groups/organisations requesting help on a number of issues.

Last year we engaged in a range of local partnerships, inputting into local plans and annual reports. It's great to see increased collaborative working to support those in our community. VAS also provided input into the national consultation of PVG charges, and the outcome (of which we were delighted about) was that costs did not significantly rise and PVG's will remain free of charge for volunteers. We also saw the introduction of new regulations for Charities to get to grips with, which always brings about additional enquiries for support.

We had record breaking numbers at our Saltire Awards Ceremony which was fabulous! It's great to see young people getting involved and helping out in their own communities, it's such an honour to recognise their efforts. And we also saw an increase in people being nominated for our local VAS Volunteering Awards which was great for us to celebrate our local volunteering efforts.

Both projects that sit under VAS have been busy, the Shetland Befriending Scheme supporting individuals on a one-to-one basis regularly and their group tea and cake sessions have been popular. Shetland Carers have been busy providing well deserved breaks for our local carers through the short break grants scheme and respite initiative as well as providing information to carers through their quarterly newsletters.

I hope you enjoy reading about the work VAS has delivered over the last year, I am always amazed at the ground that gets covered by the Core Team and Project Staff, thank you for all your input, it could not happen without your dedication and commitment.

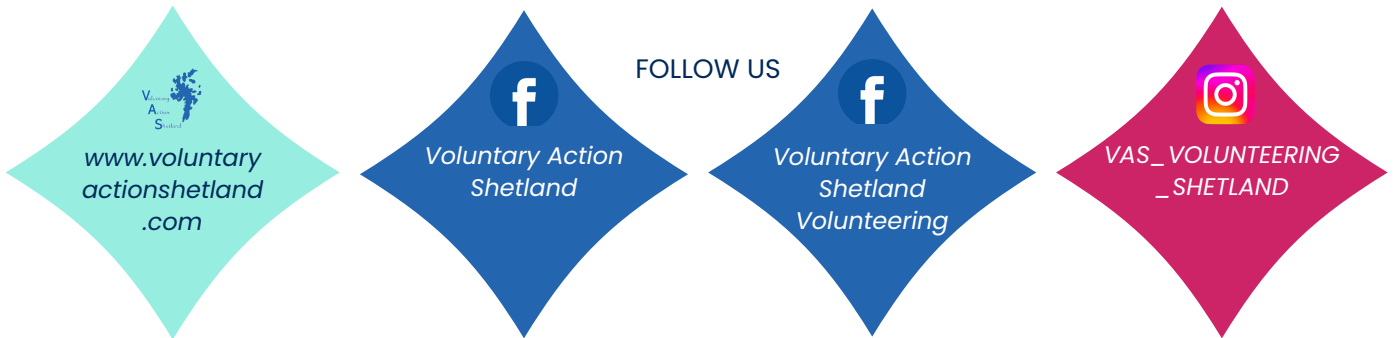
Huge thanks to the Directors of the VAS board, they provide continued guidance and support to me in my role. And a HUGE thank you to all our local volunteers, it's a more vibrant community to live in because of your input!

# VOLUNTARY ACTION SHETLAND

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## QUALITY ASSURANCE & GOOD PRACTICE



## FUNDERS

VOLUNTARY ACTION SHETLAND WOULD LIKE TO SINCERELY THANK THE FOLLOWING FUNDERS AND THOSE WHO HAVE FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED VAS CORE ACTIVITY AND THEIR TWO PROJECTS – SHETLAND BEFRIENDING SCHEME AND SHETLAND CARERS. WITHOUT THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT, MUCH OF THE WORK UNDERTAKEN OVER THE LAST YEAR WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE:



The Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



SHETLAND ISLANDS COUNCIL



**A SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS FOR SUPPORT AND ADVICE FOR THE THIRD/VOLUNTARY SECTOR**