



Investing in Volunteers Newsheet

March 2011



Spring is just around the corner!!!!!!

Funding

Some very good news! Funding was secured for 3 years from BBC Children in Need for the Young Carers' Project (£58,000), plus another 3 year grant from the Lankelly Foundation in support of the Centre Manager's post (£50,000). Lastly £7,051 was awarded by Shared Care for the Adult Carers' Clinic and activity costs for young carers referred to the Youth Befriending Project.

Please remember you can support The Broomhouse Centre by registering with easy fundraising if you shop online. We can benefit from your purchases without it costing you a penny. The site is at www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Help with Fundraising

The centre is looking for volunteers to support us on collection days on the 12th and 13th of August at Tesco's Corstorphine and on the 10th September at Tesco's Hermiston Gate.

This is to raise vital funds for the Youth Befriending Project. If anyone can offer their help, please contact Alana.

Staffing News

There have been a number of staff changes over the past few months. Firstly Shelley has moved onto a full-time post with Homestart after 10 year's service, we wish her well. This has left the organisation with two positions to fill – Office Manager and Project Manager for the Young Carers. As a result of the increase in the outside catering business, a new Catering Assistant post has been created, interviews held and Duncan starts at the end of April. Steven, the Young Carers' Youth Worker has also found a full-time position and will also be leaving us, the post will be advertised week beginning 4th April.

Alan the driver had to leave us to care for his wife with a long-term condition and the gap has not been filled by Billy who lives locally.

Happy retirement wishes went to Phyllis last week after 4 year's service. She worked one day a week in the office supporting Mairi and Shelley.

Fingers and toes crossed that the vacancies will be filled soon.

The Beacon Club

A new gentleman has settled in well. Two musical entertainers have been organised for the club and local primary 4 pupils will entertain the club on Thursday 7th April.

The Broomhouse Primary School nursery will be coming to entertain the clients on Monday 16th May.

Ricky the log serving driver from SEAG is taking voluntary redundancy at the end of April, he will be missed by the staff and clients. The garden is looking lovely thanks to the sweet peas planted by clients of the Beacon Club.

Elderly Befriending

Twenty clients continue to receive support from their volunteers.

Recent training was held covering bereavement and reporting abuse in elderly people.

The Elderly Befriending project and the Youth Befriending project are working towards the prestigious Quality Befriending Award. The aim of the award is to enhance funding applications and demonstrate best practice. The hope is that both projects will receive the Approved Standards awards of excellence.

Youth Befriending

The project is in desperate need of volunteer Youth Befrienders, so if you know of anyone who is looking for a volunteering opportunity with a very worthwhile project please contact Alana. Recently Alana has peer led alcohol awareness training sessions, aimed at young people and her befrienders.

Café Training Project

The project has been very busy of late. We will be providing 3 First Aid sessions in April and May for trainees and volunteers carried out by the British Red Cross.

There will be a visit one Wednesday soon to the Engine Shed, another social enterprise. The Engine Shed would be a natural progression for some trainees if they could manage a full-time work placement. The trip will be for all interested trainees.

Crescent Kitchen

Continues to grow and develop. A recent booking for an evening event at Greyfriars Kirk for 100 people entailed employing 6 waitresses; let's hope we get many more orders like that.

Disclosure delays.

The new disclosure system was introduced in February 2011 – Protection of Vulnerable Groups applies to all new staff, volunteers and trainees. This check will cover people for life and the cost for staff has been increased from £23 to £59. There appears to be problems already so apologies for any inconvenience caused.

A voluntary position for a volunteer development worker is needed for the Café Training Project to help support valuable trainees to find opportunities to move on to when they have completed their year's training placement. The development worker is required for a few hours a week, ideally on a different day each week to ensure that all trainees access further opportunities e.g. work or college placements. For more information contact Alex on 455 7731

Future Events

20TH Anniversary celebration will be held on the 17th June 12.30pm to 3pm. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Altogether in the Park is on Saturday 4th June

This is a family fun day event held every two years. Volunteers who can give a few hours would be well utilised on the day to help in the Tea Tent. Please call Alex for more details.