



MVA NEWSLETTER

MVA AGM

2011, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2011

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 26 October 2011 at 7pm in the Croft Suite, Loanhead Miners.

For further information, or to advise attendance, please contact MVA.

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Welcome to the new look MVA newsletter

We hope you will enjoy our new look newsletter and find it useful and interesting.

This first issue will concentrate on MVA, but we intend to feature other matters in future issues.

MVA also publishes the Midlothian Community Care Forum (MCCF) newsletter, and three popular regular e-briefings: Funding Signpost; Training News; and Midlothian Info.

Further information on our e-mail lists is available from our website at www.mvacvs.org.uk

If you have any comments on this newsletter or would like to sign up to receive any of the above mentioned e-briefings, or be added to any of our numerous e-mail lists, please contact Margaret Nisbet, Information Officer, tel: 0131 663 9471.

Supporting Community and Voluntary Organisations

Woodburn Day Care Club has moved

The Woodburn Day Care Club relocated from Dalkeith Community Centre to the St Nicholas Buccleuch Parish Church Hall, 119 High Street, Dalkeith, EH22 1AX (opposite the County Hotel). The telephone number remains the same (0131 654 1770)



WDCC had a stall at the Dalkeith Festival— thanks to all volunteers and customers for making it a success despite the rain!

WDCC at Dalkeith Festival on 6 August 2011



**Ian Cheyne,
Administrator**

MVA Staff New(ish)

Ian Cheyne, Administrator, started in May 2010 following a lengthy gap when Margaret Mackay covered the vacancy left by Len Wadge, as well as her own work. Being fully staffed with Administrators has made a big difference in our ability to carry out our work.

Kash Battacharya, led on the Digital Switchover project from January to June 2011 and has now started working one day a week as the new Social Media Development Worker.



**Kash Battacharya,
Social Media
Development Officer**

Midlothian Community Care Providers Forum

We regret to advise you that Sadia Kadri, the Community Care Providers Forum Development Worker, left MVA at the end of June when her funding ran out.

The overall Providers Forum will now be organised by John Skouse, Midlothian Council, and the Learning Disability Providers meetings will now be organised by Duncan McIntyre, Midlothian Council.

However, MVA will continue to distribute information on items relating to the Providers Forum.

Do you know your Tweets from your Blogs?

Is your website optimized for search engines (and do you even know what that means?!)

Have you ever wondered if your organisation should be embracing new

technology just a little bit more?

MVA is running a two year Innovation project, which will support local organisations in Midlothian to develop

social media strategies.

To find out more information, contact: Dr Lesley Kelly, Development Officer (Funding), Midlothian Voluntary Action, tel: 0131 663 9471,



Digital Switchover

190 people were helped at the Digital Switchover Advice Points at MVA in June, organised by Kash Bhattacharya, Development Officer, MVA.

Kash also spoke to a number of local organisations and groups. We would also like to thank George Worrell for his work on Digital Switchover with Breathe Easy Groups.



Sophie Unwin, Digital Outreach Officer, EVOC, and Kash Bhattacharya

“it is very important that charities complete and return their Annual Return to OSCR”.

Warning for Charities!

Remember that if you are a Scottish Charity it is very important that you complete and return your Annual Return to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) on time. If you do not you risk being removed from the Scottish Charity Register.

If you have any doubts about this, contact OSCR, telephone 01382 220446. You can also check on the OSCR website www.oscr.org.uk

If you are based in Midlothian and are worried about your OSCR Annual Return, contact MVA for information and advice, tel: 0131 663 9471.

Are you trying to create a club or grow a group?

If you are an existing community group or club, charity, voluntary organisation, or social enterprise based in or working in Midlothian, or are wanting to set up a new one, MVA may be able to help you.

We provide a variety of help and support to new and existing groups and organisations, including help to get started, model governing documents (e.g. constitutions), information on charity law, funding, training etc.



To find out if MVA can help your group, or to get a copy of our flier, contact us at: tel: 0131 663 9471, e-mail: margaret.nisbet@mvacvs.org.uk.

MVA also have a range of information available on our website at www.mvacvs.org.uk, on our Facebook page, and on our Blog

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Midlothian Voluntary Action

About MVA

MVA is an independent voluntary organisation in Midlothian and is part of the Midlothian Third Sector Interface (TSI) along with the Volunteer Centre Midlothian, SEAM (Social Enterprise Alliance Midlothian).

Midlothian Voluntary Action (MVA) exists to support and develop community and Third Sector organisations in Midlothian and facilitate the effective representation of the sector in powerful partnership working.

Established in 1974, Midlothian Voluntary Action is registered in Scotland as a company limited by guarantee (number SC219994), and as a charity (no. SC008286).

Funding Help

MVA offer a range of Funding Support services that are open to any Midlothian voluntary organisation or community group. These services include:

- Assistance to identify potential sources of funding;
- Guidance on completing application forms and letters;
- Support through the application process;
- Monthly Funding Signpost e-briefing.

For help to obtain Funding, or to sign up to the Funding Signpost e-briefing, contact Lesley Kelly, Development Officer (Funding), tel: 0131 663 9471

Free Training Opportunity “Making Successful Funding Applications”

As part of its Community Chest grant programme the Voluntary Action Fund will be providing a free workshop for groups with an annual income of under £25,000 from 10 am to 2 pm on Tuesday 20 September 2011 at Midlothian Voluntary Action.

Booking Essential.

Booking form enclosed with this newsletter.

To book or for further information, contact Voluntary Action Fund, tel: 01383 620780.

If you would like to receive this newsletter in large print, please let us know, 0131 663 9471