



CONNECTIONS Issue 22

August 2009



Accord's Year of Engagement



ACCORD is an adult hospice that provides specialist care and support for patients with a life limiting illness/disease where curative treatment may no longer be appropriate. They're committed to improving the quality of life for their patients while extending care and support to their families, relatives and carers.

2008 – 2009 is ACCORD's "Year of Engagement", which has seen them engage with the local community to create stronger ties and offer more services. This has included the opening of the Gleniffer Outreach Support Centre – an off site facility providing information to patients and carers.

Getting Out There

The Support Centre is staffed by an experienced palliative care nurse and offers accommodation that enables ACCORD to deliver their patient and family support service, including bereavement support and complementary therapies, as well as having access to all the services practiced within ACCORD Hospice.

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Services We Can Provide

<http://rcvs.synthasite.com>

- Funding advice, support and training
- Support setting up/ developing groups
- Developing a Constitution
- Training
- Voluntary sector representation,
- promotion and networking
- Provision of newsletters and e-bulletins
- Equipment hire
- Payroll
- Print shop
- Promotional film making

0141 587 2487

info@rcvsweb.co.uk

This list is by no means exhaustive. It's our ethos to meet the needs of Renfrewshire's voluntary sector, so if there's other services you'd like to see us provide then get in touch. Even if we can't provide it, we will probably know someone who can.

7th September 2009

Community Development: Choices and Dilemmas

The aim of this event is to bring together local practitioners, students, academics and international speakers to discuss the choices and dilemmas community development faces in the context of current economic and political crises.

Venue: City Halls, Glasgow

Further information: 0141 950 3064

Dates For



Your Diary

6th November 2009

Renfrewshire Provost's Homecoming Charity Ball

The Provost's Charity Ball offers you a special opportunity to celebrate Scotland's year of Homecoming in the luxury of a 5-star hotel, enjoy the cream of Scottish talent and, most importantly, support MS Society Scotland (MSSS) Paisley and District Branch.

Venue: Mar Hall, Renfrewshire

Further information: Drew Gibson (0141 840 3363) or Mairi Brown (0141 840 3706)



The Support Centre is based within the grounds of Reid Kerr College which has created such partnership opportunities as working together to support National Carers Week.

Furthermore, a Hospice Education Liaison Nurse for Care Homes has been employed to deliver training and support to all 40 of Renfrewshire's care homes.

No Boundaries

Providing support has also taken ACCORD far beyond Renfrewshire's borders. A charity called 'Something for Romania' approached them about the possibility of taking on a Romanian nurse for a four week work placement to shadow ACCORD staff.



This was followed by two staff members travelling to Romania to help the organisation develop a palliative approach to care.

Shop Around

Back on home soil ACCORD has also opened a new shop in the Paisley centre and a new store at 110 Abercorn Street (which houses furniture).

Funds raised by their shops play an essential role in ACCORD continuing to provide its important services so please keep them in mind when it's time for you to shop around.

Give While You Get

If you prefer to do your shopping online ACCORD has also set up a new webshop at www.buy.at/accord. This directly links you to an ever-growing number of retailers including Amazon, Ticketmaster, B&Q, Asda, Marks & Spencers etc.

If you use the webshop's links ACCORD will receive much-needed funds and it will not cost you a single

extra penny.

There's also the newly-launched 'Alternative Gifts' which offers a selection of presents perfect for birthdays, weddings, Christmas and other celebrations.

Each gift purchased directly supports the work of ACCORD and will make a real difference to the lives of many.

Working Together

All of this has been in addition to ACCORD's ongoing delivery of vital services in the local area and the tireless work of its 80 staff members and

"It is a testament to the community that the Hospice has grown significantly in size since its inception twenty-seven years ago."

- Kenneth Mathie, Fundraising Manager for ACCORD

250 volunteers.

Kenneth Mathie, the Fundraising Manager for ACCORD, said: "In order to provide it's specialist care ACCORD relies heavily upon the support and goodwill of our local community and it is a testament to the community that the Hospice has grown significantly in size since its inception twenty-seven years ago.

"It is however a continuous programme of care and we are very grateful for all of the ongoing help that we receive from a whole variety of organisations and members of the public."

Find Out More

To find out more about ACCORD and its services you can contact them using the details provided below.

Also, if you would like a copy of their newsletter please email a request to Kenneth at: kenneth.mathie@accord.org.uk.



Further Information
 0141 581 2000 (ACCORD)
 0141 887 1141 (Glennifer Support Centre)
www.accordhospice.org.uk

Pass Your Music Test or Rock Out at a Fest

Local charity Loud 'n' Proud, which offers musical training to people of all ages, has been sponsored by Rockscool – the internationally recognised qualification system for guitar, bass drums, keyboards and voice.

Through the sponsorship Loud 'n' Proud has received a full syllabus package which will allow them to teach and offer exams right up to grade 8.

Also, their new innovative performance exam is available to anyone who simply wants to play without having to learn music theory.

Learn From the Best

Tommy McGrory, who runs Loud 'n' Proud, said: "Rockscool was set up in 1991 to bring the best in pop and rock into mainstream education. They do this by providing exams, publications, advice and support to teachers and educational bodies.

"This is an example of them continually expanding its activities by creating partnerships and developing new qualifications... In the past it was the cost of the material that stopped us from being able to deliver the syllabus but with Rockscool's donation and support we can get students through Standard grades and Highers with ease.

Make the Grade

"Recently one of Loud 'n' Proud's staff went through the grade 8 exam for drums and got the highest mark given for drums since the exams started. All the other

teachers got distinction.

"If you want to fly through your school exams with our help get in touch with us... From beginner to top performer we can get you there."



Two Rivers Rock Festival

"Loud 'n' Proud will be producing another great day out for everyone and organising smaller local gigs for young bands."

Loud 'n' Proud also has its third Two Rivers Rock Festival taking place on Saturday 5th September, featuring live bands playing in

venues all over Paisley.

Tommy states: "Loud 'n' Proud will be producing another great day out for everyone and organising smaller local gigs for young bands. The main event will be a free concert in County Square.

"So far Logan - Scotland's hottest new rock band - are confirmed with more to come. So stay tuned and listen out for the full line up."

Further Information

0141 840 1090
www.loudnproud.org



Q&A: Paisley Development Trust with PDT Director Piero Pieraccini

Firstly, could you tell us a little about Paisley Development Trust?

The Paisley Development Trust (PDT) was formed in 2004 (from the PDA which had been in operation since 1997) to take forward a programme of community renewal through the arts and culture and is focused on the creation of a Unique Selling Point for the town. Through the regeneration of Paisley we can also regenerate the whole of Renfrewshire.

The establishment in Paisley of a Scottish Cinema and Film heritage centre would fulfil these aims. The fact that Paisley used to be a town with a strong tradition of cinema going (not too long ago there were 7 cinemas in Paisley) and that Paisley University is recognised for the film and media courses they provide, it was agreed that the aim of the PDT should be to work towards the establishment of such a USP.

To date, how successful has the Trust been in meeting those aims?

The first of the PDT events in 2004 was a very successful and exciting exhibition called 'Cinema Buddies'. This was to commemorate the 71 young lives that were lost in tragic circumstances in the cinema, on Hogmanay 1929. PDT continued with an end of year lantern procession that was featured in the BBC and STV live news for the day as well as a large number of print media. The Glen Cinema story received interest from a film production company and a documentary of the tragic events was created for broadcast on BBC.

During the 60th commemoration of the end of World War 2 in 2005 the PDT in Partnership with Fablevision (Scotland's leading cultural planning company) staged a drama piece in the Fountain Gardens which received national interest which was also reviewed by the Herald's drama critic. There have been many other smaller projects that involved all sections of our community including, a radio play (Jimmy the Ninja) and involvement in local cultural events and festivals. We are also partners in and contribute to various local initiatives aimed at the regenerational process for the town including the Paisley Vision Board (marketing group), the Joint Voluntary Sector working group and the Community Planning Partnership. We see ourselves as a conduit for the essential interface between the statutory, private and the community sectors in the area.

How long have you been with PDT and what are the biggest challenges you face in your role?

I have been with the PDT, and the Paisley Development Association before it, since its inception in 1997. I was a founding member of the PDA along with Ellen Farmer (OPS), Sandy Stoddart (internationally renowned sculptor),

Marcus Dean (owner of the Abbey Mill business centre) and other members of the Paisley community such as Kate Hancy and Brian Maguire. Our current members are very hands on, eager and they also delight in participating and in organising the public events that we initiate. Their attendance is not quite so good when there are regular trust meetings to attend, this is my biggest challenge.



In terms of funding, have you found this to be trickier than in the past, requiring you to be more creative perhaps?

The PDT has never had any regular funding and only ever applied for funds to stage events on a project by project basis, in which we have been very successful, so far.

What we desperately require is some core funding for a development worker on a full or part time basis, this funding could take the form of a potential service level agreement on behalf of the council. Using the Trust it would enable the council through the town centre and project managers remit to facilitate public engagement sessions on Town Centre Proposals, or surveys such as the recent High St pedestrianisation options.

How many groups are involved with the Trust?

The Trust is made up of local community individuals who have the best interests of Paisley in the forefront of their activities. We have worked in partnership with other groups though and we will work with any individual, group or statutory body that is prepared to work to restore Paisley to its rightful place in today's Scotland

Five years from now, what improvements do you hope to see in the area?

There are some good people from various local bodies working hard on those improvements, therefore I expect that the next five years will show a marked improvement in Paisley's fortunes but I reckon that a full recovery for the town will take much longer than that.

What are Paisley Development Trust's aims for 2009 and the years to come?

PDT's Projects for the future include an annual community festival featuring a dramatic re-enactment of the terrible events that saw a number of wrongly accused witches put to death in 1697. We also intend to work closely with other groups to create a place for Paisley in Scotland as a festival city using the Arts and culture to reinvigorate the town, restore a sense of civic pride to its citizens and attract inward investment. We also will work towards creating a Unique Selling Point for the town based on the Glen Cinema.

Finally, on a personal note, would you say you get satisfaction from your role and do you feel the Trust is making a difference?

I get pleasure in seeing a successful project come to fruition but I get great satisfaction in the knowledge that our contribution to the regeneration of Paisley, however small is a step in its eventual recovery and therefore I am of the opinion that the Paisley Development Trust does make a difference to this process.

Further Information

www.thepdt.org.uk

Celebrate the Best of Business in Renfrewshire

The ROCCO (Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce) Business Awards 2009 are looking to celebrate the best of business in Renfrewshire.

Now in their sixth year and principally sponsored by Diageo, the ROCCO Awards feature nine categories and are open to all businesses from every sector.

Time for Looking Up

Tom Johnston, President of Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce, states: "This year the focus for the ROCCO Awards will be to

encourage businesses to turn their backs on the so-called downturn, promote themselves and benefit from the support of the Renfrewshire business community.

"We are particularly keen to encourage entries from smaller businesses which we know are doing well, but perhaps have not considered entering in the past. We want to uncover more of Renfrewshire's great success stories!"

Local Highlight

The ROCCO Business Awards dinner is always a highlight of the Renfrewshire business calendar and this year will be held at the Normandy Hotel on the 20th of November.

It is hoped that this year's winner enjoy the new business the awards routinely generate.

New Business

NS Design won the ROCCO Award for Outstanding Performing Business in 2008. Their Managing Director Gary Ennis said: "Winning the award has helped take our business to a whole new level.

"The extra visibility and PR opportunities following the win have really helped reinforce the NS Design brand to the Renfrewshire Community and indeed a much wider audience across Scotland"

The closing date for applications is Friday 11th September.



2009 Categories

ROCCO Award for Excellence in Customer Services

Sponsored by Phoenix Car Company

ROCCO Award for Commitment to Employee Development

Sponsored by Renfrewshire Council

ROCCO Award for Innovation and Technology

Still available for sponsorship

ROCCO Award for Most Promising New Business

Sponsored by MEPC Hillington Park

ROCCO Award for Best Environmental Performance

sponsored by William Tracey

ROCCO Award for Excellence in Manufacturing

Still available for sponsorship

ROCCO Award for Employer of the Year

Sponsored by Workforce Plus

ROCCO Award for Outstanding Performing Business in Renfrewshire <25 FT Employees

Sponsored by Sainsbury's

ROCCO Award for Outstanding Performing Business in Renfrewshire >25 FT Employees

sponsored by DIAGEO



Further Information

www.roccoawards.com

Music4Kidz



Music4Kidz offers fun weekly music classes for children from age 18 months to 5 years in Renfrew, Barrhead and Paisley.

It provides a starting point for a child's musical education, giving them the opportunity to gain a thorough grounding in basic musical concepts and skills in a fun and exciting way. The comprehensive musical training programme is open to all children regardless of background and skills.

Diane Mitchell, who runs the group, says: "In Music4Kidz classes, all work is inclusive – we believe that every child is able to make music to a high level of achievement. Moreover the main emphasis is on fun! While playing games and having fun, the children are unaware that they are learning vital musicianship skills and absorbing things that will never leave them."

Fun and Games

At the classes children will learn about different musical concepts such as pulse, rhythm, pitch, melody, dynamics tempo, character, expression and mood in an enjoyable and stimulating but structured way. At the early stages, the emphasis is on parent-child interaction through the use of bouncing games, tickling games, play songs and lullabies. Parents join in with their child and have fun.

Children will then begin to clap rhythms and use percussion more. Singing games and rhymes will help further develop pitch in a fun and enjoyable way. Children will also be encouraged to listen to a variety

of different types of music and will eventually be able to read and write conventional musical notation.

Choirs and Pianos

Also on offer during term time is Choir4Kidz, which is aimed at children of Primary School age who enjoy singing and performing. The emphasis is on enjoyment through singing a wide variety of songs, while learning vital musicianship skills in the process. The group is open to all and there are no auditions.

The group will sing regularly at various community events during the term so that they get the chance to perform the songs they have learned. This helps to increase confidence and build up the self esteem of each individual choir member.

Individual piano or keyboard lessons are also available to children of age 5 upwards, consisting of weekly half hour one-to-one sessions. This is available for all stages and ages of child, from beginners to advanced. Participants will initially learn basic piano skills, progress through the Associated Board Prep Test and then start working towards the Grade exams or they can simply learn for fun.

Diane states: "Music4Kidz [uses] up to date resources and teaching ideas from a variety of sources to provide a unique programme which will further increase the child's learning. Furthermore, it links with the Curriculum for Excellence, encouraging each child to become a confident individual, an effective contributor, a successful learner and a responsible citizen."

Further Information

07896 689816
diane12m@yahoo.co.uk



Funding News



Proceeds of Crime Fund

Over £1 million additional funding has been made available to youth work sector organisations through the Proceeds of Crime Act to help fund events and activities that provide opportunities and chances for young people aged 10-19 years from now until 31st May 2010.

The closing date for applications in Round 3 is 31st October 2009, but youth organisations that have good project ideas are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Deadline: 31st October 2009

Further Information: Dougie Peddie -
0131 313 2488

Charles Hayward Foundation

The Charles Hayward Foundation funds a range of community based projects. The following themes are favoured:

- * Heritage and Conservation
- * Criminal Justice

- * Hospices
- * Older People

The Foundation favours capital costs over revenue costs.

Funded projects should be innovative and developmental.

Deadline: n/a

Further Information: 020 7370 7063
or:

www.charleshaywardfoundation.org.uk

Mission Statement

“RCVS exists to give assistance to voluntary and community organisations seeking to improve the quality of life for all citizens of Renfrewshire.”



Janis McDonald - Chief Executive

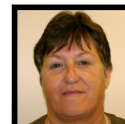
Janis has overall responsibility for the management of RCVS' human, financial and physical resources. She provides leadership, vision and the strategic development of our services.

janis.mcdonald@rcvsweb.co.uk

Sheila Connery - Corporate Services Manager

Sheila co-ordinates RCVS' corporate services work and is in charge of the corporate services team. She oversees human resources, health and safety, financial and other relevant areas.

sheila.connery@rcvsweb.co.uk



Anne Keir - Administrator

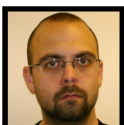
Anne provides secretarial support for all of RCVS' staff. She is also our health and safety officer, maintains HR paperwork and handles the induction of staff members.

anne.keir@rcvsweb.co.uk

Morag O'Donnell - ROAR & SE Co-ordinator

Morag co-ordinates Reaching Older Adults in Renfrewshire (ROAR), a project that delivers a range of services for older people in Renfrewshire, and our Social Economy network.

morag.odonnell@rcvsweb.co.uk



Gordon Mclean—Information & Communications Officer

Gordon produces our newsletters, press releases, e-alerts and the weekly e-bulletin. He also oversees content management for our website and is in charge of our film production service.

gordon.mclean@rcvsweb.co.uk

Help Us Help You

One of the ways we help the community and voluntary sector is by collecting data on the size and diversity of services we provide, individually and collectively, to demonstrate the contribution the sector makes to improving the quality of life for the people of Renfrewshire.

Thus it's important the information we hold is accurate. Please let us know about any changes to your organisation's details.

Contact Us At:

**Airlink Business Centre
24 Clark St
Paisley
PA3 1RB**

**Phone: 0141 587 2487
Fax: 0141 889 3974**

<http://rcvs.synthasite.com>

Do You Get the E-bulletin?

Our free e-bulletin is packed with information on what's on in Renfrewshire, issues affecting the voluntary sector, funding schemes and various other articles of interest.

If you would like to have it e-mailed to you each week, or if you have an article for inclusion, please contact Gordon McLean:

gordon.mclean@rcvsweb.co.uk



Lloyds TSB
Foundations



The information we generally hold will relate only to contact details and the scope of services your organisation provides. In the unlikely event that any personal or sensitive information has been gathered (i.e. a contact number/address which is also a home number/address) this will be treated with the utmost discretion and will be stored within the guidelines of current Data Protection Legislation.