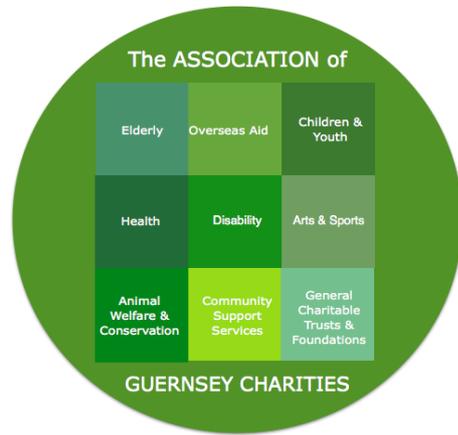


AGC Newsletter

May 2015



**For Charities ♦ About Charities
in the Bailiwick of Guernsey**

Welcome to the May 2015 Newsletter

In this edition we will share with you:

- Members' News
- Sector Events
- Lottery and Lottery Grants
- Social Compact
- News from Guernsey's Corporate Sector
- Notes from the Annual General Meeting
- Update on Regulation and Risk
- Meet your Council
- Forthcoming Events for your diary
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- General Reminders for Charities
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Members' News

A warm welcome to the following new AGC members:

No 408 Guernsey Football Club LBG

No 409 Royal Connaught Residential Home Ltd

No 410 Edible Guernsey LBG

No 411 Floral Guernsey Foundation

No 412 Guernsey Disability Swimming LBG

Be sure to look regularly at the AGC website (www.charity.org.gg) for details of all Members' news, events and volunteering vacancies

Sector Events

The next sector event will be for the Overseas Aid sector on 6th May 2015, where we are holding a "Masterclass" with representatives of the States of Guernsey's Overseas Aid Commission, to assist Overseas Aid sector members with their grant applications. If you are not in that sector but wish to attend, please contact Richard Lowe at overseas@charity.org.gg.

More sector events are planned, so please contact your representative if you think there are areas where we can help. We see one role for the AGC role as helping promote communication between charities, particularly those with mission overlap. We also help direct general enquiries for assistance, and enquiries which would benefit a charity, or group of charities.

The better we know the needs and missions of AGC members, the better we are able to do this for you.

Lottery and Lottery Grants

We are pleased to report that there were 39 successful applicants for grants from the 2014 Christmas Lottery, and in total £298,000 has been awarded, with individual amounts ranging from £950 to £26,051.

This year the AGC received not only the proceeds of the Christmas Lottery (£193,000), but also the proceeds of the Forfeited Prize fund, which amounted to £97,000 for Lotteries in 2012 and before, and £98,000 for the Christmas 2013. As the amount received was much larger than normal, Council decided to hold back £93,000 for a further distribution later in 2015. Details will be circulated in due course with a new Application form (members should not simply resubmit earlier Application forms).

As mentioned at the AGM, Council is happy to reflect Members' views in the Guidelines it follows when awarding Lottery Grants. Details of the current

Guidelines will be circulated with the Lottery Grant application forms, as normal.

Social Compact

Members will recall that we signed a "Social Compact" with the States of Guernsey. The purpose of this was to encourage the States to outsource the provision of services to charities, and to facilitate this by encouraging charities to become more accountable, through the use of formal contracts or Service Level Agreements. This would give many of you who are in receipt of discretionary grants from the States, the assurance that your funding was secure.

Unfortunately, progress on implementing this Compact has been slow

- on the part of the States I have yet to receive an analysis of the discretionary grants given out by them. I am quite keen to see how these have changed over time – judging by the lottery grant applications the analysis may well show those grants have reduced; hardly unexpected, but worrying nevertheless.
- on the part of charities, while we have seen some of you struggling to find funding this year, and we have been happy to help in some cases with Lottery Grants to fund some important projects, we do expect you to do what you can to preserve your funding lines from Government.

It would be unfair to the Charity sector as a whole if Lottery Grants started to replace these discretionary grants; that is not what should be happening, hence the importance of charities doing their best to tie up your States funding with some sort of binding agreement.

Please let us know if we can help you with securing funding from the States for your mission. Discretionary grants are now almost impossible to get, but limited funding is generally available for States' strategic programmes (such as SSD's Work Rehabilitation programme), and all States Departments are under direction to welcome potential outsourcing to charities, and are required to consider how charities could provide assistance, before considering alternatives.

News from Guernsey's Corporate sector

Corporate Donations and CSR programmes

Members may recall that I agreed to contact local businesses to see if they would let us have details of the types of donations and grants they would make. As expected, many businesses, known to be very generous,

chose to be circumspect about their generosity, but a few did submit some very constructive responses. The results of this survey can be found on the AGC website, under "Guides and Information". Please treat this information as confidential.

Volunteers available for a community project!

Specsavers have a team of 16 people available for a group community project on 23rd September. Contact Natalie Graham on 01481 232361 or email Natalie.graham@specsavers.com.

Free computers from Sovereign Trust

Sovereign Trust has 30 computers (no monitors) available for local charities; these are about 3 years old, but have a good level of specification. Please contact Georgie Scott on 729965 for details.

AGC Annual General Meeting

I hope that those of you (some 98 member charities, around 130 people) who attended the AGM in April, enjoyed listening to the presentation by Martyn Lewis.

Much of the update given to members during the meeting is contained variously within this Newsletter, however one thing that is not is that we have a new Treasurer, Mark O'Connor, who was appointed at the AGM. Mark is also taking on the role of Disability Sector representative

Mark replaces Mike Brown who announced that he was standing down from the post of Treasurer, shortly before the AGM. Mike was a member of Council for 4 years and we thank him for all he did during his time in this post.

Update on Regulation and Risk

We continue to represent the Charity sector at regular meetings with the Guernsey Registry, and representatives of the Policy Council, so as to influence the extent and direction of charity regulation in Guernsey. As far as we can tell, the outlook is benign, and we hope to flag up changes well in advance.

Register of Non-Profit Organisations

Don't forget that if your income exceeds £5,000 or you have more than £10,000 in assets, you MUST register (new charities) or renew your registration (existing charities) annually each January, with the Registrar of Non-Profit Organisations.

The Registrar is Alan Bougourd, and the Deputy Registrar responsible for Charity and NPO registration is Helen Proudlove-Gains, both at the Guernsey Registry, who can be reached at 01481 743800 or at

enquiries@guernseyregistry.com. The web address is www.guernseyregistry.com/charities.

Risk

Following the revelations at the last Forum about the types of risk that charities (and more importantly their officers) might be unaware that they are running, a new page on Charity Risk has been added to the AGC Website – see under "Guides and Information".

Meet your Council

In this Newsletter we feature Health Sector representative, Wendy Beaven, and Children & Youth Sector Representative, Karen Jagger. Please feel free to stop them when you see them and let them know what you think of the AGC!

Wendy Beaven, Health Sector Representative



I took over as Manager of Health information Guernsey in 2004, the role subsequently developed into Director of Services in 2009.

My background has always been NHS as I trained in the Health Hospital (Nation School of Medicine), Cardiff and later moved to private practice in Mid Wales.

I became Finance Director of an Abbeyfield Housing Association and later founder and MD of a Community Care Project. My UK charity work extended to RNLI and Cancer Research UK as well as many local appeals such as the Mid Wales Hospice and a new Cobalt Unit for our local hospital, as well as belonging to service clubs and professional organisations, serving as area rep for Business and Professional Women BPW UK.

I was also a Community Councillor and served as Mayor for two terms.

I strongly believe that Charities form an essential and vitally important part of service delivery especially in the health service and I am delighted to represent the Health sector on the Council of the Association of Guernsey Charities.

Karen Jagger, Children & Youth Sector Representative



I was born in Epsom Surrey. I lived around this area all my life until 2011 when I moved to Guernsey following a job offer from Sure. I now live in Guernsey with my husband and daughter.

Before coming to Guernsey I worked in Central London commuting every day for 25 years, most of this time was with a high street retailer called Paperchase, where I worked for 23 years. Here I was a committee member of the Paperchase Fund; this was a charity fund that helped employees at difficult times. Living in London, you can imagine that most of this work involved dealing with people who had either had their homes broken into or had personally been attacked on the street. Once my daughter was born in 2002 and started school my eyes were then opened to the world of the PTA!

Upon arriving in Guernsey, Sure at that time did not have any such scheme and the Directors at the time wanted to give something back to the community of Guernsey. I was selected to help set up and shape the now Sure Community Foundation of which I am very proud. This work involved me getting to know a number of charities on the island large and small and awoke a passion in me to help those in need. I am now chair of the Community Foundation, part of the PTA at Blanchelande College and a Soroptimist of Guernsey.

Forthcoming events for your Diary

Volunteers' Week
1st to 7th June



Each year, Volunteers' Week is an excellent opportunity to say thank you to all of the people who give some of their time to helping a charity or community activity. Every week, so many people enjoy taking part in some form of voluntary activity. If you're looking for more people to help, then Volunteers' Week is also a great time to send out that appeal.

For several years, the Association of Guernsey Charities has organised and run the local media publicity for

Volunteers' Week and, with less than a month to go, this year's plans are already advanced. We will be emailing full details to you later in May. In the meantime, you might want to start planning how you can take advantage of the increased publicity for volunteering.

We will be making full use of social media (Facebook and Twitter) as these are easy ways to help spread the message, share stories, and direct people to our website to find out more information. If any of your colleagues, members, or volunteers use Facebook and Twitter please encourage them to follow the AGC – so that as many people as possible see the amazing amount of work done by local volunteers. The details are on the last page of this newsletter.

Next Forum

Our next **Forum** will be on the subject of **Volunteering**. This will be held at Les Cotils on **14th July 2015** starting at 7.30pm.

The AGC Website

As most of you will know, the new website went live in November 2014, and a good number of you have been logging in to correct or update your details, and to post your news events, and volunteer vacancies.

Just to remind you how to use the website:

- **each charity has its own webpage**, and you can **update your own details** (it is very easy)
- you can record **news items, volunteer vacancies, and events**, which will appear not only on your own web page, **but also on the home page**, which will give you prominent advertising on the first page that most users visit (again it is very easy)
- it is very easy for us to add "static" pages **so we can build a more comprehensive library of useful information for you**, and keep it up to date better.

The MOST important thing for this new website to be a success is that YOU must use it, to keep your details up-to-date, to record your new, your volunteer vacancies, and your events. **It should be at the heart of your contact with the wider public, and if you do use it to the fullest, you should benefit enormously.**

Some reminders for all charities

Some general reminders for all member charities:

Tax relief

Do you know that you can claim back the tax on certain donations?

If your charity receives a donation (or donations) from an individual (i.e. not a company) of at least £500 and not exceeding £5,000 in a calendar year, the donation is deemed to have been made to the charity net of income tax.

You should then ask the donor to complete a declaration to the Director of Income Tax, to confirm that Guernsey tax has been paid. The charity can then reclaim the relevant amount of tax (i.e. 20%).

For example, if the individual makes a donation to a Guernsey Registered Charity of £1,000 and completes the appropriate declaration, the charity is treated as having received the sum of £1,000 net of tax which gives the equivalent gross donation of £1,250 (i.e. £1,000 X 100/80). The charity would then claim a repayment from the Director of Income Tax in the sum of £250 (i.e. £1,250 - £1,000).

It is important to note that relief is only available in respect of donations made by an individual out of income taxed in Guernsey. It only applies to Guernsey charities which have registered in accordance with the Charities and Non Profit Organisations (Registration) (Guernsey) Law, 2008 (see Charity Register at: www.guernseyregistry.com/charities)

Further details are available by contacting the Income Tax Office, by e-mail (charities@tax.gov.gg), letter or telephone on 724711.

Offer of help

Richmond Group is offering a local charity the chance to have approximately 15 volunteers to undertake a day's work. If your charity has a project, and could make use of some additional man-power, please contact Jo Falla: joanne.falla@richmondgroup.uk.com

Volunteers



If you need Volunteers to help with your charity, or at specific events, or you need someone to fill a position on your Committee, then there are two ways to get this help. You can either log in to Volunteer Guernsey (www.volunteer.gg) and post your vacancy online, or alternatively, you can call Dave Chilton at the Guernsey Community Foundation on 01481 748056 or e-mail him at Davec@foundation.gg

The benefits of AGC Membership

Just to recap what to expect from your AGC membership:

- 1 One General Meeting and two Forums annually
- 2 An up-to-date website
- 3 A regular Newsletter, with ad-hoc Member Bulletins when needed
- 4 Sector meetings where there is sufficient interest within the sector
- 5 A robust and professional Lottery Grant Allocation process with sufficient transparency
- 6 Representation of the Third Sector with other bodies on your behalf
- 7 Collection of ad-hoc donations on behalf of the whole Charity Sector, but not active fund-raising

And finally AGC Council Contact details

The AGC Council has a dedicated phone line on which you can leave a message for someone to call you back at a convenient time. The number is 07781 433334.

If you prefer to contact us by e-mail, details are as follows:

Chairman	Peter Rose	chairman@charity.org.gg	01481 267023
Vice Chairman	Malcolm Woodhams	mail@charity.org.gg	01481 251542
Secretary	Maureen McLellan	secretary@charity.org.gg	
Treasurer	Mark O'Connor	mail@charity.org.gg	
Membership Secretary	Paula Robinson	membership@charity.org.gg	

Sector Representatives:

SECTOR	REP	EMAIL
Animal Welfare	Richard Lowe	animals@charity.org.gg
Arts	Richard Lowe	arts@charity.org.gg
Children & Youth	Karen Jagger	young@charity.org.gg
Community Support Services	Kate Raleigh	community@charity.org.gg
Conservation	Richard Lowe	conservation@charity.org.gg
Disability	Mark O'Connor	disability@charity.org.gg
Elderly	Kate Raleigh	elderly@charity.org.gg
General Charitable Organisations, Trusts and Foundations	Kate Raleigh	general@charity.org.gg
Health	Wendy Beaven	health@charity.org.gg
Overseas Aid	Richard Lowe	overseas@charity.org.gg
Sport	Richard Lowe	sport@charity.org.gg

You can find news about the AGC by following us on social media. We regularly post updates, information about events, reminders about applying for grants, offers of help, plus general items of interest to anyone involved with the voluntary and charitable sector. Please encourage your colleagues and members to follow us, and to share our posts and tweets.



Facebook: facebook.com/guernseycharities



Twitter: twitter.com/GuernseyCharity