



the hub - your community action centre

Weekly e-bulletin: 7th February 2024

News

CALLING ALL D & G NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS WITH STRONG LOCAL COMMUNITY LINKS

**A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE RENOVATED PREMISES
ON A BUSY THOROUGHFARE IN DUMFRIES TOWN CENTRE
WITH NEARBY PARKING.**

**CURRENTLY USED AS A CO-WORKING RESOURCE BASE
WITH FLEXIBLE DESK SPACE ACCOMMODATION,
MEETING ROOMS AND PRIVATE OFFICES.**

ACCESS RAMP, ACCESSIBLE TOILET AND HEARING LOOP.

TOTAL FLOOR SPACE: 243 sq.m

FOR FURTHER INFO PLEASE EMAIL: property@thehubdg.org.uk





Dumfries and Galloway Council Kerbside Battery Collections are Coming

Kerbside collections to recycle household batteries are to be introduced for people across Dumfries and Galloway. They will be picking up bags of household batteries, helping the environment while reducing the risk of fires at waste facilities. The new kerbside service will involve all types of household batteries – including the ones from toys, laptops, mobile phones, watches and hearing aids – being separated from regular waste. They will be starting this new service in April, but they will write to all households to let you know the details of what to do and when. For more information go to [Details - DGC Press Releases \(dumgal.gov.uk\)](https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/press-releases)

Gull Season is Coming The gull season for this year is fast approaching and now is the time to take some preventative action. There are a number of things you can do to ensure gulls don't perch or nest on your property. Their website has useful information on the types of gulls that we see in this region, what you can do to protect against them and how to deal with problem gulls. For More information go to [Gulls in Dumfries and Galloway - Dumfries and Galloway Council \(dumgal.gov.uk\)](https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/gulls)

CARERS IN D&G BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM NEW PARTNERSHIP RESULTING IN OVER £1 MILLION IN CLIENT FINANCIAL GAINS

D&G Carers Centre, in collaboration with D&G Citizens Advice Service, is proud to announce a significant milestone in their ongoing partnership. To date, the organisations have recorded remarkable financial gains for clients, exceeding £1 million. This substantial sum directly contributes to the well-being of Carers and the individuals they care for, underscoring the impactful nature of the joint initiative. Since the pandemic an increasing number of unpaid Carers approached the Carers Centre to ask for financial help and advice. To increase the timely access to this and to reduce waiting lists D&G Carers Centre agreed to invest funding to purchase a dedicated Welfare Benefits Advisor from D&G Citizens Advice Service. Graham has been based in the Carers Centre one day per week since October 2022 and has played a pivotal role in facilitating access to benefits and financial support for Carers across the region. The seamless collaboration between the two services has not only addressed the increasing demands but has translated this into tangible financial gains for the community. The recorded financial gains represent a direct injection of support into the pockets of Carers and those they care for, alleviating financial burdens and fostering improved overall well-being. It has also provided a real opportunity to increase support to Carers in this area at a time where other services that support Carers have been reduced or have not returned to the same level post the pandemic. This achievement is a testament to the effectiveness of the partnership in meeting the diverse needs of Carers within the Dumfries & Galloway community.

As the organisations celebrate this milestone, they remain committed to expanding their efforts. They are delighted to confirm that the Carers Centre will continue to fund for an additional year with an additional day meaning Graham will now be providing this dedicated service 2 days a week. This expansion aims to meet the increasing demand for specialised support services and further

enhance the financial well-being of Carers within the community. The funding to continue this successful partnership has been provided by the D&G Integrated Joint Board via Carers Strategy funds ensuring that this funding is being targeted directly to the Carers it aims to support. The D&G Carers Centre and Citizens Advice Service express gratitude to all involved parties, acknowledging the collaborative spirit that has made this achievement possible. The recorded financial gains exemplify the positive impact of proactive community partnerships and highlight the importance and commitment to continue support for Carers in the region.

Help with Heating Scheme 2023-24

Please note the Scottish Government is ending the subsidy scheme on 16th February 2024. This means the hub is unable to process any NEW referrals to our Help with Heating Scheme from Monday 5th Feb 2024.

Events

Dumfries and Galloway College Scottish Apprenticeship Week runs from 4th – 8th March and highlights the great opportunities that both individuals and businesses can benefit from by hiring an apprentice in Dumfries and Galloway. For apprentices, it's an exciting way to start a new career path, safe in the knowledge you're in good hands learning from the best and unlocking your potential. For organisations, it provides the opportunity to tailor your workforce to the needs of your business. If you're thinking of becoming an apprentice, [find out more about the events](#) they are holding throughout Scottish Apprenticeship Week, which could help you gain employment on the day. If you're a business and you'd like to promote your vacancies at one of their events, [fill out your details](#) and their team will get in touch. [Find out how taking on an apprentice will help you](#) grow your business, achieve your goals and make sure your staff are developing the skills you need both now and in the future. For more information go to [Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2024 | Dumfries and Galloway College \(dumgal.ac.uk\)](#)

Are you an Autistic Adult looking for information about activities, employment or services in Dumfries and Galloway? You are invited to their monthly events in the meeting rooms of [The Usual Place Cafe](#) in Dumfries, and an event taking place in Stranraer. You can also talk to staff from The Usual Place, some of whom have lived experience of autism. **STOP PRESS! Due to demand** they are organising an event at Papa Rab's in Stranraer on Tuesday 20 February 2024, 10.30am - 2pm. Further details below. Please make sure you are signed up to the [mailing list](#) for future updates.

British Sign Language Plan - Have Your Say Go along to one of the D & G Council events and have your say on what should be included within the new 2024 British Sign Language Plan. Booking is essential to make sure that the venue and support levels meet your needs. **Events: Castle Douglas** Community Centre, Cotton Street, Castle Douglas DG7 1AJ, **Dumfries** - Thursday 22 February 10am – 12pm - DG1 Leisure Complex, Hoods Loaning, Dumfries DG1 2HT, **Annan** - Thursday 22 February 2pm – 4pm - Market Hall – The Victoria Halls, Downie's Wynd, Annan DG12 6EE or attend an **ONLINE** meeting on Tuesday 6 February 2024, 5pm – 7pm (the online meeting link will be sent in advance). Reserve your place by emailing dg.equalityanddiversity@nhs.scot

Training

Care Training Consultancy Elevate your skills and knowledge with their upcoming training sessions designed to empower you in delivering exceptional care and support. Don't miss out on this opportunity to enhance your expertise! Browse their courses here [Care Training Courses | Scotland | CTC](#) For more information contact Tel: [01387 214 248](tel:01387214248) Email: info@caretrain.co.uk

Are you a parent who are ready to take the step into employment DG Chamber, in partnership with the D&G Local Employability & Skills Partnership,

are offering parents who are in receipt of income-based support the opportunity to develop new skills and qualifications which will help them on their way to securing their next role. Through a network of local training providers, they can assist in securing a number of qualifications, certificates and short courses which help you to stand out when applying for roles. Whether you are currently unemployed and looking for work or working and looking to take the next step in your career, they can support you in your journey. For more information contact Jordan Nicholas on 01387 270866 or email Jordan.nicholas@dgchamber.co.uk

Surveys and Consultations

Dyslexia Scotland survey Dyslexia Scotland and the University of Glasgow are undertaking Scotland's biggest ever survey of dyslexic adults. If you are dyslexic (or think you are), aged 16 or older, they want to get your response. If you are not dyslexic, please do your part by encouraging or supporting those you know with dyslexia to do the survey. Find out more and do the survey via this link:

<https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/dyslexia-friendly-scotland-survey/>

Please consider joining Dyslexia Scotland to help us reach our goal of a dyslexia-friendly Scotland: <https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/join/> They will be in touch soon with details of an event in Dumfries soon. In the meantime please keep an eye on Dyslexia Scotland's events page: <https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/events/>

Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway - Annual survey of member organisations. To help them to understand how they can improve their work for you and for others click this link- [take part](#)

Scot Government: Guidance on inclusive design for town centres and busy streets when the design of town centres and busy street environments does not fully take into account the needs of all members of the community, people may become excluded from these areas and the essential functions that they provide. Potential barriers to access should be removed and not included in any scheme. This national guidance has been developed to support the design of town centres and busy streets that are inclusive. It is based on the premise that if the area is designed for disabled people, then the majority will benefit. This draft guidance was developed in response to research which identified that street design should consider the needs of everyone and should take into account all Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. The research recommended that the principles which it identified should be embedded in guidance and applied practice. Find out [More here](#)

The Scottish Community Development Centre is working with Dumfries and Galloway Council to deliver a training workshop for groups considering developing a Local Place Plan. Whether you've got plenty of experience in community volunteering or are new to community involvement, this course will have something to offer you. It will look at some of the ways they share information with people or invite their opinions, who it's important to work with and how they get beyond the people who are already involved in changing things in their community – reaching some of the lesser heard voices. Methods to stimulate discussion and the gathering of ideas will be explored. All community groups and community councils interested in gathering the views of their community for local place planning are invited to take part. The 3-hour online course takes place on Tuesday 27th February, 10am to 1pm. There is a maximum allocation of two places per group/community council. If you would like to attend, please send your details to communityempowerment@dumgal.gov.uk

Campaigns

Go Red for Heart Month in February In the UK, someone dies from a heart or circulatory condition every three minutes. Whether it's losing a loved one to sudden cardiac arrest or coping with the devastating impact of heart failure, far too many of us have felt the pain of heart and circulatory conditions. But with your help, we can give more hearts a chance. This Heart Month, Go Red to raise money for lifesaving research. It could be wearing red at work, organising a

healthy red bake sale or taking on a sponsored challenge. Or you could learn CPR in 15 minutes free with RevivR. Whatever it takes to help protect the hearts of people you love. [Find out more and get involved](#)

Publications and reports

Making the internet safer for all New law to protect vulnerable people. A new offence which makes it a crime to encourage or assist another person to self-harm came into effect in Scotland on 31 January. The offence can be committed online, in correspondence or publications, or in-person and applies regardless of whether an individual goes on to injure themselves or not. Anyone found guilty of this crime can face up to five years in prison. It is hoped it will act as a deterrent to anyone who sets out to deliberately encourage others to self-harm and will create a safer online environment, particularly for people who may be in distress and looking for help on the internet. The offence under the Online Safety Act (2023) was extended to Scotland through a Legislative Consent Motion agreed in the Scottish Parliament on 29 June 2023. The [Self-harm Strategy and Action Plan](#) was published jointly with COSLA on 28 November 2023. For more information go to [Making the internet safer for all - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

Funding

Dumfries and Galloway Council Region wide Community Fund is opening for applications on **29th January 2024**. There is over £100,000 available this round, open to constituted groups in Dumfries and Galloway for applications between £500 and £5,000. The deadline for applications is **12 noon Monday 22nd April 2024**. This fund is aimed at supporting; • Skills Development • Community • Environment • Culture & Heritage • Community Led Tourism • Affordable Housing • Community Transport • Digital Connectivity • Poverty & Inequalities • Working Towards Net Zero (climate) • Cost of living. Full information and how to apply is available at <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/20249/Dumfries-and-Galloway-Regionwide-Community-Fund>

Nithsdale Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Small Grants Small grant programme to support the following Nithsdale Area priorities: • Digital Connectivity • Food Insecurity • Fuel Poverty • Warm Hubs. Constituted Groups, operating in Nithsdale, can apply for up to £1,500 towards projects, which support one or more of the priorities. Match funding will be required, as you cannot request 100% from Council sources of funding. **Applications will be assessed on a first-come first-served basis and the fund will close when the budget is fully allocated.** TO APPLY – Complete the [Application Form \(Word doc download\)](#) and return it to GrantApplications@dumgal.gov.uk Please ensure you include a copy of relevant supporting documents to ensure your application can be assessed on a first-come first-served basis. [Small Grants – Priorities, Eligibility and Criteria \(Word Doc download\)](#)

Scottish Recovery Consortium - Recovery Seed Fund The aim of the fund is to develop and support substance and/or behaviour Lived Experience recovery organisations to trial, grow and develop their ideas, services or products and build organisational capacity. You can apply for the fund if you are a substance and/or behaviour Lived Experience Recovery Organisation/voluntary group (LERO). This is defined as an organisation that has autonomy or independence, are led by understanding, knowledgeable staff or volunteers, with people of lived experience of recovery running the group. [More here](#).

Bank of Scotland Foundation Eligibility • Your charity must support vulnerable groups. • Your charity must also be registered in Scotland with a charity number beginning SC0. • Your records at OSCR (and Companies House if applicable) must not be overdue. **You CANNOT APPLY** if your charity's sole purpose on OSCR is listed as being: - • the advancement of animal welfare • the advancement of religion if your charity's sole type of activity undertaken on OSCR is listed as being: - • it makes grants, donations, or gifts to organisations.

You CANNOT APPLY if your charity is a political organisation. For more information go to [Bank of Scotland Foundation](#)

British Heart Foundation Apply for a **free defibrillator for your community**
Find out if your community group is eligible for a free, BHF-funded defibrillator. Having a defibrillator and knowing how to do CPR will give members of your community a better chance at surviving a cardiac arrest. Applications for a free, BHF-funded defibrillator are now open. **Applications will close on 28 February 2024.** All eligible UK-based community groups can apply. Each organisation can only apply for one award package. A limited number of funded defibrillators are available in each annual funding cycle. Applications will be reviewed monthly against a set of criteria so awards can be made to communities that need them most. Areas prioritised include those with fewer registered defibrillators and communities where local health needs indicate a higher risk of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. For more information go to [Defibrillator funding for your local community - BHF](#)

Funding for Financial Life Skills Projects (UK) The MSE Charity, which supports the development of financial skills for adults facing life-altering transitions, has announced that it has re-opened for applications. Since its inception in 2006, the charity has awarded over £1 million in grants to organisations across the UK. This funding round will support projects that empower adults impacted by life-changing transitions, including dementia, autism, learning difficulties, disabilities, caring responsibilities, mental illness, brain injuries, and stroke. Grants of up to £8,000 are available to suitably qualified non-profit organisations with an annual income of up to £750,000 and less than six months of free reserves. The funding round will close once 40 applications have been accepted or by the 16th February 2024, whichever comes first. [Learn More](#)

£20 Million in Funding Available to Support Vulnerable Energy Consumers (England, Scotland & Wales) The Energy Redress Scheme is now open for its seventh funding round. A total of £20 million is available for charities and community energy groups to apply for grants through four funding streams. Projects will be considered that focus on supporting households most at risk from cold homes and high energy bills, the development of innovative products and services related to domestic energy use, or carbon emissions reduction projects. The deadline for applications is 5pm on 20th February 2024. [Learn More](#)

Grants to Protect Oceans & Enhance Marine Biodiversity (UK) Marine conservation charities are invited to apply for funding for projects which help to protect the ocean and enhance marine biodiversity. The ScottishPower Foundation Marine Biodiversity Fund will finance one multi-year project that contributes to the protection and enhancement of the marine/coastal environment. Projects must take place in the UK and its territorial waters and should incorporate an educational outreach element to engage with the local community and/or wider society. It is anticipated the successful project will receive funding of £200,000 per year for a period of up to three years. The fund will be open to applications from the middle of February 2024 for a period of 5 weeks. [Learn More](#)

King Charles III Charitable Fund Launches New Small Grants Programme (UK) The King Charles III Charitable Fund has launched a new Small Grants Programme to support projects that will improve people's lives and build sustainable communities across the UK. Each year, the fund will allocate grants of up to £5,000 to around 100 community-based organisations, including charities, community interest companies, and parish councils. The fund aims to support small-scale projects that have the potential to create substantial impacts within their communities, especially those that typically face challenges in accessing larger funding sources. Grants will be awarded across 6 funding themes: the environment, countryside, social inclusion, health and wellbeing, heritage and conservation, and education. The closing date for applications is the 22nd February 2024. [Learn More](#)

Grants for Animal Welfare Projects (UK) Funding is available to help frontline animal welfare organisations across the UK to provide a second chance to animals who have been affected by the illegal pet trade. The Naturewatch Foundation will make at least £5,000 in funding available each year to support projects that help with the rescue or rehabilitation of dogs, cats or rabbits who have been exploited for breeding and selling. The funding can be used for things like veterinary care, behavioural support, specialist facilities or equipment, and training for personnel. One or more organisations may be selected to receive a grant. The funding is made available through the Pet Rescue Grant which is open to charities, CICs, and other not-for-profit organisations until the 21st February 2024. [Learn More](#)

£2.8 Million Fund to Boost Financial Advice Services for Older People (England, Scotland & Wales) Not-for-profit organisations providing advice for elderly people who may be at risk of financial hardship can apply for a share of £2.8 million in funding to increase the capacity of their services. The Independent Age Boosting Advice fund will support organisations to deliver advice for elderly people in priority areas across England, Scotland and Wales to help them access the financial support they are entitled to, such as pension credit, attendance allowance and carers allowance, and to protect them from unfair or unavoidable costs such as house repairs and rent increases. Eligible organisations will be able to apply for 3-year grants of between £90,000 (£30,000 per year) and £180,000 (£60,000 per year). Expressions of interest should be submitted by 5pm on the 20th February 2024. [Learn More](#)

Grants Available to Support Science Projects for Students with Special Educational Needs (UK) UK primary and secondary school teachers can apply for grants of up to £3,000 to support STEM projects for students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The funding, which is being made available through the Royal Society's Partnership Grants Scheme will can be used to purchase equipment for projects in science, mathematics, engineering or computing (STEM). To qualify for funding, projects need to work in partnership with a practising scientist/engineer currently working in a STEM related profession, such as a researcher or analyst. The Partnership Grants scheme is an annual funding round. There is a two-stage application process. The application process opens in February each year and there are three possible submission deadlines across the year. The next deadline for both stage 1 and 2 applications is at the end of April 2024. [Learn More](#)

Funding for Rural Community and Education Projects (UK) Small Homeless charities can apply for capital grants of up to £5,000 for Charities supporting rural development, in particular, the education of young people and the relief of poverty within rural areas can apply for funding through the NFU Mutual Charitable Trust. The focuses of the funding is on providing financial support to larger initiatives, which would have a significant impact on rural communities. Grants available are for £1,000 and upwards. Larger grants are used to support organisations that have a significant impact on rural communities at a national level. Projects supported in the past have ranged from City farms, Federations of Young Farmers Clubs and farming Community Networks. The next closing date for applications is the 24th May 2024. [Learn More](#)

Grants of up to £5,000 Available to Increase Employment Opportunities for Disadvantaged Adults (UK) Grants of up to £5,000 are available to registered charities to support projects that equip people (18 or older in order) from disadvantaged groups with the critical life skills necessary to gain employment. Priority will be given to projects that target people experiencing multiple deprivation or other groups facing major hurdles to employment, especially; women, people with physical, mental, or learning disabilities, refugees and asylum seekers. The funding is being made available through the Thomas Wall Trust. and the deadline for stage 1 applications is the 29th April 2024. Applicants successful at this stage will be invited to submit a stage 2 application. [Learn More](#)

New Funding Programme to Support Vulnerable People (Scotland) In response to the cost-of-living crisis, the Bank of Scotland has launched a new funding programme to improve the quality of life for Scotland's most vulnerable people. The Empower Programme offers three-year unrestricted grants of £150,000 (£50,000 per annum) to help small and local charities continue to provide their vital services and become more sustainable. The funding can be used towards core costs, delivery costs, project costs and/or general running costs, enabling charities to use their funding in the most effective way. The programme is open to charities with an annual income of between £150,000 and £500,000. The launch of the Empower Fund is part of the Bank of Scotland's new five year strategy that will see the launch of a number of funding programmes to help meet the needs and aspirations of vulnerable people in Scotland. The closing date for applications is 12 noon on the 15th February 2024. [Learn More](#)

Jobs

ADS Housing Support Service Support Worker: Recruitment Information

Alcohol and Drugs Support South West Scotland Housing Support Service helps homeless people to become householders or tenants, and/or to maintain and continue living in their tenancies. Support staff help promote housing and independent life skills for individuals on an outreach basis. **Job Summary** Alcohol and Drugs Support South West Scotland is looking for dedicated and conscientious support workers to join our friendly and supportive Housing Support Team, on a part-time or full-time basis. They are seeking caring and compassionate individuals, with previous experience in a support environment. Candidates must be warm and friendly, with a strong work ethic, a positive attitude and a genuine passion for providing our service users with high quality support. The successful candidate will be self-motivated, well organised and able to work both independently and as part of a team. Proven experience in working in support work, in either a paid or a voluntary capacity, is essential for this role. Hours: 21-35 hrs per week, Location: Covering Nithsdale & Annandale & Eskdale and based in part from home [Hybrid Model], Salary: £25,680 p.a. (35hrs per week), Working from Home allowance, Holidays: 36 Days per year pro rata Company Pension. Read more about working at ADS, a Living Wage Employer, at <http://www.adssws.co.uk/working-for-ads/> **Closing Date Friday 9th February 2023 Interview Date: Tuesday 13th February, Dumfries**

Care and Repair Vacancy Care and Repair have a vacancy through the Placement Plus Scheme - please click on the link for more information.

<https://www.dgemployability.co.uk/.../dumfries-galloway...>

Job Title: Care & Repair Assistant Job ID: KR1, Contract Type: 6-month Fixed term Location: Dumfries, Salary Range: £10.90 per hour Hours per week: 21-28 **Closing date: 11/02/2024.** Please note this post has restrictions – applicants must be the parent/guardian of a dependent child (under 16 years of age), unemployed and live in the Dumfries and Galloway area to accept a placement. Are you currently unemployed and want an opportunity to build skills and confidence in the workplace? ... Then a paid work placement may be the right choice for you. Care & Repair (Dumfries & Galloway) are offering a paid work experience placement where an individual will get the opportunity to build workplace skills and gain experience. For more information contact Jane Glanville, Care and Repair Team Manager, Office - 01387 217744 E-mail - janeg@careandrepair-dg.co.uk

Want to put an item in our e-bulletin?

If you have items you would like included in our e-bulletin please email these to info@thehubdg.org.uk.

PRIVACY NOTICE

You can view our Privacy Notice at www.thehubdg.org.uk

The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (t/a the hub – your community action centre) is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You can ask us to

remove and delete your data from our records at any time by contacting us at info@thehubdg.org.uk

the hub - your community action centre
24-26 Friars Vennel, Dumfries DG1 2RL
Tel: 01387 269161
Email: info@thehubdg.org.uk
www.thehubdg.org.uk

the hub – your community action centre provides affordable, accessible co-working space and development support for non-profit organisations. Meeting/training rooms and hot desking facilities are also available. We develop and deliver a range of projects and services that assist people and local communities. *Working together - making a difference!*

The contents of this e-bulletin any attachment may contain personal views which are not the views of The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (t/a the hub-your community action centre) unless specifically stated. The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (t/a thehub- your community action centre) does not guarantee the accuracy of information contained in this e-bulletin. The Hub Dumfries and Galloway is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Scottish Charity Number SC043384.

SAVE PAPER - Please do not print unless absolutely necessary

