



CAITHNESS VOLUNTARY GROUP NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2019

Triotaxi service will bring cycling to those less able

Members of Wick Wheelers cycling club have taken possession of a rickshaw-style Triotaxi.

This came about through groups in Wick working together. Befriending Caithness works with elderly, isolated people in the community, visiting them in their houses as well as young people visiting people in local care homes.

Wick Wheelers were approached to see if this was something that they would be interested in getting involved with. They were very enthusiastic and after some consultation with the care homes it became apparent that there would be people who would benefit from the Triotaxi.

Caithness Voluntary Group helped with sourcing the funding. One year later Wick Wheelers have bought the vehicle. This will benefit elderly and less able members of the community, allowing them to enjoy the sensation of cycling, improving their quality of life and fostering relations. There are social benefits as people can reminisce about cycling and places that they may not have seen for a while.

Befriending Caithness and Wick Wheelers are now working with the cycling club in Thurso to purchase a Triotaxi. Befriending Caithness has already had money donated for this through a community funding event in Thurso.

Picture by Robert MacDonald / Northern Studios



Free Child Protection Course

Friday 24th January

Wick 10am -noon

Course will cover

- *What is child abuse and signs and symptoms*
- *Responding to the child*
- *Reporting and recording procedures*
- *Codes of conduct for staff*
- *Why do we need to consider child protection?*

This course is free

To book a place or find out more contact

Yvonne Hendry: 01955 609960, yvonne@cvg.org.uk



Water and Sewerage Charges Exemption Scheme

If you run a charity registered in Scotland or community amateur sports club (CASC) you may be able to get help with the cost of your water and sewerage charges.

The Water and Sewerage Charges Exemption Scheme lets you apply for an exemption every year (from 1st April to 31st March).

Who can apply?

Scottish charities registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator and CASC registered with HM Revenue and Customs are eligible for support if they have an income below £300,000.

Income

Support

Up to and including £200,000	Exempt
£200,000 to £300,000	50% off wholesale charge
£300,000 and over	No support

Exceptions

Charities and CASCs are not eligible for support if:

- the charity holds a permanent alcohol licence to sell alcohol at the premises
- the premises is a charity shop or other premises used for the purposes of retailing new or second-hand merchandise
- the premises operates as a café which is open to the public and operated on a regular basis to generate income. This excludes canteens that have been provided by the charity to support its own volunteers
- the organisation is a local council or an arm's-length external organisation (ALEO) which can be used by councils to deliver services

If you think your organisation qualifies for exemption, contact your licensed provider or retailer and ask them for an application form.

If you don't have a licensed provider yet, Scotland on Tap provides a list of suppliers you can choose to provide your water. To find out more go to <https://www.mygov.scot/water-sewerage-exemption/>

You have to apply for an exemption every year.

Scottish Living wage

REAL LIVING WAGE INCREASES TO £9.30 IN SCOTLAND

The Living Wage Foundation has announced a new real Living Wage of £9.30 per hour, up from £9, an increase of 30p per hour. The rate is independently calculated to reflect the increased cost of living and is £1.09 per hour more than the minimum wage (for over-25s).



Eco-friendly addition to Caithness Rural Transport service

Caithness Rural Transport has a new eco-friendly addition to its fleet which is now up to 10 vehicles offering a transport service in Caithness. The new electric minibus is cleaner and greener. Not only do these vehicles create zero emissions, they are faster and quieter and can create great savings in fuel and maintenance. For more information about rural transport contact coreen@cvg.org.uk

If there is anyone who would be interested in volunteering for a few hours a week please contact Coreen.

Turtleton Charitable Trust

The Turtleton Charitable Trust was established under a Deed of Trust in 2007 with the particular aim of supporting heritage and the arts, principally in Scotland. The trustees also consider a limited number of applications each year in aid of charities supporting the disadvantaged and the advancement of education.

Charitable purposes: The Turtleton Charitable Trust makes grants to charities which work in the following fields:

- The advancement of the arts, culture and heritage – the trustees particularly favour heritage and the visual arts, but other aspects of the arts and culture will be considered. The vast majority of grants are made in this field.
- Support of the disadvantaged and the advancement of education – the trustees consider only a small number of grants in this field in any one year.
- Please note that the trustees are unlikely to entertain applications which fall outside these two main areas.

Geographical spread:

The trustees prefer causes in Scotland.

Size of award made:

The trustees typically make awards of between £5,000 and £25,000 available. Larger grants or multi-year commitments are available only in limited circumstances at the trustees' discretion.

Restrictions:

Please note that the Turtleton Charitable Trust makes grants to charitable bodies only. Applications by individuals will not be considered.

Applications should be made in writing on no more than three sides of A4 via the online application form. If your charity does not have access to email, a hard copy application may be sent to: The Turtleton Charitable Trust, Turcan Connell, Princes Exchange, 1 Earl Grey Street, Edinburgh EH3 9EE. Postal applications should be marked for the attention of Kenneth Pinkerton.

<https://www.turcanconnell.com/turtleton/>

Cyber resilience grants

With the support of the Scottish Government, SCVO is providing a small grants scheme to enable third sector organisations to achieve Cyber Essentials accreditation.

The threat of cyber crime has never been greater – regardless of size of business or amount of personal data you handle, your organisation could become a target for cyber criminals who are looking to make money and cause disruption to you, your staff and your volunteers. Putting resilient measures in place to protect and strengthen your network is vital.

Cyber Essentials is like an MOT test for your car – it confirms that your IT systems have passed a key set of standards. If you can show that your organisation is meeting the security standards in Cyber Essentials, you can be confident that you have some protection against the most common types of cyber attack.

The new round of grant funding provides up to £1000 towards the cost of obtaining Cyber Essentials accreditation. This fund is available to all third sector organisations and is open for new applications from 4th November 2019. Please be aware that **while the fund will be open until 31st March 2020, they will be awarding throughout the open period**, so don't wait too long!

Further details on the Cyber Essentials scheme itself are available on the NCSC website.

<https://scvo.org.uk/digital/evolution/cyber-resilience>

Community Capacity and Resilience Fund open

The SCVO-managed Community Capacity and Resilience Fund (CCRF) is for local community-based organisations with an income of £250,000 or less that are tackling the effects of welfare reform. It gives them the opportunity to access Scottish Government funding to deliver short-term projects that help people mitigate the impact of welfare reform by providing them with the support and skills they need.

Funding of £140,000 is available for round five of the CCRF to support innovative and creative projects that increase the capacity of frontline organisations to mitigate

the impact of welfare reform, promote social inclusion, combat inequality and increase partnership working.

The fund is looking to award grants of between £1,000 and £7,500 to eligible voluntary sector organisations to deliver projects for up to a nine-month period, starting early February 2020. To find out more go to <https://scvo.org.uk/running-your-organisation/funding/community-capacity-resilience-fund>

The closing date for applications is 13th December 2019 at 5pm.

Robertson Trust

Ahead of the launch of their new strategy in 2020, the Robertson Trust has confirmed the closing dates for all of its current open award programmes. Full details can be viewed on the website with the key points being:

Wee Grants for Wee Groups pilot will close for applications at 5pm on Tuesday, 17th December

- Main and Small Awards will close for applications at 5pm on Friday, 28th February 2020
- Applications for Small Awards and Wee Grants for Wee Groups will be assessed on a rolling basis by date received
- Main Award applications received by the closing date will be assessed for submission to the June 2020 Giving Committee

As they anticipate an increase in the number of applications they will receive around these deadlines, they strongly recommend that applicants send their application, together with the supporting documentation described in their guidelines, at the earliest opportunity.

This is really important information for anyone thinking of submitting an application for funding.

- The final deadlines for the Robertson Trust's current open award programmes are now available to view at <https://ctt.ac/q8W5e>
- All potential funding applicants should make sure they are aware of the final closing dates for RobertsonTrust award programmes: <https://ctt.ac/CejtT>

If you have any questions about these deadlines contact a member of the Giving Team by calling 0141 353 7300 or emailing funding@therobertsontrust.org.uk.

The National Lottery's 25th birthday has a one-off fund offering grants up to £1,000, and open to anyone with a great idea to make a difference in their local community.

The application is short and simple, and you can apply even if you are unconstituted, or have another grant from us.

#CelebrateNationalLottery25 has opened at 10am on Saturday 23 November, and the deadline for applications is Friday 6 December at 2pm.

Everyone who submits an eligible application will be entered into a 'lottery draw', which will take place after the deadline closes. They will fund over 2000 projects across the UK.

The fund is very broad. They can pay for any event, activity or item, costing between £100 and £1,000 that will bring people together between **1 February and 18 November 2020**. This could include all sorts of things, like a community party or gala day, a lunch club, or equipment for litter pick up.

How do you apply?

An online application form will be available from Saturday at:

<https://www.celebratenationallottery25.com/>

Pulteneytown People's Project Christmas Fayre Saturday 7th December, 10.30am-3pm at the Pulteney Centre, Wick. There will be a Santa's grotto, £4 per child to book a space. To avoid disappointment contact events@pppwick or call 01955 608530.

Come along to the Christmas Market where there will be stalls selling lots of Christmas gifts. There will be CoCo chocolatiers, Honeyberry books, Little Indie's house, Aye Tea, Sweet Temptations and many more.

Santa will be visiting Dunnet Forestry Trust on Saturday 14th December from 9.30am to 2.30pm and Sunday 15th December from 10am-2pm. Come along and see him at the log cabin where there will be lots of Christmas treats.





'Build A Snowman'

Sunday 15th December

Meet at Newtonhill Woodland Car Park at 3pm

Take a wander around Newtonhill woodland collecting materials to make your own wooden snowman. Enjoy the log fire in the cosy cottage during this festive event.



Stout footwear and outdoor clothing required.
All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Please book places (both adults & children) in advance for this event by visiting <https://booking.highlifehighland.com/> quoting booking reference number 002558WICK.

For further information please contact marina.swanson@highlifehighland.com

There is a suggested donation of £2.50 per snowman for this event to cover cost of materials

High Life Highland is a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland No. SC617511 and is a registered Scottish charity No. SC642053.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM CVG

CAITHNESS VOLUNTARY GROUP OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER REOPENING ON MONDAY 6TH JANUARY.

*Anyone who would like to contribute information about their community group or events planned, or would like to find out more about anything in this newsletter, can contact CVG on **01955 609960**, email Yvonne@cvg.org.uk or pop in to the Caithness Voluntary Group office at Telford House, Williamson Street, Wick.*

Caithness Voluntary Group is a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland no SC150015, recognised as a charity in Scotland no SC002484, registered office Telford House, Williamson Street, Wick, Caithness KW1 5ES.