



# AGC Newsletter

## October 2014

**For Charities ♦ About Charities  
in the Bailiwick of Guernsey  
Celebrating 30 years - 1984 to 2014**

### Welcome

Welcome to the October Newsletter! In this edition we will share with you:

- The new Social Compact with the States of Guernsey
- Redevelopment of the AGC website
- An update on other matters
- New AGC Members
- Members' News
- Sector Events
- Christmas Lottery 2014
- Meet your Council
- Forthcoming Events for your diary
- Some reminders for all charities
- Contact details for AGC Council members

## Social Compact with the States of Guernsey

We are pleased to announce that the AGC and The States of Guernsey have concluded a “Social Compact” which sets out the principles of the way that the States of Guernsey will work with the voluntary and charitable sector (“the Third Sector”).

A draft of this document was circulated for comment with the July newsletter to all AGC members, and by post to 156 registered charities that are not AGC members. On the States side it was sent to all departments.

This is an important document since it will assist the Bailiwick generally in providing a social environment where there is active and engaged citizenship.

More specifically, the States is committing to:

- foster development of the Third Sector,
- work constructively with the Third Sector,
- provide clear, concise and up-to-date information on its services
- involve the Third Sector in reviewing existing services and the development of new services
- use commissioning and procurement processes that are proportionate to the size and capability of respondent Third Sector organizations
- use simple and clear agreements to establish working arrangements
- respect the Third Sector’s right to express opinions
- provide the Third Sector with a single point of contact to resolve any difficulties

On the part of the Third Sector, we have undertaken that members of the Third Sector who wish to engage with the States will:

- provide information that is clear, concise and easy to find
- work co-operatively with the States
- demonstrate proper governance and risk management
- acknowledge the role and support of the States
- recognise accountability to the taxpayer
- work with other voluntary and charitable sector organizations

Whilst we hope that, over time, this will foster greater outsourcing of services by the States it does impose some fairly clear, and wholly acceptable obligations on relevant Third Sector members to behave in a professional manner. The fact that each department has seen and approved the Social Compact means that there should be greater consistency when engaging with States Departments.

The most immediate effect will be for charities that are already in receipt of grants (discretionary or otherwise) from the States for providing services, and in particular the Compact will lead to both sides entering into a formal agreement to safeguard both the charity and the relevant States department. This agreement, known as a Service Level Agreement (SLA) ensures that each party knows what is expected of each other, and will place obligations on these charities. These obligations will not be unreasonable, and will give these charities long-term security over their revenue from the States. We are already in discussion with the States to try to agree a specimen SLA that is even-handed and will publish this draft in due course.

To measure progress with this important initiative it would be helpful if you could let us know whenever you agree an SLA with a States Department, to [chairman@charity.org.gg](mailto:chairman@charity.org.gg).

## Redevelopment of the AGC Website

We reported in the last Newsletter that we were working on redeveloping the website, and I am pleased to report that we hope to launch this very shortly.

The existing website has worked well for many years, and is a central source of reference to many agencies, and users. But its upkeep requires a substantial amount of time, which could be spent more valuably. In particular updating members’ details is laborious, so that it is often well out of date. Also, many of you have asked that it carries your events, news and volunteer vacancies.

The new website has been designed to address these concerns, and it has been built by a very talented and enthusiastic web professional, Andrew Goss, in his spare time, on a voluntary basis, with the emphasis on being up-to-date, clear and concise, easy to use, and low maintenance. Our grateful thanks to Andy!

To give you a flavour:

- **each charity will have its own webpage** as before, but you will be responsible for **updating 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.

We are also taking the opportunity to rebrand the AGC logo.

The MOST important thing for this redevelopment 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.**

To help you, we plan to organise informal training sessions where we will show you how easy it is to use. The rest is up to you!

## Update on other matters

This has been a very busy three months.

The **September Billet** contained three measures of interest to charities:

- the Culture & Leisure proposals for the Lottery programme will lead to greater security that the Christmas Lottery profits will be distributed to local charities, and we will be able to add a further £97,000 to the Lottery distributions next April from the release of the Forfeited Prize Fund
- the Bank Deposit Compensation Scheme is to be extended to Charity accounts
- there were proposals on which we gave feedback in May, to move the Register of Non-Profit Organisations to the Guernsey Registry, and related minor changes to the law in this area.

We had over 100 members to our **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations**, and **Forum on Fundraising** on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Many of you said how much you enjoyed this, particularly the ideas for raising funds.

One **fundraising** idea that we were asked to share with those members who were unable to attend was "**Easyfundraising**", where charities can register and receive donations from most major online retailers when their supporters shop with them. With the amount of internet shopping that takes place in Guernsey, this seems to be particular suitable to Guernsey Charities and over 30 are already registered with Easyfundraising. There are no fees to pay so it seems to be win-win. You can find more details at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk).

We also held a **Speed-Networking** event for the Disability Sector on 16<sup>th</sup> September (see Sector Events below)

## New members of the AGC

A warm welcome to the following new AGC members:

No 398 Guernsey Cancer Support

No 399 LIBERATE

No 400 Jake's Heartfelt Funds

We have also written recently to 156 Registered Charities who are not AGC members, to invite them to join us. If you are in contact with any of these then do please do your best to convince them of the benefits of membership.

## Members' news

### *Round Table Christmas Fayre*

Guernsey Round Table is once again organising their annual Christmas Fayre at Beau Sejour on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in the Dave Ferguson Hall. Charities may set up stalls at this event simply by applying to the Round Table using the appropriate form, which is attached to this newsletter or can be obtained from Roy Bisson (07781 100296 or [roy@bisson.com](mailto:roy@bisson.com)).

## Sector Events

You have all received an e-mail from your Sector Representative and many of you have already made contact. If you would prefer to be in a different sector to the one to which you have been allocated, please let your Sector Representative know. We have moved one or two of you into a different sector as a result of discussing your mission with you.

Our first sector event, Speed-Networking, was held within the Disability Sector and it was a great success so we hope to repeat this sectors where sectors wish to participate. This initiative came out of the survey where you told us that you wanted to find out more about your fellow charities so that you could work together better, share resources, and achieve more successful outcomes.

The event was held at Les Cotils on 16<sup>th</sup> September and 15 charities attended. Each has 10 minutes one-on-one with the other charities present, 5 minutes to explain what they did and the issues they faced, and 5 minutes to listen to the other charity. All attendees agreed it was extremely useful, and exchanged contact details, and many found areas where they could learn from each other, and work together, for joint projects and events, and to think of joint funding opportunities.

The success of an event like this is down entirely to those attending, and their willingness to open communication with other charities. We try to create an environment where this is easy, and efficient, which Speed Networking seems to do. We know that some of you are not certain of the benefits of this, but we hope

that each of you will give it a go – it takes only 2 hours of your time.

We are also thinking of using this format between Charities and Business to improve contacts between the two. As you know, most businesses have Corporate Social Responsibility programmes which many of you can benefit from. All you need to do is find a business willing to help you! More on this next year.

Your Sector Representatives will make contact shortly to ask if you are interested in participating Sector Events. We have already been asked to host a discussion group for the Overseas Aid sector, more on this shortly.

## Christmas Lottery 2014

The 2014 Christmas Lottery tickets are now on sale around the island and the AGC is, again, very heavily involved with helping to promote it. Last year over £200,000 was raised in Guernsey, which helped 33 local organisations fund projects and services around the island for the benefit of the local community.

Most local charities know the huge benefit of the traditional Christmas draw, which is why we ask all of our members to help publicise it. The more tickets sold in Guernsey – the more money we'll be given to distribute next year.

Christmas Lottery tickets cost £2 each, and you get TWO independent numbers on each ticket - so TWO chances to win a prize in the draw. In addition each ticket has a scratchcard, where you could win up to £5,000 instant cash. The first prize is starting at £300,000 and will rise as tickets sell - last year it overtopped £1 million. There's also 2nd prize £50,000, 3rd prize £25,000, and 50 prizes of £500. The draw is on Thursday 18 December.

We'll publish regular updates, including news about the increasing first prize, on our Facebook & Twitter pages so please follow these to hear the latest news (and encourage your friends & colleagues to sign up, as well!).

Details about applying for a grant from this year's Christmas Lottery will be announced in December, with the application pack available for download from our website.

Over the past few years many local charity shops and outlets have sold lottery tickets, to assist the local sales (and also earn some ticket sales commission). If you would like more details, please contact ([mail@charity.org.gg](mailto:mail@charity.org.gg)) us as soon as possible so that we can give you details, or contact Culture and Leisure on telephone 709714. Let us know, so that we can help to promote your outlet!

More information about the Christmas Lottery is on our website: [www.charity.org.gg/lottery](http://www.charity.org.gg/lottery)

## Meet your Council

Following on from the feature on your Chairman and Vice Chairman in the last Newsletter, today we feature your Secretary Maureen (Mo) McLellan and Disability Sector Representative Richard Lowe. Please feel free to stop them when you see them and let them know what you think of the AGC!

Maureen McLellan, Secretary (or Mo as I like to be called!)



I was born and bred in the North of England in a little village on the edge of Pennines called Milnrow. Guernsey had always been a second home to our family with every extended summer holiday spent here from a very young age. Eventually in 1985, I moved here with my parents.

Married to Angus we have three children; the eldest has just gone to University and the younger two are aged 15 and 13 respectively.

I work for Rothschild Group in Guernsey as their HR Officer.

Over the years I have been involved with charity work, I am currently on the Rothschild Charities Committee and before the children came along I was on the organising committee of the Inter-firm Games back in 1988 and then was a co-organiser of the St Clement's Day Ball. More recently and with family commitments, my involvement has been low key usually providing ad-hoc support as when required with the children's clubs and activities.

I was voted onto the AGC Council at the AGM in April.

Richard Lowe, Sector Representative



I was born and grew up in Guernsey and am married to Kate with one teenage son. I have worked for large and small organisations and was the co-owner of a Cloud Computing business which we sold in 2013. At that point I had some time to consider how I might give something back having never been involved with a Charity before and was pleased to be asked to join the AGC Council in April this year. I am delighted to have been appointed the sector representative for the Animal Welfare, Arts, Conservation, Overseas Aid and Sports Sections. The contact details for each of these sectors are below.

## Forthcoming events for your Diary

The next item for your diary will be the release in **December 2014** of the Lottery Grant application forms for the **Christmas 2014 Lottery**, which should include the one-off £97,000 from the Forfeited Prize Fund. As part of the Application Pack we will share with you the Guidelines that Council uses to decide between applications for Lottery Grants.

Our next **Forum** is to be on the subject of the second most requested topic in our Survey – **Governance for Charities**. This is likely to be on **10<sup>th</sup> February 2015**.

## 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 the Charity Register, on the Guernsey Registry website: [www.guernseyregistry.com/charities](http://www.guernseyregistry.com/charities))

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

### 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](http://www.volunteer.gg)) and post your vacancy online, or alternatively, you can call Sarah Duguid at the Guernsey Community Foundation on 01481 748056 or e-mail her at [Sarah@foundation.gg](mailto:Sarah@foundation.gg)

### 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 annually with the Registrar of Non-Profit Organisations. From 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014 this will be the Guernsey Registry NOT the Income Tax office, and the new Registrar of NPOs is Alan Bougourd who can be reached at 01481 743800 or by e-mail at

enquiries@guernseyregistry.com. The relevant new web address is [www.guernseyregistry.com/charities](http://www.guernseyregistry.com/charities).

## The benefits of AGC Membership

Just to recap what to expect from your AGC membership:

- 1 One General Meeting and two Forums each year
- 2 An up-to-date website (although this will only be achieved when the new website is launched)
- 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	Mike Brown	mail@charity.org.gg	
Membership Secretary	Paula Robinson	membership@charity.org.gg	

*Sector Representatives:*

SECTOR	REP	EMAIL
Animal Welfare	Richard Lowe	<a href="mailto:animal.sector@outlook.com">animal.sector@outlook.com</a>
Arts	Richard Lowe	<a href="mailto:arts.sector@outlook.com">arts.sector@outlook.com</a>
Children & Youth	Karen Jagger	<a href="mailto:young.sector@outlook.com">young.sector@outlook.com</a>
Community Support Services	Kate Raleigh	<a href="mailto:community.sector@outlook.com">community.sector@outlook.com</a>
Conservation	Richard Lowe	<a href="mailto:conservation.sector@outlook.com">conservation.sector@outlook.com</a>
Disability	Mike Brown	<a href="mailto:disability.sector@outlook.com">disability.sector@outlook.com</a>
Elderly	Kate Raleigh	<a href="mailto:community.sector@outlook.com">community.sector@outlook.com</a>
General Charitable Organisations, Trusts and Foundations	Kate Raleigh	<a href="mailto:community.sector@outlook.com">community.sector@outlook.com</a>
Health	Wendy Beaven	<a href="mailto:health.sector@outlook.com">health.sector@outlook.com</a>
Overseas Aid	Richard Lowe	<a href="mailto:overseas.sector@outlook.com">overseas.sector@outlook.com</a>
Sport	Richard Lowe	<a href="mailto:sport.sector@outlook.com">sport.sector@outlook.com</a>