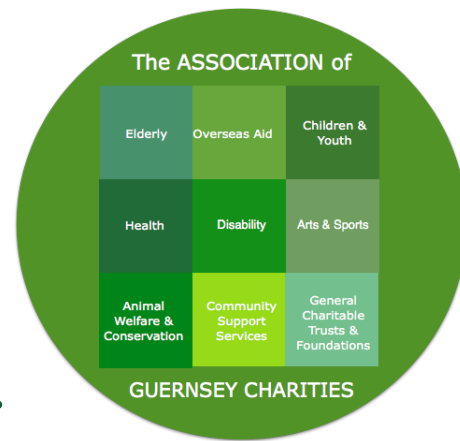


AGC Newsletter

September 2015



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

Welcome to the September 2015 Newsletter

In this edition we will share with you:

- a tribute to HE Air Marshal Peter Walker CB, CBE
- Members' News
- Lottery and Lottery Grants
- Update on the Social Compact
- Details of HM Procurer's Pro Bono Legal Award
- Update on Regulation and Risk
- Meet your Council
- Volunteering developments
- The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service
- Forthcoming Events for your diary
- AGC Website update
- General Reminders for Charities
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HE Air Marshal Peter Walker CB, CBE

Most of you will have seen the very sad news of the death of Air Marshal Peter Walker CB, CBE, the Bailiwick's Lieutenant Governor.

Peter was a great supporter and motivator of charities and volunteers, and quick to give recognition for the efforts of those who gave their time to good causes.

As well as being the Patron of a number of important local charities, he gave a huge amount of his time to many other charities and voluntary organisations, opening events, presenting prizes and making speeches. He was a genuinely funny, enthusiastic and engaging man, who was particularly good at motivating support for local good causes.

He will be sadly missed, and we send our sincere condolences to Mrs. Walker and their children.

Members' News

A warm welcome to the following new AGC members:

No 413 Guernsey Swimming Club LBG

No 414 Guernsey Employment Trust

No 415 Small Animal & Rodent Rescue (Guernsey)

No 416 Guernsey (ATC) Air Cadets

No 417 Help a Guernsey Child

No 418 The Victor Hugo Guernsey Society

No 419 Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance (Eldad Church)

No 420 Les Beaucamps School PTA

No 421 Offenders Deposit Assistance Scheme

No 422 Guernsey Caring for Ex-Offenders

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

Lottery and Lottery Grants

As many of you know, we had a windfall from the Christmas Lottery earlier this year when the Forfeited Prize Fund was given to us to allocate among the membership. We retained this £97,000 for distribution in October, and we have received 27 applications with requests totaling £293,000. AGC Council hopes to decide on the allocation by the end of September with a

view to announcing the successful applicants by mid-October

Social Compact

At our request of the AGC, and to assist with operation and extension of the Social Compact, the AGC and the States of Guernsey are jointly examining existing arrangements where Government pays grants to members of the Third Sector. The Guernsey Community Foundation has funded this initiative.

We are interested in establishing how the current arrangements work, and where there is a formal contract, for views on how effective it is, and also how onerous. The aim is to establish best practice for future agreements under the Social Compact, and to encourage more charities to participate in outsourcing of services from government.

Pro Bono Legal Award

HM Procurer is inviting nominations for an award to local legal practitioners to recognise, and give credit to, those giving pro-bono services in Guernsey. If you have received pro-bono legal services within the last year and wish to nominate the practitioner for the award please write to HM Procurer, St. James' Chambers, St. James' Street, St. Peter Port or e-mail Kerry Renouf (kerry.renouf@gov.gg). The deadline for nominations is soon – 25th September 2015

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.

Gambling Legislation – Charitable Gambling

The July Billet approved the elimination of the requirement for charities to obtain a licence for fundraising lotteries where the ticket price does not exceed £10, and no prize exceeds £10,000. The changes also enable charities to sell tickets online, but only to Bailiwick residents.

Consultation on Ombudsman scheme

We have made submissions on behalf of the Charity Sector for the proposed Ombudsman rules, which might unfairly penalise larger charities. We will report, in due course, the extent to which these have been taken up in the final legislation.

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.

Meet your Council

In this Newsletter we feature our new Treasurer and Disability Sector representative, Mark O'Connor, and our Membership Secretary Paula Robinson.

Treasurer – Mark O'Connor



I was born in Dublin, Ireland and came to Guernsey in 2000, where shortly afterwards I started to work in the finance sector where I still work as a senior investment manager at Brooks Macdonald. I worked with Peter Rose (Chairman AGC) for a number of years when we both worked at Rothschild. It was there that Peter gave me my first opportunity to get involved with charitable work when he asked me to join the Rothschild Charitable committee, which involved meeting quarterly to review applications and make contributions where appropriate based on the rules and criteria of the committee.

Peter approached me earlier this year to ask would I would be interested in getting involved with the AGC, an opportunity that I jumped at. My role at AGC is two-fold, firstly I am the Treasurer and therefore responsible for the account keeping which includes the Christmas Lottery funding, and in turn I am part of the committee when discussing charitable applications for lottery monies. My second main role is to act as a representative to local charities that act for the disability sector. Having only started this role a few months ago, I am still learning and feeling my way,

however I believe ideally I would like to be seen as a conduit for charities in my sector to use us as a voice to support them with the States of Guernsey through the social compact. I look forward to meeting more of our members as time goes on and I would like to extend the invite to members to contact me.

Membership Secretary Paula Robinson



I was born in Guernsey and have lived in Guernsey all my life, married to a Guernseyman. I have worked in finance since leaving school and currently work at Investec Bank, managing the Operations Team, and chair of the Investec Community Donations committee. The company is in partnership with Amherst School as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility and I regularly go to the school to help with breakfast club and reading, plus ad-hoc events like the year 6 leaving bbq.

I have been on the council for the AGC for 3 years and currently fulfill the role of Membership Secretary, which entails collating the applications for new members and circulating to the other members of the council for approval. Once approved, I set the charity up on the website and issue logon and password details to the charity.

As well as being on the council for the AGC, I am a serving member of the Vale Parish Douzaine and am currently midway through my second 4-year term of office. I enjoy working with the people of Guernsey and hope that the little I do helps the people I come in contact with. I am also a relief trolley dolly for the PEH hospital shop trolley and help cover holidays and sickness of the regular volunteers.

Volunteering developments



In conjunction with the Volunteering Steering Group we are looking at merging the AGC website (www.charity.org.gg) and the Volunteering website (www.volunteer.gg) so that charities have a single place to go to update their news, events and volunteer vacancies. This makes it simpler for both charities and volunteers. Watch out for more details later in the year, but in the mean time please keep updating the AGC website with as much information as you can to keep the public and the media informed about what you are doing.

When this redevelopment is launched we hope that the Volunteer experience will be much better so that more people are encouraged to volunteer, and you can get enthusiastic support for your missions, committees and events whenever you need them

In the meantime, 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 Queens' Award for Voluntary Service

Those who came to the Forum on Volunteering in July will recall the Major Marco Ciotto of Government House spoke about this prestigious award, which is given annually and is the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK to recognise outstanding work done in their own communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the anniversary of the Queen's coronation. It is the MBE for volunteer groups.

Any group doing volunteer work that provides a social, economic or environmental service to the local community can be nominated for the award. Each group is assessed on the benefit it brings to the local community and its standing within that community.

Many Guernsey charities have been nominated for, and received this prestigious award. Voluntary organisations can be nominated on line at gavs.direct.gov.uk and nominations for the 2016 awards must be received by the end of September

Forthcoming events for your Diary

There are no general events for members currently planned, but the next one is likely to be on the subject of Encouraging Co-Operation between member Charities. This topic was requested by several members in the survey we sent round last year, and we are likely to hold this event in February 2016.

If you are interested in learning of events being held by member charities, please look at the Events page on the AGC website (www.charity.org.gg) for an up-to-date list.

No sector events are currently planned, but please contact your representative if you think there are areas where we can help by organising an event to promote better communication between charities, particularly those with mission overlap.

Please also let your sector representative know of any events you are holding. The better we know you, the more likely we are to be able to help.

The AGC Website

As most of you will know, the new AGC 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.

- **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

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, which is:

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.

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