

# Scottish Social Networks Newsletter

April 10

Because we all need friends and family.

**social networks:** prevent homelessness  
promote mental health and well-being  
create inclusive communities - and make us feel good about ourselves

Welcome to the Spring edition of the SSN Newsletter. Included in this issue is:

- **Resilience Through Life Seminar Report**
- **New SN Training dates announced**
- **BIG Lottery Research Project – Update**
- **Service User Consultation**
- **Glasgow Homelessness Network appointment**
- **GMN / SMN Spring Networking Event**

We hope you enjoy the newsletter. If you'd like to contribute to the next issue please email [info@scottishsocialnetworks.org](mailto:info@scottishsocialnetworks.org)

Best wishes,

**Natalie**

Natalie Barrett, Scottish Social Networks Administrator



## Resilience Through Life Seminar

The event, held at the Albert Halls, Stirling, on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, was a great success and we were thrilled with the enthusiastic feedback from the 130 delegates who attended. High demand for spaces meant that we were left with a long waiting list, but we are pleased to announce that Ruth Campbell's seminar report is now

available to download at [www.scottishsocialnetworks.org/review](http://www.scottishsocialnetworks.org/review) - so those who were not lucky enough to attend can have the benefit of a detailed report, describing the presentations from our esteemed speakers – Professor Brigid Daniel, Ruth Campbell, Susan Gilchrist and Allison Calder. The report is, however, much more than a record of the speakers, it also includes delegates' views, case studies and practice ideas. We would also encourage you to log onto the website's discussion forum to participate in the debate and discussion following questions and answers raised at the seminar. Once again, SSN would like to thank those who attended, all our speakers and our partners in the event – The Rock Trust, Scottish Mentoring Network and Befriending Network Scotland.

## New Social Networks Training Day – Spaces Available

In partnership with Scottish Churches Housing Action we will be delivering Trainers' Training in Edinburgh on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May. This training day is aimed at trainers, managers and team leaders who plan to deliver the social networks training, whether cascading the training to their colleagues and volunteers and or delivering the training externally.

Scottish Churches  
Housing Action



no room for homelessness!

The training has been developed by specialists in the social care field and will equip staff with analytical skills and practical methods to help clients:

- Analyse their individual social networks
- Strengthen and extend their informal social networks
- Access further support if needed

Go to [www.scottishsocialnetworks.org/events](http://www.scottishsocialnetworks.org/events) to book a place, call **0131 524 9874** or email [info@scottishsocialnetworks.org](mailto:info@scottishsocialnetworks.org).



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## BIG Lottery Research Update

The Rock Trust is very pleased to welcome Research Fellow Katey Staton to the team. Katey will be heading their research project, working alongside the Scottish Social Networks team with academic support from Glasgow School of Social Work. The research will provide robust evidence to inform local and national policy, along with providing staff best practice guidance and skills to develop service delivery, ultimately bringing direct benefits to service users.



**LOTTERY FUNDED**

A three phase approach will be taken for the research:

- 1) A detailed survey of Scottish local authorities and housing support services.
- 2) An in-depth investigation of 4 pilot areas, tracking a sample of service users and using service user researchers to assist with interviewing other service users.
- 3) Development of models of support, best practice guidelines, useful resources and a final national conference to disseminate results across Scotland.

So, clearly, Katey will be kept very busy! Initially, she will be looking at current research and information relating to housing support and homelessness. If you have any useful information – perhaps an internal report you have commissioned or completed – or if you would like to help with the research, please contact her on: [katey.staton@rocktrust.org](mailto:katey.staton@rocktrust.org). All information provided will be treated with confidentiality and respect to all content.

## Service User Consultation



The University of York, in partnership with Crisis, is undertaking a 10 year review of single homelessness in the UK covering 2000-2010. The aim of the research is to conduct a comprehensive review of single homelessness in order to measure progress in alleviating single homelessness across the UK.

**THE UNIVERSITY of York** | A **Service User Consultation** is being held in Edinburgh on 20th April. If this is of interest to people using your services, please contact Anwen Jones on 01904321480 [naj3@york.ac.uk](mailto:naj3@york.ac.uk).

## Glasgow Homelessness Network Appointment

We would like to congratulate Margaret-Ann Brünjes on her appointment as GHN Director. Margaret-Ann has been with GHN for nearly 10 years, as a member of the senior management team and most recently as acting Chief Officer.

Margaret-Ann can be contacted on 0141 276 4825, or email [mann@ghn.org.uk](mailto:mann@ghn.org.uk).

## Glasgow Mentoring Network and Scottish Mentoring Network Spring Networking Event



Invitation is now open to all members, supporters and colleagues of both Scottish and Glasgow Mentoring Networks for the Spring Networking Event in Glasgow on 12<sup>th</sup> May.



Go to [www.scottishmentoringnetwork.co.uk](http://www.scottishmentoringnetwork.co.uk) to book a place or contact Kerry Stewart on [kerry@scottishmentoringnetwork.co.uk](mailto:kerry@scottishmentoringnetwork.co.uk) for more information.



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