

The LDVG Newsletter



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Supporting our community since 1994



WINNER, WINNER

We would like to begin our latest newsletter by saying a huge Congratulations to one of our volunteers, James McAllister, for receiving Vaslan's Long Serving Volunteer Award. James has been volunteering here at Larkhall & District Volunteer Group for over 22 years. You know its a passion when you dedicate over two decades to helping the local community.



Another congratulations goes to our very own, trustee and volunteer, Anne Alston on receiving an award for being highly commended as a finalist for Age Scotland's Volunteer of the Year award. Well done Anne! You give so much of yourself to this organisation and it definitely doesn't go unnoticed, even Age Scotland can see that!

APPLEBANK FUND RACING

The Applebank Inn held a charity race night in November and we were lucky to be announced as their chosen cause. The night consisted of multiple races where everyone could bet on the winning horse. There was also a very successful raffle full of brilliant prizes.

The night was a huge success, raising £1095 for LDVG.

Thank you so much to the Applebank Inn and all its staff for this amazing opportunity.



FESTIVE FUNDRAISING FRENZY

On the 5th of November, we celebrated our first Christmas fundraising event post lockdown and it was a sparkling success. It was great to finally have a festive buzz around the centre.

We had an array of activities on offer at this event. As always, there was never a quiet moment at our tombola stall. We were overwhelmed by the amount of donations we received for both our tombola and our Christmas hamper, so much so that we were able to make numerous hampers as prizes rather than the one. Thank you to all volunteers, members, trustees, staff and the community for all your donations to these activities.

Once again, our gardening group spent weeks finding the perfect planters for our Christmas sale. They also spent twice as long preparing these for you all to buy.

So much effort was put in by all of our garden group members and a special thank you goes to them for all their hard work prior and during the event.

Our craft ladies were also hard at work preparing some crafty items for you all to buy. From bauble wreaths to hanging ornaments. Our craft group's talents are endless.

We also had a few fundraising items such as "second hand book sale" and "jingle smells" where you had to guess the secret scent which got everyone involved.

The day only got better with tea, coffee and plenty of home baking for everyone attending. There was a great selection of sponges, traybakes, scones and pancakes on offer. Thank you to all our extremely talented volunteer bakers.

Overall we raised over £1100 for LDVG and we thank every single one of you who helped us reach this goal. We cant stress how much this means to us and it was lovely to see everyone come together and make the most of the event.



HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE



Thanks to the Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund at VASLan our Transport department were able to run monthly social shopping trips for older people to some of the larger shopping and gardening centres in the local area such as McKinnon Mills, Clydeside Garden Centres, East Kilbride Olympia etc. This is funded for 28 shopping trips over a two year period, allowing us to run an extra trip in the summer and the winter. Not only does it open up shopping options for our elderly community, it also increases their social contact with people in their communities.

One of these shopping trips allowed our gardening and craft groups to attend Country Baskets in Glasgow where they got an array of items to help with our Winter Plant Sale.

These trips are distributed amongst our activities/services to allow all of our members a chance to attend at least one of these trips.



SANTA HAS ARRIVED

We were delighted to be part of the Larkhall Christmas Market once again thanks to our Garden and Craft Group volunteers. As always, they had prepared amazing Christmas plants in a range of themed pots and planters, beautiful craft accessories such as crocheted hats and doggy draught excluders and also some lovely bird feeders/houses.



Our very own Admin Assistant Ruth was in full festive mode, decorating the stall and even joining us as Mrs Clause, providing lots of festive cheer!

A great day was had by all and thank you to everyone who came to talk to us and support us! We can't thank you enough.

Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS WITH SKY



With December now upon us, we had arranged Christmas lunches for our Lunch Clubs. However, we were suddenly overwhelmed by the team over at Sky Cares who reached out to us and provided us with the funding to cover the cost of these for our members.

These meals were provided by Mr T and his team at Heart of Africa. All their hard work meant that all our lunch club members got to enjoy a three course Christmas inspired meal. A great time was had by all. There was a lot of singing and laughter. We also had some free raffles at each lunch and every member was given a ticket for the chance to win a prize. Congratulations to all the winners of the week!

Sky also provided the funding to cover the cost of the Christmas meals at our external lunch clubs in Strutherhill, Hareleeshill and Ashgill, the same week.

sky cares

Not only did Sky cover the cost of these events, they also invited those who don't attend one of our lunch clubs over to their headquarters in Uddingston to enjoy a three course meal, provided by the team at Sky! A lovely gesture that really went a long way. Our members had a fantastic time and couldn't praise the team at Sky Cares enough for their warm welcome and expert hospitality throughout the day.



HIGHER HIRES

Our bus and room hires have been really popular recently but we would like to remind you that these services are available.

Our buses can be hired by charities and community groups, with the option of a driver.

Our fleet includes:

- 3 x 17 seater buses
- 1 x 10 seater electric bus

For more information please call us on 01698 888 893 or email transport@ldvg.org.uk



LDVG
ROOM HIRE AVAILABLE

Rooms can be hired in the morning, afternoon & evening

Wi-Fi throughout

Discounts for Community Groups

1x large hall
2x medium meeting rooms
1x small meeting room
fully equipped kitchen

new interactive communications system perfect for meetings and provides wireless connection for presentations

contact us on 01698 888 893 or email finance@ldvg.org.uk for more information

'TIS THE SEASON TO GET MARRIED

We would like to take the time to congratulate one of our volunteers on their marriage. Andy has volunteered here at Larkhall & District Volunteer Group for almost 6 years now helping with both driving and our handyman service.



Winter can already feel like such a magical time but adding a wedding to the mix definitely makes it all that more special.

Andy, it looks as though you and your wife had the most beautiful day and we really do wish you all the love and luck in your future together.

Three cheers to the newly wedded Mr & Mrs McArthur!

Congratulations to you both.

SCHEDULE FOR 2023



LARKHALL
+DISTRICT
VOLUNTEER
GROUP

ACTIVITY TIMETABLE 2023

Day	Activity	Time	Description	Price
Monday	Genealogy Group	1.30pm—3.30pm	Trace your family tree and learn about your ancestors with the help of our volunteers and Ancestry: Library Edition software	£3
	IT Group	1.00pm—2.00pm	Say goodbye to your technological fears and join us in some one to one tutoring on all electronic devices. Laptops are provided.	£0
Tuesday	Walking Group	10.00am	Explore a variety of great walks with our friendly group of walking enthusiasts	£3
Wednesday	Gardening Group	11.00am—1.00pm	Have fun exercising your green thumb in our little garden and take part in seasonal planting	£3
Thursday	Craft Group	10.00am—12.00pm	Take part in creating wonderful and interesting things with our talented, friendly bunch of crafters	£3
	Armed Services Community Group	2.00pm—4.00pm	A group for Veterans, run by Veterans. A casual get together with like minded individuals. Chat, share stories and interests.	£3
	Thursday Night Social Group	6.00pm—8.00pm	A newly revamped group that brings the community together through socialising, games, activities and outings.	£3
Friday	Exercise Group	9.30am—10.30am	A fun class of light exercise, dancing and relaxation.	£3
		11.00am—12.00pm		

FREQUENTLY REPORTED SCAMS IN SCOTLAND 2022

Cost of Living Scams



Scam emails, texts and calls related to cost of living support payments or bill rebates

Delivery Scams



Scam texts and emails purportedly from delivery companies asking you to click a link to rearrange a missed delivery or pay a fee

Online Shopping



Scam websites offering cheap branded products or energy saving products which don't actually exist

Doorstep Scams



Cold callers offering to carry out maintenance/repair work without providing paperwork - work is often done poorly or not at all

Energy Supplier Scams



Scam messages & calls purportedly from energy companies, trying to obtain your account and payment details

WhatsApp Scams



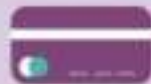
Messages often beginning "Hello Mum/Dad" from someone posing as a family member and asking for an urgent money transfer

Investment Scams



Social media ads or emails offering amazing investment opportunities or quick and easy loans

Bank Scams



Scam calls or texts purportedly from your bank, attempting to obtain your account details or encourage you to transfer money

HMRC Scams



Scam emails, texts and calls offering Government grants or tax refunds or saying your NI number is going to be suspended

Prize Draw Scams



Scam emails or social media adverts which appear to be linked to big brands and offer prizes if you enter your details in a survey

Energy Efficiency

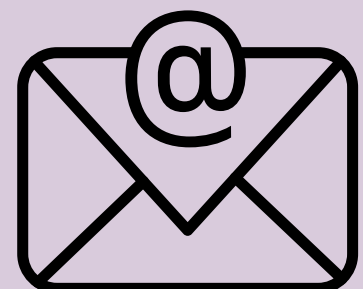
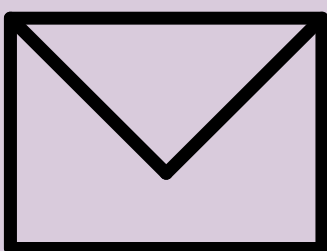


Cold calls giving misleading information about grants/funding for energy efficiency measures such as boilers/insulation

Council Impersonation



Cold callers posing as staff from the local council and trying to gain access to properties or asking for personal/bank details



STAY UP TO DATE WITH LDVG

To stay up to date with everything going on with LDVG and its partners, please consider following us on social media. This is where we post updates and news and it's a great way to stay in touch.

Facebook

facebook.com/LarkhallDistrictVolunteerGroup

Twitter

[@LarkhallVolGrp](https://twitter.com/LarkhallVolGrp)

Instagram

[@LarkhallVolGrp](https://www.instagram.com/LarkhallVolGrp)

You can also find more information about LDVG and what we do at the following:

LDVG Website

www.ldvg.org.uk

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/company/11639116

HOW YOU CAN GIVE TO LDVG

There are lots of ways that you can help LDVG to continue making a big difference in the community! Check our website or scan the QR codes for more details.

You can support us while shopping online using Easy Fundraising, which contributes a donation to LDVG at no additional cost to you! Easy Fundraising is supported by over 3,600 retailers including Amazon, ASOS and eBay.



We have recently set up a Just Giving page which you can use to donate to or fundraise for LDVG, contributing to the continuation of all our services.