

## **Petal A G M**

The Petal AGM will take place at Barrack Street on Thursday 14th July at 2:30pm

### **Foreword from our Chairperson**

It gives me great pleasure to announce the date for the AGM and present the Petal Annual Report for the period, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 and highlight the focus on the enhanced and improved level of support provision for Petal members provided during the last twelve months.

We are committed to providing our services for the community, in the community and have outlined the introduction and success of our outreach development service which has enabled us to improve accessibility and flexibility for our members

Volunteers are an integral part of the organisation and fulfil a wide range of roles. Their on-going commitment and dedication by providing practical and emotional, one to one and peer-group support is essential to the future development of the organisation

We are extremely grateful to all the volunteers and families that carried out all the Fundraising Events on Petal's behalf. These funds provide essential financial support and assistance and helps to ensure our future development and survival

We will continue to work with our stakeholders, volunteers and staff to ensure the future development of the organisation which will allow us to deliver successful outcomes for our members

**Neil Moore**  
Chairperson

## **Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Bill**

### **Call for written evidence by Justice Committee**

The Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee is seeking views on the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Bill.

The Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 16 June 2011 and, subject to agreement by the Parliament, is expected to be treated under an expedited procedure.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/bills/billsInProgress/index.htm>

The timetable for the above Bill has been extended to later in the year (date to be confirmed).

As there is now more time available for the Justice Committee to consider the Bill, the Convener has agreed to extend the call for written evidence to noon on **Friday 26 August 2011**.

The Committee is interested in the views of any organisations, bodies and individuals on the Bill's proposals and their likely impact and about any issues that respondents consider may have been omitted from the Bill.

### **How to submit your evidence**

It would be helpful for your submission to clearly highlight your views on the broad thrust of the policy proposals and to also flag up any particular areas of concern you may have.

Before making a submission, please read the Parliament's *Policy on treatment of written evidence by subject and mandatory committees* which is included below.

Written submissions should normally be limited to around 4 sides of A4 but, if they need to be much longer than this, they should be accompanied by a short summary of the main points. Submissions should be set out in numbered paragraphs. Where the submission refers to existing published material, it is preferable to provide hyperlinks or full citations (rather than extensive extracts).

The Committee welcomes written evidence in English, Gaelic or any other language.

The Committee prefers to receive written submissions electronically (preferably in Microsoft Word format).

These should be sent by e-mail to:

[justice.committee@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:justice.committee@scottish.parliament.uk)

Alternatively you may also make hard copy written submissions to:  
Justice Committee, Room TG.01,  
The Scottish Parliament,  
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

## Fundraising & Donations :

As we state regularly in our Newsletter, it is with our extreme thanks to everyone that continues to raise Funds and make Donations to Petal

Here is an outline of the most recent contributions:

Donation from Hallside Church of £140.00

A recently married member asked for donations to Petal in lieu of Gifts and to date we have received £770.00

North Glasgow College Student Fashion Show raised an amazing £4,145.00

A Donation of Brian Witters in Hong Kong of £83.00

The Sponsored Walk around Strathclyde Park and the Cabaret Evening on 4th June raised £2,697.00 to date

A Lady from Hamilton who makes and sells Hand-Made Cards has donated £555.00 from the proceeds, to date

A Donation from Hamilton Rotary Club of £100.00

To all our Members and Friends of Petal, please accept our very grateful thanks

## Petal Dinner & Dance Saturday 1st October 2011

If you don't have this date in your diary you need to do it now

***There has been a great response for this event again this year, so to confirm your Booking, or further details please just get in touch***

You can use our "Payment Plan" If anyone wants to offset the cost of the Ticket  
This is available to everyone that is attending

## Upcoming Events in 2011

July 14th A Fundraising Night  
by one of our Member Families

30th July  
Family BBQ In Millport  
by one of our Member Families

September 3rd Football Match  
between The Scottish Ladies Football  
Team & Gary's Select at  
Ravenscraig Sports Facility

Amsterdam Marathon  
16th October 2011  
Fin Collins & Murray Webster  
are taking part in this Marathon

*C'mon, they all need your  
Sponsorship*

## Millport Sponsored Cycle Saturday 6th August 2011

We are all looking forward to this year's Cycle and hope for good weather

So, if there is anyone that hasn't told us they want to take part: Contact us ASAP to register and receive Sponsor Forms

The Coach will depart from Petal at 8 Barrack Street at **10am Prompt**

### HOW TO CLEAN THE HOUSE IN 2011

1. Open a new file in your PC.....
2. Name it 'Housework'
3. Send it to the RECYCLE BIN.
4. Empty the RECYCLE BIN.
5. Your PC will ask you, 'Are you sure you want to: delete Housework permanently?'
6. Calmly answer, 'Yes' and press mouse button firmly...
7. Feel better?

***Works for me!***

## The Petal Garden

In our last Newsletter we mentioned that it was getting to the time of year when our Members can make use of the Garden Area at Barrack Street

Unfortunately we have been unable to use the Garden very much during the last couple of weeks because of the noise and dust from the Demolition of what was once a Volvo Garage next door.

However, we are informed that the work will stop very shortly so the Garden will return to being a very safe, secure and relaxing area for the benefit of all our members

Once all this work has stopped we look forward to enthusiastic help and assistance from our volunteer members to assist cleaning and tidying the garden and seating area.

The relocation to Barrack Street and the introduction of the Glasgow Outreach Pilot have led to improved facilities for our members.

This has also led to a substantial increase in the number of people we have provided support to during 2010 and the level of support provided represents an increase of 38% from 2009.

With the continuing changes to the Scottish Criminal Justice System it is essential that PETAL continues to represent its members at every opportunity and at the highest level.

We believe it is our duty and mission to continue to improve and develop the range and quality of the service provision to our members since they can be amongst the most vulnerable and traumatised people in our society and are committed to ensuring that this will continue into the future.

We are extremely grateful to the Scottish Government Victims & Witnesses Unit and both South and North Lanarkshire Council Social Work Departments for their continuing support, assistance and Funding

## Peer Support at Petal

### Ladies Group

The Ladies Peers Support Group continues to be very popular and is very well attended every second Friday Morning

Recently the Ladies have continued to make additional squares for the Petal Memory Quilt, Assemble Friendship Bags, Attend the North Glasgow College Fashion Show and visit Schoenstatt Retreat Centre in Lennoxton

Any Ladies wishing to participate in the Group, please just get in touch

### Mens (METAL) Group

The introduction of the Mens Support Group METAL, has proved to be popular and meets every second Thursday Evening

The men have taken part in a range of activities, such as a get-together meal, a visit to Hamilton Racecourse, participated in a number of Fundraising Events and delivered a talk on the implications of knife crime to City Building craft apprentices at a recent football tournament There are a number of future events planned and we invite all men out there wishing to participate to get in touch.

### Young People & Childrens

#### Art & Magazine Project

Currently the group meet on a Saturday morning but this will change in the near future and it is intended that they will meet on an evening mid-week

The initial concept/plan for the Young People & Childrens Art Project was to produce a magazine/journal, however this has developed into a more useful publication which will also be produced as a DVD and could be utilised as part of training programmes for suicide intervention. We expect the finished project will consist of 5 to 10 minute segments contained on the DVD which can be viewed either as a whole or as individual segments

The short segments will be available on the Petal Web site and will also be placed on YouTube to raise awareness on a global scale

It would also be very useful in schools, colleges; youth support centres and social work resources in both raising awareness and within staff/volunteer training programmes.

## Malta's colourful vintage buses bow out

Malta is replacing its fleet of characterful vintage buses with a more modern and efficient model but not all the islanders welcome the change.

The island of Malta does not exactly have a central bus station.



Instead, it has the *Funtana tat-Tritoni*, an open-air fountain in the middle of the capital city **Valletta**, which is home to a frenzy of bus-related activity.

From early morning until late at night, fume-belching buses sweep around the fountain, picking up passengers, negotiating log-jams and stopping for the odd half-hour rest.

Maltese buses are rather special.

They run on a unique owner-operator system, much like taxis in Britain. Drivers buy - and in many cases, build, or inherit from their fathers - their own buses. They alone are responsible for running and maintaining them.

At night, they park them outside their houses and, in some cases, actually inside them. The average Maltese bus is 35 years old and many have been around for 50 or even 60 years.

After World War II, enterprising Maltese men purchased old British Army vehicles, stripped them to the chassis and welded hand-made bus bodies on top. Amazingly enough, many are still in operation today.

But not for very much longer. On 3rd July, they were to be replaced by a modern fleet of Arriva buses, under the banner of Transport for Malta, or Tfm.

The old buses are polluting, unreliable and uneconomic. As a result, most people drive. Malta is the most car-dense and congested country in Europe. A modern bus system is sorely needed. However, it will break a lot of hearts to see these old buses scrapped.

## Good Old World

When I was a boy,  
the moon was a pearl  
the sun a yellow gold.

But when I was a man,  
the wind blew cold  
the hills were upside down.

But now that I have  
gone from here  
there's no place I'd rather be  
than to float my chances  
on the tide

Back in the good old world

On October's last,  
I'll fly back home  
rolling down winding way  
And all I've got's a pocket full  
of flowers from my grave

But now summer is gone  
I remember it best  
Back in the good old world

I remember  
when, she held my hand  
and we walked home alone in the  
rain how pretty her mouth,  
how soft her hair  
nothing can be the same

And there's a rose upon her  
breast where I long  
to lay my head

and her hair was so yellow  
and the wine was so red  
Back in the good old world.

*Tom Waits & Kathleen Brennan*