



Photo: "Rainbow Steps" by Alan-Jamieson (licensed under CC BY 2.0)

GREC Services

Welcome to the February edition of the GREC Community Bulletin! This month we have included a brand new Community Spotlight feature, where we will be highlighting different community leaders and organisers every month.

February is LGBTQ+ History Month in Scotland, so for the first Community Spotlight we interviewed our friends at Hysteria to find out how they will be marking the occasion.

Per Scottish Government guidelines, the GREC office is unfortunately still closed, but all staff continue to work remotely and can be contacted via the details opposite.

WEBSITE

FACEBOOK | TWITTER

CONTACT:

General Enquiries/Training:

info@grec.co.uk
01224 595505

InTrans:

Interpreting & translation services with special rates for the third sector.

in-trans@grec.co.uk
01224 576795

Casework:

Confidential advice, support and employability service.

casework@grec.co.uk
07857 180175

Counselling:

Confidential counselling for adults, children and young people.

mthomson@grec.co.uk

English Classes:

Free English language education up to four times per week.

language-cafe@grec.co.uk
01224 576797

AberdeenAIM:

Fighting illegal moneylending with support, advice and training to enhance financial wellbeing.

mmccall@grec.co.uk
01224 576796

COMMUNITIES

NHS Grampian recently published a consultation on their Draft Equality Outcomes Report for 2021-25. The consultation is open for responses until **Friday, 26th March**.

[Click here](#) to view a copy of the Draft Report. Please direct any enquiries, comments or suggestions to nigel.firth@nhs.scot

Northfield Community Centre are continuing to operate their foodbank during the current lockdown restrictions. The foodbank is open 10am-12.30pm on Thursdays.

They are currently appealing for donations of non-perishable food products, household items and toiletries.

Progress in Dialogue have partnered with **Aberdeenshire Council** to launch a new Flexible Wellbeing Fund for people in Aberdeenshire facing financial hardship.

[Click here](#) to find out more about the fund, or [click here](#) to apply online.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: HYSTERIA

We spoke to Mae Diansangu and Hanna Louise, co-founders of Hysteria Aberdeen, about their plans for LGBTQ+ History Month.

Can you start by telling us a little bit about Hysteria, for the unacquainted?

Hanna: Hysteria is a performance space for women, non binary and trans creatives. It's for anyone who is marginalised because of their gender.

We had a performance night which in the good old days was happening once a month at Spin, but now it's moved online. We also have a zine which comes out sporadically, and more recently we started doing workshops, so we're branching out a little bit more!

You're doing a project marking LGBTQ+ History Month Scotland. Can you tell us about that?

Mae: Yes! We're doing an LGBT+ History Month performance night on the 23rd. We've got 8 performers; I think they're all Aberdeen based, or at least have a connection to Aberdeen or Hysteria.

We're publishing a zine as well: we had put out a call for submissions of art, poetry, whatever, on the theme *unsung* and we put those together to make the zine. So that should be available for sale soon.

[Click here](#) to read the full interview on our website, or [click here](#) to book a ticket for Hysteria's LGBTQ+ History Month event on the 23rd.

EVENTS

Tonight **Shared Futures** and **No Recourse North East** are hosting **The Human Cost of Brexit**, a roundtable discussion on the impact of Brexit on the lives of EU citizens in the North East of Scotland. Panelists include representatives from the IOM, Shelter Scotland, Aberdeen City Council and RGU Law Clinic.

[Click here](#) for more details or to book your ticket. The event is free and will be held on Zoom from 4pm.



Events 23rd February - 28th February

Tuesday 23rd: **Hysteria Presents "Unsung" + Queerantime Game Night**

Wednesday 24th: **Trivia Night, Artist Talk, Conversation with Scottish Borders Rape Crisis & more**

Thursday 25th: **The future of HIV in Scotland & Blood Transfusion Discussion**

Friday 26th: **NOSTALGIC ABERDEEN by GREC**

Saturday 27th: **The Kweer Cabaret + "The Power of Small"**

Sunday 28th: **Shoot Your Shot Live Celebration**

All events are free, you can register by following the link in this post!

This is the final week of **LGBT+ History Month 2021!** There's still plenty of time to celebrate though, as there are lots of fantastic events happening online this week.

On Friday, 26th Feb we will be joining our friends at **Four Pillars** and **Progress in Dialogue for Nostalgic Aberdeen**, an event to share and record Aberdeen's LGBT+ history. [Click here](#) to find out more or book your free ticket on Eventbrite.

Tickets for all events are free, and full event listings are available on the LGBT+ History Month Scotland website. [Click here](#) to learn more.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day is on **Monday, 8th March**. The theme for 2021 is **choose to challenge**.

Although we are unable to meet in person to celebrate this year, a number of events have been organised locally to mark IWD virtually. GREC will be providing support at a programme of events hosted by **Aberdeen City Council** and **Aberdeen Trades Union Council** between Saturday 6th and Wednesday 10th March. More information about these events will be distributed to members of the Community Bulletin distribution list soon.

Aberdeen University are also facilitating a fantastic programme of events celebrating IWD between Monday 8th and Saturday 15th of March. Tickets to all events are free. [Click here](#) to view the full programme on Aberdeen University's website.

OPPORTUNITIES

**Are you fluent in English as well as
Latvian, Lithuanian, Mandarin, Polish,
Romanian, or Vietnamese?**

If so then InTrans, GREC's Interpreting & Translation Service, could have a great opportunity for you!

InTrans are looking for new self-employed interpreters in the above languages. If you are highly dedicated and committed, fluent in written and verbal communication in both your native language and in English, then this might be just the right place for you.

We are accepting applications now for interpreters and translators based in Aberdeen and the surrounding area.

Get in contact today at in-trans@grec.co.uk for an application pack!



THIRD SECTOR SUPPORT

The next stage of the **Scottish Government Community and Third Sector Recovery Programme** is open now for applications.

The deadline for this round of applications is **Wednesday, 31st March**. [Click here](#) for more information or to apply.

Inspiring Scotland's new Equality and Human Rights Fund is open now for applications. This new fund supports organisations working to tackle inequality and discrimination, and advance equality and human rights in Scotland. The deadline for applications is **Monday, 17th May**. [Click here](#) for more information.

The **Scottish Government Analytical Exchange Programme** recently reopened for 2021. The programme is open for applications from third and voluntary sector organisations.

The programme provides support to third sector organisations in Scotland around data, analysis, statistics and research by matching analysts working the Scottish public sector with third sector organisations needing help on short term projects.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Analytical Exchange Programme. Application forms are available to download at the bottom of the page.

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Scotland currently remains in lockdown.

- However, cases continue to fall across the North East & wider Scotland.
- The phased reopening of schools started this week.
- The First Minister is expected to make an announcement this afternoon outlining the Scottish Government's plans to start easing lockdown restrictions.
- Current guidance still advises everyone stay at home as much as possible. You are only permitted to leave home for essential reasons

GRAMPIAN CORONAVIRUS ASSISTANCE HUB

The Grampian Coronavirus Assistance Hub is still providing assistance to people in need who are struggling as a result of the pandemic in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray

[Click here](#) to visit the GCAH website, or call the helpline on **0808 1963384**. The GCAH helpline is open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm. Calls to the helpline are free.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from the **Scottish Government**.

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from **Aberdeen City Council**.

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from **Aberdeenshire Council**.

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from **Moray Council**.



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