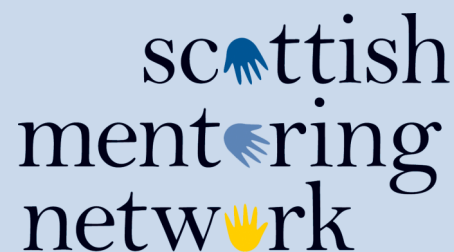


Scottish Mentoring Network  
National Event & Recognition Awards 2017  
Event Round Up & Award Winners



Scottish Mentoring Network held its National Event and Recognition Awards on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at St Paul's & St George's Church in Edinburgh.

Over 120 delegates, from more than 65 organisations from across Scotland attended the National Event. The day opened with a welcome from Iain Forbes, SMN Strategic Development Manager, and SMN Chair Allison Calder followed by showcase presentations from three of our member projects on the impact of mentoring.

Yvonne Wayne from Glasgow Caledonian University delivered a presentation on the impact that mentoring has on mentors. This was followed by a presentation from GrowBiz Perthshire on the impact of mentoring on the community. The final presentation was from Y Sort It who shared their experiences and the impact that mentoring has had on their mentees.



After these inspirational presentations the first round of SMN Recognition Awards for 2017 were presented to the winning projects in each of the award categories:

**Business** Project of the Year: GrowBiz Enterprise Mentoring Support;

**Education** Project of the Year: University of the West of Scotland Employer Mentoring;

**Employment** Project of the Year: The Law Society of Scotland Career Mentoring;

**Inclusion** Project of the Year (*joint winners*): LinkLiving Ltd Step On and The National

Autistic Society Moving Forward;

**Intergenerational** Project of the Year: Lochaber Hope Mentoring;

**Justice** Project of the Year (*joint winners*): Aid & Abet Peer Mentoring and Centrestage Communities Catalyst Project

**Social Care** Project of the Year: Phoenix Futures for its Communities of Recovery (*Glasgow*);

**Youth** Project of the Year: Tayside Council on Alcohol Mentoring Services



Two additional awards were presented to two newer projects deemed to be the Most Promising in their field.

**Most Promising Care Experienced Children & Young People Project 2017:** Kirkcaldy YMCA intandem mentoring

**Most Promising Disability & Health Project 2017:** Action for M.E. Mentor M.E. Peer Support Network



SMN Director Fiona Ellis then introduced a Network and Learning session on the impact of mentoring. Each discussion table was facilitated by a representative of a SMN member project or SMN staff member or Director. The results of these discussions will be made available in due course.

After the discussions the SMN Annual General Meeting was held and following a



networking lunch there was a choice of five breakout sessions on offer. Sessions on offer included: Recruitment and Retention of Mentors—Good Practice Sharing; Goal Setting 101; Making Mentoring Matches; Mentoring Programmes Managing Data and SMN's New Training Options.

The day was concluded with the presentation of SMN Project Quality Award certificates to the projects that had achieved this over the past year.

The six projects which have been awarded the Project Quality Award in the past year are:

- ✎ Alcohol & Drug Support South West Scotland
- ✎ Barnardo's South Ayrshire Peer Mentoring
- ✎ Bellshill & Mossend YMCA Plusone Mentoring
- ✎ Intergenerational Mentoring Network
- ✎ Penicuik YMCA-YWCA Plusone Midlothian
- ✎ Y People Glasgow



In addition to these, two additional projects have been reaccredited in the Project Quality Award, demonstrating a continued commitment to embedding good practice in all aspects



of their mentoring work. These projects are:

👉 Rock Trust

👉 West Dunbartonshire Council HSC Partnership

Following the presentation of the Quality Award certificates we then presented the final Recognition Awards which included a variety of awards for employees and mentors from member projects. **Outstanding Employee Contribution to Mentoring Awards** were presented to: Joe McGinley (West Dunbartonshire Council) and John Hinton (Move On).

After this three awards were presented to mentors who the assessment panel felt had made a particularly special contribution to mentoring over the past year. **Outstanding Mentor Contribution to Mentoring Awards** were presented to Danny Hutcheson from Phoenix Futures Communities of Recovery Scotland and Bob Davidson from the University of the West of Scotland Employer Mentoring Programme. An **Exceptional Mentor Contribution to Mentoring Award** was awarded to Sarah Walsh for her work with West Dunbartonshire Council's Health and Social Care Partnership.

Finally a **Special Award for Distinguished Services to Mentoring** was presented to **Move On** for its longstanding services to mentoring and the **SMN Project of the Year Award 2017** was presented to **West Dunbartonshire Council's Health and Social Care Partnership**.

SMN's newest Director and award winner, John Hinton, then closed the day by thanking everyone for attending the event and the hard work our presenters and breakout session facilitators put in to their sessions.



### Scottish Mentoring Network Project of the Year 2017: West Dunbartonshire Council Health & Social Care Partnership



**Contact:** Joe McGinley

**Email:** [joe.mcginley@west-dunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:joe.mcginley@west-dunbarton.gov.uk)

This project works mainly with young people aged 12-18 contributing to improved outcomes in their journey through adolescence and into adulthood through the provision of mentors who are seen as role models able to build positive relationships. The vast majority of these young people are vulnerable or at risk and many come from chaotic family circumstances involving the criminal justice system, addictions etc. which often they themselves have got caught up in. The service has been operational for a number of years and has always looked to embrace positive change to make their services better. The programme is now fully integrated within the GIRFEC agenda and earlier this year their SMN Quality Award was re-accredited. Despite budget pressures from the local authority they have managed to sustain the service which is seen by many as absolutely vital for the local communities.

The project has a consistent track record of delivering positive outcomes over a number of years. In the last two years it has fully supported the introduction of two more mentoring projects for young people one of which received its quality award at the National Event.

**West Dunbartonshire  
Health & Social Care Partnership**



### Special Award for Distinguished Services to Mentoring 2017: Move On



**Contact:** John Hinton

**Email:** [john@moveon.org.uk](mailto:john@moveon.org.uk)

Move On recently celebrated its 20th anniversary and currently operates mentoring services in both Glasgow and Edinburgh for vulnerable and care experienced children and young people and for young people who have experienced homelessness. Mentors are recruited from all walks of life and undergo a thorough recruitment, training and induction process. Some mentors have experienced the care system themselves and bring this life experience to matches with care experienced mentees. The mentors' role is to build positive relationships with the young people in order to support them to achieve their goals and, as a pair, they work together towards a goal chosen by the young person. The service aims to improve outcomes for vulnerable young people such as increased self-esteem and social confidence, extended social networks and improved employability. The mentors also encourage the young people to focus on employment, training and education opportunities, identifying aspirations, finding out about different options and accessing suitable opportunities.

## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Business Project of the Year 2017:

#### Growbiz Perthshire Enterprise Mentoring Support

**Contact:** Alan Garratt

**Email:** [mentoring@growbiz.co.uk](mailto:mentoring@growbiz.co.uk)

Growbiz is a community-based enterprise support service covering Eastern and Highland Perthshire. They provide support to anyone thinking of becoming self-employed, or starting (or growing) a small business or social enterprise. They work right across the community including people from all backgrounds, and those with health issues or disabilities.

They offer a range of services including: one to one meetings with their enterprise co-ordinator, peer support, specialist advice, mentoring and training.

The concept of enterprise mentoring has been at the heart of their support since its inception in 2007.



### Education Project of the Year 2017:

#### University of the West of Scotland Employer Mentoring Programme

**Contact:** Lynsey McMahon

**Email:** [lynsey.mcmahon@uws.ac.uk](mailto:lynsey.mcmahon@uws.ac.uk)

The UWS Employer Mentoring Programme addresses student confidence in applying for graduate level jobs offering students the opportunity to engage with employers. The university prides itself on being a highly inclusive institution and is involved in a number of projects to help widen participation. A professional person, acting in the role of mentor, gives their time to share their experience of work with a student mentee. The programme matches students with a mentor in industry over the academic year, though the time period can vary depending on the mentee's needs. Mentees engage with their mentor on a one to one basis through face to face meetings, telephone and email over a period of 6 months, January to June, for a minimum of 1 hour each session. Since 2012 a total of 220 students have participated with 129 mentors trained to date.





## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Employment Project of the Year 2017:

#### The Law Society of Scotland Career Mentoring

**Contact:** Elaine MacGlone

**Email:** [mentoring@lawscot.org.uk](mailto:mentoring@lawscot.org.uk)

The Law Society of Scotland is the membership body for Scottish solicitors and the mentoring programme is an important part of its services for current and future members. Solicitors and trainee solicitors act as volunteer mentors to other solicitors, trainees, and law students. Many mentee solicitors are experiencing some form of change such as returning from maternity leave or setting up their own legal practice and the mentoring programme matches mentees with mentors who have previously experience of similar challenges. All mentors complete a day of training and thereafter attend support and supervision



### Intergenerational Project of the Year 2017:

#### Lochaber Hope Mentoring

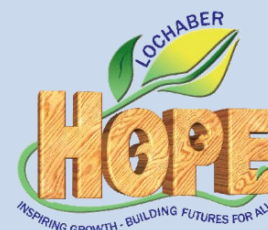
**Contact:** Teresa de Billot

**Email:** [teresa.debillot@lochaberhope.org.uk](mailto:teresa.debillot@lochaberhope.org.uk)

Lochaber Hope has been operating for over 12 years offering mentoring, counselling, personal development and employment support. It has developed and grown organically over the years and like many projects is demand led. In the past year a new youth peer mentoring programme has been developed which trains young people, aged 16-25 to act as mentors to peers who are experiencing challenging life issues. The project is seeking intervention from local employers for opportunities for supported work placements and trials in the workplace and aims to give every young person the opportunity to be heard and held.



Lochaber Hope Mentoring was the winner of the SMN Project of the Year Award 2016.



## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Inclusion Project of the Year 2017: Joint Winners

#### Link Living Step On and The National Autistic Society Scotland Moving Forward



**Link Living Contact:** Nicky Paton

**Email:** [nicky.paton@linkliving.org.uk](mailto:nicky.paton@linkliving.org.uk)

Link Living's Step On project operates within three local authority areas: Falkirk, Fife and Edinburgh offering mentoring support to help young people along the employability pipeline. Over the past year the project has worked with 107 young people, helping them to increase their confidence, self esteem, to learn new skills and ultimately progress in their journey towards employment. young mentors provide both mentoring and peer support to others who join the projects giving both guidance and encouragement until the young person they are supporting becomes a confident member of the project. Young people who started out as mentees often become mentors themselves.



**National Autistic Society Contact:** Callum McCrosson

**Email:** [callum.mccrosson@nas.org.uk](mailto:callum.mccrosson@nas.org.uk)

The National Autistic Society Scotland's Moving Forward programme has been operating for 6 years working with people aged 16 to 25 who are on the autism spectrum. The programme seeks to improve the employability chances and increase the confidence in looking for and applying for work of its mentees. Each client is paired with an individual Employment Mentor to work together for an initial period 6 months, with a further 6 months available if required. The goal of Moving Forward is to find employment or increase employability for every mentee involved in the project.





## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Justice Project of the Year 2017: Joint Winners

#### Aid & Abet Peer Mentoring and Centrestage Communities Catalyst Project



**Aid & Abet Contact:** Cheri-Anne Kerr

**Email:** [aidandabetscotland@gmail.com](mailto:aidandabetscotland@gmail.com)

Aid & Abet aims to stop the revolving door back into the prison system. It was designed, developed and is led by people with lived experience. The project aim is early intervention and to offer support before people leave prison with the goal of ensuring that every individual leaving prison has somewhere to stay and money in their pocket on their first night after release as well as providing support through the challenging first few days of freedom. Prisoners who are due to be released within three months are visited by a project worker who begins building a trust based relationship and assesses their needs. Since the project began in 2015, 180 individuals have been supported and 35 have been able to stay out of prison.



**Centrestage Communities Contact:** Lorna Dalziel

**Email:** [lorna.dalziel@centrestagecommunities.org.uk](mailto:lorna.dalziel@centrestagecommunities.org.uk)

Catalyst, developed and delivered by Centrestage Communities, was set up to provide through-care support for men pre and post liberation in HMP Kilmarnock working to reduce reoffending rates. Catalyst provides broad support including advice on housing, benefits, addictions, health, family, financial and emotional support as well as, vitally, a place to go, every day if required. As well as practical supports, the opportunity to participate in a wide range of creative, artistic, enterprising, social and recreational activities are offered. These activities are the tools mentors use for raising aspiration, achievement, inclusion and building on existing strengths. Catalyst Mentors are proactive, focused, driven, and determined to make a meaningful difference, through this project, positively impacting the lives of individuals, families and communities, focusing on what can be rather than what has been.



## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Social Care Project of the Year 2017

#### Phoenix futures— Communities of Recovery Glasgow

**Contact:** Tracy McConnell

**Email:** [Tracy.mcconnell@phoenix-futures.org.uk](mailto:Tracy.mcconnell@phoenix-futures.org.uk)

The project was set up to support adults living in Glasgow city who are facing substance misuse issues, mental health problems, homelessness and / or a history of offending to overcome these barriers and make positive transitions into prosocial independent lives. Volunteer Peer Mentors are each matched with a Peer Mentee accessing substance misuse, mental health, homelessness or criminal justice services in Glasgow and provide them with a programme of peer support tailored to their individual needs. Peer Mentees receive practical support around issues such as housing, benefits, money management, health interventions and accessing education, training and employment opportunities as well as other community-based support.



### Youth Project of the Year 2017

#### Tayside Council on Alcohol Mentoring Services

**Contact:** Mark Harris

**Email:** [Mark.harris@alcoholtayside.com](mailto:Mark.harris@alcoholtayside.com)

Tayside Council on Alcohol has been developing and delivering mentoring services for 11 years and can consistently evidence effective engagement and delivery of positive outcomes for women offenders, persistent male offenders and young people. There are now 12 mentoring services being delivered across the three locations of Dundee, Angus and Perth and Kinross. In the past year a new voluntary 'Support Service for Woman' mentoring project has been developed which encourages the women who take part to think about personal goals and development that they would like support with. In addition to this, the Support in Recovery (SiR) project has been running in the Angus area for the past year, supporting people in recovery to complete the SQA Customised Award in Peer Mentoring and support and to undertake volunteer opportunities with local organisations.





## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Very Highly Commended Youth Project 2017

#### Penicuik YMCA – YWCA Plusone Midlothian

**Contact:** Susan Kerr

**Email:** [plusone@penicuik-y.co.uk](mailto:plusone@penicuik-y.co.uk)

The programme seeks to make a difference in the young person's life by introducing them to new interests in their own communities, giving them support to pursue those interests and through the 1:1 support of a mentor giving the young person the chance to try out new ways of doing things and taking new and different approaches to dealing with everyday situations that arise in their lives.



Good links have been established with social work and schools across Midlothian. Within the first six months of delivery the programme had almost reached its full capacity for referrals for the year. The programme is now well known in Midlothian and the Programme Manager has built up good working relationships with social work staff in East and West localities and also with the Family Resilience Teams in Dalkeith and Penicuik, youth workers and guidance staff and head teachers in primary and high schools across Midlothian.



### Very Highly Commended Youth Project 2017

#### Peeblesshire Youth Trust Achieve Your Potential

**Contact:** Sarah Keen

**Email:** [info@peebleshireyouthtrust.org](mailto:info@peebleshireyouthtrust.org)

Peeblesshire Youth Trust (PYT) supports children aged 10-13 years, who are at risk of becoming isolated or making poor decisions, to build their confidence and self-esteem. The project aims to nurture, support, engage and encourage young people to feel valued and to reach their aspirations. PYT believe that early intervention is key to delivering real change in later life, and this is achieved by delivering a structured programme for children, and by engaging them with volunteer mentors. Each child completes a 7-week course delivered by staff and adult volunteers, using games, activities, crafts and challenges to help children build confidence in a group setting. After completing the course each child is matched with a suitable mentor to develop a one-to-one mentoring relationship. This mentoring process is a key part of the structure to support vulnerable children. By meeting with their mentee on a regular basis over a three-year period, mentors help children to build resilience, believe in themselves and follow their dreams. Evaluations show that of the children referred to the project in the past year, following mentoring, 88 percent of children showed an improvement in overall behaviour choices and 93% showed an overall increase in eye contact and other self-confidence indicators. Indications following mentoring show that children are more likely to stay on at school, are more resilient and are better able to cope with change than before mentoring.



## Award Winners—Category Awards

### Highly Commended Project 2017

#### Rock Trust West Lothian, Peer Mentoring Project

**Contact:** Sophie Johnston

**Email:** [sophie.johnston@rocktrust.org](mailto:sophie.johnston@rocktrust.org)

The Rock Trust's Peer Mentoring Project supports care experienced young people aged 15-25 years, matching them with volunteer mentors. The match may be based on a shared experience, such as care or disadvantage, or it may be that the mentor has a specific skill the mentee could benefit from. Volunteer mentors work alongside young people doing enjoyable activities that support them to work towards their goals, giving them the opportunity to develop the skills, confidence and resilience they need to overcome challenges they face.



## Award Winners—Mentor Recognition Awards

### Highly Commended Mentors 2017

- ☞ Action for M.E.: **Douglas Skinner**
- ☞ Aid & Abet: **Stephen McKnight**
- ☞ Centrestage Communities Ltd.: **Harry Sutton**
- ☞ GrowBiz Perthshire: **Clair Smith**
- ☞ Kirkcaldy YMCA Plusone: **Megan Dodds**
- ☞ Link Living Ltd.: **Yaman Tawakalna**
- ☞ Lochaber Hope: **Ian Miller**
- ☞ Move On: **Jaqueline Anderson & Liz Dobson-McKittrick**
- ☞ Penicuik YMCA-YWCA Plusone: **Anne Kinncaid & Sheryl Skelton**
- ☞ Rock Trust: **Rebecca Stewart**
- ☞ The Law Society of Scotland: **David Bryson**
- ☞ The National Autistic Society: **Becky Preston**



## Award Winners—Mentor Recognition Awards

### Outstanding Mentor Contribution to Mentoring Awards 2017

#### **Danny Hutcheson, Phoenix Futures Communities of Recovery Glasgow**

Danny is a Peer Mentor who uses his own lived experience to support mentees on their journey to recovery from addiction. He has taken a lead role in the developing the “Inside Out” recovery café within Barlinnie prison and is regarded as a shining example of a role model by staff and mentees alike. Danny has been able to balance the support he gives to others with his own personal development and has

voluntarily undertaken many training courses to increase his own skillset. He was recently elected Secretary of the South Recovery Community and has made a huge impact on the Phoenix Futures mentoring programme.



#### **Bob Davidson, University of the West of Scotland Employer Mentoring Programme**

Bob has been on the programme since it started in 2012/13 and has freely given his time and wide range of skills to mentor across different sectors. He is extremely professional and always goes above and beyond to help the students achieve their goals. He also uses his experience on the university's Industrial Advisory Board and is extremely well thought of by all the students he mentors.



### Exceptional Mentor Contribution to Mentoring Award 2017

**Sarah Walsh, West Dunbartonshire Council Health & Social Care Partnership** Sarah has been volunteering with the mentoring programme since 2008 and has maintained an excellent standard throughout her time there. She has been a consistent role model and guiding hand to at least 15 mentees almost all of whom have been in vulnerable situations. Sarah has provided her mentees with stability and guidance and been a positive adult for them. For the last two years she has been mentoring siblings providing respite from a chaotic environment and I am told that these young people would have been put in care if it had not been for Sarah's support. Her commitment has been total and she has gone well beyond the programme's expectation which has been greatly appreciated not just by the mentees but by their families as well. The staff at West Dunbartonshire Council firmly believe as did the judging panel that Sarah deserves this recognition for her exceptional contribution.

## Award Winners—Employee Recognition Awards

### Outstanding Employee Contribution to Mentoring 2017

#### Joe McGinley, Mentoring Coordinator, West Dunbartonshire Council Health and Social Care Partnership

Joe has worked for his local authority since 1993, initially working in residential children's houses before becoming area team social worker. In 2013 Joe became mentoring coordinator for West Dunbartonshire Council's Health and Social Care Partnership. Since taking up this role, Joe has introduced innovative thinking and changes to processes and practice that allowed the mentoring service to modernise and become more sector leading. He always keeps young people at the centre of everything he does and has been a fantastic support in developing two new projects for care experienced young people in his area.



#### John Hinton, Executive Director, Move On

In his early career John worked as a housing officer and community worker and was involved in starting up the Big Issue. John set up and ran a housing and resettlement service in Glasgow and Edinburgh and went on to manage the charity behind the Big Issue. He then became a founding Board Member of his current organisation, Move On. In his tenure at Move On, John has overseen the establishment and development of a range of services. Speaking about John as Move On Board member said *"He is an inspirational leader. His passion for the work we do shines through. He has an easy, relaxed style and is excellent at building rapport with staff, service users and external organisations alike"*.



### Highly Commended Employees 2017

- 👉 Aid & Abet: **Kevin Neary**
- 👉 Centrestage Communities Ltd: **Darren Black**
- 👉 Move On: **Rebecca Grant & Ross Davidson**
- 👉 Peeblesshire Youth Trust: **Katie Buckingham**
- 👉 Phoenix Futures: **Steven McGowan**
- 👉 The Law Society of Scotland: **Lyndsey Thomson**
- 👉 University of the West of Scotland: **Karen Shearer & Lynsey McMahon**