

Evaluation Support Scotland Winter Newsletter 2014



Book your place now!

[Shifting A Gear
Funders turning talk into
action](#)

6 March 2014
Edinburgh

This event is aimed at anyone from the funding sector whether you are a Grants Officer, External Funding Officer, Chief Executive or Trustee. If you are interested in coming along or would like further information please contact Emma Liddell on 0131 243 2778 or [email](#)

[What are my outcomes?](#)

15 May 2014
Edinburgh

[Collecting information to
report on outcomes](#)

29 May 2014
Edinburgh

[Using creative approaches to](#)

Hello,

Happy New Year and welcome to the Winter 2014 edition of the ESS newsletter! ESS has been back in full swing and wanted to share with you what has been happening, some resources and tools we have found useful and our special news of a medal winning member of staff. More of that later.

In this issue:

[Join our Inspiring Impact Champions Network event at The Gathering!](#)

['Shifting A Gear' event: Funders turning talk into action](#)

[A Stitch in Time? Learning dissemination event – The story so far...](#)

[Funded organisations shape their own reporting
Your creative ideas](#)

[Short break stories from Shared Care Scotland
Useful tools](#)

[A kit of Tools - Save the Children \(Norway\)](#)

[Other random news...](#)



Join our Inspiring Impact Champions Network event at The Gathering!



This three hour workshop will take place at [The Gathering 2014](#) hosted at the SECC in Glasgow on 20 February starting at 1 pm. The workshop gives an opportunity for people to network and share learning about impact measurement. There will also be a chance to test out two of [Inspiring](#)

[Impact](#) products:

* An affordable and easy-to-use impact measurement diagnostic system to help organisations identify what they need to do to improve their impact measurement.

[evaluate your project](#)

12 June 2014
Edinburgh

[Telling my story - Analysing and reporting on outcomes](#)

26 June 2014
Edinburgh

* An online marketplace that will make tools available for planning, managing, measuring and reviewing their impact.

Come along to our event and join our Champions Network!
[Book your place here](#)

'Shifting A Gear' event: Funders turning talk into action

Throughout 2012 and 2013, ESS hosted a series of lively discussions around themes that funders told us were of interest to them. The events have been extremely well attended with some valuable sharing and learning around funder practices.

To ensure that this learning is put to good use, the last of this series of events invites participants to 'shift a gear' and agree achievable actions to take forward. The event on 6 March will explore some themes identified in previous events further, including: Sustainability, influencing policy, impact of funding, influencing practice, collaborative funding, more than just money, [Harmonising Reporting](#).

This event is aimed at anyone from the funding sector whether you are a Grants Officer, External Funding Officer, Chief Executive or Trustee. If you are interested in coming along or would like further information please contact Emma Liddell on 0131 243 2778 or [email](#).

A Stitch in Time? Learning dissemination event – The story so far...

[A Stitch in Time?](#) (SIT) is an action learning programme that supports the third sector to collect and present evidence to explain,



measure and prove how the third sector prevents avoidable future use of health and social care services and how it optimises older people's independence and well-being. This work is a partnership project facilitated by [Evaluation Support Scotland](#) (ESS) and supported by the Scottish Government Third Sector Unit and the [Joint Improvement Team](#) (JIT). The project works with voluntary organisations situated in the four local authority areas in Lothian.

Our SIT 'story so far' event took place on 13 November 2013. The purpose of the event was to provide an update on 'A Stitch in Time?' and to get feedback. We wanted third sector organisations and other partners working with older people to have their say, hear from funders about what they appreciate in reporting and lastly, to try out an idea called 'story-telling'.

It was a well-attended and successful day with lots of

discussion and networking. We appreciated all the feedback people gave us as this has been very useful in planning the next phase of the project.

To hear what people had to say about the work of SIT so far read the report [here](#).

For further information about A Stitch in Time? [see our website](#).

Funded organisations shape their own reporting

In a bold move by the [Voluntary Action Fund](#) (VAF), representatives from their [Violence Against Women](#) (VAW) portfolio of funded projects have had the opportunity to create their own reporting template. Facilitated by ESS, a working group of 11 individuals from Women's Refuges, Rape Crisis Centres, and Children and Families Services across Scotland, came together with Scottish Women's Aid, Rape Crisis Scotland, and members of the VAF team to produce in partnership a new reporting template.

Based on [Harmonising Reporting](#) principles, the VAW funded projects will be better enabled to articulate the challenging and transformative work they do with women, children and young people recovering from, or managing, domestic abuse or rape. The new template is being trialled in March with the working group coming back together once the reports have been reviewed to evaluate the results and explore developing it further.

"Thought-provoking and useful. Grateful for the opportunity to create user-friendly and relevant evaluation."

Working group member

For more information please contact [Emma Liddell](#).

Your creative ideas

In our last newsletter we asked if you had any examples of inclusive evaluation methods or tools that you could share and [Lead Scotland](#) rose to the challenge. They have been using [Comic Life](#) (an app which helps you turn photos into stories) to evaluate with a group of disabled people who had been participating in an ICT class which had integrated literacies support. Read more about their approach [here](#).

Thank you Lead Scotland!

If you have any inclusive evaluation methods, tools or apps you would like to share please get in touch with [Martha Lester-Cribb](#).

Short break stories from Shared Care Scotland

Some of you may know about this already but we thought it would be worth flagging up the [Short Break Stories website](#) as well as the innovative reporting and sharing system of [Shared Care Scotland](#). Organisations submit evaluation reports to them and 80% of what is submitted gets posted online leaving the remaining 20% for grant monitoring purposes. We would recommend having a read through the "About This Site" tab then having a look through the "Stories" tab. You can filter your search of the submissions, for example by area or disability keyword. What a great initiative!

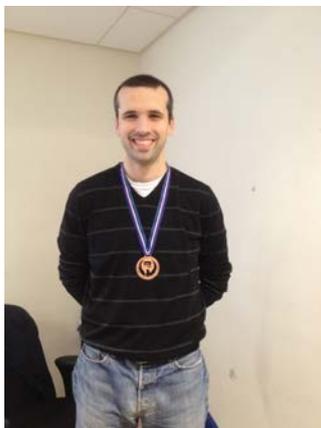
Useful tools

At ESS we like to share useful tools that we have come across. Here is one for you:

A kit of Tools - Save the Children (Norway)

'A Kit of Tools for participatory research and evaluation for children, young people and adults' is published by [Save the Children \(Norway\)](#). It contains a wealth of information and creative tools to support meaningful research and evaluation. Although the tools were used to evaluate projects working with children in areas of armed conflict and peace building their use is not limited to this specific area. The tools are child friendly and include Formative Dialogue Research, Circle analysis, Time line and Human Knots. If you would like to read more about this check out the report [here](#).

Other random news...



And finally many congratulations to our Training Officer, [Tom Scott](#), whom many of you will have met. In November Tom won Bronze medal in the Team Kata event at the

European Wado Karate Cup in Budapest, Hungary. See evidence on the left!

Well done, Tom!

Forward this email to a friend

The MailChimp logo is displayed in a white, cursive font within a dark grey rectangular box.

Scottish Charity Number: SC036529,
Scottish Company Number: SC284843,
VAT Number 923 2102 72.

Our mailing address is:
Evaluation Support Scotland
Thorn House
5 Rose St
Edinburgh, Scotland EH2 2PR
United Kingdom

Add us to your address book

You are receiving this email because you have opted in at our website or an event. Charity No. SC036529 Company No. SC284843

[Unsubscribe from this list](#) | [Update your subscription preferences](#)