

FAIR AGM – New Date

FAIR’s Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2018 was originally to be held in November, but had to be postponed.

The meeting will now be held on **16th January 2019** from **11.30am** at **95 Causewayside, Edinburgh, EH9 1QG.**

All FAIR members are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, call FAIR on **0131 662 1962.**



FAIR Accreditation

FAIR have been working hard for the past few months to obtain accreditation for the Scottish National Standards for Information and Advice Providers.



After an audit by the Scottish Legal Aid Board, we are happy to report that we were successful and are now a fully accredited provider of advice and information on benefits and money debt.

Even though we are now fully accredited, FAIR’s future funding is uncertain. Any donations we get will help us to keep running and providing our services for the people of Edinburgh.

If you would like to make a donation to FAIR, please call us on **0131 662 1962** or email **fair@fairadvice.org.uk**.

Universal Credit Changes – 2018 Budget

The Government announced some changes to Universal Credit in the 2018 Budget.

They said there would be more protection for people transitioning to Universal Credit. However full details of how this will work are not available yet.

The amount which some Universal Credit claimants can earn before their award begins to be withdrawn (the Work Allowance) will be increased by £1,000 from April 2019.

Universal Credit is live in Edinburgh from 28th November. To find out how this might affect you, call one of FAIR's advisors on **0131 662 1962** or email **fair@fairadvice.org.uk**.



Gig Buddies - Christmas Karaoke/Open Mic Night

Gig Buddies matches adults who have a learning disability to a volunteer who has similar interests, to go to events together that you both love.

Throughout the year they've held a few Open Mic Nights and they've been brilliant! They're pleased to be running a Christmas special on **Wednesday 12th December** from **7.30pm** in Edinburgh.

Venue to be confirmed! Entry - FREE.

For more information about any Gig Buddies events, email **samuel.maggs@thera.co.uk** or call **0773 848 6001**.



Edinburgh Learning Disability Advisory Group - Citizens Forum

Have your say and meet up with other people!

The Edinburgh Learning Disability Advisory Group is a forum for people with a learning disability. They work with the Health and Social Care Partnership on plans for people with a learning disability in Edinburgh.



The next meetings are:

14th December - Health and Wellbeing

18th January - New Health and Social Care Partnership Plans

8th March – Subject TBC

All the meetings are from **10am-12pm**, at **95 Causewayside, Edinburgh**.

If you would like to find out more or attend then please email **Jayne.Kemp@edinburgh.gov.uk** or **Kimberley@fairadvice.org.uk** or call **0131 662 1962**.

FAIR – Office Flood

We're sorry to report that we had a plumbing incident in November which resulted in quite a bit of damage to our main office.

We are working around this as well as we can and have tried to make sure that advisors are available to keep appointments and take calls.

We hope we can get all the repairs done over the holidays and will have our offices back in full working order for January.

We apologise if this has caused any delays or inconveniences, and ask that you bear with us in the weeks to come!

Keep Warm this Winter!

With winter coming and the weather getting colder, it is important to keep yourself and your home warm.

Help is available for people with learning disabilities, their families and carers, who are struggling to pay their heating bills.



There will be a free energy efficiency advice session at the Citizen's Advice Bureau at 23 Dalmeny Street on **Thursday 13th December**, in partnership with Utilita and Hibernian Football Club. The session is free to attend, just drop by Bureau between 09.30am -12.30pm.

FAIR can also give advice on how to get help with your heating bills. To find out more about this, contact FAIR on **0131 662 1962**.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from FAIR!

**FAIR will be closed for the holidays
from Monday 24th December
till Thursday 3rd January.**

**Our answering machine will be checked
every day for emergency enquiries.**



Also available in large print or Audio CD on request.

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