

43 Junction Road,
Kirkwall, Orkney,
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Orkney Alcohol Counselling and Advisory Service

Issue 3

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As of 27th March, our umbrella organisation, which was the Scottish Council on Alcohol (the SCA) changed its name and logo to 'Alcohol Focus Scotland', as you can see to the right. The organisation's Chief Executive Jack Law, writes:

“ We thought long and hard about the name, seeking one which was clear and explicit about what we do, and where we do it. Continuity and change.

We continue to address alcohol related issues, remaining the sole national umbrella organisation raising issues about the use and misuse of alcohol in Scotland. We address the complexity of **alcohol** issues across Scotland, while working in partnership with others with broadly similar interests. We continue to find ways of involving ourselves in helping mould and shape the developing policies and strategies on alcohol in Scotland.

Affiliated to:



And of course we will work in partnership with the network of Local Councils on Alcohol to contribute to the delivery and development of the services they provide to their localities. ”

Jack will be guest speaker at our AGM this year, which is scheduled to take place at 7:30 pm on 14th June at the Kirkwall Town Hall. We are sure he will provide a stimulating and informative talk not least because he is a member of SACAM (Scottish Advisory Committee on Alcohol Misuse) and is instrumental in collating our counselling agency network's input into the Scottish Executive's upcoming 'Plan for Action on Alcohol Misuse'.



If you require more copies of this leaflet, or if you have any views or comments on drug or alcohol problems, or you simply wish any information on our counselling and information services please contact us.

Address and contact details overleaf.

OACAS

Drugs

OACAS' plans here suffered a temporary hitch when our second weekend of training had to be scrapped because of Paisley University's failure to continue obtaining Scottish Executive funding to support their Centre for Drugs & Alcohol Studies. Rather than telephone us to note final arrangements for the training in March, the trainer telephoned to advise us he had received his notice of redundancy! This is a fine example of joined up thinking by the Scottish Executive at the same time as they announce an extra £100 million is to be spent on the war against drugs!! At the time of writing, we hope to have the second weekend of drugs training take place on June 2nd & 3rd, funding permitting. If you are interested in attending, please contact us.



In mid February we heard from Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland that we had been awarded £6000 for 2001 and £6000 for 2002 to fund the continuation of our administrative assistants costs. As we move into the drugs counselling field (as well as take up other initiatives) this funding is very much appreciated as the paperwork and procedures multiply.
Thank you Lloyds TSB!

Children

On the 20th of April we held a seminar to discuss the setting up of a programme to tackle inappropriate “ underage drinking ” in Orkney. Douglas Hope, former Children's Reporter, and worker



with Renfrew Council on Alcohol, showed us what Paisley has achieved and all participants left feeling that a similar project could be initiated in Orkney. This is being worked on, and provided training can be obtained for our counsellors in working with children, and all the necessary internal and external protocols are set up, we hope to offer a customised 3 meeting course to address the problem of over-indulgence in alcohol by young people.

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