

Inform

# Scottish Disability Equality Forum

## Leading Disability Equality in Scotland

January 2015

### SDEF Voice 22

Welcome to the first SDEF Voice of 2015 and happy New Year to all our members.

We are proud to be supporting Disabled Access Day on Saturday 17 January 2015. Led by Euan's Guide (Scotland) it is the first of its kind, and the first of many to come!

We would like to ask you, our member, to go out on the 17th and visit somewhere you haven't visited before. There are many businesses and tourist attractions across Scotland which are taking part in this event, with some coffee shops offering free teas and coffees, and others offering discounts to their attractions for the day.

Find out more about what's on in your area and visit somewhere new! - <http://www.disabledaccessday.com/what-s-on/>

Best Wishes

SDEF Team!



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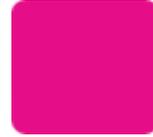
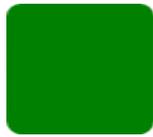
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## Disabled Access Day

Saturday 17 January 2015

Whether you're an individual, charity, venue or business we're on the lookout for everyone to get involved in Disabled Access Day 2015.

What do you have to do?

It's super simple. Please just visit one new place that you've never been to before.

When is it?

Saturday 17th January 2015

Where is it?

Anywhere & everywhere! You can choose somewhere local or venture further afield.

Who is it for?

All disabled people and their families and friends.

How do you get involved?

Now you're talking! We'd like to keep it as simple as possible - so it really is as easy as choosing a new place to visit and getting out there.

Anything else?

If you'd like to do even more, well, we'd be delighted! The website has some hints and tips for people, charities, venues and other organisations about how to join in with the day.

Get involved

If you would like to get involved please complete the form on Disabled Access Day website - <http://www.disabledaccessday.com/get-involved/> or email <mailto:takepart@disabledaccessday.com>



## Disabled Access Day Events

A wide range of venues, both in the UK and overseas, have signed up to take part, and many are offering discounts and other special offers to visitors on the day.

Below is a snapshot of some of the events taking place in Scotland. Go to Disabled Access Day website to find more events throughout the UK - <http://www.disabledaccessday.com/what-s-on>

### Ocean Terminal shopping centre

There will be a hub of activity on Saturday 17 January at the Ocean Terminal shopping centre in Leith:

- The Royal Yacht Britannia are offering all customers a 20% discount on the entrance fee to the Yacht on the day, on the production of a voucher which can be found on their website at: <http://www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk/plan-your-visit/whats-on/> ,
- There will be information stands and interactive demonstrations from assistance dog organisations inside Ocean Terminal, to give people the opportunity to find out more about the work of assistance dogs and the people they support.
- Lothian Buses will be parking one of their accessible fleet outside the shopping centre, and everyone will be welcome to come aboard to find out about the accessible features of the bus, and to ask any questions they might have about accessibility and travelling by bus.
- Royal Yacht and Lothian Buses Accessibility information:
  - Royal Yacht Britannia  
<http://www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk/plan-your-visit/your-visit/accessibility/>



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- 
- Lothian Buses  
<http://lothianbuses.com/our-community/community/accessible-buses>

## Caffè Nero

170 Caffè Nero shops are taking part in Disabled Access Day and offering a complimentary hand crafted coffee! Certain shops are taking part across the UK and Ireland. Make sure that you have signed up to Disabled Access Day to receive your complimentary e-voucher to access this great offer. In 2013, Caffè Nero was voted the best tasting coffee on the High Street by the independent consumer group Which?

What is included in the offer?

Once you have your voucher, you can enjoy one Espresso, Caffè Latte, Cappuccino, Americano, Standard Hot Chocolate or Tea for free!

How do I get a voucher?

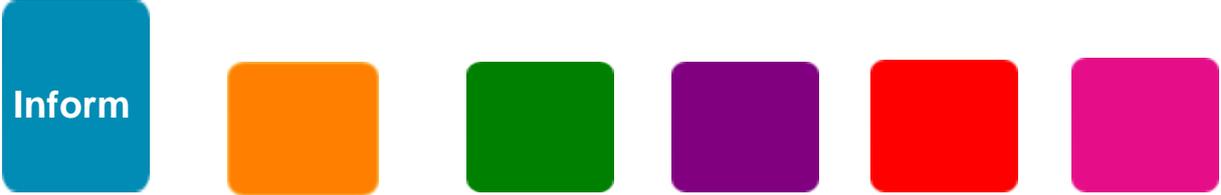
Sign up to Disabled Access Day here -

<http://www.disabledaccessday.com/get-involved/individual>

Which stores in Scotland are taking part?

- Caffè Nero - Glasgow West End Retail Park
- Caffè Nero - Falkirk
- Caffè Nero - Edinburgh Fort Kinnaird
- Caffè Nero - Edinburgh The Walk
- Caffè Nero - Braehead Shopping Centre
- Caffè Nero - Aberdeen Union St (73)





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Go to Disabled Access Day website to find more stores throughout the UK - <http://www.disabledaccessday.com/news/caffe-nero>

### **Homelands Trust Fife**

On Disabled Access Day the Paxton Centre and one of the accessible self-catering cottages will be open for viewing. Visitors can come and see around our fabulous facility, hear talks or try a complementary therapy taster. Tea/coffee will be available. - access information <http://www.euansguide.com/reviews/scotland/fife/leven/homelands-trust-fife/>

### **Royal Botanic Gardens**

The Royal Botanic Gardens are holding guided Winter Walks for visitors who are taking part in Disabled Access Day. Spaces on the walks will be free of charge, but should be booked in advance. The walks will include free entry to the Glasshouse, which usually costs £5 for adults. There will also be an RSPB Garden Bird Watch session in the Garden's Real Life Science studio, which everyone will be welcome to come along to. A BSL interpreter will be at the Gardens all day, and a small number of wheelchairs and mobility scooters will be available to book in advance. See the attached poster for more details.

### **Staff Update**

Late last year, SDEF held interviews for the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO). This followed our current CEO's announcement of her intention to move to pastures new. As no successful appointment was made, the post will be readvertised in the Spring. Susan will stay on for the time being to ensure that SDEF's projects for the year ahead continue as planned.



## Disability Roadshow - Transport & Police Scotland

We have joined forces with Transport Scotland and Police Scotland to run consultation events with our members and Access Panels.

The purpose of the events is to connect and engage with disabled people in Scotland, to discuss the barriers and create solutions in the following areas:

### Transport Scotland

- We want to know about accessible transport in your area
- How do we improve our services
- Help us to get it right for the future

### Police Scotland

- We want to know how disabled people access our services
- Get involved in our workshop 'Contact Police Scotland'
- Contribute in our Ideas Forum to improve our services

This is a unique opportunity for you to shape how disabled people in Scotland access and use the services provided by Transport Scotland and Police Scotland.

### Dates and Locations

- 29 January 2015 - Borders (11am-4pm)
- 5 February 2015 - Edinburgh (1pm-3pm)
- 12 February 2015 - Glasgow (11am-4pm)
- 18 February 2015 - Inverness (1pm-3pm)
- 19 February 2015 - Aberdeen (11am-4pm)
- 27 February 2015 - Falkirk (11am-4pm)

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To book your FREE place or find out more please contact Vicky Innes, Tel: 01259 272064 or Email: <mailto:Vicky.innes@sdef.org.uk>. Email invitations will be sent to you shortly with further details.

## **New Benefits for SDEF Members**

We are working hard to improve the membership you receive from SDEF. As a result we have secured new benefits just for SDEF Members:

- 5% Discount on product sales from Albion Mobility  
[www.albionmobility.co.uk](http://www.albionmobility.co.uk)
- 10% Discount on printing from CGL Printers  
<http://www.cg-ltd.co.uk/>

As a member you also receive:

- Quarterly Magazine 'Open Door' - Issue 42 due out January 2015
- Monthly e-bulletin 'SDEF Voice'
- Opportunity to have your voice heard with policy consultations
- Invitation to member events

Watch this space for future benefits to come in 2015...

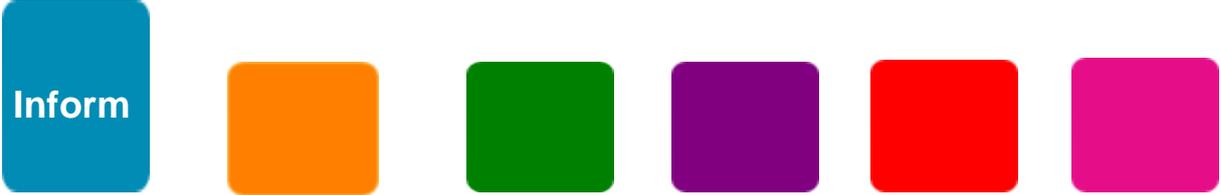
## **Your Membership Matters**

Below is a reminder of what we offer our members.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more.

T: 01259 272064 E: [info@sdef.org.uk](mailto:info@sdef.org.uk) W: [www.sdef.org.uk](http://www.sdef.org.uk)  
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## **Support and Signposting**

We answer many member enquiries and signpost them to the appropriate organisation, individual or information source.

## **Networking Opportunities**

We make introductions to key decision makers and contacts and make sure members have frequent opportunities to meet and network with relevant audiences. We help members make the right connections.

## **Your views, experiences and expertise**

All our policy is formulated directly from our member's views, experiences and expertise. We believe that our members are the experts.

We respond to all relevant Scottish Government, parliamentary, think tank and other consultations.

We regularly ask our members for their views on many diverse policy issues – which then directly feeds in to our policy work and government consultation responses.

## **Annual AGM**

Our Annual AGM is an opportunity for members to participate in the governance and representation of SDEF. Members will be offered the opportunity to attend members meetings, and where eligible, vote in elections and to stand as candidates themselves. Support will be offered to members to enable them to fulfill their democratic responsibilities. Currently only Full and Associate members have voting rights. An AGM will cover:



- A report to members on the activities of SDEF over the past year
- Provide an opportunity to discuss issues arising from the report
- Endorsement of the annual report and accounts
- Reporting to members the results of the election of the board
- The appointment of the auditors for the following year
- Approval of the previous year's minutes of the AGM
- Suggested areas of SDEF work from members

We also use the AGM as an opportunity to inform members about the work that SDEF is doing from key staff members.

### Information Leaflets

We provide information leaflets on the projects we are working on. You will receive a copy of our leaflets in your Members Welcome Pack. If you require any additional copies, please call the office to request this or alternatively they can be downloaded from our website. See <http://www.sdef.org.uk/index.php/sdef-resource-centre/information-leaflets>



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