

Catalyst Ebulletin

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Momentum Plays Key Role in New Access Ability Website

Momentum has played a leading role in the launch of an innovative new website aimed at linking employers with local organisations to recruit and retrain people with disabilities.

The Government-backed **Access Ability website, www.accessability.info**, has been setup by the leading private sector providers of Work Choice and Access to Work – the government’s disability employability programmes.

There are eleven different providers of these programmes, including Momentum, who have collaborated to create the new website. The aim of the site is to assist employers to become ‘disability confident’ in their recruitment of people with disabilities to support the growth of their businesses and allow the new employees to reach their full potential.

In partnership with other organisations, Momentum delivers the Work Choice programme in the Highlands and Islands, Grampian and Clyde Coast, offering employer support, to enable them to offer work experience and job opportunities to disabled people.

The website will direct interested employers to assistance resources in their local area. This includes access to pools of job-ready candidates, financial assistance and skills training support.

For more information about Momentum’s role in Access Ability click on www.accessability.info or contact Jamie Hughes on 0141 333 0567 or email jhughes@momentumskills.org

Momentum Skills Celebrates Aberdeen

Clients and staff from Momentum Skills in Aberdeen joined 3,500 people from over 130 charities for the ‘Celebrate Aberdeen’ parade.

The annual event brings together charities and community groups in the city centre to celebrate the work of the third sector.

Union Street in Aberdeen City Centre came to a standstill as people turned out to applaud the colourful parade which incorporated music, costumes, drums and banners representing all the different participating organisations.

To add to the kudos of the event, Aberdeen Football Club lent their European Cup Winners Cup to the parade and Neil Fachie MBE, London 2012 Paralympian Gold Medal Winner, lead the huge precession through the centre of Aberdeen.

Staff members Denise Hutton said: "The event is a super opportunity for Momentum Skills' clients to get together outside of our centre and meet other organisations and their service users from the other third sector bodies in Aberdeen. With around 350 charity groups parading in the city, we really were a diverse bunch and it was a wonderful platform to highlight the work of Momentum. It was an experience which everybody really enjoyed."

For more information about Momentum Skills in Aberdeen, contact Denise Hutton on 01224 625 580 or email dhutton@momentumskills.org

Momentum Skills launches 'Welcome to my World' exhibition

Momentum Skills in Aberdeen has launched the 'Welcome to my World' photography and art exhibition, which depicts images representing client's individual experiences of life following an acquired brain injury.

Momentum's clients have been working hard to develop a photographic flair during their time attending the Grampian Brain Injury Service.

The digital photography course is designed to encourage individuals to not just see the world around them, but to engage with it in new and imaginative ways. This is done with the support of tutor Mark Wyness who works with clients and provides strategies that encourage clients to work creatively.

Following an acquired brain injury, life can change very quickly and often the most seemingly insignificant of things can come to mean so much.

Liz Howarth, vocational tutor at Momentum Skills said: "The 'Welcome to my World' exhibition is a celebration and expression of individual perspective. Momentum is delighted to provide a platform to this important and meaningful work."

Momentum Fundraising's Top Hats & Tiaras Ball and Forth Bridge Abseil

Momentum has two imaginative events coming up in its fundraising calendar – the chance to attend a fabulous Top Hats & Tiaras Grand Ball or abseil the Forth Rail Bridge.

The Top Hats & Tiaras Grand Ball is being held on Saturday, September 14 in the Hilton Aberdeen Treetops Hotel. With only a few weeks to go before this fantastic black-tie ball, there are still a few tables left. All of the funds raised from this

fantastic evening will support Momentum Skills clients attending the Grampian Brain Injury Centre. So, if you are a fan of great food, entertainment and company and enjoy getting all dressed up, then this is the night for you.

The date for the Forth Rail Bridge Abseil is Sunday October 27. Reach new heights by abseiling 165 feet SAS-style (or free-fall) from the spectacular bridge at South Queensferry, near Edinburgh. There are still a few places left for this unique challenge will offer a real adrenaline rush for the daring, while raising vital funds to help support Momentum.

For more information about Momentum's fundraising activities check out www.momentumuk.org.uk/fundraising or contact Lucy Wilson on 0141 419 5281 or email events@momentumfundraising.co.uk

About Momentum

Momentum is a leading not-for-profit organisation providing rehabilitation, training and care services for disabled and socially-excluded people throughout the UK. Momentum comprises Momentum Skills, Momentum Care and Haven.

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