

# Vintage Vibes: A Bold New Chapter for the Future of Friendships





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# Vintage Vibes: A Bold New Chapter for the Future of Friendships



We are thrilled to announce that in our 10th year, Vintage Vibes is embarking on an exciting new journey - moving to become an independent charity! This is a pivotal moment for us, one that marks both a new beginning and the continued development of our important mission to tackle loneliness in older people through friendship.



For nearly a decade, Vintage Vibes has worked alongside wonderful parent charities, LifeCare and Space @ Broomhouse Hub, and with their full support, we are now ready to step out on our own in 2025. We hope this move will empower us to create even more meaningful, long-term friendships and build vibrant communities for amazing over 60s and volunteers as part of a fresh-thinking five-year strategy.



The work ahead will be challenging, especially as the charity sector faces growing pressures of increased demand, costs and increased competition for funding. The first year or so may be tough, but we are confident that this transition will lay the groundwork for a stronger future, and our commitment to reducing loneliness through long-lasting relationships and groups remains unwavering.

We are planting the seeds for a future of friendships and everyone can be a part of it. Whether you're an individual, a business, or a community group, there are many ways you can help us shape the future of Vintage Vibes and transform the lives of isolated older people in Edinburgh and beyond.



Together, we can create a future where no one has to face loneliness alone. For now, we thank you for your ongoing support, and, of course, for your friendship.

The Vintage Vibes Team

WATCH OUR MOST RECENT AWARD VIDEO!





Vintage Vibes is a partnership between LifeCare Edinburgh, Registered Scottish Charity (SC012641) & Space @ The Broomhouse Hub, Registered Scottish Charity (SC003706).













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### Helen Forsyth, Chair, Vintage Vibes

"I have enjoyed enormously watching this creative, thoughtful and energetic organisation grow and develop. It is now ready to be independent and we welcome that. Befriending has long been a passion of mine and I have in past times been an active befriender. This is one of the most important ways to tackle isolation and loneliness in older people and something that brings such joy can only go from strength to strength."

### Sarah van Putten, CEO, LifeCare

"As Vintage Vibes approaches it's 10th Birthday, we feel it is the right time for it become an independent charity in its own right. It has been wonderful to work in partnership with SPACE at Broomhouse to develop Vintage Vibes and to see it grow and flourish and we will be continuing to support and share our expertise, as they take this next important step."

## Neil Hay, CEO, Space

"I'm inspired by Vintage Vibes' remarkable growth and impact over the past few years. Through innovative programs and unwavering dedication to the VIPs, Vintage Vibes has transformed countless lives. The positive ripple effect of their work is a testament to the power of love and compassion.

Their commitment to making a difference has uplifted communities and inspired an outstanding volunteer team to join their cause; their collective effort will hold them in good stead as they move into the next chapter as an independent charity."







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Space













## Vintage Vibes Charity: Frequently Asked Questions



#### I hear Vintage Vibes is moving to become an independent charity. What does that mean and why now?

Vintage Vibes was established in 2015 to tackle the loneliness crisis in Edinburgh with the support and guidance of two long established charities, Lifecare and Space. It had always been in the long-term plan to move to become a charity as we grew, and over the past year we have collaborated to make this a reality in 2025. Vintage Vibes will continue to evolve and build on our legacy of tackling loneliness through friendship.

#### What will change?

For our wonderful VIPs, volunteers and supporters, Vintage Vibes will continue as before and there are no immediate plans to make any significant changes as part of becoming a fresh, new charity. However, we must acknowledge that alongside this journey the charity sector as a whole is facing growing pressures of increased demand, rising costs and a challenging climate in which to raise funds. As we always have, we will work to adapt to these challenges and our focus will always be on how to best support our community members, consulting with them at each step.

#### How will the recent funding cuts affect Vintage Vibes?

The loss of funding and funding opportunities is a challenge across the charity sector, impacting many communities doing transformational work, and we will have to continue to adapt to this.

We remain optimistic for the future and have been overwhelmed by the good wishes and support of the wonderful Edinburgh community. We are actively seeking a variety of income streams to support our work, and with local support through our campaigns, regular donations and the fundraising support from lovely locals and businesses we are looking to the future with confidence. We believe that becoming an independent charity will only enhance our opportunities to be a sustainable initiative long term.

#### Will Space and LifeCare still be involved?

Lifecare and Space's support over the past 9 years has been a springboard to our success providing a nurturing space to establish Vintage Vibes as we have evolved and grown. Now as we enter our 10th year, we are ready to embrace our independence. We have several shared goals between the three charities and will continue to work together in many ways to support each other, as we do with the wider third sector community.

#### Are you still looking for new volunteers?

Yes! We will be continuing to offer friendship matches and many other wonderful volunteering opportunities.

























## Vintage Vibes Charity: FAQs continued







#### Will existing friendships change?

Our move to independence will not affect our friendship matches for our VIPs or our volunteers and they will continue as before.

#### What about the Vintage Vibe groups?

Our move to independent status will not affect our groups, however, as has always been the case the continuation of groups will be dependent on our team's capacity to provide ongoing support.

#### Who will be involved/in charge?

As an independent charity, Vintage Vibes will manage its own administration and will have a board of trustees who will lead its future and activities.

#### Will VIP's Friendships Co-ordinators still be the same?

We hope that everything will continue as before, and our Friendship Coordinators will be on hand if you need any advice or support during the transition.



#### Are you still taking referrals?

We will continue to open referrals as before, which is on a postcode basis connected to where we have capacity (and sufficient funding).

#### Will you still operate across Edinburgh?

Yes. We currently work city-wide within Edinburgh.

#### Will VIPs and Volunteers see any changes day-to-day?

It is our ambition that current community members will see little change day to day due to becoming independent, and in the longer term we hope that this will create a space for even more exciting opportunities for our VIPs and volunteers.



However, separate to becoming an independent charity Vintage Vibes will continue to adapt to the challenges currently facing the charity sector, and we want to be honest that this may involve temporary or longer term shifts in what we do. We will continue to update our community members surrounding any changes that take place, and consult with our community whenever and wherever we are able.















## HOW CAN I HELP THE FUTURE OF FRIENDSHIPS IN EDINBURGH?

There is so much that you can do to help us thrive and transform lives within Edinburgh.

- You can **volunteer** within a friendship, in the office or even as a trustee.
- You can **support** us, as an individual, through your place of work or by doing an exciting fundraising challenge.
- You can become an **ambassador** and help us spread the word about tackling loneliness online and offline.

We welcome everyone to be part of this journey and would love to hear from you if you would like to make a difference!

# SUPPORTING FUTURE FRIENDSHIPS ...

If you're looking for a meaningful way to help us secure the future of friendships for more local people in Edinburgh, here are a few ways that you can make a real difference (only if you'd like to and are able to support, absolutely no pressure!).

#### MAKE A ONE TIME DONATION

- You can send a cash or cheque donation to Vintage Vibes to the address below. Please make cheques out to LifeCare Edinburgh and include a note with your name, contact details and "Vintage Vibes" so we can direct your gift properly.
- You can also donate via our website at https://vintagevibes.org.uk/support/

#### BECOME A MONTHLY SUPPORTER

• Joining our family of regular donors helps us plan and grow. You can set up a donation of £3, £5, £10, or more per month through our website, or contact us if you'd prefer a form sent by post.

#### (Thank you so much to the fabulous folks who already support us in this way each month - you are amazing!)

HELP US MAKE FUTURE FRIENDSHIPS! If you have any other ideas of how you might like to support our work creating friendships for over 60s across the city, please do not hesitate to let us know.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

#### Call us on 0131 343 0955 Email on hello@vintagevibes.org.uk Write to us at Vintage Vibes, LifeCare, 2 Cheyne Street, Edinburgh, EH4 1JB