Edinburgh charity needs your vote!



"Third Age Computer Fun" is on-line for national award

Edinburgh business needs your vote to win business award

Mamie Donald, founder of Edinburgh charity, Third Age Computer Fun, has been shortlisted in the Contribution to the Community category of the Nectar Business Small Business Awards 2013, and now she is looking for local support to help her company bring the title home.

Third Age Computer Fun is being pitted against five other shortlisted businesses in a public vote, open until 4 August. To help Third Age Business Fun win the title, vote for them on the <u>award's Facebook page</u>.

If successful, the company will win £2,000 cash, 50,000 Nectar points and the prestigious title. What's more Mamie will be invited to the Nectar Business Round Table event, which will take place in September, where she will meet and get business advice from lead judge, Karren Brady.

Having graduated with a BSc in Computing as a mature student, Mamie was looking for a way to help her community. Her eureka moment came while playing a computer which required her to communicate with other players online. It struck Mamie that

this would be a great way for elderly people who struggle to leave the house to interact with the outside world. Mamie got a NESTA grant and started workshops for the elderly in local coffee shops. Two years later, there are nine drop in social clubs in Edinburgh, with three more due to open this year.

Mamie commented:- "I'm delighted to be shortlisted in the Nectar Business Small Business Awards and I hope our online gamers will vote for us. With so little being done to involve the elderly in a world that is increasingly relying on technology, it's important that charities like Third Age Computer Fun get support and winning this award would certainly help.

"Attending the round table and being able to get first hand advice from the likes of Karren Brady about my business would be really valuable in taking us to the next level. The £2,000 prize money and 50,000 Nectar points will be used to help with management fees and hold more sessions for lonely elderly people."

James Frost, Marketing Director at Nectar said:- "The standard of entries into the Nectar Business Small Business Awards has been exceptionally high this year and with an 80% increase in the number of entries, competition is clearly fierce. The Contribution to the Community awards looks for a small business, social enterprise or charity able to demonstrate a positive impact in the local community either by helping a specific demographic or the wider community. So if you want Third Age Computer Fun to win you'll need to get voting. We wish all the shortlisted candidates, including Mamie, the best of luck."