

Children's, Youth and Parenting Organisations' Network Newsletter July 2010

If you lead or help run a voluntary/community organisation in North Somerset that works with children, young people or their families, read on.....



In this issue you will find information under the following headings:

- News
- Funding Information
- Training
- Events
- Feedback

NEWS:

VANS NETWORK EVENTS - FANTASTIC RESPONSE!

Thank you to all the groups who attended our Yatton Information & Networking Event on June 21st - it was good to see so many of you there. Thanks also to the organisations that provided details of their services, particularly the Police and the Family Information Service, and the local shops and businesses who donated prizes.

The free evening included food, a children's corner, funding advice, general information & resources on each of the Every Child Matters outcomes and a chance to give your feedback on the Children & Young People's Plan.

We are currently planning two more events for the autumn, one in Pill and one in Weston East (Milton & Worle) and will keep you informed of dates and locations when confirmed.

STOP PRESS! VOLUNTARY SECTOR FORUM - WED 14 JULY

AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED!

You are invited to the
Voluntary Sector Forum Meeting
to hear directly from the Chief Executive of North Somerset Council and North Somerset NHS about
the work of the North Somerset Delivery Partnership

also

The Big Society - what does the Government's flagship initiative mean for the Voluntary and
Community Sector?

Venue:
The For All Healthy Living Centre
68 Lonsdale Avenue
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 3SJ

Wednesday 14th July
9.30am - 12.40 (followed by lunch)

Please confirm your attendance via
georgie.bigg@vansmail.org.uk or telephone 01934 410192

We look forward to seeing you there.

MESSAGE FROM TIM BLASDALE, Asst Locality Leader (Weston East) Youth service

Within Weston East (Milton and Worle) there are a wide range of activities organised during the school holidays (Summer, Half terms, Easter etc). These activities are planned and delivered to a wide age range (0 - 19 years). There is however little co-ordination or collective publicity / promotion of these opportunities.

The development of a Positive Activities Partnership may be a way forward to work together to improve the way in which these activities are planned, designed, marketed and delivered.

The development of a similar partnership in the South Ward some years ago continues to be successful in providing activities which are both open access to any child / young person or targeted at those who are more vulnerable or isolated.

You are invited to a meeting to explore what benefits and or support there might be to developing a Positive Activities Partnership. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to share what activities are being provided, and will focus on activities for the October half term.

The meeting will be held in the Conference Room, Worle School at 10am on Monday 6th September. If you can attend and be part of the partnership group or if you are unable to attend but would like to be kept informed, please contact Tim Blasdale North Somerset Council Tel 01934 42 6179 Mob 07776 170172 tim.blasdale@n-somerset.gov.uk

CHANGES TO ISA/CRB

Following the change of government, there is still a lot of confusion about what is exactly happening to the Vetting & Barring scheme. Click on <http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vbs> for a handy summary and useful links.

NORTH SOMERSET'S FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

Looking for childcare? Things to do in the summer holidays? Out of school clubs and activities? Toddler groups? Parenting support? If so then the Family Information Service may be able to help you. We have information on all registered childcare in North Somerset as well as details of local organisations and other activities for children and young people ages 0-19 years. Information can be found on line or by contacting us by telephone or email. www.n-somersetcsd.org.uk This on-line directory aims to provide a broad spectrum of information relevant to children, young people, families and those who work with them.

You will find sections on activities, childcare, schools, learning, health, rights, family support, voluntary organisations, helplines, council services and more. There are various ways in which you can search the directory, through the zones, postcode/ keyword search or by the interactive map just by clicking onto your village or town.

The directory is constantly updated and we would appreciate your feedback to ensure it remains accurate and user-friendly. If you know of any service that you think should be included please complete the online form or contact us- it is completely FREE to go onto the directory.

You can contact the Family Information Service on 01934 426 300 or email fis@n-somerset.gov.uk

FAITHNET SOUTHWEST

Faithnetsouthwest is running a survey of all faith groups in North Somerset. This project is facilitated by local organisations. VANS has been nominated as the preferred contact for groups in Pill, Long Ashton, Clevedon and Portishead. If you would like to talk to us about it, please contact us on 01934 836953 or sally.buddle@vansmail.org.uk Did you know that we here at VANS can provide you with free advice on safeguarding, funding and developing volunteers, for example? Please do let us know if we can help.

IT SUPPORT

Tony Hill lives in Weston and has recently started his IT support business with the help of CSV. He volunteers at the Helicopter Museum one day a week and has planned, organised and expanded their IT usage by doing tasks such as implementing backups, database design, networking and PC installation, configuration and upgrades.

So, if you have any IT needs, contact Tony Hill tony@ukpcguys.com 07976 049 302

'**TOYS FOR ALL**' is a new service which aims to increase the awareness and availability of high quality multicultural resources by providing a range of toys and books suitable for children aged 2-7 years, (some items stocked are suitable for older children and this range will grow). Sue Lowney, the owner, will also give short free demonstrations (just charging for travel for venues outside Bristol), or deliver training sessions of approx 2 hours on how to use the resources. Contact Sue on 0117 9238616, or e-mail suelo_bristol@yahoo.co.uk for a catalogue.

CHaOS IS COMING TO NORTH SOMERSET IN JULY!

CHaOS (Cambridge Hands-On Science) is a non-profit voluntary student group based at Cambridge University that believes science is fun and relevant to all. Come along and try exciting hands-on experiments, meet expert student scientists, and find out the answers to all those things you ever wondered about the world around you. Experiments are most suitable for ages 8-108 (though younger siblings are welcome too, all children accompanied by an adult please). All events are absolutely FREE.

Saturday 24th July: Corpus Christi Church Hall, 14 Ellenborough Park South, **Weston-Super-Mare**, North Somerset, BS23 1XW

Sunday 25th July: The Barn, Great Western Road, **Clevedon**, BS21 6HB

Both events 12-5pm, drop in any time. Free entry. See www.chaossience.org.uk for more details.

YOUTH ARTS STARTER KIT- an excellent and essential resource - The kit has been produced by Artsworld, the national youth arts development agency, as part of their Artsplan department. It is essential for anyone who is starting to work together with young people in the arts and would like a range of useful tools to support them in their work. Artsplan is pleased to offer the Youth Arts Starter Kit at a special price of £30 (incl P&P)! A FREE 441 page Youth Arts Directory will also be included in the items dispatched! For further details, or if you would like to purchase a Youth Arts Starter Kit please contact The Artsplan Team on t: 023 8068 2535 or e: artsplan@artsworld.org.uk.

OLYMPIC GAMES VOLUNTEERING FOR UNDER 18s - Newham's young mayor has helped overturn a ban on under-18s volunteering at the 2012 Olympic and Paralympics Games. Under original proposals by the Games' London Organising Committee (LOCOG), volunteer positions would only have been open to people who were 18 or over on 1 January 2012. But after strong opposition from young people and youth groups, the committee has overturned its decision. For more news on volunteering opportunities for the 2012 games click [here](#)

BACKING YOUNG BRITAIN is a campaign that encourages organisations of all sizes to provide mentoring opportunities to young people who are seeking jobs. Mentors receive a day's training and then need to commit to a couple of hours contact per month. Their organisations may benefit from marketing attention. The scheme runs until **September 2011**. For more information about how to get involved, please read the attached [letter](#) and see the promotional [information](#) here.

FUNDING INFORMATION:

COMIC RELIEF UK GRANT PROGRAMME: CYCLE 4 NOW Open to Applications - The aim is to bring positive and lasting change in the lives of poor and disadvantaged people in the UK by investing in work that addresses people's immediate needs, as well as tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice. Registered charities and voluntary organisations (including social enterprises and community interest companies) in the UK are invited to apply for grants of between £25,000 and £40,000. The deadline for Cycle 4 applications is **17 September 2010**. To find out more click [here](#).

COMMUNITYBUILDERS - The Communitybuilders Fund will be open for applications in mid September. The programme will be delivered by the Adventure Capital Fund in partnership with Futurebuilders England and the Community Alliance and will provide investment, resources, training and support to community-led organisations. See [here](#) for more information.

TRAINING:

COMMUNITY SAFEGUARDING CHAMPIONS TRAINING - ARE THEY SAFE?

The Are they Safe? pack is a **FREE** toolkit full of easy to use materials for community and voluntary groups and organisations. The resource includes a step by step guide, a DVD and other information to help managers, staff and volunteers who provide activities to children and young people feel confident about what they need to do to safeguard children effectively. The aim of the workshops is to familiarise participants with the resource and to explore how they can use it to improve safeguarding practice in their own group or organisation.

The training will be freely available to organisations in local areas who are able to bring together 15-20 participants from a range of organisations. The participants will be trained and resourced as local community safeguarding champions, their role will be to share information about the are they safe resource and safe network to other Voluntary and community sector workers and volunteers in their local area. They will receive ongoing national helpline support and local mentoring as requested. For information contact Hayley Lazarus on 01823 365435 hayley_lazarus@learning-southwest.org.uk

CASCADE'S AUTUMN PROGRAMME ACROSS THE SOUTH WEST - The following courses are available throughout September:

Leadership and Building Effective Teams – **Tuesday 7th Sept** (Newquay)

Introduction to Board Governance for 'not-for-private-profit' Enterprises - **Thursday 9th Sept** (Puxton Park M5, junc 21)

Risk Management for Board Members of 'not-for-private-profit' Organisations - **Thursday 9th Sept** at Puxton Park (M5, junc 21)

****SPECIAL OFFER! BOOK ONTO BOTH THE MORNING AND THE AFTERNOON SESSIONS - AND RECEIVE A £10 DISCOUNT AND FREE LUNCH!****

A Practical Approach to Fundraising: maximise your success and explore new income streams – **Tuesday 14th Sept** (Taunton)

'Managing Lone Workers' – **Thursday 16th Sept** (Sparkford, Yeovil)

'Managing Staff – the essentials!' - **Tuesday 21 September** (Taunton)

Financial Management Demystified – **Tuesday 28th September** (Sparkford, Yeovil)

Click [here](#) for more information or to book

There is presently up to £1000 **Train to Gain** funding available to help develop **leadership and management skills**. This can be accessed to pay for Cascade training courses for **Managers & Trustees**. If you haven't accessed this fund before, and your organization employs 5 or more members of staff, you could be eligible.

We can now assist you with your application! Please contact us to find out more by emailing:

lauren@cascaadetrainingplus.co.uk

FREE ONLINE SERVICE TO HELP COMPLIANCE WITH HUMAN RESOURCES AND HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION.

Charity Builder UK is a free, online service which can be used by all not-for-profit groups including charities, community groups and social enterprises. The service has been funded by Capacitybuilders, and developed in recognition that small and medium sized charities often find it hard to comply with Human Resources and Health and Safety legislation which are two notoriously difficult, time consuming and costly areas of essential administration which increasingly need to be demonstrated as part of funding applications.

NB: Voluntary Action is happy to provide information on relevant training courses but is not responsible for content; please contact individual providers for full details.

TRAINING FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES:

Are you a community pre-school group run by a Management Committee that would welcome brushing up on your skills?

If so, then you could become "Coffee break trustees".....

In six short coffee break sessions, which could be run just before or after your usual meetings, all the key areas crucial to running your group more effectively are covered.

Contact: nicci.appelqvist@vansmail.org.uk

EVENTS:

LEAD PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS

Calling all lead professionals, we are establishing locality based networks for all practitioners who have the Lead Professional Role. Lead Professionals co-ordinate the action planning with a child/young person and their family following a Common Assessment Framework meeting. The aim of the network is to provide peer support for Lead Professionals, offer the opportunity for professional development and the moderation of practice across Lead Professionals. It can also be a place to bring your questions and your issues and to tell us what support you would find helpful.

The arrangements for the network meetings are as follows:

Weston South with Jenie Eastman
9:30-11, at the 'Healthy Living Centre'
5th October

Weston East with Tim Blasdale
9:30-11, at 'The Campus'
20th October

Central with Jeannie Osmond
9:30-11, at '4Oaks', Nailsea
14th September

North with Jan Harper-Shea
9:30-11, at 'St Barnabus' Portishead
16th September

Full details are available on CPD online. Any questions to: Louise Lynch, 01934 426373

FEEDBACK:

Provision of Parenting Groups:

Do you run a Parenting Group?

The North Somerset Children's Strategy Group is collating information on existing provision in the form of a short questionnaire; please contact us for a copy.

CONTACT US ON:

sally.buddle@vansmail.org.uk sue.youde@vansmail.org.uk nicci.appelqvist@vansmail.org.uk
frederique.wigmore@vansmail.org.uk

Don't forget to view the Voluntary Action North Somerset website:

www.vansweb.org.uk for regular updates on funding news, events and information.