

VANS In-Step Newsletter–May 2009–10th Edition

Welcome to the tenth edition of the **In-Step Newsletter** brought to you by Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS).

Are you or your group in need of any additional support or help? Maybe just feel a need to run something by a third party outside your own organisation? If you do feel in need, please feel free to pick up the phone or send us an email. VANS is here to support you.

VANS News and Events

In-Step Training

Our next training sessions will take place in the autumn, but we are always keen to hear your suggestions for potential subjects. Just let us know and if we can generate enough interest, we can run the session.

Call Justin Parsons on 01934 410196, or by email justin.parsons@vansmail.org.uk. Or write to us at VANS, The Badger Centre, 3-6 Wadham Street, Weston-s-Mare, BS23 1JY.

In-Step Network Meeting

IMPORTANT CHANGE OF DATE

Friday 5th June – Guest Speaker, John Penrose, M.P. for Weston-s-Mare. 2.00-3-30pm – Venue The Badger Centre.

Spaces for this event have almost all gone, so please phone Donna on 01934 410192 now if you would like to attend.

In-Step Outreach Events

Voluntary Action have hit the road as part of a year long “tour” which will endeavour to take in most of North Somerset.

All events take place between 10am and 1pm and are “drop-in” style. Just show up and we will do our best to help you and your

groups. So if you need volunteers (or want to volunteer), or if you need funding and development advice, come and see us.

June 4th – Hangstones Pavilion, Yatton

Further events are scheduled for later in the year.

We will also be attending Community Cafes in June at the following locations:

June 3rd – Village Hall, Westfield Road, Banwell

June 19th – The Wesley Centre, High Street, Portishead

June 26th – The Old School Rooms, Station Road, Congresbury

These events also take place between 10am and 1pm and usually feature a range of exhibitors, both statutory and voluntary sector. For more information on other dates and venues just click here [Community Cafes](#)

VANS Spring Newsletter is now available as a PDF file. If you did not get to see a copy and would like one, just let us know and we will send you a copy.

Voluntary Sector Forum will hold its next meeting on June 4th between 10am and 1pm. The venue this time is Puxton park. For further information contact VANS on 01934 410192.

Silver Jubilee for Volunteers' Week – Time to Celebrate

North Somerset is preparing to celebrate volunteering and hold a thank you event for volunteers. The event will be hosted by Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS).

Volunteers' Week is a national celebration of volunteers and volunteering which takes place from 1 – 7 June. This year, Volunteers' Week is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Volunteers' Week plays a huge part in raising the profile of the millions of volunteers who regularly contribute to society, while inspiring others to get involved too.

Voluntary and community groups based in North Somerset are invited to nominate a volunteer from their organisation to receive a certificate for their efforts, enjoy refreshments and one lucky winner drawn from the hat will win a special prize.

This is also a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of your cause and show potential volunteers the great opportunities you have available.

The event takes place in the pagoda on Clevedon Pier on Wednesday the 3rd June. Spaces are limited to 30, so get your nominations in as soon as possible. Contact Annette Stenhouse on 01934 410193 or annette.stenhouse@vansmail.org.uk.

Local News and Events

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED - DOES YOUR GROUP NEED FUNDING?

"BBC Children In Need funds projects delivered by organisations working with disadvantaged children and young people, who must be 18 years and under, living in the UK, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands."

A choice of two Children in Need funding application workshops will take place on:

Monday 8th June 2009

The Purple Sheep Centre, Hughenden Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 2UR

10.30am - 12.30pm

Tuesday 9th June 2009

Clevedon Community Association, Sunhill Park, 2 Princes Road, Clevedon BS21 7SZ

10.30am - 12.30pm

FREE to participants, accessible venues, refreshments provided!

A fantastic opportunity in your local area to hear Emma Beeston,

Voluntary Action North Somerset Limited

www.vansweb.org.uk

Company Limited by Guarantee No: 3466492 Registered Charity No: 1065916

Affiliated to Volunteering England

Member: National Association for Voluntary and Community Action

BBC Children in Need Regional Manager South West, talk about the funding application process.

To book, email carol.slocombe@vansmail.org.uk or telephone 01934 410192 with your name, group/organisation, choice of workshop and contact details by: **Monday 1st June 2009**

Weston in Bloom are looking for volunteers for the community show taking place on the Beach Lawns on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June. A variety of positions are available, such as stewarding, litter picking and gardening. In the first instance contact Rafika at Weston Town Council on 01934 632567 or commleisure@weston-super-marecouncil.gov.uk.

Training Opportunities are coming to the West Country courtesy of the national performance programme at Charities Evaluation Service (CES). Courses, locations and dates below:

Introducing Performance for Support Providers, Taunton (11th June)

Quality: Supporting Groups, Bristol (30th June)

Monitoring & Evaluation: Supporting Groups, Taunton (9th July)

Strategic Planning: Supporting Groups, Bristol (14th & 15th July)

For further and booking information on these visit <http://www.improvingsupport.org.uk/events/index.php?region=South%20West&>.

These courses are designed for people who provide hands-on support to third sector groups.

Training Courses from ACEVO are taking place in Bristol with the following subjects on offer:

User & Volunteer Involvement (5th June)

Strategic Planning for Executive Teams (9th June)

Risk Management (23rd June)

Further and booking information available here
https://www.acevo.org.uk/index.cfm/display_page/professional_development.

The Jessie May Trust have been chosen as the charity of the year by Bristol International Airport. They are looking for collectors to help them at the terminal any Saturday or Monday throughout the rest of this year. If you can do a few hours, or are a group that can manage the whole day then they need you.

For further information please contact them on 0117 961 6840. To learn more about their work www.jessiemaytrust.org.uk.

Theatre Orchard Project have a fantastic new website. Complete with details of both past productions and future projects it is well worth checking out <http://www.theatreorchard.org.uk>.

The Centre for Deaf People Bristol cover the whole of North Somerset too. They have a tremendous selection of equipment to make life easier for the deaf and hard of hearing, as well as providing countless other services and opportunities. Do check out their website <http://www.centrefordeaf.org.uk>.

National News and Events

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) today announced a new £10.2 million Strategic Funding Programme, providing three-year project-based funding of up to £450,000 for community and voluntary sector organisations. announces £10 million funding programme for voluntary and community sector: The Strategic Funding Programme, will provide three-year project-based funding of up to £450,000 for community and voluntary sector organisations.
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/aboutus/grants/pages/grantsandfunding.aspx>

The Charity Commission are to launch an ebulletin for trustees in an effort to keep them up to date with their latest guidance. Nothing on their website as yet but here is more information on the announcement from Third Sector Daily.

<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/News/DailyBulletin/904231/Charity-Commission-launch-email-bulletin-charity-trustees/EEFDBF896B7A258687A961556C0257A5/?DCMP=EMC-DailyBulletin>.

CRB Checks – The Law is Changing - Changes to vetting processes for those working or volunteering with vulnerable people are being introduced over the next few years by the newly formed Independent Safeguarding Authority. <http://www.isa.gov.org.uk>.

The Clore Social Leadership Programme is a new Fellowship Programme targeted at aspiring leaders in the third sector. Fellows will be recruited through an open application process.

To be eligible, potential Fellows must be working in or closely with the wider third sector – as a member of staff or volunteer working in a charity, community organisation, social enterprise or co-operative, or in social housing, a foundation or trust – and will have demonstrated their leadership potential in some of the work they have already undertaken.

Applications for the 2010 Fellowships open in the last week of May 2009; the deadline for completed applications is 30 June 2009. For more details, visit: www.cloresocialleadership.org.uk

Considering a merger? Futurebuilders have launched a dedicated section of their site where charities considering such a move can post their details in a bid to find potential partners. <http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk/what-we-offer/services/merge%11maker>.

National Survey of Third Sector Organisations. The initial results are in and they do make for some interesting reading.

The reports analyse the sector via local authority area and specifically look at the impact respondents feel that their local authority has on the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector.

The report also has some interesting statistics about the size and composition of the sector in North Somerset at the end of the

report.

Click on this link and then scroll down until you find North Somerset UA and then open the PDF file.

<http://www.nstso.com/reports/>

The Directory of Social Change have launched “My DSC,” a dedicated area of the site with access to additional information such as management and governance, finance and fundraising and legal issues.

<http://www.dsc.org.uk/AboutUs/MyDSC/MyDSCFAQs>

The Nominet Foundation launch funding programme

Nominet, one of the world's largest Internet registries has launched the Nominet Trust, a charity that provides funding to innovative projects which strive to improve and encourage the safe use of the Internet for educational, inclusion and other charitable purposes.

They will give grants to organisations for innovative IT-related projects that can make a positive difference in the UK, developing countries and around the world.

Go to: www.nominettrust.org.uk/index.php to find out more.

The ACEVO CEO Summit takes place on June 11th 2009 in London. You can check out the agenda for the day here

https://www.acevo.org.uk/index.cfm/display_page/professional_development/filter_orderon/title/filter_direction/asc/control_contenttype/event_list/display_open/events_1428.

The DSC's Charity Fair 2009 takes place in Westminster over two days, Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th June. There is a choice of over 100 different workshops and “masterclasses.” There is a dedicated website full of information <http://www.charityfair.org.uk>.

This programme has been brought together by funding received from the ChangeUp programme and delivered through West of England ChangeUp Consortium member organisations.

ChangeUp is a government initiative, managed by Capacitybuilders, to strengthen the voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors by encouraging and enabling the delivery of effective infrastructure services.



For more details on any aspect of this project or the contents of this email, please contact:

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