

VANS In-Step Newsletter–Jan 2010–18th Edition

VANS HAS A NEW CHAIR!

At the Annual General Meeting on 30th November 2009 the VANS Board of Trustees appointed Darien Parkes as a new Chair to replace the outgoing Chair, Trevor Jones. Darien Parkes, has lived in Langford for over 25 years and has a husband, two adult children and a 2 year old granddaughter.

Darien took a career break from a merchant bank while her children were small and returned to work in the voluntary sector. For the last 20 years she has worked in the South West, firstly as a Deputy Regional Director for Business in the Community and for the last 10 years as Director, Gloucestershire Community Foundation.

As relaxation, she enjoys reading, gardening and movies -when she is allowed spare time from baby sitting!

VANS Training Schedule

Details below of our next three training sessions:

Introduction to Marketing in the Voluntary & Community Sector 26th Feb (9-30am-3-30pm)

Managing Conflict & Aggression in the Workplace 12th March (9-30am-4-30pm)

Fundraising for the 21st Century 26th March (9-30am-4pm)

All of these events are held in the Badger Centre, Wadham Street, Weston-s-Mare. A place can be secured by completing a booking form and sending a £10 deposit, which is refundable on the day.

Local News and Events

Equalities in Local Area Agreements is an event to be held on Tuesday 2nd March to help people in equalities groups to have more impact on local decision-making processes. Contact Wendy

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

Bryant at VANS on 01934 410195, or email wendy.bryant@vansmail.org.uk.

Supportive Parents Parent Partnership Service are holding a support group meeting in the Folk Hall in Portishead. This will be on Thursday 11th February, 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm. The guest speakers will be Claire Adams, Angela Gibson and Pru Chapman from the North Somerset Inclusion Advisory Team.

They will be talking about:

'Creative approaches to include children with complex learning, communication and social needs in mainstream education' - with feedback from their recent research 'Canadian Models in Action.'

For further information, call the Information and Support line 0117 9897725 or www.supportiveparents.org.uk.

EY 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

South West Regional Event 10.00 to 4.00 on Thursday 25th February 2010 at the Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare, North Somerset.

The event will seek to highlight the key themes of the European Year:

- Child poverty
- Working Age poverty and social exclusion
- Severe multiple deprivation and those who are most at risk of social exclusion
- Older people, poverty and social exclusion

The event is for:

- People from organisations currently engaged in anti poverty work
- People experiencing poverty
- Policy makers in national regional and local organisations
- Representatives of organisations not yet involved but with the potential to combat poverty

For further and booking information contact South West Forum 01392 823758 or www.southwestforum.org.uk.

Managing in Tough Times is the title of a free workshop aimed at senior managers and board members of third sector organisations and development workers supporting the not for profit sector.

The session takes place at the Purple Sheep Centre, H Church, Hughenden Road on Wednesday 10th March 10am until 4pm. For further details and booking please contact Social Enterprise Works by emailing sam@socialenterpriseworks.org for a booking form or phone on 0117 9070080. A bursary will be available to support travel and attendance costs.

Rise, the voice for SW Social Enterprise are running a series of informal one to one advice clinics for social enterprises. Events are taking place across the region but the closest one to North Somerset is on the 10th March in Taunton. More details here http://www.rise-sw.co.uk/wrap.php?file=upcoming_events.htm.

Other News and Events

Volunteering is about giving your time to do something useful, without getting paid (apart from expenses). In return it can improve your employability through gaining useful soft and hard employment skills, improve your confidence and self-esteem as well as providing you with a great way to meet new people.

The range of opportunities is huge. Whatever skills and experience you have, there is something that you can do.

Ladder4learning have produced a useful briefing sheet which can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/yeosz6b>

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

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This work 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.

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