

### Spring 2008

Welcome to this first edition of the CVSC Newsletter for the year 08/09.

#### Membership

Annual membership for CVSC is now due, so please renew promptly or join now, to ensure your organisation receives full benefits. Please see the accompanying membership information pack for voluntary and community groups enclosed, for your convenience, with this newsletter. Make sure your July Newsletter is the comprehensive Membership mailing! Please note the fee remains at £15 for another year.

#### New Volunteers!

CVSC are delighted to welcome another 3 new volunteers to join our team! They will be giving their time and skills to developing areas within the Conwy Community Directory and Funding Information. This is in addition to our long standing volunteer, Jerry Lloyd who recently celebrated a whole year with us! Many of you have met Jerry when you have visited the Colwyn Bay Office or at our 10 year Anniversary event. He is currently involved with our newsletter production.

#### Newsletter Development

Thank you to all those who have indicated a preference in mailing format. We hope to introduce an e-mail option beginning with our next newsletter—July 2008. If you haven't already done so, then please advise us if this would be an acceptable format for you.

#### CFAP CVSC Small Grants Scheme

Successful organisations from rounds 9 and 10 are listed overleaf in the Funding page. Final details of the achievements of the whole 3 year scheme outcomes are included in the separate pullout flyer enclosed. **As you can readily see, it has meant huge benefits to many small groups across the county.**

Unfortunately our recent application to manage another 3 years of the scheme has been unsuccessful—despite tremendous support from you, the sector in Conwy. We will be applying again in the April 2008 round of bids.

#### Pilot Grass Roots Fund—Welsh Assembly pilot grant scheme, Conwy area

The aim of this pilot scheme was to build capacity in small voluntary and community groups serving a disadvantaged group. Successful applicants with awards totalling £4,140.76 were as follows:

- Clwb Gwawr Crwst
- Conwy County Voluntary Access Group
- Gogarth Tuesday RDA Group
- Tea Laughter & Company TLC
- North Wales Filipino Association
- North Wales Chinese School
- North Wales Chinese Association
- ◆ North Wales Migrant Workers Support Group

Another round of grant monies for 2008/09 may be launched in September '08 subject to review and success of the pilot scheme.

#### New Service—Safe Deposit for your Governing Document

Following on from the success of a similar scheme operated by our colleagues in Pembrokeshire, CVSC would like to offer voluntary and community groups a place of safekeeping for those all important documents! We recognise that committee members come and go and quite often smaller groups may not have an office base and therefore paperwork will inevitably be stored in people's houses. It can then be difficult to obtain the document when you need it eg just when that funding deadline is approaching!

This service will overcome all your problems and means the original signed and dated constitution/terms of reference can be accessed whenever you need it.

Please call and discuss your needs with us on 01492 534091

## CFAP CVSC Small Grants Scheme - Round 10

- ◆ Antioch ( North Wales) ( Money Advice Centre Project)
- Clwb Bzz Club
- Colwyn Youth Committee
- Conwy Classical Music Festival
- Conwy Cricket Club
- Conwy Voluntary Health & Social Care Network
- Cylch Meithrin Abergele
- Cylch Meithrin Llanfairtalhaiarn
- Cylch Meithrin Tudno
- Cylch Ti a Fi Pentrefoelas
- English Baptist Church Youth Group
- Eryri Young Farmers
- Friends of St. Julitta's Church
- Gogarth Tuesday RDA Club
- Gwytherin Community Association
- Llais Llugwy
- Llanfairfechan Community Centre Association
- Llanfairfechan Playgroup
- Merched Y Wawr Aberconwy
- North Wales Ten Pin Bowling for the Visually Impaired
- Penmaenmawr Solitaires Majorettes
- Ti a Fi Group, Cylch Meithrin Cerrigydrudion
- Ti a Fi Towyn
- Towyn Residents Association
- Woodhill Baptist Church



## Round 9

- 418 ( Aberconwy) Squadron ATC
- Sir Henry Jones Museum
- Bay of Colwyn Sailing Club
- Betws-y-Coed Anglers Club
- Betws yn Rhos Young Farmers
- Clwyd/Denbigh Federation of Women's Institutes
- Colwyn Women's Aid
- Conwy Early Years Forum
- Ysbyty Ifan Community Council
- Dyffryn Amateur Boxing Club
- Kinmel Bay Under Fives Playgroup
- Learning Braille
- Llandudno Community Allotments
- Llandudno Silhouettes
- Llandudno Youth Music Theatre
- Llanellian yn Rhos W.I.
- Making Tracks
- Menter Iaith Bro'r Creuddyn
- Menter Iaith Pen-Lan
- Merched y Wawr Uwchaled
- Old Colwyn Bowling Club
- Pastels Day Centre
- Penmaenmawr Bowling Club
- "Yr Odyn"
- Rhos Park Bowling Club
- Royal Cambrian Academy
- Seion Community Church
- Stori Pen Cyf
- ◆ Tudno Community Association

News from Russell Commission— Russell Commission Youth Volunteering Grant Available  
The Russell Commission Youth Volunteering Grants scheme has been established to support the delivery of voluntary opportunities for young people in Conwy.

**£5000 will be available for high quality volunteering activities for 16-25 year olds. Applications are especially welcomed from those working with young people from disadvantaged, ethnic communities or young people with physical or learning disabilities.**

Any group of young people can apply as long as they live in the County of Conwy and meet the funding criteria and conditions. This is an opportunity for young people to be creative in their proposals and apply for things that they want to achieve or make happen. The Youth Panel will be run by young people for young people. For more information or an application form contact

Rhian Morris on 01492 871110 or mobile: 07523866695

**Conwy Library Service provides access to useful resource!** Free access is now available through Know UK to "Grants for Individuals in Need" Check out their website on [www.conwy.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.conwy.gov.uk/libraries)

**Looking for funds —get in touch with us! Remember our Funding Enquiry Form—complete one today and let us do the searching for you! Download a form from our website [www.cvsc.org.uk](http://www.cvsc.org.uk) Or telephone 01492 534091**

**Data Protection Guidance for the Exemption of Not-for-Profit Organisations -**

The handling of personal data can be an area of concern for voluntary organisations who have limited resources to devote to data security. **The Data protection Act exempts not-for-profit organisations from notifying or registering with the Information Commissioner if they hold personal data only for the purposes of membership administration and certain other limited uses.** However, this exemption is quite narrow and there is guidance on when this applies available from [www.tinyurl.com/225dey](http://www.tinyurl.com/225dey)

**WCVVA Network Wales Awards  
3 Categories**

- ◆ Class Award for best communication
  - ◆ Green Award
  - ◆ Most admired organisation
- Nomination forms available to download from [www.wcv.org.uk](http://www.wcv.org.uk)

Closing date Friday 19 September 08

**Free to a good home!**

- ◆ Lexmark 2300 printer, copier scanner (only 2 years old)
- ◆ Cannon Fax B100

Both items free to a good home—please contact Jane Hughes on 01492 593 874 for further information.

**Conwy Social Housing Ltd “Hilden House”** is a Social Enterprise and a not-for-profit organisation. The aims and objectives are to provide relief of homelessness of persons in need, by reason of addiction to drugs, alcohol, mental health and criminal offending by the provision of supported accommodation at Hilden House in Conwy. Working with partner agencies education, training, employment and voluntary work will be encouraged.

Hilden House is not a direct access facility and any referrals should be directed through Conwy County Borough Council's Homeless Team on 01492 576337

Contact Peter Fishwick on 01745 720308 or e-mail [jones.fishwick@btinternet.com](mailto:jones.fishwick@btinternet.com) for further information.

**BBC Cymru Wales** is changing the face of charity broadcasts, making broadcasting opportunities for charities in Wales more effective. These broadcasts can highlight a particular campaign, issue or need that your organisation has - or simply inform those who have a need of your services where to go for help.

To find out how you could be considered for future broadcasts contact the Charity Broadcast Office, Room M1010, Broadcasting House, Llandaff, Cardiff, CF5 2YQ Tel: 029 2032 2094, e-mail [walescharities@bbc.co.uk](mailto:walescharities@bbc.co.uk) or visit [bbc.co.uk/walescharities](http://bbc.co.uk/walescharities)

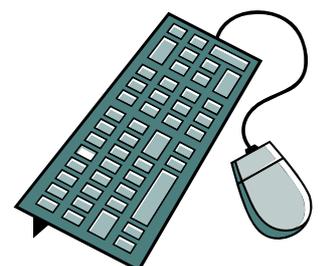
**IT Tips—regular column whereby Sue Jackson of Byte Back shares some useful IT shortcuts—No 3 Windows Keyboard Shortcuts**

**PRESS**

- Windows Key
- Windows Key & D
- Windows Key & E
- Windows Key & F1
- Windows Key & F

**TO**

- Show/Hide Start Menu
- Show the desktop
- Open My Computer
- Show Windows Help
- Search for File or Folder



# Children & Young People's Partnership



## CONSULTATION—CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2008—2011

The Children & Young People's Plan is a three year strategic plan developed and owned by the Conwy Children & Young People's Partnership. It sets out Conwy's priorities and intentions to drive improvement of outcomes for children and young people, it will inform commissioning decisions and direct the work of partners for the next three years. There is a ten week consultation period, ending on 31 May, when the Plan will be published and formally adopted in September 08.

Voluntary and community organisations play an important role in the provision of services and activities for children and young people and their families. Please try and look at the plan, even if you only have time to look at the Core Aim section of most interest to you. The executive summary of the plan is available on <http://www.conwy.gov.uk/consultation> as well as a response questionnaire which asks for your comments about the priority areas, any gaps which you think have been missed etc.

Please note the Plan is a working document and developing constantly; the electronic copy will be regularly updated and posted on the Council's website. If you would like help to access the document, please do not hesitate to contact the Children & Young People's Partnership Liaison Officer at CVSV.

**A consultation meeting for the voluntary and community sector will be held on 12 May, 2pm at Y Graig, Old Colwyn to specifically discuss the plan. If you wish to attend, please contact CVSC.**

## ALL WALES CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES 2008

**Just to remind you that the 2008 procedures are to be used from 1 April 2008. Copies are available from Conwy County Borough Council by contacting the Child Protection Unit. Alternatively, the procedures can be downloaded from [www.awcpp.org.uk](http://www.awcpp.org.uk)**

### NSPCC Safe Communities Toolkit – a FREE resource.

If you are a community organisation trying to get the essentials in place to safeguard children and young people for the first time or maybe reviewing the policies and procedures you have in place, the Safe Communities Toolkit will be an invaluable resource to support you.

It is now available for all community or voluntary groups providing a service to children and young people. It has been produced in a simple, straight-forward manner and is available in a number of different languages including Welsh, Punjabi, Bengali, Urdu, BSL and English. The different sections of it allow users from different areas to make the most of it including workers, volunteers, parents/carers and children.

Further information and an application form are available by using the following link – [www.nspcc.org.uk/toolkit](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/toolkit) or emailing [toolkit@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:toolkit@nspcc.org.uk). Alternatively, you can apply by telephone on 0116 234 7253 or contact Ann Westmoreland at CVSC who has a limited number of application forms.

## REGIONAL TRAINING FRAMEWORK

### CVSC

- **Introduction to Business and Strategic Planning**, 16 May 2008, CVSC Colwyn Bay, 9.30am to 3.30pm. This course will help you understand the importance and benefits of long-term planning and provide you with practical resources to plan more effectively within your organization.
- **Giving and Public Fundraising**, 20 June 2008, CVSC, Colwyn Bay, 9.30am to 3.30pm. This course will assist organisations to better understand the various options available for fundraising from individuals, businesses, from the general public and local employers.
- **Accounting Basics**, 5 June 2008, CVSC Colwyn Bay, 9.30—12.30 This course covers how to take advantage of tax-effective donations and gifts, introduction to fundraising law and practice and explores the various options for public fundraising.
- **Introduction to Volunteering**, 23 June 2008, CVSC Colwyn Bay, 1—4pm By the end of the session, participants will understand the nature and scope of volunteering and how it differs from paid work, recognise how and why organisations involve volunteers in their work and appreciate the resource implications of involving volunteers.
- **Looking after your organisation**, 4 July 2008, CVSC Colwyn Bay, 9.30—12.30 By the end of the course participants will understand the need to safeguard members, understand the legal obligations of their organisation, be able to find information, advice and support to draw up appropriate policies, understand political barriers to involvement in their organisation and how to tackle them.

These courses are costed at £100 per day, but are heavily subsidised by WAG and offered to CVSC Member organisations at £20, Wider voluntary and community sector at £30, Private and Statutory at £40. Includes refreshments, lunch (where appropriate) and handouts.

To obtain a booking form please telephone CVSC on 01492 534091 or e-mail [mail@cvsc.org.uk](mailto:mail@cvsc.org.uk) or download from [www.cvsc.org.uk](http://www.cvsc.org.uk)

### Mantell Gwynedd

- **Preparing for Volunteers (2 days)** 29 & 30 April 2008, 10am to 4pm, Royal Sportsman, Porthmadog
- **Loan Finance and asset based development**, 3 June 2008, Ty Siamas, Dolgellau, 10 - 4pm.

Cost: £15 Voluntary Sector, £40 Private and Statutory

For more information please contact Mantell Gwynedd on 01286 672626 or e-mail [yholiadau@mantellgwynedd](mailto:yholiadau@mantellgwynedd)

### Medrwn Môn

- ♦ **Employment Law (1 day)** 20 May 2008, Llangefni
- ♦ **Supervision and Appraisal (1 day)**, 27 May 2008, Llangefni

For further information please contact Derlwyn Hughes on 01248 724944

“Courses for Communities Cymru” brochure - an affordable and accessible training programme for voluntary groups, April to September 2008, is now available from any of the CVSC offices on request. This covers training opportunities available through the Regional Training Frameworks from all local voluntary councils across Wales.

Further information from: [www.coursesforcommunities.org.uk](http://www.coursesforcommunities.org.uk)



Adult learners'  
week  
National Coalition of Life Size Learning

**NIACE Dysgu Cymru Adult Learners Week 17th—24th May 2008**

For a list of what's happening in your area during the week please visit [www.niacedc.org.uk](http://www.niacedc.org.uk) or [www.learnersweek.org.uk](http://www.learnersweek.org.uk)

### News from the Network

The Network's Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 4th March 2008 at Colwyn Bay Cricket Club. The newly elected members of the Management Committee are Laura Crawford of EQAG, Laurette Danson of SSAFA Forces Help, Colette Neal of Conwy Voluntary Services Council, Sue Scott of Making Tracks, Lyn Siebenmann of The Stroke Association, Gail Silver of MDF Bipolar Organisation Cymru, Chris Sweetnam of Backcare and Dave Worrall of British Red Cross.

Many thanks to those of you who attended and for making it such an eventful afternoon!

Pictured below -the retiring committee with a cheque for £4967 from Awards for All



### Good News about Training-

#### A date for your diary!!



With some of the £4967 grant from Awards for All, we will be organising a training day on 18th June 2008. The course will cover negotiating a Service Level Agreement and is suitable for voluntary and community organisations who are currently or wish to deliver services to the public sector.

More information will be available shortly.

### Consultation Paper-

#### Designed to Add Value , A third dimension

The Minister for Health and social Services, Mrs Edwina Hart AM MBE, has approved Designed to Add Value - A Third Dimension for consultation: A Strategic Direction for the Voluntary and Community Sector in supporting Health and Social Care.

This consultation document is available on the Health and Social Care page of CVSC's website at [www.cvsc.org.uk](http://www.cvsc.org.uk) .

The deadline for responses is 5pm **Monday May 5th 2008**.

### Consultation Paper-

#### Proposals to change the structure of the NHS in Wales

On Wednesday 2nd April, Health Minister, Edwina Hart announced proposals for major changes to the NHS structure in Wales to further reduce bureaucracy, remove the internal market and to improve patient care.

The proposals include:-

- ◆ Abolishing the internal market in Wales by providing funding from the Welsh Assembly Government or an NHS board for Wales directly to NHS Trusts and Local Health Boards (LHB);
- ◆ Three options for establishing a board for Wales - A Special Health Authority, a Civil Service Board, or an Advisory Board supporting an Assembly Government NHS Chief Executive; and
- ◆ LHB's reduced from 22 to 8, including Powys LHB.

The NHS has an impact on all of us. It is important that as many people as possible have their say and carefully read the consultation document in order to give your views.

The consultation document and all necessary papers can be found on the Health and Social Care page of CVSC's website at [www.cvsc.org.uk](http://www.cvsc.org.uk) . The consultation period is until **25th June 2008**.

### **Sector meets Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing**

The main focus of the sector's first meeting with Jane Davidson AM in her new role as Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing in November 2007 was a paper on the contribution of the third sector towards tackling climate change and renewable energy. This paper had been prepared in response to a request from the Minister at the previous meeting in July 2007, asking the sector to consider the three priorities within her portfolio - climate change, renewable energy and access to the countryside - and what the sector could do in these areas. The Minister responded to a number of proposals and recommendations in the paper, and agreed that the sector was in a unique position to encourage action to tackle climate change. She reaffirmed that the contribution of the sector was as important as government's contribution in driving forward action, and suggested that the paper and subsequent discussion could lead to a paper for consideration by the Welsh Assembly Government's Climate Change Commission.

Other agenda items included the Minister's six monthly report on the progress made with implementing the Voluntary Sector Scheme within her Department, an update on the Voluntary Sector Scheme Strategic Action Plan, supporting green volunteering (a joint paper from the Welsh Assembly Government and the sector), an update on the work of nrg4SD (Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development) and the review of the Environment Strategy Action Plan, and it was agreed that issues arising from the green volunteering paper would be considered as part of this review.

It was agreed that the following be included on the agenda for the next meeting with the Minister in May 2008 – an update on the Climate Change Commission, the 2008/09 budget for the Environment, Sustainability and Housing portfolio, a paper on renewable energy from the Welsh Assembly Government, progress on the sector's climate change paper, the sector's contribution towards access to the countryside and the departmental action plan.

**These meetings are held twice a year under the auspices of the Voluntary Sector Scheme. For further information about these meetings, contact Gwenan Davies, WCVA Policy Officer email: [gdavies@wcva.org.uk](mailto:gdavies@wcva.org.uk) or tel: 01686 611050.**

**The Voluntary Sector Partnership Council** met for the first time this year in Nant y Ci Rural Business Centre in Carmarthen on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Both the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, Brian Gibbons AM, and the Deputy Minister for Regeneration, Leighton Andrews AM, were present along with representatives of the sector.

The VSPC considered the changes necessitated by the Government of Wales Act 2006 and by 'The Third Dimension: The Strategic Action Plan for the Voluntary Sector Scheme. The Partnership is now formally between the third sector and the Welsh Assembly Government. This means Assembly Members who are not part of the government are not represented of the VSPC however with 'The Third Dimension' recognising the diversity of organisations within the term 'third sector' the possibility is there to extend the number of representatives from the sector.

'The Third Dimension' establishes indicators by which the Voluntary Sector Scheme shall be evaluated. The sector welcomed the paper outlining the progress made on delivering the forty five action points of 'The Third Dimension Strategic Action Plan'. It was acknowledged that the Strategic Action Plan Implementation Sub-Committee had held its inaugural meeting and would be closely monitoring the progress in implementing the plan.

The Partnership Council also discussed the Community Next consultation with the Deputy Minister for Regeneration, Leighton Andrews AM. The 'Communities Next: Consultation on the Future of the Communities First Programme' was published on the 30<sup>th</sup> January and is running until 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008. The sector recognises the consultation as a significant development in driving forward the economic and social regeneration of Community First areas. The sector would like to see a greater recognition of the role of volunteers at grassroots level and the support and recognition of their work in the building of effective partnerships.

**The next meeting of the VSPC will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> July in Wrexham. Members of the public are welcome to observe, and if you would like to attend this meeting, please contact Nigel Woodward, Voluntary Sector and Inclusion Unit, on 01685 729272 .**



# News from the Centre

## Our New Identity

Following the adoption by the Welsh Assembly of the generic term 'Volunteer Centre', the Bureau is gradually changing its title to Conwy Volunteer Centre. The change will be implemented as literature etc. is replaced. Work is also going on at national level, funded by the Assembly, to agree a 'badge' for Centres across Wales so that they will be immediately recognisable to the general public.



### MINISTERIAL VISIT

On the 24th January it was a real pleasure to welcome Dr. Brian Gibbons, Minister for Social Justice and Local Government to the Centre. His visit was to publicise the Assembly's provision of funding under the Russell Commission to encourage and develop

volunteering by young people. He seemed impressed by all that he saw and showed real interest in the work of the Centre. The visit resulted in very useful publicity in the local press for the work of the Volunteer Centre.

## VOLUNTEERS WEEK, 2008

Know a volunteer who's given your organisation years of service? Or have you a group of volunteers who really are an asset to the work of the organisation? Want to encourage them and show them how much they are appreciated?

Why not ask us for a Certificate which you can present to them, say at a social evening or at a special Awards event?

Volunteers are giving you their time and expertise. Showing them how much you value them could mean renewed commitment and stability in service delivery.

Give Alan or Sophia a call to arrange the details on 01492-871110 or e-mail [alanedwards@cvsc.org.uk](mailto:alanedwards@cvsc.org.uk)

## ANOTHER MILESTONE!

The Centre saw another milestone in its recruitment of volunteers when, at the end of March, it signed up its **4000th** volunteer.

The Centre is now recruiting at the rate of a 1,000 volunteers approximately every 13 months, a dramatic increase over levels before the high street presence was established and it demonstrates the importance of that marketing strategy.

### Visit

**[www.volunteering-wales.net](http://www.volunteering-wales.net)**  
 to see all our current volunteer vacancies

### NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

**LEUKAEMIA CARE** are looking for befrienders, fundraisers and Awareness Assistants in the Conwy area

**BODNANT GARDENS** need volunteers as gardeners, guides, special event organisers and customer services assistants

**PARKINSON'S DISEASE SOCIETY** are needing a Welfare Officer to help clients and their families

**BULLIESOUT** need volunteers to provide peer support, undertake interactive demonstrations, help on the on-line support forum, provide awareness displays and participate in creative workshops

**DAN'S DEN** are looking for volunteer assistants to help at their shop in Colwyn Bay

**CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU** are looking for volunteers to serve as trustees

**CONWY WHALES** are looking for volunteers to help people with disabilities to participate in swimming activities

**URDD GOBATH CYMRU** need Stewards for the eisteddfod in May/June. Training will take place on the 25th May

Interested? Ask Alan or Sophia on 01492-871110 for more details