

February 2007

Welcome to this 1st newsletter of 2007.

CVSC welcomes a new Trustee Board and Chairperson after our recent AGM in October of 2006. They are as follows:

Chair: Mary Trinder

We are pleased to congratulate and announce that Mrs Mary Trinder was elected Chairperson of CVSC at the Trustees meeting on Thursday 14th December 2006. Mary has been a Trustee of CVSC since 1998. She is staff supervisor at Carers Outreach working across North Wales and has working contact with two other CVCs, those being Mantell Gwynedd and Medrwn Mon. Mary has been actively involved with the voluntary sector in Conwy and is a member of various planning groups. She is a member of Conwy Community Health Council and a governor of Ysgol Y Creud-dyn.

Vice Chair: Tom Jones

Trustees:

Mrs L Danson, Mrs GP Davies, Maggie Kelly, Alice Robinson, Bryn Williams, Ena Wynne, Don Henshall, Wyn Ellis Jones, Ann Roberts, Dilwyn O Roberts, Valerie Smith

CVSC currently has a vacancy on the Board.

Anyone interested in fulfilling this vital role for our organisation, please contact David Taylor, Chief Officer, direct on 01492 534091.

Further to providing the new Flying Start team with temporary accommodation, CVSC now welcomes Ben Pagett as a new member of staff.

Ben will be seeking:

- To support Channel in achieving its aims and objectives
- To facilitate service user focus groups, forums and networks and encourage positive service user engagement through peer led activities
- To develop and co-ordinate service user involvement in Conwy - focussing on the planning and delivery of a broad range of drug and alcohol services, across a diversity of agencies, both statutory and voluntary sector.

STOP PRESS—Job Vacancies

Youth Volunteering Development Officer, Based in Llandudno, 18.5 hours per week £19,003 pro rata. 1 year fixed term contract.

Health and Social Care Administration Assistant, Based in Colwyn Bay, 21 hours per week, £11,994 pro rata. 12 month fixed term contract. Visit www.cvsc.org.uk

Social Risk Fund

One of the most successful funding schemes run by WCVA is coming to an end on 31 March and organisations have just over eight weeks to get their applications ready for the last round of the Social Risk Fund.

The Social Risk Fund, which is funded jointly by the Welsh Assembly Government and European Social Fund, has so far distributed over £3.7m in Objective 1 areas and £1.3m in Objective 3 areas. The fund has contributed to the regeneration of communities by supporting people to develop their skills and confidence, by widening participation in lifelong learning initiatives and providing pathways towards employment for disadvantaged groups. Small community and voluntary groups with an income of less than £150,000 are eligible to apply for grants of up to £10,000.

For more information please contact WCVA's Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329 or email help@wcva.org.uk

£1 MILLION, WRG COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE

Landfill operator Waste Recycling Group have announced a new £1 million challenge fund to support projects which improve and enhance local community environments. Following on from the success of last year's Village Hall and Community Centre challenge, the criteria has been widened to include a broader range of eligible activities, with applicants being encouraged to consider what would best improve the community in which they live. Applications are invited to bid for funding of between £75,000 and £250,000 for capital projects, which create new facilities or renovate existing amenities. Eligible projects can range from community buildings, children's play areas, skate parks, public parks, nature reserves, public gardens and multi use games areas or sports facilities, but there must be strong community support for the project. Applicants must be not-for-profit community groups or organisations, but local authorities are also eligible to apply. The deadline for applications is **30th March 2007** – see application process for details of what is required for this date.

The Challenge is in addition to the mainstream grant. Applications are invited between £2,000 and £50,000 and deadlines are quarterly. The next deadline is 5 April 2007

For further details visit the website: www.wren.org.uk, Call WREN's Head Office on 01953 717165 or Meleri Jones - Wales Project Manager 01248 674907

Heritage Lottery Fund: Repair Grants for Places of Worship in Wales (RPOW)

- **Do you and your community need help funding urgent repairs to a local religious building?**
- Is your place of worship listed and used for public worship more than 6 times a year?
- Do you provide public access outside the usual hours of worship?
- Have you identified in a recent survey high level structural problems with the historic parts of the building?

If the answer to all of these questions is YES you may want to look at the Heritage Lottery Funds RPOW programme which is designed to help conserve and sustain heritage at risk.

If you are a formally constituted religious organisation and owner of the place of worship, you can apply for a maximum of £100,000 but will need to achieve at least 10% partnership funding. HLF receives applications in two batches, with deadlines at the end of March and September and a 6 month assessment period.

For further information on the RPOW programme visit the website www.hlf.org.uk or contact a member of HLF's development team on 029 20 343413 email: wales@hlf.org.uk

Bay Watch – BBC Wales comes to Colwyn Bay

Hot on the heels of the success of the Children in Need concert in Colwyn Bay, BBC Wales will be back in the area in April and May with their “**Here for You!**” campaign. Over the past two years the campaign has visited eight locations throughout the country where BBC Wales hold events and broadcast programmes about the area.

BBC Wales Producer, Aled Rowlands said that the events will aim to build on the work already happening in the community: “BBC Wales is very aware that our audience is the key to all that we do, so we don’t take them for granted. We will be broadcasting dozens of hours of programmes about and from the area. This will allow the people of Wales to get to know a bit more about Colwyn Bay and for Colwyn Bay to get to know a lot more about BBC Wales.”

The “**Here for You – Colwyn Bay**” campaign kicks off with a free public Roadshow on the 22nd of April. This will be an event for all the family showing the wealth of programmes that get produced in Welsh and English by BBC Wales. “Sometimes people are surprised by the number and variety of programmes that BBC Wales produces” said Aled Rowlands. “Everything from world-wide successes such as ‘Doctor Who’ and ‘Torchwood’ to the highly regarded welsh language television programme ‘Pobol y Cwm’ which is produced by BBC Wales and broadcast on S4C. There will be a cross-section of programmes at the Roadshow which will allow members of the public to take a peek behind the scenes of BBC Wales programmes and meet some of their favourite presenters.”



The planning for the series of events has already begun. An advisory group from the area is meeting regularly to inform BBC Wales of the issues facing the town. They will also come up with ideas for events and items for the area. But Aled Rowlands said that the focus is always on creating a lasting legacy. “Colwyn Bay has a lot to offer BBC Wales now and into the future. Everything we will be doing over the next weeks and months will be to create a lasting relationship with the area and more importantly with the people.”

Information about the Roadshow and events will be published in the next edition of this newsletter.

The BBC’s website for Colwyn Bay and the surrounding area will be continually updated as we approach the beginning of the campaign: bbc.co.uk/colwynbay

In the meantime, CVSC invites expressions of interest from community groups working in the wider Bay of Colwyn area to be put forward to the advisory group for consideration. Please contact Sonia Kendall on 01492 534091 or e-mail mail@cvsc.org.uk

Alzheimer's Society

Jane Fairley has been appointed by the Conwy Alzheimer's Branch as an Assistant Information Officer, funded from the Mental Health Carer's Grant.

The service is there to provide a link between the memory clinic, Social Services and voluntary organisations. Her main role is to offer support, information and signposting service to carers of people with memory problems, during and following assessment with the memory clinics at Bodnant and Bryn Hesketh. Jane's aim is to identify any problems before they reach crisis point.

Through home visits and/ or over the telephone she will provide information and details on how to access services that are available, through Statutory Services and/ or voluntary agencies.

The service is open to Carers who are identified by other service providers as needing emotional support, advice and information.

Jane can be contacted at the Alzheimer's office during normal office hours.

32, Seaview Road, Colwyn Bay, LL29 8DG

Tel: 01492 535530 e-mail: janealzheimers@fsmail.net

Sport Conwy is the voluntary forum for sports organisations in Conwy.

Members are welcomed from the voluntary, private and public sector thus creating a truly holistic approach to sport in Conwy.

Services offered include: information, discounted coach education (please see our training page for forthcoming events), publicity in Sports Directory, reference materials, special events, representation and grant schemes.

For further information please visit www.sportconwy.org.uk or contact the secretary on 01492 575556 or e-mail secretary@sportconwy.org.uk

New Information Sources

Recently obtained reference books include the following 2 items highlighted at our AGM presentation. They are extremely useful and helpful guides to assisting in ensuring that grant and funding applications include all that is necessary for delivery of services.

- Full cost recovery: a guide and toolkit on cost allocation
- Surer Funding

Both are available at our Colwyn bay offices for reference or perhaps loan if more convenient.

Calor Village of the Year for Wales Competition

This competition is open to rural communities throughout Wales with a population of 5,000 or under.

Remember – the community is judged not on what it has but what it does for itself!

Contact CVSC for a leaflet or e-mail info@calorvillageoftheyear.org or telephone 01926 318634

FEATURE—SELECTION OF WEB-BASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Homepages Friends

Homepages Friends, a web marketing company and official J4B partners for the Office of the Third Sector events programme, have now introduced a very simple, yet extremely powerful way of raising funds for the voluntary sector, purely from commission earned from Ask.com, eBay and recognised high street brands. They don't charge a start up fee or require monthly subscriptions. From the relationships they have developed with internet companies, Homepages Friends and the voluntary sector organisations they support, share equally in all revenue earned.

Who could resist

- A no cost, effective new income stream
- Potential to raise significant unrestricted funds
- A new way for your existing supporters to continue to support your cause – without costing them a penny or requiring any additional effort/change of behaviour
- A transparent form of fundraising



To find out more information on this new and transparent form of fundraising please contact the freephone hotline on 0800 2888 669 or www.homepages-friends.com

PayPal Online Donations

Offers low cost web sites for local groups and organisations through to custom built websites for larger charities.

PayPal donations buttons can also be added to your site so that people can contribute to your funding online. Click on the link to complete the enquiry form

www.webanywhere.co.uk/business or telephone 01535 604026 for further information

Usable Websites

This is a new Glasgow based charity that has been set up to provide other charities with professional looking websites that are easy to update – completely free of charge.

If you feel your organisation could benefit from a free fully content managed, accessible and standards compliant website together with free webhosting then find out more on www.usablewebsites.org or telephone 0141 229 1115.

Webspring – WCVA's website development package

Since last year WCVA, in collaboration with one of Wales' leading companies, has developed a website development package called 'WebSpring' which has been adapted specifically to provide voluntary organisations with cost-effective, professional websites.

WebSpring websites have a modern look and feel and can incorporate any existing branding. Bilingual sites can be created and include the following sections: news, jobs/volunteering, training, events, search, interactive forum, links, frequently asked questions, resources, documents and images, newsletter sign up and sitemap.

If you would like to find out more about WebSpring please contact Mark Condon on 029 2043 1700 or email webspring@wcva.org.uk or visit www.webspring.org.uk

Community Website Builder – ik Software and BT

Increasingly, first impressions of an organisation are not made at the premises, but online! An attractive, easy to navigate website is a great way to publicise your work.

To take advantage of this free offer log on to www.communitykit.co.uk or contact 08700 11 28 50

Children & Young People's Partnerships



RUSSELL COMMISSION

The Russell Commission was established in May 2004 to develop a new national framework for youth action and engagement to reflect the Government's commitment to increase youth volunteering and civic service. The final report, which was presented in March 2005 to the Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown, contained 16 recommendations designed to deliver innovative change in the diversity, quality and quantity of young people's volunteering.

The new framework brings together all youth volunteering activities in a shared sense of purpose with the aim of creating significantly more opportunities to volunteer and provide young people with a greater choice of activities in which to become involved. Whilst the framework is applicable across the United Kingdom, it takes account of the fact that volunteering is a devolved issue. In Wales £3 million has been allocated to take forward the recommendations over the next three years. Judith Bevan has been seconded from the Prince's Trust to the Welsh Assembly Government to work with the voluntary sector to help deliver the initiative. For further information on the National Framework for Youth Volunteering visit the Russell Commission website www.russellcommission.org

Diary dates

Children & Young People's Partnership Voluntary Sector Network

15 March 2007 10am Llanrwst

12 June 2007 2pm venue to be confirmed

17 September 2007 6pm venue to be confirmed

10 December 2007 10am venue to be confirmed

Contact Ann Westmoreland CYPP Liaison Officer for more details

Children & Young People's Partnerships



Children's Day Care for Under 8's

Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales regulates day care services for children— which includes day nurseries, childminders, playgroups, out-of-school clubs, crèches and play-schemes— against Regulations and national minimum standards set by the National Assembly for Wales and the Welsh Assembly Government.

On 1 January 2007, key changes to the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations came into force. There are new regulations covering the Review of the Quality of Care, Assessment of Service, Compliance Notification and Complaints. Advice and information can be obtained from the regional Care Standards Inspectorate for Wales office tel 01492 542580 or visit the web site www.csiw.wales.gov.uk

CYMORTH: Children and Youth Support Fund in Conwy

A Cymorth Task & Finish Group, made up of representation from the Children & Young People's Partnerships Framework Board, has been established to look at the Cymorth Grant in Conwy. This has been prompted by several factors including the external evaluation of the Cymorth programme in Conwy and the forthcoming dispersal of funds into the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) from 2008. The Task & Finish Group will look at all and it will make recommendations to the Board on future funding, taking into account existing provision and gaps in needs and service provision, to ensure a comprehensive and cohesive programme of targeted support for children and young people in Conwy. Decisions will be based on a number of criteria based on:-

- Compliance with Framework Board Strategic Themes
- Cymorth Themes and guidance
- Conwy Cymorth's evaluators' annual précis
- Value for money
- Evidence Based Practice

Recommendations may include some or all of the following: scaling down or ending some projects; amalgamations/remodelling of one or more project; project expansion.

All recommendations to the Board will be shared with projects beforehand in order to allow time for consultation. Should the Board wish to cease supporting any project financially, at least 6 months notice will be given.

(Source Framework Team)

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE IN DECISION MAKING

On Thursday 25 January Jane Davidson, Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, launched the National Standards for Children and Young People's Participation. The Standards advocate such things as giving all young people the opportunity to have their say whatever their circumstances and that ultimately their views are taken on board. The overall aim is to build the standards into a nationally recognised kite mark for participation by children and young people. At the moment the Standards are being piloted with different groups of children and young people in order to explore how to measure, collect evidence and to implement the standards successfully throughout Wales.

Sustainable Funding Workshop

A one day introductory workshop which will provide an insight in to the various ways to diversify your income base to help achieve sustainability. Topics covered will include trading, loan finance, procurement and public service delivery, asset based development as well as giving and public fundraising.

21 March—Rhyl

This taster session is available at the subsidised rate of £10 per person.

For further information please contact WCVA HelpDesk on 0800 288 329 or e-mail help@wcva.org.uk

Sport Conwy Training

Injury Prevention & Management—
 27 Feb, 6.30—9.30pm, Llandrillo College

How to Coach Children in Sport
 Coaching Children & Young People

What is Sports Coaching?

All dates to be confirmed, subject to demand.

For further information please contact Sport Conwy
 on 01492 575557 or e-mail
secretary@sportconwy.org.uk

WCVA Training

Minute Taking, 12 March, Rhyl

Effective Volunteer recruitment messages, 20
 March, Colwyn Bay

Consulting with the community, 23 March,
 Bangor

For more information visit
www.wcva.org.uk/training or e-mail
training@wcva.org.uk

Cais Dual Diagnosis Training, 28 & 29 March, The DAWN Centre, Colwyn Bay

For any person who works in their professional capacity, in a role that brings them into contact with individuals susceptible to developing a substance misuse problem and a mental illness.

For more information contact Lynne Owen, Training Co-Ordinator on 01492 523041/523690

Other training topics include—drug & alcohol awareness, Alcohol and Older People, Lone Worker

Wales Co-Operative Centre

Recruitment, management & Retention of Volunteers (2 days) 21 & 28 February, Flintshire

Introduction to HR Management (2 days) 7 & 14 March, Bangor

Quality Customer Care (1 day) 22 February, Llandudno

Book online at www.walescoop.com or e-mail angelajones@walescoop.com

News from the Network

These have been exciting times for the Conwy Voluntary Health and Social Care Network. After three years of being supported by the Building Strong Bridges Health and Social Care Facilitator it has come of age. At a meeting on 10th November 2006 the Network was constituted as an independent organisation whose Terms of Reference are as follows:

Aims and Objectives

1. To bring together voluntary organisations operating in the County Borough of Conwy whose objectives encompass health and social care issues.
2. Act as a forum for discussion on health and social care, and where appropriate, to consider and respond to draft documents concerning health and social care planning and policy formation in the County Borough of Conwy.
3. Provide a focus for exchange of information and experience between voluntary organisations, offer opportunities for inter-agency consultation and cooperation between members and to provide a supportive forum for organisations working in the health and social care field.
4. Elect representatives to sit on Partnership groups and provide a forum for consultation on strategic planning issues.
5. Provide opportunities for others working in the health and social care field to gain voluntary sector feedback on new initiatives and proposals.
6. Identify issues arising in Conwy for consideration by the appropriate statutory bodies.
7. Disseminate information relating to health and social care.
8. To act as a link with other networks and associations with similar objectives.

Membership

Membership is open to any voluntary group or organisation operating in the field of health, social care and well-being in the County Borough of Conwy, whether as service-providers, lobbying groups or self-help groups. This includes groups working at a local or 'area' level, county-wide organisations, and regional or national bodies who are active, or who have members in Conwy.

The Management Committee as of November 2006 is as follows:

Yveline Hands, Conwy Care and Repair (Chair)
Sue Scott, Making Tracks Youth Initiative Scheme (Secretary)
Chris Sweetnam, Backcare (Treasurer)
Mrs L. V. Danson, SSAFA Forces Help (Vice Chair)
Allyson Mann, British Red Cross
Mair Roberts, Carers Outreach Service
Laura Crawford, EQAG

The Network hold regular meetings to which everyone is invited, the next one is

Tuesday, February 27th
2pm—4pm
Mochdre Village Hall

On the agenda is Sian Lewis the Strategy Development Officer for Older People for Conwy County Borough Council and Eryl Davies from Age Concern who is Chair of Conwy's Older People's Management and Policy Group. They will be discussing the present priorities and action plan of that group. Also on the agenda, Colette Neal will be keeping everyone up to date on the Joint Commissioning Pilot.

If you are intending to come to this meeting could you let **Sue Scott** know on **sue.scott4@btinternet.com** or **01492 536189**

Local Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee

Under the terms of the Tri-partite Compact between Conwy Local Health Board, Conwy County Borough Council and the Voluntary Sector, the Joint Liaison Committee was established to oversee the implementation of the Compact and act as the primary consultative forum between the statutory and voluntary sectors in Conwy.

Membership of the Joint Liaison Committee is based on equal representation with each of the partners having four members. Following recent changes, the Voluntary Sector representatives are now: -

Mrs Mary Trinder—Chair of CVSC
Mrs Sue Davies—Conwy Connect for Learning Disabilities
Mrs Yve Hands—Conwy Care & Repair
Mr Alyn Davies—Chief Executive, St David's Hospice.

Making the Connections—Delivering Beyond Boundaries

Delivering Boundaries is described as a “change programme”, that requires a sharp shift from the current public sector ethos to a new public service ethos. This new ethos requires public service organisations to:

- Be more ambitious about involving citizens and engaging them in the design, delivery and improvement of public services
- Work together locally to deliver effective public services—thus the creation of Local service Boards (LSBs)

Local Service Boards will be one of the principle mechanisms delivering this new agenda and some features will be to:

- Grow from existing community strategy partnerships, but to focus on joint delivery and action as well as joint planning
- Produce a Local Service Agreement with WAG that will be signed off by Ministers

A number of questions remain to be answered about the role of the voluntary sector in delivering this new agenda. Will the sector be:

- A full and equal member of service delivery partnerships including core members of LSBs?
- Fully involved in designing and commissioning services including resource allocation and identifying and selecting service providers?
- Part of scrutiny committees?

(source: Voluntary Action Cardiff)

A consultation paper on the topic of Local Service Boards has just been produced which is seeking views by 2 April 2007. Please e-mail responses to makingtheconnections@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Further information and copies of the documents available from www.wales.gov.uk



News from the Bureau

WALES VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD, 2007

Once again the WCVA are organising this Award scheme to recognise outstanding voluntary action.

There are 5 categories for nomination:

- Adult (over 25 years)
- Young Person (under 25 years)
- 'Green' volunteer (any age, volunteering with an environmental project or organisation)
- Trustee
- Groups (2 or more individuals, whether as an informal group or a formally constituted organisation)

Let's use this opportunity to recognise the profound difference our volunteers make and their generosity of time and abilities.

Contact Alan at the Bureau to get more information and a Nomination form.

CAN'T AFFORD TRAVEL EXPENSES, SPECIALIST CLOTHING, TOOLS OR TRAINING?

Then the Prince's Trust may be able to help! If you do not have access to other funding to help, then funding from £50—£500 could be available. The funding is aimed at people:

- In Care/Leaving Care
- Unemployed
- 16-25 years old
- Underachiever
- Been in trouble with Police

EVERYONE A WINNER!

If you already do or would like to use 16-25 year old volunteers, then under the Millennium Volunteers scheme you could get funding and they could get Certificates to recognise their voluntary work. Speak to Alan or Sophia for details



3000TH VOLUNTEER

DURING THE NEXT FEW DAYS THE BUREAU WILL BE RECRUITING A VOLUNTEER WHO WILL BE ENJOYING AN AWARD AND RECOGNITION AS THE BUREAU'S 3000TH VOLUNTEER.

THIS IS AN ACHIEVEMENT OF WHICH WE CAN BE PROUD AS EACH OF THOSE 3000 VOLUNTEERS IS MAKING A VALUABLE AND SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON OUR QUALITY OF LIFE IN CONWY.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

WALES AIR AMBULANCE are looking for volunteers to act as Sales Assistants at their Llandudno Shop

D & G ENTERPRISES need a general Retail/Toy Recycling Assistant at their new project in Colwyn Bay aimed at recycling babies and children's clothes, equipment & toys

TPAS CYMRU helps social housing tenants to have a greater say in the way their homes are managed. Volunteers are needed to develop a paper-based reference information system consisting of literature and brochures for staff and tenants to access

BREW HA HA need volunteers as follows:

- Team Leader to assist Music Theatre Director to develop understanding of the musical aspects of the production
- Assistant to Director of Visual Production working on props, stage sets, costumes, etc
- Team Leader assisting Drama Director on acting skills & performance support techniques
- Admin Assistant to undertake marketing & publicity, maintain records and correspondence

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