

Summer 2007—Welcome to this July edition of the CVSC Newsletter.

Many thanks to those organisations who have renewed their membership. For those who have as yet to do so, please find for your convenience a reminder renewal application form enclosed with this mailing.

A HUGE thank you also to the tremendous support we received from member organisations in our recent mailing, requesting letters of support for a Community Learning Project we hope deliver along with the other 5 North Wales CVC's. In all we received 48 letters of support and these will form the foundation of our stage 2 bid to the Big Lottery Fund. In Conwy the project will work with others to:

- Arrange informal learning sessions in local venues such as village halls/community centres
- Promote volunteering opportunities
- Promote mentoring
- Make introductions to local businesses, our local partners such as local colleges etc

We hope to be able to cover all associated costs such as transport, tutor and mentor costs, hire of venue, translators/signers, childcare and refreshments.

Further information about the progress of this regional bid will be placed on our website and in our autumn newsletter.

Advance Notice - CVSC 10th Anniversary and AGM!

All member organisations and representatives of the wider voluntary sector are warmly invited to "the party of the decade"!

Come and join us celebrate our 10 years working with voluntary organisations, community groups and volunteers in Conwy.

Date for your diary - join us at the Town Hall, Llandudno on Friday 2 November 2007

There will be:

Displays, Stalls, Photographs, Memories, Achievements, Celebrations - birthday cake and MORE! Also help us plan for the next 10 years!

Look out for further information coming soon!



CVSC Staff Changes

We wish **Eirian Jones, Development Officer, Rural Area** all the best in her new position with Community Development Cymru. She took up this position the beginning of June, after her contract with CVSC ended. We thank her for all her efforts in the rural Conwy area.

We also wish **Colette Neal, Health and Social Care Facilitator** good luck in her 6 month secondment to Conwy County Borough Council, Contracts Department, where she will continue to move forward the process of commissioning within the Voluntary Sector. **Jill Owens** will extend her hours to full time to cover for this period.

We will be out and about over the summer period—come and see us at

- the **Royal Welsh Show 2007** from 23 to 26 July when CVSC will participate in the Welsh Association of County Voluntary Councils (WACVC)
- **National Eisteddfod of Wales**, Flintshire and District from 4 to 11 August. Once again the host CVC will display literature and promote services from across the region.

CVSC CFAP Small Grants Scheme Round 8



**The closing date for round 8 is Friday 31 August.
The panel meeting will be on Wednesday 10 October, with awards
presented at our 10th Anniversary occasion on Friday 2 November
2007.**

Guidelines and eligibility criteria are on our website

New Feature on CVSC web www.cvsc.org.uk

The CVSC Funding Enquiry Information Sheet can now be accessed from within the funding section of our website. This means that when you or your organisation have your first thoughts about a new project or a continuation of services you can complete this form. It will help you focus your ideas in order to describe

- What you are seeking funding for
- Where the project will be located
- What the estimated total value will be
- What forms of assistance you are looking for

This in turn will assist us in our search for suitable and potential funding bodies. Please print, sign and return to us at our Colwyn Bay office. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need any other assistance.

The Morgan Foundation

The Morgan Foundation was created in 2001 by local businessman Steve Morgan OBE, founder and former chairman of Redrow plc and now chairman of Harrow Estates plc and the Bridgemere Group of Companies.

Supporting charities across North Wales, Merseyside, West Cheshire and North Shropshire, the Foundation has recently expanded its grant-giving programme to £1million per year.

The Morgan Foundation specialises in supporting organisations helping children and families and will consider any work which has a positive effect on their welfare, or which expands the opportunities and life choices for young people in this region.

Areas of support to date have included physical and learning disability, physical and mental health, plus social challenge and deprivation. The Foundation will also consider helping charities meeting other needs, provided they meet its main objectives of being able to "make a difference".

Further information can be obtained from **www.morganfoundation.co.uk** or for an informal discussion contact Jane Harris (Administrator) on 01829 782800

Millennium Stadium Trust launches new website for applicants

The Trust strives to enrich the quality of life in Welsh communities by investing in projects relating to sport, the arts, the community and the environment. Check out **www.millenniumstadiumtrust.co.uk**

SPOTLIGHT - Carers Outreach Service – Conwy

Who are we.....

Carers Outreach Service offers support and information to unpaid, family carers throughout North West Wales. It is a registered charity and the Conwy office is located in Colwyn Bay.

What do we offer.....

The organisation arranges activities for carers and sends out information about these activities to registered carers on a regular basis. Monthly carers' support groups are arranged and there is an officer available to visit carers at home if they are unable to attend the activities. Carers are therefore able to take advantage of one-to-one support or peer support that is often invaluable. Other activities arranged include First Aid sessions, T'ai Chi and a visit to Llandrillo College for lunch and 'pampering' at the Hair and Beauty Department.

How to register (its free!!)

Contact Carers Outreach Service 01492 533714 email: conwy@conwycarers.wanadoo.co.uk

The Stroke Association in North Wales is holding its first Summer Ball!

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STRÔC

The
STROKE
Association

The Oriel House Hotel, Upper Denbigh Road, St Asaph on Friday, 31st August 2007, from 7:30 pm
Tickets £25 per person and include 3 course fork buffet, Charity Auction and Lucky Draw Raffle

Tickets and more details from The Stroke Association H M Stanley Hospital, St Asaph
Telephone : 01745 589622

Disability Resources Centre—Summer offers and sale

- Mobile workshop can visit clients in the home to repair on site or to loan equipment if there is a need to take it into the centre for repair.
- Any piece of equipment can be tried out at home.
- Disability Information Officer can assist with all disability enquiries
- Car adaptation services

Further information on 01745 534525 or disability.resourcecentre@cd-tr.wales.nhs.uk

New Information Resources and Consultation Documents

1. Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need 2006/2007. 10th edition aims to list all sources of non-statutory help for people in financial need.
2. Educational Grants Directory 2006/2007.
Both items available for consultation at our Colwyn Bay Office.
3. Empowering Active citizens to contribute to Wales: a strategic action plan for the Voluntary Sector Scheme. Copies available for collection from our Colwyn Bay office or to download through our website www.cvsc.org.uk
4. Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation—Consultation on the proposed indicators for updating WIMD. To order a copy please call Statistical Publication Unit on 029 2082 5054
Deadline for responses 7 September 2007.
5. The National Strategic Framework for Community Development in Wales. This document explains the importance and value of community development in Wales. Copies available from admin@cdc.cymru.org in hard copy or CD ROM or through the website on www.cdc.cymru.org

Children & Young People's Partnerships



CONWY CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP VOLUNTARY SECTOR NETWORK

The latest meeting of the Network was held on 12 June in the Children's Integrated Centre, Church Walks, Llandudno. Over twenty seven people attended, representing a wide range of organisations who are involved with children and/or young people. Lesley Millband talked about her recent experience delivering a presentation on Extending Entitlements to all the secondary schools in the county. Members were asked to complete similar tasks to the school children, which had been planned to raise awareness of the ten entitlements. When asked to define and discuss what each entitlement meant, it was interesting to hear the difference in the responses and perspectives of members, compared to those which had been expressed by the local school children.

An update was given on ongoing work within the Children & Young People's Partnership. This covered the mapping of existing childcare provision, (which will contribute to what needs to be developed in the Flying Start pilot area); information about the rationalisation and reconfiguration of the Children & Young People's Partnerships and the draft proposals based on the seven core aims; the Children and Young People's Single Plan; and an update on the new team structure within the Framework Team. Minutes are taken of these meetings and are available on request, or are available on our website www.cvsc.org.uk as soon as they are translated.

Don't forget, these quarterly meetings are open to all voluntary or community groups active in Conwy working with children and/or young people. The next meeting is on 17 September, 6pm, venue to be confirmed.

CALLING ON ALL VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF CONWY

Children & Young People's Partnerships are required to prepare a single Children and Young People's Plan, for adoption by September 2008. It will be a three year strategic plan, replacing a number of plans viz Children's Partnership Plan, Single Education Plan, Social Services Children's Services Plan and the Young People's Strategy. The plan will be the defining statement of strategic planning intent and priorities for all children and young people's services in the area, and will act as a reference point for all other plans relating to children and young people.

Phase 1 is the Needs Assessment and Service Profile and all partners are asked to contribute relevant data, research and information to help gain as detailed a profile as possible. Examples of relevant research, information and data include data routinely collected by partner agencies, such as performance against priority outcomes and outcome measures, local research undertaken on specific issues, waiting lists for club membership, consultations with children and/or young people etc

Do you have any evidence of needs/gaps in service provision of services to children and/or young people? If so, the Framework Team would like to hear from you as your evidence could help give a more detailed analysis of local need. More detailed analysis can help in planning what needs to be done to improve outcomes; the statistical averages available, collected on a county wide level, can conceal wide ranges in outcomes be it on a geographical community or a community of need.

If you have any relevant data to share, please contact the Framework Team on 01492 878401 [Frame-workTeam@conwy.gov.uk](mailto:FrameworkTeam@conwy.gov.uk)

CONSULTATION WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Have you undertaken any consultation or participative work with children and/or young people? If so, Pat Williams, Participation Coordinator would really like to hear from you please. This is so that the information gained from their views can be fed into the single Children and Young People's Plan (see above item). Pat can be contacted at the Framework Team on 01492 876102 or pat.williams@conwy.gov.uk

Basic Skills National Support Project for Excluded Groups

Flintshire Local Voluntary Council are leading on the Basic Skills National Support Project for Excluded Groups. The project aims to support organisations in raising awareness of basic skills. It will provide resources, training, advice and guidance. We are working in conjunction with Conwy Voluntary Services Council, Medrwn Mon (Isle of Anglesey), and Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations (CAVO).

The introduction of a new Basic Skills Quality Mark for support and signposting is a highlight of the Project. We have chosen five projects to test the new framework and develop an appropriate Quality Mark that recognises the good practice taking place across all sectors. Five pilot projects represent public services, housing, community and youth organisations. The Quality Mark will set a benchmark for good practice and set the standards for support and signposting.

The project team will encourage the implementation of national networks to support the work in voluntary councils, housing associations, health organisations and community groups. We aim to give organisations the chance to develop appropriate resources, implement changes, exchange ideas and procedures. Our target is to improve the response of organisations to those with Basic Skills needs and add to their inclusiveness. The project is funded until March 2008. Organisations that want to get involved should call:

Lynne Jones	Flintshire	01352715541	lynne@flvc.org.uk
Sian Hanley	Conwy	01492523845	sianhanley@cvsc.org.uk
Huw Philips	Ceredigion	01570423232	huw@cavo.org.uk

empower Support for the Voluntary Sector

SUMMER OFFER!

What our attendees have said about us:

“ Brilliant training - I would recommend this to other Communities First Partnership Boards
Board Member, Higher Shotton Communities First

“ Excellent tutor. This is the second course I have attended. I would recommend Empower in the future to other VCOs
Development Officer Chase Council for Voluntary Services

Book any training with Empower, before the 31st August and enjoy a generous **20%** discount on any course in our 2007 brochure.
 Quote 'summer' and where you saw this advert to get the 20% discount. For your free training brochure telephone **01874 730 067**.

Tel: 01874 730 067
 Email: info@empowersvs.co.uk
 www.empowersvs.co.uk

RNIB Cymru—Accessible Technology in Communities (ATIC)

A project funded by the Communities @One initiative, it aims to enable blind and partially sighted people to access technology in their communities. Included in this is training “Digi Champions” to help overcome transport and training barriers.

For more information please call 01792 325363

Making Tracks

Making tracks was developed after a meeting in 2004, between a number of agencies working with young adults in the North Wales area. We are helping to address incidents of anti-social behavior, reduce crime and help change lives through the use of horticulture, conservation and environmental activities. Work carried out in the Colwyn Bay area recently has included creating floral baskets at the train station, maintenance of the willow sculptures, tidying and creating flower beds in St John’s Church. We also have rebuilt a wall in Old Colwyn and maintain the Fairy Glen. Education, Training, Community involvement and Occupation are essential elements within this scheme. Making Tracks provides a much needed alternative community service for helping to deal with offenders and people progressing through rehabilitation and reparation programmes.

Consultation on Draft Joint Commissioning Strategy for Adult Mental Health and Social Care— Conwy and Denbighshire 2007-2010

The draft summary document of the above Strategy, which has now been circulated for consultation, outlines the long term strategy for planning, purchasing and evaluating mental health services for adults in Conwy and Denbighshire. The consultation period runs until the 30th September 2007 and a number of presentations are being planned throughout the intervening period. Copies of the document are available on www.conwylhb.wales.nhs.uk alternatively if anyone wishes to receive a hard copy please contact CVSC on 01492 534091.

Local Service Boards

Following the Beecham Report, published last July, into the delivery of local services in Wales entitled 'Beyond Boundaries', the Welsh Assembly Government published its response in November. This document 'Making the Connections: Delivering Beyond Boundaries' identified five key areas for action in order to meet the aspirations of the Beecham Report by March 2008.

These actions are: -

- Putting Citizens First
- Working Together to Deliver Services Locally
- Working Together to Deliver Services Nationally and Regionally
- Creating a World Class Workforce
- Getting Better Value for the Welsh Pound

With regard to the action of 'Working Together to Deliver Services Locally' the Welsh Assembly Government plans to establish Local Service Boards in each Unitary Authority area. These Boards will be local leadership teams comprising of elected, appointed, executive and non-executive members of statutory authorities together with representatives from the voluntary and private sectors. All members of the Board will be an equal partner and will take joint responsibility for connecting the whole network of public services in the area. The Board will agree a set of priority joint actions, which will be expressed in a Local Service Agreement signed by the partners and the Welsh Assembly Government.

It is emphasised that Local Service Boards are not new organisations, but a means of bringing together relevant partners to agree joint action. The aim is to develop the existing Local Strategic Partnerships to enable them to have a greater impact in achieving better outcomes for the public, through more effective delivery of the Community Strategy.

The priorities that the Boards choose to tackle will reflect local citizen and community concerns, the experience of staff, national priorities and evidence of local performance. The programme for action will develop over time but is likely to include issues such as: -

- How to ensure the best use of all the resources that are available to partners to improve services and outcomes for citizens.
- How public services can co-operate more effectively to respond to strategic issues requiring a cross-agency response, such as services for children and young people, tackling homelessness and mental health issues.
- How to ensure a personalised and preventative service for individuals and families experiencing multiple disadvantage, including identifying and responding creatively to the hardest to reach.
- How services can work more effectively to meet the support needs of older people and others needing continuing care.
- How different agencies can co-operate on a small area basis to improve the social and physical environment
- How agencies can work together to promote more ambitious action on public health and fulfil the statutory duties of promoting equalities and sustainability, both as employers and major contractors in an area.

Within Conwy the Local Strategic Partnership has held discussions regarding the constitution of the Local Service Board (LSB) and it has subsequently been confirmed that the first meeting of the new Board will be held on the 25th July 2007.

Conwy Voluntary Health & Social Care Network

The aim of the Network is to bring together voluntary organisations operating in the County borough of Conwy whose objectives encompass health and social care issues.

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, country-wide organisations, and regional or national bodies who are active, or who have members in Conwy.

More information will be available soon on our website at www.cvsc.org.uk

The Network holds regular meetings and is open to all Voluntary organisations operating in the borough of Conwy whose objectives encompass health and social care issues. The latest meeting was held on Tuesday 26th June at Mochdre Village Hall. It was very well attended and there were representatives from several voluntary organisations. There was a very interesting presentation by Marie Waugh, who is the Long Term Condition Co-ordinator at Conwy Local Health Board. Also, Chris Sweetnam gave an update on his involvement with the Arthritis and MusculoSkeletal Alliance. Minutes are available on request , or will be available on our website shortly.

Next meeting

Conwy Voluntary Health & Social Care Network
Tuesday 18th September 2007
Mochdre Village Hall
2.00pm—4.00pm

For further information please contact: Jill Owen, Health & Social Care Co-ordinator at Conwy Voluntary Services Council Tel. 01492 523841/ Email: jillowen@cvsc.org.uk

"Looking After Me" course

The next " Looking after me " course run by Expert Patient Programme Wales is to be held in Colwyn Bay from 9th November . This is a free, self-management course for people who care.



If you are interested in attending please contact the EPP Co-ordinator at Gwynedd Local Health Board on 01286 674236 or Email: epp@gwyneddhealth.org

Young People and the Millennium Volunteering Programme

My name's Rhian I am the Youth Volunteering Development Officer for Conwy based in the Volunteer Bureau in Madoc Street. I was appointed in accordance with the objectives of the Russell Commission to develop a positive image of volunteering among young people and to develop existing and new links with voluntary organisations and statutory services.

Young people get involved with volunteering for a number of reasons. Voluntary work can offer a number of varied routes for young people who are looking to start out on the road to a new career, gaining qualifications or just simply looking for an opportunity to acquire new skills. It also gives them the chance to gain work experience, social contact, and involvement in the community, helps them to confront challenges and build up their confidence.

For many young people "volunteering" is the first chance to become independent and giving them a sense of achievement which can lead to a fuller lifestyle.

The Millennium Volunteer programme is designed to promote and recognise volunteering among young people aged 16 – 24. The programme requires a commitment for doing voluntary work of 100 or 200 hours for which they will receive an Award of Excellence, which is fully recognised by employers, colleges and the local community.

Delivery Partners for the Millennium Volunteers Programme

Delivery Partners are organisations and groups, who involve young people as volunteers in their work. If you are currently using or propose to use young people as volunteers there is a need to promote good practice within the organisation.

Millennium Volunteers Delivery Partners should be properly constituted voluntary organisations or public bodies, whose aims, work and operating procedures are consistent with the aims and national quality standards of the Millennium Volunteers Programme i.e. procedures for CRB checks, insurance, Health & Safety, reimbursement of expenses, equal opportunities etc.

It will cost you nothing – all volunteer expenses will be paid.

Financial Support of £50 - £7,000 is available to support Millennium Volunteers projects.

Funds can be used for:

- ✦ Volunteer out of pocket expenses
- ✦ Costs incurred in hosting and supporting Millennium Volunteers
- ✦ Set-up costs for local projects
- ✦ Volunteer training
- ◆ Recognition and accreditation of volunteers

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MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEERS

The closing date for the next grant application for Delivery Partners is **15th August 2007**.

For more information and an application form email: rhianmorris@cvsc.org.uk
 or tel: 01492 871110



News from the Bureau

Volunteers' Week 2007

Volunteers at CVSC

Those of you who have called into the office in Colwyn Bay may have met 2 volunteers currently working in the office. During Volunteers' Week the opportunity was taken to express CVSC's appreciation of their contribution.

Jeremy Lloyd and Rhian Hand are pictured receiving their certificates and gifts from David Taylor and staff members.



Lots of interest was shown in the publicity which the Bureau gave to Volunteers' Week. The Bureau's windows were filled with attractive displays and a stall outside drew considerable interest from passers-by who were encouraged to take leaflets and a small free gift.

The Volunteer Bureau itself awarded 61 certificates to volunteers who had been nominated by their organisations in appreciation of their exceptional contributions. The citations are being collated and are available for anyone interested to examine in the Bureau.

Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards

As a result of nominations submitted by individuals and organisations in Conwy, 'Highly Commended' Certificates have been given to the following:-

Ann Emmanuel, The Derws Neighbourhood Watch

Lisa Zobel-Parsons, Welsh Mountain Zoo

David Emmins, Tyddyn Bach Trust

Gwenan Paewai, South Gwynedd Women's Aid

Carolyn Wicks, Colwyn Women's Aid

Raymond Mercer, North Wales Community Justice Partnership

Rowen Scout Camp Service Team has specially been recognised for their 'exceptional' work in keeping the camp site running throughout the year. They have received a WVY Award in the Group category of the scheme.

Our sincere congratulations to all award-winners! We shall be arranging a presentation ceremony for the end of July.



News from the Bureau

GWIRFODDOLWYR Y MILENIWM



MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEERS

Conwy's Youth Volunteering Development Officer



Meet Rhian Morris, our Youth Volunteering Development Officer. Her remit is to help organisations to extend their volunteering opportunities to younger

age groups, mainly between 14-25, as well as promoting volunteering to young people. She is at present making contacts with a whole variety of organisations so she may be in touch with you shortly. However, if you don't want to wait, do please ring the Bureau on 01492 871110 to have a chat with Rhian about how she can help you with your project.

Want publicity for your organisation?

Need Volunteers?

Why not hire one of the windows at the Volunteer Bureau?

Only £15 per week

Give Alan or Sophia a call to book

01492-871110 or e-mail
 alanedwards@cvsc.org.uk

Visit

www.volunteering-wales.net
 to see all our current volunteer vacancies

Our 3000th Volunteer

This year has seen our 3000th volunteer being recruited. She is Katie Edwards of Rhos-on-Sea and she is volunteering with the North Wales Community Justice Partnership.

She will be presented with a certificate and vouchers for a visit to the Welsh Mountain Zoo to recognise the Bureau's magnificent milestone. Our thanks go to the Zoo for their practical support in donating the vouchers.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

VICTIM SUPPORT are looking for people to offer practical and emotional support to victims of crime

CLWYD JUSTICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE are looking for volunteers to serve on the Committee to advise on the suitability of candidates for appointment as magistrates.

LLANDUDNO TRUST - HERITAGE CENTRE need help with various tasks related to the running of the centre.

WRVS need volunteers to help with the running of Clwb yr Efail in Conwy, including catering, social outings, leisure activities in the club, etc

FIRST RESPONDER SCHEME are looking for volunteers to train in life-saving skills to stabilise casualties until the arrival of emergency services

EXPERT PATIENT PROGRAMME are looking for volunteers to train as tutors to help patients with long-term health conditions to be better able to self-manage their illness

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