

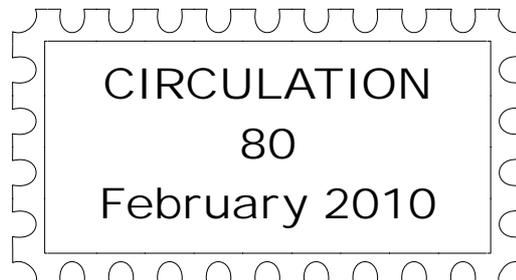


The BIG Lottery Fund has helped us to expand our Resource library for our members!

All our Resources are free to hire for members! INCLUDING:



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Working with Voluntary Organisations, Community groups and volunteers in Conwy

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The next edition of this newsletter will be distributed in April 2010
Should you or your organisation wish to contribute a news item or flyer - then please forward to Jan Smith, Information Officer, by Wednesday 31 March 2010

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of CVSC. We reserve the right to edit for publication. This newsletter was designed, printed and distributed by CVSC.

Our mailings are available, by request, in large print, disk or Braille and also in audio (Courtesy of Y Gadwyn, and Colwyn Link Talking Newspaper,)

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For your community information needs
visit:
www.conwycommunitydirectory.org.uk



Dear colleagues, as we move into a new year there is no doubt, due to increasing pressure on public finance, that the impact will be felt by 3rd sector organisations in Conwy. All of us need to look at ways of reducing expenditure and we need to be inventive in finding ways to be sustainable. Those of us who enter into contracts with other agencies need to ensure that we are achieving full cost recovery but at the same time delivering best value. On a brighter note, European Convergence funds will return to West Wales and the Valleys and certain areas in Colwyn will benefit from Strategic Regeneration Area funds. Community First areas will continue to be supported by the Wales Assembly Government (WAG) and the off-shore wind turbines revenue should begin to benefit the area soon. The CVSC / WAG capital grants scheme will continue to March 2011 and we are pleased to hear that WAG have agreed to fund the Rural Community Transport project up to March 2012.

We will be launching a new 'Courses for Communities Cymru' training programme in the spring which, as always, will offer affordable courses to local organisations. The programme has been praised by the past First Minister Rhodri Morgan as 'affordable and accessible', and hailed by participants as 'helping to strengthen the sector during the funding and other difficulties likely to occur in the near future'. Watch for details of the courses on our new website at www.cvsc.org.uk

Volunteering in Conwy is still vibrant and the Volunteer Centre in Llandudno is as busy as ever. They hope to recruit their 7000th volunteer during the coming 12 months.

Finally, I wish all 3rd sector groups and volunteers working in Conwy a very Happy New Year and assure you that CVSC trustees and staff will continue to support you during 2010.

David Taylor
Chief Officer

Welcome to **Jennifer Geddes** who has joined the CVSC team as Administration Assistant/ Receptionist and also to **Ann Maher**, Volunteer Centre assistant !

Congratulations to **Wendy Jones** on her promotion to Deputy Chief Officer!

Dame Suzi Leather, Chair of Charity Commission, visits CVSC and local groups

CVSC were delighted to receive a visit from Dame Suzi Leather on Tuesday 26th January, prior to the Charity Commission Open Board meeting at Venue Cymru the following day. The work of CVSC was discussed along with the ongoing partnership working between the 2 organisations. She also visited and found out about the work of Antioch Church Debt Advice sessions, Llandudno & District Credit Union and Food Co-op taking place locally in Colwyn Bay.



She enquired about the state of voluntary and community groups in the current financial climate and indicated continuing support from the Commission and was heartened to hear of CVSC's efforts around sustainability through our training and recent Funding Conference.

Dame Suzi leather with some of CVSC staff



Children in Need

Children in Need has launched a new [Small Grants programme](#) with the aim of seeking applications from organisations that have not applied to Children in Need before. Grants of up to £10,000 a year for up to three years will be available to organisations across the UK working with young people and children. Children in Need is keen to get applications from smaller organisations across the UK that have not previously made an approach to them. There will be four application rounds a year. Any not for profit organisation working with young people and children aged under 18 can apply. Children in Need hopes to make decisions within 14 weeks of the closing date for each round. **The next closing dates are 15 April, 15 July and 15 October 2010. Further information** www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey (Source: fundinginformation.org, 6/1/10)

WREN announces next application deadline (UK)

WREN which provides funding for community, heritage and environmental projects in areas close to landfill sites by awarding grants for environmental, heritage and community projects has announced the first application dates for 2010. Funding is available through [three grant programmes](#). The small grants programme which provides grants between £2,000 and £15,000 with a total project cost of under £50,000; the WREN main grant scheme offers funding of between £15,001 and £50,000 and the Biodiversity Action Fund which provides funding of between £75,000 and £250,000 to deliver biodiversity improvement projects under Object DA. Eligible organisations that can apply for funding include environmental organisations, voluntary groups, charities, not-for-profit organisations and community groups. The application deadlines are 17 March 2010 for the main and small grants programme and 29 January 2010 for the Biodiversity Action Fund. www.wren.org.uk/schemes



CVSC SMALL CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME 2008-2011

Congratulations to the 21 groups and organisations who received a total of £67,747 in grants during the last round. The successful groups were presented with a cheque by the Chair of CVSC, Mrs Mary Trinder at our AGM and Funding Conference at Llandudno Town Hall on Friday 30th October 2009.

If you have a project in mind please contact Sonia for further information on 01492 523853 or

soniakendall@cvsc.org.uk

The closing date for the next round is 31 March 2010

Targeted Match Fund (TMF) - General TMF Guidance

WAG has established the TMF to provide a central match fund to the 2007-13 European Structural Funds Programmes. TMF provides capital and revenue funding and is available to organisations in all sectors to support activities under the Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment, and Territorial Co-operation Structural Funds Programmes. See www.cvsc.org.uk for further details

LAUNCH OF WCVA's NEW "PASSPORT" SCHEME

WCVA is now operating its "passport" scheme where an applicant asked to send in supporting documents with its grant application or pre-qualification questionnaire will have those documents logged, scanned and saved to WCVA's database. The organisation will then be notified of its unique "passport" reference number, which can then be used in any future application. www.wcva.org.uk

Communities First Advice and Support Service

Since January 2009 WCVA has been delivering an Advice and Support Service for all Communities First Partnerships and staff on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG).

Many CF Partnerships have identified priorities, devised projects and are working to Local Action Plans in order to influence the service delivery in the deprived communities in which they operate. In the transition to a more 'outcome focused' approach for the CF programme, support provision was reshaped and the Advice and Support Service is providing flexible, responsive assistance to Partnerships in areas such as:

- ◆ Project planning and funding
- ◆ Working with service providers
- ◆ Legal advice
- ◆ Publicising activities
- ◆ Conflict resolution
- ◆ Running meetings effectively
- ◆ Making use of the Outcomes Fund

Already a number of Partnerships have received support on matters such as:

- ◆ Merging Partnerships
- ◆ Refreshing Partnership members' understanding of the role of a CF Partnership
- ◆ Legal advice related to working with children and young people
- ◆ Community development practice in areas new to the programme
- ◆ Conducting a community consultation

Both Russell and Megan from the Advice Team are available on the CF Helpline **0800 587 8898** or by email help@wcva.org.uk and are able to liaise bilingually.

The COASTLINE BLUEGRASS BAND is available for fund raising events!

The band organises the Coastline Bluegrass Music Event held in June and runs a monthly music club and workshops at Llanddulas and Abergele. The band also appears at Bluegrass festivals throughout the UK.

Bluegrass music is ideal for those social events such as barbeques and informal gatherings, but is also suited to concert situations. The band has it's own PA suitable for the small occasion as well as for larger venues holding up to 500(seated).

The PA system (with either 5 vocal and 5 instrument mics or a single large condenser mic) is available for hire to local bodies organising fund-raisers and a fully qualified sound engineer is available to ensure the best results from this 4 speaker system.

Please get in touch with us if we can help you with your event. John Prytherch: 07711 244418 or email - coastline1@hotmail.co.uk

CVSC New website!

The new website was launched at our AGM and Conference in October. It is now fully functional and offers many new features.

Check it out at www.cvsc.org.uk

Watch out for new membership benefits coming soon—a special membership area for prime advance content, access to a funding database, your own web pages—and much more!

Advance Notice!

The 4th edition of the popular and colourful Community Facilities Brochure is on its way!

Watch out for updated questionnaires coming your way! Please do complete and return to ensure your facility is included.

We hope to provide yet more added value and promote the activities and facilities taking place in local communities.

Further information from Jan Smith

CONWY CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP VOLUNTARY SECTOR NETWORK MEETINGS

Conwy Children & Young People's Partnership (CYPP) Voluntary Sector Network meets quarterly and is open to all voluntary and community groups working with 0 – 25 year olds. The meetings are an opportunity to find out what is happening within the CYPP, hear guest speakers giving presentations on topical issues and generally network with each other.

Date and times of 2010 meetings, at venues which have yet to be confirmed.:

- ◆ Thursday 18 March, 6pm
- ◆ Wednesday 30 June, 2pm
- ◆ Thursday 30 September, 10am
- ◆ Wednesday 15 December, 2pm

For further information please contact Ann Westmoreland CYPP Liaison Officer,
tel 01492 523849/574096, email annwestmoreland@cvsc.org.uk

Vetting and Barring Scheme Roadshows

A further series of Vetting and Barring Scheme Stakeholder Briefing Roadshows will be held in England and Wales in February and March 2010. These will be open to people who will be responsible for implementing the scheme in organisations at a regional and local level.

The roadshows will combine presentations, question and answer sessions and previews of DVDs and other briefing materials. The objective is to provide a thorough briefing on different aspects of the scheme, including the implications of Sir Roger Singleton's check and more details on the launch timetable for ISA-Registration. In addition there will be two separate sessions focused on more detailed aspects of how the scheme relates to Children (Education) and Vulnerable Adults (Health/Social Care).

Dates and venues will be confirmed shortly on the ISA website as well as the details of other events with extended scheme presentations that are open to wider audiences.

Source, Vetting & Barring Scheme Update December 09

Youth Support and Learning Support Services Consultation Update

The Welsh Assembly Government has developed joint statutory guidance for Youth Support Services and Learner Support Services, which has been issued for public consultation. The guidance updates the existing guidance for youth support services, contained within Extending Entitlement: Supporting Young People In Wales (2000), and provides statutory guidance for the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009, relating to the Individual Learning Pathway Document, wider learning as part of the Learning Core and Learner Support Services, comprising learning coaching, personal support and careers information advice and guidance.

The consultation period runs between **9 December 2009 and 31 March 2010**. The Assembly Government is keen to encourage all involved with or who have an interest in youth and/or learner support services to engage in the consultation process.

The Partnership Support Unit of the Welsh Local Government Unit is assisting the Assembly Government with the running of three regional consultation events, primarily intended for the Coordinators and members of the Children and Young People's Partnerships and 14-19 Networks.

It is hoped that these events will act as a catalyst for local Partnership and Network events to ensure that as many people as possible are able to discuss the guidance and feedback.

Visit the Welsh Assembly Government website for more information:

www.wales.gov.uk/consultations/education/cyss/?lang=en

CVSC Forthcoming Training Opportunities (CVSC Colwyn Bay Offices unless otherwise indicated)

- ◆ Formatting Magic in Microsoft Word, 9.30am – 3.30pm 17 February 2010 , Ty Llywelyn
- ◆ Introduction to Volunteering and getting the best from your volunteers, 1- 4pm 22 February 2010,
- ◆ Formalising your organisation, 9.30 – 1pm, 25 February 2010
- ◆ Budgeting, 9.30 – 12.30, 1 March 2010
- ◆ Basic Skills Awareness, 9.30 – 1pm, 11 March 2010
- ◆ Introduction to Welsh Politics and basic campaigning, 9.30 – 3.30pm 26 April 2010

For information regarding other County Voluntary Training across Wales please visit
www.coursesforcommunities.org.uk

Sustainable Funding Cymru Team Courses, North Wales **Cost £25 full day, £10 ½ day**

- ◆ How to tender, 23 & 24 March 2010 , Wrexham and 11 & 12 May 2010, Rhyl
- ◆ Individual Giving, 25 March 2010, Llandudno
- ◆ Loan finance, 27 May 2010, Rhyl
- ◆ Trading, 15 June 2010, Ruthin

Participation Cymru Courses—

23 and 24 February, Difficult conversations, Rhyl
10 March, Participatory budgeting, Rhyl

Bookings for both programmes can be made by calling WCVA's Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, emailing help@wcva.org.uk. Alternatively, you can visit www.wcva.org.uk/training to see a full list of WCVA's courses and to book online.

"Play Strategy Stakeholder Seminar - March 10th 2010, Venue Cymru, Llandudno"

Every organisation that provides a service for children and young people, or the communities in which they live, can have an impact on children's freedom to play. The Conwy Play Strategy is being developed to clearly establish how the County provides for children's play

This FREE event will focus on:

- ◆ The importance of play in children's lives
- ◆ Play and children's rights
- ◆ Play as it relates to national and local policy
- ◆ How a play strategy for Conwy can make a difference
- ◆ How we can best utilise resources to provide and plan for play
- ◆ Why we need a play strategy for Conwy
- ◆ And most importantly allow you to have your say in the development of Conwy's Play Strategy

This event is open to anyone working within Conwy whose work impacts on Children's Play and is particularly aimed at staff with a responsibility for service provision in the voluntary, community and statutory sectors.

**If you would like further information or to book your place please contact CVSC on:
01492 534091 or mail@cvsc.org.uk**

Llandudno Hospital

The future of Llandudno Hospital has been the subject of considerable debate over the past few years. In 2007 a Ministerial review of the Hospital was undertaken by an independent consultant (Mr Frank Burns) who produced a report containing fifty recommendations. This report was accepted by the Minister for Health and Social Services as a basis for further analysis and she asked Conwy LHB to undertake this work and produce a service model for the Hospital. That second report recommended that:

'Llandudno Hospital becomes a diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitation centre for both the immediate Llandudno area and for certain services, the four counties of central and western North Wales. The hospital would deliver a range of health care that supports local primary and community services, as well as the acute hospital sites at Bangor and Glan Clwyd. Through this it would be able to play its full part as one of the network of hospitals across North Wales'

The new Betsi Cadwaladr University Local Health Board (BCUHB) has now been asked to proceed and develop plans to implement the recommendations and is establishing the following groups to oversee the process: -

Communications Group

This group will have responsibility for ensuring that there is an open, transparent two way communication system in place between stakeholders and those directly involved in the project.

Stakeholder Reference Group

This group will have a key role in scrutinising, commenting on and contributing to the work of the project teams as their work progresses. The group will act as the 'acceptability barometer' and 'sounding board' for the output of the project teams. It will also serve to provide the Project Board with assurance that the views of stakeholders have been taken into account and have contributed to the work of the project teams.

Project Teams

Project teams will be established to cover the following: -

- Unscheduled care
- Elective treatment and diagnostics
- Women's Health
- Rehabilitation
- Mental Health

Service users, carers and representatives of voluntary organisations will sit on the Communication Group, the Stakeholder Group and each of the Project Teams.

Further information available from David Scott on:

01492 523851 or e-mail davidscott@cvsc.org.uk

Calling all budding radio stars.....

Do you have a new project that you would like to tell everyone about, or a service which you would like everyone to know about? Would you like an opportunity to promote what your organisation does on the radio? Then you may be interested in the opportunity below?

Hi everyone, my name is Peter Hardie. I am a new presenter for Tudno Talk Radio show on every Tuesday morning from 10am – 12pm, starting on Tuesday 2nd February.

This will give every organisation the opportunity to be interviewed and get their message to the wider community.

If you would like to appear on the show and discuss any issues that the community would like to hear more about, then please contact me on 01492 863190 or email me on communityradio@mac247.co.uk . I look forward to hearing from you.

HEALTH MINISTER OUTLINES NEW STRUCTURE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILS

On Friday, 29 January Health Minister Edwina Hart announced reforms to Community Health Councils (CHCs) in Wales following extensive consultation.

Under the changes, from 1 April, 17 of the existing 19 CHCs will be dissolved and six new CHCs created in their place, with the same boundaries as the Health Boards. Each new CHC will consist of Local Committees, providing strong local links and having the same boundaries as the local authorities within the CHC's area. The two Powys CHCs will remain unchanged for the time being, while work continues on the future relationship between Powys Health Board and Local Authority.

There will also be changes to the Board of CHCs in Wales, which will be made smaller and have its chair and vice chair elected by the whole membership. The Director will also become a full member of the Board.

The recruitment process for appointing new members to the CHCs will begin shortly. The Minister will be looking for a wide range of members willing to take on a number of roles within the CHCs.

MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEERS

At our AGM in October it was great to see a number of young people being presented with certificates under the Millennium Volunteers Award Scheme to recognise the hours which they have given to their various volunteering roles.

Their achievements were applauded by the meeting and they were presented with their certificates by Mary Trinder, the Chairman of the CVSC.

Their awards were as follows:

Cathleen Thomas - 100 hours with the Welsh Mountain Zoo
Ruth Watson - 50 hours with Dan's Den
Nadine Gavin - 50 hours with Dan's Den
Hayley Hughes - 100 hours with Dan's Den
Kirsty Jones - 50 hours with Llandudno Youth Musical Theatre
Chloe Keenan - 50 hours with Llandudno Youth Musical Theatre
Jessica Jones - 50 hours with Llandudno Youth Musical Theatre
Robert Griffiths - 100 hours with Tudno FM
Gareth Palmieri - 200 hours with Tudno FM
Jake Watt - 100 hours with Woodhill Baptist Church.

Well done to you all!

Visit

www.volunteering-wales.net

to see all our current volunteer vacancies

News from the Centre



Left -Right ...Gareth, Chloe, Robert, Kirsty, Mary Trinder, Chris Hughes (representing Ruth), Nadine and Hayley hiding behind Nadine!

Cash for Youth

Funding by Youth for Youth

Does your organisation involve young people 14-25?

Have some big ideas or exciting plans that will benefit youth and the community?

Need some funding assistance?

Go For It!

For more information and an application form, email

rhianmorris@cvsc.org.uk