

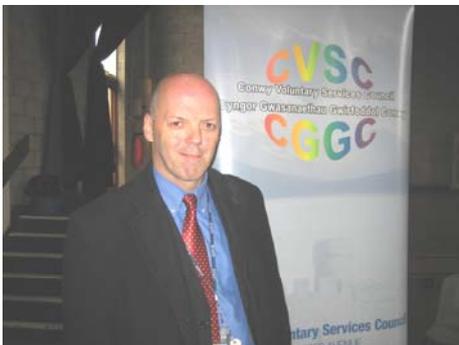
November 2006

Welcome to the winter edition of our newsletter, once again a very full edition of all the news and information relevant to the voluntary and community sector.

CVSC AGM 2006

CVSC held a very successful AGM in Llanrwst recently where the new style CVSC website was previewed. Our sincere thanks go to Lynne Jones who redesigned the site on a voluntary basis. (Further information in the Information Section page 67.3)

The Guest Speaker was David Neal, Director of Resources / Treasurer of North Wales Probation Service who gave a rousing presentation on the subject of "Getting the Price Right". This is extremely topical in that it indicates how important it is for voluntary and community groups to ensure they include all costs including all overheads within their funding applications.



David Neal after his presentation



Lynne Jones receiving her certificate in recognition of her voluntary work in designing the new CVSC website

The CVSC Annual Report was presented at the AGM and is available on request. For an electronic copy please check out our new website on www.cvsc.org.uk

The 3 retiring Trustees were all re-elected for another term. These included Alice Robinson, Tom Jones and Laurette Danson. Alice Robinson stands down as Chairperson and we thank her for all her efforts. A new Chairperson will be elected by the Trustees at their next meeting in December 2006.

CVSC Staff and Volunteer Changes

It is with huge sadness that we bid farewell to **Derrick Orme**, Development Officer Coastal Area and **Linda Powell**, Rural Outreach Officer both at the end of November. We offer our sincere thanks for all the considerable work they have undertaken during their years with us and wish them all the best in their new positions.

Any group wishing to explore any general development or community support issues please could you contact David Taylor, Chief Officer on 01492 534091 for an appointment. CVSC continues to strive to draw down additional funding to maintain all services.

We congratulate our volunteer **June** who has gone on to take up a full time position, and welcome new volunteers **Sheryl, Rhian, Gwenan and Craig**.

BIG LOTTERY FUND - RESEARCH PROGRAMME

The Big Lottery Fund will provide up to £25 million in the UK over 2007-2009 to fund social and medical research grants in the UK.

The aim of the Research Programme will be to influence local and national policy and practice by funding the Third Sector to produce and disseminate evidence based knowledge.

The delivery of the programme is to be outsourced. The winning contractor will be in place by November 2006 and the programme will be open to applications by Spring next year.

Further details can be obtained from the website www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

AWARDS FOR ALL

If you are a local group and you need a grant of between £500 and £5000 then Awards for All may be able to help you. Your project should involve people in their local community, bringing them together to take part in a wide range of activities. Your project can include art, sport, heritage and community activities, as well as projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community.

Grants are made to small community groups, parish/town councils, schools and health bodies. School projects must be extra-curricular.

For further details visit the website www.awardsforall.org.uk

HERITAGE GRANTS

This programme offers grants of £50,000 or more. There are no deadlines. Projects should conserve and enhance our diverse heritage or encourage more people to be involved in their heritage or both. Projects should also make sure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage. Projects can include nature conservation, historic buildings, museum and archive collections, spoken history records, cultural traditions, and objects and sites relating to the UK's industrial, transport and maritime history.

For further details visit the website www.hlf.org.uk

COMMUNITIES FIRST(MUSIC) TRUST FUND

This is a pilot programme launched by the Welsh Assembly Government to assist small-scale, community based music activities in Communities First areas in Wales.

The fund is an additional and ring-fenced element to the Communities First Trust Fund.

The purpose of the scheme is to support any type of music activity and community music that involves local people, through small community organisations, and promotes social inclusion. A total of £180,000 has been allocated throughout Wales. Priority will be given to young people, especially those who have not had an opportunity to participate in musical activities.

The next closing date is 31 January 2007. Ring helpline 0800 587 8898 for further details.

FAREWELL

As the European Funding for the posts of myself Derrick Orme and my colleague Eirian Jones comes to an end on 31 December it seems an appropriate time to say goodbye and thank you to the "hundreds" of groups I have met over the past four and a bit years. I have enjoyed every minute of it and I hope I have been of some help to you!!! I wish you well in your projects and I hope that you continue to develop.

Please refer to the editorial page regarding contact details after I've left.

Best wishes and good luck!

Derrick Orme

CVSC Small Grants Scheme

The panel met on 25 October and we are happy to announce the following awards from Round 5:

- Carneddau Junior Triathlon Club
- Conwy Valley Women's Institute
- Cymdeithas Godre Hiraethog
- Dolgarrog Community Council
- Eisteddfod Y Pasg Pandy Tudur
- The Garden Gang, Llandudno
- Llandudno Junction Community Club
- North Wales Chrysalis Trust
- Quarry Villages Community Transport Group
- RSPB
- TPAS Cymru, Llandudno Junction
- Tre Cwm Community Association
- Vardre Bowling Club



The closing date for Round 6 is 31 January 2007 with the panel meeting on 28 February 2007.

Once again for any enquiries re the scheme please contact David Taylor on 01492 534091.

Conwy Celebrates is a small trust with a remit to provide financial support to organisations based in the Old Conwy Borough (Llandudno Junction, Deganwy and Conwy) who are celebrating in some way.

Recent examples include the Sea Cadets celebrating Trafalgar Day and the Penrhos Group celebrating VE Day.

If your group have an event they would like to celebrate then please contact Simon Simcox on 01492 582556

REMINDER! REMINDER!

The Community Enterprise Development Scheme (formerly known as Strategic Development Scheme, SDS) is now seeking applications from voluntary and community projects that help make Conwy County a better place to live, work in or visit.

Closing date 24 November 2006
Further information and an application form please contact Ann Carroll on 01492 574505

Are you using business sense?

Using business sense can help you strengthen your brand image, improve your profits and efficiency and minimise your risk.

Up to £2,000 FREE assistance is available to small and medium sized enterprises in Objective 1 counties of West Wales.

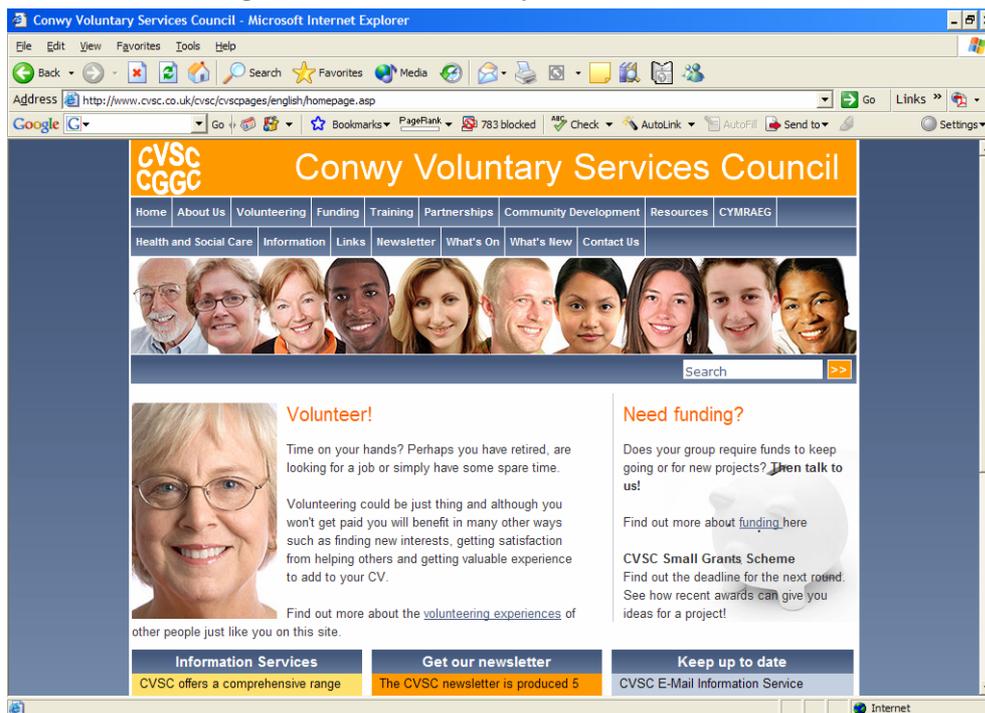
Contact info@synnwyr-busnes.org or call 01248 382605

Launch of new CVSC Website

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new website –still available at www.cvsc.org.uk

The new style hopefully reflects a more “people and community” approach. However, you will still be available to view the usual categories, now with extended information—although please bear in mind that initially it remains a work in progress site! Happy surfing!

Please let us have your comments and feedback—particularly what other information you would like to see on the website. Again our thanks to Lynne Jones.



Conwy Community Legal Services Partnership

The Conwy Partnership took the decision at the last meeting to continue to meet, despite the end of the previous support offered to local partnerships by the Legal Services Commission. One of the first initiatives it will tackle is **the mapping of Welfare Benefits service provision in the County.**

If you or your organisation provide this kind of service, and would like to be included in a new leaflet/ brochure then please do let Jan Smith, CVSC Information Officer know and if possible provide an example of your promotional literature.

Welfare Benefits Service Providers in the Conwy area are cordially invited to the next meeting of the Partnership on Thursday 25 January, 9.30am at the Civic Centre in Colwyn Bay where this initiative will be the main agenda item.

Dates for your Diary—WCVA Regional Policy Events in conjunction with CVSC

Wednesday 17 January 2007

Thursday 26 April 2007

Thursday 19 July 2007

Thursday 18 October 2007—all at Venue Cymru, Llandudno

Further information from Gwyneth Jones on 01492 539805 or e-mail gjones@wcva.org.uk

Charity Commission and the new Charities Act workshop

Monday 4 December 2006

Venue Cymru (North Wales Conference Centre), Llandudno

Speakers: Dame Suzi Leather (the newly appointed chair of the Charity Commission) and Andrew Hind, Chief Executive.

The event organised by WCVA, will provide a unique opportunity for charities to hear directly about the way in which the Commission approaches its role as a modern regulator and the likely impact of the new Act.

The event starts at 5pm and will finish at 7pm and will be followed by drinks and a light finger buffet and the chance to follow up issues raised with the Commissioners and fellow- trustees.

If you would like to attend the event contact Mel Knights email mknights@wcva.org.uk or tel 029 2043 1724 by 20 November.

Coping with Bereavement at Christmas

Cruse Bereavement Care, North Wales Area will be holding an Information and Advice afternoon for those who have been bereaved and are finding the festive season a difficult time.

Cruse trained volunteers will be at hand to offer support and advice in St John's Methodist Church, Mostyn Street, Llandudno on Sunday 10 December between 2.30 and 4.30pm.

Mince pies and light refreshments will be provided.

Cruse North Wales: 08702 402758



**Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy
Conwy County Borough**

An invitation to all churches

A GENERAL MEETING OF THE FORUM OF CYTÛN – CONWY COUNTY BOROUGH

will be held on November 29th 2006 at 7.30 pm , at St David's Methodist Church, Craig-y-Don.

At that meeting the Committee will share a number of matters with member churches, including the following:

- Consideration of suggestions made at the last meeting.
- Links with Community Partnerships.
- Possible dialogue with other faiths.
- Sources of funding for local projects.

Member churches are entitled to be represented by two individual members together with their minister/parish priest/pastor.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHURCH IS FULLY REPRESENTED.

For details of membership, which is currently free of charge, please contact:

Rev Keith Forecast, President, Cytûn Conwy County Borough.

Tel: 01492 517085 or Email: keith@urcwales.org.uk

Children & Young People's Partnerships



NEWS FROM CONWY CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP VOLUNTARY SECTOR NETWORK MEETING

The most recent meeting was held on 20 September in the Town Hall, Llanfairfechan chaired by Karen Jones of Clybiau Plant Cymru. It was really pleasing to welcome new faces 'on board' as well as catch up with colleagues and friends from a wide cross section of organisations. As well as informing and updating the voluntary sector about ongoing work within the Partnership agenda, these meetings **provide an opportunity to network with each other, share information and generally increase the voluntary sector's involvement in the Children and Young People's Partnership in Conwy.**

Members at the meeting discussed Voluntary Sector Representation on the Framework Board following Carolyn Brain's resignation from the position, (due to other commitments). Delohne Merrell had stood in for Carolyn on two previous Framework Board meetings and had indicated an interest. It was therefore agreed to appoint Delohne Merrell as the third Voluntary Sector representative, which will aid continuity. It was also agreed to write to the Framework Board requesting that we have four voluntary sector representatives to reflect two representatives from young people's interest arena and two from the children's interest arena.

Two interesting presentations followed, one from Emma Jones, North Wales Project Worker for Funky Dragon and one from Jane Brierley, Project Worker for Tros Gynnal. Funky Dragon is the Children's Assembly for Wales and its purpose is to give children and young people the opportunity to get their voices heard on issues that affect them, and to be involved in decision making at local and national level. Tros Gynnal support children and young people to get their voices heard by providing an advocacy service for children and young people who use education, social services and health services. For more information, visit the web sites www.funkydragon.org and www.trosgynnal.org.uk or contact Ann Westmoreland CYPP Liaison Officer.

The next meeting is on **16 November 2006, 6pm Hesketh House, Bridge Street, Abergele.** Guest speakers are John Tudor, Children's Rights Commission and Angela Watt, Conwy Youth Homelessness Project. There is an open invitation to attend, please come along if you can.

Russell Commission Report—'A national framework for youth action and engagement' was published by the Russell Commission on Wednesday, 16 March, 2005.

In its report, the Russell Commission responds to the clearly expressed desire of young people to find meaningful ways of contributing to their communities. It addresses current inconsistencies and weaknesses in provision, which prevent the full potential of youth volunteering opportunities from being realised, as well as identifying ways to engage more young people from disadvantaged and under-represented communities. Additionally, the Commission proposes measures to significantly improve the range and quality of activities for which young people can choose to volunteer.

(Source: www.russellcommission.org)

More about this topic in the next newsletter.

Children & Young People's Partnerships



CYPP WEBSITE LAUNCH

Conwy Children and Young People's Partnership new website was launched on 1 November 2006. You can check meeting times, download resources leaflets and minutes, CYPP newsletters etc. and generally find out what is happening in the Partnership.



The site can be accessed on www.conwycypp.co.uk

HARVEST TRUST – Holidays for Children

Do you know of 12 children in real need of a break?

Harvest Trust is a charity which provides free seaside holidays for groups of disadvantaged children. The holidays are for groups of twelve children between the ages of 8 and 11, and are based at the Trust's own holiday centre in West Wales.

All of the week long holidays take place between April and September and are organised in partnership with schools, community groups and child care organisations. The holidays are of benefit to many children with wide ranging needs, but the Trust specialise in simple 'no pressure' holidays which particularly benefit withdrawn children with low self esteem who need space and encouragement to build self confidence.

Harvest Trust provides all accommodation, transport and admissions free of charge. Your organisation need only buy food, and provide three adult workers to accompany the children.

Application forms are available now for the 2007 season. For more information and a brochure and application form, please contact 01559 371190 or visit Harvest Trust web site at www.harvesttrust.com Closing date for applications is 31 January 2007

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

CVSC would like to thank all those organisations who responded to the invitation to declare an interest in being filmed by BBC Children in Need with the possibility of the footage being televised on BBC Children in Need night on 17th November. The list of organisations was passed on to the Project Board, and hopefully all the organisations who responded have received some form of acknowledgement for your interest, even though you may not have been selected for filming purposes.

Cruse Bereavement Care are running their 48 hour Foundation Course in Bereavement Counselling at HM Stanley Hospital on Tuesday afternoons beginning January 9th 2007.

They are holding an Information / Interview Evening on Tuesday 5th December between 6pm and 8pm in the Board Room, again at HM Stanley Hospital.

The course is FREE to those who wish to volunteer with Cruse, but for those who train intending to volunteer elsewhere a £10 registration fee will be levied, refundable once volunteering begins.

For an application form or for further information please contact Trish, Administrator on 08702 402758

Green Gym Leaders Course

Monday 27—Wednesday 29 November

Venue Cymru, Llandudno

For further details please contact:

Lisa Williams, BTCV Cymru on
 01978 290866

FireBrake Wales - Are you ready?

New fire safety rules affecting all non-domestic premises came into force on 1 October 2006

Free Information Seminars:

- Monday 20 November, Conwy Business Centre
- Wednesday 6 December, Redwither Business Centre, Wrexham

Booking Hotline: 01633 654000

CVSC Autumn Training—places still available for

**Health and Safety (1 day Course) at CVSC Rural Office, Llanrwst,
 Wednesday 6 December.**

For more information please contact Sonia Kendall on 01492 534091

WCVA Training Opportunities

- The emotionally intelligent Volunteer Manager, 29 November, Colwyn Bay
- Promoting your project on a shoestring, 30 January 2007, Colwyn Bay
- Getting into local media, 31 January 2007, Bangor
- Developing a volunteer friendly organisation, 1 February 2007, Colwyn Bay
- Volunteers and Risk Management 8 February 2007, Colwyn Bay
- Effective Volunteer recruitment messages, 20 March 2007, Colwyn Bay
- Effective Management of volunteers (3 day course) , 6, 7 & 8 March 2007, Llandudno

Participation Cymru:

- Engaging Hard to reach groups, 8 February 2007, Bangor
- Methods for involving young people, 9 February 2007, Ruthin
- Participatory Evaluation, 9 March 2007, Bangor
- Consulting with the community, 23 March 2007, Bangor

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

Voluntary Sector Representation required for Conwy East and Conwy West Community Health Councils

Vacancies have occurred on both of the above Community Health Councils for Voluntary Sector representatives. There are three vacancies on the Conwy East CHC and one on Conwy West CHC.

Responsibility for the recruitment of Community Health Council Members now rests with Local Voluntary Services Councils and CVSC now invites expressions of interest.

If you or your voluntary organisation would like to make a nomination, please contact us on 01492 534091 or mail@cvsc.org.uk to obtain an application pack.

Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 15th December 2006.

VACANCY!

LOCAL VOLUNTARY SECTOR JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE

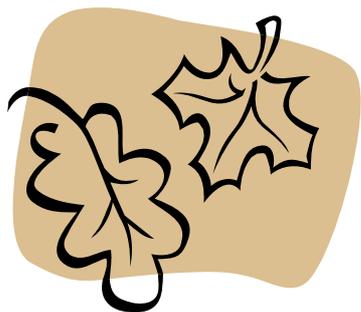
A vacancy has occurred on the above committee for a representative from the voluntary sector. The Local Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee, which meets on a quarterly basis, is the principal consultative forum between the statutory and voluntary sectors in Conwy and has responsibility for implementing the aims and objectives of the Tri-partite Compact agreed between Conwy County Borough Council, Conwy Local Health Board and the Voluntary Sector.

If you are interested in serving on this important committee please contact Sonia Kendall – at CVSC on 01492 534091 for an application pack.

If you require further information regarding the role please contact David Scott on 01492 523851.

Voluntary Sector Partnership Council (VSPC)

The recent meeting was held in Cardiff on 13 October 2006. No minutes are available as yet, but further information on VSPC and the Voluntary Sector Scheme is available from David Scott, CVSC Partnership Liaison Officer on 01492 523851.



News from the Bureau

INVESTING IN VOLUNTEERS

Proud of the way you treat your volunteers?

Want to be recognised for good practice?

Would like a check-over on your procedures for volunteers?

Then apply for the Investing in Volunteers Quality Mark. This UK Award recognises organisations' commitment to high-quality volunteer involvement.

The assessment examines 4 areas; Planning for Volunteer Involvement, Recruiting Volunteers, Selecting & Matching Volunteers, and Supporting & Retaining Volunteers

The process has been broken down into 10 easy steps and guidance materials, information & advice are available from the WCVA website, as well as from an assigned assessor.

Remember, having the Award will demonstrate to potential funders that you are a professionally run organisation and are serious about involving volunteers.

For more information contact the Bureau or call WCVA on 0870 607 1666

REMEMBER the Bureau's new address is:-
 42 Madoc Street, Llandudno, LL30 2TW

At the end of October the Bureau was delighted to welcome Leah Doherty, the new national Millennium Volunteers Co-ordinator at WCVA, to its office in Llandudno.

She came to Conwy to meet with a number of representatives of Voluntary Organisations who had expressed an interest in becoming Delivery Partners for the scheme.

Leah was pleased with the response to her talk and with the enthusiasm of organisations to offer opportunities to young people to volunteer and to have it formally recognised.

If you missed out on the presentation, contact the Bureau to find out how your organisation could be appointed as a Delivery Partner (it's very easy!) and get all the benefits, including the possibility of funding, by being part of this national scheme

GWIRFODDOLWYR Y MILENIWM



MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEERS

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

RNIB WALES are looking for volunteers to give Welfare Rights information and guidance to clients in the Conwy area

ABERCONWY WOMEN'S AID need volunteers to staff the emergency helpline at weekends; calls can be routed to the volunteer's own home

HOME-START CONWY need people with parenting experience to support families in the Conwy area who are having difficulties

CYMDEITHAS TAI HAFAN provides housing & support needs for women. Volunteers would work alongside trained staff at referral interviews, risk assessments, support learners & assist with group work

LLANRWST ALMSHOUSES are looking for people to staff their shop and act on reception ...and lots more

Ring Alan or Sophia on 01492 871110