

News and information for Wales from:

Wales Council for Voluntary Action
Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square,
Cardiff Bay, CF10 5FH
Helpdesk 0800 2888 329 www.wcva.org.uk



Charity law conference date in May

The programme for WCVA's annual Wales Charity Law Conference has now been finalised. Uncertainty hangs in the air. Public sector spending cuts are anticipated and yet their timing and extent are unknown.

There's plenty of anxiety, lots of rumour, and probably not enough *fact* about dealing with the funding and regulatory challenges ahead

The conference will help you take stock, examine risk and anticipate change. It will also offer:

- Practical guidance on managing risk and insolvency

- An employment law update
- Breakout sessions on data protection, trustee payments and improving governance
- An introduction to the Charity Tribunal and Fundraising Standards Board

The Wales Charity Law Conference will be held at Cardiff City Stadium on 20 May 2010. The Trustee Conference will be held in Wrexham on 11 November 2010. Booking forms for the Wales Charity Law Conference are available from WCVA's Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329 or by visiting www.wcva.org.uk.

Last Call to reward Wales' volunteers

WCVA has launched the Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards which this year are supported by CCLA Investment Management Ltd.

Since the awards scheme started in 2004, it has grown over the years and now receives over 200 nominations in five categories, which have been chosen to reflect the range of volunteering opportunities across Wales.

As well as recognition of individuals, young people (under 25 years), and groups, the scheme also rewards 'green' volunteers and trustees. There will be up to three winners in each category, with 15 national winners presented with their awards at a ceremony in Cardiff in June, and all nominees awarded commendation certificates at a local ceremony or by post.

The 2009 winners included a 14-year-old 'eco warrior', a former teacher who works on a voluntary basis more than most people work when they are paid to for the RSPCA and a group of volunteers who support people with visual impairment – despite all being either totally blind or partially sighted themselves.

New supporter for 2010 CCLA exists to help charities make the best of their investments. See www.ccla.co.uk for more information.

Details of the scheme, are available from the WCVA Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, or e-mail help@wcva.org.uk. They are also available to be downloaded from the website www.wcva.org.uk/voty. The deadline for receipt of nominations is 23 April 2010.

Charity calls on asthma sufferers to help raise awareness of the condition

Asthma UK Cymru is calling on the 314,000 people with asthma in Wales for help.

The charity needs volunteers who would be willing to share their story about what it's like to live with asthma to help support their campaigns.

Asthma affects one in five households in Wales but many people have no idea how serious the condition can be or that asthma still kills over 60 people a year in Wales alone.

Asthma UK Cymru need volunteers to help change this by raising awareness about the condition and the effect it can have on people's lives.

The charity is hoping to speak to people with asthma or parents of children who suffer from the condition who would be prepared to share their experiences of living with asthma.

By sharing their story in publications, on the website or with the media, people will help to raise public awareness about the seriousness of asthma and inspire other people living with the condition to get the help and support they need.

If you have asthma or you are the parent of a child with asthma and you would like to find out more about volunteering opportunities with Asthma UK Cymru, visit asthma.org.uk/shareyourstory or call 029 2043 5400.

Almost £.5m available to boost number of young volunteers

Wales's already impressive number of young volunteers is set to be boosted by a £420,000 funding from the Welsh Assembly Government for third sector organisations.

The GwirVol Youth Volunteering Scheme is offering grants of up to £5,000, £10,000 and £30,000 to groups with volunteers aged between 16 and 25, with the aim of supporting the delivery and promotion of a wide range of new volunteering opportunities.

The initiative is prioritising organisations working with young people from a diverse range of backgrounds, particularly disadvantaged youngsters including those from Communities First areas and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, young people with physical or learning disabilities, and those not in employment, education or training.

There are two types of grants available:

- **Opportunities** – which offer project funding of up to **£10,000** for activities that deliver a wide range of new and innovative volunteering experiences for young people, either with their own or another organisation.
- **Promotion** - project funding of up to **£5,000** to promote volunteering to and for young people through promotional events, websites, exhibitions, visits, and other avenues.
- **International** - project funding of up to **£30,000** for a structured programme of activities that will deliver high quality international volunteering experiences for young people aged 16-25. The GwirVol International Youth Volunteering Grants scheme will support up to 80% of total project costs.

Application packs are available from WCVA Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, by visiting www.gwirvol.org.uk, or by emailing help@wcva.org.uk. Applications must be received by 16 June 2010.



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