

Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service

Newsletter

April 2010

Training Courses **UPDATE**

Social Networking Course
23 and 30 April

There are two places left on this course.
To secure a place, please contact us on 01737
763156 or e-mail carol@rbcvs.org.uk



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Welcome...

It is nice to see some bright sunshine after the unusually cold winter this year, caused apparently by a lack of sun spot activity and further cold winters are to be expected! But as we move into warmer weather there is the uncertainty over Government support for the voluntary sector. All the major parties are talking about the importance of volunteering to society and how they will support the sector. But on the other hand, whoever moves into No 10 after the 6th May will be dealing with cuts, particularly in the public sector. There are interesting times ahead.

Looking ahead, we are starting the planning for next year's Voluntary Sector Fair. Invitations for booking a stall will be sent out shortly but if you would like to be involved in the planning on the Steering Committee, please do contact me. I am anxious to get as much involvement from those working in the sector as possible.

Des Shepherd (Manager)

Dates for your diary...

20th April 2010 – Voluntary Sector Forum, Town Hall, Reigate.

17th May 2010 – Network Lunch. *Please note this will take place in Merstham at Age Concern and is in conjunction with the Happy and Healthy Merstham event (17th-22nd May).*

And next year . . .

5th March 2011 – Voluntary Sector Fair, Harlequin Theatre, Redhill.

News and Events

Message in a Bottle

We at R&B Voluntary Service still have a number of Message in a Bottle's left for those who need them. If your organisation is running out, or would like to find out more about this scheme, please contact us as per our *Contact Us* page.

Free Office Furniture

A number of office items are being offered free of charge to any interested local voluntary, community or faith groups. They include a coat stand, computer tables, notice boards, cupboards and so on.

If you think you may be interested in these items please get in touch with Voluntary Action Elmbridge via email at contact@vae.org.uk.

Please note that they will need to be collected from Esher.

Home Start Race Night: 23rd April at 7.30pm

Join Home Start for a Fish & Chip Supper and Race Night at Surrey Downs Golf Club, Outwood Lane, Kingswood for just £10 per person. To book tickets call 01737 770220 or e-mail homestart3@btconnect.com

Friends of the Earth: Power Up With Talk Action

7th – 9th May 2010, All Saints Pastoral Centre, St Albans, London.

A training weekend on the planning system and your legal rights to help improve your local area: £75 for a residential place or £25 for a Saturday-only day ticket (limited number available, some concessions also available for the unwaged). For further information and to book, contact Talk Action on 020 7 324 4774 or e-mail jelliott@talkaction.org.

Adult Learners Week

15-21 May 2010

A week of recognition and spreading the word for Adult Learning. For more information see www.alw.org.uk

CIO Introduction Delayed Again

The introduction of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) has been delayed again. Lack of Parliamentary time is cited as the reason and 2011 is now the soonest we might see it's introduction. Those looking to set up are advised not to wait but use existing structures such as Company Limited by Guarantee (for charitable and non charitable purposes), Community Interest Company (non charitable but community benefit) or Industrial and Provident Society (mutual, charitable or non charitable).

Merstham Happy & Healthy Week

It's on 17-21st May for any group to host an activity/event to promote community engagement and/or highlight fun activities to participate in which

promote 'wellbeing' in its widest sense. It will give people the opportunity to try something new together and it is anticipated that some of these things will be supported enough to continue beyond the week.

If anyone still wants to put something on they should contact Simon Bland, Community Liaison Manager, 01737 276303 (Simon.Bland@reigate-banstead.gov.uk)

Surrey Community Safety: Children's Services Restructuring

The Surrey Community Safety Unit, based in Woking, have announced the completion of their recent restructure of Children's Services in Surrey. If you work with children and could be affected by the improvements to Children's Services, contact the Community Safety Unit for further information on 020 8541 7335.

Get involved with National Family Week 2010

National Family Week takes place from 31 May - 6 June when thousands of activities will take place across the UK for families to enjoy.

Please take this opportunity to use The Week to showcase the work that you do to support families and the community. Whether you run an event such as a Picnic, Story Time or Sports Day or simply promote The Week to families and your networks, there is a whole range of ways to get involved. To find out more please visit www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk or call 020 7871 0189.



31 May – 6 June 2010

KnowHow launches "The Archers" for the Voluntary Sector

The KnowHow Nonprofit website (www.knowhownonprofit.org) provides advice and enables people to share knowledge on every aspect of running a non-profit organisation. They have now launched an animated docudrama on life in the voluntary sector called 'Millcaster Tales'. Why not take a look? Visit www.knowhownonprofit.org/millcaster/ or www.guardian.co.uk/charity-effectiveness and see for yourself.



Dyscover, a charity based in Walton on the Hill, provides support, encouragement and opportunity to people with aphasia. The charity helps people with this disability through daily support groups and courses designed to increase confidence, self-esteem and maximise communication abilities. The groups and courses are run by Speech & Language therapists and their work is supported by volunteers.

Dyscover is currently has a range of volunteer opportunities available from supporting group work to being involved with local fundraising and marketing, both on a long term and short term basis. Full training and support is given for the group volunteer roles as is ongoing support and development.

To find out more about these roles and the work of Dyscover, Please come along to an Open Morning on Wednesday 12th May from 10am until 12pm being held at their Walton on the Hill centre. Please contact them on 01737 819419 and ask for Jane Warren for further information.

Training

In association with Redstone FM, we are running two training sessions during April and May. Provisional details are set out below:

Social Networking - 23 and 30 April

Social media has become a rapidly growing marketing tool, not just for business but for a whole range of organisations This 2 day short course is aimed at introducing the most popular social networking sites and how they can be used for the benefit of voluntary organisations. **There are a couple of places available on this course** – to book, please contact Carol at the office on 01737 765156.

Media Survival – 7 and 14 May

A two day course aimed at those who work in the voluntary sector who deal with the local media in publicising their activities. This course will involve local print media and local radio thus giving learners first hand experience from professional practitioners.

To book a place call Carol on 01737 763156.

Further information on both courses – www.redstone.fm/training

Fit4funding Online Advisors Course

Fit4funding are running their online course for funding advisors, which is accredited (to level 3) by the Open College Network. It is aimed at individuals whose work involves advising community and voluntary groups on funding and funding related issues.

The courses run over an 8 week period and requires learners to commit to approx 4 hours participation per week. Basic computer skills are also necessary e.g. word processing, email, internet, and broadband access is required.

The Course starts 10th May 2010 for 8 weeks (Enrolment date 5th May)
OR 13th September for 8 weeks (Enrolment date: 8th Sept)

Cost - £250 for voluntary and community sector organisations, £350 for statutory organisations. To book contact fit4funding on 01924 239063 (between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm) or e-mail - info@fit4funding.org.uk

Effective Supervision and Appraisal Skills

IDT Training

IDT are offering courses at various locations in supervision and appraisal skills between now and September. For further information see

www.idttraining.com or call 01803 299049

Surrey Care Trust

The Surrey Care Trust have started a new programme of training for those in the care sector

Funding

Community builders Feasibility Grants: May Deadline

Third Sector organisations who want to develop project plans for a new or refurbished building can apply to Community builders for up to £75k, however the deadline at the end of May is fast approaching.

The feasibility grant is open to organisations already providing a range of services at neighbourhood level (or partnered with this type of organisation). To be eligible for the feasibility grant, you must:

- Have a track record of providing neighbourhood services
- Be solvent
- Be unable to access finance from a bank or other commercial lender
- Be incorporated e.g., company limited by guarantee, CIC
- Meet **all** of the detailed criteria

Full information is on the website, www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk, call 0191 269 2278 or e-mail info@communitybuildersfund.org.uk for further information.

The People's Millions – Win £50,000 For Your Area!

The Big Lottery Fund and ITV want you to come up with original ideas to improve your area. If successful your school, local authority, statutory health body or not-for-profit organisation could be on ITV competing for votes to win between £20,000 and £50,000 for your project.

The deadline for entries is 12noon on 14th May 2010. For further information and to apply, see www.peoplesmillions.org.uk or call 0845 0 10 11 12.

Contact Us

If you have any queries regarding anything in this Newsletter, please contact us as below:

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