

# Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service

## Newsletter

March 2011



East Surrey MP Sam Gyimah officially opened the second Volunteer Fair.

### Contents

Manager's Notes	Page 2
Dates For Your Diary	Page 2
In Focus	Page 3
News and Events	Pages 3-4
Training	Page 4
Contact Us	Page 4

# Welcome

The 2011 Volunteer Fair took place earlier this month and was a celebration of the work of local charities and voluntary organisations in East Surrey.

Over 50 voluntary organisations and charities attended with stalls and many hundreds of people visited during the day.

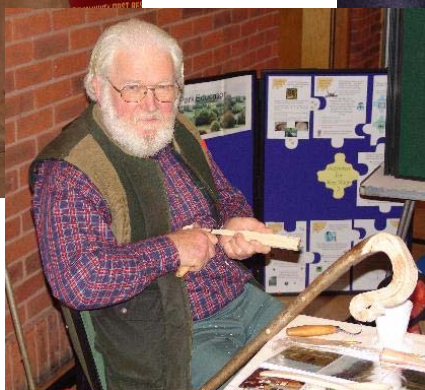
We were pleased with the outcome, and the exposure the voluntary sector has benefited from. We know of a number of organisations who have recruited new volunteers as a result of the event. But even if members of the public went home with only a better understanding of volunteering and the work of local organisations, we will have sowed some useful seeds for the future.

A selection of pictures are published on the [www.volunteerfair.co.uk](http://www.volunteerfair.co.uk) web site where there is also information on the stall holders.

This event was also the first time we organised something with our colleagues at Tandridge Voluntary Service Council and I am grateful for the input from Sue Cox and her colleagues.

Without wishing to sound like an Oscar Award winner . . . I would also like to thank the RBVS staff and trustees and our volunteers for their help on the day as well as those involved in the planning committee. In addition I want to acknowledge the financial support from Reigate & Banstead Borough Council and Tandridge District Council without whom this event wouldn't have taken place.

Des Shepherd (Manager)



Images from the Volunteer Fair 2011 – full collection at [www.volunteerfair.co.uk](http://www.volunteerfair.co.uk)

## Dates For Your Diary...

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March: Network Lunch**

St John Ambulance Hall, Horley. Guest speaker: Helen Wallace-Iles, Autism All Stars.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May: Voluntary Sector Forum**

**Town Hall, Reigate**

We are developing the content and format of the event and details will follow shortly, but for the moment please put this date in your diary.

# In Focus...

## Action For Life

The East Surrey Walking for Health Programme: Free Easy Guided Walks for Everyone in Reigate & Banstead

### Do you want to improve your health in 2011?

Then why not join Action for Life's friendly free health walks to improve your fitness, enjoy the great outdoors and make friends. Their walks are part of the national walking for health initiative organised by "Natural England". With a variety of 28 free weekly walks ranging from 1.5 to 5 miles the Charity, "Action for Life" aims to make walking fun, free and accessible. With support from the NHS, & various grants, the scheme has continued to expand. Led by trained volunteer leaders, the walks are free, and there is no need to book, just turn up!

**Interested?** Look out for their seasonal Walking leaflets in your local Library, Community or Health Centre. Alternatively, contact Carol Pollock on 01737 355304 or e mail [carol\\_pollock@actionforlife.co.uk](mailto:carol_pollock@actionforlife.co.uk) . Full details about "Action for Life" and Walking for Health can be found on their website [www.actionforlife.org.uk](http://www.actionforlife.org.uk)

As the scheme grows they are always looking for volunteer walk leaders to help run the walks, particularly the Pram Walks. If you would be interested in attending a short ½ day informative course then contact the Volunteer Centre on 01737 762 115.



## News and Events...

### Preston Coffee Morning: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Merland Rise Church Hall, 10.30am

Preston residents are invited to attend to find out more about a possible Good Neighbours scheme in the area. For further information call 01737 763 156 or e-mail [volunteerpreston@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:volunteerpreston@rbcvs.org.uk)

### The Government Has Revealed Plans To Scale Back The Vetting And Barring Scheme (VBS) And Criminal Records Scheme.

The existing scheme has been comprehensively reviewed, but some of the main proposals being put forward include:

- A large reduction in the number of positions requiring checks to just those working most closely and regularly with children and vulnerable adults.
- Portability of criminal records checks between jobs.
- An end to the requirement for those working or volunteering with vulnerable groups to register with the VBS and them be continuously monitored by the Independent Safeguarding Authority.
- The merging of the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and Independent Safeguarding authority (ISA) to form a new body that will provide a barring and criminal records checking service.

These changes apply only to England and Wales. Full information on the scheme can be found at [www.direct.gov.uk/vetting](http://www.direct.gov.uk/vetting)

### Faith and the Big Society

South East England Faith's Forum is holding this seminar on **11 April at 1.30 – 3.30 pm at The University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 7XH**. To register please contact [ushna.mughal@se-faithforum.net](mailto:ushna.mughal@se-faithforum.net) or [contact@se-faithforum.net](mailto:contact@se-faithforum.net) or call 07854 373965

### 'Securing Major Donors' - A Two-day Course On Major Donor Fundraising 13-14 April at Hamilton House, London

For further information and to book, go to [www.actionplanning.co.uk](http://www.actionplanning.co.uk) or call 020 8642 4122

### New on-line directory launched by INDI South East

Over 250 organisations are listed on INDI's website, providing information on local disability support organisations in and around the South East. For further information, go to their website, [www.indi.org.uk](http://www.indi.org.uk) and click on 'Directory'.

## Surrey Mirror – New Opportunities For Publicity.

The Surrey Mirror has seen a change of staff in recent months. The new Editor is Deanne Blaylock and the new News Editor is Jolene Hill. Following a meeting with RBVS Manager, Des Shepherd, they both expressed the interest in hearing from local voluntary groups and charities with news stories. They are also planning to relaunch the weekly free Reigate Life paper which will be focused on 'reader generated' content. When we have more details we will advise how to make the best use of this publication.

If you have a story and want to speak to the News Editor (Jolene Hill) her direct telephone number is 01737 783871 and e-mail [jolene.hill@essnmedia.co.uk](mailto:jolene.hill@essnmedia.co.uk)

If you do want to contact the Surrey Mirror office, the best days are Thursday or Friday when they are not up against a publication deadline.

## The Surrey Voluntary & Community 2011 Conference – “The Next Decade”

21 June 2011, St Saviour's Church, Guildford

Book before 21 April for an early bird discount – visit <http://www.surreyca.org.uk> for details

## Directory of Social Change: Charity Fair - 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Hotel Russell, London

To be part of this event, or for further information, go to [www.charityfair.org.uk](http://www.charityfair.org.uk)

### \*\*\*Team Projects Needed!\*\*\*

Groups of volunteers are waiting in the wings, ready to help you with your project needs, whether it be gardening, decorating, one-off events or other practical tasks. If you have a project in mind, contact the Volunteer Centre on 01737 762 115 or [volunteer@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@rbcvs.org.uk)

## Training...

### Effective Supervision Skills

FutureWorks, Croydon

A 2 day course, costing £229.00 + vat per person (10% discount for charities not registered for VAT – please email for details). Further information and booking available on 01803 299049, or e-mail [mail@idttraining.com](mailto:mail@idttraining.com) or see the website [www.idttraining.com](http://www.idttraining.com)

### Empowering the Voluntary Sector – Workshop: 7<sup>th</sup> April, Westminster

Workshops are being held across the country, and other dates and venues are available. For further information and to book, see:

<http://www.navca.org.uk/services/learningopps/evs/evsworkshops.htm>

## Contact Us...

**Des Shepherd**  
Manager

01737 763156  
[des@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:des@rbcvs.org.uk)

**Helen Hawkins**  
Development Officer

01737 763156  
[helen@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:helen@rbcvs.org.uk)

[www.rbcvs.org.uk](http://www.rbcvs.org.uk)

**Carol Jennings**  
Administrative Support

01737 763156  
[carol@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:carol@rbcvs.org.uk)

[www.reigateandbansteadvolunteercentre.org](http://www.reigateandbansteadvolunteercentre.org)

**Janet Rimmer**  
Volunteer Co-ordinator

01737 762115  
[janet@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:janet@rbcvs.org.uk)

**Lisa Irwin**  
VC Administrator

01737 762115  
[lisa@rbcvs.org.uk](mailto:lisa@rbcvs.org.uk)

#### Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service Ltd, its trustees or staff. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, we cannot be held liable for the accuracy of the information. Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service Ltd is not responsible for the content of external web sites mentioned in this newsletter.