

Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service

Newsletter

November 2010



Reigate & Banstead

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Welcome...

Volunteering - Should we prioritise?

I attended an event recently where the subject of volunteering came up and the value of it. With the encouragement to volunteer as part of the Government's Big Society initiative, the question of what kind of volunteering should have preference to limited financial resources arises. For example, there are many animal charities but should they have preference or have an equal footing at volunteering in social care or community cohesion. As one person at the event put it - what is more needy - people or animals. Taking this line of thought a step further the motivation for volunteering was discussed. Do those who volunteer do so to help those in need (whether people or animals) or because the activity interests them. Should those who volunteer for a relatively exclusive sport club be supported over those whose voluntary work contributes to the greater benefit of their local community?

Whilst I let you ponder these thoughts, may I remind you that the next Voluntary Sector Forum is taking place this Friday (19th November) lunchtime at the Town Hall in Reigate. This is an ideal opportunity for those working in the voluntary sector to discuss matters with representatives from the Borough Council.

Des Shepherd (Manager)

Dates for your diary...

19th November – Voluntary Sector Forum

The event will be co hosted by the Borough Council and ourselves and Cllr. Ros Mill, the portfolio holder for Partnership and Communities, will be present. We are combining this lunchtime event with a **funding surgery** during the morning.

17th January 2011 – Network Lunch, Venue TBC

Join us at one of our regular network lunches and enjoy the benefits of getting to know other organisations in the borough, sharing information and hearing a great speaker talk on a relevant subject...and good food!

5th March 2011 - Volunteer Fair

Stall are still available, so please do get in touch if your organisation would like to have one, or if you would like further information on the event. Or just come and bring your friends!

A Request From Our Chairman

*'At the next LSP meeting, **November 18th**, where Arthur Browne represents the Voluntary and Community Sector, it is likely that the impact of the financial situation on this sector and other organisations will be discussed. He will be pleased to know of significant effects on your organisation. We know that most organisations are having difficulties in finding funding, but wish to know where organisations are curtailing activities; either they are stopping or reducing activities, or not starting activities which are in the planning stage.*

If this applies to your organisation please send a short statement to Carol at the R&B Voluntary Service office. (carol@rbcvs.org.uk)'

In Focus...

Each month we will be publishing a feature piece on a local organisation or event. If you would like to send us a feature, please e-mail Carol at carol@rbcvs.org.uk . Not every piece will be included, but we will try!

Bob Crawley from SSAFA sent us this piece, which we think is particularly appropriate for this month.

Reigate and Banstead Division Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help 125 Years of Support for Our Armed Forces



The Reigate and Banstead Division of SSAFA Forces Help is part of a National charity which, since 1885, has supported all members and ex-members of the Armed Forces and their dependents in need. We are a small team of trained caseworkers – all volunteers - who try to help both the current generation of servicemen and women and those from previous conflicts, be they World War II or Korean veterans, National Servicemen or members of the Territorial Army and reserve forces. Our only criteria for assistance are that the beneficiary must have received one day's pay while serving in the Armed Forces and be in genuine need - financial, practical or emotional.

Because the nature of our work is, of necessity, normally confidential we run the risk that other voluntary organisations, and through them other potential clients, remain unaware of what we do or that we may be able to help any serving serviceman or woman or veteran.

Last year we assisted over 100 such clients in Reigate and Banstead with a variety of aid projects ranging from financial assistance, holidays and care home fee contributions to the provision of mobility aids, housing improvements and, quite simply, friendship.

It may also be of interest that SSAFA set up and runs Norton House, close to the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre at Headley Court near Dorking. This is a vital and much appreciated facility where seriously injured servicemen from Iraq and Afghanistan can spend time with their families, away from a military environment, while they recover.

So at a time when many of our local servicemen and women are serving overseas under extremely dangerous and challenging conditions please do contact me if you know of someone who you think we may be able to assist.

*Bob Crawley,
Hon Secretary SSAFA Forces Help,
Reigate & Banstead Division
01737 832130 / raconteur@waitrose.com*

Jobs

Part-Time Carer's Support Worker: Carers Support Service for North and Mid Sussex

Temporary, 20 hours per week. Salary £19,592 - £21,988 pa pro rata. Driver with own car is essential. For an application pack or informal discussion please phone: 01293 657040 Or email:

Info@carerssupport.org.uk . Closing date: Wednesday, 24th November 2010, Interviews: Friday, 3rd December 2010

Together  **at Christmas**

Christmas alone can be a daunting time for some...
this is your opportunity to help...

Help make Christmas Day special for others this year!
"Together At Christmas", led by the Anglican Churches in Merstham, are inviting people to join them for a special lunch, good company, music and carols and lots of fun. Father Christmas will also be there giving gifts to all the guests.

Saturday 25th December
St Nicholas School
12.30 – 3.00pm
Taynton Drive, Merstham, RH1 3PU

It is especially for those who might otherwise be on their own or for families who want to be with other people and those who can't afford to celebrate Christmas this year:

...if you want to join the merriment on the day we need:

- Drivers • Table hosts • Father Christmas •
- People to clear away • People to wash up

Please help celebrate Christmas this year.

If you would like to help, or know someone who does, contact the Reigate & Banstead Volunteer Centre on 01737 762 115 or e-mail lisa@rbcvs.org.uk.



If you know anyone in the Merstham or nearby area who would benefit from this service at Christmas, please contact Suzanne Manning on 07518 513220 or e-mail info@togetheratchristmas.co.uk.

See www.togetheratchristmas.co.uk for further information.

Trustees - Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service.

If you would be interested in becoming one of our Trustees, or would like to know more about the role, please contact Des Shepherd as per our contact page.

Civic Participation & Digital Democracy

Thursday 25th November 2010, 10:30 am to 3:30 pm

Prospero House, 241 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1GA

This seminar is aimed at anyone who works with communities or individuals and is interested in the latest developments in civic participation and e-democracy. It is open to local councils, police forces, health bodies and Local Strategic partnerships, as well as anyone from within the community and voluntary sector in the South East region.

To book a place on the seminar please contact Moira Foster on 01483 447113 or email: po@sercc.org.uk

Volunteering Conference 2010: Volunteering and 'The Big Society'

7th December 2010, 10.00am-4.15pm, Westminster

Fees: £225-£395 for one place, dependent on sector (discounts for more than one place)

Delegates will be drawn from statutory, charitable and commercial groups. For more information and to book, contact Jonathan Fuller at:

Jonathan.fuller@westminster-briefing.com or call 020 7096 2920

Opera Singers At Nutfield Parish Church

Saturday, 20th November 6.30 p.m.

Music for Soprano, Tenor and Piano. Arias and Songs by Beethoven, Haydn, and Britten, Schumann (*Vier Duette op.78*), Barber (*Knoxville: Summer of 1915*)

Admission £8.00 (concessions £5.00) at the door

Women's Resource Centre, London

Conference: 07 December 2010, 9am onwards

(AGM follows at 5pm)

At Cass Business School, 106 Bunhill Row, London, EC1Y 8TZ

Attendance fees from £120 full rate (private & public sector) to £50 for individuals. For more information and to book, go to www.wrc.org.uk



The attendance fee for this event is **£147 (including lunch and a networking reception)**. This event is prone to selling out, so early booking is recommended. Go to <http://www.actionplanning.co.uk/rich2010/> to book or for further information,

Surre Strategic Partnership Awards – Nominate Now!

Surre Strategic Partnership is looking for people whose actions will inspire people to volunteer or help others – people and groups who contribute to their neighbourhoods and help in their communities by volunteering. You can nominate anyone, the important factor being the good work he/she/they do on behalf of the community in Surrey.

Award categories include Chief Constable Award, Youth Award, Community Safety Award, Working Together Across Communities, Courage Award, Life-time Achievement Award, Going Green Award and Inspiration Award.

To download a Nomination Form go to www.surreyca.org.uk/index.htm

20th Year Of Adult Learners' Week!

Nominations for adult learning awards are now open for the 20th Year of Adult Learners' Week.

Each year thousands of adults complete some kind of learning – whether accredited, informal, online, in communities or as part of a project – but often their achievements are not recognised outside their immediate family and friends.

Why not make this year different and nominate them for a national award for learning? It's easy, it's quick and it's a fantastic boost for the learner involved.

The deadline for nominations is 5pm on Friday 28th January 2011.

More information is available at <http://www.alw.org.uk/learning-awards>, or for any questions please contact the London and South-East Regional Coordinator Amanda Pavon-Lopez on 07812 159689 or e-mail pavonlopez@msn.com.



Personalisation

Surrey County Council's Adult Social Care team are holding meetings and briefing across the County to introduce personalised adult social care services. This new focus is in response to the Putting People First policy (2007), and is being adopted throughout England.

The aim of Personalisation is to provide care that is appropriate to the individual, by giving them more control over their care and focussing on their needs, preferences and strengths. Each person will have an opportunity to help create their own care plan and use funds and resources that most effectively meet their needs.

For more information on Personalisation and how it could affect your organisation and service users, contact John Woodroffe on 020 8 541 9250 or e-mail john.woodroffe@surreycc.gov.uk.

Self Care Awareness Week: 15 – 21 November 2010

The aim of this week is to encourage service users to learn to better look after their own health care, particularly those with long-term conditions and illnesses. For further information on the aims and focus of the week, and how you can participate, go to the Department for Health website: www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH

RAISE Wants to Hear Your Views: Health & Social Care

The Office for Civil Society is consulting on its plans to build a stronger Civil Society. The changes proposed for the sector are significant and largely driven by the need to reduce the budget deficit. The outcome of the consultation will affect the future infrastructure support provided to the sector. Some of the main changes being proposed are:

- **Direct Support to Frontline Organisations**
- **Rationalisation and Modernisation**
- **Consolidation of Infrastructure**
- **Partnerships**

RAISE will be submitting a response to this consultation and is keen to hear your views about how the sector should be 'supported' to meet the needs of our society in these times of restricted funding. To help inform our response, RAISE is holding a Focus Group meeting on **Tuesday 7th December**. Go to <http://www.raise-networks.org.uk/events/> for further information and to book.

Surrey LiNK: Do You Want To Influence Health & Social Care Services?

If you would like to have a say in the Health & Social Care Services in your area, you can do so by joining Surrey LiNK, one of 150 Local Involvement Networks across England. For more information and to join, e-mail sureylink@surreycc.gov.uk or call 020 8 541 8593.

Love Food, Surrey

Many of us waste food, each year amounting to around 8.3million tonnes. Preventing food waste could not only be beneficial in reducing landfill, it will also save money. For further information, hints, tips and recipes, go to www.lovefoodsurrey.com

What Is Domestic Abuse?

This training will be delivered on a multi agency basis and sits as part of the CWDC Induction roll-out. The course is aimed at all staff working with adults, children and families who may be experiencing domestic abuse or be or affected by it.

Dates:

24 th November 2010	East Surrey Hospital	9.30 – 1.30
9 th December 2010	Runnymede Centre	9.30 – 1.30
11 th December 2010	East Surrey Hospital	9.30 - 1.30
16 th December 2010	Runnymede Centre	5.30 - 9.30

Aim: To ensure that participants understand what domestic abuse is and that everyone has a role to play in identifying, supporting and signposting those affected by domestic abuse.

Target audience: This course is aimed at all staff working with adults, children and families who may be experiencing domestic abuse or be affected by it.

Pre event requisites: Delegates should ensure that they watch the DVD 'Because you said Something' before attendance on this course.

Duration: ½ day

For further information and to book, please contact Surrey County Council at: ssctraining.enquiries@surreycc.gov.uk

FREE Organisational Training Needs Analysis: Surrey Community Action

Please contact Ann Meager on 01483 459292 Ext 224 if you would like a free training needs analysis for your organisation or any advice on training.

National Training Resources Limited

NTR have a number of courses available in writing bids and gaining funding. See www.national-training.com/events for further information, or e-mail conferences@national-training.co.uk

Effective Supervision Skills with IDT Training

25th & 26th November 2011 at FutureWorks, Croydon

For more information and to book, contact IDT Training on 01803 299049, or email mail@idttraining.com. Or take a look online at www.idttraining.com

Free Skills Training

Astute Minds are offering free NVOs Level 2 training. These funded courses are offered for free to staff from small charities with less than Level 2 NVO qualifications or less than 5 GCSEs.

There are 20 courses available in November and 20 in December when the offer closes.

The list of courses available is below. If you, or anyone in your organisation, wishes to take up this great free initiative please contact Tony Withers who will ascertain your eligibility and take your application further TWithers@astuteminds.co.uk.

'Using the Arts with Young People at Risk'

24th March 2011, 10 am- 4.15 pm, Nuffield Theatre, Southampton.

If you book before the 23rd December 2010 you can receive **25% festive discount** off the fee! For more information please contact the Artsplan Team - 02380 682535 / artsplan@artswork.org.uk.

Resources

Giving World Online

GWO is a scheme set up to help community groups and charities access free surplus goods from businesses and organisations whilst at the same time helping reduce the amount of goods sent to landfill. For further details visit www.givingworldonline.com

PQASSO Quality Mark Available Throughout the UK and Ireland

Whether you are based in England, Scotland, Wales, Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland, you can now enjoy the benefits of achieving the PQASSO Quality Mark. To find out more read [Achieving the PQASSO Quality Mark: A Guide for Applicants](#) or visit their website at www.pqassoqualitymark.org.uk

National Performance Programme – Free Downloads

The NPP provide free downloads, handbooks and guides on performance related assessment, demonstrating value for money, quality accreditation and more, potentially very important when bidding for funds. See www.ces-vol.org.uk for further information.

The English National Youth Arts Network is Now Online!

Sign up at www.enyan.co.uk

Contact Us

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

- | | |
|---|--|
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