

Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service

Newsletter

November 2011



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Welcome

A report this week from the children's charity Barnardos, suggests that British adults are turning their backs on children and young people and see them as violent animals who are beyond help. A recent survey of more than 2,000 people found almost half believe British youngsters are becoming 'feral' and 'behaving like animals' while a worrying ten per cent believe that badly behaved children over the age of 10 are 'beyond help'.

I found this report depressing because as a father of three children, I have never seen any sign of this behavior in them or their friends or acquaintances. One thing suggested is that compared to other countries, we are not very child friendly. I would agree with that as it is often a challenge when going out with the kids and the attitudes on buses, trains and even restaurants. Today's youths are the next generation who will run the country and we need to develop them to take the challenge. I recently visited the YMCA's new Sovereign Centre in Woodhatch and am impressed with the facilities on offer. I also gather that Surrey County Council are passing on the running of their various youth services to voluntary sector organisations. Whilst looking to cut their costs, one would hope that the services offered will not suffer.

In conjunction with the Borough Council, we organise four voluntary sector forums each year. The next one will take place towards the end of January (2012) and will focus on issues related to young people. Details will follow shortly but I hope we can have a lively debate on this issue with concerns and suggestions taken away by the Council for their consideration.

Des Shepherd (Manager)

Dates For Your Diary.....

- **Thursday 17th November: Volunteer Drop-In at Banstead Help Shop, 10am**
- **Monday 21st November: Network Lunch & AGM, 12.30pm – 2pm**
At Holy Trinity Church Centre, Redhill

News and Events...

Us in a Bus Celebrates 21st birthday

27 local people, all with profound learning disabilities, enjoyed a day at the "Circus" on the 12th October at the St John's Ambulance Hall, Philanthropic Road to help Redhill-based charity Us in a Bus celebrate its 21st birthday. The hall was decorated in the style of a circus and a fairground, with a candy-floss machine, frying onions and steam-organ music helping to create the sight, sound, smell and all the fun of the fair, with huge swathes of blue and white fabric making the Big Top.

The event was designed to be inclusive and interactive for everyone. Christopher Burchell enjoyed the experience of interacting with Us in a Bus staff and the "Fairground" stalls. The Manager of the Home where Christopher lives said "We have been using the Us in a Bus service for years. It's great to find activities that really meet the complex needs of the gentlemen we support and this Circus has really hit the spot. We wish Us in a Bus a very happy birthday and thank them for all their efforts". The Team celebrated at the end of very energetic day by cutting the birthday cake! Thank you to The Gatwick Airport Community Trust and Surrey County Council Local Committee (Reigate & Banstead) for helping this event happen. To find out more about the work of Us in a Bus, or to make a donation, you can visit www.usinabus.org.uk.

Adult Learners' Week Nominations Now Open!

If you know someone who deserves recognition as an adult learner, why not nominate them for an award? Details are available at: <http://www.alw.org.uk/learning-awards>. You can nominate online, download a copy of the form to post or return by email, or order a paper copy of the forms (coming soon)

Completing a form once will enter your learner or project for **ALL** eligible national and regional awards. Just check the appropriate box on the form. **The Deadline For Nominations Is 5pm On Friday 27th January 2012.**

Any questions, please contact your London and South-East Regional Coordinator Amanda Pavon-Lopez on 07812 159689 or pavonlopez@msn.com.

The Big Lottery: A Big New Fund

The Big Lottery Fund has [announced an extra £50 million](#) of funding to support the voluntary and community sector deal with funding cuts. The extra funding will be made available through the existing Reaching Communities and Awards for All programmes. BIG has said it will make an extra 650 awards, and in the coming weeks will be offering grants of up to £10,000 to around 1,000 eligible BIG grant holders who have received more than 12 months funding from BIG and are in the last 18 months of their project.



The Voluntary Sector Workforce – New Almanac Chronicles a Decade’s Growth

Newly-published research has revealed a significant growth in the size of the voluntary sector workforce over the past decade. [The UK Voluntary Sector Workforce Almanac 2011](#) published on 26 October 2011 shows that there were 765,000 people working in the voluntary sector in 2010, an increase of 40% since 2001. This represents a quicker rate of growth than that experienced in either the public or the private sectors over the same period. Such long term growth precedes our recently released figures showing indications of a downturn in voluntary sector employment during 2011.

The Workforce Almanac is a user-friendly source of research and information for voluntary sector employers and managers. It was commissioned by Skills – Third Sector, the registered charity working to make it easier for people who work and volunteer in charities and social enterprises to have the right skills to make a difference to people and their communities. It has been jointly-produced as part of an ongoing partnership of research into the sector’s workforce with the Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC) and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

The Workforce Almanac illustrates the importance of the voluntary sector’s contribution to the UK over the past decade, showing the range of occupations and skills that exist within the sector. It also suggests a range of challenges for the voluntary sector and its workforce over the coming years as we cope with an ageing population, rising unemployment, and constrained public spending. The Workforce Almanac provides reliable information on the current state of the voluntary sector workforce and its capacity to deal with such challenges.

A copy of this research can be downloaded here:

http://www.skills-thirdsector.org.uk/documents/The_UK_Voluntary_Workforce_Almanac_2011.pdf

‘At Your Bidding!’

NAVCA and the Local Government Association have launched a new free publication called [At Your Bidding](#) to mark Trustees’ Week (31 October - 6 November). At your Bidding is a guide for charity trustees about commissioning and tendering for public services. It focuses on the key issues that individuals need to be aware of in fulfilling their duties as charity trustees. All trustees of local charities can download a free copy.

Charities and Investments

The Charity commission has published [updated guidance](#) on Charities and Investment Matters. The updated guidance confirms that trustees can invest ethically, sustainably, for a financial return or to achieve charitable aims or for a mix of all or any of these. But it emphasises that trustees must be clear about their motive in making an investment and must be able to justify that they are using their charity’s resources in its best interests.

The Launch Of Family Voice Surrey

A forum for parents of children with disabilities and SEN

At Denbies Wine Estate

Monday 21st November 10.00am – 1.00pm

Contact Angie Edwards on 01372 833 098 or e-mail

Angharad.Edwards@surreycc.gov.uk for further details

Reigate Baptist Church Presents Aladdin!

Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd December

Adults £5, 5-15’s £3 or £15 family ticket.

Call 01737 248258 or e-mail

info@reigatebaptistchurch.org.uk for more information and to book.

Together at Christmas, Merstham

Christmas is usually a time for friends and family to celebrate together, but unfortunately for some this isn’t the case. To help bring some festive cheer to those who are alone or struggle during the festive season, churches in Merstham and other local agencies are putting on a Christmas Day lunch for around 50 Merstham residents.

This is an opportunity for those who would otherwise go without, to have a three course lunch, some company, and a small gift from Father Christmas! It is also a great opportunity for the community to come together and support their neighbours. Many will volunteer their time on Christmas Day to drive guests to and from the event, cook and serve lunch, and spend time with guests providing company and care whilst enjoying the event themselves. More volunteers are needed; we are particularly looking for a cook/kitchen supervisor with a level 2 certificate in food safety & hygiene, and a jolly Father Christmas with his own outfit!

If you can help in any way, please contact the Volunteer Centre, Reigate & Banstead on 01737 762115. E-mail:

volunteer@rbcvs.org.uk

‘Succeeding Online’

A Masterclass with Tom Latchford

6 December at Blakemore Hyde Park Hotel, London

Cost £179 inc. VAT, all course resources and lunch

‘Demonstrating Outcomes’

15th December in London

Cost £185 inc. VAT, all course resources and lunch

E-mail anne@actionplanning.co.uk or phone Anne on 020 8661 8060 for further details on either of these courses

Songs to Save a Life:

Supporting Reigate Samaritans

A copy of this 11 track album, which includes guest artists Sophie Ellis-Bextor and James Morrison, is available by contacting the Samaritans on 020 8934 8300 or at press@samaritans.org.

Why not take a look at the story behind it at:

<http://www.youtube.com/songstosavealife>

Expert Bid Writing & Bid Surgery Service

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Tuesday, 20th December 2011, London Victoria

Cost from £389, see [http://www.national-](http://www.national-training.com/events/ws.php?e=5279)

[training.com/events/ws.php?e=5279](http://www.national-training.com/events/ws.php?e=5279) for details and to book.

Identifying & Accessing Funding for Volunteer Projects

Tuesday, 10th January 2012, London Victoria with National Training Events

Prices start from £219 for this one day event. See <http://www.national-training.com/events/ws.php?e=5145> for details and to book.

Reach for the Stars – And Support NYCPE at the Belfry!

The National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy is looking for volunteers to help at their event at the Belfry Shopping Centre in Redhill. They will provide face painting, merchandise, Christmas Cards and encourage shoppers to get their ice skates on! Contact the Volunteer Centre for more information and to get stuck in!

Update from the Community Foundation for Surrey

The Community Foundation for Surrey is dedicated to improving the lives of people in Surrey by raising the level of giving and matching those who want to give with community projects which are making a real difference. Grants are awarded to voluntary groups and charities from a growing programme of funds, established by local individuals, families, companies and trusts who want to support their local communities and see their donations make a difference. Since establishing six years ago, the Community Foundation for Surrey has awarded over 850 grants totalling £2.4 million.

In Reigate and Banstead, projects which have received grants from the Community Foundation include Merstham Neighbours, Loveworks, East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services, age Concern and Bloomin' Arts, among numerous others. To express your interest in the funding opportunities which may be available for your community group, please visit: www.communityfoundationsurrey.org.uk/grant.html. Alternatively, you can contact the Community Foundation's Grants Officer, Louise Phillips on 01483 409230.

Jobs....

Vacancies: The Sunnybank Trust

The Sunnybank Trust is an Epsom based charity providing friendship, support and advocacy to some of the 700 men and women with a learning disability who live in and around the greater Epsom area. This charity is expanding rapidly and is now seeking to appoint the following two new part time members of staff.

Recruitment and Administration Manager (Initial 6 month contract with possibility of extension). Leads all the volunteer recruitment and administration activity for the Trust supported by one part time assistant who focuses primarily on the back office and administration aspects of this role. Hours 20 hours per week to include some evening and weekend work attending recruitment events and contacting prospective volunteers who may not be available in normal working hours. Remuneration circa £14/hour

Assistant Kites Social Club Manager (Permanent) Assists Kites Club Manager in the organisation and delivery of Club meetings on alternative Tuesdays and Thursday evenings. Tasks include planning the weekly schedule of club nights; liaising with volunteers to arrange working rota; various administrative tasks associated with booking/liasing with performers; liaising with Trust's Transport Manager; advertising and promoting the clubs activities and attendance and delivery of the practical side of the Kites Club meetings including set-up and packing away of equipment. Hours 10 hours per week. Remuneration circa £10/hour

Please apply by e-mail with CV and covering letter to chrissnell@sunnybanktrust.org or via by post to The Sunnybank Trust, St Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8HA

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