



Welcome to February 2006 Volunteer Centre Sefton Email Update which brings you the latest news from Sefton VB straight to your inbox. The Update is packed with a wide range of information relevant to local voluntary and community organisations who manage and involve volunteers in their work.

Please forward this Email Update to anyone who you feel may find it of interest.

Download previous Email Updates from: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk/bestpractice.htm>.

Welcome to Volunteer Centre Sefton

From February 2006 Sefton Volunteer Bureau will change its name to Volunteer Centre Sefton as part of a national re-branding strategy. Volunteer Centres are quality-accredited Volunteer Development Agencies (VDA's) who have adopted the 'common consumer brand for the local volunteering infrastructure' initiated by Volunteering England as part of their 'Building on Success' strategy. There are hundreds of Volunteer Centres currently operating in the United Kingdom.

New Volunteer Centre Sefton Website

Volunteer Centre Sefton has launched a new Website which is easy to navigate and includes direct access and links to a substantial amount of information and advice for both potential volunteers and local volunteer-involving organisations. Specific features include: Access to a range of Good Practice guides and publications; Downloadable registration forms and promotional materials for both volunteers and organisations; The ability to directly search the do-it.org Website and view thousands of UK volunteering opportunities (including over 800 uploaded by Volunteer Centre Sefton); Links to other Volunteer Centres operating in the North West; Information about the Sefton Volunteer Co-ordinators Forum and the Sefton Volunteer Certificate Scheme. The new Website can be found at: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk>.

New Volunteer Centre Sefton Email Address

Volunteer Centre Sefton has changed its email address. The general office contact is now:
Email: info@volunteeringsefton.org.uk

Contact details for Volunteer Centre Sefton staff are as follows:

Martin Preston – Volunteer Centre Manager

Tel.: **0151 920 0726 (Ext. 211)** or Email: martin@volunteeringsefton.org.uk

Dianne Harris – Volunteer Centre Volunteering' Projects Manager

Tel.: **0151 920 0726 (Ext. 302)** Email: dianne@volunteeringsefton.org.uk

Denise Grant – Volunteer Centre Support Worker

Tel.: **0151 920 0726 (Ext. 213)** Email: denise@volunteeringsefton.org.uk

Sefton Millennium Volunteers and Volunteer Support Project contact details will remain the same.

'Building on Success' is the ten-year (2004–2014) strategy for volunteering infrastructure which has been developed by Volunteering England.

The Building on Success Executive Summary can be downloaded (PDF Format) from:

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/Infrastructure%20report%20summary.pdf>.

The complete Building on Success strategy can be downloaded (PDF Format) from:

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/infrastructurereport.pdf>.

To search for other Volunteer Centres use the Volunteer Centre Finder:

<http://www.doit.org.uk/wanttovolunteer/aboutvolunteering/vcfinder>.

Volunteer Co-ordinators Forum Meeting

The next Volunteer Co-ordinators Forum Meeting details are as follows:

Date/time: Friday 24 February 2006, 1.00pm – 4.00pm (Lunch provided from 12.30pm).

Venue: Sefton CVS Offices, 7-11 Yellowhouse Lane, Southport, Merseyside PR8 1ER.

Click to see location map: <http://www.seftonvb.org.uk/images/map11.jpg>.

Details: Discussing issues relevant to volunteering in the Sefton, sharing ideas and information.

Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings however places are strictly limited and must be booked in advance. For further details or to book a place Email: info@seftonvb.org.uk or Tel.: **0151 920 0726 (Ext. 211)**.

Volunteering Infrastructure in Merseyside

The Greater Merseyside Volunteer Centres are working together and striving to meet the ChangeUp High level outcome for 2014: 'There is a leaner, effectively marketed and high quality volunteering infrastructure reaching, recruiting and placing a greater number and diversity of individuals coupled with improved volunteer management.'

The Greater Merseyside Volunteer Centres recognise that current arrangements for registering and promoting volunteer opportunities are complicated and involve duplication. There is tremendous interest in good practice in volunteer management but future support in this area must be manageable in terms of volume, time, cost and accessibility. It is also felt that more can be done to counter negative images of volunteering. Greater Merseyside ChangeUp has allocated over £105,000 help to address these issues and work will be commencing in early 2006 on the following projects: Greater Merseyside volunteering virtual hub; Coalescence of Wirral Volunteer Centre services; Promotion of volunteering in Merseyside; Good practice in volunteering for faith organisations.

The Greater Merseyside Volunteering Infrastructure Investment Plan can be downloaded (PDF Format) from: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk/pdf/merseyvolplan.pdf>.
For further details about Greater Merseyside ChangeUp visit: <http://www.changeupmerseyside.org.uk>.

North West Regional Volunteering Infrastructure Project

Volunteering North West (VNW) has been awarded funding to develop the 'Regional Volunteering Infrastructure Project'. Over £28,000 has been allocated by the Government Office for the North West (GONW) as part of the regional ChangeUp strategy. Volunteering North West is the 'forum for volunteering infrastructure in the North West region of England' and currently has a membership of over 30 Volunteer Development Agencies (VDA's).

The project aims to strengthen the North West regional volunteering infrastructure, and the existing VDA network with the support of Volunteering England and other interested parties. The work will commence very soon and specific activities include: Further developing and strengthening the capacity of the regional VDA network; Investigating the potential to diversify and widen the membership; Formalising the status of the network and relationship with the England Volunteer Development Council (EVDC) and the England Volunteering Development Council - North West (EVDC-NW).

The funding will also enable VNW to develop a regional volunteering infrastructure website; undertake a research project; produce promotional materials; participate in capacity building training events etc.

For further details about the VNW or the Regional Volunteering Infrastructure Project contact Martin Preston on Tel.: **0151 920 0726 (Ext. 211)** or Email: martin@volunteeringsefton.org.uk.
For further details about the EVDC and EVDC-NW visit: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk>.

Eleven New Training Courses for 2006

The Directory of Social Change's 2006 training brochure gives details of all their training courses for the year, including eleven new ones. They are on the topics of recruitment, training, negotiating, presentation skills and direct marketing. Download the full training brochure (PDF Format):
http://www.dsc.org.uk/charitytraining/pdfs/training_guide_06.pdf.

Sefton Young Persons Mentoring Project

Volunteer Centre Sefton has been awarded funding until March 2007 by Greater Merseyside Connexions to develop a new mentor project for Sefton. Sefton Young Person's Mentoring Project will work specifically with 16-19 year olds not currently in employment, education or training (NEET). The project will provide participants with access to a range of personal development opportunities. Upon completion participants will have developed skills which could enable them to go onto training, formal education or employment. Participants are provided with access to a range of training if required including CV design, presentation skills, interview techniques etc. Clients will also be given the opportunity to have a volunteer mentor. The role of the mentor will be to provide on-going motivation, encouragement and practical support.

For further details contact Marie Morgan on Tel.: **0151 920 0726 (Ext. 302)** or Email: marie@seftonvb.org.uk.

Volunteering Leadership Conference

Do you manage volunteers? Do you have strategic responsibility for volunteering within your organisation? Are you passionate about volunteering and the contribution volunteers make to your organisation's mission?

'Volunteering: Lessons in Leadership - The Inspirations and Challenges' is a one-day conference organised by Volunteering England and the Centre for Charity Effectiveness. The event will take place on Tuesday, 4th April 2006 at Cass Business School, City University, London, EC1.

For further details check: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/missions.php?id=1334>.

Volunteering Hub Good Practice Bank

The Good Practice Bank brings together articles, information sheets, case studies, links and other helpful guidance on a range of volunteering issues. The Bank aims to grow and evolve as more information is added to it. It also aims to allow users to share their documents with other volunteering organisations. Visit the Bank at:

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/goodpracticebank.php>.

England Volunteering Development Council - North West

The England Volunteering Development Council (EVDC) is a representative voice for volunteering in England, and as one of its functions acts as the Volunteering Hub Advisory Group. As part of the activity of the Volunteering Hub it is increasing its representation by establishing 9 regional arms. Dates for all the England Volunteering Development Council regional meetings have now been set. The North West meeting dates have been set for 1 March 2006 and 1 September 2006. Both meetings will take place in Preston.

For further details or membership information contact Louise Norgate, the Volunteering Hub Secretary by Email: louise.norgate@volunteeringengland.org or Tel.: 0121 633 5534.

For information about the England Volunteering Development Council: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk>.

Sefton Funding Information Email Update

Would you like to be sent information about the latest funding opportunities by email? Would you be interested in registering to receive the Sefton CVS Funding Information Email Update. Every month, you will receive an email giving up-to-date details of local, regional and national funding sources that your community or voluntary organisation could make use of in its work. There will also be details of training opportunities, events and other articles to keep your organisation in touch with up and coming changes in the funding world.

To sign up Email: philip.hurst@seftoncvcs.org.uk. The Email Update is linked to Sefton CVS's new Funding Information Website: <http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk/funding/wordpress> which brings you regular updates on funding opportunities available to your organisation.

Sefton CVS Directory of Voluntary and Community Organisations

The latest Sefton CVS directory has been completed and includes extensive information about 1000 voluntary and community organisations who operate in the borough of Sefton. The directory includes information such as the aims of the organisations and contact details and opening times. Copies of the directory are free to local voluntary and community organisations.

If you would like further information or would like to order a copy of the directory contact Margaret Sadler on Tel.: 0151 928 2233 (Ext. 122) or Email: margaret.sadler@seftoncvcs.org.uk.

Volunteer Solutions for the Voluntary and Community Sector

Volunteer Solutions produce training resources specifically for the voluntary and community sector. They have produced a range of training packs which enable voluntary and community organisations to deliver their own courses wherever and whenever they are required. Titles of packs available include: Recruiting Volunteers; Motivating and Retaining Volunteers; Supporting and Supervising Volunteers; Working in Groups; Confidentiality etc. Most training packs are priced at £22.00 plus £2.25 P&P.

For further information visit the Website: <http://www.volunteersolutions.org.uk> or Email: volunteersolutions@hotmail.com.

Sefton Community Research and Consultation Training

Sefton CVS are offering community research and consultation training for dedicated local residents from the Linacre and Derby, Ford and Litherland, St. Oswald's and Netherton and Orrell Neighbourhood Renewal areas. Sefton CVS are recruiting teams of local people from these areas to undertake training which will provide them with the skills necessary to conduct research and consultation within their own neighbourhood. No previous experience is necessary as full training will be provided on topics such as research and auditing, consultation techniques and information gathering. At the end of the training, all participants will be offered the opportunity to carry out a piece of research to benefit their community.

If you are interested in becoming a researcher either visit: <http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk> to download a booking form or contact Linzi Sadler on Tel.: **0151 928 2233 (Ext. 101)** or Email: linzi.sadler@seftoncvcs.org.uk.

Russell Commission 2006 Funding Opportunities

The Russell Commission Implementation Body will release details of opportunities for funding in early February 2006. These are likely to focus on: The delivery of part time, full-time and taster volunteering opportunities between April 2006 and June 2006; Invitations to host the first tranche of Youth Volunteer Development Managers, who will be responsible for mapping existing volunteering opportunities and developing new volunteering opportunities for young people aged 16 - 25. Further details of these grant rounds will be available on the Russell Commission Website: <http://www.russellcommission.org>.

Treat Volunteers with Respect

'Treat volunteers with respect - or risk losing them' is the title of an interesting article which was published in the December edition of the ThirdSector magazine. The article highlights the problems someone encountered when attempting to volunteer. "If more professionals are to be persuaded to give up time to help their communities, the training must also be professional. If you ask us to give up three days to train, the least we can expect is to be repaid with sessions that do not waste our time." The article can be viewed at: http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/charity_news/full_news.cfm?ID=17211.

Volunteers and the Law Workshop

A series of free, half-day 'Volunteers and the Law' workshops have been organised to run around the country. One workshop will take place in the North West. The workshops will discuss the main issues around volunteer's legal status and the responsibilities that organisations have towards their volunteers, as examined in the book 'Volunteers and the Law'. The workshops will be facilitated by the author, Mark Restall. The North West event will take place at St Martin's College, Lancaster on 25 April 2006 (10.00am – 12.30pm). To book a place Email: events@volunteeringengland.org, with your full name, organisation name, job title, address, telephone number, email address.

A free summary version of Mark Restall's excellent 'Volunteers and the Law' book is also available to download (PDF Format) from: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/law.pdf>.

Opportunities for Young People in Sefton

Sefton Youth Offending team is looking for opportunities which allow young people to undertake unpaid work for the benefit of their community. In the past, young people have participated in small landscaping tasks, undertaken painting and decorating etc. The Youth Offending Team is currently reviewing the way community reparation is organised and is seeking organisations with creative ideas which allow young people to make a positive contribution to Sefton, via community reparation.

For more information contact John Gibbens on Tel.: **0151 288 6011**.

Volunteering England Information Line

The Volunteering England information line is doubling its opening hours. It is now open from 9.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday. The freephone number is Tel.: **0800 028 3304**. The information service can answer questions on all aspects of volunteer management, such as CRB checks, benefits rules, health and safety, and dealing with difficult situations. The service is also available via Email: information@volunteeringengland.org.

Jobs Online Service

Volunteering England is launching a new online job advertising service in 2006. The service will be aimed at organisations wishing to advertise paid jobs with a volunteering focus. Such posts could include voluntary service managers, volunteer centre staff or jobs which involve running an employee volunteering scheme within a company. Organisations will be able to post brief details of any vacancy online with contact details or a link to a website for further information. A small fee will be charged for the service with discounts available to Volunteering England members. Further information on this new service will be made available on the Website:

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk>.

Sefton Youth Matters Consultations

During October 2005 the Sefton Family Support Forum organised two consultation events, the first for children and young people and the second for voluntary and community organisations who support children and young people. The aim of both consultations was to provide a response to the 'Youth Matters' Green Paper. Both events were based around the four key challenges identified within the 'Youth Matters' Green Paper: Things to Do and Places to Go; Volunteering; Making Choices; Supporting Young People. The events were very successful and all information collated from the events was used as part of an official response to the DfES. Two reports have also been produced as a direct result of the consultation. To order a copies of the report contact Jo Crewe on Tel.: **0151 928 2233 (Ext. 105)** or Email: jo.crewe@seftoncvcs.org.uk. For further information on the Youth Matters Green Paper visit the DfES Website: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk>.

Engaging Citizens: Empowering Communities Conference

This NCVO annual conference will take place on 21 February 2006 in London. With a comprehensive and practical seminar programme, from harnessing the new digital age to the latest developments in good governance, Engaging citizens: empowering communities aims to provide the tools to move organisations forward. High profile keynote speakers include David Miliband, Minister of Communities and Local Government and Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty.

For a full programme and booking details visit: <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk>.

Sports Volunteering Publication

There are nearly 6 million sports volunteers active in England. Sport England believe that 'sport can change lives' and have created a publication which highlights and promotes the benefits of sports volunteering. The inspirational publication highlights a range of real life stories and case studies and can be downloaded (PDF Format) from: http://www.sportengland.org/volunteering_publication_latest_6_dec_05.pdf.

One Voice for the Voluntary Sector

In December the Directory for Social change conducted a survey with over 1,000 of their subscribers on 'whether they thought it was feasible for the sector to speak to government with one voice'. The overwhelming response was 'No', although the reasons given and alternatives suggested were incredibly varied. The result was: 14% - Yes; 72% - No; 14% - Maybe. For a report and analysis of comments visit:

http://www.dsc.org.uk/charityexchange/survey_analysis0106.html?dm_i=34969811.

New Merseyside 3tc Website

3tc has launched a new Information Communication Technology (ICT) website aimed specifically at Greater Merseyside's voluntary and community sector. Funded by Greater Merseyside ChangeUp the website has a number of interesting features. Users have the opportunity to register for free membership and obtain exclusive access to additional features. These include the ability to participate in the site's forums, which include news announcements made by the ChangeUp team, general discussions about ICT, the articles featured on the site, articles that users would like to appear and ICT problems.

For further information about the site should contact Stephen Bennett via Email: sbennett@3tc.org.uk. Visit the 3tc Website: <http://www.changeup.3tc4u.co.uk>. For further information about Greater Merseyside ChangeUp visit: <http://www.changeupmerseyside.org.uk>.

Get on Board, Young Trustees!

Get on Board is a campaign launched to recruit more charity trustees by the Charity Commission and TimeBank. Half of all charities claim to have problems recruiting new trustees and research shows that currently only 15% of trustees are under 40 years old. This campaign will seek to help charities fill their vacancies and encourage younger people to volunteer as trustees. For more information on the campaign visit:

<http://www.getonboard.org.uk>.

National Trustee Survey Under Way

Third Sector and nfpSynergy are running a national trustee survey in which any charity can take part for free. The survey is designed to help understand the attitudes and experience of all the trustees of a charity, as well as the senior staff that work with them. All participant organisations will get a free copy of the report and for a small fee charities will be able to find out how their results compared to other relevant organisations. If you would like your organisation to take part Email: karina.flatt@nfpsynergy.net or Tel.: **020 7415 7162**.

New Volunteering Research Reports

Volunteering England and the Institute for Volunteering Research have published the following two reports.

Getting a Grip - Risk, risk management and volunteering. A review of the literature.

Over the past few years, the subject of risk and volunteering has become a major focus and in 2005 the Home Office funded Volunteering England to carry out an extensive research project. This report presents a review of the current situation, drawing on a range of written and on-line sources. 'Risk is not only 'a part of life' but an essential element of volunteer organisations. It is by taking risks that breakthroughs in social care and innovations in social policy have been achieved by the sector, and risk is a vital aspect of sports, adventure and play.'

Download 'Getting a Grip' (PDF Format) from: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/risk/GettingaGrip.pdf>.

Reasonable Care? - Risk, risk management and volunteering in England.

This report focuses on one element of the research, surveys of volunteer-involving organisations and of individuals, both volunteers and non-volunteers. 'The survey findings confirm that the issue of risk and liability in relation to volunteers has become a significant concern for organisations in the past three to four years.'

Download 'Reasonable Care' (PDF Format) from: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/risk/ReasonableCare.pdf>.

Courses in Community and Youth Work and Related Topics

The following courses are being run in Manchester during 2006.

1. Understanding Asylum - six sessions on Tuesday (pm) in February - find out where refugees come from, the international framework, the UK asylum system, issues faced by refugees and relevant organisations. Two courses starting 7 February 2006: Tuesday afternoons (2.00pm – 4.00pm) or Tuesday evenings (5.00pm – 7.00pm). Cost: £45.00
2. Skills in Mentoring - ten Wednesday evenings (6.00pm – 8.00pm) starting 25 January 2006. Reflect on practice and share ideas about tools and activities. Cost: £50.00
3. Citizen Participation - 6 Wednesday evenings (6.00pm – 8.00pm) starting 25 January 2006. Explore ways to break down the barriers between professionals and individuals or community groups. Cost: £45
4. Disability Policies: Practices and Procedures - Day School on Monday 13 February 2006. Analyse what goes on in your own organisation. Cost: £25.00
5. Peer Led Research with Lesbian and Gay Young People: A Study Day for individuals working with LGBT young people. Wednesday, 1 March 2006 (10.00am - 4.00pm). Cost: £45.00
6. Modules of Diploma in Community and Youth Work Studies programme available on an individual basis for ongoing professional development (for current practitioners only): 10 sessions starting on Friday 10 January 2006. Cost: £98.00

For information about any of the courses visit: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation> or Email: cwkenquiries@manchester.ac.uk.

Tory Youth Plan may be Compulsory

School-leavers could be forced to do community work under a Conservative government, David Cameron has said. To view the article published on the BBC News Website in January visit:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/4583234.stm.

Free DIY Volunteering Kits

Volunteering England has created two kits designed to help people to get started on setting up their own volunteering projects. Both are full of ideas and practical tips. One is very general and the other is aimed at 16-25 year olds. They are being distributed to individuals interested in getting started with volunteering and setting up projects, organisations that deal with volunteering and information requests from people, and also organisations that have employees who may like the opportunity to volunteer and would like some information on how to get started. The kits are available free of charge. To receive copies email your name, organisation and address to Email: tigho.ayovuare@volunteeringengland.org or Tel.: 0845 305 6979.

Sport and the Wider Voluntary Sector

Volunteering England (VE), Sport England and other sports and voluntary partners met for the first time in August to start discussing a way forward for the future of volunteering in sport. The aim is to link the different organisations who currently work or could work to improve the quality, quantity and diversity of sports volunteering. In addition to this work, a major step in the direction of bringing Sport England's and Volunteering England's work together is the creation of a new post part-funded by Sport England. Volunteering England's Strategic Development Manager-Volunteering in Sport, is working with sports organisations and with Volunteering England's own colleagues and partners to feed into the wider strategy of sharing expertise and looking towards the future. To find out more about VE's work on sports volunteering go to: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/missions.php?id=1146>.

Merseyside Expanding Horizons Social Capital Fund

The Social Capital Fund provides funding to support the development and growth of individual small voluntary and community organisations. It aims to help organisations develop a good track record and eventually apply for other funding in their own right. It is primarily, but not exclusively, concerned with providing first stage support for new and emerging organisations. For further details check: <http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk/funding/wordpress/index.php?p=441#more-441>.

Access £3 Billion of Funds

The newly updated and comprehensive reference work 'The Directory of Grant-making Trusts' covers 2,500 grant-making trusts, each with the potential to give collectively £3 billion a year. Fully updated information is supplied by the trusts themselves and extensive indexes allow users to target the trusts most relevant to their needs. For details check: http://www.dsc.org.uk/acatalog/Grant_making_Trusts.html#a28.

Certificate in Community Volunteering

The Certificate in Community Volunteering (CCV) is a level 2 qualification that is available to anyone over 16 who is currently volunteering or looking for a voluntary placement. It is for people who are committed to their volunteering and want to get accreditation for their achievements as a volunteer. To complete the course volunteers have to build a portfolio showing the skills, knowledge and achievements they have gained through their volunteering. The City of Bristol College has developed a distance-learning version of this course and CCV students can now access course materials and information on the Internet through the college's virtual campus and complete the course online. For details visit: <http://www.cityofbristol.ac.uk> or contact Tom Drywood on Email: tom.drywood@cityofbristol.ac.uk.

Working with Lesbian and Gay Young People

A study day has been organised which focuses on work with lesbian and gay young people in Manchester. The day will include: research findings with ideas about implementing good practice within relevant organisations, working with peer researchers and detached youth work with lesbian, gay and bisexual young people discussion as well as workshops on relevant issues and action planning for organisations.

Venue: University of Manchester, Oxford Road (near Manchester Museum).

Cost: £35.00 (includes lunch). Date/Time: Wednesday, 1 March 2006 (10.00am - 4.00pm).

For details and bookings go to: <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation> or Tel.: 0161 275 3275.

Community Foundation for Merseyside Capital of Culture Fund

On the 24 October 2005, the Community Foundation for Merseyside announced the launch of the new Capital of Culture Fund for Merseyside. For details of funding rounds during 2006 check:

<http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk/funding/wordpress/index.php?p=456#more-456>.

For further details about the Community Foundation for Merseyside visit their Website:

<http://www.cfmerseyside.org.uk>.

Governmentfunding.org.uk Feedback

On 24 November 2005 governmentfunding.org.uk conducted a feedback session held at the Glaxo Neurological Centre in Liverpool. A number of participants attended the event where feedback was provided on the current usability and design of the governmentfunding.org.uk website. Furthering the provision of feedback, governmentfunding.org.uk is now running an online questionnaire so that users of the Website can have their say on its future development. To part in the online survey visit: <http://www.governmentfunding.org.uk>.

National Campaign to Promote Older Volunteering

TimeBank launched a new national campaign in September to promote volunteering to people over the age of 55. The campaign is called The V Word: Value, Versatile, Vivacious, Volunteer. The campaign objectives are to: inspire people over the age of 55 to engage in all types of voluntary work; highlight the wealth of interesting volunteering opportunities available; challenge negative perceptions of old age and what people over the age of 55 can still offer. For further details check: <http://www.v-word.org.uk>.

Learning Network for Managers of Volunteers within Mental Health

Regional networks are being formed with inaugural meetings throughout the country. These learning networks aim to bring together voluntary and statutory sector volunteer managers with the opportunity to discuss local and regional issues, share good practice and promote mental health volunteering. Each network will set its own agenda and help to shape future Government policy. The North West event will take place in Warrington on 21 March 2006.

For further information contact Terry Bishop on Tel.: **01252 675 626** or Email: terry.bishop@hc-friends.org.uk.

The Future of Volunteering

nfpSynergy have just published a new report on the future of volunteering in the United Kingdom.

This can be downloaded for free from their Website at: <http://www.nfpsynergy.net/freereports> (however you need to register with your email address).

Russell Commission Workshop Toolkits

Throughout October and November, over 350 volunteering practitioners participated in Russell Commission regional events throughout England. The events were designed to update practitioners on implementation progress to date, as well as supporting organisations to prepare for the step-change outlined in Ian Russell's report. Downloadable workshop toolkits, outlining all the topics covered at the events, are now available from: <http://www.russellcommission.org>. The toolkits provide helpful tips and best practice to support practitioners in delivering high quality volunteering opportunities for young people. Topics include youth-led volunteering, running taster sessions, full-time volunteering, quality, accreditation and raising money from the private sector.

Futurebuilders Leaflets On-line

Futurebuilders was established in 2004 with the aim of providing funding to voluntary and community organisations that deliver, or want to deliver, public services. Futurebuilders already works with a wide range of organisations but is keen to raise awareness in, and where appropriate prompt applications for investment from, three sectors in particular: smaller organisations, organisations with a rural focus, and black and minority ethnic organisations. With this in mind three leaflets have been produced aimed at these sectors.

To download leaflets visit the Futurebuilders Website at: <http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk>.

Making Equality Simple

A publication called 'Making Equality Simple' has recently been published by NCVO. It is aimed at voluntary and community organisations and is a straightforward guide to the 2003 Employment Equality Regulations. It can be downloaded direct from the NCVO Website. Visit: <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk> and click on the 'publications' link for more information.

South Sefton Partnership South Sefton Social Enterprise Fund

The South Sefton Social Enterprise Initiative has been established by South Sefton Partnership to support the development of new social enterprise activity in the South Sefton area. For more information visit: <http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk/funding/wordpress/index.php?p=454#more-454>.

Volunteering England Impact Report

Volunteering England has produced their first ever Impact Report. 'The world of volunteering is changing at an unprecedented pace and so, inevitably, is Volunteering England. Eighteen months on from the merger of the National Centre for Volunteering, Volunteer Development England and the Consortium on Opportunities for Volunteering, the organisation is more than twice the size, with significantly extended areas of work, reach, influence and income'. The report can be downloaded (PDF Format) from: http://www.volunteering.org.uk/Impact_report.pdf.

Business and Strategic Planning for Voluntary Organisations

The Complete Guide to Business and Strategic Planning for Voluntary Organisations is published by the DSC. Written by Alan Lawrie, it contains a wealth of practical information to help organise planning. The guide is priced at £18.95. For further details visit: <http://www.dsc.org.uk/acatalog/General.html#a126>.

Lottery Grants Reaching Communities Course

The Directory for Social Change has announced that due to huge demand for the Lottery Grants for Charities 2006 workshops more dates have been added to their programme. The course is described as providing 'A detailed exploration of the policies, criteria and procedures for the award of grants from the Big Lottery Fund's huge new 'demand led' and voluntary sector infrastructure programmes, potentially more than 150 million pounds a year.' A North West event will take place in Manchester on 26 April 2006. The courses cost either £140 or £195 dependent on the size of the voluntary organisation. For workshop date and venue details visit: <http://www.dsc.org.uk/charityevents.html - lottery>. For content details visit: http://www.dsc.org.uk/charityexchange/lottery_grants0106.html?dm_i=34969811. To download the flyer and booking form (PDF Format): http://www.dsc.org.uk/charityevents/pdfs/lottery_grants05.pdf.

Time to Give Time Campaign

The 'Time to Give Time' campaign aims to encourage voluntary sector organisations to have an employer supported volunteering policy for their own staff. The campaign has been launched as part of the Year of the Volunteer 2005, and calls for voluntary organisations to sign a pledge that they will have such a policy in place by December 2005. Employer Supported Volunteering offers huge benefits in skills development and is a very effective way of skills sharing. To find out more about the campaign or for guidance on setting up an employer-supported volunteering policy visit the Website: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/givetime>.

Joined-up Training for Volunteer Managers – 2006 Programme

Volunteering England and AM Training work in partnership to offer professional level training for people who manage volunteers. The new 2006 Training Programme is now available. It is designed with the new UK Workforce Hub Management Standards in mind and represents a comprehensive training in all aspects of volunteer management. The new 2006 programme can be viewed by visiting: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/missions.php?id=468> or contact Adam May Email: VM@amtraining.co.uk.

Downloading PDF Format Files and Documents

Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) files can be viewed on most major operating systems. Adobe Reader 6.0 is the newest version of the familiar Adobe Acrobat Reader software. The FREE Adobe Acrobat Reader software can be downloaded from: <http://www.adobe.co.uk/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

Inclusion of third party information in the Volunteer Centre Sefton Email Update does not constitute an endorsement by Volunteer Centre Sefton. Volunteer Centre Sefton takes no responsibility for the quality of third party events, products or services featured in this update.

Unsubscribe

This email update is sent to you from Volunteer Centre Sefton. If you would prefer not to receive future updates please reply with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject box.

Further Information

For more information about the work and services of Volunteer Centre Sefton visit our Website:

<http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk>

For general enquiries contact:

Volunteer Centre Sefton

3rd Floor, Merseyside 3TC

16 Crosby Road North

Waterloo L22 0NY

Website: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk>

Email: info@volunteeringsefton.org.uk Tel.: 0151 920 0726 (Ext. 211)

Click to see location map: <http://www.volunteeringsefton.org.uk/images/map12.jpg>

Volunteer Centre Sefton is managed by Sefton Council for Voluntary Service
Registered Charity No. 1024546 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2832920

Website: <http://www.seftoncvcs.org.uk>

Volunteer Centre Sefton is a member of Volunteering England

Website: <http://www.volunteering.org.uk>

Volunteer Centre Sefton
promoting, supporting and developing volunteering in Sefton