



## Wilderspin School Success

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The School also offers group tours by arrangement and room hire to local groups.

If you haven't already visited the Wilderspin School, Christmas is a wonderful time to do it, as all the rooms are decorated and the shop sells old-fashioned toys to fill children's stockings. The School is open Thursdays to Sundays throughout the year, except Christmas week itself.

Congratulations to the Wilderspin School!

## Voluntary Action North Lincs AGM

.VANL held a very successful AGM on 11th October with over 70 members and friends attending—thank you.

The event began with practical examples of the difference the voluntary sector makes to society, over and above the financial return on investment and a very brave VANL volunteer, Daniel Hall gave a very moving account of his experience moving through VANL Learning for Change programme, the difference it had made to him and how it has changed his aspirations for the future.

Carole Phillips introduced the Annual Report, describing the difficult year that VANL had been through, in common with most of the voluntary sector and indeed other sectors, which had resulted in the loss of some key VANL staff. She said “we cannot make cuts to staffing at this level without an impact on the way we deliver services, however VANL Board of Directors had restructured the organisation to protect frontline services,”

And she hoped that the people and organizations supported by VANL will not be greatly affected.

Allen Ransome (Chairperson) reiterated this point in his address, expressing his regret for the loss of some very committed and dedicated members of staff and thanked the remaining staff for their resilience, hard work and commitment in serving VANL beneficiaries.

The AGM was followed by a very interesting presentation on the restoration of the Spider T and the Ian McPherson and Safer Communities Awards.

All at VANL would like to say a big thank you to the volunteers at Westcliff Community Association for their warm welcome, excellent food and venue.

### The Ian McPherson Award for

### Outstanding Contribution to the Community

This award was presented to Norman Chaddock for his dedication, hard work and commitment with both the William Stephenson Memorial Hall and St Oswald's Church, and Norman was nominated by Gary Allen.

Norman, usually assisted by his wife Pat, has done a great deal for the community of Althorpe through their unstinting work with both the William Stephenson Memorial Hall and St Oswald's Church. He also put together a very successful project to turn part of St Oswald's Church into a community/café area, which now opens every Wednesday morning and has become a real opportunity for the community to get together. It was Norman's foresight and dedication in getting a variety of grants to fund the project which made this possible, and now other Churches are looking to follow this example as a means of keeping the building viable. In addition, Norman is the Community Representative on the Wren Humber Advisory Panel which meets quarterly. All this work is voluntary. He and his wife are very generous good natured people who have done a great deal for the community of Althorpe and are worthy recipients

## The Rise Project

One to One Support?

Help and Advice?

Motivation, Confidence and Self Esteem Building?

Training Opportunities?

Employability Opportunities?

Are you signing on and want to access job opportunities to build new skills?

Do you feel stuck and want the chance to improve your current lifestyle?

Do you want to learn a new skill or build on existing ones but are worried about where to go for support?

Have you been out of work for some time and want to return either voluntarily or paid?

Do you have an interest or hobby that you could use within a work based environment?

Do you feel isolated and want to meet new people and learn new skills as well as build friendships?

Would you like one to one support to make a positive change in your life?

The Rise Project is a new, fresh and flexible approach for individuals to access support to enrich their lives. Care is taken so that pressure is not on the list to succeed, just reassurance and the right support. Run by Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire helping you to achieve your potential, whether that's learning new skills, engaging in a new interest, returning to work or perhaps joining a training programme in a field that interests you. Whatever your need, The Rise Project

Is here to help you to move forward and achieve a more fulfilling life.

What to expect:

- One to one support and guidance
- Opportunities to join new organisations and learn new skills
- Make new friends and stop feeling lonely and isolated
- Gain employment
- Return to work and build your confidence in your abilities
- Training opportunities
- Gain qualifications
- Help to overcome barriers to employment and socialisation.

There are many ways in which the Rise Project can help as a new and flexible approach to supporting people who are vulnerable.

If you want to find out more about the services available to you, please call Sharon Locke on 01724 845155 or email [sharon.locke@vanl.org.uk](mailto:sharon.locke@vanl.org.uk)

Since the launch of the Rise Project, referrals have been encouraging. Support received has resulted in a positive move forward for many clients. In the short time that the Project has run clients have reported that they feel valued, listened to and that their needs are being met. The Rise Project is unique in so much as the client is not pressured into seeking employment, but encouraged to build self esteem and confidence to ensure that their future prospects are more positive both emotionally and professionally.

Success has been purely down to the commitment of the client and continued encouragement from the support worker and Job Centre adviser. Job Centre advisers are

## The Rise Project

kept informed of their client's progress thus ensuring that continued support and on going close contact is maintained.

With many of the clients small changes have made a big difference and therefore this has a huge impact on their way forward. One such client has accessed IT training and continues to attend and build on their skills, another client has been referred to our voluntary team to build valuable work based skills and the benefits of this have proved rewarding as they are now able to offer their skills further afield. Another client facing continued homelessness now has somewhere to live and feel secure. He required direction to access some personal belongings as he had nothing and now is able to move forward into attending training to further build on his success into the community. He now feels able to face the world and has direction where he felt he did not have previously.

It has been clear that clients require support mostly to build the self confidence and belief in their abilities. Attending our Confidence Building course here at VANL has proved successful and the difference in the clients approach has been noticeable.

Ultimately a friendly face, the right support and most importantly feeling listened to is all that is needed to move forward.

With the success of the Rise Project more people who feel vulnerable can feel valued as part of our society. More news will follow on our client's successful journeys forward – Updates to follow.

## Street Talk Team

Street Talk is a team of part time detached workers who use youth work skills to engage young people across North Lincolnshire.

The team is managed by Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire, and currently funded via North Lincolnshire Councils' Integrated Youth support Service and Safer Neighbourhoods.

Street Talk are out on the streets of North Lincolnshire 5 evenings a week, usually between 6 and 9pm, and on an average evening will talk to around 30 young people aged 13-19 about the issues that are important to them.

They provide information on healthy lifestyle choices, encouraging young people to explore their attitudes towards issues such as alcohol, sex, drugs, self esteem, bullying, etc.

Street Talk workers encourage young people to behave in a considerate and responsible manner in their communities.

A key element of their work is to bridge the gaps in understanding between young people and their local communities, leading to an improved quality of life for all parties.

This is often achieved by working with partner agencies to increase local service delivery to young people where sometimes what is initially viewed as problem behaviour, is actually an indicator of an unmet need which when addressed resolves many issues. The team support young people in making informed decisions about forming and sustaining a range of relationships, with friends, parents, partners, and the wider community. We promote volunteering, positive activities and raise young peoples aspirations to achieve their potential via learning.

Street Talk operates a C Card registration scheme, providing access to condoms to those young people who are unable to visit mainstream services, particularly in the rural areas.

## Who Cares Annual report April – Oct 2012

*Who Cares* will shortly be publishing the above report which chronicles the work and achievements that have taken place over the seven month period.

The last seven months for *Who Cares* has been one of the busiest periods yet, and this will continue over the last few months of the life of the LINK to ensure outstanding work is completed in preparation for the implementation to HealthWatch North Lincolnshire in April 2013 to ensure as smooth a transition as possible for the people of North Lincolnshire. A large scale public consultation in relation to accessing and use of services through HealthWatch North Lincolnshire was carried out and a report produced which was welcomed by the HealthWatch commissioners. Other pieces of work that have taken place and will continue to be developed over the coming months include an Enter and View visit at Scunthorpe Hospital, website redesign, GP access research, monitoring and review of the 2010 Mental Health report, establishing a Communications Task group who have produced a monthly newsletter, redesigned the website, and promoted the work and service that *Who Cares* provides. *Who Cares* have established a Care for the Elderly Task Group, held focus groups and a special meeting to consider the future of *Who Cares*, published a report on Access to Dental services, and continued to work in partnership at a local and strategic level.

The last 12 months have been particularly challenging with the huge amount of change that has, and continues to take

place within the health and social care fields. Clearly the implementation of Local HealthWatch and the cessation of LINKs in April 2013 has been difficult for the members of *Who Cares*, and in particular the Executive Group who have worked tirelessly to achieve a positive impact, and work towards providing a legacy for HealthWatch North Lincolnshire to build on and learn from. The significant changes that are still ongoing within Health Services have and will continue to be of concern to *Who Cares* in relation to the impact this may have on service provision and delivery, and the same is true of the changes that are taking place within North Lincolnshire Council. At this challenging time, it is more important than ever to work in partnership to ensure that service provision and delivery for residents in North Lincolnshire is at the heart of strategy development and delivery

It is with regret that we see the end of the LINK organisations, but *Who Cares* will continue to perform its duty and has a packed work schedule right up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. However, HealthWatch North Lincolnshire has the advantage of learning from the LINKs experience and with the additional services that it will provide, an excellent opportunity to provide a truly excellent service for the people of North Lincolnshire

Copies of all reports referred to above can be found at [www.who-cares-online.org.uk](http://www.who-cares-online.org.uk) or by request at [who.cares@vanl.org.uk](mailto:who.cares@vanl.org.uk) or 01724 845155. The Annual report will be published by the end of the year and will be available on request or on the *Who Cares* website.

## Christmas Message - Keep Calm and Keep Learning

### ***But why? What difference does learning make to you?***

Sit down in a quiet spot (if you can find one) and think about an occasion when an experience of learning made a difference to you. ?

Here are Ten reasons to keep learning that we hear said the most what do you think?

- To strengthen your mental health and manage low mood.
- To have fun and manage stress more effectively
- To meet new people in a safe and friendly environment
- To strengthen relationships
- To get to know yourself better!
- To prove to yourself you can do something new
- To increase your chances of gaining work or changing your job
- To learn how to overcome a personal challenge in a way you may not have thought of.
- To learn for others and contribute to their learning too..
- To keep your brain active and healthy into your later years.

In an evaluation exercise 'what have the four weeks meant to you a learner identified the following:-

### ***What did you hope to get from this four week course? Why did you come?***

Ans – “ A new way of aiding recovery from bi-polar. Not being a person liking literature I was interested to see if this would work..”

### ***Was it what you expected?***

“Part was expected, some surprises.”

### ***What have you learned about yourself?***

“Still some problems, keeping a journal to

date, but found letter writing likes and dislikes, 'affirmation very useful”

### ***List three things you have gained from the course?***

“Letter writing to my 'problem person' helped to rethink how to tackle things.

Affirmation: useful to have an attitude to approach life.

Realised what oppressive rules and regulations were applied to my early teenage years and how these had to be broken down..”

### ***What would you have like to have done differently?***

Can't think of anything

### ***What would you like to do next?***

Use letter writing for future problems..

At VANL within the Learning for Change Programme we use a very flexible approach to learning creating small groups, peer facilitation (wellness recovery action planning), shadowing, volunteering and coaching. The Big Lottery Funding also enables us to experiment and innovate.

2012 has seen the development of a number of new courses including Journalling for Recovery facilitated by Hayley Crow, Project Management, Paediatric First Aid and Level 3 Special Food and Healthy Diets.

2013 offers some further developments for Mindfulness, restorative approaches to conflict resolution, and accredited IT.

Hayley Crow will continue with the journaling and is now able to offer a Level 1 for complete beginners and a L2 for those wanting to continue. Our other creative

## Rotary Club of Scunthorpe Festival of Christmas

thread will be a series of craft workshops including jewellery making, felt making and using recycled materials. We plan to offer family workshops at half term so watch this space.

### Supporting Organisations

Visiting organisations to discuss training needs has enabled us to be much clearer about the types of interventions that will support local organisations effectively. Key areas identified have been marketing, project management and business skills. All of these courses will be offered in the training diary or can be supplied on a bespoke or coaching basis. Please get in touch with us if you would like to know more.

### Accredited Training packages

Following consultation we plan to offer the following in 2013

- L 2 Counselling/Listening Skills
- L3 Community Development Skills
- Functional skills and literacy support
- IT from basics to special days

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Learning for Change Programme please contact the training team via [enquiries@vanl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@vanl.org.uk) or for updates see the website.

In support of Lindsey Lodge Hospice, the Festival will be open to the public on Friday 7th December as well as the first two weekends. In addition to decorated Christmas Trees, entries of Christmas wreaths have been invited and the Old Brumby United Church, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe has kindly agreed that a limited number of wreaths will be displayed on the communion rail. In 2011 the Festival helped to raise over £5,000 for the Hospice. Times continue to be hard financially but, given the right event, local people are usually exceedingly generous towards the Hospice—even in tough times. Please support it. Below is the Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire Christmas Tree, which was decorated in mainly home made decorations and dressed by Liz Crowston and Trudy Norris.



# HLC Community Learning Conference 2013

## —“Aiming for Excellence”

“Aiming for Excellence”. Tuesday 19th March 2013 at the Hull University Business School.

[Www.hlc-conference.org.uk](http://www.hlc-conference.org.uk)

### **Tough Challenges for Community Learning.**

Funding cuts, the economy, and recent changes to the OFSTED Community Inspection Framework .there has never been a more challenging time in adult and community learning.

Only the best organisations will win funding, inspire new learners and, excel at inspection. To survive and thrive in this new environment everyone must aim for excellence.

### **Aiming For Excellence**

HLC Community Learning Conference 2013—“Aiming For Excellence” is specifically designed for the benefit of Tutors and Quality Managers/Programme Managers. This conference is for professionals from both OFSTED and non-OFSTED inspected organisations who provide learning through a range on contracts such as, Adult Skills Budget, Community Learning Fund, and European Social Fund.

Voluntary groups, charities, social enterprises and training companies will benefit from the conference. The event is also of benefit to Tutors and Quality Managers/ Programme Managers who deliver community learning in the Adult Education and Further Education sectors.

- There is a superb speaking and workshop programme to give Tutors and Quality Managers/Programme Managers new skills and knowledge.
- All training will be delivered by educational experts who are amongst the best in their field.
- You will be shown how to attract new funding, new learners, and deliver outstanding lessons and assessments.
- Take advantage of a 20% discount “Early Bird” booking offer. If you are able to attract or retain one new learner with the knowledge gained from this event—it will have paid for itself.

### **Gain An Advantage**

No organisation or professional can afford to fall behind with the changes affecting the sector. “Aiming For Excellence” will equip you with the most practical ‘how to’ techniques and strategies for success.

“Aiming For Excellence” is an investment in your skills, your learners, and your future.

**For full details visit the “Aiming for Excellence” website**

[www.hlc-conference.org.uk](http://www.hlc-conference.org.uk)



# Charitable Incorporated Organisations Yes or No?

A training course for voluntary sector advisers led by  
**Sandy Adirondack**

Author of the Voluntary Sector Legal Handbook

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

Doncaster Quaker Meeting House

10.00-4.30

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Overview of structures  
Differences between CIOs and charitable companies  
Model constitutions  
Issues involved in dissolving CIOs  
Excepted and exempt charities

£50 including lunch

To be placed on the priority booking list, or for more information, please email [lorna@crosskeysassociates.com](mailto:lorna@crosskeysassociates.com) or write to Lorna Buttrick at Cross Keys Associates, Quaker Meeting House, Shotton Walk, Doncaster DN1 3RH. Cheques payable to Cross Keys Associates.

## Miscellaneous

### Christmas Fun Day

#### Meet Micky Mouse!

**Sunday 6th December 2012**

**2.00 pm—4.30 pm at the Old School Hall, Winterton**

- Fun games and activities for all the family with prizes to be won!
- Refreshments, including hot and cold drinks, with fresh mince pies and buns!
- Entries for our Christmas Card competition will be displayed and the winner will be announced! Find out more about the competition on our website.

Plus meet Mickey Mouse and Santa, receive a present, and have a professional photograph taken!

Working with 'Remember the Moment' to bring a fantastic Christmas event for everyone.

The Forge Day Centre will be open on the following days over Christmas and the New Year:

Monday	17 December	9.30am —1.00 pm
Tuesday	18 December	9.30 am—1.00 pm
Friday	21 December	9.30 am—1.00 pm
Monday	24 December	9.30 am—1.00 pm
Tuesday	25 December	10.00 am—1.30 pm
Friday	28 December	9.30 am—1.00 pm
Monday	31 December	9.30 am—1.00 pm
Friday	4 January	9.30 am—1.00 pm

The Forge Day Centre is at New Brumby Methodist Church, Cottage Beck Road, Scunthorpe, DN16 1UB Tel No 01724 276742

### Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire Closing over Christmas

We shall be closing the office at 12 noon on Monday 24 December and re-open again on Wednesday 2nd January at 9.00 am

### Sell your wares!

Crosby Country Market will take place on Thursdays up to Christmas from 12.30 until 3.00 at Crosby Community Association on Frodingham Road selling cakes, preserves, crafts. All reasonably priced.

The organisers are also looking for new producers in the New Year, so if anyone is looking for a way of

### Office furniture, free to community groups

HWRCC has a number of office furniture items which are surplus to requirements following re location. They are all good quality.

- Metal 4 drawer filing cabinets
- Wooden 4 drawer filing cabinets
- Office desks with drawers
- Book shelves
- Upright chairs.

They are available free of charge to any community group who is able to collect from Barton no later than 20 December 2012.

Any interested group, please contact Angela Wilkinson: 01377 232133 / [angela.wilkinson@hwrcc.org.uk](mailto:angela.wilkinson@hwrcc.org.uk)

## Miscellaneous

The Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) have changed their regulations limiting the ability to request a Disclosure. This has affected many organizations that previously would request a CRB check, most notably charities.

A U-Check Employers has been launched in order to ensure charities can continue requesting Criminal Record Checks. A Basic Disclosure will inform the employer of any unspent convictions, or any serious crimes committed by the applicant.

It is felt that all charities should choose this option because:

- It helps to ensure that inappropriate people are not selected.
- It helps to keep customers' safety at the centre of the recruitment policy.
- Helping to promote a culture of transparency within your charity, and positioning you as a responsible corporate citizen.

If you would like further information or would like to trial the service, please email [charities@ucheck-employers.co.uk](mailto:charities@ucheck-employers.co.uk)

DSC, who are leading the Big Lottery Refund campaign, have organised a Parliamentary [Early Day Motion \(EDM\)](#) sponsored by Jim Cunningham MP (Coventry South). The campaign is calling for the immediate repayment of the £425 million borrowed from the lottery for the Olympics. Recently the Government announced a £377 million underspend on the Olympics so the money is there - and could provide invaluable help to communities.

Please contact your MP and let them know about this [EDM](#). Ask them to sign it as a way of supporting charities and community groups in their constituency. Let us know if you have any success, so we can share this information with DSC to help them develop this campaign.

### Help for trustees

The Charity Commission, the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales, has today published two new online tools for newly appointed trustees. Visit [the Charity Commission website to read the article](#).

### Recruit more widely for trustees

The Charity Commission has carried out research into how charities recruit trustees, and found that most rely on informal networks – in other words, they recruit from among their friends.

Another finding showed that many charities seek support from other charities working in a similar field to themselves.

The Commission applauded the fact that would-be charity trustees are reaching out to other organisations and peers in the sector. At the same time it is urging charity boards to widen their networks beyond personal connections in order to find the most talented trustees and develop knowledge and skills. The regulator promotes trusteeship as a two-way process which can offer a range of benefits to the individual, such as learning transferable skills.

To find out more, see the [Charity Commission update on Trustee Recruitment](#)



# Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire  
4-6 Robert Street  
Scunthorpe  
North Lincolnshire  
DN18 5QP

Phone: 01724 845155  
Fax: 01724 854531  
E-mail: [enquiries@vanl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@vanl.org.uk)  
[www.vanl.org.uk](http://www.vanl.org.uk)  
Facebook Twitter:

## Training!

### Pricing Changes for 2013

Following consultation with learners about how we foster commitment to them attending training courses that they have booked on, we have made the following changes to our charges for 2013.

Wellness Recovery Action Planning ***Free for everyone wanting to attend.***

Training Courses - Learning for Change Clients and those in receipt of benefits £2 per half day session £5 per full day session (including accredited training). This is payable in advance and non returnable.

Life Coaching Fully Funded for Learning for Change Clients. £25 per hour for others.

### Our Bursary Scheme

Please note our bursary scheme is available to voluntary organisations and individuals. For more information please contact the office or look on the website.

Trudy