



VANL News

ISSUE 51

SEPTEMBER 2012

Office

4-6 Robert Street

Scunthorpe

North Lincolnshire

DN15 6NG

www.vanl.org.uk

01724 845155

VANL Services

Development

Funding

Volunteering
Brokerage

Training

Financial

Services

Equipment Hire

Office Services

Room Hire

I.T Support

PAT Testing

IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT THE FUTURE PROVISION OF COUNCIL FUNDING TO THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR!

North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) has provided core funding to a number of Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups for a number of years; this funding although initially scheduled to end on the 30th September 2012 has been rolled over to each of the organisations pro-rata for a further period of two months. This funding roll-over was agreed to ensure that the VCS Custodian could create and implement a robust funding procedure. The funding for these organisations will come to an end on the 31st of October 2012.

North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) has adopted the Custodian model to utilise the resources available appropriately and to

take advantage of recent national policies and legislation. The Council is also seeking to focus its funding so as to eradicate any duplication of service and to develop the social, environmental and economic well-being of the area. North Lincolnshire Council is keen to utilise the opportunities afforded by Central Government policies and recent legislation, such as the Localism Act 2011 and Public Sector (Social Value) Act 2012 to help communities to help themselves through the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS).

The Council considers this custodian model will have the following benefits:

Apply the principles of Localism by devolving as much as is possible

of the decision making process;
Provide transparency and openness in the award process;
Maintain suitable financial probity and control;
Encourage the development of social enterprises in line with the council's responsibilities outlined in the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

In this Issue:

Page:

2	Dates for the Diary
3	In Memory of Ian
4	Safer Communities
5	Community Champions
6	Volunteer Centre Updates
8	Money, Money, Money
10	Howsham Play Park— How they did it!
12	Who Cares

Dates for the Diary!

Dates for the Diary! It's a very busy time of year at Voluntary Action, VANL will be hosting three very exciting events in the coming months.

11 September – Personalisation Consortium Showcase Event

19 September – Meet Your MP Luncheon

11 October – Voluntary Action Annual General Meeting

On 11 September the Personalisation Consortium, with the support of North Lincolnshire Council, will hold its showcase event at Heslam Park Rugby Club from 1pm until 4pm. Come along and see what we have achieved in the last 12 months and our plans for the next 12 months. There will be information stalls by Consortium member organisations, our new video will be launched and we will have an opportunity to discuss the Personalisation Agenda and how it is working in North Lincolnshire.

On the 19th September we at VANL will be hosting a Meet Your MP event. Nic Dakin and Martin Vickers (to be confirmed) will be joining us for a luncheon to discuss issues facing the Voluntary Sector. Join us at Scunthorpe Baptist Church from noon until 2pm for lunch and some very interesting guests. A small contribution of £5 towards the costs of staging this event would be appreciated. Big Society and voluntary action have been front and centre for the Coalition Government, but what does this actually mean for the Voluntary and Community sector? Have policies intended to support localism and community involvement actually damaged grassroots charities at the expense of large nationals? What does the Voluntary and Community Sector need from Government during this difficult

time? Come along to this exciting event and discuss with your MP the issues affecting the voluntary and community sector.

And it's Annual General Meeting time again! The VANL AGM will be held on 11 October from 11am until 3pm at Westcliff Community Centre. Our guest this year is Mal Nicholson who has spent years lovingly restoring historic sloop Spider T. Mal's passion for preserving this important part of our region's history is infectious so we greatly appreciate Mal's time to attend our AGM. Trudy and David will be combining their creative talents to bring us a performance that will demonstrate Social Return on Investment – or put simply the good things we do as a sector and the positive effects it has on people's lives. We will also be presenting the Ian McPherson Award for outstanding contribution to community. We are still taking nominations for the Ian McPherson Award so please get your nominations in by 30 September.

AGM Agenda:

11.00 - Arrival and refreshments and a chance to look at the displays and meet VANL staff and Board

11.20 - The Trudy and David Show: Entertaining visual display of Social Return on Investment

11.45 - AGM business, including the presentation of this year's Ian McPherson Award for outstanding contribution to the community, and also the Safer Communities Award to recognise and celebrate the contribution of voluntary organisations and volunteers to safer communities

12.15 – Mal Nicholson discusses restoration of the Spider T, followed by lunch

Ian McPherson Award for Outstanding Contribution to Community

Do you know someone who works tirelessly to make life better for others on a voluntary basis? Do you feel that this deserves to be publically recognised and their contribution to community should be celebrated?

If the answer is yes why not nominate the person for the Ian McPherson Award to celebrate their contribution to community and making people's life's better.

This is the 2nd year of the Ian McPherson Award, which has been created in memory of Ian who himself made an outstanding contribution to community, including working tirelessly for VANL and its projects including Who Cares and the Community Pot.

The very worthy winner of last years Award was Julie Reed who is a founder member of Foundations, which she now chairs; which provides support to families of children and young persons with ADHD and associated conditions.

She is the Treasurer of Daisy Links; an advocacy and support group for disabled young people and their families, the group secretary for 1st Belton and Epworth Scouts and is Treasurer for Friends of Ealand Park, which provides play facilities and equipment for children and residents of Crowle and Ealand, and she is a Committee Member for Friends of Demeter House, which

provides non-term time activities and recreational equipment for children at Demeter House School.

Julie has been active in fundraising for some of the above groups, particularly Friends of Ealand Park, the Scouts and Foundations.

In addition to the above, Julie sits on the Leader North Lincolnshire Local Action Group, is a local Parish Councillor and actively contributes to the community through other forums. Notwithstanding the above she is a very committed mum, giving so much of herself to her sons. So all in all a very deserving first winner of this special award, set up in memory of a very special friend of VANL and of many other organisations and individuals, who is very much missed by all.

To make a nomination for the award please complete a nomination form, which can be downloaded from our website www.vanl.org.uk, or email enquiries@vanl.org.uk, or call 01724 845155. Nominations will need to be received by 30th November.



I
n
M
e
m
o
r
y
o
f
I
a
n

Safer Communities Award

Sponsored by North Lincolnshire Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire in partnership with North Lincolnshire Council and the Safer Neighbourhoods Partnership will be offering an additional award to our recently established Ian McPherson Award for outstanding Contribution to Community.

The Safer Communities Award has been established following the successful launch of the Humber Safer Communities Network (a network of voluntary organisations working to make communities safer and stronger) in order to recognise and celebrate the contribution of Voluntary Organisation and Volunteers to Safer Communities.

Do you know someone who works tirelessly to make Communities Safer?

Do you know an organisation that will go that extra mile in supporting a safe community?

Examples of activities that support Safer Communities are:

Setting up youth activities that successfully helps young offenders or those at risk of offending/anti-social behaviour to engage in more positive activities

Activities to help residents to feel safe in their own homes

(particularly people who are more vulnerable or in challenging neighbourhoods)

Work to support offenders to become a part of the community again

Work to support people with drug or alcohol problems to become well again

N.B. The above list is not prescriptive, if you feel the person/organisation plays an outstanding role in making communities safer in the broadest context please tell us.

How do I make a nomination?

Please contact VANL for a nomination Form, by visiting our website www.vanl.org.uk and downloading a nomination form, or email enquiries at VANL.org.uk, or telephone 01724 845155.

Please ensure your nomination gets to us by the **30th September**

Who decides who wins?

An independent award panel will make the decisions.

When will the Award be presented?

The Award will be presented at VANL AGM - Thursday 11 October, 11am-2pm at Westcliffe Community Centre. **In addition to the Award the successful organisation or Volunteer will be presented with a cheque for £200 for their organisation.**

North Lincolnshire Council in partnership with Scunthorpe Telegraph is organising North Lincolnshire's first ever Community Champion Awards and is inviting nominations.

The awards take place on Thursday 29 November 2012, and nominations are now open.

The awards are split into four categories - Volunteer, Achievement, Community, and Inspiration. Across these, there will be 26 individual awards presented, each sponsored by a local business.

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for the time they dedicated to volunteering or for overcoming barriers or excelling in a sport or the arts? Is there a community group that deserves recognition for its work in the local community, or do you know someone who is true inspiration to others?

If so, then get nominating! You can do so on-line at

www.northlincs.gov.uk/CommunityChampionAwards2012 or contact sport, leisure and culture for a nomination forms on 01724 297270, or email community.recreation@northlincs.gov.uk.

Or you can pick up a nomination form at any local link or library in North Lincolnshire. Nominations close Sunday 30 September 2012.

Older – Disabled-Fit

Is the title of this article a question or a statement? It can be both, but it is better if it was a positive statement for us all. Unfortunately we all cannot fit into the healthier statement, but a lot of us, when we get older or become disabled, think to ourselves that we cannot do exercise. I count

myself lucky as I am able to say yes to all three, I am 70, a wheelchair user, and I am reasonably fit. I go to the gym three times a week to keep myself fit so that I can do wheelchair and hand cycle runs to raise money for charities, Marie Curie being one of them. I did the Leeds 10k on 8th July on a recumbent hand cycle and raised £300 for Marie Curie.

Medical research has proved that if we take the responsibility for our own health by keeping fit, we reap benefits. These are a healthy glow, combined with a feeling of well being, and the ability and energy to do things for others. In some cases, people who have had cancer, may have a 20% better chance of it not reoccurring. Exercise does not have to be a difficult thing, as you only need to do as much or as little that is comfortable for you. Don't forget, be sensible, if you have not done any exercise for quite a while, you may need to check with your GP to find out if you will be alright to start (you may also gain brownie points from your GP) If you intend to use a gym, they will want it in writing for their insurance company. Don't set your target too high, so that you have a chance of reaching it, you can always set the bat higher as you get fitter and more confident. You do not need expensive equipment, although it is good to join a group as it gives moral support and companionship. So please don't think about it – act, as now is better than never, and it will make a great difference to your life, all to the better. If this article causes one person to take responsibility for their own health, and starts to exercise, then I feel that I have done some good – Good Luck and good health.!

Tony Scrase Walters

DOES YOUR GROUP OR ORGANISATION NEED HELP?

Do you need fences painting, paths clearing, advice on your business plan or marketing strategy? Well look no further!

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire's Volunteer Centre has entered into a partnership with Tata Steel to offer an employer supported volunteering brokerage in North Lincolnshire.

Tata Steel employees are invited to donate one working day (8 hours) per year to a local good cause, either on an individual basis, or within a team challenge.

This is a fantastic commitment to the local community by Tata Steel, which takes its corporate social responsibility very seriously.

We would like to offer partner organisations of the Volunteer Centre the chance to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity. Contact Jacky Birkett for more information on 01724 845155, email jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk

www.tatasteel.vanl.org.uk – download opportunity forms here!

Volunteer Centre Update

Here in the Volunteer Centre we are continuing to broker local people into volunteering opportunities. We receive between 50 – 100 online applications each month through the national volunteering website www.do-it.org.uk, and interview people at the office on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

We are always looking for new and interesting things for people to do, so if you have a new role in mind, just download forms from the VANL website, www.vanl.org.uk and click on the volunteering tab, or contact jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk – tel 01724 845155. If you are a new organisation looking for volunteers you will need to register your organisation and your volunteer roles. If your organisation is already registered with the Volunteer Centre, just complete a new opportunity form and submit.

We refer potential volunteers to organisations by email and request that organisations try to contact them within 7 days of receipt. We also get in touch with people after a couple of weeks to see how things are progressing, and follow up any

referrals on their behalf if they have not heard so that they feel valued and supported.

Autumn Volunteer Fair – North Lindsey College

We will be organising a Volunteer Fair for organisations at North Lindsey College in September or October this Autumn. Check out the VANL website for dates and times. Partner organisations will receive more information and booking forms prior to the event.

Keeping us updated!

Please let us know if you change any of your organisation information in relation to volunteering. This could include email contacts, telephone numbers, changes of staff responsible for volunteer referrals, opportunities no longer available, change of premises etc. You can also send us copies of any leaflets you wish us to give to potential volunteers (no more than 20 – we will ask when we need more due to storage capacity).

Creating a Special Events Volunteer Team

Here at the Volunteer Centre we often get requests from organisations that are looking for

volunteers to act as Marshals, Car Park Attendants, Stewards for one off events. We don't have very much luck in finding people to get involved in this type of volunteering as we find that most people who access the Volunteer Centre prefer to volunteer on a regular basis. This does not help our partner organisations, so we are making a plea to any organisation that has staff or volunteers who would be willing to give just the odd day per year to be part of a **special events volunteer team**.

To find out more please contact Jacky Birkett on 01724 845155, or email jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk

Opening Doors – Mystery Shopper's needed

Do you know a young person age 14 – 25 years who has a disability? We would like to hear from anyone who fits this description that would like to take part in mystery shopping activities. We are also looking for volunteers to accompany young mystery shoppers when they visit organisations. Want to know more? Just get in touch with Jacky Birkett at the Volunteer Centre.

**V
o
l
u
n
t
e
e
r
C
e
n
t
r
e
U
p
d
a
t
e**

Have HMRC asked you to complete a Corporation Tax Return? – VANL can help

The general rule for organisations with charitable status is that they are exempt from corporation tax. However, your organisation may receive a notice to file a corporation tax return every few years. This is so that HMRC can ensure that your activities are truly charitable and that any trading activity falls under their complex exemption rules. All returns must now be filed on line and there are automatic penalties for late filing (the deadline is usually twelve months after your year end).

As part of our Community Accountancy service we are able to prepare corporation tax computations, and complete the corporation tax returns and file these on-line on your behalf (once you have approved them for submission).

This applies to social enterprises and trading subsidiaries as well as charitable companies.

The cost for this is based on time spent with our current rates being £27.50 per hour (reduced to £25 per hour for smaller groups with <£10k income) for member groups. Non-member group rates are £30 per hour.

For further information please contact Claire Mosey on 01724 845155.

National Minimum Wage rates to rise in October

From October 2012, National Minimum Wage rates will rise for apprentices and for workers over the age of 20. Don't forget to factor in these rises into any funding bids you are putting together.

The National Minimum Wage (NMW) is a minimum amount per hour that most workers in the UK are entitled to be paid. The rate depends on age and whether the worker is an apprentice.

New rates from October

The new rates will come into force on 1 October 2012, as follows:

- £6.19 per hour for workers aged 21 and over—a rise of 11p
- £4.98 per hour for 18—20 year olds—no change.
- £3.68 per hour for workers above school leaving age but under 18—no change.
- £2.65 per hour for apprentices—a rise of 5p

15 August 2012 - Comic Relief UK Grants Programme Opens for Final Round in 2012

Comic Relief is currently accepting applications for the last round of its UK Grants Programme in 2012. It will open a new grants strategy in spring 2013.

Under the current programme, constituted voluntary and community groups, charities, social enterprises, co-operatives, faith organisations, and community interest companies may apply for grants to help with running and capital costs for a number of different schemes.

Applications can be made to the following programmes:

- Mental Health.
- Sport for Change.
- Older People's 'Managing Money Better'.
- Refugee and asylum seeking women.
- Young People aged 11-25:
- Young people and mental health.
- Sexually exploited and trafficked young people.
- Domestic and sexual abuse: young people.
- Young people and alcohol.

Grants for most of the programmes generally range from between £25,000 and £40,000 and are available for between one and three years. The Sport for Change Programme offers

grants of between £10,000 and £100,000. Under the Older People's Programme 'Managing Money Better' grants of over £10,000 are available.

There is a two-stage application process, with Stage 1 applications due by:

- 28 September 2012 for the Sport for Change programme and the Older People's Programme 'Managing Money Better'.
- 19 October 2012 for the other UK Programmes.

Comic Relief will notify groups by early November 2012 as to whether or not they will be invited to complete a Stage 2 application.

Once these deadlines pass, the next opportunity to apply for a Comic Relief UK Grant will be in spring 2013 when Comic Relief launches its new strategy.

Visit the Comic Relief [website](#) (opens new window) for further information.

Source: Comic Relief, 15/08/2012



Howsham

Play

Park

The story of how we did it. Everyone involved with the fundraising events and all the committee members, have done all the work voluntarily because we wanted a safe place for everyone in the Parish to use and enjoy, particularly the children.

2007—In January we signed a 30 year lease for the barren piece of land at the rear of Howsham Village Hall, and the first thing that had to be done was to level the ground and put grass seed in. The Parish Council had agreed to fund the fence around the park area. In June we decided to organise some fundraising events including a sponsored walk, coffee mornings bingo sessions, cheese and wine evening, Halloween party, table top sale and a Christmas sing-a-long. We found out we needed to set up a separate charity for the park in order to apply for grants.

2008—In January we got great news, we were now a registered charity! The fence was completed and we held our first film night—Mamma Mia!! In November a rural target grant fund was successful and we were able to match-fund to enable an entrance to the park and a path to the vil-



lage hall. Caistor Lions gave £300 to buy the gates for the main entrance. The gates have a plaque in memory of



Doug McDonald, a member of Caistor Lions who died suddenly and who had helped with bingo sessions. Brigg Lions donated the money to pay for two colourful picnic benches in the park.

2009— Fundraising continued, more films, Vanilla Smooth played again and another Gardeners Question Time, along with a “make a bear” event, rounders, a summer fair another Halloween party and country singer Richard Palmer played to a full village hall—all in aid of the park! In May we submitted an application for the landfill tax grant to Mondegreen.org.uk and in August we heard that we had been successful. The Lifestyle group, The Fab Five helped organise the summer fair, the first for several years. It proved so popular that we have held one every year since. The first four pieces of play equipment—the zip wire, the bird’s nest swing, the toddler piece and the roundabout, were installed in November and when they were in place, the local papers came to see us.

2010— In July the goal post was

bought with the money from fundraising and put in place by volunteers yet again. In August, the summer fair was organised with help from lifestyle groups, Cheeky Cherries, Super Strawberries and Better Communities. This year, we held a balloon race, and went around the villages selling tickets for the race beforehand.

2011—We looked into getting the last things we wanted in the park through a grant. Gary Allen from VANL suggested trying Awards for All, this is a grant for up to £10,000 from the National Lottery. We asked Playdale again to quote for the new equipment. This application was submitted in July 2011, in August 2011 we were told the application was successful and in September the money was paid into our bank account!!

In May the parish council agreed to fund the paths and patio and in July Richard Benson completed all his work on the paths and patio. The summer fair was organised with help from the lifestyle group Double Trouble +1. Once again it proved to be a very popular event. In August Double Trouble + 1 purchased a “Welcome to Howsham Play Park” sign at the entrance near the village hall. The new adventure trail, swings, bench and bin were installed in Octo-



ber 2011.

2012—Duck race No 2 happened in April—a brilliant idea of Petra was to drop 200 plastic ducks into the water, let them float upstream a bit and then see which duck won. Everyone was charged £2 to sponsor a duck, we all had lots of fun and raised money too. This year we swapped to Kelsey beck, and it was just as popular.

Another busy month in May—the railings around the patio were finished by Kevin and Mark. The side gate was put in by Jon Waterman, and lots of

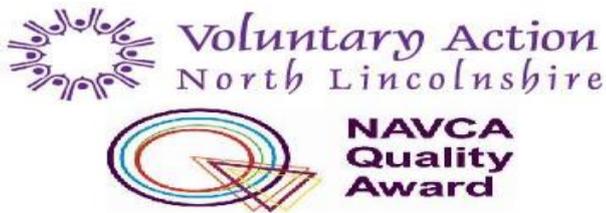


pots were planted up in red, white and blue ready for our Diamond Jubilee celebrations in the park. The park was well used at the Diamond Jubilee event, which was a fantastic community event that everyone enjoyed.

We are all very proud of our park and all that has been achieved. It hasn't always been easy, but with lots of team work from all members of the committee utilising everybody's different skills and talents, and involving all the parish, we hope we have proved that it can be done.

Congratulations to everyone contributing to this excellent project—well done from all at VANL!

Howsham Play Park



4—6 Robert Street
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NG

Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555
E-mail: someone@example.com

Advancing Local Voluntary Action

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire promote, develop, and support organisations within the voluntary and community sector.

Whether you are an established organisation, you would like to set up your own voluntary group, or you are interested in volunteering, Voluntary Action can provide all the advice and support you require

www.vanl.org.uk

Who Cares

Who Cares is the Local Involvement Network (LINK) for Health and Social care services for North Lincolnshire

LINKs have three main functions:

- To consult with local people to identify their needs, expectations and experiences of health and social care services.
- To investigate the quality and effectiveness of health and adult social care services delivered locally.
- To report their findings to health and social care commissioners (the people who determine what services will be provided).

In April 2013 LINKs will be replaced by HealthWatch

What is HealthWatch?

HealthWatch will be the new consumer champion for both

health and social care.

The aim of HealthWatch will be to give citizens and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how local health and social care services are provided

HealthWatch North Lincolnshire will be established in April 2013

What will it do?

Enable and encourage people to share their views and concerns about their local health and social care services and understand that their contribution will help build a picture of where services are doing well and where they can be improved.

Provide people with information about what to do when things go wrong; this includes either signposting people to, or providing advice and support for people who want to com-

plain about NHS services.

Provide evidence-based feedback to organisations responsible for commissioning or delivering local health and social care services to try to influence the way services are delivered.

What you can do?

Tell us about your views of the following:

1. How would you want to access HealthWatch?

Have you or would you use a signposting service that would direct you to the appropriate health or social care service?

3. Have you or would you use a health and social care advisory service?

Have you or would you use a health and social care complaints service if necessary?

Please contact us at who.cares@vanl.org.uk or on 01724 845155 to tell us what you think