



NAVCA  
Quality  
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Issue 45



# VANL NEWS

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire  
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December 2010

## ***Coronation Hall, Owston Ferry gets ready to celebrate its centenary with the help of VANL!***

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2011 will be a year of celebration at the Coronation Hall in Owston Ferry as events will be held to mark the centenary of this much loved village hall. With the help of Voluntary Action, the Hall will also see some much anticipated improvements. Successful Grassroots Grant applications have already seen the main hall decorated and billiard tables recovered. In addition, VANL has helped the Committee submit applications for funding from the Leader programme and WREN which will, if successful, see further improvements to toilets and stores which will mean that particularly disabled persons will find the Hall's facilities much friendlier to access. Eddie Bond, the Secretary said "Voluntary Action has been a tremendous source of assistance with our project and I am sure we could not have done it without their help."

**The Board and Staff Members of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire would like to wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year—our offices will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday 23rd December and re-open on Tuesday 4th January 2011.**



## Rural Partnerships Plus

During the first half of the year Rural Partnerships Plus across North and North East Lincolnshire (Celia) and the East Riding (Carole) worked with the Yorkshire and Humber Forum's Rural Network to find out what the issues for rural communities and community groups are. Individuals and groups were asked to fill out postcards and an online "survey monkey".

The post cards asked people to rank the three most important issues for their communities from a list, and support for community organisations was most frequently indentified, closely followed by transport issues and then employment, rural service provision and the environment were all considered to be of almost equal importance. The online survey also prioritised Community organisations employment and transport issues.

The online survey asked for both the most important issues for communities and the issues for rural community groups.

Most groups completing the survey wanted support to sustain their groups and to enable them to keep going. They were also wanting help with fundraising and developing new projects. Rural Partnerships Plus will be ensuring that the issues brought up in this survey are highlighted locally with decision makers and will also be undertaking a further survey in the New Year which will give groups an opportunity to have their say.

Rural Partnerships Plus supports rural community and voluntary groups and works to ensure that their voices are heard. Celia can be contacted at the VANL Barton office on 01652 633297, email [celia.wangler@vanl.co.uk](mailto:celia.wangler@vanl.co.uk).

## Be Prepared: a few helpful Tips for Dealing with Future Funding Cuts

Everyone is aware that the Government's Spending Review will reduce the amount of funding available to the Local Authority. For those groups who have contracts or receive grant funding from the Local Authority (and other funders) there is the likelihood that there will be less money available in future years. This may lead to difficult times ahead. Although there is no magic answer to this problem, the best way to deal with potential cuts is to be prepared. Here are a few tips we hope you will find useful:

- Prepare a budget for next year; It is more important than ever to prepare a realistic, tight budget for next year. This should ideally be split by projects/activities. If you employ staff, remember to include the increase in employers NIC from April 2011. Remember also that VAT will increase to 20% in January 2011. Update the budget as and when you receive information. This is not a one-off exercise.
- Look at your cash flow: Even if you expect your income for the year to cover your expenditure, look at the timing of receipts and payments. For example, if your funder pays quarterly

in arrears, you will need to make sure you have sufficient funds to cover the expenses paid out before the funding is received.

- Look at ways to save money: Go through your current costs in detail, check you're getting the best deals available, for example, your gas and electricity suppliers. Always try to get two or three quotes before purchasing an item to make sure you're getting the best value available. Ask staff and volunteers to suggest ways of saving money. They are often best placed to see how money can be saved. Think before you print can save money on paper and printer costs. Being able to show future funders that you spend wisely is always a good thing.
  - Review any funding contracts; Put together a file of any funding agreements you have in place. Regularly review contracts so you are aware of any break clauses and notice periods. Start speaking to funders if your contracts are up for review. The earlier the better.
  - Know which costs you are tied in to: Put together a file of any contracts you are tied in to. For example, do you have a rental agreement? If so, note down any rent review clauses or notice periods and whether you are responsible for repairs to the property. Are you tied in for a number of years? If so, this will need to be included in your budgets. Look at contracts with telephone, gas and electricity suppliers to see how long you are tied in for. Do you hire a photocopier? Check the details of the hire agreement.
  - Be prepared for new opportunities; There are always unexpected opportunities even in times of cuts. A willingness to act quickly or in a slightly different way can often work in your favour.
- Involve all trustees: Although the budget is often set by the Treasurer, the budget should be agreed and discussed at

a full trustee meeting. Keeping all trustees up to date is essential.



### **A Letter from Joe Richards**

“Over the last three months, I have had the pleasure of working with the Bellingham Road Activities Group (BRAG) They are a team of mums in the Bellingham Road area, keen to bring new activities for young people where they live. They have studied hard, attending a number of courses, met loads of really helpful people and are now equipped with all the safeguarding training and knowledge needed to begin hosting activities. Last month, they conducted a detailed survey to find out what activities and opportunities younger people in their area wanted to get involved in. A report on this is now being written up. North Lincolnshire Homes donated £2,000 of funding to the group, for equipment and costs towards setting up, which has been really helpful for them.

An open day is being organised for January where all the equipment the team have bought will be free for everyone to try. BRAG aim to host all sorts of events in 2011. Amongst other things, BRAG hope to hold cinema nights, a wide range of sporting activities, arts and crafts, and more! They will also have their own website shortly. Look out for the Bellingham Road Activities Group!”

Joseph Richards  
Development Worker,  
Crosby Employment Bureau

## North Lincolnshire Leisure and Culture Awards 2011

North Lincolnshire Council is inviting residents to vote for individuals and community groups that they feel deserve an award for their work in the world of sports, arts and heritage.

The North Lincolnshire Leisure and Culture Awards take place every year to recognise and reward the outstanding achievements that people and groups have made in sports, arts and heritage.

Nominations for the 2011 awards are now being taken. The awards are given in a number of areas including Young Male and Young Female Sports Achiever of the Year, Coach of the Year, Community Building of the year, Young Arts/Heritage Achiever of the year and Art workshop leader of the year. The V Involved team also have three categories looking for nominations. A list of all the award categories the criteria and nomination forms are available at [www.northlincs.gov.uk/lincs2leisure](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/lincs2leisure)

Alternatively you can contact Leisure Services for a nomination form, please telephone them on 01724 297270 or email [community.recreation@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:community.recreation@northlincs.gov.uk)

Winners will receive the red carpet treatment at Ancholme Leisure Centre on Thursday 10 March where they will be presented with their award. All guests will be specially invited to attend.

### The Carer's Support Centre

The Carers' Support Centre based on Redcombe Lane in Brigg has recently employed three new Carer Case Leaders. Their role will be to contact Carers on a regular basis to see how they are, whether they can

help in any way, and generally make them feel as if someone cares about them. Carer Case Leaders will be the one point of contact for Carers so they don't need to speak to lots of different people when trying to sort out any problems. Carers have specifically requested this service, which was identified in the "Is Knackered a Medical Condition?" report from 2009 about North Lincolnshire Carers' experiences.

The Centre is also pleased to announce that they have extended opening hours from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Opening hours will now be 8am Monday to Thursday, 8 am to 6 pm on Fridays and 10 am to 4 pm at weekends.

So if you are a Carer who works, or just gets tired and worn out by the end of the day, someone is there to listen. This is another example of providing a service which has been requested by Carers locally.

To the Carers' Support Centre, a Carer is someone who looks after a relative, friend or neighbour who could not manage without their regular help or assistance.

The Centre has also recently employed a part time Benefits Advisor, Graham Clark, so if you need any help with filling in benefit application forms, would like a check to see what benefits you are entitled to, or would like to know if you would be better off financially working or being a Carer, then Graham can be contacted on 01652 650585.

The Carers' Support Centre offers a range of other services to Carers and help run a number of support groups across the whole of North Lincolnshire. If you would like to get involved or would like more information about any of the work the Centre does, then please call 0165652650585 or visit <http://www.carerssupportcentre.com>

**Community Accountancy**—We are urging all our groups to book in early for you Year End Accounts to be completed . We ask that you do not set your AGM date until we have completed your accounts. Please phone Rachel or Claire on 01724 845155 to arrange to have your books done.

Thankyou

**Charities will Lose Music Licence Exemption from January 2010**

Legislation will introduce charges for playing recorded music in public venues from 2011, but charities are given an extra year to prepare.

Charity shops and community groups will have to pay for licences to play music from January 2012 under plans that are due to come into force at the beginning of next year.

An amendment to music licensing law, which means charities and other not for profit groups will lose their exemption from the royalty fees, was placed before Parliament yesterday.

The amendment says public venues, including those used by charities and not-for-profit groups, will need licences from the licensing authority PPL in order to play music from records, CDs, the radio or television. PPL and PRS for Music distribute royalties on behalf of composers, lyricists, music publishers, record companies and musicians.

The law will be introduced on 1 January 2011, but charity shops and some other institutions will be exempt from the fees for the first year.

A statement from the Intellectual Prop-

erty Office said a charge of £40 a year would apply to 60 percent of the buildings where voluntary groups met and that most charity shops would pay £54 per year.

An IPO spokesman confirmed that the charge would apply to each shop, so charities with chains of shops would have to pay for every branch. He said larger shops would pay more than small shops.

The plans are part of a statutory instrument that was placed before Parliament today and is due to be passed in 40 days. The plans are a 'negative instrument', meaning they can become law without a debate or a vote in Parliament, although either parliamentary house can pass a resolution to annul them.

Nick Hurd, the Minister for Civil Society, said: "We have worked hard to ensure that charities, particularly small organisations and charity shops, get extra protection and that the impact of any changes is minimised.

"It will be difficult to satisfy everyone but we have achieved a fairer balance between the need to reward musicians for their work and the need to protect charities from excessive costs and additional bureaucracy."

*Kaye Wiggins, Third Sector Online, 9.11.10*

**Important News!**

Rachel's last working day is Wednesday 22nd December, so she will be looking to process Community Payrolls week commencing 13th December.

Therefore please let Rachel have your payroll as soon as possible.

Thankyou

## **Volunteer Centre Review Big Society?**

There has been a huge amount of discussion about the impact of the governments Big Society agenda. An immediate impact of a change in government has been the early closure of the DWP 6 month unemployed BCTV contract.

*Government abandons earned citizenship (which included volunteering as a route to it). For guidelines on volunteering and benefits see.*

[www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/dwp1023.pdf](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/dwp1023.pdf)

## **Changes at the Volunteer Centre**

We are delighted to welcome our successful Future Jobs Fund appointee Kieren Gardner to our team. You may have already heard from Kieren who has done a stirring job updating our volunteer database - if not expect your courtesy call soon....

Thankyou to our volunteers for their contributions; Helen Ellerby, Andy Prescott and Leigh Knight. Our team are also boosting their skills by undertaking the OCN Level 3 Award in Volunteer Management. Look out for the celebrations when they complete their training in March 2011.

## **And Voluntary Action is now an approved OCN Provider**

As part of our service improvement and Learning for Change Programme we are delighted that we are now an approved centre for the Open College Network. This will enable us to expand the range of accredited learning we deliver in our community and hence the range of opportunities for learners.

## **Learning for Change - Big Lottery Fund**

This 5 year programme will be delivered from March 2011 and will deliver training for



people in underserved groups. Would you like to be a part of a Steering group to contribute to programme development and delivery? Please contact Trudy or Jan for further information and look out for updates on the VANL website.

## **New Opportunities**

If you would like to see our new opportunities for volunteers see [www.Do-It.org.uk](http://www.Do-It.org.uk) or come in to see us.

## **How can we help you?**

Volunteer opportunities should be as accessible as possible with all reasonable adjustments offered to enable and support this. With this in mind we are doing our best to raise awareness of **support needs** for people who would like to attend training at Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire or to access a volunteer opportunity. This requires some awareness raising and resources. Do you have skills and a little time you would be willing to donate to support people wishing to volunteer? Attend training? Become more involved? Could you attend a development group that will look at how we can best support people with additional needs? Please email [trudy.norris@vanl.org.uk](mailto:trudy.norris@vanl.org.uk) for further information.

The first quarter of 2011 sees a focus on disability issues, diversity and equality. To update your practice and challenge your thinking you can attend one or all of the courses.

## **Not heard from the Partner Organisation? The win - win!**

A significant amount of time in volunteering (like most things?) is invested in chasing things up. Within the Volunteer Centre we aim:

To make a volunteer referral within 3 days of the initial interview

To follow up referrals on behalf of the volunteer as soon as necessary

With this in mind we now calendar a follow up appointment for all volunteers. This ensures that any problems are identified and responded to effectively and as soon as possible. This works well for the volunteer and our partner organisation.

### **Humber Volunteer Managers Network - Excellence in Volunteer Management**

The website for Humber Volunteer Management Programme should be launched by the time you read this! It will be a great place to access local and regional information on all things volunteering, including volunteer management training see

<http://volunteeringhumber.co.uk>

**And finally over the season of goodwill...treat your self! To...**

*Ten Professional Development Benefits of Volunteering* (Everything I Learned in Life I Learned through Volunteering). Mary V. Merrill, LSW, Merrill Associates

### **Introduction to Volunteering Training**

- you can attend one of our courses free of charge when you register as a volunteer see [www.VANL.org.uk](http://www.VANL.org.uk) or call in for a coffee and a chat (there are lots of other useful courses too).

**Register your one off volunteering opportunity** or create a new opportunity within your organisation - email the VC or V Involved team for more information.

**Be Healthier in 2011** - volunteering is good for you - thats official! People who volunteer regularly show improved physical and mental well being

After trying various formats for printing the training diary, we have listened to feedback and reverted to Word as some people have had problems accessing the publisher version.

We have compiled the Winter quarter's diary and by the time this goes to press, will have a varied programme available to cater for a variety of training needs. As ever, please let us know what topics will help you and your organisation and we will do our best to provide them.

### **REMINDER**

A brand new course on 15<sup>th</sup> December from 10.00 - 12.00 on Fire Safety for Community Buildings.

Fire safety is everybody's responsibility and this training package gives a good understanding and reminder of the dangers of fire.

### **DO YOU**

Have any responsibility or level of control for any type of premises?

Are you aware that you must take reasonable steps to reduce the risk of fire?

Are you aware of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005? (which applies to community halls, places of worship and other community premises as well as many other buildings).

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, you will benefit from this innovative training initiative that VANL have organised in partnership with Humber Fire & Rescue. Training will be delivered by 2 Technical Fire Safety Advocates, Phil Smith and Phil Hotchkin.

## FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS TRAINING



During the presentation you will gain an understanding of:

- the number of fires and fire deaths and the common causes of fire;
- how fire starts and spreads;
- current UK legislation and its effect on fire safety in premises;
- spotting hazards and protecting against fire;
- how to select and use a fire extinguisher;
- what to do in the event of a fire
- There will also be a short video which highlights the importance of suitable and sufficient procedures in the event of a fire.

**Please take advantage of this FREE training, while you have the chance as there may be a charge for future courses.**

### **CALLING ALL TRUSTEES!**

Are you aware of the Charity Trustees Network (CTN)? This organisation's vision is 'of positive, effective trustees governing the vol/com sector' and aims to achieve it by providing lots of information, advice and guidance to trustees as well as developing and understanding awareness of trusteeship and governance. To find out more please visit [www.trusteenet.org.uk](http://www.trusteenet.org.uk)

### **Volunteer Drivers are desperately needed for Age Concern!!**

The minibus transport operates mainly for assisted shopping runs for the people over the age of 50 and also to help Residential Homes give trips out. Ring 01724 849819 if you think you would be able to help!

## TRAINING AND EVENTS INFORMATION

### DECEMBER

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>** Volunteer Co-ordinators Forum Meeting + 'Working with a Difference'.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>** Fire Safety for Community Buildings

### January 2011

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup>** Diversity Training

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup>** ABC L2 Skills for Young People's Workforce

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>** Building confidence

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>** Managing Difficult Behaviour

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>** Recruitment & Retaining Volunteers

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup>** First Aid training

### FEBRUARY

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>** Disability Issues

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>** Drugs Awareness

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup>** Food Hygiene

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Supporting & Developing your Volunteers

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>** Improving your Job Prospects

### MARCH

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>** Set up your Volunteer Programme - Nuts and Bolts

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>** Motivation Skills for Managers of Volunteers

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>** Introduction to Volunteering

If you require any further information about any of these courses and events, please have a look at our web site [www.vanl.org.uk](http://www.vanl.org.uk) or contact the office.

*Jan Rilatt  
Training Co-ordinator*

## Old School Clothing Co is a youth-led social enterprise.

The business is entirely run and staffed by young volunteers aged 16-25 and is a specialist vintage clothes shop, in addition to selling art and up-cycled furniture. The shop represents an opportunity for young people to gain valuable retail, design and management experience - readying them for employment, but also developing community minded, confident individuals who contribute to society. In these difficult economic times the shop itself is an innovative way of delivering youth work and allowing young people to have a voice and take the lead in the decisions that affect them.

The shop also represents a platform for young



people to sell their creative work and develop their own enterprise. We have in house graffiti, urban and abstract artists who are reveling in the opportunity to showcase and sell their work, but who are also fostering the creative interests of the others - teaching them the skills that they put into practice in their art.

Our long term vision goes beyond the idea of one sustainable business - we want to support other young people to set up their own businesses and are committed to exploring young people's ideas. Any profits made by the shop are reinvested back into young people's projects. We've already taken under our umbrella 'Let There Be

Light Productions' a film company looking to offer young people experience in the competitive media market; and the more interest we attract, the more we find there is talent amongst young people that deserves an outlet...

### Are you interested in developing a new VOLUNTEERING/ACTIVITY PROGRAMME for young people in WINTERTON or BARTON?

We have held initial meetings in Winterton and Barton to discuss the development of volunteering/activity programmes for children and young people in these locations, and will be holding follow up meetings on the following dates below. The general outcome from each meeting was that there is an interest in forming partnerships to develop a programme that would see children and young people in each specific area getting involved in community activities, earning points for the time they spend volunteering and receiving certificates of recognition, and using points collected to go towards activities and trips during their leisure time. The schemes would involve local people, including private businesses (providing sponsorship etc), youth organisations (who could involve and support their members to get involved in volunteering and activities), community groups and organisations (who could provide and support community activities).

Each scheme would be small and locality based so that those involved would have a real interest in its success. Young people would be invited to form Youth Action Teams to develop the programmes in each area. If you are interested in finding out more or would like to get involved, please join us (venues to be confirmed)

WINTERTON - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2011 - 7pm - 8.30pm

BARTON - Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 - 5.30pm for 6pm

Ring Jacky Birkett on 01724 845155 for more information or to book a place

[Jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk](mailto:Jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk)

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**Comic Relief – Uk Grant Programme**

Cycle 5 has now opened for applications. The deadline for applications is 7<sup>th</sup> January 2011. The aims of Comic Relief are: Reach people in great need; meet people’s needs and ambitions, and promote their rights; help people to live with dignity and free from fear; tackle some of the root causes of poverty and injustice and bring about lasting improvements in the lives of poor and disadvantaged people. Grants are awarded under: Mental Health; Domestic and Sexual Abuse; Refugee and Asylum Seeking Women; Young People aged 11-25. Grant awards are between £25,000 and £40,000, for more information please go to [www.comicrelief.com/apply\\_for\\_a\\_grant/uk](http://www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk) or email: [ukgrants@comicrelief.org.uk](mailto:ukgrants@comicrelief.org.uk)

**ESF Community Grants**

These are small European Social Fund (ESF) grants of up to £12,000 for voluntary and community organisations to help them reach disadvantaged people who are not working. The ESF was set up to improve employment opportunities in the European Union and so help raise standards of living. It aims to help people fulfil their potential by giving them better skills and better job prospects. Key target groups include: disabled people, lone parents, people aged over 50, people from ethnic minorities, people without good qualifications; and young people not in education, employment or training.

You can find details the co-financing organisation which manages funds in this area via: [www.esf.gov.uk/resources/co-financing\\_organisations.asp](http://www.esf.gov.uk/resources/co-financing_organisations.asp) Also for further information: [www.esf-works.com/](http://www.esf-works.com/) and [www.esf.gov.uk/introduction\\_to\\_esf/#grants](http://www.esf.gov.uk/introduction_to_esf/#grants)

**BIG builds on Reaching Communities**

From December 2010, community buildings within targeted urban and rural settings will be able to apply for funding between £100,000 and £500,000 through the Reaching Communities programme. This strand of the programme will be open to community and voluntary organisations along with parish/town councils from the eligible areas will be able to apply, there will be up to £75 million available.

BIG created the fund to turn existing facilities into buildings offering a wide range of activities for the benefit of a broad group of people in the community. Grants will be awarded for the renovation of any multi-purpose building currently used by communities, including memorial halls, community centres and village halls.

Once the funding stream opens, a list of eligibility criteria will be published on BIG’s website to allow organisations to assess their chances of success before submitting a proposal and interested parties can register for more information by calling 0845 410 2030. Website [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk)

**Small Grants from Greggs Foundation**

Organisations in communities where a Greggs Bakery is located can apply. The Greggs Foundation Regional Grants Programme supports charitable organisations through small grants of up to £2,000. Funded projects must make positive difference to people in need in local communities. Priority is given to projects with the following beneficiaries: People with caring responsibilities, people with disabilities, homeless people and older people. For details of how to apply including guidance notes please go to: <http://www.greggsfoundation.org.uk/regionalgrants.html>

**Help the Homeless (UK)**

Help the Homeless is currently accepting applications from small and medium sized charities and voluntary organisations. Grants of up to £3,000 are available towards capital costs to support projects that assist disadvantaged individuals in their return to mainstream society, through residential or training facilities. **Next deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.** Applicants must download the application from their website: <http://www.help-the-homeless.org.uk/Grants.htm>

**Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards**

One-off donations between £500 and £4,000. Larger grants between £4,000 and £25,000 and are to support local, national or international projects in areas where Tesco operate.

Deadlines – Children’s welfare and/or chil-

dren's education: applications should be made between 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011.

Elderly people and/or adults and children with disabilities: applications should be made between 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

For further information please go to:

[http://www.tescopl.com/plc/corporate\\_responsibility\\_09/community/making\\_difference/charitablegiving/tesco\\_charity\\_trust/cagapr09.pdf](http://www.tescopl.com/plc/corporate_responsibility_09/community/making_difference/charitablegiving/tesco_charity_trust/cagapr09.pdf)

<http://www.tescocharitytrustcommunityawards-applications.co.uk/>

## LandAid

LandAid's Annual Grants Programme is inviting applications for projects which help disadvantaged or homeless people, especially the young. LandAid will be awarding grants of between £5,000 and £25,000 for projects which assist in meeting accommodation needs, refurbish or renew facilities, or deliver training, life skills or other educational programmes. Deadline: 31 January 2011.

## HLF - Heritage Grants over £50,000

The next closing date for applications under the Heritage Lottery Fund's Heritage Grants Scheme for projects over £1million and under £5million is the 14th December 2010. Under the Heritage Grants scheme funding is available for projects that relate to the national, regional or local heritage of the UK. To be eligible for funding a project must help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage, conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy; and help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and make decisions about heritage. HLF welcome applications from single organisations and partnerships. Priority is given to not-for-profit organisations, and partnerships led by not-for-profit organisations. If private owners are involved, HLF expect the public benefit to be greater than any private gain.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/heritagegrants.aspx>

## Barclays Community Sports Award

Barclays Spaces for Sports has announced the launch of its new Community Sports Award.

The Award is a new award to recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals and groups that use sport to benefit communities across the UK. Each month, the winner of the award will receive £1,000 for their group or organisation, a limited edition trophy and will be entered into the end of season award to win a further £5,000. Nominations can be made for any individual, group of individuals or not-for-profit organisation. All entries must be made via

[www.barclayscommunitysportsaward.com](http://www.barclayscommunitysportsaward.com) on or before 5.00 p.m. on the 20th of each month.

<http://www.barclayscommunitysportsaward.com/>

## Funds Available from the Community Pot.

Applications are invited for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of The Community Grant Fund. The money is aimed at people or groups of people with mental health difficulties or learning disabilities that have an idea which could improve their chances of finding and keeping a home or getting into work or training.

Closing date for applications is 20 December 2010 and projects must be completed and the money spent by mid February 2011.

Aid to Communities is still available for capital funding of recreational projects involving young people.

Applications are also invited from community groups for small projects that will benefit the community. Grants will be in the range of £250 to £1,000.

Closing date is 21 January 2011.

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## Warning about clothing collections

We're warning trustees and the public about bogus and misleading clothing collections. The Charity Commission has taken calls from people worried about leaflets which suggest the money made will go to charity when it actually goes to a private business or individual.

We also know of cases in which fraudsters use the name, logo and registration number of genuine charities to appeal for donations and keep the profits.

It's important people keep giving to genuine charities, so we've issued reminders about how to make sure your donations reach the right cause:

- Check for the words 'registered charity' - don't assume it's a charity because of the pictures used.
- Look out for a registered charity number - and check the number against the Online Register of Charities.
- Call the charity - if it's genuine the leaflet should include contact numbers, which you can call to ask if the charity really is collecting in your area.
- Call the Council - clothing collections that benefit a charity have to be licensed by the local authority.

Go straight to the charity shop - if you're still concerned about the leaflets you receive, leave your clothes at a charity shop or an official charity clothes collection point.

### Dear Reader,

There are just over 180,000 charities in England and Wales and each one is different, but one thing they do have in common is their reliance on their team of trustees.

Trustees are the driving force behind what is an enormously diverse sector and can be seen as the embodiment of active, responsible citizenship. Usually volunteers, they have ultimate responsibility for making the important decisions about the direction of their charities which carry out vital work at home and abroad.

For some time now we have been encouraging charities to consider the need for diversity on

their trustee boards. Having a range of people from different backgrounds and with an assortment of skills and experience will lead to more effectively-run charities. As charities are increasingly called upon to provide a greater range of services to a wider diversity of people, this is more important than ever.

This report investigates one aspect of trustee diversity by looking at young people's attitudes towards trusteeship. We have spoken to young volunteers to explore why it is that those aged between 18 and 24 are so markedly under-represented on charity boards and to examine the barriers, real or perceived, that may prevent them from becoming trustees.

Estimates indicate that almost half of charities have at least one board-level vacancy and some may have difficulty in recruiting new trustees. This report suggests that many charities could benefit from enlisting new trustees from the vast, almost untapped resource of 18-24 year-olds.

Charities will reap the rewards of enthusiasm and a fresh perspective and, at a time of economic downturn and uncertainty around job prospects for young people, it is likely that the new recruits will gain experience that will help them develop in other areas of their lives. They will help generate and sustain the type of social action and engagement with which charities have driven social change for hundreds of years.

We would like all trustee boards to consider whether they have an effective and sufficiently diverse trustee board and to ask themselves how they might provide more opportunities for young people to get involved in running the charity. To this end, we have created a checklist for charities which provides trustees with a practical tool to help identify the questions and issues to consider when thinking about recruiting young people to their board.

*Dame Suzi Leather - Chair  
Charity Commission*