



VANL News

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VANL Services

Development

Funding

Volunteering Brokerage

Training

Financial Services

Equipment Hire

Office Services

Room Hire

I.T Support

PAT Testing

Tennyson Insurance

Are you getting the best price and right cover from your Insurance Company?

VANL has secured a discount of 5% off insurance quotes for new Tennyson voluntary sector customers – all you have to do is follow the instructions below to see if you can improve your deal.

“Tennyson Insurance was founded in 2007 specifically to bring expert service and excellent pricing to charities and other voluntary groups. Over 2,500 organisations have now chosen us as their insurance provider and in the process we have saved the sector in excess of £1.5m in premiums. We also score highly on customer satisfaction: 98% of our customers would recommend us to a fellow organisation (based on 280 responses to surveys in summer '10 and '11).

If you are currently paying less than £1,000 for your insurance policy then you may be able to save money by going online at

www.tennysoninsurance.co.uk (or just google ‘Tennyson Insurance’), do remember to use the discount code **VANL**. If you’re currently paying more than £1,000 then call the Tennyson team on 0845 082 2446 to see if they can save you money, the discount code **VANL** still applies.” *The team at Tennyson*

Please note : Whilst VANL has been very happy with the insurance, price and service provided by Tennyson for a number of years, we would recommend that you seek alternative quotes to ensure you are getting the right level of cover for the best price (as we do ourselves on reasonably regular basis) and there are a number of other providers in the market who have charity sections, so its worth checking. Always check you are comparing like with like and that the specification and cover meets your organisations needs and activities. Happy bargain hunting! **VANL**

Tennyson Insurance

Exciting Community

Resource

Clinks

Got an IT Problem?

Uncertain Times.....

Who Cares

Voluntary Stories

Learning for Change

Scunthorpe and Glanford Remedial Recreation Club AGM

Mark it, Record it, Track it

Designing Garden Spaces

Enclosed with this newsletter is a Voluntary and Community Sector Mapping Questionnaire. We would very much appreciate your help in gathering this information by completing the form and returning it to VANL (using the freepost address on the questionnaire) or filing online at www.vanl.org.uk

Jill Cunningham – Voluntary Action

One of the key challenges of the Personalisation Agenda is accessibility. While giving a person the budget and the control to direct their own care provides a world of opportunity, there is a challenge that follows on from this. What can a person buy and where can they buy it? What activities can a person access and how will they get there?

The council has responded to this challenge with an exciting new resource – *Connect to Support*, which will be online within months. Often described as ‘Amazon’ for support services, *Connect to Support* is an information resource and an e-marketplace which offers excellent potential to community groups, voluntary organisations, business and sporting groups to make information about their activities accessible to the local community and attract people to their groups.

Whilst *Connect to Support* will be an excellent marketplace for support services and products to assist

people to live in their own homes, it is by no means limited to businesses with a product to sell. Sporting and exercise groups, social and interest groups and transport providers can all list their activities, allowing people to search in a number of different ways the activities and resources available in their local community. People with a personal budget can also use *Connect to Support* to monitor their budget and work out how it will be spent and how much is left to spend. Whilst the uses of *Connect to Support* for people in our community with additional support needs are obvious, it is also a brilliant resource for the wider community. From the comfort of my desk, using a demo of *Connect to Support* I was able to find a yoga class, organise a local transport provider to get me there and arrange for someone to visit my home to undertake some handyman tasks. As someone who has experienced caring for a family member who lives a significant distance away, the possibility

of using *Connect to Support* to shop around for quality services in North Lincolnshire from pretty much anywhere else in the world is an attractive proposition. I wish I’d had such a resource when trying to organise home care for my Nanna in Australia.

As is always the case, the success of *Connect to Support* is dependant on the level of choice and variety offered. I cannot stress enough how important it is for organisations in North Lincolnshire, irrespective of size, to check out *Connect to Support* when it comes ‘online’ and have their organisation represented.

Not everyone shops online, and resources will be available to people who don’t access *Connect to Support*. But more and more people are moving to this method and we are being offered the opportunity for North Lincolnshire to have a thriving online database of community activity, events and resources and a market place. I’m often overwhelmed to the vibrancy and diversity of the community here in North Lincolnshire – so let’s work to make that more accessible!

Personalisation

Personalisation is not just about personal budgets, it's about achieving choice and control in people's daily lives. It about allowing people who may have an additional need, like age, disability or mental health that stops them for doing the simple things that other take for granted. The opportunity to do your own grocery shopping, go to the movies or join a club.

We are keen to include as many groups in North Lincolnshire in our projects as possible so if you are a community group, no matter how small or large we want to hear from you.

We are always looking for new people to help us with this work so if you, or someone you know might be interested in contributing their time and skills we'd love to discuss ways of becoming involved. We offer training on an on going basis to support you in your own goals and a hugely rewarding setting to work in.

A consortium of voluntary groups has been formed with the support of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire and Adult Services NLC to support voluntary organisations in North Lincolnshire offering a range of support to

people with additional needs and help vulnerable people to live an active lifestyle and be engaged with their community. Key partners include Crosby Employment Bureau, Carer's Support, WRVS, MIND, Mencap, age UK North Lincolnshire and Alzheimer's Society.

The aim of the Consortium is to build the capacity of our organizations to better support individuals to make their own choices and live independent lives. We aim to give people a wider range of services, offering good value for these services and facilitating access to activity, learning and community engagement. We also want to offer our volunteers training to develop in their chosen roles.

Our priorities are recruitment of more volunteers, on going learning for volunteers, greater choice for people with additional needs in accessing support that suits their lifestyle and budget. We are looking to develop greater awareness in the community of the work our organisations do and what help we can offer people. We want this information to be readily accessible, through directories and online resources.

We are working on a

range of projects to allow ease of access to supported activities for people who need additional help from, training and personal development to help in the home or with shopping and also pathways into community involvement such as volunteering, building social clubs and interest groups.

For more information please check out our website: <http://www.vanl.org.uk/> or phone Jill Cunningham on 01724 845 155 or jill.cunningham@vanl.org.

Need Help with your Personal Budget for home Care?

Options 4u are here to help. A drop in will be held at Lindum Street Community Centre (Scunthorpe town centre adjacent to Cole Street multi storey car park) on Friday 16th March between 12 noon and 3 pm. Come and talk to us, see if we can help, whether it is employing your own 'personal Care Assistant, putting together your support plan or not sure what to do next. Come and talk to us, we will do our best to help. Options4u are a group of volunteers, doing their best to guide others through the process from their own experience.

www.options4u.org.uk
email: info@options4u.org.uk

Exciting New Community Resource

Miscellaneous...

CLINKS EVENT: regional events to prepare for Police and Crime Com- missioners

We are holding a series of regional briefing events for VCSE organisations working on community safety to explore the opportunities and challenges presented by the new commissioning landscape and provide further information about the support available through Clinks' Safer Future Communities project. The events are open to all VCSE organisations working on community safety and statutory stakeholders. If your organisation has an interest in or works to address issues such as crime & reoffending, antisocial behaviour, equalities and diversity, substance misuse, violence against women and girls or youth crime, we want to encourage you to attend. The events will be in: **York, 15th March; Durham, 20th March; Manchester, 21st March.** Book your free place at: [Clinks SFC project](#)

Got an IT Prob- lem?

Are you a voluntary, community or social enterprise organisation that works with children, young people and families? Take this opportunity to solve your IT problems with a FREE IT helpline available until June 2012. This FREE service is led by Children England, funded by the Department for Education and brought to you by i-TRUST, part of the COVER charity Group. I-TRUST has been providing effective IT support services to charities, voluntary and community organizations for over 6 years.

This project is part of a wider programme of support for VCS organizations working with children, young people and families. For more information visit:

www.childrenengland.org

If in doubt, give us a shout, so don't delay
Call us today 0800 028 0085
9 am—4pm Mon Fri
support@i-trust.org.uk

Uncertain Times

VANL, in common with much of the voluntary sector (and other sectors) is facing a very difficult financial year in which we have to make substantial savings!

This comes on top of a number of years of reduced core income and resultant cost cutting on operating costs, which leaves us in a position where we have no other option than to reduce our staffing costs.

Despite this situation VANL Board of Trustees have done what they can to preserve as many of the services and activities as possible to support voluntary and community organisations and volunteering. However, 3 much valued colleagues will be leaving us and this will inevitably impact on our services, particularly in supporting the growth and development of children's and young person's services in communities and support with employment policies and practices. We will endeavour to continue to support you with all of your support and development needs as usual, but it may be that support will need to be provided in different ways and I hope you will bear with us until (hopefully) normal service can be resumed

Please Note, future editions of the Voluntary Action will be forwarded wherever possible via email

Health and Social Care Services – public consultation events

Who Cares, the Local Involvement Network for Health and Social Care in North Lincolnshire, are hosting two consultation events in North Lincolnshire in relation to health and social care services. These have been arranged jointly with North Lincolnshire Council and NHS North Lincolnshire and the aim is to gather peoples views on what works well and on how peoples health and wellbeing could be improved, particularly in light of the proposed NHS reforms

Members of the public or any interested persons are warmly invited to attend and their views on health and social care services will be valuable in helping to shape the future Health and Wellbeing strategy within North Lincolnshire. The two events will include workshops on Health and Wellbeing, Integrated services and local HealthWatch and will conclude with a “Question Time” session where senior managers will be available to answer questions from the audience

The events are being

held as follows:

Monday 12th March 2012 from 6pm – 8pm at Baths Hall, Doncaster Road, Scunthorpe

Thursday 15th March 2012 from 10am – 12 noon at Ropery Hall, Ropewalk, Barton

We hope to see you there but if you would like any further information, please contact us on who.cares@vanl.org.uk or call 01724 845155

WHO CARES

Annual Members Day

and Annual General Meeting

Who Cares, the Local Involvement Network for Health and Social Care Services for North Lincolnshire, wish to invite you to Central Community Centre, Lindum Street, Scunthorpe DN15 6QW on **Saturday 10th March 2012** from **10am to 12noon**, for their Annual Members Day.

The aim of the day is to hold the Annual General Meeting but also to provide information about the changes to health and social care provision across North Lincolnshire and give you an opportunity to come along and tell us about any concerns you have.

Service providers will be there on the day to answer any questions you may have and to provide you with information on health and social care services within North Lincolnshire. Guest speakers include Nic Dakin, MP for Scunthorpe and Councillor Rob Waltham, Cabinet member for Adult and Children’s services. If you would like more information about the event, please contact us on **01724 845155** or email

who.cares@vanl.org.uk

COME ALONG & HAVE YOUR SAY

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU

Who Cares???

Voluntary Stories

Gavin Houldershaw, volunteer for the Volunteer Centre, has been busy the past few weeks collecting stories about some fabulous volunteers from local organisations.

Having visited the Wilderspin School Barton, ActFast Scunthorpe, West-cliff

Neighbourhood Drop-In Centre Scunthorpe, Waters' Edge Barton and Choose to Re-use Scunthorpe Gavin

has found that whilst volunteers come from different backgrounds and have varied reasons for volunteering, they all have one thing in common – they love it and find it very rewarding!

The volunteer stories will be used to highlight the contribution these wonderful people make to our community, and also to demonstrate just how diverse volunteering really is! We hope these wonderful stories will inspire others to get involved.

Mark Bristow, below, volunteers for ActFast, working with young people who come to learn how to ride the motorcy-

cles. He also volunteers for the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service.

If you would like to celebrate the contribution of volunteers within your organisation, give the

required to compile a portfolio of evidence based on their volunteer placement with the support of the ASDAN tutor. Some units are half day sessions whilst others are full day. The unit titles in-

clude the following, however other units can be made available based on the needs of individual organisations:

Understanding what volun-



teer Centre a ring on 01724 845155 and ask for Gavin.

ASDAN – Community Volunteering Qualification....

The Volunteer Centre is thrilled to be offering an ASDAN Community Volunteering Qualification as a rolling programme. This means active volunteers can join up at any point to achieve a level 1, 2 or 3 Award or Certificate. We currently have learners working each different level.

The qualification is made up of 2 mandatory units and a choice of optional units. Learners are re-

- teering is about (mandatory)
- Carrying out your own volunteering role (mandatory)
- Communication skills
- Health & Safety for volunteers
- Understanding equalities issues within organisations that involve volunteers
- Presentation skills for volunteers



Improving own performance as a volunteer
Volunteering and customer care

Research skills Listening skills for volunteers

If you would like to develop your volunteers, reward them with new qualifications to improve their CV, or simply encourage them to learn more about your organisation, get in touch with Jacky Birkett, Volunteering Development Manager on 01724 845155, email

jacky.birkett@vanl.org.uk.

All learners will be required to attend a pre-course meeting to ensure they enter the qualification at the most appropriate level. Course cost dependent on qualification level completed.

Update on Learning for Change Programme

Learning for Change is coming to the end of a successful first year and we would like to say thank you to everyone who has contributed so far.

The programme has created innovative opportunities for accredited and non accredited learning for people who face complex barriers in our community whilst also supporting groups and organisations in their development, operations and management. Support within the project is provided by staff and trained volunteers .

The North Lincolnshire Wellness and Recovery Network
Newly Qualified Wellness

Recovery Action Plan Facilitators Peer delivered community based wellness recovery action planning is a core arm of learning , support and recovery in conjunction with skilled coaching interventions and a quality learning environment. The North Lincolnshire Network provides opportunities to develop your own wellness recovery action plan and wellness tool. Please contact Voluntary Action or Scunthorpe and District Mind for further information. In January a second group of people donated



their time and commitment to train as facilitators with a Copeland Institute facilitator Rona McBrierty. The training was attended by volunteers and workers. After a weeks intense and challenging training they emerged altogether quite different then when they went in... one facilitator said the course was '10 out of 10 5 star and could not be improved upon'...' I would recognise this course to anyone I knew – especially my team at work'...

Looking for Something Different to Do?

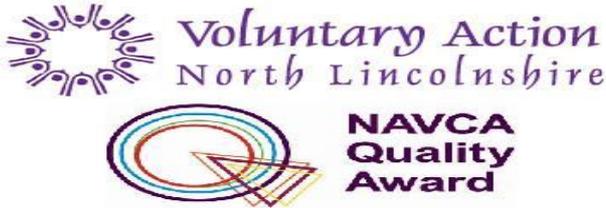


Our next quarter diary will provide a range of learning opportunities selected by the community. These will include
Introduction to Counselling Skills
Introduction to Coaching Skills
Positive Thinking Skills
Becoming more assertive
Garden Design – practicalities
Advocacy Skills
Business Skills for organi-

sations
Marketing Skills for Organisations
Gardening course – Date
Silent Prisoners – Supporting Prisoners Families

Event:
Breaking down the Barriers to Recovery - A Day of Exploration and insight - please contact us for further details. Date 16th April – Programme to be confirmed.

Learning for Change



4—6 Robert Street Phone: 01724 845155
Scunthorpe Fax: 01724 854531
North Lincolnshire E-mail: enquiries@vanl.org.uk
DN15 6NG

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

Scunthorpe and Glanford Remedial Recreational Club

Scunthorpe and Glanford Remedial Recreational Club Annual General Meeting will be held at Lindum Street Community Centre on Monday 26th <March 2012 at 7 p.m.

Designing Garden Spaces

Creating places of peace, harmony and wellness.

23rd March 2012 - VANL

Gardens are very special places and have the capability of affecting us emotionally, intellectually and spiritually. Whether it is natural or formal, modern or more traditional, the best have been designed to guide our movement around them, surprise and delight us and to be the very best space that can bring pleasure peace and harmony.

This is a course to give practical guidance on how to apply the principles of design and to provide an opportunity to develop some of the practical skills

For more information call 01724 845155

Mark It..... Record it Track it

Mark It..... Marking your postcode and house number on property makes it unique and identifiable which assists police in returning recovered property to its owner and bringing offenders to justice. Local Neighbourhood Police Teams have supplies of free UV marker pens and can also engrave your cycles for free. Contact them on 101 or visit www.humberside.police.co.uk for a marking event near you.

Record It..... If your property is stolen, make sure you can describe it to the police by keeping a record of makes, models and unique serial numbers or by registering the details onto www.immobilise.com [Www.imobilise.com](http://www.imobilise.com) is a web based property records system endorsed and searchable by all UK Police Forces and can help ensure stolen property can be identified and help bring offenders to justice.

Track it If your laptop or mobile phone is stolen, would you like to help police find it for free? Software now exists which will allow you to locate your stolen laptop or android mobile. Alternatively it can record what is being viewed on your screen or take a picture on the camera which can help identify the products location. Some software has a charge, but there are some downloadable programs which are free. Search on the web for "free laptop tracking programs" (try www.preyproject.com)