



NAVCA
Quality
Award

Issue 46

VANL NEWS

Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire
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March 2011

**Please note,
VANL Offices
will be closed on
22nd and 25th
April for Easter
and also 29th
April bank holi-
day for the royal
wedding.**

**“Year End is
fast approach-
ing. If your ac-
counts are due
for Independent
Examination,
please call
Claire or Rachel
on 01724
845155 to book
your accounts
in.”**

It's that time of year again! Snowdrops and acornites are in full bloom, daffodils are not far behind and there is certainly spring in the air. It is also time to renew your membership of VANL.

For those of you readers who are not already members of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire, you might be thinking “What can VANL do for me!”

Well for the princely sum of £10 for a whole year membership, a new member of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire can expect substantially reduced rates for the following services, where we can design tickets, posters, programmes etc and reproduce them either in monochrome or colour. We can photocopy your work in either monochrome or colour and we also have a scanner which for large quantities of copies is much cheaper.

A community accountancy service is available where you can expect help with:

- Annual Accounts Preparation
- Independent Examination of Accounts
- One to One training and support tailored to your groups
- General financial advice
- Payroll services and Book Keeping services



We have a room full of Common Treasury for your use, which includes various computer equipment, including laptops, printers and projectors, camera equipment, PA system, Karaoke machine, display boards and lots and lots of different games to help with fundraising activities. (call into the office for a leaflet)

Free basic IT advice is available, such as choosing hardware or software, and where you can get the best deals, together with:

- Computer repairs and upgrades - does your computer need more memory? Or perhaps it won't switch on, VANL can help you get up and running again.
- If you have just bought new hardware or software, VANL can help set it up for you.
- VANL can take on the challenge of assessing your needs, purchasing your equipment and get it all set up in your office ready for you to use.
- Computer Health Check, is your computer not running as fast as it used to? Maybe you've noticed it misbehaving and suspect you may have picked up a virus? VANL can health check your computer and bring it back to full performance.

You can also expect free help in:

- Getting started
- Drafting a constitution
- Ideas about sources of funding
- Filling in application forms
- Forming a management committee
- Very basic book-keeping
- Organising the group and running meetings, publicity and information and contacts in other organisations

A health check is available (which is also free) whereby one of our experienced development workers will work with you to ensure all your policies and procedures and constitution meet expected requirements, and our dedicated Development Workers are also very happy to give funding advice (very successfully I might add)

Don't forget, you can always come to us for advice, if we can't help (very rarely) then we always know someone who can!

**Scunthorpe and Glanford Remedial Recreational Club—
Registered Charity Number
508286.**

**Please note that the Annual
General Meeting of the Scunthorpe and Glanford Remedial
Recreation Committee will be
held on Monday 28th March
2011 at 7.00 pm at Lindum
Street Community Centre**

Big Society

It is this government's ambition that we build a stronger society - a Big Society. This is about creating a country in which people are in more control, supported to pursue their collective and individual goals, and are less reliant upon the state.

There are three key elements to the government's role in building the Big Society. Empowering communities, giving local councils and neighbourhoods more power to take decisions and shape their area. Opening up public services, enabling charities, social enterprises, private companies and employee-owned cooperatives to compete to offer people high quality services. And encouraging social action, people giving what they have, be it their time, their money, or their assets, knowledge and skills, to support good causes and help make life better for all.

Nick Hurd - Minister for Civil Society made the following comments in his speech to the voluntary sector in November:

'The Big Society is not a Government programme it is a challenge. It is about encouraging those people who want to make a difference in their community to do so. It's about reducing the control of Whitehall and giving real power to communities'.

Nick acknowledged that people working together for the good of their communities already happens - however the government want people to do more!

The Big Society will be further supported by the Localism Bill (now pro-

gressing through parliament) which pushes power out from Local Authorities/other public sector bodies into communities. The bill will give people the right to information about what is being done on their behalf by the public sector and to challenge whether the way that they are delivering services is the best way to do it, including challenging whether continuing with in-house provision is defensible."

Nick Hurd predicted the 'spin out' of public services to mutual's, social enterprises etc. He commented that that the public sector cannot match the performance of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCS&SE) in important areas of service delivery e.g. Getting people into work , keeping people out of prison. He acknowledged that there is a need to reform commissioning and procurement, making it more accountable to the public. He noted that current systems are about micro management, rather than concentrating on outcomes.

The White Paper on reforming public services is expected soon and a consultation Green Paper was published before Christmas, which consulted on what needs to happen to support the VCS&SE to achieve a bigger percentage of the public service delivery contracts.

Nick spoke about the need to support the capacity of 'Civil Society' to respond to these opportunities, he acknowledged that the agenda will not move forward 'by itself'. He also acknowledged that some communities (particularly in deprived areas) in

which 'Civil Society' organisations do not exist; will not be able to respond to the agenda without additional support and stressed that he is serious about 'A Big Society for All'. He also recognised the importance of infrastructure organisations in supporting capacity.

The Government has also responded to this challenge by creating:

- The Communities First Fund which will provide 'grassroots funding' for such areas with low levels of community activity to build up capacity and community action.
- An initiative to recruit and train 500 Community Organisers to increase capacity.
- Created the National Citizenship service and the pilot contracts have been awarded. This service will recruit 16 year olds to take part in community activity once they have taken part in a residential which will focus on team building/working together for the greater good. The programme aims to build a sense of social responsibility in young people.

On funding cuts affecting VC&SE sector Nick has published an open letter stating that whilst the sector cannot be immune to austerity measures, he urges local public sector organisations not to take the easy option and cut the voluntary sector disproportionately, or without due regard to the impact of

this on delivering the Governments vision.

Nick went on to say that he believed the VC&SE sector should access a bigger proportion of the public purse, which is currently only 2% of the public spend. He also stated that the sector would achieve additional resource in the increased number of people volunteering in the sector.

Nick went on to outline what the sector can do get more resources into it:

Chief Executive

It has just been announced by the Treasury that the much heralded Big Society Bank, which will use funds from dormant bank accounts will be delivered by High Street bank/s on a normal commercial basis i.e. will incur the same interest rates as any other loan - so it is hard to see how this differs from any other financial support e.g. any small business loan!

BREAKING NEWS

If you are a group that works with children and young people, there is a need to review your policy in line with the 2010 Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance.

Please check your policy now to ensure that it meets the 2010 guidance. A new voluntary sector policy that has been approved with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board is available via Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire. For more details contact enquiries@vanl.org.uk or phone us on 01724 845155 and ask to speak to one of our children and young peoples team.

Localism - 'Join the Debate'

The Localism Bill, a first practical application of the Big Society agenda. The event will be delivered at four venues across Yorkshire and the Humber.

Date: Tuesday 15th March 2011, 12 pm - 4 pm

Venue: The Rope Walk, Barton upon Humber.

The Localism Event will be facilitated by **Rose Regeneration** who are dedicated to working with people and places to deliver sustainable and prosperous communities.

The Localism Event will:

Explore the opportunities that the Localism Bill will present for front line rural VCS groups to deliver the Big Society Agenda

Look at how the Right to Challenge could benefit rural VCS groups in running key services such as health and social care

Raise awareness of the advantages of the Right to Buy for rural VCS groups in running their village pub, shop etc in their local community

Investigate the Community Right to Build and how it may give rural VCS group more freedom at a local level to secure funding for new amenities in their area

Provide space for discussion to look at how communities can work together to

deliver the Big Society agenda and give their feedback on the Localism Bill which will then be passed on to key policy and decision makers.

The event is for any community group, support organisation, stakeholder or active member of the community. For more information about the event please contact Sophie Price on 0113 394 2316 or email

sophie.price@yorkshirehumberforum.org.uk

To book a place at the event please email conferences@yorkshirehumberforum.org.uk

Each event is limited to 50 people so please book early to avoid disappoint-

Safeguarding Matters Event

Are you working with children and/or young people in a Voluntary or Community group? If so, this is an opportunity to find out more about keeping children safe.

Wednesday 30th March 2011 10.00 am - 3.00 pm - registration from 9.45 am at Heslam Park, Ashby Road Scunthorpe

Keynote speaker is John Stead
NSPCC Consultant Workshops
Anti Bullying
Fire Safety
Common Assessment
E-Safety

What to do if you're worried.
Buffet lunch included
This event is FREE to attendees, but failure to attend after booking will result in a £20 charge

Contact Ann-Marie on 01724 845155 to book your place

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Youth Mental Health First Aid Training in Scunthorpe!

Excellent, effective and affordable mental health training.

To promote mental health in and out of the workplace, Community Links is delivering Youth Mental Health First Aid training throughout Yorkshire and the Humber.

The National Lottery fund has enabled limited spaces to be offered at a cost of just £80 for the two day training course, including lunch and all course materials..

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches people how to recognise and respond appropriately to signs of mental ill health in young people. It does not teach people how to be therapists, but does teach people what to say and do if they are in a situation where a young person is in distress. The aims of the course are:

- To preserve life where a young person may be a danger to themselves or others.
- To provide help to prevent the mental health problem developing into a more serious state.
- To promote the recovery of good mental health
- To provide comfort to a young person experiencing a mental health problem
- To raise awareness of mental health issues in the community
- To reduce stigma and discrimination.

Courses will be taking place at Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire (Scunthorpe) on 24th and 25th March 2011.

To book your place contact Nichola Wilton at nichola.wilton@commlinks.co.uk or phone 0845 838 9928

For more information on Mental Health First Aid go to www.mentalhealthfirstaidyorksandhumber.org



Letter to VANL from Emma Mitchell

“Thank you for all the help you have given me. I did a minute taking course, personal development course, equality, diversity course and improve you job prospects course. I also got some voluntary work at the Citizens Advice Bureau which learnt me new skills and got me socializing with other people. The personal development course has helped me a lot. Over these past couple of months I have passed my driving test, found a job at Golden Wonder which is going well and got a car of my own.

Take Care. - Emma Mitchell”

Thanks Emma, it's nice to know we are appreciated.....

Let's talk up a storm!

The voluntary/community sector in North Lincolnshire is linked together through VANL and its services. One key VANL service is the Community Interest Group (CIG), which helps you publicise what you are doing.

The CIG was set up some years ago, and originally consisted of monthly meetings where everyone explained what they were working on so that help could be offered, referrals taken and new contacts made. This sometimes enabled new projects to grow out of existing ones.

Nowadays, the CIG has expanded to over 200 members, including the press and the BBC. More stories are sent to and fro by email than through meetings. There is so much information that much of it never gets into the newsletter which comes out monthly after each meeting. Sometimes the press follow up stories, allowing further publicity. This is usually when a story coincides with a larger one, for instance if social care was in the news, they might be interested in something that the Carers' Support Centre or Independent Living North Lincs had mentioned through the CIG. If debt becomes a big news story, they might want to talk to local debt advisors, and so on.

Everyone is welcome to come along to CIG meetings to find out what's happening. Meetings circulate around North Lincs so there should be one fairly near to you at least once every six months, and the newsletter comes out shortly afterwards. Alternatively,

contact Carol 01652 633297 / carol.thornton@vanl.org.uk and get your name on the email list, and you will get not only the newsletter but also all the other pieces of information that come in between meetings.

The CIG is shortly to move to the web. Rather than send out large numbers of emails with masses of information which may or may not appeal to the people receiving it, the CIG will have space on the VANL website at www.vanl.org.uk, and emails will just remind you to go and look at the latest news. Or you can look at any time, without a reminder. Watch out for the announcement, and remember to keep an eye on the website afterwards!

Welcome to new members
Waddingham Methodist Church
Beechway Residents Association
Epworth Residents Association
Barton Direct

International Women's Day Celebration in Scunthorpe

Tuesday 8 March 2011 at Clare House, 31 Wells Street, Scunthorpe

The Event will include workshops on the following:

My Journey & Join me on the Bridge Campaign

Campaigning for Women's Rights
Getting Crafty

Back to the Future—Iranian Women

Looking Good Feeling Great
Build your Confidence

For more information call WEA
On 01724 844245

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Coronation Hall, Owston Ferry is celebrating its centenary this year. Opened 100 years ago, it is still going strong and a really valued resource for the rural community. The Hall Committee wanted to mark this occasion by carrying out some improvements to the facilities and with the help of VANL have been successful in getting grants from both Leader and WREN to provide new toilets, disabled facilities and some much needed storage. This will mean more disabled people are able to access the facilities and activities provided at the Coronation Hall and of course participate in the celebrations later in the year.

Winterton Rangers have been successful in securing funding from WREN to repair and improve the roof. Unfortunately the grant did not come in time for the works to be undertaken before the period of severe weather and like many other community facilities suffered from the effects of a number of burst pipes in the roof space. But with the help of a WREN grant which VANL helped secure, will provide better insulation the Rangers are hopeful there will be no repetition in the future.

Friends of Keadby and Althorpe Primary School are embarking on a landmark project to turn a piece of waste ground adjacent to the school into a shared woodland space for the benefit of the community and surrounding areas. This is an ambitious project that will incorporate a nature area; sculpture trail designed by the community; a picnic area; herb garden; sensory walk and much more. The 'Friends Of' group have worked tremendously hard to de-

velop their ideas with lots of community involvement and produce a detailed Project Plan. With the help of VANL they are now in the process of securing funding to bring the project into reality, hopefully by the end of the year. Watch this space for details of their (hopefully) funding successes.

Young People and Sex

You've heard the negative about young people and sex, now hear how young people offer solutions to problems. Who Cares, the Health and Social Care Local Involvement Network for North Lincolnshire has published the findings of its latest piece of research into *Service User Experience of Sexual Health, Relationship Advice and Contraception for young people aged 16 - 25*.

This work was undertaken after concerns about the rise in North Lincolnshire of the number of teenage pregnancies. Who Cares was aware that there were many groups and organisations working across NL in the field so the Executive decided that they would look into the services available to young people and if those services fulfilled the service users needs. The rationale being that if service users did not feel that they had services fit for purpose then the higher than national average teenage pregnancies in NL might be accounted for because of service user identified issues.

Around 450 young people, approximately 2.4% of the total 16 - 25 NL population. 4.5% of the sample were from BME or emerging communities. The main findings showed limited access to service provision particularly in

rural areas. There was also opportunity for modernisation of service through the use of social media and internet e-clinics. Education and proactive outreach were also areas which needed to be maintained if young people were to continue to receive good quality informed advice across the range of issues. Wider marketing of services was also an opportunity which could be reviewed and revised.

These are just a few of the findings, the results and full report is available on line at www.who-cares-online.org.uk as a downloadable pdf.

Giving World Online

A nationally awareness campaign is being launched by the online charity Giving World Online over the next few weeks which will benefit charities and community groups around the UK.

Giving World Online is a charity set up to offer a simple solution for companies with surplus goods to charities and community groups who can access the times freer of charge to support the people they work with.

Efforts are being focused on engaging more businesses to use Giving World Online to directly help community groups in their locality access surplus stock. Television giant Discovery Networks' UK are sponsoring a television advert to get the message out.

Now is the time for charities and community groups to register to be able to access those goods. As goods become available on the website, only those charities and community groups already registered will have immediate access.

Giving World Online Director, Rama Bhalla, explained "Often goods are snatched up as soon as we make them available online, which is great news for those already registered to receive, but it means that others will miss out if they have still to register. By registering now, charities and community groups can be alerted as and when their desired items become available."

Giving World Online
92 Burleys Way
Leicester
LE1 3BD
Registered charity number 110905883

Office Space for Rent—2 rooms available both rooms are located on the first floor of The Crosby Community Association, 105—107 Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe DN15 7JT. They have access to a kitchen and toilet facilities including disabled access. The CCA also has a conference room and minibus service available at a small charge, For more information ring Sue Bulmer on 01724 330022



Volunteer News

Volunteering has always been at the core of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire' More specifically our mission statement is to support, develop and promote voluntary activity in the community. Recently the definition from the Department of Work and Pensions has changed allowing those on benefits to volunteer in virtually any environment where they are not taking over a role that should be a paid role.

The focus of the Volunteer Centre is to support and develop best practice in volunteering within VANL's constitution as an infrastructure charity.

Accreditation with Volunteering England

As a member of Volunteering England we are beginning the process for Volunteer Centre accreditation from March 2011 and hope to announce success later in this year.

New Opportunities and ways of keeping up to date !

We are now regularly using [Facebook](#) to update and promote both courses and new volunteering opportunities. So find us on Facebook as **Scunthorpe Volunteer-Centre!!**

Visit the national volunteering database [Do-It.org](#) to register as a volunteer and view over 200 opportunities.

Register via the new Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire website www.VANL.org

Involved in Managing Volunteers?

Access updates on training and best practice via the regional Humber Volunteer Managers website www.volunteeringhumber.co.uk

Attend the **Volunteer Coordinators Forum**. Our next meeting is 14th March 2011 at Greeson Hall from 10 a.m to 3 p.m. The day will focus on **Best Practice in Volunteering** and is funded by the Humber Innovation Partnership

The day will offer opportunities for training, networking and sharing your thoughts on the development of a local cross sector Volunteering Strategy. Places are fully funded but please book for refreshments. Phone 01724 845155 email penny.oliver@VANL.org.uk

Training and Support

Access the new training diary via our website or calling in the office. If your training needs are not covered on our current programme please contact us so we can talk about your needs.

Contact us for all your support needs when setting up your programme.

Learning for Change

This project has emerged from needs identified within the community and by the community.

L4Change is a Reaching Communities Big Lottery Funded Programme and is funded for 5 years completing in 2015.

L4Change is a project of Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire and will serve the communities of North Lincolnshire.

Programme Aims

To provide a person centered and learner directed programme of learning, support and personal change.

To develop and promote confidence and skills in and for people in underserved communities

To involve underserved communities fully in the planning, delivery and monitoring of all aspects of the programme

To provide accredited and non accredited learning in a format that will maximise learning and minimises barriers

To enable a programme that evolves with the with learner

Who can access Learning for Change?

This programme offers supported places to

People experiencing or in recovery from mental health problems

Those in recovery from addiction

Ex offenders and their families

The wider community also if places are available.

How to access the programme?

If you work directly with someone who you feel would benefit from the programme please contact one of the L4Change team for more information.

If you are reading this and would like to contact us yourself please do....

First Steps

The first steps of L4Change involve the learner creating an in depth individual learning plan that will grow into an individualised learning pathway. The ILP has been developed by people from underserved communities who have already accessed learning via Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire.

Learners may access bite sized learning from 1-3 hours and progress to accredited learning in Volunteer Management, Community Development and other areas if desired. These courses are not time limited. Learner groups are small and supported. Basic Skills will also be offered from April 2011 - please enquire.

How to Contribute to the Programme?

Have you identified a form of support, learning or resource that would contribute to the evolution of L4Change? If so we would like to hear from you. Please contact one of the team by phone, email, Facebook or popping in to see us.

'It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that they are difficult' Seneca

Contact us:
T 01724 845155

Email enquiries@vanl.org.uk
www.VANL.org.uk

Voluntary Action Open College Network provider.

Training News

Please contact the office if you wish to book on any of the following courses, which are scheduled to run from March - June. Some courses get booked up very quickly, so it is advisable to book early. Please note that there may be more training opportunities and events on offer, so please keep looking at our web site for details.

8 th March	Introduction to Volunteering
16 th March	Motivation Skills for Managers of Volunteers
5 th April	NAVCA - Negotiation Skills
7 th April	HSE First Aid
11 th April	Reaching Communities - Learning for Change Event
20 th April	Disability - 'Let's talk about it'
28 th April	Welcome session for learners on Skills for Life training
4 th May	Managing Conflict
4 th May	Basic awareness on Safe guarding for volunteers
10 th May	NAVCA - Facilitation Skills
24 th May	Fire Safety for Community Buildings
1 st June	Basic Drugs awareness
7 th June	Media and Marketing Tools

Jan Rilatt
Training Co-ordinator



FUNDRAISING

Ten reasons why not to fundraise at the last minute.

Do it. Here are 10 reasons why you should never start a fundraising campaign in panic mode.

1. Last minute grant fundraising can be counterproductive and prove damaging to funding success. Applications written in panic mode always get spotted quickly - and they get rejected even quicker!
2. You won't have the time to research needs and priorities if you leave it to the last minute
3. Your organisation's credibility will be affected if there is a poorly written application presented to funders.
4. Funders won't consider your organisation seriously the next time you apply.
5. You could make mistakes in matching criteria of funding bodies to your needs resulting in lots of wasted time.
6. You are more likely to make errors when calculating your budgets.
7. You are more likely to cut and paste (including from the internet) and these types of bids are EASILY recognisable.
8. You drastically reduce your chances of success by up to 80% and in the process risk negative PR.
9. You risk affecting the delivery of your existing work - by writing bids instead - under pressure.

10. You compromise the technical perfection that grant proposals so desperately need

There is one thing which separates the high achievers in the voluntary sector from the low achievers.

High achievers plan well to make sure their funding bids are successful. Short sighted organisations purely get on with bid writing. For real and sustained success, planning is the most important stage.

**How the Koala Learnt to Hug
20th March 2011**

Written especially for parents to enjoy with their children, *How the Koala Learnt to Hug* is a charming musical tale about the magic of family, and of course the importance of a nice warm hug!"
Doors open at Ulceby Village Hall, Ulceby, North Lincolnshire at 3pm for a prompt 3:30pm start. Tickets are £3 for adults £2 for children under 3's are free. To book please contact Emma on 01469 589593

As part of our on going quality control, it would be very much appreciated if you could complete the enclosed 2 survey cards and return to us at VANL. You are welcome to use our Freepost address, which is:
FREEPOST RSAJ-YCCA-UYYY
Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire
SCUNTHORPE
DN15 6NG