



# Voluntary News

Issue 95

April 2010

## Young volunteers honoured at gala awards ceremony

An Oscar-style award ceremony has honoured the work of hundreds of young people in Knowsley who give their time for free to help others.

The vinvolved youth project coordinates the work of volunteers who contribute the equivalent of over £60,000 worth of work a year to help good causes.

The project is run by Knowsley Council for Voluntary Service who organised an evening of music and dance at the Huyton Suite to celebrate their work.

At the gala ceremony, a Marilyn Monroe lookalike handed out Volunteer of the Year awards to six young people who were nominated by the organisations they have helped.

The award winners were **Matthew Bannon**, who volunteers at Aintree Hospital, **Matthew Marshall** who helps at KCC Live radio station, **Gemma Veidman** and **Nicola Brown**, who helped at Knowsley Council, **Christopher Williams** from the Make A Difference youth group and **Laura McCarthy**, who volunteers at Performance Studios.

Nicola Brown, who is 19, volunteers in children's centres in North Huyton as part of the

"vTalent Year" programme to help volunteers gain skills for work.

She said: "I enjoy working with children so I decided to study for an NVQ Level 3 in Childcare.

"I joined vTalent Year because I felt I needed more experience to help me get a job when I had finished studying.

"As well as helping me gain new skills, it has really increased my confidence and I feel I now have a good chance of a career in the profession I love."

Entertainment at the ceremony, was provided by the Kirkby-based Performance Studios and Liverpool-based urban artist KOF.

KCC Live FM station, which is largely run by volunteers, provided technical support and music.



Above members of the vTalent team with Damian Allen and Paul Lally of Knowsley Council. Below Nicola Brown, one of the Volunteers of the Year, receives her award from "Marilyn Monroe"



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# Local news

## Knowsley CVS Voluntary News

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## Knowsley CVS

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Friday 9am-4pm



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newsletter when you  
have finished with it

## Halewood Festival Needs You!

Do you create your own  
jewellery? Or have a unique  
hobby or business you want  
to showcase to the  
community?

If so, book out Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
July in your diary and be  
part of the extremely  
popular Halewood Festival!

This year's free event is  
guaranteed to be a great day  
out for the whole family  
with everything from high  
adrenalin fairground rides to  
fabulous live music and a  
great line up in the main  
arena.

New to the festival this year  
is a Youth Arts performance  
area which gives youngsters  
the opportunity to showcase  
their talent whether it be  
dance, drama or singing.

The popular Health and  
Wellbeing Marquee will be  
much larger with more tips  
on how to lead a healthier  
lifestyle and of course free  
massages will be once again  
up for grabs, along with  
fitness testing, health

Some of  
the fun  
events at  
last year's  
Halewood  
Festival



checks, and taster exercise  
classes. A larger craft  
marquee will be on site  
offering lots of home made  
special gifts for that special  
someone!

All the usual generous  
helpings of music, dance,  
art and sport will be on offer  
as well as the popular  
children's fancy dress  
competition and the Rose  
Queen procession adding to  
the day.

If you are a local business,  
voluntary organisation,  
trader or exhibitor and want  
to be part of the festival or  
simply want to sponsor the  
event please contact Carla  
Simkin at the Arts and  
Heritage Service on **0151  
443 4619** or e-mail  
[carla.simkin@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:carla.simkin@knowsley.gov.uk)

## Acorn Farm Easter Specials

Acorn Farm open every day  
during the Easter Holidays  
10am - 4pm. Come and see  
our new lambs, piglets and  
baby chicks. A range of  
activities will be available  
including horse rides from  
1.30-3pm and the petting  
area.

There will also be the  
chance for 8-12 year olds to  
join us on our **Be A Farmer  
for the Day** (milk a goat,  
make ice cream, collect  
eggs and feed the animals)-  
Wednesday 7th April  
9.30am -3pm (£10 per  
child), places must be  
booked and paid for in

advance.  
Also our  
**Horse Day** on  
Thursday 8th  
April 9.30am -  
3.30pm (£15  
per child), you  
will have the  
opportunity to  
groom the  
horses, learn  
about tack,  
ride them, take  
part in a stable  
management  
session and  
fun quiz.

Places must be booked and  
paid for in advance.



• Further information is  
available from Acorn  
Farm on **0151 548 1524**

# New programme for children with ADHD and their carers

ADHD Knowsley Parent Support Group is launching new sessions in the Knowsley Carer's Centre, Bewley Drive in Kirkby.

The sessions are open to parents and carers of children with ADHD – Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder – and the children themselves and are run by parents of

ADHD children.

Sessions are being held on the following dates between 10.00am and 12 noon:-

Thursday 15th April  
Thursday 20th May  
Thursday 17th June  
Thursday 15th July

Unfortunately no crèche facilities are available. The 227 bus from Huyton or

Kirkby stops right outside the Carer's Centre.

The ADHD Knowsley Parent Support Group also offers weekly leisure activities, Coffee Mornings with guest speakers, days out and short residential breaks.

You are welcome just to come along or ring up/e-mail for more details.



For more information

Contact - Julie, Nicky or Sharon on 07564 608452 or

Email:

ADHDknowsley@gmail.com



The deadline for the next issue of **Voluntary News** is:-  
Thursday,  
6th May  
2010

Email:  
kcvsv@knowsleycvs.org

Fax: 0151-443 0251

## North West Planning Aid

Local planning and development affects everyone who lives and works in an area, from the building of major retail and housing developments to the refurbishment of a local playground. But the planning system is a complex one and if faced with a planning issue many people or groups wouldn't know where to start. **North West Planning Aid** offers free, independent town planning advice to people who need this kind of support but cannot afford to pay a planning professional.

More than ever before, communities are being consulted by Local Authorities, developers etc on planning and development in their areas. Our Community Planning programme helps communities to understand and play a more effective role in the decision making process, particularly on issues affecting planning in local areas. Our qualified Community Planners and volunteers can advise groups wanting to be more actively involved in local planning or can design and deliver a wide range of practical activities to help people have a say in how their neighbourhoods are shaped.

Key elements of the Community Planning programme include:

- Running information events and presentations aimed at helping people understand the planning system.
- Helping communities to develop their ideas for regenerating their neighbourhoods.
- Educational projects with school children and young people.

Find out more by calling our Advice Line on **0870 850 9804**

by emailing **nwco@planningaid.rtpi.org.uk**

or by going to **www.planningaid.rtpi.org.uk**

## BRIEFLY

## OTS regulation pages

The Office of the Third Sector (OTS) website has a new section to help the third sector keep up to date with regulation, highlighting recent and ongoing changes and initiatives that are intended to make life easier for third sector organisations, and providing links to more detailed information.

[www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector)

## Better Outcomes Commissioning

An online community of practice has been created where community organisations can share their experiences of being commissioned by local councils and seek guidance about how commissioning is working.

This group is for all those working on commissioning in the community sector. It contains the Kindle publication 'Commissioning and the Community Sector' and the resources that support it.

[www.commissioningsupport.org.uk](http://www.commissioningsupport.org.uk)

## Charity Commission guidance

The Charity Commission has updated its guidance documents 'Hallmarks of an Effective Charity' and 'the Essential Trustee' with new good practice recommendation for all charities on environmental responsibility and sustainability.

[www.charity-commission.gov.uk/publications/hallmarks\\_update.asp](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/publications/hallmarks_update.asp)

## Charity Commission publishes election guidance

The Charity Commission has published updated guidance for charities on complying with the law before local and national elections. The guidance, *Charities and Elections*, is for use by trustees during the period between the announcement of an election and the election date.

The updates to the guidance include advice from the Commission on how charities should approach engagement with minority parties. Charities undertaking political activity are not required to engage with representatives from every party on the political spectrum, but any express decision not to engage with a particular

party must be based solely on the interests of the charity.

In addition, the guidance clarifies the position of charities with regard to the Electoral Commission. Other areas covered by the guidance include contact with electoral candidates, use of charity facilities by candidates and publicity about policy issues.

Andrew Hind, Chief Executive of the Charity Commission, said: "Charities' independence is vital to society and valued highly by the public. They must always remain politically independent, but trustees should be particularly aware of this during the election period.

"Our practical guidance contains clear legal and good practice advice to help charities ensure that they retain the essential quality of their independence whilst being able to use their voice effectively at election time."

*Charities and Elections* has been updated with input from the sector and the collaboration of the Electoral Commission. It should be read in conjunction with the Charity Commission's campaigning guidance, *Speaking Out: Guidance on campaigning and political activities by charities* (CC9).

For more information visit: [www.charity-commission.gov.uk](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk)

## Further delays for charitable incorporated organisation

The launch of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) - a new legal form for charities - has been delayed again. It is now not expected to become available until late this year or early 2011.

Provisions for the establishment of CIOs, which would allow charities to incorporate without registering with both the Charity Commission and Companies House, were included in the Charities Act 2006.

CIOs were initially expected to be available from summer 2008. A spokesman for the Office of the Third Sector

said hopes that the model would be available by this spring had evaporated because there would not be enough time in the current parliamentary session to pass the necessary secondary legislation.

He said officials were still working through some operational issues the Commission had raised, such as the details of a phased implementation and concerns about the regulator's ability to manage information on the liabilities of CIOs.

"We do not want to implement a model that the

Commission cannot properly support," he said. "The aim now is to be ready to take the legislation through as soon as possible in the new parliament, with the CIO becoming available either later this year or early in 2011. Updated draft regulations will be published in due course."

The Office of the Third Sector has also announced that a proposed consolidation of charity law would also have to wait until the next parliament.

# Charities 'need grants for core functions'

Martha Lane Fox, the Government's newly appointed Digital Inclusion Champion, has urged charitable foundations to award more grants to charities for their core functions and IT.

In an interview to mark the announcement of Government's Race Online 2012 initiative, intended to bring four million more people online by the time the London Olympic Games

begin, Lane Fox said it was "eye-opening" that charities often struggled to fund technology.

"They should be able to get money for core funding, not only for starting new projects," she said.

Martha Lane Fox, who founded travel website *lastminute.com* and is chair of grant-giving foundation *Antigone*, said:

"Technology is not usually at the front of people's

minds, but investing in it can allow charities to work more quickly and effectively."

She said the Government's campaign would not fund IT systems for charities or give them funds to help their beneficiaries get online. But she said the website would include information to help charity beneficiaries to use the internet.

## BRIEFLY

### Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards

The Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme provides one-off donations of between £1,000 and £4,000 to local projects that support children and their education and welfare, elderly people, and adults and children with disabilities.

[www.tescopl.com/tescocharitytrust](http://www.tescopl.com/tescocharitytrust)

### Anchor Foundation

The Anchor Foundation supports Christian charities concerned with social inclusion particularly through ministries of healing and the arts. They will consider applications for either capital or revenue funding.

[www.theanchorfoundation.org.uk](http://www.theanchorfoundation.org.uk)

### Fidelio Charitable Trust

Fidelio welcomes applications for grants in support of the arts, in particular the dramatic and operatic arts, music, speech and dance. Institutions, colleges, arts festivals and other arts organisations in the UK may seek financial support.

[www.fideliocharitabletrust.org.uk](http://www.fideliocharitabletrust.org.uk)

### Heart Research UK - Healthy Heart Grants

Heart Research UK Healthy Heart Grants support innovative projects designed to promote heart health and to prevent or reduce the risks of heart disease in specific groups or communities.

[www.heartresearch.org.uk](http://www.heartresearch.org.uk)

## National Churches Trust

The Trust is offering the opportunity to apply for the following grants:

- Repair Grants of £10,000 and above for structural repair projects that will cost more than £50,000;
- Right Community Grants of £2,500 to £25,000 for providing


facilities that will benefit your place of worship and local community, e.g. accessible toilets, kitchens and meeting rooms. Grants will not exceed 50% of the project cost.

[www.nationalchurchestrust.org](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org)

## Heritage Lottery Fund - Your Heritage

The Your Heritage Programme offers grants between £3,000 and £50,000 for projects that relate to the local, regional or national heritage of the UK.

Heritage Lottery Fund welcomes applications that help people to learn about, look after and celebrate heritage in a fun and enjoyable way.

 For more information  
 Visit: <http://bit.ly/herlotyour>

Email your news to:  
[kcvs@knowsleycvs.org](mailto:kcvs@knowsleycvs.org)

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*  
 \* **New home needed for fax machine and photocopier !** \*  
 \*  
 \* Roby Horticultural/Gardening Society have an unused fax machine and photocopier and will be happy to pass these on to any charity or community organisation which may be able to use them. \*  
 \*  
 \* These were donated to our Society but have remained unused and still boxed. \*  
 \*  
 \* If anyone is interested to see them, please contact me by email or phone on 0151 289 8335. \*  
 \*  
 \* Joan Denson, Secretary \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

# funding news

## BRIEFLY

### Nationwide Foundation Small Grants Programme

The Nationwide Foundation has expanded its Small Grants Programme criteria for charities working with older people.

The previous age restrictions have now been removed, and work can benefit any older person to improve their housing needs or address financial exclusion.

[www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/smallgrants.asp](http://www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/smallgrants.asp)

### Cash 4 Clubs

Cash 4 Clubs is a sports grants scheme which provides funding to support grassroots UK sports clubs. It gives clubs a chance to win grants ranging from £250 to £1000.

Grants can be to improve facilities, purchase new equipment, gain coaching qualifications, or generally invest in the sustainability of the club.

[www.cash-4-clubs.com](http://www.cash-4-clubs.com)

### Community Sustainable Energy Programme

The Community Sustainable Energy Programme will provide £8m to community-based organisations for the installation of microgeneration technologies such as solar panels or wind turbines and energy efficiency measures including loft and cavity wall insulation.

[www.communitysustainable.org.uk](http://www.communitysustainable.org.uk)

## Lloyds TSB Foundation reveals increased income

The Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales has announced an extra £5m income for 2010.

The independent foundation has announced its income for 2010 will be £25.4m, as opposed to £20.8m in 2009, with higher funding levels predicted until 2013.

The trust supports English and Welsh charities helping disadvantaged people engage with their communities. Over £100m of funding has been allocated over the last five years, creating over 1,800 jobs and 5,000 volunteering placements.

A recent survey carried out by the Foundation of over

700 charities revealed that:

- 80% of participants have seen an increased demand for their services.
- 50% of participants have been unable to satisfy demand for services due to falling income.
- 50% of participants reported a drop in income in the last year.
- 60% of participants predict fundraising to become more difficult in the next year.

Chief Executive Linda Kelly said: "We are particularly pleased to be able to continue to provide a high level of sustained support to those most

disadvantaged within our communities.

"We hope our continued approach, as a leading community funder, will help to provide the much needed support and core funding for our charities working with the most disadvantaged within our society today



For more information

To find out how to apply visit:  
[www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk](http://www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk)



KNOWSLEY  
HOUSING TRUST

Knowsley Housing Trust (KHT) can provide funding to any not-for profit organisation or community group which has a project which will benefit the Knowsley community through Community Advantage Funding.

Applications must meet our key themes around:

- Employment and Enterprise
- Energy Efficiency and Green Issues
  - Social Exclusion and Poverty
- Safety and Cohesion (including services for older and younger people)
  - Environment and Neighbourhoods

Funding will be allocated four times per year and deadlines will be advertised on the KHT website and in the Advantage Newsletter.

For more information contact **0151 290 7000** and ask to speak to the Advantage team. [www.k-h-t.org](http://www.k-h-t.org)

# Volunteer organisations 'should be consulted over legislation'



The Government should consult volunteering organisations whenever it introduces new legislation, according to Volunteering England's new manifesto.

The document says all proposed bills and regulations should be examined by representative groups that would consider their effect on charities and other groups working with volunteers.

The organisation says that representative bodies including the England Volunteering Development Council, the UK Volunteering Forum and CEV, the European network for volunteering organisations, should be consulted about all proposed legislation.

The manifesto also says each government department should develop

a "volunteering strategy" that would outline ways in which it intended to increase the involvement of volunteers. Departments should also draw up action plans for amending legislation that could act as a barrier to volunteering, it says.

The manifesto also calls for more funding for training for volunteer managers, and asks central and local government

to work together to fund volunteer centres. It says Government programmes such as civic service, which might involve compulsion or coercion, should be clearly distinguished from "genuine volunteering opportunities".

[www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Policy/](http://www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Policy/)

## Employable Communities Fund Workshop

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010

10.00am – 1.00pm (Lunch provided)

@ Knowsley CVS, Nutgrove Villa, 1 Griffiths Road  
Huyton, L36 6NA

### Could your group be eligible for £12,000 from the European Social Fund?

Grants of up to £12,000 are available to groups and organisations in Merseyside to help target worklessness and progress individuals towards employment.

The programme is supported by the European Social Fund (ESF) and is called the Employable Communities Fund, and is administered by the Community Foundation for Merseyside in partnership with the supporting organisations; Merseyside Expanding Horizons and Merseyside Disability Federation.

To help groups increase their chances of successful applications, Merseyside Expanding Horizons, Merseyside Disability Federation and Knowsley CVS have come together to organise a funding workshop. The workshop will help groups compile an application form as well as give in depth information on the Employable Communities Fund.

After the event there will opportunity for you to book a 1-2-1 session with the support organisations.

*Spaces are limited, so book your place now!!!*

Call Jannine on 0151 489 1222 or email [jannine.antigha@knowsleycv.org](mailto:jannine.antigha@knowsleycv.org)



## news

## BRIEFLY

## Compact Voice

Compact Voice has released its 2009 Impact Report, which looks at how it is addressing the key Compact-related concerns of the voluntary sector.

<http://bit.ly/cvimprep>

**Compact  
voice**

Making the Compact work for you

Compact Voice has also released a new fact-sheet containing Compact guidance for voluntary groups preparing for the next financial year.

<http://bit.ly/cvnewfinyear> or  
[www.compactvoice.org.uk](http://www.compactvoice.org.uk)

## A Picture Worth Millions



There are an estimated six million workers supporting young people in England, according to a new report for the Children's Workforce Development Council. 'A Picture Worth Millions: the state of the young people's workforce' finds more than 775,000 people work in paid employment with young people, with more than 5m volunteers. [www.cwdcouncil.org.uk](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk)

## NCB Support programme

The National Children's Bureau has launched a support programme aimed at helping to develop the work of third sector organisations working with children and young people. [www.ncb.org.uk/vss](http://www.ncb.org.uk/vss)



## Social Enterprise mark launched

A UK-wide social enterprise mark designed to act as a standard for businesses in the sector has been launched. The mark, piloted since 2008 by Rise, the umbrella body for social enterprises in south-west England, has been developed by the Social Enterprise Coalition in collaboration with social enterprise leaders and the Office of the Third Sector.

The UK mark will retain many of the criteria developed during the regional pilot, but will use a different image and have some different criteria. For example, businesses will



have to recycle only half their profits for a social purpose in order to qualify, instead of the previous 65%. Peter Holbrook, Chief Executive of the Social Enterprise Coalition, said: "Social enterprises are businesses doing really extraordinary things in new and innovative ways, but they have until now been hard to recognise, partly

because they work in practically every industry imaginable and range from community enterprises to international companies.

"The time is right for the introduction of a visually powerful mark that indicates, at a glance, the integrity of

an organisation and around which we can drive awareness and understanding."

The Social Enterprise Coalition said it hoped "several thousand" organisations would adopt the mark over the next few years. It currently has fewer than 70 holders.

[www.socialenterprise.org.uk](http://www.socialenterprise.org.uk)

## Virgin Money launches charity credit card

Virgin Money has launched a new credit card that will give 1%, with Gift Aid, of the money that customers spend to charity.



Each time the Virgin charity credit card is used, Virgin Money will make a 'cashback' payment of 0.8% of the value of the transaction and this will be given to a charity chosen by the customer.

If the customer claims Gift Aid on the donation, its value will increase to 1% of the money spent.

A Virgin Money spokesman said: "This is an easy and convenient way to support good causes. Cardholders

will be able to nominate their chosen charities, which they can change quickly and easily."

He said if a customer did not specify which charity the money should go to, it would be donated to a charity chosen by Virgin Money.

Email your  
news to:

[kcvs@knowsleycvs.org](mailto:kcvs@knowsleycvs.org)

# Young volunteer awards

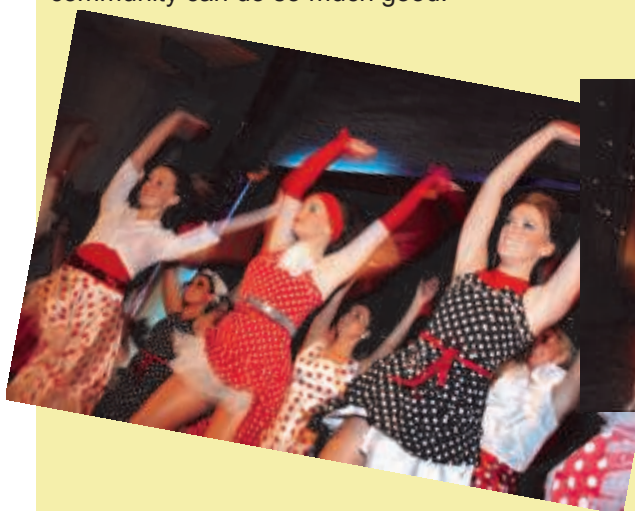
► continued from page 1

Damian Allen, Knowsley's Executive Director for Children and Family Services, said: "Volunteering is a great way for young people to use their time and talents to help themselves and others."

"The hours and effort these young people give for free is remarkable and they are proof that this section of the community can do so much good."



Performance Studios and Kof entertain the audience at the 'Oscars' awards ceremony



## KCVS Training Programme 2010



### Book-keeping

Huyton 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010 9.30am-4.00pm, KCVS, Nutgrove Villa      Halewood Date & Venue TBC, 9.30am-4.00pm  
 Kirkby 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 9.30am-4.00pm Centre 63

A practical look at the financial records which are required to be kept by organisations and groups and how these can be completed. Tips and techniques to avoid common pitfalls will be included. Participants will be able to take away a model set of accounting sheets (an electronic version can be made available on request).

### Planning for Funding

Huyton 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010, 9.30am-4.00pm, KCVS, Nutgrove Villa      Halewood Date & Venue TBC, 9.30am-4.00pm  
 Kirkby 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010, 9.30am-4.00pm, Centre 63

Funders want to see evidence of good project planning. This session will increase your chances of writing successful applications – by going through a step-by-step process of creating a 'project plan'.

### Business Planning – The Basics

Huyton 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 9.30am-4.00pm, KCVS, Nutgrove Villa      Halewood 29<sup>th</sup> April 2010, 9.30am-4.00pm, The Halewood Centre  
 Kirkby 24<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am-4.00pm, Centre 63

This course will introduce you to the idea of business planning and give you the building blocks for writing your business plan, implementing it, and then making sure you're measuring your progress.

### Maintaining a Strong Board

Huyton 6<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am-4.00pm, KCVS, Nutgrove Villa      Halewood Date & Venue TBC, 9.30am-4.00pm      Kirkby 1<sup>st</sup> July, 9.30am-4.00pm, Centre 63

Every organisation requires strong leadership and decision-making, and this is one of the key roles of the management committee. This course will examine some of the common areas of difficulty for committees and give participants an opportunity to consider effective solutions, including: Trustee Skills Audits, Effective decision making, Roles & responsibilities, The leadership role

*All courses are free and include lunch and refreshments*

To book contact Knowsley CVS on: 0151 489 1222 or email [jannine.antigha@knowslecvcs.org](mailto:jannine.antigha@knowslecvcs.org)

## local news

# Listening Ear (Merseyside)

We are delighted to share the exciting news that **Listening Ear (Merseyside)** has been officially registered on the **Liverpool Echo's Wish 2010**.

There will be an amazing sum of £50,000 cash pot among all the groups on the Wish List. The *Echo* will share the cash amongst the groups, but the bigger our share of tokens, the bigger our slice in the cash.

We are asking for all your support and remember every token counts!

### How can you help?

Tokens will appear in the *Echo* each day until **Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> April**.

Bonus tokens will also be printed throughout the campaign so ke-ep an eye out!

You can leave your tokens at Listening Ear offices (Halewood and Nutgrove Villa), or if you would like any other arrangements contact the office 0151 488 6648.

Thanking you in anticipation for your support.

Listening Ear Merseyside is an exceptional community based charity.

Our quality services are free, professional and confidential, enabling positive mental health.

We provide Counselling, Listening and a Bereavement Support Group for adults.

The Butterflies Project provides unique activity based support for 6-16 year olds who have experienced bereavement or loss.



- Cllr Sarah Smithson Mayoress of Knowsley and Staff at Listening Ear (Merseyside) during the presentation of Certificates of Appreciation and Hard Work

## Consultation on future of local transport launches

People are being invited to share their views on the future of transport in Merseyside. As part of preparations for the next Local Transport Plan (LTP3), the Merseyside Transport Partnership (MTP) wants to hear opinions of people from all sectors of the community.

The six-week public consultation, which runs until 12<sup>th</sup> April, will help shape the future of local transport planning in Merseyside. The consultation has been officially launched to stakeholders and now members of the public are being encouraged to get involved.

The results of the consultation, as well as extensive research, will be used to gain an insight into the region's transport

needs over the next two decades.

Once the views of stakeholders and the people of Merseyside have been gathered, MTP will look in detail at how elements of the plan can be put into practice over a shorter timeframe. LTP3 is due to start in April 2011.

At this stage, people are being given the opportunity to comment on four key themes –

- the work that MTP is already doing to provide a safe and efficient transport system;
- goals for the future;
- the concept of creating a new 'mobility culture';

and

- the challenges and opportunities that transport in Merseyside faces in coming years.

Neil Scales, Chair of MTP, said: "Transport has an important role to play in the region's future in supporting the growth of the economy, helping tackle climate and encouraging people to lead healthier lifestyles. Our new Local Transport Plan will also play a key role in helping Merseyside achieve its vision of becoming a thriving international city region by 2030.

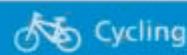
"Transport affects us all and it is absolutely crucial that as many people as possible are

involved in the process of **planning for the region's** changing transport needs.

Over the coming weeks, we will be gathering opinions from a cross section of the community and I would urge everyone to make sure they **have their say.**"

To have your say, visit [www.transportmerseyside.org](http://www.transportmerseyside.org)

**LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN**  
MERSEYSIDE



## Good chairs 'need interpersonal skills as much as inspiration'

Successful chairs are defined more by good interpersonal skills than technical abilities or inspirational qualities, according to new research.

The study was carried out by Chris Cornforth of the Open University Business School on behalf of Charity Trustee Networks and the NCVO.

His findings are based on questionnaires completed by 260 charity staff and board members, including 70 chief executives and 72 chairs.

The research found that the most effective chairs were those seen as fair, open to ideas and focused on building teamwork and relationships with others.

Their ability to manage board meetings and keep people informed was valued more highly than their ability to boost board morale and engagement.

The least effective chairs were those that were not seen as team players and who were unable to manage

inadequate performance by trustees and chief executives.

"It is important therefore when recruiting chairs that these softer leadership and inter-personal skills are given as much or more weight than cognitive and analytical skills such as problem-solving or strategic thinking," the report says.

### BRIEFLY

#### Change from Sick Note to Fit Note

On 6th April the sick note will change and become the fit note. When an employee falls ill or is injured, their doctor will be able to advise whether, with appropriate support from their employer, they could return to work while they recover.

For more information about how the new arrangements affect employers and employees visit: [www.dwp.gov.uk/fitnote](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/fitnote)

## New website will showcase charity projects in need of donations

A new website that shows charity fundraising videos and allows people to share them on other sites has been launched. The website, *See the Difference*, has been set up in the hope of raising nearly £500m for charities in its first five years.

Charities can upload videos to the site for free but will be charged 5% commission on donations made by its users. The site will hold a library of videos that show specific projects being run by charities and promise to tell donors exactly how their money has been spent.

The charities involved will have to undertake to spend donations on the projects shown in the videos, rather

than using them as unrestricted funds.

The site's founders hope that videos posted on the site will be shared on other social networking sites such as *Facebook* to encourage more people to give. Financial backers of the scheme include software giant Microsoft and donation website *Virgin Money Giving*.

Dominic Vallely, one of the founders of the website, said it was targeting under-50s and people who gave to charity sporadically. He said he hoped the site would change the way people thought about charities.

### ALAN SMITH PHOTOGRAPHER

I am a freelance photographer based in Liverpool and have for many years worked in the voluntary sector initially as a Citizens Advice volunteer and ultimately as a paid Welfare Rights worker.

I am fully aware that community organisations of all sizes can be restricted by their budgets especially in these uncertain financial times and when funding applications are so competitive. Yet it remains a priority to promote their activities to the widest audience possible.

This may include the publicity of such activities as community events, programmes and training provision through to brochure and leaflet production.

It may also be a one-off event or a major project involving detailed planning that requires photographic evidence of its progress to ensure continued funding.

I am committed to the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector and believe that as a photographer I can provide a service that will help to promote continued good will within your organisation's catchment area. I will work closely with your management committee and within the assigned budget constraints to deliver first class images in the required time period.

If you would care to discuss your ideas and plans in detail please do not hesitate to contact me on mobile: 07867617839  
e-mail: [alan-smith@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:alan-smith@blueyonder.co.uk)

## BRIEFLY

**Dads at Work**

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills has launched a campaign to remind dads of their rights at work.

[www.direct.gov.uk/dadsatwork](http://www.direct.gov.uk/dadsatwork)

**A vision for neighbourhoods**

Community Matters has published 'A Vision for Neighbourhoods' with details of its ambitions for Britain's communities - what it commits to do and what it calls on Government to do.

<http://bit.ly/cmvision>

**Volunteering in health and social care**

The Government has published its strategic vision for involving people and communities in delivering and developing and social care services

<http://bit.ly/dhvolsvs>

**National Policing Improvement Agency**

The NPIA has published three interactive guides containing tips on linking more closely with communities:

'Working with faith communities'  
[www.npiadocuments.co.uk/faithguidance.pdf](http://www.npiadocuments.co.uk/faithguidance.pdf)

'Working with the third sector'  
[www.npiadocuments.co.uk/thirdsectorguidance.pdf](http://www.npiadocuments.co.uk/thirdsectorguidance.pdf)

'Working with volunteers'  
[www.npiadocuments.co.uk/volunteeringguidance.pdf](http://www.npiadocuments.co.uk/volunteeringguidance.pdf)

## Charity managers unaware of vetting staff rules

A third of charity managers and trustees across the country are unaware of the Government's recently introduced requirements to vet staff and volunteers.

According to a new study published recently by insurer Ecclesiastical, 32% of those surveyed said they were not aware of the new requirements to vet staff and volunteers introduced by the 2006 Safeguarding

Vulnerable Groups Act. Cultural charities were the least aware with 45% of managers and trustees saying they did not know about the new rules. For youth charities the figure dropped to 20%.

16% of charity managers and trustees said they felt the introduction of the rules would deter new volunteers, while 6% said they felt it could have an impact on

their existing volunteers' willingness to stay involved.

Asked whether they felt the Act would have the desired effect of increasing protection for vulnerable groups, a quarter (25%) said no, while a further 44% said they did not know.

## Charities warned to plan for climate change

UK charities must plan and prepare for the impact of climate change now to ensure they are ready to cope with changing demands on their services in future.

New guidance for voluntary and community groups encourages them to think beyond reducing their own carbon footprint to consider how the people and communities they help may need extra support to deal with flooding, heat waves and rising costs brought on by climate change.

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), together with Green Alliance and Global Action Plan, have completed a pilot project with four major UK charities to work through how the world's changing climate could directly affect their beneficiaries and what they need to do now to protect services and people in future.

Kate Damiral, from NCVO's strategy and impact team, said: "Too many people still think of climate change as a purely environmental issue to do with recycling, light bulbs and air travel. But organisations need to realise it will pose an immense humanitarian challenge in which vulnerable and disadvantaged people are likely to be the most badly affected.

"By starting to prepare for a changing climate now, charities could help save lives in future by ensuring they are not overwhelmed by events and can deliver the right services to those they support. This is something every charity needs to think about, no matter what the cause."

The charities involved in the Big Response project were the British Red Cross, Equinox Care, Friends of the Elderly and the Royal

National Institute for Blind People.

Equinox Care learnt more intense heat waves and localised drought in Britain could make it difficult to administer methadone to recovering drug addicts who could become dehydrated.

The British Red Cross recognised it could become overwhelmed by the number and scale of climate-related emergencies in the UK.

Climate change is now built into the organisation's next five-year strategy, acknowledging it is one of the most likely factors for increasing demand on its services.

- Voluntary and community groups can find advice on how to explore the possible effects of climate change on their beneficiaries and the work they do on :-

[www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/climatechange](http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/climatechange)

## Santander Foundation to end funding of regeneration projects

The Santander Foundation, formed by the merger of the charitable giving activities of Abbey, Alliance and Leicester and Bradford and Bingley, will continue funding education, training and financial capability charities, but will stop funding regeneration projects.

The Foundation will allocate £3.33m to UK charities in 2010. The figure is slightly lower than the £3.28m given out by the three banks in total in 2009.

Qualifying charities based in the nine regions where Santander has a "significant presence" will be able to apply for grants worth up to £30,000. Charities outside these areas can apply for one-off grants of up to £10,000.

Alan Eagle, Manager of the Santander Foundation, said: "We have spent time listening to what charities are looking for and responded with a much improved grants programme that opens up the funding

for many more charities to benefit."

The nine areas where grants of up to £30,000 will be available includes Merseyside.



## £26m worth of grants paid back to the Big Lottery Fund

Third sector organisations have returned more than £26m in unspent grants to the Big Lottery Fund over the past six years.

The figures, revealed after a request by a charity beneficiary under the Freedom of Information Act, show that more than 7,000 organisations returned a total of £26.2m between 2004/05 and 2009/10.

The average was £3,600, but one organisation returned £1.8m in 2004/05. Others have returned up to £200,000 each, according to a BLF spokeswoman.

Except for 2004/05, when £6.6m was handed back, the amount returned each year varied from £3.2m to £4.4m.

During the same period, the BLF awarded total grants

each year of between £294m and £778m. In 2009/10, just over 1% of the total amount awarded has so far been returned.

Kevin Curley, Chief Executive of the National Association of Voluntary and Community Associations (NAVCA), said local charities could have very good reasons not to go ahead with projects that had received BLF funding.

"Needs and opportunities change," he said. "It is much better to return the money for another charity to use than to go ahead with an unnecessary project."

Ben Wittenberg, Director of Policy and Research at the Directory of Social Change, said the "instability and insecurity" of project-funded work often made it

difficult to complete projects, because money often arrived late and staff sometimes left before the end of their contracts if they found other employment.

He said organisations should ask funders whether they could keep any underspend. "Most funders are at least willing to listen and are happy to avoid any unnecessary administration around the return of funds if they can."

"It's best if you can have that dialogue when you first start forecasting an underspend rather than at the end of the grant period."

The BLF spokeswoman said it normally granted such requests if they were in "the general spirit of the original grant". She said returned funds were allocated to future projects.

### BRIEFLY

#### Community Learning Champions Development Fund

The Development Fund offers grants to set up Community Learning Champion initiatives in targeted areas of need (including Knowsley). Grants of up to £25,000 are available in Phase 2 (April 2010 to March 2011). [www.communitylearningchampions.org.uk](http://www.communitylearningchampions.org.uk)

#### 0% loans from Carbon Trust

The Carbon Trust is offering interest free loans of £3,000 - £500,000 for organisations to invest in energy saving projects. [www.carbontrust.co.uk/loans](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/loans)

#### Prince's Trust Community Cash

The Prince's Trust Community Cash Awards are for young people to design and set up projects on a voluntary basis that will benefit their local community.

Past awards have included funding for start up youth cafes, community radio stations, organic gardens, and DVDs to raise awareness of crack dealing.

[www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk)

#### Architectural Heritage Fund

The Architectural Heritage Fund promotes the conservation of historic buildings by providing advice, information and financial assistance in the form of grants and low interest working capital loans for projects undertaken by building preservation trusts and other charities.

[www.ahfund.org.uk](http://www.ahfund.org.uk)

# funding news

## BRIEFLY

### ASDA Foundation

The ASDA Foundation assists charities, people and projects within the UK.

It can only support a limited number of requests that have the direct support and involvement of ASDA colleagues. These might include local charities and community groups, schools, playgroups, community centres and football teams.

<http://your.asda.com/asda-foundation>

### B&Q One Planet Living Awards

The B&Q One Planet Living (OPL) Grant offers between £50 and £250 of B&Q materials to schools, community groups and charitable organisations for long-term sustainable projects.

Projects must support at least one of the following themes: save energy, conserve nature, support local culture & heritage, grow your own. Projects can apply for funding until 30th September.

<http://bit.ly/oneplanetliv>

### BBC Children in Need - Fun and Friendship

The purpose of this programme is to help projects create and enhance opportunities for disabled young people to meet friends and have a good time, as independently as possible.

[www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey](http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey)

## Big Lottery Fund programme offers short-term funding

The Big Lottery Fund has announced a new funding programme that will allow voluntary organisations to apply for grants of up to £40,000 a year until 2015.

The fund is a new strand of the BLF's Reaching Communities programme, which is worth £500m. It is designed to support charities that want shorter-term, smaller-scale grants than those available through

the existing Reaching Communities scheme.

Peter Wanless, Chief Executive of the BLF said the process of applying for the smaller grants would be simpler than that for other Reaching Communities grants.

Wanless said the BLF would improve its decision-making process so that applicants could find out

more quickly whether their organisations had a chance of receiving funds. He said the BLF would offer more informative feedback on unsuccessful applications.

The new system is expected to be in place this spring. Wanless said the BLF would also introduce a new funding stream for refurbishment projects, which would be available this autumn.



### Family and Community Education

Welcome to Adult Education at Knowsley Park Centre for Learning

**Summer Term Courses starting week beginning- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

#### **Tuesday Evenings**

Clait Certificate/Diploma (6pm – 9pm)  
French/Spanish Language classes (6.30 - 8.30pm)  
German Conversation Class (7.45pm - 9.15pm)  
Counselling Concepts (6.15pm – 9.15pm)  
*Sign Language – BSL Level 1 (6.30pm-8.30pm)*  
Guitar Classes For Beginners - (6.30pm-8.30pm)  
£4.00 per person per class

#### **Wednesday Evenings**

Beauty Therapy Level 1 (6.30-8.30pm)  
Acrylic Nails (6.30-8.30pm)  
Spanish Level 2 (6pm-8pm)  
Intro to Card Making (6.30-8.30pm)

#### **Plus Daytime courses at our Outreach Centres:**

##### **Southmead Children's Centre - Whiston**

Beauty Therapy Level 2 – Mon 12.30 – 2.30pm  
Computing For Beginners/Clait - Tues 12.30 - 3pm  
Sewing/Textiles Class – Wed 9.30 - 11.30am  
Numeracy & Literacy Workshop - Wed 12.30 - 2.30pm  
BSL Level 1Thurs - 9.30 – 11.30am

##### **Phoenix House - Prescot**

Intro to Card Making –Tues 9.30 - 11.30am  
Acrylic Nails Tues 12.30 - 2.30pm  
TYPE IT – Keyboarding Skills – Increase Your Speed – Wed 9.30 - 11.30am  
Basic Computing – Wed 9.30 - 11.30am  
Flower Arranging – Wed 1pm-3pm  
BSL Level 1-Thurs 9.30-11.30am  
Intro to Counselling Concepts Thurs 1pm-4pm

**Please contact Patsy for further information re-Charges & Concessionary fees.**

**443-2026 / 07827256168**

**E-Mail ([patsy.jones@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:patsy.jones@knowsley.gov.uk))**



## Huyton-with-Roby Historical Society

**Come and join us on the 2nd Friday of every month  
at 7.30pm from March to October.**

**Friday 9th April** - Liverpool

**Friday 14th May** - Best of British

Meetings are held at

**THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE,  
ST JOHN'S ROAD,  
HUYTON L36 0UX**

## UNNAMED PLAYERS DRAMA GROUP

meet every Thursday at 7.30pm  
at  
Prescot Methodist Church Hall,  
Aspinall Street,  
Prescot.

Newcomers welcome

For further information please telephone 0151  
-426 6180 or  
Email: [epennington18@googlemail.com](mailto:epennington18@googlemail.com)

## Merseyside IBS Self Help Group

Supporting people with  
Irritable Bowel Syndrome

April 21st  
Mike Mahoney

May 19th  
Mr R Taylor

*We meet every 3rd Wednesday in each month (except  
July, August and December)  
between 2 and 4 pm*

*Our meetings take place in the Holy Name Parish  
Church, Mosspsits Lane, Fazakerley,  
Liverpool L10 9LG  
(entrance in Longmoor Lane, next to Body Talk Ladies  
Gym)*



## Diabetes UK St Helens and Knowsley Group

### Wednesday 7th April 2010

*Footcare and Diabetes*

Helen Pendlebury and Liz Macauley, Podiatry  
Team Leaders for Diabetes and Rheumatics,  
Knowsley Primary Care Trust

### Wednesday 5th May 2010

*Q & A Session with a Panel of Experts*

Phil Wilkinson, Diabetes Specialist Nurse  
Dr Shirley Hulme, Consultant Diabetologist  
Katrina Williams, Community Dietitian

**Please note this meeting will be held in St  
Helens United Reform Church, Ormskirk  
Street**

### Wednesday 2nd June 2010

*In Patient Care for People with Diabetes*

Dr Sarah O'Brien, Nurse Consultant, St Helens  
and Knowsley Hospitals Trust

Meetings held in St Helens Town Hall  
**at 7.30 p.m.**

**ALL WELCOME - ADMISSION FREE**

For further details contact Cherry Bowmaker on  
**0151- 480 0821**

***The Charity for people with diabetes***  
Registered charity number 215199

## Prescot Historic Society

**Thursday 22nd April**

**Annual General  
Meeting**

*Chinese Liverpool*  
Mrs D Cox

Meetings are held on the  
Methodist Hall, Atherton  
Street, Prescot at  
7.30pm

**Tea will be served at  
7.00pm**

**Advertise your  
event here ...  
FREE!**

Email details to:  
[kcvcs@knowsleycvs.org](mailto:kcvcs@knowsleycvs.org)

**Deadline for the  
June issue is  
Thursday 6th  
May 2010**



# “You are not alone”

## Relationship breakdown?

When a relationship breaks down we can feel disappointment, anger, sadness, guilt, shock and we may say or do things that we later regret.

It's normal to feel this way, but things will get better. Accepting the support of friends, family or health care professionals can help ease the emotional trauma.

If you are struggling with the loss of a relationship (regardless of age) and would like more help, advice or support, please contact any of the following organisations:

### Local organisations

**C.A.L.M.** - Provides telephone advice and support to males aged 15-35.  
Contact: [www.thecalmzone.net](http://www.thecalmzone.net) or 0800 58 58 58 (Sat-Tues 5pm-12am)

**Butterflies Project** - Offers support for children & Young people (6-16) following bereavement or loss. Contact: 0151 488 6648, or [enquiries@listening-ear.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@listening-ear.co.uk), or [www.listeningearmerseyside.org.uk](http://www.listeningearmerseyside.org.uk)

**Listening Ear** - Offers Listening and counselling to adults. Contact: 0151 488 6648, or [enquiries@listening-ear.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@listening-ear.co.uk), or [www.listeningearmerseyside.org.uk](http://www.listeningearmerseyside.org.uk)

**Citizens Advice Bureau** - Located throughout Knowsley. Contact: 0845 1221 300, or [www.knowsleycab.org.uk](http://www.knowsleycab.org.uk)

**Homeless prevention team** - Contact: 0800 694 0280

**Alcohol Services Knowsley (ASK)** - For advice and support with alcohol issues. Contact: 0151 330 4110, or [alcoholserviceknowsley@merseycare.nhs.uk](mailto:alcoholserviceknowsley@merseycare.nhs.uk)

**IKAN** - Offer support and advice to those aged 55+ on a variety of issues. Contact: 0800 694 0270

Local libraries offer self-help books on different health needs and internet access. Contact: 0151 443 3734

Your G.P. can also provide further advice.

### National organisations

**Relate** - Offers relationship counselling. Contact: 01606 350 995 or [www.relate-cheshire-merseyside.org.uk](http://www.relate-cheshire-merseyside.org.uk)

**Network Mums** - Also for dads offers information at national and local level. Contact: [www.networkmums.com](http://www.networkmums.com)

**Parental Line Plus** - Provides advice and guidance on a number of different issues. Contact: 0808 800 2222 or [www.parentlineplus.org.uk](http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk)

**Advice Now** - Offers advice on the law and personal rights. Contact: [www.advicenow.org.uk](http://www.advicenow.org.uk)

**Family Mediation** - Offers information on family mediation. Contact: 0845 6026 627 or [www.familymediationhelpline.co.uk](http://www.familymediationhelpline.co.uk)

**NHS Stressline** - Offers advice about money and job worries affecting your health. Contact: 0300 123 2000

**Direct Gov** - An official website for citizens. Contact: [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)