



Voluntary News



Issue 96

June 2010

New Resource Lounge facility

The Knowsley CVS Resource Lounge, located in the Reception area at Nutgrove Villa, Huyton, is now available for use by VCF groups and individuals for research and information gathering.

The Resource Lounge is equipped with free internet access which can be used to search for information including sources of funding and volunteering opportunities.

A comprehensive series of helpful factsheets is also available covering topics such as fundraising, business planning, constitutions, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation as well as an **extremely helpful 'Jargon Buster'!**

In addition the Lounge has a stock of books, reports and other publications of relevance to the VCF sector, as well as publicity and signposting information about various services, training opportunities and events available throughout the borough.

Use of the Resource Lounge is free and it is available between 10am and 4pm Monday to Thursday and 10am-3pm on Fridays.

Anyone wishing to make use of the Resource Lounge facilities should first report to KCVS Reception, where a member of the team will be happy to provide initial assistance with internet log on etc.



The Knowsley CVS Resource Lounge at Nutgrove Villa, Huyton



Knowsley Council for Voluntary Service is pleased to announce that we have achieved the matrix Accreditation Standard.

The matrix Standard is the national quality standard for any organisation that delivers information, advice and/or guidance on learning and work. It ensures a high quality service is available to its service users.

This achievement recognises **the organisation's dedication** and commitment to delivering

Quality Award for Knowsley CVS services

high quality and professional services to Knowsley groups and individuals.

The conclusion to the Assessment Report stated:-

"The service during the past couple of years has undertaken a transformational journey and re-engineered its services to meet the needs of the third sector. In doing so it is now providing a more focused and measurable support service to help build and maintain capacity of the voluntary, community and faith groups operating within the borough of Knowsley.

The service has identified the need to ensure that the services they provide are sustainable and now have a robust management process in place to monitor progress against milestones and outcomes. The service may wish to consider how they can maintain the momentum that has been evident during the past months and a clear focus on excellence is sustained **going forward."**

We would welcome your views and comments on how we can do this.

Congratulations also to Knowsley Parents Adults Carers (KPAC), YWCA and Kirkby Unemployed Centre who also recently achieved this award.



**Volunteers'
Week 2010**

**See page 12 for what's
happening in Knowsley**



Please recycle this
newsletter when you
have finished with it

news

Knowsley CVS Voluntary News

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Huyton office, or complete and
return the form on the back page.

Large print or audio versions of
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Opening hours -
Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm
Friday 9am-4pm



Family Reading Matters: Partners in Literacy

Family Reading Matters is a national initiative, led by the National Literacy Trust, which aims to develop partnerships throughout Knowsley in order to promote and support literacy within the home.

Research has shown that parental involvement is more important than any other factor in determining a child's future success.

Family Reading Matters is therefore working to inform parents of just how valuable their role is in supporting their child's learning and how simple everyday changes can have a huge impact on their child's life chances.

Families who you know with may be interested in attending **National**

Bookstart Day in Kirkby on the 11th June 2010

which aims to promote family reading. During the day there will be a range of fun activities for young children and their parents in Kirkby Town Centre and Kirkby Library. This year the theme is 'The Seaside' and activities will include crafts, storytelling, circus skills, messy play and singing.

Your service may also wish to organise a family learning event through the **Extended Horizons Project**. This project creates opportunities for parents/carers and their children to take part in creative, cultural and outdoor family learning activities together. The Family Learning Service has commissioned a

range of creative practitioners who offer activities such as dance, mask making, radio production, song writing and much, much more.

Family Reading Matters is also seeking to identify front line staff and volunteers who may be interested in becoming Literacy Champions. **Literacy Champions** will receive two days training to support them to identify, signpost and support adults with literacy needs.



For more
information

Please contact:-

Helen Maitland
Family Reading Matters
Coordinator
0151 443 4494
helen.maitland@knowsley.gov.uk

Knowsley CVS Chief Executive Officer

Knowsley CVS Chief Executive Officer, Linda Richings, has left to take up a new post working for the University of Salford.

Chris O'Hare, Chair of Knowsley CVS said, "During the past 18 months Linda has worked closely with the Board, staff team and partners to re-focus and re-build Knowsley CVS and we are now in a strong position to move forward and meet future challenges."

"I am sure you will join everyone at KCVS in congratulating Linda on her new appointment and in wishing her the very best for the future."



The process of recruiting a new Chief Executive is currently underway.

Thank you so much ...

I've worked in Knowsley for over 15 years and for the last 18 months at Knowsley CVS. During this time I have had the privilege of working closely with the voluntary, community and faith sector—it's truly impressive and a vital part of life in Knowsley.

I would just like to say thank you and good luck with all your endeavours - it really has been a great place to work and a pleasure to work with so many talented, creative and committed people.

All the best,
Linda

Family urges victims to get help

A Knowsley family are urging victims of hate crime to seek help after they received support to get away from a life of abuse.

Mrs J and her family suffered a barrage of verbal and physical abuse in and around their home initially after giving evidence against perpetrators who stole their family car.

Threats of violence, damage to property and racial abuse were just some of the ordeals the family of five had to endure.

Forced to flee their home in fear, the family took refuge in a local social club as they searched for help.

The family turned to Knowsley Council who immediately began working with partner agencies to provide them with the support and relief they urgently needed.

A full partnership response was arranged, with the council, the police and a registered social landlord all working together to offer practical assistance. They provided access to a doctor, help with financial management, replacement clothing and help from victim support services. They also arranged for a mentor to support the children, as well as providing transport for them to and from school.

The family were re-housed and additional security applied to their home for reassurance. They now live a happier and more normal life away from violence and abuse.

Mrs J says, "At first we didn't know where to turn for help. We eventually approached the council who responded immediately and put us in touch with agencies who could offer us other support we needed.

"The school has also been fantastic. The help they gave my kids was out of this world. They suggested we speak to someone from Children and Family Services in the council, who has proven a lifeline to us.

"We want people to know that there is help out there. If there are others who are going through what we did,

please don't suffer alone. Like us, a lot of people don't know where to turn, but there are people there who can offer support and help you escape the abuse. Help really is only a phone call away."

Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive of Knowsley Council, says, "Hate crime or any form of abuse is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in Knowsley.

"I want victims of hate crime, their families and the public to be confident that the council and it's partners are working together to tackle such crimes.

"I would urge those who find themselves in such a situation to get in touch and let us help you. We have specialist staff who are committed to offering support and will put you in touch with the right agencies who will provide you with the help you need."

- If you are suffering from hate crime or are a victim of domestic violence, call Knowsley's Hate Incident and Domestic Violence Helpline on **0800 953 4433**. All calls are treated in complete confidence and the number will not show on an itemised bill.

Children, Young People and Families Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Forum

Networking Event

The Children, Young People and Families Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Forum is holding a networking event on

Wednesday 14th July from 1pm – 3pm

at

St. Martin's Church, Peatwood Avenue,
Southdene, Kirkby, L32 7PR.

The Forum welcomes any community groups, organisations or individuals to bring along any information to display or take advantage of the opportunity to staff a stall promoting their group or organisation.

Community groups, organisations or individuals are also welcome to come along to chat informally to other groups to find out about what other services are available in Knowsley for children, young people and families.

*If you would like to book a stall, or require any further information,
please contact either*

Jeane Lowe on 0151 549 1494 or Melissa Gage on 0151 489 1222.

BRIEFLY**Workforce issues:
case studies**

NCVO's Workforce Development team has collected a set of case studies from a variety of voluntary sector organisations on topics such as changing pension schemes, developing and implementing training programmes, and improving recruitment and retention.

www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/hr-case-studies

**Equality and
Human Rights
Commission:
Stakeholder update**

The EHRC Stakeholder Team produces a monthly update on the Commission's work.

To sign up to receive the updates, Email: Stakeholders@equalityhumanrights.com

**Effective Voluntary
Sector Management**

Working For A Charity's online course is running again in October 2010 and registration is now open.

www.workingforacharity.org.uk

**Careers guide for
voluntary sector
youth work**

NCVYS has produced the second edition of its 'Careers guide: An introduction to working and volunteering in the voluntary and community youth sector'.

<http://bit.ly/ncvyscguid>

**More than one-third of grant
applications 'ineligible'**

Charities submitted more than a third of a million applications in the past year for grants for which they were not eligible, research by the Directory of Social Change has found. More than 361,000 grant applications, out of a pool of almost a million, did not meet the criteria of the UK grantmakers concerned.

The report was based on research into 2,500 charitable funders, which were asked how many applications they received, how many were ineligible and how many grants they made during the 2009/10 financial year. Of the eligible applications, 317,000 were successful

and 306,000 were unsuccessful.

Ben Wittenberg, Director of Policy and Research at the DSC, said the ineligible applications were a colossal waste of time. "The amount of work to send, process and respond to these applications is considerable, and charities should be working hard to cut down this waste," he said. The data raised questions for both foundations and fundraisers, said Wittenberg.

"Many of these applications result from fundraisers mail-merging an application and sending it off to many funders," he said. "But more

worrying is when they result from funders not offering clear guidance on their websites.

"A lot of funders put out very poor guidance. They aren't clear about what they want to fund and how their application process works, leaving it up to the prospective applicant to guess. "If funders are getting a lot of ineligible applications, they should look hard at their own processes."

But he said the data was less discouraging than he had feared. "When we carried out a survey of applications for Government funding two years ago, 52% were ineligible," he said.

**Importance of charities
will increase**

More than three people in five think the role of charities will become more important over the next few years, according to a new survey from YouGov.

In March, the polling organisation surveyed 2,133 people who did not work in the voluntary sector. 62% of respondents said they believed charities would play a more important role in the UK in the next few years.

8% of respondents said they expected to donate more money to charity in the next 12 months than they do at the moment, and 12% said they would donate less.

Sixty-six per cent said they expected their giving to remain unchanged.

YouGov also asked respondents whether they were aware of Gift Aid. 85% said they were, and 61% said they had used it. Sixty-five per cent said they would support making Gift Aid an opt-out system, instead of the current opt-in.

Naomi Barber, a Research Manager at YouGov, said: "The sector will surely play an important role in the face of prospective public spending cuts. The issue is whether there will be sufficient levels of income for them to do so."



The
deadline
for the
next issue

of *Voluntary
News* is:-

**Thursday, 8th
July 2010**

Email:
kcvcs@knowsleycvs.org

Fax:
0151-443 0251

Public think small charities are least wasteful

Large charities are seen as more wasteful and having a poorer understanding of their beneficiaries than small ones, according to a recent poll.

Research organisation nfpSynergy surveyed 1,000 people last November. 51% of those polled said the statement "they are often wasteful in how they spend money" applied to charities with annual incomes of more than £10m.

Only 6% said the statement was true for charities with incomes of less than £1m a year.

65% of respondents said

they believed small charities were good at understanding the needs of their beneficiaries; 35% said the same of large charities.

Rebecca Molyneux, a researcher at nfpSynergy, said: "A small, local charity may be well placed to harness the goodwill of a loyal hardcore of donors, like some plucky voluntary David against the charitable Goliaths."

62% of respondents thought the chief executives of small charities were usually volunteers, but only 1% thought this was true of chief executives of large charities.

65% said they thought large charities usually paid their chief executives about £100,000 per year.

Almost two-thirds, 62%, said they were just as likely to trust small charities as large ones. And 34% said they were more likely to trust small charities than large ones.

Almost a quarter of those polled, 23%, said they would prefer to give money to a charity working in their nearest town.



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.

Next Deadline: 18th June 2010

For more information contact **0151 290 7000** and ask to speak to the Advantage team. www.k-h-t.org

BRIEFLY

Recognising charities for tax purposes

New procedures and forms to apply for recognition as a charity for tax purposes have been published by HMRC.

www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/tax/recognition.htm

Calendar Check

New website Calendar Check has been launched with the aim of eliminating charity event clashes. It allows you to upload your own event and check to see there is no overlap with others.

www.calendarcheck.co.uk

Charities Act Implementation

The latest update of the Charities Act 2006 Implementation Plan is now available on the Office of the Third Sector website.

<http://bit.ly/otsact>

Jobcentre Plus and Volunteering England

Volunteering England and Jobcentre Plus have signed an agreement to promote the value of volunteering to jobseekers in England and tackle any barriers they might face to volunteering.

<http://bit.ly/vejcpus>

Child Safety Week

Child Safety Week 2010 is 21st-27th June. More details and a free toolkit are available from:

www.childsafetyweek.org.uk

funding news

BRIEFLY

Community Spaces

Community Spaces is a £50m open grants programme funded through the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces initiative. The programme empowers community groups to improve public spaces in their neighbourhood.

www.community-spaces.org.uk

Philip Lawrence Awards

Nominations for the 2010 Philip Lawrence Awards, which celebrate the positive difference that young people are making in their communities all over the country, are now open.

Closing date: 15th September.

www.philiplawrenceawards.net

B&Q Waste Donation Scheme

B&Q operates a waste donation scheme through all stores. This scheme allows donation of waste materials, for example slightly damaged tins of paint, off-cuts of timber, and end of range materials, to community groups, charities and schools.

<http://bit.ly/bqwaste>

Wates Foundation

The Wates Foundation is accepting new applications for its five main programmes: Building family values; Community health; Safer communities; Sustaining the environment; Strengthening the charitable and voluntary sectors.

www.watesfoundation.org.uk

Alliance and Leicester Fund

The focus for this programme is on projects around community health. The Fund is part of the bank's on-going commitment to the local communities where it has a presence in the North West and this year it has adopted healthy living as the theme for the Fund.

The maximum grant available is £500 and applications are welcome from voluntary and community groups, which show local community involvement in the governance and decision making of their organisation.

The Fund's priorities are:-

- Small groups that have an annual turnover of under £50k and with

unrestricted funds of under £5k

- Projects that have long term benefit
- Groups that are financially independent of a national organisation

The Fund is open to projects that are based around the theme of health. To be eligible for a grant your project must:

- Be for a specific item or project, (general appeals or running costs cannot be supported)
- Build capacity of the community to help itself
- Be based on real need

Show value for money
Examples of what may be funded:

- Equipment to help set up a junior sports project
- Materials to run a healthy eating course
- Reference books to create a library for a self-help group
- Tutor costs of running elderly person's swimming sessions
- Aids and equipment to help children with disabilities
- Publicity materials for a health promotion scheme

An application pack is downloadable from www.cfmerseyside.org.uk

KNOWSLEY FUNDING WORKSHOP

Monday 28th June 2010

10am – 4:30pm

Huyton Suite

Knowsley CVS, in conjunction with Lloyds TSB Foundation, BIG Lottery, Community Foundation for Merseyside and Children in Need, are holding a funding workshop for voluntary/community/faith/social enterprise organisations in Knowsley.

The day will consist of presentations from various funders and specific advice on how to apply for their funding opportunities.

Afternoon sessions will involve one to one guidance with the funders around your specific project ideas.

One to one afternoon sessions must be booked in advance and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

For further information, and to book your place, please contact Jannine Antigha on 0151 489 1222 or

Email: jannine.antigha@knowsleycv.org

A new funding scheme launched for young people.....

Live UnLtd aims to show that young people are the solutions to the problems faced in their communities through empowering them to run their own community projects.

We currently have funding available for young people between 16-18yr olds (11-18yr olds from Aug2010 onwards) to apply for awards of up to £2000 for projects that have a positive social impact on their community.

In every application we look for achievability of the project; the motivation of the individual and how much social impact the idea will have on the community.

Please note that anyone applying who is under 17yrs

old will need an advisor to help them to run their project.

Each month, the Youth Leadership Team (aged 16-25), will decide which youth lead projects will be funded and how much money will be awarded per project. The basic criteria for an award is:

- Must be 16 – 18 years old [11-18yr olds from Aug2010 onwards]
- Must be living in England
- Must be applying as an individual or an informal group for a new project idea



- Must have a positive social impact on the community

Applications are accepted all year round and applicants will be notified with the final decision from the youth leadership team within 4 weeks.



For more information

Please contact Joanne Rich directly on 07540413911 or visit the website on www.liveunltd.com

BRIEFLY

NHS Commissioning Guidance

The Department of Health has published 'The NHS commissioning environment: A guide for organisations in the third sector'.



It provides a summary of the structure of the NHS and the whole approach to commissioning. It includes sections on the Compact and on Grants as a funding route.

It can be found at <http://bit.ly/nhscomgui>

Communitybuilders

Communitybuilders is a £70m investment fund which takes



forward a commitment within the 'Communities in Control: real people, real power' White Paper to build more cohesive, empowered and active communities. It invests in the sustainability of multi-purpose, inclusive, community-led organisations (sometimes known as Community Anchors), and offers loans, grants and business support.

www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk

Fund to inspire sustainable living

Defra is providing seed funding in 2010/11 for third sector organisations to put in place projects designed to encourage and enable individuals and communities to adopt more sustainable behaviours to 2012 and beyond - using the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games as a way of reaching hard to engage groups.

For further details about the fund please visit:- www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/funding/thirdsectorsd.htm

Police Property Act Fund

The Police Property Act Fund is held by Merseyside Police Authority and is funded by money that has come from the sale of property which has come into the Police's possession.



Every application must conform to the object of the Fund to promote for the public benefit in and around Merseyside a safer and increased quality of life through the prevention of crime and the protection of people and property from criminal acts.

Funding will be awarded in the areas of Liverpool ,

Sefton, Wirral, Knowsley, and St. Helens.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for activities which have an impact on community safety and crime reduction.

Closing dates are as follows:

- Thursday 19th August 2010
- Tuesday 30th November 2010



For more information

Visit: www.cfmerseyside.org.uk/

What is v?

Just in case you've missed previous editions, here's a brief summary of our project:

- Involved Knowsley is part of a national scheme to increase and improve the quality and quantity of volunteering opportunities available to young people aged 16 - 25.
- We are looking to work with organisations to develop new volunteering opportunities for this age group, which will include 'one off' projects, short term, long term, part time and full time opportunities.
- We have a database of 2,500 local people who've registered to volunteer, and who we can contact about your opportunities – even targeting by area/type of interest etc.



To DO:

Too busy to get help?

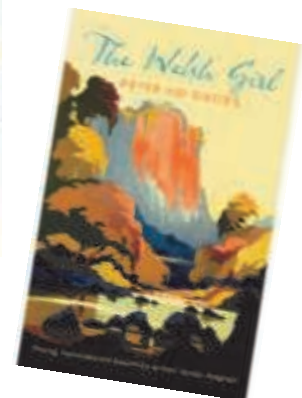
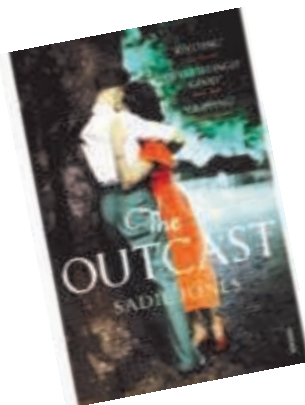
As schools break up, there are around 6,000 young people aged 16-19 in the borough and college and university students 19 – 25 years all whom may have more free time than usual, many of whom are looking for work experience and new skills.

We're distributing lists of local events, activities and projects that need support...is your organisation on that list?

Contact us on **489 1222** if you're looking for additional support over the summer.

We can advertise to all ages of volunteers, who offer a raft of different experiences and skills and who are keen to help out!

Reading Groups!



If you are running a reading group and finding it difficult or expensive to find good books we can help!

You can choose from over 100 titles of six copies for your group.

Free to anyone who lives, works or studies in Knowsley - just replace any lost books

Convenient- pick up from any Knowsley Library.

Call Reader Development on 443 5001 for more details

Why should I bother with young volunteers?

Young people are central to many charity organisations as volunteers. However, some organisations are reluctant or unsure how best to engage young people in this role. The Knowsley vinvolved team are here to help!

Some of the benefits of recruiting young people as volunteers are:

- * Energy, inspiration and enthusiasm
- * May have different skills to older volunteers (eg IT and web designing skills)
- * May bring fresh and new ideas
- * Able to relate to other young people in the organisation and reflect their needs
- * Provide a bridge between younger and older members of the organisation
- * Ensure sustainability of the organisation
- * Attract other young people into the organisation
- * Have pride in the facilities – this may reduce vandalism
- * Increased numbers of volunteers for the organisation

Why would young people want to volunteer?

The young people benefit too, potentially gaining:

- * An opportunity to have fun outside the school environment
- * Educational opportunities
- * New skills and training
- * Good for the CV
- * Development of good citizenship skills
- * Increased confidence
- * An opportunity to become part of a team
- * Meet new people from a variety of age groups
- * An opportunity to become involved with community activities
- * Sense of pride

But I don't know how to find young volunteers!

You may wish to consider the following if you are recruiting young people:

- * Register your opportunities with the Knowsley vinvolved team, who will publicise them to hundreds of local young people for you.
- * Think about the different motivations that young people will have to volunteer.
- * If possible, include young people in designing your recruitment campaign.
- * Use peer-to-peer recruitment methods.
- * Use new media platforms to communicate messages (e.g. on the internet or by using text and interactive methods)

When recruiting young volunteers you need to think about the **potential barriers to ensure that you don't put young people off volunteering!**

I need more volunteers to help my organisation!

We already have hundreds of young people registered with us who want to volunteer, and we are looking to update and increase the opportunities for them to do so.

If you are looking for volunteers, please let us know, and we can publicise these opportunities for you.

I'm running an event and I need help!

We can support and publicise one-off opportunities where you might need help - e.g. a community event/ fun day or a fundraiser.

If you're looking for volunteers, get in touch with us and we can help!

vinvolved Knowsley is working with local organisations to put **together a programme of 'one off' volunteering opportunities throughout the year.** Let us know and we'll add it to our database and publicity.

I already have young volunteers!

If you have young volunteers currently working with you who aren't registered with us, they're missing out! We can register them to participate in our accreditation scheme, for obtaining awards based on the number of hours of voluntary work completed - we'll be hosting a free awards evening in early 2011 to which they'll be invited. We can also help them with access to funding and training opportunities.

If they want to get even more involved, they can join our Youth Action Team, a group of young people aged 16 – 25 who are involved in helping develop, influence and support the vinvolved team activities in Knowsley. Next meeting is 5.30pm, Wednesday 9th June at Nutgrove Villa, Huyton. If you are interested give us a call.

I'm a volunteer myself!

Get in touch to register with us, receive news and information by email, get accreditation and access to potential funding and training.

Whether you have worked with young volunteers before or are thinking about involving them, we would love to hear from you and together we can work to create a vibrant youth volunteering community in Knowsley.

Contact the v team -

Diane Barton diane.barton@knowsleycvs.org

Fiona Villanova f.villanova@knowsleycvs.org

0151 489 1222

BRIEFLY

Parentchannel.tv

www.parentchannel.tv is a new website that gives free, on-demand advice to parents of 5-19 year olds.



JustAct



JustAct is a website that supports third sector organisations to

help each other create, implement and review their action plan on climate change.

www.justact.org.uk

Get talking about climate change



bassac has published 'The Shared Energy Toolkit', to help you get your organisation and

your community talking about climate change.

www.bassac.org.uk/node/881

Big Lunch 2010

This year's Big Lunch takes place on 18th July.



www.thebiglunch.com

No growth in levels of volunteering

Levels of charitable giving and volunteering have continued to decline slightly, according to the latest citizenship survey.

The survey, which covers the year ending March 2009, recorded a slight drop in the number of people in England who had given to charity in the month before they were interviewed.

The proportion fell from 78% in 2005 to 76% in 2007/08, and 74% in 2008/09.

The survey of 10,000 people in England and Wales also recorded a small decline in the numbers of people in England who participated in formal volunteering at least once a month, falling from 29% in 2005 to 27% in 2007/08 and 26% in 2008/09.

Formal volunteering is defined as giving unpaid help through groups, clubs or organisations to benefit

other people or the environment.

The number of people in England who participated in informal volunteering at least once a month remained at 35%, compared with 37% in 2005.

Informal volunteering is defined as giving unpaid help to people who are not relatives.

The proportion of 16 to 25-year-olds volunteering also remained static. They were less likely than older people to participate in formal volunteering, but more likely to volunteer informally. They were also the least likely to have given to charity in the previous month.

The survey also found:

- Donors gave an average of £17.70 in the previous month, which is the same figure as in 2007/08, allowing for inflation;

- People who regularly volunteered were more likely to give to charity;
- Women were more likely to volunteer than men, with 28% taking part in formal volunteering at least once a month, compared with 23% of men;
- People with degrees were more likely to be formal volunteers;
- Formal volunteers spent an average of 12.6 hours volunteering in the previous month, up from 11 hours in 2007/08;
- Informal volunteers spent an average of 7.7 hours volunteering in the previous four weeks, the same figure as in 2007/08. The most common activity was "giving advice";
- 58% of people cited work commitments as the reason for not formally

John Lewis expands charity secondment scheme

An additional 10 charities will be able to take John Lewis staff on free secondments after the retailer decided to increase the number of placements it will offer this year.

Under the Golden Jubilee Trust programme, selected John Lewis or Waitrose staff complete secondments at charities either part or full time for up to six months.

The scheme is sponsored by

the John Lewis Partnership, which is putting an additional £50,000 into it to mark its 10th anniversary.

The additional placements will result in an extra 5,000 hours of staff time given to charities, according to John Lewis.

Chris Jones, Manager of the Golden Jubilee Trust for the John Lewis Partnership said: "We encourage charities of all sizes to

approach us if they'd like to find out more about how they might benefit from the Golden Jubilee Trust."

 For more information

Visit
www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk
or Email:
chris_l_jones@johnlewis.co.uk

Campaign against 'fit and proper person' test

A leading charity law firm is planning a campaign to win UK charities an exemption from the new 'fit and proper person' test.

The Finance Act 2010 gives HM Revenue and Customs the power to carry out the test every time a charity hires a new trustee or senior manager. If a trustee fails to pass the test, the charity can be denied tax relief.

The legislation follows a European Court of Justice a ruling and EU member states are now in the process

of implementing legislation to ensure all charities that receive tax relief are legitimate.

Rosamund McCarthy, a partner at Bates Wells and Braithwaite, said the new test should not apply to UK charities because the Charity Commission already provided adequate regulation.

"By choosing to apply these rules to UK charities, HMRC is effectively saying that it doesn't trust the Charity Commission, and

that UK charities will have to apply for tax exempt status all over again," said McCarthy.

She said the new rules contained no definition of 'fit and proper', meaning that charities could never be absolutely sure if they qualified for tax relief.

The new test would also cause an increase in bureaucracy by requiring charities to fill out a seven-page form and list up to 37 separate pieces of information every time they appointed a new trustee or senior manager, she said.

"We will be engaging in some serious and concerted lobbying about this, and we will be encouraging all our contacts working in the sector to do the same," she said.

Helen Donoghue, director of the Charity Tax Group, said her organisation had formed a working party to address the new rules.

An HMRC spokesman said: "HMRC has consulted with a number of stakeholders to minimise the administrative burden on charities of the new rules.

"Stakeholders consulted by HMRC have understood the balance needed between protecting the exchequer and supporting the sector. "Existing charities need do nothing unless they appoint a new person to submit tax returns or claim repayments of tax on behalf of the charity."

Sector's workforce grown despite the recession

Despite redundancies and mergers, the voluntary sector could well survive the recession without any decline in the size of its workforce.

Unpublished figures produced by the NCVO for the training body Skills - Third Sector show that the number of sector staff was still rising in the second quarter of 2009, when gross domestic product had its largest decline.

Karl Wilding, head of research at the umbrella body, said that the private sector lost 1.4 million jobs between the first quarter of 2008 and the second of 2009.

"Despite this huge contraction, the voluntary and community sector was still showing a strong

positive trend until June 2009 in the numbers employed," he said. In April 2008, 668,000 people were working in the sector, according to the NCVO's *UK Civil Society Almanac 2010*, published recently – 2% of the workforce.

There was a growth of 23% in the sector workforce between 1999 and 2008, the almanac says. The growth has lasted for two decades and is linked to the increase in public service delivery by the sector, it says. A recent survey by the Charity Finance Directors' Group indicated that the recession was having a delayed effect on charity redundancies.

Three in 10 respondents said their charities had made redundancies because of the recession.

FUNDING BRIEFLY

PCT Procurement Guidance

The Department of Health has published three guidance documents: 'Commercial Skills for the NHS', 'Principles and rules of co-operation and competition', and 'Primary care trust procurement guide for health services'.

These key resources reflect the priorities of the NHS in improving quality, efficiency and productivity and delivering more personalised services. <http://bit.ly/dhpctproc>

Lloyds TSB Foundation

The Foundation's Community Programme supports charities that help disadvantaged people play a fuller role in the community through improving social and community involvement. www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

Sheila McKechnie Foundation Awards

SMK has launched its annual awards programme for emerging and grassroots campaigners. The awards are for individuals who are new to campaigning or operating with few resources and who show passion, tenacity and the potential to create change. Deadline: 28th June. www.smk.org.uk/smk-awards-2010

Venture Partnership Foundation

VPF is dedicated to supporting social entrepreneurs and the dynamic charities that they run. It is currently looking at potential social ventures to be recipients for its next funding round.

www.vpf.org.uk

local news

Development Trusts Association

Are you an existing or potential development trust in the Knowsley area? Would you be interested in joining a network of like minded professionals to support you in achieving success and sustainability?

We, the Development Trusts Association (DTA), have it as our mission to help people achieve a successful development trust in every community. Please read on to learn more about the benefits of membership of the UK's leading network of community enterprise practitioners.

The DTA movement is made up of a vibrant and active membership who readily share their skills and experience with the rest of the movement; bringing ample opportunities for networking and peer learning through regional network meetings, national/regional conferences and seminars, consultancy, mentoring and exchange visits. In the North West region alone, there are 42 Full and Emerging trust members and almost 500 UK wide.

Our members are community owned and led; they sustain their activities into the future to bring about long term social, economic and environmental benefits to their communities; working across the sectors, they bring the benefits of collaboration to their communities; being community anchor organisations, they're there for the long term and through their entrepreneurial and resourceful approach, they bring wealth into their communities and keep it there.



So what does the DTA do for its members?

- In particular, the DTA promotes and facilitates networking between members to inspire and inform through regular network meetings, events and exchange visits.
- The DTA lobbies on behalf of its members locally, regionally and nationally to bring about policy change and resources that will support and strengthen the sector
- DTA provides other resources through direct staff support –

regionally and nationally

- There are additional benefits for full members, including: preferential deals on insurance, access to legal advice and VAT advice

Our members give to the movement because the way the DTA works is very much about the whole being greater than the sum of the individual parts. So, everyone puts into the pot and we have what we call a "Give/Get" relationship with our members. It is after all, the input from individual practitioners, organisations

and DTA staff that enables us to provide such a wide, varied and fit for purpose mix of support.

Through collaboration with our members and partners, the DTA has developed an impressive range of products and services to support development trusts and other community enterprises in strengthening their organisations.

If you would like to hear more, please contact: Chris O'Donnell - Regional Development Officer (Northwest) Development Trusts Association

Telephone: **0151 5237195/07949 042391**

E-mail: **c.odonnell@dta.org.uk**

Website: **www.dta.org.uk**



Volunteers' Week 1st – 7th June 2010

Volunteers' Week is an annual event which celebrates the fantastic contribution that millions of volunteers make across the UK. The Week plays a huge part in raising the profile of the millions of volunteers who regularly contribute to society, while inspiring others to get involved too.

Knowsley CVS Volunteer Centre will be involved in inspiring more people across Knowsley to get involved within their communities through volunteering.

We will be having market place stalls across Huyton and Prescot outside your local shops. Look out for us and come along and have a chat to our active volunteers and volunteer advisors on what opportunities are available and the benefits of becoming a volunteer.

*For more information on where and when we will be around your local shops please give Clare a call at our Volunteer Centre on: **0151 489 1222***

Alternatively you can call into Knowsley CVS in Nutgrove Villa, Huyton Village to arrange an informal chat with Clare and the Volunteer Centre team to discuss your options at a time convenient to you.

Reaching Communities

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) has announced that they have made improvements to their Reaching Communities Programme.

Reaching Communities provides grants of £10,000 - £500,000 for projects that help people and communities who are most in need, and can really make a difference.

BIG want to fund projects that respond to needs identified by communities and projects that help those most in need including those people or groups who are hard to reach.

Improvements include:-

- a simpler application process and quicker decision making for those applying for less than £40,000;
- a better chance of being funded if you are invited to complete a full application;
- more support for applicants at every stage of the application process, in particular for those that have received less funding than expected;
- more detailed feedback if applications are not successful.



For more information

Applications can be made at any time.

Visit:-
www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_reaching_communities

BRIEFLY

Four Acre Trust

The Four Acre Trust supports charities that give individuals - mainly children and young people - help in making the most of their lives. Particularly: mentoring schemes, youth work in local communities, breaks and holidays for young people, school holiday activity schemes.

www.fouracretrust.org.uk

Hedley Foundation

The Hedley Foundation is a charitable foundation which supports young people, the disabled and the terminally ill.

www.hedleyfoundation.org.uk

Princes Trust Community Cash Awards

Community Cash Awards are grants to help young people set up projects that benefit their community. Grants of £5,000 are available and support to help plan your project, research your budget, set goals and learn about your community.

<http://bit.ly/ptccash>

Frank Buttle Trust

The Frank Buttle Trust provides grants for household goods to disadvantaged families; school fees for challenging children; and grants for further education courses to students and trainees who would otherwise enter adult life without adequate qualifications or training for work.

www.buttletrust.org

PLC Activities Club

c/o Zion Church Hall, 74 Kemble Street (opposite Cypress Street)
 Prescott L34 5SH

Open their doors at 10.30am to 4pm for general members and afterwards 4pm to 6.30pm to young people between the ages of 10 and 16 years.

PLC provide activities around well-being i.e. exercises & therapies, bingo, whist, indoor bowls plus socials and holidays. In the near future our hydrotherapy spa will be open and our IT suite should be up and running by autumn.

The tea room will be open from 10.30am Monday to Friday. The After School Club has a range of equipment i.e. snooker, pool, table tennis, football game, juke box and more. Workshops and sports will take place plus adventure holidays.

PLC have an information & signposting service.

Everyone welcome

Adult annual fees £5, youth annual fees £3.

Subscriptions per activity session £2.

PLC are looking to engage people age 16 to 18 years as youth committee members, volunteers and team leaders with the prospect of employment in 12 months time. We are also looking for retired people with good knowledge of committee procedures particularly secretarial and treasury and someone who might like to staff our tea room.

Further details can be obtained at the Club itself or by leaving your name, number and a brief message on an answerphone 0151 289 6208.

news

Unite launches campaign to fight stress in the voluntary sector

Trade union Unite has launched a campaign that it hopes will "eradicate stress" in the voluntary sector.

The union, which has 60,000 members in the not-for-profit sector, said its research suggested 9 out of 10 voluntary sector workers felt their wellbeing was being undermined by the financial problems facing charities.

The first stage of the campaign will be a survey of members by more than 2,500 Unite representatives in the sector.

The union said it hoped the poll would help it understand the situation in the workplace.

It said it also wanted to reinforce the message to employers that they have a legal obligation to manage and prevent workplace stress and draw up some best practice policies covering how to deal with it.

Rachael Maskell, national officer for the not-for-profit sector at Unite, said: "Stress in the workplace is like a modern-day plague - it is virulent and can strike at any time and in any place, and is indiscriminate as to who its victim is."

Your news
could be here!

Email:

kcvsv@knowsleycvsv.org

Fax:

0151-443 0251

Equality Bill becomes law

The Equality Bill has now received Royal Assent and as the Equality Act 2010, its main provisions will come into force from October 2010.

The provisions of the Act are:

- Introducing a new public sector duty to consider reducing socioeconomic inequalities (in force from April 2011)
- Putting a new integrated Equality Duty on public bodies (in force from April 2011)
- Using public procurement to improve equality
- Banning age discrimination outside the workplace (in force from 2012)
- Requiring gender pay and employment equality publishing
- Extending the scope to use positive action
- Strengthening the powers of employment tribunals
- Protecting carers from discrimination
- Clarifying the protection for breastfeeding mothers
- Banning discrimination in private members' clubs
- Strengthening protection from discrimination for disabled people

disabled people

- Protecting people from dual discrimination - direct discrimination because of a combination of two protected characteristics (in force from April 2011)

If employers have failed to meet the requirements of the gender pay transparency regulations by 2013, it is expected that the regulations for the private and voluntary and community sectors will be introduced then.

The Government Equalities Office (GEO) has published a factsheet giving further information about the Act and its provisions:-
www.equalities.gov.uk/

KCVS FREE INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT TRAINING

KCVS are offering free training to anyone who manages volunteers, is interested in volunteer management or would just simply like to find out what managing volunteers involves.

The course will include:

- How best to recruit your volunteers
- How to effectively promote your organisation and opportunities to ensure high quality recruitment
- How to induct volunteers into the workplace – covering legal and policy requirements
- How to develop and retain your volunteers

At the end of the course, you will also receive a FREE Volunteer Management Toolkit.

Course 1 (two days)

Wednesday 21st July 10am – 3pm at Knowsley CVS, Huyton

Wednesday 28th July 10am – 3pm at Knowsley CVS, Huyton

Course 2 (two days)

Thursday 22nd July 10am – 3pm Knowsley CVS, Huyton

Friday 30th July 10am – 3pm at Knowsley CVS, Huyton

Refreshments and lunch provided.

For more information and to book your place, contact either
Melissa Gage or Clare Carter on 0151 489 1222.

Promote your event here - FREE! Email: kcvs@knowsleycvs.org

what's on

Prescot Historic Society

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

Tea will be served at 7.00pm

This space could be promoting your meeting or event!

Send details for the August issue by Thursday 8th July 2010

Email: kcvs@knowsleycvs.org

Merseyside IBS Self Help Group

Supporting people with Irritable Bowel Syndrome

June 16th

Clare - Roy Castle Foundation

July

NO MEETING

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, Mosspits Lane, Fazakerley, Liverpool L10 9LG (entrance in Longmoor Lane, next to Body Talk Ladies Gym)

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

Knowsley Carers Voice
KCV

Carers Know What Carers Need

We want to hear from you if:

- You look after someone who lives in Knowsley
- You want your voice to matter
- You want to keep up to date with major changes that may affect you
- You want to understand your rights as a carer

Come along to Knowsley Carers Voice meetings and you can help to:

- Empower carers to have a voice
- Move ideas forward
- Discuss carers issues with like minded people
- Represent carers in Knowsley

When?

27th May 2010, 29th July 2010
30th September 2010, 25th November 2010

1.00 pm—3.00 pm

Knowsley Carers Voice is an organisation ran by carers for carers in the Knowsley community.

Knowsley Carers Voice
KCV

Carers Know What Carers Need

Where?

<p>Huyton KPAC The old Schoolhouse St.John's Road Huyton Knowsley L36 0UX</p>	<p>Halewood PCRC Roseheath Drive Leathers Lane Halewood Knowsley L26 9UQ</p>
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Kirkby
One Stop Shop
Meeting Room 1
Cherryfield Drive,
Kirkby
L32 1TX

www.kcv.org.uk
info@kcv.org.uk

Knowsley Carers Voice is an organisation ran by carers for carers in the Knowsley community.

what's on

Promote your event here - FREE! Email: kcvs@knowsleycvs.org



Huyton-with-Roby Historical Society

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

Friday 11th June - Huyton Past and Present

This meeting is in St Gabriel's Church Hall, Huyton

Friday 13th August - WW1

Meetings are held at
**THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE,
ST JOHN'S ROAD,
HUYTON L36 0UX**



Diabetes UK St Helens and Knowsley Group

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

Advertise your event here ...
FREE !

Email details to: kcvs@knowsleycvs.org

Deadline for the August issue is
Thursday 8th July 2010

Please help us keep our mailing list records up-to-date

If you received this copy of *Voluntary News* by post please check that we have used the correct details on the address label. If any changes or amendments are necessary let us know by completing and returning this form.

If you would like to be added to the *Voluntary News* mailing list please complete and return this form.

Contact Name

Organisation

Address

Post Code

Please return the completed form to:

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

Fax: 0151-443 0251

Email: kcvs@knowsleycvs.org