

The Volunteer in Denbighshire

April
2011

Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again! Membership renewal time. Ensure that your organisation is part of the collective Third Sector voice in Denbighshire, under the umbrella of DVSC.

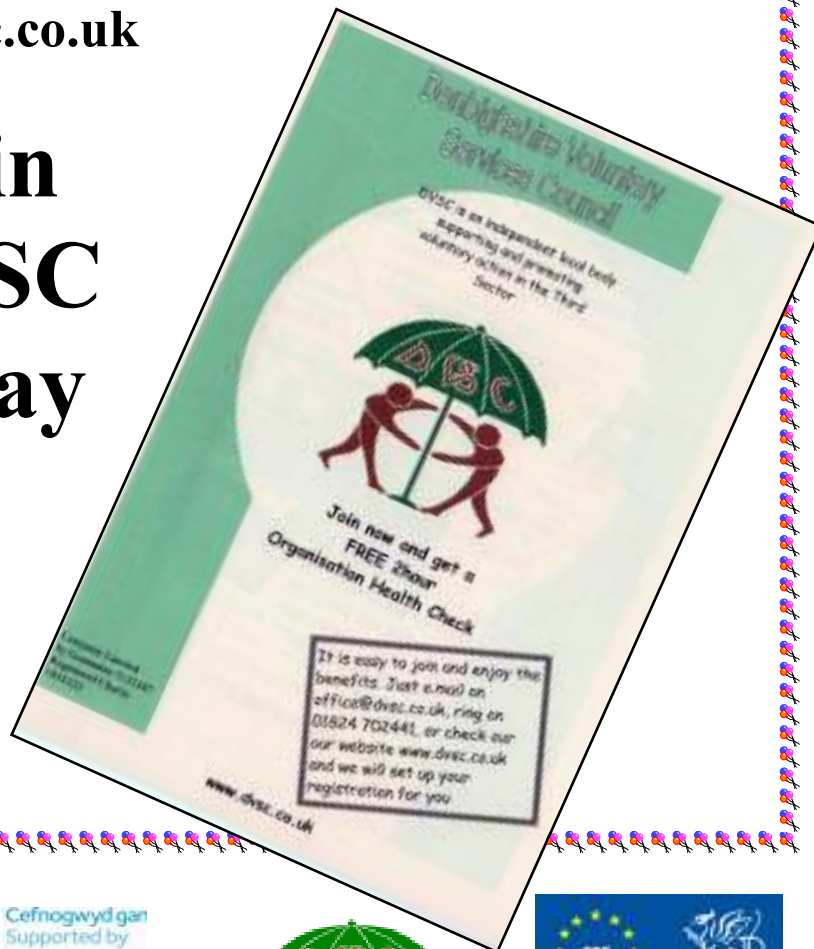
All organisations who were in membership last year will receive a reminder through the post.

If you don't receive a form but would like to join DVSC and help raise the volume of the voluntary / community voice in these very difficult times for all, please make sure you complete a membership form.

You can get your application form by either contacting DVSC on 01824 702441 Bronwen/Carys or by downloading the membership details from our website

www.dvsc.co.uk

Join
DVSC
today



Denbighshire
Voluntary
Services
Council
Naylor
Leyland
Centre,
Well Street
Ruthin
LL15 1AF

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e.mail
office@dvsc.co.uk
Newvol -
Company
limited by
guarantee
3132487

Registered
Charity
1054322

Chief Executive
Officer
John Watkin



WHO'S WHO AT DVSC?

John Watkin *Chief Executive Officer*

Gareth Mawby *Deputy Chief Executive Officer*

Maggie Bradley *Volunteer Centre Development Officer - Engagement Gateway*

Suzanne Bradley *Partnership Liaison Officer*

Sarah Caunt *Admin Assistant*

Carys Edwards *Clerk/Typist*

Jackie Evans *Admin Assistant*

Gerry Frobisher *Youth Volunteering Co-ordinator*

Lindsay Haveland *Senior Health, Social Care & Well Being Facilitator*

Bronwen Isaac *Office Supervisor*

Gaynor Jones *Volunteer Centre Organiser*

Vera Jones *Caretaker*

Matthew Lee *Admin Assistant*

Lilwen Roberts *Information Officer*

Sian Roberts *Development Assistant*

Jennifer Rowlands *Business and Third Sector Liaison Officer*

Sharon Simon *Admin Assistant*

Angela Watt *Community Development Worker*

Elfed Williams *Senior Advocacy Officer for Older People*

Emyr B Williams *Senior Development Officer*

JoAnne Williamson *Liaison Support Assistant*

Denbighshire Learning Disability Forum 01824 707246

Alan Benbow *Co-ordinator* **Jackie Evans** *Admin Assistant*

NEWCIS - (North East Wales Carers Information Service)

Denbighshire - Rhyl Office 0845 6033187

Ann Shield *Carers Services Co-ordinator*, **Diana Owen** and **Glain Jones** *Carers Needs Assessment Officers*, **Carolyn Hilderbrandt** *Fieldworker*, **Kati Denton** *Admin*, **Gundega**

Bushevitsa *Finance/Admin Officer*, **Iona Crompton** and **Kealie Jones** *Carers Opportunity and Employment Mentors*, **Farrell Coleman**, *Admin Assistant*

Flintshire - Mold Office 01352 744055

Claire Sullivan *Carer Services Co-ordinator*, **Garry Davies** *Independence & Wellbeing Facilitator*, **Helen Owen** *Community Facilitator*, **Katy Harris** *Primary Care Facilitator*, **Barry Martin** *Carer Services Administrator*, **Viv Brundell** and **Elaine Jones** *Grants Administration*
Simone Percy *Carer Opportunity & Participation into Employment Facilitator*, **Jean Rodden** *Continuing Health Care Facilitator*

Experience Enhancement Programme **Work Placements for All**

A new initiative is being launched to identify and manage work placements for people who are being made redundant, out of work or seeking work experience in Denbighshire.

The project was started by working with Denbighshire County Council to identify work placements to help people being made redundant from the Council gain experience in a different sector while they are on their redundancy notice period.

We would like to expand this project to help local groups and volunteers to access unpaid work placements with small and medium sized businesses in Denbighshire and beyond.

Over 18's can apply for placements with local businesses that need additional help for a short period.

What's in it for me?

- ◆ Try out a different role while still being paid (if on notice period)
- ◆ Learn new skills
- ◆ Gain experience of a different sector or role
- ◆ Get an additional reference
- ◆ More experience to add to your CV
- ◆ Make more contacts to help you get a new job or start your own business

Placements will vary but might include opportunities to gain experience in shop work, project management, office work, sales, marketing, mechanics, IT or a whole range of other types of business.

We can also try to find the right placement for you, so if you have a particular interest, let us know and while we can't guarantee it, we will do our best to find you a placement.

There is no guarantee or offer of a job at the end of the placement by the business involved, and the placement will be for a specific length of time as agreed with the host business. Any negotiations regarding any potential job with the host business will be a matter for the individual and the host business.

If you know of a business that might be interested in providing placements, please let us know.

DVSC have limited resource to find placements, so please do not be disappointed if we don't have the capacity to help you immediately.

For more details and to register your interest in this Programme, please contact:
Jennifer or Matt at DVSC on 01745 369973 or email community@dvsc.co.uk

Prestatyn Carnival

Saturday 23rd July 2011

Grand Parade leaves top of High St at 12 noon
Carnival Field, Bastion Road, Prestatyn - open from 10am - 9.30pm
Prestatyn Carnival Diamond Jubilee event -60th Anniversary.

Contact details Mob 07878 326874 or email prestatyncarnival@hotmail.co.uk for full details

We would like to invite all charities, voluntary groups, clubs etc to join us to raise awareness and funds for their cause, by taking part in the parade and/or a stall space on the carnival field. Entry into the parade is free (small fee payable for competitions), £15 for a charity stall space





VOLUNTARY SECTOR REGIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMME

All courses are **£20 pp** unless otherwise stated (Courses would cost £100 if not for WAG subsidies)

**Recruitment and Induction of Volunteers including Disabled Volunteers – Tuesday 12th April ½ day (morning) - Corlan, Unit 3, Mold Business Park, Wrexham Road, Mold £10 fee
Trainer – Shelley Moorefield**

To book this course contact Sue Williams at FLVC on 01352 744000 or email sue.williams@flvc.org.uk

Monitoring and Evaluation - Monday 9th May ½ day (afternoon) Corlan, Unit 3, Mold Business Park, Wrexham Road, Mold £10 fee

Trainer – Louise Blackwell

To book this course contact Sue Williams at FLVC on 01352 744000 or email sue.williams@flvc.org.uk

Introduction to Tendering - Monday, 16^h May - 10.00 am – 3.30 pm – Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street, Ruthin

Trainer - Emyr B Williams

Please note this course is intended for those with no prior knowledge of the tendering process

To book this course contact Bronwen Isaac on 01824 702441 or email bronwen@dvsc.co.uk

Food Hygiene - Tuesday, 24th May - 9.30am –4.30pm Tŷ AVOW, Egerton Street, Wrexham

To book this course contact the Training Team at AVOW on 01978 312556 or email communitycourses@avow.org (£45 fee to include certificate)

Supervision and Appraisal of Volunteers - Tuesday 14th June - Full day - Corlan, Unit 3, Mold Business Park, Wrexham Road, Mold

Trainers – Lynne Rowlands and James Johnson

To book this course contact Sue Williams at FLVC on 01352 744000 or email sue.williams@flvc.org.uk

Emergency First Aid at Work - Thursday, 16th June - 9.30am –4.30pm Tŷ AVOW, Egerton Street, Wrexham

To book this course contact the Training Team at AVOW on 01978 312556 or email communitycourses@avow.org (£45 fee to include certificate)

Volunteer Recruitment, Selection and Induction - Monday 20th June 10.30 am – 3.30 pm – Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl

Trainers – Gaynor Lloyd Jones and Maggie Bradley

To book this course contact Bronwen Isaac on 01824 702441 or email bronwen@dvsc.co.uk

Fit for Funding – Monday, 27th June – 10.00 am – 3.30 pm – Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street, Ruthin

Trainer - Emyr B Williams

To book this course contact Bronwen Isaac on 01824 702441 or email bronwen@dvsc.co.uk

Supporting you
Supporting people

**CYMORTH
CYMRU**

Cefnogi chi
Cefnogi pobl

Summary of Welfare Benefit Changes

17th May 2011, St Asaph - This course looks at the proposed Welfare Benefit changes and at the timetable for the implementation of these changes.

Details will be given on the proposed changes to Housing Benefit, Tax Credits, Disability Living Allowance and

Employment and Support Allowance. In addition the latest briefing on the Universal Credit will be given and discussed. This course also looks at how organisations can estimate the effect of the changes on its tenants/ clients and at what organisations can do to prepare for the impending changes.

Employment and Support Allowance 27th May 2011, St Asaph

- This course gives an overview of this benefit and looks in details at the Work Capability Assessment, which is the crucial assessment for this benefit and in a decision being made whether somebody is awarded this benefit. A significant number of claims for this benefit are refused due to failing the Work Capability Assessment with Government figures confirming that 39% of all new claims for Employment and Support Allowance have been assessed as fit for work and therefore not eligible for the benefit. The aim of this course is to provide staff with the knowledge and information as to what information claimants need to provide in preparation for the Work Capability Assessment and also how to approach an appeal.

For further information please contact **Kathryn Jellings** Training and Accreditation Officer, Cymorth Cymru, Norbury House, Norbury Road, Fairwater, Cardiff CF5 3AS
Tel: 02920 553687 www.cymorthcymru.org.uk



Learning Disability Wales
Anabledd Dysgu Cymru

Learning Disability Wales is organising a one day training course **Making Information Easy to Read & Understand** on May 25, 2011 in Wrexham.

If you would like to acquire the skills to make written and printed information more accessible for people with learning disabilities, do not miss this opportunity.

For further details please contact Inacia Rodrigues Training Administrator, Learning Disability Wales

Tel: 029 2068 1174

WCVA Wales Charity Law Conference 2011

In 'austerity Wales', it's best to be prepared

Times are tough for third sector groups. Simply surviving could be dependent on how well you know your legislation. This is why WCVA's Wales Charity Law conference 2011, supported by Geldards, could be the most important yet. Taking place on 12 May in Llandrindod Wells, it will offer vital information and expert advice on a huge range of subjects,

including:

- ◆ Protecting your organisation
 - ◆ Challenging government decisions
 - ◆ How to provide services with shrinking resources
 - ◆ Managing financial risk
 - ◆ What the Charity Commission can offer
 - ◆ An update on employment law
- Experts from WCVA, Geldards law firm, the Charity Commission, Shelter Cymru, Watts Gregory and more will be on hand to deliver plenary sessions and workshops packed

with invaluable guidance.

In uncertain times, third sector groups need every advantage they can get. The Charity Law conference 2011 might just give you the edge

To book your place call WCVA Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, email help@wcva.org.uk or visit www.wcva.org.uk

PRACTICAL SERVICES ALWAYS AVAILABLE from DVSC

RESOURCES

- Typing - £3.50 per A4 sheet
- Photocopying - 5p per A4 sheet
- Payroll - Highly competitive rates - Please contact Gareth Mawby 01824 702441 for detailed costing
- Internet Access - Free
- Equipment hire - Display boards, flip charts,
- Conference / Committee Room hire - see page 15 for costs and facility details
- Bi-monthly Newsletter
- Leaflet / Flyer distribution with the Newsletter - please contact Lilwen Roberts 01824 702441 for costs

FUNDING

- Advice and information
- Funderfinder Service
- Identifying funding sources
- Advice on completing funding application

TRAINING

- Training Courses / Information seminars
- Signposting Low cost training courses for:-
- Accounting (SORPS)
- Volunteer Management
- Funding
- Committee Skills
- Roles of Trustees

VOLUNTEER CENTRE

- Matching Volunteers with volunteering opportunities within organisations in the County
- Millennium Volunteers 16 - 25 years old
- Young Volunteers in Denbighshire - under 16 years

New minibus for south Denbighshire



South Denbighshire Community Partnership (SDCP) has recently secured funding from Cadwyn Clwyd, TAITH and Denbighshire County Council to purchase a brand new, fully accessible 16 seat minibus for the community.

The new bus, which is due to be delivered in June, will be available for all voluntary and community groups to hire. Thanks to support from local businesses including Ifor Williams Trailers, we hope to keep hire charges at an affordable rate so that the bus can be fully utilised by the community. SDPC also plan to set up a fund to secure the future of the service.

If you know any voluntary or community groups in the south Denbighshire area who are in need of transport, please get in touch with Sian Roberts from Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council (DVSC) for further details. Sian, who is based at Corwen Healthy Living Centre from Monday to Wednesday, would also like to hear from anyone who is interested in training as a volunteer driver. Sian can be contacted on 01490 413429 (Mon – Weds) or 01824 702441 (Thurs, Fri) or email sian@dvsc.co.uk

Watch this space for details of the official launch of the new community transport service which is planned for September.

DVSC has an electronic copy of a 36 page publication - **Gimme, Gimme, Gimme!** - A guide for organisations new to fundraising or just starting out raising money - March 2011

If you would like an electronic copy, or hard copy if you don't have a computer, contact Lilwen Roberts 01824 702441



LAUNCH OF THE DENBIGHSHIRE COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS 2011

The annual Community Competitions arranged by Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council [DVSC] are launched this week.

There are three categories of competition.

The first one is for the **Denbighshire Voluntary Youth Initiative of the Year**.

This competition is sponsored by the **Chairman of Denbighshire County Council**.

It aims to encourage children and young people [over 8 years of age], in the County, to work together in groups on initiatives which result in a direct benefit to the local community or its inhabitants. Initiatives can be of a community, social or environmental nature.



The second category is for the **Denbighshire Senior Citizens Estate of the Year**. This competition is sponsored by **Clwyd Alyn Housing Association**. Judges of this Competition look at several different factors of Estate life including - whether there's a tenants group; the appearance of the estate including gardens; how residents support other



The third and final category is the competition for the **Denbighshire Village Hall/ Community Centre of the Year**. This category is sponsored by the **Welsh Church Acts Fund**. The judges of this competition will give consideration to the following aspects: Condition of the premises; the fund-raising efforts made by members of the management committee; condition of area surrounding hall/centre: quality of any recent extensions or adaptations to improve facilities and usage made of hall/centre by local groups and others.



residents who are in need and whether residents get involved in any recycling initiatives.

Prize money for each category is - £150 for the winner, £100 for the runner up and £50 for third place.

Further details and applications forms are available from:

Emyr B Williams, Senior Development Officer, DVSC, Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street Ruthin LL15 1AF

Tel No 01824 702441

The closing dates for entries is Friday 27th May, 2010

Good News - In the last issue of the Volunteer we reported that due to Cymorth funding cuts Suzanne Bradley would be leaving her post as DVSC's Children & Young People's Partnership Liaison Officer on 31st March.

In the last week Suzanne has been appointed to the role of Third Sector Liaison Officer, for Denbighshire County Council's Partnerships and Communities Team. The job will be hosted at DVSC in the Naylor Leyland Centre, Ruthin. The role will support voluntary sector involvement in the

development, planning and delivery of services relating to The BIG Plan for Denbighshire. Suzanne's work with voluntary organisations will promote the participation and involvement of children and young people, and also other service user groups, eg older people. Suzanne will be arranging BIG Plan theme-specific events for the voluntary sector; please let her know if there are any priority areas you would wish to discuss.

It's good to be able to report that Suzanne will still be around!!

Upper Denbigh Community Development Launch

Members of the Upper Denbigh Community Partnership, an organisation established and supported by DVSC [Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council] celebrated the launch of the newly established Upper Denbigh Community Development Project with partners and local community members at Canolfan Seion, Henllan Street, Denbigh on Friday 4th March.

The Community Development Project

aims to work with existing and emerging community groups in Upper Denbigh to build their capacity and support them with fundraising for community projects and to give local people the



opportunity to participate within their local community and to get involved in initiatives that will benefit their area. The project workers are employed by DVSC and are funded through the Big Lottery Fund People and Places Programme. A total of £157,901 was awarded to fund the three year project. The Big Lottery Fund distributes half of the National Lottery good cause funding across the UK. The Fund is committed to bringing real improvements to communities and to the lives of people

most in need.

Angela Watt, Community Development Worker for the project said "We aim to encourage people from all parts of the community to get involved so that the projects developed are a true reflection of the needs of the local community". Cllr. Colin Hughes, one of the local County Councillors for the area and a member of the Upper Denbigh Community Partnership said "The Upper Denbigh Community Partnership has worked hard with DVSC to make this project a reality. We are looking forward

to the project making a real difference to people's lives in Upper Denbigh, empowering them to play a real part in their own communities. We would like to convey our gratitude to the Big

Lottery Fund for recognising the merits of this great project."

Attending the launch was Chris Ruane, MP and Ann Jones, AM and a range of partner agencies including North Wales Police, Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, UPDATE the Margaret Morris Centre, Action for Children and Cymdeithas Tai Clwyd.

If you would like further information about the project or would like to get involved contact Angela Watt on 01745 815897 or angela@dvsc.co.uk

GwirVol grants 2011-2012

GwirVol is pleased to announce the launch of the 2011-2012 youth volunteering grants.

The aim of the GwirVol Youth Volunteering Grants scheme is to support the delivery of a wide range of new volunteering opportunities in Wales and overseas that will support the step change in access to volunteering for young people aged 16-25 and especially for disadvantaged young people. The GwirVol grant scheme offers five different strands of funding.

Creating Opportunities: For organisations looking to create new youth volunteering projects, new youth volunteering roles or to recruit more young people

into existing volunteering roles. Creating Opportunities grant applications can be for up to a maximum amount of £10,000.

Promotions: For organisations looking to promote the benefits or challenge the perceptions of volunteering to young people or about young people to their local communities. Shout it out! grant applications can be for up to a maximum amount of £3,000.

StreetGames: For organisations looking to develop volunteering opportunities in doorstep sports within deprived areas. StreetGames grant applications can be for up to a maximum amount of £2,000.

International: For organisations

looking to develop overseas volunteering opportunities that benefit young people and their communities in Wales as well. International grant applications can be for up to a maximum amount of £30,000.

Millennium Volunteers: For organisations looking to recognise the commitment young people give to volunteering through offering the 200 hour award of excellence. Millennium Volunteers grant applications can be for up to a maximum amount of £10,000.

How to apply:

You can get more information and download the application forms and guidance at <http://www.gwirvol.org/en/grants/>.

The deadline for applications is 2pm Wednesday 8 June 2011.

Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust Grants Scheme (Wales)

The Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust has announced that it is inviting grant applications from not for profit groups and registered charities whose work benefits the lives of those who live and work in Wales. To be eligible, project activities must fall into the following categories. Sports; Arts; the Environment and the Community. To date, the Trust, has awarded nearly £4 million worth of grants. The scheme is open to receive applications from National groups who have a remit to serve the whole of Wales and can apply for up to £12,500.

Please note if you have previously received funding then you are not eligible to re apply until the next suitable round three years after you received your funding.

The closing date for applications is noon on Thursday 21st April. Trustees will meet late June 2011 Applicants will be written to early July, cheques will be issued in July 2011.

To apply and for more information please go to: <http://www.millenniumstadiumtrust.co.uk/index.asp>

Vacancies at DVSC

Older People Advocacy Project

- [1] Advocacy Outreach Support Worker - Part time (Rhyl based)
- [2] Admin Assistant - Part time (Rhyl based)

Social Enterprise Officer - Full time (based in Rhyl and Ruthin)

Finance Officer - Part time (Ruthin based)

Full details, application forms and job descriptions are available on DVSC's website www.dvsc.co.uk or contact DVSC on 01824 702441

Closing date for all posts is 26th April 2011

Current consultations

The following consultations by the Welsh Assembly Government and other agencies are currently open. If you are unable to access the internet but would like details of any of these, contact DVSC on 01824 704635 or office@dvsc.co.uk

For all current WAG consultations see; <http://tinyurl.com/c56t52>

- **Measuring national well-being** – closes 15/04/2011
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/about/consultations/measuring-national-well-being/index.html>
- Consultation on the draft document ‘**A Strategic Vision for Maternity Services in Wales**’ – closes 18/04/2011 <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/maternity/?lang=en&status=open>
- **Resolving workplace disputes** - public consultation - closes 20/04/2011
<http://www.bis.gov.uk/Consultations/resolving-workplace-disputes?cat=open>
- **Inquiry into the implementation of the right of disabled people to independent living** – closes 29/04/2011 <http://tinyurl.com/65kdzvr>
- **Broadband in Wales** - closes 05/05/2011
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-az/commons-select/welsh-affairs-committee/news/Broadband-Announcement/>

Carers Strategies (Wales) Measure – Draft Regulations and Guidance

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/carers/?lang=en>
25/05/2011

- **Review of Respite Care in Wales** - closes 08/06/2011
<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/respite/?lang=en>



DENBIGHSHIRE LEARNING DISABILITY FORUM

Dates For Your Diary Forum's monthly discos

are held on the last Friday of the month at the Masonic Hall in Meliden 7 — 10.30pm, dates include: 29 April (Fancy Dress Disco), 27 May, 24 June, 29 July, 26 August (Fancy Dress), 30 September, 4 November. Forum's Christmas party and disco will be held on 9 December.

Forum's Annual Funday will be held on Saturday June 11 at Ffrith Beach Festival Gardens from 10 - 5pm, with lots of activities including 'Ghostbusters', live entertainment and a 'Prestatyn's Got Talent' contest.

BIKE SCHEME LAUNCH 20th April at the Ffrith. The bikes will be available from 4 April from the tenpin bowling section at the Ffrith, Prestatyn, where the key will be kept. The cost per session, of up to 4 hours, will be £2 per person. Full details of the Bike Scheme and the Official Launch from Jackie.

For further details of the Forum's work and activities please contact Alan or Jackie at Denbighshire Learning Disability Forum on 01824 709315

Campaigning – progress report by John Watkin, Chief Executive Officer

1. Denbighshire County Council Scrutiny committees – We have still not secured any seats on the local scrutiny committees.

2. The Welsh Assembly Government Code of Practice for funding the voluntary sector - Denbighshire County Council has provided a draft code for the Voluntary sector Liaison Group to comment on. There is a meeting on 11th April at which the issues will be discussed with a view to finalising the document.

3. Procurement and Commissioning
(a) North Wales Procurement Partnership - this now looks like a watching brief as no major problems, that I am aware of, are happening. **(b) Collaborative commissioning** – We have started discussions with Denbighshire County Council and we have asked for this item to be included in the action plan for 2011 so that we can collectively make some headway as it appears progress in other County areas are at a far more advanced stage than in Denbighshire.

4. Rural Development Board Programme (RDP) – We are waiting the outcome of the mid term review that is being undertaken by the Welsh Assembly Government. It is hoped arising from the review that the rural programme will become more accessible and less bureaucratic which will assist the Third Sector and the local communities immensely.

5. Regeneration Board - We are still waiting for news from the County Council as to whether the Third Sector will be involved.

6. Rhyl Shopmobility – This organisation has had some real financial problems arising from the road works in Rhyl and of course those problems are beyond their control. A file has practically been completed detailing the impact of the road works on the organisation and more importantly on their clients through the loss of a significant support service over quite a lengthy period. It is planned to discuss the findings of that impact report with the Authorities.

7. Community Transport - We have always wanted to see in Denbighshire a robust and co-ordinated community transport service and it is pleasing to report that some really positive steps are now being taken by

Denbighshire County Council in collaboration with the Community Transport Association and ourselves (DVSC). A number of meetings have taken place but as yet there is nothing of substance to report.

8. Cymorth and Families First – We are hoping to meet up with the Deputy Minister for Children Mr Huw Lewis after the Welsh Assembly elections, assuming that Mr Lewis still holds that portfolio, to celebrate the work achieved by the third sector organisations and to seek guidance as to why certain key activities relating to children and young people have not scored sufficiently within the new Welsh Assembly Government funding criteria to enable the 6 unsuccessful projects to qualify for Cymorth funding from 1st April to 30th September 2011.

9. Voluntary Organisations grant – this is a new item which we intend to raise at the next Voluntary Sector Liaison Group as voluntary organisations have still not received as of 6.4.11 letters confirming their grant entitlement from 1.4.11. This situation is wholly unsatisfactory given those organisations are now committing funds in respect of salaries and premises costs without knowing for certain the amount of revenue grant they are to receive. Clearly their auditors are asking searching questions.

Associated with this grant is also the very real concern that whilst Denbighshire County Council have been subjected to a cash reduction of 1.6% in terms of their grant from the Welsh Assembly Government, the council have chosen to impose a 10% cut on the voluntary organisations across Denbighshire and whilst the Council have indicated the 10% saving will be used to finance new services that the voluntary organisations can bid for there is no safety net for those organisations who have difficulty in continuing to deliver valued services to the vulnerable in our communities. We will be asking at the next Voluntary Sector Liaison Group meeting that the 10% reduction be waived and that other means be found to finance new services.

Volunteer Centre

For further details on volunteering opportunities or issues please contact Gaynor at Ruthin on 01824 702441 or Gerry in the Rhyl office 01745 369973

Seventeen young people from all over North Wales and Cheshire, representing fifteen organisations and schools, took part in a marathon six hour Fancy Dress Trolley Push at Rhyl Sainsbury's on Saturday the 12th March in aid of this years Comic relief "Do Something Funny for Money" for Red Nose Day.

The event, supported by Sainsbury's, and organised by North Wales Young Dragons/ Dreigiau Ifanc Co-ordinator, Gerry Frobisher of Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council, raised a whopping £500.00 for the appeal.



Young Dragons aims to increase the number of young people involved in the uniformed and non uniformed youth organisations, and to increase the number of volunteers who help to run them. The vision of the Young Dragons/ Dreigiau Ifanc project is to promote citizenship to all the young people of Wales, through fun and adventure by working together and supporting each other to deliver increased opportunities to themselves and the community at large.

For more information on the Young Dragons/ Dreigiau Ifanc, please contact Gerry Frobisher on Rhyl 01745 369973

Denbighshire YouthGrants

From 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 the Denbighshire YouthGrants youth led panel granted almost £8,700 to sixteen different groups throughout Denbighshire.

Prestatyn Cricket Club, 1340 Rhyl Squadron ATC Kids Fun Club, Rhyl Little Theatre, Clwb Hwyl Hwyr Young Dragons, Llangollen Silver Band, Denbigh Youth Project, 1st Meliden Guides, Rhyl Football in the Community, Prestatyn Young Firefighters Association, Llangollen & District Young Farmers Club, 2193 Prestatyn Squadron ATC, St John Ambulance – Ruthin, Prestatyn Pop in Centre

A maximum grant of £500 to support volunteering or set up a volunteering activity is available for a range of small volunteering projects and activities, led and carried out by young people. The panel determining grant recipients comprises of young people aged 16-25. If your youth group or youth-led project wishes to apply for funding, or if you would like more information about becoming a panel member, please contact Gaynor Jones, Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council on 01824 702441, email gaynor@dvsc.co.uk or Gerry Frobisher on 01745 369973, email gerry@dvsc.co.uk



Young Volunteers Honoured for commitment to their community

On Thursday 10th March 2011 over 60 Parents and Guests attended a STAR SPANGLED "Millennium Volunteer", "Young Volunteers in Denbighshire" and Young Dragons/Dreigiau Ifanc presentation of Certificates and Awards evening at The Pavilion Theatre Rhyl, hosted by Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council.

Twenty eight young volunteers received a total of fifty special certificates for their committed volunteering in the community from local Champion Boxer and Kick Boxer, and film star **Spencer Wilding**



and Heart Radio Presenter **Angela Jay**.

Gerry Frobisher, the Youth Volunteer Co-ordinator with the Denbighshire Volunteer Centre said "It was a great turn out of

young volunteers, who between them have carried out over 2,500 **hours** of volunteer time.



For more information about Millennium Volunteering, Young Volunteers in Denbighshire, Young Dragons/Dreigiau Ifanc and volunteering in general, please contact Gaynor Jones on 01824 702441 or Gerry Frobisher on 01745 369973.

Dates for your diary

European Year of Volunteering

A Volunteering Fair to celebrate the European Year of Volunteering will be held at Glyndwr University, Wrexham on Thursday 19th May 2011. DVSC's Volunteer Centre will be attending to promote volunteering opportunities available.

DVSC's Volunteers' Week Celebration

This year's Volunteers' Week Celebration will take place on Tuesday 7th June.
Further details to follow in due course.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about Volunteers' Week, please contact Gaynor Jones

Denbighshire Record Office is looking for groups of volunteers who would be interested in helping with the delicate but essential work of cleaning some of the documents in its custody. Contact Gaynor Jones for further details.



If you're an organisation looking to recruit volunteers or an individual looking for voluntary work opportunities the Volunteering Wales website is a very useful place to explore.

The website address is **www.volunteering-wales.net**
If you want any further direction or information please contact the Volunteer Centre



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Gift Aid registration surgery – five simple steps to Gift Aid

Friday 6 May 2011, Morfa Hall, Rhyl

Trainer: Eileen Kinsman **Duration:** ½ day **Format:** Workshop

Aims: To provide practical information for participants so that they are able to understand the benefits of income they could generate from Gift Aid and the process of registration.

Gift Aid enables charities and community amateur sports clubs to reclaim the tax paid on donations from individuals – for every pound your organisation is given you can claim an additional 28 pence from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). By building this option into your fundraising strategy you can generate higher levels of unrestricted funding for your organisation. This session will look at the process of registering for and claiming Gift Aid in five simple steps, and it will also cover the changes to the process following on from the 2010 budget.

Who are these surgeries for?

These sessions are aimed at those not already registered with HMRC to claim Gift Aid, but may also be useful to those already registered but who want to ensure that they are claiming on everything to which they are entitled.

Fees: B £10 for voluntary and community organisations operating in Wales
For more information email training@wcva.org.uk or telephone the WCVA helpdesk on 0800 2888 329.



• Opportunities to gain accredited training

'Go Green for Employment Course'
Are you looking for a career in the outdoors, do you want to learn more about conservation, gain accredited training, confidence and improve your health and fitness at the same time?

Our 'Go Green for Employment Course' (an Engagement Gateway project) managed by BTCV and Denbighshire County Council Countryside Services is starting soon:
Over the 5 weeks you will:

- Gain practical environmental skills and training by being actively involved on conservation projects in Denbighshire
- Improve your health, fitness and confidence

- Improve your job search skills, and gain a CV
- Access to further volunteering opportunities, career advice and training in the local area

Eligibility:

- ♦ Must be over 16 years old
- ♦ Must be unemployed or economically inactive
- ♦ Reside in Denbighshire

For more information please contact: Engagement Gateway is managed by WCVA, and funded by European Social Fund and Welsh Assembly Government)

Sally McGuinness at BTCV on: - 01745 342426

News and information for Wales from:

Wales Council for Voluntary Action
 Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square,
 Cardiff Bay, CF10 5FH
 Helpdesk 0800 2888 329 www.wcva.org.uk



Cabinet Office announces Big Society Bank strategy

Following the announcement of the Cabinet Office strategy that will see the development of the Big Society Bank, many were waiting to hear what the implications would be for Welsh organisations.

Finance for the Big Society Bank comes from two sources: investment from four high-street banks, which will be available throughout the UK, and dormant bank accounts, which are for England only. Funds from dormant bank accounts for Wales have already been allocated to different purposes.

A key feature of the UK Government's Big Society agenda is the establishment of a Big Society Bank, which would aim to grow the social investment market to give voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises access to greater resource.

The purpose of the Big Society Bank is to act as wholesaler and use its balance sheet to co-invest, underwrite or guarantee investments along with private sources of capital.

The Big Society Bank will be financed by £200million given by the UK's largest banks, and an estimated £400million from dormant bank accounts: accounts which have been untouched for 15 years or more.

The Prime Minister announced in July last year that 100% of dormant account funds for spending in England would be used for social investment, but dormant accounts in Wales have been earmarked for other purposes.

After a public consultation, Welsh Ministers proposed two spending priorities, which were approved by the National Assembly in April 2010:

- To support young people to achieve their full potential, in particular those not in education, employment or training
- To encourage community action to tackle climate change

The Big Lottery Fund in Wales will distribute dormant account funds for these purposes.

Frances Maude, Minister for the Cabinet Office, clarified during Cabinet Office questions in the House of Commons on 1 March 2011 that the £200million invested in the Big Society Bank by four high-street banks would be available throughout the UK. However, he confirmed that the remaining funds from dormant bank accounts would be for England only, and that social lenders outside England wouldn't have access to these funds.

Francis Maude also confirmed that the bank would not make grants.

WCVA will monitor the progress of the Big Society Bank and share any developments.

The strategy *Growing the Social Investment Market* is available on the Cabinet Office website: www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Strategic review leads to new list of Charity Commission priorities

The Charity Commission has published 15 key regulatory priorities for the next four years, focusing on the process of charity registration, providing guidance to trustees, ensuring groups remain accountable to the public and investigating mismanagement of charities.

The key priorities identified by the Commission include:

- Streamlining the process of charity registration, moving quickly to reject applications which do not meet the requirements.
- Tailoring guidance to the diverse needs of charities and using technology to enable personalisation and interactivity.
- Reviewing the information required of charities to make sure what is asked for is necessary and sufficient for public accountability.
- Maintaining the capacity to investigate individual charities where there is mismanagement or abuse –

but focus on interventions only where there is a serious and systemic risk and where the Commission's involvement can have most impact.

- To develop partnerships with umbrella bodies so that, over time, they can take on responsibility for one-to-one advice.
- To consider a programme of peer review to help identify and address areas of risk.
- To create a new structure with a flatter hierarchy and fewer layers of decision-making.

The publication of these priorities signals the end of the first stage of the Commission's strategic review, which was informed by public consultation. The next stage will involve work in developing and refining these priorities, with the aim of having a new Commission structure in place from 1 October 2011. For the complete list of the Charity Commission's key priorities, visit www.charitycommission.gov.uk.

Last chance to nominate outstanding volunteers

Nominations for the 2011 Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards, supported by CCLA, will close on 15 April.

As well as recognition of individuals, young people (under 25 years), and groups, the scheme also rewards 'green' volunteers and trustees. There will be up to three winners in each category, with 15 national winners presented with their awards at a ceremony in Cardiff in June, and all nominees awarded commendation certificates at a local ceremony or by post.

The 2010 winners included two environmentalists who take weekly unpaid leave to volunteer and a trustee who has ensured the smooth running of Citizens Advice Bureaux across north Wales.

Second time supporter CCLA exists to help charities make the best of their investments. See www.ccla.co.uk for more information.

Nomination forms are available from the WCVA Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, e-mail help@wcva.org.uk or downloaded from www.wcva.org.uk/voty. The deadline for nominations is 15 April 2011.

Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Head Office - Baltic House, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff CF10 5FH, registered charity number 218093, company limited by guarantee 425299, registered in Wales

News and information for Wales from Wales Council for Voluntary Action