

The Volunteer in Denbighshire

February
2011

DENBIGHSHIRE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

On Friday 21st January, 2011 a very successful meeting of the re-convened Denbighshire Community Development Network was held at the Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl. The meeting organised by Emyr B Williams, DVSC's Senior Development Officer and facilitated by Nia Jones Community Development Cymru was attended by over 30 delegates.

The event was a much needed opportunity for networking, sharing good practice and catching up on current developments.

It was unanimously agreed that meetings of the Network should continue and arrangements have been made to hold the next meeting at the same venue on the morning of **Friday 15th April**.

Please contact Emyr B Williams 01824 702441 emyr@dvsc.co.uk if you would like to be included on the mailing list and be kept informed of forthcoming Network events



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

Tel: 01824
702441

Fax: 01824
705412

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 Children & Young People*

Sarah Breeze *Marketing & Funding Advice 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*

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*

Aled Williams *Admin Assistant*

Elfed Williams *Advocacy Officer for Older People*

Emyr B Williams *Senior Dev 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*,

Flintshire - Mold Office 01352 744055

Claire Sullivan *Carer Services Co-ordinator*, **Garry Davies** *Independence & Wellbeing Facilitator*, **Celia Hughes** and **Helen Owen** *Community Facilitators*, **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*,

DVSC INFORMATION LEAFLETS

DVSC has over 170 information sheets which have been produced in collaboration with fellow County Voluntary Councils, WCVA and Volunteer Centres.

The information sheets are available on the DVSC website www.dvsc.co.uk, e-mail lilwen@dvsc.co.uk or telephone 01824 709321

The information sheets are available in English and Welsh.

Getting started

8 information sheets

Running your organisation

17 information sheets

Working with others

10 information sheets

Volunteers

18 information sheets

Trustee and governance

8 information sheets

Employing and managing people

22 information sheets

Finding and getting money

48 information sheets

Managing Money

11 information sheets

Assets

6 information sheets

Promotion and marketing

8 information sheets

Campaigning and Influencing

15 information sheets

Do you work with service users who struggle with their energy bills? It's estimated that around 6 million people in the UK are living in fuel poverty – that means they spend more than 10% of their total income on fuel.

Energy Best Deals is a fun, informative and VERY timely session that helps people understand how to access cheaper deals on their fuel bills, how to compare and switch energy providers, understand about social tariffs, grant schemes and schemes to help those who are struggling with utility bill arrears. Funded by Ofgem and Citizens Advice it is entirely impartial and seeks only to raise consumer awareness and access to schemes that can help them pay less for their utility bills.

Equally helpful for staff, volunteers or service users alike.

If you have a group of at least 8-10 people and would like us to come and deliver this session for you free!

Contact Jayne Bellis or Gail Roberts at Pennysmart CIC. We are based in the FLVC building at Corlan in Mold Flints and work across all areas of Chester, Ellesmere Port & North Wales. Tel: 01352 744078

enquiries@pennysmart.org.uk.

But HURRY we are booking up fast we only have these sessions available until April 2011.

[Denbighshire appointments to WCVA Board](#)

Recently three DVSC Trustees have been elected to the WCVA Board. This now takes the number of DVSC Trustees sitting on the WCVA Board up to four.

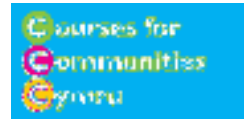
Mrs Eurwen Edwards OBE, BEM - re-elected 2010

Mrs Nerys Biddulph, MBE - current member

Mr Mike Denman - elected 2010

Mrs Hilary Stevens - elected 2010

Congratulations from DVSC Board are extended to the four Trustees and there is no doubt that the views of Third Sector organisations in North Wales will definitely heard at WCVA.



VOLUNTARY SECTOR REGIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMME

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

Recruiting and Retaining Disabled Volunteers – Thursday, 24 February, 2011 – 10.00 am to 3.00 pm - Corlan, Unit 3, Mold Business Park, Wrexham Road, Mold

By the end of this session you will

- ◆ Have a better understanding of the issues
- ◆ Have a more effective recruitment strategy
- ◆ Examined best practice on retaining disabled volunteers

Trainer – Shelley Moorefield

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

Getting the Best from Your Volunteers - Monday, 28th February, 2011 - 10.00 am – 3.30 pm – Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street, Ruthin

By the end of this session you will

- ◆ Understand good practice in relation to motivation, support and supervision of volunteers
- ◆ Recognise the opportunities for volunteers' personal development and learning
- ◆ Know how to give appropriate recognition to volunteers
- ◆ Recognise key sources of conflict and ways of managing difficulties
- ◆ Understand when and how to terminate the volunteering relationship

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, 7 March, 2011 – 10.30 am – 3.30 pm – Wellington Road Community Centre, Rhyl

By the end of this session you will

- ◆ Be able to 'do your homework!' and understand how good research, realistic outcomes and accurate budgeting can improve the chances of a funding application being successful
- ◆ Learn how to write concise and compelling funding applications
- ◆ Be able to build relationships with grant givers and meet their expectations

Trainer – Emyr B Williams

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

Coaching and Mentoring – Thursday, 17 March, 2011 – 10.00 am to 3.00 pm - Corlan, Unit 3, Mold Business Park, Wrexham Road, Mold

By the end of this session you will

- ◆ Learn the benefits of coaching
- ◆ Coaching Styles
- ◆ The coaching process
- ◆ Learn techniques that help people to focus on their goals

Trainer – Lynne Jones

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

Health and Safety in the Workplace (CIEH) – Thursday, 17 March, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm – Tŷ AVOW, 21 Egerton Street, Wrexham [No Lunch] Registration & Refreshments at 9.20am

By the end of this session you will

- ◆ Have an understanding of the principles of health and safety and accident prevention
- ◆ Have an outline of the responsibilities regarding hazard, risk and the main causes of harm
- ◆ Have the ability to contribute to any health and safety management scheme
- ◆ Have guidance in understanding the importance of risk assessments as a technique for accident and ill health prevention
- ◆ Have an appreciation of how work place equipment and task design affect health and safety

(CIEH Accreditation will be awarded to successful candidates (assessment optional)) Please note that this course is £45 per participant. AVOW members will receive 10% off courses

Trainer – Andrew Blankley

To book this course contact the Training Team at AVOW on 01978 312556 or email communitycourses@avow.org

Denbighshire Workforce Development Training Courses

Please complete an application form that can be found on DVSC's website www.dvsc.co.uk as the Workforce Development Team will not accept any applications by phone or email.

* please note max 2 applications for each team/organisation.

Please post to: Course Applications, Workforce Development Team, Ty Nant, Prestatyn LL19 9LG [1]

Introduction to Visual Impairment (1/2 Day Course)

16th March 2011 09.15 (for a 09.30 start) - 12.30

AND

[2] Stroke Awareness (1/2 Day Course)

16th March 2011 13.15 (for a 13.30 start) - 16.30

Venue : Denbigh Rugby Club

TARGET GROUP - Anyone working in a care setting

[3] Dignity in Care Training

24 March 2011 – Denbigh Time: 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Target Group: Any member of staff who has direct contact with older people

[4] Understanding Grief & Loss (1/2 Day Course)

30th March 2011 09.15 (for a 09.30 Start) - 12.30

or 13.15 (for a 13.30 start) - 16.30

Venue : Denbigh Rugby Club

TARGET GROUP - Anyone working within a care setting.

[5] Formulating Adult Protection Plans & Assessing Risk (1 Day Course)

4th March 2011 09.15 (for a 09.30 start) - 16.30

Venue : Denbigh Rugby Club

TARGET GROUP - Social Workers/ Team Leaders, Care Home Managers/ Deputies, Occupational Therapists.

[6] The Protection of Vulnerable Adults Level 3 & 4

Date: 28 and 29 March 2011 (two day course).

Venue: Denbigh Rugby Club Time: 9.30am – 4.30pm

Target Group: Anyone who may be involved in the process of investigations and case conferences: - Social Workers, Team Leaders/ Managers/ Deputies, Police, Nurse Managers.

TRAINING / CONFERENCE VENUE

If you are looking for a very convenient meeting room at a very reasonable cost look no further ! Waen Parish Hall is situated on Junction 28 of A55 Chester bound. The Parish Hall was formerly owned by Presbyterian Church of Wales and was bought by the people of the Waen raising money to buy the property so they could have a Parish Hall. In 2009 the Hall had an extensive refurbishment. It has seating for 50 people theatre style or 48 people cabaret style and has free broadband and wifi . The hall is fully disabled accessible with disabled toilet and has a small kitchen area where tea/ coffee and light snacks can be made. The Hall has blackout blinds and white walls for powerpoint and free and safe parking just outside. For further information as to how to book the hall please contact Derrick Jones

derrickajones@btinternet.com



BIG Innovation Programme for Wales

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) has launched its which will invest up to £5 million in projects that seek to find new solutions to address emerging and existing social problems in Wales. BIG is committed to bringing about real improvements to the communities most in need but recognises that existing ways of meeting needs do not always work and that some needs are new, with no ways of addressing them. In the current economic climate, being innovative is challenging, especially if there is no guarantee of success. The programme has been launched to help people turn their innovative ideas into reality. Over the next three years, BIG will make grants of

between £20,000 and £1 million through the programme. BIG is interested in applications from a broad range of sectors and organisations to allow the most innovative ideas to be identified and funded. It will consider an idea as being new if it hasn't been tried anywhere else in the UK and will fund local, regional or national projects as long as at least 75% of the people who will benefit live in Wales. The programme is open to applications from the voluntary, community, public and private sectors, however, BIG will not support activities that contribute directly to a private organisation's profits or give grants to individuals. **The deadline for receipt of applications for Round 1 Stage 1 is 21 February 2011.** Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 11/1/11 & WCVA E.briefing)

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

Farewell to Suzanne Bradley and Sarah Breeze

Suzanne Bradley - Suzanne leaves her post as Children & Young People's Partnership Liaison Officer with DVSC on the 31st March, after having spent the last 5 years working with children and young people groups across Denbighshire. Suzanne is leaving following Denbighshire County Council confirmation that this post is not eligible for continued funding from the Cymorth grant or the new Families First funding. They claim that this arises from the changes announced by the Welsh Assembly Government to the funding criteria. The loss of the Children and Young People's post will have a significant impact on voluntary and community organisations, in that DVSC will not be able to support those organisations to the same level as is currently the case. For some months DVSC has been actively looking for funding from sources other than Denbighshire County Council and Welsh Assembly Government in a bid to retain the post and hopefully, keep the services of a valued employee – Suzanne.

Sarah Breeze – Sarah leaves on the 28th February due to her current contract ending as the funding finishes on that date. DVSC was aware from the start of the contract in May 2009 that funding would cease at the end of February, and has been advising the various voluntary and community groups accordingly, that support for the Rural Key Fund will cease. DVSC has made arrangements for support to be provided by Denbighshire County Council from the 1st March. We have attempted to secure funding from sources other than Denbighshire County Council and Welsh Assembly Government, but to date have been unsuccessful. Sarah has been a great asset to DVSC in helping many third sector organisations in the rural area secure funding, not only from the Rural Key Fund but also from other sources such as Awards for All, the Big Lottery and the Community Facilities and Activities Programme.

DVSC Trustees and staff wish Suzanne and Sarah the very best for the future and wish to place on record their thanks for the work, guidance and commitment they have given to supporting, developing and promoting organisations in the Third Sector. DVSC has received a number of emails and telephone calls from organisations expressing their gratitude to both officers, and wish to reassure those organisations that efforts will be ongoing to secure funding so that the success stories we have had over the last few years will continue

Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 provides a new cross-cutting legislative framework to protect the rights of individuals and advance equality of opportunity for all; to update, simplify and strengthen the previous legislation; and to deliver a simple, modern and accessible framework of discrimination law which protects individuals from unfair treatment and promotes a fair and more equal society.

Equality Act provisions which came into force on 1 October 2010

- ◆ The basic framework of protection against direct and indirect discrimination, harassment and victimisation in services and public functions; premises; work; education; associations, and transport.
- ◆ Changing the definition of gender reassignment, by removing the requirement for medical supervision.
- ◆ Levelling up protection for people discriminated against because they are perceived to have, or are associated with someone who has, a protected characteristic, so providing new protection for people like carers.
- ◆ Clearer protection for breastfeeding mothers;
- ◆ Applying the European definition of indirect discrimination to all protected characteristics.
- ◆ Extending protection from indirect discrimination to disability.
- ◆ Introducing a new concept of “discrimination arising from disability”, to replace protection under previous legislation lost as a result of a legal judgment.
- ◆ Applying the detriment model to victimisation protection (aligning with the approach in employment law).
- ◆ Harmonising the thresholds for the duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled

people.

- ◆ Extending protection from 3rd party harassment to all protected characteristics.
- ◆ Making it more difficult for disabled people to be unfairly screened out when applying for jobs, by restricting the circumstances in which employers can ask job applicants questions about disability or health.
- ◆ Allowing claims for direct gender pay discrimination where there is no actual comparator.
- ◆ Making pay secrecy clauses unenforceable.
- ◆ Extending protection in private clubs to sex, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.
- ◆ Introducing new powers for employment tribunals to make recommendations which benefit the wider workforce.
- ◆ Harmonising provisions allowing voluntary positive action.

Equality Act Provisions to come into force in April 2011

- ◆ Positive action in recruitment and promotion

Equality Act provisions the Government is still considering

- ◆ Dual discrimination
- ◆ Provisions relating to auxiliary aids in schools
- ◆ Diversity reporting by political parties
- ◆ Public sector Equality Duty (following the recent consultation on specific duties)
- ◆ Provisions about taxi accessibility
- ◆ Prohibition on age discrimination in services and public functions
- ◆ Family property
- ◆ Civil partnerships on religious premises

**UPPER DENBIGH
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT**

My name is Angela Watt and I have recently been



appointed by DVSC as the full-time Community Development Worker for Upper Denbigh. As well as



myself, Sharon Simon has also been appointed as part-time admin assistant. We are based at Pennant Flats in Upper Denbigh and the main aim of the project is to support, help and encourage residents from Upper Denbigh to participate within their community and to get actively involved in achieving change and

ensuring Upper Denbigh is a better place to live. The post has been funded for three years by the Big Lottery Fund. 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 the lives of people most in need.

I have a background in youth and tenant participation and recently worked for TPAS Cymru as a Project Officer where I supported social housing tenants and landlords across Wales through training and support in order to develop effective participation.

I am very pleased to be working on this exciting project and I am looking forward to working with the local community and organisations. The Upper Denbigh Community Partnership will monitor the project and I will be working in partnership with a number of agencies including; Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, Denbigh Youth Project, UPDATE and the Basic Skills Agency.

A community consultation exercise will be carried out early on in the project to identify the needs and aspirations of local residents and to ensure that the community development

activities are relevant to the Upper Denbigh community. Following the consultation I will run a variety of informal workshops to help increase the skills, abilities and confidence of local residents so that they are able to take effective action and leading roles within the development of their community. I will also support existing voluntary and community groups in the area and help establish new groups, if any gaps are identified from the community consultation exercise.

My priority for the first 6 months is to meet up with as many people and organisations from the local community as possible in order to promote the project and to make people aware of the activities and services already available to them in the area and to help identify local priorities for the future.

If you live in the Upper Denbigh area or would like to know more about the Community Development project, please contact me on: 01745 815897

angela@dvsc.co.uk

Angela Watt
Upper Denbigh Community Development Worker
9 Pennant Flats
Henllan Street Denbigh
LL16 3PH

RURAL KEY FUND CAPITAL SCHEME

As part of the Rural Development Plan (RDP); the Denbighshire Rural Key Fund has been set up to provide capital grants for rural communities

TIME IS RUNNING OUT - CONTACT NOW
Contact Sarah Breeze urgently to discuss your project ideas
Your community project may be eligible for a £25,000 grant

This project has received funding through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013 which is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

Sarah Breeze / Emyr Williams at DVSC

☎ 01824 702441 ✉ sarahb@dvsc.co.uk www.dvsc.co.uk



BIG LOTTERY AWARDS FOR ALL GRANTS

Two bids from community projects in Denbighshire were successful in the last round of Awards for All grants awarded by the Big Lottery.

Ruthin Show Society received a grant of £4,942 to finance their healthy eating, nutrition and vegetable growing training programme which will culminate with demonstrations at the Ruthin Show held in August 2011.

The 1st Ruthin Brynbach Scout Group were successful in their bid £3,529 to pay for repairs to the ceiling and associated re-decoration of their Scout Hall as well as the costs of installing a telephone land line to enable Group members to access the Internet for educational and confidence building purposes. A broadband hub for wireless connection will also be installed.

Encouraging more groups to apply for funding, Gareth Williams, Awards for All Programme Manager for BIG in Wales, said:
"Our Awards for All programme is already having a positive impact throughout Wales and the money is helping to establish groups, societies and clubs, promoting learning,

increasing volunteering opportunities and helping to build stronger communities. In these difficult times, we are urging more communities in Wales to take full advantage of and reap the rewards from this programme. "Our message is simple. If a community group has an idea for a project which supports community activity, extends access and participation, increases skill and creativity or generally improves the quality of life of people in their area, then we definitely want to hear from them."

Available in English and Welsh, the application for the programme can be downloaded, completed and emailed direct to the Big Lottery Fund as well as being available in hard copy. Application forms are available from www.awardsforall.org.uk or by phone on 0300 123 0735.

NOTE: Emyr B Williams, DVSC's Senior Development Officer assisted the two successful groups to complete their bids. If you would like any help to fill in the Awards for All application form or if you would like someone to cast an eye over your completed bid before submission then please contact Emyr to make an appointment either in Ruthin or Rhyl. 01824 702441 or e.mail emyr@dvsc.co.uk

Did you know that charities now need to apply online to register with the Charity Commission?

The online registration system is quick and easy to use. All you need is an e-mail address and password which can be ordered from the Commission's website. You can also save your application and return to work on it later.

Using our website makes it easier, faster and more convenient for charities to deal with us online. Registration is a good example of this. We can, on average, process applications submitted online in half the time of those on paper and now nearly two-thirds of all new charities apply to register online.

More information about the registration process, including the requirements charities must meet, can be found on http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/Start_up_a_charity/default.aspx

As well as online registration, the Commission also has a new range of online forms – in Welsh and English – designed to help trustees manage their charities more easily. These forms include:

- Applying to vest your charity's land in the Official Custodian;
- Letting us know that your charity's merged; and
- Removing your charity from the Central Register.

The Charity Commission is continually seeking to improve its online systems to meet charities' needs, and we are constantly upgrading the system in response to feedback from charities. Our aim is to have all services online by 2012.

For further information on this story please contact Rosie Stokes on 01633 225510.

**DENBIGHSHIRE LEARNING
DISABILITY FORUM**



Forum-Disco, Masonic Hall,
Meliden - last Friday of the month

**ARE YOU A PARENT OR
CARER OF SOMEONE
WITH A LEARNING
DISABILITY?**



If you are, then please accept an invitation to join the Forum for a free informal lunch and the opportunity to have a friendly chat with like minded people,

Wednesday 9th February, 12 - 2pm at the Red Lion, Meliden

Friday 4th March, 12 – 2pm at the Naylor Leyland Centre, Ruthin

Tuesday 5th April, 12 – 2pm at the Corwen Healthy Living Centre

To avoid disappointment please book as early as possible

For further details on the Forum lunches or the Forum's work and activities in general 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 Liason Group to comment on by mid February 2011. Progress is being made.

3. Procurement and Commissioning North Wales Procurement Partnership - this now looks like a watching brief as no major problems, that I am aware of, are happening. **Collaborative commissioning** – We have started discussions with Denbighshire County Council I hope to provide more information in the next newsletter.

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 at 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. – Good news to report in that Denbighshire County Council have rolled forward Cymorth funding to the 30th September 2011 for the majority of organisations currently in receipt of this funding. There are 6 organisations/projects that will not qualify for continued Cymorth funding and one of those being the Children and Young People post attached to DVSC. Clearly we will support all projects who have lost funding in an attempt to find alternative sources so that the services continue from April which is only a matter of months away. We are still planning on meeting the Deputy Minister for Children Mr Huw Lewis 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.

Cutting Edge

At the recent, joint Health Social Care and Wellbeing (HSCWB) and Children and Young People (CYP) meeting, held on the 19th of January to discuss current, important issues in Denbighshire, there were two presentations. The first speaker was Debbie Nalecz from “Supporting People” and

the second was Holly Evans who discussed the “Families First” pilot scheme in Denbighshire.

The next meeting - an extended/joint HSCWB/CMP meeting to be entitled “Are you Being Served?” is to be held on **THURSDAY 7th April, 2011**, at: the Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street,

Ruthin. Denbighshire LL15 1AF. (01824-702441. The meeting will begin at 10.15am and lunch is included. The meeting will look at the impact of changes to benefits and spend time discussing the way the networks will continue to function after June. Contact Lindsay or JoAnne for further details or to book your place.

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



YOUNG DRAGONS BAG PACKING

Ten members of the 1st Meliden Guides became Young Dragons for the day and joined members of the St Kentigern Hospice Prestatyn Support Group, to spend their Christmas Eve day bag packing in the Iceland store in Prestatyn to raise funds for the St Kentigern Hospice. Their efforts helped raised an amazing £742.00 for the Hospice.

Gerry Frobisher, the North Wales Co-ordinator of the Young Dragons programme, said "HRH, Prince Charles The Prince of Wales was the

catalyst for the establishment of the "YOUng Dragons / Dreigiau Ifanc" project and is its Patron. The project aims to bring together all the uniformed youth groups, and young people in general, so as to increase the scale and quality of opportunities for young people to volunteer with these services, in the community and together as a group and for others".

For more information on Young Dragons please contact Gaynor Jones on 01824 702441 or Gerry Frobisher on 01745 369973.



DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE BODELWYDDAN

The Resource Centre is eager to recruit 2 or 3 volunteers for electrical and mechanical work in their workshop.

A volunteer is also needed in the office to help with clerical and administration duties.

THE STROKE ASSOCIATION

The Stroke Association are looking for a bilingual Communication Support Volunteer to befriend an elderly lady client who is in a Residential Home in Ruthin and has communication difficulties following a stroke.

Initial support will be provided by a speech and language technician

SUE RYDER CHARITY SHOP

The Sue Ryder Charity has a volunteer sales assistant vacancy at their Charity Shop in Ruthin. Duties include sorting, steaming stock, pricing, and displaying new goods but the volunteer can choose the role best suited to him/her.

Training will be given in all aspects of the post



Stargazing Llangollen Cub Scouts

Llangollen Cubs have been busy creating mobiles of the planets and our galaxy, as a part of their Astronomers Badge. Here we see Cub Kelsey Nash putting the final touches to her construction with the help of Leader Sarah Harrison. 1st Llangollen Scout Group believe in helping our youth to achieve their full potential by working to achieve, in teams, learning by doing and thinking for themselves.

They want to make Scouting available to all and are passionate about what they do. The Beaver section (Scouting for 6 - 8 yrs), Cub section (Scouting for 8 to 10 ½ yrs) and Scout Troop (for 10 ½ to 14 yrs) are all open to boys and girls. All of this is only made possible of course by the efforts of teams of adult leaders. Their training scheme and support structures ensure they make the best use of skills and talents and have fun whilst doing so.

What is needed in all the Llangollen sections are new adult assistant leaders. Rules dictate that Scouting should be exciting, yet safe and that safe working ratios are maintained, for which your help is needed. So if you want to join the teams in any of their sections and give something back to the community, please contact Gaynor Jones in the first instance, who will then put you in touch with *Mark Winson, Scout Development Officer.*

Grants for Youth Groups up for grabs



Russell Commission Youth Led Grants - 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 will comprise of young people aged 16-25. The next Panel meeting will be on Tuesday 1st March.

For an application pack, an informal chat or for more information regarding the fund please contact Gerry Frobisher on 01745 369973 / gerry@dvsc.co.uk or Gaynor Jones on 01824 702441 / gaynor@dvsc.co.uk

3rd Prestatyn Scout Group

Now that Bastion Hall has been sold the Scout Group will be moving to their "new" HQ, Church of the Holy Spirit, Victoria Road, Prestatyn.

On Saturday 19th February they will be offering unwanted equipment to anyone who wants it. The list of equipment includes wooden benches, stack of plastic chairs, various pots and pans, plates, cups and saucers (about 100 sets) gas stove, electric stove (almost new), wooden desk

For further details contact Keith Todd
ktoddy51@btinternet.com

WRVS VOLUNTEERS - Volunteers are urgently needed to help deliver meals to older people all over Denbighshire.

CAN YOU HELP?

Full training will be given and out of pocket expenses paid. The time commitment is 1 - 2 hours any day of the week including weekends.

Contact Gaynor Jones at the Volunteer Centre 01824 702441 for further details



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Health and Social Care Budget – better settlement than feared but what will it mean?

Third sector representatives met with the Minister for Health and Social Services on 6 December: the second meeting of 2010 under the auspices of the Third Sector Scheme. Unsurprisingly the budget was the key focus: the health and social services department's budget and its implications for third sector services; the role of local compacts with health boards to ensure adherence to best practice; and also addressing the effects of the overall UK budget on mental health and employment in Wales.

Chris Hurst, Director of Resources, DHSS, Welsh Assembly Government explained that the budget is 'better than the settlement that was feared some time ago in revenue terms.'

While the level of revenue has been protected, the public sector will need to make efficiency savings of about 10% over three years due to inflation and the increasing demands on services. Social Services funding will increase by £35 million by 2013-14. Capital has been reduced by about a third. The health boards would need to work through how best to use resources and 'be more imaginative and with a broader approach towards investment needs' particularly in terms of the shift to community and primary settings, and , for

instance, more co-location with both local government and the third sector would be expected.

An example of a more imaginative approach came with an item from Wales Environment Link on maximising the benefits of NHS estates through green exercise for staff and the public. The Minister agreed that land maintenance should be more holistic, 'we have absolutely first class, beautiful grounds that can be actively used'. A meeting with NHS estates will be facilitated to take this work forward.

In terms of funding for the third sector, Sections 28b and 64 grants schemes are under review particularly in terms of transactional rationalisation. The Minister intends that her overall review will be completed before the Christmas recess. Once the Minister has confirmed funding, there will be longer term commitments, however the third sector will also be expected to contribute to efficiency savings including sharing overheads; and have clear, quantifiable outcomes.

With collaboration more important than ever, there is the need for strong terms of engagement underpinned by codes of practice, including funding, that local compacts should deliver. While the Assembly Government has recently issued guidance to the health boards on local compacts with the third sector, the Wales Association of County Voluntary Councils asked for support in ensuring that compacts were given sufficient recognition across

each health board's organisation; and for when the compact agreement is not followed, the breach usually being financial. The Minister agreed to implement a formal system with the health boards enabling both the health boards and CVCs to report breaches to the Assembly Government.

Mind Cymru led an item on the wider adverse effects of the UK budget on employment and mental health. The Minister praised a paper which highlighted the cost to the economy of poor mental health; how the impact of worklessness is already known and those most isolated from work can be experiencing 'a double whammy' for instance BME members or those in the justice system; and how those in work in these times can also be stressed. The effectiveness of investing in the mental health of a workforce is recognised and the Mental First Aid programme in Wales is supporting staff in their workplace. The Minister confirmed that the funding for this programme is part of the review, but that she has been delighted by the wide range of organisations that have already taken up this 'very valuable' training.

For copies of any of these papers and for more information please contact Constance Adams cadams@wcva.org.uk



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DEAF ASSOCIATION /
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Free goody bag for first 500 visitors/ bag rhad ac am ddim i 500 pobl cyntaf.

For Further Details / Am Fanylion Pellach – Contact / Cyswiltwch â
North Wales Deaf Association
Cymdeithas y Byddar Gogledd Cymru
Tel / Ffôn: 01492 542235 Minicom: 01492 542238
Fax / Ffacs: 01492 542238 E-mail / E-bost: info@deafassociation.co.uk

A new **Comic Relief** scheme, Community Cash, has been launched offering local groups and organisations in Flintshire, Denbighshire, Conwy and Wrexham, in North Wales the opportunity to apply for a grant worth between £500 and £1000. Organisations must have an income of less than £50,000 to be eligible to apply to the “On Your Doorstep” scheme. Red Nose Day Community Cash grants aim to support work where there is clear evidence of a sustained beneficial impact on people’s lives that are excluded or disadvantaged through low income, rural or social isolation, age, disabilities, race, sexuality or gender. It is hoped that 1,000 small grants will be awarded across the UK ensuring that there is at least one project near everyone.

To be eligible groups need to be small locally run organisations run in disadvantaged or deprived areas with an income of less than £50,000 a year. There is a restriction of one grant per group and no group can apply more than once.

For further details about local priorities, please go to <http://www.cfiw.org.uk/grants.html> Closing date is 18 March 2011



Llais y Goedwig “Funding Sustainability” Conference

**11th March @
Brookhouse Mill,
near Denbigh**

Llais y Goedwig, the all-Wales association of community-led woodland initiatives is running a Funding Sustainability conference in Denbighshire.

The aim of the conference is to get funders and grant providers together with community woodland groups and other third sector representatives to explore the future of funding in the current economic climate. There will be a chance to discuss ways in which community-led initiatives can mix grant funding with enterprise to achieve a more enduring stream of income to support their work. Plus guidance in how to research funding options, apply for grants and

become a social enterprise. The conference will present existing or just-establishing groups with ideas for making your projects economically sustainable in the long run.

The conference will feature opening remarks from Eleanor Burnham AM (North Wales) and workshops and presentations from Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Wales Cooperative Centre, the Big Lottery Fund, Forestry Commission Wales, Cadwyn Clwyd, Denbighshire Voluntary Service Council, Keep Wales Tidy, Environment Wales, Focus on Forestry First plus many more funders and third sector organisations. There will also be a visit to Bodfari Woodland Skills Centre where you can see ideas and experience put to practice.

To book a place or to find out more, please contact: Chloe Griffiths
chloe.griffiths@llaisygoedwig.org.uk
or call 08454560342



Gingerbread is the national charity working with single parent families. Formed following a merger of the National Council for One Parent Families and Gingerbread, we now provide increased support and a stronger campaigning voice for single parents and their families.

ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT LOOKING FOR WORK?

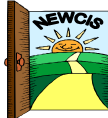
GINGERBREAD ILM CAN HELP YOU!!

Gingerbread have a new office in Morfa Hall, Bath Street, Rhyl and our aim is to help unemployed single parents back into work through **FREE** training and **PAID** work experience.

To qualify onto this ILM applicants must:

- ◆ Be a single parent (living alone with child care responsibilities)
- ◆ Be over 18
- ◆ Be out of work for at least one day
- ◆ Live in Conwy or Denbighshire
- ◆ Want to work either in Retail (Customer Services) or Administration

If you have potential referrals or for further details contact the team on 01745 337996 or 07824 618924



details please contact:

NEWCIS (aged 25 and over) – Iona Crompton & Kealie Jones on 01745 331181

Action For Children (16-24 year olds) – Lorna Fenwick on 01745 331222

UPDATE ON LIFESKILLS PROJECT

The Launch of this project took place at Rhyl Pavillion on 27th January. It was well attended with over 50 delegates, and lots of interest from local councillors, other voluntary organisations and statutory organisations within Denbighshire. Chris Ruane MP opened the event which was chaired by Beth Taylor – NEWCIS Chair. A number of Carers who are already signed up to the Project showed their support on the day. We would like to thank them for sharing their stories and hopefully this will help the organisations present to identify future clients who could also benefit from this project.

North East Wales Carers Information Service (NEWCIS) & Action for Children (AFC) have been funded by the Big Lottery & WEFO to work with Carers & Former Carers across Denbighshire to help them develop the skills they need to get back into training, work or volunteering & also to provide some valuable Life Skills e.g. money management & healthy eating.

Would you like one to one and ongoing support from a personal mentor? Our mentors Iona & Kealie are now looking for Carers & Former Carers who are currently not in education, employment or training to take part in this project! For further



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



Call to reward Wales' outstanding volunteers

WCVA has launched the 2011 Wales Volunteer of the Year Awards which are supported by CCLA for the second year running.

Since the awards scheme started in 2004, it has grown over the years and now receives over 200 nominations in five categories, which have been chosen to reflect the range of volunteering opportunities across Wales.

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.

Details of the scheme, including nomination forms, are available from the WCVA Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, or e-mail help@wcva.org.uk. They will also be available to be downloaded from the website www.wcva.org.uk/voty. The deadline for receipt of nominations is 15 April 2011.

Welsh speakers urged to take part in research on health and social care services

The Welsh Assembly Government and the Care Council for Wales are keen to hear from Welsh speakers about their experience of health and social care services through the medium of Welsh.

They have commissioned a team of researchers from the Welsh Centre for Language Planning to carry out the work.

Researchers are keen to speak to patients, service users and carers to find out more about their experience. Was it easy to receive a Welsh-medium service or were there obstacles? What

effect did this have? Were they happy with the service they received or do they have suggestions about ways of improving services?

People will be able to take part in the research through confidential face-to-face interviews or pre-arranged phone interviews and they are also welcome to submit written evidence.

For further information, please contact either Elaine Davies on 01239 711668 (elaine.davies@iaith.eu) or Elin Mair on 01239 711668 (elin.mair@iaith.eu).

News and information for Wales from Wales Council for Voluntary Action

Charities permitted to take sides in AV referendum

The Charity Commission has indicated that charities will be able to support a Yes or No vote in the upcoming referendum on the Alternative Vote system, should they believe the outcome will directly affect the delivery of their objectives.

New guidance from the commission says the principles that govern political activity by charities also apply to referendums. It says it may be appropriate for charities to 'set out the pros and cons of a yes or no vote for their beneficiaries'.

It says: 'For example, if the outcome of a referendum will have a particular impact on older people, it would be appropriate for a charity that works with older people to explain the effects of the different outcomes to its beneficiaries.'

But it draws a distinction between setting out the pros and cons and actively campaigning for a yes or no vote.

'In exceptional cases charities may consider that the outcome of a referendum is likely to directly

affect, positively or negatively, the delivery of their charitable objects,' it says.

'Where the impact on the work of the charity is very indirect or uncertain, the trustees will find it difficult to justify campaigning for a particular outcome.

'The key question for the trustees is exactly how such activity would be an effective way of promoting the objects of the charity.'

If they plan to publish material that indicates support for a particular side in a referendum, the document suggests charities may be required to register with the Electoral Commission as campaigning organisations.

The No to AV campaign is reported to have written to 23 charities asking them to distance themselves publicly from the Yes to Fairer Votes campaign.

A statement issued by the No to AV campaign said: 'We welcome this guidance from the Charity Commission and will be seeking urgent clarification from the charities concerned over how their alleged support meets their charitable objectives.'

2011 Assembly election – a third sector agenda

In advance of the 2011 National Assembly election, WCVA has set out ways in which the third sector is already helping people and communities in Wales to meet the challenges of today the future years.

The document also proposes a series of practical steps that a new Welsh Government can take to

grow the contribution that the third sector makes to supporting active participation by people in community life and action.

2011 Assembly election – a third sector agenda can be viewed at <http://tiny.cc/301em> and the summary document, at <http://tiny.cc/v28or>.



Data Protection Act 1998 Contact details of all recipients of the National Supplement are held and processed by WCVA on computer. The information is used by WCVA for the monitoring and promotion of the voluntary sector in Wales. Contact details are disclosed to third parties for the purposes of assisting this promotion.

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