

VCS NK

Supporting the
voluntary and
community sector

Volunteer Centre NK – What we offer

Brokerage - We offer a "brokerage" or matching service. Together we can help you find volunteering opportunities suited to your individual needs.

Why volunteer? -

Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills, get back into the workplace and meet new people. Spare time to fill, bored with your current job, recently retired or a student looking for work experience?

Be involved - You can do something that you are passionate about, get yourself involved in the local community, learn new skills, enjoy yourself and really make a difference!

Looking for something new? There are lots of organisations that would appreciate your time!

Get in touch with us at the number below to see what opportunities are currently available.

If you are a voluntary or community group or organisation and require assistance or advice telephone

01529 308450 or email
info@volunteercentrenk.org.uk



For further information on anything you see in this newsletter contact VCS NK unless otherwise stated.
01529 308450

Are you part of a group?

- Do you need funding advice or assistance ?
- Do your committee members understand their roles?
- Do you have any training needs?
- Do you or your group require any kind of information or support?



Voluntary Centre Services NK

are holding outreach sessions at your local NK Community Access Points office in the following areas:

6/1/09	Billingham	Tuesday	10-12
14/1/09	Branston	Wednesday	10-12
29/1/09	Metheringham	Thursday	10-12
3/2/09	Navenby	Tuesday	10-12
10/2/09	N Hykeham	Tuesday	10-12
17/2/09	N Scarle	Tuesday	11.30-1.30
25/2/09	Osournby	Wednesday	10-12
3/3/09	Skellingthorpe	Tuesday	9-2
10/3/09	Waddington	Tuesday	10-12
17/3/09	Washingborough	Tuesday	10-12

A member of staff from VCS NK will be on hand to discuss your needs or make arrangements to see you at a later date. Please feel free to drop in and discuss your group.



MEET THE TEAM

Caty Collier –	Area Co-ordinator	caty@volunteercentrenk.org.uk
	Direct Dial: 01529 308453	
Tim Barzycki –	Project Officer	tim@volunteercentrenk.org.uk
	Direct Dial: 01529 308456	
Steph Bristow –	Project Support Officer	steph@volunteercentrenk.org.uk
	Direct Dial: 01529 308454	
Kerry Wint –	Youth Volunteering Advisor	kerry.wint@lcvys.com
	Direct Dial 01529 308451	
Volunteers:	Jenny Preston – Information, support and Volunteer Advisor	
	Denise Knott – Volunteer Receptionist	Anja Williams – Volunteer Advisor/IT support
	Erin Lawlor – Volunteer admin support	



Volunteer Centre
North Kesteven
VCS NK
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NG34 7TR

Tel: 01529 308450
Fax: 01529 419084
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info@volunteercentrenk.org.uk

www.volunteercentrenk.org.uk

Newsletter

December 2008

All staff and volunteers at VCS NK wish all our readers best wishes of the season.

Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund

Lincolnshire County Council and NHS Lincolnshire have launched a new fund which aims to have a positive impact on people's health and wellbeing, with the following outcomes:

- To improve the health and well-being of the population of Lincolnshire, addressing health inequalities and/or social exclusion.
- To encourage and enable children and their families to achieve and maintain a healthy weight.
- To enhance the education, skills and employment prospects of local people, particularly the young and those at a disadvantage, and promote equality of opportunity
- To improve housing and housing conditions for local people through physical improvements, better maintenance and/or management, addressing fuel poverty and offering greater choice and diversity;

vcashpoint open

vcashpoint is a funding initiative that offers young people aged 16 to 25 up to £2500 to turn their ideas for voluntary projects into reality.

The first four rounds of vcashpoint have funded over 390 **youth-led projects** and it is now ready to work with more enthusiastic young people who want to benefit their community and make an impact.

- To enhance the quality of life and capacity of local people and their communities, contributing to local regeneration, including leisure, cultural and sports opportunities.

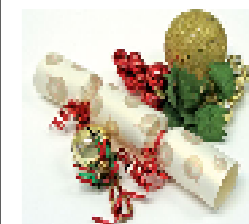
The Health and Wellbeing Grant Fund Board would like to invite initial Expressions of Interest which meet the criteria, for projects of over £50,000. A Grant Fund Briefing Note and Expression of Interest Form can be obtained from David Stacey, Health and Well-being Project Manager at david.stacey@lincolnshire.gov.uk, tel 01522 554017, or download from the funding page of our website at www.volunteercentrenk.org.uk.

Timescales for the initial round of bids are as follows:

! Friday 19 December 2008 - Deadline for Expression of Interest forms

All information on vcashpoint including eligibility and application criteria, application forms and other useful information is available on www.vinspired.com now. The helpdesk is also available for queries and support on 0800 089 9000.

Application deadline: 5pm Monday 26 January 2009



HSE Myth: Every possible risk needs a safety sign



The reality

Using too many signs just guarantees no one will read any of them.

Safety signs are useful when there's a significant risk which can't be avoided or controlled in any other way. But that doesn't mean you should add a sign for every possible risk, however trivial.

Where there are serious risks in your workplace, don't just rely on signs - take practical steps to deal with them. If you do need a sign, make sure it has the right symbol and is clearly visible.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/myth/index.htm>

The Really Useful Stuff Handbook

The Really Useful Stuff Handbook produced by RaCol provides lots of useful information about: running your group; equality and diversity; employment law; policy and procedure and working in partnership and lots of other 'really useful stuff'.

We now have several copies, which are available to borrow and use as a reference.

Awards for all



What award goes to designers of door knockers?

The no bell Prize

Following a review of the Awards for All England programme, changes are to be made to the small grants scheme's existing format when it comes to an end in March 2009.

Currently Awards for All England is a joint Lottery grants programme supported by Arts Council England, Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England.

From 1 April 2009 each of these four lottery distributors supporting the scheme will have their own small grants programmes up and running. Applications can still be made under the current arrangements until 31 March 2009. The change will mean that each distributor can better address the needs of their applicants and the themes they support. Overall, across all the distributors, it is anticipated that money available for small grants in 2009-10 will be comparable to money that was available to community groups through Awards for All in 2008-2009. See www.awardsforall.org.uk

Bridges Ventures New Social Entrepreneurs Fund Launched

Bridges Ventures has announced the launch of the Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund, a new fund dedicated to investment in social enterprises in the UK.

The Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund aims to address the funding gap often faced by fast-growing social enterprises. The fund has so far raised £4.25 million for investment in scalable social enterprises delivering high social impacts and operating sustainable business models.

The Fund will invest up to £1 million in each social enterprise. The investment will be through equity-like capital providing social enterprises with the risk capital funding they need to grow. The funding will be repayable with an appropriate return, and the fund will re-invest all repayments and returns into further social enterprises.

All proposals must have positive social, environmental and economic benefits.

Applications to the fund can be made at any time via an online form which can be found at <http://www.bridgesventures.com>

O₂ It's your community

O₂ 'It's your community' awards were created to inspire us all to make positive changes to our lives. Every month small grants of £1,000 are given to projects that encourage people to come together and make a real difference to the places they live. See <http://www.itsyourcommunity.co.uk/> or contact VCS NK for more information.

What did the fish say when it swam into a wall?
Dam.

What athlete is warmest in winter?
A long jumper.

Training Updates

Safer Food Better Business — at VCS NK on 21 January 2009

Learn more about the current guidelines and regulations surrounding Food Safety and Hygiene and perhaps clear up a few myths. We will try to answer any questions you may have.

Introduction to working with the media — at VCS NK on 4 Feb 2009

A day long workshop intended for people who have never dealt with the media or who have only limited experience. It covers how journalists work, meeting their needs to meet your own, identifying news, writing news releases and includes extensive opportunity for delegates to experience and practice the skills required.

Governance and management committees: at VCS NK on 26 Feb 2009

Find out more about how to run an effective group, roles and responsibilities of committee members, being an effective chairperson and Governance issues for voluntary sector organisations.

To book your **free** place, contact us on 01529 308450 or email info@volunteercentrenk.org.uk

Coming up in March

Volunteers and the Law

Funding training

Attracting Young People as Volunteers

Presentation Skills

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts to close

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts was established in 1991. They channel money originally donated by Littlewoods and other football pools companies to a wide range of sporting and artistic causes. Since 1991 they have awarded grants worth over £350 million.

Following a review of the current level of reserves and in light of the fact that their only source of income is now the interest generated by those reserves, the Trustees have decided to cease the activities of the Foundation at the end of March 2012. This will enable them to continue to make awards at the current annual levels, and to bring matters to a close in the same year as the London Olympics - a fitting climax. To assist a smooth closure programme, no new applications for funding will be considered after the end of March 2009.

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts, Walton House 55 Charnock Road Walton, Liverpool L67 1AA

Tel: 0151 259 5505 Fax: 0151 230 0664

Email: contact@thefsa.net

Website: <http://www.thefsa.net/>

More groups benefit from VCS NK support

Thanks to advice received from VCS NK two groups have received funding from Help the Aged to assist with paying for group members to go out for a Christmas lunch. Help the Aged are able to subsidise the costs of these lunches through their national fund raising campaigns. Friends of Swaton and Waddington Residents Association are the latest to benefit from VCS NK support in this way. Jean Cross, area coordinator for Help the Aged said 'It is hoped that more money will be available next year to support a summer picnic programme.'

In addition training for six people from Metheringham Animal Welfare Supporters Group was paid for through a successful funding bid made on their behalf by VCS NK.

Other assistance given to groups recently includes constitutional advice to a new group looking to regenerate a local waterway and to another person regarding setting up an archery club.

To find out more about the services on offer contact Tim on 01529 308456

