



shropshire infrastructure partnership

strengthening the voluntary sector together

3rd May 2011 (Issue 12)

We are back

Lots of training information this time....

As always keep a look out for information on our website

www.ShropshireVCS.org.uk and share this document with anyone who may

find it useful. Signing up for yourself is simple, just email

info@shropshirevcs.org.uk and we will include you in the next mail shot.

Unfortunately we can only distribute this newsletter by email.

In this issue we have contributions from: CCS's training programme, LawWorks, NCVO, NAVCA,



Training Roundup

○ Successfully recruiting and retaining volunteers

Volunteer Managers and Co-ordinators often find they are constantly looking for volunteers and better ways to recruit. This course will look at how to bring new talent into your organisation and how to keep hold of the volunteers you have through good quality recruitment, support and training processes. The course is aimed at those with responsibility for coordinating volunteer recruitment within an organisation.

When: Monday 9th May 9.30am – 12.30pm

Where: Community Council of Shropshire, Shrewsbury

Cost: £15 to voluntary and community groups in Shropshire

○ Being interviewed by the media

This interactive course delivered by Jim Hawkins Ltd will cover many hints and tips including how to build relationships with the media, how to get your key messages across, dealing with difficult questions and the importance of being open, honest and available

When: Thursday 12th May 2pm-5pm

Where: Community Council of Shropshire, Shrewsbury

Cost: £15 to voluntary and community groups in Shropshire

○ Managing staff during organisational change

This 2-part course delivered by Roots HR CIC will cover recruitment, restructuring, downsizing, redundancy and redeployment.

When: Friday 13th May 9.30am – 12.30pm and 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Where: Community Council of Shropshire, Shrewsbury

Cost: £15 per half day to voluntary and community groups in Shropshire

The morning session will focus on workforce; retaining existing workforce whilst reducing costs and planning a restructure.

The afternoon session will focus on managing redundancy and redeployment processes, employment contracts, changing terms & conditions.



○ User representatives on board?

There is often a perceived conflict of interest between being a nominated representative from a user group and being a charity trustee – where should your loyalties lie? Often user representatives are confused about their role and on occasion don't regard themselves as trustees at all. This course will explore the difficulties that can be encountered and how to ensure that you represent both groups effectively.

When: Thursday 19th May 9.30am – 12.30pm

Where: Community Council of Shropshire, Shrewsbury

Cost: £15 to voluntary and community groups in Shropshire

○ Volunteer management

This course aims to provide participants with an introduction into good practice in volunteer management. It is a good starting point for those with ongoing responsibility for supporting, supervising and co-ordinating the work of volunteers.

When: Monday **23rd May** 9.30am – 12.30pm

Where: Community Council of Shropshire, Shrewsbury

Cost: £15 to voluntary and community groups in Shropshire

○ Making the case for funding

This course aims to take you through the preparation you need to do to be ready to apply for funding.

When: Friday **27th May** 10am – 3pm

Where: Community Council of Shropshire, Shrewsbury

Cost: £30 to voluntary and community groups in Shropshire (includes lunch)

For more information on all the above courses please contact Lorraine Smart on 01743 237880 or email lorraine.smart@shropshire-rcc.org.uk

○ Shrewsbury Social Media Surgery



When: Tuesday **7th June** 5.30pm - 8pm

Where: HCS Computers' Log Inn Internet Café, 55 Castle Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY1 2EJ

(Also 5th September, 7th November, 9th January, 5th March and 14th May). For more info and to book

<http://shropshirevcs.org.uk/our-services/training/shropshiresocialmediasurgery/>

Have any legal questions?

Initial Electronic Advice is an automated, web-based system, to submit a short legal query and have this answered by a volunteer lawyer via email. Not for profit organisations and advice agencies can register online to submit questions for entry into the system.

The main legal areas covered are: advertising, banking, building and construction, charity, clinical negligence, commercial, company, competition, construction, consumer, consumer credit, contract, corporate, costs, crime, debt, education, employment, energy, environment, EU, family, general litigation, health and safety, housing, immigration, insolvency, insurance, intellectual property, IT, landlord and tenant, mental health, mortgages, data protection, finance, insurance, pensions, personal injury, planning, property, public law, small claims, tax, telecoms, trust, welfare, wills and probate.

If you would like to register to submit questions, please see

<http://www.lawworkstraining.org.uk/lawworksiea.org.uk/>.



Update on vetting and barring scheme



Bates Wells & Braithwaite
SOLICITORS

Bates Wells and Braithwaite solicitors have managed to produce a more readable version of the key recommendations from the government's review of the Vetting and Barring Scheme. This should give you a better feel for what the changes will be, starting sometime 2012. See

<http://bit.ly/hZduzr>



Get Shropshire Online

The Community Council of Shropshire is proud to announce they are now a UK Online Centre and has been awarded funding for an exciting new 12 month, Shropshire wide project: 'Get Shropshire Online'. The aim of the project is to help build the capacity of communities and local groups to set up and maintain initiatives to promote the use of the internet. The project will focus on partnership working and is looking for partners and volunteers to get involved. For more information contact Renee Wallace on 01743 342169 renee.wallace@shropshire-ccc.org.uk



Get Shropshire Online will support 3 campaigns, with the first one taking place 16th – 20th May 'Spring Online with Silver Surfers Day' (<http://springonline.org/>) so you will no doubt see them around the county.

Charitable incorporated organisation



The Charity Commission has published guidance on the 'charitable incorporated organisation' legal form (CIO) which was introduced by the 2006 Charities Act but has not yet been brought into force as secondary legislation needs to be passed first and no date has been set for this yet.

What is unique about CIO's is that they are not companies, meaning a charity will need to register with the Charity Commission but not with Companies House.

The guidance had been produced now so that charities interested in using the CIO form could "look more closely at whether the CIO structure is the right one for their needs, and what will be involved.

The guidance includes two models for the governance of a CIO – a foundation model under which the only voting members would be the charity trustees, and an association model for charities that have a wider, voting membership.

It says trustees of a CIO will normally have limited or no liability for its debts.

Find the guidance via http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_cio.aspx

Why charities must now think internet first

Dramatic funding cuts make it urgent for charities and community groups to embrace technology. Good use of technology offers your organisation new routes into funding and lets you reach more people – donors, policy makers or beneficiaries – more effectively, cheaply and 24/7.

Eight of the UK's top funders met in February this year to discuss the role of technology in the modernisation of charities and to improve their efficiency. As a result the 'Survive & Thrive' guide was produced full of useful case studies and tips on how you too can use technology to cut costs; raise more money; build communities; increase your reach and more vividly demonstrate your impact. Download a copy of this free guide from <http://bit.ly/gJ7CAP>

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is a way for charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) to increase the value of monetary gifts from UK taxpayers by claiming back the basic rate tax paid by the donor. It can increase the value of donations by a quarter at no extra cost to the donor. Gift Aid is worth nearly £1 billion a year to charities and their donors.

HMRC has published a handy toolkit to get started with Gift Aid, see <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/gift-aid-toolkit.htm>

Are you registered with the Giving Machine?

This innovative scheme is potentially one of the easiest, cheapest and most sustainable ways for UK charities and schools to raise essential funds regularly. It takes advantage of the rapid growth in internet use, while the UK's online shopping market grows year on year. And the best part is it is absolutely free for both Givers and beneficiaries.

http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/about_the_giving_machine.php



TheGivingMachine is a not for profit online fundraising website that enables online shoppers to give cash donations to any and all UK schools & charities, for free. When people buy online via TheGivingMachine, a sales commission is received from the participating shop. 75% of this is converted into a donation which could be YOU! 25% is retained to contribute to costs of maintaining the website and distributing donations. People will be buying the same products, at the same price, on the same shopping websites as if they went direct but the difference is; by shopping via TheGivingMachine they generate free cash donations at no extra cost.

Volunteering



Volunteer centres in London have started recruiting the 8,000 volunteers who will be stationed at transport hubs around the capital to help tourists find their way around London during the 2012 Olympic Games (the London Ambassadors programme) So far, 16,000 people have applied.

The **Shropshire Volunteering Team** (based at OCA and CCS) can help promote your volunteering opportunities;

both Olympic Games inspired ones or your normal everyday opportunities.

Please see <http://shropshirevcs.org.uk/site/volunteering/> for details of lots of useful resources and our volunteering outreach service.

Would you like to say thank you to your volunteers?

Then please join us in Shrewsbury Quarry (by the Band Stand) for a



Thank You Picnic!*



Saturday 4th June
12.30pm – 3pm



- Sabrina Brass Band will be playing for us from 1pm
- Thank You Certificates for volunteers, presented by the High Sheriff of Shropshire, Mr Richard Burbidge OBE, DL, BA
- Face painting and balloon modelling



*Please bring your own picnic!

Please contact Steve Jones on 01743 237877 if you would like your volunteers to be presented with certificates.

The **Shropshire Infrastructure Partnership** consists of: [The Community Council of Shropshire](#), [Marches Community Enterprise](#), [Oswestry Community Action](#), [Pre-school Learning Alliance Shropshire Sub-committee](#), [Shropshire Youth Association](#), [South Shropshire Furniture Scheme](#), [Midwest Rural Enterprise](#) and [The Roy Fletcher Centre](#)

Please feel free to pass this e-bulletin on to others. If you do not wish to receive further updates from us please email 'Unsubscribe' to info@ShropshireVCS.org.uk.