



shropshire infrastructure partnership

strengthening the voluntary sector together

5th November 2010 (Issue 4)

Hello again!

As the year motors on and more details of spending cuts and Big Society are revealed on a daily basis, there is no stopping us planning some major events and continuing to offer support, training and guidance on a wide range of topics, much of it FREE!

Please visit our web site www.ShropshireVCS.org.uk, it has a lot of useful information on it and if you are on Twitter, please follow us @VolunteerShrops. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your contacts. Signing up 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.

For this edition we had contributions from the Shropshire Partnership, RAWM and the wide pool of information that is Twitter.



Oh come all ye Volunteers & friends.....



Come and celebrate the fantastic contribution that volunteers make in Shropshire in a very special Carol Service:

**St Mary's Church, St Mary's Street, Dogpole, Shrewsbury
on 2nd December 7pm – 8pm**

followed by coffee and mince pies. It is open to all volunteers. The event **is free** but booking of places is essential. For enquiries please contact Steve Jones (01743 237877) We hope to see volunteers of many organisations there.

Looking for finance related volunteers?

The ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants for England & Wales) offer a service to charities to post volunteer positions for free on its jobs board and help accountants volunteer.

In addition, ICAEW's '**talk charity**' is an on-line community for charities and the voluntary sector to share knowledge and experience. If you have any finance related questions, check it out and give it a go. You can find more information on www.icaew.com/volunteering



Find HR support in your area with NCVO's new directories

NCVO has developed a series of directories to help make it easier for voluntary and community sector employers to find appropriate HR services at a local, regional or national level. Each entry identifies the key HR services that each provider offers, so you are able to make informed decisions about which providers to contact. The directories highlight HR support providers from across nine regions. To download your copy, visit: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/hr-services-mapping

Equalities Forum Meetings

The Shropshire Partnership is seeking expressions of interest from voluntary/community organisations who wish to take responsibility for organising and supporting meetings of the Equalities Forum. This is an opportunity for the sector to take a lead on implementing the Equalities Agenda in Shropshire and provide ongoing support and develop the Forum, bringing together statutory and voluntary agencies, local community groups, commercial organisations and individual activists to provide a network and focus for discussion and action on equality, diversity and anti-discrimination issues across the county.

It is expected that the successful organisation, group or agency will take responsibility for supporting meetings of the Equalities Forum on **1st APRIL 2011**. The closing date for Expressions of Interest is 5.00pm on **FRIDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2010**

If you have any questions regarding the above please contact Andrew Gough, 01743 252263, andrew.gough@shropshire.gov.uk

Funding Advice

Don't forget to check out our funding updates on the website in particular those kindly provided by the Shropshire Partnership which can be found on www.shropshirevcs.org.uk/our-services/funding-advice/shropshire-partnership-funding-updates

This information is updated monthly and is worth a regular look. This month's opportunities include:

- Community Wildlife (BIG LOTTERY) - details of a Shropshire project and the programme's final deadline
- External Funding Strategy - comments now invited for the draft action plan
- Community Buildings (BIG LOTTERY) - advance warning of a new community buildings programme
- Hilden Charitable Fund - supporting charity work around homelessness, penal affairs, asylum seekers and initiatives for the 16-25s

You will also find details of funding criteria of several grants administered by The **Community Foundation for Shropshire and Telford** such as Comic Relief, Donor Fund grants, the Sparkler Fund. You will also be able to talk to people from the Foundation at our Funding fair on the 19th November.



More Funding news....



The Neighbourhood Challenge is a new programme from NESTA, working with the Big Lottery Fund, to support community-led innovation. It aims to show how community organisations – when equipped with the right skills, practical tools and small, catalytic amounts of money – can galvanise people to work together to create innovative responses to local priorities, particularly in neighbourhoods with low levels of social capital.

Community organisations across England are invited to apply to the 18-month programme. NESTA will select ten organisations and provide them with funding to trial an approach to community organising that reflects their own vision for what will work best in their area. Community Organisations are asked to express their interest in taking part by 22nd November.

The Neighbourhood Challenge will deliver tangible impact and powerful case studies in local areas. At the same time, it will be rigorously evaluated to inform the Government's thinking about how to make the Big Society work for all communities in the UK.

For more information visit

www.nesta.org.uk/areas_of_work/public_services_lab/neighbourhood_challenge

Big Society Toolkit



- The Young Foundation (www.youngfoundation.org) has developed a toolkit to find out what people want from the Big Society:
- what makes people want to get involved in local action
 - what stops them from taking part
 - how to devolve power and money to communities
 - how communities can work effectively with local authorities and public agencies
 - what makes people feel like they belong in a place

This interesting toolkit can be accessed via www.youngfoundation.org/community-action-tool-kit

Event/Training Round-up

Volunteering Roadshow

Promoting volunteering, help and advice to recruit, retain and manage volunteers.

Farmers Market, Discovery Centre, Craven Arms

Saturday 6th November, 9am – 1pm

For enquiries please contact Steve Jones (01743 237877)

Shropshire Community Buildings Conference – ‘Small Hall, Big Impact’

Craven Arms Community Centre, **12th November**, 10am - 4pm

For enquiries and booking contact Lorraine Smart (01743 237880)



Social Enterprise Road show

Bottom level of the Darwin Centre, Shrewsbury, **18th November**, 10am – 2pm

Confused about Social Enterprise, would like to set up a Social Enterprise or are you a social enterprise and need support? **It's time to meet your local Social Enterprise Advisors.**

For enquiries contact Nicky.Kent@Shropshire-rcc.org.uk or phone 01743 342178



‘Funding your Future’ - Funding Fair

With speakers from Shropshire Council, the Local Strategic Partnership, Big Lottery, NCVO, ACEVO and Whittingham Riddell.

Shrewsbury Town Football Stadium, **19th November**, 9:30am – 2pm

To book visit www.shropshirevcs.org.uk/FYF

For more info email info@shropshirevcs.org.uk

Big Society Debate

Shrewsbury Education and Conference Centre, **26th November**, 9.30am – 1pm

With a keynote Speaker from the Cabinet Office and Discussion Groups on • National Citizenship Service • Personalisation Agenda • Community Organisers • Neighbourhood Support Groups • Senior Citizens Forum

To book a place at this free event please contact Lucy Cooke on 01743 342167

Wyldwoods FREE training

There are 10 places available for 2 training opportunities:

- Food Hygiene Awareness – 15th December from 10am-12pm
- Finance for Non-Financial Managers – 15th December from 1pm-4pm

If you are interested can you please contact Stephanie Brett (steph.brett@wyldwoods.co.uk) 01952 884224 as soon as possible to book your place (s)

Unfortunately (in case you want to do both courses) they are unable to provide lunch but it's a beautiful venue for a picnic and Broseley is only a 5 minute drive or 20 minute walk away.

There is also a local cafe who will deliver sandwiches.

Do you subscribe to the Shropshire Community Recycling Ltd (SCRL) newsletter?



SCRL is the body that helps voluntary and community groups work together to tackle waste issues. Find out more about their work at www.scrl.org.uk.

If you are in Shropshire and are interested or involved in any aspect of community recycling, they want to hear from you!

SCRL (thanks to funding from The National Lottery's Awards for All scheme), has outreach support available to local communities in the form of Ben Proctor. He can work with you and your community group to develop and grow reuse and recycling projects in your local area. Ben can be contacted on 07904 123498 or e-mail ben@benproctor.co.uk.

The SCRL AGM will take place at **10am on 24th November** at **Acton Scott** near **Church Stretton**, if you are concerned with waste issues in Shropshire they want to see you there!

World of difference UK

Could your charity benefit from the skills and commitment of someone who'd like to donate their time for two months? That's what the World of Difference UK programme is all about. Applications are open from now until 23 November for 500 people to donate themselves to a UK charity of their choice, and get paid for it. One of these people could be working with you and your charity.

Got a project you haven't been able to complete? Need a fresh perspective on things? Looking for a set of skills that you don't have in-house? Now's your chance to get involved and get the extra help you need to make a difference.

Visit <http://worldofdifference.vodafone.co.uk/charity.html> to find out more.



FREE half day Record Keeping workshops



These have been specifically designed for third sector organisations / projects funded primarily by the European Funding, or those who are thinking of applying for this funding.

It will help you to understand what records are required, what information you should be recording and analysing, and how you should be filing and evidencing the information required to meet EU regulations and will take some of the myths and fears surrounding this funding.

The sessions will take place in the Training and Conference Suite at the Community Council of Shropshire in Shrewsbury on:

- November 26th 2010 10am -1pm. General Record Keeping.
- December 7th 2010 10am -1pm. Record Keeping for Audit

For enquiries and more information please contact Eddie Currall, European Project Advisor, West Midland European Network, 0121 683 8890

The **Shropshire Infrastructure Partnership** consists of: [Community Council of Shropshire](#), [Marches Community Enterprise](#), [Oswestry Community Action](#), [Pre-school Learning Alliance Shropshire Sub-committee](#), [Shropshire Youth Association](#), [South Shropshire Furniture Scheme](#), [Mid West 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.