

The Chain

Wokingham Borough's Voluntary & Community Group Newsletter

Every volunteer and community group is a link, in an ever growing chain and working together makes us all stronger

Funding from WBC for the Voluntary Sector Infrastructure support has been confirmed with involve for 2015/6 – this year we aim to support organisations and their trustees to become 'future proof', evidence and demonstrate their 'value for money' and support 'collaborative working' within the sector.

We will support organisations through a journey of development to strengthen communications, keep up with current statutory agendas and plan for the future.

Training and funding support will be tailored to fit your needs.

We will promote the VS Network meetings and various forums and engagement platforms available to you to ensure you have a voice and opportunities to stay informed at all levels. The VS Network meetings will cover topics of importance to Chief Officers, Managers and Trustees whilst the Development Workers Forum will engage front line staff with up to date information on local developments and key areas of interest whilst collating feedback on frontline issues.

You will find dates for these meetings in this newsletter.

Please enjoy this edition of The Chain and I wish you all a Happy Easter.

Philip Cook, General Manager – involve - Philip.cook@involve.community

Come and join us for the
Voluntary Sector Network Meetings

Dates for diaries

Venues and themes tbc

Thursday 8th May 10-12pm

Tuesday 7th July 12-2pm

Wednesday 9th Sept 9.30-11.30am

Monday 2nd November 12-2pm

Further details to follow

To book a place please contact
clare.rebbeck@involve.community

Tel: 07809 563714

Place & Community Partnership meeting

30th April 2015 - 09:30-11:30am

Location: LGF4, Shute End, Wokingham Borough Council

**To attend please reply to Lorraine Meylan
<Lorraine.Meylan@wokingham.gov.uk>**

Neighbourhood Clusters Survey

You still have until 7th April to share your views – to find out more visit
<http://www.wokinghamccg.nhs.uk/wokingham-have-your-say>

Complete the survey;

https://research2.ipsosinteractive.com/mriWeb/mriWeb.dll?I.Project=UK1407061001MM_CCG_2015&i.routingcontext=CASI&id=HQUQKQY

15 essential questions for charity trustees

The Charity Commission has put together a list of important questions that can help trustees manage an organisation's operations effectively

There are more than a million trustee positions in England and Wales and most of those who fill them are volunteers, often juggling their role with jobs, childcare or other commitments. As the people responsible for running your charity, it is really important that the board makes time to give it an "MOT" and review its effectiveness.

No charity is immune to financial problems and sadly there are occasions when, despite the best efforts of the trustees and staff, a charity encounters issues so serious that it has to close. One such example is the BeatBullying Group, which went into liquidation in November 2014 after experiencing serious grant funding problems.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/410674/ocr_the_beatbullying_group.pdf

BeatBullying's situation shows that even with experienced and conscientious trustees at the helm, it's not easy to keep a charity's financial future secure, particularly in a difficult and competitive economic climate. It's so important that you and your fellow trustees ask yourselves tough questions from the outset and regularly consider how your plans are going.

Have a look at the following questions:

1. What effect is the current economic climate having on our charity and its activities?
2. Are we financially strong enough to sustain our operations?
3. Do we know what impact the economic climate is having on our donors and support for our charity?
4. Do we have any reserves?
5. Have we reviewed our banking arrangements and, where relevant, our investments?
6. Have we reviewed our contractual commitments, for example office leases, rental agreements, equipment hire?
7. Have we reviewed any contracts to deliver public services?
8. If we have a pension scheme, have we reviewed it recently?
9. How can we make best use of any permanent endowment investments we hold?
10. Are we an effective trustee body?
11. Do we have adequate safeguards in place to prevent fraud?
12. Are we making the best use of the financial benefits we have as a charity?
13. Are we making the best use of our staff and volunteers?
14. Have we considered collaborating with other charities?
15. Is our governance document fit for purpose?

Remember: even if things seem to be going well, don't become complacent – take time to consider your charity's financial resilience regularly.

If you need any support contact Clare Rebbeck on

Clare.rebbeck@involve.community or 07809 563714

Sarah Atkinson, Director of policy and communications at the Charity Commission
The Guardian - Friday 27 March 2015

Activities through April & May



Berkshire Carers Service

is launching a new Forum aimed at ensuring local Wokingham carers have their say on helping to shape future services.

All (unpaid, informal) carers are welcome to attend the first meeting on **Thursday 23rd April**, Diamond Jubilee room at Wokingham Town Hall, Market Palace, Wokingham. From **10am to 12.00pm**.

Professionals and organisations with interests in carers are also welcome.

Please advise if you are able to attend to;
Steve Hammond - Outreach & Development Officer, Tel: 0118 960 7042 Email: steve@berkshirecarers.org

Development Workers Forum

For front line staff to share information and find out about local projects.

12.30 – 2.30pm
Tuesday 7th April
Rainbow Park Community Centre,
Winnersh

Speakers;
Andrew Price, CCG Manager
Neighbourhood Clusters

Marlena O'Donnell, WBC
The Care Act

Let Rose Green know you would like to attend on
Rose.green@wokingham.gov.uk
0118 908 8193

Residential and Nursing Provider Forum:

When: Wednesday 15th April 2015 -- Time: 11am – 1pm

Where: Council Chamber, Wokingham Borough Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1WN

If you would like to attend, please respond by return to both jane.parsons@wokingham.gov.uk, and eleanor.murphy@wokingham.gov.uk indicating the name(s) of the people who will be attending. (Ellie and Jane cover the working week between them, hence the need to copy them both in to any response please.)

**From Brian Grady, Head of
Commissioning, WBC**

We are embarking on an exciting time of change in Wokingham and we are keen to share that with you, as one of our local Voluntary and Community sector colleagues, some of our thinking and ask for your ideas as to how we can work more collectively with children and families.

As such I would like to invite you to what we hope will be a series of meetings to share our plans and discuss how we can work in partnership.

I do hope you can make it on 28th May, 11.30 – 12.30pm, venue tbc and would ask that you confirm your attendance if you can. If you know of an organisation that you think would benefit from attending and that we would benefit from hearing from please do ask them to contact me.

Brian.grady@wokingham.gov.uk

**Youth consultation and
Easter event**

The Rainbow Community
Centre, Winnersh.

There will be a big mobile climbing wall, bouncy castles, BBQ, face painting and much more on 11th April 11am-3pm at Rainbow Park.

The aim is to find out what young people in the area want to see for them. We have strong relationships with 0-10s on the estate but lose them after about 12 years old and are trying to re-engage them.

If you have any families or young people you are working with you think might be interested please pass this on.

Elle Ford, Wokingham Borough
Health Improvement Office,
Public Health Team

Email:

elle.ford@wokingham.gov.uk

Tel: 07809309474



Sue Ryder

Calling All Carers!

A carer is someone who provides unpaid support to family or friends who could not otherwise manage without this help. They could be caring for a partner, relative, friend or even a neighbour who is frail, disabled or who has a life limiting illness that restricts what they are able to do for themselves.

If you feel this is you and you would like to find out what is available to support you in your caring role, free Information and Advice “drop in” sessions are being held across Wokingham Borough on the following days:

Monday 30 March	2pm – 5pm	Loddon Vale Medical Practice, Hurricane Way, Woodley
Thursday 9 April	8:30-11:30	Brookside Group Practice, Chalfont surgery, Lower Earley
Monday 27 April	8:30 – 11:30	Twyford Surgery, Loddon Hall Road, Twyford
Thursday 30 April	8:30 – 11:30	New Wokingham Road surgery, Crowthorne
Wednesday 13 May	2:00 – 5:00	Woosehill surgery, Fernlea Drive, Wokingham

Fiona Heston, Wokingham Borough Carer’s Advisor for Life Limiting Illnesses will be available at these surgeries with specialist information about local support services, available benefits and grants, help with Advance Care Planning or Lasting Power of Attorney for people looking after an adult with a life limiting illness (such as cancer, motor neurone disease, heart disease, COPD etc.)

More general information will also be available from Berkshire Carer’s Service who can provide details about managing working and caring, available training to support your caring services, where to meet other carers or how to arrange respite care or a break from caring.

Bring any queries, questions or issues you may have. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please see the time table for local activities:

- **Badminton** which normally runs on Fridays 7pm to 9pm at the Loddon Valley Leisure Centre will stop for 1 week on 3rd April and continue as normal from 7th April.
- **Zumba** at the Crescent Resource Centre on Tuesdays - The class on 31st March will run as normal from 6pm to 7pm. There will be no class on 7th April and the classes will resume from 14th April at the normal time.
- **Zumba** at the Norris Road on Fridays - There will be no class on 3rd and 10th April. The class will resume as normal from 17th April.
- **Swimming** at Academy Leisure on Saturdays - There will be no class on 4th and 11th April. The new term will begin from 18th April from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.
- **Aqua fit** at Bulmershe Leisure Centre on Sundays – There will be no class on 5th and 12th April. The new term will begin from 19th April from 5.30pm to 6.30pm.
- **Healthy Cooking** at New Directions on Thursdays – The new term will begin from 23rd April from 7pm.

Contact Ashwani if you need any further information about the classes and you will need to register in advance.

[Ashwani Gupta, Social Inclusion Officer, Community Services, WBC](#)

Tel 01189746790

Mobile: 07825195503

Alzheimer's Society

Singing for the Brain

Wokingham Cornerstone group – Tuesdays 10.30 am -12 noon at The Cornerstone, All Saints Church, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham, RG40 1UE. Starts 21/04; Closed 25/05 & 02/06; last session 28/07. Please contact Geraldine, T: 07713 390714.

Charvil group - Thursdays 10.30 am - 12 noon at Charvil Village Hall, Park Lane, Charvil, RG10 9TR. Starts 23/04; Closed 07/05, 28/05 & 04/06; last session 30/07. Please contact Geraldine, T: 07713 390714.

Dementia/ Memory Cafés

West Berks Dementia Café – Every 2nd Thursday of the month (except April) from 2.00 - 4.00 pm at Best Western Hotel, Cox's Lane, A4 Bath Road, Midgham, RG7 5UP. For details, please contact Kim T: 01635 500869.

Befriending

Our befriending service will connect you to a trained volunteer to give you the opportunity to do more of the things that you enjoy, either out in the community or at home. This could be anything from a round of golf, listening to music, or simply having a cup of tea and a chat.

For information please contact Louise, T: 07540 920421 if you are based in Wokingham

Our Dementia Support Workers/Dementia Advisors are also available to provide information, support and guidance. If you would like more information, please contact us on Tel: 0118 959 6482 or email: berkshire@alzheimers.org.uk

FREE Yoga Session
for Mental Wellbeing
Starting Thursday 23rd April

Just turn up and have fun!

Yoga

**Thursday 11.30am – 12.30pm
@ St Crispin's Leisure Centre,
London Road, Wokingham RG40 1SS**

Please contact Sian Wide for further details on
sian.wide@wokingham.gov.uk or call 0118 9088254

Mental Health Awareness week is in May – if your organisation would like to participate in a programme of events that are being organised then please contact Gillian.Cross@wokingham.gov.uk



Annual General Meeting

Saturday 25th April – 2pm

@ The Hall, Keep Mobile - Unit 8,

171 Evendons lane, Wokingham. RG41 4EH

RSVP admin@keepmobile.org.uk

If you wish to attend

**Wokingham, Bracknell &
Districts Mencap**

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 7th May, 7.30pm

Easthampstead Conference Centre

Off Peacock Lane, RG40 3DF

RSVP admin@wokinghammencap.org

If you wish to attend



WJSC is dedicated to offering FREE support and guidance to unemployed people living in the Wokingham Borough.

WJSC prides itself on providing friendly, professional support in an atmosphere where you can spend time in a motivational, open environment which can help remove the feeling of isolation that job searching can sometimes bring. You can also interact with staff who are on hand to answer your questions and give dedicated support to you. So come along and see how we can help.

1 to 1 Advisor Support, CV writing, Interview techniques/skills/mock, Career Matching programme, Microsoft office / Internet access/free wifi
Printing/telephone, Newspapers

Workshops have also become an integral part of the services that WJSC offer for **CV Writing, Interview Skills and and Over 50's**. They are run every 3 – 4 weeks from 10:30 – 12:30pm at The Cornerstone. Contact us to book yourself a place.

The Cornerstone, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham. RG40 1UE

Tel: 01189 770517

Email: Jobsearch@wjsc.org.uk. Website: www.wjsc.org.uk



Talking Therapies:

Talking Therapies are a free, confidential NHS service that supports those who suffer with low mood, worry, stress or phobias. We offer a variety of different therapeutic interventions, from face-to-face, over the phone and online. SilverCloud is a new online intervention that offers a broad range of programmes, with the flexibility to use anywhere and at any time. We also hold regular Stress Control workshops. These are 4-weekly courses, held in the evening, at a variety of locations across Berkshire. The courses teach you techniques and skills to help you manage and control your stress. Our upcoming ones are:

- Wokingham Town Hall: 20th May

For more information, other dates across Berkshire or to refer into the service, please call 0300 365 2000, or visit www.talkingtherapies.berkshire.nhs.uk. Or follow us on twitter: @TTBerkshire.



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



**COMMUNITY
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Care • Develop • Educate

MY ABILITY PROGRAMME

*“Having the chance to meet lots of young people facing a range of different challenges and seeing how passionate they are about football is simply fantastic. Watching how powerful football is in inspiring them is incredible and I am happy to support the tremendous work the Reading FC Community Trust delivers.”
(Jem Karacan)*

For more information contact:
Dan Rook on 01189 072 160

**Health and
Wellbeing
Session!**

WHERE:
Cantley park,
Milton Road,
Wokingham,
RG40 5QG

WHEN:
Every Thursday

TIME:
2pm - 3pm

COST:
FREE!

Sessions taken by
Reading FC
Community Trust
coaches

SUPPORTED BY



PHOENIX RE-SOLUTIONS LTD

Working in co-operation with and funded by Skills for Care, Phoenix Resolutions, a small independent organisation specialising in providing consultation, training and development services in the public sector, is facilitating two **FREE TO ATTEND** events in Reading around the 2014 Care Act. Each event will cover different aspects of the Care Act and how this will affect your organisations' working practises. The events are planned to be interactive and all presentations will be available as downloads.

The event is open to Care Provider Owners as well as their registered managers and also to those in senior positions within voluntary social care organisations.

Below are outline agendas for the two events

Event 1: April 23rd 2015 Headline: Care Act

09:15 to 10:00 Registration, 16:00 Session close

Provider overview of the Act Melissa White, Reading Borough Council Care Act Lead Regulator
view of Act , Facilitated Work Table Discussion, SCIE; Care Act training materials
Carolyn Denne SCIE Head of Delivery & Implementation Support
Safeguarding & the Care Act, Jo Wilkins: ReadingBC, Skills for Care, Rachel Reid re Reg Mgrs
Networks, Facilitated Work Table Discussion, Facilitated Overall day feedback

Event 2: May 21st 2015 Headline: Care Act

09:15 to 10:00 Registration, 16:00 Session close

Provider overview of the Act, Melissa White, ReadingBC, Care Act Lead, Regulator view of Act,
CQC, Facilitated Work Table Discussion, Facilitated Morning feedback, MCA/DoLS, Jo Wilkins:
ReadingBC, Overall legal view of Act, Simon Cheverst, Radcliffes le Brasseur, Specialist in Care
Law, Facilitated Work Table Discussion, Facilitated Overall day feedback

Detailed agendas will be circulated before the events.

Catering is being provided, if you have any particular needs, or any other queries please

contact Peter Webb

E: peter.webb@phoenixresolutions.co.uk

T: 01932 355598 M: 07956878901

**These events are being held at;
Reading Quaker Meeting House
2, Church Street
Reading, RG1 2SB**



ACTION ON ELDER ABUSE

NATIONAL ANNUAL ADULT SAFEGUARDING

CONFERENCE 2015

Date 20th May 2015

Venue The Royal Bank of Scotland, 280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4RB

Time 9am to 4.20pm

Event Cost: For Members of Action on Elder Abuse: £136.00 plus VAT

For Non-Members: £170.00 plus VAT

This conference is supported by NatWest Bank Plc. They have contributed the venue and its resources to make the conference a successful and major event. We are extremely grateful for their support.

For more information or to book contact;

Action on Elder Abuse, PO Box 60001, London, SW16 9BY.

Tel No: 0208 835 9280. Fax No: 0208 696 9328

Email: enquiries@elderabuse.org.uk

Successful organisations of all sizes communicate effectively by;

- Thinking strategically and planning what and how you communicate means the time and effort you put in gets a better result.
- Using the right words to talk about your work and the difference you make can mean that people understand you better and want to connect with you more – as a funder, service user, supporter, volunteer or advocate.
- Understanding who you're talking to makes a difference too.

If you need help or support getting your ducks in a row, communications-wise, I can help you. From a quick session helping organisations start their plan, to writing copy about them and their work, I have worked with not-for-profit organisations of varying sizes and shapes for well over 10 years. Get in touch for a no obligation chat about the challenges you face and how I might be able to help:

sarah@browningyork.com

07740 861293

www.browningyork.com

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CLASP held their annual Big Breakfast fundraising event on Tuesday 17th February at the Bradbury Centre Cafe, Wokingham. CLASP members teamed up with volunteers from the Wokingham Methodist Church to serve delicious cooked breakfasts, bacon and sausage rolls, and Danish pastries.

The Big Breakfast event raised £579.61 in total. This was donated to Daisy's Dream, a Twyford charity that supports children and their families who have been affected by the life threatening illness or bereavement of someone close to them.

This is the 8th year that CLASP have run the Big Breakfast and this is their highest ever amount raised! A big thank you to all the volunteers for their hard work and to everybody who supported the event. CLASP has recently launched a YouTube channel and you can watch a video about the event here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2spGRnwPmyw>



VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP
TWYFORD
Community and Business Alliance

Dementia Awareness Week 18-23 May 2015

Help us to make Twyford a 'dementia friendly village'

For more information contact:

Helen Ferguson

07736 286473. hjmferguson@aol.com

Jacqui Watts

07976 811053. jacquiwatts963@btinternet.com

- 18 May - Dementia awareness for the family. 7pm at St Marys Twyford
- 19 May - Singing for Joy at Bridge House Nursing Home - time tba
- 20 May - Age Concern open day - 10.30 to 12.30
- 21 May - Dementia awareness for business - 5.30 at Waitrose Twyford
- 22-23 May - Become a Dementia Friend (stand and information at Waitrose, Twyford)

(final times to be confirmed)



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**



New Mental Health & Wellbeing Programme

Starting W/c Monday 2nd February

**Come along and take part for FREE in
any of these sessions.. Just turn up!**

Tuesday

**Badminton and Short Tennis @ 12 – 1pm
@ Loddon Valley Leisure Centre, Lower
Earley**

Friday

**Table Tennis @ 2 – 2.45pm @ St Crispin's
Leisure Centre, Wokingham**

Please contact Neil Harris at Sport in Mind on
neil.harris@sportinmind.org or
Sian Wide on sian.wide@wokingham.gov.uk



Trinity Concert Band – Springtime Concert

Where: Bearwood College Theatre, RG41 5BG

When: Saturday 25th April 2015 at 7:30 pm

Box Office Phone: 0845 2263047

Contact Email: dave.robson@ntlworld.com

Further Details: <http://www.trinityband.co.uk>

The Concert will take place on Saturday 25th April 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Bearwood College Theatre.

The programme for this concert will have something for everyone, with the beautiful theme tune from the film “Ladies in Lavender”, “A Tribute to Harry James” written for solo trumpet as an ode to Harry James, making use of the golden oldies Sleepy Lagoon and Ciribiribin, “A Hymn to New England” and “It’s About Time”; a jazz number that is guaranteed to get your feet tapping! We may even have a light cavalry regiment charging in to start the proceeds! Tickets are £10 up to 24 hours before the concert and £12 on the door. Children under 16 years are free when accompanied by a paying member of the audience. Tickets can be purchased on 28th March onwards from the Box Office (0845 226 3047) or via our website (www.trinityband.co.uk)

The **THREE FROGS CLUB** proudly presents: **‘The Big Sleep Over’**

Friday 5th June to Monday 8th June 2015

4 days (3 nights) residential trip to the East Dene Mansion, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight. Open to anyone 17 or over with any Autism related condition come on your own, with parents/guardians or with a friend, maybe you would like to make new friends or try something new.

(under 18’s must bring a parent or carer) **only £150 per person**
(reduced rate of £75 for 1st parent or carer if required)
All charges have been subsidised by ‘Awards for All’ and ‘Wokingham CCG’

To secure your place/s contact Jayne & Theresa 3frogs@asdfamilyhelp.org or 07554 303328

places are limited so please book before 31st March 2015, £50 deposit required upon booking.

DEAF POSITIVES
ACTION
CLUB
MONDAY
NIGHT

START ON 23TH MAY

TIME 6.30PM TO 8.30PM

COST PER VISIT

MEMBER: £2.50 (MEMBERSHIP £25.00 PER YEAR)

NON MEMBER: £5.00

More information on our website:

[http://deafpositivesaction.org/index.php/about-us/
community/deaf-positives-action-club/](http://deafpositivesaction.org/index.php/about-us/community/deaf-positives-action-club/)

E: ADMIN@DEAFPOSITIVESACTION.ORG

T: 01189797575

Summer Holiday Camps 2015

**Keep your children entertained and busy
at Get Active Camps.**

**Our camps promise fun and stimulating
sports sessions combined with exciting
and challenging games, themed activities
and arts & craft.**

**Regulated by Ofsted, we offer a wide
range of activities to keep your child fully
entertained throughout the day.**

**With fully qualified staff you can be sure
your child will have fun whilst
trying something new and making friends.**

***For bookings, enquiries and more
information**

Call Elle Ford on 07809 309474

Email:

wokingham.playscheme@wokingham.gov.uk

***(Pre-registration is required)**



**COMMUNITY
TRUST**
Care • Develop • Educate

EASTER SOCCER SCHOOLS 2015

For 5 – 12 and 6 – 14 year olds

Reading FC Community Trust

Madejski Stadium

Reading RG2 0FL

Ring 0118 968 1460 / 0118 968 1480

visit www.community.readingfc.co.uk 'Sport Participation' for full schedule and information
and to book online or www.readingfc.co.uk 'Soccer Schools' to download a booking form.

The Power of Positive Parenting

Parenting is probably the hardest job an adult will undertake, but also the one for which the least amount of training and preparation is required.

Why not come along to a workshop and learn all about the 5 aspects of positive parenting:

All children challenge the rules of behaviour they're set!

What is positive parenting?

Creating a safe and interesting learning environment

Using assertive discipline

Having realistic expectations

Taking care of yourself as a parent

Wednesday 22nd April, 9.30-11am

At the Hillside Family Centre

To book please contact Cherish or the Hillside Family Centre

Mobile Number- 07885 983 396 or E-mail me: cherish.risi-elford@wokingham.gov.uk

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**Southlake Crescent May
Day Fete**

Saturday 2nd May

2pm - 4pm

FREE ENTRY

**Southlake Crescent, Woodley, off
Crockhamwell Road RG5 3QW**

Including:

Arts and Crafts

Tombola Bouncy Castle

Bric-a-Brac

Puppet show

**Facepainting and Hairbraiding Home-Made
Cakes**

Delicious Food

In association with:

Emanuel Church, South East Woodley Community Association
(SEWCA) and Alexandra Place

To get involved or for more info contact: sewca@hotmail.co.uk
0118 375 3718 Or Ashwani Gupta: 07825195503 or Alexandra
Place: 01189691544

Job Opportunities

Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts Mencap is a local charity working with people with a learning disability and those with an autism spectrum condition, their carers and families. We have the following vacancies:

FAMILY LIAISON WORKER

(working with families going through transition)

8 hours per week - £22,750 pro rata per annum

To support Bracknell families with young people with a learning disability and/or autism spectrum condition who are going through transition from Children's to Adult Services. We are looking for a self-motivated, empathetic and flexible person to provide a direct information and support service to carers and families of people with a learning disability. Knowledge of the needs of the learning disabled and those with an autism spectrum condition and their families is essential. Must have own transport.

CHILDREN'S CLUBS CO-ORDINATOR

(6 MONTHS TEMPORARY CONTRACT)

Average 8 to 10 hours per week - £22,750 pro rata per annum

To oversee our provision of term time clubs for learning disabled children and their siblings. The post-holder will also run our Wokingham Smiles for Sibs club on a Monday evening between 4.15pm and 6.30pm, and will run our twice a month Children's Activity Group on a Saturday morning. We are looking for a self-motivated person who has knowledge of issues relating to disabled children and their siblings, has experience of working with young people in a group setting and has the ability to create a varied and fun programme of activities.

FRIDAY ALTERNATIVE SOCIAL GROUP SUPPORT WORKER

Average 5 hours per month - £8.50 per hour

To help run an established and successful social group for adults aged 16+ with autism spectrum conditions. The group meets once a month on a Wednesday evening and once a month on a Friday evening in a variety of venues around the Wokingham area. The group enjoy evenings out in the pub, visiting the cinema and taking part in sporting activities such as swimming and bowling, and the occasional weekend day trip.

@THE ACORN SUPPORT WORKER

2.5 hours per week - £8.50 per hour

To help run a very successful social club for adults with learning disabilities including those with more profound and complex needs. The club runs every Tuesday evening from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at The Acorn Community Centre, Woosehill, Wokingham.

For further details and a job specification please contact us on 0300 7778539 or email admin@wokinghamencap.org stating which job you wish to apply for.

Interviews for the Family Liaison Worker will be held on afternoon of Wednesday 29th April.

Interview dates for the Children's Clubs Co-ordinators and Support Workers are to be confirmed. Disclosure and Barring Service checks and references will be carried out on the successful candidates.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS – WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2015



An exciting opportunity to be part of our dynamic and forward-thinking team!

Volunteer Coordinator Wokingham Borough 20 hrs per week - Flexible days - £10 hr

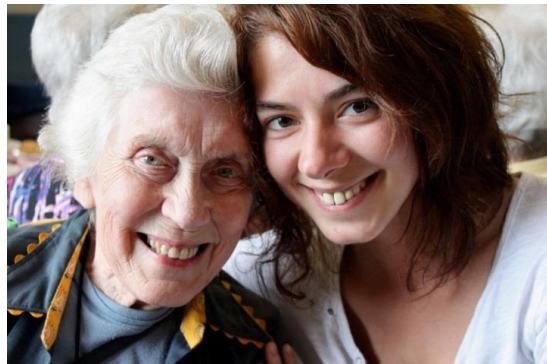
We are a befriending scheme for socially isolated older people. We offer one to one visiting and a variety of activities to vulnerable older residents who struggle with loneliness. We need an enthusiastic and energetic person, with exceptional people skills, to recruit, train and support our brilliant volunteers.

We are looking for someone to support our team with various events and connect to local churches and partner organisations. Experience with older people and management of volunteers desired.

Full drivers licence and good computer skills essential.

For a full job description and application form contact marjie@linkvisiting.org
0118 9798019

Deadline for Applications 10th April 2015
www.linkvisiting.org



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LEAD AND MENTOR YOUNG PEOPLE - FROM £950 PER 10 DAY ROLE

PAID YOUTH AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

NCS

NCS is a government programme that brings together 16 and 17 year olds, from all different backgrounds, to make a difference in their community and promote social action.

In 2015, we will be working with around 26,000 young people and will look to recruit over 3000 Seasonal Staff with a variety of skills sets across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, greater London, the West Midlands and the North West.

Our residential and non-residential roles vary in length from two weeks to the whole summer. The roles are suitable for all entry levels, from those wishing to gain further experience in a youth work setting, to experienced Project Managers, Teachers and Youth Workers.

The success of NCS depends heavily on the seasonal staff that work with our young people to motivate and lead them to strengthen their communities. Do you have what it takes to make a difference to your local community this summer?

For further details about our different roles and to start the application process please visit our website

VISIT

<http://www.ncsthechallenge.org/seasonal-roles>

NOW to apply!

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Child sexual exploitation is a major child protection issue for communities across the UK. Hidden from view and going unnoticed, vulnerable young girls and boys are groomed and then abused, leaving them traumatised and scarred for life.

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

Child sexual exploitation is illegal activity by people who have power over young people and use it to sexually abuse them.

This can involve a broad range of exploitative activity, from seemingly 'consensual' relationships and informal exchanges of sex for attention, accommodation, gifts or cigarettes, through to very serious organised crime.

How many are affected in the UK?

- It is a hidden issue, so we can only go on estimates from national levels of service provision, including our own. Last year Barnardo's services worked with almost 1,200 children and young people who had been sexually exploited.
- The true number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation is likely to be much higher. For victims, the pain of their ordeal and fear that they will not be believed means they are too often scared to come forward.

Risks faced by children?

- Children at risk of sexual exploitation are some of the most vulnerable in our society. Many have experienced abandonment or physical and mental abuse. They need help but often don't know where to look
- Younger victims are being targeted. In only a few years, the average age has dropped from 15 to 13.
- Perpetrators are becoming increasingly sophisticated; using the internet to protect their identity and trafficking children around the country to avoid detection.

What should I do if me or someone I know may be being sexually exploited?

- Tell your parent, carer, teacher or other adult you can trust or speak to Childline.
- Use the report a concern link

http://wokinghamlscb.org.uk/Report_concern

- If you or they are in immediate danger call the police on 999.

How to write a great Job Advert

1 What does your organisation do?

It's important to use common, jargon-free terms to describe your organisation. It's also a great idea to include your vision or mission statement, to draw attention to your work. Be sure to include a whole section on what your organisation does, to really attract candidates' attention.

2 Be as clear on location as possible

It's a good idea to include a postcode in your ad. This way, an applicant can search your location to make sure it's feasible for them. If you are based in a remote location, have you considered making your role home-based or more flexible? This can be a helpful way to attract even more talented candidates to your role.

3 Think carefully about salary

This is always going to be a very important part of any job ad. In fact, ads that don't fill in this field attract fewer applications. But the salary is also an important measure for candidates, as it shows how senior the role is, and whether it's a good match for them. Make sure that you have checked out similar ads, so that you know you are offering a competitive salary.

4 Keep your ad brief and punchy

You need to give the candidate the **essential** details, while also **inspiring** them to find out more about your organisation and apply. The aim of the job ad is to attract interest, communicate quickly and clearly the essential (appealing and relevant) points, and to provide a clear description of what the company does and what the job entails. Any extra info can be uploaded to appear alongside the ad too.

5 Remember you are selling

Think like a jobseeker. What would make you apply for your job and not a different one? Let the reader know why your role is rewarding, and if there are any opportunities for development or exciting benefits. It's also a good idea to specify exactly what qualifications you require, if you require any.

Your brand is a strong selling tool so don't forget to include your logo!

6 Make it easy

We find that job ads with application forms attract fewer applications. That's why we recommend allowing candidates to email you a CV and cover letter. If you do use application forms however, make sure you upload the form alongside the ad, or include a clear link.

7 Take your time

Allow a whole month, and it can really help to use all of this time. If you haven't got that much time, then we recommend a minimum of two weeks. Why? So that your ad can benefit from appearing in as many places as possible.

Further information

The information in this how-to guide has been provided by [CharityJob](#), an NCVO Trusted Supplier.

Training



Why Talk Cancer?

More than four in ten cases of cancer may be prevented through lifestyle changes. And thousands more lives could be saved if cancer was diagnosed earlier.

Community-based staff and local volunteers are ideally placed to promote cancer awareness and encourage people to take positive action for their health.

But talking about cancer can be difficult. This is where we can help.

Mental Health First Aid Training



What is Mental Health First Aid?

The 12 hour Mental Health First Aid course will teach you how to:

- Spot the early signs of a mental health problem
- Feel confident helping someone experiencing a problem
 - Provide help on a first aid basis
- Help prevent someone from hurting themselves or others
 - Help stop a mental illness from getting worse
 - Help someone recover faster
- Guide someone towards the right support
- Reduce the stigma of mental health problems

Mental Health First Aid training increases the support for those suffering with poor mental health and ensures they are given the best help as quickly as possible. Early intervention can slow down or even stop mental health problems, reducing the distress of the individual, and also gives professional treatments the best chance of leading to full recovery.

All instructors approved to deliver the MHFA course have undergone a seven day training programme (accredited by the Royal Society for Public Health).

Course dates:

13th & 14th June 2015
Standard MHFA

20th & 21st June 2015 Youth Wokingham
MHFA

Course Cost: £150 per participant which includes; Course manual, certificate and venue cost. THERE IS A £50 FEE FOR LATE CANCELLATION, SO BOOKING IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

For more information on courses please contact: Mobile: 07512376617

Email: info@emotionalwellbeinguk.com or smhfa8@gmail.com

Visit our Website: www.mhfaengland.org or www.emotionalwellbeinguk.com

Training Provided by Me2club

For booking or further information please contact Zoë Galani, Me2 Club Projects Manager, 0118 969 6369 or info@me2club.org.uk

Communication and the Non Verbal Child

Content:

Imagine a world where you are unable to communicate what you want and need. Now imagine being part of a world that gives you a voice. This workshop will help you to recognise the range of communication methods used by non verbal children and young people on a daily basis. We offer suggestions on a range of tools that can be used to effectively engage a child and give you the opportunity to put this into practice.

Who is the course for?

Those in a mainstream activity that want to include non verbal children

How is the course delivered?

This 2 hour practical course begins with demonstrations of existing tools and allows the learner to develop their own and put them into practice.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understanding of a range of communication methods including timetables, pictures exchange symbols, social stories etc
- Confidence in interacting effectively with non verbal children
- Awareness of communication difficulties for children with additional needs in group settings
- Tools and practical to involve all children so that they can understand and be understood

Training Dates:

- Thursday 16th April 2015, Wokingham, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Training Provided by Me2club

For booking or further information please contact Zoë Galani, Me2 Club Projects Manager, 0118 969 6369 or info@me2club.org.uk

Including Everyone in your Activity

Course Content:

We examine the perceived barriers to including children with additional needs into mainstream activities and offer examples of different approaches to adapt the group so all children are involved to their own ability. There is the opportunity to put this knowledge into practice before finishing with a discussion on real life scenarios.

Who is the course for?

Anyone who wants to ensure that all children in their group are able to access the activities presented.

How is the course delivered?

In the two and a half hours you will participate in practical activities to demonstrate how they can be easily adapted.

Learning Outcomes:

- To make your group accessible and fun for all
- Understanding of the different approaches to inclusion
- Knowledge of a range of needs, and how to include them in a range of activities
- Confidence to adapt activities to make accessible to all
- Strategies and approaches to enable children / young people with additional needs into mainstream groups

Training Dates:

- Monday 18th May 2015, Woodley, 6.30 - 9pm

Gypsy Roma Traveller Cultural Awareness Course

Date	Wednesday 24 th June
Time	9am – 12noon
Venue	CResCent Community Resource Centre, Warbler Drive, Lower Earley, RG6 4HB
Cost	Free

‘This course has been developed to be common sense, informative and up to date, and delivered in a relaxed and friendly environment.’ (Richard O’Neill)

Richard O’Neill is an experienced Gypsy Traveller trainer having delivered awareness sessions for Police Forces, Housing Associations, Local Authorities and National Charities. Many sessions have been to Multi-Agency Groups.

He is also the Gypsy Traveller Awareness Trainer for North West Employers.

Below is an outline of the programme he is offering.

Aims and objectives

- To provide an awareness of current practice and legislation around Gypsy, Roma and Travelling communities
- To introduce Gypsy Traveller history and culture
- To provide a context for the legal aspects of Gypsies and Travellers
- To provide case studies and models of good practice
- To provide items for discussion

The Gypsy Traveller awareness will help you to:

- Understand Gypsy Traveller culture
- Engage with NGO’s, support and community groups
- Be more aware of the laws surrounding Gypsies and Travellers, including equalities and human rights, as well as police and local authority powers.
- Identify and understand the different Travelling groups
- Understand the benefit of a multi-agency approach to working with Gypsies and Travellers

Refreshments Tea and Coffee will be provided

To book your place:

E –mail rose.green@wokingham.gov.uk or

Telephone 0118 908 8193 or 07769 931 738

TO APPLY FOR A FREE PLACE CONTACT US NOW

Email: alan@alanhester.co.uk Web: www.alanhester.co.uk Mobile 07970 522760

Train and Qualify as a Team Leader

Free* training programme leading to BTEC Certificate in Team Leading

Comments from recent participants:

“Excellent delivery – the trainer really knew his stuff”

“Jargon-free, real and hugely useful”

“I feel so much more confident now. I can talk to my team like a manager and know that I am entitled to. It’s made such a difference.”

This course is designed to help you to be an effective team leader, manager or supervisor. Our aim is that you come away with increased confidence and knowing that you can make a positive contribution to your team’s performance. The course equips you for the challenging but rewarding role of manager, and includes:

Your personal management style

Managing ‘difficult’ people and situations

Motivation and influencing skills

Setting objectives, planning and getting things done through others

Building effective working relationships

Training & Assessment

Your course is funded by the government through the Skills Funding Agency’s adult apprenticeship programme. It is available to those who are in paid employment (30+ hours) and not already educated to degree or Level 4 standard.

Training is informal, interactive and challenging, with plenty of opportunity to discuss, question, share and learn as a group.

You get up to three one-day workshops, 1:1 and email coaching, feedback and support to complete your assignments and produce evidence while you work.

Other courses available

Ali Coe – Training Coordinator @ involve shares a monthly training bulletin – to receive this email Ali on ali.coe@training.community

Funding news and support

Bruce Wright, Funding Advisor, involve

Free funding advice!

Provides weekly funding alerts direct to your email address

If you are thinking of writing some funding bids, but have not found anything suitable in the email funding alerts, then please let me know and I will do a search for you.

The recent searches have been compiled into a series of “Funding and XXX” documents which have been uploaded to the website:

<http://www.wbvsf.info/funding.asp>

The most recent search results cover:

- Children’s Projects
- Volunteers
- Autism
- Arts
- Minibuses
- Sport
- Children’s Nurseries and Childcare
- Training
- Community Events
- Holidays Trips and Activities

If any of these might be relevant to you, then you can either download them from the website or email me for a copy of the documents that you wish to receive.

To sign up to any of these services you can contact Bruce on 01626 867 604 or email him at bruce.wright@involve.community.

RAISE Challenge Fund

We are delighted to launch the RAISE Challenge Fund, in partnership with the regional charity RAISE and Community Foundations across the South East, to support aspirational thinking and initiative in voluntary sector activity. This challenge fund aims to help groups and organisations to:

Grow, Develop, Overcome barriers, Achieve greater results for their local communities, The Fund aims to support groups to develop innovation, leadership, creative thinking, resourcefulness and piloting activity.

The RAISE Challenge Fund will reward the most creative project ideas and the most exciting means of delivery. We are throwing open the challenge to all parts of the sector and want to hear how your organisation proposes to make a step change and embrace new ways of working or engaging with people. We are keen to see how unlocking potential in groups or organisations can dramatically improve impact and effectiveness.

A Grant Fund with a difference

Support is available for all types of ideas, activity and organisations. Applications will be assessed on their creativity, reach and predicted benefits. Grants of between £2,500 and £10,000 will be awarded, although other amounts will be considered based on merit. Grants will be aimed at supporting groups of all sizes, even if they have never applied for funding before or struggle to secure funding from traditional sources.

'Grants Plus'

In addition to awarding grant funding, applicants will receive additional support before, during and after the application process. Prior to applying, all prospective applicants will have the opportunity of speaking informally with a RAISE 'Partnership Manager' to chat through ideas or seek clarification. As the application advances, the Partnership Manager will be available as a resource to the applicant, if desired, to provide further input or advice.

Key dates

- Grant enquires open Friday 13th March.
- All grant enquires must be received by 31st May.
- All grants will be awarded by September 2015.

Please see the page on the BCF website:

<http://www.berkshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/grants/raise-challenge-fund/>

Big Lottery

Awards for All gives groups an easy way to get small Lottery grants of between £300 and £10,000.

They want to fund projects which address the issues, needs and aspirations of local communities and people. They will fund a wide range of community projects aimed at developing skills, improving health, revitalising the local environment and enabling people to become more active citizens.

You can apply to Awards for All England if you are a community group, not for profit group, parish or town council, health body, or school.

You do not need to be a registered charity to apply.

You must have a bank account that requires at least two people to sign each cheque or withdrawal.

They will pay for activities that will benefit the community, including:

- putting on an event, activity or performance
- buying new equipment or materials
- running training courses
- setting up a pilot project or starting up a new group
- carrying out special repairs or conservation work
- paying expenses for volunteers, costs for sessional workers or professional fees
- transport costs.

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/awards-for-all-england>

