

# Voluntary Action Barnsley (VAB) BCVN Bulletin August 2009

## VAB News

### Recent Roadshow Events

Further to the research conducted by the Office of the Third Sector (OTS), Barnsley Council asked Voluntary Action Barnsley (VAB) to conduct some additional research with Third Sector organisations (TSO) as the OTS research had only focused on larger organisations and the majority of groups in Barnsley are relatively small. The aim was to find out more about the existing relationship between the Third Sector and statutory organisations. VAB also wanted to find out about how we and other Infrastructure organisations could improve delivery of our services.

VAB organised a series of roadshow events across the Borough in partnership with South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau and Together for Regeneration from June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Attendees were grouped into small workshops with a facilitator and scribe and we asked three very simple questions:

- 1. What is your vision for a thriving Third Sector (in an ideal world what would the voluntary and community sector look like in Barnsley)?**
- 2. What is the reality of the current situation? Give positive and negative examples of your existing relationship with statutory agencies**
- 3. How do we achieve the Vision? What skills/support do you need to achieve the points raised in Q1?**

Information from the events is now being collated and all attendees will receive a copy within 2 weeks. It will also be available on our website for further comment from week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> August.

This report will then be presented to One Barnsley in September and we have been assured that BMBC will then produce an action plan from these findings and they will continue the consultation process.

Thank you to all you who took the time to attend.



Voluntary Action Barnsley  
Registered in England & Wales  
Registered Charity N° 515268  
Company Limited by





**Next Barnsley Community and Voluntary Network  
(BCVN) meeting  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September  
Penistone Scout Hut  
Drop in from 3pm until 7pm**

One of the points raised from the roadshows (mentioned in the article above) highlighted that the sector would like a meeting where all support services for the voluntary and community sector were represented. This point was particularly stressed in Penistone so we promised that was exactly what we would do for the next BCVN meeting. This meeting is open to any group across the Borough and is not restricted to just Penistone groups. The invites and booking forms will be sent out next week.

**Community Accountancy & Payroll Service**

**Are you struggling to keep track of finances within your organisation?**

**Do you need help to set up systems to satisfy the requirements of your funders?**

**Are you paying too much in payroll and accountancy fees?**

**The new Community Accountancy Service at Voluntary Action Barnsley can offer a range of accounting services, advice and information to support voluntary groups, charities and social enterprise, including:**

- Assistance with book keeping and setting up financial systems
- Help with budgets & cash flow
- Preparation of Annual Accounts
- Year end Independent Examination of Accounts
- Support with grant returns and management accounts
- Advice on compliance with Charity Commission regulations
- Competitively priced Payroll Bureau, including production of pay slips and essential payroll reports
- Practical support information and advice on payroll related issues
- Finance related training, on an individual or group basis

**For more information or to arrange a free consultation, please contact: Angela Hayes, Community Accountant, on 01226 320116, or Debbie Hollingsworth, Payroll & Financial Services Officer, on 01226 320119**



## New Training Calendar at VAB

I am pleased to confirm that Voluntary Action Barnsley is launching their new training calendar. It will primarily run October 2009 to March 2010 and incorporates a good variety of courses aimed around the support that groups have expressed a need for.

If you are interested in learning more about the type of training available the details will be available on the Voluntary Action Barnsley website mid August. Alternatively you can contact me direct on 01226 320109.

These courses are designed to meet the needs of the Third sector and can be tailored to suit the needs of individual organisations and we welcome suggestions for alternative courses.

## Volunteer Centre Are you looking for volunteers?

We can help, for free individual advice contact Dan Wildsmith or Beryl Cooper to register your interest. We can help you put together a role description, look at good practice for volunteer management and put you in touch with people who want to volunteer.

Tel: 01226 320104 email: [beryl.cooper@vabarnsley.org.uk](mailto:beryl.cooper@vabarnsley.org.uk) /  
[dan.wildsmith@vabarnsley.org.uk](mailto:dan.wildsmith@vabarnsley.org.uk)

**Martin Sugden** has joined the VAB team this month as the new Volunteer Advisor. Martin will be helping and advising people on how to find volunteering opportunities around the sector. He will be also offering advice to organisations who want to recruit volunteers and set up good practice policies and procedures.

Martin has experience of working with local voluntary organisations and groups including local radio stations.

Anyone who feels that their organisation would benefit from having volunteers should contact Martin and the team on 01226 320105 Members of the public can also view the national database of volunteering at [www.do-it.org.uk](http://www.do-it.org.uk)



## Participation Team

### Third Sector Children's Services Update

With developments around Child Safeguarding and the implementation of the Children's Trust Executive, services for Children & Young People are going through some major changes both locally and nationally.

On behalf of the Third Sector, Voluntary Action Barnsley (VAB) are at the heart of these developments; Penny Stanley (Chief Executive of VAB) is our representative at the Children's Trust Executive Group (TEG) and Chairs the Third Sector Sub Group of the TEG. In order to help Third Sector organisations understand and participate in the changes which are currently happening, VAB recently appointed Doreen Gwilliam as the new Children & Young People's Partnership Support Officer. Doreen, together with James Goodwin (Participation Team Project Officer) will work with local Third Sector organisations to inform and support them through the plethora of changes.

Over the coming year we will:

- Continue to have a place at the TEG.
- Continue to facilitate the Third Sector Sub Group of the TEG - this is an arena in which Third Sector groups can be informed of the plans of the TEG, receive reports from representatives on related sub groups they attend, network with others in the group and voice issues which can form feedback to the TEG. *This group meets monthly at The Core.*
- Produce a range of themed information bulletins. The first publication will give information about the developments of the Locality Well Being Teams.

We also plan to deliver information sessions on aspects of current policy and practice developments, including:

- Information Sharing.
- Contact Point.
- Common Assessment Framework (CAF).
- Electronic Common Assessment Framework (E-CAF).
- Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) developments.
- Locating Child Protection Training.
- Commissioning and being prepared for this.
- Current developments such as the Locality Well Being Teams, Area Based Grant, pooled budgets, Child Poverty.

For further information, please contact Doreen Gwilliam or James Goodwin on 01226 320106.

## FOR SALE

7 x 6 Litre FOAM Fire Extinguishers



**NOW £20 each (RRP at £40)**

Suitable for: Fires caused by the combustion of flammable liquids such as petrol, oils, fats, paints and tar - known as [Class B](#) fires. Also very good for fires of solid materials, such as wood, paper and soft furnishing - described as [Class A](#) fires. Not suitable for: Deep fat fryer fires. All extinguishers are new, fully charged and ready to use and supplied with wall brackets. Annual maintenance due November 2009.

**To find out further information about the fire extinguishers please contact:**

Angela Jones - VAB Buildings Manager 01226 320102  
[angela.jones@vabarnsley.org.uk](mailto:angela.jones@vabarnsley.org.uk)

**Summer Sale in August 2009**  
**All meeting rooms at The Core will be half price!**



Book a meeting room at The Core for this period and you can get it at half price!\* Rooms available from just £13!

**\* Bookings for this offer will be taken from July 13<sup>th</sup> 2009 and will be valid from July 20<sup>th</sup> to August 28<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**When booking please quote: CMR004**

**For more information contact:**

The Core  
County Way  
Barnsley  
S70 2JW



**Tel:** 01226 320100

**E mail:** [bookings@vabarnsley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@vabarnsley.org.uk)

**Book online:** [www.vabarnsley.org.uk](http://www.vabarnsley.org.uk)

(Please quote the booking reference number when booking online)

## Funding News

### Age Concern, Fit as a Fiddle grants

Please note these grants were previously only available to Age Concerns but this has changed for the final round of funding.

Information from Lee Thompson, Fit as a Fiddle Project Coordinator, Age Concern:

"The fit as a fiddle project is a 5 year BLF project managed through Age Concern England Support Services, Yorkshire and Humber.

The project aims to increase / or develop physical activity programmes, healthy eating programmes and improve social well being amongst older people, 50+.

My role is to co-ordinate the project in South and West Yorkshire and encourage all Age concerns (and now other groups organisations etc) to access fit as a fiddle funds and training.

Funds are not fixed and applicants should initially contact myself and work to their ideas and not a budget. I appreciate this may cause some difficulty, but from a monitoring perspective this would be easier to manage. Lots and lots of little requests i.e. £500 spread across Yorkshire would be difficult to track. We also have target groups: older men, people living in rural isolation and ex mining communities and BMEs.

Good examples of how FAAF has been used include payment for venue costs, refreshments, tutor fees and transport."

If groups working with older people are interested in applying for this funding, please get in touch with Lee Thompson, Fit as a Fiddle Project Coordinator, Age Concern Barnsley 36A Queens Rd Barnsley S71 1AR Mobile telephone 07717 816589 or email [leefaf@googlemail.com](mailto:leefaf@googlemail.com)



## Hardship Fund

The Community Development Foundation (CDF) is working with the Office of the Third Sector (OTS) to deliver the new Hardship Fund. CDF will be delivering the programme directly rather than through a network of local funders.

The Hardship Fund will provide grant support to third sector organisations in England delivering front-line services to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in society that have been affected by the recession.

Grants of between £50,000 and £250,000 will be available to organisations with a turnover of at least £200,000 that are in financial hardship which is impacting on their ability to deliver services in the following areas:

- Health and Social Care
- Housing Support
- Education and Training
- Information, Advice and Guidance

If you have any queries, please contact the Hardship Fund helpline:  
Tel: 0113 246 1561 Email: [hardshipfund@cdf.org.uk](mailto:hardshipfund@cdf.org.uk)

## GlaxoSmithKline IMPACT Awards

**Providing core funding and access to free training for health charities across the UK**

Deadline for applications for the 2010 awards is 5pm on Friday 25 September 2009.

The IMPACT Awards have been running since 1997 and are designed to recognise and reward charities that are doing excellent work to improve people's health. They are funded by GlaxoSmithKline and managed in partnership with The King's Fund.

The awards are open to registered charities that are at least three years old, working in a health-related field in the UK, with a total annual income between £10,000 and £1 million.

An overall winner will receive £35,000, nine other winners receive £25,000 and up to ten organisations that are highly commended or runners up receive £5,000 or £3,000.

You do not need to present a new project. The awards are designed to recognise success and achievements for existing work.  
You decide how to use the award money.



Organisations that win or are highly commended for an IMPACT Award will be offered free training valued at £3,500 for each organisation. [Find out more about the IMPACT Awards Development Network](#) or tel **020 7307 2400**

Winners will be given a range of resources to help promote their work (such as professional photographs, films, banners and brochures).

## Local News

### **BARNSELY NEEDS THE OLDEST MENTOR IN TOWN**

In hard times those who inspire, motivate and challenge others to be their best are our surest guarantee of a secure future. To publicise the benefits mentoring can bring Barnsley Needs You is offering a £200 reward to someone already passing on their skills and work experience.

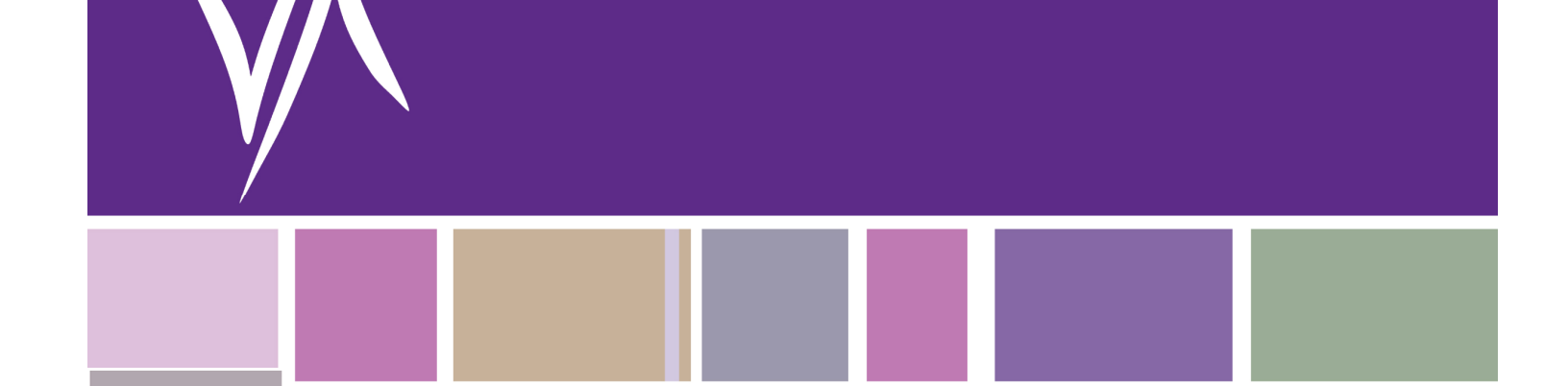
The prize money is up for grabs in a borough wide search to find Barnsley's Oldest Mentor. This innovative competition is sponsored by the Barnsley Work and Skills Board (BWSB) and aims to recognise local people who are doing their bit for the town by passing on work-related skills and experience to other members of the community.

Everyone will know someone who fits the bill and this is a fantastic opportunity to reward them for their contribution to helping the town survive and thrive. Friends, family or work colleagues can nominate their community champion by logging on to [www.barnsleyneedsyou.org](http://www.barnsleyneedsyou.org), by emailing [competitions@barnsleyneedsyou.org](mailto:competitions@barnsleyneedsyou.org) or by phoning the competition organisers on **01432 867264**. The closing date for entries is August 31st 2009 and anyone with a Barnsley postcode can enter.

Barnsley's Oldest Mentor is one of three competitions taking place over the next 12 months to run as part of the Barnsley Needs You campaign - one of the biggest employment initiatives launched in South Yorkshire in recent years. Later in the year the BWSB will be announcing further cash awards to support apprenticeships and local employers committed to a better Barnsley.

A panel of judges, including local businessman and chairman of the BWSB John Foster, will select the winning entry, who will be presented with their cheque at an event at The Core in early September.

John Foster said: "This is a great opportunity for an employee, member of a community group or voluntary organisation to be recognised for their contribution to Barnsley. We are looking for people who are living the Barnsley Needs You ethos, people who are passing on their knowledge and experience to others, whether voluntarily or within a business. Nominating



someone for Barnsley's Oldest Mentor is a great way to acknowledge and reward people who give their time and commitment to others."

Barnsley Needs You, which is also supported by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, is an ambitious initiative which targets all levels and sectors of society, from improving opportunities for jobseekers via training or volunteer work to professional development for business leaders to push Barnsley industries to the front.

The BWSB believes that everyone has a responsibility to do something and that the Barnsley Needs You campaign will be a focus for the resources and determination of the community to overcome long term unemployment, develop the skills to benefit local businesses and make the whole town prosper.

## Events

### Invitation to One Barnsley Learning Lunches

Learning Lunches are a series of informal themed networking events on One Barnsley topics. These events will give colleagues the opportunity to get to know about policies and debate the impact on One Barnsley in a relaxed setting.

### Learning Lunch 1 Tuesday 15th September – Digital Inclusion - Totally Online Barnsley


**Speakers – Martin Cantor and Chris Partridge**

**Venue: Cabinet Office, Town Hall**

**Time: 12.00 - 1.45 pm**

**What is digital inclusion?** Digital inclusion is the process of opening up the benefits of the information society - the digital world - to those currently outside it. Thirteen million adults in Britain are not online, whether through computers, mobile phones, digital TV or games consoles. They are losing out in many ways, like, cheaper goods and services, contact with family and friends, access to knowledge, better services. Their exclusion also weakens the local economy, and makes public services more expensive to provide. There is a proven strong correlation between digital exclusion and social exclusion.

Totally Online Barnsley (TOBy) is Barnsley's plan to be the first place in Britain where everyone can enter the digital world with ease and confidence - with a target date of the 2012 Olympic Games. Working within the



framework of the wider South Yorkshire “Making IT Personal” programme, which is supported by £1.5m of European funding and £1.5m from central government, as well as a joint action research project with Sheffield Hallam University. TOBy will work by the sharing and cascading of skills and knowledge, within families, among friends, between workmates, so it needs the active engagement of people and organisations across the Borough.

**Who should attend?** If you come face to face with the public, or have existing links within the community we would like you to attend this event. TOBy needs **people with links into the community** to spread the message of where and how people can a) understand what the digital world has to offer them and b) learn to use computers and other technologies to benefit them

There will be a second learning lunch on digital region (the region's high speed broadband project) looking at the strategic objectives and opportunities it offers. For more information on digital region please visit <http://www.digitalregion.co.uk/>.

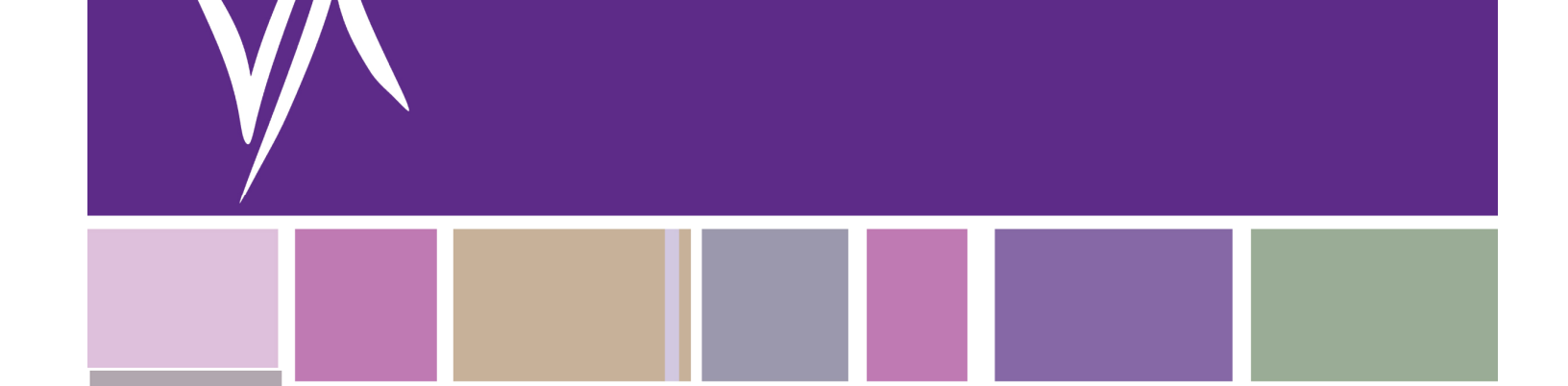
**Learning Lunch 2**  
**Tuesday 27th October – Barnsley MBC New**  
**Neighbourhoods Framework**  
**Speaker – Kate Roe – Executive Director of Customer Service**  
**and Neighbourhoods**  
**Venue: Cabinet Office, Town Hall**  
**Time: 12.00 - 1.45 pm**

**Background**

Barnsley residents have been telling us that they want better access to the council's services. They want to know more about what we're doing and have a greater say in the work we do. Barnsley MBC has responded to this by creating new neighbourhood working arrangements. This means local people will have more influence in what the council does in their local areas. Local people's input will determine the priorities for their area. There will be different opportunities for people to have their say. Come to this event and find out more about how your organisation can work with these arrangements and get involved.

**Who should attend?** If you are involved in neighbourhood working and seek to provide more responsive services, this learning lunch will be of interest to you.

Please confirm your attendance at [helenknox@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:helenknox@barnsley.gov.uk) or phone on 01226 77 3405. Places are limited but please forward on to relevant



colleagues. Non-confirmation leads to a number of problems, specifically if the event is cancelled I cannot get that message to you.

**Contact Helen Knox about the two learning lunches above.**

Community Planning Officer, One Barnsley, Community Planning  
Barnsley MBC, Town Hall, Barnsley S70 2TA

Phone - 01226 77 3405

Fax - 01226 77 3449

[helenknox@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:helenknox@barnsley.gov.uk)

**If you would like to contribute to this this bulletin  
please contact Naomi Douglas on 01226 320107 or e  
mail [naomi.douglas@vabarnsley.org.uk](mailto:naomi.douglas@vabarnsley.org.uk)**