

**Voluntary Action Barnsley (VAB)
Third Sector News
For Barnsley's Community and Voluntary Network (BCVN)
Bulletin – April 2008**

VAB News

The Core Information Day

Affordable, accessible facilities for Barnsley's third sector

**Need reasonably priced town centre office accommodation with
all inclusive IT and phone systems?**

Want to hire training or meeting rooms?

VAB invites you to find out more at our information day

May 14th 2008

10:00 – 12:30 (lunch provided)

**Digital Media Centre, County Way, Barnsley
(opposite The Core)**

PLACES STILL AVAILABLE!

The Core will increase delivery of public services by third sector organisations and promote and support volunteering.

The Core will provide new and exciting opportunities for groups who will be able to rent all inclusive office accommodation, hire modern training/meeting rooms and take advantage of up-to-date resources as well as accessing VAB's services.

The Core is due for completion by Autumn 2008.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

**20% discount to all groups who attend this event on their first
meeting/training room booking at The Core.**

(This promotional offer is only open to groups who attend the information day and discount vouchers are not redeemable by a third party. The offer is open until August 2009).

**Contact Naomi Douglas on 01226 242726 or e mail
naomi.douglas@vabarnsley.org.uk for more info**

Voluntary Action Barnsley invites you to help celebrate



Volunteers Week 2008

**Come celebrate with us at the Locke Park Classic Car Show
Sunday June 8th**

Friends of Locke Park have kindly invited voluntary organisations to come along and showcase your services and provide an opportunity for recruitment of volunteers

It is essential you book as places are limited.

You will need to bring your own tables, chairs etc

No fund raising, selling etc will be allowed.

Please contact Wally Smith in the Volunteer Centre ON 01226 295905 or e mail volunteer@vabarnsley.org.uk

Independent Safeguarding Authority Update Criminal record checks will cost £64

The new screening system for people who work with children and vulnerable adults will begin in October 2009 and cost £64 per person, the Independent Safeguarding Authority has announced.

The £64 fee will include the existing £36 fee for clearance from the Criminal Record Bureau. Applicants will only have to pay once and will not need new clearance when changing jobs or places of work.

For volunteers and the organisations taking them on, the process will be free. However, if a volunteer with ISA clearance later begins paid employment, they will be required to pay.

Contact Tracey Oleisky in the VAB Participation team for more info on 01226 299590
Or e mail tracey.oleisky@vabarnsley.org.uk

The Advice Team at VAB is pleased to announce Surgery dates for 2008

On these dates, groups have the opportunity to come in and have an informal and private 1 hour session on any 'legal' matter that is of concern to the group, such as:

Governing documents
Charity issues
Company issues
Policies
Employment issues
Leases
VAT
Data Protection
AND MORE...

Dates for 2008

Wed 21st May

Tue 15th July

Thu 4th
September

The surgeries will be held at 23 Queens Road, Barnsley, S71 1AN.

Call 01226 286841 and speak to Ann Moffatt or Jane Jefferson to book a session.

SURGERY SESSIONS ARE FREE OF CHARGE

Supported Volunteering Project

By Janet Thomas Supported Volunteering Development Worker

I am just writing to let you know that the Volunteer Centre's Supported Volunteering Project is now very much up and running. We have seven Support Assistants who are coming to the end of a comprehensive training programme and are now eager to take on their roles and assist people with additional support needs access volunteering opportunities in their community.

So, if you are an organisation who could offer a volunteering role or;

- know of someone who may like to volunteer but needs a little extra support
- know of someone who might like to find out more about becoming a Support Assistant,

Then please contact me at the Volunteer Centre on 01226 295905

VAB Training

- **Volunteers & the Law**

11 June 08 – Priory Campus (an extra date, there are a few spare places)

- **Onwards & Upwards**

6 June to 11 July (6 weeks) 2 hours per week – VAB Meeting room (see attached)

- **Health & Safety & Risk Assessment**

21 May – Barnsley Rugby Club

VAB's Breastfeeding Link workers news Hospital Trust, Primary Care Trust and Children's Centres Receive Certificate of Commitment

Congratulations to all those working within Barnsley Hospital, Primary Care Trust, Children's Centres and communities on being awarded a Baby Friendly Initiative, Certificate of Commitment. This award is for all the work in putting together a joint breastfeeding policy and action plan that makes sure families across Barnsley receive high quality support and information on breastfeeding.

The Baby Friendly Initiative is a global campaign that works in stages to put things in place that will increase the numbers of families that enjoy breastfeeding their babies.

Parents are given information and support to allow them to make an informed choice in one of the most important decisions they have to make in choosing their baby's feeding method. There is over two decades of research to show that breastfeeding babies, improves the health of the baby and the mother in the short term and in later life.

Congratulations to all staff and volunteers who have worked hard in achieving this Certificate of Commitment. Lots of Health professionals such as Midwives and Health Visitors have worked together with a team of breast feeding volunteers, breast feeding link workers and children centre staff to achieve this excellent result.

Volunteer Peer Supporters provide excellent mother to mother support; this is a significant element to achieving Baby Friendly accreditation and supporting mums to breastfeed for longer. Our motivated enthusiastic volunteers provide creative initiatives e.g. breastfeeding drop-in groups, antenatal sessions in the communities they live in, to improve the breastfeeding experiences of babies and mothers locally.

The Breastfeeding Link Workers based at Voluntary Action Barnsley and funded by the Primary Care Trust, give support in the training of staff and involvement in public campaigns for breastfeeding. They work with healthcare workers to ensure welcoming environments for breastfeeding mums and babies throughout the Barnsley Borough. They also work with businesses and employers to inform and support mums to continue breastfeeding when they return to work.

In achieving the first step together we can move forward to the development of a breastfeeding friendly town, and healthier communities.

The Breastfeeding Link Workers. Tel. 01226 242726. Email: bflink@vabarnsley.org.uk
www.vabarnsley.org.uk or Jane Burren, Peer Support Tel. 07877426486 Email:
bibs1@hotmail.co.uk www.barnsleybibs.co.uk

**Breastfeeding Awareness Week takes place from the 11th May – 17th May 2008.
Please visit events and activities, on the 15th May: A Family Fun Day 10 – 2pm, at
the Metrodome in the Rigby Suite, with several workshops and children's activities.
A stand in the Hospital main reception area all week and at Barnsley College Old Mill
Lane Site reception area on Monday 12th May.**



 **FAMILY FUN DAY**
THURSDAY 15TH MAY
9.45AM-2PM
RIGBY SUITE, METRODOME
BUFFET LUNCH PROVIDED

Story & Rhyme

Face Painting
Kiddie Craftie Fun
Bendy Kids

WORKSHOPS
Peer Support Volunteer Opportunities, Becoming a LLL Leader, Nutrition, BabyWearing & Introduction to working with the NCT.

NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS WEEK 2008

For more information contact Breastfeeding Link Workers



01226242726 or email: bflink@vabarnsley.org.uk

Local News

Get involved at Birdwell School

As part of the school's approach to personalised learning, children spend Friday afternoons taking part in activities they would not normally experience in the classroom.

Construction work - children develop outdoor play facilities with help and advice from a play support worker with a wealth of building and construction skills, they are also involved in making an environmentally friendly greenhouse made from plastic bottles collected by parents. It is hoped that the children will be able to learn trades such as simple joinery and brick laying too.

European Café – which will sell food from around the world whilst improving language skills. It also allows pupils to develop their business acumen, as they will have purchase bistro sets as well as creating appealing multi-cultural menus.

Museum – Local people have helped the children to develop a school museum charting the progress of Birdwell School over the past 100 years.

Sewing and Knitting – volunteers are helping to teach pupils how to knit and sew

Drug Awareness – a volunteer who has experience in supporting adults with substance addiction is sharing her knowledge with the children and has brought in parents of abusers and ex-users to talk about how their lives have been affected by drugs.

Call to Action! - Mr Bailey the Deputy Head is keen to keep the enthusiasm and momentum going by being able to offer children many more opportunities to learn about a diverse range of activities, he hopes to attract volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds to offer support with passing on their knowledge and skills to the children anything will be considered e.g. bricklaying, hairdressing, drystone walling, beauty therapy, sculpting, pottery etc.

If you are interested give Mr Bailey a ring on 01226 742957 or contact the Volunteer Centre on 01226 295905 and ask for Beryl Cooper

The CRB can help you make safer recruitment decisions



Company No: 5281909 Charity No: 1119676



A clear CRB check is a MUST for anyone who works with children and the vulnerable

Our dedicated account management service offer a "one stop shop" from application form completion, ID checks, fraud awareness to sector expertise and procedure help and support.

Our service is quick and reliable and can be completed at your premises at a time convenient for you. Our prices are competitive, starting from just £6.00

****Information on new ISA Legislation which comes into force 10 October 2008 is now available****

For a comprehensive information pack please call 01226 391212

Artist and Performers, Don't just sit there - do something

Artist wanted immediately, including painters, photographers, sculptors, dancers, singers and musicians, in the Barnsley area

Barnsley Local Arts Consortium are looking for passionate and enthusiastic artists to work together to put on shows, events and exhibitions in Barnsley and throughout Yorkshire. No membership fees, just a commitment to working together to promote the best in arts and heritage in Barnsley

Please contact me via www.myspace.com/raynbowstudio
or at b-lac@hotmail.co.uk for an application form
Don't just sit there - do something!

Sector News

New – Single Parents Link-up Online

Single parents living in South and West Yorkshire can now link-up in a new local online group. The online group offers a place where lone parents can get support and friendship, share the highs and lows of life and ideas for fun days out, local events, helpful organisations, childcare and much more! The group is run by UK charity Single Parent Action Network and supported by the ICT Hub. To join or find out more go to: www.singleparents.org.uk

Voluntary Sector Staff Satisfaction Survey

For your chance to complete the national Charity Pulse 2008 voluntary sector staff satisfaction survey, go to:

<http://www.bird-song.co.uk/charitypulse.html>

Those who participate will receive a free copy of the results.

Has your charity won £1,000?

The Charity Commission, which regulates the 190,000 registered charities in England and Wales, publishes the list of all charity winners from its monthly online services prize draw. Each month, to encourage smaller charities with an income of under £250k to use its online services the Commission holds a random £1,000 prize draw. All smaller charities completing their annual returns, sending in their annual report or accounts or simply updating their details online are eligible to win.

Using the online service helps cut down the time charities spend on paperwork. It's available round the clock and provides immediate confirmation that a charity's information has been received safely and securely through a secure password.

Open this hyperlink below for further details;

http://charitycommission.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/charitycommission.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=508&p_created=1193135971&p_sid=vR18cy1j&p_accessibility=0&p_lva=&p_sp=cF9zcmNoPSZwX3NvcnRfYnk9JnBfZ3JpZHNvcnQ9JnBfcm93X2NudD0zMjYmcF9wcm9kcz0mcF9jYXRzPSZwX3B2PSZwX2N2PSZwX3NIYXJjaF90eXBIPWFuc3dlcnMuc2VhcmNoX25sJnBfcGFnZT0x&p_li=&p_topview=1

SWITCHED ON COMMUNITIES

Do you provide ICT services to your local community? Do you have learners who find it difficult to use a computer? Operate a mouse, keyboard or struggle to view the screen? Do you have learners with disabilities?

AbilityNet are looking for voluntary and community organisations to join the Switched On Communities project within Yorkshire and Humber. 10x VCOs will each receive a mini kit of adaptive hardware and assistive software worth over £500.00. Up to 2 of your representatives will receive training on using the kit, plus the opportunity to receive further training on specialised subjects such as supporting learners with dyslexia, visual impairments, physical disabilities, etc.

You will receive support from AbilityNet and our Community Partner (Foresight, Grimsby). This includes advice, full assessments for individuals who need more specialised support and access to our equipment loan bank. We aim to increase the capacity of your organisation, your services, your staff and volunteers to better support your local community.

If you would like to join the Switched on Communities project or would like more information, please contact Vihing Lee in the first instance via email <mailto:vihing.lee@abilitynet.org.uk> or call on 07939 926361.

AbilityNet P.O. Box 94, Warwick, CV34 5WS

Can Key Fund be a part of your story...?

The Key Fund is offering support packages of between £1,000 and £50,000 to social businesses working in disadvantaged communities in Yorkshire and Humberside.

Are you...

- A Community and voluntary organisation seeking to develop ideas for generating your own income
- An Individual or a group starting up a Social Enterprise
- A Social Enterprise looking to grow and develop
- A Social Firm that employs a significant number of staff with a disability, and uses income generated from the provision of goods/services to pursue your social mission
- A Credit Union or other community saving & credit scheme
- A Cooperative, where a group of individuals with shared economic, social and cultural goals have formed a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise

Please follow the link below for more details on the support offered by the Key Fund.

<http://www.keyfundyorks.org.uk/UserFiles/File/ProductTable.pdf>

For more information and to see if you are eligible please call **0845 140 1400**

Email: info@keyfundyorks.org.uk Web: www.keyfundyorks.org.uk

Environment Agency Advice Sheets

The environment agency has produced a series of advice sheets about preparing for flooding that may be useful. Go to this website for more info;

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood/826674/830330/#content>

Events

Invitation to Barnsley Environment Forum

The theme for World Environment Day this year is 'CO2 - Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy'. To coincide, we are holding the 30th Barnsley Environment Forum.

The theme is sustainable design and construction with presentations on Sustainable Regeneration, Green Roofs and Accessibility Planning.

Date: Thursday 5th June

Venue: Digital Media Centre, County Way, Barnsley S70 2HG

Time: 6pm (light buffet from 5.30pm)

The date of this summer's Environment Forum has again been set to coincide with 'World Environment Day', which is celebrated each year on the 5th June to promote worldwide awareness of the environment.

For our Forum event, we have put together an impressive range of presentations based around the theme of sustainable regeneration / design and construction as follows:-

- Sustainable Regeneration - Barnsley Markets Project
- Green Roofs - Sheffield Green Roof Project
- Accessibility Transport Planning - South Yorkshire Passenger Transport

Please find further details and a reply slip attached for you to complete and return

FROM GHA\$TLEY GHOULS TO MURDER MOST FOUL...

Local theatre group The Follies are starting work on a killer new project. The success of their spooky sell-out Halloween production, A Torrid Tale of Ghastly Ghouls at Wentworth Castle Gardens, has driven the group to murder!

They are plotting a murder mystery and are seeking inspired people with inquiring minds! In other words, they need aspiring actors, writers and creative individuals to join them in bringing this intriguing conundrum to life.



Head Office
33/35 Queens Rd
Barnsley
S71 IAN
Tel: 01226 242726
E mail: naomi.douglas@vabarnsley.org.uk

Helen Kelly and Joanne Cliff, both working mums with acting experience, founded The Follies in 2007. They were joined by enthusiastic amateurs James Martin, Vicky Pickles and Fiona Pressland who brought their own individual talents to the group. Their enthusiasm, endless good humour, Yorkshire wit coupled with a down-to-earth approach to performing is proving a winning combination.

Spurred on by the group's encouragement, Joanne Cliff is now launching herself further into the limelight. She has recently secured representation from a national casting agency having already appeared in Emmerdale, The Royal, Coronation Street and the hit movie Alfie. Despite the approaching spotlight, Joanne remains focused on making 2008 a spectacular year for The Follies,

"Working with the group on a Torrid Tale last year was amazing fun but to take The Follies forward we need new members. And they don't need previous acting experience, just a willingness to have a go and give it their all, either on stage or behind the scenes."

Based at the Take 2 Centre in Birdwell near Barnsley, The Follies meet on Thursday's evenings from 7.30 until 9.30. If you over 21 and are interesting in aiding and abetting them in their new venture. Please contact Helen Kelly on 07969 064369 or email them at thefollies@live.com for more information. Alternatively go to Facebook to learn more about the group.

Deadline for next bulletin is Friday 23rd May

If you wish to use the VAB News Bulletin to advertise an event or activity or if you wish to be added or deleted from the mailing list then please contact Naomi Douglas on 01226 785564 or email naomi.douglas@vabarnsley.org.uk