



VolCanO



The Newsletter for Volunteer Coordinators and Organisers

JUNE 2010

**HAPPY VOLUNTEERS WEEK
1-7 JUNE 2010**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**INSIDE - EXCITING NEW TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
THAT YOU MUST ACT ON NOW!**

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS WEEK 1

BESPOKE TRAINING - & 2

SPECIAL FEATURE 3

VOLUNTEER OSCARS 2010 4



Volunteers' Week is an annual event which celebrates the fantastic contribution that millions of volunteers make across the UK. The Week plays a huge part in raising the profile of the millions of volunteers who regularly contribute to society, while inspiring others to get involved too.

Volunteers week started in 1984, and initially was run on a very local basis—however it is now a national event and if you are running any events that will link in with volunteers week, you can have them publicised free of charge on the National Volunteers week website - <http://www.volunteersweek.org.uk/Whats+on/Volunteers+Week+event.htm>. Events can be held any time this year, so don't worry if you think you've missed out! There are also a number of free resources available on that website to help promote your event locally, in the form of printed flyers and posters.

If you've not organised an event yet, why not have a get together to thank your volunteers for all that they do? Alternatively, you could have their "name in lights" on the Volunteering England Website, publically thanking them for supporting your organisation. For more details visit <http://www.volunteersweek.org.uk/Celebrating+volunteering/Thank+you/say-thank-you.htm>.

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**BESPOKE VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT TRAINING
AVAILABLE FREE UNTIL MARCH 2011**

The Volunteer Centres in Harrogate and Ripon are excited to announce the start of a new, bespoke program of Volunteer Management training that we are able to offer to organisations for the first time.

Funded by Capacity Builders through the Y&NYLIO consortium, the project will work with Public, Private and Voluntary Community Sector colleagues to ensure a clear understanding of the value of volunteering and of volunteer management and the importance of both to their volunteers, services and organisations. The project will increase their awareness of volunteer management and volunteer centre networks and facilitate access to high quality advice, materials, support and training.

This project will work across the whole of the sub region, working with and through existing Volunteer Centre networks, linking directly into a range of initiatives to address the needs of marginalized, specialist organisations and the broader third sector.

The exciting parts of this project for your organisation are two-fold:

Firstly, we are able to deliver exactly the training that you, or your organisation needs. Whether this is a quick look at one area of volunteer management over a coffee, or a full and in depth induction over a number of weeks, we can work with your organisation to identify what is right for you, and how it can best be delivered.

The thoughts behind this are that we recognise that each organisation has very individual needs, and may be at very different stages with volunteer management. It could be you have been in the role a number of years, and manage large numbers of volunteers, yet have never had any formal training. It could be that you are new to the job, or simply that you are unsure about a particular area. We are therefore inviting you to contact us to discuss your needs, and we will work with you to ensure that the package that we offer is tailor made.

The second benefit is that because this scheme is funded by Capacity Builders until March 2011, all training delivered until that date will be free of charge. This is an amazing opportunity for you to address your training needs, and hence urge you to make contact with the Volunteer Centres to find out how we can help you. We anticipate demand will be very high, so are working on a first come, first served basis.

We have tried to answer some of the queries you may have on the following page, but if we haven't addressed them or if you'd simply like to know more, please contact us:

Harrogate Volunteer Centre, 01423 509004, volunteer@harrogate.org

Ripon Volunteer Centre, 01765 603631, robbyn@riponcvs.co.uk.

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**BESPOKE VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT TRAINING
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...**

Q. It says the training is free—what is the catch?

A. There is no catch. The development of the training program has been funded by a bid put into Capacity Builders by Ripon CVS. Hence, as part of that bid, training can be delivered free until March 2011. After this date, a charge will be made.

Q. I don't have time to attend training!

A. The Volunteer Management Training program recognises that many Volunteer Managers work part time and are incredibly busy. We understand that taking time out of your organisation for a half day to attend training may not be practical. Hence, we've designed the training so that it can be delivered in small, bite size pieces, focussing on specific areas that are of interest to you. An example of this may be that we could meet you for a coffee at a time to suit you, and discuss the issue that is important to you. This discussion can then be supported by information or worksheets that you can look at during a time that is convenient to you.

Q. I am new to volunteer management—how can you help?

A. We recognise that volunteer management is a big area, and there is a lot to know! Hence we can offer you a comprehensive program of training delivered over a number of weeks. Each of the sessions will have a clear agenda and outcome, so you can chose those sessions that are right for you. All training is delivered by CIEH accredited trainers, so you can be sure that we will identify and address your particular training needs.

Q. I am interested, but find it inconvenient to travel to Harrogate / Ripon...

A. The Volunteer Centre Network across York and North Yorkshire are working in partnership deliver the training. Because the training package offered is bespoke, we will be able to work with you to identify an area/venue or trainer that suits you, thus allowing the training to be delivered at a convenient time and place.

Q. It says you deliver training to public/private sector—how is this relevant for me?

A. Increasingly, many public /private sector organisations are beginning to involve volunteers in their work, but may not have had the opportunity to fully understand the implications of this for their organisation or staff. It may be you will be managing volunteers as part of your role, but have no experience of doing so. Our training is aimed at meeting the needs and concerns of your organisation, whether it's just an initial look at why you should involve volunteers, or more of an in depth look at volunteer management. Call us on the numbers opposite to discuss how we can help you and meet your needs.

VOLUNTEERING OSCARS 2011 LAUNCHED

The volunteer Centres, in partnership with Ackrill Media Group are delighted to announce that the Volunteering Oscars will take place again on 15th October 2011, at the Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate.

Nominations will officially be opened following the launch of the event in the local press during Volunteers Week, and we would invite you to submit nominations for your volunteers who you would like to see thanked at this prestigious event.

Full details of how to nominate will be on our websites shortly, and will be circulated via the email network as well as in the next issue of Volcano.

We really value your nominations and input into the event, which is growing in popularity each year. It provides a lovely way to thank all the volunteers across our district for all that they do in making it a special place to live and work, so please be a part of it!

ELECTION DRAMA...

Following all the recent drama with the General Election, Volunteering England have welcomed the new Government into office, saying "Volunteering England looks forward to working with the new administration, recognising that both the Conservative and LibDem parties in the general election demonstrated their commitment to encouraging and supporting volunteering across our society."

They continue by adding "a new parliament presents a new opportunity to raise the profile of volunteers and the value they contribute to our communities. More than 120 new MPs have already demonstrated their support for volunteers by signing up to the Volunteering Pledge, and we are sure that volunteering will remain a high on the parliamentary agenda. It will be crucial that Government recognises the significance of local infrastructure bodies such as Volunteer Centres in supporting community activity across the country."

Volunteering finish by adding "Government must recognise that volunteering is often an investment, saving public funds in the long term by delivering a range of social outcomes, including increased employability and improved health."

Former Shadow Charities Minister Nick Hurd has been appointed as the new Charities Minister in the Government, and it is hoped that the commitment to volunteering issues shown during his time as a shadow minister will continue for the good of the sector.