



Dear Nithsdale CVS Members,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2009!

Over recent months you will have received information about D & G Community Plan developments. We have put the latest version (Dec 08) on our website at www.ncvs.org.uk along with the Single Outcome Agreement. There have been several consultation meetings recently about these important documents. For those of you who were unable to attend meetings D & G council have now provided an on-line discussion forum where you can still contribute. In order to participate, you will have to **register as a user** but this is a very easy process and only takes a minute or two. Go to <http://www.dgcommunity.net/dgcommunity/miniweb.aspx?id=72>

This links to the community planning website and there is an access there to the discussion forum and registration.

I have previously sent all NCVS members a copy of the Compact, another major development and you will see information below about a Compact Awareness event that you may find of interest.

Karen Lewis - NCVS Director

FREE WORKSHOP FOR VOLUNTARY SECTOR ORGANISATIONS!

Business Continuity Management for the Voluntary Sector

Have you ever thought what your organisation will do if:

- Key members of your organisation are absent unexpectedly for several weeks?
- Your premises are flooded from burst pipes and all your paper files and records are destroyed?
- you have a problem with your computers and all the forms and systems that are essential to your organisation and its service users are lost?

Have you stopped for a moment and really thought about what you would do if any of the above happened and how you would make sure that your organisation would be able to keep running and continue to provide services to your clients, some of whom could be very vulnerable?

Business Continuity Management (BCM) is about identifying what aspects of your organisation's activities and resources are essential and planning how your organisation would continue in the event of disruption.

Come along to our **free half day workshop on Thursday 12th February 2009** which focuses on the specific needs of voluntary sector organisations. The workshop is being delivered by Dumfries & Galloway Council's Emergency Planning Team and Nithsdale Council of Voluntary Service with the support of Nithsdale Local Rural Partnership.

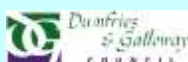
Date: Thursday 12th February

Venue: Oasis Youth Centre, Newall Terrace, Dumfries

Time: 10.00am to 1.00pm (Registration from 9.30)

To book your free place or for more information contact:

**Aaron at D & G Council on 01387 260046
Jeanette at Nithsdale CVS on 01387 269161**



DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY COMPACT WORKSHOP

Community Planning partners are holding a workshop on the Compact (a set of shared values and principles that governs the relationship between the public and voluntary/community sectors in our region). The Compact sets the basis from which each sector will support the other to improve the quality of life of local people and communities. The aims of the workshop are:

- To raise awareness of the Compact, its aims and aspirations
- To encourage understanding of what the Compact means, particularly its endorsement by the Community Planning Joint Board
- To encourage voluntary organisations to sign up to the Compact at local level
- To increase understanding of the Compact and the need to adhere to Compact commitments
- To gain feedback on the Compact information pack, particularly the Compact Record Form
- To raise awareness of Nithsdale Third Sector Forum and the regional Third Sector Forum development
- To inform the Compact Implementation Group work programme for 2009/10

This workshop will be of benefit to any voluntary organisation and public sector agencies who work with voluntary organisations at any level.

Date: Thursday 5th March 09

Venue : Station Hotel, Dumfries

To book your place contact Katrina or Jeanette at Nithsdale CVS on 01387 269161 or email info@ncvs.org.uk

Lunch will be provided and travel expenses are available for those attending as non paid representatives.



“Making Dumfries and Galloway the best place in Scotland to live, learn, work, visit and grow”

Nithsdale Area Committee Grants 2009/10

Nithsdale Area Committee invites applications for grant assistance from the voluntary sector for 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010.

Application forms are available from:
Third Sector Funding
Woodbank, 30 Edinburgh Road
Dumfries DG1 1NW

Tel: 01387 260437 Fax: 01387 260453,
e-mail ECSGrants@dumgal.gov.uk
Local Council offices or
on www.dumgal.gov.uk/grants

Completed applications should be returned to the above address **by Friday 27 February 2009**.

Advice on eligibility is available from Area Management Nithsdale on 01387 245911.
Applications will be considered by the Nithsdale Area Committee in April.

Nithsdale Third Sector Forum

The next meeting of the Forum will be held

Weds 4th Feb 09

2pm to 4pm

North West Resource Centre

The Forum is open to any community or voluntary sector organisation that provides services in Nithsdale. The Forum aims to enable sharing of information as well as acting collectively to influence decision makers.

If you would like to be involved in this new partnership network contact:

Katrina at NCVS on 01387 269161

Or email info@ncvs.org.uk

n.b. Notes from previous meetings are available as downloads on our website at ncvs.org.uk

Volunteer Recruitment Forum Event

- Would you like to give something back to your community?
- Are you looking to develop new skills and gain valuable work experience?
- Do you need to access training and gain references?

The Volunteer Recruitment Forum is a multi-agency partnership, which works to increase the awareness and promote the benefits of volunteering for everyone living in Dumfries and Galloway.

Oasis Youth Centre

5th Feb 2009

10am – 2pm

Online.

The event aims to highlight the volunteering opportunities available with various organisations and the benefits that can be gained through volunteering.

Refreshments, information and activities are all free of charge

Contact: Volunteer Recruitment Forum at vrf@hotmail.com

For more information go to www.volunteeraction.co.uk/news

Congratulations!

Nithsdale CVS would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Dumfries and Lower Nithsdale Walking Works Co-ordinator Vicky Henshall (nee Vivers) on her marriage to Richard which took place on the 31st of December 2008 at Corsewall Lighthouse Hotel

Volunteer Action Training Programme

Health & Safety and Risk Management in Volunteer Programmes Workshop

Date: 24.02.09 Place: Castle Douglas

Time: 9.30am to 4pm Cost: £40

The workshop aims to equip participants with the knowledge to address relevant health and safety issues which impact on volunteering in their setting and an overview of risk management.

Please note places have to be booked & paid for prior the due date to ensure you have a place & that the workshop will run.

Last minute bookings could lead to disappointment if insufficient people have booked in time as we will have cancelled the workshop.

For further information please contact:
Volunteer Action - Dumfries & Galloway,
71 High Street,
Dalbeattie
DG5 4HA.

Email: stewartry@volunteeraction.co.uk



Village Halls Improvement Scheme

This scheme is the Provision of grants for improvements to village halls and other community facilities, subject to VHIS terms and conditions.

Application Forms and all other information relating to this scheme are available to download at www.dumgal.gov.uk

Closing Deadline for Application submission:
5pm on 28th February 2009

For more information please contact:
Business Manager - Community Services
Woodbank
30, Edinburgh Road
Dumfries
DG1 1NW

Tel: 01387 260441
Fax: 01387 260453
E-mail: ESCGrants@dumgal.gov.uk

If you require any assistance in completing application forms, please contact Katrina on 01387 269161 or e-mail at katrina.branney@ncvs.org.uk

Are you a voluntary organisation /
Community Group
based in Upper Nithsdale?
NCVS are holding a Funderfinder,
Constitution M.O.T and OSCR Questions and
answers session at:
Kirkconnel Miners Memorial Hall
10am - 1pm
Thursday, 19th February 2009

If you require any further information, or
would like to express an interest in coming
along,

please contact:

Katrina on 01387 26916/
Katrina.branney@ncvs.org.uk



ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)

Training Dates for 2009

Two consecutive days training; cost per place £25

It is essential to attend both full days to receive the certificate of attendance

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th February,
Stranraer Library
9.00am for 9.15am - 4.30pm

Tuesday 24th & Wednesday 25th March,
Lincluden Community Centre, Dumfries
9.00am for 9.15am - 4.30pm

Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd April,
Sanquhar Community Centre
9.00am for 9.15am - 4.30pm

Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th May,
Queen's Hotel, Lockerbie
9.00am for 9.15am - 4.30pm

Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th June,
Urr Valley Hotel, Castle Douglas
9.00am for 9.15am - 4.30pm

ASIST is a two day workshop where you can learn first aid skills to help someone else who may be at risk of suicide. It is a 2-day intensive, interactive and practice-dominated course aimed at enabling people to spot the risk of suicide and provide immediate help to persons at risk.

In the same way that skills are needed for physical first aid, ASIST develops the skills necessary for suicide first aid. It is suitable for anyone, from professionals and volunteers to members of the community. Participants range from those in caring roles to people concerned about family members or friends or wanting to develop their own skills.

A certificate of attendance is awarded to participants who attend all twelve hours of the course.

Please note if you have recently been affected by suicide please ask yourself if this is a good time for you to attend this training. If you are in any doubt please feel free to contact us prior to booking. Tel. Carole Reed on 01387 251529

Booking forms can be obtained by contacting Katrina at info@ncvs.org.uk

SMHFA is a 2 day training course which teaches you how to give initial help to someone experiencing mental health problems and how to deal with a crisis situation or the first signs of someone developing mental ill health.

Tues 10th & Wed 11th February 2009

Creebridge Hotel, **Newton Stewart**
9.15am registration for 9.30am to 4.30pm

Tues 10th & Wed 11th March 2009

Urr Valley Hotel, **Castle Douglas**
9.15am registration for 9.30am to 4.30pm

Thurs 30th April & Fri 1st May 2009

North West Resource Centre, **Dumfries**
NB Priority for places will be given to people who live in
NWDumfries

9.15am registration for 9.30am to 4.30pm

Tues 19th & Wed 20th May 2009

Stranraer Library
9.15am registration for 9.30am to 4.30pm

Wed 3rd & Thurs 4th June 2009

Sanquhar Community Centre,
9.15am registration for 9.30am to 4.30pm

Lunch will be provided at all courses

Subsidised by Choose Life there is no cost to participants

For more information please phone Carole Reed on
01387 251529

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News Alert!!

EU Project - Record Keeping Reminder

A timely reminder to anyone involved in European projects that accurate and appropriate claims should be made and the need for the retention of records for the requisite period is news that over £13 million spent on projects in the Highlands and Islands will have to be returned following a European commission ruling. The money awarded between 1994 and 1999, was spent incorrectly and must be paid by Government

Community Energy Scotland

A new charity that will work with communities to develop energy projects in Scotland has been planned. The new organisation is Scotland wide and is open to membership from community groups.

Link:<http://www.communityenergyscotland.org.uk>

Community - run or Social Enterprises

The Government is increasingly holding meetings and events out and about around the country and would like, where possible, to take advantage of social enterprise or community run venues.

This ranges from rural Village halls to larger city centre venues. If you would like your venue to be included in the list of possible places for the Government to hire, please contact Victoria@senscot.net. You can view those already on the list at:

Link:

http://www.senscot.net/docs/social_enterprise_venues.xls

Locharbriggs Community Centre Association

Fund Raising Events

Friday 6th Feb 09
'Burns Season Dance'

With 'Bon Accords'
8pm to 11.30pm
Tickets £5.00

Friday 20th March 09
'Quiz Night'

7.30pm at the Lochar Inn
£10.00 per Team of 4 People

Friday 10th April 09
Easter Prize Bingo

7.30pm
Easter Themed Prize Bingo
Prizes for Decorated Eggs / Easter Bonnets

For more info contact:
John Caskie 01387 710975

Nithsdale Council of Voluntary Service

Hollywood Building
Old Assembly Close
Irish Street
Dumfries
DG1 2PH

Tel: **01387 269161**

Website: www.ncvs.org.uk Email: info@ncvs.org.uk

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm (closed 1pm–2pm)

Director: Karen Lewis

Administrator: Suzanne Lafferty

Information & Training Advisor: Katrina Branney

Walking Works Co-ordinator: Vicky Henshall
(Dumfries & Lower Nithsdale)

Walking Works Co-ordinator: Graham Banks
(Mid and Upper Nithsdale)

Access to Work Co-ordinator: Ronnie Johnstone

Office Support Worker: Jeanette Murray

NCVS is a member of the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and works in partnership with other local CVS. NCVS is a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland no: 81362 Charity no: SC008201

