



Dear Nithsdale CVS Members,

Welcome to this months Newsletter and Funding Alert which I hope you find useful.

This has been a very busy month as usual for NCVS! Our trading subsidiary 'the allotment', based at 8 Great King Street in Dumfries, is opening a one day per week outlet in the reception area at Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary. Along with our NHS partners in 'the allotment' we hope this outlet proves a similar success story!



You may have read in the local media that 2 part-time operational local CVS in the region, Wigtownshire CVS and Annandale & Eskdale CVS, have decided to merge. Together they make up the only 2 members of D & G Federation of CVS (a non-operational CVS). We appreciate that capacity issues mean they believe this is the best solution for them.

However both Nithsdale CVS and Stewartry CVS, both full-time operational local CVS, do not support a merger and are therefore not part of this proposed new merged organisation. We intend to remain equal, independent, autonomous organisations based locally and managed locally by Committees who are elected from our memberships. This is at the heart of what we do as stated in our charitable objectives. We believe maintaining local governance and accountability through our membership base to deliver on the Scottish Government localism agenda is a fundamental pre-requisite of meaningful community planning in action as well as producing the best outcomes for the local communities and voluntary sector we serve, support and represent.

However, as outlined in a previous newsletter, Nithsdale CVS, Stewartry CVS and Volunteer Action-Dumfries & Galloway have entered into an Enhanced Partnership (Dumfries & Galloway Voluntary Sector Intermediary Organisations Partnership). This is to ensure we all continue as equal, independent, autonomous organisations sharing skills and expertise to add value and avoid duplication. This is as a response to proposed Scottish Government funding changes from April 2011 and the introduction of 32 new Interface structures across Scotland.

Several member organisations have been in touch for clarification so please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like any further information about these developments.

Regards,

Karen Lewis

Director - NCVS

Dates for your Diaries!

Nithsdale Voluntary Sector Forum Meetings

Wed 10th Aug 09 @ 10.30am Oasis Centre, Dumfries

Wed 30th Sep 09 @ 10.30am St Georges Hall, Dumfries

Wed 2nd Dec 09 @ 10.30am St Georges Hall, Dumfries

Refreshments and lunch provided from 12.00 - 12.30pm

For more info contact Kat at NCVS on 01387 269161

Volunteer Action Dumfries & Galloway

Your local Volunteer Centre

The 1-7th June, Volunteers Week, was the 25th year in which volunteering has been recognised and celebrated in the UK. This week plays a huge part in the raising the profile of volunteers across the UK and the work they do.

During this week, Volunteer Action Dumfries and Galloway hosted certificate Ceremonies across the Dumfries and Galloway Region. Below are photographs of the Dumfries Award Ceremony held at DG ONE on Friday the 5th of June. Guests at this event were Dr Elaine Murray MSP and Geoff Pearson - Scottish Government and of course the volunteers who received Certificates recognising their commitment to volunteering in Dumfries and Galloway.



Volunteers with Certificates of Achievement



Will Roberts receiving his awards from Dr Elaine Murray MSP and Geoff Pearson - Scottish Government Third Sector Team

If you have any items for the Nithsdale CVS monthly newsletter or you would like to promote your organisations activities or up and coming events please send all information to:

Katrina at katrina.branney@ncvs.org.uk

Jeanette at jeanette.murray@ncvs.org.uk

Dumfries & Galloway Social Enterprise Network (DGSEN)

DGSEN has commissioned Nithsdale CVS to carry out a short survey of the network.

The aims of the survey are for DGSEN to gain a better understanding of how social enterprise organisations in the network access relevant training and for DGSEN to identify any training that would assist social enterprise organisations build their capacity and sustainability.

DGSEN plans to develop a short programme of training workshops/seminars and a conference networking event over the next 12 months.

Participation in the survey will assist DGSEN in ensuring these activities reflect the needs of the network.

The survey should take no more than 10 mins to complete and all responses will be handled with due regard to data protection procedures.

If you have any queries about the survey or require additional information please contact Paul Smith at DGSEN on 01776 703329 or Karen Lewis at Nithsdale Council of Voluntary Service on 01387 269161.

Please click the following link which will then take you to the survey which closes on
FRIDAY 10th JULY 2009:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ZB47sy4E8k2y_2fStXetmAog_3d_3d

Africadabra
African Drumming Group

Lincluden Community Centre
Dumfries

Wednesdays from 8.30pm to 7.30pm
New members welcome
Come and join in

Telephone Gill Glover 07720662006
www.africadabras.co.uk

Africadabras are holding a workshop at Lincluden Community Centre on Sunday 28th June from 10.30 until 4.

All welcome.

Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS)

Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS) works with voluntary organisations and funders so they can measure the impact of their work. They provide practical support and access to resources and tools. The website www.evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk contains a wealth of resources.

What are my Outcomes?

3 September 2009

This half-day workshop is for you if you have just started a new project and want to see your outcomes. Or maybe you knew what your outcomes were but have got confused!

Collecting Information to report on outcomes

18 September 2009

This one day course is for you if you are fairly clear about the outcomes of your project but need some ideas about how to collect information to measure them.

Using Visual Approaches to evaluate your project

1 October 2009

This course is for you if you are clear about the outcomes of your project or organisation but want more ideas on how to gather and present them.

They are also able to offer a limited amount of one to one evaluation support for organisations requiring it, most frequently for people who have already attended one of their training courses.

For more info email:

info@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk

Walking Works Project - Mid & Upper Nithsdale



On Thursday 4th June the Moniaive Walking Works Group joined Tom Henry a ranger with Dumfries & Galloway Council on an Otterly Fantastic River Ramble looking for wildlife that lives along the river Cairn.



For more info about the Walking Works Project contact **Ronnie or Vicky at NCVS on 01387 269161**

News from LEADER



LEADER are exploring the possibility of linking

With a LEADER Action Group in the Netherlands called 'Tag of the Region'.

LEADER has invited the organiser of this initiative across to New Abbey to explore the possibility of linking with Dumfries and Galloway.

It is hoped this meeting will happen pre-September and the vision is then for a group of local people to travel to the Netherlands between 3rd - 5th of October.

For more info contact Nicola Hill, Dumfries and Galloway LEADER on 01387 850228



Free piece of fruit with this flyer!

Do you come here often?

The place in Dumfries for single fruit & veg.



the allotment
fresh fruit and veg for all

8 Great King Street 9 - 5 Monday to Friday,
Dumfries & Galloway Royal Infirmary tower every Wednesday.

WELFARE RIGHTS

50 Lincluden Rd, Dumfries, DG2 0QB

Tel 01387 266888 E-Mail: info@welfarerights.net

Welfare Rights are proud to announce the launch of our new **Fuel Poverty Project** aimed at helping families maximise their household incomes and advising them through the new Scottish Government funded Energy Assistance Package.

We are keen to contact as many households as possible to ensure that those who qualify can easily access any missing benefits and access any available free energy grants i.e loft & cavity wall insulation, fully installed central heating etc

If any school, nursery or agency would like to arrange a Benefits talk or advice clinic contact Bill McCormack.

Welfare Rights would like to thank **The Scottish Power Energy People Trust** which has made this project possible.



The Scottish Power Energy People Trust
A SCOTTISH CHARITABLE TRUST



"You'll never walk alone..." with a mentor by your side

Dumfries & Galloway Chamber can offer you a dedicated business mentor - FREE

D&G Chamber can offer you a business mentor on a one-to-one basis, who will take an outsiders look at your business and listen to your ideas and offer you honest, constructive opinion. All free of charge!

The Scottish Enterprise funded project has a bank of 700 mentors from various sectors and backgrounds. They can speak of their experiences and provide additional information and ideas that will help a business make the best business decisions possible.

Having a business mentor free of charge for 12 months will:

- Give a growing business a sounding board to test out ideas.
- Provide a listening ear that will help alleviate the isolation and loneliness felt by many owner/managers
- Increase confidence in making business decisions.
- Encourage business leaders to think differently about their business.
- Give new ideas and networks to unlock barriers to growth.

Any business with turnover in excess of £70,000 is eligible for mentoring services. For further info, or to register for the project, please call Business Mentoring at Ayrshire Chamber on: 01292 670158

For more information:

Lorna Mercer Business Mentoring Executive
(Ayrshire/D&G) Direct Line: 01292 670158
lmercer@ayrshire-chamber.org



SMHFA is a 2 day training course which teaches 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.

Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th July 2009

Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th August 2009

Venue: Northwest Dumfries Church Hall, Dumfries

Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd September 2009

Castle Douglas venue to be confirmed

9.15am to 4.30pm

These 2 consecutive day courses are free

ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)

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

Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th August

Castle Douglas, venue to be confirmed

Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st October

Allanton World Peace Sanctuary, Auldgirth, Dumfries

These 2 consecutive day courses cost £25 per place.

All courses are sponsored by

Choose Life Dumfries and Galloway

Lunch will be provided at all courses

To book a place on any of the above courses or for more info contact Carole Reed on 01387 247215

Nithsdale Council of Voluntary Service

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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: Ronnie Johnstone
(Mid and Upper Nithsdale)

Access to Work Co-ordinator: Ronnie Johnstone

Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme: Suzanne Lafferty

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



NCVS Members - NCVS can carry out Disclosure Checks for the community and voluntary sector in Nithsdale on behalf of CRBS (Criminal Records Bureau Scotland)

For more information contact:

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01387 269161

suzanne.lafferty@ncvs.org.uk