



Dear Nithsdale CVS Members,

Welcome to this months newsletter and funding alert.

You will also find enclosed an invitation and associated forms for our A.G.M which is being held on Tuesday 11th November 2008 at The Moreig Hotel. I hope you will be able to attend and even consider nominating a member of your organisation to be an NCVS Executive Committee member. We are a membership organisation here to represent your interests as a community and voluntary sector organisation in Nithsdale.

I would like to thank all our members who took the time to complete this years NCVS survey. We had a 38% response rate and the full survey report will be on the NCVS website at www.ncvs.org.uk from mid October. Some snapshot key findings were:

- 78% of those we assisted with funding applications were successful!
- Those organisations who responded to the survey have 10,500 members between them
- You feel the main priorities for NCVS should be; Funding advice & support; representing the interests of our community & voluntary sector members; support and advice with legal structures (i.e. charitable status, constitutions, OSCR compliance etc); providing Disclosure Scotland checks; providing an NCVS newsletter and e-bulletins; facilitating sector networks/forums; providing training and capacity building.
- 90% of you thought NCS provided a good or very good service (that still leaves us room to improve!)
- 70% of you are charitable organisations
- Sustainability and issues about funding are your main concerns

As above one of the findings from the survey was members identifying they would like to see NCVS provide more networking events for the sector to share issues and concerns. As you will be aware from previous newsletters a **regional** Third Sector Forum has recently been formed which meant local organisations were unable to join. However I am pleased to advise that NCVS will now be leading on establishing a local **Nithsdale Third Sector Forum** which will provide the networking opportunity NCVS members have identified as a need. The Nithsdale Third Sector Forum will be open to any community or voluntary sector organisation based in Nithsdale, who provide activities/services in Nithsdale. Thanks to D & G Multicultural Association who have offered the use of their meeting room for the first meeting which is being held on 23rd Oct. I hope many of you will be able to attend or register an interest in being included in future developments. NCVS are hoping to obtain a small amount of funding from Nithsdale Local Rural Partnership to provide travel expenses for volunteers from community groups who wish to attend. For information about the Forum meeting please contact Katrina at NCVS.

I hope those of you who attended our annual NCVS/NLRP Information Day event on 25th September found it useful. The feedback from the series of workshops held at the event was very positive.

Meanwhile a last call for any groups still waiting to book tables for the NCVS Charities Fayre in November - be quick! There are now only a couple of tables available.

Warm regards,

Karen Lewis
Director - Nithsdale CVS

NITHSDALE THIRD SECTOR FORUM

First Meeting!

23rd Oct 08 from 10am - 12 noon

D & G Multicultural Association
Irish Street
Dumfries

Nithsdale CVS is establishing a
new forum network for community
and voluntary sector organisations.

To register your attendance
please contact Katrina at
Nithsdale CVS 01387 2691611

Nithsdale CVS Charities Fayre

Saturday 1st Nov 2008
DG ONE Leisure Complex
Dumfries

This is an opportunity for voluntary organisations and community groups to network, promote their organisation and raise funds at the same time.

There are only a few stalls left!!

Contact Jeanette on 01387 269161
or email jeanette.murray@ncvs.org.uk

Maxwell Memorial Hall Management Committee

Taste of Country



An evening of musical entertainment
(In aid of Hall funds & various charities)

Friday, 3rd October, 2008
7.30 pm

The Maxwell Memorial Hall
Terregles

Tickets: Adults £6.00/Under 16's £2.00

Contact 01387 721315

Minister Presents Ian McAllister Bursary



The Ian McAllister Bursary for 2008 was recently presented by Stewart Maxwell MSP, Minister for Communities & Sport, to Kate Samuels from Gatehouse-of Fleet. The Bursary is a joint initiative between Loreburn Housing Association, Nithsdale Council of Voluntary Service and the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations.

The Bursary was launched in 2007, and is an award for young people in Dumfries & Galloway aged 16-24 who make a difference in their communities. Kate is a worthy recipient who demonstrates the community volunteering values

Ian espoused throughout his life.



Nithsdale Council of Voluntary Service

A.G.M

Tuesday 11th Nov 2008
at 6.30pm
The Moreig Hotel
Annan Road
Dumfries

Refreshments available from 6.00pm

All members welcome

Africadabras are holding FREE drumming classes Starting Wed 3rd September 2008

Africadabras, the Dumfries based African Drumming group, is looking for new members and providing free drum lessons.

Its annual introductory offer of four free drum lessons will allow people who are 16 or over to try drumming. Anyone can come along and learn - whether they have never played any instrument before or are experienced. You'll be taught to play the drum and get carried away by the pulsating rhythm. It's not only fun but also helps to relieve stress. Hilary Gunn recently joined the group. "I had never played music until I joined Africadabras. Now I know a lot of rhythms and have helped to run community workshops."

The classes are being held at Lincluden Community Centre on Wed nights from 5.30pm until 7.30pm.

All instruments are provided.

COMMUNITY CHEST

Do you have:



- Revenue Income less than £25K
- A signed Constitution
- A Bank Account
- An Independent Referee

A small grant designed to help small community groups in Scotland fund activities which would not be possible without financial assistance.

Grants of up to £1,000 available

For further information contact Patricia at the



on 01383 620780 or e-mail:

Patricia.McKibben@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk

Or visit our website at

www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk

Minimum Wage Rate Rise from Wed 1st Oct 08

The minimum wage for adults 23yrs and over goes up from £5.52 to £5.73 an hour. The minimum wage for 18 to 22 year olds will increase from £4.60 to £4.77 an hour and for 16 and 17 year olds from £3.40 to £3.53

Dumfries and Galloway Council New Phone Number!

The Council have launched a new phone number!

030 33 33 3000 will be the number to use if you want to contact the Council. A new state-of-the-art call centre has also been set up to answer calls made to the new 030 number. If you have ever tried phoning the Council, you will know that it could be a frustrating experience. However this will all change; there is now just one number you need to know and staff at the new call centre have undergone training to try to deal with your call without passing you round the Council. If you phone one of the older Council numbers, your call will still be answered and chances are you will be automatically transferred to the call centre. Calls to 030 numbers cost no more than calls to 01 and 02 numbers and there is an advantage that 030 numbers are included in inclusive minutes and discount schemes.

Your NHS

Your Future Care

In Dumfries and Galloway, your NHS is changing, and they need your help to ensure that the best possible service is delivered as locally as possible. 2008 marks the 60th anniversary of the NHS. During the past 60 years they have seen many changes in how and where healthcare is delivered. Developments in new medicines and technologies and the changing demands of those who use the NHS means continuously improving our response to those changes.....

- **WHY** do services need to change?
- **HOW** are those services to be provided?
- **WHAT** services will be provided?
- **WHERE** will services be focussed?
- **WHO** will provide services?
- **WHEN** will these changes take place?

Your views, comments and thoughts on the service are important!

They intend to present the proposed future strategy for NHS Dumfries and Galloway to the NHS Board in early 2009. The ideas and views they have received will influence the information presented to the Board. The Board will then enter into a formal consultation process with the public during the period February to June 2009.

During August, September, October and November of 2008, therefore, they are keen to provide a whole range of ways in which you can take part in this process by attending one of the following meetings:

- **27 October 2008 at 7pm**
Thornhill Community Centre
- **11 November 2008 at 10am**
Sanquhar Town Hall
- **11 November 2008 at 2pm**
Kirkconnel Miners Club
- **12 November 2008 at 7pm**
DG1 Dumfries
- **Taking part in focus groups or joining what we call stakeholder groups**
- **By writing or e-mailing us**

Because they need to develop a service which is not only as responsive to our communities' needs as possible but also meets the changing demands of technological and treatment advances, it is important that they get as wide a cross section of views as possible. They want to hear your thoughts on NHS services and the options developed by clinicians and colleagues in NHS Dumfries and Galloway. By sharing your thoughts and ideas, by working together, they can build a service which continues to provide the highest possible standards of healthcare.

You can do so by:

- picking up a leaflet and reading more
- Visit the website www.workingtogether.scot.nhs.uk
- Contact the Communications Team on 01387 272752 or email dg.feedback@nhs.net for more information about how you can become involved

NCVS Members - are you aware that NCVS carry out Disclosure Checks for the community and voluntary sector in Nithsdale on behalf of CRBS (Criminal Records Bureau Scotland)?
For more information contact:
Suzanne Lafferty
on 01387 269161

Changes to Individual Learning Account Scotland

The introduction of the online application request coincides with a number of changes within the ILA Scotland scheme including the removal of the £100 offer and the introduction of the £500 offer for part time higher education learners.

Now people who are 16 or over and living in Scotland can apply for a learner account that will give them up to £500 a year towards a part-time higher education course such as an HNC, HND or a Degree at ILA Scotland approved colleges or universities. Application packs for learners are available and can be obtained by calling the ILA Scotland helpline free on 0808 100 1090 or by visiting the [ILA Scotland website](http://www.ila.gov.scot). If you would like to help us promote this funding you can order revised marketing materials by emailing stock@ppd-pinpoint.co.uk or calling 01738 633322

THE HUNT FOR FUNDING!

Nithsdale CVS members do you know we have access to specialist software computer packages containing information on over 2,500 funders?

Nithsdale CVS can help you make a tailored search for a funder using this system which could assist your organisation in the hunt for funding!

To learn more about this service or to make an appointment to discuss your funding situation contact our Information & Training Advisor:

Katrina Branney
on 01387 269161
Email: katrina.branney@ncvs.org.uk

**LOCHARBRIGGS COMMUNITY CENTRE
ASSOCIATION**

**2008
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
IN
LOCHARBRIGGS COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

TUESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 7pm

**A warm welcome is extended to attend the
AGM
Of the
Locharbriggs Community Centre Association**

Tea / Coffee

Will be served during the meeting

**Locharbriggs Community Centre is
OWNED & MANAGED by the
COMMUNITY**

**Make your voice heard and support the
community facility in LOCHARBRIGGS**

**Further details from
Chairman John M 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 Vivers
(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

