

Voluntary Sector Forum Thursday 16th September 2 p.m. Winnington Rec
Guest Speaker Hilda Yarker CECPT on NHS White Paper



Voluntary Action Vale Royal

September 2010



Cheshire West & Chester Council and Voluntary Action Vale Royal



Volunteer Fair

Tuesday 14 Sept 2010 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin
Lane, Frodsham

Come along and meet local organisations, who
will be available to give advice on volunteering.

Find out what it's like to make a difference, gain
new skills and get involved in your local
community.

For further information please contact: Fiona Dunning on: Tel: (01606) 353 526 or
email: fiona.dunning@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Voluntary Sector Funding Fair

Organised by Cheshire West and Chester Council and EPNAVCO

Thursday 21 October 2010, Winsford Lifestyle Centre

Would you like to **meet** Advisors from Grant Making Organisations, and **gain advice**
on bid writing, defining Need and Outcomes, and what makes a successful grant
application?

FREE event attended by 20 Local and National Funders with Information Desks,
Grant Workshops, Presentations on Defining NEED & OUTCOMES.

To book a place on this event and choose workshops groups must contact

tel: 0151 356 7 358 or email: gemma@epnavco.org.uk

(Places limited to 2 per organisation)

Voluntary Action Vale Royal, Waterside House, Navigation Road, Northwich CW8 1BE
email aneil@vavaleroval.org.uk, tel 01606 723182

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Learning in Communities Award

Win £5,000 to turn a learning idea into a reality

Sign Up Now has teamed up with UnLtd to offer individuals and informal learning groups an exciting opportunity from September. To celebrate Sign Up Now's mission to engage new and different adult learners in better quality learning of all kinds, UnLtd is offering the opportunity to win a Learning in Communities Award. Individuals and informal learning groups who have an innovative idea to get adults in the community back in to learning, can apply for the Award of up to £5,000 and a complete support package to help get the idea off the ground.



UnLtd, the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs, is a leading UK charity supporting individuals who have the vision, drive, commitment and passion to change the world for the better. For more information about the Award and UnLtd, visit www.unltd.org.uk/learningincommunities or call 0845 850 1122 to speak to an adviser from UnLtd.

News: Grants available for DTLLS Courses

Following discussions with the department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Institute for Learning (IfL) will be administering government grants to offset the cost of initial teacher training (ITT) for teachers who are studying a part-time, 'in-service', Diploma in Teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector (DTLLS) from September 2010.

Further education (FE) providers will be able to claim a flat rate, non means tested, grant of £400 per individual teacher or trainer through IfL for those who are IfL members. The current agreement is valid only for the 2010-11 financial year.

Further information about this opportunity are available [on the IfL website](#).

Further details will be posted on the [Employers Area](#) of the IfL website when they become available.

Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards (UK)

The Tesco Charity Trust has announced that it will start accepting applications for projects that support the Elderly, and Adults and Children with disabilities from 1st August until 30th September 2010. The funding is available to community and voluntary groups who can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £5,000. In addition, the Trust also provides grants for projects that support children's education and welfare. Applications to support projects that support children's education and welfare will re-open for applications on the 1st December 2010, and will close for applications on the 31st January 2011. Further information from: <http://tinyurl.com/342eooj>

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The Co-operative Group – Community Fund (UK)

The Community Fund is the Co-operative Group's main grant making programme. Charitable organisations and community groups can apply for grants of between £100 and £2,000 (£500 if the applicant is a newly formed group), to help them find co-operative solutions to community challenges. The Co-operative Group is particularly interested in supporting locally led and run groups that can demonstrate co-operative values and principles, such as self-help, equality, democracy and concern for the community. Last year the total funding available was over £1 million. Applications can be submitted at any time. Go to: <http://tinyurl.com/36v4a9j>

Web-based Skills for Life Interactive Core Curriculum

The Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS) offers a range of programmes and services to improve the quality of literacy, language and numeracy provision. Whether you work in a specialist area such as literacy, language or numeracy, or you are a work-based trainer, vocational tutor or a support practitioner, the online Skills for Life core curriculum will help you plan learning, find content and resources easily and provide ideas and suggestions for making learning more effective. For information on Skills for Life programmes and resources, visit the Skills for Life page on the Excellence Gateway:

www.excellencegateway.org.uk/page.aspx?o=sfl

Coping with Cuts—NCVO Web Pages

In the face of huge Public Sector spending cuts, NCVO has established a section on their website giving access to up to date news, information and briefings especially targeted at Third Sector Organisations. Go to : www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/advice-support/coping-with-cuts

Get Legal *Free on-line reference tool available*

The free online reference and decision-making tool for charities, social enterprises and co-operative organisations, has now been launched. Get Legal has been developed by NCVO, with support from Bates, Wells and Braithwaite Solicitors, to enable organisations and their advisors to access clear information and guidance on the most appropriate legal forms for delivering their goals. For more information visit: www.getlegal.org.uk

The Big Society: Step by Step

Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW) has published briefing #36 on the Big Society, which focuses on the draft implementation plans of the Cabinet Office and Communities & Local Government. These draft Departmental Structural Reform Plans will significantly influence the cuts and the Spending review (due to be published 20 October). The purpose of this briefing is to introduce: □ The coalition

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government's Big Society agenda □ The draft Structural Reform Plans that will influence the October Spending Review 2010 □ Members of the coalition government driving forward the Big Society agenda

□ The main and various areas of implementation and linked questions

You can download briefing #36 from this link: <http://tinyurl.com/2waqzr7>



Cheshire Neighbours
Credit *Union*

We have teamed up with the Co-op Electrical store to offer electrical goods and furniture. Please have a look at the examples below. If you are considering buying any furniture or electricals, then contact us. We may be able to help. Any purchases made through this scheme can be paid for from your savings, or from a loan or a combination of both.

Need a new washer, cooker, fridge freezer or bed? Want to save hundreds of £'s against weekly payment stores or doorstep lenders?

Option 1 - High street weekly payment store

- Whirlpool 6kg 1400 spin washing machine
- Product price £351.10
- Weekly repayment £4.99 per week over 3 years
- Total repayment £778.44 (Includes "Optional" product cover)

Option 2 – The Co-operative Electrical & Cheshire Neighbours Credit Union

- Hotpoint 6kg 1400 spin washing machine
- Product price £249.99 – **A saving of over £100!**
- Weekly repayment £5.47 over 1 year*
- Total repayment - £284.09 – **A saving of over £494.00** (Excludes optional product cover available at an extra charge of £1.64 per week – total cover cost is £85.16)

Some lenders "Optional" product cover is in practice linked to an offer of credit. With the Co-op you really do have a choice.

This would allow you to buy a top quality washing machine and have the equivalent of between £400 & £500 in savings with your Credit Union over the same period!

The co-operative electrical

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RECORDATHON!

Join the CMI! team and other key conservationists and ecologists from the Cheshire region for a mega wildlife recording session at the stunning new 'Overwater' Marina at Audlem. A once in a wildlife time opportunity!

INFORMATIVE, INTERACTIVE AND FUN!

WHEN?
Sunday 5th September 2010
10am-4pm
Drop in anytime during the day
or book onto one of our guided walks
(See website for details)

WHERE?
OverWater Marina, Audlem, Cheshire, CW5 8AY
(Free mini-bus leaves Chester Zoo at 9am
returning at 4pm – **booking essential**)

COMPLETELY FREE OF CHARGE!

No experience necessary
All age groups welcome - under 16's must be accompanied by an adult
May be unsuitable for wheelchair access - please contact us for more information

'CREATING WILDLIFE RECORDERS OF THE FUTURE'
HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE - LET US COUNT YOU IN!

Contact:
Karen Lawson (Project Coordinator)
E-mail: CountMeIn@RECORD-LRC.co.uk
Tel/Fax: 01244 383749
Mob: 07812482251
Website: www.RECORD-LRC.co.uk



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Grozone Community Garden

is looking for volunteers. The garden, based in East Northwich, runs regular Saturday sessions with Groundwork and BTCV staff . All tools, instruction and drinks provided! Just bring a lunch and wear old clothes. From September we will also be running fortnightly weekday sessions.

Tasks include gardening, construction of paths and raised beds, woodland maintenance and making tea! Anyone 14 years old or over is welcome. Anyone under 16 will need to bring permission from a parent or guardian. We are a friendly group and hold regular barbeques and open days on site.

If you would like any more information please contact Beth at Groundwork on 01606 723160 or beth.brockett@groundwork.org.uk and visit our blog site www.groundworkaction.org.uk/grozone

Beth Brockett
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Groundwork Cheshire

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Visit our website at www.cheshire.groundworknw.org.uk
Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/gwk_cheshire
Grozone blog site www.groundworkaction.org.uk/grozone



Schools Stand Up 2 Racism Project

Tackling racism in Cheshire's schools is at the heart of a new Big Lottery funded project being launched by Cheshire, Halton and Warrington Race and Equality Centre (CHAWREC). Working in partnership with Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), '**Schools Stand Up 2 Racism**' will research the levels of racism experienced by pupils with the aim of developing ways to help schools identify and tackle it.

Anecdotal accounts of racism gathered from young people and their parents in the course of CHAWREC's work highlighted the need for further investigation, culminating in a successful bid to the Big Lottery Research Programme. Shantele Janes, CHAWREC's Director said that the Centre had long been keen to work directly with young people 'this research will be so important in understanding the issues young people face and in enabling us to work together with schools to give pupils a more positive experience. It will greatly enhance our ability to achieve CHAWREC's aim of tackling racism in all its forms'. Researchers will work with teachers and pupils to gather data about racist incidents and share ideas and best practice about dealing with them.

An important part of the project will be the role of volunteer community researchers, who will be trained in research methods by the University and assist in collecting and analysing the data. This offers a unique opportunity for volunteers to gain valuable research skills and get hands on experience in a variety of methods. Anyone can volunteer, regardless of experience; all that's needed is enthusiasm and a commitment to contribute towards tackling racism in schools.

If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more about Schools Stand Up 2 Racism, please contact Mandy Roberts, CHAWREC Project Officer on 01244 400730 or mandy@chawrec.org.uk.

ends

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office@chawrec.org.uk
www.chawrec.org.uk
www.twitter.com/chawrec



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North West Personal Assistant Register

Right People

Right Jobs

One Place

www.nw-pa.org

Secure, easy-access, online recruitment tool

The NWPA Register (formerly the Cheshire PA Register), owned and run by Age Concern Cheshire and Cheshire Centre for Independent Living acting as facilitators only, now operates across the North West Region, providing a more automotive site.

The Register is designed to bring together people seeking employment as a Personal Assistant (PA) and Employers looking for potential Personal Assistants.

For employers seeking a PA the service offers cost effective advertising, proven recruitment success, and direct access to people who want to be a PA for a subscription fee that gives unlimited access. (ie £20 plus vat for a one month subscription)

For PAs the NWPA Register offers free registration on completion of our one-off application form that then allows access to all local and regional vacancies placed on the site.

For more information log on to www.nw-pa.org.



Home improvement agency receives Quality Mark for services

Anchor Staying Put – Cheshire West, the home improvement agency (HIA) which provides services to residents of

the Royal, Waterside House, Navigation Road, Northwich CW8 1BE
email aneil@vavaleroyal.org.uk, tel 01606 723182

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Cheshire West and Chester, is celebrating after achieving the National Quality Mark for home improvement agencies.

Home improvement agencies help older or vulnerable homeowners and private tenants by repairing, improving, maintaining or adapting their homes to help them stay independent and live comfortably and safely in their own homes.

Since 1995, Anchor Staying Put - Cheshire West has offered a range of services to help local people improve their homes and enhance their quality of life. More importantly, the services they offer mean that they help people to stay living in their own homes, which otherwise may not have been possible.

The agency offers a range of services including a Small Repairs Service (small jobs provided at low cost such as fitting grab rails, minor repairs or putting up shelves to help older or vulnerable people to stay safe, secure and comfortable in their own homes) and a Core Service (information and practical support to help people in respect of larger home repairs, improvements, maintenance or adaptations).

Last month, Foundations, the National Body for Home Improvement Agencies awarded Anchor Staying Put – Cheshire West with their Quality Mark after the agency achieved a higher than average score in all assessment areas.

Dianne Harris, Agency Manager, said, “As an agency we are really pleased to have achieved Quality Mark to such a high standard – I feel it is a mark of achievement and validates the commitment and dedication of the staff within the agency. The staff work exceptionally hard to deliver the service that we do and there is a considerable amount of skills, knowledge and experience represented within the team. Everyone is really pleased that the work they do has been recognised to the level it has.”

If you want to know more about the services Anchor Staying Put provide, call 0151 355 1313 or 01606 590893, or e-mail stayingput.cheshirewest@anchor.org.uk.

Universal House
ERF Way
Off Pochin Way
Middlewich
Cheshire
CW10 0QJ

PRESS RELEASE

26 September 2010

Have Your Say about Local Pharmacists and Pharmacy Services

Central & Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust is developing its Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA), which is looking at local pharmacy services and making sure local communities are well served.

This consultation will become the basis of decision making when applications are received for new pharmacies, or when new pharmacy services are being considered.

The consultation process begins on the 1st September 2010 and finishes on the 31st October 2010. The draft PNA document is available to you by logging on to www.cecpct.nhs.uk or by phoning 0800 5877 888 and requesting a paper copy.

Gail Curphey, Associate Director for Medicines Management and Pharmacy at the Primary Care Trust said;

“When developing the PNA we must have regard to many things. We must ensure that Community Pharmacists are able to provide local people with a wide range of high quality services, which are delivered in the right place, at the right time and which address the health needs of different localities within the PCT.

Gail continued; “This is not just about dispensing prescription medicines but also the other services pharmacies provide such as help to stop smoking, minor ailments and emergency contraception”.

Your comments can be made by:

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email aneil@vavaleroval.org.uk, tel 01606 723182

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- completing the online survey
- calling 0800 5877 88 and stating your opinion;
- e-mailing us at yvc@cecpct.nhs.uk; or
- by writing to, Geoff Wood, FREEPOST, CENTRAL AND EASTERN CHESHIRE
PRIMARY CARE TRUST

There are FIVE Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Consultation events to be held at the following locations:

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 20 th September	6.30-8.30pm	Winsford Lifestyle Centre
Tuesday, 21 st September	1.30-3.30pm	Middlewich Community Church, Brooks Lane
Tuesday, 21 st September	6.30-8.30pm	Town Hall, Macclesfield
Wednesday, 22 nd September	6.30-8.30pm	Town Hall, Congleton
Thursday, 23 rd September	6.30-8.30pm	Alexandra Suite, Crewe Alexandra Football Club

ENDS

Notes to editors

1. Press release issued by Andrea Brameld, Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust, 01606 275357.
2. The full consultation document is available at www.cecpct.nhs.uk
3. For further information please contact the Communications Team on 01606 275357