



Newsletter

July/August 2010 Edition

Support in changing times

The change of government is creating a sea of change for everyone involved in the delivery of services for their community. We are hearing that this is a time of opportunity and the opportunity is that voluntary action and the work of volunteers will become even more central to keeping communities and people healthy and vibrant.

We are also hearing local news of funding cuts this financial year, with more to come for 2011-12. NYCC Adult and Community Services alone has announced that £300,000 of funding is to be cut from the voluntary sector this financial year and as yet we are to find out where cuts are to be made, and how they will affect us in Ryedale.

The Big Society has been launched and we are asking ourselves how we might contribute to this long term vision of the coalition government. The feeling from colleagues across England is that we are already 'doing' the Big Society, so we simply need to keep doing what we are doing already.

However, this doesn't sweeten the pill we have to swallow when facing cuts to our funding, or help with the uncertainty that currently surrounds the future of funding from our statutory partners at least. Many changes are in process and we are waiting to see how they will affect us here in our rural district.

RVA will endeavour to keep all Member groups up to date with news as it unfolds and is keen to support all our Member groups as things move forwards by:

- Providing information on our website.

- Sending out further information as it becomes available.

- Supporting voluntary sector organisations that are or may be affected by cuts through our outreach support services.

- Encouraging organisations to consider collective responses and solutions.

- Working behind the scenes to advise and influence statutory partners on your behalf

- Facilitating forums and meetings

If your group or organisation is experiencing difficulties created by the economic climate, or if you wish to discuss your planning needs in response to changes, please contact me personally at RVA andrea@rva-cvs.org.uk and we will do our very best to give you the support you need.

For further useful links and more detailed information, please go to our home page and click on the link for funding cuts: www.ryedaleva.org.uk

You can also find other useful tools and information on the NYFVO website: www.nyfvo.org.uk and get familiar with the COMPACT at www.thecompact.org.uk and www.nysp.org.uk/html/header-links/

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News

RVA Strategic Plan

RVA is pleased to launch its 3 year strategic plan, a copy of which is available to download from our website at www.ryedaleva.org.uk
For more information contact Andrea Hobbs on andrea@rva-cvs.org.uk



1st year of BASIS

The Community Accounting Network North Yorkshire (CANNY) celebrates a successful first year with over 100 voluntary and community groups having contacted the service for information, advice and training on a wide range of subjects to improve their knowledge and skills on financial management.

Vin Mc Dermott, Lead Community Accountant for the project said "we've had a fantastic response to the service from groups across the whole York & North Yorkshire region requesting support on a range of topics. From practical advice on how to improve their accounting records through to preparing budgets and calculating accurate estimates for reserves".

In addition to the one-to-one work with groups, CANNY also ran its first training programme in

the spring, with a series of introductory courses for groups on managing their finances, and has even developed its own 'simple' accounting software which it provides free to groups to help them manage their accounts.

In addition to the free support, CANNY also saw a number of eligible charities accessing its affordable accounts preparation and independent examination service, both helping groups meet their statutory requirements while also generating valuable extra income, alongside the BIG Lottery funding, to help support the free services it provides.

To find out more about the CANNY service visit www.canny.org.uk or to access your local community accountant contact **Barrie Tuck at Ryedale Voluntary Action on 01653 600120 or email: barrie@rva-cvs.org.uk**

Ryedale Folk Museum

Volunteers and Ryedale Folk Museum go hand in hand. Thanks to the dedication and skills of our many volunteers the museum has taken off in the last few years and exceeded all expectations. Volunteers are an integral part of the museum and deliver activities to the public. Spinning, weaving, rope making, wood turning, cooking and welcoming visitors on front of house are just a few of their talents. They work throughout the museum providing essential skills like gardening, general grounds maintenance, archiving, costume repair and cataloguing and have excellent knowledge of the Collection and its place within our heritage.

Throughout the summer volunteers will be continuing to work hard to ensure visitors experience a living museum full of family activities. Weekend events include:

Cottage Cooking	21 st -22 nd August
Rosa Mundi (Medieval Re-enactors)	29 th – 30 th August
Harvest Day	5 th September

As you can see, rain or shine, Ryedale Folk Museum is the place to be this summer. Come and meet the team and you never know you may decide to join us! Everyone is welcomed.

Tel: 01751 417367
www.ryedalefolkmuseum.co.uk



For general volunteering enquiries contact Sandi Clark at the Volunteer Centre on 01653 600120 or email: sandi@rva-cvs.org.uk

Training



North Yorkshire Forum for Voluntary Organisations organises a wide range of high quality, value for money, training aimed at voluntary and community organisations and their trustees, staff and volunteers. For more information and more courses go to www.nyfvo.org.uk or contact Jeanette at NYFVO, on telephone **01347 825710** or email jeanette.lilley@nyfvo.org.uk

OLGA - Awareness Raising Workshops

Older Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Association - A Community Network for the Scarborough and Ryedale Districts

OLGA presents awareness raising workshops to health and social care providers, and other service providers on the issues surrounding being lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and receiving social and health care.

For further details please ring mobile 07929 465044



Free Workshops

Business Link are offering a number of free events in and around North Yorkshire.

- 7 September—Skipton—Writing winning tenders
- 16 September—Scarborough—Time management, how to stop others stealing your time
- 16 September—Scarborough—How to be an outstanding manager
- 21 September—Scarborough—Double sales from your brochures, flyers, ads, e-shots and website
- 28 September—Skipton—Presentation Skills
- 28 September—Skipton—Assertive Skills
- 29 September—Thirsk—How to get free publicity in local media

For more information or to book your please go to:

www.businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk/events

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Partnerships



IMAGINE RYEDALE...

Every year North Yorkshire County Council Community Fund (originating from the Council Tax on second homes) allocates funding to each of the district Strategic Partnerships to allow them to bring forward projects which support their strategic priorities.

Projects come to the Ryedale Strategic Partnership Board for consideration and are then recommended to Ryedale Area Committee for approval.

At this time there are six projects running which were approved in 2009, and a further four, newly-approved, projects.

Of the projects approved in 2009, three support volunteering. Scarborough & Ryedale Carers Resource are running a year-long project to raise the profile of carers and encourage potential volunteers, and the Ryedale Volunteer Centre have put in place a series of events over two years to attract more volunteers to the wide range of charities operating in the district. The Ryedale Folk Museum obtained funding towards a two-year Volunteer Co-ordinator post, to effectively manage their existing 200 volunteers. They hope to increase this number to 400!

Two of the projects approved in 2009 are for work being carried out at Bridge House, Malton, assisting young people in difficult circumstances to stay out of homelessness and the remaining project is a fitness programme for 12-16 year olds which will be delivered over the summer holidays this year and next.

These projects between them attracted NYCC Community Fund funding of over £36,000. The following projects which were approved in June

have attracted nearly £20,000.

Next Steps, which supports people with a variety of mental health issues, applied for funding for a project to promote healthier eating and physical activity to their clients.

Staff training is one focus of the project submitted by Ryedale Special Families. Their staff have highly specialised skills which need to be kept up to date. They also applied for funding to assist in the training of parents as campaigners for improved services, in line with a Government initiative to establish a Parent Participation Forum.

Ryecat, Ryedale's community transport provider, brought forward a project to develop a marketing strategy, to help raise awareness among potential customers and achieve sustainability. The strategy will cover both a plan and a template for creating marketing material.

Ryedale District Council will be leading on the organisation of an Employer Engagement Event in November 2010. Local businesses are keen to engage with young people to improve their awareness of the career opportunities available in Ryedale and to encourage learners to consider careers in Ryedale and/or start their own business.

The Ryedale Strategic Partnership Board will be considering a dozen further applications for funding at their next meeting in September – details of the successful projects will be published in due course.

If you have any questions about anything to do with the Ryedale Strategic Partnership, please contact:

**Jo Reilly, Community Partnerships
Manager** jo.reilly@ryedale.gov.uk
Tel. 01653 600666 x 312

Local Focus

Acorn Community Care

Our next Fundraising Event has been planned for September 2010. Phil Holmes, a support worker here at Acorn, and his sister, Helen Taylor (who has a physical disability), are in training for the 2 mile 'Open Swim' on Lake Windermere on September 5th 2010. Both are keen swimmers, but even so this challenge will stretch their stamina. Acorn is distributing sponsorship forms to all parents, family members and friends of the people we support at Acorn, to raise as much money as possible to weather proof the training barn. This is a priority this year, as last winter proved to be very cold. **For more information contact Acorn on acorncommunitycare@ukonline.co.uk**



Parents' Advocacy Service at Advocacy Alliance

Parents and Grandparents who are experiencing difficulties with the services their child or grandchild receives can feel: Frustrated, Angry, Depressed, Ignored, Judged, Resigned, Unimportant and many other emotions you can think of.

Their difficulties may be with education, housing, social services, health, the justice system or another organisation.

So where do we come in? We can help parents to speak up about the difficulties they are facing. We can find out information for them so that they can make informed choices. We can ensure that they know their rights and responsibilities. On their behalf we can write letters, make phone calls, speak to people in authority and support them at meetings. We can signpost them to other organisations who may be able to help them.

Volunteering for the Parents' Advocacy Service The service covers the Scarborough, Ryedale, Whitby and Filey areas and is coordinated by Angela Cavill whose role it is to recruit, train and retain a number of volunteer advocates. There are lots of benefits of becoming a volunteer advocate – individuals could learn new skills, gain experience, change their career path and take advantage of free training. Volunteers will have the satisfaction

of sharing their existing and newly gained skills with people who will really benefit from their involvement. Once a volunteer advocate has been accepted by Advocacy Alliance and completed a CRB check they will receive training and be fully supported by the Co-ordinator. Following training volunteer advocates will then be carefully matched with parents/grandparents who self-refer or are referred by someone else involved with the family. Advocates are also offered regular information sessions to increase their knowledge and understanding of relevant issues.

And how can you help?

By letting parents/grandparents know about the service,

By referring to the service with the permission of parents/grandparents,

By signposting potential volunteer advocates to the Parents' Advocacy Service,

By coming forward as a potential volunteer for the service.

If you think that you or someone you know would benefit from contact with the Parents' Advocacy Service or would like to volunteer please get in touch with:

Angela Cavill—Parents' Advocacy Coordinator

E-mail: amc_advocacy@yahoo.co.uk

Telephone: 01723 363910

Funding

Funding Strategy

Are you looking for a simple way to plan your finances and funding needs over the next three years? Or are you planning a new project?

If this is the case then there is now a new online guide available to download from our website.

'How to Write a Funding Strategy' is a simple step by step guide to support groups with identifying funding needs and assist with financial planning.

If your group does not currently have a written plan that details how you are going to raise money and resources for your projects then you will find that producing one will ensure that you have a clearer idea of how you will deliver

your service in the future and a shared understanding of how this will be achieved. It will also demonstrate to potential funders that you have carefully thought through the process of securing ongoing funding for your work and above all it will make life easier in the long term for those responsible for managing funds and fundraising.

For further information and support with developing a funding strategy for your group please contact our Funding Advisor, Sarah Lally-Marley on 01653 600120 or email sarahlm@rva-cvs.org.uk

If you decide to use the online guide please contact us and let us know how useful you found the information and whether it helped you to begin working on your own long term funding strategy.

fundinginformation.org

RVA is offering a number of licences to a new website at a reduce price.

Fundinginformation.org is a website with detailed news and information about new sources of funding! The site is aimed at charities, voluntary and community groups, and social enterprises and meets the needs of large and small organisations.

Fundinginformation.org can help you to: identify the latest sources of grants, loans and other finance, understand how to approach them effectively, develop fundraising beyond grants and move to sustainable fundraising.

Unfortunately it does cost to use the site (independent subscriptions will cost a minimum of £300 per year). However RVA is funding a number of user licences and is able to offer

these at a reduced rate to our registered Members. The normal cost for a user subscribing through RVA is £75. **The RVA reduced price for the first year's subscription is £45.** Purchasers of a user licence will be expected to help RVA evaluate how effective the site is so that we can decide if it is good value. If the site proves to be a useful fundraising tool, RVA will consider renewing the licence. RVA reserves the right to change the cost of subscription after the first year. (Reduced prices might not be available in following years). The user licence lasts for 1 year starting in July 2010. "The first year" means July 2010 – July 2011 and not a year from the date on which each user takes up subscription. Therefore, the earlier you subscribe the more time you are getting for your money! **To find out more please contact Sarah Richardson, our administrator on sarah@rva-cvs.org.uk**

To contact the Funding Advisors:

Pauline Reeve Telephone: 01653 600120 Email: pauline@rva-cvs.org.uk
Sarah Lally-Marley Telephone: 01653 600120 Email: sarahlm@rva-cvs.org.uk
www.ynyfundingadvice.org.uk



VCS Services

MARAC

MARAC stands for Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference. It is a meeting where agencies share information about the risk of serious harm, or homicide, to people experiencing domestic abuse in their area. Multi-agency safety plans are developed to support those at most risk. The aim is to increase the safety and well-being of the adults and children involved, and reduce the likelihood of repeat victimisation.

If you work with people and families in anyway you need to know about MARAC and RVA has produced a MARAC factsheet and copies can be downloaded from our website www.ryedaleva.org.uk.

Updates to the RVA Website www.ryedaleva.org.uk

Recent updates to the RVA website include:

Downloadable versions of the updated publication from the Charity Commission— Internal Financial Controls for Charities, Managing Financial Difficulties and Insolvency in Charities, Charities & Reserves, Charities & Risk Management

Go to: <http://www.ryedaleva.org.uk/InformationAndTraining/Publications.aspx>

A page dedicated to the funding cuts and how to cope

Go to: <http://www.ryedaleva.org.uk/HomePage/FundingCuts.aspx>



2012 marks Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is a fantastic new campaign to protect 2012 playing fields in communities all across the country as a permanent living legacy of this great event.

Whether you live in a dense city or the middle of the countryside, green spaces and playing fields are the heart of any community and the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge will ensure that these outdoor spaces are guaranteed for future generation.

Securing access to grassroots sporting facilities is particularly relevant given the other milestone event taking place in the UK in 2012 – the London Olympics. What better way to mark the greatest sporting show on earth?

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge will give communities an opportunity to vote for a playing field in their area to become part of the scheme and be permanently protected as a tribute to the Diamond Jubilee.

For more information go to:

<http://www.qe2fields.com/QueenelizabethIIcharityfieldschallenge.aspx>

VCS Services



RVA Trustee Profile

Introducing our newest Trustee...Gillian Pearse

Gillian Pearse was co-opted onto our Trustee Board in May 2010. Gilly lives locally and runs her own HR consultancy business. With over 10 years experience in HR in both the public and private sector, and as a fully qualified Chartered Member of the CIPD (The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development), we are thrilled to have her expertise on the Board, which will be of huge benefit to our organisation.

Previous employment includes HR positions with the National Railway Museum, the British Library and autoTeq (in partnership with BMW).

Gilly's key skills include her adaptability, organisational awareness and problem solving. As an excellent communicator she has experience in teamwork, developing others, leadership, resource management and strategic thinking.

In her spare time Gilly likes cooking, home improvements, gardening, entertaining family and friends and reading.

RVA is very pleased to welcome Gilly and her extremely valuable skill set and we have already put her to good use as a new member on our Personnel sub-committee.



Useful Websites

www.fundingcentral.org.uk is a free smart website for charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises. The site provides access to thousands of funding and finance opportunities, plus a wealth of tools and resources supporting organisations to develop sustainable income strategies appropriate to their needs.

www.acas.org.uk Acas stands for Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service. They aim to improve organisations and working life through better employment relations. They can help with employment relations by supplying up-to-date information, independent advice and high quality training, and working with employers and employees to solve problems and improve performance.

www.ryedale.gov.uk website for Ryedale District Council.