

Quart

Issue 33

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The newsletter of Derbyshire Dales
Council Voluntary Service

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DDCVS Networking Events

We organised Networking events in Ashbourne at St Oswald's Church Hall on 28th October and in Matlock at St Joseph's Hall on 4th November and both were a great success with 20 groups attending in Ashbourne and 15 in Matlock. The Ashbourne event was opened by Ashbourne Town Mayor Caroline Cooper. The Ashbourne Tai Chi group then lead a Tai Chi session in which the majority of those present participated and the Hlland Ward Art Club provided a exhibition of their work. The Matlock event was opened by Matlock Town Mayor Geoff Stevens and then kicked off in style by the International Dance Group of the University of the Third Age U3A. Both events provided a valuable chance for the public to learn about the participating voluntary and statutory groups who had set up interesting displays about their work. It also provided an opportunity for Voluntary groups and workers to network with each other. DDCVS wishes to thank all groups and individuals who helped make the events a success.

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Demonstration
from the U3A
at Matlock

Hurst Farm News

At Hurst Farm our Community Development Worker, Caroline Stone organised a Big Green Fun week last October which was very well attended.

Children aged 3—6 years played 'nature detectives' in the woods. They were encouraged to find and identify various different leaves and trees. Also during that week children aged 7 to 11 years made papier mâché decorations and jewellery from junk and took part in a Halloween Party on Saturday 31st October.

Children wrote very positive feedback on their evaluation forms — they have all sorts of ideas for future activities, some as simple as going for a walk and some wrote a long list including making calendars, cards and pop ups!

Most recently Caroline organised Family Fun Christmas Cooking for four Saturdays in November and December where children aged 4 to 11 years attended with a parent or carer and made Christmassy food, cards and presents.

Plans for the New Year include a Family First Aid course on Saturday mornings between 10.30 and 12.30. If you would like to book a place please call Caroline Stone on 07760 615519 or the Ritz Adult Education Office on 01629 584336,

Caroline will also be doing some half term activities in February but please keep in touch with her for details. NB Caroline's number is new: 07760 615519.

Our Training Programme

Up and coming DDCVS training sessions are:

Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees on Thursday 11th February at Cromford between 4.00 and 6.00pm.

Funding Applications 'surgery' on Wednesday 17th March at Ashbourne Leisure Centre between 1.00 and 4.00pm.

More details of the sessions on the flyer included in this mailing

You can also download our training brochure from www.ddcvs.org.uk or call us on 01629 812154 and we will post one out to you.

A new training programme will be launched in April and if you have any suggestions towards the content please let us know!

Signpost Update

We are very pleased to welcome a new staff member to the Signposting team. Jenny Smith joins us from the Amber Valley CVS signposting team so she comes with lots of experience and knowledge. She will be working 2½ days a week concentrating on the Derbyshire Dales area, although she will also spend time in Chesterfield. We look forward to working with her.

The Signpost directories have been undergoing an overhaul but will soon be updated on the website. They have been checked and revamped with an emphasis on local rather than national services. We are also putting together a directory for the Chesterfield region. Keep an eye on our website for more information.

The Signpost team continue their involvement in countywide initiatives that look to improve the lives of children and young people. This includes attendance at CAF practitioner's meetings and links with the First Contact signposting work which aims to support vulnerable people by linking them to appropriate agencies.

All workers regularly attend training sessions around safeguarding and welfare rights issues.

CVS Team recent achievements

The CVS also actively supports staff development outside their direct area of work and Carolyn Walker, one of our Signpost Project Workers, is completing a counselling course which includes a placement with Derwent Rural Counselling Service.

Our Development Worker Jonathan Simcock completed his PTLLS course (Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector) in November. Sarah Paisley started the next stage of her teaching qualification - CTLLS (Continuing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector) - in October which she hopes to complete by March.

Health Trainer, Rebecca Goodman has just completed an Open University course in promoting public health and hopes to use the skills gained in this course within her health trainer role.

Community Development Worker, Caroline Stone has recently trained as a 'Living with Teenagers' facilitator and is currently doing a management development course.

Finance and Facilities Manager, Janet Smith is now a fully qualified accounting technician and a Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

Health Trainer Update

Our fully qualified Health Trainer, Rebecca Goodman, is starting to receive referrals from the GP surgeries and will be based in Lime Grove surgery in Matlock one day a week to help people who want to improve their health and change their lifestyle.

Rebecca has recently organised some exercise taster sessions at the Hurst

Farm social club including children's Kick Boxing which was very popular. The Fruit and Veg co-op is still as popular as ever and runs 9.00 – 11.00am on a Friday at Hurst Farm Community Centre.

If you would like to find out more about how Rebecca supports the local community please call her on 07552 129340 or drop in to Lime Grove Surgery on a Wednesday afternoon.

New Dates for Networking

DDCVS Development Worker Jonathan Simcock, who was responsible for organising the recent Community Group Networking Events has planned two further Networking Events in Hathersage and Doveridge in February this year.

The Hathersage event is planned for Wednesday 17th February 9.45—12.15 at the Hathersage Memorial Hall. The Doveridge event is the following week on Tuesday 23rd February 1.00—3.30 at the Memorial Hall.

If you are part of a community group in the Hathersage or Doveridge area or surrounding villages and would like to have a stall please call Jonathan on 01629 812154 or email jonathan@ddcvs.org.uk

Local funding administrator and provider Derbyshire Community Foundation have just confirmed that they will be attending the Hathersage event.

In Brief

Charities and property:

New in Society Guardian's Charities Question and Answer series is one on property, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/jan/05/charities-qa-property> There are some important legal niceties on this subject for registered charities and their trustees, and this gives a fairly short overview.

Funding Central

Funded by the Office of the Third Sector and managed by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, www.fundingcentral.org.uk is a free website for all third sector organisations, including community groups providing access to thousands of funding and finance opportunities.

Derbyshire Dales District Council is top performer in county

Derbyshire Dales District Council comes top in the Government's latest assessment of councils.

Rated as performing well, Derbyshire Dales scored the highest of all councils in Derbyshire. Only one other in the county managed the same total score, and only four district councils in England are rated better overall.

The 2009 Comprehensive Area Assessment – published this week (9 December) puts Derbyshire Dales District Council the highest scoring council in Derbyshire, first equal with South Derbyshire District Council.

The last time a similar exercise was conducted was the 2004 Comprehensive Performance Assessment – which also scored Derbyshire Dales District Council equal highest in Derbyshire.

Derbyshire Dales District Council's overall rating is 3 – Performing Well. Only four district councils in England scored the maximum 4 – Performing Excellently.

Independent inspectors say Derbyshire Dales District Council is delivering good value for money, doing a good job at working on local people's priorities, and helping during the recession. It states, "Councilors and staff work well together in the aim of improving Derbyshire Dales as a place to live."

The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) report makes public sector bodies,

including local councils, accountable to the people they serve.

Said Derbyshire Dales District Council Leader Councillor Lewis Rose OBE: "The national picture on this very tough test didn't emerge until Wednesday and we are of course delighted to figure so prominently among the best performing district councils.

"It is especially heartening that the Audit Commission has recognised Derbyshire Dales District Council provides good value for money for local people and is delivering on the key issues local people have told us are their priorities.

"All this at an average cost to each household in the Dales of only £3.54 per week, which demonstrates we continue to achieve a lot with a little."

The full report is available at the Government's Oneplace website: oneplace.direct.gov.uk

How do you thank your volunteers?

The Co-operative Bank is interested to learn about the different ways your group thanks its volunteers, do you organise special days out or have you hung a plaque in their honour? The entries with the best five ideas will each receive £50 worth of High Street Vouchers.

Email your entry to: itsyourcommunity@cfs.coop

Entries close on 28th February 2010.

Derbyshire Community Foundation's Funding Surgeries

Derbyshire Community Foundation will be holding their annual funding surgeries for Derbyshire Dales on:

Wednesday 3rd March from 4.00pm at Ashbourne Community Transport and Monday 15th March from 4.00pm at the Medway Centre, Bakewell.

These annual events give you the opportunity to discuss your funding requirements with one of the Foundation's grants team in an informal half hour one to one session that covers discussion of your project and which of the funds administered by the Foundation may be suited to your project. Staff from DCF can also help with developing applications you are currently working on and give hints and tips for applying for funding in general. There are six half hour slots available between 4.00pm and 6.30pm.

To book an appointment please contact Lindsay Sowter on 01773 514856 as soon as possible as places are limited. Surgeries are also being held in other areas of the County:

- Erewash - March 17th.
- High Peak - February 1st.
- Amber Valley - February 11th.
- Derby City - March 9th.
- South Derbyshire – March 24th.
- Chesterfield - February 15th.
- Bolsover – February 2nd.

The Foundation may consider holding additional sessions so if you are unable to make the dates set please contact Lindsay Sowter on 01773 514856.

Regeneration East Midlands offers Training sessions in Funding

'First Steps to Funding' on Wednesday 17th February at 2.00—4.00pm at the Parish Centre, Chesterfield.

This 2-hour session aims to provide an introduction to what organisations need to consider when applying for grant funding. The session has been designed to provide a starting point for those thinking of applying for funding.

Cost: £25 - Statutory & Private Sector; £15 - Third Sector

'Applying for Large Grants' on Wednesday 24th March at 1.00—4.15pm at the Parish Centre, Chesterfield

This workshop will help those developing their skills in applying for funding, and in particular those looking for larger amounts of funding (over £10,000). Attendees will receive an overview of sources of small grants and funding, learn about what large grants funders are looking for, and provide the opportunity to plan and develop a large grant project.

Cost: £75 - Private & Statutory Sector Organisation; £40 - Third Sector.

Places can be booked via the REM website: www.regenerationem.co.uk or if by calling the Regeneration East Midlands office on 0115 979 2333.

Supporting Children and Young People's Groups

A seminar in Birmingham for Development Workers on 4th February between 9.30 — 4.00 organised by the National Association of Community and Voluntary Action. The session aims to help you to: Develop your understanding of the national and local policy context for work with children and young people; strengthen your knowledge of performance measurement frameworks and tools relevant to supporting children and young people's groups; learn about tools and resources that can support your own performance; understand the challenges and opportunities for funding and sustainability, and how to respond to these.

Through presentations, group discussion and informal networking you will have the opportunity to develop your knowledge and share good practice ideas with peers in this field.

For booking procedures and costs please see www.navca.org.uk/events or call 0114 278 6636.

Business Link has a number of free workshops planned for anyone thinking of setting up a new business or social enterprise.

Workshops cover - Deciding to Start a Business & Business Planning; Sales and Marketing; Financial Planning and Managing Money; ICT for Your Business.

Workshops take place at venues across the county.

For more details please go to the following web address:
http://www.derbyshireenterpriseagency.org/business_support.htm

Or call Sue Scholes on 07970 440131 or 01246 212902

Main web address:
www.businesslink.gov.uk/eastmidlands
Main enquiry number 0845 058 6644

Organised by 3D "Diversity – making it real"

Wednesday 24th February at 10.00 – 4.00 at the Friends Meeting House, Chesterfield'

Equality and diversity are an integral part of development work, together with meeting the legal duties of voluntary organisations and community groups under equality legislation. They are also heavily linked with the value of social justice and human rights that underpins the work. This introductory session will help to develop the personal knowledge and skills of development workers to help tackle inequality and discrimination within their own organisation, and the organisations they support.

Cost £25 per place for third sector organisations in Derby and Derbyshire (£49 others)

For more information contact Diane Scott on 07920 202595 or email d.scott@derbysrcc.org.uk

P.L.A.Y. (Playground for Litton's Active Youth) is a small constituted committee of mums who, in response to Litton Parish Plan, joined together in July 2007 to raise funds for a new Playground in the village of Litton. Two old swings were all the Play facilities Litton had, so in addition to a new Playground comprising of a Junior and Toddler area, we also hoped to create a small Sensory Garden to make it accessible and usable by all.

We initially started by getting together quotes and plans from Playground Companies, to ascertain how much the Project was going to cost. Once we knew our target amount, we started fund-raising locally, and soon realised that we had the total support of our whole Community! We held a Race Night (raising £1,351), Pimms, Pictures and Promises Evening (£1148.50), a Safari Supper (£425), just to name a few. We decided to approach larger organisations and funders in order to source larger capital and take the project forward.

Information from Derbyshire Dales CVS, the Internet, and the Playground Companies themselves, all helped to steer us in the right direction of where to apply for our particular Project. We wrote to local Companies for sponsorship/goods, and gained a substantial grant from the Bingham Trust and 'match-funding' from Derbyshire Dales District Council through this process. Our first application was to the Playful Ideas programme from the Big Lottery, but we were turned down on the basis of not being 'innovative' enough! From this initial disappointment, we then turned our attention to Changing Spaces/Community Spaces from Groundwork



UK and the Big Lottery. The Changing Spaces application was on an 'apply to apply' basis, meaning that you fill in the first stage, it is then assessed to see if your Project meets their criteria and, if successful, you are invited to apply to the second and final stage. During the second stage, a Facilitator from the Lottery is allocated to your group to assist you in any way they can. We had to put our Project 'out to tender', and answer questions on project outcomes, community needs, financial details, project milestones and continuity for the longer term. It took us the best part of 6 months to complete this form correctly and we were notified in October that we had been awarded the full amount.

Groundwork started at the beginning of December (2009), the top junior level is complete with the toddler area due to be completed after Christmas. The Sensory Garden is being installed by a local landscaper in early February this year, with our Launch Event scheduled for the end of February. Each stage of the Playground installation has to be inspected and approved before any Lottery funds are released and we will need to apply for a Sustainability grant to enable the Project to benefit generations to come. We raised over £10,000 locally through fund-raising and donations, £6,000 in grants and £49,839 from Groundworks/Big Lottery.

On a personal note, I am proud to have been actively involved in this Project. It hasn't been easy and has taken a great deal of time, effort and personal commitment, but each active member of the team has their own individual skills and abilities, which have all helped us to achieve our goal.

Julie Nash

Round-up

Derbyshire Children's Trust Roadshow

The next "Moving Forward Together" roadshow is planned for Wednesday 10th February at Buxton Methodist Church Hall between 9.00am and 1.00pm. Elaine Reddish from the Aiming High for Disabled Young People team will give a presentation on this key area of development for all disabled young people across Derbyshire.

There will also be a presentation around COMPACT and how this is developing across the County. To book your place please contact Matt Ford or Alexandra Ormston on 01773 744741.

Community Climate Change

Organised by Derbyshire County Council this conference will take place on Saturday 13th March between 9.15am and 4pm in the Members' Room at County Hall in Matlock. The event is open to everyone, but will be of greatest benefit to individuals who are considering starting up, or have very recently started, Low Carbon Community or Transition Town group or are interested in sustainable energy/sustainability issues. For more information contact Call Derbyshire on 08 456 058 058. The deadline for

booking is Friday 5th March. More detailed information can be found at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/climatechangeconference

Plain English Guide to Data Protection

A guide to data protection law accredited by the Plain Language Commission has been published by official regulator the Information Commissioner's Office. The 'Guide to Data Protection' gives practical advice to those with day-to-day responsibility for data protection, taking a straightforward look at the principles of the Data Protection Act and helping organisations safeguard personal data. Download pdf (602KB) at www.ico.gov.uk/for_organisations/data_protection_guide.aspx

Exempting small music events from Licensing Act

Exemption from the Licensing Act 2003 for small live music events (for 100 people or less) is the basis of proposals out to consultation to 26th March, see government news item at http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/media_releases/6553.aspx

That's it for this time!

Our next newsletter mailing will be in April 2010.

Please return this page to Janet Smith at DDCVS if the details for your organisation have changed or if you would like to be added or removed from our mailing list.

We may disclose your information to other voluntary and community groups or statutory agencies where we think it will benefit either party. If you object to such disclosure please tick here .

We may contact you in the future either by telephone or mailing about other events or projects. If you object please tick here .

If you have any query about how we use your data please contact Janet Smith at DDCVS. Tel 01629 812154 or email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk

I am the contact for DDCVS 'Quart' newsletter:

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If you would like to receive our newsletter by email please email Sarah Paisley at sarah@ddcvs.org.uk

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