



December 2011

Welcome to the latest Gedling CVS ebulletin

Welcome to the ebulletin for Gedling Community and Voluntary Services. It includes items of interest to voluntary and community groups, many of which may have short deadlines to respond to. I hope you will feel it is relevant to your work.

Feedback is welcomed at anytime as to how it can be improved or just what you think of the ebulletin as a resource. You can email any comments or suggestions to info@gedlingcv.org.uk.

Visit our website for more up-to-date information, see our latest newsletter, Community Eye, as well as more news and funding from previous e-bulletins that you may have missed - www.gedlingcv.org.uk

If you think a friend or colleague would benefit from this e-newsletter then please send us their details so we can contact them to be registered.

Kind Regards

Jean Ramsden
Frontline Services Manager
Gedling CVS



Gedling CVS wishes all our readers a very Happy Christmas and all the best for the New Year .

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Gedling CVS News

New Website

Gedling CVS has a new look website where we shall be putting the latest information for the sector. There is also a 'Diary Page' for events, conferences, trainings etc. So if you are holding any of these and would like to have them included on our website please email: info@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

“Strengthening Community Action”

Gedling CVS offers a range of services including: Volunteer Centre, funding advice, newsletter, library, Community and Voluntary Transport scheme; group support including getting groups involved in local initiatives. If you would like any information or support from any of these services please email: admin@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

New Work Club Started in the Community Hub at Gedling

The first meeting of the Work Club for volunteers at Gedling CVS was held at the beginning of December. The Work Club is being launched in January for anyone unemployed or a volunteer looking for work. Please contact Melanie Russell-Smith, Frontline Service Manager, at Gedling CVS for more details.

Laurence Quirk elected to Steering Group

Congratulations to Laurence Quirk from Gedling CVS on being elected to the One East Midlands Health & Social Care Network Steering Group.

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Training, Events and Campaigns

Adult Learners' Week 2012 Award Nominations

If you know of someone whose life has been transformed through adult learning, or someone whose work on a ground-breaking learning project has made an important difference to adults' lives, why not nominate them for an Adult Learners' Week Award? Enable can help you with your nomination and will be running workshops or offering visits to help you put your nomination together. For further information - <http://www.enable.uk.net/content/adult-learners-week-2012-award-nominations>.

An Invitation to the First Ever Play Network Meeting

If you are part of a Playscheme, Pre-school, Toddler Group, Out of School Club or Voluntary Group then go along to Gedling Play Forum, Wollaton Avenue Community Centre, Wollaton Avenue, Gedling, NG4 4HX on Saturday 4 February 2012 between 10am to 4pm. There will be a variety of workshops

and information stalls from County Health Partnerships, MJ Training, New College Nottingham and Gedling Borough Council on [training and available funding!](#)

Feel free to either drop in at any time, or stay for the whole day. Also, Gedling Play Forum will be open, so members can get all of your much needed resources ready for half term!

For more information please contact Amy Bestwick on 07833 295873 or at amy.bestwick@nottsc.gov.uk.

National Programme Launched to Accelerate Learning for Health & Wellbeing Boards

A programme of Accelerated Learning Sets has been launched to help emerging Health and Wellbeing Boards work together on the biggest challenges that face them on their way to statutory running from April 2013.

More than 90 out of 152 emerging Health and Wellbeing Boards from across England are represented in the 11 learning sets, which focus on the themes that early implementers have said are of most interest and importance to Health and Wellbeing Board members. These include:

- Improving the health of the population
- Improving services through more effective joint working
- Making the best of collective resources.

Each learning set will include members from local government and NHS organisations, with a nominated lead, policy lead and appointed facilitator. The peer-to-peer learning approach will aim to encourage senior people to share solutions that are already working, shape new solutions and influence national policy makers in the areas that matter to emerging boards and their constituent members.

To download Regional Voices briefing on the Health & Wellbeing Boards visit www.regionalvoices.net/stronger-connections-for-better-health/briefings/briefings/health-and-wellbeing-board-overview-3/

[Source: Health & Social Care Network newsletter - December 2011]

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Consultations, Meetings and Networks

Applying New Single HMRC Definition of Charity

HM Revenue and Customs has produced draft orders that will apply a new single definition of a charity, charitable company and charitable trust across all UK charity tax relief and exemptions, due for April 2012. Currently the new definition, set out in Part 1 of Schedule 6 to the Finance Act 2010, only applies to gift aid and includes the 'fit and proper person' rule. See Civil Society Media

news item at <http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/11065/>, or go to the consultation documents at <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/draft-legislation.htm>, deadline 20th January 2012.

[Source VolResource Newsletter No. 503]

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Funding

Funding from Borough and County Councillors to Voluntary and Community Groups

Grants are available from your local councillors who are committed to working with and supporting Gedling's voluntary and community groups.

Like the councillors, voluntary groups are working to build a better life for local people. Often, it is community groups that first see needs in communities and voluntary groups that find creative ways to meet those needs.

If your organisation has concerns, or ideas for ways to improve the local area – or, if you could use some help yourselves – please get in touch with your local councillor. Your councillors can help tell others about your work, or help you to find support and funding.

Every Gedling Borough Councillor can grant up to £500 each year to support local voluntary and community activity. Nottinghamshire County Councillors have £10,000 each year to award as grants to local groups and projects. If you are looking for funding for a local project, please do get in touch with them. To find your local councillor view

<http://www.gedling.gov.uk/councillorsmeetings/yourrepresentatives/>.

Nottinghamshire Arts Fund

The County Council has a grant scheme that supports arts projects across the county. The fund is for anyone helping to get more people to lead or participate in the arts in Nottinghamshire. Further information from

<http://www3.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/enjoying/culture/arts/funding/nottinghamshireartsfund/>.

Prince's Foundation for Children & the Arts

Start deadline: 1 February 2012

The Foundation is inviting UK arts organisations to apply to be involved in its Start programme.

Start is a grant giving programme that introduces children to a local cultural venue to experience the very best of the arts. Through Start, pupils begin to develop a lasting relationship with that venue and art form.

Children & the Arts is actively seeking passionate and committed partner organisations to work with it to develop and deliver Start for pupils from primary

and secondary schools in their local area. It is looking to recruit six to ten new partners for the 2012/13 academic year.

Its aim, and that of its partners, is that pupils will develop the confidence and enthusiasm to continue their engagement with their local cultural venue beyond the life of the project.

If you think you might be a future Start partner, then please read the Application Guidelines at <http://tinyurl.com/6pmafq8> to see if you are eligible and for further information on how to apply. For more information visit www.childrenandarts.org.uk/start.

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Resources

Are you Involved in Family Learning or Work with Families and Children?

Join other voluntary and community sector organisations on www.familylearningnetwork.com. The National Family Learning Network (NFLN) website is a one stop shop for practical resources and support for anyone involved in family learning. It has free downloadable resources, news updates, job vacancies, events and the latest funding opportunities.

Guide to Starting up a Community Enterprise

Co-operatives UK has published the final part of its Community Enterprise Toolkit, 'Simply Start-Up – a guide to the process of starting a co-operative or community enterprise'.

The guide uses community food enterprises as examples of what is possible, but the processes and issues can apply to a wide range of community enterprises, from taking over your local shop, starting a community-owned and run newspaper or cinema, to building a community-owned windfarm.

www.uk.coop/simplystartup

[Source: Voluntary Arts Network E-News 01.12.11]

BBC Things To Do – an invitation to promote activities

The BBC is looking for partners that are charities or not-for-profit organisations or societies that run free or cost-recovery activities in the UK to upload to the website www.bbc.co.uk/thingstodo. The activities should involve learning and participation, and available to all members of the public.

The logo for 'BBC Things To Do' features the words 'THINGS TO DO' in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The text is set against a light blue rectangular background that has a subtle, textured appearance.

All activities should be related to one of the categories (which includes arts and crafts activities). Once you have registered, sign up as a partner against each

project that you have suitable activities for and start uploading your activities.

For more information and to join, please go to

www.bbc.co.uk/thingstodo/activitymaker.

[Source: Voluntary Arts Network E-News 01.12.11]

RCAN Launches New Bulk Oil Scheme – and saves you money!

Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) is delighted to announce the launch of its new Bulk Oil Purchasing Scheme which will be good for individuals and good for the environment.

Last year many people in rural communities without mains gas experienced huge price rises and difficulty in getting supplies of oil. This new scheme which will use the model of a local buying syndicate for purchasing domestic heating oil and harnessing the purchasing power of bulk buying, means that it's possible to get a discount of around £40 on a single order.

There's more information on the RCAN website www.rcan.org.uk. If this could be of interest to you or your community, get in touch with RCAN on 01623 727600 or e-mail oil@rcan.org.uk

Funding Central – search for or promote funding opportunities

If you're involved in promoting local government funding opportunities, the [Funding Central website](http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk) can help spread the word – the site is used by over 35,000 people in voluntary and community organisations, charities and social enterprise to search for grants, contracts and loans. Find out more at www.fundingcentral.org.uk.

At Your Bidding – free guide

Published by NAVCA in partnership with the Local Government Association, At Your Bidding is a free guide for charity trustees wanting to commission and tender for public services. The guide aims to:

- Provide some context about the commissioning of public services so that trustees can understand the potential implications and impact of commissioning at a strategic level on their charity
- Outline the issues to consider and the decisions that trustees have to make regarding bidding for service contracts
- Describe the steps that trustees need to take to ensure their organisation is tender and contract ready
- Draw attention to key areas for risk assessment and risk management
- Signpost to other useful publications, resources and sources of information and advice

To download the guide visit www.navca.org.uk/publications/atyourbidding.

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Chancellor's Autumn Statement

The Autumn Statement on 29th November 2011 had little directly aimed at voluntary organisations but the following should be of interest. All official documents at http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/as2011_documents.htm.

Pension auto-enrolment

Employers with less than fifty staff won't have to implement automatic pension scheme enrolment until May 2015, rather than the previously announced April 2014. A revised schedule will appear early in the new year, but the largest employers will still see the new requirements come in from October 2012. [Out-law.com](http://www.out-law.com) has more.

Cost sharing VAT exemption

Organisations that wish to share back-office services will no longer face an additional VAT charge after a long-awaited exemption is brought in next year. The required legislation will be part of the Finance Bill 2012, with the draft to be published on 6th December. HMRC's VAT: Cost Sharing Exemption information note (in pdf, 38KB) is at <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/budget-updates/29nov11/vat-cost-sharing.pdf>, and Charity Finance Director's Group Chief Executive writes for the Guardian's [Voluntary Sector Network](http://www.guardian.co.uk/voluntary-sector-network).

Open Data

The Autumn Statement included commitments on 'open data' - making data from public sector organisations available for easy analysis and re-use. The official news item envisages enabling healthcare impacts to be tracked across the entire Health Service so improving medical practice, and real-time travel data making an impact on road and rail, <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/open-data-measures-autumn-statement>. See Third Sector Foresight, <http://www.3s4.org.uk/drivers/open-data>, for a brief review of open data impact on charities - perhaps the most obvious is the likely call for a similar level of openness from those delivering public services.

[Source VolResource Newsletter No. 503]

Localism Bill Receives Royal Assent

The Localism Bill has received royal assent and, as the Localism Act, will grant new rights to communities to bid for land and run local authority services. For further information on the Localism Bill visit <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/localism.html>.

One East Midlands CEO to Head-up Economic Investment Body

Rachel Quinn, Chief Executive of One East Midlands, has become the first voluntary sector chief in England to head-up an economic investment body. She will lead economic investment in the East Midlands as Deputy Chair of the committee that injects £260million of European Regional Development Funds into the East Midlands economy. Read the full article on their website <http://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk/news.php?readmore=1730>.

[Source: In Focus with One EM - December 2011]

Review of Charities Act 2006

Nick Hurd, Minister for Civil Society, has announced that Conservative peer Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots will lead a wide-ranging review of the Charities Act 2006. Further information on

<http://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk/news.php?readmore=1756>.

[Source: In Focus with One EM - December 2011]

Gareth Thomas Named New Shadow Civil Society Minister

44-year-old Gareth Thomas, a Labour and Co-operative Party politician who has represented Harrow West since 1997, has replaced Roberta Blackman-Woods as Shadow Civil Society Minister. Further information on

<http://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk/news.php?readmore=1723>

[Source: In Focus with One EM - December 2011]

Emmanuel House

This organisation launched its 'Cup of kindness' Christmas Campaign on Thursday 1st December in The Lace Market Square with a reminder to all in Nottingham that many homeless and vulnerable adults could go without a main meal this winter season. The 'outdoor dinner party', staged with the help of New College Nottingham and CHC-Land Ltd, set the scene for the launch led by Emmanuel House CEO Ruth Shelton, supporters and service users.

The campaign will run from 1 December to 6 January and hopes to reach a target of £10,000 by asking everyone enjoying a festive meal or party to donate just 50p each – the price of a cup of tea – to the Cup of Kindness campaign. This will help pay for a festive meal for one homeless person in Nottingham. Emmanuel House provides the only city day centre drop-in facility that is open daily in Nottingham for homeless and vulnerable adults. The busy centre on Goose Gate, Hockley has provided practical support, access to healthcare, affordable meals and training since 1976 through its small team of dedicated staff and over 100 volunteers.

Further details from Natasha McCracken, Fundraising and Marketing Manager, Emmanuel House, Tel: 0115 950 7140 / 07792 503 815

Preparing for Winter Employment Issues

Employment advisory body Acas has a reminder for employers on making sure they are prepared for workplace issues that crop up over the winter months, such as adverse weather and holiday entitlements.

<http://www.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3554>.

[Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 504]

Updated HSE Information Around New and Expectant Mothers

The Health and Safety Executive has updated its information for employers (and employees) on new and expectant mothers. What are your responsibilities and what must you do to comply with the law?

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/mothers/index.htm>.

[Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 504]

Tax Advisors Guide on Gift Aid

The Chartered Institute of Taxation has new Gift Aid Resources available on its

website. Primarily targeted at tax advisors, it may be of use to other professionals. Gift Aid: a user's guide at <http://www.tax.org.uk/gift-aid>. (Source: <http://www.ion.icaew.com/charityblog/23568>)

[Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 504]

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Jean Ramsden/Melanie Russell-Smith
Frontline Services Managers
Gedling Community and Voluntary Services
22a Main Road
Gedling
Nottingham
NG4 3HP

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