



SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE VOLUNTEERING FORUM (SWVF)

Membership Benefits

If you are a Volunteer Coordinator, or just want to support and develop volunteering in the area, this is your chance to:

- meet bi-monthly with other people working in South Warwickshire facing similar challenges/issues
- share experience and expertise in volunteer management and related issues
- get up to date with latest volunteering developments
- focus on specific volunteering issues through regular training and or workshops chosen by the members
- find out more about Warwickshire CAVA and Volunteer Centre services and how you can access them
- access support for Volunteer Co-ordinators, who in turn, will provide support for their volunteers

**If you are interested in becoming a member of this Forum or would like more information please contact: Chris Lancaster
Tel: 0845 051 1172 Email: chris@wcava.org.uk**



South Warwickshire Volunteering Forum (SWVF)



What action can you take when you have too much to do? Answer – delegate!

Come along to the next event which will give you the best tips on how to delegate successfully. The session will be facilitated by Chris Lancaster and takes place at the Sydni Centre in Leamington Spa on Wednesday, 10th September – 9.30 am -11.30 am.

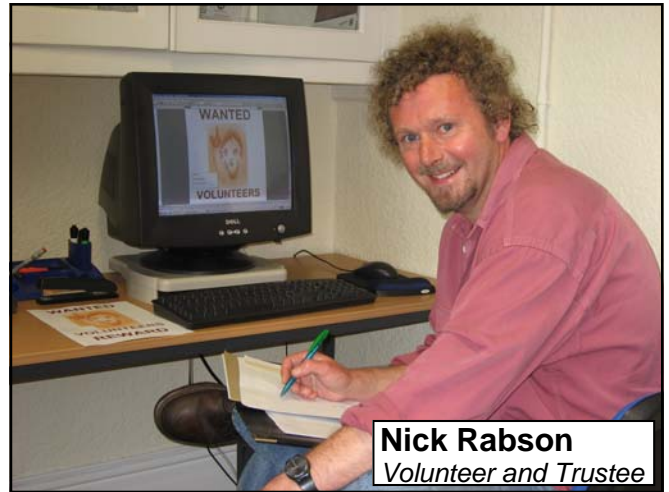
**If you would like more details about SWVF contact Chris Lancaster
Tel: 0845 051 1172 Email: chris@cava.org.uk**

“Local People making a difference locally”

When I began volunteering at the start of the decade I was looking for a sense of direction. Although I had a CV containing an impressive list of qualifications and a wide variety of experience, my own and family health problems had left me without a definite career pattern.

The chance to volunteer in the administration department of Bath Place Community Venture has helped to change this. From the start people wanted to know what I had to offer and I could show them...

Since childhood I had been interested in art and graphic design, but I had no formal qualifications in the field. Soon there were opportunities to produce flyers and posters promoting the Venture's activities. My previous experience was largely with freehand graphics, but I taught myself how to use computer packages to make the most of my ideas and benefit BPCV's objectives. Before long I had the chance to design new brochures, was editing newsletters and producing reports. I was also asked to do work for other local charities.



Nick Rabson
Volunteer and Trustee

Foremost, I have enjoyed doing this work, having an idea and seeing it reproduced. It is fun to design a card for somebody or do a drawing. At the same time I now have wider skills and the hope of making a career from them.

The relaxed and friendly environment of the voluntary sector, containing people from a broad variety of backgrounds, is much less confrontational than competitive workplaces or education establishments. With more scope to work at my own pace I have been able to increase my confidence and seek out opportunities that will benefit my employer and please me. Covering reception was a challenge at first, but it did me good and helped me to learn what was going on around me. When I started volunteering it would have been difficult to persuade me to take my part in this year's Bath Place pantomime!

My wider experience of the voluntary sector has given me the chance to join local committees including the South Warwickshire Volunteering Forum's Steering Group as Publicity Officer, and for some time I have been a trustee on the Bath Place board. The law degree with which I left university helps me to keep pace with some of the more technical language involved.

This is some of what I have obtained from volunteering; I hope that I have given my commitment in return.

DO YOU NEED MORE HELP WITH ADMINISTRATION?

Since the beginning of the year the Volunteer Centre has had an increase in the number of people asking if there are local organisations who need help with their administration and IT.

Could a volunteer help you in this way?

If so, contact Chris Lancaster on 0845 051 1172 or e-mail chris@wcava.org.uk



Opportunities for Volunteering 2009-12

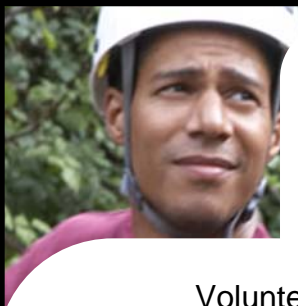
This health and/or social care grants programme for volunteer involving organisations seeking to develop a new or a significant development of a current project, is again open for applications. Recipients of grants must be organisations that involve volunteers and that also work with service users in a health and social care setting.

The closing date for receipt of the preliminary application form is Friday 29 August 2008.

All relevant documents for this application are available to download at:

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/ofv>.

If you have any questions regarding this grants programme or your application, please contact the grants helpline on 020 7520 8991 on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 1.00pm and 4.00pm.



Call for volunteering to be recognised as a pathway to employment



Volunteering should be recognised as a legitimate job-seeking activity for young adults on Jobseekers' Allowance, according to the Morgan Inquiry (www.morganinquiry.org.uk/ report which focused on volunteers aged between 18 and 24.

The Inquiry said that it was vital that the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Jobcentre Plus recognised volunteering as a pathway to employment and recommends setting up an accredited volunteering scheme that matches unemployed young adults with skill-enhancing volunteering.

The report, launched in early June, looks at the real reasons for more young people to volunteer, the barriers that prevent them doing so and includes "practical recommendations for change".

New guidance on CRB

The Office of the Third Sector has published new guidance on Criminal Record Bureau checks and volunteering. Below is a link to the site announcing the new advice, which claims to address some of the red-tape in volunteer recruitment:

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/080604_crb.aspx



New Research Bulletins available on Volunteering

The Institute for Volunteering Research (IVR) has recently published more Research Bulletins exploring some of the results from the 2007 Helping Out study. These Bulletins investigate themes from this national survey of volunteering and charitable giving.

For example, *'Exploring motivations and recruitment methods between 'regular' and 'occasional' volunteers'* explores differences between those who volunteer once a month or more, and those who volunteer less frequently. It finds that regular volunteers have greater complexity to their volunteering: they have more reasons to start volunteering, volunteering for a greater diversity of organisations, and engage in a greater diversity of activities than occasional volunteers. Occasional volunteers are more likely to use media sources and employers to find out about volunteering opportunities than regular volunteers.

The Research Bulletins can be downloaded in PDF format from
<http://www.ivr.org.uk/researchbulletins/>

Further findings from 'Helping Out' - the National survey of volunteering and charitable giving

- ▶ NEW - Managing for success - Volunteers' views on their involvement and support PDF
- ▶ NEW - Looking the gift horse in the mouth Making use of Gift Aid and payroll giving PDF
- ▶ NEW - Regular and occasional volunteers How and why they help out PDF
- ▶ NEW - Valuing time and money The real and perceived value of volunteering and giving PDF
- ▶ NEW - Young people help out Volunteering and giving among young people PDF
- ▶ Volunteering among groups deemed at risk of social exclusion PDF
- ▶ The changing and non-changing faces of volunteering PDF
- ▶ Who gives time now? Patterns of participation in volunteering PDF
- ▶ 'Caring companies: Engagement in employer-supported volunteering' PDF

Volunteering Advisor Baroness Neuberger seeks views on volunteering in the criminal justice system

Following the recent review of volunteering within the public services, Baroness Neuberger, the Government's independent volunteering advisor, is asking third sector and statutory organisations for their views on volunteering in the criminal justice system. The review will examine issues such as:

- The extent and variety of volunteering that currently happens in the criminal justice system and the benefits or added value that it brings
- The role that volunteering can play in helping the rehabilitation of offenders
- How good practice in volunteer management can be promoted within the criminal justice system

Read more on the Office of the Third Sector:

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/080609_neuberger.aspx.

Submissions and views should be sent by 1st September 2008