



The V Word

Good Practice in Volunteering

Issue 7

Spring 2008

YOUTH LED PROJECTS INVITED INTO DRAGON'S DEN!

A forthcoming project at the Vale Volunteer Bureau is to invite groups of young people with a project idea that will benefit their local community to apply for a grant to put their ideas into action.

Acting on the recommendations of the Russell Commission to make volunteering truly Youth Led, a grant has been put forward to allow young people to run their own initiatives.

The VVB is putting together a panel of young 'Dragon' Volunteers, who will be responsible for assessing project applications and deciding which projects get funding, and how much they get!

Groups consisting primarily of 14-25 year olds with an idea that involves youth volunteering

For further information please contact:

Vale Volunteer Bureau, 34 Holton Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan. CF63 4HD
Telephone: 01446 421782. Email: info@vvb.org.uk. Website: www.vvb.org.uk

can apply to the Dragon's Den panel with their idea.

These can be informal friend or school groups, or already constituted clubs etc.

Projects can be a one-off event, or something on going. It must confer a benefit to the local community in some way. If the group is not already linked to a 'host' organisation we can arrange a link.

Priority will be given to groups from BME & Asian communities, those living in Communities First Areas and young people with disabilities.

If you know a group who might like to apply, or a young person interested in sitting on the panel of dragons, please encourage them to contact us!

Any organisations interested in hosting a young peoples project (providing a bank account for funds and helping

with end of project reporting), we would also love to hear from you.

Contact Rachel on 01446 421782 or Rachel@wb.org.uk



Activale Youth Directory

Over the past year, the “Activale Youth Directory” has been accessed by young people within the vale of Glamorgan. This has enabled them to see the wide range of activities available to them locally.

The directory has been updated and now contains over 300 organisations that provide services and activities for young people aged 11 – 25 years.

It is also a useful tool for parents and people working with young people. Whether you are interested in voluntary work or want to find out where your local football club is, all the information will be at your fingertips.

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The directory is split into 14 sections including, for example, sports & leisure, arts, education, employment & training, health, money, and family & relationships. As well as distributing it to schools, libraries, youth centres and other open access organisations in the Vale, the Activale directory is available for all to use on the following website: www.activale.co.uk.

If you are an existing service included in Activale and would like to update your details, or you are not included in Activale and would like to be, please contact us with your details or update them via the website.

Similarly, for more information on the Activale Youth Directory, or to request a CD Rom version please contact:

Children & Young People's Information Service (CYPIS)

Tel: 01446 704704

E-mail: CYPIS@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Nationwide Community and Heritage Awards

The Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour has been re-branded as the Nationwide

Community Heritage Awards.

There are thousands of people – individuals and groups, throughout the United Kingdom, who give their time and energy to improve the life of members of the community.

The support they give to charities and community groups is invaluable. Very few of these unsung heroes in our communities expect recognition, but they most certainly deserve it.

To mark a decade of recognising the importance of volunteering, this year we have extended the Awards scheme to encompass the theme of heritage.

Heritage has many faces, from village museums to biodiversity programmes, from local cultural traditions to archaeological digs. All of these facets of heritage rely heavily on volunteer support, protecting and celebrating the rich history and diversity of our islands.

The closing date for nominations is Monday 28th April 2008

For further information:

[www.Nationwide Community and Heritage Awards](http://www.NationwideCommunityandHeritageAwards)

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Vale Volunteer Bureau Joint Outreach Events

My name is Nicola and I am the Outreach Worker for the Vale Volunteer Bureau. My role involves the recruitment, placing and support of volunteers, through the Outreach Service.

Fortnightly surgeries take place at Penarth, Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Libraries.

Here, I meet with potential volunteers and provide information, guidance and advice on all aspects of volunteering.

In addition to this, I also pursue new voluntary organisations and opportunities, provide talks and presentations to appropriate groups and organise and develop displays throughout the Vale of Glamorgan.

I am currently in the process of arranging Joint Outreach events.

Are you an organisation that would like to join me at my usual Outreach surgeries in the Libraries? You can also link in to any events that I will be attending over the coming year,

we link into events such as:

- The Scout and Guide Fete
- The Vale Agricultural Show
- Learners Sign Up events and information days

For further information contact:
nicola@wb.org.uk

Volunteers Week

Volunteers Week celebrates 24 years of existence this June.

Volunteers Week is a national celebration of volunteers and volunteering which takes place from 1st – 7th of June each year and has become a major event in the UK's volunteering calendar. It aims to raise the profile of the work carried out by over 1 ½ million volunteers in Wales. This is a great opportunity for voluntary organisations to recruit new volunteers and raise the profile of volunteering.

During this week there will be a mass of activity as private, public and voluntary

organisations take part, by organising events such as awards celebrations, picnics, sponsored walks and competitions to reward and recognise the hard work and commitment given by volunteers to their communities.

Here, at the Vale Volunteer Bureau, we have a whole host of events lined up to raise the profile of volunteering within the Vale of Glamorgan.

- There will be an information stand at Barry Library from Monday 2nd – Friday 6th of June
- We will be at Barry Market on Tuesday 3rd of June
- We will be at Morrisons Superstore in Barry on Thursday 5th of June
- We will be at Asda Superstore in Cardiff Bay on Friday 6th June

The bureau will remain open during Volunteers Week so feel free to pop in and join in with the festivities!

The opinions repressed in this newsletter, are not necessarily those of VVB.
We reserve the right to edit for publication.

The Vale Volunteer Bureau is an Independent Registered Charity.
Registered Charity Number 1057903

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