

CaDVAS Newsletter

June 2009

Issue 7

***Please consider the environment before printing this email
Thank you***

In This Issue

[CaDVAS News](#)

[Other News](#)

[Directory of Local Organisations](#)

[Training and Events](#)

[Funding news](#)

Contact details

Don't forget our mobile number, which is:

07595 543411.

Please let us know if any of your contact details change so that we can keep our database up to date. If you receive this newsletter by post but do have an email address, please let us know so that we can email future mailings to you and so keep costs down. Thank you.

CaDVAS News

End of first year user survey

Thank you to those of you who have taken part in our user survey. We welcome all of your feedback and comments and will take these into account in planning our activities for the coming year.

If you have not yet taken part, please go to our [user survey](#) now and complete and return it to us as soon as possible - thank you.

LSC / KentCAN / CaDVAS event

Plans for the event we are co-hosting with the LSC and KentCAN on June 24th are progressing well.

(See the events section below for more details.)

Don't forget that this event includes a marketplace for local organisations to showcase their services. If your organisation would like to take part please contact Christine Addy on christine.addy@kentcan.org

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Other News

Charity Commission to launch email bulletin for charity trustees

By Paul Jump, Third Sector Online, 8 May 2009

The Charity Commission is to start sending email bulletins to trustees to keep them up to date with its latest guidance, commission chief executive Andrew Hind has revealed. The new bulletin would herald a turning point in the way the regulator interacts with charities, said Hind.

He told a charity law conference run by the Directory of Social Change and law firm Bates, Wells & Braithwaite yesterday that the service, which will be launched **later this summer**, would allow trustees to sign up to receive email alerts whenever the parts of the commission's website they were interested in were updated. Subscribers would also be able to choose how often they received the updates, Hind added.

"This is one of the most important things we have done during my time at the commission and is the **single most important contribution we can make to helping small charities**," he said. "If we can get the email addresses of the nearly one million trustees in England and Wales, we would be able to create a relationship with each one of them in a way that maximises our ability to help fill the gaps they tell us they have got. We will no longer have trustees of small charities not knowing what is going on at central level."

He said the commission had wanted to launch such a service for several years but had only recently acquired the technology to do so. The bulletins would allow the commission to continue to engage with small charities even as its resources became tighter because of the 5 per cent year-on-year budget cuts imposed on it in the Treasury's most recent spending round, Hind said.

New Information Resource - KnowHow NonProfit

KnowHow NonProfit is a new web based resource bringing information on "Everything and everyone you need to know to run a nonprofit". A project of the Cass Centre for Charity Effectiveness (Cass CCE), it is funded by The Big Lottery Fund under the BASIS programme. The site went live in October 2008 and officially launched at the end of April 2009.

KnowHow NonProfit describes itself as "the place for nonprofit people to learn

and share what they have learnt with others. Whether you work in a large charity, are setting up your own social enterprise or are helping out your local community group, this site is for you. Whatever your organisation or role within it, if you want information, to update your skills or to talk to others in similar situations, you've come to the right place."

The site is full of information, tips, updates and self-assessment tools. There are also interactive forums for sharing experience and ideas with others working in the sector. It's well worth a visit at www.knowhownonprofit.org



**Kent Fire &
Rescue Service**

You can help protect older people from fire

The oldest members of our community are most at risk of dying in a house fire - and worst of all, it's nearly always preventable.

This is the stark message from **Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS)** who are appealing to local residents to look out for elderly friends, neighbours and family and to be aware of the danger signs that can lead to a fire in their homes.

A combination of factors can significantly increase the risk of an older person suffering a house fire and often decreases their chances of survival. These risk factors include:

- **Living alone:** safely managing a home can become harder as you grow older, particularly if you are on your own.
- **Lifestyle:** smoking can often lead to house fires, but prescribed medication and falling asleep after having alcohol can also play a part.
- **Heating:** many house fires involving older people begin due to faulty or poorly positioned portable heating.
- **Health and mobility:** poor health and difficulty with movement can be a factor, as well as having potentially fatal consequences once a blaze starts.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service are working with partner agencies in Canterbury to reach those most vulnerable to the risk of fire in the home.

KFRS Assistant Director for Community Fire Safety Steve Griffiths said: "We want to help people stay independent in their own homes for as long as possible. Losing an elderly relative or friend to fire is extremely distressing, and sadly it could so often be avoided. If you know someone you feel may be vulnerable to these risks, talk to them about having a **free home safety visit** from Kent Fire and Rescue Service."

He added: "Our visits take about 30 minutes and we can offer safety advice and will fit, where needed, free smoke alarms. We also have a range of fire safety devices for the visually and hearing impaired."

By encouraging those you care about to get in touch with Kent Fire and Rescue Service, you will be playing a huge part in protecting them and helping them remain independent.

To arrange a **free home fire safety check** contact Kent Fire and Rescue Service for free on **0800 923 7000** or email hsv@kent.fire-uk.org

HR+ Human Resources services

Based in Ashford, **HR+** is a business specialising in providing expert Human Resources advice and training. They have experience of working with VCOs as well as in the private and public sectors.

HR+ are currently offering free HR health checks, which would involve one of their consultants visiting to assess your current HR practices and provide you with a written report. They can also provide a full range of ongoing HR services as necessary.

For more information visit www.hrplustraining.co.uk

Directory of Local Organisations

Most of you will remember that an updated **Directory of Local Organisations** came close to the top of the list of priorities identified at the **CaDVAS** launch. It was generally agreed that the directory is a vital tool in keeping organisations informed about who's doing what around the district and in helping service users to access the most appropriate services.

Our directory is available on the **community portal** which **CaDVAS** runs jointly with the Community Development section of Canterbury City Council. If you have visited the portal recently you'll have noticed that we have made some changes:

- Organisations are now grouped under just 15 broad headings, compared with the original 30 or so, which we hope will make the site clearer

and simpler to navigate. There is still the option to search the site for specific keywords so prospective service users should be able to find you easily by keyword even if they're not sure which heading to look under.

- When you register an organisation you can now choose the heading you are listed under, rather than this being decided by the site managers. We are working on making it possible to register under more than one heading - we will keep you informed.
- The list of areas of operation has been amended and now includes 'Rural' rather than 'Countryside', which seems a more precise term.

And **don't forget:**

- You can download and print out pages, sections or the whole directory.
- You can post news items, events, job adverts and volunteer vacancies in addition to your main entry.
- You can check how many people are looking at your information - just log in and go to site activity reports.

If your organisation is not yet listed in the directory, please do **register** by going to www.e-canterbury.co.uk and clicking on Register. the process will only take a few minutes. If you prefer, contact us and we will send you a form to complete with all the necessary information and will register your organisation for you.

Of course, the directory is only useful if it is updated regularly, so if you are already registered, please take a few minutes to check your entry and **make sure your details are up to date**. The site managers do contact groups from time to time to request updates but we've noticed a few times recently that contact details, for example, haven't been changed even though we know that people have moved on. Changing your entry is very simple - just log in and go to Update organisation details.

Training and Events

CaDVAS Training

Our current training programme ends this month, as we have decided to take a break during July and August as so many people will be away. However, we are already busy planning our Autumn training programme which, based on your feedback, will be a mix of repeat sessions of some of our most popular courses such as First Aid, along with some new areas you have asked us to explore. Look out for details over the next few weeks.

We are very pleased to confirm that for the September - December programme we will still be able to offer some free training places to **CaDVAS** members. After that, however, we will no longer be able to fully subsidise training as we have done so far and so will need to introduce charges across the board. We will of course keep fees as low as we can and there will still be discounts for **CaDVAS** members.

Life Skills Training

Marie Miles is a highly experienced teacher and facilitator and works with people of all ages to develop confidence and assertiveness skills, as well as to combat stress and low self-esteem. A lot of her work has been with vulnerable or excluded people, including teenage parents and the homeless, or parents of children with challenging behaviour.

Aware of the need for us to look after ourselves as well as our service users, Marie also organises workshops offering stress management, confidence building and assertiveness skills to support workers, carers and staff who work with vulnerable clients in the community.

Marie adopts a flexible approach to meet her clients' needs at a personal level during group sessions, tailoring the course from their feedback.

We would be happy to organise stress management training with Marie if there is sufficient demand, so if you are interested please let Sue know. To find out more about Marie's range of services, you can contact her directly on:

01843 604584, 07746 699532 or email lifeskillstraining@hotmail.co.uk

CBT Workshops presents An introduction to cognitive behaviour therapy: What it is and how it works

A one-day workshop presented by Dr James Manning, BSc, ClinPsyD, C.Psychol.

Date: Thursday 2nd July 2009

Time: 9.30am to 4.30pm

Venue: The Victoria Room, Camden Centre, Market Square,
Royal Victoria Place, Tunbridge Wells TN1 2SW

Price: £135.00 / £119.50 (early bird rate)

*Price includes **Free Book** - "Think about your thinking" ; **Free CD-ROM** of presentation guided reading list, reference list and copiable worksheets*

Full refreshments and lunch provided

Spaces are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. Please call **01284 723948** or email jamespmanning@btinternet.com for further information. All prices include VAT. Reg number 940 5151 48

asphaleia presents
Engaging with unaccompanied asylum seeking children

National training series: **London 1 July 2009**, Birmingham 7 July 2009, Manchester 8 July 2009

Engaging with unaccompanied asylum seeking children: an asphaleia how to learning event.

Learn how to engage effectively with unaccompanied children, understand the barriers to cross-cultural communication, share and exchange good practice with other professionals and develop your personal and professional practice.

Cost (excluding VAT): £120 voluntary & community sector
£140 statutory, colleges & foster agencies
£160 all other private organisations

Group booking discount available

For more information contact the events team on: **01903 228093** or hayleycottrell@asphaleia.co.uk

Book online @: www.asphaleia.co.uk

TRAINING 4 CARE

(In partnership with Kent County Council)

Training 4 Care is appointed by Kent County Council to provide subsidised training courses for the Care sector in Kent.

Courses schedules for July to September are now on the **Training 4 Care** website at www.southkent.ac.uk/training4care

Courses remain at £15 per person per day, except for Mental Capacity Act training courses which are offered free of charge until 2010.

To contact **Training 4 Care**, phone **01303 858311** for bookings, **01303 858305** for enquiries or email T4Cshortcourses@southkent.ac.uk

And finally...

The VCS Exchange - informing, promoting and supporting local services for the voluntary and community sector

The **Learning Skills Council** is working in partnership with **Kent CAN**, **Case Kent**, **Voluntary Action West Kent** and **CaDVAS** to host 3 events promoting services available to and from the voluntary and community sector during the current economic downturn.

Through these events we want to:

- Increase awareness of local services.
- Inform and provide information to the voluntary community sector across the County.
- Promote a range of services that are currently available to the sector.

The Canterbury event will take place on **24th June 2009** from **9.30am - 2pm** at the **Westgate Hall, Canterbury**.

The agenda will include:

- Presentations on commissioning and grant aid.
- Speakers from local VCOs.
- Round table discussions on topics of current interest for the sector including partnership work and governance issues.

There will also be a **marketplace** offering organisations the opportunity to showcase their services. If you would like to book a stand please contact christine.addy@kentcan.org

For more information go to the Events page at www.kentcan.org

Funding news

The Secret's Out...

Fans of hit television series the Secret Millionaire can secure a share of a new £1 million initiative aiming to support vital community projects across the UK. The Channel 4 TV show has teamed up with the Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All programme to launch the Secret Millionaire Fund. Grants ranging from £300 to £10,000 are up for grabs for local community groups, schools, parish councils and health bodies to show their charitable side and carry out much-needed projects in their area.

Similar to the popular programme, where successful businessmen and women go "undercover" in search of worthy good causes in their local area, the fund is open to applications (or nominations) from organisations that work to improve the lives of disadvantaged people.

The fund is particularly keen to support initiatives that:

- Give people a better chance in life by improving their skills and increasing their access to training.
- Promote stronger communities with active citizens who work together to solve local issues.
- Improve rural and urban environments.
- Promote healthier lifestyles.

Applications are invited online at a special Secret Millionaire website until **21st December 2009**. Some successful projects may even get the chance to be featured on the website or the next television series.

Launching the new scheme, Sir Clive Booth, chair of the Big Lottery Fund, said:

"These small grants can make a substantial difference to the vital work of local groups and charities, such as the ones that have been helped on the Channel 4 show."

Adam Gee, new media commissioner at Channel 4, added:

"The focus is on bringing attention to the wonderful work of local community groups, the attention they totally deserve but often don't get."

For further information visit <http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/>

What's The Big Idea?

Up to £150,000 funding is up for grabs to turn the best new idea for "transforming" family life into reality. Launched as part of National Family Week (25-31 May), the Big Family Idea competition is looking for suggestions from people on how to improve family life in their local communities. The Big Lottery Fund will provide up to £150,000 good causes cash to help develop the winning idea.

Open to anyone in the UK, ideas can focus on new products, services, campaigns or events, and can focus on having a local, regional or national impact. Ideas that will help hard-pressed parents spend more time with their children are particularly welcome.

Launching the search for innovative ideas, Sanjay Dighe, chair of the Big Lottery Fund in England, said:

"We hope that the £150,000 we provide will inspire people to generate great ideas, and for the winner to see their ideas turned into reality and have a positive impact on family life in the UK. The Big Lottery Fund has invested more than £470 million of its lottery good cause funding to enable over 1,700 organisations to support parents and families since its formation in 2004."

Kevin Steele, cofounder of National Family Week, added:

"In the past, innovative ideas have improved family life in many ways, from folding pushchairs and baby monitors to rubberised safety asphalt for

playgrounds, home delivery of groceries and "walking buses" that enable children to go to school on foot. The Big Family Idea competition will encourage ordinary people all over Britain to put on their thinking caps to come up with more brilliant ideas like these."

The closing date to submit an entry is **31st July 2009**. For further information go to www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk

BT Community Connections - BTCC Cluster Award

This year sees an exciting new award which allows community and charitable organisations to apply together to for a BTCC Cluster Award.

Up to five groups can apply together. If successful, all members will be awarded their own laptop and a year's free broadband connection and each member will also receive a personalised package of enhanced specialist equipment i.e. a digital camera, printer or software.

The aim of BTCC Cluster Awards is to encourage networking between community groups who have shared objectives, whilst enabling a substantial number of people to get online. With up to five members, but no less than three, a BTCC Cluster Award application could include a primary school, Age Concern branch, Brownie pack, amateur dramatics society and healthy living project who are working together on a particular project.

Each BTCC Cluster Award package consists of:

- A multi-media internet-ready laptop
- One year's broadband internet access
- A personalised package of enhanced specialist equipment
- Access to a free community website building tool, www.communitykit.co.uk
- Access to the Recipero support centre to help you build your website
- Ability to request a visit from a BT Volunteer
- Access to free PR and other online resources
- Access to the BT Community portal which will allow you to create your own online profile
- Access to BT Community Space to enable you to network with other community groups who have received a BTCC award.

For more information go to www.btcommunityconnections.com

Other funding opportunities coming up soon include:

Standard Life launches £5m charitable trust

By John Plummer, Third Sector Online, 18 May 2009

Financial company Standard Life is establishing a charitable trust with an initial investment of £5m. The majority of funding is derived from unclaimed shares issued when the insurer demutualised in 2006. The shares are sitting in the company's Unclaimed Assets Trust, which is due to expire in 2016. The value of unclaimed shares in the unclaimed assets trust is currently about £70m.

"We were advised that it's highly unlikely we will track down everyone who hasn't claimed shares, so we started talking to the Inland Revenue about how to free up those funds," said Barry Cameron, head of media relations at Standard Life.

Further funds are expected to be released from the unclaimed assets trust over the next few years.

The decision to create a charitable trust was ratified at the company's annual general meeting in Edinburgh on Friday. A board will be appointed before a decision is made on which causes to support and how much to give. It is unclear, however, when the new trust will start handing out grants.

Gerry Grimstone, chair of Standard Life, said the trust "will ensure that Standard Life is at the forefront of corporate responsibility and community investment".

Media Trust opens £900,000 digital media fund

By Kaye Wiggins, Third Sector, 2 June 2009

The Media Trust has made a £900,000 fund available to help charities and community organisations use digital media to reach isolated people. The organisation will give out £250,000 in 26 grants of between £1,500 and £14,000 to groups that work with deprived and isolated people. The grants, which will be made over two years, will fund digital media projects including films, photography, TV and websites.

The Media Trust will use the rest of the fund, which is being provided by the Communities and Local Government department and the Department for Universities, Innovation and Skills, to provide online resources to help charities use digital media in their work.

Gavin Sheppard, development director at Media Trust, said: "The aim is to generate a greater understanding of how digital technology can address deprivation and isolation. We will provide training and support for the 26 grant recipients, and we hope that many more charities will be able to extend their use of digital media through the new resources that we will put on our website."

The online application process for grants is expected to open in July.

For up-to-date news on other funding available, try the following contacts:

Kent4Community, which is a free web based grant search facility, at www.open4community.info/kent/; they also produce a regular e-newsletter; email administrator@open4community.info

Inside Track, the KCC External Funding service newsletter - email externalfunding@kent.gov.uk to be added to their mailing list or contact Martyn Riley, External Funding Officer, Chief Executives Department, KCC. Tel: 01622 694384; Email: martyn.riley@kent.gov.uk for more information.

j4bCOMMUNITY.co.uk produce a regular funding newsletter; email newsletter@j4bcommunity.co.uk

Funding Buddies, a programme to assist community and voluntary groups access funding opportunities. It will also develop training courses to increase and enhance the skills of community organisations. Contact Kent Funding Buddies on

Tel: 01303 813790

Fax: 01303 814203

Mobile: 07900 560235

Email: nigel.turley@ruralkent.org.uk

Website: www.fundingbuddiesinkent.org.uk

If you have difficulty contacting any of the above, please feel free to contact CaDVAS for further information and advice.



If you have articles for inclusion in the next issue, please contact Sue Tucker at

CaDVAS:

Tel: 01227 452381 **Mob:** 07595 543411 **Email:**
info@cadvas.org

Deadline for items for the next newsletter:

Midday on Wednesday 1st July - thank you.

**Registered Office: Tower Works, Simmonds Road, Wincheap Business Park, Canterbury,
Kent. CT1 3RA.**

Charity No: 1125359 Company No: 6584654.

**CaDVAS can also be contacted c/o: Whitstable Volunteer Centre, St Mary's Hall, Oxford
Street, Whitstable. CT5 1DD**

Disclaimer:

**Whilst every care has been taken in the preparation of this publication, CaDVAS cannot be held responsible
for any errors or omissions. All contents included in this newsletter are for information purposes only;
inclusion does not imply any recommendation**

[Forward email](#)