

# CaDVAS Newsletter

February 2011

Issue 1

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## Welcome and CaDVAS News

Welcome to our first full newsletter of 2011, which we hope you'll find useful and interesting. However, you will probably have noticed that the newsletters have got longer and longer and also that we are sending out more frequent mailings between newsletters, because there is so much information coming to us all the time which we think it's important to share with you.

We do realise that a very long newsletter can be off-putting, and bearing that in mind, after this edition we will be making more and more use of our **new website** to post information as it comes to us, so that we can make future newsletters more focussed. The new site is at the same address – [www.cadvas.org](http://www.cadvas.org) – do have a look and let us know what you think of it.

We also need your comments on another initiative we are planning. We are currently working on an application for funding to employ a full time **Network Development worker**, as discussed at our recent AGM.

This worker would build on the existing networking events and opportunities available to the sector as a whole which are currently provided by **CaDVAS** in partnership with **CDCA** and would also develop existing specialist networks such as **CantAbility** and develop new ones with a particular focus, for example children and young people, older people, mental health, trustee networks. The networks would provide opportunities for members to share information and good practice and offer peer support, which would contribute to the overall development and strengthening of the sector.

We know from discussion at the AGM and from past comments from members that there is a need for this type of work, but in our funding application we need to include as much evidence as we can which demonstrates that need. We are therefore undertaking a quick and simple survey – please take a few minutes to

think about the following questions:

- Do you think there is a need to develop networks as described above?
- Would you be interested in joining a sector wide network and / or a specialist one?
- If a specialist one, which area/s would you be interested in?
- How often do you think a network should meet?
- Would you be interested in joining an online network as well as or instead of attending face to face meetings?
- Have you any other comments about this initiative?

Please email your comments to [sue@cadvas.org](mailto:sue@cadvas.org) as soon as possible and by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Thank you.

## Training and Events

### CaDVAS TRAINING

#### IT training programme suspended

Unfortunately, we have had to suspend all of our IT training – ie courses running at Thanington as well as those running at Hersden – for the time being. This is because our trainer, Ken Baughan, has had to take on a number of new work responsibilities which have severely limited the time he has available for delivering training on our behalf.

We are looking at other possibilities, which we will keep you updated on via future newsletters and our website:

- It might be possible to offer courses in an evening slot, depending on availability of the IT suites and on demand - so please let us know if you are interested in IT courses and evenings might be a possibility for you.
- We are hoping to find another IT tutor who might be able to step in so we can re-start the programme.

In the meantime, if you are comfortable with taking on a online training course, Learndirect offers courses covering the same kinds of topics as Ken has been delivering for us and at about the same price. Their online catalogue is at <http://www1.learndirect-business.com/business-catalogue/>.

# Forthcoming training courses

February – March 2011



## Meeting Skills - how to make meetings work for you and the organisation

**Date & time:** Thursday 10th February, 9.30am - 1.00pm; lunch will be provided

**Venue:** Kent Enterprise House, Herne Bay

This event is part of our lottery-funded **Trustee Development Programme** and all places are therefore **free** to all participants.

This course is aimed at both new and more experienced board or committee members - or others who attend formal meetings as part of their role - who would like to learn more about how to contribute more effectively to those meetings and get the most out of them.

The trainers will be **Michelle Huggins** and **Ann-Marie Eigheten** from **Skillnet Group CIC**

## Emergency First Aid at Work

**Date & time:** Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 9.30am – 4.30pm

**Venue:** Northgate Ward Community Centre, Canterbury

**Cost:** **CaDVAS** / CASE Kent / Swale CVS members: £40  
Non members: £80

This **HSE Approved** course is for people wishing to learn First Aid which qualifies them to act as the First Aider in the workplace, under the terms of the Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations 1981.

The trainer will be **Carl Davies** of **Kent Safety Training**. Carl has over 17 years of experience in training and as a front line members of the emergency services and is a fully qualified trainer and assessor.

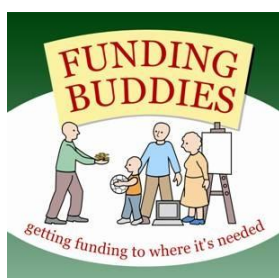
## Developing a Fundraising Strategy

**Date & time:** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 10am – 4pm  
**Venue:** Thanington Neighbourhood Resource Centre

This course is provided by the Funding Buddies project of Action with Communities in Rural Kent and funded by the Big Lottery Fund, so all places are **free** to participants.

The trainer will be **Kathy Roddy**, who has spent more than 17 years in the voluntary sector. She has run a national charity and is now a freelance trainer and consultant. She is a member of the Institute of Fundraising and holds their Certificate in Fundraising Management. She is also a qualified project manager.

Action *with* Communities in  Rural Kent



Full details of all these courses are on our website at

<http://www.cadvas.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/CaDVAS-training-February-March-20112.pdf>

To book your place on any of these courses, email [sue@cadvas.org](mailto:sue@cadvas.org) or call Sue Tucker on 01227 452381 or 07595 543411

Places are limited – early booking is advised

## **Kent Children's Fund Network (KCFN) Training for the Children's Workforce**

**KCFN's Spring programme includes:** Spring Craft Workshop, Can you Communicate?, Paediatric Life Support for Children and Young People (Ofsted Approved) and Basic Child Protection

For more information on these courses or to book online, visit:  
[http://www.kcfn.co.uk/adult/Projects/bespoke\\_short\\_courses](http://www.kcfn.co.uk/adult/Projects/bespoke_short_courses)

### **Train as an Arts Award Bronze and Silver adviser**

Arts Award is a national qualification which supports young people aged 11–25 to develop as artists and arts leaders.

It offers a flexible framework for accrediting young people's creative development and can be delivered in many different settings, and within varying timescales.

Find out more at [www.artsaward.org.uk/inmysetting](http://www.artsaward.org.uk/inmysetting)

Training as an adviser is the first step in getting going with Arts Award. Advisers support, mentor and assess young people working towards awards. The day includes presentation, case studies and discussion, and covers how to deliver and assess the Arts Award at both levels.

### **Book your place on Arts Award adviser training**

[View all course dates and book online](#)

## **Voluntary Sector Apprenticeships New Frameworks and Employer's Forum**

Thursday 10th February 10.30 – 2pm, Central London

**Skills – Third Sector** are launching a new **Employer's Forum**, to support the development, understanding and promotion of apprenticeships in charities, social enterprises, voluntary and community organisations. This forum is being developed in conjunction with **Fair Train**, the group training association for the sector and will work closely with the **National Apprenticeship Service**.

**For more information and or to book a place at this FREE event please email:** [apprenticeships@skills-thirdsector.org.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@skills-thirdsector.org.uk)

## **A Greener Economy: Time for Change?**

**Conference and exhibition organised by C4B's Environment Group and  
The Canterbury Environment Partnership Group**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011, 8.30am – 1.30pm  
Augustine House, Rhodaus Town, Canterbury CT1 2YA

For more details go to: <http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/main.cfm?objectid=6263>

## **Ceretas – Promoting Professional Care at Home**

### **Ceretas Winter Conference**

“Spending Review- The Impact on Home Care”  
17<sup>th</sup> February 2011, Inmarsat Conference Centre, London

### **Ceretas Assistive Technology Conference**

29<sup>th</sup> March 2011, Over-Seas House, London

Further information: <http://www.ceretas.co.uk/page.asp?pageidx=10>

Bookings: email [heather@ceretas.co.uk](mailto:heather@ceretas.co.uk)

## **Skills for Care's annual conference 2011**

**Thursday 3 March 2011, Telford International Conference Centre**

This conference will bring together a mix of keynote speakers and workshops to give those attending the bigger picture of what is going on in adult social care and how the changes might affect the day to day job of providing adult social care, with some tools and resources and plenty of useful information to take away.

Further information: <http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/conference2011/>

## **Members' News**

### **WOODWORK WORKSHOP FOR HIRE**

The Umbrella Centre of Herne Bay has space available during the week in a fully equipped woodwork workshop near Sea Street.  
For further details contact Lynn Cambridge on 01227 370200.

## Enterprising Opportunities CIC can organise your CRB and Adult First checks

**Enterprising Opportunities CIC** has been registered with the Criminal Records Bureau as an Umbrella body since 2002. Enterprising Opportunities is a local Kent based organisation, so can provide you with a personalised CRB service – and we have very competitive rates.

Find out more at: <http://www.enterprisingopps.org.uk/services/crbs.html>

## Other News



### Consultation on the provision of Outdoor Education services

Kent County Council's Youth Service is undertaking an exercise to determine whether organisations may be interested in running the Outdoor Education provision currently delivered. KCC would like to invite organisations to a public meeting to find out more about the Kent Youth Service Outdoor Education Portfolio; organisations will also have the opportunity to have a private meeting to ask specific questions.

The date of the meeting is Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011 and will be held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, from 10am.

Further information and directions: <http://www.cadvas.org/index.php/news-2>

### Modernising the NHS: the Health and Social Care Bill

Andrew Lansley, Secretary of State for Health, has circulated a summary of and commentary on the Health and Social Care Bill which has just been published, which you can view at: <http://www.cadvas.org/index.php/news-2>

## Free new resource for community and voluntary organisations

**MyCommunitySpace** – [www.mycommunityspace.org.uk](http://www.mycommunityspace.org.uk) is the new **FREE** online premises resource designed specifically for community and voluntary organisations.

Visit the website if you are

- a) Looking for a new space to base your activities (meeting room, hall, workshop etc.)
- b) In need of somewhere to advertise your current premises for hire
- c) Looking for specialist advice and support on running and maintaining a community building from repairs to insurance, or
- d) Searching for premises-related training and events up and down the country

The website is **ABSOLUTELY FREE** to use and all you need to do is register online. We also help connect you to a network of community property experts offering free or low-cost services. So what are you waiting for? Get online now and start managing your premises requirements more effectively!

### Recent updates from the Charity Commission:

#### [Charity Commission updates trustee toolkit](#)

Posted: 05 Jan 2011 05:01 PM PST

Latest chapter covers due diligence, monitoring and verification of end use of funds

#### [Equality Act](#)

Posted: 05 Jan 2011 05:01 PM PST

Update on the Commission's guidance

## Lord Hodgson proposes 'reasonableness test' to protect volunteers from legal action

By Kaye Wiggins, Third Sector Online, 27 January 2011

Lord Hodgson, the chair of a government taskforce set up to cut red tape in the voluntary sector, believes the charity tribunal should operate a 'reasonableness test' that would make charity volunteers less likely to be held liable for accidents or damage they cause while volunteering.

Hodgson, who leads the **Big Society Deregulation Taskforce**, told *Third Sector* he thought the fear of legal action for mistakes was a significant barrier that prevented people from getting involved with charities and community groups.

"It's ridiculous that some youth group leaders won't even rub Savlon on a child's wound these days for fear of legal action," he said. "Volunteers should be able to use their common sense without fear of getting into trouble.

"The charity tribunal should be able to decide whether a complainant is acting reasonably by taking legal action against a volunteer."

Hodgson said he was not yet sure whether the recommendation would be in the Big Society Deregulation Taskforce report to the government, due to be published in April.

He said the taskforce was also considering whether to recommend a different system of regulation for small charities.

One option, he said, was for the [Charity Commission](#) to stop giving charity numbers to those with incomes below a certain level and instead allow these charities to say they were "regulated by the Charity Commission".

Under this system, he said, small charities would have fewer reporting requirements and less information would be needed to register a small charity with the commission.

## **Volunteers not covered by anti-discrimination law, says Court of Appeal**

By Sophie Hudson, *Third Sector Online*, 27 January 2011

Volunteers without contracts are not covered by anti-discrimination legislation for workers, the Court of Appeal has ruled.

The judgement was made yesterday in a case involving a female volunteer, referred to as X, who claimed she had been discriminated against on the grounds of disability when she was asked to stop volunteering for the [Mid Sussex Citizens Advice Bureau](#). X claimed she was covered by the [Disability Discrimination Act 1995](#) and the European Framework Directive. The [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) supported X in her appeal.

However, the court upheld previous employment tribunal rulings and found that X did not come under the scope of the legislation because she did not have a contract with the CAB and was unpaid. The case had been heard by two employment tribunals and one appeal.

Lord Justice Elias, one of the three judges, said it was "far from obvious that it would be thought desirable to include volunteers within the scope of the discrimination legislation relating to employment".

Volunteering organisations have told *Third Sector* that they sometimes have informal written agreements with volunteers that are not enforceable in the courts. Contracts are not regarded as best practice because it means volunteers can go to employment tribunals.

Jason Galbraith-Marten, a barrister from the employment and discrimination chambers Cloisters, which represented the CAB, said after the hearing that this was a significant victory for the voluntary sector.

"This is because much of the sector is reliant on volunteers, and cannot shoulder the financial burden that enhanced rights for volunteers such as X would bring," he said.

"The need to make adjustments for the disabled, and the cost of litigation, successful or otherwise, that would be generated from the extension of anti-discrimination rights, would be too great a financial burden for many of them to bear."

No one from Mid Sussex CAB or the EHRC was available for comment.

## Funding and Finance News



**Kent Community Foundation** are currently encouraging applications to the following fund:



### **The Crown Charitable Fund**

**Grants for community groups working for the benefit of young people**

The Crown Charitable Fund will benefit voluntary and community groups working with children and young people, up to age 18, in Canterbury district with priority given to those in Herne Bay and its surrounding villages.

## Objectives

To provide funding towards a project that will enable a group to develop facilities and opportunities for young people that are currently lacking.

## Grant size

Grants awarded are generally between **£250** and **£5,000**.

Applicants are encouraged to match the grant £ for £ towards a project.

## Groups that can apply may include

- after school clubs
- sports clubs
- youth clubs
- other groups benefitting children and young people

The fund does not award grants to individuals.

If you have a project that you would like to discuss or would like an application form, please contact **John Jackson** on 01303 814500 or 07812 555023 or email [john.jackson@kentcf.org.uk](mailto:john.jackson@kentcf.org.uk)

**Or write to Kent Community Foundation, Office 23, Evegate Park Barn,  
Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SX**

## Commissioning, collaboration and the community

By collaborating to bid for contracts, community organisations can offer massive savings and deliver the services that are needed by the communities they work with. Community groups know their local communities well and are perfectly placed to respond to local need and strengthen local communities. Bassac's [benefiting everyone – commissioning, community organisations and collaboration](#) looks at how community groups can add huge value to public service design and delivery and can help commissioners meet their objectives.

## Giving Green Paper

This Green Paper is set within the context of the Government's ambitions for a '**Big Society**'. It focuses on **social action** and aims to start a national debate on how to **create a culture** shift around **giving** (of money, assets, time skills, knowledge etc) that involves the whole of society.

According to the Government, culture change must be a **bottom-up process** that empowers communities and reduces barriers to giving - and provides charities

and social enterprises with the support they need to scale up successful projects and take on new responsibilities. The paper also looks to inspire businesses to play an enthusiastic and valuable role in the Big Society.

New technology is seen as central to overcoming the obstacles to giving and the creation of new and sustainable social norms.

The Paper outlines a range of ideas and examples for providing opportunities to give including:

- launching a four-year, England-wide, £42.5 million frontline **Volunteer Infrastructure Programme** to begin in March 2011. The programme will provide support to organisations that manage volunteers;
- funding a programme for **younger school children** to learn about giving and establish a social norm for giving at an early age;
- the potential for using **peer-to-peer platforms** like Zopa, IndiGoGo and Sponsume to encourage more lending and giving to community-based organisations;
- providing at least £50 million of match funding over the next four years as part of the **Community First** programme to encourage the building up of local endowments;
- launching a new **Volunteering Match Fund** worth up to £10 million a year to match private donations to volunteering projects on a pound for pound basis;
- exploring the idea of compelling **private foundations** to make an annual payout; and
- **opening up under or un-used spaces** in the government estates as meeting places for charities, community and social groups.

The chapters in the paper set out a **collective approach** from a variety of perspectives, which outline a route to a more giving society. It includes questions throughout to encourage discussion on the topics in the paper and on the subject of giving more generally. Responses will feed into a White Paper to be published in the spring.

**Read the document and consultation questions:**

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Giving-Green-Paper.pdf>

**The deadline for responses is 9 March 2011.**

## **Umbrella bodies combine to share info on spending cuts**

Civil Society e-news 24.01.11

Several sector umbrella bodies have teamed up to build a new website to monitor all the public spending cuts that are affecting their members. The site, [voluntarysectorcuts.org.uk](http://voluntarysectorcuts.org.uk), is intended to build a nationwide picture of how government spending cuts are affecting civil society.

The joint project involves the [NCVO](#), [Acevo](#), [Volunteering England](#), Navca, the National Council of Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS), Compact Voice and the nine Regional Voluntary Networks from across the country (Regional Voices).

The interactive website will allow people from voluntary and community organisations to share their concerns about funding cuts and provide evidence of the impact on their ability to deliver services. All of the data captured will be public.

[Sir Stuart Etherington](#), chief executive of [NCVO](#) which is leading on the project, said: "We urge any organisations affected by cuts to share their stories on the site; together we can send a strong message to government about the scale of the challenges ahead for the sector."

[Justin Davis Smith](#), chief executive of [Volunteering England](#), added: "We need to make a properly evidenced case to the government, to our funders and to the public."

The new site will replace the NCVO's [Crowdsourcing the Cuts](#) project that launched last summer and all the data from those web pages have already been transferred across. A spokeswoman for [NCVO](#) said it was hoped that the other sector bodies would transfer their existing information across to it too, though she did not know if the others planned to phase their own projects in favour of the collective site.

Acevo launched [Cuts Watch](#) last June.

### **For further up-to-date news on funding available try:**

**Inside Track**, the KCC External Funding Service newsletter - email [externalfunding@kent.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:martyn.riley@kent.gov.uk) for more information, or visit their website at [www.kent.gov.uk/externalfunding](http://www.kent.gov.uk/externalfunding)

**Kent CAN**, the county level infrastructure organisation which exists to support and promote the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Kent and Medway, provides regular **funding e-bulletins** and also hosts the **GRANTnet funding search website**. For more information visit [www.kentcan.org](http://www.kentcan.org)

**Kent4Community**, which is a free web based grant search facility, at [www.kent.gov.uk/community\\_and\\_living/external\\_funding/search\\_for\\_grants.aspx](http://www.kent.gov.uk/community_and_living/external_funding/search_for_grants.aspx)

**J4b community** produce a **regular funding newsletter**; email

[newsletter@j4bcommunity.co.uk](mailto: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:**

Tel: 01303 813790 Fax: 01303 814203 Mobile: 07900 560235

Email: [nigel.turley@ruralkent.org.uk](mailto:nigel.turley@ruralkent.org.uk)

Website: [www.fundingbuddiesinkent.org.uk](http://www.fundingbuddiesinkent.org.uk)

**Funding Central** is a free smart website for all third sector organisations, including community groups, providing access to thousands of funding and finance opportunities, plus a wealth of tools and resources supporting organisations to develop sustainable income strategies appropriate to their needs. Visit [www.fundingcentral.org.uk](http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk)

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

CaDVAS, Tower Works, Simmonds Road, Wincheap Business Park, Canterbury CT1 3RA  
**Tel:** 01227 452381 **Mob:** 07595 543411 **Email:** [info@cadvas.org](mailto:info@cadvas.org)

Deadline for items for the next newsletter: **Midday on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** - thank you.  
Please send your items to Sue Tucker at the address above or email to [sue@cadvas.org](mailto:sue@cadvas.org)

**Registered Office:**

Tower Works, Simmonds Road, Wincheap Business Park, Canterbury CT1 3RA.

**CaDVAS can also be contacted**

c/o Whitstable Volunteer Centre, St Mary's Hall, Oxford Street, Whitstable CT5 1DD

Charity No: 1125359 Company No: 6584654

**Disclaimer:**

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