

In Touch



December 2011

NEWCASTLE Community and Volunteer Awards

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Newcastle under Lyme Community & Voluntary Support is a member of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Consortium of Infrastructure Organisations (SCIO)

For more photographs of the evening please visit:

Photography by Elite

www.photographybyelite.co.uk

password: NCVA2811



All finalists for Newcastle Community & Volunteer Awards Monday 28th November 2011 Keele Hall

Category	Sponsor	Finalist - winner in bold
Carer of the Year	Hempstalls Hall	Colette Watkins
		Stephanie Murton
		Zara Edwards-Taylor
Young Volunteer of the Year	Balfour Beatty	Katie Sowerbutts
		Phil Farr
		Lee Moss
Social Enterprise of the Year	Newcastle College	The Madeley Centre
		Waveney Court
Newly Formed Group	Newcastle Borough Council	Body Dance Image
Voluntary & Community Organisation of the Year	Staffordshire Police	SAAS
		Voices of Experience
		Diabetes UK
Business Contribution to Volunteering	Direct Blinds	Sainsbury's
		Aspire
		Knight & Sons CSR Committee
Sports Volunteer of the Year	Newcastle Town Football Club	Anthony Viggars
		David Farr
Adult Carer of the Year	Newcastle Volunteer Centre	Louise Zandian
		Harry Ferguson
Trustee of the Year	The Barracks Trust	Ian Bailey
		Anne George
		Kevin Healey
Good Neighbour of the Year	Staffordshire Fire & Rescue	Lynn Emery
		Joan Hughes
Health Volunteer of the Year	NHS	Michael Boughey
		Gabriel Duffy
Person of Inspiration	Staffordshire County Council	Mike Whalley
		Ann Spilsbury
		Janice Crookhall
Volunteer Driver of the Year	Trent Trophies	Tony Hannon
		David Preston
		Sam Weston
Volunteer of the Year	Aspire Housing	Kelvin Wain
		Cath Brereton
		Christine Bloor
Special Award - Outstanding Contribution to Volunteering and the Community	NCVS	DEAFvibe
		Elim Church Silverdale
		Tony Hannon

2012 Newcastle Community & Volunteer Awards Monday 10th December 2012

We are hoping to make the event even better than this year and planning the event earlier, giving people more time to nominate.

Would you like to be part of this inspiring event?

Sponsorship packages start at £275 which include your company/group logo or name on all publicity material, 2 tickets to the event and presentation of the award to the winner on stage on the night.

Do you have any ideas for new categories?

Can you help with table decorations, printing of publicity material, balloon and flower displays or bouquets of flowers?

If you want to sponsor an award, suggest a category or just want more information regarding the 2012 event - please feel free to contact either Sue Whalley or Michelle Jones on 01782 629269 or email general@nulcvs.co.uk



North Staffordshire



Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
preventing • protecting • responding



Newcastle Town Football Club





Relate North Staffordshire & Stafford urges people to get help sooner for their relationships

Research shows people waiting over two years before seeking expert help.

Relationship charity, Relate North Staffordshire & Stafford is urging people to get help sooner for their relationships after findings released today reveal that **44% of people, who called the charity's national helpline, had waited over two years to get help.**

In a further survey Relate North Staffordshire & Stafford found that:

- ✓ **36% of respondents living in the West Midlands** believe there is a stigma attached to getting help with your relationship.
- ✓ And **47% of respondents living in the West Midlands** would feel ashamed or nervous of admitting to friends or family that they had sought expert counselling.
- ✓ The charity has launched a campaign, **Heart to Heart**, backed by some of the nation's leading agony aunts and uncles, to encourage people to get help for their relationship **sooner rather than later, if things aren't going right.**

Relate North Staffordshire & Stafford knows that couples have their ups and downs, but believe it's crucial that people recognise when problems are serious and not just a difficult patch. The charity is encouraging people to start thinking about their relationship, talking to each other and taking action if they see signs of problems.

Relate North Staffordshire & Stafford recognises that whilst many of us wouldn't hesitate to seek help for a medical problem, we often hold back when it comes to getting support for our relationships because of the stigma surrounding relationship support. But relationships are precious and worth working at.

Paula Hall, counsellor with Relate, commented: *"Seeking counselling does not mean you're a failure, on the contrary, it shows you take your relationship seriously and you're willing to do whatever you can to resolve your difficulties. Some people see going for counselling as a sign of weakness but in reality it takes strength and courage to stand up to others prejudiced views and get the help your relationship deserves."*

Author Roopa Farooki and her husband didn't hesitate to seek help through counselling. She says, *"When we had problems, we sought help straight away. Relationships need to be nurtured in order to thrive. We've been together for seventeen years now and we still have to work hard at our relationship, but we reap the rewards every day."*

To help couples understand how healthy their relationships are, the charity has developed an online health check at www.relate.org.uk/hearttoheart. Couples will also find an online video offering five simple top tips to keep relationships healthy.

Paula Hall, continues: *"It's important to note that it's never too late to get help for your relationship. The sooner people come to Relate, the sooner you can sort out your problems. Don't bury your head in the sand and get help if things aren't right."*

The Heart to Heart campaign is backed by many of the nation's Agony Aunts and Uncles including Bel Mooney, Philip Hodson, Jane O'Gorman and Susan Quilliam. **Agony Aunt Tracey Cox, says:** *"If you work things through together, it removes all the finger-pointing, guilt and blame that can cause a small problem to escalate quickly into a massive one. And the quicker you seek help, the less damage caused to the relationship and the easier it is to solve."*

For more information about Relate North Staffordshire & Stafford and the services it offers visit www.relatestaffordshire.org.uk or call 01782 683050.



STOKE ON TRENT & DISTRICT GINGERBREAD LIMITED CATHERINE COURT YOUNG PARENTS PROJECT



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Catherine Court provides a stable and secure environment for homeless, pregnant or parenting teenagers in a supportive and non-oppressive atmosphere.

We will teach life skills to those who may have had negative parenting experiences and those whose life style may be putting themselves or their child at risk. The safety of all children is paramount, we aim to reduce issues around child protection by supporting young parents to recognise and avoid risks. We will undertake parenting sessions to identify any areas where further support is required whilst at the same time recognising areas of good parenting.

We have a proactive approach to the support provided; therefore we undertake preventative work by empowering non-achievers, building confidence leading to further education or training and employment. Whilst working with young parents we will identify existing skills and build upon them.

Catherine Court cannot achieve the best outcomes for teenage parents alone; we recognise our limitations and actively work openly with partner agencies, such as:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Teenage Residents | City Council | Midwives |
| Health Visitors | Young Minds | Connexions |
| Supporting People | Sexual Health Teams | Local University/colleges |
| Children and Families | Other voluntary Agencies | Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) |

The service is specifically for teenage parents and their children, consideration will be given to an older teenager in some cases such as those with enduring mental health issues or learning disabilities.

However priority will be given to those teenagers who meet the following:

16/17 years old/ Vulnerable/Risk Taking Behaviour/ Statutory Homeless/ Risk of Domestic Violence/ Child Protection Concerns/ Those who have had negative parenting experiences/ Behavioural Difficulties.

The involvement of the young parents is essential to the continuous improvement of the service and the support provided. For a young person to achieve their desired goals and outcomes these must be realistic and therefore have to be needs led by the young person, the development of support plans which fully involve young people go a long way towards creating a successful and stable future for the young family. We support young parents using individual support plans to meet the five “Every Child Matters” outcomes

Example of support

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Positive Parenting | Budgeting | Managing your Tenancy | Life Skills |
| Health and Safety | Sexual Health | Contraception | Smoking Cessation |
| Independent Living Skills | | Safe and Healthy Sexual relationship | |

Catherine Court recognises that teenage parents may need specialised support but we also remember they are still ‘TEENAGERS’

GINGERBREAD Catherine Court Young Parents Project

CELEBRATE THE PARENT CHARTER AWARD

Staff and residents from Gingerbread Catherine Court celebrated as they received the VAST Parent Charter Award on 21st February 2011

The award was presented to residents and staff at Catherine Court by Lesley Boughey (Parent Expert) and Margaret Elks (Quality assurance Coordinator) during a buffet lunch at the project.

Also in attendance to celebrate this achievement were CEO of Gingerbread Barbara Fox and Parenting Commissioner Chris Welton.

A number of residents, their children and partners were present to join in the celebration of this achievement which was awarded to parents and practitioners in recognition of Gingerbread, Catherine Court's provision of high quality teenage parenting support in the city of Stoke on Trent and the level of engagement that residents have.

The award process required Gingerbread, Catherine Court to assess itself against the parent charter's stringent requirements. Residents were then interviewed by Margaret Elks to assess the impact of the service upon their lives and the lives of their children and to see if the service was indeed parent friendly.

Following this process Gingerbread, Catherine Court was advised that they had achieved this award with outstanding feedback from residents and without the need for any further recommendations.

This award further demonstrates the continuous improvement of the Supporting People service, the dedication of the staff at Gingerbread ensures that the young parents of Stoke on Trent receiving the service are given the best possible opportunities and choices for a positive outcome for themselves and their family.

All staff and residents were very pleased to have been given the opportunity to apply and qualify for this award.

CREATING SECURE STABLE FUTURES FOR TEENAGERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

The initial part of the project is a 24 hour staffed unit consisting of 7 self contained 2 bed-roomed flats. This aims to empower young parents to become fully independent within the community. Fully trained and enhanced CRB checked staff, key work and deliver intensive support programmes. Included in the accommodation are carpets, curtains, cooker, washer and fridge. Support is provided to obtain furniture and claim benefits.

HOW TO APPLY

A referral form should be completed; these can be obtained from Catherine Court. It is preferred that referrals are received from **Housing Solutions**, although we do accept referrals from all other sources including self referrals.

Catherine Court Young Parents Project
30 Eastfield Drive
Hanley, ST1 3DJ
catherinecourt@gingerbreadcentre.co.uk

Telephone: 01782 215656
Fax: 01782 215700

Registered Charity 1088344



Green Age

at Blore Heath Farm, Market Drayton

A new day service for older people and those who support them.

In these days of social services and health cuts here and cuts there, with day centres closing, there seems little hope of anything new to help older people and their relatives and friends. Especially when the baby-boomers are now retiring, and we're all living longer!

Yet, in Holland (and some other European countries), over the past decade a new idea has come about – care on ordinary family farms. The Dutch word for them is “zorgboerderij”, which translates literally as “care farm”.

We (Rosie and John Hegarty) saw a video about one particular farm, called Erve Knippert, and were amazed to see it looked very much like our own! Erve Knippert is a day service for older people. Up to 15 men and women each day go there, once or twice per week, meeting others, having good food, and the chance to experience a small, traditional working farm.

We visited Erve Knippert and loved it! They had a greenhouse, small workshop, comfortable sitting room, as well as all the interesting things you would expect on a farm. Some of the older people we met there, were living alone and they welcomed the change of surroundings and the company.

Others were experiencing dementia and needed a watchful eye and support. Some, who had problems getting around, were pleased to get out of the house and do something interesting.

Whilst in Holland, we visited seven other similar farms looking after older people – all of course slightly different, but each offering a similar service. We felt that perhaps we could do something similar in the UK. That was 18 months ago, and we have worked hard to create an “Erve Knippert” on our own farm, Blore Heath Farm, near Market Drayton.

We're converting our traditional farm buildings to provide a purpose-built lounge and dining room, and we we'll have areas for crafts inside, and gardening outside. For those who want to, we've 75 acres of pasture and woodlands to walk around, and we'll have qualified staff on duty.

If you or a family member is interested – get in touch and we'd love to show you round. There could be help with fees from the new “personalisation” policies of local authorities.

Phone us on 01630 653912 or email

j.r.hegarty@gmail.com

Nature as healer: training for therapists at Keele University

Are you a therapist or healer? Do you want to broaden your therapy to include the healing powers of Nature? Then you will be interested in a three-day course at Keele University. Led by psychologist Dr John Hegarty and counsellor Janet Heath, the course is a systematic introduction to how nature can be used as a “co-therapist”. For further information email John Hegarty at j.r.hegarty@gmail.com.

A very warm welcome to our new members

We are delighted to welcome the following organisations as new members of Newcastle CVS:

**Filipino Community Centre,
Madeley Village Hall Charity,
DEAFvibe,
A Team Member Club**

For more information on becoming a member of NCVS and how we can help your organisation/group please contact: **Michelle Jones, on 01782 629269 or email:**

m.jones@nulcvs.co.uk



GreenAge
at Blore Heath Farm

A **NEW** day programme primarily aimed at older people and their supporters.

Opening April 2012

- connecting with nature
- a change of scenery
- something to look forward to
- respite for carers
- meeting others
- life on a working farm
- good food
- walks
- allotment
- nature crafts

...or just relax and do nothing - it's up to you!

John and Rosie Hegarty
Blore Heath Farm
Market Drayton
Shropshire, TF9 2EG
01630 653912
j.r.hegarty@gmail.com
www.green-age.org.uk

Fit To Dance

A community group established in September 2007 after funding from the Local Authority ran out. We are a Dance/ Exercise Group for the over Fifties and we meet on Wednesday mornings from 10.30 to 12.00 noon at Chesterton Community Centre.

The Class encourages fitness and wellbeing with exercise for both mind and body, and is also a lot of fun.

Our group has recently received funding from Give it Sum to help us continue for the next twelve months and hopefully expand our group.

Anyone over the age of 50 is welcome to come along for a free session to see if they will enjoy it too.

Joan Hollis (Secretary) Fit To Dance ---
7 Brookfield, Loggerheads TF9 4RW



Staffordshire Volunteer Awards - Nominate now!

The Staffordshire Volunteer Awards are back, and following on from last year's huge success, this time it's bigger and better than ever! As a voluntary organisation we know that you value the help and support that volunteers can bring and we want to celebrate and recognise their contributions.

Do you know of a fantastic fundraiser or first-aid-er? A brilliant volunteer broadcaster or book worm? A shining Scout leader or sports referee? Or an outstanding business or organisation that knows how important volunteers are in putting something back into the community?

Nominate now at:

www.volunteerstaffordshire.org.uk/awards!

Or email vicki.green@staffordshire.gov.uk with a few words about why you think that certain someone/team deserves such recognition.



Nominations are now being accepted in eight different categories:

- Environmental Volunteer of the Year Award;
- Lifetime Achievement Award;
- Sporting/cultural volunteer of the Year Award;
- Volunteer of the Year Award ;
- Business Contribution to the Community Award;
- Volunteer Team of the Year Award
- Staffordshire Young Volunteer of the Year Award;
- Unsung Hero Award – which recognises people that may not formally volunteer for an organisation or cause, but still make a difference.

Everyone shortlisted will be invited the gala celebration and awards evening in March at Alton Towers.

Everyone who places a nomination will be put into a prize draw for a pair of free tickets to the evening.

The deadline for entries is 6th January 2012

*Please note, you can make as many nominations as you wish and team nominations are accepted in all categories apart from 'Volunteer of the Year'.

Newcastle & Kidsgrove Citizen Advice Bureau

The Citizens Advice service is the largest advice giving organisation in the UK. In 2010/11 it dealt with 7.1 million advice issues and 2.1 million individual clients were advised. Out of the 28,500 people who work in the service 21,500 are volunteers! The service simply couldn't function without volunteers.

I have the pleasure of managing the team of volunteers who provide the advice service for the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme. The volunteers come from different backgrounds, have different life experiences and volunteer for a variety of reasons. They provide a number of roles from giving advice to administration, campaigning and trusteeship. The one thing that they all have in common is a commitment to providing a service to those in need. This is often to the most vulnerable people in the community, those who often have no one else to turn to.

In the period July to September 2011 our team of volunteer advisers, gateway assessors and receptionists were instrumental in providing a service for 1,357 clients with 2285 enquiries. This service was provided via the drop in and telephone service we offer on a daily basis.

The level of commitment and dedication is inspiring.

Janice, one of our volunteer advisers, was a finalist in the Newcastle Community & Volunteer Awards under the Person of Inspiration category. Whilst this is a personal recognition of the wonderful job she does it is also acknowledgment for the other volunteers she helps to inspire.

We held our volunteer Christmas lunch on 14th December when we took the opportunity to thank them for the brilliant job they do. However we feel that we should also take the chance to thank them from the community as a whole.

They really do make a difference.





Can you help us to **CLICK**?

With funding from Awards for All, dDeaflinks has set up the Community Learning Internet Centre (**CLICK**) and we are looking for volunteers with a good level of computer knowledge to help users, and also volunteers (with or without computer experience) to help supervise the **CLICK** sessions.

We also need people to help advertise the Internet Café by dropping off leaflets around the city.

If you think you can help, please contact us:

dDeaflinks Staffordshire
The Ellis Centre
Wellesley Street, Shelton
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 4NF
01782 219161 – voice only
07791 459307 – SMS



We want to help you

CLICK



LOTTERY FUNDED

With funding from Awards for All, dDeaflinks has set up the **Community Learning Internet Centre (CLICK)**.

We will be offering computer courses to include

- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Powerpoint
- Desktop publishing
- Email and the internet training and access
- Computer for beginners

Interested? Then contact dDeaflinks for more information

dDeaflinks Staffordshire
The Ellis Centre
Wellesley Street, Shelton
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 4NF

01782 219161 – voice only
07791 459307 – SMS





Challenge North Staffs – Who We Are and What We Do

Who We Are

Challenge North Staffs are a group of organisations working together to tackle the issues of Hate Crime and incidents in North Staffordshire. We work in Newcastle-under-Lyme to provide a reporting service to victims of and witnesses to hate incidents.

What is a Hate Incident?

Any incident where the victim or any other person thinks that it is motivated by prejudice or hate.

You may be targeted because of your:

- Age
- Race, Ethnicity, Ethnic Origin, Nationality
- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Disability
- Faith, Religion or Belief
- Mental Health

Hate incidents can vary, but the following may have happened to you:

- Graffiti
- Antisocial Behaviour
- Verbal Abuse
- Assault
- Abusive Phone Calls
- Hate Mail
- Threats
- Disputes
- Damage to property
- Theft
- Harassment
- Arson

If any of the above incidents have happened to you or if you have witnessed a hate incident then you can report it to Challenge North Staffs.

How do you report an incident?

If you are a victim, or a witness, to a hate incident you can report this by using a self-reporting form which is available from local agencies such as Citizens Advice Bureau, Local Council and Housing Officers, or any of the details featured at the bottom of this page.

You can report things anonymously so we can identify where the issues are happening in Newcastle-under-Lyme.

What happens when you make a report?

- When we receive your report we will contact you to offer advice
- You can tell us what help you need
- We will keep you informed of developments
- If you do not wish your report to be pursued, it will not be

We will only discuss your complaint with other agencies or people if you say we can.

My organisation would like to find out more – how do we do this?

If your organisation has paid staff and volunteers who would like to find out more about Challenge North Staffs and how we can help, then please contact the Project Officer to arrange a **free** awareness raising session on the following details:

Name: Rebecca Patel

Email: Rebecca.patel@stoke-cab.org.uk

Tel: 01782 408 753

Or use your Smartphone to get in contact:

Email



Phone



Website



Text



Text Hate to :
87474



Call:
0330 1111 999



Visit:
www.challengenorthstaffs.org



Write to:
Advice House
Cheapside
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 1HL



A hate incident is

any incident where the victim or any other person thinks that it is motivated by prejudice or hate

Most forms of hate incidents are criminal offences and should be reported

Hate incidents include...

- Graffiti
- Antisocial behaviour
- Verbal abuse
- Assault
- Abusive phone calls
- Hate mail
- Threats
- Disputes
- Damage to property
- Theft
- Harassment
- Arson

You may be targeted because of your...

- Age
- Race
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Faith/Religion/Belief
- Mental health

Have you experienced any kind of hate incident?

If so, Tell us

Report it!

- If we don't hear about Hate Incidents, we can't do anything about it
- We want you to feel safe
- We want you to feel confident that we will listen to you and action will be taken, if that's what you want

How do I report an incident?

If you are a victim or witness to a hate incident, you can report this by using a **self-reporting form**

These are available from local agencies, such as:
• Citizens Advice Bureau • Local Authorities • Housing Officers

Call 0330 1111 999

or visit www.challengenorthstaffs.org

This is not a police emergency number. If you require an emergency response please call 999

What will happen when I make a report?

- When we receive your report we will contact you to offer advice.
- You can tell us what help you need.
- We will keep you informed of developments.
- If you do not wish your report to be pursued, it will not be.
- We will only discuss your complaint with other agencies or people if you say we can.



Who are we?

Challenge North Staffs are a group of organisations that

work together

to tackle the issues of hate crime

Mission Statement

Challenge North Staffs will work towards the elimination of hate incidents in North Staffordshire to enable all members of the community to live in peace, free from fear and from hate, abuse or discrimination.



Call 0330 1111 999

or visit www.challengenorthstaffs.org

Calls from a landline and mobile will be charged at standard local rate

Please contact us if you require this leaflet in a different format



Don't live in fear - report hate crime

Don't live in fear - report hate crime



Working together to help you...

Challenge North Staffs The Hate Crime Network
Tel: 0330 1111 999 Fax: 0330 1111 999
Advice House, Cheepside, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 1HL





DOOR2DOOR TRANSPORT SERVICE



Could you be a volunteer driver?

Door2Door are desperately in need of volunteer drivers. Can you spare 1 hour, 2 hours, a morning or a few days a week to help make a difference to person who cannot get out and about?

We help to transport people to medical and social appointments, to the supermarket and much, much more. Most of these people depend on this service, and without it they would be house bound.

If so, please contact

Margaret Dobell - Door2Door Co-ordinator on 01782 621936

for an informal discussion about being a volunteer driver.

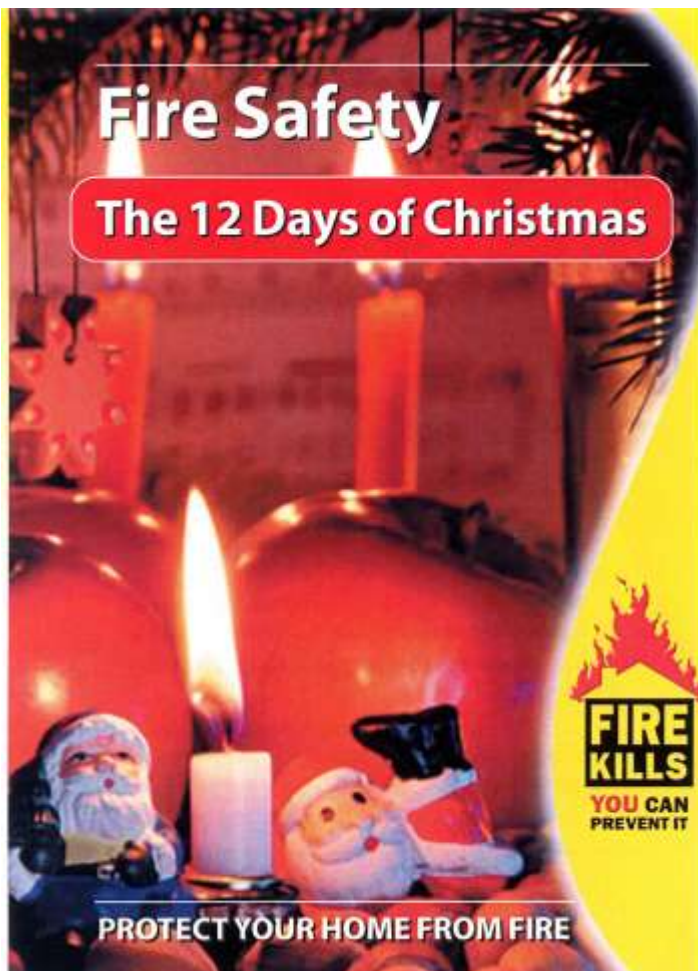
Introducing a new service for the deaf or hard of hearing.

Door2Door can now be contacted via text or email on:

Mobile: 07849 186550 (text only)

Email: door2door@nucvs.co.uk

This new service will be monitored and is only intended for use by the deaf or hard of hearing.



Visit our website at www.firekills.gov.uk for further information

1 On the 1st day of Christmas

- Check your Christmas tree lights conform to the British Standard. Always use a residual current device (safety device that can save lives by instantly switching off power) on outdoor electrical equipment.



2 On the 2nd day of Christmas

- Never place candles near your Christmas tree or furnishings.

3 On the 3rd day of Christmas

- Make sure your family and visitors staying for the festive period know what to do in an emergency. Make a fire escape plan.



4 On the 4th day of Christmas

- Decorations can burn easily – don't attach them to lights or heaters.

5 On the 5th day of Christmas

- Never overload electrical sockets. Take special care with Christmas lights. Always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed.



6 On the 6th day of Christmas

- Celebrate Christmas and New Year safely. The risk of accidents, especially in the kitchen, is greater after alcohol is consumed.



7 On the 7th day of Christmas

- Most fires start in the kitchen – never leave a cooker unattended.

8 On the 8th day of Christmas

- If you are planning to celebrate with fireworks, store them in a metal box, read the instructions, never go back to a lit firework and keep a bucket of water nearby.

9 On the 9th day of Christmas

- Make sure cigarettes are completely extinguished before going to bed.

10 On the 10th day of Christmas

- Check the battery in your smoke alarm every week and use Christmas as a reminder to clean it and remove dust.



11 On the 11th day of Christmas

- Keep candles, lighters and matches out of the reach of children. Never leave burning candles unattended.



12 On the 12th day of Christmas

- Take the time to check on elderly relatives and neighbours this Christmas – make sure they are fire safe.



FREE

Home Fire Risk Check

Including free smoke alarms when required

Please call free 0800 0241 999

Calls charged at local rate from mobiles

Terms & conditions

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service will provide our free Home Fire Risk Check at a time convenient to you.

Your free Home Fire Risk Check includes the testing or replacement of your existing smoke alarms. Your replacement alarm(s) will be installed free of charge with a battery that will last up to 10 years. Your Home Fire Risk Check is confidential and guaranteed free of charge by the Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive. To take advantage of this offer please call free on 0800 0241 999. This voucher is transferrable to family and friends. Voucher value £0.00.

MORE

for more from your fire and rescue service.



Staffordshire
Fire and Rescue Service
preventing • protecting • responding

A FIRE IN YOUR HOME CAN START VERY EASILY AND CAN SPREAD WITH FRIGHTENING SPEED



Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
offer a **FREE HOME FIRE RISK CHECK**
(via an appointment).

The **HOME FIRE RISK CHECK**
focuses on four key areas:

- (1) Identify and be aware of the potential fire risks within your home
- (2) Know what to do in order to reduce or prevent these risks
- (3) Put together an escape plan in case a fire does break out
- (4) Ensure that your home has working smoke that are located correctly

**TO BOOK A
FREE HOME FIRE
RISK CHECK:**

Telephone
0800 0241 999

Text
07528 983101

Fax
01785 897521

Visit our website
www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk

MORE

for more for your community

Call 0800 0241 999



Staffordshire
Fire and Rescue Service
preventing • protecting • responding



To Whom it May Concern

We have taken steps to make it easier for the public to contact their local police force. From **Tuesday 8 November** communities across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent will have access to 101, the national non-emergency telephone number for the police service in England and Wales.

While 999 is a well-recognised number used to report emergencies, the 2010 British Crime Survey found that only 54% of the public know how to contact their local police if they want to talk to them about policing, crime or anti-social behaviour. The introduction of the 101 number will help communities to keep their neighbourhoods safe by giving them one easy way to contact their local police force to report non-emergency crime and disorder.

The number is already in use in London, Wales, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and Sheffield, but it is now being rolled out across England on a phased basis during 2011. We know from the experience of these initial areas that 101 is well received by the public and has led to improvements in public satisfaction and confidence when calling the police. Further information can be obtained by visiting www.staffordshire.police.uk/101

Calls to 101 will cost 15 pence per call, no matter how long you are on the phone – this applies to both landlines and mobile phones. For the first time, everyone calling the police for non-emergency matters will know exactly how much the call will cost them and will be assured of equal access whether they are on a pay-as-you-go mobile or a home landline.

In an emergency, the public should continue to call 999, such as when a crime is in progress, when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.

Our current number (0300 123 4455) will remain in place whilst our communities and partners become familiar with 101.



Targeted Volunteer Recruitment

Sometimes, for example, if you need volunteers with particular skills or from a particular area, it is worth considering targeting your volunteer recruitment.

When considering a targeted campaign, it is worth asking yourself a number of questions.

What do we need volunteers to do?

It is often the voluntary role, and the opportunity to do something that meets the volunteer's motivational needs, that are the key to attracting volunteers.

Who might want to do this task?

Thinking about this can make the recruitment exercise far easier - you can attract the right volunteer(s) for the role by targeting your appeal to a particular group that you have identified may be interested. Targeted recruitment tends to work best when you are looking for a particular skill, such as accounting or driving. Volunteers who are suitable for your organisation are more likely to be drawn to you if you expressly define your requirements. So if you are looking for particular skills, or have selection criteria, then it is worth saying so.

Where will we find them?

If you are looking for particular skills or experience, are there certain societies or clubs where such people may be found? If you are looking for members of a certain age group are there places where they may gather together? Where do they shop? Where do they go in their spare time?

How should we go about communicating with them?

If you have discovered where your target can be reached, developing an appropriate message is easy. Generally, the most effective methods of recruiting a volunteer are those in which two-way communication is possible.

What motivates this target group?

It is important that recruitment messages speak directly to the motivations of the potential volunteer. Some possible motives for volunteering are:

- To get out of the house
- To get to know important people within the community
- To put something back into the community
- To improve future employability
- To gain new skills
- To make new friends
- To build self esteem
- To investigate a possible career change
- To respond to a need
- To maintain skills no longer used
- To impress present employer
- To feel part of a group
- To use skills in a different context
- To express religious or philosophical belief

It is important to remember that, as wide as these motivations may be, they are all perfectly valid reasons to volunteer. None should be dismissed as potential angles to approach a recruitment message.

Remember, your local Volunteer Centre is available to support you. If there are particular skills that your organisation needs, please let the Volunteer Centre know. Through its day to day services and its links with the Volunteer Staffordshire campaign, the Volunteer Centre can help target and identify potential volunteers with the skills you need.

For support and advice on working with volunteers, please contact:

Volunteer Centre Newcastle: 01782 629269





Community Brokerage Scheme Guidelines

What is the Community Brokerage Scheme?

The scheme aims to provide a single port of call for all queries coming into the College from outside organisations wanting our students to perform real work tasks. It would provide the following services:

- A contact with the local voluntary and community sector;
- A comprehensive and updated list of those College programmes that could provide services;
- A timeframe for when these services could be provided, ensuring a fit with courses across the College;
- Information on the College's website about the service
- A link to all curriculum areas in the College.

What are the benefits?

- One contact for all enquiries;
- A regulated way of offering services to our local community;
- A way of engaging our staff and students in local community activity;
- Recording the full range of activities undertaken throughout the college.

Guidelines for organisations accessing the scheme:

- You will need to make contact at least 2 months prior to the project start/event and outline the following to ensure that we can deal with the request efficiently:
 - What does your project/event entail?
 - What action will we need to take?
 - Precisely what role will learners/staff play in the project/event?
 - What will the timescale be in terms of our involvement?
 - Who is the designated contact?
- Initiatives that complement or add to the Curriculum will form an important partnership approach that will enhance Community partnerships and learner development. However, please be mindful that where an initiative may involve disruption to a learner/programme it may not always be feasible for us to accept the request.
- Please only make a request when it is confirmed that the project/event will go ahead as staff time will be dedicated to planning and delivery of the objectives.
- Please highlight any budget that you may have to enhance the activity so that we can factor this in to any plans.
- When we accept a request, staff will work with your organisation to ensure that all aims and outcomes are delivered as agreed. On occasion, delivery may span over a longer time period than originally planned due to learner/course commitments. Where your project works to strict, and possibly financial, deadlines it may be necessary for you to consider this before submitting a request.

We look forward to working with you!

Contact details:

Jayne Green, Inclusive Learning Projects Manager
Newcastle-under-Lyme College, Knutton Lane, Staffordshire ST5 2GB
Email: jayne.green@nulc.ac.uk Tel. 01782 254250

Community Brokerage Request Form

Thank you for your interest in working in partnership with Newcastle-under-Lyme College. In order for us to deal with your request effectively please provide the following information:

Organisation name, address and contact details	
Brief outline of request	
What is the timescale of the project?	
What role will learners and staff play in the project/event?	
Do you have a budget for this initiative?	
What are your desired outcomes?	

Please return to:

Jayne Green, Inclusive Learning Projects Manager
Newcastle-under-Lyme College, Knutton Lane, Staffordshire ST5 2GB
Email: jayne.green@nulc.ac.uk Tel. 01782 254250



Helping Hands



Helping Hands is a new community initiative where each local store has been given a budget to distribute to projects and schemes within the stores

local community. To apply for a donation from the Helping Hands Fund you need to visit your local store and pick up an application form. These forms can be found on your stores red community boards or if you cannot find them, ask for assistance at the customer service desk. Please direct any requests for donations to your local store; these cannot be fulfilled at Head Office. If any letters requesting a donation are sent to Head Office we will endeavour to send them to the appropriate store where possible.

Local Stars

From all the different regions that we trade in across the country we sponsor 30 individuals who have either a special talent, are an inspiration to others or help in their local community. If you feel you fit the criteria above and wish to apply to be one of our local stars you need to visit your local store and pick up an application form. This then needs posting to Wilkinsons, JK House, Roebuck Way, Manton Wood, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 3YY where this will be kept on file and your application will be considered by the Charity Committee. Only completed Local Stars application forms will be considered please do not write in separately to the Local Stars Scheme. For further information please see their website on corporate.wilkinsonplus.com.



Projects that have either an impact on more than one area of Newcastle, or to provide a new and innovative service are more likely to be supported.

The Borough Council Small Grants scheme provides grants of up to a maximum of £5,000 to voluntary and community groups working in Newcastle-under-Lyme. The scheme has a budget for 2011/12 of £22,000.00. In 2010/11, the average grant given was £1,997.86, with the highest grant awarded being £3,000.00.

Individual projects will be judged against how they help to meet the Borough's agreed Sustainable Community Strategy priorities and could support issues such as:

Examples of projects that have been funded recently through this scheme include:-

Respite care for disabled people and their carers; Community art gallery; Counselling services.; Fuel Poverty project; Building improvement..

Guidance for Applicants

Applications must be submitted on the standard 2011/12 application form to the Borough Council. Applications submitted on old forms will not be accepted. Private businesses, public sector organisations and individuals are not eligible to apply.

The maximum grant award for a single project is £5,000; from 2012/13, the maximum grant will be £2,500. Grants are only awarded for 12 months, and it is unlikely that an applicant will be funded for the same project for 2 or more years running.

- Provision/activities for young people to, for example, improve their aspirations, deter anti-social behaviour or improve their health.
- Provision/activities for older people to help them to lead more independent lives and improve their quality of life.
- Improving your neighbourhood and building more pride in your community.
- Provision of better and more accessible community facilities/buildings.
- Provision/activities to improve the environment and encourage more awareness of environmental issues.
- Encouraging people to recycle and reduce energy use.
- Provision/activities to help people improve their skills and their ability to get a job or volunteer, such as training, jobs clubs and volunteering scheme

For more information please see the council website www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk



£10 million to kick start sustainable living across England

Could you help us learn how communities in England can live in a more sustainable way?

If the answer is yes, your community could be one of 10 to receive up to **£1million** to work across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to build a sustainable and resilient community that can develop inspirational ideas and share their learning with other communities across England.

We are particularly keen to see vulnerable people benefitting by making greener choices that will help them reduce their costs and improve their quality of life.

Our offer

We will invest in up to 10 communities by providing:

- Access to expert support and advice to help each community develop their skills, knowledge and abilities and build on best practice within and between communities
- Up to £10,000 to develop a project delivery plan that details the environmental, economic and social challenges affecting the community and how they can be addressed
- Grants of between £500,000 and £1 million for up to five years. This funding will provide an opportunity for communities to work together to access further resources and support so that their communities are sustainable and resilient long after our funding ends.

Please note the closing date for the expression of interest stage is Tuesday 31 January 2012.

Silver Dreams

Last month BIG announced its biggest single investment in older people with a £110million package of funding aimed at helping older people manage life-changing events and encourage them to get more involved in their communities.

The first £10 million is allocated to the Silver Dreams Fund, which is run in association with the Daily Mail and is designed to trial new ways of working with older people and inspire them to help themselves and their peers cope with life-changing events. Successful applicants will receive between £50,000 and £200,000 to test and develop their ideas and then up to five projects will be chosen to receive up to £1 million each to carry their ideas forward.

Although the closing date for the Silver Dreams Fund has closed, keep your eye on the Big Lottery website for further announcements about funding for older people.

Want to know more about the Big Lottery please visit their website www.biglotteryfund.org.uk or contact the Big Advice Line on 0845 4 10 20 30.



In Touch

is the bi-monthly newsletter of



Newcastle under Lyme Community and Voluntary Support

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*Comments on this newsletter
are welcomed.*

Do you have a project that you need to promote?

If you have an article about your organisation or group that you would like to tell others about, it can be included **free of charge** in future editions of this publication. Anything from an up-date on your current work, a new initiative that is about to start, or a one-off event that you would like people to come along too.

Around 150 interested groups and organisations in the local area receive our newsletter - what better way is there to tell everyone about you and your work?

If you have flyers or leaflets that you would like to distribute then we can do that too! To find out more about this service please contact us.

Please keep us up-to-date with changes in contact details for your organisation - name/address/telephone number, etc.

Every effort is made to ensure that the contents of this publication are correct and are produced in good faith. However NCVS can not accept responsibility for any inaccuracies.

Newcastle under Lyme Community & Voluntary Support is a member of the National Association of Voluntary & Community Action (NAVCA) and one of the growing network of over 300 Councils for Voluntary Service throughout England.



Useful Contacts at NCVS

CHIEF OFFICER

@: chiefofficer@nulcvcs.co.uk

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTANT

@: communityaccountant@nulcvcs.co.uk

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

@: c.williamson@nulcvcs.co.uk

NEWCASTLE VOLUNTEER CENTRE

@: volunteering@nulcvcs.co.uk

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

@: s.whalley@nulcvcs.co.uk

DOOR-2-DOOR CO-ORDINATOR

@: door2door@nulcvcs.co.uk

ADMINISTRATION

@: general@nulcvcs.co.uk

MARKETING & ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

@: m.jones@nulcvcs.co.uk

Copy Deadline

Please note that all articles and copy for the next issue should be submitted by no later than

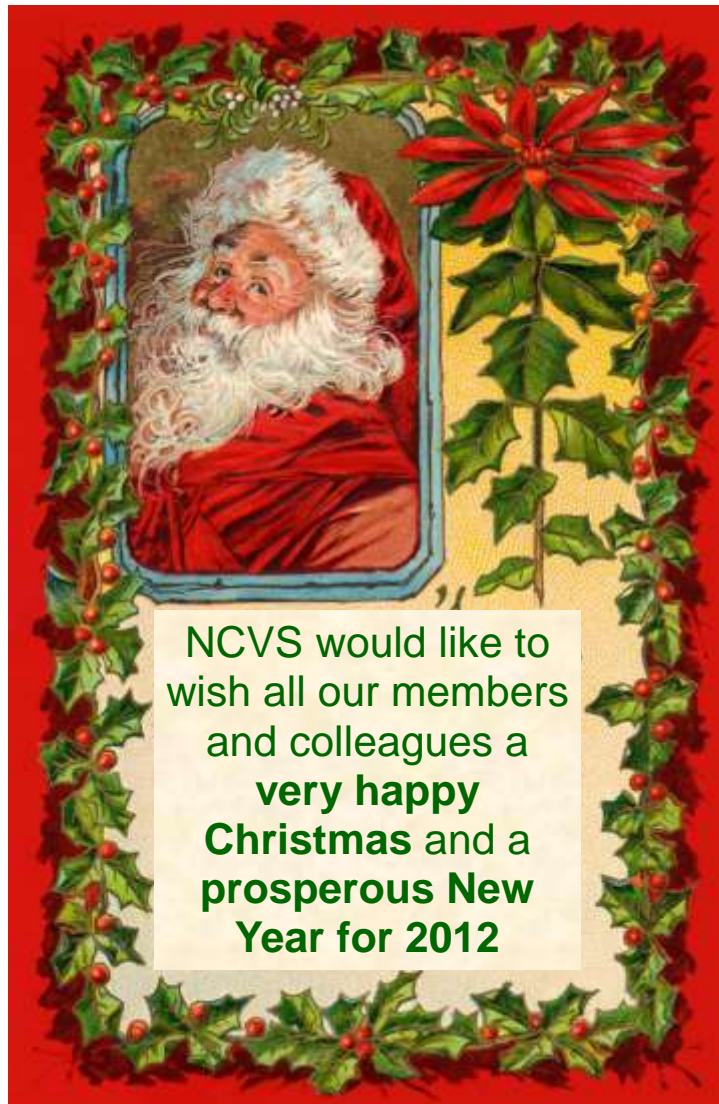
18th February 2011

to be considered for inclusion

Next Issue

March 2011

In Touch is going electronic and will be sent via email. If you still require a paper copy please contact Michelle Jones on 01782 629269 or m.jones@nulcvcs.co.uk



The NCVS office will close for the Christmas holidays on Thursday 22nd December at 5pm and will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January 2012