



THE VALLEY

*Messenger*

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEST VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Test Valley Community Services  
Board of Trustees  
Cordially invite you to their**

**AGM**

**“Reaching out touching lives”**

**Thursday 22nd November 2007  
Longstock Village Hall  
10am - 12noon**

At this years' AGM we will be sharing stories with you about how we have helped to make a difference to groups and individuals in Test Valley. You will also hear directly from some of the groups we have helped and most importantly how they are helping others.

**Please see flyer inside for more details.**



ENCOURAGING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



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# VOLUNTEER CENTRE

## Volunteering

Many people are interested in volunteering. Test Valley Volunteer Centre is here to help people find the organisation or group they would like to support through volunteering their time. This involves a meeting at either the Andover or Romsey Volunteer Centre to discuss interests, how much time you can offer and how far you are able to travel. There are currently many opportunities available across the Test Valley with a diverse range of groups and organisations. For an overview of opportunities for volunteering, enter your postcode and interests on the [www.do-it.org.uk](http://www.do-it.org.uk) site. For a meeting to discuss volunteering, contact Viv Parsons on [volunteers@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@tvcs.org.uk) or 01794 519998 in the Romsey office Dawn Elson on [dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk) or 01264 362600 in the Andover office

## Advertising for Volunteers

If your organisation is looking for volunteers, the Test Valley Volunteer Centre can help by advertising your opportunity for you in two ways; on the do-it website and to the volunteers who come to see us. If you want to promote an opportunity go to the TVCS website [www.tvcs.org.uk](http://www.tvcs.org.uk) click on Volunteering, download the Volunteer Vacancy form, fill in and return to either the Andover or Romsey office.



### Disclaimer:

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# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Community Development

There have been some exciting changes over the summer!

I am very pleased to have moved from having a small part in the Community Encouragement Project to now working full time as Community Development Manager. The transition has been a smooth one and I am really looking forward to having more time to work with groups old and new across the Test Valley.

The main aim of my role is to offer support, information and guidance to voluntary and community groups; this can take the form of helping a new group with setting up procedures, forming a committee, or creating a constitution.

For established groups I will endeavour to research funding sources and opportunities, helping groups to achieve sustainability and continue the amazing work they do in helping and supporting others.

I will be organising the Voluntary Sector Forum's, a quarterly meeting open to all groups across the Test Valley. The Forum provides opportunities to hear about what is happening in your area and to network with others. Spotlight sessions are available at every Forum for you to promote and raise the profile of your group or organisation. The next Voluntary Sector Forum is 12th December.

TVCS can help organisations and groups with the search for volunteers, if you have a volunteering opportunity available, let us know and we can help to advertise for a suitable volunteer.

I look forward to working with you in the future, supporting your group/organisation within our community.

**Dawn Elson**  
**Community Development Manager**



## Neighbourhood Activities

Wow! What an amazing summer we had! Over 150 people attended the summer activities, which included making a dragons head, dance sessions, puppet show, drama sessions, print workshop, recycle workshop, drumming, fun and fitness, costume and banner making, teddy bears picnic and a play and picnic. A lot of the activities held at King Arthur's Hall were a build up to the 'Walk for Inspiration'

The idea came after listening to Andrew Ashdown, Priest in charge at Knights Enham Church. He wanted to inspire the community. It made me wonder what does inspire any of us? This then led to the idea to do a walk for inspiration, to get people to think about what inspires them, to have fun and work together as a community. It worked!! The walk was a great success with nearly 50 people involved. We walked from King Arthur's Way through Roman, Cricketers, River and Pilgrims Way and along the Vigo Road, led all the way by the dragon and drummers.

There was a triumphant entrance into the market square with performance, poetry and music by local people. It was a spectacular sight,



thoroughly enjoyable and truly inspirational.

During the October half term week there will be a print workshop, a fairy and magical activity morning, an art workshop looking at collage and image,(how you see yourself), a trip to Thorpe Park, youth groups and discos!! The activity sheets will be available from TVCS. There will be lots to take part in and enjoy, so hope to see some new faces and some familiar ones too.

**Kerry St John Neighbourhood Activities Co-ordinator**

# TRAINING ADVICE

Are you in a Voluntary Group?



Thinking about developing your skills?

Want FREE support?

THEN CALL MARY WHITWORTH! She can give expert advice and provide information about low-cost, local opportunities that will help develop your skills. It takes just 45 minutes of your time!

To arrange a friendly, informal meeting call Mary on 01264 362600 or 07736 806037 or email [mary.learningnet@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:mary.learningnet@tvcs.org.uk) There is a free gift for every organisation and individual that arranges a meeting.

Here are some comments other groups have made about the LearningNet service:

*"We would definitely recommend LearningNet" Voluntary Services, Countess of Brecknock Hospice*

*"LearningNet's advice exceeded my expectations....." Member of staff at TVCS*

*LearningNet's Adviser was very thorough.....a fantastic service" Rose Road Association*

LearningNet is the voluntary sector's own service to identify and help meet the skills needs of staff and volunteers across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight



## LOW COST TRAINING FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

- **Need to show funders how successful your project has been?**
  - **Want to secure more funding through partnership?**
  - **Want to brush up on your project management skills?**
  - **Looking at ways to continue your project beyond the funded period?**

Learning Links is offering a limited number of subsidised places on a range of relevant workshops in Andover or Southampton, as follows:

### **Organising and Managing a Community Project - £40**

Southampton, St Denys Church Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 9am 4pm  
Andover, The Junction Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 9am 4pm

### **Information, Advice and Guidance, Principles and Practice - £40**

Southampton, St Denys Church Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 9am 4pm  
Andover, The Junction Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 9am 4pm

### **Exit Strategies, Future Funding and Social Enterprise - £40**

Southampton, St Denys Church Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 9am 4pm  
Andover, The Junction Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October 9am 4pm

### **Business Planning - £20**

Southampton, St Denys Church Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 9am 12 noon  
Andover, The Junction Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 9am 12 noon

### **Report Writing - £20**

Southampton, St Denys Church Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 9am 12 noon  
Andover, The Junction Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 9am 12 noon

### **Marketing - £20**

Southampton, St Denys Church Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 9am 12 noon  
Andover, The Junction Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 9am 12 noon

Many of these workshops are accredited. For more information and to book contact Amanda de Bathe on 02392 296460

**NB If your group has or has had a Global Grant these workshops are free.**

## TRAINING ADVICE

*"A really inspiring day!"*

FREE one day training event  
Thursday 8th November, 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.  
Romsey

'Keeping Your Volunteers' is relevant and inspiring. It will help you to understand the many factors that influence communication and motivation.

The event includes free lunch and refreshments, and an A4 booklet packed with information and ideas.

Feedback received by TVCS for previous 'Keeping Your Volunteers' events:

- "Everything was covered. If it wasn't, I would have asked!"
- "Very good discussion sessions, hints and tips."
- "Excellent all round ... far exceeded expectations."
- "A really inspiring day!"

For more information, including programme and learning outcomes, ask Dawn Elson (contact details on back of magazine).

### **If you enjoyed the above training course.....you will love this one!**

Another FREE one day training event on  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 9.30am 3pm at  
Longstock Village Hall

"Attracting Volunteers to your Organisation" will help you to

- prepare an effective advertisement
- look at interviewing techniques
- prepare an induction procedure
- learn what you need to know about Health & Safety, Insurance & Expenses

The day will include free lunch and refreshments, and an A4 booklet packed with information and ideas. To reserve your place please contact **Dawn Elson (contact details on back of magazine)**

## FUNDING ADVICE

### Funding News

**Testway Transform** has recently launched the Money Box Fund which has been set up to help community groups help the community. Testway Transform is the community fundraising arm of Testway Housing; it believes in investing in people to make stronger communities.

Who can apply? Any group that improves the lives of people within the Test Valley Borough Council area, in communities in which Testway works.

Grants Will normally no less than £250 and no more than £2,500

How to apply - To get an application form email [paula.deverill@testway.co.uk](mailto:paula.deverill@testway.co.uk) or phone 01264 405552

### County Councillor Grants

County Councillors each have a budget of £10,000 for 2007/8 to be spent on local projects or initiatives in their divisional area. Bona fide groups and organisations will be able to apply for funding for both revenue (one off) and minor capital projects. Grants are intended to benefit a wide range of groups & activities, e.g. vulnerable children and adults, young people, facilities for older people and community facilities.

For further information contact your local County Councillor or [dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk)

For help, support and advice with funding issues or applications, please contact **Dawn Elson** as above or on **01264 362600**.

## OTHER NEWS

- ✦ **NCVO** has today welcomed the final report from the Third Sector Review. We believe this demonstrates a significant shift in the Government's approach to the voluntary and community sector and shows a deeper understanding of the sector in the context of wider civil society, and which does not simply focus on the sector's role in public service delivery.
- ✦ The report backs a number of important NCVO proposals including a Third Sector Research Centre and a sector skills strategy. It contains a number of significant announcements, including:
  - ✦ support for the campaigning work of voluntary and community organisations;
  - ✦ a £50m local endowment fund;
  - ✦ £10m investment in community anchor organisations;
  - ✦ £117m investment in youth volunteering programmes;
  - ✦ mechanisms to ensure that three-year funding is the norm, not the exception;
  - ✦ £83m funding for Capacitybuilders; and
  - ✦ a renewed commitment to the Compact.
- ✦ Further information and a full summary is available on our website at [www.ncvo-vol.org.uk](http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk)
- ✦ If you would like any further information about NCVO's work around the Third Sector Review, please email [mubeen.bhutta@ncvo-vol.org.uk](mailto:mubeen.bhutta@ncvo-vol.org.uk) in the Policy Team or call 020 7520 2475.

### **The Mayor of Test Valley Cllr Pamela Mutton**

Is inviting any small charity or group who wish to raise funds for their group, to join her at The Mayors' Charity Table Top Sale. She has become very aware that many smaller charities are finding it more difficult to fund raise year on year. As she meets many unsung heroes working in the community, she realises that funding is crucial to support the ongoing needs of the people of Test Valley.

The Mayor has tasked her charity committee to organise two events where these groups can have the opportunity of a table top for a small donation.

These fairs will be held in Romsey at Crosfield Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> November - morning

Andover Guildhall on 24<sup>th</sup> November - morning

For more information please contact the Mayors Assistant Mrs Sue Barrett on 01264 368022 or e-mail [sbarrett@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:sbarrett@testvalley.gov.uk)

Thank you very much

We look forward to meeting you at these events

**County Cllr Pat West**  
**Chairman of the Mayors' Charity Committee**

### **Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust is looking to become a Foundation Trust and would like to invite you to become a member.**

We provide specialist mental health and learning disabilities services to adults across most of Hampshire; this includes community mental health teams in Romsey and Andover, older people's mental health services based at Andover War Memorial Hospital and a number of residences for adults with a learning disability, as well as community learning disabilities teams.

Foundation Trust's are a new type of NHS organisation. We will be able to involve local people more in how we provide services. We will also have more financial freedom and be better able to invest in services for the future. Together with our members, these freedoms will help us make a difference to the one in four people who will have a mental health problem and the one in 20 adults with a learning disability.

Anyone over 14 who lives in or near Hampshire can join us. It is free, you don't need experience or knowledge about mental health or learning disabilities, and you can choose how involved you are.

You can sign up now by completing the membership application form enclosed with the newsletter or online at <https://www.hantspt.nhs.uk/foundationtrust/membership/apply> . Please call our Foundation Trust helpline 023 8087 4253 with your details. We are happy to answer questions; you can call, email [foundationtrust@hantspt.nhs.uk](mailto:foundationtrust@hantspt.nhs.uk) or visit our website. [www.hantspt.nhs.uk/foundationtrust](http://www.hantspt.nhs.uk/foundationtrust)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Weyhill Electronic Organ Society** provides top class monthly entertainment and, if you have not already attended one of the concerts, you are missing a real treat!



The styles of music presented by the guest performers can range from classical to contemporary, from waltzes to marches, and the programmes are always balanced to suit most musical tastes. There are numerous

Concerts are normally staged at the Fairground Hall, Weyhill (three miles west of Andover) on the third Thursday of every month, from 7.30 p.m. until 10.00 p.m., with an intermission of around thirty minutes for refreshments and a raffle. Current admission prices are £4.00, in advance, or £5.00 at the door, subject to availability.

Groups from within Test Valley are especially welcome but early booking is recommended as the concerts have become very popular. If you are interested in attending, or require further information, you are invited to telephone the Secretary on 01264 323213 or visit the Society's website: [www.communigate.co.uk/hants/weos](http://www.communigate.co.uk/hants/weos)

## DIARY OF EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	VENUE	FOR INFORMATION
Thursday 18th October, 12 - 2pm	Community Lunch & launch of 'Askalot' Information shop	The Entertainer, King Arthur's Way, Andover	Stefanie Sturgess 01794 519998
Saturday 20th October, 2pm - 4pm	British Red Cross Autumn Gift Fayre	North Baddesley Village Hall	Wendy - 02380 730843 or Avis - 02380 328071
Thursday 8th November 9.30am - 3pm	'Keeping your volunteers training day	Age Concern, Linden Road, Romsey	Dawn Elson 01264 362600
Thursday 22nd November 10am - 12 noon	TVCS AGM	Longstock Village Hall	Zoe White 01264 362600
Friday 30th November 9.30am - 3pm	Attracting Volunteers to your organisation training day	Longstock Village Hall	Dawn Elson 01264 362600
Wednesday 12th December 9am - 12 noon	Voluntary Sector Forum	Longstock Village Hall	Dawn Elson 01264 362600

If you would like to advertise your event here please email [zoe.bussian@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:zoe.bussian@tvcs.org.uk). The deadline for the next issue is 18th December, therefore we are unable to advertise any event before this.



## Romsey Office (Head office)

TVCS  
2nd Floor  
Coopers House  
The Horsefair  
Romsey  
Hampshire  
SO51 8JZ

Tel: 01794 519998  
Fax: 01794 517122  
[www.tvcs.org.uk](http://www.tvcs.org.uk)

### Volunteer Centre

Viv Parsons  
**Volunteer Centre Manager**  
[volunteers@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@tvcs.org.uk)

### TVCS Core Staff

Janet Blann  
**Chief Executive**  
[janet@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:janet@tvcs.org.uk)

Patsy McIntyre  
**Finance Officer**  
[finance@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:finance@tvcs.org.uk)

Stefanie Sturgess  
**Romsey Administrator**  
[info@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:info@tvcs.org.uk)

## Andover Office

TVCS  
2nd Floor, East Wing  
Wessex Chambers  
South Street  
Andover  
Hampshire  
SP10 2BN

Tel: 01264 362600  
Fax: 01264 353010

### Community Development

Dawn Elson  
**Community Development Manager**  
[dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:dawn.elson@tvcs.org.uk)

Kerry St-John  
**Neighbourhood Activities  
Co-ordinator**  
[kerry@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:kerry@tvcs.org.uk)

### Community Transport

Dick Hewett  
**Community Transport Manager**  
[transport@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:transport@tvcs.org.uk)

Zoë White  
**Community Transport Officer/  
Administrator**  
[zoe.bussian@tvcs.org.uk](mailto:zoe.bussian@tvcs.org.uk)

### Andover Advocacy

Tammy King  
**Andover Advocacy Coordinator**  
[andoveradvocacy@freenet.co.uk](mailto:andoveradvocacy@freenet.co.uk)  
01264 336380

Marie Dyke  
**Independent Mental Health Worker**  
[mapdyke.aaa@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mapdyke.aaa@hotmail.co.uk)

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