

VOLUNTARY ACTION



Voluntary Action North
East Lincolnshire



NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS...

Happy New Year from the staff, trustees and volunteers at Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire.

It's traditionally time for new year's resolutions. So what resolutions are you going to be making for your organisation or group now 2015 has started?

Of course you'll be looking to do even more of the good work you've already been doing, and you'll probably be trying to become even more effective, more sustainable, reduce your risks and your overheads and make an even greater positive impact on our community. But are there some specific resolutions you can make that our team at VANEL can help you to achieve?

Better use of technology? We're running a week of IT related support in January. *More funding?* We're scheduling more Big Lottery one-to-ones shortly. *How about working towards a Supporting Volunteers Award (SVA)?* Talk to us about what that involves and how to join the 100+ groups who already have SVA. *Improving your board governance?* We have a course in a few weeks and our Tea and Trustees peer-support group starts up in February.

Talking of more volunteers? We are out and about in Immingham, Cleethorpes and Grimsby regularly now with our Volunteer Service, so why not talk to us about how we can improve your volunteering processes.

Read on for specific news about the coming month or please feel free to talk to us. **Good luck with those resolutions...**

JANUARY 2015

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE?

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Trustee training for newer Trustees

We are repeating our "Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees" training course on Friday 30th January.

The last session we held during Trustees' Week was oversubscribed, so the 2 hours training course will be repeated on the 30th, 10am-12noon at West Marsh Community Centre. Prices are £5 each for Members/Friends or £10 otherwise. Places are very limited so please book your places. There is a lot more detail about the content of this introductory training session online here: <http://bit.ly/1yKjdJy> It's aimed at those wanting a straightforward overview of the Trustee role, so book now or contact Karl Elliott via karl@vanel.org.uk / 01472 231123 for more details.

Look out for "Tea & Trustees" peer support group each last Friday of the month starting February...

A NEW YEAR HONOUR

Communities Together has been tireless over the years in promoting the cohesion and enhancing the understanding between all our communities. And for year after year, Communities Together was led by **Surinder Khurana** who we were delighted to see was recognised in this years New Year Honours list and becomes a Member of the Order of the British Empire. A warm congratulations from the VANEL team.



Surinder says: *"I think it is a recognition for all the work that we all put together to make Communities Together a recognised charity promoting the cohesion and enhancing the understanding between all the communities. Our work with Humberside Police and the primary schools deserve special mention. The congratulations and recognition belong to all of us. So thank you for all your support and I sincerely hope that Communities Together continues to flourish and achieve the objectives that we worked for so tirelessly."*

www.nelcommunitiestogether.co.uk

TECHNOLOGY “UN-CONFERENCE” WEEK

It's time for New Year resolutions. What about resolving to make better use of technology this year to help support or develop your organisation or the ways you support your beneficiaries?

Week starting Monday 19th January is our “Technology non-conference”. Hopefully something that we have planned for that week can be useful to you.

Rather than a single day ‘conference’, I've planned a range of short training sessions, workshops, briefings and surgeries spread across the week so that you can choose what you are interested in and come along as necessary.

There are training sessions about Mailchimp (an e-newsletter service) and WordPress (for building websites), workshops about email, backups, tools including Asana (project management) and Huddle (files and collaboration), Chromebooks and databases. We've also got technical surgeries and general technology discussions for your more general issues.

The agenda is below. Sessions are free unless stated. Sessions are at the Elms unless stated. Booking essential for everything, so call Karl on 01472 235311 or email karl@vanel.org.uk to book or enquire about any session.

Monday 19th January

1pm – 2pm : “Introduction to Mailchimp”

Free to VANEL Members or Friends. £10 per person otherwise.

2.30pm - 3.30pm : “Meet Asana” - how we use Asana at VANEL and how you can make the most of it

3.00pm - 4.00pm : Technical surgery - come along and ask for support with anything technical !

4.00pm—5.00pm : “Technology for Trustees”. A repeat from Trustees' Week, this session is for anyone in a governance position looking to understand how to use tech for the benefit of their organisation.

More details of each session online at www.vanel.org.uk/ITjan2015

Tuesday 20th January

9.30am - 11am : “Technological Terminology Tackled” Come along and ask about anything technological that might be troubling you !

11.00am - 12.15 : TT-Exchange Masterclass. Learn about how registered charities can use this scheme for discounted software.

Both these morning sessions are at Immingham Resource Centre, Immingham

2.00pm - 4.00pm : “WordPress for Beginners” training workshop (at the Elms in Grimsby).

Free to VANEL Members or Friends. £10 per person otherwise.

3.00pm - 4.00pm : “Access your Data” - a workshop about databases and Microsoft Access

4.00pm - 6.00pm : WebClub - our first WebClub session of 2015. All welcome

Wednesday 21st January

10.00am - 12noon : “Maximising Mailchimp” training session at the Elms

Free for Members and Friends or £10 per person otherwise.

1.00pm—2.30pm : lunchtime drop-in for any groups needing help with their IT who would be interested in using a ‘digital’ volunteer to help them. Just pop along for a chat.

3.30pm - 4.30pm : “Meet Huddle” - learn about how this collaboration tool could help you

Thursday 22nd January

10.00am - 11.00am : “Better backups” - how to keep your data secure

1.30pm—3.00pm: Technical surgery. Pop along with any of your technical questions.

Friday 23rd January

10.00am - 12.00noon : “Cooking up a website” our ever popular ‘how to build a website’ introductory training course. At the Elms. £10 each for Members and Friends or £20 otherwise

1.30pm - 2.30pm : “Email Setup” - all the technical how to's on setting up and using email properly

3.00pm—4.30pm : Technological Terminology Tackled” Finishing the week with an open discussion on anything technological

NEWS HEADLINES

Local Consultations

There are a few consultations currently seeking responses and these are always an important way of having your say on matters that affect us and our communities. Please take the time to follow the links to the consultations. A bit more information can be found in the VANEL news pages, but full information is on the consultation pages themselves.

Garden Waste Collection consultation. The Council are asking for responses about proposed changes to the kerbside collections of garden waste. Follow <http://bit.ly/14CRJcf> to the consultation page.

The future of Childrens Centres. The Council is also proposing changes to a number of the Children's Centres and is seeking feedback. The consultation is here <http://bit.ly/1xZr2s7>

HFRS council tax precept. Humberside Fire and Rescue Service are asking for opinions on what their council tax precept should be for 2015-16. Visit here <http://bit.ly/1w5CMF8>

SleepEasy returns for 2015 !

YMCA HUMBER'S flagship fundraiser, Sleep Easy, returns to Grimsby's Freshney Place Shopping Centre for the 2015 edition of the event on Friday 30th January between 6pm and 6am.

The charity's mammoth sleep-over will be returning to the popular venue after a phenomenal event in 2014 that attracted a record number of 80 fundraisers to sleep out in the shopping centre car park.

Over £32,000 was raised across the Humber Region through Sleep Easy 2014, which allows YMCA Humber and its partner agencies to support the needs of homeless young people in the area.

YMCA encourage you to visit the YMCA website to register and join them on Friday 30th January to show your support for this



fantastic cause!

To register for Sleep Easy 2015, please go to www.sleep-easy.co.uk or for more information on the event, please call Jonathan Byrne on (01472) 693388 or email sleepeasy@gcymca.org.uk.

The Sanctuary: Grimsby

OpenDoor Grimsby has launched a new service - "The Sanctuary: Grimsby". The service provides those in need with a place for the night. The Aim and Purpose of the Service is to provide a high quality calm and homely environment with ready access to face-to-face support for people at or near crisis, enabling them to return to their home with a plan to deal with the factors influencing the crisis and/or how they can better manage themselves and their reactions in such situations.

See the poster for more details or details on the VANEL newspages here and how to contact OpenDoor to find out more.



Wren - changing grant scheme

WREN, who operate a landfill tax credit scheme, have launched a new Community Fund replacing the Main Grant Scheme and Small Grant Schemes. All applications should now be submitted on the new Community Fund application form available for download from the website. Grants of between £2,000 and £50,000 are available. Previous priorities and geographical criteria will still apply.

NB: This is only a selection. There's more news from Members and Friends online at www.vanel.org.uk. If you have news that you'd like to see in the next newsletter or on our website then contact VANEL via editor@vanel.org.uk

VANEL NEWS

Winter Planning

The weather has remained mild during the Christmas period, however, we are watching and know that there is some stormy weather on the way. Facebook is regularly updated with weather reports and advice, but we would still advise that you be aware of incoming weather and who may need your support in your local community.

Find us as [WinterPlanningNEL](#) on Facebook.

Any questions about Winter Planning, please get in touch with Vicky at VANEL, vicky@vanel.org.uk

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Safeguarding Children Level 1 Training

We are in the process of arranging another Safeguarding Children Level 1 course for sometime over the next month or so.

As usual this will be accredited and certified by Children's Workforce Development, will last for a full day and will cost £45 per person (including refreshments).

Once we have enough interested attendees we'll schedule a convenient date for the session.

If you would like to book a place please contact Peter Hewson at VANEL via 01472 231123 or peter@vanel.org.uk.

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Congratulations Kelly

The team at VANEL are delighted to be able to say congratulations to our colleague Kelly Smaller who gave birth to a bouncing baby boy on 8th January. Best wishes to them both.

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Big Lottery one to ones for January

Last month VANEL hosted a two day visit by Rob Maylan, the local funding officer for **Big Lottery**. Rob held one to one appointments with a dozen groups on Awards For All and Reaching Communities funding and we ended up with a waiting list for people who he didn't have time to see during the visit. So Rob has agreed to return to Grimsby - probably end of January or start of February - for new one to one appointments.

So if you would like to have 45-60minutes with Rob to discuss how you could apply for Awards for All or Reaching Communities funding then please let us know. Once we have a group of interested people we'll arrange a date with

Rob for a visit and book appointments.

Please contact Karl Elliott (karl@vanel.org.uk / 01472 235311) to discuss why you need to see Rob and to get on the appointments list.

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WeClub in 2015

WebClub restarts for 2015 on Tuesday 20th January, 4pm-6pm at the Elms. The schedule for the first few months is likely to be much as it was last year - fortnightly sessions alternating between Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday lunchtimes. So the next session would be Wednesday 4th February, 12noon-2pm.

If you've been coming along to WebClub before, then welcome back and it will be good to see you on the 20th. Bring your questions and issues along for a general web development discussion. If you are new to WebClub then please come along for the first session to find out what we are covering and how it might help you. Generally the sessions are informal, step-by-step technical support for those people involved in developing or maintaining websites for their groups. It's a mix of training, troubleshooting, group support, workshop and so on.

Any questions contact Karl Elliott at VANEL (karl@vanel.org.uk / 01472 235311) or come along to the session on the 20th Jan.

Mini News...

Communities Together are starting Bollywood Dance workouts on Wednesdays and Fridays at St Hugh's Centre. Details online here: <http://bit.ly/1x3VH3q>

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CERT have a Social Enterprise Network gathering on the morning of 28th January at the Ropewalk in Barton. Details of the event online here: <http://bit.ly/1xZrVkp> or contact lee@cert-ltd.co.uk

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HealthWatch North East Lincolnshire are looking for Enter and View volunteers. Contact them direct via www.healthwatchnortheastlincolnshire.co.uk or 01472 361459



Volunteer Centre

North East Lincolnshire

If you would like to make appointments with VANEL for either Volunteering or for DBS (Disclosure and Barring Services) then please get in contact with us via 01472 231123 or office@vanel.org.uk.

Appointments are currently available on the days and locations listed below, but please phone first so that we can organise a convenient time. Appointments normally are around 30 minutes long.

For Volunteering related appointments

Monday PM – at The Elms, Grimsby
Tuesday AM – in Immingham, Resource Centre Margaret Street
Wednesday AM – in Cleethorpes, Sidney Sussex Pavilion
Thursday PM – at The Elms, Grimsby

For DBS appointments

Tuesday AM – in Immingham, Resource Centre Margaret Street
Wednesday AM – in Cleethorpes, Sidney Sussex Pavilion, Brereton Avenue
Thursday AM – at The Elms, Grimsby

WE'RE MOBILE.

We started consulting with our Member and Friend organisations back at our AGM in September 2014 and listening carefully to the kinds of services they need.

The consensus was around even more support for volunteers; group resources and assistance with governance.

So we've been experimenting with going mobile in Immingham, and this experiment has given us positive feedback with groups we've been in touch with being very positive about the approach.

So just before Christmas, the volunteer centre in Grimsby shut its doors, and we shifted our volunteer support to being mobile, responsive and out in our community.

So since the New Year we've started a new pattern of being out in Immingham on Tuesdays, in Cleethorpes on Wednesdays and on Thursdays back in Grimsby.

Our volunteer services remain full accessible and available to everyone in North East Lincolnshire and we now will be operating an appointment based system so that we can make arrangements to meet at convenient times and locations.

We look forward to speaking to any organisations hosting or wishing to host volunteers about our services.

Call us on 01472 231123 just as before.

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Volunteer Centre
North East Lincolnshire



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Helping Young People. Help Communities.
Help Themselves