

VOLUNTARY ACTION



Voluntary Action North
East Lincolnshire

Merry Christmas



from everyone at

Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire

It's nearly Christmas. So this is our last newsletter of the year before we start talking about new year resolutions in January ! So enjoy the Christmas season and from all staff, volunteers and Trustees at VANEL

- Merry Christmas

www.vanel.org.uk

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Volunteer Centre
North East Lincolnshire



Voluntary Action North
East Lincolnshire

enfuse
Helping Young People. Help Communities.
Help Themselves

DECEMBER 2014

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS XMAS ISSUE

- TRUSTEES' WEEK FOLLOW UP
- WINTER PLANNING UPDATE
- CHRISTMAS NEWS FROM MEMBERS
- VANEL STAFF AND WEBCLUB NEWS
- FUNDING NEWS
- BIG LOCAL NEWS ... & MORE

The VANEL offices will shut on Christmas Eve at 4pm and reopen on Friday 2nd January 2015.

VALUING TRUSTEES

how to support Trustees and how to develop better governance across local charities.

If you didn't get involved, then some of the issues we looked at during the week included:

- ways to recruit trustees and how to improve the recruitment process in general
- getting younger people involved in charity governance
- using technology to help boards and committees work better, and
- helping boards to understand the role of Trustees in guiding technology within charities
- exploring peer support approaches to support volunteer Trustees
- basic training and induction support for new trustees

We're looking to find ways now to keep the momentum from Trustees' Week going. So if you are a Trustees or thinking of becoming one, or if your board is interested in improving its governance then we'd be interested to hear from you. If you contact Karl Elliott at VANEL via karl@vanel.org.uk to discuss or to add your name to a new 'Trustee Network' mailing list – we will keep you informed of progress.

In particular;

- would you be interested in engaging with younger (18-25 years old) trustees on your board?
- do you and your board need to know more about technology?
- do any of your board need introductory (or advanced) governance training? For example, for first timer trustees?
- would you be interested in meeting occasionally with trustees from other charities as part of a peer support network?
- do you want advice on aspects of governance (such as public benefit, recruitment approaches, implementing the Code of Good Governance, support with induction processes etc)?
- have you got Trustee vacancies on your board that need filling?

Don't forget to visit our website too – hopefully regular governance related articles will appear on there weekly.

Thank you to everyone who got involved and came along to our events during **National Trustees' Week** earlier in November. The week was a great opportunity to get people talking afresh about



TRUSTEES' WEEK 2014
10 - 16 NOVEMBER

VANEL News

Staff changes at VANEL

We would like to wish all the best to **Kelly Smaller** who has just left us as she awaits the birth of her first child. All at VANEL hope that your new bundle of joy brings all you expect.

We are also saying goodbye and good luck to **Kelly Bryant** as she leaves us on 9th December to start a new and exciting chapter in her career; again, all at VANEL wish you much luck for the future.

We are also pleased to welcome **Debbie Taylor** who is undertaking a commissioned review of our volunteer mentoring services and introducing a new streamlined approach to volunteer mentor recruitment, training and retention.

Technology Support and WebClub

Over the past few months I've been working with a lot of groups on a one to one basis to support their website development and other technology needs. As a result, WebClub sessions have been on hold. But in the new year WebClub will get back to normal and there will also be a range of new technical support sessions planned. Watch out for full details in January.

Any questions or support issues you might have with your website or technology, please contact me direct

– Karl Elliott, 01472 235311

or karl@vanel.org.uk

HEALTH MATTERS

Winter Planning

I HAVE BEEN WATCHING THE WEATHER CLOSELY GIVEN THAT ONCE MORE THE NEWSPAPERS ARE PREDICTING THAT THERE IS SNOW AND FREEZING CONDITIONS IN OUR FUTURE – I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE GETTING THEIR INFORMATION FROM BUT THE MET OFFICE DON'T HAVE THE SAME PREDICTION FOR THE WEATHER. ACCORDING TO THEIR INFORMATION WE ARE LOOKING AT TEMPERATURES OF AVERAGE AND SLIGHTLY HIGHER WITH RAIN. AS THE NEWSPAPERS NEED REMINDING OUR SNOWY WEATHER COMES FROM RUSSIA AND SIBERIA, NOT THE US OF A!!!

WINTER PLANNING HAS NOW GONE SOCIAL – SOCIAL MEDIA THAT IS, WITH A FACEBOOK PAGE. FIND US AT WINTER PLANNING NEL. INFORMATION IS BEING SHARED ON THE PAGE ALL THE TIME AND SO HAVE THE VIDEOS OF SID THE SQUIRREL STOCKING UP ON HIS WINTER SUPPLIES. WE ARE LOOKING FOR IMAGES OF NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COVERED IN SNOW THAT WE CAN USE ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE; OUR PREFERENCE IS FOR SNOWY LANDSCAPES. THESE WILL THEN BE USED AS OUR COVER PICTURE AND WILL BE CHANGED TO GIVE EVERYONE A CHANCE TO HAVE THEIR IMAGE USED.

WE WILL BE OUT AND ABOUT PROMOTING OURSELVES AT VARIOUS EVENTS, SO KEEP AN EYE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR WHERE TO FIND US.

www.winterplanning.org.uk / vicky@vanel.org.uk



CHRISTMAS NEWS



West Marsh Christmas Extravaganza

The West Marsh Christmas Extravaganza is on its way. On Friday 5th, from 5pm, and Saturday 6th, from 12pm, December Father Christmas will be making an appearance at West Marsh Community Centre. There will also be a Christmas Fair with craft stalls, tombola, raffle, food and Christmas lights to enjoy. Contact West Marsh Community Centre on 01472 722122 for more details. (or see <http://bit.ly/12jV1z5>)

Christmas at Grimsby Minster

The Minster has a full programme of Christmas activities, so check out their programme here

<http://bit.ly/1yat4aW>

There are concerts in the square, advent carol services, services for shoppers, music of many forms, and of course the Christmas services, midnight mass and services of nine lessons and carols. A full programme during December to celebrate Christmas. Take a look at the programme which also includes full details of services at other churches in the area.



Cycle Hub photo competition

The Cycle Hub is continuing to encourage people to take to their bikes this Christmas. They want members of the Love to Ride community in NE Lincs to celebrate Christmas through the medium of bicycles: the

best Christmassy photograph with a bicycle theme will win the honour of gracing their Love to Ride Christmas communications. And £100 (£50 for 2nd place) to spend at your local bike shop! Pass the message on and find out more online at <http://bit.ly/1A6PdEV>

Care4All Christmas activities

Care4all were busy at the end of November with the Curzon Christmas fair, but there's still a Christmas quiz to go on 4th December and then the Curzon Christmas Party on 22nd December. Check out the flyers on their website at <http://bit.ly/1FHMhoa>

Grimsby Philharmonic Concert

Grimsby Philharmonic Society are holding a Family Christmas Concert at Central Hall in Grimsby on Saturday 13th December 2014 at 7.30pm. Staring Michael Dore, this is a feast of Christmas favourites and audiences carols for all to enjoy. Tickets £9, £12, £15. Contact the booking office via 01472 355025



For more news, Christmas related or otherwise, please keep an eye on www.vanel.org.uk, follow our news via RSS feed (www.vanel.org.uk/va/feed) or make sure you are getting our weekly e-bulletin. Any news of your own that you'd like to share please send to editor@vanel.org.uk.



FUNDING AND OTHER NEWS

Building Better Opportunities fund

Building Better Opportunities is a £260m initiative from Big Lottery Fund to leverage European funding for projects across England that tackle poverty and promote social inclusion.

CERT have been asked to spread the word and make organisations aware of the possibilities. To get the ball rolling they have organised a series of workshops that will explain how the funding will work, what you will need to do to access and manage it and how organisations can work together to increase the take up of Funding.

The next local workshop is in Immingham on 11th Dec, 2-4.30pm, but there are others scheduled across the region. Places are very limited so please book early to ensure your place. Flyer and more information online on the VANEL website <http://bit.ly/1rM0005> and at www.bboh.cert-ltd.co.uk

Awards for All workshop and 1:1's

On Tuesday 9th December, Rob Maylan from the Big Lottery Fund will be talking about Awards for All funding and how to apply. There will be a workshop in the morning and a chance for 1:1 discussions with Rob during the afternoon. We're almost full but there are still a couple of 1:1 opportunities left and you can still attend the workshop in the morning. It's free to attend – but booking is essential, and will be held at VANEL offices at the Elms in Grimsby.

If you'd like an appointment read the article here <http://bit.ly/1yasg50> or phone Peter to book (01472 231123).

Don't forget to watch for more funding related news online at www.vanel.org.uk

Toys for Joy

... and finally, don't forget the Toys for Joy scheme that CARE are running in the build up to Christmas. Read all about this worthwhile initiative via <http://bit.ly/1FHpK6o>

Weekly Cash Prizes for community organisations

The Galaxy Hot Chocolate Fund is looking to help small, local community groups and charities across the UK by donating cash awards to support 'warm hearted' people and projects. Open for entries until February 23rd 2015, the Fund will distribute five £300 awards to deserving recipients every week. Might be worth a look? Find out lots more at <http://www.galaxyhotchocolate.com/galaxyfund2014/profiles/>

Sussex Recreation Ground Pavilion is about to have its official opening.

Using investment from Big Local North Cleethorpes, The Pavilion on Sussex Recreation Ground has been refurbished and has already hosted some unofficial events including a parents and kids Halloween night organised by local Neighbourhood Watch groups and Cleelincs Neighbourhood Forum meetings.

On Thursday the 4th of December, Matthew Groves the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Humber Region, will officially open the Pavilion as a building under the management of Sidney Sussex Community Group.

The refurbishments include a stair-lift and new windows along with a great deal of paint, soft furnishings and elbow grease which has resulted in the pavilion looking much as it did in its heyday.

All this means that for park users of all ages there will be a public space with all the facilities you would expect on a public park and it will also boast a refurbished upstairs room which will be bookable for parties, meetings and educational activities.

If you haven't been to Sussex Recreation Ground recently then it's worth a visit just to see what's been done.

