

VOLUNTARY ACTION



Voluntary Action North
East Lincolnshire



It's AGM TIME

The VANEL Annual General Meeting (AGM) is early this year – 11th September, in the middle of what we hope to be an Indian Summer rather than colder November. So we're out in Cleethorpes at the Beachcomber, holding a summer Tea Party beforehand, and we would like to invite you along.

VANEL Members and Friends will have already received their email invitations to the AGM proper, which takes place at 4pm on 11th September, so please confirm whether you'll be there or sending a representative. The Agenda for the AGM as well as details of our Annual Report for 2013-14 can all be found on our website at www.vanel.org.uk/agm.

But preceding the formalities of the AGM, is a more informal affair – our Tea Party, which has a focus on “all things volunteering”.

It's an opportunity for all those organisations who host volunteers to find out exactly how our nationally accredited Volunteer Centre works and how we support both our hosts and the volunteers. Learn more about our Supporting Volunteers Award (SVA) and about some of our upcoming ideas for making the volunteer hosting experience even better. Meet our staff, have a chat, share some refreshments with us and find out more.

The Tea Party is from 2pm to 4pm in the run up to the AGM at 4pm. We're in the Showbar at the Beachcomber in Cleethorpes, and everything else you need to know is on www.vanel.org.uk/agm. Make sure you let Peter at VANEL know if you're coming (limited space, please book) via 01472 231123 or peter@vanel.org.uk



SEPTEMBER 2014 WHATS INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Volunteer Centre

North East Lincolnshire

A ROUND UP OF EXCITING LOCAL NEWS FROM US, OUR MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND THE COMMUNITY.

TOP TIPS TO LOOK AFTER YOUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are key to a lot of organisations, and it's important that you take the necessary steps to ensure they are happy, which in return will mean you will gain a hardworking and enthusiastic volunteer. Here are some simple steps on how to best look after your important volunteers.

TIME Ensure you have both the time and resources to support and train volunteers, and that you can provide something that will make their volunteering a valuable experience – for example increasing skills and confidence as well as supporting finding ways back to work.

WHO Identify a named person or groups to be responsible for volunteer involvement, and for monitoring and reporting on it (ideally appoint a paid Volunteer Manager). Also why not identify a trustee board champion for volunteering.

ENCOURAGE the involvement of volunteers in on-going decision-making and include them in internal communications, so that your volunteers are acknowledged as important partners and stakeholders in your organisation.

ENTITLEMENTS Volunteers, while not paid staff, should have many of the same entitlements as employees – clarity about their roles and responsibilities, induction, managerial supervision and support, and relevant training and development opportunities.

POLICIES Adopt clear policies regarding the payment of expenses. Volunteers should not be out of pocket because of their voluntary activity. Volunteers are entitled to reimbursement of all reasonable expenses. Many volunteers are reluctant to claim, so make sure you encourage them to claim.

FUNDING When preparing funding proposals and submitting bids, recognise that while volunteering is freely given it is not cost free. The full costs of involving volunteers should be included as legitimate overheads in full cost recovery.

BARRIERS Look at your current volunteers – do they reflect the community of interest/location/beneficiaries in which you work? Tackle barriers to ensure that volunteering is open to all.

These are just some things to think about when you are in the process of recruiting volunteers, and don't forget we are here to help, so call us on 01472 231123 to talk about your volunteers.



WE WILL HAVE THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!

Throughout this newsletter you'll notice some of the exciting voluntary organisations you can get involved with, like Healthwatch, Enfuse and the MNDA. But did you know we have over 600 opportunities registered on our database? If your organisation doesn't currently list their opportunities with us then make sure you get it sorted and promote it as wide as possible. We ensure that the volunteers are in a state of mind where they are ready to volunteer and are going to be the best for your organisation.

If you're under 25 then why not get in touch with the youth team at VANEL who specialise in everything volunteering for the under 25's. They have a wide range of different projects to offer, from sports to music!

So check out www.do-it.org.uk today and look through all the fantastic opportunities across North East Lincolnshire or call the Volunteer Centre on 01472 231123.

DO MORE THAN THE #ICEBUCKETCHALLENGE !

MND is a rapidly progressive and ultimately fatal disease that leaves people unable to move, walk or talk, so how does the MND Association make a difference? We will do all that we can to enable everybody living with MND to receive the best care, achieve the highest possible quality of life and to die with dignity.

WHY SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED AND BECOME AN ASSOCIATION VISITOR?

Because 4 hours of your time can make a real difference to the life of people living with MND. The role is flexible and you can fit it around your family, studies or other commitment.

Association visitors offer free and confidential emotional support as well as information about MND and other services to people with the disease and those close to them. Some of the key things that you would be doing as an association visitor would be making and maintain contact by telephone, email or face-to-face with people living with MND. Not only is this voluntary placement extremely rewarding you will get put onto a 4 day training course, with continued support and training from regional staff.



To sign up for this role then call the volunteer centre to book an appointment today on 01472 231123

The enfuse team recently did their bit for the MNDA and took part in the #IceBucketChallenge that has been sweeping the nation. "The Motor Neurone Disease Association is a charity that doesn't get a lot of press, so I think it's very important to raise money and awareness for these smaller organisations.

"And it's a bit of fun to get the team together! I was actually expecting it to be a lot colder than what it was – maybe we should have put more ice in!"





Enfuse Quote of the Month

"Either you run the day, or the day runs you "

LOOKING BACK ON FRESHNEY PLACE



Enfuses' reign over Freshney Place has come to an end, and the whole enfuse team are so pleased with how the 4-week long event went. We kicked off with Phil Simpson and his recycling week. He introduced swishing, a concept where you bring in old clothes and swap for something new, to the masses and proved a real hit. With crafty workshops on how to turn old records into new treasures and how to turn old floppy disks into desk storage the recycling week certainly delivered on encouraging people to think before they sling their stuff out. Also another massive success was the Anglian Water, Keep It Clear project. The Anglian Water quiz attracted over 100 members of the public and helped inform them about water usage.

Gemma Murray from Anglian Water said *"Just wanted to say a big thank you for your help last week at Freshney Place shopping centre. We really*

appreciate an extra pair of hands at these types of events to spread the message and importance of our Keep it Clear project." Well done to Phil for the successful first week! Another key project Phil is working on is the Get Trashed event on the 11th September at Grimsby Institute. A fun and fresh event for clothes swapping with live DJ's. One not to be missed! For more information about this event contact phil@vanel.org.uk or call him on 01472 315437!



Above: Phil with the amazing street art in Freshney Place for Anglian Water!

LIFESTYLE WEEK LAUNCHED WITH A BANG

Bayard, one of the team members for the 2nd week in the Freshney Place shop said "Lifestyle week gave us the chance to actually talk to young people and find out what they wish existed in North East Lincolnshire. This gave us plenty of food-for-thought in what kind of projects and events we organize going forward, and also showed us what we were doing right."

Shelby Fountain, who was behind the success of lifestyle week had to say this "We tried to create an atmosphere that was fun and a place where young people would feel happy taking part in activities such as playing instruments, video games and the balloon pit. By doing this we were able to promote volunteering in a different way. By letting people know that they had essentially taken part in micro volunteering by entertaining people, they were more open to signing up with the volunteer centre and realising that volunteering isn't just about working in charity shops. It also meant there wasn't any interrogation as we left people to enjoy themselves. We had a consultation wall so that young people could answer questions about how they would change Grimsby/Cleethorpes and about the music scene. "



The lifestyle week team in the balloon pit for the EMU project.

IF YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE ENFUSE TEAM OR WANT US TO HELP YOU THEN CONTACT US

01472 315437

ENFUSE@VANEL.ORG.UK

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ENFUSEGY

@ENFUSEGY



The 3rd week of enfuses reign in Freshney Place was Employment Week. Thomas and Sophie, the leads for this week, were successful with a funding bid submitted to Starbucks Youth Action. The idea behind the bid was to run a project called Your Next Step which will give young people searching for a work, a mentor who will help them through job searches on a really casual one to one level, so this tied in perfectly with the theme for the week in the shop. Throughout the week people of all ages were welcome to come in and meet the wide variety of organisations we invited, and also fill out the online applications in our interactive application hub! With over 40 people applying for jobs, and a further 40 applying for apprenticeships and training we are thrilled to say that so far 5 young people have gained employment with another 5 awaiting interviews! Just goes to show that a small

amount of support can be hugely beneficial to young people who are looking for work. We are continuing the success of our week in Freshney Place by holding an event at the Grimsby Minster, please see the photo for more information. If you would like to contact us about the follow up from the event then please call us on 01472 503191 or email thomas@vanel.org.uk or sophiew@vanel.org.uk



your next step

TO END ON A BANG, THE LAST WEEK IN THE SHOP WAS FAMILY WEEK.

Overall, family and sports week was successful as it gave members of Enfuse and Family Group Conferencing the chance to interact with parents, grandparents about the services they use within the area, what they like around the area and dislike. It also gave us the opportunity to signpost parents/ grandparents to services in the area as well as activities that will be occurring during the summer holidays. Family and Sports week was to encourage physical activity, the variety of activities that are on offer within North East Lincolnshire and invite organisations into the store to promote their activities so we can signpost members of the public to them. Also we wanted to encourage children to play with no costs and fun within the shop and we also invited special guests, Peppa Pig and Batman to interact with the children.

We had a range of different organisations offering their services throughout the week from the Children's centres, Getting Hooked on Positive Activities, British Red Cross, Young Carers, Lincs Inspire, Fire Service and many more.

We received such fantastic feedback from the public regarding how useful they found the week in regards to the services that were in the shop, the activities we had on offer and that the children who came into the shop had fun and that was the aim of the week in general!



ON BEHALF OF ALL OF THE ENFUSE TEAM WE JUST WANT TO THANK ALL THE ORGANISATIONS WE WORKED WITH OVER THE FRESHNEY PLACE WEEKS WHO HELPED MAKE IT A SUCCESS!

IF YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE ENFUSE TEAM OR WANT US TO HELP YOU THEN CONTACT US

the charity for
your community



CAB ARE ON THE MOVE

Following our move to Melbourne House, 16 Town Hall Street, we will be able to handle more enquiries both face to face and by telephone, for more details then why not look on our website <http://www.grimsbycab.org.uk/>

From 1st September we will be open from 9am to 4pm; no longer closing for lunch.

We have new Receptionists and Information Assistants who will be helping clients to access information for themselves on our Advice Kiosk in the main reception and the Community Mentors will also be on hand for clients who need guidance and support to locate the appropriate information, service or advice for them to deal with their issues. For more information about what the community mentors can offer then visit <http://communityadvice.net/>

Our Adviceline team is here to give exactly the same service to our clients as they would get face to face, with an appointment booked where needed without leaving the comfort of their own home or incurring travel costs. Our Adviceline number is 08444 111 444.

And finally keep up with valuable information from your local CAB you can follow us on twitter @grimsbycab or like our Facebook page.



FUSION FUNDING SUCCESS

A huge well done to Fusion Youth Theatre who recently won some all important funding from the Walwyn Chapman Trust to help continue the great work that the group does! Fusion Youth Theatre, with support from our Enfuse member Thomas, were successful in winning £1,250 to help support the Ramayana summer project which involved 20 young people putting on a spectacular Indian performance! For more information about what this energetic group get up to visit their website www.fusionyouththeatre.co.uk



Some of the cheeky faces at Fusion Youth Theatre!

EXCITING JOB OPPORTUNITY

Green Futures Grimsby – Administration and Customer Services Assistant
(Shoreline Housing Partnership Supported Employment Programme)
1 post, 16 hours per week
Temporary Fixed Term Contract of 1 year (52 weeks)
Salary - National Minimum Wage

Shoreline's Supported Employment Programme offers the chance for individuals looking for help and support into work to be in paid employment at Green Futures Grimsby for up to 1 Year. The position is paid and offers the chance for the successful individual to get back into work as well as getting the one-to-one support required to sustain employment. This support may include work on your CV, effective interview skills, confidence building, access to Shoreline's corporate training programme, access to training through Green Futures Grimsby as well as any internal vacancies.

This is a brilliant opportunity for anyone who is currently unemployed and is a great experience to get into the working world. If you know anyone who would be interested in applying then you can apply online at <http://www.latestvacancies.com/shoreline-housing-partnership/default-new.asp> The closing date for this position will be the 12th September 2014 at noon.

If anyone aged under 25 is applying for this position the enfuse team can offer help and advice with their applications, so



OUR MEMBER OF THE MONTH



Healthwatch is the independent consumer champion created to gather and represent the views of the public. Healthwatch will play a role at both national and local level and will make sure that the views of the public and people who use services are taken into account. People need to feel that their local Healthwatch belongs to and reflects them and their local community. It needs to feel approachable, practical and dynamic and to act on behalf of local people.

- We are here to help make services better by helping you to shape and improve the services you use.
- We are an open organisation and want to make it easy for you to talk to us. We want people from every part of your community to join us.
- Ask us what we are doing and we will always tell you what is happening.
- We take your evidence, views and experience and use it to help shape and improve local services by working with Healthwatch England and the Care Quality Commission.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A HEALTHWATCH VOLUNTEER?

We need the support of local volunteers to voice the views that matter to local people.

Volunteering with us can be done anywhere, even from the comfort of your own home by simply telling people about Healthwatch. A popular volunteering opportunity is for local trained people to go into health and social care premises that are public funded to see and hear what is going on.

This is a great chance to talk to residents, staff, family and friends about the quality of care given. A way of collecting observations and making recommendations to improve the care received. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for Healthwatch then contact Kelly at The Volunteer Centre who will help. Call Kelly on 01472 231123.

SAVE THE PLANET (AND SOME MONEY) BY DOING YOUR BIT FOR ZERO WASTE WEEK.



North East Lincolnshire Council is supporting the annual initiative by asking its residents to do "one more thing" to help the environment.

Now in its seventh year, Zero Waste Week runs throughout the first week in September but why not carry it on? Suggestions that the council has put forward, include:

Stop and think before putting waste into the bin. Can it be used for something else? If not, can it be recycled?
Make full use of recycling kerbside collections. Contact Waste Services for advice on 01472 326288.

If you want to stop junk mail through your letter box then why not sign up for the mail Preference Service to reduce junk mail at www.mpsonline.org.uk/mpsr

Find out about all the things you could do this week by checking out our Facebook!

WE'RE CURRENTLY VERY BUSY AT VANEL WORKING WITH A NUMBER OF GROUPS, DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING THEIR WEBSITES, BUT WE KNOW THERE ARE OTHER MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO COULD USE OUR HELP TO TACKLE THEIR TECHNOLOGICAL ISSUES. SO IF YOU HAVE ANY FORM OF TECHNOLOGY RELATED PROBLEM, PROJECT OR ISSUE, WHY NOT GET INVOLVED WITH ONE OF OUR SUPPORT SESSIONS OR CONTACT US DIRECT FOR A CHAT.

Do you need to build your first website, redevelop your current one, or manage what you have better? We might be able to help...

If you have very little understanding of how a website works or can be built, then our introductory **"Cooking up a website" training session** will teach you the basics in a casual and effective way.

Sessions are **8th Sept** (12noon-2pm) and **17th Oct** (12noon-2pm) at the Elms. Free to Members or Friends, £20 for others, booking essential www.vanel.org.uk/technology/cooking

If you've got more specific requirements then we have a **"WordPress for Beginners" training session** on **7th Oct** (1pm-3pm) to walk you through this free and flexible website development tool. Limited places again so please book. Free for Members/Friends or £20 other. www.vanel.org.uk/technology/wordpress

Need general web development support? Then our long running WebClub support sessions might be the way to get the training and answers you need. We meet every few weeks but, after a short break, our **next WebClub session is 24th Sept**, 12noon-2pm. There is a £25 yearly membership fee for WebClub, but feel free to come along to a first session for free. The session on the 24th will tackle best ways to deal with maintenance of your website www.vanel.org.uk/technology/webclub

Registered Charity? Need office software? Want to pay £20 for MS Office 2013?? If you sign up for the TT-exchange charity software donation scheme then really cheap software can save you a fortune. If you want to know more, we'll be discussing TT-exchange scheme in detail at our free Technical Surgery on **19th Sept** (10am-12noon). Let us know if you can make it. www.vanel.org.uk/technology/tt-exchange

Mailchimp Surgery, 22nd Sept, 1.30pm-3pm. Whether you are new to Mailchimp, trying it out or trying to resolve your problems with it, come along on the 22nd for our free Q&A workshop. Let us know if you are coming. www.vanel.org.uk/technology/mailchimp

Fearful of Facebook, but think your group should be using it? We've got an **"Introduction to Facebook for Groups" session** on **15th Sept** 12.30pm-2pm. Want to come along? We think you'll Like it (!) www.vanel.org.uk/technology/facebook

Need a volunteer to help with your IT?

We're recruiting IT/Digital Volunteers at the moment who can help charities and voluntary/community groups with small, defined technology tasks.

If you come across anyone who has IT skills that they could share then please refer them to VANEL so we can see if we can find them a task that would benefit from their knowledge and experience.

We're also trying to help Members and Friends to identify technology tasks that they could use help with. So if you're scratching your head on anything technical why not let us know and we might be able to find you some help.

We've got a **"Technical Volunteering drop-in"** on **22nd Sept** (10.30am-12noon) and **20th Oct** (1.30pm-3pm). So whether you are a volunteer looking for an opportunity to help, or a group with a technical need, come along to see if we can match things up.

www.vanel.org.uk/technology/volunteering



CONTACT Us

14 TOWN HALL STREET
GRIMSBY
DN31 1HN

We are open Monday—Thursday
from 9am until 4:30pm

www.vanel.org.uk

Follow us on twitter @vaneltalk @vaneldigital @enfusegy



Volunteer Centre
North East Lincolnshire



Voluntary Action North
East Lincolnshire

enfuse
Helping Young People. Help Communities.
Help Themselves