

CVS Stirling e-Bulletin –13th June 2008

This week we have a particular focus on both paid and voluntary opportunities (see the *Recruitment* section below), including how to get involved in Community Health via the Public Partnership Forum.

Comments and suggestions for the website and eBulletin are welcome. Emails to: lee.stevenson@cvs-stirling.org.uk.

Deadline for contributions for Friday's bulletin is the previous Monday. If you have any queries, please call 01786 469916 and ask for Lee or Donald.



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FUNDER OF THE WEEK: The Robertson Trust

STOP PRESS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Microsoft UK Challenge

Stirling, 11-15 June

On Saturday the Microsoft UK Challenge in aid of the **NSPCC** will come to an end after four days and nights of non-stop action, in which teams have been kayaking, mountain biking, navigating by torchlight and running, but also cracking codes and completing complex and mentally-demanding tasks. With details confirmed only hours before each stage, teams have been competing against the clock and against each other, with the organisers constantly pushing them to their limits.

This year's Challenge (the eighth so far) has been taking place in various venues in the Stirling area, including the Trisects, Plan Park, and Stirling University Campus.

Before teams arrived they had the task of raising vital funds for the NSPCC. Last year 122 teams raised over £500,000 to help protect vulnerable children and young people who desperately need support. This year, they hope to raise £600,000.

Details of the Challenge are available at www.nspcc.org.uk/challenger/home.asp

GROUP NEWS

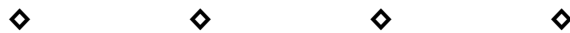
100 Years of Scouting in Stirling

Following on from last year's Centenary of Scouting, 2008 sees the Centenary of the first Scout Troops being formed. 1st Stirlingshire Scouts, who have their headquarters in their Queen Street Scout Hall, have been in continuous existence since 1908. Several events are being held for past and present members throughout this year in celebration.

An exhibition is being staged at their Scout Hall on Friday 26th September from 7pm - 9.30pm and on Saturday 27th September from 10.30pm - 5pm. The exhibition is open to anyone who has an interest in Scouting or would like to see some of the activities undertaken in and around Stirling by young people throughout the 20th century.

There will also be guided tours of the building which was built 200 years ago. It has had a varied life as housing, a malt barn and store before becoming a Scout Hall 77 years ago.

If you would like to know more about 1st Stirlingshire Scouts or about becoming a Leader or Youth Member, contact Scott Park on 01786 473438. E-mail: scottpark.stg@btinternet.com



Sunlite Café's New Venture

Staff and volunteers at the Cowane Centre's popular Sunlite Café have decided to work towards the **Healthy Living Eating Award**. This involves meeting the Award criteria that food should be locally sourced, or responsibly produced, or a Fair-Trade product.

Now, as well as offering its usual café facilities, the Sunlite Café will be encouraging customers to buy fresh fruit and vegetables, and vegetable boxes will be available to order.

The Café, a venture of the '**Let's Make it Better**' mental health charity, is situated in the Cowane Centre, Cowane Street, Stirling, and is open from 9am – 2.30pm, Monday to Friday.

TRAINING

Essential Presentation Skills (A Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations Training Course)

SCVO Mansfield Traquair Centre, 15 Mansfield Place, Edinburgh

23rd June, 5-7.30pm

SCVO Members: £108; Non-member voluntary organisations: £180

Participants will learn how to deliver dynamic, persuasive presentations that are concise and clear while building audience rapport through eye contact, vocal delivery and body language. They will learn how to capture ideas using mindmapping and will also learn to improve specific performance using visualising techniques. Participants will receive feedback on presentations from delegates and trainer.

There are **seven** places left on this course. For more information and booking contact Jane Baillie on 0131 474 8019, email jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk

FUNDING

Climate Challenge Fund Launched

Last week, The Climate Challenge Fund was launched, with £19 million to share to projects which take steps to reduce pollution and the impact on the environment.

The Fund aims to help Scottish communities make a real difference by significantly reducing their carbon emissions. It was adopted by the Scottish Government as part of the budget negotiations earlier this year. Grants are available to empower communities to take action to reduce their carbon footprint and make a real difference to the local and national environment.

Applicants must be Scottish-based and by the time a grant is approved they must also be legally constituted, not-for-profit community groups. This may also include communities of interest, with a defined geography and where they form a legally constituted group. The grant scheme specifically requires that the

community be the lead player in any partnership, with the community at the heart of all decision making relating to the project.

Such organisations may include, but are not restricted to:

- Voluntary, not-for-profit and charitable organisations
- Schools
- Community groups working in partnership with Universities and Colleges
- Community groups working in partnership with National voluntary, not-for-profit and charitable organisations
- Community groups working in partnership with Local Authorities
- Community groups working in partnership with Housing Associations
- Community groups working in partnership with Community Planning Partnerships

To find out whether your organisation is eligible, or for any other advice you should contact the Climate Challenge Fund team between 9am and 5pm on 01786 471333 or write to: Climate Challenge Fund, Keep Scotland Beautiful, Islay House, Livilands Lane, Stirling, FK8 2BG or email ccf@ksbScotland.org.uk

Once you have submitted your expression of interest to the administrator you will receive a telephone call providing you with further advice. You should hear back from them within two weeks.

More details of the Fund can be found on the website, www.itsourfuture.co.uk/climate_challenge_fund/

RECRUITMENT

Dyslexia Scotland - National Development Officer

Location: Stirling

(Full time – Job Share will be considered)

Salary: £21,861- £24, 201 (SJC AP4 pts 27 –30) + 5% pension

(18 month fixed term post, funded through the Eranda Foundation. The post will be extended subject to securing further funding.)

Dyslexia Scotland is the voluntary organisation representing the needs and interests of dyslexic people in Scotland. We are seeking an enthusiastic individual to provide support, training and guidance to existing and new Branches and Networks across Scotland.

Applicants should have excellent interpersonal and organisational skills, experience in community development, training, education, advice or similar, working with volunteers and a proven working knowledge of dyslexia.

For an application pack contact Sharon Duncan at Dyslexia Scotland Telephone: 01786 44 66 50. Email info@dyslexiascotland.org.uk Full details, including an application form, are available on our website, www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

Closing date for applications is **Monday, 16 June 2008**. Interviews will be held on Monday 7 July. The successful applicant will be subject to a Disclosure Scotland Enhanced Level Check.



Getting involved in your local Health Service

Health provision in the Forth Valley is undergoing major changes and developments. Here are two ways in which you can get involved:

- **Stirling Public Partnership Forum**

Stirling PPF has a vacancy for a **Voluntary Sector Representative** and also a **Community Representative**. Contact Jessie-Anne Malcolm, Public Partnership Forum Development Co-ordinator, Falkirk Royal Infirmary Headquarters, Westburn Avenue, Falkirk FK1 5SU. Tel: 01324 614660 or 0845 130 3714 (Local Rate) Email: jessie.malcolm@fvpc.scot.nhs.uk

*(see more about Stirling Public Partnership Forum below under **OTHER NEWS - Stirling Community Health Facility**)*

- **Public Involvement Network (PIN)**

Do you want to be more involved in the development of your local health service? If so, why not **join the Public Involvement Network?** Involvement can range from e-mail or postal surveys to attending meetings and joining one of the newly formed Public Partnership Forums in Clackmannanshire, Stirling or Falkirk.

You can do as much or as little as suits you. Just leave your name, address and phone number and ask for the Public Involvement Network information to be sent to you by calling our freephone line on: 0800 456033. Or alternatively, email YourHealthService@fvhb.scot.nhs.uk



Research and Policy Officer

ACOSVO (Association of Chief Officers of Scottish Voluntary Organisations)
(P/T Contract)

ACOSVO is a unique forum for Third Sector Chief Officers in Scotland. We promote excellence in leadership and management through peer support, training events, mentoring and good practice sharing.

Summary of the Work

This work will focus on a specific partnership project considering governance and leadership within the sector. This work will also inform research and policy plans for ACOSVO, in the longer term.

Remuneration

This role is offered on a contract basis. The contractor will be required to submit a budget for this role of no more than £10,000 for the 9 month period July 08 – Mar 09 inclusive of any expenses. Hours are negotiable, but would be based on an average of 15 hours per week. The post will be based at Thorn House in Edinburgh.

Interested applicants should email office@acosvo.org.uk to request an application pack and further details

Applications should be returned by **18th June 2008**. Interviews will be held on 25th June and the successful applicant will be notified by 26th June 2008.



Custody Visitors Wanted

Central Scotland Joint Police Board is looking for responsible and trustworthy people to be volunteers for their Custody Visiting Scheme.

Basically, this involves checking on the welfare of people in police custody. If you think you could be a custody visitor, you are invited to find out more at one of the information evenings - the Stirling one will be held on Wednesday, 18th June at 6-8 pm, Stirling Council Offices, Wallace Room, Old Viewforth, Stirling.

Or you can phone Lorraine Munro on 01324 506121 (email custody.visiting@falkirk.gov.uk) for information and an application pack.

Closing date for applications is 30th June.



Sustainable Development Commission, Scotland

is the Government's independent official advisor on sustainable development,

reporting directly to the First Minister for Scotland. Through advocacy, advice and scrutiny, we help put sustainable development at the core of Government policy. Two exciting new posts have been created in our Edinburgh team.

1. Research Officer (Ref: RCRE 941)

Salary range £ 21,892 to £25,710. 2 year contract.

The Research Officer will support the Commission's work across a range of areas including research, policy advice, engagement and capacity building, and lead the Commission's work in providing secretariat function to the Scottish Sustainable Development Forum. You will have a strong organisational ability and can manage a varied work programme delivering to a high standard within set deadlines. You confidently use a range of research, engagement and communication tools to inform and involve a variety of audiences.

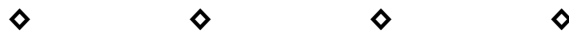
2. Project Manager - Climate Change (Ref: RCRE 940)

Salary range £ 31,344 - 38,078. 2.5 year contract

The Project Manager will lead the Commission's work building and delivering a supporting alliance of communities and organisations involved in the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund. You have the skills to engage communities across Scotland to tackle climate change. You communicate the issues of climate change and sustainable development confidently and effectively and understand how to support change on the ground.

Both posts offer the opportunity to join the team at an exciting time as it develops its new work programme. You will also gain an unrivalled knowledge of the opportunities and challenges faced by the public sector as it seeks to lead by example and put sustainable development into practice.

For further information please visit www.sd-commission.org.uk For an application pack, please email ssd.yorkrecruitment@defra.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 0845 603 7262 quoting reference number. The closing date for applications is **3rd July 2008.**



NTS Launches Online Volunteering

As part of its Volunteers Week celebrations, the **National Trust for Scotland** has launched its new volunteering webpages. For the first time in the organisation's history, volunteers can now search and apply online. The site

features a wide range of volunteering, from outdoor conservation to guiding within historic properties.

Prospective volunteers can find immediate opportunities or register for updates should a relevant position become available. You can also read their FAQ section and testimonies from current volunteers, plus a news section. Find out at more www.nts.org.uk/volunteering

OTHER NEWS

Salvation Army Report on Stirling Homeless Problem

A new report launched in Stirling highlights difficulties faced by homeless people and potential improvements to services.

'Listening to Service Users: Improving Service for People Affected by Homelessness' has been published by the Salvation Army in association with the Stirling Homelessness Partnership and Forth Valley College.

Last year the Salvation Army successfully secured funding from the Scottish Community Action Research Fund (SCARF) to carry out the research project to find out the main reasons why people become homeless, what could be done to try and prevent it happening, how people felt about the services they received and how these services could be improved to best meet their needs.

Five researchers, who had themselves experienced homelessness, received training in social research methods and carried out the research for the report. Forth Valley College accredited the training, enrolled the participants as students, and provided a range of learning support and facilities.

Supported by project workers from Stirling homelessness partnership agencies, the researchers interviewed 41 people affected by homelessness and 25 organisations that provide services.

Findings

The research found the main cause of homelessness to be "relationship/family breakdown," including marriage break ups, children leaving the family home and leaving care, and the death of family members.

Most service users interviewed were satisfied with the services they received, but were often unsatisfied with the final outcomes.

Some of the key messages from the research were

- The need for more affordable housing and temporary accommodation;
- More work to help people avoid becoming homeless in the first place;
- More specialist housing support for the most vulnerable households;
- Improved inter-agency partnership working;
- Making service user involvement a key part of the decision making process.

The researchers have produced a DVD, made by students from Stirling University, which will be made available to councils and the broader community.

The Stirling Homelessness Partnership (which includes representatives from Stirling Council, Shelter, local registered social landlords and NHS Forth Valley) has now made a commitment to act on the findings.



Stirling Community Health Facility

The planning process for the future Stirling Community Health Facility is now fully under way. The facility will be situated on the existing Stirling Royal site.

On Saturday, 7th June the **Stirling Public Partnership Forum (PPF)**, together with the Stirling Community Forums, held an event in the City Chambers to explore the implications for the Stirling area.

As well as providing an opportunity to identify the “hopes and fears” of the Stirling communities, the event featured information presented by the Community Facility Planning team showing the range of services the site was expected to deliver. They include retaining some of the Stirling Royal services and transferring services from the Bannockburn and Kildean hospital sites. These focus on

- 80 inpatient beds
- Older Peoples services – day therapy services, psychiatry services, community teams
- Child Health services
- A wide range of Outpatients, X-Ray and Minor Injuries Services
- Rehabilitation services
- Mental Health Services

In order to ensure equal access to services, the PPF needs to be made up of people from all section of the community. If you are interested in being involved in developments like this, Stirling Public Partnership Forum have a vacancy for a **Voluntary Sector Representative** and also a **Community Representative**. Contact Jessie-Anne Malcolm, Public Partnership Forum Development Co-ordinator, Falkirk Royal Infirmary Headquarters, Westburn

Avenue, Falkirk FK1 5SU. Tel: 01324 614660 or 0845 130 3714 (Local Rate)
Email: jessie.malcolm@fvpc.scot.nhs.uk

For more about Community Health Partnerships and the Public Partnership Forum, visit the website at
www.nhsforthvalley.com/home/About/CHP/PublicPartnershipForum.html



Red Cross Seeks Young Heroes

Every day, young people across the UK act in a humane and generous way to make a difference to the lives of others. The **British Red Cross Humanitarian Citizen Awards** have been set up to recognise their achievements and celebrate the contribution that young people make to the lives of others.

Do you know someone – or a group – aged 25 or under, who has made a real impact on an individual or in their community? For example, this could be by giving first aid, befriending vulnerable people, fundraising or campaigning for a worthy cause – or in many other ways.

If so, the Red Cross wants to hear about it. You can nominate young people for either Individual or Group Awards.

Schools and Community Education Department, British Red Cross, UK Office, 44 Moor fields, London EC2Y 9AA. Tel 020 7877 7240 Email fhitie@redcross.org.uk

FUNDER OF THE WEEK: The Robertson Trust

Established in 1961 by three sisters, Elspeth, Agnes and Ethel, the Robertson Trust is an independent grant provider to a wide range of charities whose work takes place in Scotland, or has an impact on Scotland.



The Misses Robertson adopted the motto which was the guiding principle of their grandfather's family business: *Honesty, Integrity, and the Ability to Help People in Trouble.*

So what sort of funders are they?

The Robertson Trust places a lot of emphasis on being a flexible, helpful and approachable organisation; one that is independent-minded, willing to take risks and sympathetic to new ideas. Their stated aim is 'to fund people and

organisations that can make a difference,' and they prefer to fund direct service delivery, rather than umbrella groups or forums or capacity-building work.

These days, the Trust has four priority areas: Care, Health, Education and Training, and Community Art and Sport. But they have also identified a further seven categories for support: Animal Welfare, Civil Society, Communities, Culture, Heritage and Science, Environment, Saving Lives, and Young People and Families. (The relatively few areas where the Trust does *not* provide support are detailed in their Guidelines: these can be downloaded at www.therobertsontrust.org.uk).

Although there is no maximum or minimum for grants, most fall between £500 and £100,000. Applicants who are used to extensive and exhaustive form-filling will find the Robertson Trust's procedure refreshingly informal. Applications are by letter, so applicants can express their needs in their own words. However, there are certain details and supporting documents which applications must include - these are listed in the Guidelines. And there is no deadline for applications; you submit them as and when you are ready. Usually, a decision is reached within three months.

For more information, guidelines or enquiries, email admin@therobertsontrust.org.uk or visit the website www.therobertsontrust.org.uk

STOP PRESS.....

A **Questionnaire** has been sent out to you today on the subject of **Community Planning** and the representation of the Voluntary Sector in this important process. We would ask you to take a few minutes to complete and return this to us as soon as possible. Thank you.

