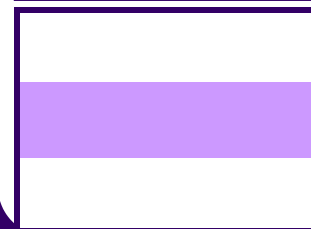


THE

COMMUNITY NEWS

PUBLISHED BY WINCHESTER AREA COMMUNITY ACTION

Circulation box



SPRING 08

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What is e.Volve?

e.VOLve is a website database launched in October 2005 to publish information about voluntary organisations and community groups serving communities in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. It enables 'visitors' to the website to look at the details of an individual voluntary or community group. By the end of its first year the website was receiving about 12,000 visits per month.

Have **you** registered on e.VOLve yet?

If you want people to know what your group does, e.Volve provides the opportunity to promote your group and tell a wide audience about its services, activities and achievements, and it provides a link to your own organisational website, if you have one.

Visit the e.VOLve website and register today!

What are the **benefits** of registering?

By bringing together information about Hampshire's voluntary and community sector in one place:

- It is easier for the public to find the service they are looking for without having to worry about geographical boundaries within Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
- It helps voluntary and community groups to find others they might want to network or collaborate with
- It helps public sector bodies identify groups and organisations that they should be talking to or even working with
- It makes clear just how major a contribution local organisations are making to our communities
- It will, over time, mean fewer questionnaires to fill in for different agencies, because e.VOLve will become a 'one-stop shop' into the voluntary and community sector in our area where everyone gets their information

To find out more go to <http://www.e.volve.org.uk/>



Winchester Area Community Action

Winchester Area Community Action (WACA) provides information and support for voluntary and community groups whilst supporting and promoting models of best practice. WACA represents the community and voluntary sector and services users by promoting networking and liaison and supporting and developing strategic partnerships. WACA also develops services to meet community needs.

Central Services: (for details contact 01962 842293)

- Management of The Winchester Centre
- Payroll Services & Accountancy/Book-keeping Advice
- Office Space
- Training/Meeting Rooms
- Photocopying, Open Access Computers and other office services

Projects / Activities Managed by WACA (all prefixed 01962)

Advocacy Project - A partnership between an advocate and someone who needs support in speaking up for themselves. **Dave Capps Advocacy Manager.....848023**

Transport Services - A means by which elderly, disabled and rurally based members of the community can access shops, facilities and establishments they would otherwise be unable to reach.

Jackie Lea - Community Transport and Dial-a-Ride.....852602

Roger Harris - Shopmobility842626

Development Support Service - Helps voluntary and community groups to become more effective and sustainable by providing a wide range of advice and information

Hannah Williams - Development Support Officer848019

Community Involvement - Promotes, enables and supports partnership working between statutory agencies and the voluntary and community sector

Ian Milsom Community Involvement Officer848041

Rape & Sexual Abuse Counselling - Provides confidential, free support to those in need

Gary Stubbington RASAC Manager848018

Winchester Black & Minority Ethnic Engagement Project- Black and Minority Ethnic engagement, support and awareness raising **Lois Hutchinson BME Outreach Worker (No prefix) 07715596660**

Volunteer Centre Winchester - Opens doors to volunteering and promotes good practice

Sue Heath-Caldwell and David Bradshaw Joint Managers.....848030

WACA Learning - Provides learning and training activities and training needs analyses and plans

Hilary Fellows Learning Development Worker.....848020

Out of Schools Childcare Development - Assists management committees in setting up and maintaining a range of out of school provision for 0-19s **Jonathan Chapman Out of Schools**

Childcare Development and Elaine Rolfe Support Worker.....848014

Please Note: All opinions expressed in COMMUNITY NEWS are not necessarily those of Winchester Area Community

Local Issues

Winchester Voluntary Sector Forum

Hampshire's Local Area Agreement (LAA) and its implications for the Voluntary Sector was the theme for January's Voluntary Sector Forum meeting. Speakers from Winchester City Council, Hampshire County Council and Community Action Hampshire gave an overview of the LAA and what it means for the voluntary sector and for Winchester district.

- **The LAA is a 3 year agreement** between partners in Hampshire and the Government to improve lives and conditions in Hampshire's communities.

It focuses the attention of partners on 8 priority outcomes drawn from the Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy and the 11 District Community Strategies, under the following headings:

Priority A: Improve the life chances for children and young people.

Priority B: Delivering first class support for businesses, promote skills and workforce development and address barriers to employment.

Priority C: Improve the co-ordination of transport and access to services across the County.

Priority D: Improve access to housing and accommodation.

Priority E: Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour recognising the harm of drug and alcohol misuse.

Priority F: Promote and improve the health and well-being of people in Hampshire.

Priority G: Use material resources more efficiently.

Priority H: Empowering local people to have greater voice and influence over decision making and the delivery of services.

- Within this will be 35 indicators for Hampshire negotiated with central government, and this is where resources will be directed - including an increasing number of government funding streams

- Priorities at county level may be focused on areas apparently more needy than Winchester.

- It will be main driving force for partnership working at district level

It involves everyone: statutory partners, districts and others, including the Business and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

The Voluntary Sector has a leading role to play in Priority H, and the meeting discussed possible ways in which three key indicators could be addressed:

Increasing the percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality

Improving the environment for a thriving 3rd Sector

Increasing the proportion of people who regularly volunteer.

Other subjects discussed included:

How to make **One Compact for Hampshire** work more effectively with Winchester City Council - for information follow the Compact link on WACA website

The consultation on Hampshire Older People's Wellbeing Strategy.

The next meeting of the Voluntary Sector Forum will be on 2nd July 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. at The Winchester Centre. All voluntary and community groups are encouraged to come.

Learn more about the developments that affect you; share your experience and the issues that concern you; and contribute to local community strategies.

In the meantime use the discussion forum on WACA website to raise an issue or have your say!

Diana Woodridge

News from Members

Does your group want to make a difference?

Why not invite a 'community champion' to help your group find ways

to improve and protect your environment.

Explore ways of saving energy and resources, traveling wisely, shopping ethically, caring for the local environment and have fun at the same time!

All for free!

Contact: Bruce White 01962 848040

bwhite@waca.org.uk

Eastleigh & Winchester Managers Forum

Do you look after the volunteers in your organisation? Do you have responsibility for the recruitment, support and supervision of volunteers?

Then the Managers Forum is for you!

The Forum, facilitated jointly by Volunteer Centre Eastleigh and Volunteer Centre Winchester, meets four times a year, alternating between Eastleigh and Winchester. It is completely free of charge to members. Meetings run from 12.15pm to 1.30pm, so they don't take too much time out of your day. Feel free to bring your lunch with you, while we provide drinks and biscuits. You are warmly invited to come along to swap news and ideas, discuss issues and get some support.

Date of 2008 meetings are:

Wednesday June 25 - 12.15-1.30pm

Molyneux Room, One Community, 16 Romsey Road, Eastleigh SO50 9AL

Topic: Mini workshop on References and Criminal Record Bureau checks

Wednesday September 24 - 12.15-1.30pm

Training Room 1, Winchester Area Community Action (WACA)

The Winchester Centre, 68 St Georges Street, Winchester SO23 8AH

Topic: Mini workshop on Volunteer Induction

Wednesday November 26 - 12.15-1.30pm

Molyneux Room, One Community, 16 Romsey Road, Eastleigh SO50 9AL

Topic: Mini workshop on Supervision & Support

For further information contact:

Volunteer Centre Eastleigh, One Community, 16 Romsey Road, Eastleigh

SO50 9AL Tel 023 8090 2457/8 Email

volunteer@1community.org.uk

Volunteer Centre Winchester, Winchester Area Community Action (WACA)

The Winchester Centre, 68 St Georges Street, Winchester SO23 8AH

Tel 01962 848 030 Email

volunteercentrewinchester@waca.org.uk

Office Space for Disabled People Organisations

UNITY 12, in Rose Road Southampton, has office space, which we are very keen to rent out to organisations of Disabled People, or organisations that support Disabled People to live independently.

This space is currently being completely refurbished and will be available to new tenants from the 1st April 2008. We have a variety of rooms to suit your needs.

9-19 Rose Road, Southampton SO14 6TE

Phone: 023 8033 0982 Fax: 023 8020 2648

Minicom: 023 8020 2649

Email: Ian@SouthamptonCIL.co.uk

Other organisations based at The Winchester Centre (all prefixed 01962)

Age Concern and Help in the Home...840667

Caring in Crisis...848033

Citizens Advice Bureau...848000

Hampshire Music Space...848036

Olive Branch Christian Counselling...848028

RELATE...861336

SNAPS...848026

Southern Focus Trust.....848016

Wells for India...848043

Workers Education Alliance...848038

Winchester Young Carers Project848039

Winchester and Andover Carer Centre842034

Local Issues & Events

The Children and Young People's Voluntary Sector Alliance working together for Hampshire

What exactly is the alliance?

The Alliance is a loose federation of voluntary and community organisations working with children and young people across Hampshire. The Alliance is essentially a self-help network committed to maintaining a strong and diverse children and young people's voluntary sector which contributes fully to strategic decision making and the delivery of services to Hampshire's children & young people.

It's member organisations

The work of the Alliance is guided and monitored by a steering group whose members are drawn from Alliance member organisations. Membership of the Alliance is open to voluntary sector organisations with an interest in children and young people, and who operate in more than one district council area in Hampshire, and costs nothing to join, simply contact the alliance Development Officer for further details.

How will my organisation benefit?

Through access to the Alliance's resources, which include: knowledge & information, free or low-cost training, and representation

Workforce Development

People working with children should have the best possible training, qualifications, support and advice.

As part of the development of Hampshire's multi-agency children's workforce development plan, the Alliance has secured three-year funding from the Children's Workforce Development Council to develop the infrastructure and the capacity of the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sectors to engage with the development of the Hampshire workforce plan. Engagement with the PVI sectors will be facilitated by a series of workforce development events which will have a

practical training focus. Further details about the role of the Alliance in sector workforce development can be found at www.hants-alliance.org.uk/web/node/20

Representation

It is important that Hampshire's children & young people's voluntary sector has a voice at County-level multi-agency partnerships.

The Alliance seeks to achieve this through a network of representatives drawn from member organisations and elected by the membership. Alliance representatives have a remit to represent the interests of the Hampshire children & young people's voluntary sector as a whole, rather than those of their own organisation. Alliance representatives report to the Alliance constituency by means of written reports which are made available to a wide audience via the Alliance website.

A simple diagram showing how the system of representation works is contained.

Details of Alliance representatives can be found on the Alliance webpage

www.hants-alliance.org.uk/web/node/14

Citizens Advice Home Visiting Service

The Citizens Advice Home Visiting Service offers home visits in Winchester and the northern parishes to people who cannot come to us for reasons of age, disability, health, transport or caring responsibilities.

Advisors can help with a range of subjects including: **benefits, debt, housing, tax, legal matters, consumer problems, community care, family and personal issues, health and immigration.**

For home visits or further information

Tel: 01962 848008

Email: homevisiting@winchestercab.org.uk

The new Discovery Centre in Winchester was buzzing on 13th February 2008 when a free community information event was held there. 26 different stand holders, from both voluntary and statutory sector organisations, were on hand to make their services more accessible and to provide information



Abj Dubia, Hampshire County Council and The Right Honourable Mayor of Winchester, Cllr Chris Pine

and signposting to black and minority ethnic people working or living in Winchester. We were delighted that the Mayor of Winchester, Cllr Chris Pines was able to lend his support, meeting people and visiting the stands on the day.



Amjid Jabbar, HCC, Elizabeth Mckerracher WACA, Abdul Kayum, WMCA

The event was funded by A2 Housing Group, Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust, Winchester Area Community Action, Winchester City Council and Winchester Discovery Centre. It was widely publicised in English and six other languages and is estimated to have attracted up to 100 people from a diverse range of minority ethnic communities right across Hampshire. Bengali, Punjabi, Nepalese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Polish and Romanian interpreters were all on hand to help out those in need of translation.

Initial feedback about the event from attendees was that it brought a wide range of organisations together in one place, with lots of different help and 'signposting' available in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, and that it was very informative. All of this they found to be very helpful.



Elizabeth Mckerracher, Melissa Fletcher and Lois Hutchinson, WACA

Stand holders found meeting people from our black and minority ethnic communities, as well as the networking and sharing of information that went on amongst them, most valuable.



Interpreters helping event attendees

WACA will be undertaking an evaluation of the event and has a small pot of money to do some follow up development work based on that evaluation, including an analysis of new contacts made, developing links with them, offering and providing support, and engagement made through the BME E-Forum. This work will be targeted at all local minority groups, including the established communities such as our Muslim community, as well as the emerging Polish group and new arrivals from the European Union.

Policy Headlines By Community Action Hampshire

Hampshire Commission for Personalisation

Last December six government departments, the Local Government Association, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services and the NHS, plus a number of other agencies, gave commitment to a more personalised approach to social care, with the publication of *Putting People First*. It sets out a vision for the transformation of adult social care where self directed support (SDS) and personal budgets become the norm rather than the exception.

The County Council has responded by setting up a high profile Commission to hear evidence and views on how adult social care can move to personalised services, and to consider the financial, resourcing and structural implications. It will also look at the impact on the market place and commissioning.

The Commission is calling for service users, carers, staff, partners and the voluntary and independent sector to submit their views as written evidence to ensure that the most important issues for Hampshire get examined. Views will be sought from national as well as local organisations.

There will be four hearings with the first one taking place on 28 April. The theme then will be 'People and Carers'. Other sessions will look at 'Partnerships', 'The care market', and 'The impact on local government'.

- Further information available at www.hants.gov.uk/adult-services/commission-personalisation

Short breaks for families with disabled children

A joint HCC/PCT consultation, running until 30 April, seeks to identify priorities for overnight short break service development with partnership organisations such as health and the voluntary sector over the next two to three years. Details of consultation events can be found at <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx> Consultation questionnaires can be obtained from Fiona Hall on 01962 846123 or fiona.hall@hants.gov.uk

Hampshire Carers' Strategy

More support and recognition for carers in Hampshire is the aim of a new strategy that's looking into available resources for carers across the county to ensure their needs are met now and in the future. It is out for consultation until 21 April 2008. The strategy, summary and consultation form can be accessed at www.hants.gov.uk/adult-services/carers-consultation

New learning disability community teams

HCC Adult Services is working with the Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust on the integration of health and social care services into Learning Disability Community Teams. Adult Services will have lead responsibility for the delivery of these community services, which aim to give a better response to users' needs and support implementation of self-directed support and person centred planning.

Multi-disciplinary teams will be based on five new areas: Winchester/Fareham/Gosport; Eastleigh/Test Valley; New Forest; Havant/East Hampshire; and Basingstoke/Hart/Rushmoor. Joint bases are planned for Winchester, Havant

As part of a joint working arrangement this information has been provided by Community Action Hampshire, the rural community council for Hampshire, to keep you informed of countrywide policy developments.

Emergency respite service for carers

Carers Together in Hampshire will be piloting a new service from April 2008. It will offer planning and care services for carers in the event of an emergency and will be called CAPE (Carers Action Planning for Emergencies).

This free service will help carers plan for emergencies in advance. Key facts about the person being cared for will be recorded so that when a carer requires emergency respite, replacement care tailored for that individual can be speedily put in place for up to 48 hours.

For more information call Carers Together on 01794 519 495.

Prosperity through Diversity An Employment Strategy for Hampshire 2007-09

Hampshire has a low level of unemployment but this masks the picture of economic inactivity largely made up of the long term sick and those with caring responsibilities. Many individuals who fall into this group are keen to get a job - there are 32,300 in Hampshire wanting to work. The strategy aims to drive up recruitment from this pool of people, while ensuring all training agencies equip individuals with the skills that employers actually want.

See the strategy and action plan at http://www3.hants.gov.uk/prosperity_bookletdefinitive_final_version.pdf

New - trading and business support from CAH

CAH is now offering specialist social enterprise support to individuals, groups and organisations in the VCS. Cris Jezard, our social enterprise adviser, is running a clinic at CAH's offices in Winchester on the first Tuesday of every month. Just contact Cris to book an appointment to come in and discuss any issue around trading, whether it's something you're already doing or plans for the future, or just to find out more about social enterprise and how it could benefit your community and/or organisation.

To fix up a meeting, ask a specific question or just to find out more about social enterprise and how it could benefit your community and/or organisation, contact Cris on 01962 857374 or e-mail cris.jezard@action.hants.org.uk

National Stroke Strategy

The strategy aims to accelerate the emergency response to stroke, and provide care, rehabilitation and support from stroke-skilled services in hospital, allowing people to get home faster. This specialist care should continue for as long as it is needed.

£105m has been committed to improve stroke services. The strategy recognises the contribution of the voluntary sector in providing information, support and signposting to other services as well as advocacy, providing healthy living services as well as specific services to those who have suffered stroke and their carers. The sector should be involved in: ensuring that available information is accessible and of a high quality; planning and designing services; offering self-care services and befriending schemes; and supporting people to use direct payments.

The strategy can be viewed at www.dh.gov.uk/stroke

Charities must demonstrate public benefit

The Charity Commission has published the long awaited guidance on public benefit. From 1 April 2008 all organisations wishing to be recognised as charities must demonstrate, explicitly, that their aims are for the public benefit. This statutory guidance sets out in general terms how recent changes to the law on public benefit arising from the Charities Act 2006 will be implemented, and what charity trustees should consider in order to demonstrate that their charity's aims are for the public benefit.

The Charity Commission has also published summary guidance for charity trustees; both publications can be downloaded at www.charity-commission.gov.uk/publicbenefit/default.asp Hard copies are available by calling Charity Commission Direct on 0845 300 0218.

Funding

Winchester City Council Community Chest Grant

Grants of up to £500 are available for one-off pieces of expenditure if projects or activities meet the priorities under six theme areas

- Arts
- Community Development
- Community Safety,
- Heritage and Conservation,
- Sports and Town Twinning.

Your organisation needs to be a not-for-profit voluntary organisation, community group or a registered charity running activities or projects that benefit the residents of the Winchester District.

This scheme is now open for applications for grant awards in 2008-2009 and the closing dates

for applications are as follows:

12th March, 2008 for any activities/projects taking place after 23rd April, 2008

25th June, 2008 for any activities/projects taking place after 6th August, 2008

22nd October, 2008 for any activities/projects taking place after 3rd December, 2008

All activities and projects must be completed by 31st March, 2009.

If you wish to discuss your project or have any queries regarding the Community Chest scheme please contact the Partnership and External Funding Officer (PEFO) on 01962 848582.

[http://www.winchester.gov.uk/
CouncilAndDemocracy/Grants/
CommunityChestScheme/](http://www.winchester.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/Grants/CommunityChestScheme/)

Extended Schools Funding

More Than Schools is the public name for The Winchester & Swanmore Extended Schools Partnership. This Partnership supports the work of 35 schools and their partner agencies in developing a range of services under the government's 'Extended Schools' agenda. You can read more about Extended Schools at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/education/aclu/extended-schools/>

Winchester YMCA are the Partnership Managers and their work is overseen by the Steering Group for the Partnership. The Steering Group is made up of one representative from the local Special Schools, one from each of four Secondary Schools and one from each Secondary School's Primary pyramid, together with co-opted members from Winchester City Council, Hampshire County Council and voluntary sector organisations.

The funding provided through this grant programme is designed to build the capacity of schools and partner agencies to deliver the extended schools agenda.

- The maximum grant that can be awarded is **£5,000 and the minimum is £100.**
- Grants may be paid up to **30th June 2008** and must be spent by **31st July 2008**, unless specific permission is provided by the Partnership to extend this period. Projects designed to be delivered in the 2008 school summer holidays should seek the Partnership's formal agreement.
- Grants may be paid to individual schools or partner organisations from funds held on behalf of The Winchester & Swanmore Extended Schools Partnership (hereinafter referred to as the Partnership).
- Grants are made on a one-off basis and no commitment is made to any ongoing financial support beyond 31st July 2008. The decision on whether or not to award a grant to any applicant is entirely at the discretion of the Partnership or its delegated Grants Panel.

For more information on this funding (and to download grant guidelines and an application form) go to: <http://www.morethanschools.org.uk/homedir/whatwefund.htm>

Course Directory

March - July 2008

DATE	COURSE	TIMING	£
Friday 14 March	Chairing Meetings	10am-3.30pm	£40
Thursday 3 April	Effective Publicity	10am-4pm	£40
Monday 14 April Eastleigh	Basic Principles of Managing Finances 1	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 15 April Basingstoke	Basic Principles of Managing Finances 1	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Monday 21 April Eastleigh	Basic Principles of Managing Finances 2	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 22 April Alton	Basic Principles of Managing Finances 2	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 29 April	An Outcomes Focus	9.30am-1.30pm	£20
Thursday 8 May	Time Management	9.30am-4.30pm	£40
Tuesday 13 May Eastleigh	Financial Planning	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 20 May Basingstoke	Financial Planning	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 3 June Eastleigh	Paying Staff	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 10 June Alton	Paying Staff	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 17 June Basingstoke	Financial Controls: Good Practice	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Tuesday 26 June Eastleigh	Financial Controls: Good Practice	9.30am-1.30pm	FREE
Wednesday 4 June	Access Basics	9.30am-4pm	£40
Thursday 3 July	An Outcomes Focus	9.30am-1.30pm	£20

WACA learning aims to:

- Undertakes training needs analyses with a range of local voluntary and community organisations
- Develops training plans in responses to identified needs
- Organises a Learning and Training Programmes targeted to meet the development needs of voluntary and community groups in the Winchester area.

If you want to know more about the services WACA Learning can provide you with please contact

Melissa Fletcher our

WACA Learning Administrator on

01962 848032 or

Email: mfletcher@waca.org.uk

<http://www.waca.org.uk/Main/Learning.html>

Winchester Area Community Action,

The Winchester Centre, 68 St Georges St, Winchester, Hants, SO23 8AH

W A C A L E A R N I N G

Dates for your Diary

TITLE	DATE	VENUE	WHO TO CONTACT
March 2008			
Winchester Young People's Agency Group	Wednesday 19th March 12.30 - 2.00pm	The Winchester Centre Training Room 2	Rachel Birnie WACA Administrator 01962 848041
April 2008			
Domestic Violence Forum	Monday 7th April 12.30 - 2.30pm	The Winchester Centre Training Room 1	Diana Wooldridge WACA Chief Executive 01962 848010
Inclusive Housing Forum	Thursday 17th April 10.00am - 12.00pm	The Winchester Centre Training Room 1	Vanessa Kitt WACA Central Services 01962 843450
Winchester Families Network	Tuesday 22nd April 10.00am - 12.00pm	Lanterns Children's Centre	Rachel Birnie WACA Adminstrator 01962 848041

*** Please note: meetings and events listed on this page may be subject to change of date, time or venue.**