



**IN THIS ISSUE:** Redcar & Cleveland Neighbourhood Policing, Charity Act 2006, Volunteer Awards 2007, Annual Returns, Challenge Anneka (or Karen)

# inter-ACTION

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF RCVDA

RCVDA  
**Leading**  
the Way



RCVDA held a successful funding fair at Eston City Learning Centre. Funders present included Big Lottery, Northern Rock, Lloyds TSB, Greggs Trust, Children in Need and Tees Valley Community Foundation. RCVDA staff were also in attendance to offer advice and guidance. Also available were a selection of the resource books available at the office.

## Red Nose Day at Redcar ROC



Jill, Rachel and Trish getting into the spirit

Coatham Memorial Hall was the Venue of a Red Nose Quiz which saw teams from a range of voluntary and statutory organisations pitting their wits against each other. There was good natured rivalry between the teams – and not a little bribery and corruption. Pictured above is three members of one of RCVDA's teams. The day raised £290+ for Comic Relief but over and above that WE HAD GREAT FUN!!

## Volunteer Awards

Hi everyone it is that time of the year again when we ask you to do your part in celebrating the wonderful volunteers in our community. See inside for more information on this years categories.

## Project North East: "Covering Costs" 18 July 2007, Hartlepool

This programme is designed to help people in the voluntary and community sector across the North East to understand and effectively recover the full costs of running their organisations, ensuring longer term sustainability. It is targeted at those with overall responsibility for budgeting, financial planning, monitoring and reporting for their organisation.

Covering Costs will enable participants to:

- ◆ Improve their organisation's financial sustainability;
- ◆ Understand the use of budgets and cashflows as tools to plan new projects and interpret financial information;
- ◆ Develop an insight into the need for, and the benefits of, covering all costs;
- ◆ Develop an understanding of the current principles and methods of covering all costs when securing finance

The programme will consist of one full day workshop followed by up to three days in-house support for each participating organisation.

The total cost for a place on the programme is £100 per organisation and up to two people from each organisation can attend the workshops. For further info contact Anne-Maria on (0191) 2616009 or email [anne-maria.brown@pne.org](mailto:anne-maria.brown@pne.org)

### Calling all Trustees

Are you a trustee or a board member of a charity? Did you join a small local charity and are now being asked to consider service level agreements and contracts? Well don't panic there is a lot of help for you to make the adjustments that the present funding climate requires. There are various training opportunities particularly around full cost recovery.

Also worth looking at is the Governance Hub website which offers help to existing Trustees and also gives some guidance on how to find new trustees and integrate them into the existing committee. There are a number of downloadable resources (I would recommend the booklet about Reducing Trustee Liabilities).

In Redcar & Cleveland we have a trustee forum, Trustees Together which offers peer support in a very informal setting. For more information on Trustees Together contact Karen McGarrity on 01642 440571. For the governance hub go to [www.governancehub.gov.uk](http://www.governancehub.gov.uk)

### Gift Aid and tax-effective giving

The Chancellor announced the Government's plans to work with the voluntary and community sector to increase awareness and take-up of Gift Aid. The Charities Aid Foundation estimates that a potential £700m in Gift Aid is currently unclaimed by the sector. The Government will therefore consult with the sector on measures to increase take-up of Gift Aid; there will also be a campaign to raise public awareness. The Government will also work with the sector to encourage payroll giving and will publish guidance on tax-effective giving for individuals.

Source FINE

### Young People and Faith Conference

14<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Venue: Collingwood College, Durham, DH1 3LT

Time: 10.00 am till 4.00 pm

Durham University and The Churches' Regional Commission in the North East are hosting the above conference where they will launch the publication of the report 'Young People and Faith in the North East' May 2007. There will be a screening of 'Where's the Faith in Youth?' DVD and a wide selection of workshops

The **free** conference is aimed at faith leaders, youth workers, policy makers and young people who are interested in faith based community work.

For further information contact Sue Blackbird, The Churches' Regional Commission North East, Ushaw College, Durham, DH7 9RH Tel: 0191 373 5453 e-mail: [sueblackbird@btconnect.com](mailto:sueblackbird@btconnect.com)

## Charities Act becomes reality

By now, most groups will be aware of the changes to charity law heralded by the recent announcement of the new Charities Act 2006 and if not – where have you been? If you haven't been keeping up with the changes in charity law, NCVO have produced a straight forward, plain English briefing paper that sets out the main highlights of the act which can be read or downloaded from their web-site.

Once a new piece of law is introduced or added to, most people believe that the new rules apply straight away – this isn't the case, particularly with something as broad as the new Charities Act. The new act makes significant changes to the rules and regulations for the operation of a charity and the people involved, covering areas such as charitable purposes, public benefit testing, the role of the charity commission, the introduction of charity tribunals, fundraising, trustee powers and charity registration.

The Office of the Third Sector has published an implementation plan for the new Charities Act which outlines a provisional timetable for the implementation of the new legislation, which gives the voluntary and community sector time to prepare for the changes to the law. This means that some of the changes will start to happen now and others will be phased in over the next two to three years.

Various parts of the new act will be introduced through what are called 'Commencement Orders'. The first commencement order comes into effect on the 27 February 2007 and will shortly be followed by detailed guidance from the Charity Commission. The first order outlines a number of positive changes that will benefit the sector – the two main issues being the provisions in the act that relate to income thresholds for professional audit (Sections 28 & 32 of the act): the threshold being raised from £250,000 to £500,000 – this means that thousands of charities will no longer have to go through the expense of a professional audit. Another part of the act coming into force now is an order to increase the charity registration threshold: currently charitable groups with an income over £1,000 are required to register – this will be now raised to £5,000.

It is important to remember that very few of the changes to charity law will require local charities to do anything more than they are already required to do.

Although audit and the registration threshold are the two main areas of interest in this first commencement order, there are many other changes to the rules and regulations that govern charities and for more detailed guidance go to [www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk) or contact RCVDA if you would like more information.



## inter-ACTION

### New Horizons (Teesside)

Supporting those recovering from mental health problems

#### Board Members

New Horizons (Teesside) is looking for new members to join their six strong governing body, the board of trustees. Experience in any of the following would be desirable but not essential

- Mental Health
- Fundraising
- Public Relations
- Governance

Board meetings are held on the evening of the fourth Thursday of the month between 7 – 9 pm.

The Board is responsible for setting the strategy and policies of the organisation and supports the Manager and staff.

For more information contact Mary Hanson, Managing Director on 01642 217847 or email [myra.hanson@newhorizonsteesside.com](mailto:myra.hanson@newhorizonsteesside.com)

### Black and Minority Ethnic Trustee Development Programme

Organised by the Directory of Social Change these free workshops are aimed at trustees of BME community organisations. They will take place in London over the next year. Anyone wanting more details visit [www.dsc.org.uk](http://www.dsc.org.uk)

### Voluntary Sector survey

Third Sector magazine and Birdsong Charity Consulting have launched an online survey to discover the reasons for the voluntary sector's high staff turnover rate. See their website at [www.birdsong.co.uk/charitypulse.html](http://www.birdsong.co.uk/charitypulse.html)

Source: Third Sector 21st March 2007

## E-Petitions

One of the tools used by the Third Sector to lobby the government regarding the suggestions that the Lottery Funding should be used to fund the 2012 Olympics was an e-petition. This was launched in November 2006 and allows anyone with access to a computer the ability to both create and sign petitions giving the opportunity to reach a potentially wider audience and to deliver the petition directly to Downing Street. Current petitions available to sign include

- We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to Stop making charities pay VAT.
- Defend funding for local voluntary and community organisations.
- We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to support the network of rural and urban post offices by refusing to allow the DTI to close any
- We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to Prohibit The Sale Of Fireworks To The Public

These are only a tiny percentage of the petitions available for signature on the website. To sign these or to start your own petition go to [www.petitions.pm.gov.uk](http://www.petitions.pm.gov.uk)

## Annual Returns

### What is an annual return?

An annual return is a snapshot of general information about a company's directors and secretary, registered office address, shareholders and share capital.

The annual return is separate from company's annual accounts and both must be sent to Company's House.

### Who must send an annual return to Companies House?

Every company must deliver an annual return to Companies House within 28 days of its made-up-date.

### What is the made-up-date?

The made-up-date is the date at which all the information in an annual return must be correct. It is usually the anniversary of

- The incorporation of the company; or
- The made-up-date of the previous annual return registered at Companies House

### Does it cost a company to submit an annual return?

Yes. There is an annual document-processing fee of £30 or £15 for users of the Software Filing or Web Filing services must be sent with the annual return.

### What happens if you don't send your annual return to Company's House?

If you file the annual return late, or not at all, the company and its director(s) and secretary can be prosecuted.

### Where do I get an annual return?

Companies House will write to every company at its registered office when the annual return is due to be filed.

(Source

[www.companieshouse.gov.uk/about/gbhtml/gba2.shtml](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk/about/gbhtml/gba2.shtml))

For further information you can visit Companies House website, which is

[www.companieshouse.gov.uk](http://www.companieshouse.gov.uk)

## Government-funded charities should lose charitable status, report claims

State-funded charities should lose their charitable status, according to a controversial new report published by think tank Civitas.

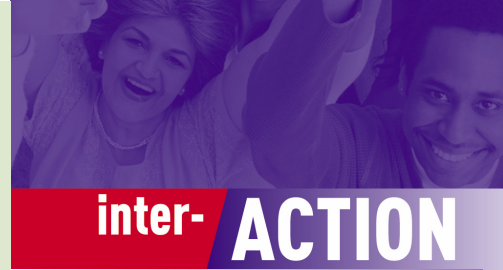
The paper, *Who cares?*, written by writer and journalist Nick Seddon, claims charities that derive more than 70 per cent of their income from the state have reached a level of dependency that makes them part of the state, rather than civil society. Those organisations should lose their charitable status in order to preserve the integrity of the third sector, Seddon argues. Under this system, some of the UK's biggest charitable brands, including NCH, Leonard Cheshire and Barnardo's, would find themselves stripped of their status. The report proposes three categories of third sector organisation. Charities receiving less than 30 per cent of their income from the government would still benefit from full charitable status, but those receiving between 30 and 70 per cent should be termed 'state-funded charities' and receive only modest benefits.

"Nick Seddon argues for the importance of keeping the charitable and voluntary sector part of civil society," a statement from the think tank said. "As the government funds charities, and even turns statutory bodies into charities, the lines are becoming blurred. These charities come to resemble more and more the statutory departments on which they depend for money, whilst also competing with genuinely independent charities for donations, and creating confusion about what a charity is."

Source: Charity Times Newsalert February 2007



## Redcar & Cleveland Police Neighbourhood Policing Update.



# inter-ACTION

By 2008 all areas of England and Wales will have in place dedicated Neighbourhood Teams who are readily identifiable and accessible. Underpinning this approach will be the introduction of dedicated resources with geographic ownership and accountability. Teams will be targeting issues that matter most to communities and joint problem solving by the police, partner agencies and communities will be key to its success.

From April 2007 locally identified neighbourhood officers in Redcar & Cleveland will be geographically 'ring fenced' thereby maximising their presence on their allocated local neighbourhood. Abstraction from their area will be closely monitored and kept to an absolute minimum.

Your local neighbourhood team will be made up of police constables, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and special constables, supported by Local Authority Wardens and other key partners.

**Each of the 22 boroughs wards will have a neighbourhood police officer assigned. The details of your local neighbourhood officer can be found below.**

<b>ESTON</b>	PC Steve ROBINSON & PC Jan McARTHUR	<b>COATHAM</b>	PC Sarah DEAN & PC Lindsay FORBES
<b>NORMANBY</b>	PC Carl DRINKEL & PC Paul BROWN	<b>KIRKLEATHAM</b>	PC Elizabeth PATE & PC Shane KYME
<b>ORMESBY</b>	PC Paul WHITELEY & PC Dan COOK	<b>NEWCOMEN</b>	PC Dave ALCOCK
<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Tim BROWN	<b>WEST DYKE</b>	PC Kenneth STEVENSON
<b>SOUTH BANK</b>	PC Tim RAYNES & PC John SEAMAN	<b>ZETLAND</b>	PC Darren BROWN
<b>TEESVILLE</b>	PC Kieth ROBINSON	<b>DORMANSTOWN</b>	PC Kerry LEWIS
<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Jim BROWN	<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Nigel McCARTNEY
<b>GRANGETOWN</b>	PC Eric SIMPSON, PC Tony GRIMES & PC Chris JAMES	<b>GUISBOROUGH</b>	PC Jackie FIELDHOUSE & PC Tim WALMSLEY
<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Kawal SINGH	<b>HUTTON/WESTWORTH</b>	PC Steve KENNEDY
<b>SALTBURN</b>	PC Stuart SMITH	<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Colin ASKEY
<b>LONGBECK</b>	PC Andy VICKERS	<b>BROTTON</b>	PC Adrian BERRYMAN
<b>St GERMAINS</b>	PC Craig JONES	<b>LOCKWOOD</b>	PC Mike D'INVERNO (Temporary position)
<b>SKELTON</b>	PC John MOORE	<b>LOFTUS</b>	PC David CLARKE & PC Alistair EVERETT
<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Steve MacFARLANE	<b>Team Leader</b>	Sgt Helen BARKER

### Excellent News for neighbourhoods – Recruitment of additional Police Community Support Officers.....

At the present time the borough has 16 PCSOs working at neighbourhood level. Additional funding from the Home Office, Police Authority and Partnership will swell the ranks up to **39** Police Community Support Officers. The additional officers who are currently being recruited will provide additional high visibility uniform presence and reassurance in communities across the borough. Their key priority will be to tackle anti-social behaviour.

**Once recruitment is complete a leaflet will be distributed to all residents in the borough with details of who your local officers are including photographs and information on where local beat surgeries are held.**

### Improving Access and Visibility.....

Work is on-going to improve access to your local neighbourhood team and enhance their visibility on their beats. Public buildings across the borough are being identified which can be used as a base for the local team whilst on patrol. Examples of such exciting partnerships include facilities made available at West Redcar Community College and Surestart, Overfields .

### New Telephone contact number

for your Neighbourhood team officer.... As from April 2007 Redcar & Cleveland police will have a single point of contact telephone number for members of the public. This will enable you to contact your local neighbourhood officer for non-urgent matters. If the officer is on duty and available the call could even be patched through to their radio set.

**01642 302929** (not to be used for reporting crimes/incidents)

### Joint Action Group's (JAGs) embrace a collaborative problem solving approach.....

Six problem solving groups involving police and partner agencies will be formed from April 2007. Their remit will be to help address local problems being dealt with at neighbourhood level. There will be one JAG group in each of the six Local Authority Area Environment Committee areas across the borough working to support the neighbourhood teams and drive forward the wider agenda to improve public services.

For more information on neighbourhood Policing visit [www.neighbourhoodpolicing.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodpolicing.co.uk) Or click on the Redcar & Cleveland link at [www.cleveland.police.uk](http://www.cleveland.police.uk)

## £80m grants programme for communities

One of the provisions in the recent Budget was the announcement of an £80m fund to supply grants to community groups. The fund will be distributed over four years and was a result of submissions by the Local Community Sector Taskforce to the Government's Third Sector Review.

Kevin Curley, NAVCA said "Local voluntary groups have lost their Community Chests and their Single Regeneration Budget pots, this is a small fund, just £20m a year but our members will be able to use it to lever more grant aid out of local strategic partnerships and local area agreements"

The fund will be administered by the Office of the Third Sector and grants will be allocated by local grantmakers.

Source Third Sector 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007

## Payroll giving raises £84 million a year

Charities received more than £84 million in payroll giving donations in the last tax year, just 20 years after the scheme was established, according to figures published by the Institute of Fundraising.

Payroll giving was first launched in 1987 and had only 60,629 employees taking part in its first year. In 2005/06 more than 600,000 employees were signed up to the tax efficient giving programme.

The Institute of Fundraising is celebrating the 20th anniversary of payroll giving by urging charities to encourage more employers and employees to sign up to the scheme.

"It's fantastic to see the impact payroll giving has made on the income of charities in the 20 years it has been around," said Institute chief executive Lindsay Boswell. "Payroll giving raises £84 million for charities each year yet only two to three per cent of the population give to charity in this way. It is therefore essential for charities to promote payroll giving in 2007 as a means of maximising their income."

*Source: Charity Times Newsalert 141 February 2007*

**The Invest to Save programme** will allocate an additional £11m to 24 new projects that enable the delivery of local services by third sector organizations  
Source Third Sector 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007

## Training available to all Youth Work Practitioners

The following courses are available from Redcar & Cleveland Youth & Community Service to Voluntary and Community groups

### NVQ Level 1 – Understanding Youth Work

Tuesday evenings starting 12<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> July (six weeks)

### NVQ Level 2 in Youth Work:

September 2007

### Supervisor Training

Tuesdays 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> May

### Child Protection – Basic

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007

### Child Protection – Nominated Persons

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2007



**Futurebuilders** will be able to offer loans to all third sector organisation working in crime, community cohesion, education, health and social care and support for children and young people could apply to the fund

Source Third Sector 28<sup>th</sup> March 2007

## RCVDA VOLUNTEER AWARDS 2007

### Time to recognise your volunteers



#### Look out for the nomination form in this month's mail out.

To help you decide which category you want to nominate I have given below a simple explanation of each of the nine awards. You can enter more than one nomination or category. The more information you put on the form the easier it is for the judges to decide.

#### Youth Volunteer Award (16-18 yrs) and (19+)

Do you know of a young person who gives their own time to either their community or others? We need to encourage and reward our young volunteers for the example they set to their peers and this gives you the opportunity to celebrate their achievements. This award is split into two age groups 16 – 18 years and 19 – 25 year olds.

#### Adult Volunteer Award

I know it's difficult to choose just one from all those hardworking volunteers but is there one person either in your organisation or in your community who gives their all? Then take the time to nominate him/her for this award. Or if you are struggling to choose nominate them all and leave it to the judges to decide!

#### Volunteer Group Award

Or if you still feel that you can't choose or that all your volunteers are great why not nominate the whole team – each volunteer will be presented with a certificate and the category winner will receive a handsome trophy to display at your premises.

#### Volunteer Fundraiser Award

Do you know anyone who dedicates a great deal of their time to raising funds for a particular cause? These people are difficult to pinpoint as they often work alone and not as a member of a voluntary group, and therefore go unrecognised for their efforts. Don't forget if **you** are this "unsung hero" we would love it if you wrote and told us about yourself?

#### Charity Shop Team

We've changed the criteria for this award a little this year as we realised that it was difficult for people to choose one individual over another when it is a team that runs a charity shop. So if you feel that your charity shop **and** team deserve recognition for their sterling efforts why not nominate them for this category?

#### Community Centre/Village Hall

We all know that often the village hall/community centre is at the hub of a community. Is yours a place where you can take part in a variety of activities? Then why not take this opportunity and nominate it for an award !!

#### RCVDA Outstanding Individual Achievement Award

This is an opportunity for the community of Redcar & Cleveland to salute a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the community through their volunteering. Look around you who is always the one willing to take on any task – take the time and nominate them.

#### The George Punshon Commemorative Award for Outstanding Voluntary Group

George was the winner of the *Outstanding Individual Achievement award* in 2004 and his family honour his memory by sponsoring this commemorative award. If you think your group/project/organisation **are** outstanding why not nominate yourselves?

Good luck – hope you are a winner  
Trish x

inter- **ACTION**

### Challenge Aneka!!!

( or in our case Karen)

As part of Volunteer's week Volunteering England are challenging all MP's to engage in an aspect of volunteering within their constituency. Vera Baird has already agreed to take up the challenge and will be volunteering in a number of venues in Redcar & Cleveland. While talking about this with Trish I decided that this would be a good opportunity for me to experience new aspects of volunteering and to learn more about the groups we support. I am currently involved in a youth club but would like to have a go at something new. So here is the proposal – have you got an unusual volunteering opportunity – do you need an extra pair of hands or ears. If so, contact Trish Waters, 01642 440571 and I will leave it to her and my colleagues to choose which opportunity is most challenging. I will undertake this challenge during Volunteers Week June 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> but am prepared to come and do any necessary training before that date. I am CRB checked so working with children and vulnerable adults is no problem.

OVER TO YOU



# inter-ACTION

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RCVDA

## Some thoughts on the Lottery/Olympics debate

"This temporary diversion from existing good causes to the Olympics good cause is done with the least disruption possible"

**Tessa Jowell** Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

"The Government will penalise the clubs and small organisations that the Olympics were supposed to benefit"

**Hugh Robertson MP**, shadow Olympics minister

"I very much regret it has been necessary to divert a further £425m of Big Lottery Fund resources to the Olympics"

**Sir Clive Booth**, chairman, Big Lottery Fund

"The best-case scenario would result in 186,000 less people doing sport"

**Derek Mapp**, chairman, Sport England

"Things could have been a lot worse"

**Stuart Etherington**, chief executive, NCVO

"This campaign did not set out to stop the transfer of any money from all the lottery distributors. That would have been mission impossible"

**Kevin Curley**, chief executive, NAVCA

Source: *Third Sector*, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

