



Community Eye

Strategy and Performance

Recently at Gedling CVS we began our annual review process and strategic planning process in order that we can better respond to the needs of the growing voluntary and community sector. As part of that process we took time out to review our progress this past year and to explore those external factors which have a significant influence on our work. These may fall into the categories of political, social, economic, technological, environmental/ethical or sector wide issues

The whole process of strategic planning is a valuable exercise for all organisations as sometimes we get so bogged down in the everyday that we forget what we really have achieved. Our Annual Review day helped to formulate thinking for the AGM later this year denoting themes and trends and enabled us to broaden our thinking and gain a different perspective on what we might aim to achieve over the next 5 years. The result is a framework on which to build a more detailed programme of activity which identified where we need to focus our energy and resources. To learn more about strategic planning contact the **Development Team** at Gedling CVS on **0115 926 6750**

Locally the strategic planning process is also being applied by the Gedling Partnership in order to develop a new Sustainable Community Strategy by the end of 2008. The review of the current Community Strategy will develop a new long-term vision and outline strategic priorities for Gedling Borough and will draw upon guidance from Government on developing new sustainable community strategies.

The Partnership is currently gathering key evidence, such as consultation findings and statistical information relating to existing service provision and quality of life in the Borough. The resulting 'State of the Borough' findings will be used to inform on what the key issues are for Gedling. Consultation on these findings will follow with various stakeholders, including community representatives and parish councils and partner organisations.

To get involved in the development of a new sustainable community strategy please contact Stephen Bray on **0115 901 3901** or email stephen.bray@gedling.gov.uk



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Gedling CVS
February 2008

Deadline for April
Edition is 19th
March

News

Local Petitions and Calls for Action



Communities and Local Government are seeking views on how arrangement for local petitions can be strengthened and how a new system that would require councils to respond to petitions might operate. It also seeks views on the Councillors Call for Action, introduced under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Closing date for comments is 20th March 2008. For more information visit the Communities website www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/petitionscalls

Source: NAVCA Linx 82, 10 January 2008

Ministry of Justice Third Sector Strategy



The Ministry of Justice has published a consultation to enable it to finalise its third sector strategy for England and Wales. The hope is that the Ministry can develop a strategy to strengthen the way the ministry works with voluntary and community groups to secure better public services and improve its policies. The closing date for comments is 20th March 2008. More information is available on www.justice.gov.uk/publications/cp3307.htm An example of what the Ministry hopes to achieve is the draft action plan for National Offender Management Service (NOMS) third sector action plan for which comments are invited

Source: NVCA Linx 82, 10 January 2008

Responses to Gift Aid



Last year Government consulted with a wide range of organisations on potential changes. The consultation closed last September and they have now published a summary of the 300 responses they received. They now hope to explore some of the comments in more detail and have identified a number of areas which they feel need more clarification. For more information visit <http://digbid.com/4wdqn> or www.hm-treasury.gov.uk

Source: NAVCA Linx82, 10 January 2008

BIG Lottery Fund and The Olympic

James Purnell, the DCMS Minister, made a firm promise in the House of Commons last week that there will be no further raid on lottery money for the Olympics; see this short link <http://digbig.com/4wgej> or visit <http://www.publications.parliament.uk>. There are, however, concerns that the projected rise in land prices are too optimistic and therefore the plan to repay money to the lottery from land sales after the Olympics will not work

Source: NAVCA Linx 83, 28 January 2008

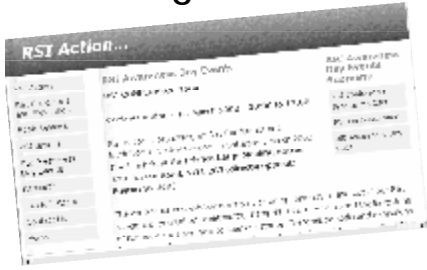
Tackling Worklessness



NAVCA (the national body of local infrastructure organisations) and the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) have met to discuss how third sector organisations can help in tackling worklessness. The DWP are keenly interested in identifying local third sector organisations to become sub-contractors in what will be called 'flexible new deal'. NAVCA will be working with DWP to arrange 30 sub-regional consultation meeting during 2008. More information can be found at <http://digbig.com/4wdbd> or www.dwp.gov.uk

Source: NAVCA Linx 82 10 January 2008

Nottingham and East Midlands RSI Support Group Closes



As from the end of December 2007 the RSI Support Group closes after offering support and advice to RSI sufferers for the past 19 years. A new national charity RSI Action (www.RSIAction.org.uk) has been formed and support via the helpline is still available on their website (Wendy Lawrence 0115 9870247) and (Carole Wright 0115 9503188).

There For You - Community Outreach Advisor

Age Concern Nottingham & Nottinghamshire have a Community Outreach Advisor who is offering her time and services to local older people. Adelle Walker can support people aged 50+ years to maintain their independence and well being. People may feel lonely, isolated or just need some extra help with something they can't manage alone. It could be information, being put in touch with local groups or services which would help with specific needs. Adelle is willing to come and talk to local groups should you want to know more. To contact Adelle you can ring her direct on her mobile 07872 839 624 or via the main Age Concern Nottingham office on 0115 844 0011



New Year and New Names

The new year has brought with it a few name changes. The Ravenshead Day Centre has reverted to its original name of "**The Cornwater Club**". They are still operating from the same location on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and have a new day on Thursday's for people with memory problems. For more information contact Maxine Coombes on **07703 460 948**

Also Nottinghamshire Rural Community Council has become **Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire** to reflect changes in national policy regarding rural affairs. The website and contact details remain the same www.nottsrtc.org.uk or Tel **01623 727 600**



Gedling Intergenerational Event

Arnold Golden Eagles and Gedling Youth Assembly have been busy planning an intergenerational event where young people aged 11-18 years and the over 50's can work and learn together about issues which affect them. The event will take place on Sunday 9th March and there is a range of activities to choose from including music and dance and discussion topics on citizenship and community safety. To attend people must complete an application form indicating their choices of activities. Application forms will be available shortly but you can always leave your name and contact details with **Gedling Volunteer Centre** on **0115 926 6750** or admin@gedlingcvs.org.uk

Third Sector Foresight



A new fully interactive website from NCVO Third Sector Foresight which will help organisations with strategic thinking and planning. The site offers free information and tools to enable groups to improve their understanding of the trends and forces ('drivers') in the operating environment that are shaping the future of the sector. It offers practical ideas and insights about strategic thinking. The website offers the chance to sign up for regular bulletins. Visit www.3s4.org.uk or telephone the NCVO Foresight team for more information **020 7520 2578**

Youth Arts in Focus



Artsplan is a new resource from Artsworld, the national youth arts development agency. Artsworld offer advice, courses and publications based on professional experience using the arts with young people aged 12-25 in a variety of settings. Artsplan have published a new collection of guidelines to help explore and set up initiatives with the wide-ranging world of youth arts to complement courses.

The '6 Guideline Collective' includes titles such as "Creating respect: using youth arts to develop an understanding of cultural diversity", and "Working together: using the arts with young people". A pack of 6 titles can be bought for £35 from Artsworld, Fairways House Mount Pleasant Road, Southampton SO14 OQB, telephone **02380 630 960** or email artsplan@artsworld.org.uk For more information visit www.artsworld.org.uk/artsplan

How Accessible is Your Website?



If you have a website it is worth checking that it is accessible to a wide variety of potential supporters and members. AbilityNet has produced a free Web Accessibility Toolbar to help check your site and highlight any errors. AbilityNet say "The Web Accessibility Toolbar is an extremely powerful and useful tool for testing website accessibility and is a must for all web developers". For more information visit www.abilitynet.org.uk/webarticle76

Source: EMSP E-bulletin

Good Moves - Recruitment to the Third Sector



NAVCA has joined forces with counterparts in Scotland and Wales to launch a recruitment website to the third sector in England. Goodmoves has proven very successful in Scotland and Wales to help employers attract quality applicants, significantly reduce the cost of recruitment advertising and reduce the burden of handling initial enquiries. NAVCA are offering the first 100 adverts free of charge. To view the site visit www.goodmoves.org.uk

Source: NAVCA Linx 82, 10 January 2008

Notts 50+ Web Portal

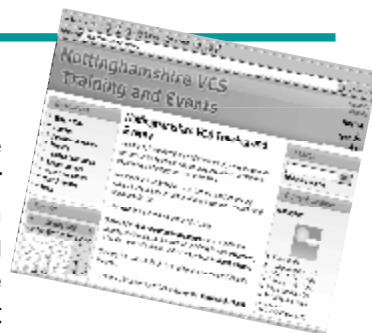


Over 50's in Nottinghamshire have a wealth of opportunities available to them but are not always able to easily find out about what is going on in their local area. www.notts50plus.co.uk is set to change that by providing information on services and activities aimed at encouraging older people to stay active, independent and involved in their local community. Whether you are interested in joining a group, need advice on what money you are entitled to, or want to know which local supermarkets will deliver groceries, just visit the website.

Resources

Nottingham Training and Events Website

Enable has launched a new website promoting training and learning. The new training and events portal, where the voluntary and community sector can find the current workforce development opportunities in Nottinghamshire and beyond. The site contains information about training providers, training venues, trainers and consultants who work within the Voluntary and Community Sector. Search the site for courses at www.enable-vcs.org or telephone the Enable team on **0115 934 9543**



CRB Checks

Does your group need CRB checks? Do you need assistance in the process? Do you need to ensure the safety of the children and vulnerable adults that you work with? NYON (Nottinghamshire Youth Organisation Network) is now a registered umbrella body with the Criminal Records Bureau and can offer advice and CRB checks to organisations for their paid workers and volunteers. The following charges apply to cover the costs of processing the forms and the support offered to groups: NYON members £7.50; Non-Members £10; Private/Statutory – cost on application. In addition to the administration fee, the CRB charges standard fees for the checks. These are: Volunteers – free; Standard check - £31.00; Enhanced check - £36.00. Contact: Lindsay Boyle at NYON on **0115 926 6750** or email: admin@nyon.org.uk

Is Your Insurer on the CaSE?



CaSE Insurance is a new insurance broker that has been established in collaboration with the voluntary sector to provide cost effective, tailored, insurance packages exclusively to voluntary organisations and community enterprises. CaSE Insurance can cover all your organisation's insurance needs and can potentially save your organisation money but they also promise to return over 40% of their profits to the voluntary sector. Find out more at www.ncvlo-vol.org/insurance or contact CaSE Insurance directly on **0800 225 2288** or via www.caseinsurance.co.uk/ncvo

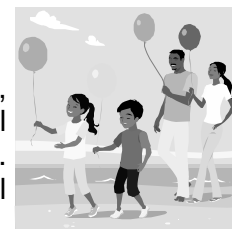
IT Champions



Are you, Aged 50+, Resident in Nottinghamshire, Interested in learning basic computer skills and willing to share you new skills with others aged 50+? If so, then this scheme is for you. The IT Champions project is looking for people who feel they can share their knowledge of IT no matter how small with others. The project is funded by Link Age Plus, a government scheme, to help increase independence in later life. For more information contact Rachel Hind, Community IT Champions Co-ordinator at Rural Communities Action Nottinghamshire on **01623 727600** or use your IT skills and email her: rhind@nottsccc.org.uk.

Parent Pages

Parent Pages is a UK directory for families with babies and children; childcare, tutors, days out and events, parties, activities, schools, nurseries, after school clubs, charities and helplines, holidays, children and sport, shopping and more. Local and national lists. If your life revolves around 0-18's this is a very useful resource. Website: www.parentpages.co.uk



Focus on: Fairtrade town

Help Gedling Borough to Become a Fairtrade Town

Fairtrade means supporting farmers in developing countries. By buying a product with the Fairtrade mark you can be sure that farmers earn a fair wage which allows a better standard of living and access to services such as healthcare and education for their children.



Gedling is very close to becoming a Fairtrade town and this shows that local people are doing a great job in supporting the Fairtrade town campaign as well as the farmers.

However, there are still targets to be met and the **Gedling Fairtrade Group needs your help!** To reach Fairtrade Town status the group must be able to show that Gedling Borough has the following:

A 'Flagship Employer' – This business can either sell Fairtrade goods or use them in the workplace (such as Fairtrade tea and coffee in staff kitchen). A 'flagship' employer must be well known in the area and be able to help publicise Fairtrade.

At least 23 shops and 12 cafes, restaurants or pubs selling Fairtrade goods.

A number of workplaces, schools, churches and community groups using Fairtrade goods.

These things are vital to Gedling Borough achieving Fairtrade Town status and without them, it will not be possible.



If you are aware of any of the above or would like to suggest a business or workplace for the Gedling Fairtrade Group to contact then please get in touch.

The Gedling Fairtrade Group website will keep visitors up-to-date with Fairtrade activities as well as a directory of local Fairtrade suppliers and supporters. There is also a regularly 'Featured Supplier' from the area which is currently 'Plantations', the chocolate shop in Arnold.

Look out for Fairtrade Fortnight events taking place from 25th February to 9th March!

If you would like to join the Fairtrade Town campaign or support the Gedling Group in any way, please get in touch.

Website: www.fairtradegedling.org.uk

Contact: hello@fairtradegedling.org.uk or telephone Vicky on 07779 123 695

Gedling CVS and Fairtrade

Gedling CVS is a Fairtrade organisation using Fairtrade tea and coffee products in our staff kitchen. We also aim to use them when we hold events for volunteers and voluntary and community organisations.

Events Diary

| March | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Tuesday 4th March | | Gedling Volunteer Co-ordinators Meeting at the Brickyard Community Centre An opportunity to meet and share information about volunteering in Gedling Borough. Contact Sonia or David for more information on 0115 926 6750 or email volunteering@gedlingcvs.org.uk |
| 25th February to 9th March | | Fairtrade Fortnight. In Gedling, there will be a display in the Arnold Civic Centre providing information about Fairtrade, the Gedling Group and how you can get involved. See Page 7 for information about Fairtrade in Gedling |
| Sunday 9th | 10.30 am to 4 pm | Gedling Intergenerational Event at Arnold Library. Young and older people working and learning together. Places are limited. See page 3 for details |
| Wednesday 12th | 1pm to 2 pm | Calverton Community Forum. An informal gathering of community groups and professionals working in Calverton, wanting to share information. Meet at the Youth Centre. Tea/coffee provided but bring your own sandwiches. |
| Thursday 13th March | 10.30 am to 3 pm | Gedling African Caribbean Elders Group at The Brickyard. Speakers, gentle exercise and lunch. For more information contact Laurence on 0115 854 6262 or email laurence.quirk@nottsc.gov.uk |
| April | | |
| Wednesday 2nd | 10 am to 1 pm | Gedling Race Awareness Forum. Open meeting for all to talk about race and diversity issues. For more information contact Natasha Bowen at Gedling Borough Council on 0115 901 3901 |
| Monday 14th April and Monday 12th May | 9.30 am to 4 pm | Understanding and using an outcomes focus. Free training for voluntary and community groups. Note participants must be able to attend both days. See flier enclosed with this newsletter or contact Laurence on 0115 845 6262 |
| Wednesday 14th | 1 to 2 pm | Calverton Community Forum. An informal gathering of community groups and professionals working in Calverton, wanting to share information. Meet at the Youth Centre. Tea/coffee provided but bring your own sandwiches. |
| May | | |
| 17th to 23rd May | | Adult Learners Week is the largest and longest running learning campaign which encourages thousands of adults whatever their age and background to give learning a go. Visit the website for more information at www.alw.org.uk |

Funding

Grants Offered for Children's Charities



Children's charities are being invited to bid for three grants of £500,000 by BBC Children in Need and venture philanthropy organisation, The Hunter Foundation. The three-year grants programme, called Positive Destinations, aims to fund innovative and effective projects to boost the future chances of vulnerable young people. Projects can be either offer a holistic response or target key life stages such as pre-school, the transition from primary to secondary school, or the 14-16 age range. The charities are also offering three small grants adding up to £500,000 in total. For more information email: Pudsey@bbc.co.uk, with Positive Destinations in the subject line. The deadline for applications is 30 March. **England and General Helpline**, BBC Children in Need Appeal, PO Box 1000, London, W12 7WJ or telephone **020 8576 7788**

Red Nose Day 2008



During 2005-08 they are concentrating their funding on the following programme areas; Young People; around issues of alcohol, mental health and those being sexually exploited or trafficked; Older People; mental Health; Refugees and asylum seekers; Domestic Violence. They will consider small and medium-sized projects as well as a few larger and longer-term grants where appropriate. Small grants – up to £5000 can only be applied for in the following three programme areas: disadvantaged communities; older people; mental health. Grants can be given for running costs and capital costs, depending on the programme. There is no maximum grant and you should ask for the amount you need. For grants under £5000 there is no deadline. Dates of other cycles for grants of more than £5000 can be found on their website. Further details from Comic Relief UK, 5th Floor, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP. Telephone: **020 7820 5555**. Email: red@comicrelief.org.uk Website: www.comicrelief.com

NCVO - Only Connect Travel Bursary

Only Connect is a visit scheme sponsored by Triodos Bank. It enables you to visit another voluntary and community organisation (VCO) to learn about their experience and the key issues to consider when generating earned income. The bursary pays £150 for your time and travel to visit another organisation to learn about how they have diversified their income into trading or public service delivery or by using loan finance. NCVO will pay the host organisation £200 as a consultation fee for their time spent with you. All they ask in return is that you write a report of the visit so they can allow others to share your learning. To request an application form telephone **020 7520 3162** or visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/sfp/?id=7278. If you need help to find a host organisation please get in touch with us at Gedling CVS on 0115 926 6750

Boots



Boots Charitable Trust is an independent registered charity wholly funded by Boots which aims support charities and small voluntary organisations that work in the areas of health, lifelong learning, community development and social care in the county of Nottinghamshire. Over the last four decades, thousands of lives have been enhanced by the Trust with grants totalling over £9 million. Applications will only be considered on the official application form available from www.boots-csr.com and select 'communities' or by contacting the Boots Charitable Trust (BCT) Appeals Officer on **0845 070 5015**

Did you know that Gedling CVS can help you with your funding applications? We can advise and support you through the whole process. For more details contact us on **0115 926 6750**

It's not easy being green, but we're trying

In Autumn 2007 Gedling CVS signed up to the **Third Sector Declaration on Climate Change**. Since then we have been thinking about how we can do more to reduce our impact on the environment and thought we might share some of the information we have found out. We hope this encourage you in your efforts to reduce your group's impact on the environment.



Reduce, reuse and recycle

This phrase is often used on TV adverts to help get the climate change message across.



In the office we've attempting to **reduce** our energy consumption by only boiling enough water in the kettle for as many people who want a drink. Did you know if everyone boiled only the water they needed to make a cup of tea instead of 'filling' the kettle every time, we could save enough electricity to run practically all the street lighting in the country. (Source:DETR). We also turn off the photocopier at night. If we left it on we would be wasting enough electricity that would make us an additional 5, 300 copies. That's enough to keep us going for a month.



We try to **reduce** our paper consumption (and therefore the energy consumed to make paper), by only printing what is absolutely necessary. We've also set up our printers to print double-sided when they can. If they can't do it automatically we make time to do it manually.

We **reuse** paper that's only printed on one side. We use non-confidential print for that ever handy message pad when on the phone or if in good condition use if for printing a draft of other material.

We **recycle** paper we cannot re-use along with all our cardboard, tins and plastic bottles. We even have a composter for items like apple cores, tea bags and coffee grinds. Each tonne of paper recycled saves 15 average-sized trees, as well as their surrounding habitat and wildlife. (Source: World Wildlife Fund).



When you leave a computer monitor on standby it still consumes about 30% of the energy required when in normal use. If your monitor flashes when you have turned off you computer then your monitor is still consuming electricity.

At Gedling CVS we're trying to get into the habit of switching our monitors off when away from them for short periods and turning off our PC completely when away from the desk for more than 1 hour. Its not easy to remember and change the habit, but then its not easy being green.



What else could we do?

We're still exploring ideas and suggestions from the team in the office. For

example if we organise a meeting can we encourage people to use public transport, car share or even walk to see us? What can we do to buy ethical goods and services? Can we improve the carbon footprint of our newsletter by printing on different paper with environmentally friendly ink?

These are just a few of our ideas and concerns. If you want to know more then a good place to start is the Every Action Counts www.everyactioncounts.org.uk This site has a number of good resources and links to useful sources of help that can support your efforts to combat climate change. If you don't have access to the net, then ring **Every Action Counts** on **0845 241 0957** or contact us at Gedling CVS on **0115 926 6750** and ask about using a computer at our office.

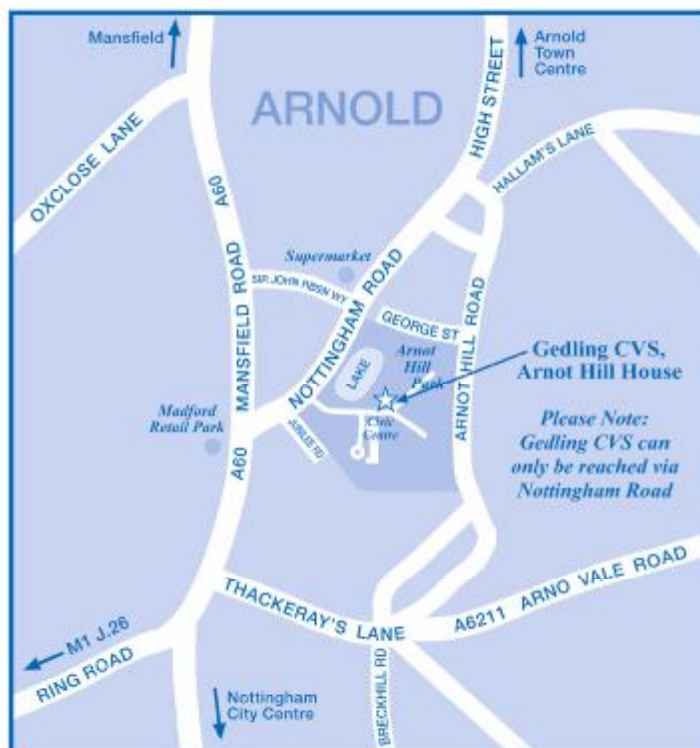
Our organisation

Gedling Community and Voluntary Services is a non-profit making organisation, set up to assist in the promotion and development of voluntary and community activity in the district of Gedling.

If you wish to know more about any of the articles in this issue, or wish to place an article in future issues please contact Gedling CVS.

If you would like a copy of documents mentioned as available to download from the internet but you do not have internet access, please contact Gedling CVS and a paper copy can be sent to you.

The information and the views expressed in this newsletter are from a range of sources and reflect other perspectives as well as those of Gedling CVS. References to specific products, services and businesses are not necessarily recommendations.



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Community Eye can be made available on disc and tape, or in large print, braille and other languages. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter in one of these formats, please contact the office on 0115 926 6750. However, please be aware that this service requires prior notice.