

Volunteer Centre Dundee Bulletin

February 2010 – Issue 33

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Dear Anne, VCD,

This is our first bulletin of 2010 and we are already nearing March. Apologies for the delay. It's been a very busy start to the year at The Volunteer Centre with more people than ever coming in to find out about volunteering. Our website has also had an increase in the number of people using it with over 1400 unique visitors in the last month. More and more people come to us as a first point of information when thinking about volunteering. This is great, but as opportunities get filled we have less to offer and for this we need your help. So can I ask for your help with the following?

1. **Do we have all your opportunities or are there any still undiscovered?** see the [item below](#) for more detail
2. **Do you know any other volunteer involving groups who are not registered with us?** If yes can you pass on their details to us and we will make contact with them to see if we can help them with their volunteer recruitment.
3. **Do we have your most up to date information?** It's very important that the information people are accessing from us is up to date therefore we are currently contacting every organisation registered with us to check this. But don't wait for us to contact you! If you have any changes to email addresses, main contact details, volunteer opportunities – please let us know (if you registered nationally through VDS we won't contact you as

any updates go to Rebecca Dadge).

Many thanks for your help with this and we look forward to a busy year of volunteering!

Wendy

Please feel free to forward this bulletin on.

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We need your undiscovered volunteering opportunities!

Currently we have an increase in the numbers of people wanting to volunteer, but as vacancies get filled, we have fewer opportunities to offer – can you help?

Do you have areas where you could involve volunteers that you hadn't thought of before? For example you currently have volunteers in certain roles such as befriending or advocating but could you also have an opportunity for an administrator or receptionist? Could you use a volunteer with a specific skill? For example:

- need someone to help with your website
- marketing and PR,
- bookkeeping help for your finances or
- photography for your newsletter

All these have been recruited for as volunteer roles before – have you got a volunteer role just waiting to be discovered?

Other skills we have recently been offered include Musician, DJ, Lighting and Sound Technician, Alternative Therapies and a Writer. Do you have something that you need a specific skill for and could it be a volunteer role? If you want to discuss any ideas or need help to develop the job descriptions for your new roles then please contact Fiona Bissett on 01382 305705,

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Nominate your Young Volunteers

In 2006 the very first Sunday Mail Young Scot Awards, and now five years on the event is bigger and better than ever. On Thursday 29th April 2010 over 500 guests will attend the glittering awards ceremony to recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Scotland's Young People in 2009.

Environment: Do you know a young person aged between 12 and 22 who gives their time and effort to help protect the world for future generations? This could be related to recycling, global sustainability, ecology or perhaps something else entirely. Whatever they do, this award will go to a young person who is passionate about green issues.

Health: Helping others to lead a healthier lifestyle? Supporting the community to deal with alcohol or mental health issues? How are the young people you know making a positive impact on other people's health and wellbeing? Perhaps they are encouraging people to stop smoking or to take part in physical activity. If you know a young person or a group of young people who should be celebrated for the help or encouragement they have given to others, let us know and they could be the next winner of the Health Award!

There are 13 awards, from sports to cultural diversity, democracy and citizenship and volunteering. Simply go to the Nominate Now page <http://www.youngscotawards.co.uk> and make your nomination for the young person you think has really made a difference to people's lives this year. The final 3 people in each category will get a VIP invitation to attend the awards ceremony the Glasgow Hilton Hotel on Thursday 29th April.

Source: Carly Baxter, Daily Record

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Volunteer Centre Dundee on Twitter

We are all a Twitter at the Volunteer Centre! We will be tweeting regularly our

news, events and new opportunities. It is currently aimed at potential and existing volunteers. We hope that this will be a great way to let people know about your volunteering opportunities and volunteering events. If you would me to twitter anything on your behalf just let me know. Join us at

<http://twitter.com/volunteerdundee>

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Training and Forums

We held our first forum of the year on 13 January. Kathryn led this event and gave a short presentation on ways in which volunteering might contribute to the priorities of the Dundee Partnership. We did a short survey using the PP Vote System with the forum attendees – results of this are posted [on our website](#). We were also looking to the future of the Forum and how we can get more information to more people after each event. We will start to include a short summary of each forum in the following month's e-bulletin and post documents and files on the [Managers Forum webpage](#).

Forthcoming dates:

Wednesday 17 March (12-2pm) in Mitchell Street Centre

The Forum has been established now for a few years and it would be beneficial (particularly when attracting new Volunteer Coordinators) to have a mission statement/vision to give a clearer sense of what the Forum sets out to do. Please could you have a think about what you'd like the Forum to do for you and bring some ideas along on the 17th.

It would also be useful to do a leaflet swap (for noticeboards) between organisations so that service users (volunteers and staff too) can see what else is going on around the city. Please bring along some leaflets to pass round.

We will of course continue to mention anything that's "new" in volunteer management and share ideas/ good practice and leave some time for networking.

Thursday 22 April (12-2pm) in Craigowl Communities (Lawside Training Centre), 17B Scott Court, Paterson Street, Coldside

(NB: Lunch is being provided by the trainees within the catering kitchen). Limited places – please book early!!

Wednesday 26th May (12-2pm) in Dryburgh Education Centre, Napier Drive Dundee

As usual please email Anne (anne@volunteerdundee.org.uk) if you would like to book a place at any or all of the above dates. Refreshments will be provided however feel free to bring your own lunch (except in April when lunch is provided)! New faces always welcome. The Forum is for anyone who coordinates volunteers whether in a paid post or in a voluntary capacity.

Training

Our existing training programme is having an overhaul! We are re-designing our training to fit within the strands of Volunteer Friendly. We might need to get some feedback from volunteer managers as we progress with this – if you would like to help us a bit further down the line, please let Anne know

(anne@volunteerdundee.org.uk). Your contribution is much appreciated.

We will put details on the website when training dates become available and also let you know via the e-bulletin.

While we work on the above, we have two dates for training (from the existing arrangements) before the end of March:

Course: Developing Volunteer Portfolios (see summary below)

Thursday 11 March 2010

10am-1pm

Dudhope Room within Number 10

COST £20

By the end of the course the participant will:

- Be aware of what a portfolio is and how it can be used
- Have designed a portfolio to match the requirements of volunteering in

their organisation

- Have considered the implications for the future development of portfolios

Course: Creating Positive Volunteer-Staff Relations (see summary below)

Wednesday 31 March 2010

10am-1pm

Dudhope Room within Number 10

COST - £20

This course will provide participants with:

- Discussion of how the complex role of the volunteer manager is changing
- Identification of the skills needed to ensure successful volunteer-staff relations
- Explored strategies for building effective volunteer-staff relations

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Funding

Travel 2 Give Fundraising Opportunity

Travel 2 give is a new fundraising concept which is one of the first not for profit 'community benefit companies' in the UK travel industry. Travel 2 give act as a hub of fundraising coalition which is currently generating a donation of over £50 to a charity from the average holiday booking. All a charity needs to do to benefit from this fundraising programme is to communicate travel 2 give to your staff and supporters – and send receipts to donors. It's as simple as that. For more information on how to get involved visit the [Travel 2 Give website](#) to register your interest or email waters@btconnect.com or 0843 216 2104 for more information.

Young Roots – Information Workshop - Mon 1st March, Edinburgh

[Young Roots](#) is a grant programme designed to engage young people aged 13-25 with their heritage. Projects stem directly from the interest and ideas of young people, who are supported by youth and heritage organisations to develop skills, build confidence, and connect with their local communities.

Further information on the programme will be provided at a funding workshop held by the Heritage Lottery Fund. To book a place email [Sean Lally](#) or tel 0131 313 2488.

AWARDS FOR ALL

Awards for All gives grants of between £500 and £10,000 for people to take part in art, sport and community activities, and projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community. (They will fund Volunteer Expenses)

For more information go to the [Awards for All website](#)

SPORT FOR CHANGE

This [fund](#) will be of interest to community based projects that are using sport as part of a broader programme of work that intends to bring about change at an individual and/or community level. Deadline for submission is **21st May 2010**.

SANTANDER FOUNDATION UK

The [Santander Foundation](#) brings together the charitable donations formerly

made in the UK by Abbey, Alliance & Leicester and Bradford & Bingley savings business. Through the Foundation funding is available to registered charities that work in the areas of education and training and financial capability.

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Contact

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Regular news and training details are posted on our website at www.volunteerdundee.org.uk

All earlier issues of the ebulletin available for download on the news page

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