



East Cornwall CVS

The Signpost eNews Update

Your monthly eNews update from East Cornwall CVS

East Cornwall CVS celebrating 21 years of supporting voluntary & community organisations throughout Cornwall

Welcome to the November eNews Update, which contains snippets of information that has deadlines that miss the next edition of the Signpost newsletter.

If you would like to include articles for either the update or the main Signpost newsletter contact: Sylvia or Zoë on 01208 832763. We hope you find some of the articles useful.

Local & Regional News

Call for Evidence from Parish and Town Councils on 'The Big Society'

The Rural Services Network (RSN) is running a short survey to gather evidence from its members on the topic of the Big Society. They have produced a short [online questionnaire](#) which should only take 5 minutes to complete. The information gathered will help to clarify how policies and service delivery might develop locally in rural areas. Any contributions will be strictly confidential. The deadline for responses is no later than Wednesday 3rd November.

Cornish Communities Celebrated at Sustainable Village Awards

Ladock/ Grampound Road scooped a first prize of £1000 as winners of the Cornwall Sustainable Village of the Year 2010 awards, which took place on Friday 22 October at Probus Village Hall. Organised by [Cornwall Rural Community Council \(CRCC\)](#) and [SITA UK](#), the new competition celebrated how rural communities across Cornwall work together to provide a more sustainable and resilient future for themselves. Visit <http://tiny.cc/dlf12> for more information.

Funding & Opportunities

U Choose 2 Retrofit

The U Choose 2 Retrofit scheme is an exciting opportunity from the Eco-communities Programme of Development, to compete for a grant and professional support to carry out green improvements to your community space. The scheme will be launched at an event on Thursday 4 November at Roche Victory Hall between 10am – 12noon, where you are invited to find out more about the type of support available and how green improvements can be made to your community space.

Support is guaranteed for the top three projects voted by the China Clay community through the U Choose event. Winners will be announced at an event on Friday 17 December at the China Clay Country Park. **To book a place at the Launch Event on 4 November please call Lisa Riches on 01208 265705.**

Grassroots Grants

The Grassroots Grants Programme is ceasing on the 1st March 2011. The last Grassroots Grants panel will sit on the 7th December with the **deadline of 9th November**. Grassroots Grants are a key element of the Government's strategy for building stronger and more active communities by increasing small grant funding for community groups, promoting sustainability and strengthening independent grant making capacity across England.. Full details of the Grassroots Grants Programme are available [here](#).

Wallace & Gromit's Children's Foundation

The Wallace & Gromit's Children's Foundation raises money to improve the quality of life for children in hospitals and hospices throughout the UK. Grants are available for projects which are not directly funded by the NHS and enrich and enhance the lives of patients in hospitals and hospices in regional centres throughout the country.

Applications are welcomed from registered charities in the UK and preference will be given to projects conceived by and in children's hospitals and hospices. **The deadline for applications is 3 December 2010**. For more information, visit <http://www.wallaceandgromitfoundation.org/>.

Training, Seminars & Events

ECCVS Postpone Celebration Event – AGM Still Taking Place

We regret that our celebration event for the Voluntary Sector, planned for **Monday 15 November**, has been postponed. However, the organisation's AGM will still take place on the same day at 10am at our offices at Millendreath, St Inguner Country Offices, Lanivet, Bodmin, Cornwall PL30 5HS ([click for map](#)). Everyone is welcome to attend and if you have any questions or comments you would like to raise, or to confirm your attendance, please email Elizabeth on e.gooch@eccvs.org.uk or ring 01208 832763.

Taking the Dread Out of Dementia

Come along to a Learning to Live with Dementia Day, to be held on the **16th November at the Eden Project**, to find out about and celebrate the support available for individuals and their families worried about memory loss or dementia. The day will consist of a series of seminars and presentations from specialists and first-hand experiences, followed by an afternoon information fair. For more information or to book a place at this event please contact LINK in Cornwall (CRCC) on 01872 243533 or email linkincornwall@cornwallrcc.org.uk. Or you can [download the flyer](#) now.

Become a Compost Mentor!

Cornwall Waste Action are conducting a FREE compost workshop, taking place in Newquay on Thursday 4th November from 7pm til 9.30pm. Come along and learn how to make quality compost, get a FREE compost bin, and pass on your new composting knowledge to get others composting. For more details contact info@wasteaction.org.uk, or [download the flyer](#).

Stronger Together Conference

The Homeless Action Group is running a conference entitled Stronger Together on **Tuesday 23 November** at Camborne Parish Church ([click for map](#)) from **9.30am to 3pm**. In light of the Comprehensive Spending Review, the conference has been organised to discuss new ways of working together to support vulnerable people.

The keynote speaker is Lady Mary on 'What Challenges are Facing Vulnerable People in Cornwall in the coming year'. There is also an opportunity for your organisation to talk briefly about what you do and how your work will be affected, and a chance to share ideas about working together in new ways. For more information, contact Mike Firbank on 07814 033183 or mjfirbank@hotmail.com. Lunch and drinks are provided for free.

Effective Supervision Skills

6th & 7th December, The Shire House, Bodmin - A practical, process-focused course design to build confidence, incorporate existing skills, and provide a flexible structure for managing supervision meetings. This training is essential for newly or recently appointed supervisors/managers. For more information, or to book, contact mail@idttraining.com or phone 01803 299049.

Useful Information

Good Governance: a Code for the Voluntary and Community Sector

A Steering Group of representatives from ACEVO, Charity Trustee Networks (CTN), the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) and NCVO wrote the first edition of the Code in 2005, with support from the Charity Commission. Now, following consultation with Code users, the Steering Group has published a second edition. [Download a copy of the Code \(PDF\)](#)

TheGivingMachine™

TheGivingMachine™ is a new way to support your favourite UK charities and schools. Give the greatest gift this Christmas, purchases you make via TheGivingMachine™ trigger retailer donations to your good causes. It costs you nothing! You shop, they give ... It really is as simple as that. Visit www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/ for details.

Future Focus - Free Guides for Infrastructure

If you work for an infrastructure organisation, you can get free copies of Third Sector Foresight's Future Focus guides to send on to, or use with, the frontline organisations you and your team help support. Each booklet in the Future Focus series takes a complex issue and breaks it down into easily accessible chunks of information. It also has tips and suggestions that organisations can build into their planning. To sign up email: futurefocus@ncvo-vol.org.uk

Volunteers News

International Volunteer Managers Day

While the spotlight is often pointed towards the amazing achievements of volunteers around the world, the efforts of those who work so tirelessly in the background to effectively lead and equip volunteers is all too often overlooked.

International Volunteer Managers Day is to be celebrated on the **5th November**. It is an ideal opportunity to acknowledge and recognise the important work undertaken by those who lead volunteer effort and create environments in which volunteers and volunteering can flourish. Visit www.volunteermanagersday.org for more information.

Visas and Volunteering In the UK

A survey to assess the impact of visas on volunteering in the UK is being run by Volunteering England. Both volunteer involving organisations and individuals who are not citizens of the European Union (or the European Economic Area) who have volunteered in the UK (or have tried to) are asked to complete it online at www.surveymonkey.com.

I.T. & E-Resources

Free IT Training

Do you feel your IT skills are holding you back? Truro College is offering free IT training in your local area! To be eligible you must be unemployed, at risk of redundancy or economically inactive at present. Full Support and guidance will be given. Taster sessions and IT courses at Level 1 and 2 are available in subjects including ECDL (European Computer Driving License). For more information, or to enrol, contact Rosie Dunford on 01872 261151. Or [download the training leaflet](#) now.

Facebook Groups

New Facebook groups have arrived!. If you have worked on Google groups before then this change will be nothing new to you. Yet it might affect the way we use Facebook groups to communicate. The improvements mean you can create groups to share exclusively with family, close friends, co-workers and other important people in your life. New features include group chat, a group email address, and adjustable notifications. For more information visit www.facebook.com/groups/

Social Enterprise

Brand New Social Enterprise Qualification

Pioneering social enterprise the Real Ideas Organisation (RIO) has launched its international Social Enterprise Qualification (SEQ) pilot, designed help a generation of young social entrepreneurs realise their ideas for a better future. More than 50 schools internationally will be trialling the Qualification. Visit www.realideas.org

Struggling Social Organisations Get £100m to Help Deliver Big Society

A £100m fund to help struggling civil society organisations step up to the Big Society agenda has been announced in the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. More information can be found [here](#).

Children & Young People

Young People Take Over the Council Chamber

On **Monday 8th November**, from **10am to 12pm**, young people in Cornwall get a unique chance to learn how democracy works when they take over from the adults at the **Council Chamber** at **County Hall**. Organised as part

of [Take Part Cornwall](#) by [Cornwall Rural Community Council](#), the event is open to anyone between 10 and 18 years. As well as giving young people a chance to debate important issues, they will also get a hands-on introduction to democratic systems and decision-making. If you or anyone you know would like to get involved, contact Marita Ward on 01872 273952 or marita.ward@cornwallrcc.org.uk

New Product to be Trialled in Cornwall

A new, environmentally friendly, economic and comfortable continence product for children is to be trialled and developed in Cornwall. ReZolve, a local social enterprise, are developing the washable continence pants, specifically aimed at those aged 4 - 15 years. The organisation are working closely with the NHS to develop and trial the product which could prove to have a lower environmental impact and save money. If you are a young person or parent / carer of a young person who would be interested in taking part then please contact ReZolve on 01208 265941 or email info@goreal.org.uk

Cornwall Young People's Manifesto 2010 Launch

Young people across Cornwall have come together to highlight the issues that are important to them in 2010. The [Young People' Manifesto](#) represents months of hard work from a wide range of young people's groups including young people in care, YWCA and Cornwall Youth Forum. The Manifesto will be launched **Wednesday 10th November** at **County Hall in Truro**. To book your place at this important event please contact Mary Ann Bloomfield, Barnardos: maryann.bloomfield@barnardos.org.uk

Government Initiatives & Information

Nesta to Trial Local Action Programmes

The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (Nesta) will be piloting programmes to test community organisations for the Big Society agenda, building on the work of the former Labour government's £130m grassroots grant programme. The scheme, called **Neighbourhood Challenge**, will distribute small, sensible amounts of money to neighbourhood groups to fund local plans. Nesta will also help establish local social challenge prizes to incentivise and reward community-led action. To register your interest, or for more information, visit www.nesta.org.uk. The deadline for submitting expressions of interest is **22nd November**.

'That's ASDA nice'

The Conservative Party's volunteering and community engagement initiative, the Big Society Network, has recently announced that it has secured sponsorship from supermarket giant ASDA to support its 'Your Square Mile' initiative. The initiative aims to encourage local social action by promoting volunteering opportunities and providing advice and insurance services for community led projects. More information about the initiative can be found [here](#).

Diversity & Equality

Awards Celebrating Equality and Diversity in Health and Social Care

Awards for health and social care will be made at the 'Working Together: Breaking Down the Walls' equality and diversity conference on **Thursday 18 November** at [New County Hall, Truro](#). The awards celebrate equality and

diversity work in health and social care in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, with a prize of £500 to sustain and develop the three projects. The conference itself runs from 9.15am to 3.45pm. If you would like to attend please return the [booking form](#) by Friday 5 November by e-mail to peninsulamr.ciospct@cornwall.nhs.uk

ESW Membership Scheme

Equality South West is a regional charity working to promote equality, human rights in the South West of England. They have recently launched a Membership Scheme, so you can help support them in their work to make the South West a model region, where discrimination is eliminated, diversity is universally valued and human rights are everywhere respected. Visit www.equalitysouthwest.org.uk for further information.

Health Matters

Do the Colder Days Get You Down?

If so, you're not alone. The Mental Health Foundation estimates that one in eight people in the UK suffer from mild low mood during the winter months, while one in 15 suffer from full depression and [Seasonal Affective Disorder \(SAD\)](#). For more information, go to www.nhs.uk/

Children's Charter Petition

Help the Diabetes UK campaign to get high quality care and support for children with diabetes. The Children's Charter reports on the issues affecting children and young people with diabetes; their demands and those of their parents, carers and healthcare professionals.

Sign the petition to show your support for better emotional and medical care and improved support for children with diabetes. www.diabetes.org.uk/childrenscharter

Capacity Builders

Capacitybuilders Is a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB)

Set up in 2006 to take over the management of the ChangeUp programme and to work with other funders to build the capacity of the Third Sector. We exist to create a more effective third sector and we do this by improving support for third sector organisations.

Our strategy

Our strategy has been put together as a result of the consultation programme Capacitybuilders ran from December 2006 to March 2007.



Moving forward

It takes full account of the various views expressed and is designed to indicate the way forward for Capacitybuilders in relation to the ChangeUp programme as a whole.

Responding to change

No sensible strategy is set in concrete. We have to be both focused on achieving specific objectives and flexible in responding to changing circumstances. We provide a flavour of our current approach to building the strength of the third sector and ask for your support. (Source: <http://capacitybuilders.org.uk/content/Home.aspx>)

Support Providers Case Studies Now Available

Capacitybuilders has released a series of [ten case studies](#) which informed the recently published [research report](#) that looked at merger between civil society support providers. Merger is increasingly being considered by support providers as a way of sustaining support provision during a period of increased demand for services and severe public spending cuts. [Click here](#) to read the research report and case studies.

Grant Holder Learning Reports

As part of Capacitybuilders' ongoing commitment to promote learning from its funding programmes, a series of reports that bring together learning points from monitoring forms submitted for the year ending March 2010 have now been published. Each document highlights feedback from grant holders across one of four funding programmes. [Click here](#) to read more and download the full learning reports.

Convergence

Convergence is the new European economic regeneration programme for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly that runs until 2013. Convergence will make investments that will have a long-term impact on the economy of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. It will help to build a stronger more diverse economy by supporting businesses, and helping people into employment and those in work gain new and up-to-date skills.

Convergence consists of two funds European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF).

What is Convergence investing in? Convergence will invest in a range of activities aimed at strengthening our economy, by: Developing our people; Strengthening business; Investing in our future and Making connections

How can I access Convergence? Over the lifetime of Convergence there will be a number of straightforward ways to access a range of business support, training; and help into work.

- Focused support for business: Business Link is the main access point for all business support products whether from UK mainstream sources or European programmes. Business Link can be contacted on 0845 600 9966
- Help into work: Cornwall Works is the main access point for help into work and training. Cornwall Works can be contacted on 01872 255015
- Training and support for younger people: Youth Cornwall can be contacted on 01872 326326
- New and updated skills: Nextstep is the main access point for adult learners. Nextstep can be contacted on 0845 850 5070
- Workspace development: Workspace provision can be accessed through the workspace strategic investment framework. Contact: Ian Whale.
- European programmes team: South West of England Regional Development Agency. Email: ian.whale@southwestrda.org.uk Address: Castle House, Pydar Street, Truro, TR1 2UJ

For further information go to Convergence Cornwall: www.convergencecornwall.com or see [Convergence Operational Programme 2007-13 \[1.2Mb\]](#)

Cornwall Launches Pioneering Scheme to Help Businesses Go Global

The £2 million pound UKTI Globalisation Project, which has received ERDF Convergence investment and is designed to help businesses in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly trade internationally, is launching what is believed to be the first training programme in the UK reaching out to businesses that have never before even considered the possibility of export. The Export Cornwall scheme aims to help small and medium sized businesses seize the opportunities in global markets. For more information visit www.convergencecornwall.com

Hothouse Project a Hot Favourite with Enterprising Youngsters

An ambitious project designed to help young people in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly achieve their full potential is proving a huge success. Since the Hothouse programme began, hundreds of students across the region have been given the chance to meet with local businesses and, through those consultations, learn about a much wider range of career opportunities suited to their individual skills.

Its aim is to encourage young people who are either not in education, employment or training or perhaps at risk of disengagement, to re-engage in work or study through a series of fun, enterprising workshops. For more information visit www.convergencecornwall.com

This is a FREE service and we welcome any comments. Please pass this item on to other interested parties. If you have received this from a source other than ECCVS and wish to be added to our distribution list then please contact us.

If you would like to include information in our **Signpost Newsletter** or the E-News Updates, please contact Zoe Griffin – Information Officer, Tel: 01208 832763 / 832765 or email: z.griffin@eccvs.org.uk or write to:

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