



# Volunteer Centre Bulletin

*December 2010*



*Wishing you all a Merry  
Christmas and a Happy New  
Year!*



*From all of us at Volunteer  
Centre Reigate & Banstead.*

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## LATEST NEWS

**SAVI** Surrey Association for Visual Impairment (SAVI), a charity for blind and partially-sighted people throughout Surrey, has scooped a prestigious national fundraising award for its 'Surrey Apprentice' business challenge which was launched last year. The association beat off charities across the UK to win the "Innovation in Fundraising" award at the UK Visionary Conference in York.

**Crawley Open House** cares for people suffering from the effects of homelessness and discrimination, unemployment and loneliness. They are continually in need of good quality men, women, young people and children's clothing, toiletries, sanitary items, stationery and food (especially UHT milk, sugar and coffee). With the cold weather arriving they also need blankets, flasks and warm clothing. If anybody has or knows teenagers then the clothes that they wore once before they went out of fashion would be appreciated in Southwell Lodge their young persons hostel. To donate please contact them on: 01293 447703.

**Social Firms UK (none for profit organisation)** The first quality standard "**The Star Social Firm**" in the social enterprise sector was developed by Social Firms UK and is externally validated and recognised by government standards. This has just been awarded to Lambeth ACCORD a leading London disability charity and provides managed office space and a conference and training centre. This community resource centre acts as the 'hub' for a thriving diverse disability community in Brixton, South London.

Lambeth ACCORD has been an important centre for disabled people in Lambeth for the last 27 years and is about to embark on an ambitious refurbishment.

## VOLUNTEER OFFERING HELP

"With the forecast for a prolonged winter it is likely further transport disruption will ensue. Our volunteer has at his disposal a 4 Wheel Drive Range Rover ideally suited to such adverse road conditions. This vehicle can carry up to 4 passengers in complete safety with the added benefit of a large luggage area for bulky items" He has 37 years driving experience with a clean licence. Please contact us for more information.

## TRAINING

"Kick Start" Foundation Learning at East Surrey College, Redhill - New Full-Time courses for 16-18's who want to get some qualifications, help to kick start their career or want help to get back into learning. Some of the courses that are available are; Painting & Decorating, Hair & Beauty, Public Services, Sport or Brickwork. To apply or for more information, call 01737 788444 or visit their website: [www.esc.ac.uk](http://www.esc.ac.uk)





**Huge interest in volunteering around the 2012 Games** – The once in a lifetime opportunity to get involved in 2012 Games volunteering attracted over 240,000 applicants, of which 40% were inspired to volunteer for the first time. The deadline for applications has passed, with interviews of shortlisted applicants starting in February. Our Inspiration and Legacy Team have been working with LOCOG throughout the year to promote the 15,000+ Games Inspired opportunities already on the do-it website. The huge interest in Games Inspired volunteering continues to grow-can your organisation afford to miss out?

***If your organisation is involved in Arts and Culture, Environment, Conservation or Sport, could you develop a Games Inspired Opportunity? If so we would like to hear from you.***

The key letters used to describe the necessary ingredients for such an opportunity are BCDE. Each opportunity must:

- **Benefit** your local community now and/or in the future
- Be an opportunity that **celebrates** the 2012 Games
- Have a **demonstrable** link with the 2012 Games
- Be a practical **expression** of the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect; and Paralympics values of courage, determination, inspiration and equality.

**The Surrey Volunteer Network** is working with Volunteering England to deliver a workshop for organisations to help them create Games Inspired opportunities. The timing is March 2011 and the venue will be in the west of the county. More information will follow in early January 2011.

**Do you know a volunteer who could be a London Ambassador?** London Mayor Boris Johnson is looking for 8,000 London Ambassadors to welcome visitors from all over the world to the capital during the 2012 Olympic and Paralympics' Games. The London Development Agency is looking for volunteers with fantastic people skills who are passionate about the capital. As well as a once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of the 2012 Games London Ambassadors will receive full training, free travel for each day they volunteer, food and refreshments during each shift, and a uniform to keep. To get involved, potential London Ambassadors need to complete a registration form at: [www.londonambassadors.org.uk/get-involved/registration-form.aspx](http://www.londonambassadors.org.uk/get-involved/registration-form.aspx) by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.

## LATEST VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Age UK** their charity shop in Reigate are looking for helpers, training is provided and Duke of Edinburgh students are welcome. Opening hours are: Mon–Sat, 9am–5pm.





**Calling all Tottenham Hotspur fans!** We have an opportunity for a volunteer to accompany a 58 year old man who lives in Horley with a mild learning disability and epilepsy to watch Tottenham play at White Hart Lane once or twice a month. CRB check needed, travel expenses and match tickets paid for.

**St. Catherine's Hospice** in Crawley are looking for volunteers who have 4x4 vehicles to go on a register to assist during the bad weather, bringing in emergency cover staff etc. A clean driving license, insurance, MOT & CRB checks necessary and mileage expenses will be paid. They are also looking for Data Inputting volunteers for their Lottery Office in Crawley. Timings will be 2-3 days per week. For more information about these opportunities and many other opportunities they have registered please contact us.

**The Orpheus Centre** is a performing arts centre for young, disabled adults based in Godstone. They are looking for people who have an interest in sales, marketing, events and fundraising to work with their Fundraising Team. They are also looking for Box Office Support to welcome guests and collect ticket money, Bar Assistants and Ushers; this is just a few of their many opportunities. Please ask for more information.

**Bloomin' Arts** is a local community group dedicated to the promotion of performance arts for and by adults who have learning difficulties/disabilities. Their group is managed by people who have learning difficulties/disabilities, with support from local volunteers. Their aim is to: Support and manage their three drama companies in their aim to produce good quality theatre through drama companies which work for each other, develop self-expression, confidence and co-operation in a spirit of mutuality and respect. They are looking for Admin volunteers, this could be an exciting and satisfying role for anyone who wants to develop/or who has skills in marketing, business management or fundraising. They are also looking for Trustees.



**Dyscover** is a charity based in Walton-on-the-Hill, they provide support, encouragement and opportunity to people with aphasia. The charity helps people with this disability through daily support groups and courses designed to increase confidence, self-esteem and maximise communication abilities. They are seeking an Office PC Support volunteer to help staff and volunteers resolve software issues for Microsoft Office and Mac applications. There are also opportunities to help them design posters, fliers etc. using their new branding imagery, so therefore DTP (Desktop Packages) skills are required. Hours to suit but approx two mornings a week. You will need to be experienced in Microsoft Office 2007, DTP (Desktop Packages) and Outlook, to run effective email campaigns. This is a role that would suit someone with sound office experience who wishes to return to an office environment or for a volunteer seeking a new challenge.



**British Red Cross** are soon to be opening a Medical Equipment Loan Centre in Banstead. They are looking for volunteers to help advise, arrange deliveries and manage collections. This service supports independent living for people with limited mobility. If you have a few hours to spare during the week and have a warm and flexible attitude then this opportunity will be ideal for you.



**The Hub Redhill** will be opening in January 2011 – It is to be a first stop shop offering advice, information, advocacy and support. Run by disabled people for disabled people and carers. It will also be an equipment shop selling aids to daily living for disabled people. They are looking for Information Officers, in keeping with the ethos of the Hub, only disabled people may apply for this role. Information Officers will provide a high standard of information on all aspects of disability to disabled people, carers, professionals or anyone with an interest in disability issues. Duties will include: taking enquiries either by telephone, text or in person, assisting with clerical and admin tasks, liaising with manufacturers etc. They are also looking for Support Workers to provide practical support to disabled people who are volunteers at the Hub in Redhill. The role will involve assisting volunteers at meetings and other events when required. Transporting, setting up and dismantling displays at venues for outreach sessions and other such events. Admin duties include; photocopying, filing, updating database system and answering the telephone. Timing for both opportunities will be Mon to Fri-Shifts 10am-12.30pm or 12.30pm-3pm.

**Surrey Community Action** is an independent registered charity working with Surrey communities to strengthen voluntary action. They are looking for a Treasurer, you will need to be a qualified accountant who has experience of charity accounts. Time commitment will vary according to meetings and end of year including meetings with auditors.



**Orbit Shed** run inclusive performing arts workshops for children. They can learn self expression through teamwork which in turn promotes self-esteem and a keen sense of citizenship alongside artistic achievements. They are urgently looking for a Treasurer (awaiting more information).

**Surrey Jobmatch** works with offenders and creates opportunities for employment and training in Surrey for prisoners serving the latter stages of their sentence, those released and those under probation supervision. They are looking for Mentors to support them on the Jobmatch journey. Many of their applicants do not have the family or social support systems that many of us take for granted and they need someone to advise, practically assist and befriend them through the settling in phase of any new job and continue to support them so that as well as gaining employment they sustain their commitment over the longer term. Timings are Monday-Friday day and weekend days.

**Surrey County Council – Libraries** are looking to recruit 35 volunteers to help out at a number of events for their Children's Book Festival, which is being held in various libraries in the east of Surrey in February and March 2011. Volunteers will be supporting their staff to help ensure that events run smoothly and everyone has an enjoyable experience. Events booked include: Elmer parties, pop-up book workshops, a theatre company, Horrible Science drawing workshops and author talks. Volunteers will need to have energy, enthusiasm and be able to give commitment.

**Reigate Society** works to conserve and improve the environments of Reigate, Redhill, Merstham and the surrounding areas. Founded in 1952 by people who prevented development on the beautiful parkland surrounding the Priory; a historic house in the centre of Reigate. They are in search of a Chairman, this is an opportunity to take part in local life and know and seek to influence what is 'going on'.



The Chairman is the key representative of the Society and influences and co-ordinates its activities, chairing a number of meetings, e.g. AGM, Society Council.

**Gatton Park** conserve and restore the landscape of Gatton Park and develop its resources as a centre for excellence for all aspects of education within the historic parkland, embracing physical and intellectual access for students of all ages, the general public and pupils of the school. They have many opportunities including their latest – Office Managers volunteers who would be in charge of the office. The role will involve ensuring other volunteers knew what they were doing, manning the phone, taking bookings, giving information on events, checking emails etc. Timings: Daytime, one day a week or more, depending on volunteer's availability.



**Concordia International Volunteers** need Group Co-ordinators to help run their international volunteer projects in the UK for their spring/summer programme of 2011. Live and volunteer alongside a group of international volunteers for 2-4 weeks next summer. Help out at a summer play scheme, set up a festival or get back to nature on one of their environmental projects. Full training, travels costs, food & accommodation provided.

**Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC)** are a UK Registered Charity based in Guildford to help male and female survivors of rape and sexual abuse. They offer advice, support and counselling to anyone affected (directly or indirectly) by these issues. They are looking for various volunteers including, Telephone Helpline Workers (female helpline volunteers needed currently) you will listen to callers who have suffered rape or sexual abuse in Surrey or surrounding areas. Also to listen, but also to offer advice if requested or sign posts to other places. Full training is given, timings are Monday-Friday evenings and Sunday evenings.

## NEWS FROM VOLUNTEERING ENGLAND



**Reviews of the Vetting and Barring scheme and criminal records.** The government has recently outlined the details of a review of the Vetting and Barring scheme, which will re-examine whether the scheme is the most appropriate mechanism to protect children and vulnerable people. The intention of the review is to cut back the scheme to be more proportionate and less burdensome. Volunteering England understand that the government intends to complete the review early in the New Year. Until the review is completed, the existing arrangements introduced in October 2009 will continue. The government has also announced an independent review of the criminal records regime to make it more comparative and less arduous. Among other things, it will consider whether the disclosure of minor offences and police intelligence to prospective employers within the criminal records check should still form part of this process.

**Volunteering England** have produced two guides which have been developed by the Volunteer Management Team. The Guide to "Influencing up" aims to help people who manage volunteers to increase their knowledge, gather evidence and develop a sound strategy for gaining executive support and investment in volunteering and volunteer management. The second guide is Valuing Volunteer Management which explores what "valuing volunteer management" really means and helps organisations assess how they currently value volunteer management, why this is



important, and what extra steps they could take to increase the recognition, support and investment they give to volunteering management. We have a hard copy of both these guides at the office, if you would like further information please contact us.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Did you know?** The Office of the Third Sector is now called The Office for Civil Society.

**Christmas opening times** – Please note our offices will be closed from lunchtime Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 and will re-open on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011

***If any of you would like to include an article in our next Bulletin, which will be issued in February please let us know by Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011.***



**Update on Volunteer Centre appointments procedure** - Please note: Whilst we are always pleased to hear from people who want to volunteer in the Reigate & Banstead area, since moving to our new offices in Brighton Road we are now operating an appointment only system for our one to one meetings with volunteers.

**twitter** Keep regularly updated, follow us at <http://twitter.com/RedhillVC>

**facebook**

Become a fan of the **Reigate & Banstead Volunteer Centre** on our Facebook page for volunteers and organisations at: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and **Like** our page.

**For more information about any of the above please do get in touch.  
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Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service (R.B.V.S) does not take up references or Police checks. This is left to the recruiting voluntary organisation.

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