



Volunteer Centre Bulletin

February 2011

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Volunteer Fair 2011
Saturday 5th March
at The Harlequin Theatre in Redhill.
Full details on Page 2.

Student Volunteering Week 2011 (21-27 February)

10th Anniversary The first Week was held in February 2001, a decade on and they celebrate their tenth anniversary this year. The theme for 2011 is 'Inspiring Futures, Connecting Communities' sponsored by Santander, this a national celebration that raises the profile of Further and Higher Education student volunteering. Co-ordinated by Volunteering England, Student Volunteering Week 2011 brings organisations from all sectors together to celebrate volunteering. For details of how to get involved please visit their website: www.volunteering.org.uk/SVW2011



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**Volunteer
Fair
2011**

The 2011 Volunteer Fair is a celebration of the work of local charities and voluntary organisations in East Surrey. Taking place at the Harlequin Theatre in Redhill, on Saturday 5th March. You can find out how you can Volunteer, support local organisations and charities and get involved in Your Community. Events include Live Music, Kids Entertainment and First Aid Demonstrations. Entry is **FREE** and all those attending can take part in a Free Prize Draw! They need volunteers to help with a variety of tasks throughout the day and also need leaflet distributors prior to the fair. You will need good interpersonal skills and the ability to deal with the general public. Some of the tasks require you to have a reasonable level of fitness. They will be holding an induction session for volunteers the week before the event. For more information please visit: www.volunteerfair.co.uk/help.htm

Child Safety Vetting Scheme 'to be scrapped' A scheme for vetting people who work with children is to be scrapped, the government is preparing to announce. The Daily Telegraph reports that following a review of the Vetting and Barring Scheme, criminal record checks will only be carried out on those who have intensive contact with the young. A potential 9m adults - who came into contact with children once a week or more - had been subject to checks. Home Secretary Theresa May suspended it last June so a review could be held. A Home Office spokesman said an official announcement - which affects England, Wales and Northern Ireland - would be made shortly. The Telegraph has reported that it will now be scaled back significantly - with half the number of people affected - and the emphasis shifted on to employers to ensure the right staff are screened. The government will also announce that criminal record checks are to be sent to individuals first - before they go to potential employers - to allow them to challenge any mistakes, the paper said. *(Article taken from www.bbc.co.uk/news dated 5th Feb 2011)*



Furnistore has now moved to their new warehouse in Redhill. They are now open weekdays 10am-4pm. Their new address is: Holmethorpe Industrial Estate, 46 Holmethorpe Avenue, Redhill, Surrey. RH1 2NL.

Surrey Vinvolved – It is with sad news that the project will come to completion on 31st March 2011. Since April 2008, they have created lots of opportunities in everything from working with young disabled children to helping care for injured bats! Their Youth Action Teams have run events such as a talent showcase and a fashion show to raise money for local charities. They have worked with more than 300 organisations to ensure great support for young volunteers. Although their dedicated service to work with 16-25's to access volunteering is ending, Volunteer Centres will be continuing to work with organisations and young people by advertising, engaging opportunities and referring interested volunteers onto organisations.

The Charity Awards 2011 Now in their 12th year, the Charity Awards are firmly established. With an audience of thousands, an entry gives you the chance to showcase your hard work. Previous winners have noted that winning a Charity Award is not only great for team morale, but the subsequent publicity helps open up new doors and opportunities. Entry is free and all shortlisted charities are invited to a presentation evening. Enter before 11th March at: www.charityawards.co.uk

Greggs Foundation Grants are small grants, up to £2,000 available for local charities (including churches) which are making a difference to people in need in areas where Greggs operates. Groups working with carers, disabled people, older people and those who are homeless are prioritised. Previous recipients have been involved with identifiable and one-off causes such as trips, activities and equipment. Applicants can be submitted at any time. For more information go to www.greggsfoundation.org.uk and click on 'Regional Grants'.

FUNDRAISING

Reigate & Redhill YMCA Sovereign Gold Appeal – In Spring 2011, the doors will open on a new Disability Hub, providing a purpose built centre for disabled children and young people across East Surrey. The Disability Hub will be within a wider community centre, providing an integrated environment where local disabled children and non-disabled children play alongside each other. To raise money for the Sovereign Centre they are hosting an exciting programme of fundraising events. For example on Sunday 27th March join them on their Y2Y North Downs Marathon Trek or on Sunday 1st May join them for there YMCA Fun Run. For more information and a full list of fundraising events please call the Challenge Fundraising Team on 01737 779979 or visit their website www.ymcaredhill.com

EVENTS

Reigate & Redhill Live at Home Scheme - Come along and enjoy The Phoenix Concert Band of Sutton at the Redhill Methodist Centre on Saturday 26th February from 6pm-9.30pm. Ticket donation price £10 - includes ham & cheese ploughman's supper and refreshments. To buy tickets contact the office on: 01737 780610.

The National Trust at Ightham Mote are holding an Open Morning for any people that are interested in looking to volunteer with them. **IGHTHAM MOTE (Sevenoaks)** - Volunteer Open Mornings, Saturday 26th February and Wednesday 9th March. Times: from 10.30am.

Welcare in East Surrey – If you would like an opportunity to visit Welcare House in Redhill and hear about the work they do, they are holding a presentation on Thursday 3rd March from 1-3pm. Please call their office on 01737 780884 if you would like to attend.

VOLUNTEER SEEKING OPPORTUNITY

We have a lady who is a qualified TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) teacher. She is looking to give tuition to individuals or groups who are wanting to improve their English at all levels. She would preferably like to keep within the Redhill/Reigate area but is willing to travel up to 15 miles. Please contact us for more details.

TRAINING

South East Surrey CRUSE Bereavement Care are seeking committed volunteers to train as bereavement volunteers. No previous experience is required just energy & enthusiasm to work with bereaved people and time to offer. They have a training course starting in March 2011, which includes 60 hours of training spread over a number of weekday evenings & Saturdays. Volunteers will be asked to contribute £250 towards the cost of this course but candidates should discuss with Cruse any difficulties this might raise for them.



**action
for
LIFE**



Action For Life provide a free guided walking for health programme of regular walks with the aim of improving or maintaining the physical, mental & social needs of the residents of East Surrey. They are looking for Assistant Walkleaders to maintain their expanding number of walks and walkers. The walks take place in the mornings usually between 11am and 12pm and walks range between 1.5 miles and 4.5 miles. An ideal volunteering opportunity that requires little time and full training through Natural England is offered. Next training course will be February/March. They are also looking for Pram Walk Leaders for the Reigate area.

The Wildlife For All Trust is an environmental charity with a unique approach. Like many other organisations, they work to conserve endangered species and habitats. Unlike other organisations, they put a lot of emphasis on tackling human problems such as greed, selfishness, and the "me, me, me" mentality. They train their team to understand how these psychological factors have a huge impact on the success or failure of nature conservation projects. The key to the causes of our environmental problems, and to any realistic chance of overcoming them, lies in changing the way we think about the world around us. If this deeper approach appeals to you, there is a chance to get involved in their work - which includes nature reserves in Sussex and South Africa. They are looking for volunteers for their next recruitment drive which is being held on Monday 21st March.

Surrey County Council are recruiting people for their **Independent Visitors** role. This role involves visiting, befriending and advising children in care who are looked after by Surrey County Council and live in foster care or residential homes. They are holding an open evening on 15th March followed by a two day training course to be held in March/April.

LATEST VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Do something different in 2011-Volunteering on the waterways! Waterway Recovery Group (WRG) has launched its new programme of unique weeklong residential volunteering opportunities, known as 'Canal Camps' designed to restore the derelict canals of England and Wales to their former glory. Canal Camps give you the chance to do your bit for the environment whilst having a fun holiday. This is a totally unique volunteering opportunity and participants can learn loads of new skills as well as the chance to be part of a team that really makes a huge difference to the waterways.



British Heart Foundation charity shop's in Redhill and Reigate are urgently looking for volunteers for a variety of roles which include till cover, tagging, sorting music, DVD/videos and books. Their opportunity could suit anyone interested in fashion and antiques. Timings are flexible to suit volunteer.

St Peter's House Project aims to help relieve poverty, sickness and distress of people living with HIV together with other blood borne viruses. They support the families, friends and carers affected by these conditions and to advance the education of the public about transmission, treatment and development of more tolerant attitudes towards those un-affected and affected. They are looking for a range of people to be Trustees to oversee the governance, support their strategic vision and contribute to its leadership. The project has secured funding for 3 years and is now looking to build on this success with a dynamic leadership. They would like to hear from you if you feel you have the necessary experience in strategic planning, fundraising, finances and senior management, or demonstrable management skills at senior level. They are also looking for a Treasurer with some experience of accounts but not necessarily an accountant to take an interest in the charity's accounting and budgeting processes and be sufficiently confident to explain such matters to the Board. Experience with SAGE necessary and timings for both opportunities are Tuesday evenings.



Brambles Respite Care Centre in Horley is committed to ensuring that all their friendly and caring staff is trained to understand the special needs of people with Multiple Sclerosis.

24 hour nursing care and specialist equipment means that Brambles can provide total care for people with high dependency and complex care needs. They are looking for a variety of volunteers; their immediate need is for Drivers and Outing Assistants.

Anchor Staying Put needs someone to assist the Gardener in his daily tasks of maintaining the gardens for older disabled customers. Chief tasks will be trimming, mowing, weeding, planting and tidying. Times are flexible.

Marie Curie – The Great Daffodil Appeal. Each year the Great Daffodil Appeal raises much-needed funds to help Marie Curie Nurses care for terminally ill people and their families. They need more than 20,000 volunteers to man our street and shop collections during the month of March and help raise money so that they can continue providing these vital services. Roles include: Appeal Co-ordinators, Appeal Development Co-ordinators, Box Co-ordinators and Collection Organisers. Please contact us for more information.

Macmillan Cancer Support The Surrey fundraising team are looking to grow their community networks to help them reach out to and improve the lives of more people affected by cancer. To do this they need help in researching local community groups, schools and companies etc. Some of the activities you will be involved in are: Inputting data into a computer spreadsheet or questionnaire and searching for venues for local events. This is a home based opportunity and you will need access to the internet, basic Excel spreadsheet experience, attention to detail and be able to work independently.

The Orpheus Centre based in Godstone are looking for Marketing Interns. This role involves working directly with the Marketing and Development Team in a performing arts charity for young disabled adults. The role will give you vital experience of working in the arts and voluntary sector. Main duties include: Assisting in creating marketing and promotional materials, website and social media maintenance, general admin duties. Times: Minimum of two days a week 9am-5pm.

Wildlife Watch is the junior branch of The Wildlife Trusts and UK's leading environmental action club for kids. The Merstham Minibeasts is a fun after school club for 5-12 year olds held on the third Monday or every month from 4-6pm at The Merstham Community Facility Trust in Portland Drive. They need keen volunteers to assist the Watch leaders, so if you have an interest in wildlife and the outdoors this will be ideal for you! No experience is needed.

Gatton Park Trust is made up of 250 acres of gardens and parkland. Gatton Park is managed by the Gatton Trust for the Royal Alexandra and Albert School. This is an interesting opportunity to help them with the management of the animals they keep in the park. You will be working with their staff to help with the management of their chickens, pigs, goats and ornamental birds. If you have a preference to work with one particular type of animal this can also be facilitated. No experience is required as training will be given, CRB check will be needed.

Merstham Community Facility Trust provides flexible community facilities for the wellbeing of all. They are looking for volunteers for a variety of roles such as I.T. Classroom Assistants. The role will involve assisting learners to get the most out of their IT courses. Everyone starts learning with a different level of knowledge and experience and having someone to give individual support during the classes helps keep each person on track with the tutor and ensures all make progress in every session. The Assistants will also need to help set up the IT equipment and clear it away for each session. Times: Tuesdays - 6.30 - 9.15pm.



Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Service are looking for a Chairman. Do you have the urge to lead? Could you help a team of trustees and staff be part of a better future for the voluntary and community sectors? If you have experience in either role and in a voluntary or community background, get in touch! You will need to have good communication, negotiation and organisational skills.

Concordia International Volunteers. If you are enthusiastic about volunteering, up for a challenge and would like to learn new skills, meet new people and participate in meaningful community projects in the UK then why not get involved in our 3 day preparation weekend. Dates are Thursday 14th – Sunday 17th April. Please contact us for more information.

Redhill Counselling Centre are urgently looking for Receptionists. Duties will include answering the telephone and taking messages for the administrator. Volunteers will need to be available to set up rooms for counselling or clear away afterwards. Timings are: Monday - Thursday evenings (any one evening) from 5.45pm-9.00pm, normally the shift is split between two volunteers.



State of Play with the London 2012 Games - With just over 500 days to go until the opening ceremony for the London 2012 Games, here's the state of play with the main London 2012 programmes: **Games Maker** - Selection events for the 70,000 Games Maker volunteers have started, and will be taking place throughout 2011. Offers to successful volunteer applicants will be made from October onwards, with orientation and role-specific training starting in early 2012. A 'Young Games Maker' volunteering programme for under 18s will be unveiled this summer.

London Ambassadors - London Ambassador registrations closed in early January, with approximately 34,000 registrations received for a total of 8,000 opportunities. The deadline for final applications is Monday 28 February. (To apply please visit their website: www.londonambassadors.org.uk) Invitations to interview will be sent out from May to August, and successful applicants will be informed by the end of 2011. YouthNet is working with both the Games Maker and London Ambassadors programmes to ensure everyone, whether they are successful or not, is directed to other volunteering opportunities through the [Do-it database](#).

Inspire Programme - The London 2012 Inspire programme enables non-commercial organisations across the UK to link their events and projects to the London 2012 Games in an official scope. Over 500 projects and events have already been awarded the Inspire Mark for work in one of six areas: sustainability, education, volunteering, business, sport or culture. The success is set to continue, with the programme welcoming more applications from organisations all over the UK. For more information on the this programme please visit their website: www.london2012.com/get-involved/inspire-programme/index.php

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.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Free Advertising for Voluntary Roles Guardian Jobs have announced a new service allowing organisations to advertise volunteer roles online free of charge. Telephone: 0203 3533400 or email: sales@guardian.co.uk

If any of you would like to include an article in our next Bulletin, which will be issued in April please let us know by Wednesday 13th April 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.



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



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

For more information about any of the above please do get in touch.

Contact Lisa Irwin, Volunteer Centre Administrator

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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.

Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the R.B.V.S. and whilst every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the R.B.V.S. cannot be held liable for the accuracy of the information.