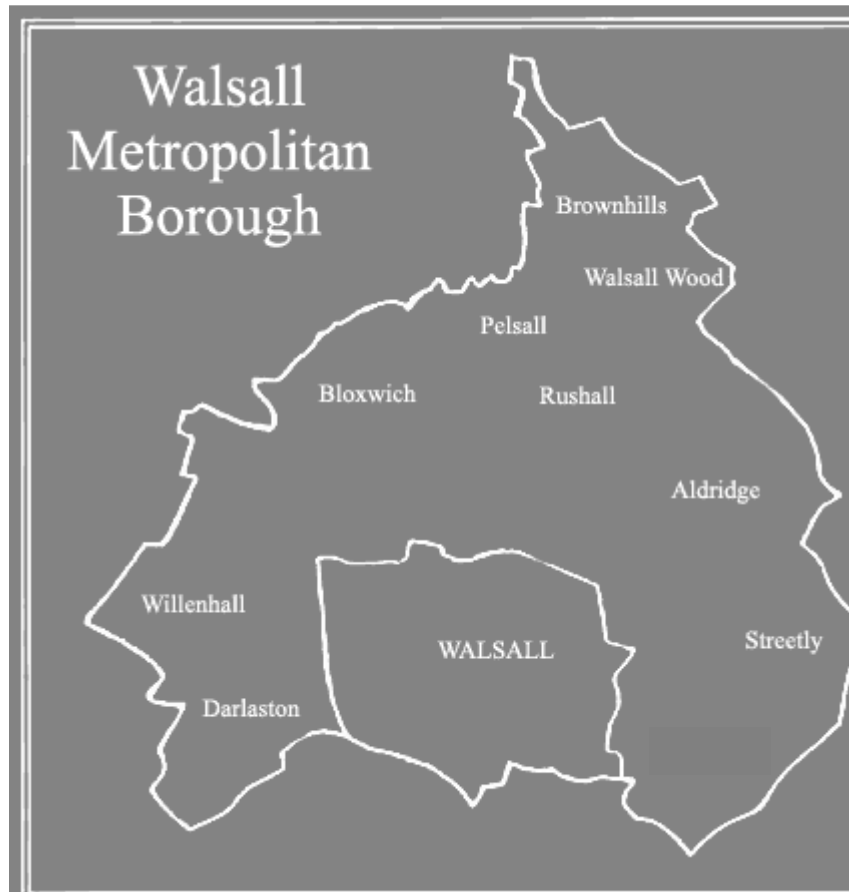


Life Support for Local Action



Walsall Voluntary Action is a local development agency a charitable company which provides services to the community and voluntary organisations operating in Walsall.

Walsall Voluntary Action offers development support, funding advice and assistance with constitutions and charitable status. Our services include information, a newsletter, a small reference library, a volunteer bureau, payroll services and liaison to promote and facilitate the engagement of the voluntary and community sector in partnership initiatives.

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WALSALL VA NEWS

Walsall Voluntary Action has bid goodbye to Graham Parker who was our Chief Executive over the last nine months. Ian Willetts has now taken up the position of Acting Chief Executive.

During the coming months Walsall Voluntary Action will be going through a period of positive change, continuing to improve our services and how they are delivered. Throughout this time we will be involving our member organisations and partners in events and meetings so that changes we make continue to be shaped by organisations accessing our services as well as those we work in partnership with.

Walsall Development Workers Network

The next meeting of Walsall Development Workers Network will be held on **Tuesday 22 May 2007 from 11.00 am – 1.00 pm** here at Walsall Voluntary Action.

Walsall Development Workers Network meets every six weeks. It is designed to support Development Workers in their roles working within Walsall's community. It also helps to ensure that the organisations that the Development Workers represent work effectively and in partnership with other organisations across Walsall. Development Worker(s) from your organisation are welcome to attend meetings.

For further information or to book a place please contact Tariq Khan on 01922 619840 or email tariqk@walsallva.org.uk



WALSALL VOLUNTARY ACTION in partnership with the LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Walsall Voluntary Action is hosting a Senior Executive Networking Lunch on Friday 25 May 2007. This has become a regular event in Walsall, aimed at improving partnership working between all sectors in the borough.

The event presents an opportunity for key decision-makers throughout the borough to meet, network and exchange information.

Future dates for Executive Networking Lunches for 2007 are:

**Friday 29 June
Friday 27 July
Friday 31 August
Friday 28 September
Friday 26 October
Friday 23 November
Friday 21 December**

For further details or to reserve your place please contact Elaine Kerr on 01922 619840 or email elainek@walsallva.org.uk



LOCAL NEWS

Walsall 
Teaching Primary Care Trust



Do you go to the
Doctor's a lot?

Actually, a lot less
than I used to.

How's that — I
thought you were
still poorly.

I am — but now I'm with the
Expert Patient Programme.

The Expert Patient Programme is a course run by the NHS for people with long-term illnesses to help them manage their own conditions. This means fewer visits to the doctor, fewer 'bad days', and more energy to take control of your life.

If you have a long-term health condition, all you need to do is ring **01922 619980** and book yourself onto the next available course to suit you.

The course is free, and will take less than three hours each week for six weeks.



The
Expert
Patient Programme

'ChTatter'

'ChTatter' is the community newsletter for Walsall's New Deal for Communities initiative that serves the areas of Blakenall, Bloxwich and Leamore.

'ChTatter' is a quarterly newsletter, distributed to all of the 4,563 homes (and new build) within the New Deal area. 6,500 copies are printed and readership is in the region of 19,500 each edition.

If you have any articles/photo's you would like included in ChTatter please contact:

**Andy Bradley or Sally Gamston
Walsall's New Deal for Communities
FREEPOST MID23761
WALSALL WS3 1BR**

**Telephone: 01922 712858 Facsimile: 01922 495026
Email: bradleya@walsall.gov.uk / gamstons@walsall.gov.uk**

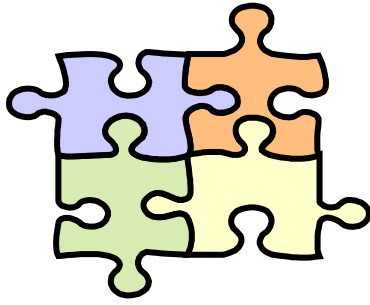
Transport-related Training Needs Survey

Community Transport is looking to explore the needs and expectations of Voluntary and Community Sector groups in the West Midlands in terms of transport-related training. They would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete this survey on transport-related training needs for your organisation. Your views are very important to the organisation and would help Community Transport in its delivery of transport-related training.

Please go to the web address below to access the survey.

www.Merseyinfoserv.com/mrlWeb/mrlWeb.dll?l.Project=TRANSPORTRELATED

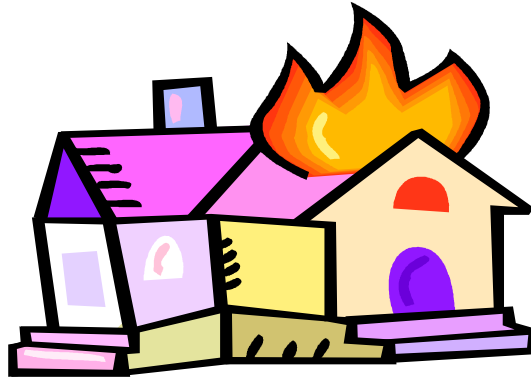
**If you have any queries regarding this survey, please contact
Needee Myers at Mott MacDonald on 0121 237 4207
or email needee.myers@mottmac.com**



Walsall Centre
for
Independent Living



Home Fire Safety Checks



Free fire safety checks for
people with a disability, carers or people over 50
by a qualified inspector from the West Midlands Fire Service

Can also provide and install free
smoke detectors
flashing light systems for hearing impaired people
and sprinkler systems for people with limited mobility

To book your free safety check contact:

Walsall Centre for Independent Living
Ground Floor
Tameway Tower
Bridge Street
Walsall WS1 1JZ

Tel: 01922 650790
Text: 0845 111 2910
Email: wcil@walsall.gov.uk



Walsall Council

Teaching Primary Care Trust

Walsall NHS



Project Part-Financed
by the European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Connexions Black Country

Connexions Black Country provides information, advice and guidance to young people aged 13 -19, and up to 25 years for those with learning difficulties and disabilities. They are constantly trying to increase access to connexions information and services and encourage young people to get the help they need from Connexions Services.

They are interested in any opportunities available to them to get involved in community activities by using the Connexions Bus or having a stall at one of your events.

If you feel there may be an opportunity for connexions to get involved, please send information to:

**Connexions Black Country
1st Floor
Relay House
High Bullen
Wednesbury WS10 7EZ**

Alternatively, contact Charmaine Peart, Marketing and Communications Co-ordinator on you 0121 502 7432 or email cpeart@blackcountryconnexions.co.uk

Volunteering Opportunities

For further information on the opportunities listed below or to request a registration form, please call Kathy Cummins on 01922 619840 or email kathyc@walsallva.org.uk

Opportunity ID	145
Organisation	Crisis Point
Opportunity	Counsellor
When Required	Monday – Friday
Area of Interest	Domestic Violence, Mental Health, Women’s Groups
Type of Activity	Advice, Information and Support, Befriending and Buddying.

Opportunity ID 457
Organisation Rosie's Helping Hands
Opportunity Volunteer Registration Staff
When Required Sunday
Area of Interest Environment, Sport and Outdoor Activities
Type of Activity Community Work, Fundraising, General and Helping, Local Events.

Opportunity ID 181
Organisation Walsall Hospice Appeal
Opportunity Day Hospice Volunteers
When Required Monday to Friday
Area of Interest Art and Culture, Elderly, Families, Health and Hospital and Hospices.
Type of Activity Art, Befriending and Buddying, Caring, Catering.

Opportunity ID 415
Organisation Bloxwich Rugby Club
Opportunity Rugby Coach
When Required Weekends
Area of Interest Sport and outdoor activities
Type of Activity Sports development, teaching, training and coaching.

Opportunity ID 376
Organisation Bloxwich Health Watch
Opportunity Volunteer Administrator
When Required Monday afternoons
Area of Interest Health and Hospitals and Hospices
Type of Activity Administration, Under 16 Volunteering

Opportunity ID 012.1
Organisation Avenues Community Association
Opportunity Committee Member
When Required Flexible
Area of Interest Children, Sport and Outdoor Activities
Type of Activity Business, Management and Research

Opportunity ID 001.2
Organisation Walsall Bereavement Support Service
Opportunity Committee Member
When Required Monday – Friday Evenings
Area of Interest Families
Type of Activity Business, Management and Research, Finance Work, Fundraising.

Opportunity ID 034.1
Organisation Walsall Society for the Blind
Opportunity Day Centre Assistant
When Required Monday - Friday
Area of Interest Disabled, Elderly
Type of Activity Administration, Counselling, Driving, First Aid, General and Helping.

Opportunity ID 106
Organisation The Royal Mencap Society
Opportunity Supporter for Mencap District
When Required Tuesday
Area of Interest Disability
Type of Activity Business, Management and Research, Campaigning and Lobbying.

Opportunity ID
Organisation British Heart Foundation
Opportunity Schools Co-ordinator (Home Based)
When Required Monday - Friday
Area of Interest Children, Education and Literacy, Health and Hospitals and Hospices.
Type of Activity Marketing, PR and Media

Opportunity ID 039
Organisation Walsall Victim Support Group
Opportunity Visitor
When Required Flexible
Area of Interest Children, Education and Literacy
Type of Activity Under 16 Volunteering

NATIONAL NEWS

THE NEW SMOKE FREE LAW

England will become smokefree on Sunday 1 July 2007. The new law is being introduced to protect employees and the public from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

From 1 July 2007 it will be against the law to smoke in virtually all enclosed public places, workplaces and public and work vehicles. There will be very few exemptions from the law. This also means that indoor smoking rooms in public and workplaces will no longer be allowed.

If you manage or are in charge of any premises or vehicles that the new law applies to, you will have a legal responsibility to ensure they become and remain smokefree.

No-smoking signs will need to be displayed in a prominent position at every entrance to smokefree premises and must meet the specified minimum requirements. Smokefree vehicles will also need to display a no-smoking sign in each compartment of the vehicle in which people can be carried.

Anyone who does not comply with the new smokefree law will be committing a criminal offence, thus incurring fixed penalty notices and fines.

Local councils will be responsible for enforcing the new law in. They will work closely with businesses to help ensure that everyone knows what they need to do to become smokefree.

For more information about the smokefree law in England visit www.smokefreeengland.co.uk or call the Smokefree England information line on 0800 169 1697 or alternatively contact Walsall Council for additional information and support.



**Thinking About
VOLUNTEERING ABROAD?**

- Discover new places, people and cultures
- Live and work in an international group for 2-3 weeks
- Environmental, renovation, social and cultural projects
- More than 1,500 projects in 50+ countries
- Fees between £110 and £140
- Long-term projects and programmes in Wales also available



Visit our new website today!
WWW.UNAEXCHANGE.ORG
Volunteering Across Wales And The World

UNA Exchange - Registered Charity 700760

This is to let you know that there are hundreds of projects still available throughout the world and details can be found on the unaexchange website www.unaexchange.org.

They have updated the online [searchable projects database](#) and their [special projects page](#), with lots of new projects - some with funding available.

There is also a North South orientation weekend coming up for those wanting to do a project in Africa, Asia or Latin America. This will run from 15th - 17th June in Cardiff. [More details are on the website](#).

FUNDING

The Garfield Weston Foundation

The Foundation has no specific priorities for funding. It aims to support a wide range of charitable activity in the UK. Recent funding has helped projects in the following categories:

- Art
- Community
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Religion (including church buildings)
- Welfare
- Youth

Applications can be submitted at anytime, should be made in writing and must include a covering letter and a completed application form. For more information contact:

Garfield Weston Foundation

Weston Centre

10 Grosvenor Street

London W1K 4QY

Tel: (020) 7399 6565

Fax: (020) 7399 6580

Website: <http://www.garfieldweston.org>

Hilton in the Community Foundation (HCF)

Hilton in the Community Foundation (HCF) is committed to supporting those most in need to have a brighter future. The purpose of HCF is to support young people worldwide, whilst its vision is to make a real difference to those most in need - in places where Hilton International operates.

The Director of the Foundation considers grant applications of up to £5,000. Grants of up to £10,000 are reviewed by the Grants Committee. If favoured, grant applications for more than £10,000 are recommended to the Trustees for final approval.

There is no limit on the amount of money that a charity can request; however, the Foundation is a small charity and generally will not make awards of over £50,000 (per year). Funding can be requested for up to three years for any particular project. Grants can be awarded for medium to long-term projects (i.e. over one year) or for one-off causes. A maximum limit of three years of support can be provided.

The Foundation makes grants to a wide range of charities that meet one of our chosen areas of focus:

- Young People and Education
- Young People and Health
- Disaster Relief

Applications can be submitted at anytime. For more information contact:

Hilton in the Community Foundation

179-199 Holland Park Avenue

London W11 4UL

Tel: (020) 7605 7733

Fax: (020) 7605 7736

E-mail: info@hilton-foundation.org.uk

Website: <http://www.hilton-foundation.org.uk>

CHARITIES AID FOUNDATION (CAF)

Consultancy and Training Fund

This Fund has been set up for charitable organisations that do not have a chosen consultant, that have identified a need for consultancy, and may need extra guidance and support to achieve the best possible results from their consultancy. This is intended to help charities build their capacity and make most effective use of resources.

Support includes the following:

- Up to 20 days' consultancy with CAF Consulting (CAF will be supporting consultancies by contributing consultancy days at cost, not funding)
- Support for training costs
- Flexible funding to support the organisation's costs during this period

If there is a joint application with another organisation, CAF may fund more than 20 days' consultancy. Joint consultancy or training may be offered where there are a number of similar applications.

The total value of the grant will be up to £20,000, covering up to 100% of the cost of consultancy and training. CAF will look at the organisation's financial position to decide on the level of consultancy and/or training that will be supported. 100% funding is not given automatically and the organisation may be asked to contribute towards the cost of consultancy.

Applications will be considered from any organisation in the UK which is set up exclusively for charitable purposes with an annual income of up to £3 million.

For further information please contact:

CAF Grantmaking
Charities Aid Foundation
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4TA
Tel: (01732) 520334
Fax: (01732) 520159
E-mail: grants@CAFonline.org
Website: <http://www.CAFonline.org>

TRAINING



Walsall VA & Tribal Regeneration announce the LSC funded First Line Management VRQ Training Programme

The Leading Skills Programme run by Tribal Regeneration working in partnership with Walsall Voluntary Action are offering the Community and Voluntary Sector the opportunity to develop their staff and volunteers by providing a level 3 accredited VRQ (Vocational Relevant Qualification) in First Line Management. The course will provide future and current managers within the VCS with the opportunity to gain nationally recognised qualifications and recognition for the skills that they have.

The first of these courses will run from May 2007. Participants are normally charged £1000 for the programme however; the programme will be **FREE** with the agreement with selected applicants that it should be completed in full.

VCS organisations who express an interest in sending paid staff and/or volunteers to the programme will be contacted for those paid staff and/or volunteers to be put through an IAG (Information, Advice & Guidance) interview

Interviewees will be selected for the programme on the basis of IAG criteria that will assess both **them and their organisation** to determine if they should be selected for the course. Please note that the programme is aimed at small and medium sized VCS organisations only. Organisations affiliated to national bodies of a turnover of more than £29 million will not be able to participate.

For further information about the programmes content, contact Colin, the Leading Skills Community Outreach Officer on 07717850092 or email leadership.skills@tribalgroup.co.uk

To express an interest in participating in the training programme please contact Tariq at WVA on 01922 619840 or email tariqk@walsallva.org.uk

Effective Supervision Skills

Birmingham Voluntary Sector Council

11 & 12 June 2007

9.30 am – 4.30 pm

Effective Supervision Skills is a practical, proven training course which builds confidence, incorporates existing skills, and provides a flexible structure for managing one to one supervision sessions.

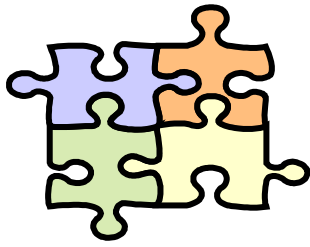
This course is for participants from voluntary, community and statutory organisations, but is equally suitable for new and experienced supervisors.

For further information or to request a booking form please call 01803 299049 or visit www.idttraining.com or send an email to mail@idttraining.com



...a community-based organisation





Walsall Centre for Independent Living
Ground Floor
Tameway Tower
Bridge Street
Walsall WS1 1JZ



Walsall Centre for Independent Living Programme

Monday 21	09.30 – 11.30	Introduction to the Internet
Tuesday 22	10.00 – 12.00	Introduction to Computers
Tuesday 22	16.00 – 18.00	Learning to Job Search on the Internet
Thursday 24	13.00 – 16.00	'Find that course or find that career'
Friday 25	11.00 – 12.00	Learn about Family History

All activities take place at Walsall Centre for Independent Living

**For more information or to book a place call the Centre on
01922 650790, text 0845 111 2910**



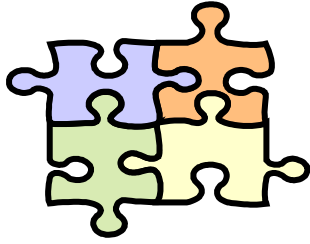
Walsall Council

Teaching Primary Care Trust

Walsall **NHS**



Project Part-Financed
by the European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



Walsall Centre for Independent Living
Ground Floor
Tameway Tower
Bridge Street
Walsall WS1 1JZ

New Horizons



Want to know about training courses in Walsall?

Want to do something different?

Want to learn a new hobby or change careers?

Whether its painting, computers, languages or doing a Degree!

Visit

Walsall Centre for Independent Living

on

Thursday 24 May 2007

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Come in and have a chat and cuppa with Walsall's top training providers

Call 01922 650790 for more information



Walsall Council

Teaching Primary Care Trust

Walsall NHS



Project Part-Financed
by the European Union

European Regional
Development Fund



Management and Leadership Masterclass

A three day Leadership and Management Masterclass for leaders and managers in the voluntary and community sector will take place on 19, 20 and 21 June 2007. The class will be available for leaders and managers who are working or living in Walsall. Candidates must attend all three days. Cost £150.

The project will be delivered in partnership with RPRS, The College of Continuing Education and the University of Wolverhampton.

The Business School at Wolverhampton University Senior Business Lecturer, David Oxtoby, will deliver the training at University Campus, Walsall.

The initial aim of this course is to assess the importance and need for leadership and management training. The course will focus more on the business aspects of running a VOLCOM organisation and discuss the challenges the sector faces as it moves from a grant culture through to a contract culture.

For more information please contact:

“Right People Right Skills” on 01902 328980 to register your interest in attending the course. You will then be sent an application form.



Choose your donation...



or



Institute of Fundraising

Spend £40.00 and potentially gain thousands for your charity with an Institute of Fundraising Tax-effective Giving Workshop

Increasing your income just got easier.

A range of services from the Institute of Fundraising could help your charity's voluntary donations go up by nearly a third, and that's just through **Gift Aid** – one of the many ways you could make more of what you're given.

Make sure your charity makes the most of tax-effective giving with help from the Institute of Fundraising's range of support and advisory services to charities across England.

Learn more about

1. **Gift Aid** – how to reclaim the tax from every donation from an individual and increase your income by 28.2%.
2. **Share Giving** – over 12,000,000 people in the UK own shares and the average share donation is £7,000. Find out what you need to know in order for your charity to benefit from Share Giving.
3. **Payroll Giving** – set up a reliable donation stream and tap into the wide range of benefits.
4. **Legacies** – are one of the most cost-effective fundraising techniques. Legacies raise as much as £1.6 billion each year and are the largest single source of voluntary income to UK charities.

Book your place 0845 337 3801
taxback@institute-of-fundraising.org.uk

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of the Institute of Fundraising's
tax-effective giving interactive CD ROM.



Tax-Effective Giving HELPLINE 0845 458 4586

Become an Institute member

www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk

Tax-Effective Giving
Lets make it a date...

Workshops

Sign up today for a place on our tax-effective giving workshops, which are running across England throughout 2007/08.

Attendance costs only £40.00 per delegate at each of the workshops below and includes refreshments, lunch and all course materials.

Wed 16th May 07 Birmingham	Wed 28th Nov 07 Cambridge
Wed 20th June 07 Newcastle	Wed 12th Dec 07 Bradford
Wed 18th July 07 London	Wed 23rd Jan 08 London
Wed 26th Sept 07 Manchester	Wed 30th Jan 08 Bristol
Wed 10th Oct 07 Tunbridge Wells	Wed 13th Feb 08 Derby
Wed 21st Nov 07 Cambridge	Wed 12th Mar 08 Reading

To book your place
Booking Line 0845 3373801
Email taxback@institute-of-fundraising.org.uk
Visit www.tax-effectivegiving.org.uk

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The information given in this publication is given in good faith, whilst every effort has been made to check the contents no responsibility or liability can or will be taken by Walsall Voluntary Action for errors and omissions.

For further information please contact

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Walsall
WS1 1HP**

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Fax 01922 619848
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web www.walsallva.org.uk**

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