

Hello TWGGS

We are pleased to announce that the relocation from 19 Monson Road to a temporary office based at Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar School all went smoothly and according to plan. We shall be based here until building work is complete in early May.

If you would like meet with any of our team please call 01892 530330 to arrange an appointment.

Please note that our contact details (phone / email / postal address) are remaining the same except for our fax (01892 532539) which is temporarily unavailable during this time.

Bloom is Back Tunbridge Wells

The aim of reviving the competition in 2010, is to bring back the sparkle to Royal Tunbridge Wells through the imaginative use of street flower baskets, cleaning up roundabouts, replanting containers and even introducing edible landscaping on suitable spots.

Together with the ["Love Where We Live"](#) initiative it also aims to achieve a litter free, cleaner and greener town.

Please see [here](#) for more details, [here](#) for the competition entry form and [here](#) for a sponsorship form.



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Councils urged to consider Third Sector Bids for Service Delivery

The Communities Secretary has advised council leaders not to overlook the third sector when improving public service delivery. John Denham was addressing a meeting of council leaders when he urged them to consider the skills and expertise of third sector organisations to deliver local services.

Please see [here](#) for details.

Are you an Inspiring Leader?

Leadership 20:20 is a Commission that will give emerging leaders the chance to get their voices heard, discuss issues affecting our sector, share ideas and information and learn from each other. We want to find 20 of the most inspiring leaders in our sector who can help to steer the process, debates and findings of the Commission.

To find out more, apply or nominate your own inspiring leader visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/leadership2020

Government withdraws proposed Exempt Charity Status for Academies

NCVO report that they 'are pleased' with the Government's decision last week to withdraw plans to make academy schools exempt charities. More than 200 academies are already registered charities and switching their regulatory body would have created confusion about what constitutes a charity and how it is held accountable. This decision will ensure their legal independence and accountability remains.

For more visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/documents/press-releases/ncvo-statement-academies-exempt-charity-status

New VAT advice service

Charity VAT regulations on what can and cannot be recovered are numerous and complex and many organisations fail to legitimately recover thousands of pounds paid in VAT. NCVO members can now benefit from this new VAT advice support helpline, offered in partnership with Saffery Champness. The helpline is free for all members with incomes under £100k turnover, and offered at a 50% discount to larger charities. The helpline also offers advice on direct tax, Gift Aid and employment tax matters.

Find out more at www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/vat-advice or register for the VAT helpline by emailing charityvat@saffery.com

NHS Strategic Plan

NHS West Kent is inviting feedback and review on its Strategic Plan. To view the Strategic Plan and **Have Your Say** please use the following link:

http://www.westkentpct.nhs.uk/Have_Your_Say

Free Funding Finder

**Does your group need new equipment?
Are you looking for funding for a member of staff?
Do you want to increase the services you can offer?
Need to pay for the next outing for your club?**

If so VAWK's Development Team can help identify potential funders and sources of funding suitable for your community group/charity/club. Call us on 01732 454785.

Contact Wendy McGeachy (wendy.mcgeachy@vawk.org.uk) specialised in working with children, young people, families or communities.

Contact Fiona Watkins (fiona.watkins@vawk.org.uk) if you work with older people, disability or health issues.

Kent and Medway Funding Fairs 2010 2nd June The Marlowe Academy, Ramsgate

The booking for the 2010 Kent and Medway Funding Fairs is now open. These free events will be held on 2nd June at The Marlowe Academy, Ramsgate. The fairs will provide opportunities to meet funders and seek advice on funding opportunities and partnership working.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Those who have already registered an interest in the fairs will automatically be sent a booking form. Those who have not registered an interest can receive a booking form by emailing fundingfairs@ruralkent.org.uk, downloading it from www.ruralkent.org.uk or by phoning 01303 813790.

Booking will close for the Ramsgate Fair on **26th March**.

These have been made possible through funding from the Big Lottery BASIS Programme which is operated through Kent CAN and delivered by Action *with* Communities *in* Rural Kent.

Don't miss out on See The Difference – aiming to raise £475M for charities

We are pleased to announce that See The Difference, the innovative new website that showcases a mass video library of fundraising projects from many different charities, is on track to go live in beta from 23rd March. Those charities already signed up will be reaching new audiences in a way that has never been done before.

Please visit www.seethedifference.org or call 0207 600 3798 to learn more.

Tesco Charity Trust – Community Awards

Tesco is awarding grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 to voluntary and community organisations who support the elderly and adults and children with disabilities. Find out more [here](#).

Closing date: 31st March, 2010

Henry Smith Charity

Applications can be made for revenue and capital activity. Priority is given to work with groups experiencing social and/or economic disadvantage, for example, people with disabilities; and work that tackles problems in areas of high deprivation.

Please see [here](#) for details.

New strand of Reaching Communities

The Big Lottery Fund has announced a new funding programme that will allow voluntary organisations to apply for grants of up to £40,000 a year until 2015. The fund is a new strand of the Reaching Communities programme and is designed to support charities that want shorter-term, smaller-scale grants than those available through the existing Reaching Communities scheme.

<http://bit.ly/reachcommbig> or www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Nationwide Foundation small grants programme

The Nationwide Foundation has expanded its Small Grants Programme criteria for charities working with older people. The previous age restrictions have now been removed, and work can benefit any older person to improve their housing needs or address financial exclusion.

www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/smallgrants.asp

Comic Relief UK grant programme - Cycle 3 now open to applications

Comic Relief's UK Grant Programme aims to bring about positive and lasting change in the lives of poor and disadvantaged people in the UK by investing in work that addresses people's immediate needs as well as tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice.

Registered charities and voluntary organisations (including social enterprises and community interest companies) in the UK are invited to apply for grants of between £25,000 and £40,000. Grants are available to cover running or capital costs of organisations or projects under the following programmes:

- Mental Health.
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse.
- Refugee and Asylum Seeking Women.
- Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People.
- Young People and Alcohol.
- Young People with Mental Health Problems.
- Local Communities.

The Cycle 3 deadline for applications is 14 May 2010. To apply please see [here](#).

Get Connected

Grants of up to £20,000 are being made available to registered providers of adult social care and independent sector organisations supporting personalisation in adult social care. For further information on eligibility criteria, click [here](#). **Closing date:** 16th April, 2010

Co-operative Community Fund

Offers a grants scheme that helps local communities throughout the UK. Community Fund grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups to run projects. Please see [here](#) for details.

English Heritage - Historic Buildings, Monuments and Designed Landscapes

This scheme covers grants for the repair and conservation of some of England's most significant historic buildings, monuments and designed landscapes. Grants are primarily offered for urgent repairs or other work required within two years to prevent loss or damage to important architectural, archaeological or landscape features. To qualify for a grant under this scheme, they would normally expect your project to involve one of the following: a building listed at grade I or II; a scheduled monument; a designed landscape that is included in their Register of Parks and Gardens at grade I or II.

Please see [here](#) for details.

Hedley Foundation

The Hedley Foundation supports young people, the disabled and the terminally ill. Grants for specific projects only, mostly one-off, but no core revenue, salary or transport funding. The Foundation makes a limited number of recurring grants for up to three years.

Please see [here](#) for details.

Charity Employees Benevolent Fund

The CEBF, the Charity Employees Benevolent Fund, launched in November 2009. The CEBF is the only benevolent fund that the charity sector can call its own, and thanks to the support of organisations within the sector and charities themselves, the CEBF is now providing advice and financial assistance for the families of charity employees in need.

Low wages and few benefits make people working for charities, and their families, vulnerable to serious financial hardship in times of illness, disability, bereavement and other unexpected disaster. The Charity Employees Benevolent Fund will provide assistance for people in these situations, bringing provision for charity employees in line with that for the rest of the UK workforce.

The CEBF is currently offering limited financial support through grants for specific purposes.

Once sufficient money has been raised we aim to extend the service to include:

Welfare support and advice on benefits A friendship network and a caring community

You can download an application form from Website: <http://www.cebfg.org.uk/needhelp.html>

Confused about how the new Vetting and Barring scheme affects you?

The Department For Children, Schools And Families has published a *Vetting and barring myth buster* to give clarification on the Vetting and Barring Scheme.

Get involved:

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/news/index.cfm?event=news.item&id=vetting_and_barring_myth_buster

Working together to help children sooner

The Children's Workforce Development Council is promoting a range of tools to support 'integrated working': working better together to get help for children and young people sooner rather than later. See <http://alltogetherbetter.cwdcouncil.org.uk/integrated-working/> Umbrella body NAVCA is working alongside CWDC in the initial phase, <http://www.navca.org.uk/news/alltogether.htm>

Youth workers pay settlement

The Joint Negotiating Committee for Youth and Community Workers has announced the 2009 pay settlement for youth workers as follows:

- An increase of 1% on all salary points and allowances with effect from 1 September 2009
- An agreement to continue to press for key worker status for youth and community workers. <http://www.ncvys.org.uk/index.php?page=281>

Support for All

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has published 'Support for All - the Families and Relationships Green Paper' setting out how the Government intends to support families.

Please see www.dcsf.gov.uk/supportforall.

Support programme

The National Children's Bureau (NCB) has launched a support programme aimed at helping to develop the work of third sector organisations working with children and young people. The Voluntary Sector Support (VSS) programme hopes to provide a range of services to voluntary sector organisations, keep them informed on policy and practice, support them around commissioning and funding opportunities and offer access to services such as IT and event management.

Find details at <http://www.ncb.org.uk/vss/home.aspx>

Kent Carers' Emergency Card - Caring with Confidence series starting on 18th May

This card provides carers with peace of mind when they are away from the person they care for. One of the main concerns carers have when leaving the person they look after is what would happen if they were taken ill or involved in an accident.

The Carer's Emergency Card enables immediate access to pre-arranged planned care, giving the carer the peace of mind they need. Carers are issued with a credit card sized card with a unique reference number and emergency phone number on it. It does not contain any personal details.

For more information and an application form visit: www.kentcarersemergencycard.org.uk or contact Carers First, 01732 357555. www.carersfirst.org.uk

DSI

The next meeting of the West Kent Disabled and Sensory Impaired Group is on Monday 10th May from 2-4pm in the Tunbridge Wells Town Hall, Committee Room A.

This meeting is for representatives from organisations working with people with disabilities. If you have a topic you would like more information on at the meeting or to indicate your attendance please contact Development Officer Fiona Watkins on 01732 454785 or fiona.watkins@vawk.org.uk

Deafblindness

The term 'deafblind' describes people of all ages who have a combined hearing and vision impairment. These individuals may be deaf or hard of hearing as well as blind or partially sighted. They do not have to be completely deaf and blind. Deafblind people use red and white striped canes to walk with.

Sense is the leading national charity that supports and campaigns for children and adults who are deafblind. They provide expert advice and information as well as specialist services to deafblind people, their families, carers and the professionals who work with them. Sense: 08451 270060. info@sense.org.uk, www.sense.org.uk.

Rail Travel

Southern has become the first train operator in England to introduce a Priority Seat Card. It is designed to encourage passengers to give up priority seats for people with disabilities, expectant mothers, elderly passengers of those carrying infants. It is available on application and anyone who qualifies for a card can use it on any Southern service. www.southernrailway.com/priority.

Personal Budgets for Older People - Making it Happen

This Department of Health guide focuses on how councils can make personal budgets work well for older people and their families. It looks at how to ensure personal budgets are accessible, simple to use, flexible and help to achieve the things that matter most to the people using them.

For more details please contact Christine Cook at the Department of Health at christine.cook@dh.gsi.gov.uk

Partnerships for Older People Projects (POPPs)

The Department of Health has published its final evaluation of the POPPs programme, which found that a wide range of projects resulted in improved quality of life for participants as well as better local working relationships. It also found that care spending on service users fell by an average of £2,166 per person per year after using POPPs services. To view the full report please click [here](#)

Equality bill champions older people

The government has today called for a change in both public policy and attitude towards the older generation, promoting the role the 'welderly' plays in family life, the economy and society.

For the full article please click [here](#)

Sevenoaks Brighter Futures

Brighter Futures supports older people living in the Sevenoaks and Edenbridge area to stay healthy, active and independent in their own homes. Older people receive help, delivered by volunteers, through activities such as:

Driving - to places including the opticians, chiropodist, hairdressers, day centres.

Shopping – either with a volunteer or a volunteer going on the clients behalf.

Escorting- odd jobs, information, exercise & social trips.

Volunteer drivers are needed in Otford, Kemsing, Shoreham and Seal at present, though drivers in other areas very welcome to join the team!

To find out more, join as a client, or to volunteer as a driver, please contact the team on 01732 469000 or email driving@vawk.org.uk.

Over 50? Live in the Tunbridge Wells Borough?

Then you are cordially invited to a meeting with Free Light Buffet and Entertainment Friday 26th March 12:45 to 14:30, Pembury Village Hall.

Tunbridge Wells Over Fifties Forum was set up last year to give a voice to all older people living within the Borough boundary to influence the authorities on matters affecting older people. We would like your views and help to achieve this.

If you would like to attend please ring Maggie on 01892 523858 or Mike on 01892 822527 to book your place and for directions. For catering and space arrangements please inform them by 18th March.

The following organisations publish interesting e-newsletters which can be subscribed to at no cost through their websites.

Third Sector Daily:

A very useful publication containing up-to-the-minute news and comment on issues relevant to the Third Sector

<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk>

Red Ochre:

Mission of the organisation is to *improve the performance of individuals, organisations and businesses that deliver social change.*

<http://www.redochre.org.uk>

RAISE:

Free membership organisation for the Third Sector. Comprehensive newsletter.

<http://www.raise-networks.org.uk/>

KentCAN:

Publishes an e-newsletter on an ad hoc basis; membership is free.

<http://www.kentcan.org/>

Voluntary News:

Weekly newsletter published by VolResource

<http://voluntarynews.org.uk/news>

Kent and Medway Newsletter for Professionals in Adult Learning:

Contact: skillsforlifeneWSletter@yahoo.co.uk

Leadership Introduction:

Welcome to our Training Programme April –July 2010:

We are pleased to announce the latest training opportunities through our “Leadership Programme – Empowering the Voluntary and Community Sector in Kent and Medway”.

You will be pleased to know that the courses have been designed specifically for the Voluntary and Community Sector and will develop the skills of individuals to the benefit of their organisations.

This exciting project is funded by the Big Lottery BASIS programme through Kent CAN (Community alliance of Networks); and all training opportunities are **fully funded** through the Leadership programme. Please find our Leadership workshop programme on the following pages with details of **introductory taster workshops** and **introductory Leadership workshops**:

	Date and Time	Venue
Introduction to Leadership	Thursday 22 April 2010 10am – 3pm	TN2 Community Centre Tunbridge Wells TN2 3JG
Outcomes	Tuesday 27 April 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	Maidstone Community Support Centre, Maidstone ME14 1HH
Communications	Tuesday 27 April 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Maidstone Community Support Centre, Maidstone ME14 1HH
Introduction to Leadership	Tuesday 4 May 2010 10am – 3pm	East Kent Crossroads Beach House, Herne Bay CT6 5PT
Managing Change	Thursday 6 May 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	East Kent Crossroads Beach House, Herne Bay CT6 5PT
Vision & Values	Thursday 6 May 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	East Kent Crossroads Beach House, Herne Bay CT6 5PT
Outcomes	Tuesday 11 May 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	TN2 Community Centre Tunbridge Wells TN2 3JG
Communications	Tuesday 11 May 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	TN2 Community Centre Tunbridge Wells TN2 3JG

Introduction to Leadership	Thursday 13 May 2010 10am – 3pm	Maidstone Community Support Centre, Maidstone ME14 1HH
Managing Change	Tuesday 18 May 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	Maidstone Community Support Centre, Maidstone ME14 1HH
Vision & Values	Tuesday 18 May 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Maidstone Community Support Centre, Maidstone ME14 1HH
Introduction to Leadership	Thursday 20 May 2010 10am – 3pm	Ken Can Blue Room Ashford, TN23 4QE
Outcomes	Tuesday 8 June 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	East Kent Crossroads Beach House, Herne Bay CT6 5PT
Communications	Tuesday 8 June 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	East Kent Crossroads Beach House, Herne Bay CT6 5PT
Outcomes	Thursday 10 June 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	Swale CVS, Central House, Sittingbourne ME10 4NU
Communications	Thursday 10 June 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Swale CVS, Central House, Sittingbourne ME10 4NU
Managing Change	Wednesday 16 June 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	Swale CVS, Central House, Sittingbourne ME10 4NU
Vision & Values	Wednesday 16 June 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Swale CVS, Central House, Sittingbourne ME10 4NU
Introduction to Leadership	Thursday 17 June 2010 10am – 3pm	TN2 Community Centre Tunbridge Wells TN2 3JG
Outcomes	Tuesday 29 June 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	Ken Can Blue Room Ashford, TN23 4QE
Communications	Tuesday 29 June 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Ken Can Blue Room Ashford, TN23 4QE
Managing Change	Tuesday 6 July 2010 9.30am – 12.30pm	Ken Can Blue Room Ashford, TN23 4QE
Vision & Values	Tuesday 6 July 2010 1.30pm – 4.30pm	Ken Can Blue Room Ashford, TN23 4QE

All of these workshops can also be delivered in house to individual organisations.

For full details please go to our [website](#).

We have the following workshops available to support the development of Trustee boards. These 1 day workshops are delivered at your organisation at a mutually convenient date.

Please contact Angela Holland for more information. angela.holland@vawk.org.uk

- Introduction to Roles, Responsibilities and Risk for Trustees
- Introduction to Strategic Planning
- Introduction to Outcomes and Quality

Leadership Support:

Have you got a Leadership, Management or governance problem at your place of work and would like confidential advice or information from our team?

Please email Angela Holland or Jon Weller for confidential email support at leadership@vawk.org.uk

A full training programme can be found on our website if you would prefer a programme to be sent to you then please contact the training team at Voluntary Action Within Kent.

We are pleased to offer further training options as listed below

	Date and Time	Venue
Fire Marshall/Warden	Wednesday 2 June 2010 9.30am – 1.30pm	TN2 Community Centre Tunbridge Wells TN2 3JG £40
Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)	Thursday 3 June 2010 10am – 4pm	Sevenoaks Council Chambers Sevenoaks Kent TN13 3QG FREE
Level 2 Food Hygiene	Monday 7 June 2010 9.30am – 4pm	TN2 Community Centre Tunbridge Wells TN2 3JG £55
Appointed Person First Aid	Monday 14 June 2010 9.30am -4pm	St Phillips Church Tunbridge Wells TN2 3TE £55
Introduction to Fundraising	Wednesday 23 June 2010 10am – 4pm	The Vauxhall Room Angel Centre Tonbridge TN9 1SF FREE

For bookings and enquiries please contact Diane Brenham 01892 530330
email diane.brenham@vawk.org.uk

Learning and Skills for the Voluntary and Community Sector

**North Kent Training Service (NKTS) for the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS):
Accessible, relevant and excellent value since 2004**

NKTS is a project managed by Council for Voluntary Service Medway. It primarily provides training for VCS staff and volunteers, to build capacity within their organizations on a wide range of essential issues required by legislation and driven by client needs. Up to date training programmes can be found on the website at www.nkts.co.uk. These courses are funded by the Big Lottery Fund Basis programme and by working in partnership with Swale CVS and NWK CVS, courses can be delivered over the whole North Kent region.

Courses are wide and varied responding to the needs of the sector. They are very cheap in comparison to other training bodies and include, management of volunteers, fundraising, presentation skills, Sage accounting and so much more.

In addition to the Big Lottery Funded programme, funds have also been made available from the LSC for unemployed or low-paid, part-time employed people and a small number of voluntary sector staff who need skills and qualifications to raise their prospects of (better) employment. This is through the Learning and Skills Council's Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities (NLDC) fund.

These employment skills courses are FREE and include:

- First aid certificates
- Food safety
- Portable Appliance Testing Training
- Door Security qualifications AND licence
- CSCS Construction Card
- Phone Skills

North Kent CVS Partnership



Medway



North West Kent



Swale



Leading learning and skills



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



LOTTERY FUNDED

For further information contact: For further information contact: For further information:

Email : NKTS@cvsmedway.org.uk
 Telephone : 01634 818036
 Write to : North Kent Training Service
 5a New Road Avenue
 Chatham
 Kent ME4 6BB
 Minicom : 01634 333111

Action *with* Communities in Rural Kent



Welcome to
Funding Buddies

Statement of Recommended Practice: SORP

Date: 3.6.2010
Venue: Sevenoaks Council Chambers
Time: 10am-4pm
Refreshments: Teas/coffees and lunch will be provided
Trainer: Kathy Roddy

This is a one day course for trustees and managers who need to produce SORP compliant accounts and want to understand the main requirements of the SORP regulations (and the importance of the SORP).

The course will cover:-

- Financial management in the voluntary sector: main concepts and terminology
- The Charities Act and its financial reporting requirements: an overview
- What is the SORP and who does it apply to?
- Detailed requirements: step by step
- Implications for internal financial management

Next steps: what does your organisation need to do?

For bookings and enquiries please contact Diane Brenham 01892 530330
email diane.brenham@vawk.org.uk

Introduction to Fundraising

Date: 23.6.2010
Venue: The Vauxhall Room – Angel Centre Tonbridge
Refreshments: Teas/coffees and lunch will be provided
Trainer: Kathy Roddy

This is a one day course for staff and trustees who need to gain a general overview of the different methods of fundraising and the key concepts and issues.

The course will cover:

- What is fundraising all about?
- Why should anybody give you money?: The “case for support”
- Donor motivations
- The main funding streams and how to find out about them (Statutory, lottery, trusts, companies, individuals)
- Legal and ethical fundraising issues
- Developing a fundraising strategy: deciding what YOUR organisation should do
- Attitudes, beliefs and other obstacles to fundraising

The trainer for both these courses will be **Kathy Roddy**, who has spent more than 17 years in the voluntary sector. She has run a national charity and is now a freelance trainer and consultant. She is a member of the Institute of Fundraising and holds their Certificate in Fundraising Management. She is also a qualified project manager.

Kent CAN funded by the Big Lottery BASIS programme are providing this free training which will be delivered by Action for Communities in Rural Kent as part of the FINC (Funding Information Networking Celebration) programme.

For bookings and enquiries please contact Diane Brenham 01892 530330
email diane.brenham@vawk.org.uk



Volunteers and the Law

A one day course for everyone who manages volunteers! This course will answer all your questions about exactly what you should be 'doing' with the volunteers that you manage by explaining the differences between what is good practice and what should or shouldn't be done in terms of the law.

You will leave the course feeling much more confident about making sure everything you do is 'correct'.

Date: 24th May 2010
Venue: Carers FIRST 192 High Street Tonbridge TN9 1BE
Time: 10am-4pm
Cost: £50
Refreshments: Teas/Coffees will be provided
Trainer: David Sharples

Course Objectives

By the end of the course participants will be able to demonstrate

- 1: An understanding of how current legislation has implications for volunteers and volunteer involving organisations.
- 2: A knowledge of good practices recommendations relating to the management of volunteers.

And will have had the opportunity to plan for their own organisation in terms of how legislation affects the management of their own volunteers

The trainer for this course is David Sharples from Sahara Consultancy. David specialises in the many areas around volunteer management but also has considerable interest in personal development.

David has run many courses on Volunteer Management and in 2008 wrote a training manual on Volunteers & the Law. He has delivered training on Volunteers & the Law to many organisations across the country with excellent feedback from the participants.

Organisations include, SkillBase, Darlington CVS, and BraVA in London.

For bookings and enquiries please contact Diane Brenham 01892 530330
email diane.brenham@vawk.org.uk



Rising Stars Bursary

The bursary has two strands this year. Young people between the ages of 11-18 may apply for bursaries up to £150 to help with their personal development. Please see the [attached application form](#) which gives details of eligibility and how to apply.

In addition to this they are running some training courses. Please see details below:

Babysitting Training Course: A three day course, accredited by the British Red Cross will be held on 6-8th April in Sevenoaks. This course is open to young people aged between 14-18. Topics included in this course are: Introduction to Babysitting, Rights and the Law, Accident Prevention and Fire Safety, Looking after babies and children, First Aid and dealing with challenging babysitting situations. The cost of attending this course is £17 and we have 12 places available. Call Colleen Coode if you are interested on 01732 749420. Young people may apply for a Rising Stars Bursary to help with the cost, please call for an application form.

Personal Safety Courses: Will be held in Swanley on Tuesday 13th April at The Junction; in Edenbridge on 2nd June at the WI Hall and in Sevenoaks on Friday 29th October at Abacus House, Greatness Lane. All between 1-3pm and open to young people aged between 11-18. West Kent Extra, together with the Safer Schools Partnership are delivering a workshop to tell you how to keep yourself safe when you are out or at school or college. Areas to be covered will include Travel, Socialising, personal property - opportunities for property marking will also be available. This course is free, just ask for a registration form from Colleen Coode on 01732 749420.

Cricket: We are holding a one day cricket coaching course on Tuesday 1st June at the recreation ground behind the Alexandra Suite in Swanley. This course is open to young people aged 11-18. The course will be led by West Kent Extra's Victor Walcott who used to play for the Barbados Cricket Team. This course is free, just collect a registration form from West Kent's Swanley office and return it to them before Friday 28th May.

Below are additional courses that would like registered interest:

FA Level 1 Football Coaching Course with Charlton Athletic Football Club. This course is open to those aged 16+. The cost of this course is likely to be in the region of £135. This will take place over 3 days, either in the school holidays or on Saturday mornings in Edenbridge or Swanley. Once qualified, there may be opportunities for young assistant coaches to work with the Charlton Community Scheme and pay is from £15.00 per hour. The Rising Stars Bursary can accept applications for help with the cost of this course. Please call Colleen on 01732 749420 to register interest

A Basic Food Hygiene Course. This is a one day course open to people aged between 14-18. Completion of the course will give you an accredited basic food hygiene certificate. The cost is likely to be in the region of £15. Ideal for those wishing to gain full or part time work in the hospitality industry. The Rising Stars Bursary can accept applications for help with the cost of this course. Please call Colleen on 01732 749420 to register interest.

If anyone would need to use public transport to come to any of these courses and think this may be a problem, they may be able to help.

Thank You

A Huge Thank you to Tunbridge Wells Autorama who kindly donated £250 to Volunteer Centre Tunbridge Wells, Sevenoaks and Edenbridge. The Volunteer Centre's have provided a number of volunteers over the last 2 years to Autorama. Which is an annual Classic Car Show held in Dunorlan Park, raising funds for a variety of local charities. The next Autorama is on 7th and 8th August 2010.

Thank you Autorama!

Volunteers Available

Are you tired of photocopying? Do you have a massive mail out shortly? Or could you do with someone to answer the phones and book the diary for the morning?

If so, we are looking for short term admin roles for volunteers who are currently unemployed, looking to use existing skills or experience a new career direction.

If you have any opportunities in mind, please let us know. Contact one of our volunteer centers on (Tunbridge Wells) 01892 554438, (Sevenoaks) 01732 454785 or (Edenbridge) 01732 866901

Need a translator?

We have volunteers who can speak a variety of languages including German, French, Russian, and Polish who would happy to volunteer their skills. Contact your local Volunteer Centre for details.

Volunteers available for one - off events.

Are you looking for few extra volunteers for your next event in Edenbridge, Sevenoaks or Tunbridge Wells? Then we have a database of volunteers who just want to help for one off occasions. Any ideas, please let us know.

Volunteering around the London Olympics

Volunteering England has issued a policy briefing on 'Volunteering and the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games'. It gives brief notes for volunteering organisations on the state-of-play in the development of national-level strategies, programmes and activities for volunteering at and around the 2012 Games. In pdf, 51KB, <http://preview.tinyurl.com/y8mh9jy>

Volunteers Week 1st — 7th June

It may seem early, but we want to get you thinking about Volunteers Week.

Volunteers' Week is a national celebration of volunteers and volunteering which takes place from 1st – 7th June of each year.

Volunteers' Week plays a huge part in raising the profile of the millions of volunteers who regularly contribute to society, while inspiring others to get involved too.

During Volunteers' Week there is a burst of activity as events take place across the country to increase awareness of the UK's volunteers. Volunteer managers organise events to publicly thank their volunteers and highlight their contribution to local groups and the wider community, while individuals are encouraged to use the Week to find out more about volunteering.

Everyone is invited to join this national celebration of volunteering, it's up to you to decide exactly how you join in.

So if you have any plans or ideas in West Kent, we would love to hear about them at volunteering@vawk.org.uk

Volunteer Centre Edenbridge

The Edenbridge Centre
Four Elms Road
Edenbridge
Kent
TN8 6AD

t 01732 866901
f 01732 863518
e volunteering@vawk.org.uk
w edenbridgevolunteers.org.uk

Volunteer Centre Sevenoaks

Bradbourne School
Bradbourne Vale Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 3LE

t 01732 454785
e volunteering@vawk.org.uk
w sevenoaksvolunteers.org.uk

Volunteer Centre Tunbridge Wells

The Gateway
8 Grosvenor Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN1 1LS

t 01892 554438
f 01892 532539
e volunteering@vawk.org.uk
w tunbridgewellsvolunteers.org.uk

noticeboard

Wheelchair Tennis and Basketball

Please see [here](#) (recurring for the next four pages) for Basketball and Tennis events and sessions that are happening around Kent.

Four Walls Disco

Please see the [attached flyer](#) for the Four Wall Disco dates held at the TN2 Community Centre, Sherwood. This months is the 25th March.

Kent Centre of Excellence for Boccia

Please see the [attached flyer](#) for event details held a Valence School, Westerham.

We are continually seeking to improve the services that we provide and would be pleased to hear your comments on our new-style newsletter. Is it clear and easy to read? Is the information useful to you and your organisation? Are there any areas that you feel we are currently omitting and that you would like to see included?

We would welcome positive feedback as well as suggestions for improvement and would appreciate you taking the time to contact us. You can email us on info@vawk.org.uk or call 01892 530330. Any comments will be treated in the strictest confidence.

The views expressed in this publication should not necessarily be taken as VAWK policy. Whilst every care is taken to provide accurate information, VAWK undertakes no liability for any error or omission.

19 Monson Road
Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1LS
t 01892 530330

e info@vawk.org.uk
w www.vawk.org.uk

Offices also at
Edenbridge and Sevenoaks

Registered charity number 1108388 Registered company number 5354482



Quality accredited by



Bloom is back!





ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS IN BLOOM

www.royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk

BLOOM IS BACK IN ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

The aim of reviving the competition in 2010, is to bring back the sparkle to Royal Tunbridge Wells through the imaginative use of street flower baskets, cleaning up roundabouts, replanting containers and landscaping some areas.

Together with the "Love Where We Live" initiative it also aims to achieve a litter free, cleaner and greener town.

We will work together with all communities and schools and there will be **competitions** for:

- * Best basket
- * Best planter/tub/container
- * Best front patio/balcony
- * Best front garden
- * Best cafe/pub/club
- * Best shop front
- * Best street

ENTRY

Entries will be free of charge and are open to any resident within the boundaries of Royal Tunbridge Wells (including Rusthall and Hawkenbury)

There is only one rule: **Entries must be visible from the street**

Competition Entry Form

Closing date: Monday 28 June 2010

Please tick which category you will be entering

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basket | <input type="checkbox"/> Planter/Tub/Container |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front patio/Balcony | <input type="checkbox"/> Front garden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cafe/Pub/Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Shop front |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Street | |

Entrant's name:

Address:

.....

.....

Postcode:

Email:

Phone number:

leave at the **GATEWAY**, or

post to:

Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom
 Town Hall
 Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS

telephone: 01892-526121



Application Form for young people's funding

from



BRENWARDS LTD
ELECTRICAL & BUILDING SERVICES



Do you have a talent that you want to develop?
 Is there something that you have always wanted to do that will help your personal development?
 For example: Sports Coaching or equipment, music or dance tuition, course fees or even help with travel expenses to undertake training.



Step 1

Can you apply?

Yes, if you are between the ages of 11 and 18 and live in Kent and can provide proof that either you, your parents or guardian are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

Income-based Job Seekers Allowance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Income Support	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pension Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tax Credits/Working Tax Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disabled Persons Tax Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	NASS (National Asylum Support Service) support under part IV, the Immigration and Asylum Act	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employment Support Allowance	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Incapacity Benefit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disability Living Allowance	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widowed Mothers Allowance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Educational Maintenance Allowance	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please note: Only one successful application per person can be awarded in a 12 month period and applications for money for holidays, including gap years, and repayment of debts are not accepted. We cannot fund events that have already taken place.



Step 2

Find out how much money you need for your project or purchase. You can apply for up to **£150** from the Rising Stars Bursary (which does not have to be paid back). The grant would usually be a contribution towards the cost of your project and may be less than the amount you ask for.

Then simply complete the application form and send it back to us. If you need any help with your application call Keith or Colleen on 01732 749420 or email: colleen.coode@wkha.org.uk



Application Form

Name:

Address:

.....

..... Post Code:

Telephone Number Mobile No:

E-mail address..... Date of Birth

We will acknowledge receipt of your application by telephone, text or e-mail and tell you the date it can be considered.

Details of how this funding will be spent:

.....

.....

.....

Full cost of your purchase £.....

Amount you are requesting £.....

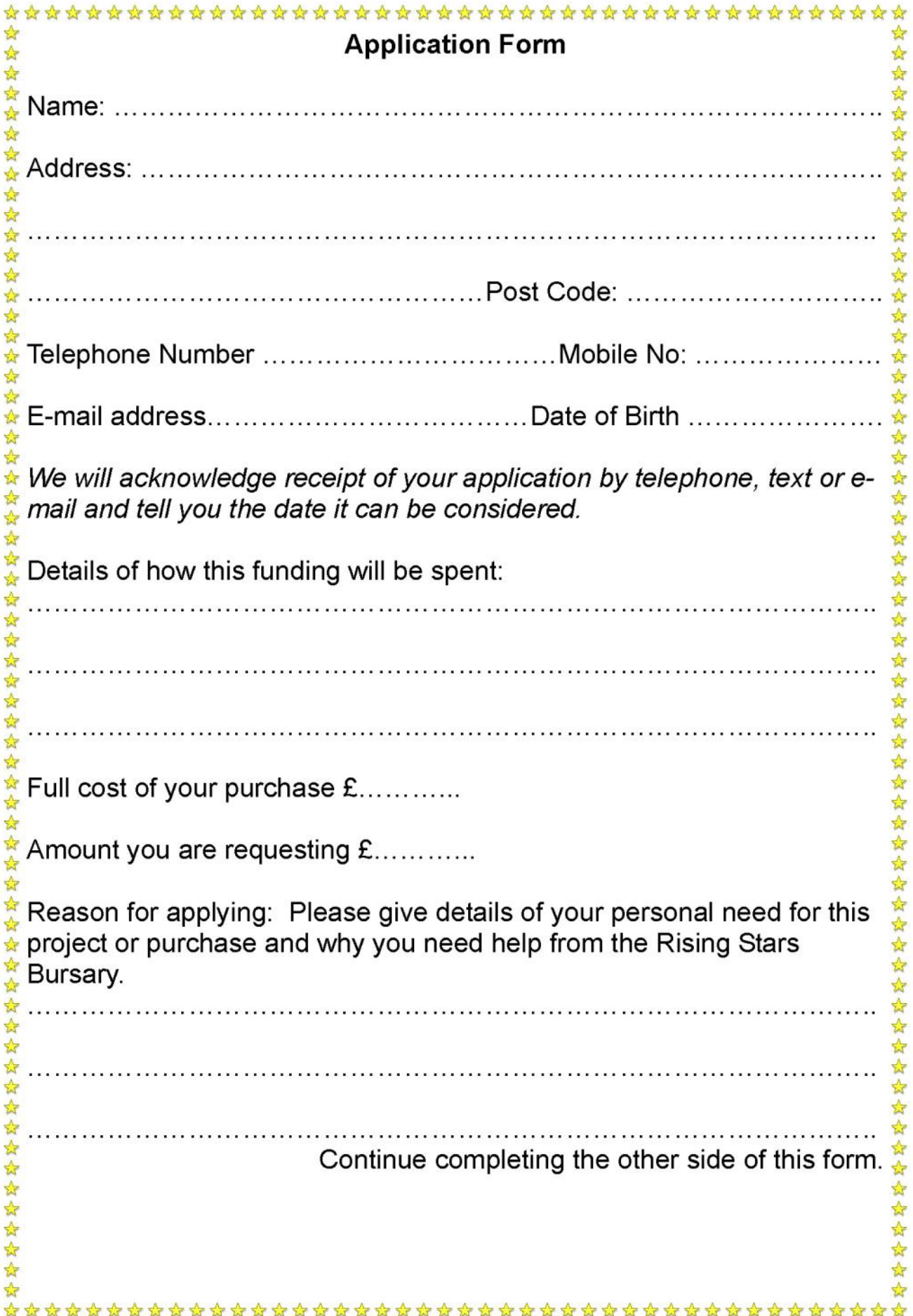
Reason for applying: Please give details of your personal need for this project or purchase and why you need help from the Rising Stars Bursary.

.....

.....

.....

Continue completing the other side of this form.



Who should we make the cheque payable to and where do we send it?
(The name and address of the supplier of your equipment/activity)

.....
.....

Name and contact details of an adult, other than your parents or guardian, who will be able to give us details of how this grant will help you. This cannot be the supplier detailed above. (We suggest a teacher, coach, youth worker or support worker).

Name:.....

Address:.....

..... Postcode:

Telephone Number

If I am successful, I agree to complete a short form (and send photographs if available) about how I spent the grant. I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information given in this application is correct.

Signed Date

Don't forget to enclose the proof that you or your parents or guardians are in receipt of one of the benefits listed on page 2.

Now post this form to:
Colleen Coode,
WKHA
FREEPOST MB1479
Sevenoaks
Kent.
TN13 1BR
You will not need a stamp

WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL:

**CAN YOU HANDLE THE
CHALLENGE?**



We are looking for both able bodied and disabled players to become members of a squad coming soon to Sittingbourne!

For more information, or to join the squad, contact Sarah on:
07516 605379
SittingbourneWBC@aol.com

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

Maidstone Rebels Wheelchair Basketball Team



Every Saturday

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Aylesford School, Teapot Lane, Ditton
Maidstone, Kent

The club is primarily for wheelchair users
with upper body coordination, but non-
disabled players are welcome

The Club competes in the Great Britain
Wheelchair Basketball Association League 3rd
division south

For more information contact Mike Bishop on
Tel No: **01732 525389**
Email: **mike.bishop@kent.gov.uk**



LEWISHAM THUNDER BASKETBALL CLUB WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL SESSION



Wheelchair Basketball is one of the most spectacular and popular sports of the Paralympics Games. It is distinguished for its unique style, the quick flow of the game and the endless action with constant attacks to the basket and "man to man" defense. For now, the plan is about spreading the good word of wheelchair basketball to gain interest. More importantly, it also might give teenagers with disabilities a new outlook toward their futures on and off the court.

Days: Saturday
Times: 11.30-12.30
Venue: Forest Hill Community Centre
Bampton Road, Forest Hill
SE23 2XN
Boys & Girls
Age: 7-16
Coached By: Steve Sadler (GB Wheelchair player)
Cost: £2.50 per session



**TEAMWORK,
RESPONSIBILITY
SELF-DISCIPLINE**

 **Lewisham**

As a club we are extremely lucky and proud to say that all our sessions are organised by:

Steve Bucknall

- 2006 Commonwealth Bronze Medalist
- Former England & GB Captain
- University of North Carolina MVP
- Ex LA Lakers
- First Englishman to play in the NBA

Wheelchair Tennis Sessions

[Back to Top](#)

If you live anywhere in the West Kent area, why not come and join us

Two indoor tennis courts will be available

Friends and family also welcome

- Tennis wheelchairs available - soon
- Tennis equipment provided
- £4 per session



Dates; 2010 - Sunday
21st March, 18th April, May 16th, June 20th,
July 18th, September 19th

Time; 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Tunbridge Wells Indoor Tennis Centre,
St Johns Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. TN4 9TX
£4 per session



(photo provided by Ability vs Ability website)

If you plan to attend please contact Mike Bishop;
Tel- 01732 525389 Email - mike.bishop@kent.gov.uk
OR

Stewart Wild, email – stewart.wild@fusion-lifestyle.com

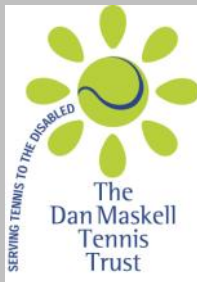
Wheelchair Tennis Sessions

If you live anywhere in the East Kent area, why not come and join us

Two indoor tennis courts will be available

Friends and family also welcome

- Tennis wheelchairs available
- Tennis equipment provided.



Sunday - 2010 - 28th March, 25th April, 23rd May, 27th June, 25th July

4.00-6.00pm

Canterbury Indoor Tennis Centre, Polo Farm Sports Club, Littlebourne Road, Canterbury, CT3 4AF.

£4 per session



Please contact Michael Bishop if you plan to attend:
 Tel- 01732 525389
 Email - mike.bishop@kent.gov.uk



Kent Centre of Excellence for Boccia

@ Valence School
Westerham,
Kent, TN16 1QN



**Sessions will run on the
third Sunday of every**

The centre is primarily for disabled youngsters and adults

The aim is to provide training from an experienced coach, for individuals to practice and improve and to enter Kent players and teams into regional and national competitions.

For more information contact Mike Bishop on

Tel No: **01732 525389**

Email: mike.bishop@kent.gov.uk



FOURWALLS DISCO

Monthly Disco at the TN2
Community Centre,
Greggs Wood Road,
Sherwood,

7.15pm - 8.45pm

Cost: £3.50



Soft drinks and hot drinks available to
purchase

Dates for 2010

Thursday 21st January

Thursday 25th February

Thursday 25th March

Thursday 29th April

Thursday 27th May

Thursday 24th June

Thursday 29th July

Thursday 26th August

Thursday 23rd September

Thursday 28th October

Thursday 25th November

Thursday 16th December

Contact person:

Jamie 01892 537076

07724599158