

vinvolved



Wigan & Leigh
Council for Voluntary Service

Wigan & Leigh

Monthly News
February
2010

Happy New Year from the vinvolved team!

Why not get 2010 off to a cracking start and sign up to do a bit of volunteering? Take a look at this month's edition for the latest opportunities, news and features.

Latest News

Why not sign up now for one of these **FREE** accredited courses? Contact us here at the team or call **01942 514234** and ask for Wendy or email wmsaied@cvswl.org

Wed 14th April and Thu 15th April	Developing Leadership Skills Learn about what it takes to be a good leader and the skills required
Tue 20th and 27th April	Team Building Understand what is involved in team building and cooperation
Wed 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th May	Participating in the Community Grow in confidence by learning about positive communication, problem solving and negotiation
Wed 9th and 16th June	Developing Negotiation Skills Learn to undertake positive and effective negotiations in work and personal life
Thu 24th and Fri 25th June	Improving Assertiveness Learn how to deal with any situation with an assertive manner

What's involved this month?

Latest News
Pg 1

V Opportunities
Pg 3

Your YAT
Pg 4

We need You!
Get involved in a DVD Pg 5

Contact Us
Pg 6

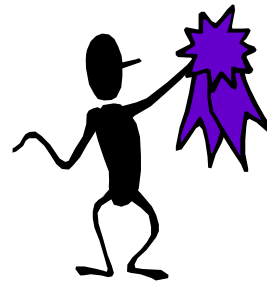
Latest News Continued

Are you volunteering with children or young people?

Yes? Then places are left on our Open college Network (OCN) Accredited course.

You can:

- Gain recognised accreditation
- Get your skills recognised
- Meet other volunteers
- Learn about the importance of listening to children
- Share your experience with others
 - Gain confidence



It is 5 sessions covering a range of topics. Dates are:

25th Feb, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March

5:30pm till 7:30pm

Ince Community Centre, Ince,

Contact Catherine to find out more or book a place
cakehurst@cvswl.org 01942 686244

Want to do something extraordinary?

Then why not volunteer at the 2012 Olympics?

London 2012 will depend on up to 70,000 volunteers to make sure the Olympic and Paralympic Games run smoothly and successfully.

They are currently planning their Volunteer Programme, which will ensure volunteers are trained and ready to go for 2012. **You can even get involved before the games and in your local area!**

So why not sign up and be a part of a truly unique experience that will stay with you for a lifetime?

<http://www.london2012.com/settings/register.php>



V Opportunities

Are you 21 or older? Do you want to help young people? Want to get valuable training and gain accreditation?

Your role would be to chair a meeting to address a young offender's behaviour. Members on the panel would be the offender, their carer, the victim and a worker from the Youth Offending Team.

This will offer fantastic experience to anyone looking to work in the criminal justice system or with young people.

Contact Simon on 01942 487100

If you're considering a career in medicine or caring then you should volunteer with the British Red Cross. You could become a First Aider, a Fire and Emergency Supporter or help raise money for the charity.

Calling all **13-19 year-olds!** You CAN help change opportunities for young people in your area. Do you want to be involved **MORE** in community projects? Do you want **A SAY** in how money is spent? Do you want to gain in **SKILLS** and meet **NEW FRIENDS?** **Then you need to get in touch with Refat and become a Panel Member! Call 01942 705947 and do something really fantastic today**

Are you into drama and the arts? The Three Towns Operatic Society are looking for set-builders, make-up artists and Front of House volunteers. A fun and fulfilling Opportunity

If you live in or around the Worsley Mesnes area and want to volunteer with children, then come along to the community centre's Mother and Toddler Group. You can help with the sessions and play with the children in their activities

TO GET INVOLVED WITH THESE OPPORTUNITIES AND FIND OUT MORE GET IN TOUCH WITH US TODAY! Also search www.vinspired.com for volunteering near you!

Your YAT

Howdy dudes and dudettes, I'm Anna from the little village of Astley (near Leigh), and will be turning 22 in March which I'm looking forward to celebrating in style!

My volunteering story starts in May 2009:

I had just finished studying a three year Business and Public Relations degree at Liverpool John Moores University and didn't really want to jump straight into a job, not only because I needed a break from studying, but I didn't think anyone would hire me without any work experience, especially as PR is a competitive industry to get into.

I'd always wanted to participate in some volunteer work but due to the demands of my course I just wanted to concentrate on getting through university first. I did my research and was directed to vinvolved. I organised a meeting with Francesca to discuss what activities I could get involved with that was of interest to me. I was interested in events and public relations, and so Francesca let me know about everything that was available.

I began to attend the vinvolved meetings and helped organise the 'Young People are Superheroes' event which was a great success and it gave me the opportunity to put what I'd learnt at university into practice - not only that but I was really enjoying myself.

Francesca introduced me to an organisation, which I also began to volunteer for, called the Community Foundation for Greater Manchester, who are a grant making charity that gives out funding to local community and voluntary groups in, and around, Manchester to help them carry out their activities. To cut a long story short they had a job opening which I went for and was successful in getting a position in the field of work that I want to work in - PR! This was before I'd even graduated, so volunteering had a big part to play in me getting that job. On the same day I was offered the job I found out I got a 2:1 in my degree so I was a rather happy bunny that day!

Even though I work full time I am still part of the YAT as I enjoy working with the other members plus I love organising events and all the work that goes with that. It looks good on my CV, it's good fun and a really rewarding experience!



If you're interested in joining the Youth Action Team get in touch!

We need you! Feature in a DVD

Are you currently volunteering in your local community?

Do you feel that volunteering is a good thing to do?

What are the benefits for you and others?

We want to hear from you!

Not only are we always on the look out for Good News Stories for our newsletter, but we are searching across Wigan and Leigh to find some fantastic examples of young people like you volunteering to feature in a DVD!

Our Youth Action Team are creating a DVD celebrating all the hard work young people are doing out there and these will be handed out to lots of people to recognise your achievements and recruit more volunteers.

So contact us at vinvolved to star in your own short film!

01942 686242 vinvolved@cvswl.org 07593544223





Want to get involved?

If you are interested in getting involved in volunteering, want to have your say or wish to get let us know what you think about the newsletter, then contact Francesca and Catherine from the involved team (details below).

All ideas and opinions are welcome.

CVS involved team

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www.cvswl.org/involved