Welcome to the new edition of the CVS e-bulletin. We hope you find the information useful. Don’t forget for constantly updated news and vacancies go to our website. There’s lots going on in our Facebook page and Twitter feed too! See address at the foot of this page.

Wyre Together Awards
The Wyre Together Awards are a great way of recognising local achievements and contributions and this year there are four categories to choose from: Best Volunteer; Best Young Volunteer; Best Community Group and Best Environmental Group. There will a special celebration event on 4th June to present all the nominees with a certificate and to announce the winners so go on, fill in the application form and let people know how appreciated they are. Closing date is 9th May.

Contact Jane Williams on 01253 887437

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Event
Healthwatch Blackpool in partnership with the CVS would like to invite you to Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) event for the Third Sector on Tuesday 10th June 2014, 10am-4pm at the Salvation Army Citadel, Raikes Parade, Blackpool. Enclosed is a copy of the draft agenda. The afternoon session will consist of three workshops: Health and Wellbeing; Lifestyle; and Social Community and Environment.

If you would like to book a place or have any queries, please contact Helen Kay or Ruth Large on 01253 345445. Please also tell us which workshop you would like to participate in and if you have any dietary requirements.

If you need help with websites or social media, we can help - just let us know what you need and we’ll send you a volunteer, and best of all it’s FREE!

For further information on any of the above, phone us on 01253 624505 or e-mail on: angela.glass@cvsbwf.org.uk. To get the latest updates on what CVS is up to, visit our website or our new updated Facebook page.

We are also on Twitter @cvsbwf
Aspired Futures boosted by Waterpark

One local charity are feeling the boost of having a national tourist attraction based in Blackpool give them their support. Aspired Futures a children’s charity based in Blackpool had an event held in their honour by Sandcastle Waterpark last Friday with all proceeds from entry going straight to the charity. The event supported by over 400 people raised £3,500 for the charity on the night via Sandcastle Waterpark’s newly developed Splash Foundation.

John Child, Managing Director of Blackpool Sandcastle Waterpark commented “We are always keen to work with the incredible team at Aspired Futures. It is a very worthy local cause and one we are delighted to support, it’s the very reason we started the Splash Foundation. The event was a great success with around 450 people attending. The team here as always really enjoy these sort of events where we can support the wider community. The work Aspired Futures do locally helping children to develop their skills is essential to them having the best start in life”.

Aspired Futures provides long-term mentoring and therapeutic leisure and play for children and young people needing extra intervention to ensure they develop the life-skills toolkit they need to achieve their full potential in their family, community, personal educational and working life.

Carmen Conquer of the charity added “We were very excited when the Sandcastle Waterpark team offered to hold this event for us; it is something very special that the staff of one of Blackpool’s greatest attractions shows this level of support for the work we do. Aspired Futures young people, volunteers and staff thoroughly enjoyed the event itself and are absolutely thrilled with the money raised. Moreover the encouragement we have gained is priceless.

We have a shared ethos in supporting local children. As a leading advocate and provider of top quality support services for children and young people who are ‘at risk’, marginalised, or experience periods of poor mental health due to crisis or chaos I really can’t thank John, Jane and the team enough. This makes a massive difference to us”.

Aspired Futures are hoping to benefit from further events held by Sandcastle Waterpark which will assist with essential fundraising.
Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Half day workshop

Alcohol in pregnancy can cause a lifetime of problems for you and your child. No matter how small the amount of alcohol consumed, there is a great risk of harming your unborn baby. Stay aware. Stay away from alcohol.

Women who are pregnant, or who are considering pregnancy, should be advised not to consume any alcohol: BMA Report, 2007.

Foetal Alcohol Syndrome is the biggest cause of non-genetic mental handicap in the western world and the only one that is 100% preventable.

Click HERE to access much more information.

FASawareUK believes that all people should have access to information, advice and guidance to make informed choices about the effects of alcohol during pregnancy and the detrimental impact on the adults and children throughout their lives.

Through awareness raising, training, campaigning and facilitating support networks, FASawareUK will seek to address these issues in a supportive and practical way.

With this in mind they are running a half day workshop on Tuesday 20th May, at Lytham Assembly rooms.

If you wish to take part please see their event flyer.

Summer Stuff 2014

Wyre council are now seeking information for entries into the 2014 “SUMMER STUFF” guide. The guide is funded by the Wyre Children and Young Peoples trust and is produced by Wyre Council. It publicises one off and community events during the months of July and August. Events must take place within the Wyre Borough area only. A PDF of last year’s guide is attached for information.

Entries into this guide will fall into the following criteria:

Target Audience
- Families AND/OR Children aged 0-19 (up to 25 for young people with disabilities and special needs)

Types of entries
- One off events
- Regular events, clubs or programmes (eg: Teen rangers, Scouts and Guides, Church clubs, etc.)
- Summer Sports Schemes
- Library based activities
- Outdoor nature activities
- YMCA programmes

Due to printing restrictions they cannot guarantee they will be able to include all entries but they will do their best to do so.

If you would like to be included in the guide please download the questionnaire and e-mail back by the 6th May 2014, so they can meet the deadlines for publication. Late replies will not be included in the guide.
MEMORIES of Blackpool illuminations are set to light up the lives of dementia patients at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

The Trust has joined forces with Blackpool Council to add a new dimension to the hospital's ground-breaking dementia corridor.

The Council's Light works department, which is responsible for the Blackpool Illuminations, has provided three illuminations installations for the dementia corridor that will transform patient experience and care through improvements to their physical environment.

The new Memory Lane corridor will be the largest of its kind in the UK and span a huge 72 metres in length when it is finished in early May.

It will feature sections recreating popular landmarks and scenes. Patients will be transported in to the settings by a full multisensory experience of sights, sounds and smells.

Sam Woodhouse, project lead on the dementia corridor and Practice Development Sister with the Trust, said: “We are thrilled to be able to add illuminations to the corridor. They are so iconic and will really benefit patients as they will help them to immerse themselves into an environment they are familiar with. It will help trigger happy memories which, for patients with dementia or confusion, are a really important part of their care.”

The illuminations will feature in two of the main sections of the corridor. The Pleasure Beach section will have one illuminated smiling face which would have once been along the outside of the attraction. The promenade section will have a seashell and a scaled down version of the famous illuminated “boat” tram.

Councillor Graham Cain, Blackpool Council cabinet member for leisure and tourism, said: “We're delighted to be able to help the people with dementia by bringing a little slice of the famous Blackpool Illuminations to the corridor.

"Dementia is a hugely important issue in Blackpool and on the Fylde coast generally because of the age of our population so we're very pleased to do what we can to help those affected and raise awareness."

As well as covering the walls in the design, each section of the corridor will have engagement sections with something for the patients to physically interact with, including donated artefacts and pictures, a work station with activities to complete, sounds and smells, as well as benches and seating to relax and enjoy the views.

Work is underway to develop the corridor which will be officially opened in May.

A scaled down version of the illuminated tram will make an appearance along the memory corridor at Blackpool Victoria Hospital.
Upcoming Events

Wyre Disability Partnership 10th Anniversary

Established in April 2004, Wyre Disability Partnership is an influential partnership that exists primarily as a launch pad for initiatives that ultimately change the daily lives of many disabled people for the better by working to overcome the attitudinal and physical barriers that affect disabled people in Wyre. They celebrated 10 years of existence with a fantastic event at Thornton Little Theatre on Friday 25th April.

The Mayor and Mayoress opened the celebration and there were a number of performers there including the Wyre Warblers, Beat the Drum group, the Barefoot Belly Dancers and the John Scarlett Band and one of the Partnership member’s (Dorothy Angel) even baked a cake to mark this fantastic achievement.

Other members also provided milestone talks about how the Disability Partnership has grown, the sort of activities it has been involved with and the future for the partnership going forward.

Paul Maynard MP also briefly attended the event and commented “The Partnership does a great job of bringing people together and over coming issues they encounter - wishing the Partnership another 10 years and many many more”.

The Disability Partnership works together to provide a way of sharing information and supporting disabled people and if you would like to know more about the partnership please contact Alan Reid on 01253 472201.
Comment on the Draft Fylde Coastal Masterplan

Fylde Council are committed to providing residents and visitors with a unique, high quality destination of national repute, based on the conservation and enhancement of the natural landscape and built heritage of the coastal area of the Borough of Fylde.

The purpose of the consultation is:
To seek views on the future vision for Fylde's unique coastline
To seek views on the Fylde Coastal Master Plan, and in particular the issues and key actions required for its implementation
To identify groups, organisations and public bodies should be involved in delivery of the action plan
The Council is seeking your views to help shape, enhance and conserve the natural beauty of the coastline and preserve its built heritage.

All representations received as part of the consultation will be considered by the Council, and used to inform the proposals to be set out in the strategy and action plan.

The material used during the consultation can be viewed through the downloads on this page. The consultation will run from 2nd April until 14th May 2014.
The document and Master plan has been prepared by Council officers with the aim of wider consultation with members, organisations and the community at large, and with a view to the establishment of a project board to enable all major stakeholders to participate in its implementation.
The Fylde Coastal Master plan initiative will collate and coordinate all current strategies and policy objectives for coastal protection, water quality, nature conservation, habitat improvement and landscape enhancement, conservation of the built and natural heritage, culture, leisure sport and recreation, tourism and the visitor economy, access and transportation. It will develop high level actions to address the major issues affecting the Fylde Coast. Click here to comment on the Fylde Coastal Masterplan.

The Skelton Bounty Still Open for Applications

The Skelton Bounty is a charitable trust empowered to make grants only to legally constituted charities established in the geographical County of Lancashire (as it existed in 1934).

Although the Governors enjoy complete discretion when considering applications, they are inclined to favour applications for:
• Equipment from organisations supporting the elderly, people with disability and from youth groups
• Small specific capital projects of proven viability from community groups

The Skelton Bounty is now open to applications. Applicants can apply from within the geographical County of Lancashire, as it existed in 1934.
The fund supports “Lancashire” charities, particularly favouring: Equipment for organisations supporting the elderly and people with disability and for youth groups. Holidays for disadvantaged children and carers.
The trustees prefer to make grants of a capital rather than a revenue nature. They are inclined to favour specific capital projects of proven viability rather than making contributions to general expenditure. It is their preferred policy to make relatively modest grants to a wide number of applicants rather than large grants to a small number of applicants.

Grants are only made to legally constituted, registered charities. Grants are not made to individuals. Applications from charities in successive years are not viewed favourably. The Governors do not usually fund large building appeals or revenue expenditure.

When to apply: Completed applications must be received before 5pm on Friday 2 May 2014. Applications are considered at the annual general meeting in June/July.

Please download the attached application form and return it to LCVS, contact details are on the form.
Blackpool Boys and Girls Club have been providing services for the young people of Blackpool for almost 80 years.

Their aim is to inspire and enable Blackpool’s young people to realise their potential as productive, responsible and caring members of the community.

The Club was first founded and housed on Caunce Street back in 1935 and relocated in the 1960’s to the purpose built building on Laycock Gate. The current club holds many happy memories for so many who have passed through and for those who continue to come through their doors.

As the demolition of Queens Park gets underway and the landscape changes the club are preparing for a new chapter. The club is planning to rehouse into a new building to be built in the same vicinity.

Club Leader Peter Riley said

"The move won’t be until at least 2015 so at the moment it is business as usual. The club is always ready to welcome new members from age 8 up to 19 years. Different nights are dedicated to different age groups with some of the evenings catering for young people with physical and learning difficulties.

However for the time being it is business as usual at the successful club, in fact they have recently expanded their services to include running a similar club based in the Mereside Community Centre. They are keen to point out this new venture will not replace the Laycock Gate club and is a welcome addition to their services.

Both clubs provide a wide variety of activities for all ages and abilities.

As a member of Lancashire Boys & Girls Club they are able to offer a diverse range of activities such as quad and mountain biking, residential breaks, water sports and opportunities for gaining nationally recognised qualifications.

Both the clubs offer nightly sessions with loads of opportunities for young people to take part in sporting activities, project work, arts and crafts and most importantly by providing a safe environment to socialise.

The club is run by a dedicated board of volunteer trustees and as an independent registered charity they work hard to raise their own funds to run their buildings and deliver their services to local young people.

Anyone interested in becoming a club member, a volunteer worker or a trustee of the club are asked to contact Peter Riley on 01253 391539 or email blackpool-boysandgirlsclub@live.co.uk"
Lancashire Care Trust’s Health Improvement Service is using Bowel Cancer Awareness month to remind people of the importance of checking for specks of blood in our stools, noticeable changes in bowel movements or bleeding from the bottom. Embarrassment about having these symptoms or talking about them can cause people to ignore them, but acting fast means that people can get the help that they need.

Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer, with around 34,000 people diagnosed every year. It is the second biggest cancer killer but it needn’t be that way. On the plus side around 90% of bowel cancers can be treated successfully if found in the earliest stages, so it’s important to know what to look for and to see a GP right away with any symptoms.

Other symptoms of bowel cancer include:
- A pain or lump in the tummy
- Feeling more tired than usual for some time
- Losing weight for no obvious reason

The team has developed a ‘Don’t Rush to Flush’ campaign in the East Lancashire area where they are based to alert people to the dangers of bowel cancer. The bowel cancer screening programme is currently offered to people aged between 60 and 74 in East Lancashire. Anyone aged 75 and over can request a Bowel Cancer Screening test kit by calling the free phone helpline 0800 707 60 60. For further information please contact Jeanette Gibson on 01254 358026 or jeanette.gibson@lancashirecare.nhs.uk.

For those people living outside of the East Lancashire area, support and advice is available at www.nhs.uk/bowelcancer/Pages/bowel-cancer.aspx and if you have any concerns you should contact your GP in the first instance.

Blackpool Civic Trust Chairman Joins National Civic Charity

Joan Humble, Chairman of Blackpool Civic Trust, has been appointed as a trustee on the Board of Civic Voice, the national charity for the civic movement.

Mrs Humble said: “I was very pleased to be asked by Dr Freddie Gick, the Chairman of Civic Voice, to join this important national campaigning organisation. Civic Voice represents 290 civic trusts and societies with 75,000 members.

I look forward to attending my first board meeting and telling people about the work we do in Blackpool. I will then also be able to report back directly to our own Civic Trust on the debate taking place at a national level on planning matters and other new areas like the introduction of Locally Listed Heritage Buildings and compiling a register of Assets of Community Value.”
Changes at Blackpool Coastal Housing

Peter Jefferson has announced that he will be retiring from Blackpool Coastal Housing after 7 years as Chief Executive.

Peter, who established Blackpool Coastal Housing in 2007 will leave at the end of April and intends to pursue other interests. Peter wishes everyone at Blackpool Coastal Housing the very best for the future and has great memories of setting up the Company and seeing it flourish.

Peter said: “I have decided that after seven years as Chief Executive of BCH it is time for me to move on to new challenges. I am really proud of what BCH has achieved in both modernising Council housing in Blackpool and improving communities to make them better places to live.”

Cllr Christine Wright, Chairman of the Blackpool Coastal Housing Board, said: "On behalf of the board I would like to wish Peter all the best in his retirement. Peter is a well known face in Blackpool and has given many years service in the housing sector, first with Blackpool Council and then as the Chief Executive of Blackpool Coastal Housing. "He has guided the company through a number of periods of change and his hard work and commitment has been much appreciated."

John Donnellon has been appointed to the role of Chief Executive at Blackpool Coastal Housing. John is an experienced Chief Officer with a track record of major success in regeneration and housing initiatives. John has been working with the Company for many years in his role as Assistant Chief Executive responsible for the built environment in Blackpool Council and is looking forward to his new challenge.

John said: “I am really excited to be working with the Board and the Staff at Blackpool Coastal Housing as we take forward the ambitious plans we have for the town. We are determined to lead with the Council and our partners on the journey to ensure that Blackpool is a great place to live and work and that we have a portfolio of properties that meet the needs of our residents and support their ambition.”

As a result of John’s move to Blackpool Coastal Housing the Council will undertake a restructure to re-align services within the existing chief officer structures.

Micro Grants for Church Community Projects

The Cinnamon Network which supports church community projects across the UK has announced that it has micro grants for churches to start a community project. To date, the Network has supported 21 initiatives such as food banks, community lunches, debt counselling and education projects.

Churches in England can apply for £1,500 while churches in both Scotland and Wales can apply for £2,000. The grant amount has to be matched (by £3,000 in England and £2,000 in Scotland and Wales) and this can come from cash, gifts in kind, premises, professional pro-bono services, asset items and salaries.

Individual churches or a group of churches working in partnership (which are registered as a charity and have up-to-date accounts) can apply for the grants.

There is no deadline and the application process is ongoing.

Click icon for full details.
Funding for Financial Literacy Projects (UK)

The MSE Charity has announced that its grants programme will re-open for applications on the 1st May 2014.

The MSE Charity provides grants to constituted community based groups (including schools) to help fight financial and consumer illiteracy and to educate and inform adults and children about consumer and debt issues. Under the programme, grants of up to £5,000 are available for group projects such as self-help groups, schools, workshops and other innovative schemes that seek to educate people about money, debt and consumer issues. The grant can be used to pay for financial education course fees and other associated expenses. Priority will be given to groups with an annual income of less than £300,000.

Groups that have received funding in the past include: Exeter Homeless Action Group, Derbyshire Housing Aid, Asperger East Anglia, The Holy Catholic School; The Long Eaton School; etc.

The closing date for applications will be the 31st May 2014 or when 40 applications have been received.


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We are a registered charity and work with groups and organisations in the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector helping to ensure Blackpool Wyre and Fylde has thriving, strong communities providing opportunities to build capacity and enhance effectiveness of the sector. Our website contains information about the projects that CVS run and our news pages provide updates on news items, events, funding, jobs etc. We also have a community events diary confirming all the upcoming events across the 3 districts. You can find out more about the history of CVS as well as meeting the staff and trustees and there are also useful links to other local voluntary and community groups. We hope you enjoy the site and find the information useful.

www.cvsbwf.org.uk