

# BULLETIN

...for organisations

Autumn 2007

## One Hundred and Thirty!

Tameside Radio, the first and only community radio station for Tameside has received 130 applications from volunteers. The station, which will be officially launched on 30<sup>th</sup> September, will be heard throughout Tameside and will have residents from all walks of life and backgrounds broadcasting on the station.

Tameside Radio will broadcast from studios opposite ASDA in Ashton on 103.6 FM and has sought volunteers to present programmes, create interesting speech items and get involved in the background work of the radio station.

The radio station sought the advice and support of Volunteer Centre Tameside in recruiting volunteers and training, who have themselves been surprised by the numbers coming forward to volunteer on their local radio station. Sue Vickers, Volunteer Centre Tameside Manager said, "We were very happy to help, Tameside Radio has adopted our volunteer guidance and we have been supplying some support and development to the radio station so that they are able to manage these quite large numbers of volunteers."

Maria Bailey, Tameside Radio's Volunteering Director said "frankly we are astonished and delighted by both the numbers of people wanting to get involved and the experiences and knowledge that so many of our potential volunteers are bringing to the project. The sheer numbers of volunteers will mean that it will take some time to get everyone involved"

## It's In Our Hands

"It's in our hands" is a month long, national marketing campaign, part of "Volunteering for All" the Government's programme to reduce barriers to volunteering for excluded groups.

"It's in our hands" is specifically targeted at 25-40 year olds with no qualifications.

The Media Trust is leading the programme, funded by the Cabinet Office to produce a series of targeted, media awareness campaigns to meet the objectives of "Volunteering for All"

The aim of the campaign is to promote voluntary work as a means to acquire beneficial skills and experience, spreading the message that people can increase their skills and hence their career prospects, through volunteering

Our role is to support the delivery of the campaign in the North West. To provide a regional flavour for the marketing, and support the delivery of the campaign by acting as a link with volunteer centres throughout the region. Contact us on **0161 339 2345** for more information.

Volunteer Centre Tameside is currently looking into the possibility of becoming an umbrella organisation with the Criminal Records Bureau in order to provide local voluntary/ community organisations with CRB checks. Please contact us if you are interested in this service.



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Volunteer Centre Tameside is a registered charity, number 514804

# Great bowling offers with Hollywood Bowl

At Hollywood Bowl we pride ourselves on making bowling as easy as possible for everyone to take part and we welcome disabled bowlers and have the following enabled services:

- Total wheelchair access
- Washroom facilities
- Wide gangways
- Friendly and efficient lane service
- Lane bumpers
- Bowling ramps
- Lightweight balls

In addition, every weekday between 10am and 6pm a game of bowling is just £1.80 including carers/support workers.

Great money raising offers with Hollywood Bowl!

We would like to help you in raising money for your organisation; to this end we can offer a choice of ways in which we can work together to achieve this goal. The ways in which we can do this are:- A donation of Free Family Package (2 games of bowling for a family of 4) and the use of 2 lanes on a Monday evening from 6pm-8pm free of charge for a sponsored bowl (subject to availability)

Please contact either Sarah McIntosh or John Childs on **0161 343 8777** to discuss how we can help you.

## Free Window Displays

Are you registered with Volunteer Centre Tameside? Do you want to promote your organisation? Do you need more volunteers? Do you have publicity material? Take



advantage of our prominent main street window!

Available to be booked for a month at a time. Assistance with promotion material and display may be available.

Contact [ben@tamesidevb.org.uk](mailto:ben@tamesidevb.org.uk) or tel: **0161 339 2345**.

# Patrick Michael Entwistle MBE 1940 - 2007

When Pat wrote his autobiography "What's in a Life?", he said that it was about the way he started life and the way he overcame his disabilities with the help of others.

His object in life was to fight for better living standards for people with disabilities, and for them to be treated as people first. The way in which he did this was to make him such a special person to know.

He helped so many people and through his commitment to voluntary work he achieved so much and made many friends. He could communicate with people of all ages and abilities and made a valuable contribution to any discussions.

His main interest was in accessible transport, access in general and health issues for all the community. He felt that these issues affected people with cerebral palsy and others with disabilities.

He served on many local and national committees, and his work involved a lot of travelling. He was a member of The Transport Users Consultative Committee from 1974-87. He also worked with Scope, Inskip and many others.

In 1986 he was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. At the Investiture at Buckingham Palace he was congratulated for his work in the community for the disabled regarding access to public transport.

For many years he was a member of the management committee of what is now Volunteer Centre Tameside. Here he worked with representatives from other organisations involving people with disabilities and other people of all ages and abilities in the community. His input was valued and he will particularly be remembered for his great sense of humour.

Throughout his voluntary work he was supported by Joan, his wife, and by his daughter and husband, Ruth and Mike. He was also very proud of his grandchildren, Hayley and Matthew.

Those who knew him will have their own special memories of him.

**Hilda Fielding, on behalf of the management committee of Volunteer Centre Tameside.**

## Growing Up With Grief

Our 14th International Bereavement and Loss conference, "Growing Up With Grief" will enhance awareness of child bereavement and loss issues. The goal of the conference is to develop an understanding of physical, emotional and psychological effects of grief on childhood.

We feel this will be an excellent opportunity to provide current information for those involved in the care of the bereaved. The conference should appeal to a wide remit of voluntary, statutory and professional bodies and help to address the unique circumstances of grief and loss in families.

For further information contact: **0161 371 8860**, email: [grief@mabf.org.uk](mailto:grief@mabf.org.uk) or visit: [www.mabf.org.uk](http://www.mabf.org.uk).

Draft Compact Code of Practice on Volunteering online and open for consultation until 19th October.

[www.tamesidevb.org.uk/compact](http://www.tamesidevb.org.uk/compact)

## A Close Shave at Last

A kind-hearted boatman has bared all for charity. Chris Leah, from the Wooden Canal Boat Society, has raised £200 for the charity by having his trademark beard shaved off. The boatman, who had been growing the impressive facial hair for 14 months, was sheared in front of dozens of people at the Canals Festival on Sunday. "They had to tie me down!" said Chris.

"It took a long time to get rid of the hair and I was making a fuss - they wouldn't give me anaesthetic!"

"My chin feels very light now. I'm glad it's summertime. Although it's not very summery weather I'm glad it's not February because I'd be feeling the cold."

The sponsorship money will be spent on restoring Hazel - a boat which the society will use to take people suffering and recovering from depression and other stress-related illnesses on trips.

Anyone wishing to get involved with the project can contact Chris on **07931 952037** or call at the society's charity shop on Stamford Street, Ashton.

## Local Authorities Urged to Show Volunteer Value

Andy Forster, Policy and Campaigns Strategist at Volunteering England, said:

"Volunteering England welcomes the Audit Commission's report Hearts and Minds: commissioning from the voluntary sector and in particular the references to the added value that Local Authorities get when volunteers deliver the service instead of paid staff. We also appreciate the acknowledgement that it is appropriate to recognise the economic value of a volunteer's time and the contribution volunteers make to service delivery.

"However, it remains that too many providers do not acknowledge the volunteers, contribution to the delivery of commissioned services should be measured, recognised and celebrated.

"Volunteering England would urge that in commissioning services from the voluntary sector both Local Authorities and commissioned providers:

Make visible the value of volunteers contributions in their publications and formal reporting.

Demonstrate that the contribution of volunteers is recognised as having more than economic value.

Recognise the added value that volunteers can bring through diversity and increased local accountability in the delivery of services to local communities.

"Volunteers play a vital role in the delivery of public services, and to ignore their contribution, both financially and otherwise, is to devalue their efforts on which society increasingly relies."

## Value Your Volunteers with the Volunteer Award Scheme

The Volunteer Centre Tameside award scheme was set up in 2005 to recognise the commitment and achievements of local volunteers. The scheme helps you to recognise the hard work and achievements of your volunteers and can give them a feeling of worth and pride in their work.

For more information contact Riona at Volunteer Centre Tameside on **0161 339 2345**, or email [riona@tamesidevb.org.uk](mailto:riona@tamesidevb.org.uk).

# Every Action Counts

Every Action Counts is all about building a sustainable future, one small action at a time. The initiative, backed by Defra, will help community groups take simple everyday actions that will benefit themselves and help create a cleaner, greener, fairer and safer community at the same time. As part of this, BTCV is looking for Community Champions to help motivate community groups to take action.

## What is a Community Champion?

Someone who encourages local community groups, clubs and societies to take small actions that support "one planet living", by creating an action plan to create a more sustainable future.

## What's in it for me?

- Recognised and accredited training with an opportunity to access more
- Experience working with community groups, clubs and societies on sustainable development supported by the UK's leading organisations in community involvement and development.
- Support from an interactive website with online and offline resource banks.
- Recognition for your work the thanks of your community
- Toolkit of materials to help you to help groups.

## What will a Community Champion do?

Champions will arrange to go and see local community groups, clubs and societies and take them through the EAC process, which has four stages:

1. Explain Every Action Counts using presentation materials provided. These explain who is involved, what they could do to help and why they should be involved. It is meant to be very low tech and suitable for a small group of people.
2. Taking stock of what they are doing already, many groups may well have done quite a lot of work on reducing their impact on the planet, which is great, this stage captures that and shows what they have yet to look at.
3. Deciding which of the actions they do not already do, that they wish to take forward. Using a very democratic involving game.
4. Action planning with the actions that the group has decided are important to them.

We will be recruiting over 1,000 champions throughout England in the next two years! Register now to become a Community Champion. Ring the champions team on **01302 388 841** or visit [www.btcv.org/communitychampions](http://www.btcv.org/communitychampions)

# Volunteering Resources

Volunteering England and the Association of Volunteer Managers have recently developed and launched new and improved online resources for volunteer managers and volunteer-involving organisations.

Volunteering England (VE) has re-designed and re-launched its website as part of the recent national Volunteers Week celebrations - [www.volunteering.org.uk](http://www.volunteering.org.uk).

The VE website also includes a comprehensive resource for volunteer managers and volunteer-involving organisations called the Good Practice Bank. The Bank has doubled in size and includes a number of new additions including sport and public sector volunteering. To access the Good Practice Bank visit - [www.volunteering.org.uk/Resources/goodpracticebank](http://www.volunteering.org.uk/Resources/goodpracticebank).

Volunteering England is the national volunteer development organisation in England and works across the voluntary, public and private sectors to raise the profile of volunteering as a powerful force for change.



The Association of Volunteer Managers (AVM) is a new organisation which has been set up with the aims to address the needs of those who manage volunteers in England regardless of field, discipline or sector. The Association aims to support, represent and champion the work of volunteer managers. The AVM has recently launched its new website [www.volunteermanagers.org.uk](http://www.volunteermanagers.org.uk).

## Tameside Prospectus Launched

Log on to [www.tamesideprospectus.co.uk](http://www.tamesideprospectus.co.uk) to view the new Tameside Adult Prospectus. The prospectus provides details of education and training opportunities in Tameside, featuring providers such as Tameside College, Ashton Sixth Form and Groundwork Tameside.

The site also includes information on financial support to help you learn, as well as the opportunity to register to receive regular information about new and updated courses.