



## IT'S "Blooming Marvellous"!

The launch of "Blooming Marvellous" at our AGM in October was a great success and has given the project's volunteers a real confidence boost. It has resulted in a surge of interest from individuals and organisations, and requests to join the project. Currently, "Blooming Marvellous" enables 17 volunteers to help themselves and others in the local community, through gardening.

Since then we have been busy all round the borough:



At the Green and Global event, "Blooming Marvellous" volunteers had a great time helping local children and their families to make bees nests and telling the public about the project.



Working with Rushmoor in Bloom and local schoolchildren, planting thousands of daffodil bulbs. Look out for the fruits of our labours in the Spring!

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## Rushmoor Voluntary Services

### Staff

Greg Alexander  
Sue Hathaway  
Viv Walker  
Marie Jarvis  
Joan Giles  
Sue Homer  
Pam Hammond  
Sue Chadwick  
Ann Hicks  
Tracy Bowden  
Alison Dyer

Chief Executive  
Development Officer  
Administrative Support Manager  
Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator  
Placement Development Officer  
Home Help Manager  
Deputy Home Help Manager  
Home Help Administrative Support Assistant  
Transport Organiser, Rushmoor & Hart  
Service Manager - Community Access Project  
Community Mental Health Worker (part time)

### Dial-A-Ride Drivers

Patricia Brady  
Phil Brooks  
Dennis Tweed

### Place Court and Age Concern Driver

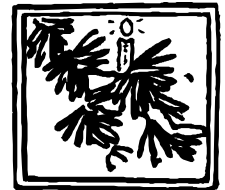
Des Grumley

### Volunteer Centre Gardening Project

Hazel Chant

### Call & Go Drivers

Caroline Morgan  
Nigel Smalley  
Bob Anderson



## STAFF NEWS

Our Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator writes:

"I'm over the moon that I was appointed Volunteer Co-ordinator.

My name is Marie Jarvis. I'm a working mum with two children and I moved here from Wales three years ago. I come from a voluntary background, working for a Community Transport Scheme for over seven years in Wales. I'm well aware that most organisations would cease to operate without the commitment and dedication from volunteers. Since joining RVS, I have concentrated on visiting organisations to introduce myself, find out what they do as well as determine their volunteering needs. If you would like me to visit your organisation please call me on 01252 540162 or email: [rushmoorvolunteers@rvs.org.uk](mailto:rushmoorvolunteers@rvs.org.uk). I work on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday."

Marilyn Leach, who has done some excellent work under our Gardening Project left us in August. We wish her the very best for the future. In September we were pleased to welcome Hazel Chant to the RVS. Hazel has been a volunteer driver for RVS for several years and brings a wealth of gardening experience with her.

# R.V.S. News

## NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to the following groups who have become members of RVS over the last few months:

**Aldershot & District Civil Service Pensioners Alliance**  
**Army Physical Training Corps Museum**  
**BRANCHES (Mental Health Support Group)**  
**Christians Against Poverty**  
**Hampshire Library and Information Service**  
**Independent Complaints Advocacy Service (ICAS)**  
**Khosobho Gurung Samaj UK**  
**Mother's Union Diocese of Winchester**  
**Stepping Stones Down Syndrome Support Group**  
**West End Centre**

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

We also welcome the following groups who have recently become associate members of RVS:

**4th Bramshill Scout Group**  
**Hartley Wintney Cricket Club**  
**Hedgcroft Sheltered Flats**



We hope you won't be offended if you don't receive a Christmas card from us this year. We have decided once again that rather than send out Christmas cards, we would like to donate money to a local good cause.

We hope this edition of our Newsletter will compensate and send you our very best wishes for a very happy Christmas. We appreciate all the help and support we receive by many of you.

**Here's to a positive 2010!!**

# RVS Volunteer Centre

## FREE TRAINING COURSE

### "Attracting Volunteers"



**Wednesday, 20th January 2010**  
9.45 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

**Farnborough Community Centre**  
Meudon Avenue, Farnborough GU14 7LE

This course will include:

- ä Recruitment
- ä Promoting opportunities and your organisation
- ä Interviewing and induction
- ä CRB checks
- ä Developing Policies
- ä Health and Safety, Insurance and Expenses
- ä An opportunity to discuss issues with colleagues
- ä Plenty of information and hand-outs

Free lunch and refreshments

Spaces are limited, so please register TODAY!



Contact: Marie Jarvis, Rushmoor Volunteer Centre

Tel: 01252 540162 or email: [rushmoorvolunteers@rvs.org.uk](mailto:rushmoorvolunteers@rvs.org.uk)

"Blooming Marvellous" contd.....

Other activities in Rushmoor include:

End of season cutting back and tidying up at the Wildlife Garden in North Camp.



Learning on the job—helping the Blackwater Valley Conservation Trust to keep the Rhododendrons under control in Queen Elizabeth Park.

These are just some of our recent activities and are in addition to our regular commitment to supporting people in Rushmoor who may need help in managing their gardens, as well as learning and growing on our allotment in Aldershot. The picture below shows some of the volunteers who helped to make the secure box to keep our tools.



If you would like to find out more, please contact Joan or Hazel on 01252 540162.

Ecominds



# Community

## DISABILITY DIRECTORY

Early in 2009 The Rushmoor Access Group published the first issue of a Disability Directory. Over 500 copies were distributed and copies were also placed on a number of web sites.

It is the intention to publish the second edition towards the middle of 2010. If you already have an entry then you will be contacted to check for any updates. If you do not have an entry but would like to advertise your existence (at no cost to you), please contact:

Owen Durrett (Access Group Chairman) on 01252 816416 or e-mail: [owen.durrett@ntlworld.com](mailto:owen.durrett@ntlworld.com).

If you would like a copy of the current issue please contact Owen.

## Funding Advice award for RVS!

We are pleased to advise that Sue Hathaway our Development Officer has recently achieved an Open College Network qualification in advising Voluntary Groups on Funding Issues (OCN 3.3).

This award will enable RVS to offer quality advice and information to groups who are looking for grants and how best to make funding applications.

Sue is the second member of our team to hold this qualification. In the New Year we plan to establish a Funding Support and Advice Group. This award will enable us to offer more advice to groups who may be looking for grants and funding – well done Sue!

As you may know, we have resources and information to help you find funders and grants and look forward to working with you in 2010.



Independent Safeguarding Authority

### Independent Safeguarding Authority

You will be aware of the new Safeguarding Legislation that comes into force during 2010. Enclosed in this mailing is a briefing sheet on the subject. Any organisation working with children and vulnerable adults will be required to comply with the new laws.

The briefing sheet outlines the legislation, what you are required to do and the timescales involved.

During 2010, RVS will be providing briefing sessions on this subject and will provide any information you may need in this process.

The briefing sheet is also available from our website:  
[www.rvs.org.uk/core/Document3.pdf](http://www.rvs.org.uk/core/Document3.pdf)

If you would like further information, please contact:

Greg Alexander at RVS on 01252 540162 or email : [greg@rvs.org.uk](mailto:greg@rvs.org.uk)





## **Policy & Information update from Community Action Hampshire**

### **Hampshire prepares for public spending slowdown**

Following a meeting of the Cabinet on 26 October, the Council has issued a news release stating that it is facing up to a sharp slowdown in public spending at a national level, with a plan to make £15m in corporate efficiency savings from 2011. A report for the Efficiency Panel at its September meeting identified 12 workstreams which are expected to deliver about £10m of efficiencies. These include procurement for domiciliary care and learning disability services. HCC aims to keep council tax levels for the coming year below 2%.

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/decisions/decisions-docs/091026-cabine-R1022151603.html>

### **Come clean about top salaries and perks**

Local Government Minister Rosie Winterton has pledged to introduce new legislative rules before the end of the year making councils publish the pay and perks of their highest earning 2,500 posts - as part of action to show the taxpayer that all government is acting fairly and responsibly in an era of constrained public expenditure. The proposals will create a new legal requirement for up to 475 local authority bodies to include detailed senior pay information covering salary, bonuses, pensions, perks and compensation pay offs in their next annual statement of accounts.

### **DH Social Enterprise Investment Fund (SEIF) shapes up to personalisation**

The Dept of Health SEIF is aimed at helping health and social care providers develop innovative new services. It is now offering 8 types of investment. A specific Personalisation Fund provides loans-based investments of £50,000 - £10,000,000 to develop services to manage individualised budgets under the personalisation of care agenda.

The Growth Fund for existing organisations, and which may be used to acquire or redevelop capital assets, and the Innovation Fund, designed for early stage organisations with new ideas for innovation in health and social care products and services, both state they are open to organisations who support the personalisation of care agenda, although are not restricted to them.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Managingyourorganisation/Socialenterprise/SocialEnterpriseInvestmentFund/index.htm>

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## **New Care Choice website**

HCC has developed this new website as part of its programme to support personalisation and the universal offer. Visit [www.hants.gov.uk/carechoice](http://www.hants.gov.uk/carechoice) It has been largely developed in consultation with service users, including self funders, and includes some templates that individuals can use who are looking to employ personal assistants.

A market development website to sit alongside the above is nearing completion and will be aimed at existing and potential providers.

## **Personalisation in Hampshire**

It's important for organisations involved in health and social care to keep up-to-date with developments on personalisation and self directed support. There is lots of information on the personalisation pages of Community Action Hampshire's website at <http://www.action.hants.org.uk/index.php?id=201>

## **Direct Payments For Health Care consultation Ends: 8 January 2010**

This consultation document seeks views on the government's proposals for piloting direct payments for health care. PCTs are already able to offer personal budgets that do not involve giving money directly to individuals. The Health Bill, which has now completed its main Parliamentary stages, would extend these options by providing power to allow direct payments, where the individual would be given the money to buy their own health care as agreed in a care-plan.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_107425](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_107425)

## **Cognitive behavioural therapies**

52 new areas including Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton will be able help people with depression and anxiety disorders access NICE approved treatments including cognitive behavioural therapies, counselling and guided self-help. These start between now and March 2010.

## **Disability Living Allowance 'saved'**

The proposal in the Green Paper about the future of social care, that some disability benefits could end in their present format and the money be gathered into one pot has caused quite a rumpus. Secretary of State Andy Burnham has stepped in to make clear that the Disability Living Allowance will not be brought into any social care funding pot for a new National Care Service. But he added that there may still be a case for bringing together elements of some disability benefits, such as Attendance Allowance, with social care funding.

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### Volunteering levels almost unchanged

Figures from the latest CLG citizenship survey (questioned between April-June) confirm that in spite of all the money government has channelled into different volunteering initiatives, there isn't much to show for it. Volunteering levels have remained almost static over the past year in England, and show little difference to 2001.

- 43% of adults said they had volunteered formally at least once in the previous 12 months, compared with 41% in 2008/09.
- figures for informal volunteering at least once in the previous year fell from 62% in 2008/09 to 57%.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/citizenshipsurveyq1200910>

### Updating National Occupational Standards for trustees

Skills - Third Sector has launched a consultation on the National Occupational Standards for Trustees as part of the Standards monitoring process. The consultation will check that the standards are still 'fit for purpose' and reflect good practice in Trusteeship across the UK. <http://bit.ly/nostrust> or [www.skills-thirdsector.org.uk](http://www.skills-thirdsector.org.uk)

### An independent sector, not a nationalised one

In the run up to the Conservative party conference, shadow charities minister Nick Hurd told Third Sector magazine that the party wanted to encourage the public to give more time and money to charities so that their reliance on government would be reduced and they would stand more strongly on their own feet. The sector is becoming too dependent on the public sector for its funding.



### Exposing the "Hidden Asset" - the value of volunteers – RAISE Report

Raise has published their "Hidden Assets report 2009" - an assessment of the value of the contribution of the voluntary & community sector across SE England. It calculates that 41,400 organisations contribute the equivalent of very nearly £5b in economic value. Recommendations include Exposing the 'hidden asset' by ensuring that the value of the sector is publicised, further developing the collective voice and collaborative action, equipped for new challenges. Also to maintain the sector's integrity, efficiency, diversity, professionalism and "community-connectedness" – you can read the full report using the following link:

<http://www.raise-networks.org.uk/inform/docDisplay.cfm?iDocID=1397>

### Rushmoor Voluntary Services

exists to serve all the communities of Farnborough and Aldershot

## **NEW E-MAGAZINE AND WEBSITE PLAYING A PART IN THE FUTURE OF HAMPSHIRE FAMILIES**

An exciting new publication has been launched by Hampshire Families. The charity, which among other roles, provides a comprehensive information service to families, has recently launched its first edition of a new E-magazine.

The publication is full of news and articles to interest families and professionals who work with families, children and young people. Reports on some of the latest studies, consultations and articles about everyday people who are making a difference, are just some of the features.

The E-magazine is also working in partnership with Hampshire Libraries to bring its readers reviews on some of the most talked-about books on sale today.

The magazine can be accessed through the charity's newly revamped website at [www.hampshirefamilies.org.uk](http://www.hampshirefamilies.org.uk). The website has undergone a huge facelift and is now far more user-friendly. Packed with news of all the latest events throughout Hampshire and still boasting the extensive services database and directories Hampshire Families has always offered, the website is better than ever.

Pages of forthcoming events and information covering all 11 districts are updated several times a week and users can also find direct links to other useful sites as well as the usual data on parent and toddler groups, nurseries, schools and a whole host of other services.

If you have a story for the E-magazine or information about events you would like publicised on the website, Hampshire Families would love to hear from you.

Email them at:

[Editor@hampshirefamilies.org.uk](mailto:Editor@hampshirefamilies.org.uk) or contact the Editor, Sam Blakey on 07766 013856.



Working for the future of local children, young people and their families.

### **RVS ANNUAL REVIEW**

Our Annual Review for 2008/09 is now available. You can download a copy from our website using the following link:

[Http://www.rvs.org.uk/2009%20Annual%20Review.pdf](http://www.rvs.org.uk/2009%20Annual%20Review.pdf)

Alternatively, we can post you a copy upon request by calling 01252 540162.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING HAMPSHIRE PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:**

**HAMPSHIRE INFORMATION CENTRE  
VISIT US AT FARNBOROUGH LIBRARY OR  
TELEPHONE HANTS DIRECT ON 0845 603 5638**

# RVS Trustees

## PROFILE OF THE TRUSTEES OF RUSHMOOR VOLUNTARY SERVICES (contd.....)

Last but by no means least:

ä **Colin Slatter** is the RVS Deputy Chair who is married with three grown up children (son in Australia and two daughters closer to home) plus two grandchildren. Colin is retired but his business background lies in computing and large scale project management. Colin is heavily involved in community work (all voluntary). He is Chair of the Frimley Park Hospital LINKs, Chair of Runway's End Management Committee, Director/ Trustee for Rushmoor Healthy Living, Member of NE Hants LINKs . Phew!

If he has any time left after all that, he enjoys gardening, theatre and visiting his son in Australia. Colin is a member of Rushmoor Rotary Club and, most importantly, a season ticket holder at Fulham Football Club! (His words not the Editors!). As if that isn't enough he is a Lay examiner for the Royal College of Surgeons (Eng), Member of Surrey LINKs Council (Health and Social Care).

Colin has been associated with RVS for around 10 years and for most of that time have served as a Trustee. He says, "I think we have all got a great deal of satisfaction from the way the organisation has developed over that period, and today the way the team performs in a particularly difficult economic climate. Around two years ago I took over chairmanship of the Voluntary Sector Forum from Roger Grocock and thanks to the efforts of Sue Hathaway, I have really enjoyed that experience."

ä **Dennis Cantwell** joined the Board of RVS as Hon. Treasurer in September 2006. He is a retired Certified Accountant having spent his entire career in industry. Until 1996 he was Finance Director of an international manufacturing company and then worked as a consultant until he retired. Before joining RVS, Dennis spent three years as Treasurer of Coeliac UK, the charity which supports people with coeliac disease, of which Dennis is a sufferer.

Dennis is a member of Rushmoor Rotary Club and is the co-ordinator of that club's Freewheeling project that collects and sends wheelchairs to needy people in South Africa. He is married with two grown-up sons and two grandchildren.

ä **Frank Rust** needs no introduction to the community of Rushmoor as he is a former Mayor of Rushmoor and continues to be involved in various community activities including Chair of—Connaught School, Beaumont Junior School, Rushmoor in Bloom, Aldershot & Farnborough Festival of Music & Art, Aldershot Senior Citizens Forum and also Aldershot Constituency Labour Party. He is the Financial Director of Rushmoor Gymnastics Academy and a member of the Steering Committee for Hampshire LINKs (Local Involvement Network for scrutiny of NHS and Adult Services). As well as being a Trustee for RVS, he serves as a Trustee for Rushmoor CAB. He is a member of the Air Training Corps. Management Committee and a Councillor sitting on various committees for RBC.

# CEO's Bit!

It has been a busy Autumn at Rushmoor Voluntary Services. Thank you to everyone who attended our AGM in October. Over 90 people including the Deputy Mayor of Rushmoor saw the launch of our new gardening project – 'Blooming Marvellous'. At the meeting we also 'showcased' our work in the community. It is often difficult to explain the work of a CVS but using case studies of how we have helped individuals, groups and the community gave everyone real examples of what we do and the positive results.

You will see information from around the county in this newsletter – this is part of the work we are doing with our colleagues at the other Hampshire CVS' – we aim to demonstrate our collective contribution to the community and share information and other resources that are relevant to all areas. You can find out more about the Hampshire CVS Network on: [www.hampshirecvs.org.uk](http://www.hampshirecvs.org.uk)

Enclosed in this mailing is an information leaflet from 'Counsel and Care' – this is an initiative being piloted in Rushmoor and is supported by Counsel and Care, Rushmoor Borough Council and Hampshire County Council. I do hope you will pass the information on to older people who may benefit from the service.

During 2010 the new ISA (Independent Safeguarding) regulations will come into force. RVS will provide information and support to groups working with vulnerable people (children, older people etc.) The new laws will provide greater protection to people at risk and anyone working in this field will be required to register. You will find a fact sheet on this subject on our website – <http://www.rvs.org.uk/ISA%20briefing%20for%20groups%20jul%202009.pdf>

If you do not have internet access we will be happy to post you a copy. More information on this subject will be available during 2010.

During the year our staff team has changed – we say thank you to past members of staff and welcome our new team members – we look forward to supporting you in 2010. I would like to wish all our members a very happy Christmas and thank everyone who has supported RVS during the last year, this includes; funders, stakeholders, members and of course our volunteers – Happy Christmas!

Greg Alexander  
Chief Executive



## What's On?

### **DATES FOR YOUR 2010 DIARY!**

#### **Voluntary Sector Forum**

**Wednesday, 24th March**

**Wednesday, 16th June**

**Wednesday, 22nd September**

**Wednesday, 15th December**

**The above meetings will take place in Rushmoor Borough Council offices, Committee Room 1 starting at 9.45 a.m.**



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Registered Office:  
The Community Centre  
Meudon Avenue  
Farnborough  
Hampshire GU14 7LE

Phone: 01252 540162  
Fax: 01252 370500  
Email: [sue@rvs.org.uk](mailto:sue@rvs.org.uk)  
Web: [www.rvs.org.uk](http://www.rvs.org.uk)