

Poole CVS News

March 2014

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Dear all

A key focus of this newsletter is the importance of local community services and networks. On page two we introduce a new member of staff, Andrea Bennett, who has replaced Carrie Smith in managing the job hubs we are developing. We will miss Carrie a lot, particularly for all her work in promoting volunteering and developing the hubs, but we believe that, in Andrea, we have found the perfect replacement.



The Bourne Estate hub, which we launched with the Bourne Valley Action Group (BVAG), Poole Housing Partnership and the Borough of Poole last April, continues to be a success, with many of those we have helped having found employment. Key to the success of the hub is the work of volunteers and the networks that BVAG has developed to promote it. Based in the Rossmore library, the hub is a local solution to local need.

We also profile social prescribing, a concept which is gaining ground across the country. Read about it on page seven. To us at Poole CVS, this is the voluntary and community sector at its best and, with partners, we want to do more in developing this local grassroots activity. Also, NHS Dorset CCG wants to make sure that changes to local health services are informed by the views and experiences of local people, patients and family carers. Frances Aviss, the engagement manager, will be pleased to hear from you. Read her update on page eight.

Christopher Beale, CEO, Poole CVS

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) is to undertake a major research project into the effects of recent welfare reforms on charities and their beneficiaries.

[They are asking for your input.](#)

Closing date is 31 March 2014.



Community

New staff member at Poole CVS

We are delighted to welcome Andrea Bennett who recently joined our team as the jobs hubs co-ordinator. Originally from a banking background, after having a family, Andrea retrained to become a tutor in adult education.

Andrea said, “My involvement with the current Rossmore Jobs Hub project began with its inception in May 2013 when I volunteered as a helper. I was able to utilize my previous experience to support unemployed clients on their journey towards employment. As a result of the support and advice given, 49 people have secured interviews, with 35 of those being offered a job. Others have taken up volunteering or attended various training courses.

In January 2014, working in partnership with the Beacon Project, I opened our second jobs hub which is based at Upton Working Men’s Club and serves the Upton and Lytchett community. *[The Beacon Project is a community group supported by the Big Lottery.]*

My goal is to develop further jobs hubs in the local community by engaging with funding partners, businesses, and local volunteers to ensure that a friendly but first-class and effective service is delivered.

In the past I have been involved in various community-focused activities such as assisting with the setting up of a credit union, delivering employability courses and other projects supporting individuals back to work.”



Andrea Bennett

07546 511801
andrea.bennett@poolecvs.org.uk



Thank You!

Membership subscriptions

Thank you to all those organisations that support us through membership. We greatly value your support and it helps to strengthen the voice of the voluntary sector in this area. What we share is our belief in our communities and our commitment to improve the situation for others.

Whereas previously, members could join and renew throughout the year, we have now completed the changeover to a fixed membership year: **1 April – 31 March**. This will help to reduce time spent on administration. New members may join throughout the year and will pay a pro rata rate.

Reminders for subscription renewal will shortly be sent out to all members.

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Poole Well-being Collaborative

The Poole Well-being Collaborative has been carrying out sterling work since it was set up last year.

Its role is to support, particularly the more vulnerable members of the community, by not only making it easier for them to have access to information and advice services, but also to identify gaps where residents might benefit from new services or community development. Currently, they are working in Poole Town and Canford Heath as well as in the Newtown and Alderney areas and one example of the various projects they have set up is the new sewing group at [New Orchard Café](#) which is aimed at reducing isolation amongst older people.

In recognition of the need for better access to information about services and activities, the Collaborative has been collating details about community resources that, until now, were widely dispersed e.g. information relating to [befriending services](#) and [transport schemes](#). There is also information on lunch clubs and resources for helping to tackle poverty in the area. For more information, or to be added to the mailing list for their monthly e-newsletter, contact Judith Bacon.

07824 137780

judith.bacon@pwbcollaborative.org.uk



Family Fun

After an absence of 12 years, Poole Carnival returns this year – on Bank Holiday Monday, 26 May 2014. There will be a colourful procession followed by a charity fair at Branksome Recreation Ground. Read all about it on the [Poole Carnival website](#).

enquiries@poolecarnival.info

Public libraries: Do you value your local library?

Independent Panel calls for evidence to inform report on public libraries.

1. What are the core principles of a public library service into the future?
2. Is the current delivery of the public library service the most comprehensive and efficient?
3. What is the role of community libraries?

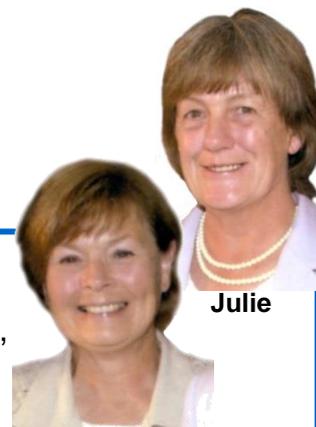
This consultation closes on 21 March 2014.

[Click here](#) for information on how to express your opinion..

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Profile

Caring Canines



Julie

Sue

[Caring Canines](#) is a not-for-profit, wholly-voluntary group launched in 2006 by co-founders Sue Dennett and Julie Lankshear who, between them, have over 25 years' experience of working with dogs in a therapeutic capacity. Since the group began, they have trained over 300 volunteers.

2010

Members of Caring Canines were presented with [Queen's Award for Voluntary Service](#).

2013

Sue and Julie were delighted when they were awarded [British Empire Medals](#) in December 2013 for services to dog-assisted therapy.

They have affectionately renamed it *Brilliant Efforts by Members* to reflect the team effort involved and are justifiably very proud. They believe that Caring Canines is the only dog-assisted therapy group to have had their efforts acknowledged in this way.

Members regularly take their registered *Happiness Dogs* to visit care homes, hospitals, hospices, sheltered housing and schools, offering friendship and support to people of all ages and abilities. The therapeutic effect of animals on disabled, elderly and vulnerable people is well known. Members also help across a range of programmes which includes:

- **Be Dogwise** - teaching children up to the age of 12 yrs. how to

remain as safe as possible when in a dog's company. Responsible dog ownership is included for the older children. Charlie's Storybook is a similar programme but designed for pre-school children.

- **Be Bookwise** - the group's literacy programme for children up to the age of 12yrs. Members and their dogs work on a one-to-one basis with children who struggle with reading. Research has shown that children who read to dogs make better progress than those who read to another person – the dogs offer non-judgemental friendship and support and can help to increase confidence and self-esteem.
- **Signwise** - developed by Sue and Julie in an effort to support those with hearing loss. This is supported by a member who is a British Sign Language interpreter.
- **Therapywise** - designed to support children and young people with additional educational,



physical and emotional needs. Caring Canines is proud to say that CC Jack, who works at the [Additional Learning Support Unit at Bournemouth University](#), is the first therapy dog to regularly work in a UK university.

Tel: 01202 579744 / 872352
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Health

Assistive technology



Assistive technology is any product or service designed to enable independence for disabled and older people.

A report is laid before Parliament each year describing the research activity the government has funded to improve equipment for disabled and older people. Read the comprehensive, 136-page, 2012-13 report:

[Research and development work relating to assistive technology.](#)

It provides a fascinating insight into the technology of tomorrow, including the use of robotic devices to support older people at home.

[Scope](#) has also produced a report [Enabling Technology](#) – making technology work better for disabled people.

People-powered Health

People-powered health is a holistic approach to health care. It endeavours to improve the quality of life for those living with long-term health conditions by ensuring that patients and their families can feel empowered to make choices about their care within the community setting.



The three elements involved include:

- Social prescription - a collaborative process where healthcare practitioners work with patients and service users to select and make referrals to community-based services. For example, a person who may be overweight and also depressed may be referred to a local walking group where they can benefit not only from the exercise but also from the social interaction.
- Signposting - new roles and support for people who help patients and service users to understand, access and navigate community-based services that will improve their health.
- Availability of a wide range of community-based services e.g. peer support groups, coaching, mentoring, and buddying services

Click on the picture below to access a video looking at the value of integrating peer support into routine care.



This approach should also increase understanding between statutory partners and the voluntary/community sector as well as increasing the opportunities for partnership work. It is estimated that this approach to long-term health care could save the NHS £4.4 billion annually.

Read Nesta's report on [People Helping People](#).

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Public health

New!

Two schemes to help Poole and Bournemouth residents become fit and healthy will be available from spring. They will be managed by [Healthy Living Wessex](#) (HLW), a not-for-profit social enterprise.

[Healthy Choices](#) is a weight-loss scheme offering eligible people the opportunity to access weight-loss support at commercial slimming providers FREE OF CHARGE.

[Active Choices](#) is a Big-lottery-funded programme for people who are at higher risk of developing long-term conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, and kidney disease. It offers specialist support for 12, supervised, activity sessions. Following the 12 Active Choices sessions, people can also join the Active Choices Club.

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paul.compton@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Are you still confused over the new structure of the NHS?

Watch this animation [‘An alternative guide to the new NHS’](#)
produced by The Kings Fund



Community engagement

Report by **Frances Aviss**, Engagement and Communication Lead for the CCG:

Following are some short reports on engagement work the NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have been organising:

Engagement on Musculoskeletal services: Approximately 50 patients/carers have contributed to this. The aim is to get an initial report for further comment out by the end of February.

Ophthalmology Engagement: 106 people have volunteered their views on ophthalmology services and the number is increasing daily; feedback and a report will be released for further comment in late March/April.

Also, the CGG will soon be circulating a specification for a new service related to headaches and they will also be consulting soon on physiotherapy services.

frances.aviss@dorsetccg.nhs.uk

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Governance

Transformation of Lobbying Bill

This controversial bill created a great deal of anger and anxiety amongst national charities. Many branded it the 'gagging bill' because they felt it was a suppression of democracy and argued that it could restrict legitimate campaigning by organisations, such as charities, to raise awareness of public interest issues e.g. NHS reform or housing policy. The bill became law at the end of January 2014.

Sir Stephen Bubb, chief executive of the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO), said that ACEVO would be monitoring the impact of the act. He added that ACEVO would work tirelessly to ensure that the act did not gag charities and campaigners, **"Civil society must never lose its voice. We must stand up for our beliefs."**

[The Charity Commission](#) will be working with the [Electoral Commission](#) to update guidance for charities around elections and referendums, and to explain the changes introduced by the act.

Some of the themes described above are also picked up in the following report:

[Independence undervalued: the Voluntary Sector in 2014](#)

including why independence matters.

by the [Baring Foundation](#)

In February, Poole CVS, in conjunction with Bournemouth CVS and the [Sheila McKechnie Foundation](#) (SMK), ran a successful *Introduction to Campaigning* workshop, attended by Tobias Ellwood MP and Andy Martin, deputy editor of news at the Bournemouth Echo. Tobias and Andy offered advice to attendees on how to promote the work of their organisations. The work of SMK is focused on empowering people to have a voice.

Trustees

The Charity Commission has published [two new podcasts](#), designed to help charity trustees understand their duties under charity law.

You can choose to either listen or to download the text:

- **Internal Financial Controls:** What can your charity learn from this horror story?
- **Conflicts of Interests:** What can your charity learn from this case study?

Funding

- [Nesta Innovation Fund](#) – is currently looking for projects that help unemployed people improve their skills and get back to work. [Online expressions of interest](#) must be completed by 31 March 2014.
- [Nominet Trust](#) – is looking for ideas on how the internet can make a significant difference to people's lives. Applications can be made from 3 March 2014

IT

Screen reader software for the blind and visually impaired



Microsoft has done a deal with GW Micro to make their [Window-Eyes software](#) available **FREE** to licensed users of Office 2010 or Office 2013.

Window-Eyes is a leading screen-reading software application for the blind and visually impaired, that converts components of the Windows operating system into synthesized speech, allowing for complete and total access to Windows-based computer systems. With its enhanced Braille support, that control is extended to what you feel as well.

Window-Eyes enables individuals who are blind or visually impaired to be completely independent on a PC and to be more successful and productive at school and in the workplace.

It can be downloaded [here](#). At the time of publishing, there was no end date to the offer, though this could change.

As is to be expected with the free version, there are limitations, as set out in the [FAQ](#). Window-Eyes product manuals are available from [here](#).

Immobilise it

Register your smartphone and other valued possessions with [Immobilise](#).

Immobilise is the world's largest **FREE** register of possession-ownership details and together with its sister sites the [Police's NMPR](#) and [CheckMEND](#)), forms a very effective tool in helping to reduce crime and to return recovered personal property to its rightful owners.

Poole CVS News

- Do you rely on having Poole CVS News forwarded to you?
- Join our [mailing list](#) to receive it direct. To unsubscribe, please click [here](#).
- The next newsletter is due in **May**. Please send any articles for inclusion in the newsletter to evelyn.price@poolecvs.org.uk, by **Monday 14 April 2014**, making sure to include the word NEWSLETTER in your email heading.

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Your News

CHESTNUT NURSERY



GET SET FOR SPRING!

Now is the time to get planting. Shrubs, fruit and trees...



SALE DAY

SATURDAY 5 April 8am-3pm

*Plants at reduced prices
Stalls and refreshments*

[75 Kingland Road, Poole, BH15 1TN](http://75KinglandRoad, Poole, BH15 1TN)

01202 685999
info@chestnutnursery.org.uk



LV=Streetwise

FREE Tours for Older People who reside in Poole!



LV=Streetwise, a registered charity, was originally set up with the aim of reducing the number of children killed and injured in preventable accidents in the home, on the roads and at play.

It is now using its life-sized 'safety village' to provide interactive, two-hour tours for older people, aimed at preventing slips, trips and falls in the home. Thanks to funding from the Borough of Poole, these tours are being provided FREE of charge.

07960 939784
andy@streetwise.org.uk



Footprints Project

[The Footprints Project](http://TheFootprintsProject) mentors men and women who are leaving prison or serving a community sentence in the Dorset, Somerset and Hampshire areas.



[Footprints Coffee Morning](http://FootprintsCoffeeMorning) is in Bournemouth on Tuesday 25th March 10.30 am -12.00 pm. You are welcome to come to this free event to find out more about Footprints and to bring any interested colleagues/friends.

07789 937637
jane@footprintsproject.co.uk



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and finally,

Staff

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Daniel Biggs
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Gill Harris
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Job Hubs Co-ordinator

Andrea Bennett
andrea.bennett@poolecvs.org.uk

Poole CVS

01202 682046

Volunteer Centre

01202 675100

- [Report on the Charity Commission](#): by the House of Commons committee of Public Accounts “We are not convinced it has the leadership capability to tackle its significant failings and transform its culture.”
- [Old 1999 Health and Safety law posters](#) must be replaced by 5 April this year. Read the FAQs.
- [DBS referrals: guide for employers and volunteer managers](#): updated guidance re understanding legal duty on referrals to DBS
- [Community Radio Consultation](#): about the current funding restrictions. This closes on **23 April 2014**.
- [Police and Crime Commissioner’s \(PCC\) Poole Engagement Forum](#) is on **Friday 21 March** 14.00-16.00hrs at the Community Room, Bournemouth and Poole College, North Road, Poole.

Loan of Equipment

Don't forget that we can loan you the following equipment:

- ✓ Flip chart stand
- ✓ Laptop
- ✓ LCD projector
- ✓ Projector screen
- ✓ Display boards

Contact Poole CVS

While every effort has been made to ensure that the material contained in this newsletter is correct, Poole CVS cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that may occur. Nor can it endorse any goods or services mentioned herein.

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