

The newsletter of South Hams Council for Voluntary Service

## Devon Rural Carers Project Update

*Research highlights more support needed for carers*

The research for the Devon Rural Carers Project has now been completed. Projects have been formulated using the research and are to be taken forward in the next 6-8 months.

The research focused on the needs of rural carers and how to improve support to carers who live in rural areas of Devon. The research involved questionnaires being sent out to carers, consultations with carer support organisations and carer focus groups were also held.

Highlights of the findings of the research:

- Caring responsibilities usually fall on the immediate family and as such the majority of carers live with the cared for.
- Carers are often prepared to travel to their local village or town to access support services. Support services outside of these areas are not so readily accessible for rural carers.
- Lack of time and not wanting to leave the person being cared for are major issues in preventing carers from accessing support services.
- The post office, village shop and local pub are used by many carers. These local services are therefore prime targets for identifying carers. They also provide scope for additional support services in rural communities.
- Demand for online support groups, telephone support groups and more local support groups.
- Over a third of carers gave up work to undertake care. However, only 18% would return to work. Further training and assurance of more flexible working patterns could help carers return to work.

**If you would like a copy of the Executive Summary or a summary of proposed projects, then please contact Jo Pickering on 01626 203050 or [ruralcarers@teigncvcs.org.uk](mailto:ruralcarers@teigncvcs.org.uk)**

## Thank you!

Thank you to all our members who responded to our Annual Survey. Expressing your views about SHCVS helps us review and improve the services that we provide.

Copies of our Annual Review are now available online [www.southhamscvs.org.uk](http://www.southhamscvs.org.uk) or by calling 01803 862266

## Compact for Devon Update

The Compact for Devon is one of the three projects funded by the Devon Consortium for ChangeUp. In 2005 the Compact for Devon itself was developed and launched, followed in 2006 by three of the six Codes of Practice –

- Equality & Diversity
- Volunteering
- Funding

All of these can be viewed on the DACVS (Devon Association of CVSs) website – [www.dacvs.org.uk](http://www.dacvs.org.uk).

Using the Compact and the existing Codes of Practice can have a positive effect on your organisation's relationship with statutory agencies and your partnership working arrangements.

This year, training to raise awareness of the Compact and monitoring to measure the impact of the Compact will take place, alongside the development and launch of the further three Codes of Practice:

- Community Groups
- Partnership Working
- Consultation & Involvement

Sara Bennett started in post at the beginning of May. She is the new Compact Development Worker, based at Exeter CVS, charged with the task of supporting the development of the new Codes and ensuring that the Compact for Devon is understood and referred to as appropriate.

Sara can be contacted at : [sara.bennett@exetercvs.org.uk](mailto:sara.bennett@exetercvs.org.uk) or on 01392 202057. Sara would love to hear from you on any issues relating to the Compact for Devon and the Codes of Practice.

Your involvement matters! In particular:

Are you interested in being involved in the process to develop and launch the Community Groups Code of Practice? If so – get in touch! Your input would be greatly appreciated.

Do you have any Compact stories to tell? Examples where you have used the Compact or made reference to any of the Codes of Practice? If so – please share these stories with Sara.

## SHCVS equipment available to hire

Digital projector & screen  
Laptop computer  
Overhead projector & screen  
Badgemaker, Display boards  
and more...

To hire any equipment please  
book in advance by phoning  
Lyndsey at SHCVS on  
01803 862266

e: [cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk](mailto:cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk)

## Become an EAC Community Champion

Every Action Counts is looking for over 1,000 local community activists to lead change in their neighbourhoods.

Community Champions will help community groups in their area to take stock of their current environmental impact and to create their own sustainable development action plans.

A free accredited two-day training course is available to anyone over 18, who is interested in creating a cleaner, greener, fairer and safer community.

For training dates through to September see  
<http://www.navca.org.uk/eac>.

For more information contact the Community Champions Team on 01302 388841 or email [everyactioncounts@btcv.org.uk](mailto:everyactioncounts@btcv.org.uk).

## New Parent Carers' Voice Worker

Hello, I am Helen Phillips and I would like to introduce myself as the new Development Worker of the Parent Carer Forum for Families of Children with Special Needs in Teignbridge, South Hams and West Devon.



My background is in special needs education having worked with students with diagnosed syndromes, autistic spectrum, physical and sensory disabilities and undiagnosed learning difficulties. My role has inevitably brought me into contact with parents/carers and outside agencies. On a personal level I have a younger sister who has Downs Syndrome and also a nephew who has Aspergers, I am therefore aware of some of the frustrations and challenges continually faced.

I am very pleased to be taking on the role and look forward to meeting with existing parents and carers and hopefully welcoming new ones to our forums. I am in the process of organising future local forum meetings and I will mail dates as soon as possible.

If anyone has any ideas for future forums and how they can be developed, I would be very pleased to hear from you or if you need further information on Parent Carers' Voice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

E-mail: [helen@parentcarersvoice.org](mailto:helen@parentcarersvoice.org)  
PCV – South Hams CVS, The Cottage,  
Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes, TQ9 5NE  
Tel: 01803 863761 Website: [www.parentcarersvoice.org](http://www.parentcarersvoice.org)

## Reminder to 'Get Involved'

We are encouraging local organisations to 'sign up' and get involved. As your local CVS, we are often asked to inform and consult local voluntary and community organisations such as yourselves on specific issues or developments that need your voice.

Even if you are already in contact with South Hams CVS, or part of the Voluntary Sector Forum, please spend a minute filling out the involvement form to update your details on how you would like to be consulted and in what areas of interest on the new website for DACVS at:  
[www.dacvs.org.uk/get-involved1.htm](http://www.dacvs.org.uk/get-involved1.htm).

## Devon Welfare Rights Unit Training Courses

As part of the Devon Strategic Partnership, Devon Welfare Rights Unit provides a programme of training courses on benefits and tax credits. Places on these courses are open to people working in statutory, not-for-profit sectors and the commercial sector whose clients are resident in the Devon County Council area. DWRU particularly welcome representatives of Devon's black and ethnic communities.

Full details of courses being run during 07-08 can be found on their website [www.dwru.org](http://www.dwru.org). Or please ring Llinos Davies on 01392 274869

### DO YOU KNOW YOUR OUTCOMES?

South Hams CVS is again offering FREE OUTCOMES training to VCOs.

Funded by the Charities Evaluation services, both half day taster workshops and a full 2 day course will be available, starting in July 2007.

Contact: Jill Davies

[jill@southhamscvs.org.uk](mailto:jill@southhamscvs.org.uk)  
Tel: 01803 862266

Flyer enclosed

# July 2007 workshops

## South Hams CVS & Teignbridge CVS Training Programme 07 - 08

### Risk Management

12th July 10am - 4pm

Follaton House, Totnes

£20 members/£25 non-members

### Emergency First Aid Certificate

30th July 9.30am - 4.30pm

Teignbridge CVS, Newton Abbot

£25 members/£30 non-members

### How to book:

You'll need to fill in a booking form (enclosed).

For additional booking forms please call your local CVS or book online at [www.southhamscvs.org.uk](http://www.southhamscvs.org.uk)

### South Hams CVS

01803 862266

e: [cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk](mailto:cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk)

[www.southhamscvs.org.uk](http://www.southhamscvs.org.uk)

### Teignbridge CVS

01626 203050

e: [admin@teigncvs.org.uk](mailto:admin@teigncvs.org.uk)

[www.teigncvs.org.uk](http://www.teigncvs.org.uk)

**Training Programme Poster and booking form  
enclosed with this issue of Voluntary Vine !**

## South Hams

## Voluntary Sector Forum

*The voice of voluntary groups in the South Hams*

The next meeting will be:

**Thursday 20th September 2007**

**Yealmpton Community Centre**

**9.30am - 1.00pm**

Come along to our friendly meetings to share your experience,  
meet others and catch up on the latest issues.

### Published bi-monthly by:

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### PCV Forum Development Worker

Helen Phillips

[helen@parentcarersvoice.org](mailto:helen@parentcarersvoice.org)

Local groups are encouraged to become members of South Hams CVS. This supports our work and offers a range of benefits. Contact us to find out more about joining.

A large print copy of Voluntary Vine is available on request.

**Please send your articles for  
inclusion in Sept/Oct issue.**

**Deadline: 10 August.**

We reserve the right to edit  
submissions.

**Disclaimer** South Hams CVS cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure details are correct, we cannot endorse events or items mentioned in this newsletter. South Hams CVS is a member of the National Association for Voluntary & Community Action (NAVCA), the National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and Volunteering England. Registered Charity no. 1049762