

TVA News Bulletin May 2019



Actively supporting the contribution of individuals, through voluntary action.
Charity Registration No: 1097079
Company No: 4603713



BUDDSODDWR Mewn Pobl
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



www.tvawales.org.uk
Charity Registration No.
1097079

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Torfaen Voluntary Alliance has a new Staff Member!!

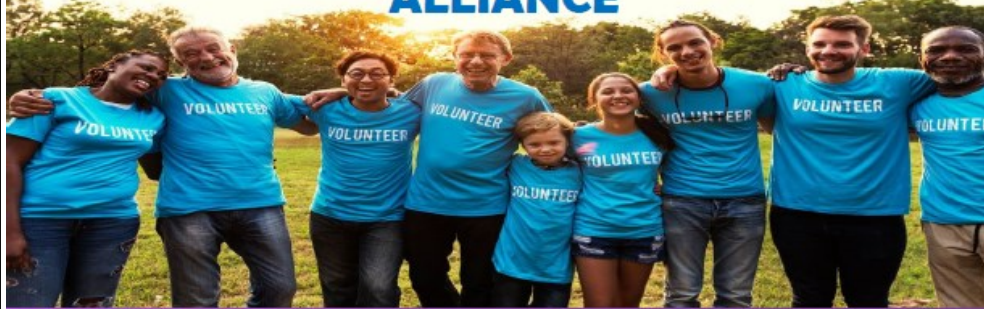
TVA are pleased to announce we have a new staff member Clayton O'Keefe. Clayton is the new '**Third Sector Relations Officer**' and his role is to make links with local community groups and voluntary organisations in Torfaen, supporting groups with projects and helping them apply for grants as well as Third Sector support such as volunteering.



Clayton started work in Community Development back in 2004 for Newport Local Health now Aneurin Bevan University Health Board as Inequalities in Health Nutrition Project Officer on a range of projects that influence lifestyle and behavioural change. His main role at this time was facilitating cookery sessions to young parents and older people living in Communities First areas of Newport. Since leaving the Health Board, Clayton has worked for Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) as Communities First Co-ordinator for Stow Hill and Cardiff Community Housing Association as Adult Learning Worker. Over the past 12 years Clayton worked to support the running of the local centres by organising exercise classes, community education classes and community events such as International Women's Day and Adult Learners Day. Clayton has also worked with a range of community led projects with local volunteers organising environmental projects such as litter picks and community clean ups. Clayton would love to come out and visit your group and find out more about the projects that you are working on. **Please contact him on 01495 742492 or email: clayton@tvawales.org.uk**

START VOLUNTEERING AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**TVA VOLUNTEER DROP-IN AT CWMBRAN LIBRARY
COME ALONG AND CHAT WITH
CALLUM FROM TORFAEN VOLUNTARY
ALLIANCE**



Benefits of Volunteering

- Make a difference in the community
- Gain confidence and meet new people
- Gain new skills, knowledge and experience
- Enhance CV / Improve employment prospects
- Improve mental health and well-being

Come along and chat with Torfaen Voluntary Alliance on:

Thursday 16th May
Thursday 30th May
Thursday 13th June
Thursday 27th June

VOLUNTEER
DROP IN AT
CWMBRAN
LIBRARY

From
10am
until 1pm



#VolunteeringInTorfaen



01495 742420

volunteering@tvawales.org.uk

www.tvawales.org.uk

torfaen.volunteering-wales.net



VOLUNTEERS' WEEK

Time to celebrate

Come and celebrate with us!

On: Thursday 6th June 2019, 14:00-16:00.

At: Log Cabin, Woodlands Field, Penygarn, ★
Pontypool, NP4 8BU.

For more information:

Contact Callum on **01495 742405** or
callum@tvawales.org.uk



Torfaen Voluntary Alliance (TVA) are holding an Afternoon Tea to celebrate local volunteers and the amazing work they do. If you would like to nominate an individual or group that you feel has made an outstanding contribution to their community, please contact Callum on the details above by **Monday, 3rd June 2019** with your nomination.

A perfect opportunity to meet other volunteers, find out more about volunteering and how you can get involved.

Please confirm your attendance at the Afternoon Tea by contacting Callum on the details above so that we can cater accordingly.

Limited spaces available, so don't delay book your space today!

Gwent Third Sector Volunteer Management Network



TVA in partnership with GAVO held their first joint 'Volunteer Management Network' event of 2019 on Thursday, 9th May 2019; a learning event for anybody who works with, and supports, volunteers across Gwent.

A presentation on Recruitment & Retention was given by Callum Jones of TVA. Other focuses of the day were 'Involving Young People' and 'Using Social Media to promote your Organisations and Opportunities'. Key notes speakers included Fiona Liddell, Volunteering Development Manager, Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Felicitie Walls, WCVA Volunteering Grants and Youth Development Manager, Steven Hall, Implementation Consultant, Team Kinetic, who talked us through the changes to the Volunteering Wales website and the functions available via the platform, to help you to recruit and manage your Volunteers effectively. Digital Communities Wales, delivered an information session on how to effectively use Social Media to engage with your Volunteers. For more info: visit www.digitalcommunities.gov.wales/

Attendees also had the opportunity to find out more about registering on Info Engine, the online directory of Third Sector services in Wales. To register on Info Engine please click [here](#)

A few pictures from the event!



A Busy Event!!



Digital Communities



Callum Jones, TVA



Fiona Liddell, WCVA

WALKING GROUP
PONTYPOOL PARK

ONE STEP AT A TIME

STARTING 14TH MAY THEN EVERY
TUESDAY FOC
MEET 11AM AT SALVATION ARMY, 3
PARK PLACE

**Finishing at approx. 12.30pm at Salvation
Army. Refreshments, soup and a roll then
available - donations to the Salvation Army
welcome.**

 **BritishRedCross**



ACCOMPANIED BY
THE BRITISH RED
CROSS

INVITATION TO: Gypsy, Roma & Traveller History Month Children's Festival 2019



**Monday 8th July 2019 – 10.30am – 3pm
St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff CF10 1AH**

Jane Hutt, Deputy Minister and Chief Whip will open the event

Challenge your opinions, indulge in the culture and share in the activities that demonstrate a rich cultural heritage within Wales.

It's free to adults and children alike from all backgrounds and communities!

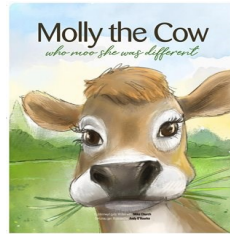
There will be films, live performances, art, and exhibitions that showcase the cultural diversity of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community in Wales. You will be astonished and engaged by the amazing skills, heritage, stories, history, art, theatre and dance that will be displayed throughout the day. Whatever your background, ability, perception or age, come and join this ever growing annual event that provide fun for all the family.

Isaac Blake Director of the Romani Cultural and Arts Company says "We are proud to be leading on this successful programme again in 2019. It is exciting to be able to link up so many different communities to celebrate tolerance and diversity."

The History Month is a chance to rediscover the contribution to the past and the present that Romani and Traveller people have made and to recognise that our history has been hidden."

Jane Hutt, Deputy Minister and Chief Whip said: "During Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History month, there will be many great opportunities to engage in the heritage and culture of Gypsy, Roma and Travellers. "As a society, we need to ensure we're open and tolerant of all communities, and events such as these help to build relationships and have a better understanding of the cultural significance of marginalised groups. "The Welsh Government are committed to improving equality, providing opportunities and narrowing the gaps experienced by Gypsies, Roma and Travellers throughout Wales."

Childrens book raising awareness of autism launches in May!



Across Gwent, young people with autism and their siblings have been getting creative, writing their very own story book to raise awareness of autism for children of all ages. The Gwent Regional Partnership Team were approached by parents and Newport Councillor, Paul Cockeram, where they requested a book be developed similar to 'the Elephant Who Forgot', a book that was developed through the parent network Caerphilly to raise awareness of dementia for children. There are lots of myths about autism and limited understanding. It was thought a book developed by young people with autism that can be distributed to schools in Gwent would be really beneficial in raising awareness.

The books working title is called 'The Cow who Moo she was different', and during development of the book it was highlighted by participants that each person with autism is unique, with their own strengths and challenges, and differences should be understood and embraced. **The book is currently in its final stages and an official launch will take place towards the end of May.**

Natasha Harris, project lead from the Gwent Regional Partnership Team said, "It was a fantastic project to be part of and I can't wait to see the published book. The young people were amazing and it was inspiring to hear their life stories and experiences. They were keen to get the message across that when people have a diagnosis of autism that does not define them.

The young people would share their challenges that someone with autism might face but also noting that no two people with autism are the same. They have been fantastic with their ideas for the book and I look forward to the publishing of the book." For more information regarding the launch or to learn more about autism support services available, contact the Gwent Regional Partnership team on 01495 761691 or visit the [Torfaen website](#).



www.ASDinfoWales.co.uk

Gwent Integrated Autism Service

Support for people with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

- Support for people to understand their diagnosis through our Post-Diagnostic Course
- We also offer a Parents/Carers Course
- Support for people to manage with daily living skills, coping strategies, anxiety, sleep, challenging behaviour, sensory issues,
- Social and communication skills
- 1:1 Support from a Support Worker who will help you to reach your
- Short-term personal goals
- Drop-in sessions across Gwent – no appointment necessary

If you think we could help you or someone you know then contact our office and ask for a self-referral form—Tel: 01633 644143 or Email: asdservice.abb@wales.nhs.uk

Regional Children & Adult Safeguarding Boards Launch New Website



The new website provides access to the MARF and Duty to Report form along with a wide resource of safeguarding information including links to the training booking system via the Training pages. If you have any queries or suggestions relating to the new website visit: www.gwentsafeguarding.org.uk or please email: Gwentsafeguarding@caerphilly.gov.uk



Young People's 2 minute Safeguarding Survey

The survey is live and closes 04.06.2019!

The regional Safeguarding Children Board will be holding their conference for young people in October 2019. The theme of the conference is 'Keeping Safe'. The Safeguarding Board want to make sure that the conference is based on the safeguarding issues that are important to young people, therefore they would be grateful if you could arrange for the young people you work with aged 12—17 years to complete the 2 minute questionnaire to assist them. www.surveymonkey.com/r/HXX585T **Please note:** the survey is anonymous and the only data personal data recorded is the age and county the respondents live in.

Exciting Opportunity !!!

Are you looking for Volunteers for a Large Community Project?

Business in Focus are looking to identify this year's away day project. Each year they have a **Team Away Day (TAD)** which has an element of team building but **they are keen to do a community project in 2019 within the areas that they live and work**. Their team provides business support across the South Wales area, from the Severn Bridge to Swansea and up to the Heads of the Valley area - this is also reflective of where their team live.

Business in Focus have a headcount of 105 people, but typically get circa 75% turnout at their TAD; they anticipate that they will be a team of 60-80 people.

They are looking to find a community based project that can accommodate our large team for **one Friday in September (or early-mid October)**

- Friday 13th September 2019
- Friday 20th September 2019
- Friday 11th October 2019
- Friday 18th October 2019

As a team they work really hard and can really make a difference. Last year they went to Abergavenny Community Centre and transformed two large rooms (re-decoration) and their outside space (ground clearance) and the previous year they helped similarly a residential school for children and young people with cerebral palsy.

Whilst they appreciate that the TAD ticks a box for Corporate Social Responsibility, it was much more important to them than that – they had a great day and worked really hard, had a great sense of purpose and satisfaction seeing the difference that their day made and meeting the staff and children at the school. Check out our video from their 2017 day <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9I9zVCBP9M>

If you know of any community or charity projects that would benefit from having a large team help them then please contact Amanda Rawlings at Torfaen Voluntary Alliance with a brief description of the project you would like help with and why you should be chosen. This information will be passed on the relevant person at Business in Focus on your behalf. Email: amanda@tvawales.org.uk

Tier 2 - Police and Crime Commissioner's 'Police Community Fund'



This Fund aims to enable children and young people in Gwent to be safe, healthy and happy, building a better future for themselves and their community by empowering Gwent Police to tackle community based issues in a lasting and impactful way. Through focusing on early intervention and prevention the Fund will support young people who are vulnerable or at-risk to move forward with their lives and realise their full potential, establishing resilient, safer and more inclusive communities. Neighbourhood Policing Teams are well placed to know the needs of the local community so are fundamental in working with local organisations to support and help solve identified issues.

Who can apply? The Fund will support not-for-profit organisations seeking to deliver projects and services working with children, young people or vulnerable adults under the age of 25 who live in the Gwent Police Force area. The Fund will focus on projects supporting children and young people who:

- may be in danger of entering the criminal justice system, or
- have become victims of crime.
-

Bids are encouraged for sums of between £10,000 and £50,000 and funding is available for up to three years. Full details of the priorities and criteria of the fund, including who is eligible to apply and for what type of projects and costs, can be found [here](#). The application process is initiated by completing and submitting a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) The PQQ can be downloaded [here](#).

Send to PCCPoliceCommunityFund@gwent.pnn.police.uk.

Applications can be made at any time of the year, however, **1st August** is the next deadline for applications to be submitted for consideration at Funding Panel on 3rd October. **The 11th November** is the final deadline date for applications to be considered at Funding Panel on 13th Jan 2020.

Co-op Group's Local Community Fund



Co-op Funding that helps local causes in your community!

Their Local Community Fund supports thousands of local projects that make a difference to communities around the UK.

If you're an organisation that helps your local community you can now apply to be one of their causes.

Your project must either:

- Help a local community come together to save, build, fix or improve indoor or outdoor local spaces
- Support the mental or physical health of a community through wellbeing activities
- Help people reach their full potential by developing their skills

Applications close on 16th June and there will be around £7,000 to be shared between 3 causes chosen in the Torfaen community.

For more information and to apply visit: www.coop.co.uk/local-causes

Start volunteering
with the MS Society
in Torfaen!

**VOLUNTEERS
WANTED!**



MS Society Torfaen — Group Coordinator

As our local Group Coordinator you'll take the lead in making sure your local group works as effectively as possible. You'll recruit, induct and support other group volunteers to make sure your group's activities meet the needs of your local MS community.

In this role you'll be able to develop your leadership, management, communication, organisation and motivation skills.

Most importantly you'll help drive change for your local MS community.

Interested in these
opportunities?

Want to get involved?

Give us a call on 01495 742420

MS Society Torfaen — Support Volunteer

As our local group Support Volunteer you'll help people affected by MS find information about local and national services. That could be helping someone access local information about the care or benefits they need or giving them a hand with a grant application.

In this role you'll be able to develop your listening and communication skills, as well as your knowledge of local services.

Most importantly you'll help people affected by MS to access the help they need.

MS Society Torfaen — Administration Volunteer

Our Administration Volunteers are the linchpin for our local groups' activities. They act as the first point of contact and they make sure all relevant information is circulated to other volunteers and members. They play an important role in keeping our data and details up to date to comply with data protection legislation.

In this role you'll develop your administration and organisation skills.

Most importantly you'll help your local group run efficiently, so they can keep providing valuable services to our MS community.

MS Society Torfaen — Fundraising Volunteer

As our Fundraising Volunteer you'll support your Fundraising Group Coordinator to organise local fundraising activities and events throughout the year. You'll help with planning events, preparation and making sure everything runs smoothly on the day.

In this role you'll be able to develop your organisation, communication and team working skills.

Most importantly you'll inspire your local community to raise funds that help make sure no one has to face MS alone.