

RVA e-bulletin 133

1st April 2009

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- **Website Administrator (Reading based)**

Events

Runners Wanted!

**READING CHARITY SEEKS RUNNERS FOR BRITISH 10K LONDON RUN
– 12TH JULY 2009**

Deafax is a local charity who has been based in Reading for nearly 25 years. We work with deaf people of all ages, locally and nationally, often through schools and colleges, delivering workshops and training using innovative technologies. In addition, we carry out research and have also developed our own deaf-friendly resources and software.

We have secured places in the above run and are looking for people to run on our behalf and, at the same time, raise funds to help us continue our much needed work.

Starting at 9.35 am, the race route will take you through the heart of London, passing by many of London's famous and historic landmarks, including St James's Palace, St Paul's Cathedral, Tower Bridge and the Houses of Parliament.

Over 26,000 people took part last year, so if you want to help us continue making a difference and also have some fun, then come and join Team Deafax. To find out more or reserve your place please contact Debbie Flory on 0118 935 3685 or email: debbief@deafax.org.

Training

Dyslexia: What's it all about? Adult Dyslexia Centre

What is dyslexia? How and why dyslexics need to do things differently.

Aims of training session:

- to increase awareness of dyslexic strengths and differences
- to develop a positive understanding of how dyslexia affects work, learning and personal life including the implications of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

Who is this FREE training for? Tutors, trainers, advisors – anyone who works with other people

Dyslexia Awareness Training:

Date: Tuesday 19 May 2009
Venue: Willow Room, New Directions South, 333 Northumberland Ave, Reading RG2 8HH
Time: 1.30 – 4.30 pm
Trainer: Debbie Farnfield, Centre Manager

01628 670054 or 07921 022 589

email: askus@adult-dyslexia-centre.co.uk

www.adult-dyslexia-centre.co.uk <<http://www.adult-dyslexia-centre.co.uk/>>

Funding News

ESF Community Grants- from Community Council for Berkshire

South East Region ESF Community Grants are part of the European Social Fund (ESF) programme, distributing £2,286,000 in small grants during 2008 – 2010. Grants of up to £12,000 are available to third sector organisations in

the South East who support the most disadvantaged individuals to access further learning opportunities or progress to employment. People benefitting from these grants will be experiencing barriers to access services and will not be in paid work or be economically inactive.

Priority will be given to groups who work with:

- * **Lone parents**
- * **Women**
- * **People with health/disability issues**
- * **Older people (50 years plus)**
- * **People from ethnic minorities and diverse communities**

A limited number of discretionary grants will be made to small voluntary and community organisations during 2009 to help them develop their skills and capacity.

Deadlines- midday 22 April 2009 and Midday 21 September 2009

For application forms please contact, Community Council for Berkshire, Epping House, 55 Russell Street, Reading, RG1 7XG
Tel: 0118 9612000
Email: communitygrants@ccberks.org.uk
Website: www.ccberks.org.uk <<http://www.ccberks.org.uk>>

Funding to Promote Financial Inclusion

The Friends Provident Foundation makes grants of up to £200,000 to not-for-profit organisations for projects that address financial exclusion within disadvantaged communities. The funding is distributed through the Financial Inclusion Programme 2007 – 2009. Applications close on 10th July 2009.

For more information click here: <http://digbig.com/4yjkt>
<<http://digbig.com/4yjkt>>

Launch Date Announced For BT Community Connections

British Telecom has announced that it will be launching the 2009 Community Connections Awards on the 17th March 2009. BT Community Connections has been run by BT's Corporate Responsibility Unit since 2000. The scheme targets community and voluntary groups that could benefit from internet access and ICT but don't necessarily have the resources. The package is valued at £1,300.

For more information click here: <http://digbig.com/4yjky>
<<http://digbig.com/4yjky>>

Community Radio Fund

The Office of Communications (Ofcom) has announced that next round for funding applications under its Community Radio Fund will open on the 15th April 2009. Community radio stations will be invited to apply for funding to support their core running costs. There is no upper limit of grants however the minimum grant is £5,000. Grants can only be made to community radio

licensees who are broadcasting under a community radio licence. During the last bidding round the average grant awarded was £13,365 and the maximum grant was £16,000. The closing date for applications will be the 12th May 2008.

For more information click here: <http://digbig.com/4yjma>
<<http://digbig.com/4yjma>>

Its Your Community Initiative (UK)

O2 have committed £1 million to the "Its Your Community" initiative. Its Your Community, which is managed by the Conservation Foundation, provides grants of £100 to £1,000 to individuals and groups to improve their local environment. The type of projects supported in the past included environmental projects such as turning derelict land into an amenity park or wildlife area, tree planting, creating a wildlife pond, renovating neglected river and canal footpaths, providing water butts and recycling facilities in village halls, etc. The commitment by O2 means that the initiative will now be able to support up to 60 projects per month. Applications can be made at any time and are judged on the 20th of every month.

For more information click here: <http://digbig.com/4yjmd>
<<http://digbig.com/4yjmd>>

Nakhat Zahir

Funding Advice Worker
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8 Cross Street
Reading
RG1 1SN

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Website: www.rvadirectory.org.uk

Employment Update

Employees' Rights to ask for Flexible Working Arrangements Extended

From 6th April the right to request flexible working arrangements are extended to include eligible employees who have *parental* responsibility for a child up to and including the age of 16 years. Flexible working might include compressed hours, flexitime, home working, job sharing, teleworking, term-time working, shift working, staggered hours, or annualised hours.

This means that the following groups of eligible employees now have this right:

- *Carers* or partners of carers of all children under the age of 6 years
- *Carers* or partners of carers of disabled children under the age of 18 years
- *Carers* or partners of carers of a person aged 18 years or older who is

the partner, near relative or some other person living at the same address

- Persons or partners of persons with *legal parental* responsibility for a child under the age of 17 years – a more restricted group than carers

To be eligible to exercise this right employees must:

- Be *your* employee – agency workers do not qualify
- Have worked for you continuously for at least 26 weeks
- Have not made a formal request for flexible working (for whatever reasons) in the preceding year

Whilst employees' rights extend only to *request* flexible working, employers must give such requests serious consideration. Eligible requests can only be refused on specified Business Grounds and you must explain why these apply. An employee's particular personal circumstances are not relevant and strict procedures must be followed.

An employee has a right to appeal a decision to refuse a request. If the correct procedure is not followed or incorrect facts were relied upon in the reasons for refusal then there is a further right to make application to the Employment Tribunal.

For further information on flexible working rights, including eligibility, procedures and specified business grounds for refusal, see Business Link at www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?r.l1=1073858787&r.l3=1073931239&r.lc=en&type=RESOURCES&itemId=1073791180&r.l2=1080898061&r.s=sc

<http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?r.l1=1073858787&r.l3=1073931239&r.lc=en&type=RESOURCES&itemId=1073791180&r.l2=1080898061&r.s=sc> or contact Rachel Spencer: Rachel@volaction.demon.co.uk Tel: 0118 957 4123

Jobs

Children's Information Centre – Making a difference to children, parents and carers

The Children's Information Centre (CIC) is an independent registered charity with almost 20 years experience of offering free information and guidance to parents and carers of children and young people. We have received the National Association of Family Information Services (NAFIS) Quality Assurance Award and are recognised by Investors in People (IIP).

We are seeking the following additions to join our dedicated team.

Benefits Information Officer (Peripatetic within West Berkshire)

Fixed Term Contract to 31.03.10

25 hours

Salary £19,374 (£13,091 pro-rata) pay increase for 2009/10 pending

You will be working in the community as part of our outreach team offering a specialist service to families in relation to information about statutory benefits and entitlements. You will have good listening and communication skills and the ability to determine and prioritise your own workload whether working alone or as part of a team. Knowledge of statutory benefits and entitlements is essential.

Closing date: Friday 3rd April
Interviews: Thursday 16th April

Website Administrator (Reading based)

25 hours

Salary £16,945 (£11,449 pro-rata) pay increase for 2009/10 pending

You will maintain the CIC website by working with project staff to ensure the information is accurate, relevant and up-to-date. You will have experience in web design/maintenance and be familiar with the following packages: HTML, PHP, ASP, Frontpage and image editing. You will have an excellent standard of written English, effective communication skills, the ability to think creatively and to work as part of a team.

Closing date: Friday 3 April 2009
Interviews: Monday 20th April

For further details and to download an application form (CVs not accepted) visit our website www.childrensinfo.org/news.html <<http://www.childrensinfo.org/news.html>> Alternatively, you can contact us on: 0118 950 9499.

Unfortunately, it is not possible for us to acknowledge all applications so if you have not heard from us by 13th April you should assume that your application has not been successful on this occasion.

Children's Information Centre, 6 Queens Walk, Reading RG1 7QF
Registered charity no. 1078331 Company no. 3841084
An Equal Opportunities Employer

www.childrensinfo.org <<http://www.childrensinfo.org/>>

READING VOLUNTARY ACTION, 8 CROSS STREET, READING, RG1 1SN
TEL: 0118 957 4123

<http://www.r-v-a.org> <http://www.rvadirectory.org.uk>

Registered Charity No. 1045782

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