



22 March 2019

Chief Executive's Comments:

Remembering Susan Ellis

[Volunteer Now Enterprises Academy Training](#)

[Take Part in the Biggest Event This Summer!](#)

[Events & Volunteering Toolkit](#)

[Income Generation & Capacity Building](#)

[Conference 2019](#)

[New Training Calendar & FREE Review](#)

[Communication Toolkit](#)

[Developing Cyber Resilience](#)

[Community Spirit Art Competition](#)

[FREE Volunteer Management Review](#)

Stop, Start, Continue

Is there anything you would like us to stop doing, start doing or continue doing? Think about what you might want to hear more about in VConnect or anything you want to see on our Training Calendar and [let us know](#).

Chief Executive's Comments:

Remembering Susan Ellis

March has brought the sad news of the passing of Susan Ellis. For decades Susan has been one of the world's leading thinkers and writers about volunteering. Her work has influenced the development of volunteering across the globe. I wanted to acknowledge her passing with a link to an article she wrote about what the word volunteering actually means.

She talks about our differing reactions to the word volunteering and how often it can be seen as a negative or old fashioned word. However she also challenges us to consider how our own reflections on the word volunteer can narrow our perspective and ultimately limit what we enable volunteers to achieve. She encourages us all to see that:

"The important point is to get beyond the words and see volunteer engagement as tapping the community for skills and talents to direct at meeting your mission or furthering your cause."

She would want us to see the potential in volunteering for everyone and not let language limit our thinking!

For more details about Susan and her work please see the link below.

Would you like to volunteer?

Check out our website to see thousands of volunteering opportunities. New opportunities added daily!

Looking for volunteers?

Register your organisation's volunteering opportunities FREE of charge – go to: www.volunteernow.co.uk

Volunteer Now Out & About

Find out where Volunteer Now staff will be visiting this month and discover events from across the sector here: www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/event-volunteering

Denise Hayward

Chief Executive

Volunteer Now Enterprises Academy

From planning the strategic direction of your programme, skilling up your volunteers to equipping day to day supervisors of volunteers with vital management skills - our Academy has it all!

For our full Training Calendar, go to bit.ly/CoursesScheduled.

Volunteer Management:

The 3 R's: Recruit, Retain, Reward (*lunchtime session*) - **Belfast** (bit.ly/2TzTqEr)

Developing a Volunteer Strategy - **Belfast** (bit.ly/2TuI0IT)

Keeping it Legal: Volunteers & the Law - **L'Derry** (bit.ly/2EW9PcW)

Safeguarding:

Keeping Adults Safe: Adult Safeguarding Champion & Appointed Person Training

- **Enniskillen** (bit.ly/2EjDDAV) OR **L'Derry** (bit.ly/2IqNRUm) OR **Omagh** (bit.ly/2X8zCqB) **THESE WORKSHOPS FILL UP FAST!**

Keeping Children Safe: Training for Staff & Volunteers - **Larne** (bit.ly/2ut4Zz7)

We have an expert team of staff who are committed to quality and effective customer relationships providing a service which is tailored just for you. We would love to hear from you about how we can help - you can email us on enterprise@volunteernow.co.uk, call 028 9023 2020 or tweet us [@VNEnterprise](https://twitter.com/VNEnterprise).

Take Part in the Biggest Event This Summer!

Would you like to take part in the biggest event coming to our shores this Summer? Well, you can! The Open is golf's most international major championship and Northern Ireland is proud to host it between 14-21 July 2019 in Portrush.

We are recruiting motivated and enthusiastic volunteers who can provide a warm welcome and bring an unrivaled visitor experience to this event.

Come to one of our [Volunteer Open Days](#) and meet the Volunteer Now Events Team, hear from other event volunteers, find out what volunteer shifts are available and apply to volunteer.

- **Saturday 23 March 2019, 11am-1pm in Causeway Volunteer Centre**, 3rd Floor, River House, Coleraine, BT51 3TP
 - **Thursday 28 March 2019, 3-7pm in Volunteer Now**, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, BT2 7DB
 - **Tuesday 2 April 2019, 3-7pm in Volunteer Now**, 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, BT2 7DB
-

Events & Volunteering Toolkit

Volunteer Now and Tourism Northern Ireland have launched a great resource to help event organisers involve volunteers in an effective and meaningful way and support the development of volunteering at national and international events across Northern Ireland.

The Events & Volunteering Toolkit has been designed to support you to confidently involve volunteers in your event and get the best out of your volunteer team, promoting a two-way relationship. Through 10 useful tips, templates and case studies you will learn how to recruit, manage and motivate volunteers.

Download your copy here <https://bit.ly/2WesMi6>.

Income Generation & Building Capacity Conference 2019

This conference will provide National Governing Bodies of sport, their clubs and other sports organisations with some advice and support on how to generate more income for your organisation and also build the capacity of your organisation when planning your activities.

There will be an opportunity to learn about funding opportunities, how to maximise income within your current environment whilst also promoting your events and engaging with event attendees and stakeholders. There will be a range of speakers from [Titan Experience](#), [Pundit Arena](#), [Klubfunder](#), [Volunteer Now](#) and [Otium Leisure Consultancy](#) supporting this conference.

It takes place on **Tuesday 26 March 2019 at the National Football Stadium, Windsor Park at 6pm.**

Attendance can be booked directly on the Azolve platform here bit.ly/NISF2019. This conference is **FREE** and supported by Sport NI.

New Training Calendar & FREE Review!

Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd is pleased to announce their new training calendar will be launched on **Monday 1 April 2019**.

Most of our courses for April, May & June are already on our website [here](#) and July 2019-March 2020 courses will be launched on Monday 1 April 2019.

We have two launch offers available for all participants booking onto our accredited volunteer management courses:

- If you book a place on all three of these volunteer management courses - Attracting & Selecting Volunteers, Managing & Motivating Volunteers and Train the Trainers - **Accreditation is FREE! Saving £250!**
- If you prefer to attend all three of the above courses and do the Non-Accredited courses - you will get a **10% discount! Saving £52!**

Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd are offering a FREE Volunteer Programme Review! Nothing complicated, no assessment criteria, no formal interviews. Just a good old-fashioned chat over a cuppa!

This review is designed to be a gentle, informative and easy process. Get up to two hours of one of our highly skilled and qualified volunteering experts to chat through a few key questions.

The expert staff at Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd will facilitate the conversations, teasing out the positive points and establishing the barriers or blockages to success.

Contact us on 028 9023 2020 or enterprise@volunteernow.co.uk to arrange your **FREE** Volunteer

Communication Toolkit

The European Volunteering Capital Communication Toolkit is available here bit.ly/2TjRZpb. It was developed to help you contribute to the growth of the European Volunteering Capital Competition by identifying and motivating municipalities to apply. The deadline for the #EVCapital 2021 Competition is 11 June 2019. Find out more here www.europeanvolunteercentre.org/communication-kit-evcapital.

Developing Cyber Resilience

As our ability to harness technology and digital services for voluntary and community activity grows so too does the challenge of keeping our organisations safe from cyber fraud and data breaches.

Email fraud, ransomware attacks and breaches are risks for all organisations now regardless of size or sector. Local playgroups or sports clubs through to international household name charities are all vulnerable and ensuring that we keep information about the people we work with secure is a top priority for most organisations. In addition, preventing fraud and complying with regulatory requirements such as GDPR are key organisational governance issues for us all.

Partnership approach

While many organisations have made significant improvements to their information security capability, we know that it can be challenging for smaller and medium sized organisations to access the services and skills and support that is needed to make cyber resilience a core foundation. Tackling these challenges requires a partnership approach.

[NICVA](#) is bringing key stakeholders and interested parties together to gather views on the challenges facing organisations and expertise to identify key focus areas to improve cyber resilience across the sector.

Design thinking

NICVA has engaged [Work West](#) to facilitate two sessions to take a broad range of perspectives using their “Thinc Social” process which has its basis in design and creative thinking.

If you are responsible for data protection, risk management, organisational governance, technology management, service management or communications these sessions are an opportunity to share and hear insights from your peers and shape the roadmap to improving cyber resilience in the voluntary sector.

You can sign up to one of two sessions by clicking below:

- [4 April 2019 - Workshop 1: Developing cyber resilience in the voluntary and community sector](#)
- [7 May 2019 - Workshop 2: Developing cyber resilience in the voluntary and community sector](#)

For more information on the workshops, contact Stephen Gray, Head of Information Management at NICVA on 028 9087 7777 or stephen.gray@nicva.org.

Community Spirit Art Competition

The Big Lunch is running an art and poetry competition open to people of all ages across Northern Ireland with prizes of £25 in vouchers for a range of age categories and £100 for the overall winner.

To enter, just mail in an image or a poem to be used on one piece of bunting, using words and/or images, that show what community means to you. The shortlisted images will be shared on social media and printed onto a string of bunting that will brighten up community events across northern Ireland for years to come. Community groups and schools are welcome to submit multiple entries, in one envelope or email.

Winners will be chosen by Irish story teller Liz Weir MBE and Grainne McCloskey and Niamh Scullion from The Big Lunch Northern Ireland.

The Big Lunch is an initiative from the Eden Project made possible by the National Lottery, that connects people and encourages friendlier, happier and safer neighbourhoods. The Big Lunch invites everyone to take part on the first weekend of June every year, to join the millions who get together to share food and fund with their communities. Your community may be your neighbourhood, school community group or just a few friends.

Register online for a free starter pack or find out more at www.thebiglunch.com.

To enter the competition:

Entries must be all your own work - visual art, poetry or mixed format - that conveys what community means to you. It should be no larger than A5 landscape and must be received by **7pm on 6 May 2019**.

Each entry should be clearly marked on its reverse side with:

1. Entrant's name.
2. Age category entered: Up to 7 yrs, 8-10 yrs, 11-17 yrs, 18+ yrs. If you are under 18, please provide parents name & signature of consent.
3. Name of community group or school if appropriate, with address including postcode, email and contact number. Also teacher's name if appropriate.

Schools and groups please send multiple entries in one envelope/email. Entries from individuals are also accepted. If you email, please send downloadable files and we will confirm receipt. Personal data will only be used for the purposes of the competition. The judges' decision is final.

Submit your entries by email to communities@edenproject.com

or by post to:

Grainne McCloskey - The Big Lunch Competition, c/o National Lottery Communities Fund, 1 Cromac Quay, Belfast, BT7 2JD.

FREE Volunteer Management Review

- Would you like a FREE volunteer management review to see how you are managing your volunteers?
- Are you an organisation with an annual income of under £100,000?
- Are you based in Belfast, Fermanagh, Newry & Mourne, Armagh, Dungannon, Downpatrick, North Down, Ards, Lisburn, Castlereagh, Newtownabbey, Antrim, Carrickfergus, Ballymena or Larne?

- Would you like to get one step closer to achieving the Investing in Volunteers Quality Standard?

Volunteer Now are currently offering a limited number of free volunteer management reviews to organisations in relation to their volunteer management practice. By using the Investing in Volunteers framework, a member of staff from Volunteer Now will benchmark your organisation against the standard and provide you with a development plan clearly outlining any areas for improvement/gaps in practice and signposting to where you could get help to address them.

You can use your review to plan your development and improve your volunteer management practice. It also means that, if you wish, you are one step closer to achieving the Investing in Volunteers award. If you choose to address your development plan within six months of a review, we will offer to assess you for the Award at a reduced rate!

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Sandra Faulkner on 028 9023 2020 or sandra.faulkner@volunteernow.co.uk. If you would like a review but don't fit the criteria for a free check, please contact David Fitzsimons on 028 9081 8330 or david.fitzsimons@volunteernow.co.uk. For more information on Investing in Volunteers, please go to bit.ly/1USu0JA.

Membership

Membership of Volunteer Now is open to all organisations and individuals with an interest in volunteering. There is no fee. By becoming a member you add your voice to support volunteering. Sign up for FREE membership at www.volunteernow.co.uk/members.

Submit your Article

If you have volunteering related news, events, publications etc. to share, email training@volunteernow.co.uk

VTraining

Volunteer Now also publish a free e-newsletter called VTraining that includes all Volunteer Now training courses and workshops. To subscribe, please email training@volunteernow.co.uk

Privacy Policy

Volunteer Now/Volunteer Now Enterprises Ltd collects your personal information, holds it securely and only uses it for the purposes for which it is intended. For more information about how we use your data, please see our Privacy Policy at www.volunteernow.co.uk/privacy-policy.

Disclaimer

We are a distributor of content supplied by third parties and users of VConnect. We do not necessarily endorse nor are we responsible for the accuracy of any opinion, advice or statement supplied by third parties and they do not necessarily reflect any views or policies of Volunteer Now. We accept information in good faith.

Supported by the Northern Ireland Executive through the Department for Communities.

Volunteer Now delivers services across Northern Ireland. We have offices in Belfast, Broughshane, Enniskillen and Newry. Main Office: 34 Shaftesbury Square, Belfast, BT2 7DB. T: 028 9023 2020

E: info@volunteernow.co.uk W: www.volunteernow.co.uk Charity Registration No. NIC101309. Company Limited by Guarantee No. NI602399. Registered in Northern Ireland.

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Volunteer Now
34 Shaftsbury SQ
Belfast, England BT2 7DB
UK

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

