

## Volunteering Discussion Group

One of our regular volunteers has suggested creating MEV discussion groups where people can get together to talk about how they are getting on with volunteering, how the MEV service could be improved or just to exchange ideas? It would also be a great way for new and existing volunteers to get to know more people and could perhaps develop into other areas (e.g. a social network).

This could be a monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly meeting, led by volunteers for volunteers. The MEV team can be involved in all or some of the meetings but this would be the decision for the volunteer group to make.

Any recommendations could be fed back to the MEV team for implementation to improve the service.

**If you would be interested in taking part in regular discussion groups, or even as a one off to get something off your chest, please register your interest in the usual way.**

## VOLUNTEER REWARD AND RECOGNITION EVENT 2010

We are planning another Reward and Recognition event following our successful volunteer celebration in March where MEV volunteers attended Manchester Town Hall to receive their certificates and badges.

The Volunteer Reward and Recognition Programme was developed in October 2006 to reward volunteers for the invaluable time they give to MEV and Host Organisations. You can, of course, choose whether or not to take part but should you wish to, you can record the number of hours you spend helping out at events and other opportunities. Once you have reached certain milestones you will be rewarded accordingly with various items such as certificates, pin badges and more!

### 50 hours of volunteering - Bronze Award

100 hours of volunteering - Silver Award

200 hours of volunteering - Gold Award

300 hours of volunteering - Platinum Award

500 hours of volunteering - Special Achievement Award

\*We can only accredit events which have been generated through the MEV newsletter or website.

To receive your first certificate and pin badge, you must have recorded a minimum of 50 hours volunteering.....all you have to do is complete your Event Record forms and send it to us as soon as possible.

If you HAVEN'T started logging your hours you can start now by inputting your hours on your profile, downloading the form from the MEV website at <http://www.mev.org.uk/content/documents/> or by contacting Kristian on 0161 234 1532 / [kd@mev.org.uk](mailto:kd@mev.org.uk) who can post or e-mail copies to you.

If you already record your volunteering hours keep on adding to increase your total and achieve more certificates!

**To attend the event, please register your interest in the usual way.**

## New MEV Website Is Live. Check It Out!!!!

The new MEV Website is now live, visit [www.mev.org.uk](http://www.mev.org.uk) and let us know what you think! Please be aware there may still be bugs, we will do our best to fix any problems as soon as they are found. There are some new parts that you might want to check out. If you are looking for work, help with finding work or need some extra training why not check out the following:

**Employment and Employment Assistance**  
<http://www.mev.org.uk/news/folder/1-employment>

**Training**

<http://www.mev.org.uk/news/folder/5-training>

**If there is anything you think we could include on our site which would assist you, please let us know. If you find any problems with the site, please contact Chris Baird on [cb@mev.org.uk](mailto:cb@mev.org.uk)**

**Advice and Guidance**

<http://www.mev.org.uk/employment>

## Football Coaching Training

Take part in our Social Academy training programme and you'll get:

- A two week football coaching session with qualified football coaches
- The chance to gain an FA accredited Emergency First Aid qualification
- A full brand new sports kit
- The opportunity to progress on to the 1st4Sport Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Football with the FA

You can access all of this for free if you are unemployed, living in the local Manchester area and not currently taking part in any other training or education.

Once you have completed an application form we will be in touch to confirm the next available start date. We plan to run a 2 week session once a month from October to March 2011. (please be aware that places are limited so we are acting on a first come, first served basis)

## Emergency First Aid

Are you a Manchester resident (i.e. pay your Council Tax to Manchester City Council) and interested in taking part in First Aid courses?

We will be running courses in the near future and would like to find out who is interested in taking part. The First Aid training programme focuses on key life-saving skills, provides an opportunity to learn the first aid response to the most common accidents and situations, and is underpinned by relevant theory.

### Duration

Approximately seven hours (9.00am - 5.00pm)

### Course outline

Respond to the needs of unconscious casualties and perform cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Respond to the needs of casualties with major injuries and choking.

### Dates

To be confirmed

## Introduction To Team Work Course

Are you a Manchester resident (i.e. pay your Council Tax to Manchester City Council) and interested in taking part in MEVs Training Course?

### What topics does the course cover?

Health And Safety, Communication and Teamwork

Introduction to Team Work has been developed by MEV and is accredited by the Open College Network (OCN). Once the course is completed, you can choose to study further courses through Manchester Adult Education Service.

### What are the eligibility criteria?

Manchester Event Volunteers are offering these courses to Manchester residents (i.e you pay your council tax to Manchester City Council) not Greater Manchester residents, over the age of 18, who would like to gain a qualification and are prepared to attend 3 days of training.

### What are the dates for the next course?

TBC - To complete the course and receive your certificate you will need to attend all 3 days.

**Times:** 10.00am - 4.00pm

**Location:** To be confirmed when you register your interest.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITY - IT Skills

A local Training Provider working with the Government to help improve skills on IT has offered MEV volunteers a number of IT training places.

This course enables learners to gain recognised qualifications such as European Computer Driving Licence Essentials and a BCS ITQ Award and will enable you to be more productive within your role whilst learning new skills to help your personal life.

There is also a basic Introduction to IT and a Level 2 ECDL course available. The company also deliver Job Clubs if you are looking for work!

**If you are interested or want more information, please log on to the website at [www.mev.org.uk](http://www.mev.org.uk) or call 0161 234 1532.**

**Please only register interest if you are serious about attending. If you don't attend this means that a place is wasted for another person who is serious about gaining an IT qualification.**

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITY - Learning Champions: A Vital Link!

Manchester Adult Education Service is pleased to announce the launch of their Community Learning Champion Support Programme.

Do you have a passion for learning and want to share this with others?  
Could you engage and encourage neighbours, friends and colleagues to take up learning opportunities?  
Are you a role model who can show it is never too late to take up new career routes or new skills?

Community Learning Champions are people who become active in their community by promoting the value of learning to others. Community Learning Champions promote learning with friends, neighbours and relatives but also with people they meet in the community at local shops, the school gates, groups or clubs. We are offering a free short course which will give you a nationally recognised qualification at Level 2.

### **The course covers:**

The role of the Community Learning Champion and examines the practicality of the role, the Learning Journey, understanding barriers to learning, working with Individuals, developing community and learner profiles.

This is an ideal introductory course if you are thinking of working in advice and guidance work, working in schools with parents or health and social care supporting adults into learning. Also, if you just want to be able to support people in your own community and be part of a local community network that supports learning. **For more information please register your interest in the usual way.**

## Creative Hands Foundation - Zion Arts Centre, Hulme Marketing and PR Trustee Volunteers Needed

Creative Hands Foundation in Manchester is aiming to expand its board with someone with marketing and PR background to assist in the development of a marketing strategy for the organisation. We are looking for a creative and innovative person who will be committed to promote the aims and aspiration of the organisation to stakeholders. We will expect the person to have good IT knowledge and skills who is keen to use their skills and experience in the voluntary art sector to help develop and grow this visual art charity based in Manchester.

This role is flexible to suit your own commitments however you must attend board meetings and networking events to promote the organisation. You will work to establish wide contacts, produce and distribute e-news and events bulletins and up-date and maintain the organisation website.

## ESOL Tutors Needed for Rainbow Haven

ESOL tutors needed To teach refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers at a community drop-in.

Rainbow Haven is a community project based in East Manchester. It runs a twice weekly drop-in which is open to everyone and offers specific services to refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers. These include free hot meals, IT classes, advice and information, social activities, play activities for parents and children and destitution support.

The project also offers English classes which is in big demand. Classes run on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 3 pm. Classes are attended by people wanting to learn English in order to settle into their new lives in the UK. The sessions offered are basic pre entry level, with the opportunity to move up to more advanced level if there is a demand for this. The project needs volunteer ESOL tutors to cover some or all of these sessions.

### **Requirements:**

Able to commit to a minimum of 6 months  
TESOL qualified, with some experience of teaching and a willingness to learn and develop skills  
Openness to working with this client group and to understanding issues they may face  
A flexible approach to delivering sessions to a group that may change over time

### **Volunteers will gain:**

Experience of being part of a team working in a lively, busy and interesting community drop-in  
Experience of teaching adults who are very friendly and keen to learn  
Free hot lunch and travel expenses  
Support, resources and access to training from Manchester Adult Education Service

## The ARDWICK CONNECT TEAM (ACT) Has Launched!

### Support For Ardwick Residents

ACT provide information, advice and support to Ardwick residents aged 18 to 65 who are independent and simply need a bit of a helping hand with getting in touch with the right agencies. The team can assist with managing the home, financial matters including debts and also provide emotional support for people with low level mental health needs such as depression or anxiety and give information on career and education options.

An Employment Training Consultant is attached to the team and can provide long-term support with training, employment and careers advice. We can also advise on leisure activities and services available to children and families.

The team works in partnership with agencies in the area, such as social landlords, GPs, Sure Start etc. and we are able to provide easy access to these services.

**If you are an Ardwick resident and you would like to access the support services on offer please call Kristian on 0161 234 1532 or e-mail [kd@mev.org.uk](mailto:kd@mev.org.uk) to register your interest or visit your volunteer profile at [www.mev.org.uk](http://www.mev.org.uk)**

## Some Important Points To Remember:

**1 GETTING INVOLVED WITH EVENTS:** If you are experiencing difficulty with organisers not contacting you before an event, please contact the Central Team before the event starts on 0161 234 1532 and we can find out what's happening for you. The lack of contact may just be an oversight on the organisers behalf and can usually be rectified by the MEV team.

**2 REGISTERING YOUR INTEREST:** Not only can you sign up for event online but you can do it by post. However, the cheapest and quickest is to register your interest by phone, just call us on 0161 234 1532 and we can add your interest on the database immediately!