

Autumn Newsletter

From: HWRCC (info@hwrcc.org.uk)

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**HUMBER & WOLDS
RURAL ACTION**

01652 637 700

HWRCC Website

October 2022

Humber and Wolds Rural Action (HWRA) are announcing the retirement of their Chief Executive, Susan Oliver on 31st December 2022

Susan has worked for HWRA since 2009, joining the organisation as Delivery and Development Manager with responsibility for the East Riding of Yorkshire Local Involvement Network (ERYLINK), the forerunner to Healthwatch. When the contract transferred to Hull CVS, Susan remained with HWRA and supported and led the organisation through one of its most difficult periods due to reduced funding and personnel changes. During this time she maintained and promoted HWRA's presence in the Humber sub region (East Riding of Yorkshire, Hull, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire) as an active and effective infrastructure and service delivery organisation.

In March 2018, Susan was appointed as Chief Executive and in this role has, with the support of a dedicated Trustee Board and Staff Team, developed the organisation to be the quality project and service delivery partner and strategic lead that we see today. She has had a particular impact influencing system partners in the East Riding and North Lincolnshire to understand the role of the voluntary and community sector in delivering services which support the health and wellbeing of our local communities and, wherever possible, facilitating those communities to take the lead on local solutions.

The recruitment of a new Chief Executive has commenced and we will work with Susan and the HWRA staff team to make the appointment as soon as possible in order to ensure a smooth handover. We wish Susan well in her

retirement (although we are sure she will not be 'retired' for long!) and look forward to continuing to work with you as HWRA moves into the next phase of its development

Kind regards
David Hughes, HWRA Chair on
behalf of the HWRA Trustee Board

HWRA would like to welcome three new members to our Team.

Julie Dearing joined HWRA in September to develop the Personalised Care/micro providers project, a network of local carers (paid and unpaid) to help tackle the challenge of providing social care in the most remote areas of East Riding and North Yorkshire.

Julie has many years' experience working in the Voluntary Sector and especially understands the issues facing people living in rural parts of the county. For the past three years she has managed the Healthwatch team in the East Riding gaining a real insight to the issues of health care and the effect on social care providers.

Sharon Wright - Delivery and Development Manager

Sharon joined HWRA on 1st August and works alongside her colleague Delivery and Development Manager, Howard Westoby. Sharon brings her

Kerry Chenery - Administrative Assistant

Kerry joined HWRA in August as part of the Admin team and supports the Voluntary Car Service, Men in Sheds and other projects. Kerry is really

knowledge and experience of Carers Support, working with unpaid Carers and volunteers and many years of community development activity. She had just joined the team when she also celebrated completing her BA (Hons) Business Management Degree from Lincoln University. Well done Sharon and Welcome!

enjoying helping people to get to their health, care and social appointments by linking them to a local volunteer driver. She is quickly learning how important the service is and how fulfilling being a volunteer driver can be. See the appeal for drivers later in the newsletter.

Humber and Wolds Rural Action (HWRA) involvement in preventing people going into hospital and helping people to return home safely from hospital.

It has been well documented that the lack of social care has led to millions lost bed days in the NHS and 'social care delayed discharges' have cost the NHS millions, the major barrier to achieving safe and rapid discharge from hospital is the availability of social care support. Just under 40% of delays are attributed to the lack of availability of social care support and/or assessment funding.

HWRA are delighted to be involved in the launch of a new project -
Local Care by Local People

We are delighted to have been awarded funding through Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership for a project to enable local people to tackle the challenge of providing social care support in the most remote areas of East Riding and North Yorkshire.

It is not always cost-effective for large home care companies to send care workers into the most remote rural areas. Julie Dearing, Project Manager says "Geography is one of our biggest challenges, what we need to do is to find ways of reducing the miles that care workers travel and also provide somebody perhaps closer to home, emotionally, as well as geographically."

The project will facilitate local people to receive training, advice, guidance and support so that they, in turn, can provide individual support for local people. Increasingly this is identified as the way forward for rural communities.

If you are interested in this approach to providing support for people living in rural areas and you live in the Western Wolds/East Riding area, please get in contact with Julie Dearing, Project Manager 07485 903766 for more information.

HWRA is also the host organisation for North Lincolnshire 'Welcome Home' (Home from Hospital project) on behalf of North Lincolnshire VCSE Alliance

Welcome Home

Being discharged from hospital?
Could Welcome Home help you?

Welcome Home is a service provided to those leaving hospital in North Lincolnshire who do not require ongoing care and support but may wish for temporary help with some practical tasks.

The service is hosted by Humber and Wolds Rural Action on behalf of the North Lincolnshire VCSE Alliance.

Trained responders are available to help you settle back into your home surroundings and will be there to help with issues that may arise.

If you believe that this service is suitable for you, or someone you care for, please contact our office on 01652 – 637700 or speak with your nursing team who will be able to make a referral to our service.

Voluntary Car Service

The voluntary car service continues face high demand, so we are looking for more drivers who reside in North Lincolnshire to join our team of volunteer drivers. If you have a little spare time each week, enjoy driving and want to help people in their community, or know of someone who does, please contact voluntarycarservice@hwrcc.org.uk for further information or telephone 01652 637700. Mileage is paid.

Driver's Lunch

We were excited to hold our first lunch for three years at the lovely village hall in Saxby All Saints. The lunch was well attended by our drivers and their families who enjoyed a lovely buffet. We like to hold this event every year as a thank you to our drivers for volunteering their time in driving North Lincolnshire residents to where they need to be.

To find out more about the Voluntary Car Service please telephone Carole Foster on 01652 637700.

Village Hall Networks - Northern Lincolnshire Network

HWRA held their first network face to face network meeting since March 2020 at Worlaby Recreational Hall in August.

Starting with a buffet lunch and networking opportunity, topics discussed in the afternoon were Greener village halls, Energy, Digital and ACRE Hallmark Accreditation Scheme. Attendees also undertook an energy audit on the village hall!

Please click on the link below for more information
around energy for Village Halls

ACRE ENERGY ADVICE

ERVHN (East Riding Village Halls Network)

Members of ERVHN continue to be busy with the ACRE Hallmark Accreditation Scheme.

Hallmark is a quality standard scheme for the management of community buildings/village halls. There are three different elements – each lasting 3 years. Hallmark 1, 2 and 3.

Benefits of Hallmark

Participation in the Hallmark Scheme is entirely voluntary and is beneficial to halls in many ways including:

- Providing funders and other interested organisations with a benchmark for a well-managed hall
 - Gives village hall volunteers and users confidence that the hall is being managed effectively
 - Some insurance companies will offer discounted insurance for halls which have achieved Hallmark.
- ERVHN have “visitor volunteers/committee members” who undertake the assessment having had training themselves. The Village Hall Advisor signs off the assessment and forwards to ACRE who awards the certificates.

If you are a member of ERVHN and would like more information, please contact either Carole Foster, Village Halls Advisor at villagehallsadvisor@hwrcc.org.uk or Anita Liley, Secretary of ERVHN at secretary.ervhn@gmail.com.

Cost of living: Oil customers to get £100 electricity credit

The government has confirmed that a £100 payment to home heating oil customers will be in the form of a credit to electricity bills.

The payment was announced last month as part of a package of measures to help with energy costs.

It is not yet clear when the £100 will be paid.

ACRE are working closely with other rural representatives and DEFRA to increase the contribution towards heating oil costs.

The smaller level of support for oil heating reflects how gas prices have risen more sharply than oil in the last year and the £100 will be delivered as a top-up to the £400 Energy Bills Support payment, which is going to all UK households.

"The £100 payment has been calculated to ensure that a typical customer using heating oil does not face a higher rate of growth in their heating costs since last winter, in comparison to those using mains gas who are supported by the Energy Price Guarantee," a statement said.

It added that the government would continue to monitor the prices of alternative fuels, such as heating oil, and would consider further intervention if required.

***HWRA are interested to know if we have people who also live off the mains electricity grid as we need to highlight their individual issues in accessing financial help.
Please contact oil@hwrcc.org.uk***

Click on the links below for more information:

[Citizens Advice](#)

[Gov Website](#)

[Cost Of Living](#)

Bulk Oil Buying Schemes

The cost of heating buildings to a satisfactory standard is becoming more and more expensive. In rural areas, there are many off gas communities. These are leaving residents with more expensive choices for heating fuel - such as oil.

We want to help rural communities cut the cost of heating. The YORSwitch (East Yorkshire) and North & North East Lincolnshire Bulk Oil Buying schemes can cut the cost of heating to rural communities and it has other benefits. The scheme keeps money in the local economy, builds a greater sense of community and cooperation and helps tackle fuel poverty.

The schemes are open to householders, churches, village halls and businesses. The scheme orders oil on a monthly basis and negotiates the cheapest price with a group of oil suppliers. Minimum quantity is 500 litres and one price is negotiated irrespective of the quantity you order. Payment is made directly with the winning suppliers by members of the scheme.

For more information about the schemes, please click on the links below or email: oil@hwrcc.org.uk

YORSwitch Members Savings

The chart below shows the savings made between members and non members on the total orders placed.

NLC-NELC Members Savings

The chart below shows the savings made between members and non members on the total orders placed.

YORSwitch

NLC-NELC Bulk Oil Scheme

Get Online Week

Being online can help you to save money, keep minds active, stay in touch with friends and family and much, much more - but it can be hard to know where to turn if you need some support in the basic steps.

The pandemic has seen more people than ever get connected - but it has also left those who are offline even further behind. Along with the cost of living crisis facing the UK it's never been more important for everyone to have the skills, confidence and access to benefit from digital.

HWRA have been out in the community encouraging people to #TryOneThing during #Getonlineweek which ran from 17th to 21st October. Sim cards were handed out thanks to the Vodafone databank to people who are facing data poverty.

All staff have also chosen one new thing to try ranging from checking privacy settings on social media accounts, checking in online, to being more scam aware and learning how to do shopping lists using Alexa.

As always help is on hand to download and log in to the NHS App, which according to one man's feedback has been a 'game changer' he just goes onto prescriptions, clicks a few buttons and then it arrives days later, no hanging on the phone trying to get through for ages and no hassle. He's so impressed he's even helped his neighbours get on board with it.

We've also supported people to develop their skills on a self-learn basis using Learn My Way, If anyone would like to join our center number is 800136.

T: 01652 637 700

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