



## Hi

Welcome to the August 2008 edition of re@d-it! the monthly newsletter from do-it.org.uk.

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Please share this newsletter with other members of your team, especially those who are V-Base and Online Poster System users.

## Upcoming training events

### Online Poster training: 5 September

Information about Online Poster System training and the dates of future training sessions are now available on the do-it.org.uk website. If you are interested in attending on September 5, or would like to register your interest for future sessions, please fill in and send us the [Online Poster training booking form](#).

### V-Base training: 24 October, 14 November and 5 December

Information about V-Base training and the dates of future training sessions are also now up on the do-it.org.uk website. If you are interested in attending on any of the above dates, please fill in and send us the [V-Base training booking form](#).

### 'Create, Involve, Recruit': 20 August

Interested in creating more opportunities for young volunteers? Want to discuss strategies to recruit more young people? The next 'Create, Involve, Recruit' workshop will take place on August 20 (2-4pm). You can find out more information about the workshops and send us a message on our [Involving Young Volunteers](#) page.

### Location

All training sessions take place at YouthNet's office: First Floor, 50 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 8RT.

## Changes to V-Base training costs

As of October 1, 2008, the cost of V-Base training will be changing. To simplify our training charges, V-Base training will be priced *per delegate* rather than per session. Please see [here](#) for details.

Please note: As the new charges will only come into effect on October 1, this will not affect you if you are booked into a V-Base training session in August or September. The changes also do not affect other training courses offered by YouthNet, including Online Poster System training.

## Partnership Team update

### Our volunteers

We want to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to our own volunteers. Our wonderful office volunteers, Gloria, Zehra, Debbie and Emmanuelle provide invaluable support to the Partnerships team and always have a smile on their faces!

We also have a team of virtual volunteers who support our work. In our previous newsletters, we've mentioned the online proofreaders, who read through opportunities on do-it.org.uk to ensure that they are accurate and appealing to volunteers. We've also recently recruited some youth proofreaders, who will be proofreading opportunities specifically aimed at young people and looking at ways they could attract more young volunteers. If you would like to have any of your opportunities proofread, please let us know.

### Getting out and about!

We've really enjoyed visiting some of our partners this month, and finding out how they work on a day-to-day basis. If you've got any regional meetings or volunteering events coming up, please let us know as we'd be keen to attend. If you have any other ideas about how we can further engage and consult with our partners, please also feel free to get in touch.

## Important reminders about responding to applications

In order to ensure that we are providing the best possible service to potential volunteers, we all need to respond to applications and enquiries within ten working days of receiving them. In addition, please remember, when responding to volunteering applications, to respond directly to the potential volunteer rather than the do-it.org.uk email address. If, for any reason, you are unable to receive or respond to applications and enquiries for a period of time, please let us know and we can temporarily freeze your account.

## V-Base and Online Poster System support website

We'd like to say a big thank you to those of you who completed our recent survey about the new support website. We had a huge response and your feedback will help us shape the development of the website, which will be launched later this year. We will keep you updated on our progress in re@d-it! over the coming months.

## V-Base 3.0 update

Progress continues on V-Base 3.0. This week the team are implementing the Specials (tagging) that many of you use. In V-Base 3.0 this functionality will also be available in the Organisations section.

The VDAG (V-Base Development Advisory Group) is currently discussing the lookups built into V-Base, to see if there are any changes we could make with the release of the new version. This includes lists such as 'Areas of Interest', 'Age Range' and 'Ethnicity'. We will shortly be putting the list of VDAG members on the do-it.org.uk website so that you can see who's involved in helping us shape the new product. To keep up-to-date with V-Base 3.0's progress, visit the [development team's blog](#).

If you have any feedback about V-Base 3.0, please email: [feedback@v-base.org](mailto:feedback@v-base.org).

## v funded organisations and do-it.org.uk

If you are a v funded organisation you may have recently received an email from v, which details the requirements for uploading your volunteering opportunities to the National Volunteering Database (or do-it.org.uk) after which they will appear on [vinspired.com](#). If you have not received this email, please let us know and we'll send you a copy.

The email explains that v and YouthNet are encouraging v funded organisations to post opportunities through their local Volunteer Centre where possible. To find your local Volunteer Centre, you can use the [Volunteer Centre finder](#) on do-it.org.uk. Where this isn't feasible, v funded organisations will have access to a V-Base license or an Online Poster System account to post volunteering opportunities on do-it.org.uk. This has been made possible through a strategic partnership between v and YouthNet, which is funding YouthNet to cover the fees associated with the V-Base license and the Online Poster System. We hope that, as part of our V-Base 3.0 project, Volunteer Centres, v funded organisations and other users of V-Base will be able to share volunteer opportunity data if they choose to do so to ensure that that volunteers have access to all available information, whoever they contact.

If you are a v funded organisation and you have used your v grant to purchase a V-Base licence or Online Poster System account since April 2008, and believe that you may be entitled to a refund, then please [get in touch](#).

Here at YouthNet, we hope that by working with as many organisations as possible, we can ensure that the database contains a diverse range of opportunities for potential volunteers, whatever their age or interests.

## do-it in your local hospital

Here's what we've been up to lately as part of our ongoing project to promote volunteering in health and social care.

### Health and social care volunteers' blog

We will soon be launching a volunteers' blog to share information, raise awareness and promote volunteering in health and social care. We are currently [recruiting bloggers](#) – so if you know of any likely candidates, please pass on their details.

### Health and social care content on do-it.org.uk

We are updating the health and social care content on do-it.org.uk. If you would like to add any information or suggest updates to the existing information, please [get in touch](#).

### Involving young volunteers

Want to reach out to more young people? We are offering free places in the 'Create, Involve, Recruit' workshop on August 20 to our health and social care partner organisations. For more information and to book a place, please visit our [Involving Young Volunteers](#) page.

### Promote your health and social care opportunities on do-it.org.uk homepage

If you have any volunteering opportunities that you are finding hard to fill, we can increase their visibility by adding them to the do-it.org.uk homepage. Send us the link to your opportunity if you are interested.

## Forum 3

forum3, the UK's only recruitment event for the not-for-profit sector is on this year, from 10-11 October at the Business Design Centre, Islington. do-it.org.uk will be there, along with many other charities and not-for-profits who are looking for staff and volunteers.

Now in its eighth year, forum3 2008 will be bigger and better than ever with a comprehensive programme of seminars and workshops, a CV advice zone and breakout areas where you can chat with potential employees and volunteers.

If your organisation is interested in exhibiting at forum3 or finding out more about it, please contact Lisa Webster on 020 7939 7433 or [lisaw@forum3.co.uk](mailto:lisaw@forum3.co.uk).

## Welcome to seven new partners!

This month, we welcome seven new organisations into the fold:

- OCVYS
- North Staffs YMCA
- Kent Event Team
- Children's Country Holidays Fund
- Stonewall Equality Limited
- Connect
- Expert Patients Programme Community Interest Company

We look forward to working in partnership with these organisations and promoting their opportunities on do-it.org.uk.

Until next time,

The Partnerships Team  
[www.youthnet.org](http://www.youthnet.org)  
[www.do-it.org.uk](http://www.do-it.org.uk)



Simon Jenkinson



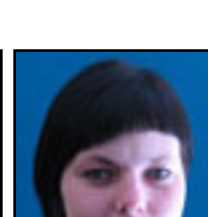
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