



Hi

Is this not you? We have recently been updating our contact records and we therefore may have out-of-date details. If you are not the correct contact person for your organisation or you have changed your contact details, please let us know.

Welcome to the March 2009 edition of re@d-it! the monthly newsletter from do-it.org.uk.

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Please feel free to share this newsletter with other members of your team, especially those who are V-Base or V-Base Recruiter users.

## Partners' focus groups

Here at do-it.org.uk, we're always looking for new ways to make the process of volunteering easy: both for our partners and for potential volunteers.

Therefore we are currently undertaking a major research project which explores how volunteers interact with the National Volunteering Database (NVD) and the do-it.org.uk and vinspired.com websites, as well as their subsequent volunteering experiences. We want to make sure we investigate the whole journey: from when a potential volunteer first visits one of the websites to when they start their volunteer opportunity.

As part of this research we are holding a series of focus groups to discuss our partners' experiences of this process and how it could be improved. This is your chance to feedback on how your opportunities display on do-it.org.uk, the process of matching volunteers with opportunities on V-Base and any other issues you experience. If you are interested in attending a focus group, or know of someone who might be, please email us to let us know.

Please find below the dates and locations of these focus groups, and the type of organisation they are aimed at:

Group 1	15/04/2009	Volunteer Development Agencies	YouthNet, London
Group 2	17/04/2009	Volunteer Involving Organisations who use Volunteer Centres to recruit	YouthNet, London
Group 3	20/04/2009	Volunteer Development Agencies	North*
Group 4	29/04/2009	Volunteer Involving Organisations using V-Base or V-Base Recruiter	YouthNet, London

\*We are yet to confirm a venue in the North, so if you can host the focus group on April 20 please get in touch. We are looking for somewhere that is accessible for everybody in the north of the UK.

[Partner's Homepage](#)

[Products & Services](#)

[V-Base](#)

[V-Base Recruiter](#)

[Syndication](#)

[How do-it works](#)

[Posting opportunities](#)

[Information and resources](#)

[Comments](#)

I'd like to thank you for all your support during the life of our project. It really has been invaluable and I wish you all the best.

Alex Robertson, Catch-22

[Suggestion](#)

Tell us what you think about re@d-it!

Please post any feedback, suggestions and ideas you have for re@d-it! here.

## Partners' Survey and Volunteer Satisfaction Survey

### Partners' Survey

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for completing our Partners' Survey earlier in the year. Your opinions and contribution are essential in helping us to understand how you work and how we can improve our services.

### Volunteer Satisfaction Survey

We are currently writing up the results from the survey we carried out with volunteers that registered on do-it.org.uk over the past year, and will share the final report with you in a future edition of re@d-it! The survey investigated the motivations and experiences of volunteers.

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### Regional meetings

Over the past few months we have been getting out and about visiting Volunteer Centres at regional meetings. We have been giving an update on what has been happening at YouthNet as well as showing some screen shots of V-Base 3.0

If you would like us to attend a regional meeting in your area, please let us know.

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### V-Base 3.0 update

Thank you for your comments and suggestions with regards to V-Base and collaborative working from last month's re@d-it!. We'd still like to hear from more of you, so please keep emailing us with your opinions.

In the last edition of re@d-it! we mentioned the technical requirements needed for V-Base 3.0. Just in case you missed this, in order to successfully run V Base 3.0, you will need Windows XP and Microsoft Office 2003 installed as a minimum.

Also please note: if you are currently using V-Base 2.5 and you've set up a linked access database, we need to make you aware that we're unable to migrate these external databases to V-Base 3.0. It will not be possible for you to migrate data from anywhere else other than V-Base 2.5 and consequently our support team will be unable to help with any technical difficulties relating to external databases.

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### Your stories wanted

We know that there is some fantastic work going on between Volunteer Centres, vTeams and vProjects, which could be used as case studies in the next edition of 'the v' ( v's stakeholder magazine). If you've got a really great relationship with your Volunteer Centre or vTeam and want to share a story about what you've been doing, then please let us know.

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### Help us find young people to be part of our Youth Advisory Group

YouthNet are recruiting for some inspirational and motivated people to be part of our do-it.org.uk Youth Advisory Group. The purpose of the group is to assist in the overall development of the National Volunteering Database and specifically in the aim of looking into how to best involve, recruit and manage young volunteers. We would like you to push, prod, badger and generally encourage a young person you know to apply to be one of our wonderful Youth Advisors. You can find out more information about the opportunity on do-it.org.uk or you can email us to find out more.

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### Engaging 'hard-to-reach' communities

Media Trust is presenting a one-day conference for charities, public sector and corporate organisations that are seeking an insight and practical information on how to engage 'hard-to-reach' communities. It will be taking place on Thursday 26 March 2009, 9:00am- 4:30pm at Chelsea Football Club; they aim to share a range of communications strategies, tools and best practice, and also to dispel some of the traditional thinking on this subject, via a panel debate. To book your place and for more information, visit the Media Trust website.

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## Upcoming training events

'Create, Involve, Recruit': 25 March 2009

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 25 March (2-4pm). You can find out more information about the workshops and information on how to book on our Involving Young Volunteers page, alternatively contact us for more information.

V-Base Recruiter training: 23 March and 17 April 2009

Information about V-Base Recruiter training and dates of future sessions are now available on [do-it.org.uk](http://do-it.org.uk). If you would like to attend a session or wish to register your interest for future sessions, please fill in and send us the V-Base Recruiter training booking form.

V-Base training: 16 March and 20 April 2009

Information about V-Base training and the dates of future sessions are also available on [do-it.org.uk](http://do-it.org.uk). If you are interested in attending the training sessions in March, please fill in and send us the V-Base training booking form.

### Location

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

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## Welcome to six new partners!

This month, we're welcoming six new organisations to the fold:

- Speaking Up
- Coram
- Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust
- Ravensbourne College
- Artefacts Edutainment
- Batchley Support Group

We look forward to working in partnership with these organisations and promoting their opportunities on [do-it.org.uk](http://do-it.org.uk).

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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



Felicity  
Jones



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Colamarco



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Jenni  
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