



**Dear Subscriber**

Welcome to VAWF's March e-newsletter.

For more information on the work of Voluntary Action Waltham Forest, including details on how your organisation can become a member, please see our website: <http://www.frontlineonline.org.uk>

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**Suntrap Environmental Education Centre**

Suntrap is Waltham Forest Environmental Education Centre based in Epping Forest - we work with schools during term time and other groups at weekends and during school holidays. Suntrap Forest Education Centre, Church Road, High Beach, Loughton, Essex, IG10 4AJ  
[suntrap.centre@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:suntrap.centre@walthamforest.gov.uk) or phone 020 8508 0611 booking essential.

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**Future Events:**

Suntrap Safari: Friday 30th May. 10am-12pm. £5 per child

A treasure trail in the Suntrap grounds, the world of the forest floor and animal masks. Bring a picnic to enjoy after the safari.

Friends of Suntrap - Family pond dipping: Saturday 7th June. 10am-2pm. £4 per child

View fascinating underwater creatures using microscopes and hand lenses. Bring your own picnic to enjoy in the grounds.

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**FUNDING**

If you need help for completing application form for funders, please contact Mutmahim Roaf, our Fundraising Advisor, [mutmahim@voluntaryaction-wf.org.uk](mailto:mutmahim@voluntaryaction-wf.org.uk) or call on 02085210377

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**Budget gives sector £300m more in gift aid**

Charities are set to receive an extra £300m in gift aid over the next three years as a result of this week's Budget.

[Full Story](#)

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### **Mayor announces major funding boost for young Londoners**

In February Ken Livingstone, launched a new £5 million 'Young Londoners Fund' as part of the biggest investment in young people in the capital for a generation. The 'Young Londoners Fund' will support voluntary and community groups who work with London's teenagers to help them back into education or training, learn new skills and reduce the chances of them being involved in crime or anti- social behaviour.

See [http://www.london.gov.uk/view\\_press\\_release.jsp?releaseid=15856](http://www.london.gov.uk/view_press_release.jsp?releaseid=15856)

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## **TRAINING**

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### **Are you a communications supremo?**

We can always benefit from a little advice and support, so VAWF are thinking about developing a Communications Mentoring scheme with local partners. If you would be interested in being paired-up with an expert to help you develop your organisation's communication skills, please get in contact on [cris@voluntaryaction-wf.org.uk](mailto:cris@voluntaryaction-wf.org.uk). Areas that you could benefit from are:

press release writing and writing for media, website and print design, communications strategy etc...

We are looking forward to hearing from you if you want to get involved.

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### **The Grant Institute's Grants 101**

Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop. June 25 - 27, 2008.

Interested development professionals, researchers, faculty, and graduate students should register as soon as possible, as demand means that seats will fill up quickly. For more information visit The Grant Institute at [www.thegrantinstitute.com](http://www.thegrantinstitute.com).

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### **Developing Community-based Leadership Practises**

In January and February 2008 we held two workshops on 'Developing Community-based Leadership Practises'. The report of these workshops is now available.

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### **Help Save Our Post Offices!**

Waltham Forest Council believes that local post offices are vital to strong communities and is wholly opposed to the planned closure of six of Waltham Forest's twenty-one sub-post offices.

The Council has set up an online petition, calling on Post Office Ltd not to close Post Offices in Waltham Forest.

[The petition can be found at](#)

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### **LVSTC Partnership Portals**

LVSTC's portal which brings together information on organizations interested in ESF is live and expanding.

[Check it out at](#)

<http://www.frontlineonline.org.uk>

As a member of VAWF, you will get access to our training, bid writing support service, a free website microsite, and loads more advice and support.