**Useful Volunteering Resources**

Produced by Kate Bowgett at the Museum of London Regional Programmes Department (katebowgett@museumoflondon.org.uk)

* **Volunteering England Good Practice Bank**

[**http://www.volunteering.org.uk/resources/goodpracticebank**](http://www.volunteering.org.uk/resources/goodpracticebank)

Articles, information sheets, case studies and links to other helpful guidance or external websites. Most sections include example and template documents to help you develop your own volunteer programme.

* **Volunteering England free publications**

[**http://www.volunteering.org.uk/resources/publications/freeguides**](http://www.volunteering.org.uk/resources/publications/freeguides)

Lots of free publications available to download. Particularly useful are:

**Volunteers and the law**

A readable guide to legal issues for volunteer managers, available as a full document, or an 8 page summary

**Turn Your Organisation Into A Volunteer Magnet**

A selection of articles from Volunteer Managers in the UK, America and Australia lots of tips and case studies on topics ranging from recruitment and retention, to diversity and creative programme management.

**Publications looking at involving under-represented groups in volunteering**

* Volunteering for Everyone - A guide for organisations who want to include and recruit volunteers who have a learning disability
* Involving Ex-offenders in Volunteering

**Get it Right from the Start**: **Volunteer policies - the key to diverse volunteer involvement.**

A guide for organisations looking to develop a volunteer policy and diversify the range of volunteers they involve.

**Working with Volunteers: A management guide for refugee community organisations**

A guide for refugee organisations who want to involve volunteers, but a useful short volunteer management guide for any small organisation with limited resources

* **The Association of Volunteer Managers**

[**http://www.volunteermanagers.org.uk**](http://www.volunteermanagers.org.uk)

A peer support group for anyone managing volunteers. The website contains a volunteer management wiki, as well as lots of useful articles, and forums where you can discuss issues with other volunteer managers. A great source of news on new initiatives, and changes in the law around volunteering.

* **Heritage Volunteer Managers Forum**

A peer support group for anyone (paid or unpaid) who manages volunteers in a heritage setting. The London sub group meets every couple of months, and the national group meets twice a year, to share ideas, discuss solutions to problems, and showcase different ways of working. Anyone is welcome to join.

To be added to the list contact kbowgett@museumoflondon.org.uk

* **I-volunteer**

[**www.i-volunteer.org.uk**](http://www.i-volunteer.org.uk)

A social networking site for volunteers and Volunteer Managers. You can advertise for potential volunteers, network with other volunteer managers, read blogs on volunteering and volunteer management, or even set up a private group for your own volunteers to network with each other.

There is a Heritage Volunteer Managers group:

[**http://www.i-volunteer.org.uk/groups/heritage-volunteer-managers/**](http://www.i-volunteer.org.uk/groups/heritage-volunteer-managers/)

* **Experts in Volunteering**

[**http://greaterlondonvolunteering.org.uk/legacy/**](http://greaterlondonvolunteering.org.uk/legacy/)

A project of Greater London Volunteering which developed an excellent Volunteer Management Charter, outlining the ten good practice points that indicate an organisation has good volunteer management. Has a great downloadable healthcheck that you can use to review volunteer management in your museum and identify areas for improvement

* **V**

[**http://vinspired.com/about-us/organisations**](http://vinspired.com/about-us/organisations)

A free, easy-to-use space where you can advertise your volunteering opportunities to young people aged 16-25 in England. If you have volunteers under 25 they might be interested in using their volunteering to gain a V50 award. They can record their volunteering hours online, and keep a record of the skills they are developing. Once they have completed 50 hours they will be eligible to apply for the award.

* **UKVPMS**

[**http://groups.yahoo.com/group/UKVPMs/**](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/UKVPMs/)

An e-group for volunteer managers where you can post queries and follow discussions on all aspects of volunteer management.

* **Cultural Volunteer**

[**http://lynnblackadder.com/cultural-volunteer/**](http://lynnblackadder.com/cultural-volunteer/)

A newsletter covering all aspects of volunteer management in cultural organisations created by consultant Lynn Blackadder

* **Legal Update**

[**http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/legal.htm**](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/legal.htm)

Regular legal updates about issues affecting the voluntary sector, including volunteers, by consultant Sandy Adirondack.

* **Museum of London**

[**http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/Corporate/About-us/Regional-Programmes/Volunteer+Training+Bank.htm**](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/Corporate/About-us/Regional-Programmes/Volunteer%2BTraining%2BBank.htm)

An online museum volunteer training bank, including a guide to running training for volunteers, and downloadable workshops on:

* Introduction to Museums
* Object Handling
* Working Safely with Children
* Disability Awareness
* Customer Care
* Creating and Taking Tours

[**http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/2FF6DC6E-D806-44E5-9CE4-E71EA586EFAD/0/WorkingwithVolunteersinCollectionCare.pdf**](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/2FF6DC6E-D806-44E5-9CE4-E71EA586EFAD/0/WorkingwithVolunteersinCollectionCare.pdf)

A guide to involving volunteers in roles working directly with collections

[**http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/3BFE9F14-CD4A-481C-B222-7BEB6A9FB98D/0/GettingthemostoutofyourlocalVolunteerCentreaguideformuseums.pdf**](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/3BFE9F14-CD4A-481C-B222-7BEB6A9FB98D/0/GettingthemostoutofyourlocalVolunteerCentreaguideformuseums.pdf)

*A* guide exploring what Volunteer Centres do, how museums can get the most out of them.

* **Volunteering in the Arts Toolkit**

[**http://www.voluntaryarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Volunteering-in-the-Arts-toolkit-FINAL.pdf**](http://www.voluntaryarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Volunteering-in-the-Arts-toolkit-FINAL.pdf)

A toolkit for voluntary arts organisations who would like to improve the support they offer volunteers

* **AIM focus papers**

[**http://www.aim-museums.co.uk/downloads/68071553302062009133000.pdf**](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk/downloads/68071553302062009133000.pdf)

[**http://www.aim-museums.co.uk/downloads/79765177208102009161254.pdf**](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk/downloads/79765177208102009161254.pdf)

Two focus papers looking at volunteer management issues for museums