



Chris Silvey
SAVS Manager & Communications Manager
SAVS Centre
29-31 Alexandra Street
Southend-on-Sea
Essex
SS1 1BW

Telephone: 01702 356007
Facsimilie: 01702 356011
Email: publicity@savs-southend.co.uk
www.savs-southend.org

Southend Association of Voluntary Services Media Release 2011 - European Year of the Volunteer



Date: 5th January 2011

Effective date: Immediate

Release contact: [Emily Middlemast 01702 356060 vb@savs-southend.co.uk](mailto:vb@savs-southend.co.uk)

The European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union have officially announced that 2011 will be the European Year of Volunteering (EYV 2011).

Over 92 million people across Europe are involved in volunteering and Britain is considered to have one of the highest levels of volunteering with 40% of adults involved in volunteering in some way.

Throughout the year and across Europe there will be activities taking place to celebrate the role that volunteers play in their local communities and chances for volunteers all over Europe to meet and learn about best practices. Volunteers can log onto the dedicated website and share their stories of volunteering and find out what volunteering is like across Europe.

Volunteer Centre Southend Manager, Emily Middlemast, said: *"I hope that during the year we are able to promote volunteering and encourage even more people to get involved with their communities"*

For more information on the European Year of the Volunteer visit <http://europa.eu/volunteering> or to find out more about volunteering in your local area contact the Volunteer Centre on 01702 356060, email vb@savs-southend.co.uk or visit www.savs-southend.co.uk

Background:

Volunteer Centre Southend offers assistance to those wishing to volunteer and to local groups who are seeking volunteers. Volunteers can make an appointment with the Centre to see what is on offer. Opportunities can also be seen online at www.do-it.org.uk. This service is completely free and the office can offer a fully accessible and confidential space to discuss your needs. The Volunteer Centre offers a wide range of volunteering roles and getting involved can be a great way to meet new people, learn new skills or stay active, there are currently more than 319 volunteering roles listed on the database. For more information on any of these roles contact the Volunteer Centre on 01702 356060 or Email vb@savs-southend.co.uk **Web:** www.savs-southend.org/volunteering

Volunteer Centre Southend is supported by **Southend Association of Voluntary Services, (SAVS)**. SAVS was established in 1980 and provides support, training, information and representation for non-profit organisations. SAVS is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. **Web:** www.savs-southend.org