

Timebanking UK

NEWSFLASH



Timebanking UK



Dear All

As the nights get longer and the lead up to Christmas get shorter (!) I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for being part of this national timebanking network.

We've had a busy few months with the run up to our national conference celebrating 20 years of timebanking in the UK in September, and with the rolling out of the new software TimeOnline2.

Some good news we have to share is the employment opportunity of a new post here at Timebanking UK of Operations Manager with kind thanks to the Tudor Trust who are funding the position. Closing date for applications is the 14th November so do share this with your time bank networks! <http://www.timebanking.org/about-tbuk/vacancies/>

We are also looking for new Trustees so if you would like to apply, or know someone who might like to be involved as a Director, please email me on sarah@timebanking.org.

Time Bank Korea have translated our book 'Give and Take' which looks great – I shall now have to learn Korean! A copy of the PDF can be found on our website.

<http://www.timebanking.org/tbuk-timebanking-book-goes-international/>

With best regards,

Sarah Bird

CEO Timebanking UK



20 Years of Timebanking Conference, September 2018

Timebanking UK were delighted to host a two-day celebration of the first 20 Years of Timebanking in the UK, where we welcomed over 70 people to Brunel University at the beginning of September. The two days were packed; with speakers, workshops, world cafes and opportunities to network.



The event was opened by our new Patron Lord Low of Dalston. Martin Simon then took the floor, as founder of Timebanking in the UK to share the story from the beginning and inviting some of the most long standing and inspiring time bank brokers we have the pleasure of being TBUK members. David Boyle and Edgar Cahn were also intrinsic to the development during this time and spoke of their memories and experiences.

We then took a trip around the room, hearing from time bank brokers across the UK who have a fantastic diversity of experiences but are all connected by the principles and core values that we endeavour to uphold.

In the afternoon, delegates chose from a selection of workshops, which were facilitated by Ian Toplis (TOL2), Dave Goslyn (SROI) and Laraine Winning (Media). This was followed by a world café session where different topics were discussed – from ‘managing difficult situations’ to ‘working with young people’

The evening culminated in a 3-course meal and fabulous entertainment by ‘Pimp My Jazz’ with dancing and merriment all round!



Day Two was opened by Chair of the Board, Grant Jessup and Time Banks USA founder Edgar Cahn.

Workshops hosted by Gary Harrison, Ian Toplis and Alison Paule/Kemi Adeboye followed where attendees learnt more about insurance, Time Online 2 and Co-production.

We were really pleased to have representatives from Spain, Portugal and Italy attend this event and guests were interested to hear how timebanking has been accepted in different countries. Our Italian speaker, Grazia Pratella was hoping for an interpreter – little did we know that we had Virginia Patania in our audience who happens to be Italian and happily stepped into the role!

Edgar Cahn and Chris Gray facilitated a session on system change. The remainder of the afternoon we had a short debate around safeguarding in timebanks and DBS – always a controversial issue!

We closed the conference with a few gifts to inspirational people in the room – which was difficult as everyone had brought so much value to the conference with their wisdom, sharing and inspiration.

Thank you to everyone who participated, we hope that you enjoyed the time at Brunel as much as we did!

Presentations and more photographs and videos can be found on our website at <http://www.timebanking.org/2018-conference/>

To read an article from a delegates perspective please follow this link to Lee Hinds excellent appraisal of the conference <http://www.timebanking.org/20yearsoftimebanking/>



Clarity regarding DBS checks at last!

One of the most frequently asked questions when explaining how timebanking works is "do all members have to have a DBS check?" At TBUK we have always advised that checks were not necessary for the vast majority of timebanking activities, but have been trying to get a definitive answer for a very long time!

For time bank members:

Seeking clarification was not easy because all time banks work differently and there is such a

multitude of different exchange activities. However, we have sought clarification from the Disclosure & Barring Service as to whether timebanking activities could be considered regulated activity and therefore eligible for a DBS check. We have finally been able to get a statement directly from the Policy Team. They responded with the following:

"From the information provided about Timebank communities and the activities being performed, these individuals would not appear to be eligible for a standard or enhanced DBS check as it is highly unlikely that they will meet the criteria required to be in regulated activity or work with adults. It would appear that people enter into these communities and perform activities as part of a personal arrangement, with the Broker facilitating the arrangements "

So, it would appear that timebanking exchanges are regarded as a personal arrangement and therefore not eligible for any type of DBS check.

For Brokers and Coordinators:

Whether paid or volunteer, if you are applying for a DBS check for your role as you will need to provide DBS with some very specific information in order to establish if you are eligible for anything other than a basic level disclosure.

Phrases like " I visit vulnerable adults" or "I make personal visits to individuals to assess needs" are not specific enough. DBS will need to know what makes these people vulnerable, what activity / service you are providing, how often, is it specifically aimed at certain groups, etc. It is not sufficient simply to have contact with children or adults in order to be eligible for anything other than a basic DBS check.

Keeping everyone safe:

We would always recommend time banks make their own enquiries if they have concerns about DBS checks. It should of course be said that all time banks should take the safety of their members seriously and ensure that their own safeguarding practices are followed.

If you do need a DBS check for either a member or yourself, Timebanking UK can facilitate this through an online service. Please contact Reli at membership@timebanking.org for further details.

Time Online 2

The team have continued to work hard with transfers for members from other software, testing and feeding back to the developer with improvements that our members have requested. We are aware that there have been more than a couple of teething issues, but really pleased to be having so much interaction with our membership and positive feedback on the new system. There have been so many updates lately that we are now rewriting all of the guides to further assist both

brokers and members using Time Online 2. These will soon be available on the software for both members and brokers.

Main updates include:

- Feedback regarding setting up the home pages has resulted in a much improved system now implemented.
- Brokers can record exchanges that have occurred between members or advertise offers/requests on behalf of a member.
- If a member doesn't have access to TOL2 the broker can now receive notifications for them. (Or turn notifications on/off)
- The time bank broker can set up groups and report for specific dates.
- There is now broker/admin notes section for each member

Please do remember that we are here to help so do get in touch if you are having difficulties with any aspect of the software and we will be happy to assist. 😊

If you haven't moved over to Time Online 2 and would like to try the software please go to <https://tol2.timebanking.org/> You can try it as a member and if you wish to see the broker side or use the software in your time bank please contact us at tol2@timebanking.org

Timebanking UK Quality Mark

Congratulations to St Neot's Time Bank who have been awarded the quality mark again in recognition of the marvellous work they have been doing for the last 7 years. If you would like to apply please have a look at

<http://www.timebanking.org/category/quality-mark-time-banks/>



I was excited and absolutely delighted to hear the news that we

Time Bank Brokers Forum

One of the requests that came up at the conference was a forum for brokers / coordinators to continue the conversations and collaboration they had started. We are hoping to have this facility available via our website soon but in the meantime have set up a private Facebook group. Follow this link to join!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1974171936212940/> Please note, requests to join will only be accepted from brokers of time banks. If you are not listed as the main broker please contact membership@timebanking.org to confirm your broker status.

have been awarded the TBUK Charter Mark.

This approval from the TBUK confirms that we continue to operate affectively and positively within the spirit and ethos of the Timebank movement. It reflects the hard work and commitment of St Neots TimeBank members.

Our TimeBankers will be very happy, as I am, with the knowledge that their efforts are recognised.

I view this recognition as a third party accreditation which re-enforces our reputation.

We will be extremely proud to mention this in our next Newsletter and honoured that we can continue to display this.

I'm so very pleased - thank you

Best wishes

Georgina

St Neots TimeBank

Welcome to our new Time Banks!

- Ashford Volunteer Centre
- Fordham Time Bank
- Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust
- Community Hertsmere
- Ceredigion Association of Voluntary Organisations
- Felixstowe Time Bank
- Peter Bedford Time Bank

