

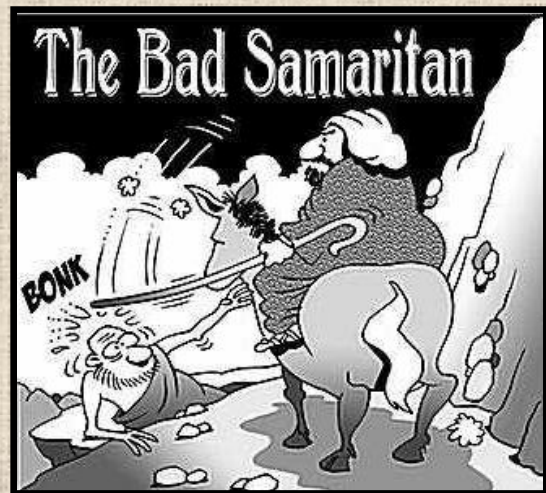
Adam's quick thoughts blog: Good Volunteering:

Just a quick blog to let you know about our upcoming Volunteering Conference, with nationally renowned speakers, local champions, good news stories and more (including food)... this is shaping up to be a wonderful event!

For details – [check out this poster!](#)

So what is Volunteering all about? Are we volunteers the gift that keeps on giving? The glue that makes a big society? Or perhaps misguided *Good Samaritan wannabes* with too much time on our hands?

If like me, you are pondering these questions then this is undoubtedly the conference for you.



Our conference will celebrate all that is good about Volunteering, whilst considering political impacts such as Big Society and the age of austerity. There will be taught material, time to debate ideas, and even goodie bags from our friends at ProActive.

We hope to see lots of local organisations and Sutton residents at the event, and so have created a programme for the Friday and Saturday with these particular audiences in mind. Please do look at the poster for speaker information, and we will be following up with exciting profiles and other details in the coming weeks.

On a personal note; my hope for the conference is that it will serve as a catalyst to enthuse new volunteers, and to reignite a passion in organisations such as ours that have found the last year tough – to create bigger, better, more relational programmes that truly change the landscape for people who use the services of the third sector.

I am often struck by stories in the media of people overcoming adversity to make something incredible out of the talents and resources they have. I know Sutton has many such stories to tell, and for that reason, I am particularly excited about the networking element of our conference. Going forward, I hope to spend as much of this new year as humanly possible with inspirational people. People who run exciting charities; people who coordinate groups; people who volunteer; people who love people! That is a part of what we are trying to do with the conference.

Come join us!

[Fri Booking Form link](#) [Saturday Booking Form Link](#)