



the chase and kings forest
COMMUNITY PROJECT

Welcome to the winter edition of **Community Link**. If you would like to send any articles or information for the next newsletter (March 2010 edition) or if you would prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter, please contact me on **0117 9604186**, or email: steph@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk. The deadline for articles is **March 2nd**, 2010. Thank you. Steph Bengry-Howell, Community Development Worker. TC&KFCP, The Clocktower, Tower Road North, Warmley, BS30 8XN. Don't forget to look at the web site: www.chasekingsforestcp.org.uk ! Email details of your group for the directory, volunteering opportunities & news of community events.

Local News

Voluntary Action Lights up Kingswood Kingswood Community Christmas



It took a year of planning but thanks to the commitment of local volunteer Di Block and staff from a local charity, Kings Chase Shopping Centre and South Gloucestershire Council, an event on November 26th, marking the switching on of the Christmas lights was a huge success.

Helen Radnedge and Steve Shield from South Gloucestershire Council ensured Kingswood had new Christmas Lights and Regents Street was closed. The work of Beverley Organ, Manager at Kings Chase Shopping Centre, enabled a stage to be erected on the high street and the attendance of Heart FM; while Sandy Hore-Ruthven from Kingswood Foundation hosted "Kingswood's Got Talent", which included the rapper Frenzee, whose mother works in the local Youth Club. Stu Elmore, Nutty Noah and other characters brought fun to the evening. Diane Block, the snowperson, whose dream it was to see the road closed said 'next year it can be bigger and better – to watch all the children's faces was priceless. It is always amazing when volunteers working with people in business can make things happen'.

News from the Chase & Kings Forest Community Project

Members' Lunch

(Free Lunch provided)

January 21st, 12 – 2pm

@ The Clocktower, Tower Road North, Warmley, BS30 8XN

This is an opportunity for people to meet with other voluntary and community groups working in the Chase & Kings Forest areas, to share problems and celebrate successes. It is also an opportunity to find out about future plans of the Chase & Kings Forest Community Project and our new **Volunteer Development Project**. We would also like to hear from people about the needs of their own organisations, which will shape our future work.

If you would like to attend, please fill in the enclosed booking form or email me on: steph@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk

Friends of Network

Thank you to all of you that returned the questionnaire. We had a mixed response from people, some groups felt that their needs were adequately met within the networks they are currently part of, other groups felt they would like a Friends of Network. I am planning an **informal first meeting** for **late February**; I will be in touch with dates in the New Year.

Background Information

I was approached by a 'Friends of' group earlier this year, who asked whether I would facilitate a Friends of Network. The idea is for representatives from Friends of groups based in the Chase & Kings Forest Area Forum areas to regularly meet; to support each other and share solutions for common issues such as fundraising/recruiting new volunteers/putting on events. Other suggestions were that Friends of groups could provide help and support to each other for events and action days. The network would be open to all groups involved in maintaining and improving open spaces.

If I have not contacted you, but you feel that the network is relevant to your work, and you would like to be involved, please let me know on: **0117 9604186**
Or email: steph@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk

We can now offer a photocopying service to groups. Please get in touch with Steph for more information.

News from and for Local Groups

Di Block reports on events at Kingsmeadow Community Flat at 19 Barrington Close

“Children and young people can do wonderful things”

Kingsmeadow Community flat rang with laughter and challenges this summer with lads and ladettes who joined **Dreamscheme** - Work-points-rewards being the theme. From gardening for our Elderly Citizens to baking healthy, scrummy cakes and delivering them to the Haven. The young people proceeded to raise £150 while having fun washing cars alongside our wonderful Fire and Rescue Brigade in Tennis Court Road. They also had the giggles trying on the protective clothes



and munched on bacon and sausage sandwiches cooked by a Fire and Rescue chef. As an end of summer reward they choose a day out at Butlins, Minehead.

The Clocktower Association *Where Heritage meets the Community...*



International Women's Day Monday March 8th

The Warmley Clocktower Association would like to hear from anyone with suggestions for activities to celebrate the day. The activity/event could be held at any venue in the Cadbury Heath area, not just the Clocktower. Funding is available for health related issues.

FFI: contact Kay: theclocktowerassociation@btinternet.com or kathleenhalley26@yahoo.co.uk
or telephone: **0117 9567636** or **07870993445**.

Crèche Services for Local Groups

The Clocktower Association is now offering crèche services to local groups at affordable rates. For more information call Jane on: **0117 967 1655**,
or email: theclocktowerassociation@btinternet.com

COSSHAM HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

Last but one approval for Cossham!

Final agreement to the investment to redevelop Cossham Hospital is now **only one step away**. The planning committee of Bristol City Council approved our plans in September. The local NHS boards approved detailed proposals in November. NHS South Gloucestershire will be able to appoint a contractor to do the work once these proposals have been approved by the strategic health authority in March 2010.

For updates on developments, **Cossham Project News** is produced and distributed regularly. To join the mailing list contact **Paul Frisby** on Paul.Frisby@sglos-pct.nhs.uk or **0117 330 2432**. To access background documents please log onto the NHS South Gloucestershire website www.sglos-pct.nhs.uk

Model Constitution for Setting Up a Small Charity (income under £5000)

A new, simplified constitution for very small charities has been launched by the **Charity Commission** in partnership with umbrella bodies across the sector. The new constitution is designed to provide a concise, practical framework for charities with an income of under £5,000. It uses clear, direct language that is easy to understand, is only 700 words long and covers all the requirements for a very small charity which does not own land or employ staff.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/registration/smallcharity.asp>

Legal Updates for Groups That Employ Staff

Employment Reminders

Increase in "weekly pay" for calculating statutory redundancy pay, basic award for unfair dismissal, and some other statutory entitlements, from **1 October**.
www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#weeklypay

Increase in minimum wage from **1 October**, and increase in minimum rate of pay for apprentices from **1 August**.
www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#minimumwage

From **12 October** some aspects of the Independent Safeguarding Authority's vetting and barring scheme came into effect.
www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vbs

Legal Updates provided by Sandy Adirondack (sandy@sandy-a.co.uk)
For more visit: www.sandy-a.co.uk



Your local Safer Stronger Community Group needs you!

South Gloucestershire's 20 Safer Stronger Community Groups are all about working together to improve your local community. The groups also enable you to have your say about the services that your community needs and receives.

These groups have been set up as part of the South Gloucestershire Council's Community Engagement initiative and the Neighbourhood Policing Model. Their members include people who live and work in the area and representatives from South Gloucestershire Council, the local police, Avon Fire & Rescue, Primary Care Trust, the Town & Parish Council and other local organisations. The aim is to:

- work together to ensure that local communities are safe and pleasant places to live, work and play
- give local people a greater voice and influence over local decisions and the priorities of the service providers
- support actions and initiatives that meet local needs

To **find out** about your local Safer Stronger Community Group visit <http://groups.southglos.gov.uk>. Here, you will be able to become a member of your local group, view agendas and minutes from meetings and gain access to more information about the issues and projects in your area. Alternatively, you can contact your **Community Safety Officer** on **01454 864625/01454 868760**.

MEETING DATES

Parkwall Group

13th January 2010, 2pm – Pavilion, Cadbury Heath

Staple Hill, Rodway and Mangotsfield Group

18th January 2010, 7pm – Barley Close Primary School, Mangotsfield

Kingswood Group

25th February 2010, 10am – Civic Centre, Kingswood

Boyd Valley Group

11th February 2010, 7pm – Wick Village Hall, Wick

Hanham and Longwell Green Group

30th March 2010, 7pm – Hanham Community Centre, Hanham

Downend, Bromley Heath and Emersons Green Group

10th March 2010, 7pm – Bromley Heath Junior School, Downend



NEW STAFF MEMBER AT THE CARE FORUM RANA DILDAR SINGH SWITCHING IN

My full name is **Rana Dildar Singh** people have got to know me in the Voluntary Community Sector by my middle name "DILDAR". I joined The Care Forum on 1st September as the **Digital Outreach Programme Coordinator**. The purpose of this role is to coordinate activities, events, training presentations working with the VCS in the following geographical areas: Bristol, South Gloucestershire Bath & North and North East Somerset and the remaining Gloucestershire (South) unitary authority that is covered by the Mendip transmitter.

The Digital Outreach Programme is to provide support to the following targeted six groups:

- older people
- people who have sensory, mobility and/or dexterity impairments
- people who have a learning disability
- people who have mental health problems
- people who do not have English as a first language
- people who are socially isolated

Digital Outreach Ltd has appointed The Care Forum as their lead local organisation and our aim is to work with local charities and voluntary sector organizations to coordinate and deliver a range of activities to assist people in making the switch to digital. The **support available** through The Care Forum will include:

- Free briefing sessions for staff and volunteers on switchover. (The briefing sessions are aimed at people who can raise awareness of switchover within their organisation or community and cascade the information within their teams).
- Information on the Switchover Help Scheme
- Speakers for presentations and meetings
- Small grants to support new local switchover related activities or initiatives by voluntary and community sector organisations
- Good practice sharing and advice on local activities or initiatives
- Digital UK leaflets and material

If you are a Voluntary Community Sector organisation working with any of the above groups and are interested in free training to cascade the information and access the Small Grants scheme, please do contact

Dildar Singh on: **0117 965 4444**, email: dildarsingh@thecareforum.org.uk

Or visit:

http://www.thecareforum.org/information_services/Digital_Outreach_Programme.php

Events and Meetings



Willsbridge Mill Environmental Education Centre January – April 2010 Events

Wild Times at Willsbridge Mill

As part of Avon Wildlife Trust's 30th anniversary, Willsbridge Mill is staging a series of events to celebrate the area's special wildlife and particular themes.

Wassailing Community Festival - Sunday 24 January, 2 - 5 pm

Willsbridge Mill

A lively ceremony to awaken the sleeping orchard and its wildlife to ensure a bumper harvest later in the year. Make noisy instruments, present toast to the robins the guardians of the orchard and sing Wassailing songs! Home made apple refreshments. Suitable for all ages

Free Entry

Festival event kindly supported by South Gloucestershire Council Environment Grant.

School Holiday Drop-in Activity Days - no need to book:

Bird box making - Wednesday 17 February, 10.30 - 12.30 pm or 2 - 4 pm

Willsbridge Mill

Build and decorate nest boxes for Sparrows and other feathered friends and find out more about winged residents of Willsbridge Valley Nature Reserve.

Includes special activity area for toddlers too.

£6/child (one box/family with £3 material charge) 4 years plus Adults FREE



Eggstravaganza - Wednesday **7 April**, 10.30 -12.30 pm or 2.00- 4.00 pm
Discover and unscramble eggciting facts about eggs laid around the Willdlife Garden on a treasure hunt leading to chocolate eggs! Eggsplore eggy crafts and try making your own nest.
Includes special activity area for toddlers too.
£6/child 4yrs plus £4/AWT members, Adults FREE

During school holidays Avon Wildlife Trust staff also run '**Really Wild Activity**' sessions for playschemes and other childrens groups including den building and bushcraft, pond dipping and minibeast safaris.

Avon Wildlife Trust, Willsbridge Mill, Willsbridge Hill, South Gloucestershire BS30 6EX
FFI: contact **Ruth Worsley** or **Alison Logan**, Avon Wildlife Trust, on: **0117 932 6885**, email: ruthworsley@avonwildlifetrust.org.uk or visit: www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk

Disability Action Group

Meeting Dates for 2010

Monday **11th January** - at the Civic Centre, Kingswood.
Possible speaker from the pensions dept.

Monday **8th March** - at the Civic Centre. Speaker from the links group.

“We would like to wish all our members old and new a Very Happy Xmas and a good New Year from all the Executive Committee and hope to see you all in the New Year”

Jennifer Harmer, voluntary secretary.



Funding Information

Free Funding Databases

There are now a number of free funding databases:

NCVO Funding Central

Funding Central is a free website for all voluntary sector organisations, including community groups, providing access to funding and finance opportunities, along with tools and resources.

Visit: www.fundingcentral.org.uk to register.

Charities Information Bureau

Their web site contains a funding information database offering a free searchable facility for individual project searches and ready-to-go packs for particular themes, such as Sport, Health and Social Welfare. To register visit:

www.cibsouthandwest.org.uk

Funding Sources

Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust Grants Making Programme

The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust awards grants to charitable organisations in the United Kingdom and overseas. The trustees welcome applications for projects within the following areas for 2010: Children, Youth, The Elderly, Medical. (For this year only Medical Research projects dealing with the ageing population will be considered. The other priorities - Children, Youth and the Elderly - as well as other non-research based medical work are still welcome). **Deadline** for applications: **1st June & 1st Nov 2010**. Due to the increasing number of applications received on the deadlines, the Trust would appreciate charities sending in applications as early as possible before the deadline. They then have plenty of time to request any additional information needed.

Grants are usually between **£1,000** and **£10,000**, with the majority being £5,000 or less. Exceptionally, grants of up to £20,000 are made, but these are usually for medical research projects. Previous grants awarded include a grant of £5,000 towards a resource centre providing advice and training for workers dealing with mental health in rural areas and £5,000 towards a project aimed at behavioural programme for persistent young offenders.

Trustees' meetings are usually held between 4 and 6 weeks of the submission deadlines. A list of successful charities will be posted on the website as soon as possible after these meetings.

FFI: email: admin@austin-hope-pilkington.org.uk or visit <http://www.austin-hope-pilkington.org.uk/index.php>

Awards for All

It is now easier than ever to apply for a grant from the Awards for All programme. Changes have been made to some of the questions on the application form and the guidance notes are clearer. A new guide has been introduced which explains requirements for groups that have been offered a conditional grant. The requirements for a referee have also been relaxed

As a reminder, Awards for All is the Big Lottery Fund's small grants programme, which aims to help improve local communities and the lives of people most in need. You can apply for between **£300** and **£10,000**. Projects funded are those that meet one or more of the following outcomes: People have better chances in life – with better access to training and development to improve their life skills; stronger communities – with more active citizens working together to tackle their problems; improved rural and urban environments – which communities are better able to access and enjoy; healthier and more active people and communities.

FFI call: **0845 4 10 20 30**, email: general.enquiries@awardsforall.org.uk or visit: www.awardsforall.org.uk

Biffaward: Small Grants Programme

Biffaward, one of the largest landfill communities fund scheme has announced that they are now accepting applications through their small grants programme, for projects that enable communities to improve local amenities and to conserve wildlife. Grants are of between **£250** and **£5,000**, but projects must not cost more than £10,000 in total. To be eligible projects must be site-based within ten miles of a Biffa operation and 10 miles of an active landfill. Biffaward seeks to support access and improvements to amenities such as furnishing community buildings; cycle paths; recreational facilities; playground equipment; park improvements; access improvements to nature reserves. They will not fund equipment or running costs. Some projects that have benefited from Biffawards small grants in the past are: Evigton village green, on the outskirts of Leicester; and Avon Wildlife Trust to make improvements to Willsbridge Valley Local Nature Reserve in Bristol.

Applications can be submitted at any time.

FFI call: **01636 670000** email: biffaward@rswt.org , or visit: <http://www.biffaward.org/about/soverview>

Comic Relief - Young People with Mental Health Problems

This programme aims to provide support to organisations that work with young people with mental health problems aged 11-25. There are **two strands** to the programme. **Services for young people** which funds a range of services and approaches to help young people experiencing mental health problems make positive changes in their lives; and **Training** which will also fund work that ensures those working with young people with mental health problems, especially in

general youth work settings, have access to good quality training to improve their skill base and confidence levels. Funding is available to organisations providing general counselling and therapeutic interventions, as well as specialist projects focused on particular issues such as eating disorders or bi-polar conditions. Grants available vary between **£25,000** and **£40,000** per year for up to three years. Previous projects supported include a £90,000 grant over three years to help fund a help line for young Muslims with mental health problems who are often stigmatised; and Step Forward (Tower Hamlets) which received a grant of £60,000 over three years to provide help to young people who self harm or have eating disorders. The next **closing date** for applications is the **11th January 2010**.

FFI call: **020 7820 5555** or email: info@comicrelief.com

http://www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk/young_mental_health

South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust

Small Grants for International Women's Day March 8th 2010

Small grants are available for between £100 and £400 to help voluntary and community groups organise health promoting activities as part of their celebrations for International Women's Day. You can apply per group activity, or event. Only one application per organisation is expected unless the organisation has several community groups or projects within it. **Deadline** for applications: **9am Monday 1st February 2010** by post, email or fax. Applicants will be informed whether their grant application was successful by Friday 12th February at the latest. Successful applicants must be in the NHS South Gloucestershire area; be a non statutory, voluntary or community group; hold activities which are achievable and effective; hold activities with demonstrable health benefits; hold activities involving local residents; hold activities on or around 8th March 2010; use the money before the end of March 2010; complete a brief evaluation report on how the grant money was used; return evaluation forms by April 30th 2010.

The grant can be used to organise an activity within your regular programme as an opportunity to promote your group, eg. an open day, a healthy lunch, exercise session; or you can use the grant to organise a health promoting activity as an addition to the programme you are planning for International Women's Day.

FFI: or an application form please contact: **Jane Kilpatrick**, Senior Health Improvement Specialist (Community Development), on: **0117 3302426** or email: jane.kilpatrick@sglos-pct.nhs.uk

Sport England: Active Women

As part of its strategy to support projects that address current gaps in sporting participation, Sport England launched an Active Women Themed funding round on 11 November 2009. Through this funding round a total of £10 million is available

to support projects that address the specific barriers to participation in sport. To be eligible for funding under this theme, applications must demonstrate that projects will address the specific barriers to participation in sport faced by either:

- Women in disadvantaged communities (the 20% most deprived lower super output areas in the country) – The **Pendennis Road** area of Staple Hill falls within this 20%
- Women caring for children under 16.

Projects need to demonstrate how they will increase the number of women playing sport from either one or both of these groups. Sport England has a target of getting one million people playing more sport. Funded projects will contribute to the delivery of this target. Projects must also look at how they can allow those women to take part in sport more often.

There is a **two stage application process**. The **deadline** for the first stage of applications is at 5pm on **3 February 2010**. All eligible applications will be considered at a single Project Board meeting, and applicants will be notified of the outcome by the end of April 2010.

FFI: call Sport England on **08458 508 508**, or visit:

http://www.sportengland.org/funding/active_women/how_to_apply.aspx

The Wakeham Trust

Groups of individuals as well as small community and voluntary groups within the UK that want to improve their communities can apply for funding through the Wakeham Trust. The Trust are particularly interested in supporting neighbourhood projects, community arts projects, projects involving community service by young people, or projects set up by those who are socially excluded. The Trust also supports innovative projects to promote excellence in teaching (at any level, from primary schools to universities), though they never support individuals. The Trust normally give grants to projects where an initial **£75 to £750** can make a real difference to getting the project up and running. To be eligible, applicants need to be registered charities or have access to a registered charity that will be willing to accept funds on their behalf. The type of activities supported in the past include a grant of £250 to three young people in Leamington Spa who were trying to set up a youth club and a grant of £50 to an unemployed ex-professional footballer in Yorkshire to buy footballs and equipment for a group of 100+ children to play football. Applications can be made at any time.

FFI: call **01730 821 748**, email: wakehamtrust@mac.com or visit:

<http://www.wakehamtrust.org/>

To register to receive Funding Updates,
Or if you are small or newly formed group and need help with an application
form call Steph on: 0117 9604186 or email:
steph@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk