



Welcome to the Winter edition of **Community Link**. If you would like to send any articles or information for the next newsletter, your group needs support, or you would like to access Grants Online, please contact me on 01454 868726, or email: steph@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk. The deadline for articles is May 7th, 2007. I look forward to hearing from you, Steph Bengry-Howell, Community Development Worker.

News

Play Rangers in Kingswood

Emma Bevan, Senior Play Ranger, Kingswood and Staple Hill, reports on their success so far.

After a successful first quarter the Play Rangers are back in the parks of South Gloucestershire, and despite the rather nasty weather we are still having fun! It is hard to believe that we have already been working in the parks for three months.

Since October we have received lots of training and we have been very busy promoting the Play Rangers, we have taken many school assemblies throughout the areas. We have also received a good deal of media attention; The GWR Black Thunders attended our Launch Day in October, and there have been several articles in the local newspapers concerning our scheme.

We have also been busy working within the local communities, attending many and varied meetings such as Community Safety Groups, and are becoming recognised valuable members in our areas. The quarterly report showed good results, we have provided 93 sessions in the 6 areas with 787 children attending.

We have been very fortunate to receive extra funding from Friends of Kingswood Park, which will be spent on various workshops such as 'wacky bicycles', which will be held in March. Later during the Easter holidays we will be holding a large play event with different workshops, sports activities, arts and crafts etc. for everyone. Date to be confirmed.

We are also thrilled to announce that the Play Rangers now have a website, which is accessible to children and adults alike, so log on and have a look, the web address is:

www.playrangers.org

Hilltop Young Mums Project

Hilltop Young Mums Project was launched in February 2001 to provide a weekly venue where young women (under 25), either pregnant or with children, can meet for support and information, an average of 8-12 young women attend each week. At present weekly sessions follow a structure which includes free play time, an activity and a story/song time for the children. A Health Visitor also attends every fortnight to weigh the babies, discuss individual concerns and give short talks/information on matters of interest. For example, on 29th November the Health visitor came to the group and discussed Healthy Eating and Nutrition.

The group also have access to a youth worker, who with the young women plans a programme of activities/workshops/courses. These sessions provide the members with an opportunity to gain new skills, and be involved in education and training. Some of the courses and activities that the project runs lead to qualifications for those attending, which enhances their job prospects as well as improving their social skills and self-esteem. The group aims to enable these young women to recognise their full potential and to reduce isolation by enabling group members to take positive steps to improve their lives and their children's lives.

Unfortunately, the group closed for a short while in September 2006 due to a lack of funding, and only re-opened as a result of the Umbrella Group for Young Mother's donating £500. The group's plight was highlighted in the Evening Post twice and their story made the front page of the local Observer newspaper in October 2006. Due to the publicity, a therapist named Elizabeth Jones approached the group and suggested they could raise vital funds by holding a Pamper Evening.

The preparations for the event were hectic, but all the Young Mums and staff got involved, they asked local businesses to donate Raffle prizes and sold raffle tickets to family/friends and work colleagues. Prizes up for grabs in the Raffle included a stereo system worth £230, and other electrical goods and vouchers from stores and businesses across Bristol. The taster Pamper sessions costing £6 proved popular, and Hanham-based therapists Elizabeth Jones and Kim Power, donated the proceeds totaling £102 to the group.

The tea, coffee and cakes were all donated by Sainsbury's, Greggs and Asda. Other companies, like The Body Shop, Virgin Vie and Avon paid a table fee to sell their wares. In total, the event raised a whopping £808.12, which will be used to help the group stay open!



If you would like to support Hilltop Young Mums

They are currently looking for **volunteers** to join their **Management Committee**. The Management Committee meets once every three months. They have vacancies for management committee members and a **Secretary**. If you are interested in volunteering for the group, or would like more information then please contact: Di Block on 0117 9098275 or: dynamight_block@yahoo.co.uk

If you or someone you know would like to attend the group

The group meets on Wednesdays 12.30 – 2.30 pm, at The Old School Youth Centre, High Street, Kingswood. Some activities coming up include:

- March 7th - Make a Story box with Lorraine
Make puppets and toys for a nursery-rhyme story-box, and pick up new ideas to make songs and rhymes fun.
Free crèche provided
- March 14th - For Mother's Day, paint your child's handprint next to a poem and laminate.
- March 21st - GROUP CLOSED, meeting at Castaways in Kingswood at 12.30pm.
- March 28th - Coffee and a chat
- April 4th - Make a story box with Lorraine, last session.
Free crèche and Hot Cross Buns!
- April 11th - Trip to Cadbury's, your chance to buy some cheap chocolate and goodies.
- April 18th - Inflatable play for children.

Raise Funds For Hilltop Young Mums Project When You Shop Online

If you shop online there's now a simple, easy and free way for you to support Hilltop Young Mums Project-Kingswood, you can even save money!

Easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing many well-known online stores. Over 350 popular retailers are participating including **Amazon, Play.com, Toys 'R' Us, DELL, Woolworths, John Lewis, Comet, HMV** and **Vodafone**.

All you need to do is use the links provided on the Easyfundraising site whenever you shop online, and at no extra cost, the group will receive up to **15%** of every purchase you make – it's simple! It doesn't cost a penny extra to shop and raise funds this way, and you can even **save money** as many retailers give exclusive discounts and savings when you shop using the Easyfundraising site.

If you register before **31 March 2007** you could even win an **iPOD NANO** in their **free prize draw**.

Visit: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/hilltopyoungmumsproject-kingswood

Friends of Kingswood Park

Are planning the next exciting Festival for **11th August, 2007**. They would love to invite any character along with ideas to make this festival bigger, funnier, and more exciting, or anybody who simply has the time to attend meetings or provide help on the day.

If you have any ideas or would like to get involved, then **contact Di Block** on:
0117 9098275 or
dynamight_block@yahoo.co.uk



Farmers Market
Saturdays - 31st March, 30th June & 29th September
Fresh local produce, Homemade Cakes & Preserves, Café Open.

Parent & Toddler group every Monday at 10.00am – 12.00pm, £1.00 per child includes drink and snack.
Additional refreshments provided by The Park Café.

Volunteers Wanted
The centre needs volunteers to help organize and attend events at the centre. If you are interested come along to our volunteers meetings being held the 1st Monday of the month, 2.00pm – 3.00pm.
Free Refreshments.

As we approach the end of our second year at the centre we would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

Claim Your Inheritance!

The National Trust in Somerset is running a youth involvement project aimed at opening more opportunities for young people and local communities on countryside sites and with the work the National Trust does and is hoping you will get involved!



The project officer, Sally Plummer, is currently recruiting a group of young people to help run the project. They in turn will be establishing and running events for other young people and the local community.

The events or activities could be anything from practical tasks such as scrub removal or wall building through to interpretation projects involving photography, art or theatre. It will be up to the young people to decide how best to open up the countryside to others. The National Trust sites in Somerset likely to be involved include Glastonbury Tor, Cheddar Gorge, the Polden Hills, Burrow Mump, Brean Down and sites in the Quantocks.



The National Trust protects places of historic interest or natural beauty for everyone to enjoy forever. As a charity, independent of government, it has been looking after countryside and coastline, historic buildings and gardens, archaeological sites and nature reserves for more than a century.



If your group or organisation would like to take part in an activity in the Somerset countryside, contact Sally to discuss possible projects and any ideas you have.

Email: sally.plummer@nationaltrust.org.uk,
Tel: 01458 832840,
Post: 12A High Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9DU

The project is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund Young roots programme and the Mendip Hills AONB Sustainable Development Fund.



Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Carers Emergency Card

Carers often worry what would happen to the person they care for should *they* suddenly be taken ill, or have an accident while away from home. Who would know that there was somebody waiting for them, somebody who couldn't manage without them?

An Emergency Card is now available for carers in Bristol and South Gloucestershire, a card that will identify them to Emergency Services and anybody else who comes to their assistance.

The Card gives no personal information but explains that someone depends on them, and gives a phone number to ring with a Personal Identification Number. The Emergency Communications Team who receive the call will then ensure that the cared for person is not left unattended.

The service is free to anyone providing regular and substantial care to a relative, friend or neighbour in Bristol or South Gloucestershire. They do not have to be living in the same home and can be of any age, including young carers.



Carers need to ring the Carers Line – 0117 965 2200 – to receive a registration form. Help is available to complete the form, if necessary.

Expert Patients Programme: Cadbury Heath

Do you have a long-term health condition or disability?

The Expert Patients Programme is an NHS Government initiative to help people living with a long-term medical condition or disabilities maintain their health and improve their quality of life through self-management courses. It is run by trainers who also have long-term health conditions. Each session is for 2.5 hours a week, running for six weeks until 26 March 2007.

For more information, contact Rachel Holmes on: 0117 9002377 or:
Rachel.holmes2@bristolpct.nhs.uk

Protecting Young People in Sport and Organised Groups

Child-Safe is a Child Protection initiative, established by Avon and Somerset Police, to give Sports Clubs and organisations the necessary information to put in place Child Protection procedures. Child-Safe will also enable clubs to take steps reducing the opportunities for abuse and malpractice to take place. All clubs and organisations attending the seminars will receive a South Gloucestershire Child-Safe pack, free.

Please find below the monthly seminars that will be taking place across the district. By attending a seminar your club / organisation will receive instruction and guidance in setting up its own procedures and publicizing them.

If you are interested in attending, **please telephone 01454 866213** or visit:
www.child-safe.org.uk

Date	Venue	Time
CS-1	Tues 13 th Mar	Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre 7.00 – 8.30 pm
CS-2	Mon 2 nd April	Thornbury Leisure Centre 7.00 – 8.30 pm
CS-3	Mon 14 th May	Kingswood Civic Centre 7.00 – 8.30 pm
CS-4	Mon 3 rd Sept	Yate Leisure Centre 7.00 – 8.30 pm
CS-5	Mon 15 th Oct	Kingswood Civic Centre 7.00 – 8.30 pm

Additional seminars will be organised if organisations have 15+ attendees

Update on the Kingswood & District Public Consultation

Over 4,200 responses have been received to the proposal to develop health services locally for people living in the Kingswood area. The public were asked to comment on three options for delivering these proposals; refurbishing Cossham Hospital, new build on Cossham site and new build on Kingswood Health Centre site.

Nearly 93% of all respondents were in favour of the option to refurbish Cossham Hospital and Kingswood Health Centre. Now the consultation has closed, the Kingswood and District Project Board will receive a report from the Care Forum summarising the responses. 50% of Project Board members are from outside the NHS.

The three local NHS Trust Boards – South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust, Bristol Primary Care Trust and North Bristol Trust - will make the formal decision on the options at their meetings in March and April 2007. This decision will be based upon each option's ability to meet the criteria already identified by the Project Board, in the light of the public response and any other relevant information.

Funding news

Quartet Community Foundation

West of England Global Grants

This is a new funding programme for grants of up to £10,000 **to help people get back in to work, or back on the road to work**. Applications are welcomed from voluntary and community organisations who are delivering projects supporting people who are workless with gaining experiences, confidence and practical and personal skills to gain employment. You can apply for a global grant if the work you do has charitable aims, you have a constitution and a management committee. Projects already receiving European funding, commercial businesses, grant making organisations, statutory organisations, and projects promoting politics or religion *are not* able to apply. There will be three rounds of funding; the **first deadline** is **March 10th**.

For further information and an application pack, contact Quartet Community Foundation at Royal Oak House, Royal Oak Avenue, Bristol BS1 4GB; tel: **0117 9897700**;

email: info@quartetcf.org.uk or visit: www.quartetcf.org.uk

Your Heritage

Heritage Lottery Fund

Your Heritage provides grants of between £5,000 and £50,000 to support **community-focused heritage projects**. To qualify for a grant, projects should conserve and enhance our diverse heritage or encourage communities to identify, look after and celebrate their heritage or both. These can include caring for the natural landscape, conserving historic buildings, places and objects, involving people in exploring local cultures, traditions, languages and ways of life. Projects should also ensure that everyone can learn about, have access to, and enjoy their heritage. HLF will be looking for a contribution towards the project from groups applying; this does not necessarily have to be a cash contribution but can be 'help in kind' e.g. volunteer time. There is **no deadline**; applicants will be told within 3 months following receipt of their application.

For further information and an application pack, visit: www.hlf.org.uk and click on 'How to Apply', or contact the **regional office** on: **01392 223950**, or via email: southwest@hlf.org.uk

Clore Performing Arts Awards

Clore Performing Arts Awards (previously the Small Grants Programme) provide funding for organisations such as registered charities, limited companies and schools wanting to undertake activities that enable young people aged 0-18 to experience the performing arts. This is a £1 million programme that will operate between 2005 and 2010. Eligible organisations can apply for funding of between £1,000 and £10,000. The **closing date** for **Round 5** is the **14th March 2007**. For **Round 6**, **12th September 2007**. For more information visit: www.cloreduffield.org.uk, click on 'Clore Performing Arts Awards'. As a small organisation, they prefer not to take telephone enquiries.

Yapp Charitable Trust Grants

The Yapp Charitable Trust is an independent grant making trust that provides **small grants for running costs and salaries to small charities** (i.e. with an expenditure budget of less than £60,000 per year). Grants totalling £300,000 are awarded to about 100 small charities each year. Grants of up to £3,000 per year for up to three years are available to **help sustain the existing work** of charities that work with elderly people; children and young people aged 5 – 25; people with disabilities or mental health problems; people trying to overcome life-limiting problems of a social origin such as addiction, relationship difficulties, abuse, and a history of offending; and in the fields of education and learning, including lifelong learning. Applications are accepted from registered charities that have been operating for at least 3 years. Trustees meet 3 times a year to consider applications. **Application deadlines** coming up are:

26 May 2007 (for the July meeting)

30 September 2007 (for November)

For further information and an application pack, contact:

Margaret Thompson on: **01484 683403**,

or write to her at: 47A Paris Road, Scholes, HOLMFIRTH HD9 1SY,

or email: info@yappcharitabletrust.org.uk, or visit:

www.yappcharitabletrust.org.uk

B&Q 'You Can Do It' Awards

The next bidding round of the B&Q 'You Can Do It' Awards will be launched on the 29th January 2007. This year groups are being encouraged to think about how they can **become more energy or water efficient**, by e.g. installing loft insulation in a sports or community centre, or designing a water saving community garden. Environmental groups, sporting organisations, charities and community organisations can apply under the scheme. Twenty awards worth £5,000 of B&Q products and tools are available. The **closing date** for receipt of applications is **Friday, 30th March 2007**. A panel of judges will choose the winning projects; winners will be announced in June 2007; project work must be completed by Sunday, 30 September 2007.

For more information and an application pack, visit: www.diy.com/awards

or call the 24 hour application hotline on: **0845 300 1001**

In addition, each local B&Q store also has a 'limited' budget to provide grants of between £50 and £500 to community groups under its **Better Neighbour Grant Scheme**. To apply for a grant, groups will **need to contact** the environmental champion, diversity champion or store manager at **their local B&Q store**, to discuss project details.

It's Your Community

The Conservation Foundation and O2 have launched a new award scheme for **projects designed to improve local environments**. Awards of up to £1000 are available to local groups including local amenity groups, parish and village councils, schools, youth clubs, heritage groups, environmental and conservation groups and individuals who can show their project will benefit the local environment. Awards can be used for the hire of tools or equipment, and to purchase plants, paint, signs, materials, etc. Projects can include turning derelict land into an amenity park or wildlife area, tree planting, creating a wildlife pond, renovating neglected river and canal footpaths, providing water butts and recycling facilities in village halls. **Applications can be made at any time.**

Application forms are **available in all O2 shops**, or by contacting The Conservation Foundation via their website: www.conservationfoundation.co.uk, click on 'awards available'. **For any queries**, contact Libby Symon on: **02075913111**.

Wessex Watermark Awards

Launched in 1993, **for environmental projects** in the Wessex Water region of South West and Western England, including Somerset, Wiltshire, Bristol, Dorset and parts of Hampshire and Gloucestershire. In association with Wessex Water Plc, Wessex Watermark Awards can finance any scheme, large or small, that is designed to directly benefit the environment. Grants are made quarterly and range from £100 to £1,500. A Gold Watermark worth £2,500 is awarded to one outstanding project. All projects are judged by a panel chaired by David Bellamy. Entry forms are available from the Foundation.

Contact: Libby Symon on 02075913111, or visit: www.conservationfoundation.co.uk and click on 'awards available'.

The Tree Council Tree Grants

The Tree Council, a national charity that promotes the planting and conservation of trees in town and countryside has two grant schemes available for 2007. These are the **Trees for Schools Fund** and the **Communities Tree Fund**. For both funding streams, they are looking for strong applications showing that professional advice has been sought and that issues such as choice of stock, supplier, aids to establish trees and after care have been taken in to account. Under these funds grants of up to £700 are available both to schools and community groups proposing to undertake well-planned tree planting projects starting during National Tree Week, 21st November to 2nd December, 2007. The grants are to cover 75% of the total cost of the project; the group must meet the other 25%. Community groups applying must show they are actively engaging children in the tree planting. The **closing date** for both funding streams is the **31st May 2007**. For more information and an application pack, contact The Tree Council on: **0207407992**, email: info@treecouncil.org.uk or visit: www.treecouncil.org.uk and select 'tree grants'.

Events, training & networking

**Supporting Teenage Parents:
Sharing good practice in**

Bristol and South Gloucestershire

A free seminar on
Thursday, 1st March 2007
9:30 a.m. – 16:30 p.m. (LUNCH at 12)
At the Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue,
Fishponds. BS16 2QQ
FFI: contact the teenage pregnancy
midwives:
Karen Fry on 0774 745 5128 or
Kate Wood on 0781 005 6005

**Finances for The Not Financially
Minded**

CVS South Glos Training
Tuesday 6th March 2007,
9.30am-3.30pm
The Park Centre, High Street,
Kingswood BS15 4AR
£25 CVS members, £40 non-
members, statutory sector £80.
FFI: Sarah Buckle on 01454 868729 or
Email: trainingdev@cvs-sg.org.uk

**Working as an Artist in Education
or Participatory Settings**

Two day workshop, Tuesday 6th &
Wednesday 7th March, 9am-3.30pm
Kingswood Foundation, Britannia
Road, Kingswood, Bristol
£40 for both days, 5 bursary places
available of £25 for artists resident in
South Glos.
FFI: the Creative Learning Agency
on: 01225 396392 or email:
info@creativelearningagency.org.uk

**Annual Conference for Voluntary
Sector Youth Organisations**

Wednesday 14th March 2007
10:30 – 3pm
The Greenfield Centre, Park Avenue,
Winterbourne BS36 1NJ.
Alice Meason from Quartet will be
giving an update on the Local
Network Fund. Circomedia will be
providing entertainment and
activities.
Free Conference with lunch
included.
FFI: **Eleanor Armitage on
01454 868730 or email:
[youthdevelopment@cvs-
sg.org.uk](mailto:youthdevelopment@cvs-sg.org.uk)**

G.I.T.CH. Meeting

Thursday, 15th March, 10.30
Cadbury Heath Youth Centre
FFI: Steve Skidmore
Community Development worker,
Oldland Parish Council at:
Skidmore_steve@yahoo.co.uk

**'Strong & Prosperous
Communities' Government White
Paper – What does it mean for us?**

CVS South Glos training
Wednesday 14th March 2007
10am-12.30pm
Studio 4, Kingswood Foundation,
Britannia Road, Kingswood BS15 8DB
£15 CVS members, £20 non-
members, statutory sector £80.
FFI: Sarah Buckle on 01454 868729 or
Email: trainingdev@cvs-sg.org.uk

Volunteer Managers guide to working more effectively

Yate Volunteer Centre Training
15th March 2007, 9.30am-12.30pm
Ridgewood Community Centre,
Yate (West Room)
FFI: call Carole Zorzo on:
01454 324102 or
Email: yatevb@care4free.net

Creating a more diverse volunteer workforce

Yate Volunteer Centre Training
20th March 2007, 9.30am – 12.30pm
Ridgewood Community Centre,
Yate (West Room)
FFI: call Carole Zorzo on:
01454 324102 or
Email: yatevb@care4free.net

Discrimination Law Update

CVS South Glos training
22nd March 2007, 9.30-3.30pm
The Jubilee Centre, Savages Wood
Road, Bradley Stoke BS32 4NQ
£25 CVS members, £40 non-
members, statutory sector £80.
FFI: Sarah Buckle on 01454 868729 or
Email: trainingdev@cvsg.org.uk

Is your organisation fit for purpose?

CVS South Glos training
27th March 2007, 9.30-3.30pm
The Chantry, Castle Street, Thornbury
BS35 1HB
£25 CVS members, £40 non-
members, statutory sector £80.
FFI: Sarah Buckle on 01454 868729 or
Email: trainingdev@cvsg.org.uk

Communication & Relationship Building Skills

Yate Volunteer Centre Training
27th March 2007, 9.30 am – 12.30pm
Ridgewood Community Centre,
Yate (West Room)
FFI: call Carole Zorzo on:
01454 324102 or
Email: yatevb@care4free.net

Making the most of volunteering

Patchway Volunteer Centre Training
28th March, 9.30am - 12.30pm
Old School Rooms, Stoke Gifford
FFI: Nicola Brownlie on:
0117 940 2056 or
Email: nkbrownlie@btinternet.com

Building Confidence

Patchway Volunteer Centre Training
3rd April, 9.30am - 12.30pm
Patchway Library
FFI: Nicola Brownlie on:
0117 940 2056 or
Email: nkbrownlie@btinternet.com

We are currently looking for **volunteers** to join our **Management Committee** at The Chase & Kings Forest Community Project. So, if you have any time at all to spare, an interest in your local community and would like to help make things happen, we would love to hear from you! Call Steph Bengry-Howell on: **01454 868726**, email: steph@chasekingsforestcp.org.uk

The Chase & Kings Forest Community Project

First Floor, Mulberry House, Kingswood Foundation Estate,
Britannia Road, Kingswood, South Gloucestershire BS158DB