

# The Election Special

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The magazine for Hackney's voluntary sector

# SPARK

Spring 2002



"The most secure way forward for the sector is the commissioning of services by the Council"

[Councillor Jules Pipe, Labour]



"One way to help would be to set up a charitable Hackney Trust to fund voluntary groups"

[Councillor Chit Chong, Green]



"We used to encourage new groups to be set up in Hackney"

[Councillor Eric Ollerenshaw, Conservative]



"Use NRF to stabilise the existing level of funding"

[Councillor Andrew Bridgewater, Liberal Democrats]

Find out what the Party Leaders **think** about the future of the voluntary sector in Hackney

# SPARK

Spark is compiled and published by Hackney Council for Voluntary Service. It aims to inform the voluntary and community sector about policies that affect them, highlight the work of local voluntary and community groups, give advice on organisational development and discuss important strategic issues.

The views and opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of Hackney Council for Voluntary Service.

If you would like to send information about strategic issues, publicise your events or make comments on articles in SPARK, send your correspondence to the address opposite.

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jake.hcvs@virgin.net**

Jake Ferguson

Editor

SPARK magazine

HCVS

The Print House

18 Ashwin Street

London E8 3DL

Tel: 020 7923 1962

Fax: 020 7275 8577

jake.hcvs@virgin.net

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Well...its the end of the financial year and many of us are still not sure what's happening with our next year's Council grants - sound familiar to you?

Still the elections are on the way so maybe things will change.

**DON'T MISS** our Pre-Election Special to find out if any of the leading political parties can offer us any long term solutions to funding the voluntary sector.

Also, anyone who has popped into HCVS recently will note how busy we have been managing the Community Chest and Community Empowerment Fund. Over 240 applications received for the Community Chest Fund and around £1million has been applied for. I think that gives you an indication of the level of need in the borough! Good luck to everyone who applied.

Jake X

**Editing**

Jake Ferguson

**Photography**

Jake Ferguson (unless stated)

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Hoxton Printhouse

## Supporting the voluntary sector?

Many of you will have been contacted by CSC Regeneration Consultants who have been commissioned by the Council to 'manage, organise and lead the tendering process for support services to the voluntary and community sector in Hackney'. HCVS has written to Ian Hook to voice some serious concerns about the process and purpose of this tender. How can the Council afford to pay consultants when it is constantly cutting funding to the sector? Which committee agreed that this should go ahead? Was this work tendered for and who approved the brief? Who will oversee and supervise this process? How

Education offers an 'if it ain't broke don't fix it' approach and questioned what advantages there would be in a tendering process as opposed to the more 'customary annual grant backed by financial and efficiency audit'. He also sought clarity about the costs of the exercise and the consequences to unsuccessful applicants after a decision is made in August 2002 [see page 9 for full letter].

This is not the first time the Council has employed consultants. Last year it commissioned the Office of Public Management at a cost of £10,000. What are their findings and recommendations? Where they taken up or publicised? Would it not be easier

## Brian Weller, Secretary of the Association of Chairs in Hackney Education offers an 'if it ain't broke don't fix it' approach and questioned what advantages there would be in a tendering process

come the work will take 6 months - this is extremely costly in terms of cash and time, especially if money is used from the voluntary sector budget?

The Council has not made it clear why they believe there is something wrong with the existing support services to the voluntary sector nor have they suggested how they will attempt to fix any problems it finds. All this is happening without there being any coherent strategy for the sector in the borough which is both frustrating and demeaning. Surely officer or consultants time would be best spent working on developing a local Compact with the voluntary sector and a voluntary sector strategy so that the sector can be sustained and developed.

We have received lots of inquiries from groups who are not clear what the tendering is all about. We have also received letters from organisations who are frustrated and confused by this process. Brian Weller, Secretary of the Association of Chairs in Hackney

to improve existing services and build capacity rather than this divisive tendering competitiveness and instability for existing organisations. And, why does everything have to take so long?

### The opposite of regeneration

Equally, the voluntary sector was stymied for the best part of last year by the review of voluntary sector grants and suffered greatly because of the time it took to make decisions. Some groups are still awaiting neighbourhood renewal payments. This is very damaging to the sector. It is the opposite of regeneration - it is actually setting us back, preventing us from developing, hindering our ability to provide services and to attract funding. Last year's process took almost the whole financial year to complete, people lost their jobs organisations are closing as we speak.

HCVS is still waiting for a reply to the letter we wrote to Ian Hook. We are aware that discussions are taking place

about what will happen next year and that the figures are being hammered out in the Council.

We sincerely hope that they will not take too much longer to announce their plans for next years funding and thereby save us from the fate we suffered last year.

### HCVS leads on regional perspective

HCVS, in partnership with the Community Organisations Forum (COF) in Tower Hamlets and the Community Involvement Unit in Newham, has established the East London Voluntary Sector Alliance (ELVSA) to provide a strategic sub-regional view of the sector

in the three boroughs. The Alliance's member organisations have come together through mutual recognition of a common need and have developed key principles through a process of dialogue and discussion to establish common ground. ELVSA's aims and objectives are rooted in the following key principles:

- improving the capacity of the voluntary sector in East London.
- building trust, confidence and understanding between the three voluntary sectors;
- improving the ability of the East London voluntary sector to attract national and regional funding.
- developing flexible structures to facilitate feedback and to foster participation;
- cultivating effective leadership skills, especially in coalition-building.

For a copy of the ELVSA protocol contact Jake at HCVS on 020 7923 1962.

## ELVSA's wins ALG bid to research east London's voluntary sector

The aforementioned ELVSA partnership, spearheaded by HCVS, has been granted funding from the Association of London Government (ALG) to research the contribution of the voluntary and community sectors in Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Newham. The project aptly named, 'Empowering Hackney' will last 18 months starting in July and will utilise an Expert Panel of senior policy makers at a London level as well as community consultants who will examine organisations at a micro level. Actual evidence of voluntary and community organisation's role and their economic and social impact is scarce and uncoordinated at both borough and sub-regional levels.

This research will provide a much-needed strategic view of the sector in the three boroughs. It will look closely at the current shape of the sector, its provision, capacity, future plans and prospects for sustainability and development, its workforce and their needs, its funding and finances. The key focus of the research will be examining the barriers that prevent black and ethnic minority groups' future development, especially those that are newer/smaller.

It is expected that recommendations arising from the research will both inform and guide policy makers at a local and regional level providing greater strength to the sector as a whole and ensuring its further growth into the 21st Century. For more information or a research summary contact Jake on 020 7923 1962.

### Pre-election special

It's election fever. The four Party Leaders have granted SPARK interviews, giving us their opinions about the future of the

voluntary sector and how they plan to tackle the inherent problems of funding. You will note that there are few magic solutions on offer. However, all Parties appear keen to address voluntary and community sector issues once a period of stability has set in. Instability is commonplace in the borough but as a sector we should continue to press for the development of a coherent strategy and COMPACT to ensure the long term sustainability and development of the sector.

### Children's fund outreach a success - next year £750,000 is available

HCVS has been working with the St. Katherine and Shadwell Trust to provide the Children's Fund Local Network small grants programme. The national programme, which was initially poorly taken up by groups in Hackney, has now received the boost it deserved and all the money available to Hackney has been allocated. This small grants programme fits in nicely with the NRF Community Chest managed by HCVS this year and around £750,000 will be available for East London (Hackney, Newham & Tower Hamlets) next year. Many organisations who have applied to the NRF Community Chest have been referred onto this funding stream in an attempt to ensure as many groups as possible get some funding this year.

This fund is available for the next two years so make sure you contact us and get your applications in on time.

### Newly accredited Local Strategic Partnership (H2020) restructures

The proposed membership of the new Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Steering Group, which has its first meeting in April, seems unlikely to meet GOL's request for a more representative partnership. In accrediting Hackney

2020 as the LSP for Hackney, GOL stressed that its membership should reflect the range of communities in the population it serves. Information from the latest Census is likely to suggest that Hackney has a non-white population of nearly 60%. Not reflecting this in its membership may bring difficulties for the partnership when it goes through the accreditation process next Spring.

The LSP adopted a different model to the one supported by the CEN Planning Group. See the article on page 10. The model has a small steering group of 13 members of which the CEN has 2 places. The majority of places available for the CEN to be represented will be in the larger forum of 50+ members. The 1st meeting on 11th April of the steering group will decide on the composition and structure of this group.

### Voluntary sector budget for next year

At the most recent Regeneration Committee meeting grants to the voluntary sector were discussed. Under a report called 'Budget Monitoring Report for Community and Learning', the Council line on grants is as follows: 'The original programme for the year exceeded the available budget by £0.6m. An in-year reduction decreased the programme by £0.3m but did not address the over-programming. £0.3m of the over-programming relates to tail off expenditure following decisions made in 2000/2001. This leaves £0.3m additional savings to be made in 2002/3 to achieve the directorate budget submitted to Central Government. The Director [Ian Hook] has taken action to ensure that grants administration is done exactly'.

HCVS has not been informed by letter formally about this arrangement despite us being well into a new financial year. We will keep you informed about the situation as it develops and as we are notified.



**Association of Chairs in Hackney Education**  
Please reply to: 30 Cleveleys Road, London E5 9JN Tel: 020 8806 6753

Suzanne Winterflood  
CSC Regeneration and Research Consultants  
19 Pepper Street  
Glengall Bridge  
Docklands  
London E14 9RP

19th February 2002

**HACKNEY VOLUNTARY SECTOR SUPPORT SERVICES**

You wrote to me on February 15th with a questionnaire relating to a proposed tender process for provision of support to Hackney's community and voluntary sector.

I am a confirmed adherent of the "if it aint broke don't fix it", philosophy, and I would be grateful if, before I respond to your questionnaire, you could clarify the following issues for me;

(a) It is good to be consulted on your tendering process, but I cannot recall any consultation on the principle of putting voluntary sector support out to tender. Was there any consultation with the community and voluntary sector on that important principle, if so when, and what was the response?

(b) Is the tendering process to be annual, with the possibility of instability and diversion of the priorities of community umbrella organisations from support and information to tendering for work? What advantages do you see in a tendering process rather than the more customary annual grant backed by financial and efficiency audit?

(c) You indicate that the results of your work will be implemented by the award of a tender in August 2002. Will that award have immediate effect? If so, what problems - if any - do you see in implementing change in the middle of a financial/administrative year? Might there be employment consequences for existing umbrella organisations?

(d) The Council's financial meltdown has led to threatened and actual cuts in support for important voluntary organisations. How much is the Council spending on your consultancy exercise and is that money coming from the same budget as, and therefore competing with, grants to the voluntary and community sector?

(e) Your questionnaire asks for a reply "as soon as possible". What is the latest deadline for responses to be taken into account.?

ACHE has been closely involved for some months now in consultation about regeneration funding in Hackney, through SRB and Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, with particular reference to education. That is a process led, if that is not an impossible euphemism, by Hackney 2020 as the anticipated Local Strategic Partnership.

It is our view, based on that experience, that your consultancy might more profitably look for employment in clearing that swamp. There is an awful lot of clearing to do.

Yours sincerely,

**BRIAN WELLER**  
Secretary to ACHE

cc: Guy Nicholson, Chair of Regeneration Committee  
Tal Michael, Head of Policy and Communications  
Geraldine Rees, Regeneration and Development Manager, Hackney Education  
Richard Thompson, Chair, ACHE  
Janice Rafael, Hackney Agency for Volunteering  
Adiaha Antigha, Hackney Council for Voluntary Services

## NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL UPDATE

# Hackney 2020 is accredited as LSP by GOL but must restructure

Government Office for London (GOL), who are responsible for 'policing' Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) has decided on 28th February to accredit Hackney 2020 as the LSP for Hackney. This means that Hackney 2020 will receive £8,824,055 Neighbourhood Renewal Funds (NRF) for the financial year 2002/3 as well as the £3.8m it is carrying over from 2001/2.

As part of the accreditation, GOL stressed that Hackney 2020 'has a long way to go to win wider public confidence' and that its first priority will be to 'ensure that the emerging partnership is demonstrably open and transparent in the way it operates and conducts its business'.

There has been lots of opposition to Hackney 2020 in terms of its membership and the way it allocates money. In fact, the local Community Empowerment Network (CEN) called for a vote of no-confidence in the partnership unless it changed the way it operates.

The CEN Planning Group, who represent the views of the wider CEN, met with Liz Walton, Heather White and two other GOL

officials prior to the accreditation announcement to feed in the voluntary and community sectors' concerns about the partnership and to suggest different ways in which Hackney 2020 could be restructured to ensure that it is more representative. The group favoured adapting the model in Newham which has 10 community reps on its LSP. At the most recent Hackney 2020 meeting, however, members

large public agencies whose mainstream funds need to work better together. On the Partnership Forum there was the scope for being more inclusive.'

The membership of the Steering Group would comprise of representatives from the business, statutory and voluntary sectors (no residents reps however). The membership is in the coloured box.

provider is yet to be decided.

The existing seven themed sub-partnerships may agree themselves to continue whereas others may decide to end if they feel their discussions are adequately covered in the Partnership Forum.

The membership of this forum will be reviewed every year to take account of new or emerging organisations.

In addition to the changes in membership as part of the accreditation process, GOL has asked Hackney 2020 to address a) the development of a communications strategy, b) facilitation of early discussions within the LSP itself and existing partnerships on engaging harder to reach and marginalised groups including ethnic minority communities, with the aim of ensuring the membership of the partnership reflects the population that it is there to serve; and c) ensuring that there are robust operating principles in place for the LSP at the earliest opportunity.

### Proposed Steering Group membership

London Borough of Hackney Health	Managing Director and Leader of the Council
Employment/Benefit Agency	Chief Executive Primary Care Trust
Police	Area Manager of the Agency
Registered Social Landlords	Borough Commander
Voluntary sector	Chief Executive of RSL working in the Borough
Community Sector	nominated by Hackney Housing Association Group
Micro and SME business	Elected by CEN
Large employers	Elected by CEN
Education	Chair/nominated member of the Board of the Hackney Chamber of Commerce
Arts/culture	Chair/nominated member of Hackney Board of ELBA
Environment/Transport	Nominee of Hackney Education Trust
	Chair/Chief Executive of Arts Organisation
	Chair/Chief Executive of Groundwork and a Chief Executive of a transport provider

voted to adopt Tal Michael's model which is as follows:

'Hackney LSP should have 2 tiers - a 'Partnership Forum' of 40 -50 Members meeting quarterly and a "Steering Group" of approximately 12 members meeting monthly. It was also agreed that certain organisations needed to be on the LSP for it to fulfill its local

and national purpose. On both levels all sectors should be represented but by necessity the Steering Group would include the

There is a need to rationise the number of partnerships in the borough. It is envisaged that the key people from all these partnerships will be members of the large Partnership Forum. An event with workshops is planned by Hackney 2020 in June to further develop the Partnership. The 40-50 members will be decided at the first Steering Group meeting in mid-April.

These new tasks fall within a strict timescale. The largest task facing Hackney 2020 is the development of its local neighbourhood renewal strategy which should indicate priorities in terms of geographical areas and issues identified through baseline data analysis by April 2002 which should then be complete in full by September 2002 with a statement of use providing an out turn report on the use of the NRF for 2001/02; use of 2002/03 NRF to 30 September 2002; and, a forecast use of NRF to end of 2002/03.

For more details about these new arrangements contact Peter Fiddeman, Interim Regeneration Manager on 020 8356 3253.

## Rose Albrow has resigned from H2020

Rose Albrow resigned as Chair of Hackney 2020 at the last meeting which took place on 25th February. An interim Partnership forum starts in June this year.

the membership of the Steering Group who will meet in mid-April. A permanent chair will take charge once the wider Partnership forum starts in June this year.

## Hackney gets £86,000 for Community Learning Chest

The Neighbourhood Renewal Unit has just published preliminary guidance about the Neighbourhood Renewal Community Learning Chests (CLC) which are part of the Skills and Knowledge programme in the Government's National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal. The programme aims to support residents (both groups and individuals) involved in neighbourhood renewal to further develop the skills and knowledge they need to participate in and deliver services in their local area. £10 million is being provided over the two years 2002-04 for small grants of between £50 and £5000. Grants are available to both groups and individuals although grants for individuals are not expected to exceed £500.

Hackney will get £86,010, approximately a quarter of the Community Chest allocation, for the year, starting April 2002. It is intended that the organisation managing the Community Chest, which is Hackney Council for Voluntary Service (HCVS) in 2001/2 locally should be the organisation to manage the Community Learning Chests.

CLC are not intended to replace existing forms of funding for learning activities. They are intended to fund individuals and groups who as a result of participation in neighbourhood renewal have identified a learning and development need, or individuals and groups who have no experience of neighbourhood renewal but wish to participate in its delivery. Priority will be given to hard-to-reach communities and the most deprived neighbourhoods.

CLC will fund activities to develop the skills and knowledge of communities participating in

Neighbourhood Renewal at a local level, and improve the management of local community activities and organisations. It should be particularly targeted at groups who have traditionally not taken up learning opportunities. Examples of such activities include:

- paying for a training programme or learning opportunity for a group's committee or members
  - paying for participation in activities which aim to develop community leadership
  - paying for an exchange visit to or from a similar group in another town to share good practice
  - accessing advice from regional advisors and residents consultancies
  - subscriptions to journals on neighbourhood renewal or similar issues
  - paying for other sources of good practice such as reference books and current research
  - training to facilitate membership of community networks and LSPs
  - attending events which cover the areas of learning identified in the Learning and Development Strategy
  - buying in-house training for members of groups
  - buying basic IT equipment and the training to go with it
  - helping BME and other communities to explore and share their history, cultures and traditions so as to promote racial harmony and community cohesion
  - covering conference and seminar fees (and associated attendance costs)
- As the organisation running the Community Chest programme in Hackney, HCVS will let you know more information as and when we receive it. For more information contact Jake at HCVS on 020 7923 1962.

## 'Empowering Hackney' bulletin is launched



This bulletin has been produced to give you information about the emerging LSP, the community chest and community empowerment programmes in Hackney and to provide a voice for community and residents concerns.

We will be particularly interested in providing information about the various projects that are successfully funded through the community chest and community empowerment programmes.

For a copy please contact HCVS on 020 7923 1962.

## Arts & Culture subpartnership to be represented on new steering group

The last Hackney 2020 meeting gave the Arts and Culture subpartnership a seat at the table of the future Hackney LSP Steering Group. This subpartnership is made up of Mark Higham (Ocean), Barbara Wheeler-Early (Freeform Arts), Chris Bowler (Hoxton Hall Theatre and Arts Centre), Scott Ferguson (Abney Park Cemetery), Mike Martin (London Fields), Chris Westwood & Roxie Curry (Stoke Newington Festival), Michelle Weltman (Sports Development), and Michelle Guimarin and Amir Laksari (London Borough of Hackney).

One representative from the subpartnership would need to be elected to sit on the LSP Steering Group. The partnership will be looking at this over the next few months, particularly as the cultural aspect of the subpartnership needs better representation.

The sub-partnership will be looking to commission organisational capacity building and development with its remaining £24,000 NRF over the next 24-36 months. The partnership need someone to draw up a proper work plan, identifying key tasks and responsibilities. Anyone interested in undertaking this work should contact Michelle Guimarin on 020 8356 7264/7538.

The sub-partnership is interested in widening its membership and will be having an Open Day on 21st May at the Queensbridge Centre from 9.15am, so get in touch with Hoxton Arts on 020 7684 0060 or email: office@hoxtonhall.co.uk for more information.

London Borough of Hackney is currently looking to appoint an Assistant Director for Arts and Culture the borough. For more information contact the Council on 020 8356 5000.

## PRA preparing anti-stress programme

What is generally not known is that PRA was the first organisation in Hackney to focus on the development of community care for the mentally ill. This multi-cultural team pioneered the concept of day care, residential care, social firms, evening groups, a restaurant club, and parliamentary work. PRA was also a catalyst and co-founder with MPs of the All Party Parliamentary Mental Health Group and was instrumental with the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the revision of the 1959 Mental Health Act. PRA has since expanded to include 27 projects across London. In Hackney there is the Groupwork Centre on Bayford Street which

provides training, counselling, management and development planning, the Hackney Day Centre, The Industrial Education Unit, two residential care homes and 10 flats for our service users in Hackney.

PRA are preparing a programme which will look at preventative mental health. The objective is to encourage us to share our experience with each other in the community and to increase the understanding of the means to reduce stress and manage unavoidable stress. If your organisation would like to participate in this work please contact PRA on 020 8985 3570 or visit their website [www.cityhack.dircon.co.uk](http://www.cityhack.dircon.co.uk)

## COMPACT for London

A draft Compact for consultation with London's voluntary and community sectors has been agreed in February this year. The draft has been produced after much consideration and discussion with the Mayor's office, the Boards at both the London Development Agency (LDA) and Transport for London (TfL), as well as with voluntary and community organisations, including London Voluntary Service Council, London Voluntary Sector Training Consortium, London Regeneration Network, 3rd Sector Alliance, MiNet and Voluntary Action Camden.

The primary aim of the Compact is to promote joint working between the Mayor, TfL and LDA and voluntary and community organisations across London. It will be a new way of working together and describes voluntary action as an essential component of democratic society. One of the measures of success for the Compact will be the greater participation in consultation by excluded groups and communities.

A core principle of the Compact is to take positive account of the specific needs, interests and contributions of local people, including: Black and minority ethnic people, older people, people with disabilities and refugees and asylum-seekers amongst others.

After setting the background, the document is divided into Intentions of the Mayor, TfL and LDA and Intentions of the voluntary and

community sectors. Under each of these there are sections on independence, policy development and consultation, funding and better government or good practice.

The Mayor, TfL and LDA intend to recognise and support the independence of the voluntary and community sectors. Neither the GLA nor TfL are grant-making bodies, nor do they have a grants programme. However, the LDA is a programme funder and will: use simple, open and accessible procedures; promote equality and social inclusion and; attempt to provide long-term, multi-year funding.

The Mayor, TfL and the LDA will also promote effective working relationships with the voluntary and community sectors, including appropriate representation. The Compact will be reviewed annually by the voluntary and community sectors with the Mayor, TfL and LDA. The GLA would like to hear your views about the questions below, and also welcome any other ideas or suggestions. GLA Liaison Project, LVSC, 356 Holloway Road, London N7 6PA Fax 020 7700 8108 email: [compact@lvsc.org.uk](mailto:compact@lvsc.org.uk)

Further information on, or a full copy, of the Compact are available from Sally Copley, LVSC GLA Liaison Officer, telephone 020 7700 8124, minicom 020 7700 8163. Alternative formats available on request. Please ensure that your comments are received by Friday 31 May 2002.

## Calling All Mature Learners, Trainers & Training Providers

Do you want to learn something new? Are you looking for details of training, educational or life-style courses available? Or are you a trainer or training provider looking to publicise details of courses you offer? Wise Owls has developed and launched a 'one-stop' web based, 'lifelong learning' portal. It enables anyone looking for training and education to access details of courses being offered by universities, colleges and learning providers across the UK. It also offers the first local search engine for 'mature learners' in East London. By simply

registering their details and what they want to learn with [www.wiseowlslearn.org](http://www.wiseowlslearn.org) they are then able to access details of local course provision and course providers. Searching for courses is simple and straightforward and registration is FREE for users and course providers who wish for details of the courses they offer to be loaded onto the site. Funding for the development of the site came from London East Learning & Skills Council. Access to the 'learn' site is also available through Wise Owls' main site: [www.wiseowls.co.uk](http://www.wiseowls.co.uk) Chris Walsh (Wise Owls' Director) says, "Our work with the over

45s showed us there was a real need for a national 'lifelong learning' portal which would enable those looking for training and education to access details of the courses on offer simply and quickly. Developing the first regional search engine was a natural extension. National sites like 'Learndirect' offer information about major learning providers in the UK but there is still a gap at the local level. We have now created a search engine able to give people across East, North and S.E. London hundreds of courses at every level from university post

graduate courses down to local organisations offering I.T., basic skills. The site is equally relevant to those searching for 'lifestyle' courses as well. We also aim to provide a voice for the mature learner. We want them to give us feedback on the quality of the information available and on the courses they attend. We will then feed the information back to the providers themselves, the Learning & Skills Council and to Government." That, Chris points out, would also be a first as well....

## ADEPT training opportunities for unemployed

Since October of last year HCVS, Wise Owls and East London Community Partnership have been meeting with ADEPT Community Development Agency who is based in Coventry to develop an innovative new project.

The new project if successful in securing funding will offer a waged opportunity for local unemployed people to receive

the job the skills needed to successfully work in the community development sector. One day a week they will complete an accredited course, which equips them with skills and supports their placement based learning. "This scheme enables local people to not only find employment but to retrain and to work from within their own communities to regenerate their area", said Ashleigh Rinchey,

Labour Markets (ILM).

ADEPT won a British Urban Regeneration Award (BURA) commendation and has now secured DTLR funding to support voluntary organisations and regeneration

companies on an England wide basis set up similar schemes.



or young people who may be interested in hosting an apprentice for an eighteen

### "This scheme enables local people to not only find employment but to retrain and to work from within their own communities to regenerate their area"

training; support and mentoring within Hackney based voluntary organisations.

The project aims to employ nine local people on a training wage who will work four days a week within Hackney based voluntary sector organisations, learning on

National Development Officer with ADEPT.

This scheme has successfully operated in Coventry. ADEPT the organisation, which developed it, has had favourable evaluations of the scheme, which rated it as higher quality and better value than Intermediate

Currently ADEPT is working with projects in Manchester, Nottingham, and Stoke on Trent, to set up similar schemes.

The Hackney Partnership would like to hear from voluntary organisations, particularly those who may have an interest in arts

month period. For more information contact Chris Walsh at Wise Owls 0207 923 7771 or Adiaha Antigha at HCVS 020 7923 1962. For more information about ADEPT contact Ashleigh Rinchey on 024 76230606 or visit our website [www.adept.org.uk](http://www.adept.org.uk)

## Muslim career care launch



Director of NLMCC, Ismail Amaan

Muslim Careercare is a project aimed at Muslim Residents in Stamford Hill and Woodberry Down and will offer advice and guidance on career paths as well as free internet access and printing. Contact North London Muslim Community Centre on 020 8806 1147.

## Awards for Hackney Summer University!

Hackney Summer University (HSU) has been selected as a Millennium Award Scheme Delivery Partner by Summer Education (UK) and The Millennium Commission. 8 Millennium Awards were presented to participants of HSU, who will then go onto become Millennium Award Fellows.

The Millennium Award Scheme recognises the achievement, commitment and social contribution of the awardees. It also serves to empower and equip winners with the skills to further develop their abilities and pass on their understanding, attitudes and enthusiasm. The Awards worth over £3,000 each, are to design and implement the winning project proposals, which were submitted just after summer 2001.

This summer, Hackney Summer University saw the biggest demand for their range of courses since commencing in 1995. Part-funded by the Hackney Wick and Haggerston SRB Partnerships, the university offers 14 - 25 year olds a free summer learning programme, that is designed to deliver a range of courses that aims to assist in their development. These

courses ranged from sports and the arts through to vocational tasters in subjects such as law and tourism.

Anna Perceval, Director of Hackney Summer University and driving force behind the project said: "Each year we are inundated with applications from the young people in Hackney. They want to become involved and show they can make a worthwhile difference."

Councillor Guy Nicholson, Chair of Hackney Council's Regeneration Committee and its Vice Chair, Sally Mulready, said: 'Hackney Summer University is an excellent programme; young people excel in their own time and own way, for themselves, and their communities. These educational programmes promote their creative energy and personal development. The Award will mark and symbolise the significance of the Millennium and be a source of pride to their families and communities.'

For more information on Hackney Summer University, contact Anna Perceval at HSU, Unit 25, The Forum, Independent Place, Shacklewell Lane London E8 2HE Tel: 020 7923 2159

## Voluntary sector recruitment

TEMPUS is a new recruitment agency set up by Trading Places and aimed at placing local people into temporary work particularly in the voluntary sector.

Bakhtiar Hormoz, Director of Trading Places believes that it will become invaluable to local business.

"In the 4 years we have been running I have been constantly amazed at the quality of people who have come through our doors. There are a huge amount of people in Hackney with the skills,

experience and qualifications that voluntary organisations need."

"I know how expensive and time consuming finding good staff can be especially for charities where funding is tight. TEMPUS will find the staff and save companies time and money."

TEMPUS has already filled positions for, and built strong relationships with local voluntary organisations including The Hackney Tenants and Residents Convention, The Robin Redmond Resource Centre at Woodberry Down and Hackney

Community Transport.

Jude Winter Deputy Director of HCT has used TEMPUS and has been delighted with the staff she has employed.

"We took on three people from TEMPUS last year and they have all successfully applied for permanent positions with us. In the short time they have been here Karen, James and Jane have all become a crucial part of our team. We have used TP to recruit people in the past and I think that the staff there have a unique understanding of the recruitment needs of the voluntary sector."

Nick Schlittner, head of recruitment for Tempus believes that it has a lot more to offer than the usual 'Temps' agency.

"We are a charitable organisation. We're not concerned with making a huge profit. We want our clients to have careers not just 'jobs'. I hope that like HCT companies who employ our candidates will see how good they are and take them on permanently."

Good companies will always find vacancies for good people and there's plenty of both in Hackney."

For more details contact Nick at [nschlittner@hotmail.com](mailto:nschlittner@hotmail.com)

## Wise Owls takes its campaign 'On Air'

Wise Owls, the East London based not-for-profit organisation concerned with helping the over 45s, has been taking its campaign against 'age discrimination in the workplace' to the airwaves. A spokesperson for the organisation, Keith Frost says, "We try to provide the over 45s from all backgrounds, with practical solutions to help overcome the age discrimination in employment which exists. We seek to help them find jobs, training, education and business start-up help. However, we do have a wider vision of what needs to be done to combat age discrimination and so we actively campaign against it."

We have recently successfully stepped up that campaign. In the last couple of months we have appeared on several LBC radio shows, BBC's 3 Counties radio and on the Kilroy TV programme. We also had a letter published in the Financial Times on the subject of 'changes to occupational pensions and age discrimination'.

One in three people aged over 50 are not in work. That's OK if those people have chosen to retire and can afford to do so. However, there are an estimated 2 million people over 50 who would like to work but often

have real difficulty getting a job because of age prejudice amongst too many employers.

Wise Owls are trying to rally support for bringing forward the date for legislation against 'age discrimination in the workplace'. Currently the Government has committed to December 2006 - they think that's too far away. Discrimination in the workplace based on 'sexual orientation' and 'religious beliefs' will be outlawed in December 2003, why should everyone then have to wait a further three years for age discrimination to be outlawed? It should all be done at the same time.

Wise Owls believes the older generation needs to become far more vocal in making our concerns heard and acted upon. Collectively our generation has the financial and electoral muscle to raise our concerns to the top of the business, social and political agendas.

Wise Owls gives the over 45s an opportunity to have their say on this, and other matters of importance. Wise Owls then pass on their views to the Government and the GLA. For more information go to [www.wiseowls.co.uk](http://www.wiseowls.co.uk) or ring 020 7923 7771.

The people who live and work under the control of Hackney council have been going through an extraordinary period of instability over the last three years as swathing cuts have meant the loss of further public

subsection dedicated to the borough of Hackney. The site itself works on open publishing, allowing anybody with access to the Internet to upload a story, from anywhere. Many stories already exist and are all written

the right hand side of the Hackney or main page above the blue column and this will take you to the Publish page

Step3: Fill out the boxes, with the title, name, which doesn't have to

## Have your own voice in Hackney

provisions to a borough which already lags well behind other areas.

More than ever the work carried out by the voluntary sector and vital to the well-being of present and future generations is needed. Despite proclamations of support from the council, the policy has been quite the opposite, as large sums of money have been removed from the sector and the criteria for acquiring money has been tightened, leaving many organisations clinging onto their existence.

IMC UK is part of a global network of websites and is run entirely by people donating their time, dedicated to providing a space for news, which the mainstream ignores and has now provided a

by members of the public or organisations and are completely unedited by the admin collective. This forum can provide people with an insight into the reality of the ongoing situation in Hackney and assist in the awareness of other peoples/organisations struggles.

This exciting project depends on you, as it's you who will make the news. In order to put your own story onto the page you just need to follow these easy steps.

Step1: Go to [www.Indymedia.org.uk](http://www.Indymedia.org.uk) and click on the Hackney link situated in the middle column below the UK, World and 'peacenotwar' links in the colour red

Step2: Click on the green publish link situated on



be your own, intro and main story, other boxes such as e-mail are optional. To go to your hard drive to select your story simply click on the browse button.

Step4: Click the grey publish button at the bottom and your story will appear in the newswire, it is also possible to put photos, video and audio on there just follow the same instructions.

DON'T HATE THE MEDIA, BE THE MEDIA



New ways to relax - photo taken by: Adrian Watson

**S**ocial Action for Health held an event called 'A Place in Your Space', a regeneration showcase at the Brady Centre on Hanbury Street. About 50 people attended with many organisations advertising their business or work. The Turkish and Kurdish drama project put on a wonderful performance that showed people how to relax their bodies.

Speakers on the day included: Sahdia Warraich, Director of Black & Ethnic Minority Community Care Forum (BEMCCF) Christine Holloway, Stakeholder Liaison Adviser, Neighbourhood Renewal Team, Government Office for London; Sandra Griffiths, Co-ordinator, The MELLOW Campaign (Mental Health Network) and Kumar Murshid, Regeneration Advisor to the Mayor of London.

Information was given out about the Community Champions for Change Millennium Awards Scheme offering 1,000 grants averaging £2,000 available for individuals who develop projects that improve the quality of life for London communities by tackling the underlying causes of social exclusion. Further information about this fund can be obtained from 020 7928 7811. To contact Social Action for Health call, Jackie Henry on 020 7247 1414.

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## Talking Matters gets a triple treat



**T**alking Matters Association (TMA) a relatively new organisation in Stamford Hill, recently held its first Annual General Meeting. The services offered to Hackney's Orthodox Jewish population, include Counselling Training, Educational Seminars, a quarterly Newsletter, Counselling Library and a strictly confidential referral service. In the Annual Report, Managing Director Rabbi Hershel Glück spoke to a gathering of guests from North and North West London on the importance of how words touch and reveal the essence of every individual. He also described the work of the organisation in establishing the Diploma in Counselling in the Orthodox Jewish Community, which is the first of its kind in the history of the Jews in Britain. This course is delivered by MST College in Hendon. Additionally Rabbi Glück also spoke about the possibilities of collaborative work in the future with other organisations working in the Orthodox Jewish Communities, particularly on a project specifically aimed at 2nd and 3rd generation children of Holocaust survivors.

Reb Nota Kreiman one of the TMA directors, introduced the business of the day, the accounts and changes on the Board of Directors. He spoke briefly from his experience as a teacher that when personal difficulties are left and not dealt with, the problems tend to grow and develop. Therefore through the services of TMA, many people could possibly benefit from having proper systems in place. After this the Founder and Co-ordinator of TMA Ms José Martin gave a short resumé on the current work of the

speakers. Mr Michael Friedrich one of TMA's founding directors, formally employed in the NHS, a Chartered Psychologist and Psychotherapist. He spoke about the desperate need for counselling and therapy to be offered in a culturally and ethnically sensitive setting with practitioners who intrinsically understand the religious and linguistic needs of the client or patient. After Mr Friedrich, the guest speaker was Rabbi Reuven Livingstone (Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue) who spoke at length on the

**This directory has explanations of various therapies with translations in Yiddish and Hebrew, listings of Qualified Orthodox Counsellors and organisations offering a counselling service.**

organisation including the creation, illustration and Launch of the Referral Directory of Counselling in the Orthodox Jewish Communities of GB. Ms Martin thanked all those who contributed to the production of this small but important booklet and particularly thanked the National Lotteries Charities Board and the City & Hackney NHS Primary Care Trust both of which supported this project, and without which it would not have been possible. Praise was also given to the designer Alex Rees of Massamundo who brought life to the production of what otherwise could have been a very mundane and functional project.

This directory which has an approbation by Rabbi Shimon Winegarten and the Foreword written by Professor Stephen Frosh has explanations of various therapies with translations in Yiddish and Hebrew; listings of Qualified Orthodox Counsellors and organisations offering a counselling service. The geographical areas covered include, Hackney & Harringay, Hendon & Golders Green, Salford & Prestwich in Manchester and Gateshead. The Directory is free to hospitals, GP's surgeries, clinics and Voluntary Sector Organisations which work with Orthodox clients, after-which it will be available for purchase in the shops.

Reb Nota Kreiman also introduced the two guest

question of why observant Jews are generally reluctant to openly admit they might be experiencing difficulties in their lives and therefore seek help. Rabbi Livingstone also spoke about the religious ethic of aiming for "Parenting Perfection" and the need to be honest with oneself. As Rabbi Livingstone is both a community Rabbi and one of the tutors on the Diploma Course he has ample knowledge and experience of the issues that arise with his congregants and students and how these points are dealt with through Torah.

Two days after the AGM, TMA was informed that the Home Secretary Mr David Blunkett had made a pronouncement on Voluntary Organisations around Britain which were about to receive a Family Support grant for the next 3 years. TMA has been successful in attracting £50,000 from the Home Office to establish a National Network of Counselling Information (in the Orthodox Jewish Communities). In this round of grants TMA was the only Jewish group in England to receive funds. The grant will enable TMA to expand its work from its local base in Stamford Hill to other centres around the country with large Orthodox populations.

For further information, a directory or Annual Report call the co-ordinator Ms José Martin 020 8809 2186)

**A** symbol of continuity for over 300 years, Well Street Common in South Hackney is the borough's oldest and best loved public space. The common area unites the diverse communities that surround its eight acres of green open space. In terms of ethnicity and backgrounds it would be hard to discover a more richly varied corner of England. Local people are proposing to celebrate the Queens Jubilee with a **GOLDEN JUBILEE FESTIVAL**, (subject to funding) on the Bank Holiday Monday 3rd June from 12.00 (Noon) - 4.00 PM.

Community representatives, tenants and residents who live around the common have formed a very

good partnership with the support of the landlord, Sanctuary Housing Association. The Festival will unite these diverse groups who live locally and engage their skills and talents.

The Festival will feature music and dance, food, arts and crafts (workshops), voluntary and statutory organisations (especially disabled groups), a fun fair, sports activities with local celebrities taking part, fancy dress, exhibitions of local history and studies, bric-a-brac, a golden balloon and mass release with a prize for the farthest traveller. For more information, Tel Ron on 020 8525 0123 e-mail newmanr@getreal.co.uk

## The Golden Common





# Jules Pipe

## Leader, Labour Party

### Tell us how you as the Leader of your Party see the role of the voluntary and community sector in a borough like Hackney?

Well obviously there is a great level of need in the borough and the Council working in isolation is never going to be able to meet that need so it is vital that the Council does work closely with all of its partners in delivering the services that Hackney needs. The sad thing is there has always been so much bad publicity generated over recent years about the funding of the voluntary sector. But more and more money is going into the voluntary sector through contracts. I think this is most certainly the way forward. With all these bidding rounds it is important that we work with the sector and identify where the voluntary sector can have a more effectively role than the Council and commission them, then there can't be any misunderstanding or doubt.

### Do you think there is a need for a voluntary sector compact?

Yes absolutely, it's just very unfortunate where we all find ourselves at the moment in terms of the funding of the voluntary sector. This has been the big point of discussion and has perhaps got in the way of us settling down and sorting out a compact and getting a good relationship with the sector. With some sections of the sector there has always been a good working relationship. Obviously, though, there are sections of the sector where there isn't. **[Is there a timescale for developing a compact?]** I would have to get back to you on that. As soon as possible in my opinion. I can't imagine in practice that it will happen until all sides have come to some sort of resolution about funding. **[Who is the lead person in terms of developing a local Compact in the Council?]** Politically the lead person is Guy Nicholson with support from officers.

### How do you believe the voluntary sector should be resourced? The sector is in dire need of premises in the borough, do you have any suggestions as to how you will tackle that need?

It is difficult because, if a building can be identified obviously we are required by law now to charge market rent, Gone are the days where we had the discretion to charge practical rents. This kind of avenue to helping local groups has been closed off to us. Although there has been a lot of stuff in the press about property that has been sold off, a lot of it was not suitable premises or pieces of derelict land. So the amount of property we have for people to use is limited. Where we can find solutions where the groups can stay in a building we are more than happy to do that. It is certainly not our policy to throw people out. We are not allowed to carry on holding the property portfolio we do. The government directions we are under, set last November, won't allow us to change the budget or make any real meaningful changes. I reckon in two years time we should be OK and be able to get the Council Tax rate up. The trouble is a third of the population don't pay which represents £15-20 million that we can't spend on services.

Now people say, why can't you go to the government and get more money but this year we have had the biggest adhoc grant that has ever been made in this country. No-one has ever managed to negotiate £25m. To bridge the £50m gap in the budget the government has said that because Hackney's property portfolio is so much greater than other boroughs they have insisted we fund the deficit from this. As part of the deal with government we had to make savings of £13.5m in order to receive assistance from government of £25m. Now we are more confident than we have ever been that this budget should not overspend because we have costed services properly and we can get more Council tax. This means what we say we will provide we have the money to provide.

### How does the £13.5m cut affect the voluntary sector budget for 2002/3 and how do you plan to provide a sustainable solution for the voluntary sector?

I haven't got the specific information because the figures are still being hammered out. **[I think the specific amount to be cut from the Community & Learning budget is £500,000 each year for three years totalling £1.5m].** Yes the total went down from £3m to £1.5m. **[Are you bound by this as a Council?]** Yes we are stuck to this - not as a political group but as a Council. The way we can prevent this happening is by people paying their Council Tax. **[Is there any other solution?]** HCVS has the Community Empowerment Fund for example, and rather than money being given directly to the Council, HCVS is charged with the responsibility of building capacity and should be helping groups access more money. If we are aware of extra funds obviously we would want to work with groups to access that. The voluntary sector should always be looking elsewhere for extra money. **[As an umbrella group we need to know how we can work with the Council to get a sustainable solution to voluntary sector grants].** In the long term the most secure way forward is the commissioning of services by the Council. Whatever the budget the Council sets, demand will always outstrip the available funding and therefore we should always be working together to maximise the money from new areas, not just the Community Chest. The Government is never going to increase funds earmarked for adhoc voluntary sector grants. The government want to see the voluntary sector develop and see councils working with the voluntary sector but the way I see it is that the Government isn't actually funding Council's to do that it is actually going around them and fostering the sector directly.

**[Because of the financial situation facing the council, Hackney 2020 agreed to set up a contingency fund for the voluntary sector from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund in 2001/2. Do you think this will be possible next year given that cuts are likely to happen?]** Last year we **[Hackney 2020]** all agreed that where groups fulfilled the relevant criteria for NRF i.e. PSA floor targets we would top them up. **[Would you personally entertain this for 2002/3?]** I certainly wouldn't have any objections to it in principle. I wouldn't want to say this is what's going to happen. There's no proposals at all but that's the thing about NRF. It seems to me you can't factor it into a budget like last year when we had to make the cuts we did.

# Eric Ollerenshaw

## Leader, Conservative Party



### Tell us how you as the Leader of your Party see the role of the voluntary and community sector in a borough like Hackney?

I have been a councillor for 12 years and learnt a lot. I always defend Hackney because no matter much you throw at the borough, we have never suffered from the problems experienced by Bradford, or Lambeth and Liverpool in the past, because of the strength of the voluntary sector. Things flare up in my area and relationships can be difficult sometimes, given the situation in the Middle East but because the voluntary groups know how to contact each other, the Jewish groups contacting the Muslims and vice versa, we haven't had these problems. If you look at the staggering cross section of different races in the Borough and so on, it is because of the voluntary sector that we have avoided these problems.

### Do you think there is a need for a voluntary sector compact?

We had an informal coalition with Labour for 12 months. One of the biggest things we protected during this time was the voluntary sector, particularly the religious and ethnic minority groups. Long term it's a mess. There is no structure for the voluntary sector. Voluntary sector groups I deal with are desperately trying to get money from this place and that. They are spending so much time dealing with this and also with the Council which changes the goal posts every year, rather than actually getting on and doing the work that they were set up to do. You mention Compact, I would look for a straight forward structure which has the Council's role as a help rather than a hinderance. The Council should be looking at this. What happened to the days when we used to encourage new groups to be set up? The other day I was on Woodberry Down Estate and came across a group of Armenians for the first time. Traditionally in Hackney, new groups move into the borough and develop. There used to be the facility to provide these groups with support so that they had the strength to get on and make themselves a proper part of this society. Compact is a nice word but structure is the word I would use. Something has to be done rather than this constant standoff at the end of every year as the Council decides its going to introduce more cuts or its going to review or change more targets. The only strategy I see at the Town Hall at the moment is looking for short term cuts. My criticism of the Council is that it is going for the obvious ones which are voluntary and community groups. In the long term this is a dangerous sign which is why we suggested at the budget meeting two weeks ago that they go back to government and ask for more money. We are on a very fine line at the moment in terms of cultural and religious groups knowing where they can get support because many of those groups have been cut. I don't want to overplay it but I just think it is a dangerous short term policy that will have repercussions long term.

### How do you believe the voluntary sector should be resourced? The sector is in dire need of premises in the borough, do you have any suggestions as to how you will tackle that need?

I haven't got anything specific. What is happening around the Town Hall square at the moment is something we consistently voted against as a waste. It might be very nice to have Ocean - it's doing very well. The Technological Learning Centre on the other side of the Town Hall square is going to be a massive white elephant which is going to have loads of money poured into it. We have Clissold Leisure Centre which has just opened. The Council has got itself into these match-funding deals which it can't get out of. This is part of its financial problems and was a commitment made by Labour, before Transforming Hackney, because they thought they would copy, in regeneration terms, what is happening in Birmingham, where big buildings at the centre would generate a turnaround in an area. They committed themselves to these projects and couldn't get out of them because it would cause more debt. We should be in the business of setting up trusts from the redevelopment of properties which give local groups a funding stream independent of the Council. Things like this need to be done. We should be providing the means to let people break loose from the Town Hall. To me this is the only long term solution for giving organisations premises. Regeneration schemes will create premises but will not generate the money year in, year out. We have this problem with Holly Street - we have a community that has built into it the Queensbridge Centre but we haven't got the money to keep it going. So they are developing very complicated ideas about transferring it, yet there is still no long term solution about who is going to maintain it. I think trusts work if they are part of a mixed scheme. I've seen it in North Kensington under the Westway fly over. A trust was set up, given land that was dead land developed partly commercially and partly for community groups. Rents from the business side, as the development has built over 20 years, are now supporting all the other things. This is what has got to be done in the long term. Given the rush to sell off properties my worry is that we will lose the opportunity to do these things and communities will suffer.

### How does the £13.5m cut affect the voluntary sector budget for 2002/3 and how do you plan to provide a sustainable solution for the voluntary sector?

I think there are two solutions. One is for the Council to go back to the government and tell them straight that we should get some flexibility on the £25 million they have given us. Some of this flexibility should go to supporting those groups that allow Hackney to maintain the calm it has. Another area that I suggested we look at is press and publicity. We spend over £100,000 putting out Hackney Today every year for the printing, press office and distribution. Obviously you have to publish statutory notices but if we saved £50,000 here this would be a start. If you look at other areas of the press machine that is being built up in the Council there is room for manoeuvre. Also instead of just selling everything off to raise instant money we should do some of these long term deals especially in the South of the borough which is becoming very attractive now. Deals could be dealt to make specific funds, a trust or something, which can become self financing and can get most of its money from other sources. I accept the pressure on Labour to meet these targets and to some extent the problems in Hackney are created by Hackney but the rush at the moment is too fast and I think there is a good historical case to put to Government.





# Andrew Bridgewater

## Leader, Liberal Democrats

### Tell us how you as the Leader of your Party see the role of the voluntary and community sector in a borough like Hackney?

I think our feelings towards the voluntary sector are probably very well known by our actions. In an area with so many different communities, cultures and religious beliefs, everyone must be encouraged to take part in what goes on. This can't be a one size fits all approach. Voluntary organisations doing all sorts of different things in the community are absolutely vital for the sort of Hackney I want to see which is vibrant communities living and working together. The voluntary sector is very much an essential part of Hackney - present and future.

### Do you think there is a need for a voluntary sector compact?

Absolutely. It should be there in a streamlined way. What we don't want to do is get bogged down by bureaucracy which has been the tendency of the so-called commissioning processes of the last few years. But I do think we need to have an understanding of where we are and where we are trying to get to. There needs to be a commitment from the Council to the voluntary sector and a commitment from the voluntary sector to the Council to deliver agreed objectives. This does mean changes and it does mean some organisations will need to grow and some will become less relevant over time. My problem is that we have had a finance-led cuts exercise for most of the years I have been on the Council which is killing off the voluntary sector. It is no good just saying we believe we should have a partnership if you are killing it off at every opportunity. Because it is so finance-led, things are rushed and not funded properly and the results are not to the benefit of the people of Hackney.

**[How does your party intend to ensure a compact is developed in the future?]** We've already got a ready-made partnership because back in November 2001, when the Community Empowerment Network (CEN) was set up, there was an enthusiastic, virtually unanimous response from the 180 people who attended that it should be administered by HCVS. It is clear how the community want things run. I am clear that we should be building on that strength. The CEN is the basis for a partnership and it was setup as a way forward by government. We have got the right people doing the right things in the right place. So we need to recognise that and get on with it.

One of the things we are saying is that we need to find a way to stop the cuts to the voluntary sector going on year after year. There is another £500,000 cut next financial year as you know. We have got to try to resource the sector from elsewhere so that we have a period of stability. We can then work with the CEN to ensure there is properly a planned and timetabled process for reviewing commissioning and grants to the voluntary sector so that organisations know what the options are, have time to plan for the future and are not put into jeopardy because of the cack-handed way the council deal with it.

### How do you believe the voluntary sector should be resourced? The sector is in dire need of premises in the borough, do you have any suggestions as to how you will tackle that need?

The Liberal Democrats have consistently fought for a properly resourced, all inclusive and all encompassing relationship between the voluntary sector and the London Borough of Hackney. The current situation does not fit in with our vision. We want to see an open partnership which would maximise the voluntary sectors' ability to establish strong core funding. We believe that if the voluntary sector is properly resourced then it would be able to procure its own services, such as premises in the open marketplace. We would set up a small team within the Council to provide support and assistance to enable the sector to source funding, not only from the local authority but from others such as the SRB, NRF, New Deal and EU funding.

### How does the £13.5m cut affect the voluntary sector budget for 2002/3 and how do you plan to provide a sustainable solution for the voluntary sector?

As I mentioned at the last Full Council, there is £3.8m of unspent Neighbourhood Renewal Fund for 2001/2. One of the highest priorities I would attach to this money would be to use some of this funding to stabilise the existing level of funding to the sector for the next financial year so that we have got time to work out a proper partnership - a Compact that both the voluntary sector and Council understands and sticks to. Frankly, people working out there need a year off - if we can do it with NRF then we should do it.

NRF is a short term solution to the problem because it is a short term funding programme. We would then have to look at the longer term issues in the context of the Council's budget. But I am fed up with easy cuts being imposed on the voluntary sector that, frankly, has had enough.

*If you would like to put your views to the Party Leaders about the future of voluntary sector and community groups in the borough then please write to:*

**[Councillor], c/o Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA**

# Chit Chong

## Leader, Green Party



### Tell us how you as the Leader of your Party see the role of the voluntary and community sector in a borough like Hackney?

Greens believe that the voluntary sector is one of the foundations of Hackney. At the individual level, people are working selflessly for the good of their communities, in doing so they strengthen the community and Hackney as a whole. The groups that make up the voluntary sector support and magnify their individual efforts. Individually these groups are already tackling important issues ranging from ill health to the protection of the environment. I think that by linking together voluntary groups can help to tackle some of the underlying problems of Hackney, including deprivation, crime, lack of parenting support and lack of youth provision.

### Do you think there is a need for a voluntary sector compact?

I don't know the details of the compact. One of the problems in society is the fact that the power has gone up. When you involve people in politics, you are giving people an independent voice. I think getting the voluntary sector much more involved in the Town hall is very important. One of the problems we have encountered in Hackney is there hasn't been that openness. The voluntary sector is a key partner. You have to involve them, the sector has got to say what it has encountered and what is happening. The Council has to be open to the voluntary sector. Part of the problem is that people aren't investing enough in the community. So many people move in and out of the borough - you really have to nurture communities.

I know what happens and I know that people are wasting a lot of time, worrying about it, keeping their staff in limbo and not being able to match fund. For all the amount the Council cuts groups the voluntary sector loses more in terms of time spent worry and lost opportunities. I think the Council made a thoughtless mistake not telling people the grant situation until late in the year. Arguably the better way would be to let people know 3 months before. But this doesn't answer the question of the broken promise over the three year funding agreement with the sector. Basically, Hackney is bankrupt - funding the voluntary sector, however important it is in a place like Hackney is something that can be cut. So, however much councillors like myself and voluntary sector people fight against the cuts, the money just isn't there. Everything just sort of grinds to a halt.

### How do you believe the voluntary sector should be resourced? The sector is in dire need of premises in the borough, do you have any suggestions as to how you will tackle that need?

Hackney's financial crisis which has built up over the past decades will continue to cause problems for the voluntary sector, both as a result of cuts to the Council's revenue funding and also because of the sale of premises which helps groups start and grow. I think that the past 4 years, in which voluntary groups were left without clear information about their funding, must end. This may have saved the Council money, but the effort which groups had to make to win the money no doubt resulted in lost services to their clients, as well as lost funding opportunities from other bodies. Even if there are to be cuts, the Council needs to give bankable projections of funding to voluntary groups. The method of doing this should be openly negotiated between the Council and the voluntary groups rather than being imposed. To make up for the short fall, the Council should help groups tap into other sources of funding such as the NRF and charitable trusts. However, given the state of the Council, I think that the more independent the voluntary sector is, the better. One way to help do this would be to set up a charitable Hackney Trust to fund voluntary groups. This Trust could seek money from outside as well as raise money within Hackney. Even though Hackney is one of the most deprived boroughs, some residents have high incomes and would like to help Hackney improve, but would not trust the Council to put it to good use.

As far as premises are concerned, I think the first step is to put a moratorium on the sell off of community spaces. If they have to be sold, it should only be to organisations like the Ethical Property Company who are looking to buy the Old Fire Station in Leswin Road and who are committed to keeping it for community use. Secondly, the Council should demand a contribution from developers, or planning gain, to go towards more community facilities like doctor's surgeries, nurseries, green spaces and community centres. Up to now, the Council has allowed developers to make vast profits from Hackney and despite the environmental and social impact of their developments, failed to demand this contribution. Finally, the voluntary sector also has a role, in making as much use of existing premises as possible. This should also be shared with new groups, especially if the property in question was given over by the Council for community use.

### How does the £13.5m cut affect the voluntary sector budget for 2002/3 and how do you plan to provide a sustainable solution for the voluntary sector?

Because its such a headline thing and the whole budget strategy is by and large a government document, there is virtually no leeway for the council. That's why we don't have anyone else proposing an alternative budget. You've got to have government approval. **[This means that core funding is seriously under threat next year?]** Yes. Unless the government coughs up more money. I believe it is a period of uncertainty in which the council can't be trusted to play it's full part - not that they are being malicious, their hands are tied by government. They can try to improve services and collect more council tax.

## More Neighbourhood Renewal grants for learners

A total of £10million will be available from the Government's new Skills and Knowledge Programme as part of the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal. It aims to help everybody involved in neighbourhood renewal from local residents to regeneration practitioners and civil servants to acquire the skills and knowledge that they need in order to create lasting change in their communities. Grants of up to £5000 will be available in addition to the existing community chest programme. See Neighbourhood Renewal update for more information on page 7.

## New publication on social exclusion

The Social Exclusion Unit is about to publish a quarterly newsletter for those involved in tackling social exclusion. It will be available from March. For more details contact the Social Exclusion Unit otherwise drop in to HCVS to view a copy.

## Government acts to reduce burden on councils

The Review of Local Authority Statutory and Non-Statutory Service and Policy Requirements has been published by Local Government Minister, Alan Whitehead. It focuses on how the government intends to reduce the number of plans that councils are required to make, so that they can pay more attention to improving public services. This is building on the Local Government White Paper, Strong Leadership - Quality Public Services, that gives councils the space to innovate by removing unnecessary burdens. LVSC have produced an excellent summary. Call Andrew Mackie for more details on 020 7700 8124 or email [andrew@lvsc.org.uk](mailto:andrew@lvsc.org.uk)

## London Assembly report investigates regeneration role in the capital

In an interview with New Start magazine, Councillor Eric Ollerenshaw, Chair of the London Assembly's Economic Development Committee has demanded that the LDA becomes more transparent if it is to take over Government Office for London's social regeneration budget as part of an enquiry launched by the Mayor into whether Londoners have received value for money from the £3.2bn spent on regeneration between 1995 and 2001.

## Review of ALG funding consultation paper

The ALG have produced a consultation document on their draft policy framework for future funding. The four sectors under review include arts and culture, legal and advice, regeneration and sustainability, and women. The deadline for responses is Monday 8th April 2002. Contact Paula Ghosh on 020 7934 9840 email [paula.ghosh@alg.gov.uk](mailto:paula.ghosh@alg.gov.uk)

## Greater accountability for public funds

Treasury Chief Secretary, Andrew Smith announced improved scrutiny of Government bodies and greater accountability for

the use of public funds in order to improve transparency. [www.hmtreasury.gov.uk/](http://www.hmtreasury.gov.uk/)

## New best value indicators help deliver planning reform

Best value planning indicators, aimed at speeding up decision-making, will allow separate deadlines for handling applications from businesses and householders. Minimum targets have been set for the 78 worst performing councils and the Government can take action when a council performs badly. The new targets, drawn up in consultation with local authorities and planning experts, will come into force on 1st April. [www.press.dtlr.gov.uk](http://www.press.dtlr.gov.uk)

## Government launches pamphlet on reforming public services

The Government will distribute 10 000 pamphlets on reform of public services to public sector workers, including health authorities, local authorities, public, voluntary and private organisations. [www.number-10.gov.uk/](http://www.number-10.gov.uk/)

## Changing race relations: race equality schemes and policies

A new report, "Changing Race Relations" has been produced by the Commission on British Muslims and Islamophobia. It suggests new legislation on race will fail because racism is more than exclusion and discrimination based on skin colour. It recommends that racial equality schemes and policies should refer to religious and cultural diversity as well as to colour. Email [bmicom@freenet.co.uk](mailto:bmicom@freenet.co.uk) for a copy.

## First Chief Executive for new Sector Skills Development Agency (SSDA)

Christopher Duff has been appointed as Chief Executive of the SSDA as part of the Government's drive to increase skills and productivity in industry and business. [www.dfes.gov.uk/](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/)

## Young people to have say in education policy

Consultation is now under way to encourage young people to have their say in the future of education for 14 to 19 year olds. Responses and comments should be made by 31st May 2002. To enquire telephone 0870 000 2288 or email [info@dfes.gov.uk](mailto:info@dfes.gov.uk)

## Developing expertise in the Community Legal Service

The Legal Services Commission is inviting applications to participate in the expansion of its Methods of Delivery (Specialist Support) Pilot. The aim of this project is to explore models for providing expert legal consultancy, casework mentoring and tailored training to Community Legal Service civil law suppliers. [www.access-funds.co.uk/Funding\\_Initiatives/Mar02/CLS.html](http://www.access-funds.co.uk/Funding_Initiatives/Mar02/CLS.html)

## Funds to help older people live independently

A £66m fund has been launched to help reduce the number of

elderly going into hospital unnecessarily, to help people cope when they come out, and to provide long term care only when it is absolutely necessary. [www.number-10.gov.uk/](http://www.number-10.gov.uk/)

## New curriculum opens English language learning for millions

Minister for Adult Skills, John Healey, launched English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) a national curriculum for people who do not have English as their first language. You can find out about free courses by calling GetOn on 08000 150 650.

## New funding boost to help local e-learning foundations take off

Adult Skills Minister, John Healey, announced £500,000 towards the e-learning Foundation that will provide portable computers and internet access to children from low income families. More info from [www.dfes.gov.uk](http://www.dfes.gov.uk)

## New help for people to get on top of their finances

Education and Skills Secretary, Estelle Morris, launched a new pilot scheme that works through local partnerships to give opportunities to families in deprived areas. The Community Finance and Learning Initiative aims to improve financial literacy and increases access to basic financial services and is part of the Skills for Life Strategy. Areas included for the pilot are Ellesmere Port, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Cambridge, Cumbria, Leicester, Coventry, Walsall and Birmingham. More info from [www.dfes.gov.uk](http://www.dfes.gov.uk)

## More time for transfer - better for tenants

New arrangements to improve housing for tenants were announced by Lord Falconer. Local Authorities will now be given 2 years to complete the housing transfer. This means more time to consult and involve tenants on decisions about their housing services. More info from [www.press.dtlr.gov.uk](http://www.press.dtlr.gov.uk)

## Migrants add £2.5bn to public purse

Migrants contributed £31.2bn in taxes and used £2.8bn in benefits according to a new Home office report.

## Fair Share of Community Fund

The Community Fund is working with the New Opportunities fund to target areas who have not received as much Lottery Funding as other areas. Tessa Jowell made a formal announcement about this on Friday 29th February. More details from Rachel Harper London Inquiries Officer 020 7587 6609

## Community Fund priorities to change

The Community Fund will be changing its priorities from April 2002. The current funding priorities will be applicable as will the 'old' application forms until 28th June. More details from Rachel Harper London Inquiries Officer 020 7587 6609.

## Community Renewables initiative (England)

The £1.6 million Community Renewables initiative will set up local support teams in 10 areas covering half of England. The support teams will help local people and organisations devise renewable energy schemes suited to their area. [www.access-funds.co.uk/](http://www.access-funds.co.uk/)

## Developing expertise in the Community Legal Service (England)

The Legal Services Commission is inviting applications to participate in the expansion of its Methods of Delivery (Specialist Support) Pilot. The aim of this project is to explore models for providing expert legal consultancy, casework mentoring and tailored training to Community Legal Service civil law suppliers. [www.access-funds.co.uk/](http://www.access-funds.co.uk/)

## Specialist disability support for adults (UK)

The Employment Service has recently changed the way in which it contracts with programme providers as part of the Welfare to Work agenda. They now intend to extend this approach to those organisations that provide specialist disability support for adults. [www.access-funds.co.uk/](http://www.access-funds.co.uk/)

## Greater access rights for visually impaired people

Two million people in the UK with sight loss are to benefit from new plans to improve access to information and literature. The Copyright (Visually Impaired Persons) Bill should allow easier access to alternative formats of copyright material. Currently, permission is needed before materials can be put into large print, Braille and audio tape. This process has been time consuming in the past, which has meant visually impaired people often miss out. [www.number-10.gov.uk/](http://www.number-10.gov.uk/)

## Youth Music's New Funding Programmes (England)

The National Foundation for Youth Music (Youth Music) will launch a new phase of initiatives, partnerships, and funding programmes this month that will assist the promotion and celebration of music-making for children and young people until 2005. [www.access-funds.co.uk/](http://www.access-funds.co.uk/)

## Local news

### Leading race relation figure dies

Dudley Dryden, one half of the first black business in London, Dyke & Dryden, and one time chair of Hackney Racial Equality Council has passed away. He was always active in race relations issues and, along with Alan Badman and local GP Dr. Colin Freeman (now dead) was a founder member of the Hackney Council of Citizens - Hackney's first Race Relations organisation in 1966.



This article describes the first phase of a pilot project which has brought together Turkish Speaking young people and their parents and the African Caribbean community on an estate in Woodberry Down where racial incidents are commonplace.

**D**iffuse Racial Tensions - raise achievement levels, initiated by FATAL (For the Advancement of Turkish-Speakers Arts and Literature) and funded through Woodberry Down SRB community chest programme, started in September 2001 and examined strategies to deal with racial tensions

Many of these young people had never taken part in youth activity before. The older young people volunteered to take care of the younger ones in the sessions thus acting as mentors. Throughout the activities they found ways of involving them, teaching them to use the cameras and helping workshop leaders to run sessions for

## Diffusing the

amongst young people and amongst their parents on the Woodberry Down estate. The project aimed to divert young people from potentially criminal activity, improve their school performance, instill a sense of leadership through peer mentoring and encourage Turkish-Speaking and African-Caribbean professionals themselves to become mentors.

One local parent summed up the prospects for her children when she said: "There hasn't been a project around here for us as Turkish Speaking families all the time I've lived here. I am afraid for my children. I don't allow them out on the Estate. But I can't keep them locked up. They need to play, let off steam and meet up with their friends."

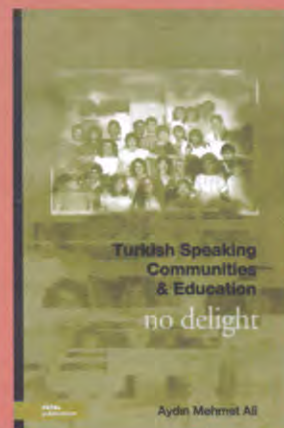
Over the four months the project coordinators, Aydin Mehmet Ali and Mahmut Kunter, ran a series of sessions in different venues for both the young and their parents examining themes of identity, perception, migration and stereotypes using the Arts as the medium to do so. Artists, writers and university students worked as workshop leaders and volunteers on the project as well as local parents.

In total 39 Turkish Speaking young people from 5 to 14 years old took part.

them. This helped the younger ones feel part of the sessions but also helped to develop leadership and mentoring skills in the older age group. The successes of the project are both immediate and long term particularly for the 17 parents involved. The Turkish Speaking parents had never been involved in such activities before. The project gave them the opportunity to voice their concerns, identify a work programme, identify future directions and help run project activities. Many explored their own educational needs. One is in the process of enrolling for an NNEB course next year. The project leaders helped her identify a course, took her to Hackney Community College, introduced her to tutors and to a Mother and Toddler Group coordinator where she will work as a volunteer gaining experience and confidence in working with young children. Another is watching her closely as she also wants to follow a similar route but does not feel confident enough to do it yet. Two mothers want to be involved in creative activities and have ideas of setting up a market stall selling ceramics and hand-made objects. They were assisted in finding courses and business advisers to explore their ideas. One parent wants to improve her English and is attending courses. She particularly felt the

## book review

*No Delight* is the most comprehensive book to date about the Turkish Speaking Communities in the UK. Utilising lots of information, experience and case studies from Hackney, this book is a must for all involved in or working with the Cypriot-Turkish, Turkish and Kurdish communities. There are chapters on: the history of educational underachievement in the TSCs over the last 30 years; an analysis of Key Stage assessments results for Turkish Speaking young people in nine London LEAs; parental views on the education of bilingual nursery aged children; and the diverse educational needs and aspirations of Turkish Speaking women as adult learners.



Aydin Mehmet Ali is a well known intellectual community activist and international education consultant. She has set up many projects and initiatives over the past

30 years tackling underachievement and widening participation in all phases of education. In *No Delight*, Aydin tells the stories of young people, women and adults ensuring their voices are heard alongside the academic research evidence.

Priced £10 + pp. Further details from FATAL Publications 020 7254 0692 email: fatal@freezone.co.uk

bilingual approach of the project was helpful as well as the knowledge that she could ask for help. Some parents wanted further sessions on health related issues following some yoga sessions. All parents requested a parenting skills course to help them in dealing with the complex issues their children face as they grow up in a multi-cultural and multi-lingual setting.

The role-playing and situational element of the project not only raised aspirations and confidence amongst parents and children but also proved helpful in diffusing

ownership for the club and planned to design membership cards and elect a management group. They developed their own skills in the Arts using different materials, using a camera and video camera as they filmed the activities throughout the life of the Project. They developed mentoring skills in activities with younger people and in helping to work with the workshop leaders.

Young people were assisted in their homework both during the Arts workshops and the Homework Club which was set up towards the end of the project. One of the most

was delivered organising an ice-skating outing, the final event exhibition and arrangements, and ensuring that guests from the African and African-Caribbean communities felt welcomed.

Things look promising on the estate in the future as the Turkish Speaking and African Caribbean communities are keen to continue their joint activities as a youth group and want to continue organising events and steering the running of the project.

The Diffuse Racial Tensions - raise achievement levels project culminated in a joint exhibition of

work, supporting each other, cooking for the final event, putting up the exhibition and recording the activities of the project. Much of the work, about 300 hours worth, was carried out by dedicated volunteers. London Guildhall University students volunteered as workshop leaders; friends of project leaders and parents were also involved in outreach work, preparing the exhibition and organising the joint event with the African and A-Caribbean young people and parents.

Grants are being sought by the project coordinators to take the project into its second phase and a new venue needs to be found for the young people's activities. One of the project leaders, Aydin says:

**"I am optimistic that African Caribbean and Turkish-Speaking parents, young people and professionals will make a difference on the estate. This project can be successfully repeated in other parts of Hackney and London where such tensions exist".**

## racial tension

racial tensions and tackling stereotypes.

Of the 39 young people who participated in the youth sessions, none had attended any activities or used any of the facilities on the Woodberry Down Estate before. They developed a sense of

important aspects for the young people was developing their confidence in participation, questioning, discussion, group decision making, and offering solutions to problems. The young people helped to develop the programme and in turn took responsibility for making sure it

art materials produced during the project including a video and photographs of Turkish Speaking families and African-Caribbean young people and their parents.

Significantly, parents and young people contributed throughout the project by doing outreach

## local people: in their own words

**FATMA** has lived on the Estate for eleven years with her son and daughter and is one of the active parents in the Project. She says that the situation on the Estate is worsening,

"Just after New Year, two school children were attacked and

for two weeks. Two days ago we were imprisoned in our flat. I couldn't take the children to school. I couldn't open the door. A group of young people, around 17-18 always gather on the stairways and inhale drugs. They pass out on the stairs. It's very frightening.

should be special projects for them. Our Project was the only place I could take my children. There hasn't been a project around here for us as Turkish Speaking families all the time I've lived here. I am afraid for my children. I don't allow them out on the Estate. But I can't

Hackney Community College, discussed education and we had an exhibition of our work."

**UFUK** 13) attends Islington Arts and Media School and lives on the Estate. "We did lots of activities. Students from London Guildhall University helped us. We did Art,

## There hasn't been a project around here for us as Turkish Speaking families all the time I've lived here. I am afraid for my children.

severely beaten by a group of 10-11, 14-15 year olds. No one went to help them. Everyone watched from their windows. In Turkey people would have intervened. One week later two Turkish Speaking university students were beaten so badly that one had a brain haemorrhage and was in a coma

Usually the Jewish man from downstairs comes and scares them away. This time I couldn't find him."

She thinks that the present school policies are leading to too many exclusions.

"There is nothing for young people to do once they are excluded. There

keep them locked up. They need to play, let off steam and meet up with their friends. The Project is good for our children and us as parents and now we will work more closely with the African and African-Caribbean families. So far we did Drama, Art work, visited

learnt to use a video camera, went out and we had help with our homework". Ozlem (8) attends Woodberry Down School. "We had fun! We are with our friends. We can't get out. They beat up our friend. He lives downstairs. A bunch of 8-9 year olds beat him up. We are afraid."

## Introducing Derman – for the well-being of the Kurdish & Turkish communities

Algin Saydar, Director of Derman, presents the **second part** of her feature on the Turkish and Kurdish communities in Hackney, talking about the work of her organisation



operate effectively. Derman is an integral part of that infrastructure and one our communities have created for themselves.

Secondly, Derman is also an excellent example of holistic care, the importance of which is increasingly recognized today. An individual needs to be treated as a whole person not just as having an illness or a problem. Otherwise that individual is confronted by a separate collection of services often unrelated to each other and they fall between the gaps.

**“An individual needs to be treated as a whole person not just as having an illness or a problem”**

To overcome this, our service offered an advocacy service from which to build integrated responses to the health and social care needs of people in our communities.

Ten years ago Derman was started by members of the Turkish and Kurdish communities, FHSA and local GPs as The Health Advocacy and Counseling Services for Turkish and Kurdish Speaking Communities. It was then one of the very first advocacy services and one of the first to be based firmly within its client community. It was a pioneer then and still is. Now with a new name, Derman [meaning strength, solution, cure in both Kurdish and Turkish], a new logo and a new home, the service is growing and expanding into new areas of need and will, no doubt, continue to do so for the next ten years and beyond.

Although there is a welcome increase in such services in Britain today, Derman remains unique and provides a model for others to learn from for two essential reasons:-

Derman is good example of a self-help organization springing out of its constituent community. London is a truly multi-lingual, multi-cultural city - a vital resource for this country and its residents. The Turkish and Kurdish people are prominent communities within this "world" city and make a key contribution to its economy, gastronomy and culture. Any resource needs an infrastructure to

There are now over 70,000 Turkish and Kurdish people living in North and East London, mainly in the Boroughs of Hackney, Islington, Camden, Haringey, Enfield, Waltham Forest and Newham. In the last year Derman has seen over 10000 of these people in Hackney as clients. Derman clients today are predominantly refugees and asylum seekers and the majority of these have arrived in Britain within the last 10 years.

Although a bilingual facility the Derman Advocacy Service is not about interpreting. It is about opening up routes of access to public services by facilitating linguistic and cultural communication, - as well as a two-way information flow between service providers and their clients. It enables patients and carers to make fully informed choices and decisions about the care a patient will receive and then supports patients in whatever decisions they make. It is about including the presently excluded. Advocates support both patients and carers ensuring that their viewpoints are known, while also interpreting for them in their consultations with the relevant service providers. It provides an insight for the health professionals into the world of people from the Kurdish and Turkish communities to ensure the delivery of culturally

appropriate, bi-lingual services.

As further needs have been identified through the work of Derman's Advocates, new projects are constantly being instigated to address them. Last year was no exception to this approach in that several key initiatives were developed in response to the emerging needs of our communities. Now together with the Advocacy Service the following main projects make up much of Derman's expanding portfolio:

**Counseling** - has up to 50 clients, often women suffering depression or with relationship problems, seen individually each month from one of 7 GP surgeries or Health Centres.

**Mental Health Support** - working with health professionals and the Turkish and Kurdish

speaking communities to deal with acute mental health issues faced by those communities.

**Welfare Rights and Benefits Service** - this valuable service which was instrumental in reducing poverty within our communities was temporarily suspended due to cuts but will soon be made available for another six months.

**Smoking Cessation** - helping people to give up smoking for health improvement. A six-month project from January 2000 that was so successful that it is still running.

**Parenting Support** - offering parenting classes and parenting packages which are particularly relevant to the Turkish and Kurdish speaking communities.

**Education Advocacy**-we are moving into a new field this year: that of education advocacy. We are looking to ways of improving the educational achievement of Kurdish and Turkish children and relations between schools and parents through this work.

Derman will continue to grow as there is a growing need. Derman not only listens to people and spreads the word on salient issues, but also responds to the changing needs of our communities in order to remain effective.

For further information, contact:

*Derman, The Basement, 66 New North Road, London, N1 6PG T: 020 7613 5944, F: 020 7739 7893 algin@derman.org.uk*

## Welfare services for Somalis

ISCOM (International Somali Community Trust) was set up in 1994 when LB Hackney Social Services started them off by giving them financial assistance. ISCOM is part of Hackney Refugee Training Consortium which represents the seven refugee organisations in Hackney.

It was originally established as a small local project to address the immediate welfare needs of the Somali community in Hackney. This continued for a while and was completely voluntarily staffed by volunteers. In 1994 ISCOM became a registered charity.

ISCOM provide a variety of services and have to be flexible to meet the needs of their users.

"As the needs of the community have changed, we changed. We help people get into a jobs, provide homecare services for elder Somalia people, and we also provide homesitting for informal carers. Recently, we provide transport for a pilot homecare scheme run by social services where carers are recruited from the community", says Ahmed Hadi Said, coordinator.

ISCOM run a families' drop in centre for advice, information and befriending and welfare services. They also provide cultural activities - festivals, get togethers and parties for the Somali community. Most of their funding is from Hackney Social Services as a grant, but they also get contracts for homecare.

Speaking of their future Mr Said says, "We have put in an application for the neighbourhood renewal community chest programme to allow users of ISCOM to access the internet and improve their knowledge."

*If you would like to know more about the project, please contact Ahmed Hadi Said on 020 8806 6565. If you would like to access women's services contact Zahra O' Suddan on 020 8806 6565.*

## Asylum and immigration in Europe

The UN High Commission for Refugees has recently reported that in the last two decades of the 20th century, 8.4 million people applied for asylum in leading industrialised countries, with Europe becoming the largest recipient of refugees.

In 2000 alone, just under 400,000 asylum seekers lodged applications in the 15 EU countries - with the majority coming from former Yugoslavia, Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran. Asylum applications in the UK have reflected this EU wide trend. In 2000, the number of asylum applications made was 80,315 compared to 71,160 in 1999. The UK has now overtaken Germany as the country receiving the largest number of asylum applications in Europe.

The EU has attempted to unify its approach and policies to refugees. The Refugee Convention (1951) and, more recently, the Treaty of Amsterdam (1999) and the Laeken European Council (2001) have all committed the EU to developing

common binding refugee policies.

Despite this, in practice, there are significant differences between European countries - including the definition of refugee status itself. Countries vary widely in their initial reception of refugees, the length of time taken to process requests, the number of outstanding applications, and the support and opportunities available to refugees while they wait to be processed. It is possible for countries to use these differences as a deterrent to refugees, leading many asylum seekers to pass from one European country to another before applying for asylum.

At present in the UK, asylum seekers can expect an allowance of around £30 per week, mostly in vouchers. If they are destitute, they will also qualify for state accommodation, which may involve them being dispersed across the country. Asylum seekers can apply for the right to work after six months, but they lose



their voucher entitlements if they find work. Access to education and health care is available to all, and psychological treatment is available in many parts of the country for victims of torture.

A White Paper has recently been released, outlining comprehensive measures to reform the immigration, nationality and asylum system in Britain. For more information on the proposals being considered, see the link in the section on 'Asylum in the UK' below.

The European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) provides information about the differences between European countries and the variations in legal and social conditions for refugees. Visit the report in the section on 'Current policy in the EU' below.

### Useful websites about EU and UK legislation and practices

#### United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<http://www.unhcr.ch/>

Mandated by the United Nations to lead and co-ordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and the resolution of refugee problems.

#### European Union (EU)

<http://europa.eu.int/>

The EU is the result of a process of co-operation and integration between Member States which began in 1951. The EU today has fifteen member states.

#### European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)

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

An umbrella organisation of 72 refugee-assisting agencies in 28 countries working towards fair and humane policies for the treatment of asylum seekers and refugees.

#### LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

##### Charter of Fundamental Rights

<http://ue.eu.int/df/default.asp?lang=en>

Protection of fundamental rights is a founding principle of the European Union and has been enshrined in this Charter since December 2000.

##### Convention relating to the Status of Refugees

[http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/o\\_c\\_ref.htm](http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/o_c_ref.htm)

Adopted on 28 July 1951 by the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons.

##### Tampere European Council, October 1999

<http://ue.eu.int/Newsroom/LoadDoc.cfm?Max=1&DOC=!!!&BID=76&DID=59122&GRP=2017&LANG=1>

In October 1999 at Tampere, Finland, the European Union agreed to work towards a common asylum and migration policy. This

document includes conclusions and discussion points from this meeting.

##### Treaty of Amsterdam, 1999

<http://europa.eu.int/scadplus/leg/en/vb/a11000.htm>

Information on visas, asylum, immigration and other policies relating to the free movement of people. This outlines a commitment of the European Union to develop common, binding refugee policies.

##### The Laeken European Council

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice\\_home/news/laecken\\_council/en/asylum\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/news/laecken_council/en/asylum_en.htm)

Information from the Laeken European Council discussions on asylum and immigration.

##### CURRENT POLICY IN THE EU

##### Conditions for asylum seekers and refugees

<http://www.ecre.org/drc/contents.shtml>

Report on social and legal conditions for asylum seekers and refugees in Western Europe in 2000.

##### European asylum procedures

[http://www.ecre.org/ue\\_developments/procedures.shtml](http://www.ecre.org/ue_developments/procedures.shtml)

Information on common standards of asylum procedures.

##### The EU asylum agenda

[http://www.ecre.org/policy/ue\\_developments.shtml](http://www.ecre.org/policy/ue_developments.shtml)

Developments in the EU asylum agenda.

##### Refugees and terrorism

<http://www.ecre.org/terrorism/index.shtml>

Dedicated to inter-governmental developments on terrorism, with reference to asylum issues.

CONTINUED ON PAGE xxx

**Qualification for refugee status**  
[http://www.ecre.org/eu\\_developments/qual.shtml](http://www.ecre.org/eu_developments/qual.shtml)  
 Information on qualifying for refugee status and other forms of protections.

**ASYLUM IN THE UK**

**Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**  
<http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts1999/19990033.htm>  
 The law on entry into the UK.

**Secure Borders, Safe Haven - Integration with Diversity in Modern Britain**  
<http://www.official-documents.co.uk/document/cm53/5387/cm5387.htm>  
 Government White Paper (February 2002) outlining proposed reform of asylum and immigration policies.

**Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IND)**  
<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/>  
 Information on government policy on asylum seekers and on immigration rules in the UK.

**Research Development Statistics**  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration1.htm>  
 Provides a wide range of facts and figures on asylum and immigration in the UK.

**Asylum Statistics: 3rd Quarter, 2001**  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/asylumq31.pdf>  
 The most recent government asylum statistics, from July to September 2001.

**The National Asylum Support Service (NASS)**  
<http://194.203.40.90/default.asp?pageid=89>  
 Support for asylum seekers, including information on the government's voucher and dispersal schemes.

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS (REGIONAL)**

**Immigration Advisory Service (IAS)**  
<http://www.iasuk.org/>  
 An independent non-governmental organisation giving free and confidential legal advice and representation tailored to each client's needs.

**Refugee Council**  
<http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/>  
 An organisation in the UK working with asylum seekers and refugees.

**Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI)**  
<http://www.jcwi.org.uk/>  
 An independent voluntary organisation campaigning for justice and combating racism in immigration and asylum law and policy in the UK.

**Amnesty International (European Union Office)**  
<http://www.amnesty-eu.org/>  
 Works to promote all the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international standards.

**NGOs in Eastern Europe**  
<http://www.ecre.org/about/eecontacts.pdf>  
 A list of NGOs helping refugees in Eastern Europe.

**NGOs in Central Europe**  
<http://www.ecre.org/about/cedir.pdf>  
 A list of NGOs helping refugees in Central Europe.

**European Country of Origin Information Network**  
<http://www.ecoi.net/>  
 Provides access to information about the situation in countries of origin, for lawyers, volunteer and professional refugee counsels, and asylum authorities.

## BEMWG gets a brand new image

We have changed our logo so that it helps to give us a clear and distinct image that is easily recognisable. We intend to use this logo on all our stationary and display it at all our events or activities. Over time we hope that people become aware of our brand image and what it means in terms of the work that BEMWG is undertaking throughout the health and social care sector.

As part of our activities we will be holding this year's AGM at the Trinity Centre on Beechwood Road, Dalston. It is to take place on the 18th April 2002, starting from 10.30 a.m. when voting of the Management Committee will take place. This is to be followed by a short presentation on BEMWG's achievements over the last year. Everyone is welcome to attend, though we would ask that you advise the Co-ordinator if you are planning to attend so that lunches can be ordered and any special dietary needs catered for.

It's been an up and down year that has seen our Healthy Living

Centre bid turned down by the New Opportunities Fund, despite the considerable work with various groups that took place. Regardless of this set back we continue to represent our members views at various Health and Social Care Meetings, including the main decision making part of the Primary Care Trust (PCT), its Partnership Board and also at its health strategy arm, the Health Improvement and Modernisation Board (HIMP). We continue to work with other partner groups, such as HCVS, which enabled us to jointly bring to the attention of all BEMWG members information about the current round of Community Chest funding.

Our priorities for the next year include finalising our charity status and also looking at options for moving to independent offices, which is inline with our plans to develop BEMWG's capabilities. As a way of helping to further develop our members' core skills and organisational capabilities we are currently

looking at how we can access funding from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund through the PCT to enable us to do this effectively. This is a major opportunity to help develop our members and those community groups that are not always included in such initiatives. So if you want to become involved in the work that BEMWG is undertaking or just want to become a member contact the Co-ordinator (details listed below).

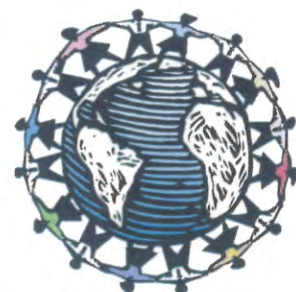
BEMWG's role is to represent the views and concerns of black and ethnic minority community organisations and individuals, focusing on issues relating to the Health and Social Care sector within City and Hackney. Additionally, views are represented from carers and users of services; black and ethnic minority employees within this broad sector, whether working in the voluntary or statutory sector.

Manish Shah, BEMWG Co-ordinator, BEMWG, 62 Beechwood Road, Hackney, London, E8 3DY T 020 7241 2244 F 020 7241 2280

# BEMWG

Black and Ethnic Minority Working Group  
 Working with minority communities within  
 the Health and Social Care Sector

BEMWG will be holding its  
**Annual General Meeting**  
 on Thursday 18 April 2002



**Venue: -**  
**The Trinity Centre,**  
**Beechwood Road,**  
**Dalston, E8 3DY**

10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Management Committee elections to take place  
 from 10.30 a.m. followed by a report on  
 achievements over the past year.

**Everyone welcome – RSVP (latest by 12 April)**

Lunch will be provided. Any special dietary or other requirements please contact the BEMWG Co-ordinator, Manish Shah **ASAP** on 020 7241 2244, Fax 020 7241 2280.

**Have you applied for your freedom pass yet? If not, telephone Hackney's Social Services on 020 8356 4321 and demand an application form. Your freedom pass is a right not a privilege.**

**Has Social Services asked you for more information? Has your application for a freedom pass been turned down?**

**If YES, then Hackney's Disabled People's freedom pass Campaign would like you to be aware of the following:**

Hackney's Social Services might "invite" you to attend an examination, which will be carried out by one of Hackney's Occupational Therapists. You might want to take another person with you to sit in on the examination. You should let Hackney's Social Services know if you have concerns over who will be examining you.

**If you are turned down for a freedom pass – appeal!**

- If your application for a freedom pass is turned down Social Services should explain how they reached their decision. Hackney Council's Social Services have been attempting to intimidate us but don't be afraid to challenge their decision.
- Social Services should send you form FP8 with the letter of refusal. There is no time limit for your appeal, but Social Services must notify you in writing within 10 working days of receiving your appeal. They must review the case and make a further decision within 21 days of receiving your appeal. The appeal will be considered by Social Services' own medical assessors, usually OTs and the panel must include other officers who were not the original decision-makers.
- In your appeal, you should address any wrong conclusions the Council made from your application, repeating information from your initial application if necessary. If you were told you had insufficient medical evidence, you should stress that the appeal officer must contact your GP/consultant. (Let your doctor know the full extent of your disabilities).
- In your appeal we suggest that you give Hackney Social Services a detailed explanation of your disabilities and impairment(s) and the effects that they have (including side effects of medication).
- If you have disabilities such as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, M.E., asthma, arthritis or MS, a Sickle Cell disorder or HIV related illness - all of which can be fluctuating conditions -you will probably have worse days and better days. (Note: if you use expressions like "good days" it may be assumed that on those days you have no problems at all). Hackney Council's letter is designed not to cope with fluctuating conditions or multiple disabilities. People with fluctuating conditions could describe the effect of their disabilities based on what they can do on their very worst days. We also recommend, where possible, that you obtain medical evidence to support your case. However, you are not alone if you have difficulty obtaining the evidence!

If you are unable to access any information or form that Hackney Social Services sends you, because English is not your first language or the information is sent to you in an inaccessible format, contact Hackney Council and inform them of the type of support that you need.

Remember to keep all receipt(s) for any expenses that you may have incurred.

Hackney Council's new criteria for eligibility for the concessionary travel freedom pass is not in line with the Transport Act 2000, which stipulates that a person can have more than one impairment and that a person's condition may change and does not have to remain the same. Therefore the local authorities should not insist that a person's condition must have the same effects each day, but can vary, or that they only have one disability. All of these factors might contribute to make an individual eligible for the concession of a Freedom Pass.

You might be interested in joining Hackney's Disabled People's Freedom Pass Campaign. For more information contact: Sanusie Sesay at Disability Hackney on telephone: 020 7923 1962 or email the Campaign on [hackneyfreedompass@lycos.com](mailto:hackneyfreedompass@lycos.com)

For further details visit our website: [www.angelfire.com/folk/hackneyfreedom](http://www.angelfire.com/folk/hackneyfreedom)

For legal advice contact: DaRT – 020 7241 2111 Hackney Citizens Advice Bureau – 0870 126 4013 (between 1pm and 4pm) Hackney Community Law Centre – 020 8985 8364 (between 10am and 4pm) Disability Law Service – 020 78318031

This information was produced by the Hackney Disabled People's Freedom Pass Campaign and contains suggestions only. No responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of any statement can be accepted by Hackney Disabled People's Freedom Pass Campaign. If you have suggestions for improvement, amendment, corrections or editing, please make forward them to the campaign.

## LSC widens its funding remit and broadens scope

London East Learning and Skills Council has just published its funding priorities for 2002 setting out how it will make £25 million available through its Development Fund. It has restructured after its first year in operation and has tried to make its funding

Its current priorities for 2002 are based on the LSC's national and local strategies and the European Social Fund Objective 3 Regional Development Plan for London (LSC is a co-financing organisation for ESF). The priority areas are:

- adults
- young people
- workforce development
- community
- basic skills
- research

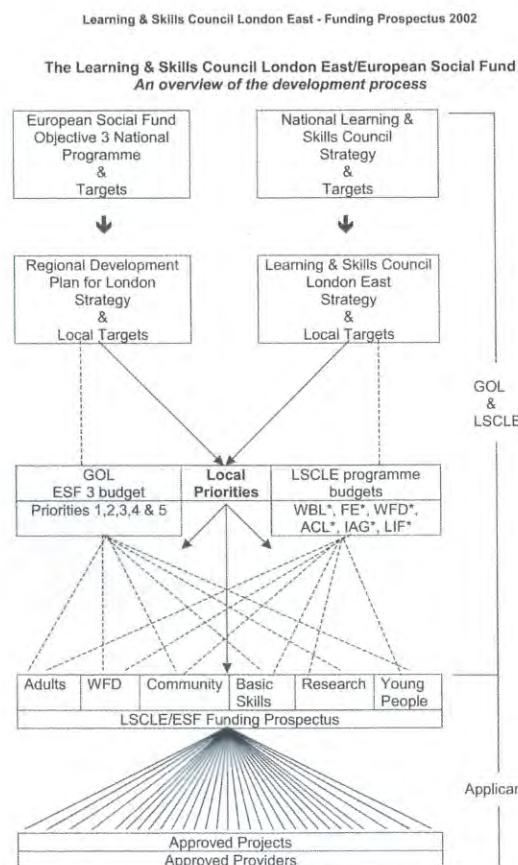
Each priority area is broken down in the funding prospectus to give you an indication as to whether or not it is worth you applying for funding. Successful applications will be funded through a combination of the LSC main programme budget and the ESF Objective 3 programme managed by LELSC.

The priority areas are more flexible this year therefore allowing a larger scope for voluntary and community organisations to be funded. In fact the prospectus says, "We are looking to expand and diversify our provider base in order to deliver our increasingly stretching targets and contribute to the delivery of the aims and objectives of the Regional Development Plan." The box opposite shows some of the activities in the community priority area that could be funded. The flow chart demonstrates

how the main funding programmes translate into local priorities.

There is no guidance on how each priority should be delivered which is why LELSC need your expertise as delivery organisations. Your application will be based on this and the application from focuses on what you propose to deliver, how you propose to deliver it, who you propose to deliver it to and the resources required to deliver it.

LELSC is keen to involve the voluntary and community sector to enable it to be more informed particularly in terms of its strategic



### LELSC funding priority: Community

- CO-1 Information, advice and guidance in the community
- CO-2 Better access to the labour market for the unemployed
- CO-3 Support into self-employment and for social enterprise
- CO-4 Neighbourhood renewal and community learning
- CO-5 Development of digital learning ring and creation of information and community technology (ICT) centres
- CO-6 Capacity building local community providers
- CO-7 Support for senior staff in community sector organisations
- CO-8 Capacity building the quality of voluntary and community sector employers
- CO-9 Encouraging employers to manage and benefit from diversity

Don't forget, many of the other priority areas may well be relevant.

approach and the collection of baseline information at a local level. It is also establishing a community team to further develop liaison with the voluntary sector.

For a full copy of the funding prospectus please visit [www.lsc.gov.uk/news\\_docs/ACF94FF.pdf](http://www.lsc.gov.uk/news_docs/ACF94FF.pdf) or contact London East Learning & Skills Council directly on 0845 019 5151.

email us @ [belcuda@bootstrap-enterprises.org](mailto:belcuda@bootstrap-enterprises.org).

Also of interest is Toynbee Hall's exciting new initiative the SAFE Project (Services Against Financial Exclusion). SAFE is funded entirely by private sector banks. SAFE will boost the financial capabilities of local residents and increase the options available to them. This will be through supporting the work of organisations already in existence in Tower Hamlets and, where there are gaps in provision, will fill them.

## Training for Credit Union workers

BELCUDA/NACUW (National Association of Credit Union Workers) has organised training for credit union workers from 1st July 2002. The Financial Services Authority will regulate all Credit Unions. Victoria Raffe, Head of Domestic Firms and Padraic Heneghan, Financial Services Authority facilitated the training and were on hand to answer any questions credit union workers had. The training was very well received and

credit union workers are now looking forward to the NACUW FSA checklist training @ The Print House on 12th June 2002.

BELCUDA is a credit union development agency that aims to create and support credit unions in North and East London with the aim of reducing financial exclusion.

If you would like to know more about BELCUDA, we can be contacted on Tel: 020 7254-6015 or

## Children's fund keen for Hackney applications

If you are a local group, perhaps of young people or parents, and you need up to £7000 to organise or run a project or activity with disadvantaged children and young people, the Children's Fund Local Network may be able to help.

Children's Fund Local Network is a Government initiative supported by the Children and Young People's Unit to help

### What types of activities will be given grants?

Your project or activity must fit into one of four themes:

- 1) Aspiration or experience – disadvantaged children miss out on experiences that others take for granted; groups can organise activities which help children and young people achieve life goals
- 2) Economic disadvantage –

### Who can apply?

Local Groups, which support children and young people from the ages of 0-19, facing disadvantage living in London boroughs, can apply. You can be an informal group, for example, of parents or young people with a good idea or plan.

Your group must have at least three volunteers to be actively

promoting political beliefs.

### How to apply

If you would like to apply for a grant from Children's Fund Local Network in London please call the National Application Line NOW on 0845 113 0161 and they will send you an application pack. Please be prepared to answer some questions regarding your group.

Would a grant of up to £7000 help you make the difference to the lives of children or young people from the ages of 0 – 19 years who face poverty or disadvantage?

children in poverty achieve their potential. It is managed by the Community Foundation Network.

Hackney has £143,342 to spend on children's and young peoples' groups and projects until 1st April 2002. There will be further grants available for the next two years. The local administrator for Hackney is East End Community Trust. London has around £2m to be distributed to local groups until March 2002 and over £3million in 2002 - 2003.

projects which help families living on a low income improve their living standards

3) Isolation and access – projects which can provide support and opportunities for children and young people that feel isolated or alone or having problems accessing services

4) Children's Voices – activities or projects that give children the chance to express their opinions and give advice on matters that concern them

helping in your project.

### Who cannot apply?

Individuals, statutory organisations – such as councils or schools, or national organisations

• Projects that only help one child or family

• Projects for personal profit

• Activities where the primary focus is to promote religious beliefs

• Political groups or activities

Children's Fund Local Network



London

Would a grant of up to £7000 help you make the difference to the lives of children or young people who face poverty or disadvantage?

## London grants for Golden Jubilee

On 10 January 2002, the Corporation of London's Bridge House Estates Trust Fund launched a new £2 million grants scheme to mark HM The

Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002. The programme will make grants to charitable organisations in Greater London with the aim of increasing the respect and understanding that people in the capital have for each other. It will also encourage organisations to work together in partnership with other voluntary or statutory agencies (including local authorities, the Police and schools), in the hope of producing more lasting and far reaching outcomes.

The programme has two broad themes:

1 **Safer London** – this may include projects addressing

crimes of prejudice, hate or discrimination; supporting victims of crime; work raising awareness and changing attitudes about other communities; schemes making older people feel safer in their own homes.

2 **Linking London's Communities** – supporting projects bringing communities together across a cultural, geographic or age divide; giving a voice to communities that feel marginalised; evaluating and disseminating principles of good practice in community development.

Applications will be received in

the period January-May 2002 and all will be assessed over the summer, with decisions announced in November. The scheme will not fund one-off Jubilee celebration events. The Trust will seek to work with funded groups to evaluate both individual schemes and the impact of the grants programme as a whole.

For an application pack please call the Golden Jubilee Grants Administrator: Lesley Darcy 020 7332 3127 or email [lesley.darcy@corpoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:lesley.darcy@corpoflondon.gov.uk)

**Alternatively, pop into HCVS – we have a few applications forms still available.**



# Youth parliament for Hackney

Hackney Council has agreed to set up a youth parliament. The deputation, led by Councillor Hettie Peters, and seconded by Councillor Jules Pipe calls for the views of the children and young people of Hackney to be heard and listened to.

Councillor Peters, who wishes to thank the young people involved so far says: "This motion is about giving children and young people in particular a voice that can be heard. It is also about our responsibility to listen to

that voice and to work with young people to give them a hand up in society. The motion is not about resources and funding. It is about our attitude to the



future and the quality of life that we are bequeating to the next generation. Every organisation must have a succession strategy. We had better start paying attention to this here in Hackney. There are others who step in and corrupt the agenda for us if we don't."

Ms Peters will be getting support from famous personalities in Hackney who have offered their support to the parliament. She also mentioned that there are examples of

good practice from other parts of the world where children and young people are recognised and treated as the citizens of the future.

Ms Peters hopes that the Youth Parliament will develop its own policy initiatives and take the lead in organising wider events in the Hackney. A report is being prepared by the Managing Director for the next full council meeting.

If you are under 18 years old (or you know someone who would be suitable) and you are interested in joining the parliament then don't hesitate to call Councillor Hettie Peters on 020 7241 4656.

## Calling all designers

Mazorca Projects is a not-for-profit organisation that coordinates a range of projects targeting East London designer-makers and craftspeople (from all backgrounds and at all stages of business development).

They would like to hear from voluntary groups and organisations with a view to involving members in Hidden Art initiatives (such as training and networking sessions and showcasing through the annual Hidden Art open studios event).

If you are interested in attending an initial meeting for voluntary groups or if you would like further information about Mazorca Projects and Hidden Art please contact, tel 020 7729 3301, email info@mazorcaprojects.com or visit www.hiddenart.com



# To Africa and back

Education Africa Teaching (E.A.T.) is an education initiative launched by Dakrobi. This pioneering new project is aimed at disadvantaged young people 14-25 of African origin in the UK. The E.A.T initiative is critical in light of the increasing problems of disaffection and violence particularly among young people in the Black community.

25 young people from E.A.T will visit Ghana, West Africa at the end of July 2002. The purpose of the trip is to learn about the culture and history of Africa. The group's itinerary will include attending Emancipation Day events and visits to Cape Coast Castle and Elmina Castle - significant landmarks in African and African Caribbean history. They will use their time in Ghana to share and exchange their skills with their African counter-parts. During the visit the group will be based in Tema and travel to Cape Coast, Accra, and Aburi for historical visits to two of the main castles, Cape Coast Castle and Elmina Castle, where Africans were kept before being taken away to be slaves. Team members will interview local people and interact with the community so they can get a firm understanding of the culture. The group will also

attend the Emancipation Day celebrations, an event that is dedicated to Africans (including African Caribbeans) in the Diaspora. The team will link with the Ghanaian dance group who visited Emashi while they were in England and forge new links.

The unique initiative is made possible by corporate and organisational sponsorships. The

**"I have met countless young Black people who have a thirst for knowledge about themselves and their history but with no 'well' to drink from" Ngozi, co-founder, EAT**

Princes Trust has sponsored 10 people. This leaves 15 people currently without sponsorship. Additional sponsorship is desperately needed. Black Britain have agreed to sponsor online coverage at www.blackbritain.co.uk.

On their return to the UK, E.A.T. participants will undertake performances, lectures and workshops in schools, colleges, universities and other educational establishments, through which they will share their newly acquired knowledge about the African continent, its history and their own personal growth.

For the younger participants, E.A.T has secured the consent of parents or guardians where appropriate. The group will be chaperoned by co-ordinators and teachers who will work with them to facilitate their learning.

All of the participants have been involved in African cultural education and have demonstrated a track record of responsibility and commitment. For example, two of the younger members have dedicated themselves to learning about African cultures and traditions since the age of three and have become drummers and dancers. Learning

individual participating in the initiative. They will be coached and prepared for public speaking, presentations and workshops. These transferable skills will empower them to strive toward their private aspirations.

E.A.T was created by Ngozi Headley-Fulani and Sandra Richards in an attempt to counteract the despair and hopelessness emerging in the light of the high number of exclusions, incarcerations, mental health problems and workplace diversity concerns facing people in the UK.

Ms Richards said: "The importance of community support for this initiative

techniques directly from their origins will further enhance their skill.

Without this initiative, many of the participants will not have had the opportunity to travel and to grasp a realistic idea of Africa or their personal potential. The initiative offers more than just a

cannot be over emphasised. Lip service is not enough, we must work together to support our young people. EAT will expose the participants to knowledge, skills and opportunities that will build their confidence and assist them to realise their full potential."

Ngozi, co-founder of the initiative, said: "During my 20 years of teaching I have met countless young Black people who have a thirst for knowledge about themselves and their history but with no 'well' to drink from. When I visited Africa and saw its real beauty and educational value I knew I had to do something. Blowing the negative myth that surrounds Black people is a huge task but it can be done. Come EAT with us and if you can't go send someone else."

*Ngozi is the Director of Dakrobi (Once Upon A Time.) A qualified teacher and powerful performer, she is one of very few female Master drummers. Ngozi Headley-Fulani is a London born young African woman of Caribbean parentage. She is highly regarded in the field of African arts and has established a well-respected reputation in Black arts internationally. She is the co-founder of Emashi, an 18-year non-funded voluntary organisation.*

*Dakrobi is based in East London and was born out of the need identified by Ngozi to educate people about Africa and the Caribbean.*

*Sandra Richards is the Principal of Reaching Out Development Services a training and development consultancy. Richards is a Personal Growth Specialist, consultant, speaker, trainer, life coach and writer. She has over 22 years business experience and has provided a weekly column for www.blackbritain.co.uk.*

*Dakrobi and Emashi are non-profit making organisations. They are not*

*funded and currently applying for charitable status.*

*To help them fundraise, book the group for performances or workshops or just simply to find out more about their work, contact: Ngozi Headley-Fulani can be reached at 020 7241 2558 or 07903 659654 email: eat@desiretoinspire.com or visit: www.desiretoinspire.com www.blackbritain.co.uk*

**"Beat @ Bully"**

Tel: 020 8525 0123  
Mobile: 07931 106833 e-mail newmanr@getreal.co.uk  
For more Information

**STOP!**  
Do you have bullying in your school or service?  
Are you a Victim of Bullying? Anywhere  
Visit Beat @ Bully stop the bullying day.

**Official Launch at 12 NOON  
on Friday 26th April 2002  
By The MAYOR OF HACKNEY  
Councillor Saleem Siddiqui.**

**Wally Foster Community Centre  
Marsh Hill, Hackney E9.  
12.00 PM — 4.00 PM**

**Help others fight against it ?  
Why not join me by contacting  
Beat @ Bully in this event and inform  
others by sharing your experiences on  
how to deal with it.**

"Beat @ Bully" aims to network  
In stopping bullying everywhere

Refreshments will be available

Funded by: Champions for Change Millennium Awards

## Hackney BME arts groups encouraged to apply for RALP



the following headings:

- Access to the arts
- Education through the arts
- Production and distribution of the arts
- Investment in artist
- Development to help build long term stability of arts organisations'

Since 1999 40% of grants awarded by London Arts have been made to first time applicants. 55% of awards have been to culturally diverse projects of which 21% are led by ethnic minorities. London Arts genuinely believe they have changed who they fund and are keen to favour smaller/newer organisations over larger, more established ones in their drive to be more accessible.

RALP can't fund your core costs but it can help you change the way your organisation is run. £3million in London is available through three types of funding: project grants for specific one off projects and two-to-three year projects (£2,000 to £30,000); capital funding to cover equipment, refurbishing buildings and buying property for example (£2,000 to £100,000); and grants for organisational development which includes restructuring your organisation, training, marketing and dealing with debts (£2,000 to £30,000). You can apply for any one award or a combination of all three.

To be successful, organisations must meet a least one of the five priorities above and your application will be judged on its

quality, benefit to the public, its financial viability, and your ability to manage the project. London Arts are keen to stress that equal opportunities must be part of your project. One-to-one assistance is at hand to help you complete your form and London Arts run introductory seminars every 3 to 4 weeks.

*If you are interested then call London Arts on 020 7608 6179 or visit their website which has a list of successful applicants at [www.arts.org.uk/directory/regions/london](http://www.arts.org.uk/directory/regions/london)*

From 31st March 2002, the Arts Council of England will merge with the ten Regional Arts Boards saving between £8 and £10million a year. This saving will be redirected to the arts.

London Arts who administer the Regional Arts Lottery Programme (RALP) in London are keen to encourage arts organisation to apply for funding, particularly those from black and ethnic minorities, in Hackney. RALP aims to 'support high-quality arts projects by making grants available under



workshop at Hackney Empire

Discover Hackney offers you free taster sessions, performances and guided tours of Hackney's amazing array of music, sport, media, art and theatre. Dozens of Hackney's local organisations will be 'open' for

workshops. The Hackney Museum are running a whole series of events including a family fun day. The Halkevi Kurdish/Turkish Centre will be celebrating Kurdish cooking and folk dancing and The Dean and Scope Centre will be

on the Discover Hackney website [www.discoverhackney.co.uk](http://www.discoverhackney.co.uk) from mid March.

Discover Hackney is one of the projects commissioned by Hackney 2020 cultural sub-partnership, which brings together the 'cultural' elements

## discover Hackney - April 22nd-28th 2002

free visits during the week of 22-28 April 2002.

Its aim is to promote as many of the wonderful organisations and lively activities available to Hackney residents as possible. These range from tennis clubs to theatre, from sailing to African-Caribbean writing, from Internet cafes to badminton, music, walks in parks, singing, Kurdish art, multi-media, cycling, cinema, art therapy in hospitals to hip hop.

Organisations and venues from all over Hackney are taking part. The Hackney Empire will be running theatre taster

running African storytelling sessions.

Other organisations involved include Abney Park Cemetery (Discovery Trail) the Castle Climbing Centre (free sessions), Stoke Newington School (video production), the Queenbridge Community Centre (DJ's) and the Geffrye Museum and many many more.

For more details, look out for the colourful Discover Hackney map, soon to be distributed to shops, cafes, leisure centres, galleries, museums and libraries all over Hackney. You can also check out the events

of Hackney: arts, leisure, recreation, sport, built environment and out of school' learning. A free bus will be running Saturday and Sunday, 27-28 April between venues to make it even easier. (more info will be put here such as where can people get the bus, how often will it run etc)

Discover Hackney is funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and has been organised by Stoke Newington Festival for Hackney 2020.

For further press enquiries please contact Sam McAuley at Chamberlain McAuley on 020 8858 5545 or email [sam@chamberlaincauley.co.uk](mailto:sam@chamberlaincauley.co.uk)



workshops at Hackney Empire

## New gallery for needy Hackney artists



The Mafuji Gallery opened to the public two years ago. A bright, airy space in the second floor of an industrial building at 28 Shacklewell Lane in Dalston, it is the brainchild of the Japanese artist and curator Haruo Mafuji. The gallery is run as a non-commercial enterprise; all the staff, Haruo included, work on a voluntary basis. The goal is not to sell work but to put on good shows that can be viewed free of charge and to give promising young artists a higher profile. In other words, the gallery has operated more like a public venue than a private concern.

Haruo's first priority is to show strong work by emerging artists. Most artists go through a long and difficult period of obscurity between art college and their first solo show. Haruo is keen to help talented artists at that point in their career - at the point at which they most need the support.

Haruo has a particular interest in globalisation and its effect on the nature and scope of art today. That interest is reflected in the gallery, which regularly put on shows that tackle the issues like the global economy, the continuing lure of the local and the meshing of cultures in the large metropolitan centres. As Haruo says, "What attracted me to Hackney was its diversity, it's like a microcosm of the world today, a world in which the nation state matters less

and less and different cultures exist side by side". The gallery is committed to showing the work of local artist, whatever their background or place of origin.

At Mafuji, one of the highlights of the year is 14x14. Artists are invited to submit pieces that measure 14 inches by 14 inches. Provided they meet that one criterion, virtually all submissions are accepted. The result is the most riotous and inclusive show of the year. In 2001, the Mayor of Hackney gave a speech at the opening, which was attended by some 700 people.

The current show at Mafuji [pictured] features the work of Heather Allen. Heather takes casts of people from different countries, uses them to make latex masks and then poses for the camera wearing the various masks. With their deadpan wit, the pictures turn nationality into a hollow disguise and so make a mockery of national stereotypes (and national pride).

The gallery is rapidly establishing itself as an important new venue for contemporary art. For some ten years now, London has been a major pole of the international art world, rivalling New York and Berlin, but the large galleries have been concentrated around Hoxton and Piccadilly. Now Hackney residents have a dynamic new space on their doorstep.

Mafuji Gallery, 28 Shacklewell Lane E8



"I used to do my own paintings and drawings every night at home to while away the long silent hours of darkness"



"Drunkenness led me into a circle of darkness, trouble with the law and eventually into a rehabilitation unit"



"Colour provides a strong character to express me emotion and mental thinking"



"The only one element that has lifted me up is art"



These paintings are available for sale along with a vast catalogue of other pieces. Chan would be very pleased to hear from any wishing to purchase a painting for your office or for home. For more information, please contact: Chandarkant Tailor, 18 Kingsgate Estate, Tottenham Road, London N1 4DB 020 7923 7620.



## What's biodiversity all about?



Biodiversity is about all living species - from micro-organisms to the largest plants and animals - and their habitats, that is the places in which they live. The aim of Hackney's Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) is to work as a local partnership to conserve and enhance Hackney's biodiversity. Hackney Parks, some key local environmental organisations, and

local people have just started working on Hackney BAP. They hope to audit Hackney's wildlife areas, decide on some key species and habitats and develop targets and monitor progress, and raise awareness of biodiversity by encouraging people to get involved in practical activities and conservation projects.

Three habitats are now being considered: water, parks and

woodland. Waterways and wetlands. These include ponds especially those in parks, open water such as Stoke Newington Reservoirs with their 17 hectares frequented by ducks and wildfowl, rivers and canals such as Regent's Canal, Old River Lea and Lee Navigation, part of a nationally important wildlife corridor for fish, animals and birds, and Middlesex Filter Beds Nature Reserve.

Parks. There are 329 hectares of parks and public open spaces, managed by Hackney Council, which enable residents to come into contact with the natural world. Many contain woodlands and meadow habitats which increase their wildlife value. Springfield Park has some relic acid grassland.

Woodland. Abney Park Cemetery is the main area of mature woodland in Hackney, with mature trees and woodland areas in many of parks. Wick Community Woodland is a recently planted woodland.

Other wildlife habitats to be considered at a later stage include: allotments and Community Gardens, Hackney City Farm, school grounds, private gardens and gardens on housing estates, green corridors and street trees.

*How to find out more? How to get involved. We have just getting started on creating Hackney BAP and welcome anyone who wants to get involved. To find out more, including the dates of habitat meetings contact Fried at Depot, Hackney Marshes (phone 020 8525 0477) or by email jpridmore@gw.hackney.gov.uk*

## Money for Community Cycling initiatives

London Cycling Campaign has awards available for between £500 and £2000 for community groups looking to start up or support a small-scale community cycling project.

The Awards form part of LCC's Community Cycling Project, which assists London's community groups to set up practical cycling projects as a way of tackling issues that concern them. Cycling initiatives can provide something for everyone and brings a wide range of benefits like: improving a locality's environment; a community's or individual's health and welfare; developing confidence; teaching new skills; improving people's access to local facilities; as well as offering a greater transport and leisure choice for all communities.

Paula Smith, LCC's Community Cycling officer says, "We are delighted to be able to offer the award scheme. Cycling projects have so many benefits for

community organisations. It doesn't matter if you've never even tried cycling before, LCC can provide all the information and advice to help you get started." Examples of existing projects include:

- bike maintenance workshops to provide training opportunities;
- cycle training to develop confidence and skill in road riding;
- fund leisure rides to improve health and fitness;
- creating cycling facilities to gain access to local shops and facilities;
- cycle taxi services offering a greater transport choice

If you are interested in accessing the benefits of cycling for your community, have ideas for a project, or want to find out more about the award criteria and application process, let LCC know. For more information contact Paula Smith on 020 7923 6112 paulas@lcc.org.uk or check out the website at [www.lcc.org.uk](http://www.lcc.org.uk)

## HEF plan food meeting

Hackney Environment Forum is planning a public meeting on food for June 12th 2002. The meeting will be about growing your own food, in window boxes, gardens and allotments, organic food, and food miles. The meeting is being set up in partnership with the Women's Environmental Network who have a project to help women from ethnic minorities to grow their own food. If you would like to get involved with the meeting or find out more about it, please contact HEF through its Chair, Anne Woollett, 5 Newick Road, London E5 0RP 0208 985 1256.

HEF was set up in 1988 to bring together people and groups with a commitment to protecting and improving Hackney's environment. HEF members include Hackney Tree Wardens, Women's Environment Network, Abney Park Cemetery Trust and Hackney Marsh Users Group.

HEF provides a point of contact and helps to keep people

informed through a newsletter which is available from libraries and other information points. HEF ran a Green Fair and Green Village at Hackney Show which brought together local people and environmental groups.

HEF is involved in variety of environmental activities and campaigns. In 2001 HEF set up a series of public meetings - on air pollution, waste and recycling, London Plan, Nature and Hackney's Biodiversity Action Plan. HEF joined with other environmental groups to oppose the proposals to destroy the trees and gardens in Town Hall Square.

We are working with Hackney Wick Public Art Programme on obtaining funds to improve Mabley Green, on Homerton Road by making it a more interesting space for local people.

*To find out more about HEF and how to become a member contact HEF at 43 Listria Park, London N16 5SW. Membership costs £10 per year.*

## Extra state pension from April

Carers, people with a long-term illness or disability, and employees on low incomes are set to get more state pension when they retire, thanks to the new State Second Pension. The State Second Pension reforms SERPS (the state earnings-related pension scheme) from April this year. Some 4.5 million low earners currently in SERPS will see their additional state pension entitlement more than double under the State Second Pension. Any pension already built up under SERPS will be protected and paid in full.

And around two million carers and a similar number of long term disabled people will build up extra pension for the time -

worth over £1 a week extra pension for each qualifying year at today's rates.

How to get State Second Pension People will get State Second Pension automatically as part of their State Retirement Pension if:

- They are working and already in SERPS
- Throughout a tax year they are caring for somebody and getting Invalid Care Allowance (or they have claimed Invalid Care Allowance, but get another benefit instead because it pays more)
- They stay at home to look after a child under six and they are the person who receives Child Benefit from the government for that child.
- They qualify for home

Responsibilities Protection (HRP) because they are needed at home to look after somebody who is ill or disabled, including a child who is older than six.

If they are entitled to long-term Incapacity Benefit (youth), or Severe Disablement Allowance they will also qualify as long as they are paid, or were treated as having paid, Class 1 National Insurance contributions for 10% of their working life since 1978.

It makes sense for people to review their circumstances now to make sure they are going to benefit from the State Second Pension, particularly if they are at home caring for somebody. They may have to make a claim for Home Responsibilities Protection and there are time limits for

doing this. For more information about the State Second Pension see State pensions - your Guide (PM2). You can get a copy by calling TOUCHBASE on 0845 7 31 32 33 - please quote ref TB26. Calls are charged at local rates and the line is open 24 hours a day. Text phone users call 0845 604 0210.

The information in this article has been taken from Touchbase, the Department for Work and Pensions newsletter for advisers, intermediaries and other professionals. Contact Lynne Fromings at DWP on 0113 232 7125 for more information.

## Dressing to impress

Dress for Success™ London is a charity that provides interview suits to disadvantaged women seeking employment. These suits symbolise our faith in every woman's ability to succeed.

Each Dress for Success™ London client receives two suits, one suit when she has an interview and a second suit she gets the job. No fees are ever charged to either the client or the referring agency. Dress for Success™ London addresses the "Catch 22," that without a suit how can you get a job? But without a job how can you afford a suit?

**"I'm am very impressed with how smart and professional I've been made to look. I will walk into my interview with the upmost confidence thanks to Dress for Success London"** says Kelly Tousiant, a client.

Since being founded in New York City in 1996, Dress for Success has provided over 100,000 suits to low income women in over 70 cities throughout North America. Dress for Success™ London is the first branch to open in the E.U.



[Sophia Vassilatou, pictured]

Dress for Success™ London depends solely on the generosity of the individuals and corporations for donations. All suits collected will help disadvantaged women enter the workforce. Please donate suits that you would feel comfortable wearing on an interview yourself. All donations should be in excellent conditions and ready to wear.

For more information or to donate a suit, please contact Julie A. Matthaues Co-Charity Director on 0207 288 1770

website: [www.dressforsuccess.org](http://www.dressforsuccess.org)  
email: [london@dressforsuccess.org](mailto:london@dressforsuccess.org)



HACKNEY NOT FOR SALE

Hackney Not 4 Sale is a local group campaigning on issues such as privatisation of community resources, cuts in services and funding, and community control of local services. Our activities include:

- protest and other organisation to effect change in Hackney
- a newsletter, distributed all over the borough, covering a variety of Hackney issues and local campaigns - contact us if you would like to receive a free copy
- an email list for regular updates - send an email to [hackneyNot4sale@yahoo.com](mailto:hackneyNot4sale@yahoo.com)

Hackney Not Sale, Box 7, 136-138 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS. Tel: 07950 539 254  
[www.hackneynot4sale@info](http://www.hackneynot4sale@info)



# Hackney now has six

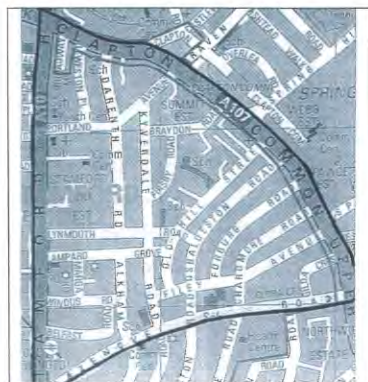
**Sure Start** is a national initiative which aims to improve the health and well being of babies and children under four, thereby breaking the cycle of disadvantage. So far, 128 Sure Start programmes have been set up across the country in disadvantaged areas. For more information, phone the Sure Start Unit on **020 7273 4830** or visit the website on **www.surestart.gov.uk**



## Queensbridge/Dalston

This was part of the first wave of trailblazer Sure Starts announced nationwide in 1999. The London Borough of Hackney Early Years Service took the lead in taking forward the programme for this area which was selected after discussion with partners in the statutory and voluntary sector and with the then Children's Joint Planning Group on the basis of deprivation scores. This Sure Start now has staff in place and is running a number of services in the area.

The Interim Programme Manager is **Amarjit Kochhar** [Ann Tayler Centre, 1-13 Triangle Road, London E8 3RP - 020 7254 6846]. The Chair of the Shadow Board is **Julia Gay** [Health Action Zone Programme Manager for Children and Young People, East London & The City Health Authority - 020 7655 6761].



## Stamford Hill

Sure Start Stamford Hill is a third wave programme. The initiative came through local community groups who formed a partnership, inviting statutory and other voluntary agencies to join them. It is multi-faith and multi-ethnic and delivers universal services in culturally appropriate ways tailored to the needs of the individual communities. It draws and builds on the strong local community sector in the area.

The Programme Manager is **Diane Heywood** [Sure Start Stamford Hill, Stamford Hill Library, 1st Floor, Portland Avenue, London N16 - 020 8510 6502]. The Chair of the Partnership is **Chaya Spitz** [Interlink Foundation - 020 8802 2469].



## Homerton/Wick

This area, which was put forward as part of the fourth wave in 2001, was selected after discussion with key partners in voluntary and statutory sectors. The London Borough of Hackney Early Years Service took the lead. This Sure Start is still awaiting approval of its final plan. This Sure Start is in its infancy and has not yet appointed staff or started to develop services but interviews for the Programme Manager will take place in March. Next steps are the election of parents and voluntary /community agencies to the proper Board and the establishment of some 'early win' services.

The Interim Chair of the Shadow Board is **Virginia Wall** [Head of Health Promotion, City and Hackney Primary Care Trust - 020 7301 3044].

# separate Sure Start programmes

## Sure Start 5th Wave

Hackney was invited to apply for three more Sure Starts as part of the fifth wave last year. The London Borough of Hackney Early Years Service carried out further analysis of areas in relation to deprivation, what already exists and links with other local strategic initiatives. Final decision about which areas to select were made at an open meeting in December. Lead agencies are now being identified for these three new areas - **Woodberry Down**, **Haggerston** and **Hoxton**.



## Woodberry Down

Interlink have just been identified as the lead agency and are setting up a Planning Group. They are planning to have an open partnership meeting which will include representatives from the voluntary and statutory sector to plan the way forward. A consultant will be appointed to work with the Planning Group towards involving as many stakeholders as possible including parents. Interlink hope to recruit a programme manager by September.

Contact **Chaya Spitz** or **Melanie Danan** [The Interlink Foundation, Lower Ground Floor Offices, 124 Stamford Hill, London N16 6QT - 020 8802 2469].



## Hoxton

Decisions about lead agent for this area will follow



## Haggerston

Decisions about lead agent for this area will follow

## Hackney Sure Start Group

This Interim Group was set up in February 2002 following acknowledgement by many of the organisations in Sure Start in Hackney that there was a need for more information and better co-ordination across different programmes. The decision to form a Group was supported by the Sure Start Unit who also had a keen interest in identifying a formal approach for the establishment of a 5th Wave Sure Start in Hackney.

This Group will aim to provide some central coordination and strategic direction to the six Sure Starts and this will include looking at where services can sensibly be shared across programmes and ensuring that the programmes link in with mainstream services and planning. This will also include identifying opportunities for joint working with other initiatives in

Hackney, for example, the Early Years Partnership and the development of childcare services.

In keeping with the expectations of the Sure Start Unit the first task of the Group has been to identify lead agencies to set up partnerships and boards to take forward the programmes in the new Sure Start areas. To date, the Group has representatives from City and Hackney Primary Care Trust, Early Years and Social Services, Homerton Hospital, the voluntary sector and the Sure Start advisor for our region. The next task of the Group will be to draw up terms of reference and a broader membership, which will include chairs and/or programme managers from each of the Sure Starts.

### EXTRA MEMBERSHIP STUFF

The Interim Convenor is **Lena Cadasse** [General Manager, Child & Adolescent Services, City and Hackney Primary Care Trust - 020 7301 3306].

## Sure Start Health Co-ordination Group

The City and Hackney Primary Care Trust has also taken the initiative to bring together health professionals and managers working across the different Sure Start programmes. This Group will consider how an integrated approach can be taken to delivering health services and targets for Sure Start, as well as working through operational issues arising from the delivery of services.

The Chair of the Group is **Lena Cadasse** [General Manager, Child & Adolescent Services, City and Hackney Primary Care Trust - 020 7301 3306].

**Parents with children under the age of four living in any of the above local areas and wishing to find out more should be advised to refer to the contact details for the relevant programme.**

## Disability Hackney fights for Freedom Pass



Disability Hackney Freedom Pass Working Group organised a successful protest on 8th March against the change in Freedom Pass criteria which was well attended.

The Disability Freedom Pass Working Group was formed early

their rights to concessionary travel fare.

GLAD believe Hackney Council's new criteria is not in line with the 2000 Transport Act because it discriminates against disabled people with sickle cell disorder, arthritis, chronic fatigue syndrome and MS. The council

Hackney Law Centre reported that the Chief Executives of local hospitals have told their consultants not to give anyone a report in protest against the new eligibility criteria. The Law Centre advised disabled people to apply even if they don't fulfil the automatic eligibility criteria

over the travel pass which means reports from consultants are no longer part of the criteria. As part of the new discretionary criteria, applicants should now write a letter stating their disability and its effect on their mobility. This is a victory for the campaigners, said a member of the Working

**"the new criteria were made because most disabled people are exaggerating their impairment and they should not be having a Freedom Pass in the first place." LBH**

this year by Disability Hackney and its member organisations to campaign against the new eligibility criteria, because it excluded disabled people with variable conditions and invisible disabilities, such as sickle cell.

The Working Group organised a Freedom Pass open meeting on the 18th February 2002 was to educate other disabled people of

was quoted as saying "the new criteria were made because most disabled people are exaggerating their impairment and they should not be having a Freedom Pass in the first place." However, the council's own internal documents are justifying the new criteria as a means to save £250,589 within 2002/03 budgets, by reducing Freedom Pass users by 20%.

because this is the only way they could effectively challenge the council's new policy on FP.

The council has amended some of the criteria as a result of pressure from the Working Group. The article published by Hackney Gazette on the week beginning 4th March, stated that the council has made a u-turn

Group.

The rally on 8th March 2002, was organised by the Working Group seeking a return to the old criteria with a clear eligibility and appeal procedure. At the end of the rally, the council pledged to write to Disability Hackney and respond to the demands of the demonstrators.

## What's the Freedom Pass criteria all about?

Freedom pass is a statutory travel concession given to senior citizens within pensionable age and disabled people. The guidance on concessionary fares is explained in the 2000 Transport Act. The eligibility criteria for the elderly is that women must be over 60 and men over 65. Disability is defined in the Act as being a person with one or more of the following seven categories:

1. blind or partially sighted
2. profoundly or severely deaf
3. is without speech
4. without arms or long term loss

of the both arm, example not being able to pay money into coin machine

5. has a disability, or has suffered an injury which has a substantial and long-term diverse effect on their ability to walk.

6. has learning disability.

7. have his/her application for driving license refused under part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, which is about physical fitness to drive other than the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

The seven categories are used

by local authorities as guidelines to formulate their own eligibility criteria for the Freedom Pass. In Hackney the old criteria requires an applicant to be resident in the borough, aged between 5 and pensionable age and registered disabled with Hackney, or with a permanent or substantial disability which seriously impairs their ability to walk most of the time as indicated by a GP or hospital consultant.

However, the new criteria in Hackney is now two-fold: automatic eligibility without

mobility assessment and discretionary eligibility. Applicants will be eligible automatically if they are in receipt of the higher rate mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance for life; or receive war pension mobility supplement; or are registered blind with London Borough of Hackney (LBH). Discretionary eligibility is subject to medical opinion and assessment of an applicant's ability to walk 100 metres with difficulty.

## A letter from users of Community Care services

### Proposed cuts to Home Care Services

Hackney Social Services Committee has recently agreed a budget for 2002/3, which involves, among other things;

- a) reducing care management costs by 200k through restructuring Care Management and Assessment,
- b) reducing minimum home care visits to half an hour saving 88k,
- c) tightening eligibility criteria for home care in order to save 480k.

All of these will all mean serious cuts in services. We note that in giving Hackney Council a £25m rescue package at the end of January 2002 Nick Raynsford, Local Government Minister, said "the Council should be clear that merely safeguarding services is not enough. I also expect them to significantly improve the delivery of key services to the public - Social Services in particular". (Guardian Archive 31 Jan 2002). It appears that none of the £25m will be spent on social services.

### 1. Lack of consultation

The proposals to restructure Care and Assessment and to tighten the eligibility criteria were both put to the Social Services Committee with little or no consultation of Users and voluntary sector organisations. Both sets of proposals have serious deficiencies and we believe they should not have been passed by the Committee without proper prior consultation, (a point we made in a paper on the Restructuring proposals which was tabled at a Committee meeting of 12.2.02). Since the frameworks for future policy have already been agreed by the Social Services Committee and the results of the consultation processes will not be taken to a future meeting of Committee, we are doubtful, on the basis of previous experience, whether the consultation processes will be taken seriously by the Department. We also doubt whether substantial objections to the proposals will be taken into account.

### 2. Eligibility Criteria

Social Services Committee agreed to "raise the eligibility criteria" to produce and drop out rate of 10%" at its meeting 12/2/02, (special Social Services Committee agenda page 39). Officers put a revised set of eligibility criteria for home care to the subsequent Social Services Committee - 5/3/02. We question the legality of devising eligibility criteria which have the specific aim of producing a pre-determined drop out rate without reference to individual need or risk. (The Officers appear to recognise this because the Committee's attention was drawn to the risk of legal challenge at the meeting on 12/2/02).

We also believe it is short sighted to devise new eligibility criteria when Government Statutory Guidance on Fair Access to Care Services is about to be published. We have spoken to Officials at Department Of Health who say that the Guidance will be published late March and early April 2002, and they also confirm

the Policy Guidance in the final version is substantially unchanged from the consultation draft circulated in July 2001. We understand that Councils will be expected to apply Guidelines based on Fair Access to Care for new cases from their date of publication and will have a few months to review existing cases in the light of the new Guidance. In either case a Council will need to have a set of eligibility criteria, which are consistent with Government Guidelines.

Hackney's proposals fall far short of the proposals in the Draft Policy Guidance:

- (i) they are not needs led. Service Users were not consulted about the criteria before they were passed by the Committee.
- (ii) They contain three, rather than four bands, of eligibility criteria.
- (iii) Hackney's criteria are narrower and less holistic than the Draft Policy Guidance.
- (iv) The Draft Guidance requires councils to devise a framework based on factors which are key to

## continued...A letter from users of Community Care services

maintaining an individual's independence over time, whereas Hackney's criteria pays insufficient attention to the long term consequences of failure to provide adequate care. We simply cannot understand why Social Services is rushing through a new set of criteria which fall far short of Guidance which will become available in a matter of weeks and which all Councils will have statutory obligations to follow.

### 3. Using blanket criteria

It is our understanding that under current law Local Authorities cannot use blanket criteria to deny people services without reference to need and risk. However, we have received many complaints from existing

and potential home care users that Care Managers and Agencies are telling users that Hackney Council does not provide "domestic care" (i.e. housework, laundry and shopping). People are thus losing, or failing to access, services which are vital to their health and well-being. We believe that it may be illegal to apply blanket criteria in this way.

### 4. Promoting independence

We fully support the aim of modernising Social Services provision in order to promote people's independence. Independence, can mean many different things, it can mean empowerment, as was suggested by the Chief Inspector of Social services in his 2001 annual

report. Or it can mean rationalisation and cost cutting. Our fear is that Hackney's proposals are driven solely by a rationalisation and cost cutting agenda rather than an empowering one.

Residents of the Borough will be faced with a serious deterioration and reduction in services if the policies recently adopted by the Social Services Committee go ahead, and if the practice of using blanket criteria is allowed to continue.

We believe that it is not in the interest of a cash strapped Council, or of Hackney residents, if aggrieved Home Care users or potential users are so disenfranchised from the policy

making process that they feel they have no option but to use the judicial system, or the complaints procedure and ombudsman to challenge policies which adversely affect them.

It would be much better, in our view, if the Council were to develop policies which, 1) are consistent with Government Guidelines, 2) have gone through a thorough consultation process with users and 3) have the support of all stakeholders in Social services.

*Letter written by Dr. Veronica Beechey and Gill Jackson*

## Dates for your diary

As part of the City and Hackney Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, Hackney Young Families Support Service are organising the following forums for those working with young people on the issues of teenage pregnancy. These will be similar to the forums run last year and will consist of lunch, a presentation on a topic, followed by an opportunity

to network and share information and progress on projects. Further details and invitations will be sent out prior to the Forums. If you are not already on the mailing list for the Forums please contact either Gaby or Siobhan on the numbers below.

### Teenage Pregnancy Practitioners Forum Programme for 2002

#### Weds 15th May 2002

Young Fathers  
Presented by Maurice Cunningham - CHYPS  
12.30pm lunch  
1.00pm start

#### Wednesday 18th September 2002

Drugs and Alcohol  
Presented by Diane Draper - Hackney Education Services  
12.30pm lunch  
1.00pm start

#### Weds 4th December 2002

To be decided by Forum participants  
12.30pm lunch  
1.00pm start

#### Venue will be:

Hackney Young Families Support Service  
FWA Head Office  
501-505 Kingsland Road  
London E8 4AU  
Tel: 020 7254 6251

For further information and enquiries please contact:

Gaby Ross, Project Manager HYFSS. Tel: 020 7254 6251 email: gaby.ross@fwa.org.uk or

Siobhan Hawthorne, Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator. Tel: 020 7303 3044 email: siobhan.hawthorne@chpct.nhs.uk

## Community Empowerment Degree Course

SPARK interviewed Margaret Andrews about the partnership that has been formed to develop a qualification in community development and regeneration for workers in the voluntary and community sector in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Camden and Islington.

### What is the ICE programme and when does it start?

A year ago, two of the Community College's governors and a local funding agency suggested to the College that a qualification in community development and regeneration was needed for Hackney's community workers and volunteers. The programme was led from the onset by a partnership of voluntary organisations in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Camden and Islington with the Further Education (Community College Hackney) and Higher Education (University of North London) providers, acting as the administrators/ facilitators. The partnership has since widened its membership and the programme has become a Foundation Degree - Individual and Community Empowerment and a National Open College Network (NOCN) programme - Community Development, a certificate which will prepare learners for degree-level study. The programme will start in September 2002.

### What qualifications will participants receive?

With funding from Partners in Learning, we were able to develop an accredited course (LOCN), which both prepares learners for the Individual and Community Empowerment (ICE) Foundation Degree and is a certificate in its own right, Community Development - this would be at a pre-degree level. Therefore to answer your question, there are now a variety of qualifications. This will depend on the amount of time a student has to study and on his/ her previous learning experience. Learners can achieve part of the LOCN or ICE Foundation Degree qualification or a full qualification.

### What can voluntary organisations get out of the programme?

Ultimately, it will be a good quality education and training programme which meets their needs - the content and the teaching/ learning methods have been determined by the direct contributions of voluntary organisations

### How will they benefit?

The programme will enable voluntary organisations to reflect on their practice and consider ways of improving how their clients' and organisational needs are met. Experienced members/staff from voluntary organisations will teach on the programme, will be trained as and will act as mentors for learners on the programme. Also through a steering group they will continue to influence its development. We successfully obtained resources through the Adult and Community Learning fund to support the participation of voluntary organisations on the pre-degree programme. And it has been agreed in principle that this will continue on the ICE Foundation Degree programme.

### Who is eligible to take part in the programme?

Adult volunteers and workers from voluntary or community sector group or organisation.

### How many places are available?

The pre-degree programme, taking place in each of the further

want to become a tutor?  
want to take a degree course?  
If you are interested contact:  
Margaret Andrews on 020 7613  
9123

education colleges will have twenty places at each college. The ICE Foundation Degree expects to recruit up to 25 learners in the first year. However if numbers exceed the target, additional courses will be developed.

### How much does the course cost and who will have to pay for it?

As already stated we were successful in obtaining funding for the pre-degree programme from the Adult and Community Learning Fund. The course will therefore be free to learners. It is also our expectation that the ICE Foundation Degree will be free to learners, we have had positive discussions with representatives from regeneration / funding bodies in Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Islington. We are continuing to liaise with regeneration/ funding agencies for the provision of bursaries/ sponsorship to learners on the ICE Foundation Degree.

### How can people access the programme? Will people be nominated?

We will be distributing details of the programme to all community and voluntary sector organisations however learners must be referred by their community group/ organisation.

### How is the programme being funded? Who else are partners with Hackney Community College?

As stated earlier, we were successful in obtaining funding for the pre-degree programme from Adult and Community Learning fund. This will only be for the first year and in future years we will fund it from our mainstream funding. The Universities of North London and London Guildhall are funding the ICE Foundation Degree. As indicated earlier the partners are over 40 voluntary organisations in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Camden and Islington (too numerous to list - however I can provide a list), Tower Hamlets College, City and Islington College and two universities.

### Are there any links with the NRF Community Empowerment Programme?

We would like voluntary groups to be able to access funding through the NRF Community Empowerment Programme to participate in the ICE programme. Early discussion with HCVS suggests that this would be possible. **More details from Jake on 020 7923 1962.**

Not approved but taken from ArtsNow Arts England publication

## **\*New \* Single Arts Funding & Development Organisation**

Following board meetings in January and February, all 10 Regional Arts Boards have committed in principle to the creation of a single funding and development organisation through the merger, of the RABs and the Arts Council on 31 March 2002. The final decisions on the transfer will be taken at the meetings of the RABs in March.

The new organisation will distribute over £500 million of public money and lottery grants. In 2003/04, and will consist of nine Regional Councils (previously Regional Arts Boards) with increased decision-making powers, and a National Council providing co-ordination, overview and national leadership in the arts. The Arts Council of England, 14 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3NQ Tel: 020 7333 0100 Fax: 020 7973 6590 Minicom: 020 7793 6564 General public enquiries Tel: 020 7973 6517 E-mail: enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk Web-site: www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/index.html

## **\*New \* Community Energy programme**

The Energy Saving Trust (EST) was set up after the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, to help reduce CO2 emissions in the UK. It is a non-profit organisation funded by governments and the private sector. Today, the EST is the UK's leading organisation working with a range of partners to deliver the sustainable and efficient use of energy. Current priorities are: to stimulate energy efficiency in UK households and achieve social, environmental and economic benefits; to create a market for clean fuel vehicles to deliver local and global environmental benefits.

One of their initiatives of particular interest to the community sector is a £50 million

Community Energy programme to support the refurbishment of existing, and the installation of new, Community Heating schemes.

These schemes will provide carbon savings; help to alleviate fuel poverty among householders, and reduce fuel costs for hospitals, universities and other community buildings. Both Development grants and Capital grants are available.

The Pathfinder bidding stage has now closed. However further bidding rounds will be held in 2002-3 with expected deadlines of the end of June and October. Definite dates for these rounds and the timing of bidding rounds in 2003-4 will be announced nearer the time. Requests for development grants smaller than £10,000 can be considered as they are received.

Application forms and the Guidelines can be downloaded from their web-site at [www.est.co.uk/communityenergy](http://www.est.co.uk/communityenergy). Energy Saving Trust, 21 Dartmouth Street, London SW1H 9BP Tel: 020 7654 2492 Fax: 020 7654 2444 E-mail: [communitypartnerships@est.co.uk](mailto:communitypartnerships@est.co.uk) Website: [www.est.org.uk](http://www.est.org.uk)

## **\*New \* Community Fund/NOF reach out to those communities in most need**

Have you had your fair share? Some parts of the country are missing out on lottery funds. Fair share wants to help change that!

A new partnership between two lottery distributors will provide guaranteed funding to the places where lottery money is needed the most.

The Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund will deliver £169 million over the next three years to 62 disadvantaged areas that have not had their fair share of lottery funds.

Fair share will mean: Targeted funds for 62 areas throughout the UK; Local communities in partnership with Lottery Distributors; A wider range of funding opportunities.

By working together throughout the UK, the fair share partners want to strengthen local communities. They want to make a long-term difference so that disadvantaged neighbourhoods can access lottery funding to tackle local needs.

Working together, the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund will bring a range of grant-making expertise to each area - and the ability to fund many different types of organisations and projects.

To find out more phone the fair share information line on 0845 9 700 777 for more information. Web-sites: [www.community-fund.org.uk](http://www.community-fund.org.uk) or [www.nof.org.uk](http://www.nof.org.uk)

The Charities Information Bureau

11 Upper York Street

Wakefield

West Yorkshire

WF1 3LQ

Tel: 01924 239063

Fax: 01924 239431

E-mail: [Andrew@the-cib.demon.co.uk](mailto:Andrew@the-cib.demon.co.uk)

Reg. Charity No. 1059077

Co. Ltd by Guarantee No. 3268906

Not approved but as web-site

## **\*New \* Community Fund - Launch of the new International grants programme**

The Community Fund expect to make application packs for the new International grants programme available from mid-July (applications can then be submitted on a continuous basis throughout the year and there will no longer be a fixed annual deadline). The aim of the new programme is: to fund effective approaches to tackling poverty, deprivation and their causes, which use strategic ways to maximise impact and bring about long term positive difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged people; To achieve our aim of making a long term positive difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged people, we need to address a range of factors that make people poor and keep them poor. We therefore consider it important that each project we fund is based upon a thorough analysis of all the factors bringing about poverty and disadvantage within the beneficiary community, with a clear strategy for how the project will address a number of these factors; To try to meet the multiple factors that cause poverty, we have decided to focus our reduced International grants programme funding on work that contributes towards one or more of the following four long term outcomes for the most disadvantaged women and men, girls and boys: improved primary education; improved health through community-based care; improved allocation of natural resources; improved human rights.

They want to make sure that the most disadvantaged members of local communities receive lasting benefit from meeting these outcomes. We will expect all applicants to show an understanding of why certain groups or individuals do not have access to resources such as health or education as a result of their gender, ethnicity or age, and how they can bring about change. All projects they fund will need to show how beneficiaries and partners will take part in showing the need for the project, and developing and managing it over its lifetime.

They will also want to see how the most disadvantaged people can be empowered to take control of their lives and maintain the benefits brought about by projects. This means that we will only fund projects which either combine service delivery with elements of capacity building and influencing opinion, or capacity building and influencing opinion alone to contribute to our outcomes above.

The capacity building and influencing opinion work could be at the community level up to the wider national or international context, as appropriate to both the capacity of the UK and overseas partners and what is required to achieve the specified outcomes of the project.

They recognise that in many cases the UK or overseas partner would need to work with others, and they are keen to provide support for this where needed to achieve project outcomes.

Information on website: [www.community-fund.org.uk](http://www.community-fund.org.uk)

## **\*New \* New application packs for Community Fund available from mid-April, 2002**

New application packs for Grants for Large sized projects (formerly our Main grants programme) and Medium sized projects (formerly known as Grants for projects up to £60,000) will be available from mid-April, 2002.

Application packs for Main grants and Projects up to £60,000 are not available (after 28 February, 2002). There will be a four month rolling return date, so the last date for receipt of current packs will be 28 June, 2002.

You won't be able to download application packs from their website until the new application packs are launched mid-April, 2002. You will only be able to order printed application packs for Research grants programme via their website between those dates.

A new electronic application form for Large sized projects will be available on CD-Rom from mid-April, 2002.

Their new revised publications will also be available on our website from mid-April.

If you wish to receive further information on the availability of their revised application materials please e-mail them at: [enquiries@community-fund.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@community-fund.org.uk)

You can also get in touch with your local Community Fund office for further information.

Not approved but for information

## **\*New \* Directory of Social Change New Publications**

DSC have recently published The Major Charities, An Independent Guide, £25 as well as new editions of:

A Guide to Local Trusts in the Midlands, £17.95

A Guide to Local Trusts in the North of England, £17.95

A Guide to Local Trusts in Greater London, £17.95

A Guide to Local Trusts in the South of England, £17.95

These are now available from the DSC bookshop website: [www.dsc.org.uk/bookshop/index-bookshop.htm](http://www.dsc.org.uk/bookshop/index-bookshop.htm)

## **\*New \* New Funding Boost to Help Local E-Learning Foundations Take-off**

Adult Skills Minister John Healey has announced an extra £500,000 for the e-learning Foundation to help bridge the digital divide by providing children from low-income families with portable computers and Internet access to learning materials.

The national e-Learning Foundation is promoting, mentoring, monitoring, and providing services and funding to the local Foundations. It also acts as a broker for contributions from the corporate business sector. It also has a strong role in establishing principles of equality of access for all. There are local e-Learning foundations being established as partnerships between community groups, schools and in some cases business. However, if a community group wishes to establish a local foundation it would have to do so in partnership with a school or group of schools, as the aim of the foundation is to provide computers to school children who would not otherwise have access.

The latest information about the national Foundation can be found on their website at: [www.elearningfoundation.co.uk](http://www.elearningfoundation.co.uk).

Local Foundations provide portable Information and Communications Technology (ICT) equipment to schoolchildren so they can access the Internet as a learning resource. They have been successful in engaging parents, local businesses and other sponsors in funding equipment for schoolchildren in their local communities. Foundations have benefited extensively through donations, parental contributions and through Gift Aid tax relief achieved through their charitable status.

Public and private Investment in the programme totals about £5 million to date. This is in addition to the £1 billion drive over 4 years to bring new technology to the classroom announced in September 2000 (PN 2000/0412). This funding complements the National Grid for Learning's connectivity programme and the recent announcement by the Secretary of State, Estelle Morris, of £50 million to develop Curriculum Online, raise standards, and radically transform learning through new technology (PN 2002/0003). Further details on the Classroom of the Future can be found at: [www.teachernet.gov.uk/Classroom\\_of\\_the\\_future](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/Classroom_of_the_future). A separate £5 million has been provided for schools in the 7 Wired-up-Communities pilots. Public Enquiries 0870 000 2288, [info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info@dfes.gsi.gov.uk)

## **\*New \* New Opportunities Fund move**

The New Opportunities Fund have moved to 1 Plough Place, London EC4A 1DE Other contact details remain the same. Tel: 020 7211 1800 Fax: 020 7211 1750 Textphone: 0845 039 0204

The New Opportunities Fund is a UK-wide body. They have offices in London, Glasgow, Belfast and Cardiff, as well as a network of staff in the England regions. For further information on all of their programmes please telephone: England: 0845 0000 121

Wales: 0845 0000 122 Scotland: 0845 0000 123 Northern Ireland: 0845 0000 124 Text Phone: 0845 602 1659 Email: [general.enquiries@nof.org.uk](mailto:general.enquiries@nof.org.uk)

## **\*New \* Nationwide Foundation Areas of Special Interest for the Year Commencing 1 April 2002**

The Trustees regularly review changing social needs and identify new themes on which to focus their overall objectives. The Foundation currently has two areas of special interest: Supporting Volunteering Programmes throughout the UK; and Rural Regeneration. These are described in more detail below:

ctd/ Supporting Volunteering Programmes Throughout the UK The Foundation welcomes proposals which focus on: 1. Projects involving grass roots community action, with emphasis on the UK's most marginalised communities; 2. Volunteering as a means of developing a community and of raising the confidence and self-esteem of the volunteers themselves; 3. Volunteering opportunities which enable people to play an active part in the life of their community; 4. Imaginative new ways of bringing together volunteers and volunteering opportunities; 5. Promotion of social inclusion through volunteering; 6. Groups who are particularly disadvantaged as a result of discrimination within society; 7. Volunteering projects involving support of young people leaving care and those addressing the support needs of prisoners and their families as detailed below.

Children coming out of care The key aim is to fund volunteering projects which develop and deliver better opportunities to young people leaving care, with access to opportunities to help themselves. Three areas of particular concern are:

i Quality of life for young people leaving care. ii Helping young people, especially those in, or leaving care, to develop relevant life skills, which will help them move into education, training and employment. iii Overcoming social disadvantage, particularly interventions to improve the mental health and well being of young people coming out of care.

Penal Affairs Priority will be given to volunteering work which focuses on the following issues: i Projects in prisons and projects providing alternatives to custody that will give new opportunities to offenders and assist rehabilitation.

ii Supporting projects: Which work with young people with a family member in prison; For young offenders who are parents and their partners; For family members bringing up the child of a young offender; Which engage in pre and post-release educational training.

Rural Regeneration

1. The Programme This programme is designed mainly to help charitable and voluntary organisations to contribute to the regeneration of their rural neighbourhoods. Applicants must demonstrate how their proposals will bring a clear community benefit to areas of social and economic deprivation. Proposed activities may include: Relief of poverty through projects to educate, train or retrain unemployed people; The provision of work experience to unemployed people; Support to young people who are likely to be excluded from mainstream education or those who are at risk of offending; Community based learning support.

2. Self-help projects in deprived communities: Priority will be given to self-help projects in deprived communities that are addressing poverty and disadvantage. You will need to show how you will tackle the problems in your area. You may find it useful to include statistics on deprivation and the levels of need.

Village initiatives - helping local communities to help themselves: The Foundation seeks to encourage village and rural community development by supporting schemes to energise hard-pressed rural areas at a time when they are facing major upheaval and uncertainty.

3. The Foundation is particularly interested in: Areas of significant need in rural communities - schemes addressing social isolation are of particular interest; Projects offering accessible, integrated and sustainable support to people who are vulnerable or only just managing; Projects working alongside young people, families and older people living in disadvantaged or marginalised communities; Rural disadvantage - projects which promote access to groups and communities through transport, befriending, buddies schemes and volunteering; encourage social inclusion and improve services in rural

communities; tackle isolation by improving the opportunity for access to services, employment and the benefits of a wider community.

The majority of The Foundation's grants will be between 500 and 10,000 and will be made on a one-off basis. Applicants seeking longer term funding must seek advice, followed by written approval from The Foundation before submitting an application for support. The Foundation spends the equivalent of several small grants saying 'no' to inappropriate applications each year. Please look at the exclusions on the web-site or in the guidelines before applying.

For guidelines and an application form contact The Nationwide Foundation, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon SN38 2SN Tel: 01793 657183 Fax: 01793 652339 E-mail: the.foundation@nationwide.co.uk web-site: www.nationwide-foundation.org.uk

## \*New \* Youth Music's New Funding Programmes

Building on its successes of the past three years, the National Foundation for Youth Music (Youth Music) will launch a new phase of initiatives, partnerships, and funding programmes this April that will assist the promotion and celebration of music-making for children and young people until 2005.

Youth Music's comprehensive range of programmes enables those with the least opportunity to take part in music-making and can have a deep impact on their lives and their futures. Our activities gain maximum impact by targeting specific interests, organisations, and geographical areas.

Drawing on research, consultation and evaluation, Youth Music has identified three major elements that are vital to the support of youth music-making but need intensive enhancement. Youth Music's future work will therefore focus on the professional development and training of Music Leaders, building Partnerships between organisations working with young people, and supporting music-making as part of Early Learning.

Youth Music aims to address these needs by funding a wide variety of initiatives in five different strands:- Open Programmes available by application; Key Partnerships with organisations able to leave a legacy for youth music-making; strategic New Partnerships in specially selected areas that have a measurable impact; inviting proposals for Action Research & Development; and annual Special Initiatives such as this year's Song For Youth - 'Drop in the Ocean'.

These strands include many existing programmes that have proved to be highly successful, such as Singing Challenges, Action Zones, and close links with other organisations for young people.

There are also new tactics to reach as many young people as possible. Included in this is Sound Inventors, a scheme for young composers devised by Youth Music and run by a strategic partner, spnm, and supporting Youth Justice, by providing positive, music based interaction for young people who have had custodial sentences in detention centres.

Over the next three years' Youth Music will distribute up to £30 million of Arts Council of England National Lottery funds. At £10 million per annum, this was the largest National Lottery cash award given to any arts organisation last year by the Arts Council.

For more information visit the Youth Music website at [www.youthmusic.org.uk](http://www.youthmusic.org.uk) Youth Music, One America Street, London SE1 ONE Tel 020 7902 1060 Fax: 020 7902 1061 E-mail: [info@youthmusic.org.uk](mailto:info@youthmusic.org.uk)

## \*New \* Youth Music Action Zones

The £10 million initiative will provide a wide range of music-making opportunities for children and young people living in areas of social and economic need.

Youth Music will give financial support to groups of music projects, schools, youth clubs and community centres, enabling them to join forces and work together to reach even more young people who have little experience of music-making.

There are now 17 Action Zones (in order of establishment): London; Greater Manchester, Lancashire; the North of England; Norfolk; Thanet; South East of England; Cornwall; Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent; Shropshire and Herefordshire; Birmingham; the Humber Region; Liverpool and Merseyside;

North Yorkshire; South Yorkshire; Lincolnshire; Bristol and Gloucester.

Youth Music will give financial support to groups of music projects, schools, youth clubs and community centres, enabling them to join forces and work together to reach even more young people who have little experience of music-making.

For more information and to find Local contacts visit the Youth Music website at [www.youthmusic.org.uk](http://www.youthmusic.org.uk)

Youth Music, One America Street, London SE1 ONE Tel 020 7902 1060 Fax: 020 7902 1061 E-mail: [info@youthmusic.org.uk](mailto:info@youthmusic.org.uk)

Unapproved but as web-site.

## \*New \* Funds for Arts Showing 'Ethnic Diversity' from Arts Council England

The Arts Council of England and the Regional Arts Boards have joined forces to deliver the Diversity Project. The Diversity Project is an inspiring catalyst to empower artists, enrich the arts in England and demonstrate our real commitment to change and to championing talent. After consultation and research across the country, the Diversity Project - previously known as 'Year of Diversity 2002' - has been developed and extended.

It is now a longer project running from September 2002 to March 2004 with an increased focus on legacy. Increasing opportunity and developing capacity and capability for artists from African, Asian and Caribbean backgrounds will lead to sustainable development. It will also raise profile and status for diverse arts practice.

Resources within the open access funding programmes support it, in line with national and regional priorities. These include the Regional Arts Lottery Programme (RALP), the National Touring Programme (NTP) and Awards for All. The events have been planned to respond to expressed needs from artists and arts organisations. The activities include a national festival, public debates, a trade event and an online network - see below for more detail.

A name and brand for the Diversity Project will be launched in April 2002.

The term 'diversity' has come to describe a situation where people of different group identities work together in a defined social system. It is a dialogue between cultures. The Diversity Project cannot address diversity in its widest interpretation. However, by focusing on ethnic diversity resulting from post-war immigration, this project will act as an exemplar to support, develop, build on and disseminate models of good practice that will inspire artists and inspire change across the artistic and funding landscape. It will continue a policy to focus on arts and artists from African, Asian and Caribbean backgrounds.

The Arts Council of England, 14 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3NQ  
General Enquiries Tel: 020 7973 6517 Fax: 020 7973 6590 Minicom: 020 7793 6564 E-mail: [enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk) Web-site: [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* Government Supporting People Programme

The Supporting People programme offers vulnerable people the opportunity to improve their quality of life by providing a stable environment which enables greater independence.

It will deliver high quality and strategically planned housing-related services which are cost effective and reliable, and complement existing care services. The planning and development of services will be needs led. Supporting People is a working partnership of local government, service users and support agencies.

Information for Support Providers

DETR is working with providers' organisations to help them help their members.

HACT will be administering a grant fund for smaller providers who might need extra resources to implement Supporting People successfully.

Contact: Maurice Wren: 020 7247 7800 SITRA will shortly have Supporting People contacts to offer information and guidance. SITRA Bramah House, 65-71 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 6DF

Tel: 020 7357 8922 Fax: 020 7357 8824 Email: [post@sitra.org](mailto:post@sitra.org) Website: [www.sitra.org.uk](http://www.sitra.org.uk)

The National Housing Federation Supporting People Co-ordinator is now in

post:

Nick Sweet, Supporting People co-ordinator E-mail: [nicks@housing.org.uk](mailto:nicks@housing.org.uk)

The NHF is also in the process of appointing regional Supporting People officers to offer help locally.

Details of the programme are on website: [www.spkweb.org.uk](http://www.spkweb.org.uk) Contact details will be posted on the web-site as they become available. Supporting People helpline Tel: 020 7944 3313

## \*New \* Youth Work

Guidance and allocations of the Transforming Youth Work Fund for 2002-03 have been announced. A total of £22 million is divided into 3 strands: A - providing £10 million to raise the overall quality and quantity of youth work and to enable the Youth Service to effectively engage in the Connexions Service and respond to young people's needs; B - providing a one-off £10 million to take particular account of community cohesion and complement the recommendations in the Public Order and Community Cohesion (POCC) reports; and C which brings the £2 million Standards Fund for staff development and training under the umbrella of the TYWDF. A total of £2 million is being subtracted from strands A and B to be allocated and directly distributed by DFES to National Voluntary Youth Organisations in addition to the increased NVYO grant of £6 million to be announced shortly. The remaining £20 million is being distributed to local authority youth services. Proposals need to be submitted to Government Regional Offices by 25 March. "All proposals must demonstrate a genuine partnership with and financial support for the local voluntary youth sector and a meaningful dialogue with Connexions Partnerships." Copy at <http://www.nya.org.uk/trans-grants.htm> Guidance and allocations (based on 13-19 population) for the £7.4 million fund to support local authority youth services in meeting duties under SENDA, are expected by the end of the week. Proposals to be submitted to the DFES by the end of March. In addition to a Code of Practice due in April, a leaflet designed for the youth service and youth workers will be distributed in March. The NYA has been engaged to produce a manual of guidance for youth workers and a training pack for staff and elected members. Contact - Terry Cane <mailto:terry@consulttc.info>

The NYA has been engaged by the DFES to lead on producing the Common Planning Framework for Youth Services to be available by the end of April for wider consultation. Contact Pete Loewenstein - <mailto:peterl@nya.org.uk>

"Working together: Connexions and the statutory youth service" is expected to be published shortly once the Local Government Association and the DFES agree a redraft. A draft "Working Together: Connexions and the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Voluntary Youth Services" is currently under revision for publication in April.

Visit the new-look Connexions website at <http://www.connexions.gov.uk/>

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* Co-operative Insurance Society

At CIS they believe they have a responsibility to the community around them. That's why they take an active role in the support of voluntary groups and have a long association with many well known charities.

They have made donations to a number of large charities over the years in a way designed to benefit the maximum number of people. However, they also make donations to smaller local charities through the CIS Community Awards scheme which supports and encourages its employees to get involved with charities in their own community and to take part in various fund-raising activities and payroll giving. The CIS Community Award scheme donates an additional £1000 if employees raise at least the same amount themselves for a charity in their local area. As a result, an assortment of fund-raising events have taken place from running marathons to scaling mountains.

CIS is also actively involved in sport and has been supporting football for four decades - since the 1970s. Most recently this has been through our sponsorship of The Scottish League Cup now known as The CIS Insurance Cup.

Contact your local branch for more details. These can be found on their website: [www.cis.co.uk](http://www.cis.co.uk) or alternatively contact CIS's Chief Office in Manchester Tel: 08457 46 46 46 from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and from 8.00am to

5.00pm on Saturdays.

## Talking Link

In co-operation with the Royal National Society for the Blind, DialUK and various government departments Talking Link are developing a novel package which will considerably improve access to the internet for a significant proportion of our society, including:

Blind and partially sighted; Dyslexia sufferers; The disabled; People with learning

Difficulties; The elderly; Early learning.

Apart from the fact that the first four alone of above represents between 12 and 15% of the UK population with an annual spending power of at least £33 billion, there are growing legal issues regarding accessibility to the Information Society which will come to the fore in the not too distant future.

The package as a whole addresses the overall issues of accessibility providing:

a. Free software - e.g. Screen readers, speech input & output, screen magnification etc.; b. Accessible & dedicated ISP and portal with full personalising facilities; c. Web site accessibility

Part of the service that they will be offering is to provide a dedicated search facility to sites that offer a high level of accessibility, and therefore direct access to this market. It follows therefore that only sites that offer appropriate levels of accessibility will be viewed by this significant proportion of the population. You are welcome to phone or e-mail for further information Richard Buchanan, Project Manager - Talking Link Tel: 01257 414700 E-mail: [info@talkinglink.com](mailto:info@talkinglink.com)

## \*New \* Paul Hamlyn Foundation: Small Grants Programme

The Paul Hamlyn Foundation is inviting applications to its Small Grants Programme. The Foundation's overriding concern is to address issues of inequality and disadvantage, particularly in relation to young people.

Support is concentrated on projects in the UK which address these issues through the arts and education. Its Small Grants Programme gives awards up to a maximum of £5,000 in support of local schemes and initiatives which fall within these areas of interest. Applications should be for specific projects and the grant requested should represent the major part of the funding required. Applications are considered on a monthly basis.

For further details about making an application, and a copy of the Guidance Notes for 2002, contact the Foundation. Applications are not accepted by fax or e-mail.

The Paul Hamlyn Foundation, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AA Tel: 020 7227 3500 Fax: 020 7222 0601 E-mail: [information@phf.org.uk](mailto:information@phf.org.uk) Website: [www.phf.org.uk](http://www.phf.org.uk)

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* The Variety Club Children's Charity

The Variety Club Children's Charity exists to improve the quality of life for sick, disabled and disadvantaged children throughout the country. The past 50 years show that Variety Club has a wonderful track-record of helping where help is needed. With the generous contributions from the public, their impact on deprived youngsters has been tremendous and they have raised over £165 million for them.

Grants are given to hospitals, hospices, special projects, therapy pools, play annexes, sensory rooms, communicators and toys.

The charity also has: an Easy Rider programme, which gives wheelchairs, trikes and buggies to disabled children; a Sunshine Coach scheme that gives new coaches to schools and youth organisations; and a Variety at Work scheme that provides day trips out to a number of locations around the country.

For further information on any of the above schemes please contact them. Write to: The Head of Appeals, The Variety Club of Great Britain, Variety Club House, 93 Bayham Street, London NW1 0AG E-mail: [info@varietyclub.org.uk](mailto:info@varietyclub.org.uk) Website: [www.varietyclub.org.uk](http://www.varietyclub.org.uk)

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* Zurich Advice Network Foundation

The Zurich Advice Network Foundation has a long tradition of contributing time and money.

From its origins in 1981, the Foundation was the first charity in the UK supported by self-employed financial advisers. And today, around 5,500 Zurich Financial Advisers and staff support the Foundation. So far, they've supported more than 550 projects throughout the UK, and given more than £12.5 million to the community.

They're committed to helping a huge variety of charities, based on themes that change every two years. Currently, they help disadvantaged and disabled children aged up to 18. Contact Midge Story, ZAN Foundation Manager, on 01793-505780, or her secretary Sue Major-Gwinnett on 01793-502985 Web-site: [www.zurich.org.uk](http://www.zurich.org.uk)

## NOF Fruit & Veg Scheme

The New Opportunities Fund has announced a £52 million fruit and veg Cancer Prevention Boost. Fruit will be on the menu for over one million schoolchildren in England to help fight heart disease and cancer.

The National Lottery good cause funding will radically expand pilots of healthy eating schemes to reach over 10,000 schools and communities by Spring next year before the national rollout in 2004. The twin schemes are part of the New Opportunity Fund's £300 million Opportunities for Health programme, part of the Fund's third round of initiatives: £42 million to extend National School Fruit Scheme pilot which entitles children aged 4 to 6 years old a free piece of fruit each school day; £10m for the Five-a-Day community initiative - to tackle the problem of low fruit and vegetable consumption for families on low incomes. It is proving a success with over 80% of children eating a range of fresh fruit each day.

The Fund's new Five-a-Day community initiative has been piloted in five areas in England to encourage people to eat five portions of fruit and vegetables a day. In order to encourage people to eat more fruit and vegetables a range of schemes are planned, from home delivery schemes to promoting the sales of fruit and vegetables in local shops. Plans are in the offing for the New Opportunities Fund to set up between 50 and 60 projects over two years.

These projects will not be open for applications but from around April 2002 funding will be made available to Local Health Authorities in deprived areas. Local community groups and voluntary organisations will be encouraged to work within Local Health Authority Cancer Prevention programmes making use of these funds.

More details will appear on NOF web-site: [www.nof.org.uk](http://www.nof.org.uk) when the Five-a-Day community initiative is launched. General Enquiries Tel: 0845 0000121 E-mail: [general.enquiries@nof.org.uk](mailto:general.enquiries@nof.org.uk)

## Opportunities with Deadlines

Not approved but as web-site

## B&Q 'You Can Do It' Awards 2002

This year the B&Q You Can Do It Community Awards are offering twenty community and charity projects across the country the opportunity to receive £5,000 (8,000 Euros) worth of B&Q materials, to help transform their premises. Each of the twenty winning projects will receive up to £5000 (8,000 Euros) worth of materials from B&Q. No cash alternative is available.

Projects must only require renovation and refurbishment, not construction. Planning permission, building regulations and change of use of any building should be checked through your local authority before application. Work involving any of the above must be highlighted in the application form.

Projects should not involve the purchase of land or building and work must be completed by the 15th September 2002. Product purchases after this date will not be allowed.

Projects involving horticultural work or cosmetic construction work (e.g. re-plastering) are acceptable. Projects must not involve major building but can involve electrical or plumbing work that includes new fittings, such as sinks and lavatories.

The closing date for all applications is Friday 22nd March 2002. A panel of judges will choose the winning projects and their decision is final.

The winners will be announced at the end June 2002.

Web-site: [www.diy.co.uk](http://www.diy.co.uk). Application forms are available on-line. If you would prefer to receive an application form by post, call their hotline number: 0845 300 1001.

As website but unapproved by funder

## EC funding Awareness-Raising Campaigns on Development Issues (budget line B7-6000)

The EC will fund European development NGOs which are set up as autonomous non-profit-making organisations for Awareness-raising campaigns on development issues, Funding is for: projects, work programmes and capacity-building programmes aimed at raising awareness in Europe for development problems, both in developing countries and in the relations between these countries and the industrialised countries, in order to rally the European public's interest in strategies and projects which have a positive impact on underprivileged populations in developing countries, as part of the fight against poverty.

These should be within The European Union, or the European Union together with the developing countries affected by the problems at issue, with the main activities taking place in the European Union. The maximum project duration is 36 months.

A total of EUR 18 800 000 is available with several categories of grants with varying amounts allocated to them. The number of grants to be awarded is unlimited within the budget allocated.

Detailed information on this Call for Proposals is contained in the Guidelines for Applicants, which are published on the Internet Web site of the EuropeAid: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/tender/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/tender/index_en.htm) Reference is EuropeAid/ 113004/C/G/multi The deadline for applications is 18 March 2002. Any questions regarding this Call for Proposals should be sent by e-mail (with the publication reference of the Call for Proposals mentioned in item 1) to [lidia.rodriquez-martinez@cec.eu.int](mailto:lidia.rodriquez-martinez@cec.eu.int)

## \*New \* First Light Funding for Film Making by Young People First Light Pilot Awards

These are open to any constituted youth focused organisation for one or two films of between 1 and 5 minutes long. Maximum grant is £5,000 per project for one or two films. Partnership funding: A minimum of 30% of the total project cost with at least 15% in cash

Timescale is 4 months.

First Light Studio Awards

These are open to organisations with track record of filmmaking with young people and proven outreach ability or strong partners with all relevant skills for between 3 and 6 films of 5 to 10 minutes long. Maximum grant is £6,000 per film with a maximum grant of £36,000 for the whole proposal. Partnership Funding: A minimum of 50% of the total proposal costs with at least 25% in cash. Timescale is 8 months.

First Light Execs

A new strand which selects up to 6 productions from applications submitted to the Pilot and Studio awards to be receive Executive Production, additional training and support to produce the best possible films.

Productions that First Light will fund: Short films made by young people; Cinematic projects including drama, animation and documentary films with a strong creative slant; Films of any genre. Be as diverse as you wish - from comedy to horror via musicals and action movies. Generally shot on digital cameras.

Productions that First Light will NOT fund: Videos intended to promote an organisation or its activities; Training videos; Multimedia or web projects; 'Making of' documentaries; Straightforward recordings of arts (or other) events; Destination films (descriptive documentaries about a particular locality).

Contact Hi8us First Light Ltd, Unit 419, The Custard Factory, Gibb Street,

Birmingham B9 4AA

Tel: 0121 693 2091 Fax: 0121 693 2096 E-mail: [info@firstlightmovies.com](mailto:info@firstlightmovies.com)

Application details and forms can be downloaded from Web-site: [www.firstlightmovies.com](http://www.firstlightmovies.com)

The next closing date is 26th March 2002 at 5.30pm. A closing date for Round 4 will be announced in the Spring and is likely to be in the Autumn with awards being announced before Christmas 2002.

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* Carnegie UK Trust Programmes

In the quinquennium, 2001-2006, Carnegie UK Trust grants will: SEEK to support village and rural community development; ENCOURAGE new trends in creativity and imagination across a broad spectrum of national life; HELP to improve the prospects of young people and support their active participation in society; WIDEN the use of village halls as centres of service for the community.

Young People - Active and Constructive Participation

The aim is to encourage active participation, particularly in decision making, and increase the role and responsibility of young people in education, health, the community or more widely.

The policy is open to registered charities and voluntary organisations but not to statutory bodies or those which are funded predominantly from statutory sources.

Priority will be given to proposals which: have well structured evaluation built in from the start; demonstrate or help to develop standards for active participation (draft suggested standards are available from the Trust); build capacity for the longer term by progressive experience and the training of young people and by the development of adult support workers.

Each proposal should include many of the following characteristics: allows young people to exercise personal and social responsibility; involves young people in devising and managing the proposed programme; improves the relevance and fitness of services available to young people; prepares young people for participation in a democracy and a civil society; engages young people in their community and wider society; provides a creative and educational process which improves social and communication skills; exposes other generations to the reality of young people's lives today. Criteria may be refined in the light of the findings of the Carnegie Young People Initiative.

Creativity

The aim is to enhance the capacity of creative and imaginative groups of people to benefit others. This may be others in the same geographical location or others with similar interests in different locations.

Eligibility - Priority will be given to organisations at an early stage of their development, although established charities with innovative proposals will be considered.

Applications are encouraged from a wide variety of backgrounds - arts, community, sciences, environment, heritage. The Trust is particularly interested in proposals which cross traditional boundaries and bring together disparate disciplines.

Criteria - The grants are for organisations or groups which: have devised and demonstrated the potential of new ways to benefit others in their locality or those with similar interests in different locations; need funding and support to create mechanisms through which their creativity, imagination and energy can benefit many more people; are prepared to commit to a structured development plan; have no obvious alternative source of funding; eventually are willing, if suitable, to help others to develop similar activities in appropriate communities and/or circumstances.

The Amount - The grants are awarded annually and normally in two stages, namely: Feasibility study of up to £500. If a proposal is ready for a full grant application, the applicant may not wish to seek feasibility funding; Grants of up to £30,000 which could be for a single year or phased over a period of three years; A follow-up grant may be given. Deadline 30 March.

Village Initiatives - Helping Local Communities to Help Themselves

The aim is to encourage more active villages by supporting local initiatives.

Eligibility - Open to village bodies that are registered as charitable or to bodies,

which will give support to a village initiative, such as a rural community council, a volunteer bureau, a council of voluntary services, a parish council (see below) and many others. There is flexibility about such bodies to take into account the great variety of structures depending on geographical location.

Ultimate recipients will be motivators, pacesetters and enablers in villages. They could be in groups such as the WI, village hall committee, young farmers' club, church, youth club or in an informal group.

Ideally there should be a link between the village group and a support body who would comment on the application, provide active support during implementation, and assist, if appropriate, with dissemination to enable others learn from the experience. Funding for this support role should be included in the grant submission.

The grant would usually be up to £10,000 pa but this could rise in exceptional circumstances./ctd

ctd/ Village Halls

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to widen the use of village halls as centres of services for the community, eg as healthy living centres, post offices, surgeries, shops, resource centres, telecottages, computer centres, communal information points, outposted services such as library information points, childcare, etc. Open to village hall committees where the population is below 5,000.

Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, Comely Park House, Dunfermline, Fife KY12 7EJ Tel: 01383 721445 Fax: 01383 620682 Web-site: [www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk](http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk)

Not approved but as web-site

## Recovered Assets Fund

The Home Office has set up the Recovered Assets Fund, which provides funding for quality projects in the following 5 categories:

Projects that: enable the UK to meet its international asset sharing commitments; and/or

support the UK Asset Recovery Strategy (published on 28 November) in particular by promoting financial investigation as a central law enforcement technique; and/or fund proactive projects directly and explicitly linked to the key objectives of the drugs White Paper Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain or those of complementary strategies in Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland; and/or provide seed funding for innovative law-enforcement initiatives; and/or provide seed funding for community regeneration projects and local crime reduction partnerships.

The second deadline is the end of March 2002. Any bids requiring funding during the 2002/3 financial year must be received by that date. The annual cycle for selecting projects for funding during the 2003/4 financial year is likely to be launched in summer 2002.

Application documents can be downloaded from the web-site: [www.crimereduction.gov.uk](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk) or contact Mr Dewan Choudhury, Financial Crime Team, Home Office, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT E-mail: [raf@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:raf@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

## SWAP Calls for New Community Re>Paint Schemes

Save Waste and Prosper Ltd (SWAP) and its sister charity Global Balance Trust are calling for voluntary and community sector organisations in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales to join Phase III of the Community Re>Paint National Network Programme in 2002 from mid February. The Community Re>Paint National Network Programme has secured long term core funding from Biffaward, ICI Dulux and the National Lottery Charities Board. Voluntary and community groups are being invited to apply for funding under Phase 4 of the four year national expansion programme which intends to set up 90 Community Re>Paint schemes by 2004. Groups interested in joining Phase 4 of the programme, which aims to set up 25 new Community Re>Paint schemes in 2002, are invited to register with SWAP as soon as possible with a deadline for returning application forms of 30 March 2002.

Successful applicants will receive a £3,000 capital grant, technical advice and practical support to establish a Community Re>Paint scheme, publicity support, training for staff, 2000 promotional leaflets and a Community Re>Paint Manual. Applicants will have to launch their Community Re>Paint

scheme by December 1st 2002 and be able to support it over the long term. For further information please contact: Mark Gregory, Save Waste and Prosper Ltd, 74 Kirkgate, Leeds, LS2 7DJ; Tel: 0113 243 8777; Fax: 0113 234 4222; E-mail: mark@swap-web.co.uk or visit their website at [www.communityrepaint.org.uk](http://www.communityrepaint.org.uk)

## \*New \* The Performing Right Society Foundation

The Performing Right Society Foundation was launched in March 2000 and is the largest independent funding body for the support of new music. The aim of The Foundation is to encourage, promote and sustain music creation and its performance, of all genres, at all levels of activity. It does this through a range of different funding schemes which each have their own application forms and deadlines staggered throughout the year.

Schemes include general Awards to Organisations, Ensembles, Festivals and Promoters whose main activity is the promotion and furtherance of new music. There are specific schemes such as a New Works scheme for commissioning, a Capital scheme for the purchase of tangible resources.

Foundation Awards are on offer to registered charities or non-profit making organisations, educational establishments and performance groups, but not individuals.

Composers in Education, New Works Awards, Scholarships, Awards to Promoters, Awards to Festivals\*, Deadline for Applications Wednesday 24 April 2002,

Capital Awards, Live Connections, Music Creators in Residence, Awards to Festivals\* Deadline for Applications Friday 16 August 2002; Special Projects Awards, Awards to Festivals\* Deadline for Applications Friday 25 October 2002.

\*Awards to Festivals available at all remaining deadlines from 2002

For further information please visit The Foundation's website on [www.prsf.co.uk](http://www.prsf.co.uk) where you can find information on the schemes and download application forms.

Alternatively please contact: The Foundation Administrator, The Performing Right Society Foundation, 29/33 Berners Street, London W1P 4AA Tel: 020 7580 5544 Fax: 020 7306 4350

Not approved but as Europa web-site

## \*New \* The Daphne Programme (2000-2003)

The Daphne Programme for the years 2000-2003 is a European Community preventive action programme to fight violence against children, young people and women. It stems from the Daphne Initiative, which ran from 1997 to 1999, with a budget of 3 million ECU in 1997 and 1998 and 5 million in 1999. On January 24th 2000, the Daphne Programme was approved in order to pursue the action, with a budget of 20 million for the period 2000-2003.

Daphne is based on the recognition of violence as a crime. It tackles this phenomenon by a victim-based approach. Violence is understood in the widest possible sense, from sexual abuse to domestic violence, from commercial exploitation to bullying in schools, from trafficking to discrimination-based violence against handicapped, minority, migrant or other vulnerable people

The Daphne Programme (2000-2003) is open to: the participation of all, public and private, organisations involved in the prevention of- or protection from violence; the participation of organisations from Central and Eastern European Applicant States, as well as to Cyprus, Malta, Turkey and the EEA/EFTA countries; projects spread on a duration of 12, 24 or 36 months.

The objectives of the Programme are: To support and encourage both non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other organisations including public authorities active in the fight against violence to work together; To support the raising of public awareness of violence and the prevention of violence against children, young people and women, including the victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and other sexual abuse.

Organisations wishing to apply for funding under the year 2002 Daphne call for proposals can download Application Form, the budget form, Financial Identification Form (FIF) and the Guidelines for Applicants from the web-site: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice\\_home](http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home)

Closing date is 26 April 2002. Applications are not accepted by e-mail or fax.

Accepted projects are normally announced in September or October.

## \*New \* Nationwide Launches 2002 Search for Local Heroes

Nationwide Building Society today launched the 2002 Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour, which invites members of the public to nominate individuals and groups deserving recognition for their work in the community. Organised by Nationwide, in association with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and the Newspaper Society, the awards are designed to reward and recognise the "local heroes" whose voluntary work or community activity has made a real difference to peoples' lives.

Now in its fifth year, the Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour is becoming increasingly popular and last year received 1200 nominations.

Anybody wishing to nominate someone they believe deserves an award can pick up a leaflet containing a nomination form from their local branch of Nationwide Building Society, their local public library or check their local newspaper for an application form. The closing date for nominations is 30 April 2002.

There are four award categories: Young people under 18 as individuals; Young people under 18 in groups; Adults as individuals; Adults in groups.

Initially two regional winners in each category will be selected making a total of eight in each of seven regions within England, together with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The eighty regional winners will each receive an attractive plaque, along with £50 dining out vouchers for individuals or £100 for groups.

From each region and home nation, four finalists will win gifts to the value of £250 and a trophy, plus a £500 donation to the charity or cause of their choice. From the forty finalists, four national winners will be chosen, one in each category. They will each receive gifts to the value of £500, together with a £2,500 donation to the charity or cause of their choice and a trophy.

Michelle Leighton, Community Affairs Manager, Nationwide Building Society, Pipers Way, Swindon SN38 2SN Tel: 01793 655143 E-mail: [michelle.leighton@nationwide.co.uk](mailto:michelle.leighton@nationwide.co.uk)

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* Oyster Awards

Calling all campaigners! Have you - or someone you know - spoken up about something important?

The Oyster Awards are for people who have demonstrated their grit and determination as campaigners for change.

The Awards will recognise campaigners all over the UK who have taken constructive action about something they thought should be improved, changed or created.

Regions and UK-wide sector awards

Awards are being given at both regional and UK-wide levels. And there will also be an overall winner chosen from the regional award winners (explained below).

If you win, you'll receive an Oyster trophy and one of our many great prizes including holiday vouchers totalling £10,000.

So if you know an Oyster, you can nominate them by using the online nominator form. Or, if you think you are an Oyster, you can nominate yourself. If you have any questions about the awards, email: [Oysters@CitizensConnection.net](mailto:Oysters@CitizensConnection.net)

Oyster Awards, Common Purpose, Discovery House, 28-42 Banner Street, London EC1Y 8QE Web-site: [www.citizensconnection.net](http://www.citizensconnection.net) If you don't have access to the internet, you can telephone the National Lottery Line on 0845 9 100 000 and ask for a form to be sent to you in the post. Please complete and return by 30 April 2002

The awards ceremonies for the regional awards will be held in September 2002 (dates to be announced).

The UK-wide sector award ceremony will be held in October 2002 (date to be announced).

## \*New \* Art for Architecture

Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) operates this ongoing scheme to encourage the inclusion of artists within architectural project design teams. The emphasis is on collaboration, allowing artist and architect equal status within the design team. Any of those involved in a project can apply, but funds go towards the artists fee only. Grants will be given to: building projects; projects using new technology (electronic, digital media, virtual spaces etc.); landscape projects; short-term experimental projects.

The project must be accessible to the general public. Grants range from £2,000 to £15,000. The Advisory Panel meets three times a year. The remaining submission deadlines for 2002 are 19 April and 13 September.

Please contact either Jes Fernie ([jes.fernie@rsa.org.uk](mailto:jes.fernie@rsa.org.uk)) or Lizzie Tulip ([lizzie.tulip@rsa.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.tulip@rsa.org.uk)) for further information: RSA Art for Architecture, 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ Tel. 020 7451 6871/6865 Web-site: [www.rsa.org.uk/afa](http://www.rsa.org.uk/afa)

## \*New \* Single Parent Action Network - Self-Help Grants

This grant award can be used to: increase the provision of drop-in centres for one parent families living in isolation and in disadvantaged areas; enable local groups to offer courses which increase the confidence and self-esteem of disadvantaged single parents; support the participation of single parents in helping their children with their education.

Single parent self-help groups and other organisations wanting to open up their services to one parent families may apply. Final deadline is 30 April 2002. For information, application form or help with filling out the application form contact: Chris Gaine, SPAN, Millpond, Baptist Street, Easton, Bristol BS5 OYW Tel: 01179514231 Fax: 01179355208 E-mail: [spanuk@netgates.co.uk](mailto:spanuk@netgates.co.uk) Web-site: [www.spanuk.org.uk](http://www.spanuk.org.uk)

Nations in Bloom 2002

Nations in Bloom was launched in 1997 and is now the world's leading awards/competition scheme based on management of the environment.

The judging criteria are: Enhancement of the landscape; Heritage management; Use of environmentally sensitive practices; Community involvement; Planning for the future.

The main objective of Nations in Bloom is the enhancement of the quality of life through the improvement of the environment and the creation of viable liveable communities. A further objective is the exchange of knowledge and best practice across cultural and national borders.

Closing date 31 May 2002 with finals held 3-7 October 2002 in Stuttgart. All entrants are eligible for bursaries of up to £10,000 for projects that further the objectives of Nations in Bloom.

For further details contact Alan Smith, Nations in Bloom, Globe House, Crispin Close, Caversham RG4 7JS. Tel/Fax: 0118 9461680 Email: [nationsinbloom@aol.com](mailto:nationsinbloom@aol.com)

## The eWell-Being Awards

Recognising organisations who use Information and Communication Technologies to deliver environmental and social benefits.

SustainIT, BT and the Local Government Association are delighted to announce the launch of the eWell-Being awards. These awards aim to look beyond the hype of the technology economy, to recognise organisations who use Information and Communication Technologies to deliver environmental and social benefits.

There are four main topic-based award categories which are open to local authorities, businesses and the voluntary sector: Promoting Digital Inclusion; Community Empowerment; Transport; Resource efficiency.

In addition there are three special award categories: Most promising voluntary sector project; Best e-government initiative; Best software/web application. An awards entry form will be available from the web-site shortly. Closing date: 31 March 2002. For more information, contact Rachel Lloyd, SustainIT, Priestgate House, 3/7 Priestgate, Peterborough, PE1 1JN

Tel: 01733 311644 Fax: 01733 312782 E-mail: [awards@sustainit.org](mailto:awards@sustainit.org) Details on

Web-site: [www.sustainit.org](http://www.sustainit.org)

## The Waterways Trust Small Grants Scheme

The Waterways Trust is pleased to invite applications for the summer 2002 round of its Small Grants Scheme with grants of up to £5,000 on offer to organisations, groups or schools interested in developing local waterway initiatives.

The Small Grants Scheme, which is financed by the Trust's own fundraising, will support waterway related projects that provide lasting environmental enhancement whilst encouraging increased community involvement in the waterways. Successful bids must involve and benefit the community.

Applications for the summer 2002 round of grants will close on March 31st.

The Waterways Trust welcomes applications for projects where the award would be used to attract further funding from other bodies or where volunteer effort or gifts in kind make a significant contribution to the project.

Applications to the Small Grants Scheme will include waterways-based access, educational and environmental projects. Successful applications to the summer 2002 round of the Small Grants Scheme might include projects which: improve disabled access to waterway sites; restore historic waterway features, for instance bridges and locks; improve the interpretation of waterway features; provide better facilities for volunteers working on the waterways; restore canal habitats for wildlife.

Small Grants Scheme, The Waterways Trust North West Office, The Boat Museum, South Pier Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire CH65 4FW Tel: 0151 373 4382

E-mail: [enquiries.hq@thewaterwaystrust.co.uk](mailto:enquiries.hq@thewaterwaystrust.co.uk)

Web-site:

[www.thewaterwaystrust.co.uk](http://www.thewaterwaystrust.co.uk)

## DTLR - Road Safety Small grants

Section 40 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, gives the Department of the Environment, Transport, Local Government and the Regions the power to have a Challenge Fund to assist with the cost of projects promoting road safety proposed by organisations other than local authorities (it should be noted that grants cannot be payable to individuals). Grants made from the fund may finance the reasonable costs of staff and overheads which are directly and transparently associated with the delivery of that project only. These costs being additional to regular running costs. The Government has decided to allocate around £200,000 per annum to such a Challenge Fund: individual grants are expected to be for sums up to £20,000.

Grant funding is expected to support the Government's road safety strategy and casualty reduction targets for 2010, as set out in "Tomorrow's Roads - Safer for Everyone", which was published on 1 March 2000 (implementation progress can be viewed on the Department's website: [www.roads.dtlr.gov.uk/roadsafety/strategy/tomorrow/](http://www.roads.dtlr.gov.uk/roadsafety/strategy/tomorrow/)). The targets are to reduce deaths and serious injuries overall by 40% - and by 50% for children - and also to reduce slight injuries by 10%. Applications for grant will therefore need to promote casualty reduction and reflect the priorities of the Road Safety Strategy. These include: Novice driver safety; Child safety, especially that of child pedestrians; Drivers attitude to speed; Improving safety of vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists & horse riders); Fleet driver safety; and Driver Impairment.

The Department will also consider projects which tackle other problem areas. Grant funding is usually for one off projects - for example to research and produce a resource to be used by road safety professionals and volunteers, or to pump prime projects that will become self financing.

Grant applications should be submitted on the prescribed application form which can be obtained from John Doyle, Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions, Zone 2/13, Great Minster House, London SW1P 4DR Tel. 0207 944 2026, E-mail: [John.Doyle@dtlr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:John.Doyle@dtlr.gsi.gov.uk) Web-site: [www.roads.dtlr.gov.uk/roadsafety/challenge/index.htm](http://www.roads.dtlr.gov.uk/roadsafety/challenge/index.htm)

Applications for grant at under £3,000 can be submitted at any time. Grants for £3,000 upwards will be considered in April and October each year for applications received by 1 April and 1 October respectively. Applications which cannot be considered due to lack of funds will be able to be resubmitted for the following year.



## BBC Children in Need 2002

BBC Children in Need welcomes applications for good quality, carefully planned, projects which show a clear focus on children in order to make a positive difference to their lives. These applications can be from: Self-help groups; Voluntary organisations; or Registered charities.

Applicants should be properly constituted, non-profit organisations. The children they help are aged 18 years and under, and live in the United Kingdom. You should only apply for a grant if it will benefit children who are disadvantaged by: mental, physical or sensory disabilities; behavioural or psychological problems; living in poverty or situations of deprivation; illness, distress, abuse or neglect.

Closing Dates for applications are March 30th - answers in August and November 30th - answers in April. The Grant Guidelines and Application Forms for the BBC Children in Need Appeal are now available for download from the BBC web-site at: [www.bbc.co.uk/cin/about/apply.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cin/about/apply.shtml) If you require an Application Form & Guidelines, or you require advice on completing the application form please contact your local BBC Children in Need Office for your area: Midlands Tel: 0121 4328899; North East Tel: 0113 2247155; North West Tel: 0161 2443439; South East Tel: 020 8228 8275; South West Tel: 0117 9746600; Central Office Tel: 020 8576 7788

As website but unapproved by funder

## BBC Appeals

The BBC broadcasts appeals: as a public service for those who wish to give to charities; providing authoritative information and guidance about causes which seek their support; to raise money for good causes and encourage the habit of giving; to give charities opportunities to raise public awareness about their work.

The BBC's UK-wide broadcast appeals are made weekly on Sunday mornings on BBC Radio 4 and monthly on BBC Television in the Sunday Lifeline programme on BBC ONE. The Radio 4 appeal is repeated on Thursday afternoons and, except in special circumstances, there is a repeat of Lifeline during the following week.

Local charities working in a single discrete area will be advised on contacting the Appeals Office to apply to their Local Radio station.

Applications are considered in competition with others received and a successful application may result in either a radio or a television broadcast: because there are more radio than television slots it is, of course, more likely that a successful application will result in a radio rather than a television appeal. Information is available from their web-site: [www.bbc.co.uk/info/bbc/app\\_index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/info/bbc/app_index.shtml) Applications are considered their Appeals Advisory Committee whose expert members come from outside the BBC and have wide experience of the charitable world. Deadlines for 2002 are 8 April 2002; 12 August 2002; and 9 December 2002.

For broadcasts on UK-wide networks please read their appeals information and policy, then download and complete the application form and send it to their Appeals Assistant, 3-6 Langham Place, London W1A 1AA

## The European Youth Foundation (EYF)

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established by the Council of Europe to provide financial support to international youth activities. It has an annual budget of approximately 16 million French francs. Since 1973, more than 200 000 young people, most of them nationals of Council of Europe member states, have taken part in EYF-supported activities.

In particular, the EYF seeks to promote voluntary youth work across Europe. Since its inception, it has distributed some 170 million French francs to support international meetings - seminars, conferences, camps - organised by international non-governmental youth organisations (INGYOs), the production of publications, information material and the administrative costs of INGYOs. In recent years, the main topics of the activities supported by the EYF have been the building of Europe, youth work, minorities, the environment and a number of political issues. From 1995 on special attention has been paid to promoting solidarity and tolerance in Europe as part of the Council of Europe's

Campaign against Racism, Xenophobia, anti-Semitism and Intolerance.

Five basic rules govern the distribution of the Foundation's resources: Applicants must represent either an international non-governmental youth organisation with branches in at least four member-states of the Council of Europe, or a national youth organisation co-operating with at least three other national organisations from different member states; No more than one third of the participants in any project supported by the Foundation should be of the same nationality and no more than one quarter may be over the age of 30; As a general rule, any eligible project takes place in one (or more) member states of the Council of Europe; Participants and organisers must make a significant financial contribution towards the activity themselves; Five per cent of the Foundation's budget is devoted to the activities of young people not belonging to traditional organisations but actively supported by national or local authorities. These activities should also respect the above conditions.

As a rule, the EYF Secretariat must receive grant applications by the following deadlines: 1 April for activities to be carried out in the first half of the following year; 1 October for activities to be carried out in the second half of the following year.

European Youth Foundation, Directorate of Youth and Sport, 30, rue Pierre de Coubertin, F- 67000 Strasbourg Tel: (33) 03 88 41 32 05 Fax: (33) 03 90 21 49 64 E-mail: [eyf@coe.int](mailto:eyf@coe.int) Web-site: [www.coe.fr/youth/english/EYF/EYF.htm](http://www.coe.fr/youth/english/EYF/EYF.htm)

## DrugScope Millennium Awards £1 million available

DrugScope is the UK's leading centre of expertise on drugs. Their aim is to inform policy and reduce drug-related risk. They provide quality information, promote effective responses to drug taking, undertake research at local, national and international level, advise on policy-making, encourage informed debate and speak for their member bodies working on the ground.

DrugScope has £1 million to give out in grants to individuals and small groups who want to do something about drugs in their local community.

Awards of between £1000 and £3500 will be granted to individuals and small groups who will undertake a range of local activities including piloting drug prevention initiatives, establishing community action and support groups or developing materials.

The scheme is open to anyone aged over 16, however they are interested in initiatives that will target young people, parents, tenants and concerned local residents, minority ethnic groups, ex-drug users and ex-offenders

The scheme is due to be launched nationally in February 2002. This means that there is only one round of applications left in the pilot regions, so people in the South West, Merseyside and the East of England should get their forms in soon.

An official national launch event is planned for early March. Details are currently being finalised and will be released shortly. The closing date for applications for Round 3 is 25 January 2002. Applications for Round 4 will be accepted from 26 January 2002 from the whole of England. The first deadline for England wide applications is 19 April 2002. 250 awards are due to be made in the year from February 2002, with a further 200 on offer from March 2003.

For further information contact the Millennium Awards Team on 020 7928 1211 or E-mail: [nicolac@drugscope.org.uk](mailto:nicolac@drugscope.org.uk) or consult their web site: [www.drugscope.org.uk/funding](http://www.drugscope.org.uk/funding)

Not approved but as web-site

## Countryside Access Recovery Fund

The Countryside Access Recovery Fund is a new £0.5 million fund from the Countryside Agency to assist voluntary groups and charities who promote access to the countryside.

The fund will be used for: improvements and renovations or provision of new buildings; advice and consultancy to help an organisation to adjust and plan their recovery; activities to promote access to, and understanding of the countryside.

The closing date for applications is the 20th April 2002.

Expressions of interest can be logged with Clare Stevens Tel: 01242 533237 E-mail: [clare.stevens@countryside.gov.uk](mailto:clare.stevens@countryside.gov.uk) Web-site: [www.countryside.gov.uk/recoveryfund.htm](http://www.countryside.gov.uk/recoveryfund.htm)

The 2002 European Young Consumer Competition

This year's theme is the production of a magazine, video, CD-ROM or Internet site dealing with at least three consumer issues to be chosen at will.

The competition is open to groups of between 4 and 30 young people in three age categories, 6-10, 11-14 and 15-19. There are prizes of 1000 euros, 700 euros and 500 euros for the three top UK projects. The winning project will go forward to represent the UK at the European Finals in Brussels.

Closing date is 26th April. You should register on-line at [www.youngconsumers.co.uk](http://www.youngconsumers.co.uk) You will be sent a competition pack by the National Coordinators: Crystal Presentations Ltd, 123 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 8LD or Fax 0121 455 7505

## Unapproved but as web-site - more information available than last month \*New \* New Fund Will Help Promote Countryside Visits

Extra money to help the Youth Hostels Association and other charities bring more visitors to the countryside has been announced by Rural Affairs Minister Alun Michael.

It will support the "Your Countryside, You're Welcome" campaign, which was launched last on 28 January and is being led by a partnership of 50 key rural partners to re-engage public interest in the countryside and to encourage visitors back to the countryside in 2002 and beyond.

A Countryside Access Recovery Fund of some £0.5million will assist voluntary groups and charities which promote access to the countryside. Grants of up to 60% of total cost will be awarded to help fund specific rural recovery projects. The fund will be reviewed in June in light of scheme take-up and other demands.

Grants from the Fund will be available to support approved projects developed by not-for-profit organisations concerned with promoting countryside access and/or understanding of the English countryside and will be subject to the criteria set out below.

The package of support for an individual organisation or project will vary from case to case. The fund will be used for direct support to expenditure by not-for-profit organisations on:

- improvements and renovations or provision of new buildings or other infrastructure to help secure, expand or enhance the activity of the organisation related to the promotion of access to or understanding of the countryside;
- advice and consultancy to help them adjust and plan their recovery; and
- activities to promote access to, and understanding of the countryside.

Before direct support is provided to an individual not-for-profit organisation they must satisfy the Countryside Agency that:

- the financial position of the organisation has been substantially adversely affected by the incidence of FMD and/or the measures taken to control it;
- the organisation has taken all reasonable action to mitigate the impact (including claiming rate relief and tax, VAT and NIC deferral where eligible), and where appropriate has drawn on other sources of support (including contributions from the private sector, appeals to members etc.);
- the organisation would be financially viable apart from the effect of FMD, and expects to return to its normal level of income by 31 December 2002.

Grants will normally cover a maximum of 60% of the project cost. Applications for grants must be received by 30 April 2002 and the grant will be payable on proof of expenditure.

The scheme will be administered by the Countryside Agency. Potential applicants should contact the Countryside Agency (01242 533237) for a preliminary discussion.

Public Enquiries: 08459 335577

## Nationwide Launches 2002 Search for Local Heroes

Nationwide Building Society today launched the 2002 Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour, which invites members of the public to nominate individuals and groups deserving recognition for their work in the community. Organised by Nationwide, in association with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and the Newspaper Society, the awards are designed to reward and recognise the "local heroes" whose voluntary work or community activity has made a real difference to peoples' lives.

Now in its fifth year, the Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour is becoming increasingly popular and last year received 1200 nominations.

Anybody wishing to nominate someone they believe deserves an award can pick up a leaflet containing a nomination form from their local branch of Nationwide Building Society, their local public library or check their local newspaper for an application form. The closing date for nominations is 30 April 2002.

There are four award categories: Young people under 18 as individuals; Young people under 18 in groups; Adults as individuals; Adults in groups.

Initially two regional winners in each category will be selected making a total of eight in each of seven regions within England, together with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The eighty regional winners will each receive an attractive plaque, along with £50 dining out vouchers for individuals or £100 for groups.

From each region and home nation, four finalists will win gifts to the value of £250 and a trophy, plus a £500 donation to the charity or cause of their choice. From the forty finalists, four national winners will be chosen, one in each category. They will each receive gifts to the value of £500, together with a £2,500 donation to the charity or cause of their choice and a trophy.

Michelle Leighton, Community Affairs Manager, Nationwide Building Society, Pipers Way, Swindon SN38 2SN Tel: 01793 655143 E-mail: [michelle.leighton@nationwide.co.uk](mailto:michelle.leighton@nationwide.co.uk)

## Single Parent Action Network - Self-Help Grants

This grant award can be used to: increase the provision of drop-in centres for one parent families living in isolation and in disadvantaged areas; enable local groups to offer courses which increase the confidence and self-esteem of disadvantaged single parents; support the participation of single parents in helping their children with their education.

Single parent self-help groups and other organisations wanting to open up their services to one parent families may apply. Final deadline is 30 April 2002. For information, application form or help with filling out the application form contact: Chris Gaine, SPAN, Millpond, Baptist Street, Easton, Bristol B55 0YW Tel: 01179514231 Fax: 01179355208 E-mail: [spanuk@netgates.co.uk](mailto:spanuk@netgates.co.uk) Web-site: [www.spanuk.org.uk](http://www.spanuk.org.uk)

## 2002 Young Pavement Artist of the Year Competition

The Competition is open to youth clubs, schools and organisations. The age range is 4 to 18. Help is given with chalks, prizes and posters. Profit is shared equally between the local organiser and YPAC. The theme is "The Riverbank". The first part of the competition is put on by local organisers. All coloured photographs of First Prize Drawings of each age group go into the second stage of the Competition. Members of the Tate Gallery and the Royal Academy of Arts choose the national Young Pavement Artist of the Year who receives 200 and a trophy. The three runners-up will each receive 100 and an inscribed plate. The awards will be presented by a celebrity at the Tate Gallery, London on 12th July 2002.

Enrolment forms must be returned by 1 May 2002. For information and enrolment form contact (ASAP) Mrs Barbara Bate, Young Pavement Artists Competition, Vine Farm House, Lower Street, Tilmanstone, Nr Deal, Kent CT14 0JD Tel: 01304611428 E-mail: [bbate@nypac.freemove.co.uk](mailto:bbate@nypac.freemove.co.uk) Web-site: [www.youngpavementartist.co.uk](http://www.youngpavementartist.co.uk)

## \*New \* Upstarts Awards 2002

Upstarts Awards 2002 exist to reveal the stars of social enterprise to the world and spread the idea of social entrepreneurs as a dynamic force for change. The awards highlight and reward individuals with extraordinary vision and a commitment to social enterprise. This year, they offer six awards and almost £20,000 in prize money. So are you aware of a remarkable social enterprise? Do you know of an elected individual that supports and encourages social entrepreneurs? Do they deserve national recognition?

Nominating is simple. They simply require basic details and no more than 300 words telling us why your nomination should go forward to the final stages. The categories are:

Upstarts Achievement Award

# The Funding DIRECTORY

An Award made to the person that, according to the judges, has done most to bring about social inclusion through enterprise. Nominations will come from individuals canvassed by the Host. The Award will be a trophy.

Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award - An Award made to the person that, according to the judges, best represents the qualities and attributes of a successful social entrepreneur. Nominations will come from individuals canvassed by the Host. The Award will be a trophy and a cash prize of £3,000.

Social Enterprise of the Year Award - An Award made to the organisation that, according to the judges, best represents the qualities and attributes of a successful social enterprise. Nominations will come from individuals canvassed by the Host and from members of the public. The Award will be a trophy and a cash prize of £3,000.

Best Revenue Model of the Year Award - An Award made to the person, according to the judges, that best exploits a revenue-generating model within a successful social enterprise. Nominations will come from individuals canvassed by the Host. The Award will be a trophy.

Best Elected Advocate for Social Enterprise of the Year Award - An Award made to an elected individual that, according to the judges, has done most to enhance the status and significance of social enterprise. Nominations come from individuals canvassed by the Host. The Award will be a trophy.

Most Likely To Succeed as a Social Entrepreneur Award - An Award made to the person that, according to the judges, best demonstrates the potential necessary to be a successful social entrepreneur. Nominations will come from individuals canvassed by the Host. The Award will be a trophy and a scholarship to the School of Social Entrepreneurs worth £8,000.

Contact James Cully, New Statesman, 7th Floor, Victoria Station House, 191 Victoria Street, London SW1E 5NE Tel: 020 7828 1232 E-mail: upstarts@newstatesman.co.uk Full details for application are on Web-site: www.upstarts.org.uk All nominations must be received by 31 May 2002.

Unapproved but as web-site

## \*New \* Bridge House Golden Jubilee Grants for those in London

The Golden Jubilee Grants Scheme has two themes aimed at increasing the respect and understanding that people in London have for each other and therefore improving the quality of life in the capital. We also want to encourage organisations to work together in partnership towards these aims.

The two themes are: Safer London; and Linking London's Communities.

They expect the average grants to be in the region of £40-£50,000 in total. However, they wish to fund a range of projects and smaller applications are encouraged, subject to a minimum of £5,000. Similarly, more may be available for a very few projects of outstanding merit.

They will fund: Grants may be for capital or revenue; and Revenue grants may be for up to 3 years, although strong evidence will be needed to support an

application for the full duration.

Grants may be made for either new work or to develop an existing project. Capital contributions to large capital projects are unlikely to be made.

Application deadline is 31 May 2002. Assessment period is June until November 2002 when grants are awarded. For more information, please contact the Golden Jubilee Grants Team: Stewart Goshawk (Golden Jubilee Grants Officer) - 020 7332 3712 Lesley Darcy (Golden Jubilee Grants Administrator) - 020 7332 3127 Bridge House Estates Trust Fund, Corporation of London, PO Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ Fax: 020 7332 3720 Minicom: 020 7332 3151 Web-site:

www.bridgehousegrants.org.uk/jubilee/jubileeinitial.htm

E-mail: bridgehousetrust@corpoflondon.gov.uk

## Charity Times - UK Charity Awards

The UK Charity Awards are designed to recognise and reward excellence in the management and co-ordination of all charitable activities. This aim is enforced by the make-up of the judging panel, which represents the leading figures in the UK charity sector, and thus ensures the highest possible standards are set for the largest awards ceremony in the charity calendar.

The overall objectives of the Awards are threefold: To honour the outstanding professionals in the many and varied fields of charity management; To support continuing professional development and contribute towards raising the standards of charity management; To promote and raise the profile of the charity sector.

The Awards incorporate the whole range of charitable work; from investment, fundraising and campaigning through to use of technology and the application of sound business principles. In addition, recognition is afforded to those professional service companies working most creatively and effectively within the sector.

Categories are: Charity of the Year; Lifetime Achievement; Personality of the Year; Best New Charity; Charity Principal/Director of the Year; Fundraising Manager of the Year; Fundraising Campaign of the Year; Corporate Partnership of the Year; Trustee of the Year; Volunteer of the Year; Youth Volunteer of the Year; Charity Internet Site of the Year; Best Practice Award; Corporate Community Involvement; Fundraising & IT Services Supplier; Financial Services Supplier.

3rd Annual UK Charity Awards will be held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London on the evening of 5 September, 2002. Closing date for nominations is 17 May 2002.

Charity Times, Perspective Publishing Limited, 408-410 London Fruit & Wool Exchange, Brushfield Street, London E1 6EP Web-site: www.charitytimes.com



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