

Community First New Forest

Newsletter



Winter 2009

....building relationships, enabling action

www.cfnf.org.uk

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Autum Newsletter

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Articles included in this edition are not necessarily the views of Community First New Forest.

Some interesting Web sites to help with energy efficient New Years resolution!!

Recycle Now (recyclenow.com) lets you find out about recycling in your area, offers tips on home composting and suggests ways to become greener.

The Hunger Site (thehungersite.com) is an easy way to give to charity. Click on the site and its sponsors will then donate some money to one of several good causes, such as cancer research, literacy, hunger.

Blackle (blackle.com) is a greener, Google-powered search engine that, because of its black background and white text, uses less energy than regular web pages.

On Fix My Street (fixmystreet.com) you can report problems like graffiti, fly-tipping and dog-fouling to your local council by highlighting them on the site's map.

Worldchanging (worldchanging.com) publishes a range of green-related, free-thinking articles from a group of worldwide contributors.

BBC Bloom (bbc.co.uk/bloom) gives advice on how to help fight climate change: install a bio-mass stove, have a low-carbon wedding and cut down on meat and dairy.

Karmawish (karmawish.com) is a place to ask for help from people in your part of the country, whether you want to learn Italian via Skype, would like to borrow tools, or need help training your dog.

Do It (do-it.org.uk) is aimed at those who are thinking about volunteering but don't know where to go.

Play the free online quizzes on **Free Rice** (freerice.com). For every right answer, 10 grains of rice will be donated to the UN World Food Programme.

Chief Executive's Report

Welcome to the winter edition of the Community First Newsletter I hope you find it helpful and informative.

Help with understanding commissioning, procurement and contracting

A guide has been developed by NCVO and NAVCA that aims to support voluntary and community sector organisations to have a stronger understanding on commissioning, procurement and contracting. This is a very timely guide and it is essential reading if you have an interest in any of these areas and in delivering public services.

Extract from the guide '**Pathways through the maze – A guide to procurement law**'

"This guide is invaluable to anybody working for a local charity, voluntary organisation, community group or social enterprise that is interested or involved in the commissioning and procurement of public services. It will help you understand procurement processes and give you the information you need to challenge the myths and mistruths about procurement.

This guide gives local voluntary organisations and public sector commissioners the knowledge to work together to create more intelligent commissioning processes. By improving the processes, we will improve our ability to get the effective services and stronger communities which local people need.

This guide will help third sector groups understand the context within which local authorities operate, including the complex world of procurement legislation and guidance. It will also help third sector organisations increase their knowledge of the legal context for procurement and enable them to play a more equal part in local commissioning and procurement strategy and practices."

I have dipped into this guide and felt it to be a good start in helping to understand some of the complexities. It also contains a range of 'good practice tips' to consider. You can access the guide online at: www.navca.org.uk/maze or www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/pathways

Michael Clowes
Chief Executive

Helpful links and guides related to sexual health

'Get It On' Website – your guide to local Sexual Health services in Hampshire. Whether you are sexually active already or just thinking about finding out more then this site is for you. All types of Sexual Health services are listed. Whether you are preparing for a relationship, concerned about an infection or dealing with the unexpected there is a service that can help you.

Being sexually healthy is about having the skills, confidence and knowledge to take care of yourself and others. Safer sex is about making choices about the sex you are having and the contraception you use to protect yourself against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI's).
Visit: www.getiton.nhs.uk/ **Another helpful site is:** www.ruthinking.co.uk

South East Women's Business Service

A service providing the support and advice women need to start and grow their business. Confidence Building-Communication Skills-Transferable Skills-Business Plans-Bookkeeping-Income Tax-Marketing

Grace de Grute, Women's Business Advisor, Mobile: 07595410616, Email: grace.degrute@businesslinkhampshireiow.co.uk

Free coaching, support and training. Call Grace to book your appointment.

Community Information

Are you able to garden but have nowhere to use or, do you have a garden that needs some attention but you don't have the time?

Community First New Forest is interested in developing a gardening project for families in the South Ringwood area. This is aimed at those families who may like to grow their own produce or those who may like to support a scheme where the community develops its own food initiative.



We are looking to work with organisations, groups or individuals who will help us engage the community to empower local people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities, to create opportunities for them to grow their own fruit and vegetables in a green and sustainable manner, and in the process make a positive impact on their surroundings and environment.

We need to identify land or gardens that could be accessed locally to enable people to garden in a low cost, sustainable way. Help and support will be sought from a range of partners as well as being overseen by Community First New Forest until the project is self-sufficient.

Please contact Debbie Grace on Tel. 01425 482773 or debbie.grace@cfnf.org.uk

T.E.D.S.—Toy Exchange and Donations Scheme

We are delighted to introduce a unique and exciting project designed to benefit many children and the community at large.

Our scheme provides an innovative way of recycling and reusing unwanted children's' toys, books, puzzles, games and clothing that are no longer of interest to them, but may be to others. Every few weeks we shall be holding a **TEDS** sale at Greyfriars Community Centre in Ringwood, selling on all the goods that members of the public donate, thereby raising funds for a deserving cause within our community. A new charity, project or individual will be chosen each month, as voted for by those attending the event.



In addition to these kind donations, we shall be operating our unique toy exchange scheme. Children bring along no longer used items to exchange and we shall offer money-off tokens that can be used on the day to purchase new ones! At each subsequent sale, a board will be displayed showing our previous "good cause" and how they have benefited through our donate and exchange scheme.

Supporting Our Schools

Not only supporting our community in this way, we are also working closely with local schools and nurseries to help their fundraising programs. By simply dropping off toys and clothing directly to them, we will give a cash donation for everything collected on our behalf. We then prepare all goods for resale. Every single item is thoroughly checked - clothes and soft toys may need to be washed and dried, all other items are individually cleaned with anti-bacterial materials and then stored ready for the next **TEDS** event.

Any ideas you may have that would help us, including names of possible willing volunteers to man the sale tables or storage facilities you could offer, would be gratefully received. We also welcome information on people, groups or projects that you feel need our support so we can choose the next beneficiary for our exciting new venture.

For more information, contact: Mrs Dana Elsworth on 01425 489519/07795 109559
Miss Liz Wells on 01425 473322 or 07919 116265

What does Community Development mean to me?



**By Jackie Hartless, Community Development Manager,
Community First New Forest**

When I asked myself this question I found it quite difficult to answer at first but I have tried to encompass what I feel community development really is as succinctly as I can!

Community development is not just 'a job', I believe it is a different way of working, it is about commitment and values, a belief in the value of each individual and the power of people and communities working together to bring about positive change; to achieve collective goals. It is about aiming to build dynamic and sustainable communities based on a commitment to social justice, equality, mutual respect and understanding.

As well as challenging discrimination & working to empower individuals and communities, a development worker will raise awareness of discrimination and inequality and show people can work together to change attitudes and bring about a more equal society. Community Development workers endeavour to give people the opportunity to become involved and therefore increase their influence over decisions that can impact on their own lives and that of the community at large. It is about working to allow everyone who wishes to, an opportunity to increase their skills through accessible training and recognising that everyone has skills and knowledge to contribute, in whatever way they feel able.

So how does apply this to my role?

All the work we do is based on the values and principles of community development. Although it often fits in with local and national government priorities, the work is driven by local people in our local communities. It's important that my involvement as a community development worker can be flexible and responsive to community issues and their changing priorities. We aim to help people learn how to 'do it for themselves', so that skills and structures can outlive the end of a particular initiative or project, to develop skills and confidence so that they can have more influence on the issues that affect their lives. To this end we provide a training programme tailored specifically for the voluntary sector. We will also develop courses upon request if a group needs very specific help.

Community development is about recognising that the heart of every community is the people who live there. With the right support, they can and will make a difference.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about how your local Community Development Team can help you the contact Jackie Hartless or Debbie Grace on 01425 482773 or email cdmanager@cfnf.org.uk

Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA)

Charities in the UK are being reminded of the introduction in October 2009 of new vetting and barring schemes increasing safeguards and requirements for registration of staff, contractors and volunteers, before they can work with children and vulnerable adults.

England, Wales and Northern Ireland will see the introduction of a Vetting and Barring scheme, by the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007. Scotland will have a separate but aligned Protecting Vulnerable Groups scheme, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. Operated by Disclosure Scotland, which already runs Scotland's Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) it is expected to be operational in 2010.

It will be a legal requirement for people working with children and vulnerable adults (paid or voluntary capacity) to be checked under the scheme and registered if working in 'controlled' or 'regulated'

Community Information

activities. It will be a criminal offence for volunteer organisations to allow a barred person or someone not registered with the ISA to work in a regulated activity for any length of time.

Organisations will have five years to register employees or volunteers, those who fail to comply will be given time to rectify the situation before criminal proceedings commence. From October 2009 the ISA must be provided with information of individuals who may pose a threat to children and vulnerable adults including records of disciplinary action.

From July 2010, all new and prospective employees (including those changing roles) and volunteers can apply to register with the ISA and employers and voluntary organisations will be able to check that job applicants are on the register.

From November 2010 it will become a legal requirement for all new employees (including those changing roles) and volunteers to register with ISA. It will be illegal to employ new people who are not ISA registered from this date.

The phasing in of the scheme continues in 2011, when existing employees and volunteers including those with and without CRB checks must register. The ISA toolkit is at www.isa-gov.org/toolkit/

Source: UK200 Charities Group courtesy of Fiander Tovell LLP, Chartered Accountants, Stag Gates House, 63/64 The Avenue, Southampton SO17 1XS

Millie A host's story

My name is Millie. I am 17 and my mum Jude and I are Nightstop hosts. We have been hosting for about 3 years and we first became hosts when we found out about Nightstop through another Community First scheme.

I wanted to become a host because I wanted to help kids that were my age who were struggling. It seemed such a simple gesture to simply open your house to them and invite them in. Before I started to host I wasn't quite sure what to expect of people we were hosting, but after the first couple had stayed I realised that they are totally different than expected. You could walk past them in the street and not be able to tell that they were homeless.



They are so polite and grateful for what the hosts do and most of the time they are shocked that someone would actually do this for them. We have had many young people come and stay with us and I have enjoyed it so much. As a young person I feel it is good hosting for Nightstop as I am able to connect with them and it sometimes helps them feel more comfortable if they are able to talk to someone their own age.

The Nightstop scheme is very flexible and caters for you as a volunteer. If you were busy one evening you can simply call in and let the office know or if you felt uncomfortable you could call in and the young person can go to a different host. The scheme is also very safe as the young people are all checked before they come to stay and have no drug, alcohol or criminal problems.

With the Nightstop scheme it is so easy. You never feel as if you are giving at all, you learn so much from the young people, for me it feels as if they are giving to me. They have their own experiences and lives to share with you.

The young people are always grateful to have people who are interested in them and who actually want to listen to what they have to say. I really love being a host and wouldn't trade it for anything. I have learnt so much and love and look forward to people coming to stay with me.

For more information on Nightstop Tel. 01425 478391

Policy & Information update from Community Action Hampshire



Hampshire prepares for public spending slowdown

Following a meeting of the Cabinet on 26 October, the Council has issued a news release stating that it is facing up to a sharp slowdown in public spending at a national level, with a plan to make £15m in corporate efficiency savings from 2011. A report for the Efficiency Panel at its September meeting identified 12 workstreams which are expected to deliver about £10m of efficiencies. These include procurement for domiciliary care and learning disability services. HCC aims to keep council tax levels for the coming year below 2%.

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/decisions/decisions-docs/091026-cabine-R1022151603.html>

Come clean about top salaries and perks

Local Government Minister Rosie Winterton has pledged to introduce new legislative rules before the end of the year making councils publish the pay and perks of their highest earning 2,500 posts - as part of action to show the taxpayer that all government is acting fairly and responsibly in an era of constrained public expenditure. The proposals will create a new legal requirement for up to 475 local authority bodies to include detailed senior pay information covering salary, bonuses, pensions, perks and compensation pay offs in their next annual statement of accounts.

High quality public services – ‘making local the answer’

In a speech on 21 October John Denham MP set out how he believes good public services can be delivered at a time of tight public expenditure restraint. His map for reform includes:

‘Total Place’ – there are already 13 pilots underway, each concentrating on a particular theme, such as children’s services, social care or anti-social behaviour. The pilots look at the total public service spending in each area, and service providers work together to identify how a ‘whole area’ approach, with all the different services coming together in a joint effort, can respond to local needs.

www.localleadership.gov.uk/totalplace/

extension of local authority scrutiny powers to all local public service spending on their patch
an innovative approach to commissioning setting out the outcomes rather than the precise service to be delivered.

ability to generate new income – councils need the space to expand and grow their role in municipal enterprise, exploiting their powers to trade. Waste and recycling are cited, and the low carbon economy is thought to offer opportunities.

good quality and accessible data about what is currently delivered, to allow people outside public services to examine what’s going on and suggest other ways of doing things, as well as compare them with other areas.

DH Social Enterprise Investment Fund (SEIF) shapes up to personalisation

The Dept of Health SEIF is aimed at helping health and social care providers develop innovative new services. It is now offering 8 types of investment. A specific Personalisation Fund provides loans-based investments of £50,000 - £10,000,000 to develop services to manage individualised budgets under the personalisation of care agenda.

The Growth Fund for existing organisations, and which may be used to acquire or redevelop capital assets, and the Innovation Fund, designed for early stage organisations with new ideas for innovation in health and social care products and services, both state they are open to organisations who support the personalisation of care agenda, although are not restricted to them.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Managingyourorganisation/Socialenterprise/SocialEnterpriseInvestmentFund/index.htm>

New Care Choice website

HCC has developed this new website as part of its programme to support personalisation and the universal offer. Visit www.hants.gov.uk/carechoice It has been largely developed in consultation with service users, including self funders, and includes some templates that individuals can use who are looking to employ personal assistants. A market development website to sit alongside the above is nearing completion and will be aimed at existing and potential providers.

Community Information

Personalisation in Hampshire

It's important for organisations involved in health and social care to keep up-to-date with developments on personalisation and self directed support. There is lots of information on the personalisation pages of Community Action Hampshire's website at <http://www.action.hants.org.uk/index.php?id=201>

Direct Payments For Health Care consultation Ends: 8 January 2010

This consultation document seeks views on the government's proposals for piloting direct payments for health care. PCTs are already able to offer personal budgets that do not involve giving money directly to individuals. The Health Bill, which has now completed its main Parliamentary stages, would extend these options by providing power to allow direct payments, where the individual would be given the money to buy their own health care as agreed in a care-plan.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_107425

Cognitive behavioural therapies

52 new areas including Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton will be able help people with depression and anxiety disorders access NICE approved treatments including cognitive behavioural therapies, counselling and guided self-help. These start between now and March 2010.

Disability Living Allowance 'saved'

The proposal in the Green Paper about the future of social care, that some disability benefits could end in their present format and the money be gathered into one pot has caused quite a rumpus. Secretary of State Andy Burnham has stepped in to make clear that the Disability Living Allowance will not be brought into any social care funding pot for a new National Care Service. But he added that there may still be a case for bringing together elements of some disability benefits, such as Attendance Allowance, with social care funding.

Volunteering levels almost unchanged

Figures from the latest CLG citizenship survey (questioned between April-June) confirm that in spite of all the money government has channelled into different volunteering initiatives, there isn't much to show for it. Volunteering levels have remained almost static over the past year in England, and show little difference to 2001. 43% of adults said they had volunteered formally at least once in the previous 12 months, compared with 41% in 2008/09. figures for informal volunteering at least once in the previous year fell from 62% in 2008/09 to 57%.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/citizenshipsurveyq1200910>

Updating National Occupational Standards for trustees

Skills - Third Sector has launched a consultation on the National Occupational Standards for Trustees as part of the Standards monitoring process. The consultation will check that the standards are still 'fit for purpose' and reflect good practice in Trusteeship across the UK. <http://bit.ly/nostrust> or www.skills-thirdsector.org.uk

An independent sector, not a nationalised one

In the run up to the Conservative party conference, shadow charities minister Nick Hurd told Third Sector magazine that the party wanted to encourage the public to give more time and money to charities so that their reliance on government would be reduced and they would stand more strongly on their own feet. The sector is becoming too dependent on the public sector for its funding.

Fareham MP Mark Hoban expresses support for mutuals

Speaking at a fringe event at the Tory party conference organised by consumer advice organisation Which? and several cooperative and mutual umbrella organisations, Mark Hoban, shadow financial secretary to the Treasury, said: "In the past, the Conservative Party has perhaps not talked enough publicly about its support for the mutual sector, but now there is a renewed interest in mutual organisations across the House of Commons. "I have always thought that credit unions play an important role in providing an alternative to the banks and doorstep lenders, but they now have a tremendous opportunity to seize the moment and become the real alternative to the high-street banks."

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Community Information

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Shaw Trust Over 60s Gardening Support Service

Launched in July this year, Hampshire County Council's Gardening Support Service offers help for people aged over 60 who require assistance in managing their garden. Hampshire County Council has commissioned this scheme to enable residents in this age group to manage their gardens, as consultation has identified this as a key factor in assisting people to stay in their own homes.

The service is delivered by Shaw Trust, a national charity that each year helps thousands of disabled and disadvantaged people find work and achieve independence. The fully qualified and experienced team is assisted by volunteers and provides a professional gardening support service. All staff and volunteers are checked by the Criminal Records Bureau. Shaw Trust has successfully delivered horticultural services for more than 20 years.

The year-round gardening support service is available to people over 60 (whether in owned or rented accommodation) living in the following local council areas:

Basingstoke and Deane * East Hampshire * Fareham * Gosport * Hart * Havant * New Forest *
Rushmoor * Winchester

The basic service is available at a reduced rate to clients who are in receipt of a means-tested benefit. For those not in receipt of a means-tested benefit, the standard charge is payable. For further information, please contact Shaw Trust: 0845 6044 643 or grounds.maintenance@shaw-trust.org.uk

New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following groups who have become members in the last few months:

Bransgore Community Church
Windward Day Services Ltd (Spiral Blue)
New Forest Friends of the Earth
Bransgore Thorney Hill and District Social Club
14th New Forest East Applemore Scout Group
Proud2Be New Forest
Woofability
Fawley Falcons Youth Football Club

Community First New Forest nominated for Hantsweb Award!

The search has begun to find which websites from Hampshire and the Isle of Wight stand head and shoulders above the crowd as the 7th Hantsweb Awards are officially launched, and Community First New Forest's website has been nominated.

Running since 2002, the Hantsweb awards in association with ntl: Telewest Business will again recognise and reward the best websites from local organisations. Anyone can nominate a website in one of 12 categories from businesses and schools to special interest and voluntary groups. The awards celebrate good practice, accessibility, ease of use, and of course, great design.

Good quality design is vital to ensuring websites remain easily accessible and simple to navigate for everyone. The Hantsweb Awards are a great way of encouraging best practise examples and celebrating those websites that are leading the way in their field and delivering the goods."

Community Information

A Day in the life of a Handyman—New Forest Home Improvement Agency

By Malcolm Newport, Handyperson Technician, Small Repairs Service



I am the handyman for the Small Repairs Service, which helps to support elderly, disabled and vulnerable people by doing small repair and maintenance jobs in and around the home at low cost. I have been doing this job since July 2007, having spent all my working life in the building trade.

It's 7.30am and time to leave my home in Poole. It's the start of another wet and windy day as I drive the Small Repairs Service van to our offices in Ringwood. I like to arrive by 8.00am, and I go to the office every other day to leave my worksheets and to pick up the new enquiries that Jo, our administrator, has left for me. I put new appointments in the diary so Jo knows where I am. Today I have two key safes to fit so I collect them from our stock in the office.

At 8.30am it's time to make my way to Pennington for my first appointment at 9.30am to replace a letter box with a new draught proof one. I arrive early so take the opportunity to book some new appointments for later in the week. It's still raining but luckily the door is under a porch and the new letter box is fitted with only a small alteration to the existing opening. Job done – time to complete the paperwork with the client and give any advice and leaflets which I feel may be of help.

I always try to spend a day in one area. Today I will be in Pennington, Sway and New Milton, and tomorrow I'll be in Totton, Marchwood and Hythe. My next job is in Sway at 11.00am. I arrive, knock on the door, and show my I.D. to the client and explain that I have come to fit a key safe as part of their life-line package. I explain how it works and how to set and change the code, and then together we decide where to fix it. After I fit the key safe I put a spare key in it and run through its operation once more with the client and remind her to tell Lifeline the code and position. While I sip a cup of coffee that the client has kindly made I complete the paper work.

Before I go to my next job I stop at the Builders Merchants to pick up some timber for a job next week, because I need to prime it before I fit it. They don't have the size I wanted so I'll have to plane the wood when I get home and form the slope I need before I can paint it. My next job is another key safe in Barton on Sea at 1.30pm. We receive a lot of requests to fit key safes, mainly from the different agencies we work with, such as Social Services and hospitals when arranging care plans. They are fitted so carers can get in when clients can't get to the door, or so that there is a spare key available in case of emergency and entry can be gained without delay or damage to the door. After this it's time to drive home to my workshop to prepare the wood for the job next week. It takes a lot more planning than I thought to achieve the right angle of slope I need, so it's a good job I have an electric plane. It's getting dark now so I just have the time to prime the wood and pack my tools away. The wood will need a couple more coats of paint before I fit it. Now it's time to check that my paperwork all adds up and to check the telephone for messages and return any calls. I also check my diary and make sure I have everything in my van for the jobs tomorrow. No two days are the same for me. Knowing that providing this service really makes a big difference to peoples lives gives me a lot of pleasure and satisfaction, and makes all the hard work worthwhile. It's nearly 5pm and its still raining - time to take off my wet jacket and shoes and have a nice cup of coffee and a couple of chocolate biscuits.

A few tips for the winter—

Temperature – Older people especially should try to keep a temperature of 21 degrees C (70 F) in all rooms during the day. Ideally heating should come on an hour before you get up and go off after you go to bed.

Lagging – Ensure pipes and tanks are lagged, especially those in lofts.

Heating – Check your heating system is working efficiently. People over 60 may be entitled to a free safety check from their energy supplier, and it may be worth contacting them for advice.

Winter fuel payment – Most people over 60 are eligible. Call the winter fuel payment helpline on 08459 151515

Keep moving – Even a little exercise will keep you warm and well.

Dress warmly – Several layers of clothing keep you warmer than one thick layer.

Eat - at least one hot meal a day. **Drink hot drinks** to keep you warm inside.

New Forest Home Improvement Agency supports elderly, disabled and vulnerable people stay in their own homes and maintain their independence. Please ring **01425 478005** if you would like to know more or have a request for Malcolm to do work.

Community Information

Community First New Forest (CFNF)

A change a venue was on the agenda for our successful 11th Annual General Meeting. We were joined, at Brockenhurst Village Hall, on the 20th October 2009 by a variety of groups and organisations who work within the New Forest.

Everyone enjoyed three presentations from member organisations and projects delivering services to clients in the Forest. Firstly a really interesting and informative insight into the work of the Ringwood based British Liver Trust, followed by the HoneyPot House and Community First's own Nightstop New Forest.

Cllr Les Puttock, Chairman of the District Council and CFNF's President opened the meeting and welcomed all present. He thanked all the volunteers and dedicated staff and trustees for their continuing effort in supporting the local voluntary and community sector.

Community First's Chair Stephanie Stokes said that 'she felt privileged to serve as the Chairman of Community First New Forest'. She announced there would be two retirees from our board of trustees, the first being Finance Chairman, Jack Clark to whom she could not give enough thanks and also thanks to Leonard Dickson who is returning to Surrey, to be closer to family. On behalf of the organisation, volunteers, trustees and many others a small gift was given to both gentlemen for having given so many years of service. She said 'it had been an enormous pleasure to have worked with them both.'

The Chair thanked Cllr Puttock for attending and thanked our funders including HCC and NFDC and also the PCT, and the Lottery. Our members were warmly welcomed and thanked for the support they have given throughout the year. This year had been a very interesting year and the Chairman extended thanks to Michael Clowes and staff for the dedicated work they carry out.

Michael Clowes, Chief Executive said 'after 8 years I feel fortunate to be part of this successful organisation which is willing to take on new challenges'.

Another Successful Funding Fayre at Lyndhurst!

The Development team at Community First New Forest held their second Funding Fayre at Lyndhurst in November 2009.

Over 80 people representing organisations from across the Forest were invited along for a day of information and advice about funding opportunities and how to apply for them. We were delighted to have presentations from Hampshire County Council, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation & National Park during the day.

The event, which included a marvellous buffet lunch, was also an excellent opportunity for net-working with other groups and charities that are located within the New Forest. Some of the comments we have received include; "very informative and opened up many ideas-Thanks!", "good source of information", "well done, a very useful day"

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the funders for coming along to support the event, and to those who attended for making it so successful.

Can you
dig it?



Are you restricted by poor mobility, arthritis, disability in the garden?

Do you have problems finding the right garden tool to suit your needs?

Are you aware of the variety of specialised and adapted garden tools that can help you maintain your garden?



Ever found working on your garden more difficult over the years?

The Red Cross medical loans depots and Hampshire County Council Older People's Well-Being Team have purchased a small supply of specialised hand tools for you to try on a 2 week loan period before you decide to buy.

The depots also have a database of companies that supply a range of garden tools that you may not know about, for older people in the Hampshire area.

For further information contact Ray Knight, Service co-ordinator Headquarters, Red Cross House, Winnall Close, Winnall Winchester, SO23 0LB

Tel: 01962 891669



in partnership with

Mon - Fri 9.00am - 4.30pm



8 to 8

Hampshire Registration Service

Contacting the Registration Service?

You can now telephone between
8am to 8pm to make an appointment

Contact us when you need to ...

- Register your baby
- Register a death or stillbirth
- Book a marriage or civil partnership ceremony
- Give notice of marriage or civil partnership
- Order a copy birth, death, marriage or civil partnership certificate
- Book an appointment for the Nationality Checking Service
- Book a citizenship ceremony
- Request information on naming ceremonies, renewal of vows or civil funerals

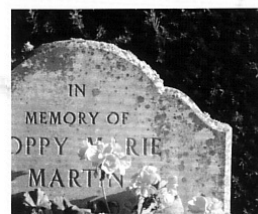
0845 603 5637

8am to 8pm Monday to Friday

9.30am to 4pm Saturday

Email: Registration.hq@hants.gov.uk

Website: www.hants.gov.uk/registration



Funding

Rural Community Shops (formerly ViRSA)

The Plunkett Foundation supports rural communities wanting to set up and run a community-owned shop. They provide practical assistance through their website below, a network of community retail advisers, a national office and various publications.

The Plunkett Foundation, in partnership with the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Co-operative and Community Finance manages the Village CORE Programme through which financial start-up packages of up to £40,000 per shop are available, to be complemented by contributions from the community and advice from the Plunkett Foundation. The loan element of the package is provided by Co-operative and Community Finance, the longest established lender for social purpose in the UK. Grants will be awarded to rural communities of at least 200 people which are planning to set up a community-owned shop, and the Village CORE Programme aims to see the number of these enterprises double over the next five years as a result. With several thousand rural settlements in Britain potentially suitable for community-owned shops, the possible social impact is considerable, and the village store looks set to be the CORE of the countryside for many years to come.

The Village CORE Programme application process consists of the following stages:

Stage 1: Initial telephone enquiry - Any community interested in applying for the Village CORE programme should telephone Donna Smith or Harriet English on 01993 814377 for an informal discussion of their project and to assess their eligibility as a beneficiary of the Village CORE Programme.

Stage 2: Grant application - The community is then required to formally submit an application which will be sent out following the initial telephone enquiry.

Village CORE Programme grant application form and guidance can be downloaded from website below.

Stage 3: Applying for the loan - It is at this stage of the application that you will need to apply for the loan from Co-operative and Community Finance. You can download the form from website below.

Stage 4: Grant release - An application will normally take no longer than six weeks to be assessed and for a decision to be taken.

Plunkett Foundation, The Quadrangle, Woodstock, Oxfordshire OX20 1LH Tel: 01993 810 730

Email: info@plunkett.co.uk

Website: <http://www.plunkett.co.uk/whatwedo/core/Core.cfm>

HLF - Young Roots

Providing grants of between £3,000 and £25,000, the Young Roots Programme aims to involve 13-25 year-olds in finding out about their heritage, developing skills, building confidence and promoting community involvement. Young Roots projects stem directly from young peoples' interests and ideas, harnessing their creativity and energy and helping them work with others in their local community.

Young Roots is a rolling programme and there are no deadlines for applications. You will receive a decision on your application within 10 weeks from HLF receiving your fully filled-in application. To receive a Young Roots grant, your project must relate to the varied heritage of the UK and: provide new opportunities for a wider range of young people aged 13 to 25 to learn about their own and others' heritage; allow young people to lead and take part in creative and engaging activities; develop partnerships between youth organisations and heritage organisations; and create opportunities to celebrate young people's achievements in the project and share their learning with the wider community. Your project must also create either: opportunities for young people to volunteer in heritage; or new opportunities for young people to gain skills in identifying, recording, interpreting or caring for heritage.

To apply for this grant, please follow the steps set out in the HLF's Website:

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots>

Please contact their helpline if you need any further guidance: Tel: 020 7591 6042 Fax: 020 7591 6271 Email: enquire@hlf.org.uk

Porticus UK

Porticus UK receive many more applications than they are able to fund. Applications are only likely to have a chance of success if they fall under the following categories. They define their priorities based

Funding

on the interests of the Trustees and identified areas of need within these interests.

Strengthening Family Relationships Encouraging and cherishing the family relationship that is so often central to people's lives, is at the centre of what we do. The support they offer aims to strengthen those family relationships that are most vulnerable and strained. They, therefore, look for applications which are focused on:

- Building networks and connections that tackle family isolation, especially where there is disability or illness
- Offering respite for families with a member who is terminally ill or disabled
- Encouraging family cohesion through drop-in centres and intensive family support, particularly among families who have been under considerable stress from issues of violence and abuse

Tackling isolation of the elderly, especially through intergenerational work

Enriching Education They recognise that a well-rounded, holistic education is crucial in allowing a person to shape their future. Their funding, therefore, is aimed at educational projects which deal with the disadvantaged and vulnerable, with a particular interest in Catholic schools and education based on Catholic social teaching. They are particularly interested in projects which focus on:

- Pastoral care in education focused on projects which deal with character building, conflict resolution and values
- Educational opportunities for groups who have missed out on traditional learning, especially prisoners and ex-offenders

The professional development of teachers

Transformation through Faith As the roots of our philanthropy are in the Catholic faith, they are keen to support projects which nourish and develop that faith in a complex world. They look to fund the following particular areas:

- The development of Church and lay leadership capacities
- Projects which encourage ecumenical collaboration
- Organisations and projects which focus on inclusion

The promotion of exploration and discussion around difficult issues, both within the Christian family and in dialogue with other Faiths

Ethics in Practice Porticus UK sees moral formation and ethical decision making as crucially important in today's complex societies. They, therefore, support work guided by Catholic Social principles and directed at the development of the values and virtues of professionals and leaders. Since ethics cannot be considered in isolation, they are particularly interested in interdisciplinary and applied approaches. They will consider applications for:

- Developing courses, case studies and training
- Facilitating constructive public or private debates
- Research projects on the ethical problems encountered in specific professions
- Business ethics and medical ethics

Initiatives that enhance understandings of Catholic social teaching

They do occasionally fund small grants of less than £10,000, but most of our grants are between £10,000 and £25,000. We occasionally fund larger projects.

Although their values are based in the Catholic faith, they welcome applications from all organisations, whether or not they have a faith basis.

They understand that a charity's funding priorities are not always specific project costs, and so welcome applications for developing policy, advocacy and research.

They put particular emphasis on organisations which have a proven model and wish to expand. They will only accept applications from organisations which are a registered charity in England, Wales or Scotland.

Porticus UK, Fourth Floor, Eagle House, 108-110 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6EE Tel: 020 7024 3503 (open 9-5 Monday to Friday)

Fax: 020 7024 3501 Email: porticusuk@porticus.com

Website: <http://www.porticusuk.com>

Co-operative Community Fund

The Co-operative Community Fund is their grants scheme that helps local communities throughout the UK. Since they started the initiative in 1997, thousands of clubs, community groups and self-help organisations have benefited. The way the scheme works is by committed members of The Co-

Funding

operative Group who want to help improve the lives of others, donate part or all of their share of the profits. These members have already raised millions of pounds each year for all kinds of community projects. Over the past 10 years their members have donated more than £8 million to The Co-operative Community Fund, allowing hundreds of local groups, projects, community groups, self-help organisations and charities nationwide to benefit. Community Fund grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups to run projects that meet the following criteria. To be successful a group must:

- carry out positive work in the community and a project must:
- address a community issue
- provide a good long-term benefit to the community
- support co-operative values and principles
- ideally be innovative in its approach

Excluded groups:

- Groups other than community, self-help and voluntary groups – to apply for
- funding a group must be either: a community, self-help or voluntary group; a charity; or a local branch of a national charity. Groups which use their surplus for the benefit of a business or individuals are excluded from the fund.
- Core activities of auxiliary groups - auxiliary groups of The Co-operative Group, such as the Women's Guild or Woodcraft Folk, are excluded from the scheme where the core activities (eg room hire or conference fees) have already been funded through a different route by The Co-operative Group. Although core costs are excluded, special projects, which are not part of their core work, are included.
- Credit Unions -the Community Fund is unable to make grants to support the core work of credit unions, however, special projects, which are not part of their core work, are included.

Cadets - the Community Fund is unable to make grants to any cadet groups.

Excluded projects:

- Non-charitable purposes
- Overseas activities
- Grant or loan schemes
- Religious worship
- Core activities of statutory services
- Improvements to property not owned by the applicant, or leased to the applicant.
- Party political activity

Individual sponsorship

Read full criteria and apply online at Website: <http://www.co-operative.coop/membership/Community-Fund/onlineapplicationprocess/>

Baily Thomas Charitable Fund

The Baily Thomas Charitable Fund is a registered charity which was established primarily to aid the research into learning disability and to aid the care and relief of those affected by learning disability by making grants to registered charities (only) working in this field.

They consider under learning disability the conditions generally referred to as severe learning difficulties, together with autism. In this area, they consider projects concerning children or adults. Learning disability, thus defined, is their priority for funding. They do not give grants for research into or care of those with mental illness or dyslexia.

Funding is normally considered for capital and revenue costs and for both specific projects and for general running/core costs.

Grants are awarded for amounts from £250 and depend on a number of factors including the purpose, the total funding requirement and the potential sources of other funds including, in some cases, matching funding.

Normally one-off grants are awarded but exceptionally a new project may be funded over two or three years, subject to satisfactory reports of progress.

Grants should normally be taken up within one year of the issue of the grant offer letter which will include conditions relating to the release of the grant.

The following areas of work normally fall within the Fund's policy: Capital build-

Funding

ing/renovation/refurbishment works for residential, nursing and respite care, and schools; Employment schemes including woodwork, crafts, printing and horticulture; Play schemes and play therapy schemes; Day and social activities centres including building costs and running costs; Support for families, including respite schemes; Independent living schemes; Support in the community schemes; Swimming and hydro-therapy pools and snoezelen rooms.

They do not normally fund: Hospices; Minibuses except those for residential and/or day care services for the learning disabled; Advocacy Projects; Arts and theatre projects; Physical disabilities unless accompanied by significant learning disabilities.

Meetings of the Trustees are usually held in June and early December each year and **applications should therefore be submitted no later than 1 May or 1 October** for consideration at the next relevant meeting. Late applications will not be considered.

If your application is considered under the Small Grants procedure then this will be reviewed by the Trustees ahead of the usual meetings in June and December. You can download guidelines and application forms from website below. Following the meeting all applicants are contacted formally to advise on the status of their application. Please feel free to submit your application whenever you are ready, rather than waiting for the deadline.

Mrs Ann Cooper, Secretary to the Trustees, c/o TMF Management UK Limited, 400 Capability Green, Luton, Beds LU1 3AE Fund Administrator Mrs Tracey Garrett: Tel: 01582 439225 Email: info@bailythomas.org.uk Website: <http://www.bailythomas.org.uk>

SITA Enhancing Communities Programme - Small Grants

Enhancing Communities is the name of SITA Trust's funding programme for community improvement projects. They can support projects around qualifying waste processing sites owned by the recycling and waste management company, SITA UK. Not for profit organisations, community groups, parish councils, Local Authorities and charities can apply. They support projects that make physical improvements to community facilities, sports projects and historic buildings / structures.

The Enhancing Communities programme can be accessed by many communities around the UK. Use our Locator on our website (link below) to find out if you are in an area that can receive funding. Different scheme rules apply in Scotland and Wales.

Small Grants Scheme - fast-track funding programme for projects up to £10,000. The application form and guidance notes are available from website below.

Large Grants Scheme - for projects between £10,001 and £50,000. The application form and guidance notes are available from website below.

Deadlines for 2009 are: Large Grants Scheme - 31st March 2009 (Board Meeting 16th June 2009) **31st July 2009** (Board Meeting 13th October 2009); **Small Grants Scheme - 9th April** (Board Meeting 16th June 2009); **15th June** (Board Meeting 18th August 2009); **12th August** (Board Meeting 13th October 2009); **14th October** (Board Meeting 15th December).

SITA Trust, The Barn, Brinkmarsh Lane, Falfield, South Gloucestershire GL12 8PT Tel: 01454 262910 Fax: 01454 269090 Email: sita.trust@sita.co.uk
Website: <http://www.sitatrust.org.uk/apply/community>

Funder Finder

FunderFinder is a computer package that helps charities and voluntary organisations identify which charitable trusts support their work. This can be accessed at our offices in Ringwood, or a member of staff can carry out a search on your behalf.

Please contact debbie.grace@cfnf.org.uk or Tell. 01425 482773

Community First New Forest Training Programme 2010

Date	Course	Venue	Info	Cost
14/01/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	
11/02/10	Finance training	Lyndhurst Community Centre SO43 7NY	Content to be published	Half day £20/£25
11/02/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	
24/02/10	Emergency First Aid at Work	Lyndhurst Community Centre SO43 7NY	Accredited course	Whole day £30/£35 members/non
03/03/10	Committee Skills workshop	Lyndhurst Community Centre SO43 7NY	Roles & responsibilities	Half day £20/£25 members/non
10/03/10	Level 2 Food Safety in Catering	Lyndhurst Community Centre SO43 7NY	Accredited course	Whole day £40/£45 members/non
11/03/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	
23/03/10	Time Management	Lyndhurst Community Centre SO43 7NY	How to manage time and become more effective	Whole day £20/£25 members/non
8/04/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	
04/10	Marketing/Promotion	Lyndhurst Community Centre SO43 7NY	TBA	Whole day £40/£45 members/non
13/05/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	
10/06/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	
8/07/10	Midas training		Refer to Transport at CFNF	

For more details please contact Debbie Grace, Tel. 01425 482773
or email- debbie.grace@cfnf.org.uk

Training/Volunteering

Keeping your Volunteers

Free Training at Hythe URC, Thursday 11th February 2010, 9.30am – 3.00pm

We will be hosting a one day training event for organisations who work with volunteers, looking at aspects of best practice in attracting, supporting and valuing volunteers

- How to recruit and keep volunteers
- How can we build and maintain positive relationships with our volunteers
- What about rewards, awards and accreditation?

Volunteers are our greatest asset – let's get the best from them by offering them our best.

What will participants get from the day?

- Clear informative handouts
- An opportunity to share ideas and reflect
- A chance to plan how to put ideas into action
- **PLUS** free lunch and networking opportunities!!

For further information please contact

Hazel Dyson at the Volunteer Centre, Community First New Forest, Public Offices, 65 Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire. BH24 1DH. Tel. 01425 482773 or email vol.bureau@cfnf.org.uk

Let's Celebrate Volunteering!

We would like to take this opportunity to say a really big **THANK YOU** to voluntary organisations and their volunteers in a formal yet friendly way for the wonderful work they all do. In partnership with New Forest District Council we are holding a very special event, recognising the value of the voluntary organisation and their volunteers across the New Forest. Chairman of the District Council and President of Community First New Forest, will be presenting certificates to nominated organisation and the volunteers involved with them.

We are encouraging **all** voluntary organisations throughout the New Forest to nominate themselves and up to 5 of their committed Volunteers who they feel, in their opinion, should receive a certificate and represent them. We are unfortunately restricted in the number of organisations being presented and recommend early booking of this very popular event that recognises the invaluable service provided by our 'unsung heroes'. We will, however, automatically carry forward names to the next event when all places are taken.

Community First, New Forest Volunteer Centre has now started preparations for evening event which is to be held on May 11th 2010, and would encourage **YOU** to contact us for a nomination pack so you can be part of the celebration of volunteering.

This high profile event is an ideal opportunity to recognise and reward the volunteers who work tirelessly in our community. It gives the community the chance to say thank you. We believe if the volunteer organisation and its representatives have been nominated they have contributed a great deal to their local community and we welcome them to the presentation.

If you would like to nominate your organisation to receive a certificate we would ask you to contact Hazel, the Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator for a nomination pack at:-

Community First New Forest, Public Offices, 65 Christchurch Road, Ringwood Hants. BH24 1DH,
Tel. 01425 482773 or Email: vol.bureau@cfnf.org.uk

Volunteering

Looking for volunteers?

Have you got volunteer roles you wish to fill? Would you like more volunteers to get involved with your organisation? In this present economic climate, we are working closely with the Job Centre Plus Network encouraging people who are presently unemployed to volunteer. This year so far the number of people who have enquired about volunteering through the Volunteer Centre has increased by 43%. This presents us with a great opportunity to help recruit for you!

We can help support your recruitment by interviewing and signposting prospective volunteers to your organisation, and by advertising on our dedicated website for volunteer vacancies www.do-it.org.uk.

If you can offer opportunities for volunteers, then please contact Hazel Dyson on 01425 482773 or email vol.bureau@cnf.org.uk

Samaritans reach out to the local community

On the 3rd Tuesday of every month, two Samaritan volunteers are available in the vestry of the Lymington United Reform Church, between the hours of 10AM and 12 Noon for anyone who would find it helpful to talk to us in confidence.

This is a new project for Samaritans, as part of our new policy of proactively engaging with the local community. The project started in July 2009, and as people become more aware of our presence, we hope that people will take the opportunity to use this new service, and we can extend the project.

Janet Isaac, Director of Samaritans Bournemouth & District, said that initiatives such as this allow us to provide our non-judgemental and confidential service to more and more emotionally distressed or vulnerable people within the local community we support, and to reach people who may not have approached us for support in the past.

During 2008, 107 volunteers at Samaritans Bournemouth & District gave emotional support to over 17000 people who needed to talk to someone because they were feeling distressed, despairing, or suicidal. To provide this service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year requires committed, well-trained, and well-supported volunteers, said Janet Isaac. We do not receive any kind of Government grant, or charitable funding from national organisations such as the lottery.

If you would like to contribute some of your time, or make a donation to Samaritans Bournemouth & District, please call 01202 551 999, or visit <http://bournemouthsamaritans.org.uk>.

Volunteering Roadshows!

Promote, Recruit, and Network

We at the Volunteer Centre at Community First New Forest would like you to offer you the chance to join us at these exciting free events.

Totton 10th February 2010

New Milton 17th March 2010

We will be taking this opportunity to open to the public, highlighting the work you do and giving you the chance to recruit new volunteers and to meet others who work within the community.

For more details please contact Hazel Dyson, Volunteer Centre, Public Offices, 65 Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants BH24 1DH, Tel. 01425 482773 or email vol.bureau@cnf.org.uk

Volunteering

New Year – New Challenge

Traditionally the New Year is a great time to recruit new volunteers. With Christmas finished and New Year resolutions in the making, raising the profile of volunteering could be a real benefit for all our organisations.

Recruitment has a lot in common with marketing – selling the organisation and its opportunities in a way that makes people want to invest their time in them. The most successful campaigns are those that use a variety of ways to appeal to potential volunteers that match some of the different reasons and motives for volunteering.

Recruitment messages that simply say ‘volunteers wanted’ are rarely successful because they don’t contain sufficient information to raise people’s interest. There are four things you should try to convey in your message:

Statement of need – why the role is important, what will happen if it isn’t done;

What the work involves – describe it in a way that people can picture themselves doing it;

Benefits to the community – what the work will accomplish, what changes it will make to people’s lives;

Benefits to volunteers – what volunteers will get in return – skills, experience, new friends.

The Volunteer Centres of Hampshire can help you do this. We see hundreds of potential volunteers across the county, signposting them to organisations registered with us. We work with the Department of Work and Pensions to encourage unemployed people to volunteer whilst looking for work, and Vinvolved which help 16-25 year olds engage in volunteering.

We also have a dedicated website www.do-it.org.uk for advertising opportunities. To register your opportunities all you need to do is complete a simple form, available from your local Volunteer Centre, with details of your vacancy and we will then upload this to the website, reaching a wide range of prospective volunteers. If you are looking to recruit volunteers from different localities don’t worry, you will only have to complete the paperwork once, and the Volunteer Centre Network will do the rest for you!

To contact the Volunteer Centre in your area telephone: 0844 499 4088 text 07982 810 140 or look at our website <http://www.hampshirevolunteers.org.uk/index.htm>: www.hampshirevolunteers.org.uk

Walking on Fire!

Community First New Forest volunteer Helen Harman recognised she was very unlikely to run a marathon or jump out of an aeroplane, so when the opportunity arose to walk on coals of 1300 degrees Fahrenheit to raise money for Brendoncare, she put her two feet forward. The event was organised by the Winchester born charity Brendoncare, who are members of Community First New Forest (CFNF). Helen has worked as a volunteer administrator for 22 months for the New Forest Volunteer Bureau based in CFNF. “I really enjoy it and look forward to it. It’s been a chance for me to keep and develop my admin skills, mix with a great bunch of people and feel a sense of achievement”. “It was through CFNF that I heard about the firewalk and thought it would be an excellent opportunity for me to prove to myself I am stronger than I think and to raise money for an excellent local charity, which help older people grow older with dignity and companionship”.



Three times, Helen walked over coals five times hotter than boiling water and raised over £300 in the process. “Friends and family have been so generous at such a difficult credit crunch time – thanks to everyone for supporting me”. For more information about Brendoncare go to www.brendoncare.org.uk. If you would like to know more about volunteering in your local community – perhaps you have recently retired or are between jobs, or just have some extra time and you want to do something positive with it, then contact Hazel Dyson (Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator) on 01425 482773.

Community First New Forest

our mission

We are a not-for-profit umbrella organisation which supports and promotes the sustainable development of the local voluntary and community sector. By building relationships, fostering partnerships and delivering quality services we aim to improve quality of life and assist in the development of diverse, strong communities primarily in the New Forest district. We work towards removing barriers to social inclusion by working with communities and individuals who may be socially disadvantaged, vulnerable and isolated.

**Independent Caring Reliable Inclusive
Flexible Creative Professional Evolving
Passionate Learning Confident Partners
Equality Ambitious Community Dedicated
Challenges Dynamic**

Public Offices, 65 Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1DH

Registered charity no. 1068964 Registered company no. 3483827