

Newsletter 36



cvs south gloucestershire

supporting developing representing

What We Do

- We enable effective and accountable representation of the voluntary and community sector in South Gloucestershire
- We encourage networking and partnership building to share information, skills and knowledge
- We provide a range of accessible and responsive services to local groups and organisations
- We identify gaps in voluntary and community sector services and in the development of appropriate projects to meet the needs of communities in South Gloucestershire

CVS South Gloucestershire Membership Update

This issue we are delighted to welcome

Full Members

Yate Opportunity Group
Cruse Bereavement Care Bristol & District
Emersons Green Village Hall Trust
Thornbury Churches Together
Bristol Family Mediation

Associate Members

Wickwar Parish Council
UWE Volunteering
Our Voices

If you would like to join please visit www.cvs-sg.org.uk where you can submit your application on-line or email info@cvs-sg.org.uk.

Alternatively please contact us on 01454 865205.

We look forward to hearing from you

Chief Officer

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2011. I've been in South Gloucestershire a year now and I want to thank everyone that I have met so far for making me feel so welcome. I look forward to working with you all to support the voluntary and community sector (VCS) over the coming years.

We are used to challenges and changes in the VCS but 2010 was a year which saw the beginning of wide ranging policy reform: a drive by the government above all to reduce the Country's deficit and the corresponding reductions in public sector funding.

For some organisations the immediate challenge is reduction in public sector funding. Before Christmas we ran a session to support groups applying to the governments Transition Fund. We are now working with our partners - and through the Compact Implementation Group - to assess the current impact on the local organisations. If you have not already done so please contact me to provide feedback about your organisation.

This edition provides details of a range of funding sources (pages 10 -12) and we are continuing to develop and run a series of sessions to support organisations to diversify income streams. This work is part of our involvement with the NCVO Sustainable Funding Beacons programme which aims to support local organisations, (including CVS) to move away from reliance on one main source of income and to develop sustainable funding approaches. Further details about the next session may be found on page 13.

In the voluntary and community sector (VCS) we have also found ourselves at the heart of some of the new government's policy and reform ambitions, not least as a part of the Big Society agenda. In this newsletter we aim to provide more information about the government's thinking about the Big Society and details about the Localism Bill currently working its way through parliament.

Over the last six months we've held a number of debates locally about the Big Society agenda and what it means for VCS. Some of the issues raised from those debates have been summarised on page 4.

From these local debates and current national discussions I know there is confusion and wariness about the Big Society agenda. However, I do think that the current spotlight on the VCS gives us an opportunity to:

- raise awareness of the valuable work of the wide range of VCS organisations across South Gloucestershire
- highlight the realities and challenges of running a community group or voluntary organisation
- consider what role we can or might want to play in the new policy and reform agendas - working with our partners in the statutory sector.

Our next newsletter will be a special edition focusing on **voluntary and community action in South Gloucestershire!** If you would like to include an article about organisation, group or local activity please contact Rachel Lucey by **Friday 4th March** we look forward to hearing from you.

CVS aims to provide information which is useful to support your group or organisation. We are keen to hear your views about ours services and look forward to hearing from you.

Helen Black, Chief Officer: helen.black@cvs-sg.org.uk or 01454 865205

The 'Big Society'

Together with citizens and communities, the voluntary and community sector sits at the heart of the Government's ambitions to create a Big Society.

The Office for Civil Society (OCS) replaced the former Office for the Third Sector in May 2010, and is part of the Cabinet Office. It takes a lead across government on the Big Society. Their website provides the following information about the role of the OCS:

Reporting to Nick Hurd (Minister for Civil Society) and Francis Maude (Minister for the Cabinet Office) the Office for Civil Society is supporting Ministers in their commitment to:

- make it easier to run a charity, social enterprise or voluntary organisation;
- get more resources into the sector and strengthen its independence and resilience; and
- make it easier for sector organisations to work with the state.

In October 2010, OCS launched a strategy for voluntary and community groups, charities and social enterprises. '**Building a Stronger Civil Society**' laid out the government's vision for the VCS, as a resilient and independent partner, playing an even more influential role in shaping a stronger sense of society and improving people's lives. It highlights the three core components of the Big Society policy agenda:

1. **Empowering local communities:** giving local councils and neighbourhoods more power to take decisions and shape their area.
2. **Opening up public services:** the public service reforms will enable charities, social enterprises, private companies and employee-owned co-operatives to compete to offer people high quality services.
3. **Promoting social action:** encouraging and enabling people from all walks of life to play a more active part in society, and promoting more volunteering and philanthropy.

A copy of the strategy can be downloaded from the CVS website www.cvs-sg.org.uk or visit <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/building-stronger-civil-society.pdf>

The OCS is responsible for delivering a number of key Big Society programmes. These include:

The National Citizen Service Scheme which will bring together 16 year-olds from different backgrounds over the summer to take part in residential and home-based activities such as outdoor challenges and local community projects. Pilots for the National Citizen Service will take place in the summer of 2011 and 2012 involving 10,000 young people.

Community Organisers: over the lifetime of this parliament, this programme will identify, train and support 5,000 people who want to make a difference in their community.

Community First: Community First is a new fund that will encourage social action through new and existing neighbourhood groups. The fund will empower people in areas with high levels of deprivation and enable them to take more responsibility for their communities.

Red Tape Task Force. Government has made a commitment to make it easier to run a charity, social enterprise or voluntary organisation. This includes reducing the amount of regulation, monitoring and reporting that is imposed on charities, social enterprises and voluntary organisations. The Red Tape Task Force - chaired by Lord Hodgson - is due to report in the spring.

The 'Big Society'

The Big Society Bank

Government has committed to setting up a Big Society Bank to give social enterprises, charities and voluntary organisations access to greater resources. It will be set up using money from dormant bank accounts (those untouched for 15 years or more and available for spending in England) and will encourage investment in social change.

Growing the Social Investment Market: A Vision and Strategy sets out the vision of a thriving social investment market where social ventures can access the capital they need to grow, to help build a bigger, stronger society. It explains how Government and others can act, including the key role of the Big Society Bank as a wholesale investor and champion of the market. Download www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/growing-social-investment-market-vision-and-strategy

Big Society debates in South Gloucestershire

So what might the Big Society agenda mean for the VCS here in South Gloucestershire? Over the last six months a number of discussions have been held around the Big Society agenda.

In September the **CVS AGM and Funders Forum** - attended by 139 organisations - heard from Amanda Deeks (Chief Executive South Gloucestershire Council) and Penny Harris (Chief Executive NHS South Gloucestershire). Future challenges and opportunities to work together with the local VCS were discussed, while Rachel Robinson (Chief Executive of The Care Forum) reminded us that the VCS had been around a long time providing services and support for communities and individuals. She traced our history in England back to a charity in Kent which was established 1,500 years of ago!



The Big Society workshop considered the new policy agenda and raised a number of issues which included:

- The time needed for people to volunteer and get involved in their local community.
- Equalities and how to make sure all members of a community are able to get involved.
- The future reductions in public sector funding and the impact on VCS.

In December 2010 - with Southern Brooks Community Partnership - **The Big Society Debate** was held in Bradley Stoke, with two of the three Local MPs: Steve Webb and Jack Lopresti. The MPs heard about the work of local groups, including the Senior Citizens' Forum, Survive, Children's Playlink and the Volunteer Centres and raised issues and concerns including

- Impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review and the effect on public sector delivery of services and funding for the VCS

In partnership with the Chase and Kings Forest Project a **Showcase and Celebration of Volunteering** will be held in Kingswood (18th February). Local MP Chris Skidmore will hear about the work of local groups and answer further questions about the Big Society agenda.

Over the coming year we will keep you updated about national developments concerning the Big Society. The next edition of the newsletter '**The Voluntary and Community Sector in Action in South Gloucestershire**' will focus on showcasing the valuable work of our local groups. Please do contact us if you would like to include details about your group or organisations: Rachel Lucey at CVS on 01454 865205 or email rachel.lucey@cvs-sg.org.uk by **4th March**. We look forward to hearing from you.

Localism Bill

The Localism Bill

The Localism Bill was published in December 2010, and is currently making its way through parliament. The Bill includes a number of proposed measures the government says will devolve more power and decision-making to local councils, organisations and people. The department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) have published a plain English guide to the Localism Bill.

The guide describes the main measures of the Localism Bill under four headings:

- new freedoms and flexibilities for local government
- new rights and powers for communities and individuals
- reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective
- reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally

To download the Plain English guide visit

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/1818597.pdf>

The document *Decentralisation and the Localism Bill: an essential guide* also gives further background. It explains how the principles that underpin the Localism Bill also inform other government policies: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/decentralisationguide>

Localism - Government consultations

The Department for Communities and Local Government has launched two consultations on the following areas of the Localism Bill: the Community Right to Buy and the Community Right to Challenge. Both consultations run until 3rd May 2011 and full details may be found by visiting

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/righttobuyconsultation>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/righttochallengeconsultation>

Local News

Changes at Age Concern South Gloucestershire

Peter Iles, the Chief Officer of Age Concern South Gloucestershire, has announced his retirement from his post, effective from the end of March 2011. Peter has been with Age Concern since 2003, and has been enthusiastically working in partnership with many voluntary organisations in South Gloucestershire during that time. He was a Trustee of the CVS for a number of years and was elected Chairman in 2008/09.

Peter is to be succeeded by Martin Green, who joins Age Concern from Citizens Advice where he was Head of Business Development. Martin knows this region very well as he is a long time resident of Bristol, and was the Director of Bristol Debt Advice Centre from 1994 to 2008

Further changes are to take place over the next few months as Age Concern rebrands to Age UK South Gloucestershire, and also relocates its office to another part of Thornbury. More information about this will be made available at a later date.

The staff and Trustees at CVS South Gloucestershire would like to wish Peter Iles all the very best in his retirement.

The Harbour - therapeutic group for people with breast cancer

The Harbour, situated in central Bristol provides counselling to people affected by a life-threatening illness. They still have spaces available on a therapeutic group for people living with breast cancer. This group will meet weekly over the period of one year led by an experienced group facilitator. To find out more or to self refer please contact The Harbour on 0117 9259348 or email info@the-harbour.co.uk.

Low Cost Therapy / Meeting Rooms available to hire in Central Bristol

The Harbour has a number of rooms suitable for therapy or small meetings available to hire. The rooms hold up to 6 people for £6 per hour, and up to 8 - 10 people at £10 per hour (accessible by stair lift). The building is wheelchair accessible and has a kitchen, disabled WC and has parking in a multi storey car park very close by. Daytime, evening and weekend availability. For further information please contact Julie Cox at The Harbour on 0117 9259348 or email info@the-harbour.co.uk.

Celebrate 100 Years of International Women's Day

Opened by Peaches Golding, High Sheriff of Bristol

Date: 8th March 2011
Time: 10am – 2pm
Venue: Malcolm X Centre, 141 City Road, BS2

In Partnership with women's groups and organisations from across the City...Activities will include: Presentations, Dance, Poetry, Fashion from across the world, Short Film Show, health therapy, henna and nail art. Come along and Celebrate, Lets acknowledge Women's Achievements!

A crèche will be provided - book NOW as childcare spaces limited – Telephone: 0117 9522712

Book your stalls NOW - Call on 0117 9396645.

Local Events

PREMIX – Youth Music Showcase Nights

Youth4Youth @ the Kingswood Foundation have been running successful youth music nights for over three years. The events are organised by young people for young people. They give opportunities for young artists in and around Bristol to perform and for young people to have some fun on a Friday night.

For more information contact: Emma Williams

t: 0117 303 0078 (direct line) or 0117 947 7948 (reception)

e: emma.williams@kfl.org.uk

w: www.youth4youth.co.uk

Volunteering Kingswood

Volunteering Kingswood is running outreach sessions in local libraries – both to promote volunteering and help guide people to relevant opportunities AND to offer support to groups working with volunteers.

Forthcoming dates and venues for March:

Cadbury Heath Library:	Mondays	1.30 - 3.00pm	March 7 th
Kingswood Library:	Wednesdays	5.00 - 6.30pm	March 9 th
Staple Hill Library:	Tuesdays	10.30 – 12noon	March 15 th

For more information please contact Volunteering Kingswood on 0117 9600376 or e-mail info@volunteeringkingswood.org.uk

Rural Event

CVS South Gloucestershire's *Reaching Out: Linking In* project, with South West Acres Network, is organising a workshop on engaging with vulnerable and isolated people living in rural areas.

Issues to be addressed include:

- An equalities dimension to work in rural areas
- Partnership working in rural areas
- Support for work in rural areas



Speakers will include Helen Black (Chief Officer of CVS South Gloucestershire) and Chris Head (South West Acre Network of Rural Community Councils)

Date: Wednesday 30th March 2011

Venue: Greenfield Centre, Winterbourne,

Time: 10.30am to 3.00pm - *Refreshments and light lunch will be provided*

For further details please contact Rachel Lucey on 01454 865205 or email Rachel.lucey@cv-sg.org.uk



Local Events & Vacancies

Our Voice Matters, who help to improve the services available for children with disabilities and additional needs in South Gloucestershire are holding an open day:



Date: Wednesday, 16th March 2011
Time: 10am to 2pm
Venue: Hayfields Conference Centre, Mangotsfield

For more information and a booking form please follow the link: http://www.ourvoicematters.co.uk/home/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15&Itemid=55 or call 0117 937 5623

Vacancies

Centre Manager
Full Time - £20,099



Coniston Community Association is about to open a brand new community centre in The Parade, Coniston Road, Patchway. We are seeking an enthusiastic Centre Manager to run all aspects of the community centre ensuring it operates effectively, meets the needs of the local community and of the centre users and to bring the centre to life. The centre has been funded through a variety of sources including Patchway Town Council and the Community Fund.

Closing date for applications is **Sunday 20th February 2011**. Interviews: **Wednesday 2nd March**. Application packs from clerk@patchwaytowncouncil.gov.uk or contact Lucy Hamid on 01454 868530

In house Bookkeeper for Survive
Part Time (female only*)



Survive is an innovative, dynamic and well respected charity which works with women and children who have experienced domestic abuse in South Glos and Bristol. We are looking for a permanent, part-time bookkeeper to prepare for and produce monthly management accounts and run our payroll. You will be proficient in using SAGE and Excel and provide support to the admin and managerial staff to enable them to manage and access budgets and prepare for audit. Ideally you will be AAT qualified. Survive has a committed and friendly team of 17 who provide a wide range of front line and managerial services in a main office and across three refuges. The post is for 13 hours a week at £ 17,466 pro rata + pension.

Applications only accepted on the form available on our website www.survivedv.org.uk or 0117 9613065 Closing date: **12pm Wednesday 23rd February**. Interviews: **Friday 4th March**. Survive is committed to equality of opportunity in all aspects of our work.

* Women only - section 7 (2) of 1975 Sex Discrimination Act applies

Resources

Creating your Green Action Plan

We know that climate change and rising energy costs will affect us all, but hard-pressed voluntary organisations and community groups may find it difficult to prioritise work on such issues. NAVCA has published a document giving tips and advice on how to develop a sustainable action plan for your organisation to:

- reduce energy use and other resource and **save money!**
- **support those in the poorest communities** who will be disproportionately affected by climate change and rising energy prices.
- develop **good management practice** for voluntary organisations and community groups. The Charity Commission includes environmental responsibility as one of its Hallmarks of an Effective Charity.
- satisfy both funders and commissioners who are increasingly asking applicants about their **green credentials**.

To view the Action Plan document please visit: <http://www.cvs-sg.org.uk/news/>

Top tips for better management

ACAS has created a list of resources that will help you understand the [business case for better management skills](#), as well as provide you with practical advice and guidance on how to get the best from your staff.

How can I get the best from my staff? ACAS have picked out 5 key areas for you to think about everyday and [a list of practical resources](#) to help you improve your management skills.

Your 5-a-day essentials:

1. How do you support your employee?

Do you regularly ask 'How are you?' Listen when your employees ask for help? Give people a chance to shine? Give them time to train so that they can do their job effectively? Are you sensitive to the pressures on employees both in and out of work?

2. Do you help your employees understand what they need to do?

Do you set them goals? Give feedback on performance? Provide regular opportunities to speak one to one? How else do you communicate with them?

3. When was the last time you asked employees for their views?

Do you involve employees in decision making? Encourage employees to come up with ideas? Act upon feedback received, or explain why you haven't if you don't? Work as a team?

4. How do you manage difficult situations?

Do you deal with problems quickly, fairly and consistently? Stop arguments escalating? Ask for help when you need it? How do you deal with sensitive issues?

5. Are you a good role model?

Do you treat people with consideration? Act calmly under pressure? Act with integrity? Lead by example?

Further information please visit: <http://www.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2966> or contact CVS South Gloucestershire to discuss the possibility of arranging a training course.

Equalities Update

Single Public Sector Equality Duty

A new single public sector Equality Duty comes into effect on 6 April and will put into practice part of the Government's new equality strategy.

The Equality Duty is a duty on public bodies and others carrying out public functions that aims to embed equality considerations into the day to day work of public bodies, so that they tackle discrimination and inequality and contribute to making society fairer. It is intended reduce the imposition of top-down targets, cut red tape and shift responsibility to local public bodies.

Instead of central government creating box-ticking exercises by setting strict equality targets, local authorities and other public sector bodies will be required to show what they're doing to tackle inequality. Voluntary and charitable sector organisations and members of the public will be encouraged to scrutinise this information and hold public bodies to account if they are not performing.

For further information about the Public Sector Duty see the Government Equalities Office website at www.equalities.gov.uk/Default.aspx

The Equality Act - Events: Equality South West is running a series of half day seminars on the implementation of the Equality Act which will focus on the single public sector duty and look at other changes taking place since the Act was implemented last October. Events in our area include:

- Taunton 6th April
- Bristol, Vassall Centre 12th April
- Gloucester 11th May

See the Equality South West website for further details www.equalitysouthwest.org.uk/index.html

South Gloucestershire Equalities Forum will build on the success of the meeting held last July, when over 50 people from all equalities communities came together to share their experiences of living and working in South Gloucestershire.

Date: Thursday, March 17th 2011

Venue: Aztec Hotel & Spa, Aztec West, Almondsbury, BS32 4TS

Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

The event will consider a report published last October by the Equalities & Human Rights Commission called '**How fair is Britain?**' This set out to measure and report on the progress the EHRC had made in promoting equality and good relations between people of different backgrounds. The report found that Britain is now a fairer and more diverse country in some ways but not in others and that a great deal of work is still needed to be done.

The meeting is free, informal and with light refreshments served. Places will be limited, so please reserve a place in advance by emailing: equalities@southglos.gov.uk or phoning 01454-864620.

For further information about any of the above please contact Martin Gregg, Development Officer – Equalities martin.gregg@cvs-sq.org.uk tel: 01454 868726

The development of support for equalities communities by CVS South Gloucestershire is part of the "Reaching Out: Linking in" project funded by the Big Lottery



Funding News

CVS South Gloucestershire's website: Fundraising support

We have recently published new fundraising pages on our website, featuring a wide range of information, links and resources. With details of a wide range of income sources, fundraising databases, advice on fundraising planning and writing applications, it's well worth a look: visit www.cvs-sg.org.uk/fundraising

Funding Central This government-funded website provides a guided search enabling you to identify the most appropriate funding and finance opportunities that best suit you and the beneficiaries you support. www.fundingcentral.org.uk

Tweeting can bring in the money... Want to raise funds via Twitter? You're not alone. But in order to be successful your tweets need to stand out from the rest of the noise on Twitter. The words you write must be centred on donors, what's important to them, how they helped your mission and of course your appreciation for all they do. Being donor-centric brings in the money. Read more at <http://www.frogloop.com/care2blog/2010/12/16/tweets-to-bring-in-the-money.html>

ICET's celebrates its 10th Birthday

Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust (ICET) is celebrating its tenth birthday by giving away £300,000 of funds in a birthday bonanza. The Trust is inviting applications for its ten year celebration fund for community projects that need £50,000 or more.

Three projects will be funded from the applications that will go forward to compete for a further £150,000. ICET distributes funds from the Landfill Communities fund and will fund community projects in the **South Gloucestershire**, Dudley, and Sevenoaks areas where it is encouraging applications for its ten year celebration fund.

Applications are invited with a **closing date of the 30th June**. The fund will consider projects under five categories: opening up access for the public to an area of land that has been closed or partially closed; cleaning up polluted land; improving and maintaining land or a building as a public amenity; protecting the environment and promoting biodiversity; and preserving, maintaining or restoring buildings that are of religious, historical or architectural interest.

Further details on what can be funded can be found in the Trust's application pack. Visit www.coryenvironmental.co.uk/community/trusts or call Angela Haymonds, Trust Secretary to discuss your application on 01753 582513

Awards for All is a simple small grants scheme making awards of between £300 and £10,000, which aims to help improve local communities and the lives of people most in need. The application form is short and simple, and you will find out if you are successful within six weeks

Visit <http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/england> for more information or call 0845 10 20 30

Government's plan to encourage philanthropic giving The Giving Green Paper, published on 4 January, is intended to stimulate a national debate on how to encourage philanthropic giving. Government wants to use this process to develop efficient and effective ways of helping large companies to support charities and develop its role as a facilitator of philanthropy.

Consultation is now underway and **closes 9 March 2011**. To find out more visit www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Giving-Green-Paper.pdf

Funding News

Garfield Weston Foundation provides funding for projects in the UK, with a wide range of charitable activity being supported. There is no strict limit on the size of the grant given as every application is considered on its own merits. In general, the Trust looks for organisations to have raised the majority of funding through local or statutory sources before an application is made.

For more information visit www.garfieldweston.org

Hedley Foundation supports young people, disabled people and the terminally ill. Few grants exceed £5,000 and most go to charities where they can make an impact.

For more information visit www.hedleyfoundation.org.uk

Heroes Return The Big Lottery Fund has announced that this programme has been extended for a further 12 months. The Heroes Return scheme provides funding to help World War II veterans who saw active service to take part in commemorative visits (within the UK and overseas) to mark the anniversary of events that led to the end of WWII.

New deadline: 31 January 2012. For more information visit www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_heroes_return.htm

Kids closer to nature will be awarding a number of grants worth up to £1,500 each this spring and summer to individuals and community groups that have a project to help children and young people get closer to nature.

Deadline: 25 March 2011. For more information visit www.kidsclosetonature.co.uk/grants/

The William and Jane Morris Fund is open to applications from churches, chapels and other places of worship built before 1896. The Fund offers grants toward work concerned with the conservation of decorative features such as stained glass windows, sculpture, furniture, internal monuments and tombs and wall paintings. Grants toward major structural repairs and fabric maintenance may be considered under exceptional circumstances.

Grants are up to £1,000 and have two deadlines a year, the next one being **31st March 2011**. For more information please visit <http://www.sal.org.uk/grants/williamandjanemorris>

Help the Homeless aims to help homeless people throughout the United Kingdom to resume a normal life. Grants are available towards capital costs to support projects that assist disadvantaged individuals in their return to mainstream society through residential or training facilities.

Grants are up to £3,000 and have four deadlines a year, the next one being **31st March 2011**.

Previous projects supported include; a grant of £2,845 to Lamp Community towards the cost of computers for reintegration work at their drop-in centres; a grant of £2000 to Spires (a South London homeless charity) towards the cost of providing their daily services to clients, including food and clothing.

For more information please visit <http://www.help-the-homeless.org.uk/Grants.htm>

Funding News

Two funds for tree planting projects

The Big Tree Plant is a campaign to encourage people and communities to plant more trees in England's towns, cities and neighbourhoods. It has announced that its funding programme has a total of £4.2 million is available to support community groups to plant trees in towns, cities and residential areas throughout England. The funding is for community and civic groups, or other non-profit organisations to establish community-led tree planting projects in areas that would benefit most.

The closing date for applications is **5pm** on the **15th March 2011**. For more information www.forestry.gov.uk/england-bigtreetplant

The Tree Council's Tree Futures has announced that as part of the National Tree week 2011 it is offering help for tree planting through two grants programmes: the 'Trees for Schools' and 'Community Trees' funds. Any school or community group within the UK that is planning a project that actively involves children under 16 is encouraged to draw on the fund to plant trees and make a greener future.

The Tree Council are able to fund projects between £100 and £700 and successful applicants will receive up to 75% towards their planting costs. The remaining 25% will need to be secured by your school or organisation.

The closing date for applications is the **31st March 2011**. For more information www.treecouncil.org.uk/grants

Social Enterprise Investment Fund Big Issue Invest (BII) is a specialist provider of finance for social enterprises. It has raised £3 million for its pioneering Social Enterprise Investment Fund and is now keen to hear from social enterprises and the trading arms of registered charities needing investment to scale-up their social impact. BII can provide a range of financing options, from loans to equity from £50,000 to £500,000 and with terms of up to ten years. Loans may be unsecured and repayments may be tied to future income, profits or surpluses.

For more information visit www.bigissueinvest.com or call the team on 020 7526 3431

Fidelity UK Foundation supports a range of charitable activities including arts and culture, health, education and community development. The types of projects funded are: capital improvement, information technology, and organisational development.

For more information visit <http://www.fidelityukfoundation.org/priorities.html>

Ironmongers Company supports projects that provide opportunities for disadvantaged children and young people to fulfil their potential. Grants range from a few hundred pounds up to around £10,000. **Next deadline 31st August 2011**

For more information visit <http://www.ironhall.co.uk/charities/organisations.htm>

Training News

CVS South Gloucestershire Training

Sustainable Funding This course is designed for Managers and Trustees who wish to develop a strategy and plan to ensure that their organisation can continue to operate in a challenging environment. "One of the most specifically targeted and useful training days that I've been on" - a previous delegate.

Trainers: Helen Black and Geni Hall-Kenny
Date: Wednesday 2nd March 2011
Venue: TBC Bradley Stoke
Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm
Cost: £30 for the first delegate, £50 for two from the same organisation

Negotiation and Pitching (Free Half Day course) This half-day workshop will cover: using tools to help you decide whether to bid for the work on offer; identifying what is special about your organisation; useful tips on negotiation and presentation techniques. A workbook with useful tips and where to find further information on pitching and negotiation skills will be provided on the day.

Trainer: Jim McNeil
Date: Wednesday 9th March 2011
Venue: TBC Bradley Stoke
Time: 9.30am to 1pm
Time: 1.30pm to 4pm

Roles and Responsibilities of Trustees (Free Half Day course) Ensure that your organisation has a board of trustees fulfilling the needs of your constitution.

Trainer: Helen Black
Date: Thursday 10th March 2011
Venue: TBC Thornbury
Time: 9.30am - mid-day

Where we make a charge for a course, help may be available for organisations with limited reserves. For more details on any of these courses contact Sarah Buckle on 01454 868729 or sarah.buckle@cvs-sg.org.uk

Training for Management Committees and Boards of Trustees

Over the years CVS South Gloucestershire has worked with many Boards of Trustees and Management Committees. We are now able to offer a bespoke training service to work with a Committee or Board on any aspect of governance or organisations development.

If you are re-focussing your organisation, have new Committee or Board members, need to undertake some business planning or just wish to review your operation we could help.

For more information contact Helen Black on 01454 865205 or helen.black@cvs-sg.org.uk

Training News

Recruiting and Working with Volunteers Workshops for Small Groups



This is a series of five interlinked **free** workshops and the sessions are designed to be fun as well as practical. All sessions will be at Yate Parish Hall, Station Road, Yate.

Session 1: Monday, February 28th 2011	10am - 1pm	<i>Co-ordinator & volunteer roles</i>
Session 2: Monday, March 7th 2011	10am - 1 pm	<i>Advertising</i>
Session 3: Monday, March 14th, 2011	10am - 4.45pm	<i>Recruitment procedures</i>
Session 4: Monday, March 21st, 2011	10am -1pm	<i>Looking after your volunteers</i>
Session 5: Monday, March 28th, 2011	10am-1pm	<i>Writing a volunteer policy</i>

For more information contact Carole 01454 324102/ email: volunteercentreyate@btconnect.com

Details can also be found on the CVS website by visiting: <http://www.cvs-sg.org.uk/training/other-training/recruiting-and-working-with-volunteers/> where a copy of the booking form is available to download.

Becoming a Volunteer Buddy or Mentor is an excellent way of using your skills and experience to help and support others who may lack experience, confidence or live isolated lives.



Currently there are many volunteering opportunities for buddys and mentors to work with people of different ages and backgrounds. This training course is over 3 sessions and is for anyone who is interested in volunteering in these roles. **The workshops are free.**

This course covers: *skills & qualities required to be a mentor or buddy, how to build a buddying relationship and boundaries & contracting*

For those who wish to achieve a nationally recognised qualification in mentoring, it will be possible to gain an OCN level 2 Award in Mentoring, but this will required additional work over and above the time spent in these workshops

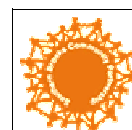
Workshops are being held on March 3rd, 10th and 17th between 9am to 1pm at Yate Library. For further information and a booking form please contact Carole Zorzo on 01454 868006 or email: volunteercentreyate@btconnect.com

Getting Involved in the Community - An Introduction to Community Development

This course is about bringing together people who want to make a difference in their community. We'll spend time together listening and learning from each other, as well as having inputs from the tutor that will help understanding. Some of the topics we shall be covering: what we mean by community development; looking at what people and the community needs and how to respond; forming a group and recruiting members; the legal side of running groups and Fundraising; working in partnership with other groups and agencies.

This course is being held every Wednesday (23 February, 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 March 2011) at Dodington Parish Hall, Finch Road, South Glos BS37 6JZ between 9.30am and 1.30pm

The course will be practical and you do not need any particular experience or skills to join. For further information please contact office@sbcommunitypartnership.org.uk or 01454 868570



CVS South Gloucestershire

We provide a range of services and support in Partnership with our local infrastructure partners in South Gloucestershire.

Contact the team for more information or visit www.cvs-sg.org.uk we look forward to hearing from you

Helen Black
Chief Officer
Strategic Issues
Partnership Working
Representation
Compact
Direct line: 01454 868728
Email: helen.black@cvs-sg.org.uk

Geni Hall-Kenny
Development Officer Funding Advice
Fundraising
Funding Advice
Direct Line: 01454 868727
Email: geni.hallkenny@cvs-sg.org.uk

Paul Davenport
Development Officer Children and Young People's Groups
Direct Line: 01454 868730
Email: paul.davenport@cvs-sg.org.uk

Clare Adamson
Voluntary Sector Forum Coordinator
Direct line: 01454 868730
Email: clare.adamson@cvs-sg.org.uk

Sarah Buckle
Development Officer Training
Direct Line: 01454 868729
Email: sarah.buckle@cvs-sg.org.uk

Martin Gregg
Development Officer Equalities
Direct line: 01454 868726
Email: martin.gregg@cvs-sg.org.uk

Julie Clabon
Finance Officer
Direct line: 01454 865211
Email: julie.clabon@cvs-sg.org.uk

Rachel Lucey
Office Manager
Membership Management
E-Bulletin & Newsletter Management
Direct line: 01454 865205
Email: rachel.lucey@cvs-sg.org.uk

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Company Number: 4831569 Registered Charity Number: 1099702

**CVS South Gloucestershire, Mulberry House, Kingswood Foundation, Britannia Road,
Kingswood, South Gloucestershire, BS15 8DB**

t: 01454 865205 e: info@cvs-sg.org.uk w: www.cvs-sg.org.uk

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**Please note the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of CVS
South Gloucestershire**