

## National awards winners



Vinspired national award winners from Aik Saath with actors from 'The Inbetweeners' who presented the award

Slough charity, Aik Saath has won The Guardian Charity Awards 2009. The national award's aim is to highlight the achievements of small and medium-sized voluntary groups. Aik Saath were one of 489 nominees for the award. As winners they will receive £1,000, a new PC provided by Jigsaw Systems, advice from NCVO's consultancy service and a package of media services from the Media Trust.

The panel of judges included Jane Asher, president of the National Autistic Society, Stuart

Etherington, chief executive of NCVO and Dame Suzi Leather, chair of the Charity Commission.

Aik Saath's volunteers also successfully won the first ever Vinspired national awards which recognises the contributions young people aged 16-25 have made to their communities through all forms of volunteering. Mujtaba Ali, Wiqas Baig, Vik Bhachu, Priya Bilkhu, Ashley Gabbi, Asim Khan and Shahavez Kiani have worked together and supported each other, using a range of different skills and abilities to create positive change in their community, 'It feels good to be recognised for our work, but we do what we do not to be recognised but to make a contribution to our community,' said Vik Bhachu.

Aik Saath promotes racial harmony and teaches conflict resolution skills to young people in schools and youth centres in Slough and the local area. They help raise their self esteem and empower them to pass on their skills to work with other young people.

## Inspiring SWIPE receive Award

SWIPE (Slough West Indian Peoples Enterprise) Development Worker, Jamie Green proudly accepted an award at Slough Business Community Partnership's (SBCP) second Annual Conference held at the Marriott Hotel in October. The SBCP Individual Award was presented by Gordon Storey, SBCP Chair, to mark Jamie's work with young people in Slough on the reduction of crime, particularly in relation to knife crime.



Jamie Green and Gordon Storey

The event, whose theme was the responsibility of companies in times of recession attracted 60 people from the business sector including O2, BAA and Mars. Bob Jones, Partnership Manager, Slough Business Community Partnership said, "The Award is given to people who have made an inspiring contribution to people in Slough. We were very glad to be able to recognise the work carried out by Jamie and the team at SWIPE."

SWIPE has been working in Slough since 1997 enabling young people to develop confidence and improve their communication skills through music. They run many music workshops including guitar and steel pan and many local bands and vocalists started out by attending SWIPE sessions.



## The shift from Grants to Contracts



The reform of public services over the last decade has seen a steady trend to shift from grant funding to commissioning (“buying in”) of services. Government wants to ensure that the voluntary and community sector, VCS, is at the heart of these reforms because it believes there will be benefits all round – to service users, communities and taxpayers. Many organisations have found themselves however, competing for funding in a tendering process that they may have been receiving for many years in the form of grants.

In Slough the whole area of funding the voluntary and community sector is currently under review. As the shift to commissioned services and contracts takes place, it is important that you are aware of what is going on and up to date with this new way of working, so you can make informed choices.

### Meanings - Commissioning and Procurement

**Commissioning** can be described as:

“....the cycle of assessing the needs of people in an area, designing and then securing an appropriate service”.

**Procurement**, on the other hand, is:

“....one step within the commissioning cycle that involves the actual purchasing of goods or services under legally binding contracts”.

Commissioning is not just about competitive tendering; non-competitive forms of external funding may be more appropriate in some circumstances – including grant funding.

For further information contact me Dave Furze on: 07803 897135 or [dave@sloughcvs.org.uk](mailto:dave@sloughcvs.org.uk). If you want to find out more for yourselves look at: [www.ncvo-vol.org.uk](http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk), [www.navca.org.uk](http://www.navca.org.uk) and [www.thecompact.org.uk](http://www.thecompact.org.uk)

## Model constitution for small charities

A new, simplified constitution for very small charities is being launched by the Charity Commission in partnership with umbrella bodies across the sector.

The new constitution is designed to provide a concise, practical framework for charities with an income of under £5,000. It uses clear, direct language that is easy to understand, is only 700 words long and covers all the requirements for a very small charity which does not own land or employ staff.

[www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk)



### What is a personal Budget, exactly?

Personal Budgets are not the same thing as Direct Payments, nor are the two things competing ideas.

A Direct Payment is where the council provides cash instead of a service, so that the person can purchase their own support directly. In other words, a Direct Payment is a way of managing your social care money.

A Personal Budget is more than this. With a Personal Budget, you know how much you can spend, you know what outcomes you are aiming to achieve and you can decide exactly how and when the money is spent. It's an amount of money allocated by your local authority (Council) for your support services.

In a system of self directed support, everyone is given a Personal Budget and some people will decide to receive it through a Direct Payment. However, your Personal Budget can also be managed by the council.

Having a Personal Budget means that you can spend the money allocated to you in the way that you think will best meet your needs. As long as the services you choose meet your care needs and help you to live a fulfilling life, you do not have to use traditional social care services.

Personal Budgets are available to people who are receiving help from Community Care Services for the first time, as well as people who are already receiving assistance with their care and support.

For further information contact Mary Kelly at Slough CVS on 01753 524176 or e-mail [mary@sloughcvs.org.uk](mailto:mary@sloughcvs.org.uk)

## Cash 4 Clubs

The Cash 4 Clubs scheme is funded by Betfair and is supported by SportsAid. Clubs can apply for a Cash 4 Clubs Sports Grant by filling out the online application form at anytime, available at website below.

There are 3 tiers of grants at £250, £500 and £1,000 which are awarded on a discretionary basis. Any sports club can apply as long as they are registered with their sport's National Governing Body or local authority. Funding can be requested for anything that will add to the sustainability and effectiveness of the sports club.

Grants are awarded on a quarterly basis after selection by their committee. Application forms are available on their website.

Contact Email: [cash4clubs@betfair.com](mailto:cash4clubs@betfair.com)

Website: [www.cash-4-clubs.com](http://www.cash-4-clubs.com)

## Wates Foundation

The Foundation aims to alleviate conditions of distress, deprivation and disadvantage that lead to social exclusion by funding charitable work across a broad range of social priorities that will bring about positive change. Awards may be towards: a specific project or body of work, core costs such as rent and non-project specific salaries, infrastructure development and capacity building such as staff or management training. A one-off grant is unlikely to exceed £15,000. The maximum period of support is three years.

Programmes 2008 - 2010:

- Building Family Values
- Community Health
- Safer Communities
- Sustaining the Environment
- Strengthening the Charitable & Voluntary Sectors

Each programme is explained in detail on website below.

Tel: 01372 861000 Fax: 01372 861252

Email: [director@watesfoundation.org.uk](mailto:director@watesfoundation.org.uk)

Website: [www.watesfoundation.org.uk](http://www.watesfoundation.org.uk)

## Reducing Your CO2

Slough has been given a target by the government to reduce CO2 by 9% by 2011 - the Climate Change Local Strategic partnership are very keen to work with all community groups across Slough to help Slough achieve this ambitious target.

The Energy Saving Trust provides bursaries of up to £200. The Community Chest is a flexible grant, which can cover travel costs, events or the purchase of equipment that will progress your energy saving project. It is available to organisations with an annual income of less than £75,000 per year, where no other sources of suitable funding are available. Please contact the Green Communities Team on 0844 848 0077 if you have any queries.

They also have a substantial funding database with information about energy efficiency grants

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/cafe/Green-Communities/Funding-Advice/Green-Communities-Funding-Database](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/cafe/Green-Communities/Funding-Advice/Green-Communities-Funding-Database)

The Energy Saving Trust provide free training to community groups on a number of different issues including finding out about energy and energy auditing for your community building. Please contact Kathryn Horsepool on 01753 875912 for further information.

## Sport England

Sport England's small grants scheme funds community projects that encourage people to become involved in sport and ensure that they have a quality sporting experience. The scheme is for not-for-profit sports clubs, voluntary and community organisations, local authorities and education institutions.

Grants of between £300 and £10,000 are available for revenue and small capital projects.

Website: [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)

or call 08458 508 508 for more details.

# News from the Groups

## Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP)

A new initiative has been launched in Slough by voluntary groups Aik Saath and SWIPE alongside Thames Valley Police. Tackling Knives Action Programme (TKAP) aims to raise awareness of knife crime in Slough and discourage people from carrying knives.



A pledge was developed by young people from Slough for people of all ages to sign up. The address is [www.tinyurl.com/sloughsaysnoknives](http://www.tinyurl.com/sloughsaysnoknives)

As part of the initiative Aik Saath and SWIPE have collaborated to create an anti-knife crime mural in Slough with local young people

## Five Go Down To Reading

One hundred and thirty young people from Slough travelled to Reading in early July for a rock music event. Three of the five bands on the bill were Swipe regulars. **From Hostile Hands** distributed pre-release copies of their forthcoming disk. The band recorded the disk at Swipe Music Centre at the back of the Orchard Youth and Community Centre. Members of **From Hostile Hands** have been attending the Swipe Music Centre for a number of years now. Other bands included **Pineapple Party**, **Indigo Rain**, **The Verdict** and **Armada of Secrets**.



From Hostile Hands performing

Jamie Green, Development Worker said, "The Swipe team are very proud to see the young people of Slough that we work with taking the experience they have gained and using it to get the results and events they want. We are happy to see them taking part in their own gigs and supporting themselves in this way."

## Interfaith walk in Slough

On 24th October, people from many different backgrounds came together to walk together around Slough to celebrate our common humanity as created by God. It was a good time of sharing and making new friends. As part of the walk we visited the Pakistan Welfare Association, Al Hira Education Centre, Ledgers Road Methodist Church, the Town Hall, and Ramgharia Gurdwara and we received a warm welcome at each place. Thanks go to all those who helped to organise the walk and to those who gave us such a warm welcome.



The Interfaith walk

## Volunteers needed at Langley Community Coffee Shop

If you have two hours to spare on a Tuesday morning, once a month, then come and join the Langley Community Shop volunteers, they need your help.

Pop in to the coffee shop on a Tuesday morning between 10.00am and 12 noon and ask to speak to Marion or Shirley.

The coffee shop is open every Tuesday from 10.00am to 12 noon, in the Langley Library, Trelawney Avenue, Langley. Everyone is welcome.

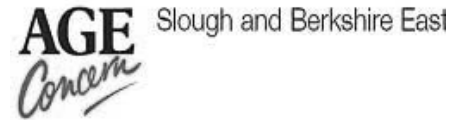
## Volunteer Buddies



Volunteer buddies with their certificates

Volunteer Centre Slough are pleased to announce that 14 more Volunteer buddies have been trained under the Slough Working Better project as a result of ESF community funding. The buddies completed their training and will soon be meeting weekly with local people to either help them in their job search or to help them achieve a volunteering role.

Please contact Lousie Jones on 01753 528632 if you require information regarding becoming a buddy or indeed if you support clients who may benefit from the project.



## Free Human Resources Support Service

The ChangeUp initiative has established a Human Resources Support Service which is provided by Age Concern Slough's HR Manager Paula Doubtfire. This free service is aimed at advising local Voluntary Organisations which may be planning to start employing paid staff or who already have employees but are unsure about best practice or the legal 'must haves'.

Paula will be available to provide a 1 hour individual session to discuss any or all of the following areas.

- **Recruitment**
- **Contracts**
- **Terms and Conditions of Employment**
- **Probation, Supervision or Appraisals**
- **Disciplinary & Grievance Procedures**
- **Age Discrimination**
- **Health & Safety**

If you would like more information or to book an individual session please contact, Paula Doubtfire, H R Manager, Age Concern Slough and Berkshire East on 01753 822890 or e mail [paula@ageconcernsabe.org.uk](mailto:paula@ageconcernsabe.org.uk)

## Newsline Contributions

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue of Newsline. The next issue will be published in March 2010.

We would be really interested to hear your news items. Please send contributions to Lorna Allen by 19th February to [lallen@sloughcvs.org.uk](mailto:lallen@sloughcvs.org.uk) or send to Slough Council for Voluntary Service, 27 Church Street, Slough, Berks, SL1 1PL.

Editor: Lorna Allen  
Sub Editor: Carmel O'Brien

## East Berkshire Funding Fair

This year's East Berkshire Funding Fair welcomed 180 delegates at Windsor Racecourse. They attended workshops run by funders including the Big Lottery Fund, Lloyds TSB Foundation and Children in Need as well as participating in one-to-one sessions with Development Workers.

Debra Allcock-Tyler, Chief Officer at the Directory of Social Change, was the keynote speaker on the day. She spoke about the challenges facing the voluntary sector during the recession with fewer grants and more contracts issued by the statutory sector and also less funding available from Trusts. Debra remained positive though and reminded us that the voluntary sector can make a real difference to our community and that we have the passion and drive to do so.

The East Berks Funding Project Funding Officers were very busy on the day taking details from groups looking for funding sources. They will be arranging funding workshops next year. Look on the back of Newsline for dates.



Top: Debra Allcock-Tyler, DSC with Carmel O'Brien, Finance Development Worker, SCVS  
Bottom: Delegates around the stands at the Fair

## Slough Quality Protects Launch



October saw the launch of **Slough Quality Protects** for groups working with children and young people who have achieved and become the first to set a standard around quality. This is the first quality assurance programme in the South East and ensures that groups have met a standard which places all right procedures in place.



"We are delighted to have been a part of this new and exceedingly important initiative. Quality is essential to all Voluntary Organisations and just because we are a charity operating on a very tight budget does not mean that our quality can slip. We were pleased to have been able to achieve the Platinum standard and to have the assurance that our standards are good. We are also delighted that The Slough Children's Trust supports this standard and will look for it when considering commissioning in the future."

Janine Edwards, Scheme Manager, Home-Start Slough

Slough CVS can help groups go through the process and help them to gain the Quality Assurance mark for Slough. Please contact Jesal at SloughCVS on 01753 524176.

## Voluntary and Community Sector Consultation Report

Thank you to everyone who took the time to contribute to the recent Slough Borough Council survey on the needs and issues affecting the local voluntary and community sector. We appreciate that completing the survey places demands on your time, in particular those of you working in smaller organisations with limited resources. A range of Slough Borough Council funded and non-funded organisations responded to the consultation, from very small community groups with no paid staff through to large well established organisations.

We have now produced a summary report of your feedback, and this will be used to develop the new funding strategy. You can read the full report on SCVS's website and also on the Council's website at [www.slough.gov.uk/services/3958.aspx](http://www.slough.gov.uk/services/3958.aspx)

We now need to do an extensive exercise internally to make sure any future strategy is the best one for the Council and the voluntary and community sector. We hope to have completed this early next year and will then come back to you for your valued input and comments. In the meantime if you have any questions or you didn't get a chance to contribute to the consultation you can still have your say. To put your point of view forward you can contact Surinder Jassal on 01753 875597 or e-mail [voluntary.sector@slough.gov.uk](mailto:voluntary.sector@slough.gov.uk)



Taking pride in our communities and town

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## SBC Compact Champion Farkhanda Ahmed

I have been working at Slough Borough Council within the Voluntary Sector team for 5 years. During this time I have built strong relationships with the voluntary sector and have gained a better understanding. I have played an active role in developing the Slough Compact through administrating the compact management group and assisting with organising the workshops to develop the protocols.



Farkhanda Ahmed

I am currently promoting the Compact internally within Slough Borough Council, to raise its profile and ensure staff have an understanding of the Compact. Our aim is for all staff to have the basic knowledge of it, how it might be relevant to their work and signposting to where they can receive more in-depth information if needed.

I have been consulting with the senior management to arrange for me to attend team meetings to do presentations on the Compact. The direct approach with the presentations has proved a success thus far, giving staff an opportunity to raise questions, strengthen communication across the council and has encouraging staff to work together in partnership with the voluntary and community sector.

I am also a Compact Champion and will continue to promote awareness of the Compact, to encourage colleagues to use the Compact and to collect information about how the Compact is being used and where there are issues that might need addressing.

## Dates for your Diary

### Children and Young Peoples Forum

Thursday 4th February  
10-12noon, SCVS Resource Room

### Vetting and Barring Workshop

17th March, West Wing, 10-3pm  
Contact Jesal on 01753 524176 or e-mail  
jesal@sloughcvs.org.uk for further details  
about both these events.

### Funding Workshops 2010

Find out about grants and funding.  
Thursday 21st January Windsor  
Thursday 18th March Slough  
Thursday 20th May Bracknell  
To book contact Ray Emmans on 01753  
622433 or e-mail wmvafunding@hotmail.com

proud to be  
**Slough**

'Proud to be Slough' is an initiative to improve the perception of Slough within and outside the town and create a sense of Slough being a sustainable community where people want to live, work, play and invest, now and in the future. This means a town that is active, inclusive and safe; well run; environmentally sensitive; well designed and built; well connected; thriving; well served and fair for everyone.

Bringing the private, public and voluntary sectors together, Proud to be Slough celebrates all that is good about our town now, and encourages ongoing initiatives to make Slough a great place to be.



Want Help to Quit Smoking?



Pop in on Saturdays at the drop-in  
**SOFA CLUB**  
10.00am – 3.00pm  
Slough Central Library

Drop in for free individual support & information and NRT products at prescription price.  
(Asian & Polish speaking advisors also available)

Or to book an appointment call  
Berkshire East NHS Stop Smoking Service  
**0845 602 4218**  
or text QUIT TO 88020



## Be who you want to be!

If you are currently over 19 years old, live in the SLOUGH, WINDSOR OR MAIDENHEAD area and are unemployed.

You are eligible to meet a community coach and discuss the possibility of self employment over a coffee and chat.

Turn your hobby into your career  
Contact: Nina Sian  
Mob: 07916 599484  
E-mail: ninasian@googlemail.com

SEED  
South Eastern Enterprise Development



SEEDA  
SOUTH EAST ENGLAND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
Working for England's World Class Region

Slough Council for Voluntary Service, 27 Church Street, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 1PL  
Tel: 01753 524176 e-mail: enquiries@sloughcvs.org.uk

## Slough Community Training Partnership

If you are not on our mailing list and would like a copy of the Slough Community Training Partnership bulletin please contact training at Slough CVS on 01753 524176 or e-mail mandy@sloughcvs.org.uk