

New Compact Champions in Slough



From left: Paul Barasi, Compact Voice, Mary Kelly and Jenie Betteridge, SCVS and Jackie Yokota, Hanna Ali and Louise Jones

Paul Barasi, Engagement Officer, from Compact Voice, the independent body representing the VCS on taking forward the Compact recruited 15 Compact Champions at Slough CVS's Annual General Meeting in July. The Champions will be responsible for promoting the Compact within their organisations. The Compact provides useful guidelines and best practice for working with the statutory sector.

The AGM was held at Vikrams Occasions Palace which was very kindly given free of charge. It was preceded by Jackie Yokota from Crossroads, Hanna Ali from Daryeel Community Group and Louise Jones from Volunteer Centre Slough who all gave presentations about how Slough CVS has helped their organisation to become stronger.

Slough CVS are also very pleased to welcome two new trustees, Shelagh Cuell and Dele Williams to join its committee. We look forward to working with them.

New Advisors at Slough CVS

Ray Emmans has been appointed as **Funding Advisor** for the Berks East Funding Project covering Slough and Windsor & Maidenhead. Ray comes to us with a wealth of experience gained at the Berkshire Community Foundation as Grants Director and previously with the Air Ambulance Foundation as a Fundraising and Events Manager.



Ray Emmans, SCVS

Ray will be at Slough CVS on most Tuesdays and he will be available for funding advice and help on application form completion. A number of funding advice workshops will be taking place throughout the year and dates will be announced shortly. You can email Ray on ray@sloughcvs.org.uk or telephone 01753 524176.

Dave Furze is the **Procurement Implementation Officer** for the Berks East Funding Project. Dave has had experience of working in both the voluntary and community sector and the statutory sector; having worked for 10 years in a local authority Community Development Team and before that for 7 years in inner-city Manchester leading a project working with communities and young people in urban priority areas, called Urban Action Manchester. Currently he also heads up Footprints as a community development consultant and advisor.

Dave will be working most Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays developing support for commissioning and procurement, including research, information gathering, procurement workshops and working towards matching VCS organisations with commissioning opportunities and potential partners. Dave can be contacted on 07803 897135 or by e-mail on dave@sloughcvs.org.uk.

SCVS is the Slough Council for Voluntary Service

Slough Council for Voluntary Service is registered charity No. 1069086 and company limited by guarantee, registered in England No. 3523907. It is a member of the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

The Vetting & Barring Scheme

This new Scheme will affect everyone who works with children aged under 18 or vulnerable adults.

The scheme recognises the need for a single agency to vet and register all individuals who want to work or volunteer with vulnerable people, and to bar unsuitable people. The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) was created to fulfil this role. The Criminal Records Bureau will be responsible for managing the system that will support the Vetting & Barring Scheme and process the applications for ISA registration.

The Scheme provides significant safeguards but does not remove the need for employers to have robust recruitment procedures, involving interviews and references.

For further information please visit www.isa.gov.org

Student Cash Point

Student Cash Point is the UK's most comprehensive source of information on grants, loans, bursaries, scholarships and awards available to undergraduate and postgraduate students in the UK. Here you can access information on all funding available to help you with the costs of going to University. Whether you need support with your tuition fees or just need a bit of extra cash to help you with your living costs whilst studying – then you need look no further!

What's unique about the Student Cash Point is that it allows you to compare the amount of funding you can receive at different Universities - helping you to make an informed choice about where to study and minimise the burden of student debt. StudentCashPoint.co.uk

Role of 'flu friends' in a flu pandemic

No doubt you will be aware that a worldwide flu pandemic has recently been declared following outbreaks of H1N1, also known as 'swine flu.' This is being addressed to faith and community groups throughout East Berkshire in order to identify any additional volunteer groups that could assist health bodies and local authorities manage the pandemic.

Plans have been developed on a multi-agency basis in order to manage pandemic flu, and although the UK is one of the best prepared countries in the world a pandemic, especially at times when illness peaks in the population, can rapidly use up resources. As a consequence voluntary organisations may receive additional requests for help, particularly from health and social care partners, who need to be freed up to provide critical care. People will be encouraged to build a network of 'flu friends' from amongst their family, friends and neighbours who may be willing to support them should they become ill, however there are many people in our communities which may not have such a support mechanism, and this is where you can help.

Arrangements for accessing antivirals at times of high demand are critical and in order to minimise the spread of flu it is important that, where possible, symptomatic patients do not leave their house. With this in mind, the concept of 'flu friends' has been developed. It is hoped a 'flu friend' would collect antiviral medication from the nearest antiviral collection point and deliver it back to the individual requiring it. If they wish, they may also offer other crucial support such as shopping for basic supplies.

If you feel your group could help in any way please contact Becky Lane, Emergency Planning Assistant at Bracknell Forest Council on 01344 351715 or becky.lane@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Funding Central

The National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) & The Office for the Third Sector (OTS) launched Funding Central www.fundingcentral.org.uk the new free website for comprehensive information about national, local and regional government funding, national, local or regional charitable funding, and EU funding.

Funding Central for the whole voluntary and community sector, including social enterprise will have relevant and up to date information on all funding opportunities aimed at helping voluntary and community organisations easily identify relevant funding streams at the touch of a button.

The site which goes beyond merely providing information which will continue to grow, Funding Central aims to build the capacity of organisations to successfully identify and apply for funding – whether in the form of a grant, grant in aid or contract.

Berkshire Community Foundation



Berkshire Community Foundation is now responsible for grant making for the Slough Social Fund exclusively for grants in the borough of Slough. Whilst available funding is at a premium this year, it is worth remembering to apply for this fund in 2010. Grassroots Grants funding for Slough has almost been spent for 2009, however if you have a good project that fits the criteria it is still worth applying if you can wait until 2010 for payment. Check out their website: www.berkshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk

Mars in the Community

The **MARS IN THE COMMUNITY** programme supports projects and activities, which promote the development of cohesive, healthy and sustainable communities in and around their UK sites. Projects that will deliver a positive and lasting benefit to the community in one of the following three areas: healthy active lifestyles, environment or pet welfare will be considered.

Groups have to operate within a 10 mile radius of their Slough site. Changes are being made to their grant making programme so keep a check on their website.

www.marsinthecommunity.org.uk

Awards for All

Awards for All England is a simple small grants scheme making awards of between £300 and £10,000.

The Awards for All programme aims to help improve local communities and the lives of people most in need.

To do this we want to fund projects that meet one or more of the following outcomes:

- **People have better chances in life - with better access to training and development to improve their life skills.**
- **Stronger communities - with more active citizens working together to tackle their problems.**
- **Improved rural and urban environments - which communities are better able to access and enjoy.**
- **Healthier and more active people and communities.**

You will find out if you are successful within six weeks. www.awardsforall.org.uk

News from the Groups

Carers Week Report 8th – 12th June 2009

Carers UK Slough & District in conjunction with representatives of Slough Carers Support Service, Age Concern, Crossroads, Mencap, Parvaaz, PCT, NHS, SCVS and Slough Borough Council held a series of information stalls, displays and interactive events to raise awareness of the situation of the thousands of unpaid family carers living in Slough. Many of the Carers who attended were previously unaware of the services, information and help available through the various agencies working in Slough.

The week ended with over 160 Carers sitting down to a celebration lunch at the Polish Association Hall. The event was also attended by Mayor of Slough Councillor Joginder Singh Bal, Deputy Provincial Grand Master Clifford Drake Buckinghamshire Masonic Lodge, Fiona Mactaggart Member of Parliament for Slough and representatives of all the caring organisations working in Slough. At the end of an enjoyable day each Carer was given a



Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Buckinghamshire Masonic Centenary Fund, Marcia Wright, Chairperson Carers UK Slough & District. Mayor of Slough Councillor Joginder Singh Bal & Fiona Mactaggart MP.

Photography David Sparrow. Art Beyond Belief

goodie bag and a beautiful pot plant especially grown by Speedwell Nurseries.

Carers UK committee would like to thank everyone who took part throughout the week with a particular thank you to Slough Borough Council and Buckinghamshire Masonic Centenary Fund for providing the funding.

Marcia Wright, Chairperson, Carers UK

Slough Furniture Project celebrate their 15th Birthday

Slough Furniture Project's 15th Birthday was celebrated with a Tea Party for past and present Staff and volunteers on 30th June 2009.

The Project collect unwanted but usable household items from the Slough area free of charge and pass them on at low prices to underprivileged people in need. They are the only reuse project of this type in a 25 mile area that deals only with underprivileged beneficiaries.

They are also looking for Trustees and volunteers to join the Project. Contact Norma Palmer on 01753 692535.



Norma Palmer and a volunteer at SFP's birthday celebration

Annual Information Day

Slough Older People's Forum will be holding its 10th Annual Information Day with the theme 'Health, Wealth and Leisure for the more Mature' on Wednesday 4th November 2009 from 10.00am – 3.30pm at Age Concern Resource Centre, 2nd Floor, The Village Shopping Centre, High Street, Slough. Over 30 local health and leisure providers will be available with information and advice in addition to those normally provided by Age Concern Slough. Visitors will be able to meet service providers, listen to short talks on a variety of topics and take part in a question and answer panel after enjoying lunch in the café. For further information contact Marcia Wright, Chairperson on 01753 536906 or e-mail

wright@marciawright.orangehome.co.uk

Somali Youth Conference

United Somali Youth of Slough (USYS) hosted its first ever youth conference at Farnham Road on 12th June 2009.



USYS has taken a big step forward to battle to keep youngsters away from crime. The conference was designed as a way of helping the town's ever-growing Somali population explore the options that are available to them in the borough. The participants included the town's MP Fiona Mactaggart, Rafiq Chohan, the assistant inclusion director, as well as Julie Siddiqi a cohesion outreach worker. There were about 250 youngsters who took part in the conference.

New Urdu School

Every Sunday 2-4pm, £2.00 per person
10 Ledgers Road, Slough All ages welcome

Following a Grassroots Workshop at Slough CVS, Slough charity Sher Hands, has received a grant from Berkshire Community Foundation to cover equipment and rent. They now have a permanent base at 10 Ledgers Road. The group is open to all families from any background and supports isolated, victimised and abused female members of the community and their families through training, support and other activities.

For further information about Sher Hands please contact Waheeda on 07961799924.

New Citizens Advice Slough Service

Citizens Advice in partnership with St. Mary's Church in Slough has received a small grant from the Church Urban Fund to fund a pilot scheme training local people to assist with the completion of forms, initially Disability Living Allowance applications.

Training has already commenced and it is hoped that the scheme will be up and running fully in October.

Royal Mail - going the extra mile for Barnardo's Slough Store

Royal Mail staff from all corners of the organisation are going the extra mile for Barnardo's on September 11th 2009 by taking part in the charity's award-winning 'Store Wars' initiative. You and your organisation could help the local Barnardo's store in Slough to break all previous sales records by supporting this initiative in whatever way you can! This is a fantastic opportunity to grab some designer clothing bargains, support your local Barnardo's and show everyone outside Slough, the difference a community like Slough can make to Barnardo's work with disadvantaged children and young people.

Slough Mencap's Party in the Park

This year Slough Mencap welcomed 127 members and volunteers to their annual party at Slough Rugby Club in Upton Court Park on Saturday 8 August.

Members enjoyed five a side football and various sporting activities such as a wheelchair egg and spoon race! The weather was so beautiful that many of the members just relaxed in the sun and enjoyed the entertainment provided by SWIPE. Many thanks to Jamie Green, his talented wife Amy and the youngsters from SWIPE who assisted in the sporting activities and well as the music.

Mencap had in excess of twenty volunteers enjoying the day and participating in the activities with the members and their families. The usual delicious picnic lunch was provided by Thursday Club Leader Jo Robbins and her team of volunteers including our Chair, Brenda Parker. Many thanks Jo!

Towards the end of the evening Slough Mencap's members and volunteers enjoyed the music of Pete's Disco. He always seems to provide just the kind of music our members enjoy. Some people just love dancing.

Many thanks to Kim Sandilands for coordinating the day and as always to Eleanor Cryer, the Chief Executive for her tireless efforts in caring for each and every one of our members.

Carmel O'Brien, Treasurer, Slough Mencap



Top: Jamie Green from SWIPE with members
Middle: Bernadette, Mo, Jo and Reg, Committee members and Volunteers
Bottom: Elaine and Eleanor, Committee Members



SPACE Counselling Service
26 Windsor Road
Slough
SL1 2EJ

Other contact details remain the same

Tel: 01753 575432 Fax: 01753 691981
enquiry@spacecounselling.org

Situation Vacant



Club Leader Slough MENCAP

Wednesdays 6.30 - 9.30pm

For Social Club for people with
Learning Disabilities

Call Eleanor Cryer on 01753 543 160 for
more information

IS YOUR ORGANISATION BREAKING THE LAW?

Now is a great time to have a Governance Review

Why?

- Because the law has changed
- Slough CVS Governance Development Worker will support you through the process

Did You Know?

The Charities Act 2006 and Companies Act 2006 have been being implemented over the last two years. These two acts have made many changes to the regulation of Charities and Companies Limited by Guarantee. Some of the changes are small, others can have dramatic effects. Some of the changes are optional, others have the force of law. Governing Documents will have to be amended where they differ from the new regulations to enable the changes to be implemented.

Here is a small selection of the changes:

- A new list of 12 charitable purposes has been introduced.
- The Charity Commission will now look for explicit mention of the Public Good in governing documents.
- 7 new statutory duties for Directors have been introduced. The overriding duty is to “act in the way considered in good faith would be most likely to achieve the company’s purpose,”
- For new Companies Limited by Guarantee the Chair can no longer have a casting vote.
- Any Charity with an annual income of £5000 or more is obliged to register with the Charity Commission.
- Charities no longer need to have an AGM. But think carefully before opting out of an AGM – an AGM may well prove to be the simplest method to circulate Annual Reports and Accounts and elect new members.

The above is just a small selection of the effects of the new Acts.

In addition many trustees do not know that if an organisation has not been registered with Companies House as a Company Limited by Guarantee, the organisation is unincorporated and has no legal identity. This means that if debts are incurred by the unincorporated organisation the trustees are individually and collectively liable for those debts. It could be the trustees’ house or savings on the line, if debts are incurred. As part of a wider Governance Review unincorporated Charities may wish to look at becoming Companies Limited by Guarantee to protect their trustees and limit their liability.

So if you did not know any of the above and would like to know more, or if you have decided a Governance Review would benefit your organisation, protect your trustees and make sure your are up to date with the law, take action now and

Attend a Governance Workshop on Wednesday 21st October at Slough CVS from 11.00am to 12.30 pm – lunch included.

Phone Jenie Betteridge, Governance Development Worker, Slough CVS on 01753 219112.

Email jenie@sloughcvs.org.uk



Slough Community Training Partnership

Slough Community Training Partnership is in its tenth year. It serves as a platform for training providers in Slough to network, share ideas and market their training provision. The partnership produces two training bulletins a year, readership of the bulletin is estimated to be in excess of 2,500 including a large majority from BME backgrounds and hard to reach grassroots communities.

The subscription to the partnership is £75.00 per year, and runs from August to July. The partnership is supported by Slough Council for Voluntary Service, who organise the production of the bulletin and circulate a fortnightly training alert to contacts in the voluntary sector, with the details of forthcoming training from the Slough community training partners.

To join the Partnership or for more details please contact Shaheen at Slough Council for Voluntary Service on 01753 524176.

Dates for your Diary

East Berkshire Funding Fair

30th September, 9.30-3.00pm

Venue:

Windsor
Racecourse

Launch of Children and Young People's Quality Standards

28th October

Venue: TBC

Community Care Forum

18th November

Venue: TBC

Women's Empowerment Event

Slough Borough Council Enterprise and Employment team are organising a free Women's empowerment event which will have women speakers, entertainment, and activities, information, confidence building, self empowerment, learning and training opportunities in Slough followed by lunch. It will be a great opportunity to share views and ideas and meet like minded women. Come and join us on Tuesday 29th September 09 from 9.00 am -1.00 pm at Baylis House. Free childcare will be provided on site.

For further details and to book a place, please call Sanzla on 01753 476614.

Springboard Learning Centre

Slough Homeless Our Concern

Springboard offers a wide range of free courses for homeless disadvantaged people. Springboard aims to help clients to move on by learning the basic life skills that will give them confidence to gain qualifications and employment. These skills include Basic skills, ESOL, IT arts and crafts, CV preparation and job search with interview skills. Clients will gradually gain confidence to go onto more formal training courses & seek employment.

For more information on Springboard courses coming up contact Janet or Lynnette on 01753 553143.

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

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

Slough Community Training Partnership

Course	Venue	Time
Time Management	Resource Room, Slough CVS	8th October 10.00am - 4.30pm
Assertiveness for Professionals	Resource Room, Slough CVS	19th October 10.00am - 4.30pm