



# A Voice for the People

## Community come out strong to shape children's services



**On 2nd February Greenwich Community Network held another of its popular community conferences, giving people the opportunity to find out about the Children's Trust and the chance to voice their opinions. The event was one of the best attended to date, packing**

**out the room at START Woolwich with individuals and groups interested in shaping service delivery. It gave Councillors and service providers alike a real taste of the determination in the community and voluntary sector to improve the lives of children and young people in Greenwich.**

The afternoon featured three speakers - Councillor Danny Thorpe, Joss Bell of the Inspectorate and Advisory Service, and finally Sheila Norris, Assistant Director for Children's Integration and Partnerships. To kick off proceedings, Rosa Goncalves, Vice Chair of Greenwich Community Network, introduced the event and gave a quick outline of what attendees could expect.

Councillor Danny Thorpe followed and spoke about the Children's Trust. His talk gave an insight into the principles of the 'Every Child Matters' white paper and how these will be addressed through the Children's Trust. This partnership approach should reduce duplication and fragmentation in the way Greenwich as a borough works to deliver its services.

Councillor Thorpe's presentation was followed by a talk from Joss Bell of the Inspectorate and Advisory Service. Over the

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## The Greenwich Community Network needs you!

**GCN has a database of hundreds of groups who each receive our quarterly newsletter, invitations to our community conferences and information mail outs. You will also have the ability to feed your voice into the Greenwich Partnership, making your concerns heard when decisions and plans are being made.**

**To become involved, or simply to find out more, contact the Greenwich Community Network Co-ordinator, Jerry Telfer. (Details below)**



**Jerry Telfer  
020 8921 6487**

coming months Joss will be working with service deliverers to prepare them for the Joint Area Review (JAR). The JAR will look at services for 0-19's (and 0-25 for children with special needs) and will be made up of a joint inspection team who will follow a thorough and rigorous review process over 40 different areas. Any organisation in receipt of public funds or resources to provide services will be potentially under scrutiny.



The JAR forms an essential ingredient in the role of the Children's Trust – ensuring that partnership working and co-ordination between organisations actually adds up to better services.

Rounding the afternoon off was Sheila Norris, Assistant Director for Children's Integration and Partnerships.

Sheila spoke about the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). It is a single plan for all local services for children and young people, the aim of which is to create a shared vision and improved services. The plan is in its initial stages of development and Sheila asked those present for their thoughts on the ten priorities on the plan. After discussion about the priorities, Sheila asked for more input from the community, this time on how best the issues could be tackled.

The afternoon finished with a session of questions and it was encouraging to see so much interest in the topic. Unfortunately there was not enough time to address them all so a follow up event has been planned to address these queries.

The Network would like to thank everyone who attended the event. Another community conference is due to be held soon, details of which will be available shortly.

If you want to see the supporting information for each of the above presentations, visit our new website today. They are all available for download.

[www.Greenwichcommunitynetwork.org](http://www.Greenwichcommunitynetwork.org)

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# Supporting the sector

To help support the community, voluntary and faith sector, the Council has been working hard to introduce a number of measures. The first step has been to set up an advisory panel to oversee the introduction of a new Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) in Greenwich. The CVS Advisory board will discuss the new service with both the Council and voluntary and community

sector. They have also held a consultation event on the 18th May.

To find out more about this contact Anne Haxell on 020 8921 6381

Following this article is a series of articles highlighting what is currently available locally for groups and organisations within the Borough.

## Does your organisation need a financial health check?



**Are you struggling to round up your decimals, allocate your invoices or balance your outgoings? If so then the Greenwich Community Accountancy Service (GCAS) may be the solution you are looking for.**

Formed in January 2006, GCAS is a part of a project which operates in boroughs across South East London. They are a group dedicated to helping community, voluntary and faith groups deal with financial and accountancy issues more effectively. They have a number of functions that could help you, including:

- Training in accounting for staff and committee
- Training in manual/computerised payroll
- Financial Health checks
- Volunteer accounting staff
- Develop your financial procedures
- And more...

And the best thing of all – **ITS ALL FREE**, apart from the training courses, which cost £15 per day. To find out more, or to get an appointment with the Community Accountant, contact:

**Genny Jones**  
**Greenwich Community**  
**Accountancy Services**  
**020 8854 6419**  
**Genny31gcas@hotmail.com**

# LEADing the way in Greenwich

The London East Action for Development (LEAD) Greenwich Training Network was established in December 2004. Since then, it has established itself as a key provider for services in Greenwich.

The Council has commissioned LEAD to undertake a number of workshops designed to support the development of the voluntary, community and faith sector in Greenwich. The aim of these workshops is to help organisations be better at what they do. Workshops include:

- Employment law
- Bid development
- Equalities legislation
- Charity law
- And many, many more!

To find out more or how to get involved with these workshops contact

**Andy Smith**  
0208 853 1331  
andy@volunteersgreenwich.co.uk

## Resources for all

**The Council is currently working to produce a range of resources that will be available to the sector in Greenwich. These are designed to help organisations in different areas of management. These resources so far include a 'Directory of Resources' which will provide a list of local, regional and national support that is available to the sector and will be available as a CD-ROM.**

Topics covered by the CD will include

- Introduction to setting up new groups
- What is Quality Assurance?
- Funding overview information sheet.

The Council will also be re-producing two other useful resources. These are

- The Greenwich Council Funding Toolkit
- Steps to success – a quality framework.

The directory is now available. If you wish to receive a copy contact Anne Haxell on 020 8921 6381.

## Free the funding

Financing community, voluntary and faith groups can often be a taxing task, where money must seemingly be plucked from thin air to fund important projects. There are many different funding options available to groups - the most difficult part however is finding out about them.

If you're a new group, or simply an organisation looking to fund a project, there is a new service to help with free information and advice. To find out more, contact any of the following organisations:

**Suki Kaur, Sahara**  
020 8855 0172 Sahara@aol.com

**Ruth Renvoize, AHEAD**  
020 8317 0865 rrenvoize@africanhealth.org.uk

**Katherine Halstead, Capital Community Foundation**  
020 7582 5117 Enquiries@capitalcf.org.uk

# Greenwich Community Network – Who are we?

The Greenwich Community Network was set up in 2001 and has been very active ever since. The Greenwich Community Network aims to bring together all of the Borough's voluntary, community and faith groups, and to help develop a voice for

the local community. It elects representatives onto the Greenwich Partnership Board, ensuring the community become involved in developing local plans and strategies.

*Judy Smith,  
South Greenwich East Representative*



*Kenton Hylton,  
Young Person's Representative*

## How does the Network operate?

The Greenwich Partnership is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Greenwich Strategy, the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and the Local Area Agreement (LAA). It provides a forum for partners to work together to meet the local needs and priorities and discuss the issues of importance to Greenwich and the Thames Gateway. The Greenwich Partnership includes local councillors, local business representatives, members of other statutory bodies such as the police and PCT, and the community and voluntary sector.

Presently, a number of GCN representatives are elected to sit on the board of the Greenwich Partnership. These representatives collect the views and opinions of the community and ensure they are considered by those who sit on Greenwich Partnership board.

This process is currently being reviewed and so the Network is also looking to examine how it works and, how it integrates itself into the key partnerships within the Borough. More information about this will be provided soon.

To find out more about the Greenwich Partnership, visit their website at

[www.Greenwichpartnership.org.uk](http://www.Greenwichpartnership.org.uk)

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# Day in the Life of.....

## Rosa Goncalves, Greenwich Community Network Representative South West Greenwich

**Greenwich Community Network Representatives are often very active in their local communities and spend a great deal of time attending meetings and networking with other groups. To highlight the work undertaken by the Network Representatives, we have followed Rosa Goncalves for a day to take a look at what she gets up to.**

### Thursday 23rd March

**10 am** First call of the day is a meeting with an organisation called Groundwork, an environmental regeneration charity. Rosa is meeting them with the chair of the new 'Friends of Sutcliffe Park' group. This was set up to ensure the future of Sutcliffe Park after its regeneration by the Environment Agency.

Whilst the Environment Agency landscaped the park and redirected the river, creating wetlands and a lake, there is still a lot of work to be done if the park is going to fulfil its potential. The Friends of Sutcliffe Park and Rosa have a number of ideas



- A learning centre for children to learn about the park's wildlife and the environment,
- Better disabled access,
- Permanent pitches for food sellers.
- Play areas

Groundwork were enthusiastic to assist in delivering the group's vision and will be attending the next meeting arranged by the Friends of Sutcliffe Park.

**2pm** In the afternoon Rosa attended a meeting with Tracey Sage from the Greenwich Arts and Culture Office Cultural Opportunities Fund (SGRA). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Flag Project in the Ferrier Estate involving Young and Older people. The aim of this project is to provide the opportunity for different generations to learn from each other and share their vision for the area.

continued over

*Day in the life (cont.)*

Items discussed at the meeting included the deadline for delivery, publicity of the project and communication with the funding group. Rosa is keen to point out that these issues need to be considered by any group who is looking to secure funding for its projects. The meeting again went well and the funding for the project was agreed.

**6.30pm** Finally, after an exhausting day, Rosa attends the Greenwich Partnership Board meeting held at the Novotel Hotel in Greenwich.

As one of the elected representatives who sit on the Greenwich Partnership Board, Rosa attends all board meetings. The board meets quarterly to discuss strategic issues and the development of Greenwich as a borough.

As one of the elected networks representatives, it is Rosa's task to take the views of the community and voluntary sector to the board and ensure they are heard.

On this occasion the board discussed a number of items, including the continuing development of the O2 site, the progress of the Local Area Agreement and the structure of the Partnership Board itself.

The meeting ended at **9pm**, and Rosa made her way back home. It has been a long and tiring day. Rosa is quick to point out however that being a network representative is also extremely rewarding. It gives her the unique opportunity to represent the views and opinions of her community when strategies and plans for Greenwich are being developed.

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# Greenwich Community Network gets wired for the web

By the time you are reading this newsletter, the new Greenwich Community Network website will be live on the world-wide-web. The site is packed with

information about GCN, its representatives and our community conferences. On top of this, the site contains details for people who wish to

get in touch and a community events page where community, voluntary and faith groups can advertise and promote their events.



If you are interested in seeing more, visit the website today.  
[www.greenwichcommunitynetwork.org](http://www.greenwichcommunitynetwork.org)

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## Get your free websites here!

Having a presence on the web is quickly becoming an essential ingredient for any organisation. Where once a listing in the phone book proved necessary, a site on the internet has quickly become the way to ensure people can easily find you, find out about you and get in contact with you.

Until recently websites were the preserve of groups with either the money or web expertise to build one. Now, under a new scheme run by Your London, any community or voluntary organisation can build their own website and it is all completely free! You do not even need any technical know-how – the programme is easy to use and quick to implement.

Want to find out more? Visit the following site for more information

[www.yourlondon.gov.uk/community/epublishingtool.jsp](http://www.yourlondon.gov.uk/community/epublishingtool.jsp)

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# It's your voice, so make it heard!

After the success of the last community conference the Greenwich Community Network is busy organising the next one. Whilst the topic of this is yet to be decided, we will update you all shortly with a confirmed date and theme. If you are interested in hearing about our next conference, or think you know of an organisation that may be able to benefit, then send details to the Greenwich Community Network Co-ordinator, or complete the tear off slip below and return it to:



*GCN reps and staff*

Alex Glyde, GCN Administrator, 31 Thomas Street,  
Woolwich SE18 6HU 020 8921 6491  
(You do not need to do this if you are already on our mailing list.)

[alex.glyde@greenwich.gov.uk](mailto:alex.glyde@greenwich.gov.uk)

## **I am interested in finding out more about the next Community Conference**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



This document contains important information. If you would like a translation of the document in your own language, please tick the box on the right and return this whole page to the address shown below.

English

ਇਸ ਚਿੱਠੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਖਾਸ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਚਿੱਠੇ ਦੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਭੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਫੁੱਲੀ ਸੱਜੇ ਪਾਸੇ ਜੋ ਬੋਕਸ ਹੈ ਵਿੱਚ ਟਿੱਕ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਇਹ ਸਾਰਾ ਵਰਕਾ ਸੱਜੇ ਥੱਲੇ ਲਿਖੇ ਐਡਰੈਸ 'ਤੇ ਵਾਪਸ ਭੇਜੋ।

Punjabi

Qorsalkan waxaa ku kooban macluumaad muhim ah. Haddii aad dooneysid in luqaddaada laguugu tarjumo, fadlan xariiq koobaabinta midigta, booggan oo dhanna u soo dir cinwaanka hoos ku yaalla.

Somali

Bu belge önemli bilgiler içermektedir. Belgenin kendi dilinizde çevirisini istiyorsanız, lütfen sağdaki kutuyu işaretleyip bu sayfayı aşağıdaki adrese gönderiniz.

Turkish

此文件包含重要的信息内容。如果你需要一份關於你自己的語言的翻譯文本，請在右側的方格內划鉤，並將此頁交到下列地址處。

Chinese

Tài liệu này có chứa những tin tức quan trọng. Nếu bạn muốn bản tài liệu này được dịch ra ngôn ngữ của bạn, xin hãy gạch vào ô ở tay phải và gửi lại cả trang đó đến địa chỉ sau đây.

Vietnamese

এই নথিগত তথ্য গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। যদি আপনি আপনার নিজের ভাষায় এটির অনুবাদ পেতে চান, তাহলে ডান পাশের বাক্সটিতে টিক দিয়ে পুরো পৃষ্ঠটি নিচের ঠিকানায় ফেরত পাঠিয়ে দিন।

Bengali

આ છેતાવેજમાં મહત્વની માહિતી સમાવેલી છે. જો તમને તમારી ભાષામાં આ છેતાવેજનું ભાષાંતર જોઈતું હોય તો, મહેરબાની કરી જમણા બાજુના ખાનામાં ટીક (નિશાની) કરો અને આખું પાનું નીચે આપેલ સરનામે પાછું મોકલો.

Gujarati

يحتوي هذا المستند على معلومات هامة. إن أردتها مترجمة إلى لغتك فالرجاء وضع علامة في الخانة التي في اليمين وإرجاع الصفحة بكاملها إلى العنوان المذكور في الأسفل.

Arabic

اس دستاويز میں ضروری معلومات فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔ اگر آپ کو اپنی زبان میں اسکا ترجمہ درکار ہو تو براہ کرم سرپائے دائیں طرف سے باکس میں نشان لگا کر یہ پورا صفحہ درج ذیل پتے پر روانہ کیجئے۔

Urdu

Iwe yi kun fun awon akfyèsí pàtàkì. Tí ẹ ba fẹ́ kí a túmọ̀ rẹ fun yin, kí ẹ fí àmìn sí inu àpótí kekere tí o wa ní apa ọtun akiyesi yi, kí ẹ sí fí iwe yi ranṣẹ sí wa ní àdírẹ̀sì tí n ẹ̀ ní isàlẹ̀ yi.

Yoruba

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