

A Voice for the People

Sharing cultures in Refugee Week



The annual National Refugee Week (June 18-24) was once again a good opportunity for us in Greenwich to gain a greater understanding of the rich diversity of culture and learn of the real contributions refugees have made in our community. Activities and events held during the week also helped us appreciate more what it means to flee one's homeland.

Over 600 children from schools throughout the borough participated in a week of activities exploring issues around civil war trauma, bullying,

morality, loss and why refugees exist. The children prepared some excellent work through using specially prepared worksheets, writing, producing banners, making masks and doing drama acts.

Additionally, a Mini-World Cup took place with eight schools playing under qualifying countries' stripes. The children had the opportunity to be trained by professional coaches and prizes were offered for team spirit, leadership and best team player.

The climax of the week was the Empower All festival that attracted more than 500 people.

Mark this date:
21 Sept 10:30am-1pm

All those interested in services for older people are urged to attend the upcoming GCN Community Conference for the chance to have their say about Greenwich Council's draft strategy Living Longer-Living Well in Greenwich. The conference is part of the council's consultation on this new draft strategy, which covers services for older people in the borough. The formal launch for the Ageing Well in Greenwich information resource booklet for older people will also take place.

** See inside back for details.*

The festival kicked off with a colourful procession down Powis Street in Woolwich. The procession featured children carrying banners they had made followed by a Chinese Dragon and an African drummer who later provided a popular drumming workshop.

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Celebrations then moved to the Royal Arsenal site for an afternoon of street entertainment, exhibitions and activities. The children showed their plays and dances, refugee groups performed cultural dances and food from different cultures was served.

Other activities included film, genealogy – an opportunity to start tracing one's ancestry, the Moving Here exhibition, storytelling, Meet the Neighbours workshops, a fire engine, DJ Bus, treasure hunt, football skills, mobile library and information stalls. A recently restored Firepower boat attracted plenty of attention by the river and face painting, henna painting and a bouncing castle all helped enhance the festival atmosphere.

Greenwich Community Network representative for refugees Ruth Renvoize said, "The activities were a celebration of the many contributions refugees had made to the local community. "The event was also about sharing cultural diversity and

bringing people of all backgrounds together," she said. "The refugee community has helped and enhanced British society tremendously over the years. Greenwich Refugee Week gives us the opportunity to recognise these contributions and understand and develop our empathy for refugees in an enjoyable, relaxed environment."

Ruth wishes to thank the diverse and committed planning committee members who worked together with refugee groups to ensure the week's activities were such a success.



If your organisation is interested in getting involved in the planning process for next year, contact GCN representative for refugees Ruth Renvoize at:

rrenvoize@africanhealth.org.uk

Community benefits from grants

More than 12,000 Greenwich residents are expected to benefit from projects funded through grants from the Capital Community Foundation (formerly SE London Community Foundation/SELF). The Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chest (NRCC) grant scheme, as well as a programme of free training courses, was delivered by the foundation from 2001-2006.

NRCC provided grants up to £5,000 to voluntary and community groups operating in the Greenwich borough. Sixty-five grants were awarded in 2005/2006. Of the groups which were awarded funding, 65 per cent are led by people from ethnic minority communities.

The grants were used for various projects including IT training for adults and children, cultural workshops, events and the day-to-day running costs of volunteer organisations.

To find out more visit the website www.selcf.org.uk.

“ You can make a difference ”

Touching memorial service for students

Three black students murdered in Greenwich were honoured at a memorial service on 13 July. The annual event, now in its 13th year, is held to remember the lives of Rolan Adams (23.03.75-21.02.91), Rohit Duggal (21.05.76-11.07.92) and Stephen Lawrence (13.09.74-22.04.93). The three students were murdered by racists on the streets of Greenwich. The memorial programme included performances by pupils from schools across the borough.

Shami Chakrabarti, director of Liberty, made a speech to a standing ovation. In it she said: "I'm here to suggest that Rolan, Rohit and Stephen did not die in vain and that hate is losing and tolerance and common decency are winning. We share belief in the precious nature of every single human being. That is what human rights is about – dignity, quality and justice for every single human being."

Olympic excitement builds - Greenwich counts down to Opening Ceremony

Greenwich has begun the countdown to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. More than 200 community members marked the six-year countdown to the Olympic Opening Ceremony on Thursday 27 July. Celebrations were staged at the borough's three key venues, the Royal Artillery Barracks, the O2 and Greenwich Royal Park.

Kids were the focus of the morning's Champions of the Future event at Greenwich Park, which will host equestrian events during the Olympics. Celebrations then moved to the O2 for an afternoon of basketball activities for teenagers – the O2 will host



gymnastics and basketball events. The day concluded at the Royal Barracks with a community barbecue attended by 100 people including local politicians and residents. The barracks will host shooting events.

Greenwich is one of five boroughs that will host Olympic and Paralympic Games events in London.

The Olympics is set to create many opportunities for the borough, including new jobs, extra business and tourism. Events to celebrate the countdown to the Opening Ceremony will be staged in Greenwich every year until 2012.

For more information, contact the Greenwich Olympic Unit on 020 8921 6474.

“ You can make a difference ”

Support for BME groups

The **Free the Funding** project has successfully helped support about 20 different BME community and voluntary groups to develop their organisational structures and procedures, and apply for funding.

Developing good projects and budgets, having a well informed management committee, good policies and procedures, monitoring and evaluation systems in place are of course all part of the process of strengthening an organisation and applying for funding. Any new or small BME group wanting such help is welcome to contact any of the organisations below for assistance.

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

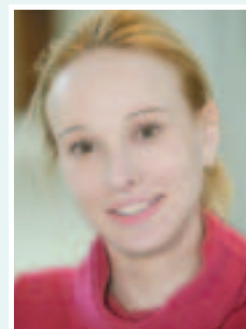
A guide to good practice

Organisations in Greenwich can access a number of valuable resources with just a click of the mouse thanks to a new CD-rom available from Greenwich Council. The resource offers a practical guide to supporting the development and good practice of voluntary, community and faith groups in Greenwich.

The CD-rom is packed with all sorts of resources from sample constitutions through to policies for employment. Organisations can explore how to begin the process of developing quality assurance systems with the Steps to Success model framework or learn how to develop project ideas by using the Your Project Your Outcomes model framework. Also contained on the CD is the Apply Yourself software package to help people write clear and concise funding applications.

The CD-rom can be ordered from the Greenwich Council's Community Support Team by phoning 020 8921 6182 or 020 8921 6372.

From the co-ordinator's desk



Life has been pretty busy for the network staff over the past couple of months. We have attended all the Council's Great Get Together events over the summer and received a good response from members of the public. Over the next month we will be planning our next event, the Older People's Community Conference, which we very much hope you or your organisation will be able

to attend. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest network representative, Adam Mohammed. Adam, who will represent the BME sector, does a lot of voluntary work in the community and we are delighted to have him on board.
Jerry Telfer, GCN co-ordinator

GCN explained

The Greenwich Community Network (GCN) is a voice for the people of Greenwich. The network, established in 2001, brings together all of the borough's voluntary, community and faith groups to share information and points of view.

Through these processes, the network is able to present a united voice for the community.

GCN comprises 19 representatives, who volunteer to speak out on behalf of different geographical areas and various sectors from within the borough. A number of these representatives are elected to sit on the Greenwich Partnership board, which oversees the implementation of key policies including the Greenwich Strategy.



GCN welcomes new rep

The black and minority ethnic (BME) community has a new representative on the Greenwich Community Network. Adam Mohammed, who has lived in the borough for 13 years, recently accepted the new role. Adam works very closely with the Somali community – he runs the voluntary organisation Advice and Career Development for the Somali Community (ACDSC). The organisation provides a support base for Somali residents and holds English and IT classes, free internet access, helps with translation and completing forms, homework lessons and works closely with young people.

Adam also works closely with many other community groups, regularly attending meetings and seminars. In 2004 he was awarded a Rita Ball Gold Award by Greenwich Council for his work promoting and helping the community. Adam is also working in partnership with Greenwich Council's Diversity Review Board, UK Online, Impact Greenwich and Changes In Common.

Through his new role with the GCN, Adam will become the voice for the BME sector as part of the Network's mission to be a voice for the whole community.

Become a network rep

GCN currently has a number of vacancies for network representatives. These include:

Geographic representatives –

- Woolwich and Plumstead
- East Greenwich and Charlton

Themed representatives –

- Gay, lesbian and bi-sexual and transsexual
- Homelessness and travellers
- Volunteers
- Children and families

If you are passionate about any of these sectors and believe you can help make a difference in the future of your borough, please contact the GCN team today.

Visit us online:

www.greenwichcommunitynetwork.org.uk

Email: enquiries@gcn.org.uk

Phone: Jerry Telfer, 020 8921 6487

Write to: Jerry Telfer, Greenwich Community Network Co-ordinator, 31 Thomas St, Woolwich, SE18 6HU

“ You can make a difference ”

GCN representative awarded an MBE

Team effort pays off

Greenwich Community Network representative Judy Smith was named as an MBE award recipient in this year's Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Her voluntary efforts in the south of Greenwich span nearly 30 years across more than 10 different organisations and charities.

The MBE comes as a much deserved honour for all her voluntary work. But a lot of work went on behind the scenes to complete the nomination for her MBE, as two of her volunteer co-workers found out.

Bee Twidale and Nicky Kallenborn, who know Judy through their volunteering at the Anstridge Pensioners Lunch Club, got talking one day about the extraordinary amount of voluntary work Judy does in the community. So impressed by her efforts, they decided to find out a way of gaining public recognition for her.

Nicky recalls the day in 2004 when they first set about making the MBE nomination. *"There was a local award scheme in place but we thought an MBE would be more appropriate for Judy,"* Nicky said. *"She has her fingers in so many pies – she does a lot for youth, a lot for volunteers in Greenwich and a lot for local charities that you often don't hear about. Bee found out how to apply for an MBE through the internet and I helped get people on board to list all the organisations Judy is involved with."*

The Honours system has been around for centuries, but only since 1993 has the public been able to nominate people themselves. Bee said they also approached a number of people who knew Judy to write letters supporting the application. *"Judy works so hard – not only for pensioners but she does all sorts of great things for young people,"* Bee said. *"She is such a wonderful bundle of energy and really deserved some sort of recognition. If she sees something that needs doing she goes and does it."*

Almost two years after the nomination was completed

and sent to officials, Judy received a letter in the mail in May this year advising her of the possible award.

Judy told us this week she was totally taken by surprise when she learned of her award. *"I was absolutely amazed,"* she said. *"I had no idea how it had all come about. It is a real honour."*

Judy is very modest about the endless hours of voluntary service she commits to each week. *"I have plenty of time to help in the community,"* she said. *"I certainly don't want to sit around and do housework every day – I try to keep that to a minimum."*

Judy moved to the borough in 1974 and first got a taste for voluntary work when she helped set up a residents association in the area she lived in at the time.

The list of organisations she has been involved with has gradually grown over the years. Judy is currently a trustee on three organisations – Volunteer Centre Greenwich, Central Eltham Youth Project and St Mary's Community Complex.

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Team effort pays off (cont)

She is also secretary of the South Greenwich Forum and runs the Anstridge Pensioners Lunch Club, which she helped rescue from possible closure 14 years ago.

Each week Judy writes the menus, orders supplies and helps in the kitchen, not to mention befriending and taking a sincere interest in the quality of life for older people. On top of all these roles, she is the South Greenwich East representative on the Greenwich Community Network and was elected to sit on the Greenwich Partnership.

What is an MBE

An MBE is awarded for achievement in or service to the community of a responsible kind which is outstanding in its field, or local service which stands out as an example to others.

Nominate someone for an MBE

Members of the public can nominate a fellow community member for an MBE. Nomination forms can be downloaded off the internet at www.honours.gov.uk.

Or you can obtain paper copies by writing to Ceremonial Secretariat, Cabinet Office, 35 Great Smith St, London SW1P 3BQ or by phoning (020) 7276 2777.

“I could not do as much as I do without the support I get from other people, I’m extremely grateful to the team of people for nominating me, but it is a team effort.” Judy Smith



“ You can make a difference ”

Post your community event on the GCN website

Are you organising a community event? Would you like help promoting it?

The Greenwich Community Network website has an events page which gives community,

voluntary and faith groups the opportunity to advertise upcoming events. Organisers are encouraged to complete an online submission form or contact us on 020 8921 6487 to discuss the event.



The GCN website recently went live on the web. It is packed with information about GCN, its representatives and how to become a member.

Log on today:
www.greenwichcommunitynetwork.org

All welcome at GAD's annual meeting

GAD, Greenwich Association of Disabled People, is holding its AGM on Monday 18th September from 10.30am-2.30pm at The Forum @ Greenwich. The key speaker will be Harcourt Alleyne, Assistant Chief Executive Policy and Partnerships, who will explain the Disability Equality Duty. All are welcome. Following the AGM, GAD will be carrying out a consultation exercise with the Council's Social Inclusion and Justice Department and all disabled people are invited to participate.

For further details, phone 020 8305 2221 and ask for Sam.

Exhibitions, open days and theatre events planned for Black History Month

October is Black History Month and both Greenwich and Lewisham are organising an extensive list of events.

There is a wealth of activities taking place across Greenwich, from exhibitions, lectures and theatre projects relating to black maritime history and Greenwich Dance Agency hosting workshops with Irie Dance company, to the first public performance of the Master Juba production.

A number of young people's activities like the schools poetry festival in libraries, African food tasting and reggae dancehall culture will take place. There will also be the opportunity to find out about other faiths with open days arranged at a number of places of worship.

Further information is available by phoning 020 8921 6109 (Greenwich) or 020 8314 7728 (Lewisham) or by visiting the website **www.black-history.co.uk**.

“ You can make a difference ”

Be a part of our Older People's Conference

People interested in finding more about the Greenwich Council's Living Longer – Living Well in Greenwich draft strategy for older people are urged to head along to the GCN Community Conference on 21st September. The conference will include an overview of the draft strategy, followed by workshops and question time. The launch of the Ageing Well in Greenwich booklet will also take place.

The aim of GCN's quarterly conferences is to give local residents and organisations an opportunity to find out more about issues affecting their neighbourhood. And just as importantly, the conferences give people the opportunity to voice their opinions and speak out on such issues.

What: GCN Community Conference – Older People

When: Thursday 21st September 2006 from 10.30am until 1pm. (Lunch will be served at 1pm)

Where: Greenwich Heritage Centre, Artillery Square, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, London SE18 4DX.

Getting there:

By bus Buses to Woolwich 51, 96, 99, 122, 161, 177, 180, 244, 380, 422, 469, 472

By train Woolwich Arsenal station is closest.

By tube Catch the Jubilee line to North Greenwich then buses 161 and 472 to Woolwich.

By foot from Woolwich Arsenal Station – turn right out of the station and follow Woolwich New Road to Plumstead Road. Cross by the pedestrian crossing, go through the gate to the Royal Arsenal and follow No. 1 Street towards the river. The Heritage Centre is on the left in the far corner of Artillery Square.

By car Parking is available on site. Disabled parking is also available.

For detailed directions, contact GCN administrator Alex Glyde on 020 8921 6490 or alex.glyde@greenwich.gov.uk.

To register your attendance at the conference, contact us by phone 020 8921 6490 or email alex.glyde@greenwich.gov.uk or complete the form below and send it to GCN Administrator, 31 Thomas St, Woolwich SE18 6HU by Friday 15th September.

Name _____ Number of people attending: _____

Phone number _____

Address _____

Email _____

Please tick here if you would like to be added to our mailing list, hear about future community conference events or the latest news from the GCN team.

“ You can make a difference ”

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 ਭੁਜੀ ਸੱਜੇ ਪਾਸੇ ਜੋ ਬੋਕਸ ਹੈ ਵਿੱਚ ਟਿੱਕ ਕਰੋ ਅਤੇ ਇਹ ਸਾਰਾ ਵਰਕਾ ਸਾਂਝੇ ਬੱਲੇ ਨਿਖੇ ਐਡਰੈਸ 'ਤੇ ਵਾਪਸ ਭੇਜੋ।

Punjabi

Qoraalkan 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。如果你需要一份关于你自己的语言的翻译文本，请在右侧的方格内划钩，并将此页交到下列地址处。

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

Bengali

આ છેતરાવેજમાં મહત્વની માહિતી સમાવેલી છે. જો તમને તમારી ભાષામાં આ છેતરાવેજ-નું 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 برائے سرکاری دائرے طرف سے پاس میں نشان لگا کر یہ پورا صفحہ درج ذیل پتے پر روانہ کیجئے۔

Urdu

Iwe yi kun fun awon àkíyèsí pàtàkì. Tí ẹ ba fẹ ki a tùmò ẹ fun yin, kí ẹ fi 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 bẹ ní isàlẹ̀ yi.

Yoruba

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