

## **Faithnetsouthwest e-news for 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

### **FAITHNETSOUTHWEST NEWS AND EVENTS**

#### **Grants of up to £6000 available to support inter faith activity within local communities**

Faiths in Action, a £4m grant programme, opened a second round of funding on 12 November. Faith, inter faith, voluntary and community organisations and groups in England can come forward and apply for a grant of up to £6000.

Administered by the Community Development Foundation (CDF) on behalf of Communities and Local Government (CLG), Faiths in Action aims to bring communities together, promoting positive relationships between people of different religions and beliefs. It is hoped the grants will support a wide variety of local activities in a range of community settings. This includes innovative new ideas as well as 'tried and tested' approaches.

The fund contributes to the delivery of the Government's inter faith strategy as set out in 'Face to Face and Side by Side: A framework for partnership in our multi faith society', published in July 2008 ([www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/interfaithdialogue](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/interfaithdialogue)). The fund aims to support local activities and initiatives that have a direct link to one or more of the four building blocks set out in this framework.

Faiths in Action welcomes projects aimed at women and young people. It also encourages working in partnership, to improve local communities through interaction and sharing of ideas.

Please note the intention of the Faiths in Action programme is to fund projects/ activities running in one locality; not across one or many localities or Government regions. Projects must have a clear link to a named local project.

Funding will be awarded to successful organisations from April 2010, to be spent by the end of March 2011.

Please note that this round of funding will operate as a rolling programme. That is, there is no formal deadline for receipt of applications. Applications will be accepted in the date and time order that they are received by CDF, until the total value of the eligible, relevant applications received equals the overall value of the fund.

Round 2 of the fund is currently open for applications. Completed applications can be sent in at any time either electronically or by post. For more information and to find out how to apply, please visit,

<http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/faiths-in-action> If you have any questions that you cannot find answers to here, please call the helpline on 01223 406533 or e-mail us at [fundingadmin@cdf.org.uk](mailto:fundingadmin@cdf.org.uk) and we will help you with your queries.

## Faith to Engage - Black Led Churches in Bristol

Faithnetsouthwest is working on a project funded by Faithworks's Faith to Engage project which in turn is funded by Big Lottery as part of their national 'Faith to Engage project', to undertake a programme of work on the needs of Black-led churches in the South West region i.e. churches with membership from the Black Caribbean and Black African Christian communities. For the first year of this programme, we are concentrating on Black-led churches in the Bristol area. More specifically, the meetings would look at Black-led churches or groups in terms of current participation in local policy making and what barriers there are to participation, the numbers of people active in these churches in the Bristol area, access to support from other organisations, representation from these church communities on other networks or partnerships, whether they have support from other support services locally and what would help them fulfil their aims for working with their own community and in the wider community. This project will be extended to other parts of the South West region over the next three years. We will produce a report on the first year's work, with recommendations for public bodies and local infrastructure support services. We will also assist Black-led churches in accessing the support they want, as identified by the above meetings, including connecting them with support services that can provide ongoing support.

If you are able to help with this project, are in touch with or are a member of a Black-led church in Bristol, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Alistair Beattie, 0117 304 2298, [alistair@faithnetsouthwest.org.uk](mailto:alistair@faithnetsouthwest.org.uk)



*faith to engage*

## Faithnetsouthwest Membership and Code of Conduct

Faithnetsouthwest has published details of its new membership scheme and code of conduct for members, which will be available soon to download from the website.

Register for FULL MEMBERSHIP if one of the following applies:

- Faith fora and inter faith groups with a strategic role in promoting the representation of faith communities and organisations to public bodies and appropriate networks and partnerships. These should cover a local authority area, or at least a substantial part of one.
- The nine main nationally recognised faith groups i.e.: Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Zoroastrian.

Register for ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP if one of the following applies:

- Public bodies, voluntary and community organisations and faith groups not included in the nine nationally recognised faith groups will be eligible to be non-voting members, subject to agreeing the aims and objectives of Faithnetsouthwest and the Inter Faith UK statement.

The Board will make any necessary decisions on non-voting membership of faith communities and organisations applying for this status. Contact Faithnetsouthwest for more details or see: [www.faithnetsouthwest.org.uk](http://www.faithnetsouthwest.org.uk)

## REGIONAL

### Opportunities for Young People – YHA Community Spirit Camps

The YHA have received funding from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) to run Community Spirit Camps for young people over the next two years (ending March 2011). These camps will be promoting the Government's Community Cohesion Agenda. The Community Spirit Camps have developed out of our exciting 'Do it 4 Real camps' (Di4R) for young people aged 10 to 19, running now for five years.

Please check out our website for Di4R - to get an idea of some of the activities we will be offering on the Community Spirit Camps. [www.doit4real.co.uk](http://www.doit4real.co.uk)

The activities available range from the outdoor and adventurous type e.g. kayaking, high ropes, quad biking, canoeing, to creative activities e.g. film-making, arts, yoga etc. For more details on how to book a camp contact Beverley Nel YHA Outreach Worker for South West Tel 01566 773811 Mobile: 07834 337222 Email: [beverleynel@yha.org.uk](mailto:beverleynel@yha.org.uk)

### Department of Energy and Climate Change public consultation events

DECC (Department of Energy and Climate Change) are running public consultation events over the next few months on the draft National Policy Statements for energy infrastructure. These events aim to raise awareness of the consultation, inform people how they can respond, allow people to understand where this consultation fits in the overall process and answer any questions people may have regarding the consultation itself. The dates and locations for the events are as follows:

20th January - Cardiff

21st January – Exeter

Anyone wishing to attend any of the above events, please register with DECC - on registering, you will be sent details of the venue. The link to the registration site is:

<https://www.energynpsconsultation.decc.gov.uk/home/events/nationalevents/>

Contact: Jessica Legg, Administrator, South West Planning Aid, Tel: 0117 929 7292

## SUB-REGIONAL

### BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET, BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET AND SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

#### Partnership Working – funded consultancy support available

Are you thinking of forming partnerships for joint working? Need time to explore your ideas on this a bit more?

Partnership working takes planning and resources. If you are thinking of joint working with another organisation or agency from a different sector we can assist by offering you a bursary of £1,000 to pay for a consultant to help you discuss how you might do it.

It could be sharing resources, delivering a joint service for members, opportunities for staff working together or merging projects.

The application process for this bursary is very straightforward, complete our very quick on-line application and then we will get in touch to check you meet the criteria – mainly that your annual turnover is not more than £150k. Do this as soon as you can as bursaries are granted on a first come, first served basis as places are limited.

This scheme is being managed by Voscur and supported by Voluntary Action North Somerset [www.vansweb.org.uk](http://www.vansweb.org.uk), DEVELOP (Bath and North East Somerset Council for Voluntary Service) [www.developecs.org.uk](http://www.developecs.org.uk), and South Gloucestershire Council for Voluntary Service [www.cvs-sg.org.uk](http://www.cvs-sg.org.uk)

For further details contact [support@voscur.org](mailto:support@voscur.org), or telephone 0117 909 9949  
Deadline for applications 31 January 2010.

## **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

7<sup>th</sup> Feb                      The Mayor of Bath's Multi-faith Gathering

14.45                      The Guildhall, Bath BA1 5AW

Readings and music from the major religions  
Contact John James 01225 422252

## **BRISTOL**

**Miss Millie's Good Neighbour Awards**

Any Bristol-based voluntary scheme which assists its local community is eligible to enter and the scheme may be for a new or existing project.

Contact 07801 649045 and ask for an entry form, or go to [www.missmillies.co.uk](http://www.missmillies.co.uk) for details.

**A 3 day training course (14th, 21st, & 28th Jan)- Working more effectively with Young People**

Fairbridge West, 22 Stokes Croft, Bristol, BS1 3PR.

For anyone working with young people. Split over three-days, delegates will explore and gain further understanding of working with children and young people and how to effectively engage with clients - particularly those who display difficult and challenging behaviours.

For further information contact Fairbridge Training 0207 902 1248 or go to [www.fairbridgetraining.co.uk](http://www.fairbridgetraining.co.uk)

## Migration Impact Fund

Migration Impact Fund English Language and Citizenship Project - how to apply

The Bristol Partnership is now seeking expressions of interest from organisations to deliver some engagement and support services for migrants, and also to support public services to manage the impact of migration on services, and support their local communities. All organisations wishing to submit applications to this fund must register through the Bristol E-Procurement System (BEPS):

<https://procurement.bristol.gov.uk/supplierselfservice/> or download information from <http://www.voscur.org/migrationimpactfund>

## Bristol City of Sanctuary Status

Bristol is seeking to become a City of Sanctuary for people facing war and persecution. Individuals and groups can become part of this through simple pledges.

Contact City of Sanctuary Bristol c/o Refugee Action, 9 Hide Market, West Street, St Philips, Bristol, BS2 0BH, 0117 941 5960 or [Forward@cityofsanctuary.org](mailto:Forward@cityofsanctuary.org)

## Cycling City Community Grants

Grants of up to £10,000 to encourage community cycling initiatives are being offered in Bristol as part of the Cycling City Project. Encouraging local people to use cycling in their daily lives and in areas where cycling levels are low is a priority for funding.

For more information visit the website [www.quartetcf.org.uk](http://www.quartetcf.org.uk) or speak to Simon Carpenter, Cycling City Team on 0117 9036299.

## 13th Jan Getting ready for Neighbourhood Committees

17.30 - 20.00 Youth Hostel Association, 14 Narrow Quay, Bristol, BS1 4QA

This is a special meeting for voluntary and community groups across Bristol to find out more about the new Neighbourhood Committees and how they can be more involved in influencing local decisions in their neighbourhood.

In April 2010 Bristol City Council will be setting up 14 Neighbourhood Committees (NC). Each NC will consist of the elected ward councillors of that area and the NC will work alongside the existing Neighbourhood Partnership. This meeting is to help voluntary and community groups understand how they can get involved with Neighbourhood Partnership and to understand what decisions will be made by the new Neighbourhood Committees.

For more details contact Matthew Symonds at Voscur on (0117) 909 9949 or email [matthew@voscur.org](mailto:matthew@voscur.org)

## 14th Jan Introduction to Fundraising

9.30 - 15.30 Withywood Centre, Queens Road, Bristol, BS13 8QA

This course will help develop a good understanding of the basic skills in fundraising. The session will cover:

- Understanding the principles and practice of good fundraising

- Assessing which types of fundraising are best for your organisation
- Understanding how to clearly express your organisation's mission, vision and overall aim
- Knowing how to demonstrate that your project is making a difference
- Having the basic skills to write a funding proposal.

For further information please contact the Voscur office on 0117 909 9949 or email [info@voscur.org](mailto:info@voscur.org)

### 20th Jan Voscur Assembly (Safer Bristol theme)

9.30 – 13.00 Southville Centre, Beaufort Road, Bristol, BS3 1QG

The assembly meeting will cover:

- The push for local partnerships in criminal justice.
- Improving local partnership between voluntary and community sector and statutory partners working within the criminal justice system in Greater Bristol.

Full details to be confirmed soon.

For more information please contact Matthew Symonds on 0117 9099 949 or email [matthew@voscur.org](mailto:matthew@voscur.org)

### 23rd Jan All About Me: A Critical Look at the Self-Esteem Movement

9.00 - 16.00 Hope's Place 21 Stoke Hill, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 1JN

Professor Glynn Harrison will be the key note speaker at a day conference run jointly by Hope's Place, BCAN Pastoral Care Forum and the new mental health initiative. He is a very engaging speaker with an excellent understanding of his subject coupled with a strong Christian faith.

Contact: Tel 0117 968 6303 [www.hopesplace.org.uk](http://www.hopesplace.org.uk)

### 26th Jan A different sort of radical politics? Revd Dr Andrew Davey

12.15 - 14.00 Woodlands Church Crypt, Belgrave Road, Bristol BS8 2AA

In the wake of the expenses scandal and other issues, the next election will be a time when some people will not vote or will look beyond the main parties to see what other groups have to offer. The strongest of them are seeking to be part of the democratic process and being given appearances on "BBC Question Time". They are not about more of the same, they are radical in the way we say our Gospel is radical. Should we engage with groups who, like the BNP, say they are "the Christian Party"? Or should we help our churches make a clear witness against them and develop a dialogue as the Christian conscience of the mainstream?

This will be one of the first in a BCAN series for the election year. The main speaker will be Revd Dr Andrew Davey, the Urban Affairs specialist for the Archbishop's Council of the Church of England. He has been leading in the preparation of a report concerning working within communities where radical parties are gaining support.

Andrew has wide experience of the church and urban mission and was a parish priest in Peckham prior to his current appointment.

Contact: [bcanemail@gmail.com](mailto:bcanemail@gmail.com) , [www.bcan.org.uk](http://www.bcan.org.uk), [www.bcanblog.blogspot.com](http://www.bcanblog.blogspot.com)

**28th Jan**      **Neighbourhood Partnership Residents' Forum**

18.00 - 20.00 The Council House, College Green, BS1 5TR

Contact Matthew Symonds on 0117 9099 949 or email [matthew@voscur.org](mailto:matthew@voscur.org)

**30th Jan**      **Discovery Taster morning**

10.00-13.00 Redland Parish Church Halls, Redland Green Road, Bristol, BS6 7HE

Discovery is a practical process that helps churches become the centre of community.

Discovery helps churches to:

- make a difference in the local community, transforming lives and offering purpose and hope
- reflect on what the Bible says about meeting the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable people
- build confidence as a team, discover new skills and share experiences

Booking necessary by Wednesday the 20th of January

Contact Janet May Tel: 0208 619 8076 Mobile: 07748 156913

## **CORNWALL**

**18th & 19th Jan**      **2 days course - Effective Supervision Skills**

9.30 - 16.30 Bodmin

For information contact [www.idttraining.com](http://www.idttraining.com) or [mail@idttraining.com](mailto:mail@idttraining.com) or telephone 01803 299049

## **DEVON**

**FREE - One-to-One Business Advice Clinics for social enterprise**

Plymouth

For advice on legal structures, financing, contracting, planning new products and services, and general business planning.

Contact Marie on 01752 500888 ext 230 to agree a time and date that is convenient and get details of the venue.

12th January      Devon Community Foundation Workshop Grassroots Grants (Torbay)

10.00 – 13.00      Torbay Voluntary Service 11 Castle Road Torquay TQ1 3BB

Are you looking to secure funding for your voluntary or community group? Does your organisation have an annual income of under £30,000?

Devon Community Foundation will be running a half day workshop at Torbay Voluntary Service to assist you with the application process.

The Aim of the workshop is to improve your chances of making a successful Grassroots application.

Objectives

- To encourage small community groups to apply for funding.
- To check that you meet the criteria
- To help community groups produce good quality applications.

The workshop will include:

- A short presentation to help you check that you meet the criteria
- Tips on what to include in your application
- Examples of funding allocated to small community groups

Contact [info@torbayvs.co.uk](mailto:info@torbayvs.co.uk) to secure your place.

13 January      Informal one-to-one advice clinics for social enterprises

Plymouth

If you are a social enterprise or established community organisation and need good advice to develop your ideas further, here is an opportunity for a one-to-one chat with one of Business Link's qualified business advisors.

Appointments can be booked for one hour between 10am and 4pm.

For more information and to make your appointment contact E: [marie.white@co-active.org.uk](mailto:marie.white@co-active.org.uk)  
T: 01752 500888 ext 230

14 Jan      One-day workshops for voluntary organisations and newly started social enterprises

10.00 – 15.00 Exeter

The workshop is designed to help your organisation develop good management processes as you identify trading opportunities either for the first time or as an additional activity to current delivery.

Contact: Tel: 0845 600 9966 Email: [enquiries@blpeninsula.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@blpeninsula.co.uk)

Website: [www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest)

## Sport Unlimited

Sport Unlimited is a funding stream available through Torbay's Community Sports Network to encourage young people aged 11 – 19 to become involved in Sport.

The funding is aimed at young people who do not currently fall under the 'sporty' umbrella. It is hoped that by providing new activities to the young people that they will become involved for the future.

For details and an application form contact John Julyan:

[John.julyan@paigntoncommunitycollege.com](mailto:John.julyan@paigntoncommunitycollege.com) The completed application form must be returned by 15th January 2010.

### 16 Jan FREE Child Protection Training

9.00 - 17.00 YFC Centre, Exeter

There is free training available for youth workers within the voluntary sector across Devon to ensure we are all working to a professional standard and are able to meet the needs of the young people we work with.

At the end of the training participants will:-

- Have an understanding of the legal requirements of child protection policies and how it affects their organisation.
- Know what to do if you believe a child is at risk.
- Know who to approach.
- Know how to report concerns and understand your role.
- Understand how to make your working environment safe for children and young people.

For details write to : VYS (Devon), YFC Centre, Retail Park Close, Marsh Barton Road, EXETER, EX2 8LG, or Tel: 01392 250976

### 20<sup>th</sup> Jan Informal one-to-one advice clinics for social enterprises

By appointments Torquay

Appointments can be booked for one hour between 10am and 4pm.

For more information and to make your appointment contact Marie White:

T: 01752 500888 ext 230 E: [marie.white@co-active.org.uk](mailto:marie.white@co-active.org.uk)

### 27 Jan 'Buddhism seen from an Historical Perspective: A Buddhist Response'

19.00 Roland Levinsky Building Cinema, Roland Levinsky Building, Drake Circus, Plymouth, PL4 8AA

Dr Deegalle explores the interface between religion and violence in relation to Buddhist society in Sri Lanka. He is currently working on Buddhist monks' involvement in Parliamentary politics in Sri Lanka and its impact on the peace process.

## 28 Jan Conflict Resolution

Venue Plymouth Citizens Advice Bureau

This course will help you look at what conflict is and examine your own reactions to it, as well as what other people might be thinking and feeling. From this you will look at the skills and processes that can be used when faced with conflict to make sure that its results are positive, whether at home or at work. Contact: Jan, Tel: 01752 606415 Email: [jan@zebra.coop](mailto:jan@zebra.coop)

## 20th Feb FREE Child Protection Training

9.00 - 17.00 Teignbridge District Scout HQ, Newton Abbot

There is free training available for youth workers within the voluntary sector across Devon to ensure we are all working to a professional standard and are able to meet the needs of the young people we work with.

At the end of the training participants will:-

- Have an understanding of the legal requirements of child protection policies and how it affects their organisation.
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For details write to : VYS (Devon), YFC Centre, Retail Park Close, Marsh Barton Road, EXETER, EX2 8LG, or Tel: 01392 250976

## DORSET, BOURNEMOUTH AND POOLE

### 15th-17th Jan Buddhism, Christianity and the Violence of the Self

A time of reflection, meditation and discussion led by the Revd Dr Ross Thompson.

To book and for further information please visit [www.hilfieldproject.co.uk](http://www.hilfieldproject.co.uk) or Guest Bookings, The Friary of St Francis, Hilfield, Dorchester DT2 7BE Tel 01300 342313  
[hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk](mailto:hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk)

### 5th-7th Feb Making peace where we live, work and pray led by Br Samuel SSF

To book and for further information please visit [www.hilfieldproject.co.uk](http://www.hilfieldproject.co.uk) or Guest Bookings, The Friary of St Francis, Hilfield, Dorchester DT2 7BE Tel 01300 342313  
[hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk](mailto:hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk)

### 13th Feb Lent Quiet Day

To book and for further information please visit [www.hilfieldproject.co.uk](http://www.hilfieldproject.co.uk) or Guest Bookings, The Friary of St Francis, Hilfield, Dorchester DT2 7BE Tel 01300 342313  
[hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk](mailto:hilfieldproject@franciscans.org.uk)

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

20th & 26th Jan Business Planning (a two-day course)

Venue GAVCA, 75-81 Eastgate Street, Gloucester GL1 1PN

This two-day course is aimed at paid staff, trustees/management committee members or those supporting groups or organisations with strategic planning issues. It will give a thorough introduction to the benefits of business planning and how to go about it in your organisation. The course is appropriate to both larger and smaller groups and organisations.

Contact telephone 01452332424 or email [Admin@gavca.org.uk](mailto:Admin@gavca.org.uk)

## NORTH SOMERSET

Go4Life

Funding is available to encourage and support local people to lead healthier lives.

North Somerset Council Go4Life Schemes can help fund new physical activity opportunities. This includes helping with start up costs for new activity sessions or supporting individuals to gain new skills so that they can set up physical activity opportunities in their community.

Deadlines for applications Friday 29th January 2010 and Friday 26th February 2010

For further information contact the North Somerset Sport and Active Lifestyles team

Tel: 01275 812057 or email: [sport@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:sport@n-somerset.gov.uk)

24th Jan To celebrate diversity - hosted by North Somerset Council

12.00 - 16.00 Winter Gardens in Weston-super-Mare

For further information telephone 01934 634832 or email: [equality@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:equality@n-somerset.gov.uk)

## SOMERSET

Certificate in Youth Work (City & Guilds Level 2). Unit 4: Health & Safety and Well Being

14/01/2010 Venue to be arranged

21/01/2010 Venue to be arranged

28/01/2010 Venue to be arranged

04/02/2010 Venue to be arranged

11/02/2010 Venue to be arranged

Course outline:

This course will run over 4 evening sessions.

This unit is about understanding the regulations and standards of practice that govern and guide youth work including health & safety, safeguarding children and young people and risk assessment.

The unit is divided into 4 outcomes and by the end of the course delegates will have an understanding of:

1. How to carry out a risk assessment within a youth work setting and how to work with young people to deal with risks and hazards.

2. Ways to work with young people which empower them to promote their own safety.
3. Ways of working with young people to assist them to develop practices to safeguard their own safety and well being.
4. How to support young people to deal with stressful situations and identify relevant sources of support for them.

This unit is one of the 4 mandatory units which make up the Certificate in Youth Work accredited at level 2 by City and Guilds. The other units will be delivered over the coming 12 months for those learners that wish to complete the full award.

This course is for:

Anyone involved as a volunteer or paid worker in a youth work setting or anyone interested in working or volunteering with children and young people.

Free to eligible groups through funding to the Children and Young People's Partnership in Somerset.

Note: If you are interested in this course but there are no suitable dates scheduled, please contact ViSTA by telephone or using the online contact form.

Contact [Laura@vistaproject.org.uk](mailto:Laura@vistaproject.org.uk) Website: <http://www.vistaproject.org.uk/>

15 Jan and 29<sup>th</sup> Jan

Leading – The Business Growth Perspective

10.00 -13.00

VISTA Training Room, Langport

Action learning is about exploring and learning through peer discussion, feedback and debate with the help of an experienced facilitator. It is an approach where both individuals and organisations learn through a cycle of action and reflection. By the end of the sessions, participants will have a range of personalised strategies for enhancing their own performance, and a peer support network.

The course will cover:

- How well is your organisation coping?
- Discuss opportunities arising in the sector and in the future
- Learn about actions others are taking
- Decide what is required to do as a leader of your organisation

For further information and to book visit [www.vistaproject.org.uk](http://www.vistaproject.org.uk) or call 0845 358 0372.

21 January Governance and Legal Structures workshops

10.00 – 15.00 Taunton

This workshop is for those involved with a charity or community group that needs to develop a trading arm.

Steering group or committee need to move from unincorporated status to that of a Company and want to select the right legal structure for tax and governance purposes?

Contact: Tel: 0845 600 9966 Email: [enquiries@blpeninsula.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@blpeninsula.co.uk)

Website: [www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest)

## 25th Jan Equality and Diversity Awareness Training

9.30 - 16.30 Belvedere Trading Estate, Taunton, TA1 1BH

### Course contents

- Attitude to diversity and equality
- Equality and the law - Making sense of it all
- Prejudice & discrimination - The consequences
- Cross cultural communication - Understanding each other.

Booking necessary due to limited spaces.

Contact: 0844 9842828 or email [info@compassdisability.org.uk](mailto:info@compassdisability.org.uk)

## Friday 29th Jan 6pm to Sunday 31st Jan ending with lunch- Creative Journaling

CREATIVE JOURNALING – ‘Working with joy’ led by Ann Beazer. This weekend is about WHAT YOU DO with your life. ‘Working with joy’ includes not only ‘working for a living’ but the wider definition of our life’s work which, of course, includes ‘retirement’ and ‘unpaid’. It is easy to be busy but how aligned are these activities to who you are and to your actual needs? What fulfils you at present and what do you ‘endure’? How do you decide what to spend your time on?

For more information please visit website [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org) or contact the centre by ringing 01761 433709 or e-mail [centre@ammerdown.org](mailto:centre@ammerdown.org) .

## Friday 29th Jan 6pm to Sunday 31st Jan ending with lunch - LIVING WITH HEART led by Gill Wyatt

This weekend will be an inquiry into the holistic nature of our heart and what it means to ‘live with heart’. All cultures acknowledge that our heart is a source of wisdom and feelings, and many religions see our soul or spirit residing in our heart. In addition, recent scientific research from the ‘new sciences’ is demonstrating a dramatic interrelationship between these physical, emotional and spiritual dimensions of our heart, with far reaching consequences for our well-being. Yet, until recently, there has been a divide between the physical dimension of the heart and its emotional and spiritual dimensions - and our well being and integrity have tended to suffer as a result. Participants will learn about the coherence, freedom, and authenticity that is realized from ‘living with heart’.

For more information please visit website [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org) or contact the centre by ringing 01761 433709 or e-mail [centre@ammerdown.org](mailto:centre@ammerdown.org) .

## **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

### 27th Jan South Gloucestershire faith and Belief Forum - Holocaust Memorial Day

To commemorate the Holocaust and more recent genocide,s South Gloucestershire Corporate Equalities Forum, in partnership with South Gloucestershire Council and South Gloucestershire Faith and Belief Forum, are planning various activities during the week Monday 25th to Sunday 31st January 2010. Holocaust Memorial Day falls on the Wednesday 27th January 2010.

South Gloucestershire Faith and Belief Forum is inviting you to participate in the commemoration of the Holocaust by holding a service during this period to reflect on the Holocaust and more recent genocides.

### **Holocaust Memorial Day questionnaire**

South Gloucestershire Council in conjunction with the South Gloucestershire Faith and Belief Forum, will be sending out a questionnaire in January 2010 to find out if anyone has been affected by the German holocaust or any genocide. Anyone who has a story to tell, is welcome to get in touch. If you were not directly affected by the holocaust or genocide or were born after these events took place, the council and the Forum would still be interested in hearing from you.

Discrimination can in extreme cases lead to holocaust or genocide. If you are a member of any of the groups who were victims of the German Holocaust and have suffered discrimination, we want to hear your story. We want to find out if your life is better now and what needs to be done to prevent further holocausts or genocides from taking place.

Anyone who is interested in participating in holding a service or finding out more about the questionnaire can contact:

George Kousouros , Community Projects Manager, South Gloucestershire Council.

Email: [George.Kousouros@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:George.Kousouros@southglos.gov.uk), Tel: 01454 868152.

## **WILTSHIRE AND SWINDON**

10<sup>th</sup> Jan      Holocaust Memorial Day.

15.00 – 18.00 Bridge House, Stallard Road, Trowbridge.

Refreshments will be served at 17.30. Open to members and volunteers only.

Contact [westwiltsinterfaith@googlemail.com](mailto:westwiltsinterfaith@googlemail.com) or phone 07834812663

18th Jan      Wiltshire Womens Network - Women Status In Islam

10.00 - 13.00 The Town Hall, High Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3ER

Kalsoom Bashir (Bristol Muslim Women Network) will be giving a talk on Gender equality in Islam.

Women of all Faiths and No Faith and Diverse cultural backgrounds welcome.

Children Welcome (Creche facilities)

Venue:

10.00 Arrival

10.15 Talk by Kalsoom Bashir from Bristol Muslims Network followed by discussion

11.30 Reporting Hate Crime by Claire Shepherd, Community Support Officer

12.00 Lunch

13.00 Depart

Come and make friends with people from different backgrounds living in Wiltshire

Contact [westwiltsinterfaith@googlemail.com](mailto:westwiltsinterfaith@googlemail.com) or phone 07834812663

20<sup>th</sup> Feb “The Process of Building Peace”

15.00 – 18.00 Cleeve House Retreat and conference Centre, Trowbridge Road,  
Seend, Melksham, SN12 6PG. Refreshment will be served 17.30.

Contact [westwiltsinterfaith@googlemail.com](mailto:westwiltsinterfaith@googlemail.com) or phone 07834812663

## NATIONAL

### National Benevolent Fund for the Aged

The NBFA exists to improve the quality of life for older people in the UK by giving direct practical help in three specific ways: free holidays, TENS machines and emergency telephone alarms.

The NBFA provides assistance for pensioners who live on a low income. This normally means they receive pension credit, housing or Council tax benefit, but they may also be eligible for help if their income is just over the level at which they would receive these benefits. Please contact the NBFA office if you need advice on eligibility for the services we provide.

Contact NBFA email: [info@nbfa.org.uk](mailto:info@nbfa.org.uk) or phone: 020 7828 0200. If you would like to help NBFA visit the website to find out how [www.nbfa.org.uk](http://www.nbfa.org.uk)

### Study Online for Postgraduate Qualifications in Equality and Diversity!

The University of Central Lancashire’s International School for Communities Rights and Inclusion offers a number of postgraduate qualifications in Promoting Equality and Managing Diversity. The courses are delivered mostly online through blended learning with weekly interactive online lectures. Attendance is only required one day per month on campus in Preston. The course is an applied course so provides a rare opportunity to link theory to practice in the workplace. Students on the courses are usually those working for public or voluntary sector organisations and are often funded by their employer. As the course recruits nationally from a variety of locations and backgrounds, the opportunity for collaborative learning as well as real working solutions is a positive aspect recognised by students year on year.

The course content is particularly relevant to those with a recognised organisational equalities brief as well as those working as consultants across the field. As the course is mostly online, it offers the flexibility to study alongside your job. All our courses cover equalities issues across the board and students are encouraged to engage with the full equality, diversity and human rights agenda.

Entry Requirements: Degree or equivalent qualification, however substantial relevant experience is also considered.

Students have the added advantage of gaining recognised qualifications as they progress. The three levels of qualifications are:

#### Postgraduate Certificate

This course consists of 3 modules:

- Understanding Discrimination, Equality & Diversity
- Challenging Discrimination & Harassment in the Workplace

- Managing Change

#### Postgraduate Diploma

This course consists of the 3 modules above plus 3 further modules:

- Promoting Equality and Diversity
- Community Engagement
- Research Methods

#### MA

In addition to completing the 6 modules above, students will complete their own research in the field and produce a dissertation worth a further 3 modules.

The University is currently accepting applications for the next intake to start in January 2010.

For an informal discussion please contact the International School for Communities Rights and Inclusion on 01772 892780 or email [sobasi2@uclan.ac.uk](mailto:sobasi2@uclan.ac.uk)

#### Join in Poverty & Homelessness Action Week

From 30<sup>th</sup> January to 7<sup>th</sup> February, people around the country will be celebrating the many positive solutions we can find to end poverty and exclusion when we can share what we have more fairly. There is Enough For All!

For more information visit [www.actionweek.org.uk](http://www.actionweek.org.uk)

#### National survey of community development work 2009 now open!

The Community Development Foundation (CDF) is conducting an England wide survey of paid and unpaid community development workers and their managers at the end of September 2009. Your participation will help ensure that we build an accurate and informative evidence base that can be used to inform government and other interested stakeholders. If you would like to participate in this valuable research go to the following link to the on-line survey.

<http://www.keysurvey.co.uk/survey/278199/19fa/> Or call Helen Sender on 0207 812 5451 if you do not have access to the internet. For more information please see [www.cdf.org.uk](http://www.cdf.org.uk)

#### Harassment suffered by Muslims

The Equality and Diversity Forum is currently researching specific examples of harassment suffered by Muslims in public sector services and closed environments (i.e. in a range of settings from prisons, mental health, residential/community care, education and hospital services).

If anyone has any examples that they know of, or have documents available in their libraries or names of regional papers that hold this kind of information then it would be great if you could contact EDF directly on [info@edf.org.uk](mailto:info@edf.org.uk)

## FUNDING

#### The VCS and the Credit Crunch

The Government has published its action plan to help the third sector during economic downturn. Measures in "Real Help for Communities" include:

- Up to £10m investment in volunteer brokerage scheme for unemployed people.
- A £15.5m Community Resilience Fund to provide grant funding to small and medium providers in the most deprived communities.
- A £16.5m modernisation fund to help with the cost of mergers, partnerships and moves to more efficient sharing of back office functions for at least 3000 third sector organisations.
- A £0.5m investment in the School for Social Entrepreneurs to double the number of people it trains to become social entrepreneurs.

Contact [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third\\_sector/real\\_help\\_for\\_communities.aspx](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/real_help_for_communities.aspx)

## RESOURCES

### Realising the Potential of Churches and Faith Buildings

A joint publication from the government and the Church of England to help faith groups identify sources of funding to make their buildings more sustainable by enhancing the facilities and services they offer to local communities. The publication can be downloaded.

Contact [www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/publications/5991.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/5991.aspx).

### Interfaith Facilitators Online Community

St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace has created an online community for Interfaith Facilitators. It is easy to sign up, you can add background info about yourself on your profile page, post up forthcoming events, create a private group for your peer development pod, you can follow discussion threads, create blogs, upload videos, and arrange the settings so that you don't get more mail than you want to receive.

Contact <http://interfaithfacilitators.ning.com/>

### Survey of Mosques in England and Wales

The Survey of Mosques in England and Wales (February 2009) was prepared for the Charity Commission and commissioned by its Faith and Social Cohesion Unit as part of its wider work with faith-based charities. The results show that mosques contribute to their local communities through a wide range of services and activities in addition to providing space for worship. The mosques that responded offer a wide range of services and activities for the local community.

Contact <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/Library/tcc/pdfs/fscumosque.pdf>

### 'It's Their Duty to Involve'

Urban Forum is producing a series of case studies for the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) on how public bodies - councils, schools, PCTs, the police etc - are meaningfully involving marginalised groups in policy-making. We're really keen to hear of any examples you think we should know about. To find out more or suggest possible case studies email

[rachel@urbanforum.org.uk](mailto:rachel@urbanforum.org.uk)

### New Gypsy and Traveller Site Management Good Practice

This new guide, which is endorsed by Friends, Families and Travellers, is particularly aimed at Councils and registered social landlords and includes useful checklists of actions and activities that are required for a well managed site that provides a safe, well maintained environment for tenants on permanent and transit sites. Although they are not the target audience, planners and planning authorities as well as community groups can also benefit from the principles within this guide when working to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and travellers identified in the recent needs assessments as it also provides a template for promoting good relations with the wider community. It is available for free in electronic and hard copy formats from <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/sitemanagementguide>

### Forced marriage: Implication for agencies organisations

Men, women and young people from Bangladeshi, Indian and Pakistani communities, plus faith leaders from the North of England, have taken part in a Bristol University study looking to improve support services for victims of forced marriage and domestic violence.

The report reiterates the sensitivities about state interference in this sphere, and noticed that forced marriage is a live issue; many domestic abuse services did not recognise issues that particularly affect BME females; forced marriage services were even more limited; and typically awareness of official policies and guidelines on forced marriage was low. Copies of the report can be downloaded from [http://www.nrfoundation.org.uk/publication\\_domabuse.html?Ref=enews&dm\\_i=4DW,1LZR,RF2Q A,4ZTY,1](http://www.nrfoundation.org.uk/publication_domabuse.html?Ref=enews&dm_i=4DW,1LZR,RF2Q A,4ZTY,1)

### Promote equality and eliminate discrimination in relation to gender, religion, belief, disability, sexual orientation, age or race and to promote human rights issues

What does the new regulation say?

In recent years, the British government and EU has passed laws to protect religious freedom.

These laws include the:

- Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) Regulations 2003
- Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006
- Equality Act 2006
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2006 by THE COMMISSION FOR EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

An Act to make provision for the establishment of the Commission for Equality and Human Rights; to dissolve the Equal Opportunities Commission, the Commission for Racial Equality and the Disability Rights Commission; to make provision about discrimination on grounds of religion or belief; to enable provision to be made about discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation; to impose duties relating to sex discrimination on persons performing public functions; to amend the Disability Discrimination Act 1995; and for connected purposes.

Our solution for community cohesion

The digital eBook is available from <http://www.multifaiths.com/>

Multifaiths.com is used by the world's foremost professional for accurate long-term forecasts and date calculations. The Multifaiths.com digital eBook is the professional online source of international fasts and festivals covering different countries of the world. The impact of religious

faith on communities is generally far less widely recognised and understood. Faiths will always be a work in progress, intended to be continually stretched upon with new and updated material.

For a free trial on our eBook calendar provide the details below by visiting this link:

<http://www.multifaiths.com/contact-us>

First name\*

Last name\*

Username\*

Email\*

Password\*

For best viewing of the Multifaiths.com website use Firefox browser:

Download latest version via <http://www.mozilla-europe.org/en/firefox>

17<sup>th</sup> March    An invitation to the launch of the “The HBV/Forced Marriage Knowledge Centre and Directory.

18.45 – 21.00    The Terrace Marquee, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Hosted by: Christine McCafferty MP, President of the Council of Europe’s Social, Health and Family Committee

Spaces are limited so early registration is highly recommended.

Contact Rohema Miah [rohemamiah@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rohemamiah@yahoo.co.uk)