

## Ley Community wins prestigious award!

OCVA member, the Ley Community, has won a prestigious Centre for Social Justice (CSJ) Award. The award ceremony was held on the 14 July in London with over 270 people attending. These included Lords and Ladies, celebrities such as Bob Geldof and Jemima Khan, senior ministers and business men and women. The CSJ awards are given to outstanding grass roots organisations that bring about significant change in communities around Britain. The success the Ley Community achieved is all the more impressive considering that over 500 organisations were whittled down to just 6 winners.

OCVA congratulate The Ley Community on their award and wish them even more success in the future. OCVA's Marketing and Communications Officer, John Gardiner, said, 'it is great to see the work of the Ley Community being endorsed so publically. To win one of the awards when there was such stiff competition demonstrates just how successful The Ley Community are at making real and positive change for their residents'.

## Survive the budget cuts!

### Crucial training to help you demonstrate the value of your organisation's work

In tough economic times the charities who are most able to demonstrate the value of their work will also be those most able to retain funding and stay healthy. To help your organisation do this, OCVA are hosting a half-day training workshop helping you effectively prove the value of your work.

You will be given the chance to produce a case study, and learn how to use this as a resource when completing your own funding applications.

This workshop marks the beginning of OCVA's Survival Kit Initiative; a series of events designed to help groups survive and thrive in even these difficult times.

For more information and for bookings, contact Hilary Burr on 01865 251946 or at [admin@ocva.org.uk](mailto:admin@ocva.org.uk).

## An update from the Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Fund

As previously advised, the Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Fund was due to be launched on 30th June. However, following the Government's Budget announcement on 22nd June, the Oxfordshire Public Service Board (PSB) had to review all allocations from the county's Local Area Agreement (LAA) Reward Grant that is providing money for the new grant Fund. As a consequence of the PSB's review, the money allocated to the Fund has, unfortunately, had to be reduced and its duration shortened. The good news, though, is that the Fund will still be going ahead and will now be launched on 6th September. There will then be one opportunity for groups to make their grant applications before the final closing date of 11th January 2011. From 6th September, full eligibility criteria, plus information about how to apply for grants from the Fund, will be available from GrantScape on [www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk) or by telephoning 01908 247634.

*Enabling a diverse voluntary and community sector to flourish*

## Oxfordshire's big debate on budgets

As part of the Government's 'Big Debate' Oxfordshire County Council is inviting residents to give their views on how unprecedented savings to the County's budgets can be made. Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet needs to find £200m worth of cuts between 2011 and 2015, and believe service users could have a valuable input into how this could be achieved.

Councillor Keith Mitchell, the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council, said, 'People should have no illusions about the stark nature of the choices that face us here. We will have to cut back significantly, if not completely, on some of our services. The level of change will be unprecedented. It is important that we factor in the views of Oxfordshire residents when making these incredibly tough choices. Constructive and innovative ideas are very welcome'.

You can have your say online - at the Oxfordshire County Council website - [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/bigdebate](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/bigdebate) or in person by taking part in one their roadshows. The details of these roadshows are to be announced soon.

### RAISE wants to hear your opinion

Regional Action and Involvement South East (RAISE) needs your help in preparing responses to six current consultations. This is in response to the Government's process of transforming the way in which many of the public services are delivered and funded. RAISE has prepared a short briefing paper summarising the key points in each consultation. To view the summaries, and to contribute your views, visit the RAISE website [www.raisepolicy.org.uk/libnhs.shtml](http://www.raisepolicy.org.uk/libnhs.shtml).

### Funding opportunity for providers of adult learning

The Oxfordshire Learning Network has announced that there is a pot of £80,000 available to groups that provide learning to adults in the county. More details and an application form will be available from Monday 16 August. The deadline for applications is 17 September. If you would like more information about the fund or the application process, contact Kate Hill on 01865 251946 or [kate.hill@ocva.org.uk](mailto:kate.hill@ocva.org.uk).

## Oxford County and City Forums dates are confirmed

Groups are invited to two free forums coming up in November. The City Voluntary and Community Sector Forum is being held on Wednesday 3 November at the Oxford Town hall. This is an opportunity to suggest how the City Council can work together with the voluntary organisations in the future, hear updates on new developments, network with other groups and attend mini training sessions on practical issues.

The Oxfordshire County Voluntary and Community Sector Forum will be held on 25 November at the Oxford Centre, 333 Banbury Road, Oxford. The Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance (OSCA) is inviting groups to attend and have an opportunity to share experiences, skills and good practice with others, and to learn more about developments in the rapidly changing environment for the voluntary sector at county level.

For more information or to book your place on either forum contact Kate Hill on 01865 251946 or at [admin@ocva.org.uk](mailto:admin@ocva.org.uk).

# Information & dates

## **Nepalese Community Oxfordshire presents youth sports event and Nepalese curry day**

**21 August**

Rose Hill Primary School

This event is open to anyone to attend and celebrate with the Nepalese youth of Oxford. There are lots of fun activities being held including:

- a basket ball competition
- Nepali cultural dancing
- a taekwondo exhibition
- a first aid demonstration

This event is also a chance to sample delicious Nepali cuisine for only £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children. This event is free to attend and is running from 11.00am - 4.00pm.

For more information please contact Navin Chandra Gurung on 07894020440 or Chitra Thapa 07886389040.

## **Campaigning for political change: PR and media in the new politics**

**24 August**

Horseferry Road, London

The Media Trust are hosting a training session on PR and media in the new politics.

The new politics, the big society and harsh public sector spending cuts are going to change life for many charities. How will these issues affect your work using PR and the media to influence public opinion?

For more information, call them on 020 7217 3779 or email [trainingandevents@mediatrust.org](mailto:trainingandevents@mediatrust.org)

## **Celebrating a year of Intergeneration**

**24 August**

WRVS Cornhill Centre, Castle Street, Banbury, OX16 5NT

To celebrate Intergenerational partnerships and the benefits of old and young working together why not come along to a fun open day and see it in action!

The event is free and people of all ages are welcome to pop in and be a part of it.

Showcasing at the event are:

- IT / digital photography and mobile phone skills
- Games transfer
- Hands on arts skills
- Graffiti for all ages
- Dance and fitness
- A wish tree for the future!

For more information visit

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

## **Family Fun Day Eynsham Hall**

**12 September**

Guide Posts Trust are hosting a Family Fun Day on Sunday 12 September from 11.00am to 4.00pm. There will be lots of fun and entertainment for all the family including:

- Craft and local produce
- Classic cars
- Bouncy castles
- Penalty shoot out
- Car boot sale
- Music and dance
- Barbecue and bar...

...and many more attractions.

For more information call 01993 849409.

## **Save Our Service**

**13 September**

Central Oxford

Concerned about the cuts and how they affect you and your group? Want to be part of the wider movement against the cuts? Save Our Services is holding a meeting to 'Map Oxfordshire's Cuts' to gather information and empower local groups. Service users and local people will be informed and be able to get active about the cuts services locally and nationally. For more information contact: [nocutsoxford@gmail.com](mailto:nocutsoxford@gmail.com)

## **Campaigning for political change: local change for charities in Big Society**

**14 September**

Media Trust, 157-161 Millbank, London, SW1P 4RR

The Media Trust are hosting an event to discuss the topic: local change for charities in the Big Society

For more information, call the Media Trust on 020 7217 3779 or email [trainingandevents@mediatrust.org](mailto:trainingandevents@mediatrust.org).

## **FREE Half day interactive workshops for health and social care professionals**

**17 September**

People's Church Centre, Horsefair, Banbury, OX16 0AH  
Would you like to find out how the Expert Patients Programme Community Interest Company can support you with your work?

This interactive awareness workshop is for health and

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Listening Learning Leading



**Oxfordshire**

# Information & dates

social care practitioners to increase awareness of the benefits of self-management and to show how you can effectively support and promote self-management with your patients and service users.

For more information and to book a place, please contact Manjinder Dhaliwal on 01273 803558 or e-mail: manjinder.dhaliwal@epccic.co.uk

## **RAISE Events**

Regional Action and Involvements South East (RAISE) are hosting a number of consultations and events in August and September. More information and bookings at any of the following events can be obtained by contacting Lisa Ellis, Senior Development Officer, on 01483 885265 or at lisa@raise-networks.org.uk.

## **Have your say on the impact of the funding cuts 26 August**

Guildford, Surrey  
RAISE are holding a facilitated discussion to debate the cuts in funding and the move to localism under the new Government. Raise are giving chief executives from the voluntary sector the chance to talk about the impact this will have on their organisations.

## **National Skills Strategy - Join in the Consultation 31 August**

Guildford, Surrey  
Join a discussion on the Skills

- Third Sector Framework for a National Skills Strategy. This is an opportunity to have your say on the shape of future VCS skills provision and to influence an important document.

## **The Health White Paper - What Does it Mean for the Voluntary and Community Sector?**

**8 September 10.30am -  
3.30pm**

Winchester

RAISE in partnership with the Department of Health will be holding a workshop for voluntary and community sector organisations to both inform and to gather views on the recent White Paper on health, 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS'. This workshop will provide an opportunity to better understand the proposals and to feedback directly to Senior Department of Health officials on the consultations that have been published as part of the White Paper.

## **Leadership**

**15 September  
9.30am – 3.30pm**

RAISE, Guildford, Surrey  
RAISE are hosting a training day on leadership. This training will enable you to:

- Understand the concept of leadership and why it is important
- Identify the roles and responsibilities associated with leaders

- Learn tools and techniques to handle major issues
- Motivate and guide people to reach their goals

## **Accountability**

**20 September  
9.30am – 3.30pm**

RAISE are hosting a training day on accountability. This training will enable you to:

- Identify the different elements that comprise accountability
- Understand the importance of accountability in the work you do
- Recognise the bodies you are accountable to
- Consider how best to undertake duties of accountability
- Improve your systems of accountability

## **Managing Redundancies, Restructures and TUPE**

**23 September**

Guildford, Surrey

With the recession and subsequent Government funding cuts, the Charity Commission has recommended more charities consider collaborative working, restructuring and beginning to explore the benefits of mergers. RAISE is supporting the sector by holding an event that examines the key employment issues that voluntary and community groups are now facing or could be in the future.

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