



EXPANDING HORIZONS

e-NETWORK NEWS

MAY 2006

LOCAL NEWS

Enterprise & Inclusion Directory Launched

Merseyside Expanding Horizons have launched a new Enterprise & Inclusion Directory to assist individuals in accessing self employment. The Directory was launched in response to the enterprise development work MEH undertook with partner organisations researching into what specific support was available for multiply excluded individuals. The research recognised that there was a potential gap around “enterprise and inclusion” which needed to be explored further.

The Enterprise & Inclusion Directory designed by Brava Design is set up to assist individuals looking for general business support or information on the support available for a specific client group,

If you would like to register your organisation please contact Rosina Ndukwe on 0151 330 0552 or email: rosinandukwe@expandinghorizons.co.uk.

Visit the Directory at <http://directory.expandinghorizons.co.uk/>.

£2 million boost for Wirral's Regeneration

The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) and its partners have announced that in response to the regeneration needs of Merseyside, Bidston Moss in Birkenhead is to receive more than two million pounds of funding to re-develop and manage it as a new public recreation facility and community woodland.

The funding will be used to redevelop 400ha of the area's damaged land close to the centre of the New Heartlands housing market renewal initiative.

A key development for the site is the extension of the Bidston Moss' cycling resource, to be a valuable addition to the National Cycle Route Network. Improvements to the on-site cycle tracks will offer greater facilities for mountain bike riders, in the hope that it will help prevent man-made environmental damage to Bidston Moss, and support local health and fitness schemes.

In addition, plans for the site include the cultivation and introduction of more diverse wildlife species, opening-up the woodland's panoramic views as well as establishing an eye-catching entrance feature - giving visitors to Bidston Moss a dynamic sense of arrival.

<http://www.nwda.co.uk/SimpleContent.aspx?news=1&area=72&subarea=73&Item=20064123204566615&navfromaofi=1>

Liverpool 8 Anti-Gun Crime Initiative

Young people from Dingle, Granby and Toxteth (Liverpool 8) are playing an integral part in a 6 month pilot project launched by Toxteth Educational Trust and environmental regeneration organisation Groundwork to help reduce levels of gun crime in the city. Groundwork St Helens, Knowsley, Sefton and Liverpool, in partnership with Toxteth Educational Trust, Include, Merseyside Police, Youth Offending Team, the City Council and Youth Service, has been running the anti-gun crime initiative with the help of Social Enterprise L8 Create and volunteer members from local youth groups in L8.

The anti-gun crime initiative follows recent Groundwork community research across L8, asking what young people liked, disliked and wanted to change. Their overriding concern was fear of guns, gun culture and rival street gangs.

Workshops were led by Josh Terry, head of L8 Create at centres around Liverpool: Unity Youth Club, Granby; 468 Youth Club, Dingle; St John's Youth Club, Dingle; the David Lewis Youth Centre, Toxteth; the Methodist Centre, Toxteth; St Michael's Youth Community Centre, Lark Lane, and at Liverpool's Youth Offending Team.

The project culminated in a conference organised by partner, Toxteth Educational Trust at the Lace Centre on 5 April 2006. Guest speakers from partner and funding organisations, including City Safe, youth and community groups were joined by the workshop young people themselves who staged

poetry, dance and drama presentations.

For more information contact Toxteth Educational Trust on 0151 707 3990 or visit <http://www.tet.org.uk/>, or contact Joshua Terry on 0151 726 8493 or email: jterry18create@hotmail.co.uk

Liverpool Black History Month 2006 Black Achievers Awards

The 2006 Black Achievers Award event is to be held on 30th October 2005 to kick off Black History Month which runs throughout October 2006.

Nominations are now being taken for organisations and individuals who you think have made a significant contribution to Liverpool's black community.

Categories include:

- Education Category
- Entertainment Category
- Business Category
- Sport Category
- Media Category
- Community Participant Category
- Young Person Category
- Public Sector Category
- Event Category
- Community Organisation Category
- Male Achiever of the Year Category
- Female Achiever of the Year Category
- Remembrance Category

To place your nominations for the 2006 awards, visit www.liverpoolblackhistory.co.uk

For more information please call the Black History Month Achievers Awards Team on tel: 0151 709 6915.

One-stop Charity Commission Shop based in Liverpool is Launched

The Charity Commission has launched a one-stop shop for charity enquiries. This service, based in Liverpool, is the culmination of the change of focus and direction delivered by the Commission's strategic review.

All new enquiries to the Commission via any channel, whether by phone, email, post or fax, will come directly to a single point - Charity Commission Direct. Each enquiry will be risk assessed and priority requests immediately escalated. Other features of the new service include:

- a dedicated helpline for trustee enquiries backed up by highly experienced staff

- a database of frequently asked questions providing immediate answers
- a signposting facility later in the year to give details of specialist organisations for non-Commission enquiries
- faster turnaround times for both postal and e-mail requests

Staff will signpost enquiries to the right place first time and provide an enhanced service to support trustees and others who rely on the Commission's advice.

For more information on this service visit, www.charity-commission.gov.uk.
http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/recent_changes/ccdirect.asp

Ofcom Awards Licenses to Merseyside's Community Radio Stations

Ofcom has awarded three community radio's in Merseyside community radio licenses along with a further five across Britain bringing the total number of licenses awarded to 107 since November 2004.

The Merseyside stations awarded are:

- **7 Waves Community Radio (Leasowe, Wirral)**

7 Waves will be run by the community for the community, and seek to serve all residents, with particular attention paid to the elderly and disadvantaged.

Contact: Pauline Murphy, tel: 0151 691 1595 Email:

pauline.murphy@merseymail.com

Website: www.7waves.co.uk

- **Talkin' Toxteth TTFM (Toxteth, Liverpool)**

Talkin' Toxteth TTFM will be operated by and for the people of the south central cluster of Liverpool and surrounding areas. As a multi-cultural community station it will be in a unique position to provide a service designed to reflect and celebrate community arts, culture and diversity.

Contact: Tony Mitchell, Tel: 0151 708 0830 Email: t.mitchell@tffm1058.com

- **Halton FM (Runcorn)**

The target community of Halton FM is those living in, working in, or undergoing training or education in the borough of Halton.

Contact: Nico Versluys, Tel: 01928 835290 Email: nico@haltonfm.net

Website: www.haltonfm879.com

This completes the first round of community radio licensing; a second round will commence later this year. To date, 184 letters of intent have been received from groups expressing an interest in applying during the next round.

Community radio is a new sector of radio being introduced in the UK. It is a third tier of radio which complements the mix of services already provided by the BBC and commercial radio sectors. The characteristics of community

radio are distinct from commercial radio in that the services cover a small geographical area and are provided on a not-for-profit basis focusing on the delivery of specific social benefits to enrich a particular geographical community or a community of interest.

http://www.ofcom.org.uk/media/news/2006/05/nr_20060517

NATIONAL NEWS

Mental Health Media Awards - nominations now open!

The DRC is supporting the annual Mental Health Media Awards, which celebrate excellence in media coverage of mental health issues.

These awards recognise the best portrayals of mental distress and reporting of mental health issues in television, radio and print. People can nominate a programme or article that has made a positive contribution to our understanding of mental distress.

This year's awards are now open for nomination. From drama to documentaries; soaps to news items; young people's media to published articles; local radio to digital TV - if the programme or article has been produced and transmitted in the UK between 15 June 2005 and 14 June 2006, then it is eligible for the 2006 awards.

To find out more or make a nomination visit <http://www.mhmawards.org/>

Microsoft Community Learning Awards – Nominations now open!

Do you represent a community group or charity that wants to actively help disadvantaged groups develop their IT skills? Could your organisation benefit from a £2,500 grant and software to be put towards an IT project?

Citizens Online and Microsoft are joining forces for a third year to bring you The Microsoft Community Learning Awards (MCLA), recognising communities and charities that promote IT skills and access to those that might not have the same chances as others.

This year they are donating grants of £2,500 and essential IT software to the 30 winning entrants.

Read More: <http://www.merseyside-cis.org.uk/category/news/>

New Campaign Will Help Financially Excluded People

A new Financial Inclusion Taskforce campaign will help financially excluded people to open bank accounts and access affordable borrowing.

The campaign will address the barriers to accessing both mainstream banking products and sources of affordable credit. It will raise awareness of the problem of financial exclusion amongst intermediary organisations such as charities and housing associations. It will also provide them with tools and training both to assist their clients to open bank accounts and to enable them to access affordable borrowing alternatives.

Once these organisations are equipped to provide appropriate support, the campaign will raise awareness of the benefits of financial inclusion amongst excluded people themselves, and will point them to sources of information and advice.

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/newsroom_and_speeches/press/2006/press_30_06.cfm

New Model Will Turn Community Interest Companies Into Co-ops

A new business model to convert community interest companies into co-operatives has been developed.

The new 'co-operative CIC' is the brainchild of the umbrella body Co-operatives UK.

All CICs must pass a community interest test and submit to an 'asset lock', which obliges them to retain any profits for use towards their original community purpose. So far, a total of 180 have been registered.

The new model enables CICs to convert to co-operative status and be democratically controlled by their workforces in the same way as traditional co-operatives, such as the Eighth Day vegetarian health food shop in Manchester. At the same time, they can still demonstrate their benefit to the wider community.

http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/charity_news/full_news.cfm?ID=18735

Civil Service Chief Executives Launch New Association

A new association representing Civil Service leaders, involved in operational delivery, has been launched today.

Agency Chief Executives (ACE), whose members employ three quarters of all civil servants, has formed the ACE Association. Its objectives are to stimulate effective delivery; to be a collective voice to other parts of Government on topics of mutual interest; to support greater knowledge exchange, networking and peer learning between members; to promote diversity and to encourage best practice in financial management, corporate governance and efficiency.

The new ACE Association is an inclusive organisation open to all Chief Executives and their direct reports who work for Civil Service bodies focusing on operational delivery in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. This will include all Trading Funds, Executive Agencies, and Non-departmental Public Bodies.

<http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/6043>

Local Authorities Urged to Work More with Social Enterprises

The Social Enterprise Coalition has called on newly elected local councillors to use social enterprises to deliver public services.

The coalition has produced a leaflet for councilors illustrating the advantages of local authorities working with social enterprises. Printed copies will be available shortly - to order, email: officemanager@socialenterprise.org.uk.

The Social Enterprise Coalition has also produced a campaign pack for organisations that want to promote social enterprise locally. The pack comprises three templates: a letter to a candidate, a letter to a newspaper editor and a local press release.

<http://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/page.aspx?SP=1969>

FUNDING NEWS

Merseyside Youth Projects Gets Green Light Awards

Young people across Merseyside will soon be getting the go ahead for their community projects to share in over £548,000 from the Big Lottery Fund.

The funding package announced today comes from the Young People's Fund programme, which supports projects that work with young people on creating activities that give them a focus, somewhere to go and something positive to do.

Projects awarded are:

Norris Green Youth Centre, a guiding light for Liverpool community life for the under 25's for the last two years, providing essential services in a large area of social disadvantage. Now, thanks to an award of £145,929, this vital service will help more local youngsters from difficult backgrounds to develop skills, learn, grow and contribute to the community through voluntary work and improved employment prospects in partnership with the Connexions scheme.

Why Don't You..., a dynamic project devised by Merseyside Development Foundation for young people in South Liverpool was awarded 150,000. The initiative, a community based informal learning programme which allows youngsters to choose their own courses and develop new individual skills, will also provide qualifications, achievement awards and an opportunity to look at

their role in the local community.

Albion Youth Centre project in Liverpool offers young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), more commonly known as Aspergers Syndrome, a chance to enjoy informal educational activities involving sports, arts, crafts, cookery, music, team games and off-site trips. The project will use its £139,301 grant to embrace some of the most vulnerable young people in the region with little or no social skills to help them develop new friendships. The programme, which will benefit those aged 11 to 25 years will provide a safe and bully free environment where they can enjoy normal youth activities whilst being able to interact with others who have similar needs.

Full details of the Big Lottery Fund programmes and grant awards are available on the website: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

Liverpool's Young People Get Creative with Lottery Cash

Young people will be encouraged to tap into their creative minds as the Big Lottery Fund today announces over £696,000 to be shared among five projects in the North West of England.

The Lottery good causes money comes from the Young People's Fund programme, which runs local projects with and for young people. The Fund will distribute £40 million of lottery cash to groups working with young people in England.

One of the projects awarded is the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation based in Liverpool. The foundation will run an anti-tobacco youth campaign with their £148,106 grant, providing free and accessible health education for all young people to tackle the issue of smoking. Young people will form anti-tobacco youth groups and will deliver messages to others on the dangers of smoking and the tobacco industry by facilitating discussions and debates, performing short plays and raps, and through role play.

Full details of the Big Lottery Fund programmes and grant awards are available on the website: <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk>

Grants Available to Increase Race Equality and Community Cohesion

CDF is administering a new grants scheme for local communities, on behalf of the Home Office, to increase race equality and community cohesion within their own communities.

This £1 million fund is aimed at a local level and CDF believes local communities are in an excellent position to work with others to improve their own situations.

The grants scheme, Connecting Communities Plus, Community Grants, welcomes applications from small, locally run and managed voluntary and community organisations, often run by volunteers, who want to improve

opportunities for people locally and to improve relations between people of different ethnic and/or faith backgrounds.

The first round of the fund is open for applications between 10th April 2006 and 5th July 2006. Grants up to £12,000 are available with £1,000,000 to distribute. Applicants will need to submit proposals that demonstrate successful delivery of key priorities for the fund, and it is expected that the majority of grants will be between £6,000 - £12,000. All funding from this first round must be spent by 31st March 2007.

For further information about the fund and to download the guidance notes and application form please visit www.cdf.org.uk.

Futurebuilders, England Open for Continuous Grant Applications

Futurebuilders England, the government-backed fund for voluntary and community organisations that are planning to deliver public services, will be open for applications continuously from May 2006. The fund is changing its application process, from fixed windows to continuous opening, in order to better respond to the needs of the voluntary and community sector.

Futurebuilders has already approved investments for over 100 voluntary and community organisations. It currently has over £70 million left to invest in successful applicants from the last window, and those who apply from May onwards.

Those interested in applying or wanting to find out more can call Futurebuilders' enquiries line on 0191 261 5200 or

Email: info@futurebuilders-england.org.uk.

http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk/content/News/newstest/article_37_37.aspx?iid=41

EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

VCS Communication Technology Conference

ICT Hub presents a one-day conference for the VCS on how to plan, fund and exploit information and communication technology. The conference will be held on 28th June 2006 at Blackburne House, Hope Street, Liverpool.

- Does your organisation understand the potential of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)?
- Do you know where to go for ICT support and assistance?
- Do you have a strategic approach to ICT, and is it an integral part of your organisation's planning?
- Do you know where to get help to manage and fund ICT projects?

If you have answered 'no' to more than one of the above questions then this conference is for you!

Many Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations (VCOs) are beginning to realise the importance of ICT. This one day conference is an opportunity to help you manoeuvre your organisation to its next level using ICT – no matter how big or small that step might be! The ICT Hub will update you on its initiatives and present workshops on poignant issues throughout the morning, relating these to how they can support the development of ICT in the North West.

For a full programme and booking form please visit our events section at www.expandinghorizons.co.uk.

Give it a Go Day!

Blackburne House Education would like to invite you to the Young Women's Give it a Go afternoon on Friday 30th June, 2 pm to 4 pm at Blackburne House, Hope Street, Liverpool.

If you are a young woman aged 16 to 19, come along and discover some exciting ideas for your future. Find out about running your own business, how to succeed in the media industry and find out more about working in design and construction.

Construct your Future...

Get your hands dirty, try your hand at a spot of joinery and make a personalised gift. Don't forget to put some finishing touches to your design before taking it home with you.

C.A.N.D.Y Station...

Interactive activities to get you thinking about careers and new developments for young women.

The Key to I.T...

Come along to the Key to I.T stand and use the latest in digital technology to make your own personalised key rings as a memento of the day.

Indivijewel...

An award winning unique business run by young women from the Blackburne House Business and Enterprise course. Pay the young women a visit and chat to them about the course and don't forget your purse as there may be an 'indivijewel' piece of jewellery that catches your eye!

Blackburne House Education stand...

Find out how you can become a part of the young women's programmes starting this September at Blackburne House. Chat with our staff and other young women about the Media, Design and Construction, Business and Enterprise and C.A.N.D.Y courses.

With competitions, free prize draws, personalised key rings, goody bags, taster workshops and interactive sessions, this is a fun filled afternoon.

Groups of Young Women Welcome

For more information contact Katie Hutton on tel: 0151 709 4356 or email:

katiehutton@blackburnehouse.co.uk.

www.blackburnehouse.co.uk

International Multi-Cultural Refugee Week

International Multi-Cultural Refugee Week is to be held on Tuesday 20 June from 10:00am to 3:00pm at Job Bank, 4 Tunnel Road, Kensington, Liverpool.

The theme of this year's event will be Education, Training, Employment and Volunteering and will combine the usual celebration of diversity, with information on a range of available development and progression opportunities.

For further information and to reserve places, please contact Zahra Sabbagh Project Co-ordinator on tel: 0151 233 1868/1870 or email:

zahra.sabbagh@fsmail.net.

Too old to.....? the experiences and perceptions of the 50+ - an exploration of gender differences and organisational beliefs

FREE one day conference to be held at The Lace Conference Centre, Sefton Park, Liverpool on 3rd July 2006.

The conference will be launching the research report of a three year study into gender discrimination and ageist perceptions. The findings of this study will help employers, educators and the voluntary sectors understand in more depth the factors that affect participation rates of older people. The findings will provide valuable information that can be used to inform policy and practice in the drive to ensure equality for all.

The Conference will be opened by renowned writer; journalist and television presenter Rosie Boycott who for many years has raised the profile of gender discrimination and has more recently, in her work with Channel 4 highlighted the double impact of age and gender in the media. Other confirmed guest speakers include Keith Frost (TAEN), Eileen Devaney (UK Coalition Against Poverty), Jane Barmer (Age Concern), Naseem Anwar (Liverpool John Moores University).

To reserve your free place, please email r.hindley@ljmu.ac.uk or for further information on our project visit our web site www.ljmu.ac.uk/gdap.