

WARWICKSHIRE  
COMMUNITY &  
VOLUNTARY  
ACTION (WCAVA)  
WARWICK DISTRICT

# STRONG NEW APPROACH TO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR SUPPORT IN WARWICKSHIRE

**Know-how**

A Bi-monthly publication. . . . More than 2,400 copies distributed annually

Four independent support services for voluntary and community sector organisations and groups in Warwickshire will merge into one new organisation - under the direction of Chief Executive, Paul Tolley, previous Rugby Council for Voluntary Service Director.

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (Warwickshire CAVA) will be born, beginning the process of bringing together Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) organisations in Warwickshire and some District and Borough based Volunteer Centres.

This move is the culmination of several years work in Warwickshire prompted by ChangeUp and which has most recently led to Capacity-Builders funding being secured through the local Consortium Coventry & Warwickshire Infrastructure Consortium (CWIC). This has enabled all local CVS and Volunteer Centres to explore the benefits of merger and restructure.

Paul Tolley, who has been the director of Rugby CVS since July 2007, said: *"We have not seen an increase in the generic levels of core funding available but the demands upon our support services have increased hugely as the need to involve the sector in shaping our communities and exploring Public Service Delivery."*

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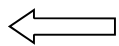
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**PROMOTING, SUPPORTING AND DEVELOPING  
SUSTAINABLE VOLUNTARY ACTION TO MEET LOCAL NEED**



*The challenge for the sector is one of how to make more impact by uniting together, delivering our shared objectives in partnership and drawing down both national and regional funding that encourages and rewards innovation.*

*“A member of the Shadow Board established to see the creation of Warwickshire CAVA regularly states that ‘we live in interesting times’ and for me this is exactly how I see the coming year, interesting times that will see the shape and efficiency of infrastructure support to the whole of the sector in Warwickshire begin a process of change leading to improvements beyond recognition.”*

There are approx 4,000 Voluntary & Community Sector organisations in Warwickshire. All of these groups and organisations require the support and guidance that Warwickshire CAVA will provide. Whether this be improving access to funding, finding ways to diversify into the realms of public service delivery, help in creating innovative social enterprises and ways to increase income generation, partnership working and representation of the views and experience of the sector to inform and shape policy and services that are responsive to local need.



## £215M FUNDING POT AVAILABLE FOR THIRD SECTOR ORGANISATIONS DELIVERING PUBLIC SERVICES

A £215m government-backed investment fund is now open to all third sector (not-for-profit) organisations delivering public services. Offering loans-based investment packages, combined with targeted grants and professional support, Futurebuilders England provides sustainable finance to organisations that are contracting with public bodies to deliver public services.

Established in 2004, the Fund was originally only open to organisations working in crime, community cohesion, children and young people, education and learning, and health and social care. From April 2008 the Fund extended its support to groups working across all areas of public service delivery, including sport and leisure, recreation, environmental projects, waste and recycling, legal aid, and the arts.

Futurebuilders has already invested in over 260 third sector organisations including charities, social enterprises, community interest companies, voluntary groups and community organisations. Every investment package, including its size and loan to grant ratio, is tailored to meet the individual needs of the investee, but organisations must be committed to repaying the loan through income generated from public sector contracts or fees.

So, if you need an investment of £50,000 or more and are getting ready to bid for, and take on, public sector contracts, Futurebuilders could be the Fund for you. There is no upper limit to investments – the largest package to date is £10.2m.

To apply for an investment, or to find out more about how loan finance can help your organisation achieve sustainability, visit [www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk](http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk) or call **0191 261 5200**.



CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES

## HOW THE GOVERNMENT RAIDS LOTTERY FUNDS

It has been reported in the press that the Conservatives, through Parliamentary answers and Freedom of Information requests, have found that grants amounting to £883 million of National Lottery money, supposed to go to 'Good Causes', is being given to councils. Also Lottery funding has been directly used to implement central Government policy which should be funded by the Treasury through taxation. This would mean that the 'additionality' principle has been breached by the Government. Some in the VCS believe that this is just being sensible, aligning Lottery spending with Government priorities.

The Conservative Party has announced proposals that, it says, would protect National Lottery 'Good Causes' money from government raids and raise an additional £182m for the voluntary sector and grass-roots sports and arts projects.

The press reports and Tory interest seem to be related to the publication by The Centre of Policy Studies of a report 'The Larceny of the Lottery Fund' by Ruth Lea. You can read this report yourself and look at the evidence of her case by downloading the document, at no cost, from Website: <http://www.cps.org.uk>  
You will find it by using the sitewide search for 'lottery'.

*From Fit4funding newsletter*

**CRASH**
CONSTRUCTION AND PROPERTY INDUSTRY  
CHARITY FOR THE HOMELESS

## CONSTRUCTION HELP FROM CRASH

CRASH is the construction and property industry charity for the homeless.

The charity provides practical help for homelessness charities. It does this by harnessing the skills, products, talents and goodwill of the construction and property sectors to help homelessness charities throughout the UK to improve their premises, facilities and accommodation provided for homeless people.

Working with the companies that support CRASH means that the homelessness charities save money, get better value for their money, or both.

**If your project is in need of refurbishment help, please contact the CRASH office**

**Tel: 020 8742 0717 Fax: 0208 747 3154**

**Email: [crash@crash.org.uk](mailto:crash@crash.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.crash.org.uk](http://www.crash.org.uk)**

*From Fit4funding newsletter*



House of Lords

## DORMANT BANK AND BUILDING SOCIETY ACCOUNTS BILL

The Dormant Bank And Building Society Accounts Bill has been introduced in the House of Lords. Conservative and Liberal Democrat Lords have put forward an amendment that some of the estimated £350m of unclaimed funds from banks and building societies should be used for a Social Investment Bank, which would fund voluntary groups, as well as the proposed funding of youth facilities.

The Bill can be downloaded from Website:  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldbills/002/en/08002x--.htm>

*From Fit4funding newsletter*



# **SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE FUNDRAISERS' FORUM**

**2007-2008**

Set up to support Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Fundraisers in Warwickshire, this Forum continues to thrive. Membership stands at 161, representing 148 organisations, a 13% increase on last year.



**Funders represented were:**

Youth Opportunities Fund, FutureBuilders, Awards for All, and Landfill Tax Credit

**Topics covered:**

- Generating Support from the Business Community – Andrew Day, Group Director, Compton International
- Promoting Your Project – Helen Wood, Manager, Loft Workshop
- Full Cost Recovery – Kate Launchbury, Coventry and Warwickshire Co-operative Development Agency
- Proving Evidence of Need – Kath Bannister, Community Support Worker, WDC Community Support Team
- Partnership Working – Steve Baylis, Director, Bath Place Community Venture and David Nicoll, CerTax Accounting.

In June, SWFF joined forces with Warwick and Stratford District and Rugby Borough Localities Teams, Rugby CVS, Heart of England Community Foundation, Coventry and Warwickshire Co-operative Development Agency and NCVO to run a very successful whole day's training event on sustainable funding, "Life Beyond Grants – alternative sources of Funding".

We make a point of using community buildings across South Warwickshire to accommodate the SW Fundraisers' Forum, in order to make this service accessible to the most fundraisers possible.

**Venues included:**

- Lillington Community Centre
- Hill Close Gardens Centre, Warwick
- The SYDNI Centre, Leamington Spa
- Broom Village Hall
- Bath Place Community Venture, Leamington Spa
- Studley Village Hall

Sincere thanks to WCC's Localities Teams in both Warwick and Stratford Districts who have valued this service enough to provide the financial support to make it happen.

Thank you, also, to my colleagues at Warwickshire County Council, CVS, and the South Warwickshire Community Development Network for running workshops, helping with the logistics and making yourselves available to support the fundraisers who attend the Forums.

# WHAT IS COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT? THIS IS COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT!



Bridge Action Group!

Debbie, Val, Rachel and Margaret all received accredited certificates from Pauline (CVS) and Maria (Mosaic Consulting) for their work in and around The Graham Adams Centre

In all 21 local people have trained and put into action community leadership skills

The Community Development Qualifications are in:

Community Consultation

Planning for a Community Project

Organising and managing a Community Project

Community Groupwork Skills

&

Communication and Research Skills for Community Research

***Community Leadership Training in a Neighbourhood near you!***

## EVENTS

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# SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE FUNDRAISERS' FORUM



Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008

SYDNI Centre, Cottage Square, Leamington Spa

Funder : **Charity Bank**, Peter Hughes

Workshop: **Understanding Outcomes**, Jane Holdsworth

**For further information and to book a place, contact:**

**Lin Pride on 0845 051 1171 or e-mail [lp@cvswd.org.uk](mailto:lp@cvswd.org.uk)**