

network news

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Welcome to the fourth edition of the Regeneration South West Network's bulletin.

As always, if you have any news, information or practical experiences that you would like to share with others through network news please contact Jessica Perkin via info@regenerationsouthwest.net

Update 1

Regeneration South West Network

Regeneration South West Network are pleased to have recruited a Network Manager, Kate Hathway, who will be in post from 24th May 2004. This role involves taking the lead in developing the Network during it's second year. Jessica Perkin, the current Network Administrator, is taking maternity leave from May this year and her replacement will be Sue Harding who will be in post from 17th May.

Regeneration South West Network working in partnership with the Eden Project and Creative Partnerships Cornwall recently delivered a stimulating weekend workshop on 'Creativity: Catalyst for Renewal' at Eden. The adult workshop was well attended by 60 people working in regeneration and the arts across the region. They enjoyed a mixed programme of creative sessions, knowledge cafe and presentations. Around 30 children joined the parallel creative play workshop being led by Martin Maudsley and Sarah Tranter, supported by dance and video artists from Creative Partnerships. We hope to offer a Creativity and Regeneration workshop during 2004 for practitioners working in planning, housing and health. >>

Update 1

(continued)

The 2004 workshop programme will build on feedback from our successful series of learning and networking events. The programme will also be informed by the creating:excellence business plan, the results of the UWE scoping study of learning for regeneration and renewal as well as guidance from the new creating:excellence Learning Advisory Group.

If you have any ideas on topical issues or are interested in developing a workshop in partnership with the Network Project – please contact Regeneration South West Network.

FMI: Jessica Perkin, 01392 254244,
info@regenerationsouthwest.net

Update 2

creating:excellence

The formal launch of the South West Regeneration Centre, creating:excellence, will be taking place through a series of events across the region. Please contact Tom Bowden-Green email: Tom.Bowden-Green@grayling.co.uk for latest information on dates and venues.

The core posts for the Centre's new team will be advertised shortly. These include the Chief Executive and Learning Co-ordinator.

FMI: Dominic Murphy, Development Manager, creating:excellence, 0117 9330241,
dominic.murphy@southwestrda.org.uk
www.creatingexcellence.info

Arts Council South West

Arts Council England, South West is the region's funding and development agency for the arts. Between 2003 and 2006 it will invest £55 million of public funds in the arts in the South West, including funding from the National Lottery. The Council believes in the transforming power of the arts to change the lives of people everywhere. Its ambition is to place the arts at the heart of national life, reflecting the country's rich and diverse cultural identity, and to offer people the opportunity to experience high quality arts in their communities. You can download 'Ambitions for the Arts' and 'Towards 2006' outlining a manifesto and objectives for the region from the website.

FMI: Catherine Devenish, Arts Council England South West tel: 01392 229257
email: catherine.devenish@artscouncil.org.uk
www.artscouncil.org.uk





Art on Prescription

Arts for Health is working to embed creativity as a vehicle for public health across Cornwall within the arts, health, social welfare, education and the wider community. During 2004 Arts for Health has been mapping arts activity across the county, exploring the potential role of creativity and culture to promote health and wellbeing. Did you know we spend £81 million a year on anti depressants and the cost per patient can be £300 a year! The use of arts as part of healthcare could have a major impact on the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities.

Arts for Health is at the leading edge of new developments: improving health environments in consultation with local communities; developing Art on Prescription for vulnerable groups; engaging young people in creative media projects and working with isolated groups experiencing mental illness, homelessness and poverty; and promoting the 'percentage for art' principle with Primary Care Trusts.

FMI: Clive Parkinson, Arts for Health
telephone 01872 274592
email: clive@artsforhealthcornwall.org.uk

Rocombe Art Farm Project

Art Farm 2004 will be held at Middle Rocombe Farm in Devon from 11th to 19th September. The exhibition will showcase the work of artists living and working in Teignbridge and Torbay. The Art Farm Project is an annual celebration of art and a recognition of the continuing disappearance of farming from our countryside. It offers insights into new ways for arts and agriculture to work together for mutual benefit.

Peter and Suzanne Redstone have converted their barns, cowsheds and fields into creative exhibition spaces to showcase some of the best local painting, sculpture, ceramics, photography, tapestry, jewellery, installations and performance. The annual exhibition reflects the links between physical and inner landscapes and provides space enabling artists, craftspeople, students, farmers, local businesses and visitors to interact. The project is now seeking 3 people for part time contract positions including project coordinator, events/site manager and press officer and possibly a curator for the site specific work.

FMI: Peter Redstone, Rocombe Art Farm Project, email: peter@rocombe.com
www.artfarmproject.co.uk





LandMarks with Somerset Art Week

Somerset Art Week is being held from 11th to 26th September 2004. Open studios, special events and exhibitions across the county will provide opportunities for people to meet artists face to face and experience their work. As well as the Arts Week, Somerset County Council has contributed to the development of the River Parrett Trail. Artists and craftspeople have been working with local materials to create bridges, gates, stiles and seating and the stories of the river and its landscapes are being brought alive with writings, music and performance.

LandMarks is a special on-going project that is exploring the issues of rural change in Somerset. Artists have been working in partnership with land managers to develop a creative dialogue that explores the issues of rural change and the need to reconnect rural and urban communities. It focuses on exploring the 'marks' made on the landscape through time. The artists in residence include: Anne Marie Culhane with Exmoor National park, Julie Lyons at Shapwick Heath National Nature Reserve, Gordon Field with the Blackdown Hills Rural Partnership, Jenny Graham and Ralph Hoyte with Haynes Motor Museum, Ganesh Bhat and Paul Fry with Shute Farm Studios and Susie Needham with the Organic Herb Trading Company.

FMI: Carol Carey, Somerset Arts Week tel: 01460 259324 email: arts@somersetartweek.co.uk www.somersetartweek.org.uk

FMI: River Parrett Trail tel: 01458 250350 www.riverparrett-trail.org.uk

Arts for Regeneration with Creative Kernow

Creative Kernow is currently developing plans for a major arts and regeneration project in the Redruth area. It champions the creative industries as part of the healthy growth of communities in Cornwall. It works to raise the profile of creativity in the county and to help make Cornwall a better place for creative people to live and work. Creative Kernow is supporting, developing and promoting the whole sector including artists, designers, makers, writers, musicians, choreographers, media practitioners, performers and promoters. It commissions research to demonstrate the value of the sector, brokers partnerships with other sectors, develops strategic development projects, signposts information for creative practitioners and provides business support for creative businesses.

FMI: Julie Seyler, Creative Kernow tel: 01872 271923 email: julie@creativekernow.com



Creative Partnerships Cornwall

Creative Partnerships is a national initiative that is bringing schools, communities, artists and creative organisations together to work on creative projects. It provides opportunities for children to develop their potential, ambition, creativity and imagination. Creativity and flexibility have become recognised as vital skills for the future and the government is committed to promoting creativity within education as art of teaching methods, pupil learning and environments for learning.

Edible Playgrounds is a flagship project for Creative Partnerships Cornwall promoting the idea that creative schools need to be set in creative spaces. Schools are working with artists, landscape designers, architects, horticulturalists and Cornwall's leading gardens including Eden and Trebah to transform featureless areas into stimulating outdoor classrooms and inspiring teaching resources.

Schools from across North Cornwall have also been working together to create the 'On the Shoulders of a Giant' project with artists, sculptors and storytellers. Each school researched local myths and legends, held creative sessions with the artists and then designed and built their own giant. The sculptor David Kemp worked with Delabole Primary School to design and build a giant's head emerging from the playground!

FMI: Paula Winzar, Creative Partnerships
tel: 01872 275187 email:
pwinzar@cornwall.gov.uk
or Amanda Harris, Edible Playground project
email: amanda@keap.org.uk

Other useful contacts include: Eco-Schools at www.eco-schools.org.uk; Growing School Gardens at www.schoolsgarden.org.uk; Learning Through Landscapes at www.ltl.org.uk

Transforming Violence through Creativity and Gardening



Karen Payne and David Hawkins have been in residence at the Eden Project creating an exhibit that demonstrates the role of plants in transforming violence in communities around the world. Transforming Violence is based in California and has been using creativity and gardening to heal

and regenerate communities in conflict. David was part of the original Edible Schoolyard project in the States. Karen is involved with projects in Kosovo, Palestine and New York. Their work has demonstrated that creativity and gardening can be combined to reduce crime, violence, conflict and social exclusion.

Transforming Violence works with local people to prevent, halt and heal violence in homes, schools, streets and nations. Violence is being addressed in many communities using art, sports, theatre, leadership training, rites of passage, video, dialogue and collaborative projects of all kinds between 'enemy' groups. Their Social Inventions Database provides information on over 200 projects around the world that are harnessing the healing power of plants through gardening and community activism. Examples include: San Francisco Jail Garden; Rabbis for Human Rights replanting olive groves in Palestine; the Medical Campaign for Care of Victims of Torture; Neighbourhood groups transforming crime-infested areas into safe outdoor community areas; City Farms use derelict land for urban agriculture; Veterans for Peace in Vietnam have created the Friendship Village Project.

FMI: Karen Payne & David Hawkins email:
kpayne@transformingviolence.org
or dhawkins@transformingviolence.org
www.transformingviolence.org



Imayla, 'Doing Something Different' Toolkit

'Doing Something Different' toolkit is now available from Imayla for everyone running out of school learning projects and activities for young people. It contains an A-Z of support information, inspirational activities, contacts and resources including details of activity providers, local schemes, local and national support organisations, help with funding and downloadable resources. Hard copies are available for £7 including postage and handling. Imayla's big vision is to establish a Centre for Participatory Arts in the countryside to provide a creative space for young people and community groups from Bristol - if you are interested then get in touch!

FMI: Kim Cavanagh, tel: 01179022212,
 Email: imayla@blueyonder.co.uk
www.imayla.co.uk

Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World (CCANW)

The Centre for the Contemporary Art (CCANW) and the Natural World is an innovative rural arts initiative planned to attract 100,000 visitors a year and create 24 full time rural jobs. Originally the Centre was considering being based at Poltimore House once it had been restored. With support from the South West of England Regional Development Agency CCANW is now seeking to establish its innovative gallery and study centre in a rural location near Exeter. The Centre will provide a base for exhibitions and outreach projects into rural communities. Besides exhibitions, the Centre will offer a study centre with provision for school visits, music and other live events, courses and studios for visiting artists, plus a restaurant for visitors featuring an exciting menu of local food.

FMI: Clive Adams, Project Director, CCANW,
 Knowle Farm Cottage, Knowle, Crediton, Devon
 EX17 5BX tel: 01363 84096
 Email: adams@ccanw.co.uk
www.poltimore.org



Toolkit for renewal

The Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP) Delivery Toolkit is now available. It has been developed to help deliver effective plans, put in place means for delivery plus review and improve existing strategies. Organisations involved in neighbourhood renewal can review the toolkit at www.renewal.net/lsp/





Wild About Play

Wild About Play aims to provide information, training and resources for playworkers and others working with children in outdoor green spaces. A key role of Wild About Play is to foster productive interactions between individuals working in playwork, environmental education and outdoor recreation sectors across the region, through establishing an environmental playwork network. Other outputs from the project include developing a resource pack, running a series of training events within the region and hosting a national conference in environmental play. A website is currently being developed to signpost useful information and contacts. Wild About Play is funded through Better Play and co-ordinated by Playwork Partnerships.

Forthcoming Wild About Play events:

A Bend in the River

Exploring arts in the environment,
30th April, 9am to 4pm, Totnes, £60.

South West Play Celebration

Tools for Play, 8th May, 10am to 3pm,
Thornbury, South Gloucestershire, £20.

Wild and Away

A national conference in environmental play,
23rd to 25th July, weekend camping at outdoor
conference facility, Green and Away,
nr. Gloucester, £50 to £75
(incl. accommodation and food).

FMI: Wild About Play , Playwork Partnerships ,
University of Gloucestershire,
Francis Close Hall , Cheltenham GL50 4AZ ,
tel. 01242 532949
Email: wap@playwork.co.uk
www.playwork.co.uk/wildaboutplay.htm

Launch of the South West Disability Equality Network

The South West Disability Equality Network was launched on 16th March at the Riviera International Centre Torquay. Speakers included Bert Massie, chair of the Disability Rights Commission (DRC), Kate Nash, director of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (RADAR). The network links into 'Equality South West' (ESW), the over-arching regional body providing a voice for organisations, networks and individuals. ESW will be a

strong and influential body representing every aspect of equalities and diversity such as age, disability, faith, gender, race and sexual orientation. The Disability Network will challenge policy and ensure individuals and groups have a voice at regional and national levels.

FMI: Imogen Bunting, South West TUC,
telephone 0117 947 0521 or email:
ibunting@tuc.org.uk



Regeneration South West Network, a core part of creating:excellence, is designed to make it easier for people working in the fields of regeneration, renewal and social inclusion to share experience, learn from each other and find out what is going on in the region.

www.regenerationsouthwest.net

For further information or any questions please contact:

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