

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to Community Links Bromley's email bulletin number 93
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Spotlight

Volunteers' Week 2009 - the biggest week of celebrations yet

Diane Diamond, Bromley Volunteer Centre's Manager looks at some of the highlights of the week including her report from City Hall where Jean Levy, CLB chair was presented with the James Banks Award for Good Governance. And CLB's Volunteer Awards Ceremony, a review of national news during the week and what events were held in the borough. [Read more.](#)

Local news

Bromley Town Centre Area Action Plan: Proposed Submission Document – invitation to submit representations

The Proposed Submission Area Action Plan (AAP) for Bromley Town Centre and supporting documents was published on the 8th of June 2009 and the Council is inviting

you to make a formal representation based on the 'Test of Soundness' of the documents. Representations should be made using the prescribed form with the guidance notes as a reference. The plan and its supporting documents are available on the Council web site www.bromley.gov.uk and also at all Bromley libraries, and the reception in the Civic Centre

The AAP contains the planning policy framework for managing development in the town over the next 15 years whilst at the same time protecting and enhancing the town's historic features. Based on the responses to the three previous rounds of public consultation, the proposals have been further refined. The AAP provides the necessary structure to support the regeneration of the town centre by including significant proposals for retail, leisure, residential and commercial development.

All representations will be forwarded along with the plan itself to the Secretary of State. The closing date for the submission of representations is 5pm on 17th July 2009.

Arthritis Care running local drop in session at Bromley Central Library

Arthritis Care is one of the leading charities on the condition arthritis. As a charity it provides clear and accurate information and advice on the condition arthritis via a helpline, website, local branches and events held throughout the UK.

During the last year the charity received funding to bring services into the wider community and set up a new initiative called 'The Libraries Project'. The project has been working with libraries throughout London; giving advice in the form of talks and drop in sessions open to the general public; and through negotiation with the libraries to hold the wealth of publications and information Arthritis Care offers.

The next drop in session in Bromley is at the Central Library and will be held between 11am and 2.30pm on Saturday 11th of September 2009. So if you have arthritis, think you have arthritis or know someone with arthritis please come along and have a chat. If you not able to make the session, phone the free phone helpline on 0808 800 4050 or visit www.arthritiscare.org.uk for more information and advice.

New clinic from Age Concern Bromley - CLIP IT – toe nail cutting service

Age Concern Bromley is running this new service every Monday from 10– 2pm at Community House, Bromley. The first appointment costs £25 and follow on visits cost £9.00. The charge includes an assessment, toe nail cutting and your own personal set of instruments. The clinic is run on an appointment basis. To make an appointment call Clip IT on 020 8315 1850 or visit Age Concern Bromley.

Referral criteria to the 'Pathways 4 Cray' sustained employment project

This project works with residents living in the wards of Cray Valley East, Cray Valley West and Orpington (BR5) who have been in receipt of 'out of work benefits' for at least 6 months and is focusing on, but not exclusive to, members of the Gypsy Traveller community. Broomleigh is delivering the project which is co-financed and funded by ESF, London Councils and London Borough of Bromley.

The project aims to help people to access and sustain employment for 16+ hours a week. Participants will receive one-to-one support from an outreach employment officer, access to employability courses, information, advice and guidance about jobs, courses and options available. The project also offers short, accredited courses in areas such as CSCS, First Aid, Health & Safety and Driving Theory Tests.

There are 3 criteria for referral. They are that a participant must be:

- A. Aged 18 years or over
- B. In receipt of out of work benefits (IS, IB or JSA) for at least 6 months.

- C. Living in one of the following wards:
- a. Cray Valley East
 - b. Cray Valley West
 - c. Orpington (BR5)

If you are in contact with anybody who is eligible and you would like to refer them to the project, phone Erica Watts, Community Investment Manager, Broomleigh - part of Affinity Sutton on either 020 8285 4362 or 07792 862 954 (mobile). Broomleigh is currently producing formal publicity for the project including flyers or posters – which can be sent out in the near future.

Do you know of a child in need who would benefit from a free activity holiday?

Summers Trust is a new VCO currently applying for charitable status. The Trust is made up of a group of professional people from business and education, who aim to use their previous experience to provide underprivileged children (in their last year of Primary Education) with a holiday experience that will have a lasting impact on their social and personal well being.

Activities include Kayaking, Archery, climbing, swimming, arts and crafts, making videos, team games and visits to places of interest. All volunteer staff undergo safeguarding processes and are CRB checked and vetted by the trustees of the charity.

Dates: Sunday 2 – Saturday 8 August 2009

Venue: Caroty Wood Adventure Centre, Tonbridge Kent TN11 9QX

If you know of a child who would benefit and would like more details about nominating them, contact Jake Endersby, Project Coordinator on 0787 262 0552 or email info@summerstrust.co.uk.

New road safety campaign outside local schools

Bold new warning signs are being erected outside schools across the Borough to remind motorists not to stop on zigzag line road markings in a new targeted safety campaign.

The yellow and black signs attached to lamp posts remind motorists that by stopping on the lines, they risk fines of up to £120. Civil Enforcement Officers and the mobile CCTV unit, known as the Smart car, will continue to enforce the restrictions outside schools.

[Read more on LBB website.](#)

Bromley Community Drugs Project – outreach service

The Bromley Community Drugs Project (BCDP) offers an outreach service to clients who are unable to access the project directly. The outreach service is run by a small of experienced staff who can offer advice, support to drug / alcohol users and their families. The team is set up to conduct visits at home or meet with clients at a convenient place in the community. The workers offer support, advice and referral into treatment agencies. They will also will work to support and re-engage clients who have dropped out of treatment. And, through partnership working with the Borough's alcohol agency, they can offer support to clients who are awaiting detox.

The outreach service also runs several satellite surgeries throughout the Borough. These satellites operate in key areas where clients might find it a struggle to travel into

central Bromley. The satellites are open access so no appointment is necessary. Support and advice are on offer and clients can access the satellites as frequently as needed. The satellite services are run at the following venues:

- 5000 Club, United Reform Church, Widmore Road, Bromley (fortnightly)
- Cotmandene and Mottingham Community Learning Shops (every Tuesday)
- Green Parks (every Friday)
- English Churches Housing Group (fortnightly on Wednesday)

Clients are able to self refer or other professionals may do so by contacting the BCDP outreach office on 020 8289 1999. Please feel free to contact any of the individual project outreach workers for more information: Diane Gavin- Emanuel 07957731901, Diane Barron 07515060598, Sarah Stow 07894622203.

Petition the Council for free swimming for over 60's

Following the Older Peoples Panel meeting, Bromley Council on Ageing and Age Concern Bromley will be starting a petition calling on Bromley Council to reconsider its decision and provide free swimming for people 60+. Anyone, who would like a copy of the petition, should phone Evelyn Collington, Co-ordinator, Bromley Council on Ageing on 020 8325 9788.

TfA can update your members on the latest accessible transport news

Transport for All (TfA) is visiting groups, forums and meetings across London, to keep people up-to-date with the latest accessible transport news and information. TfA can host Q&A sessions where topics under discussion could include:

- Door to Door Services (like Dial a Ride and Taxi card)
- Access to Public Transport
- Freedom Pass
- Blue Badge
- Community Transport
- Patient Transport
- How to Complain Effectively
- The DDA and Transport

These visits are an outcome of London's Councils' Strategic Monitoring Zones, which monitor performance on the projects they fund. This monitoring also enables information to be shared between the Voluntary and Community Sector and Local Authorities at a sub regional level. For further information about the organisation and services, view the website, www.transportforall.org.uk. To arrange a visit contact Sarah Rochford, Transport for All, tel: 020 7737 2339.

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Local events

Keeping Safe - raising awareness week 15 - 19 June 2009

Getting people to think about how we can safeguard adults in Bromley is a priority for the Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board. Two public events have been organised to promote this message

1. Today, Tuesday 16 June - Bromley Glades Shopping Centre 9am – 5pm
2. Friday 19 June - Walnuts Shopping Centre Orpington 9am – 5 pm

The Council's Safeguarding team and its trading standards advisors will be answering questions and providing help and advice on who to talk to if you have any concerns about someone you know.

12th Bromley Brownies washing cars to raise money

Date: Saturday July 11

Venue: Bromley Methodist Church

12th Bromley Brownies have been raising money for Water Aid as part of 'Girl Guiding's Change the World' initiative. So far they have held a concert, cooked a lunch, sold cakes and toys, and taken our church service. The final event is a car wash on July 11th at Bromley Methodist Church so if you have a car, do bring it along. So far they have raised £550.

See Magpie Dance students perform

Date: Tuesday 23 June

Venue: The Albany, Douglas Way, Deptford, SE8

Time: 2.30pm & 7.30pm Price: £10 / £7 (concessions)

Dance @ Magpie 09' promised to be an inspirational evening, including six pieces by both young and adult companies. Highlights include two new dances, developed through Magpie's choreographers mentoring programme. Box Office: 020 8692 4446. [More information](#)

Bromley Community Engagement Forum AGM

Date: Thursday 2 July

Venue: Bromley Football Club, Hayes Lane, Bromley BR2 9EF (adjacent to Norman Park)

Sir Paul Stephenson, Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police Service, will be attending the Bromley Community Engagement Forum AGM. Sir Paul hopes to arrive in time for 6.30pm to mingle at the free buffet prior to the start of the meeting. He will then address the public meeting at 7pm and take questions. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you would like more information, please contact Amanda Evans, 020 8658 7168 or email: info@bcef.org.uk. [Website](#).

'Peace one day' – a one day event in Bromley

Date: Monday September 21

Venue: Community House, South Street, Bromley

Time: 7.30pm

Speakers, readings, music, stalls and alternative therapies and refreshments. If you or your group would like to take part in the One Day Event or attend Bromley Peace Council meetings, please contact Ann Garrett on 020 8460 1295 or email anncgarrett@yahoo.com.

Bromley Peace Council next meeting is Sunday 28 June at 3pm at the Therapy Centre, 96, St Martins Road, Shortlands BR2. [You can read more on the website](#).

St Christopher's – come and find out how the hospice works

Date: Wednesday 8 July

Time: 1.30pm

Venue: Education Centre, St Christopher's Hospice, 51-59 Lawrie Park Road, Sydenham, London SE26 6DZ

Come and find out about End of Life Care. Discover how hospices work and what services they provide. Agenda for the day includes a presentation on End of Life Care, a tour of St Christopher's Hospice, a DVD on arts projects in the community, questions and a Public Education meeting.

For more information contact Rosanna Heal on 020 8768 4606 or visit www.stchristophers.org.uk/.

Amnesty International - 10th anniversary dinner

Date: Monday 22 June at 7.30pm

Venue: 2 Southend Road, Beckenham BR3 1SD

Cost: tickets: £25 each

Beckenham and West Wickham Branch invite you to join them for the 10th anniversary fundraising dinner at restaurant Mello, for a sumptuous 3-course meal accompanied by live jazz and a raffle. Telephone 020 8659 1990 or email jonah@ntworkd.com. Cheques payable to Amnesty International, Beckenham and West Wickham.

Dyslexia Workshop

Date: Saturday 27 June

Venue: Church of the Good Shepherd, Handen Road, Lee SE12 8NR

Time: Doors open 9.30am for a 10am start and ends 1pm

Cost: Free

A workshop for families, teachers and teaching assistants to learn fun ways of helping children at home and at school. Plus information and support for Dyslexic Adults. There will be a craft table and activity session for the children. More information:

omfp@dyslexiawise.co.uk.

Carers Support – Alzheimer's Society

Date: Wednesday 24 June

Venue: Community House, South Street, Bromley

Time: 10am to midday

Patricia Darkes, Continence Nurse from Bromley PCT. Tea and coffee is served on arrival and after each speaker there is an opportunity to ask questions and have an informal chat. For details call Geraldine Turner or Pat Morton on 020 8249 1494.

Service User Network Meeting

Date: Tuesday 23 June

Venue: Community House, South Street, Bromley

Time: 11am – 1 pm

Iain Dimond, Service Director for Bromley Mental Health, will be sharing Oxleas' proposals on how services will be provided to enhance care within its new structure. Come along to hear about these changes and what they mean to you. Sandwich lunch will be provided. All welcome. If you have any queries please contact: Linda on 020 8464 6208 or email suite2@bromleyadvocacyproject.org.uk.

Biggin Hill Drop-In - social event for Parkinson's sufferers and carers

Dates: First Wednesday of every month

Venue: St Mark's Centre, Church Road, Biggin Hill, TN16 3LB

Time: Between 10am and midday

Bromley & District Branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society is setting up a new service. The 'Biggin Hill Drop-In' means you can just drop in for a chat, a cupper, get some information or just to socialise. All Parkinson's sufferers, members & carers are welcome. The drop-in is supported by a donation from Waitrose. For more information contact Jackie Wyatt 020 8302 2286 or Lawrie Baker 079543 77110.

Bromley Creative Community to hold welcome event

Date: Thursday 25 June

Venue: Churchill, Bromley between 6 and 9pm

The Bromley Creative Community (BCC) will be welcoming its new members at a special 'Welcome Party'. The party will be the first chance for members to meet each other and the founding committee. Launched in 2009, with the support of Bromley Council, BCC is an independent, non-profit venture, run by creatives for creatives, to promote the wide range of creative, arts and media services offered by organisations in Bromley.

Highlights of the evening include a stand-up set by top local comic Pam Ford (www.pamford.biz) and a keynote address from Cllr Benington, Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation, London Borough of Bromley.

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Local training

Accountability – financial management training programme 2009-10

Accountability offers financial management advice and training to voluntary groups within the boroughs of Croydon, Bromley, Lambeth, Merton and Sutton. Accountability is funded by London Councils. Its services include:

Training Courses: formal classroom style course with specific objectives. Most are half day events (morning) – please check timings when you enquire. Costs are shown in the programme

Finance Forum – two hour workshop style presentation and discussion with an opportunity for more audience participation and networking. Free of charge.

Advice and guidance - Accountability also provides free financial management advice for voluntary and community groups.

The 2009 – 10 training programme includes: QuickBooks for beginners, SORP 2005, using Excel, practical bookkeeping, preparing for independent examination and more. Full details of each course are available from the partner organisation in the borough in which the course is being held. Follow this link to [download the full training programme](#). In Bromley our Community Accountant is Maroof Adeoye who can be contacted at CLB, Community House, South Street, Bromley, BR1 1RH Tel: 020 8315 1900 email: development@communitylinksbromley.org.uk. Please note Maroof works one day a week at CLB – usually a Wednesday.

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National/regional news

Government reshuffle

You are no doubt all aware of the recent government reshuffle. Part of this has meant (another) change to the post Minister for the Third Sector - although the post itself has become more senior, now being a full Minister of State. The new minister is Angela Smith. Her background includes working as head of political and public relations at the League Against Cruel Sports and she is involved with a number of Essex organisations - she is MP for Basildon.

There is also a new Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government following the resignation of Hazel Blears. The new Secretary of State is John Denham. The department is responsible for a number of areas of interest to the voluntary sector such as housing, regeneration as well as councils.

The full list of ministers can be found on the Number 10 web site at www.number10.gov.uk.

'Office for Civil Society' is no longer a priority for conservatives

The Conservative Party plan to widen the role of the Office of the Third Sector to be an 'Office for Civil Society' may not happen. The different political and economic climate means that conservatives will concentrate on 'must haves'.

This was in a speech by the Shadow Minister for the Third Sector, Nick Hurd. Indeed he said that the party's [policy green paper](#), published a year ago, had been written in "a different age, politically". The paper had been well received by the sector. Restoring public finances would be the priority of a conservative government, but there would be action on Gift Aid, reforming the [Big Lottery Fund](#) – replacing it with a Voluntary Action Lottery Fund, which would give grants only to the sector. Commissioning of public services from the sector by national and local government should give more weight to value in relation to cost.

Equality Bill

The second reading of the Equality Bill took place on 11th May. LVSC has prepared a briefing on the Bill which you can download [here](#). The key areas of the Equality Bill are:

- Socio-economic duty with a new public body to address this
- Equality duty on public bodies
- Public procurement to consider equality
- Banning age discrimination
- Gender pay and equality reports
- Positive action (not positive discrimination)
- More powers to Employment tribunals
- Protecting carers
- Protecting breastfeeding mothers
- Private members' clubs
- Protecting disabled people

The Government Equalities Office has issued a consultation on proposed specific duties to be contained in the bill. The deadline for comments is 30th September. The consultation can be downloaded at www.equalities.gov.uk

A number of voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations have been asked to give evidence to the Bill Committee, including Race on the Agenda (ROTA), Stonewall and Help the Aged and Age Concern.

On a related issue, the Government Equalities Office produced a discussion document '[Assessing the Impact of a Multiple Discrimination Provision – Equality Bill](#)'. Views on the document will contribute to the decision on whether to introduce protection from multiple discrimination into the Equalities Bill. Unfortunately the deadline for comments has now passed.

Regional indicators of sustainable development

The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has published regional indicators of sustainable development to help measure progress on the Government's Sustainable Development Strategy there are 68 national sustainable development indicators. The figures show that every region has improved in at least some areas during the last decade and there is no single region that is in the best or worst position for all indices. London performs well in having:

- the lowest amount of household waste per person;
- the highest reuse of previously developed land; and
- the highest level of productivity

However, it has

- the lowest proportion of household waste recycled per person;
- the highest proportion of children living in workless, and low-income, households (after taking housing costs into account);
- the lowest proportion of people satisfied in their local area; and
- the highest levels of vehicle theft and fear of crime.

Four of the 46 indicators showed signs of clear decline in London. These were:

- the proportion of children walking or cycling to school – down 6 per cent between 1995-7 and 2005-6;
- accessibility to supermarkets/a corner shop and post office both of which had worsened since 1997-8;
- proportion of households living in fuel poverty – up 3.3 per cent between 2001 and 2006 (although London has the lowest levels of fuel poverty of any region);
- the number of homeless households.

More information is available [here](#).

Age Concern Lewisham & Southwark threatens to sue PCT over loss of contract

– edited version of article by John Plummer, Third Sector

Charity claims 'best value' often means cheapest. Age Concern Lewisham and Southwark (ACSL) has threatened to sue Southwark Primary Care Trust over the "catastrophic" loss of a contract to deliver a £750,000 palliative care contract on behalf of PCT, awarded to a private company. ACLS had delivered palliative care for the PCT and domiciliary care for Southwark Council until last year, when the two public bodies jointly put their care services out to tender.

The charity, which employs 140 staff, claimed the procurement process was flawed because the PCT used criteria that were not disclosed to the bidders. The charity was

also unhappy that the bidding process did not take into account the value of voluntary organisations to the community.

In March, Southwark Council leader Nick Stanton admitted in a letter to the Director that "the criteria given to bidders were not sufficiently detailed" and the council agreed to re-run its tendering process, which is still under way. The PCT did not. The PCT and Southwark Council issued a joint statement saying they commissioned "on the basis of value for money and good quality for residents". The statement added: "Both the Council and the PCT are unable to comment on specific aspects of commissioning."

The Mayor's plans for London

The following is abridged from [LVSC's policy bulletin](#) – covering housing, plans for London, transport, the economic development strategy and the Mayor's annual report. Stephen Blann (CLB Policy & Networks Officer) will be reviewing the Mayor's plans in more details and assessing their implications for Bromley in his quarterly policy review update at the end of the month. Please email [Stephen](#) if you would like to receive notification of the update.

Housing policy in London

On 21st May the Mayor released his [draft London Housing Strategy](#). This pledges to tackle overcrowding by helping more Londoners to move elsewhere if they wish to and encouraging the building of more family homes. Overcrowding is a particular issue for London where one quarter of households are classified as overcrowded. The Mayor has claimed that he has made good progress with reviving building projects stalled by the credit crunch and with increasing the amount of affordable housing.

However, there has been much criticism of the impact of his policy of negotiating affordable targets with each local authority; with some arguing that it is the poorer boroughs that are ending up with higher affordable home targets.

The mayor is also consulting with the GLA on a number of other strategies.

London Plan

[A New Plan for London: proposals for the Mayor's London Plan](#) has been published for initial consultation with the London Assembly and the Greater London Authority Group. Wider public consultation may follow. It promises to support voluntary and community sector organisations and to involve them in implementing the policies in the plan. There is also a proposal to boost the emphasis on social infrastructure, including the development of community facilities and mention of long-term community assets.

Transport plan

On 18th May, the Mayor also published a '[Statement of Intent](#)' for his transport strategy. Again this is for consultation with the London Assembly and the Greater London Authority Group. It has faced criticism for being a long commentary on the state of transport in London which states the obvious, as well as some high profile but expensive schemes being dropped.

Economic Development Strategy for London

[Rising to the Challenge: proposals for the Mayor's Economic Development Strategy for Greater London](#) specifically mentions the voluntary and community sector under the delivery partner section and suggests that many such organisations may be represented

by larger 'umbrella' organisations, so recognising this type of infrastructure support. It also states that 'welfare to work' programmes should include work with voluntary sector organisations because of their 'unrivalled reach into many groups who need support'. [Recent reports on the effectiveness of job brokers getting long term unemployed and those with disabilities were failing to meet targets, but that VCS providers did better.] However, the previous Economic Development Strategy included particular recognition of the sector's contribution to the economic development of London with the statement "Social enterprises and voluntary and community organisations are important as sectors of the economy in their own right, as employers and as partners in delivering this strategy". There is no such statement in the new proposals for the strategy.

Mayor's annual report

The [Mayor's Annual Report for 2008/9](#) is now available. It mentions the voluntary and community sector throughout with specific mentions of their involvement in, for example, the Outer London Commission, GLA Equality Framework, and the London Violence Against Women and Health Inequalities Strategies. The Mayor states that he has improved the relations between the London Development Agency and the voluntary sector.

Centre for Excellence & Outcomes in Children & Young People's services

The Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO) is a new organisation. It identifies and coordinates evidence of 'what works', to create a single and comprehensive picture of effective practice in delivering children's services. C4EO offers support to Children's Trust by working with them to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

The focus of its work is defined by the seven national themes identified in Every Child Matters: Early Years; Disability; Vulnerable Children (particularly children in care); Child Poverty; Parents, Carers and Families; Youth; and Schools and Communities.

The service recently launched a free online 'one stop shop' resource that focuses on effective family support and how best to narrow the gap in outcomes. More information visit the [C4EO website](#).

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National/regional events

London 2012 open weekend

Dates: Friday 24 to Sunday 26 July

Not-for-profit community organisations and venues across the UK are being invited to 'open up' as part of the annual London 2012 Open Weekend. The weekend, which marks the three-year countdown to the Olympic Games coming to London, encourages local communities to get involved and try something new in the capital. [Find out more or register at the London 2012 website](#).

London's BAME Third Sector: Managing the Economic Downturn

Date: 30 June 2009

Venue: central London

MiNet is London's only regional Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) network. It works to strengthen the voice of London's BAME third sector.

Speakers at the event will include Lisa Greensill, Communities and Third Sector Team leader, Government Office for London, Ian Redding, Head of Grants, London Councils and Dr Theo Gavrielides, Race on the Agenda. For full event details visit [MiNet's](#) webpage.

National Third Sector Quality Conference - buy one place, get one half price!

Date: Saturday 25 June

Venue: central London

The 'Demonstrating quality in challenging times' conference is the first time the third sector and local government have joined forces for a conference on quality. Organised by CES and the IDeA, the conference will stimulate discussion between third sector organisations, commissioners and funders. A range of exhibitors will provide information on quality systems and related services. [Read more on the website.](#)

Take part in the Big Lunch

Date: Sunday 19 July

Venue: a street near you

The Big Lunch is an Eden Project initiative aimed at bringing communities together. The idea is that on Sunday 19 July as many people in the UK as possible will simultaneously sit down to lunch together, with their neighbours, in the middle of their street, as a simple act of community. If you are interested in taking part visit the website to register your '[big lunch event](#)'.

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National/ regional training

Free places available on Positive Behaviour Management in Sport workshop

Date: Thursday 18 June

Time: 10am - 1pm

Venue: London South Bank University, Elephant and Castle

There are still places available on the above free training course, Delivered by sportscoach UK, the workshop is aimed at coaches working with young people either within a school or a club environment. The workshop aims to increase coaches' awareness of the behaviour of young people and the impact a coach's own club environment behaviour may have on others.

To book a place on this workshop, or for further information, please contact Xander Beck on beckx@lsbu.ac.uk or 020 7815 7887.

Facilitation Training Day organised by Talk Action

Date: Tuesday 14 July

Venue: St.Ethelburga's, 78 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AG

Time: 10am – 4.30pm

A course that will help you gain the tools and techniques to make your facilitation engaging and productive. Local meetings and engagement processes can too often be un-involving, unproductive and even confrontational. Good facilitation can help tackle these problems and help people to make local discussion and planning an enjoyable and productive process. Working effectively with local communities is an essential part of getting things done in any neighbourhood. It is also important for the development of better policy and practice, for understanding local needs and developing more sustainable communities. [Download information and booking form.](#)

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Local voluntary sector jobs

Personal Best - 3rd Sector Coordinator

SO1 points 29-31 (NJC scales) £27,588 - £29,197

35 hours per week / full time

Funding confirmed to 31st March 2010

Personal Best is an engagement programme developed to help build self esteem and self confidence and act as a stepping stone to new employment opportunities for those that take part.

This is a challenging, exciting role for a confident communicator who is passionate and knowledgeable about the third sector, and can combine frequent travel within London with complex relationship management.

The 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games offer a unique opportunity to use the prospect of participating as a volunteer in the Games to encourage workless and socially excluded individuals to gain new skills, lifting their aspirations and creating new career choices.

The 3rd Sector Coordinator position is a key relationship-building and information-sharing role between the London Development Agency (LDA) (managing the programme) and the Third Sector (engaged in skills development, individuals support services and volunteering activities).

Key areas of work will include:

- the promotion of the programme to local, sub-regional and regional third sector organisations
- facilitation of relationships between Personal Best delivery teams with third sector organisations, including Volunteer Centres
- building links with Pan-London events and volunteering opportunities for participants and graduates

Deadline for applications: 9am Friday 26 June 2009

Interviews: 1- 3 July 2009

Visit www.glv.org.uk for full details and application packs or call 020 7953 7317

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Funding news

The Modernisation Fund

Are you a third sector organisation with a turnover between £150,000 and £750,000?

Do you provide services in any of the following areas to help meet the needs of communities affected by the recession?

- well being and health

- advice, information and guidance
- loss of income, training and skills

Could you work more closely with other organisations to increase your impact and extend your reach?

With a £1000 bursary from Capacitybuilders' Modernisation Fund Grants Programme, you could buy at least two days of professional advice to explore how you can become more resilient and work more closely with others, including through collaboration or merger.

This first phase of the Modernisation Fund Grants Programme is aimed at helping organisations like yours to understand your needs better. From Monday 1 June to Friday 17 July you are invited to apply for £1,000 bursaries to pay for initial advice to explore how you can become more resilient and increase your impact by working more closely with others. From September, grants of up to £10,000 will be available to help organisations (that have gone through the bursary phase of the programme) to take the next steps towards collaboration or merger.

To find out more about the programme and access a range of useful resources to help you explore your organisational needs, please visit www.modernisationfund.org.uk. Additionally for further advice and guidance, you can contact Julie Hunt, Funding Information and Advice Officer on 020 8 315 1915.

CompeteFor - London 2012 Olympic Games

CompeteFor.com is an award-winning website that allows businesses to apply for contract opportunities linked to the London 2012 Olympic Games. The website matches both private and public sector contract opportunities within the London 2012 supply chain to businesses of all sizes and allows them to apply using a short online process. To apply for contracts listed on CompeteFor as a supplier, you must complete and publish a full profile. Once your profile is published, you will also be able to track your activity and search for other suppliers with whom you may wish to partner. You will not be able to respond to available opportunities until your profile is fully published. For more information please go to www.competefor.com

Please note that, after you have completed the process, the system will then schedule your request to be completed on your renewal date. Until this date, you will benefit from the Daily Email Alert service for Supply2.gov.uk.

Local funding now available for 2009/11 – grants of up to £6,000

The Bromley Children and Family Project which incorporates family and children centres, The Children's Fund and extended services aims to provide a variety of services for children, their parents and parents to be in line with the Every Child Matters, Children Centres and Extended Services agendas, for example integrated care, early and supported learning, health, family support and out of school activities.

They would like to hear from you if you have an understanding of the needs of your local community and if you would like to apply for funding.

Full details of the criteria for this funding stream are provided in guidance notes. To obtain an application pack call 020 8461 7231. Closing dates for applications is 30th June 2009. Successful applicants will be notified by the end of July 2009

London Development Agency commissioning

After its 'Forensic Audit', the London Development Agency (LDA) decided that it was going to move away from grant funding and towards commissioning (where highly specified services are bought in according to which provider offers the best value). In

order to achieve efficiency savings, there would be a shift to much larger contracts, mostly involving the delivery of services across the region, or at least sub-regionally. Following consultation with London's voluntary and community sector (VCS), the LDA has now produced a paper, '[Towards a Commissioning framework](#)' which provides more details of how they intend to commission services.

The LDA proposes that every commission enables the full and meaningful engagement of the voluntary and community sector, "except where a conscious decision is made to the contrary". The paper also mentions that this should be in accordance with [Audit Commission](#) and [Commission for the Compact](#) guidance on commissioning from the VCS. For more see LVSC's [policy bulletin](#).

£3m Fun and Friendship programme to fund projects for disabled young people

BBC's [Children in Need](#) has launched a new £3m grant programme focused on charities for disabled people aged between 12 and 18.

The 'Fun and Friendship' programme will help organisations that support independent socialising for disabled youngsters. It will offer up to 12 three-year grants of up to £300,000 each.

The charity said that applicants should demonstrate that their programmes improved social interaction; that young people were involved in determining how they were developed; and that they were committed to sharing what they learned.

The deadline for applications is 31 July. For more information, visit www.bbc.co.uk.

Media Trust opens £900,000 digital media fund

The Media Trust has made a £900,000 fund available to help charities and community organisations use digital media to reach isolated people.

The organisation will give out £250,000 in 26 grants of between £1,500 and £14,000 to groups that work with deprived and isolated people.

The grants, which will be made over two years, will fund digital media projects including films, photography, TV and websites.

The Media Trust will use the rest of the fund, which is being provided by the Communities and Local Government Department and the Department for Universities, Innovation and Skills, to provide online resources to help charities use digital media in their work.

They will provide training and support for 26 grant recipients and hope more charities will be able to extend their use of digital media through the new resources that will be put on their website when the online application process for grants is opened in July. For more information about the Media Trust go to: www.mediatrust.org.

Official Sports London

Official Sports London is a bursary opportunity funded by the LDA and Sport England. Official Sports is designed to assist Londoners aged 16+ to complete sports officiating qualifications and volunteer or work as referees, umpires, judges and officials. The programme aims to increase the number and skill level of sports officials in London, benefiting both individuals and sports networks of all levels in London.

Applicants can apply for a bursary to cover up to 80 per cent of the costs associated with completing an officiating course plus 15 hours of volunteer officiating. The maximum

bursary under the General Fund is £350, and support packages for disabled people are also available.

Funding is available for a wide variety of courses are within 17 different Olympic and Paralympic sports. Successful applicants could become football referees, diving judges, athletics timekeepers, boxing judge, volleyball line judges and more. For full details of eligible sports and courses please visit their website: www.officialsports.org.

Who Can Apply?

- London residents
- Aged 16+
- Genuine interest in volunteering in sport
- No need for prior experience or involvement in sport.

If you have any queries, or would like to receive hard copies of their flyer, please contact them on 020 7749 9173 or via email: admin@officialsports.org or visit their website: www.officialsports.org.

The Future Jobs Fund

The Future Jobs fund is a fund of around 1 billion to support the creation of jobs for long term employed young people and others who face significant disadvantage in the labour market. It is a challenge fund which invites organisations to submit bids for funding. The fund is run by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) in partnership with the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The Fund aims to create 130,000 jobs, aimed primarily at 18-24 year olds who have been out of the work for a year. The Government is keen to work with local authorities, social enterprises and charities to turn this important priority into a reality and has a strong preference for partnership bids. The following two articles relate to opportunities for partnership working with the Future Builders consortium and Social Enterprise London. For full guidance go to: www.dwp.gov.uk.

Invitation to join Future Builders consortium bid for the Future Jobs Fund

Futurebuilders is setting up a consortium to help the third sector win contracts. The consortium will trial a new approach for pooling expertise and resources for core services associated with tendering for contracts – such as bid writing, financial modelling, contract negotiation and performance management.

It is currently planning to bid for contracts from the DWP's £1 billion Future Jobs Fund and is looking for organisations to join the consortium.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Ian Charlesworth, Futurebuilders Enterprise Director, tel: 020 7842 7704, email: ian.charlesworth@futurebuilders-england.org.uk or Richard Litchfield, Eastside Consulting, tel 020 7770 6144, email: richard@eastsideconsulting.co.uk.

The deadline for the bid is 30 June 2009, so please get in touch with us as soon as possible if you are interested. Please also forward this email to anyone else you think may be interested.

Future Jobs Fund - Social Enterprise London information event

Date: Wednesday 24 June

Venue: Social Enterprise London, 1 London Bridge

Time: 6.15pm

Following an overwhelmingly positive response to a call for information last week, Social Enterprise London is inviting social entrepreneurs and social enterprise leaders from across London to an information event on the Future Jobs Fund.

The evening will include a presentation from Philip Hayes from the Government Office for London on the details of the Fund, and how social enterprises can effectively access it.

The Future Jobs Fund, administered by the Department for Work and Pensions, is seeking individual bids which create at least 30 new jobs over a six month period. Whilst this seems a lot, bids can be made up of partnerships between public or private bodies and social enterprises, and it is this aspect of the Fund which the information event will focus on. To book a place at this event or for more information, please [download the booking form](#) and return it to events@sel.org.uk. Please note that places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you have any queries then please call the SEL team on 020 7022 1920 or e-mail matthew@sel.org.uk.

£20m Learning Revolution Transformation Fund

Grants to inspire adults to learn new things through informal learning.

The Learning Revolution Transformation Fund of £20 million from DIUs (now named Department for Business Innovation and Skills) offers grants of various sizes to help projects get started. Funding will be allocated this summer for projects to start by March 2010. The aim is to support brilliant ideas that involve organisations teaming up in new ways to inspire adults to learn new things and covers a variety of activities. The primary purpose is for individuals to pursue an interest, have fun or develop a new skill. This support of informal learning can bring real benefits by contributing to health and well-being by building confidence, resilience and good social relationships or an important step towards further learning, qualifications and employment.

Public, private and third sector organisations in England are eligible to submit their creative proposals, preferably in partnership, by 12 July.

For more information go to: www.dius.gov.uk.

NCVO launches new website listing grants and contract opportunities

A new website called Funding Central will be launched on Wednesday 17th June by NCVO who will be managing the site. It will list details of over 4,000 income opportunities focusing on grants, contracts and loan finance. The second phase will follow in September and will include a wide range of tools and resources to help identify and manage the most appropriate income sources for organisations. For more information go to the NCVO website: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk.

City Parochial Foundation (CPF) London – applications from Bromley encouraged

CPF is an independent charitable foundation which aims to enable and empower the poor of London to tackle poverty and its root causes, and to ensure that its funds reach those most in need. Each year it expects to make funds of approximately £6.5 million available, of which over £5 million is allocated to its open programme and the remainder to its special initiatives and commissioning.

There are many ways in which issues of poverty can be addressed, though the Foundation does not have sufficient resources to support all needs. CPF's open

programme has four priority areas. These are: To improve employment opportunities for disadvantaged people; To promote the inclusion of recent arrivals to the UK; To promote social justice (policy change and campaigning work); To strengthen the voluntary and community sector (in the areas of research, campaigning and policy change and evaluation and learning).

CPF expects to make approximately 100 grants each year through its open programme. There is no minimum or maximum size of grant and the amount you request should be the amount you need. However, the average grant is currently £52,000 in total, although a significant number of grants are smaller (between £5,000 to £30,000) and a few are larger (more than £70,000).

The amounts requested may be spread over one, two or three years and in some cases over longer periods, if there is a good reason to do so. For example, if you are awarded a grant of £45,000, this could be £15,000 over three years, or £25,000 in the first year and £20,000 in the second. CPF will not normally make grants that exceed £100,000.

CPF has comprehensive funding guidelines available on its website or which can be requested from its offices. Please read these funding guidelines in full before making an application. The guidelines set out how you should go about making an application.

The next closing date is 25 October for the March 2010 Grants Committee. You may submit your proposal at any time before this date. City Parochial Foundation, 6 Middle Street, London, EC1A 7PH Tel: 020 7606 6145 Fax: 020 7600 1866 Email:

info@cityparochial.org.uk Website: <http://www.cityparochial.org.uk>.

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Volunteer news

Volunteers' Week 2009 - the biggest week of celebrations yet

2009 has seen bigger celebrations than ever before during Volunteers' Week, writes Diane Diamond, Bromley Volunteer Centre's Manager.

There was plenty of national news coverage, including articles in the Sun, postings from [Gordon Brown](#), [Stuart Etherington](#) and [Stephen Bubb](#) to the community space on [Independent Mind's](#) message board. There was an interview with former Blue Peter presenter Konnie Huk in the [Mirror](#). The [Guardian](#) looked at how volunteering is taking off as the recession dents job opportunities. And to top it off London's Mayor, Boris Johnson, took raising the profile of volunteering to new heights (Ed: should this be depths?) by [falling into a river](#). Volunteering in Greater London was also discussed on GMTV and on the [BBC London News](#) – where there was a well deserved focus on involved, the youth volunteering charity, which funds our very own Youth Volunteer Adviser, Tracey Harrison. The following are some of my highlights from the week.

Jean Levy receives award from Mayor Boris Johnson at City Hall

I am delighted to report that, as part of the London wide celebrations for Volunteers' Week, Jean Levy, and Chair of Community Links Bromley, won the James Banks Good Governance Award.

The award recognises services to volunteer governance, and celebrates the vital impact of Trustees and Committee Members in supporting the delivery of volunteer-involving third sector activities.

The panel of judges for the Award were unanimous in their agreement that Jean should receive this award, presented to Jean at a celebration ceremony with the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, on 4th June at the Living Room, City Hall.

“We are very proud that Jean’s tireless work for the organisation has been recognised through this award.” – Leslie Marks, Vice Chair of CLB.

CLB’s Director, Eithne Rynne and I were delighted to be invited to accompany Jean and her husband to the prestigious celebration event at City Hall. We were greeted by the Director of Greater London Volunteering, Kerry Tweed and by Judith Rich, OBE, both members of the awarding panel who congratulated Jean on her award.

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson first presented awards for volunteering in the sports, arts, safer communities and environment sectors and then focused on the main award of the event, the James Banks Good Governance Award, presenting Jean with an impressive plaque for her mantle piece and inviting her to say a few words.

Champagne and refreshments followed and a chance for us to mingle with all the other guests. James Banks, who was the key note speaker at our last year’s volunteer awards ceremony, was also present to see Jean receive her award. It was an event we will all remember for a very long time.”

[Click here to view photos](#) of Jean receiving her award; some great shots of City Hall, photos of the Director of GLV, The Mayor, Judith Rich, James Banks, Eithne Rynne, me and the other winners on our Flickr site.

Celebrations throughout the borough

1st – 7th June 2009 was the 25th anniversary of Volunteers’ Week and it was celebrated in style by many volunteer involving organisations across the Borough. [The Access Organisation](#) (view photos) , Kent Association for the Blind, the Borough Police, Bertha James Day Centre, Bromley Mind, Age Concern -Orpington, JusB, Springboard Bromley, the Mottingham Learning Shop and the Cotmandene Resource Centre are just a few of the local organisations that organised events to celebrate their volunteers. The types of celebrations included, coffee mornings, tea parties, BBQs, lunches and one lucky group of volunteers had a day trip to Broadstairs.

Community Links has set up a special volunteer’s week photo album on our Flickr site. If you would like to add your photos with some background and/or captions on your event, please email them [Diane Diamond](#).

Community Links Bromley hosts Volunteer Awards Ceremony

Here at the Volunteer Centre Bromley, we began our week of celebrations with the Community Links Bromley Volunteer Awards Ceremony. In its second year, this event was held on the evening of Wednesday 3rd June at Oakley House, Bromley Common. 20 volunteers received awards in recognition of the unpaid help they contribute as volunteers.

We were delighted to welcome our Guest Speakers, Lord Dubs*, who spoke about the importance of good volunteer management and Bromley’s Deputy Mayor, Cllr Gordon Norrie who updated everyone on local volunteering initiatives.

Our congratulations go to all the volunteers who were awarded certificates: Margaret Theobald, Eileen Jukes, Jane Farrer, Christine Carpenter, Solange Augustin, Rikki Thorne, Aiden Egan, Chris McShane, Alan Girvin, Theresa Connor, Bert Till, Nina Rymer, Beryl Ramanathan, Pat Flack, Ann Burke, Irene Paver, Sara Ridout, Ken Cooper, Harry Calthrop, and Carla Russell.

*Lord Dubs began his political career as a local councillor in Paddington, West London. Both as a councillor and a member of parliament Lord Dubs has been actively involved with the voluntary and community sector.

While leading the Refugee Council as CEO, and after that serving as a Minister in Northern Ireland, he continued to demonstrate his strong commitment to supporting voluntary groups, and in particular in recognising the added value that volunteers offer us.

View photos of the winners, speakers and entertainers on the [CLB Flickr site](#).

Bromley Volunteer Centre at the Glades

Over the weekend of 6th and 7th June, the Volunteer Centre hosted a display in the Glades Shopping Centre. I have been involved with raising the profile of volunteering in the Glades for the last 5 years and this year we saw more people approaching us to enquire about volunteering than ever before. We were joined by SSAFA, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the Girl Guides, the Samaritans, Age Concern Bromley, the Alzheimer's Society and Bromley Autistic Trust. It was an extremely successful weekend.

View our photos from the [Glades on the CLB Flickr site](#).

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Legal News

Company Cars

HM Revenue and Customs have published revised "Advisory Fuel Rates" to take effect from 1 July 2009. If the rate paid per mile of business travel is no higher than the advisory rate for the particular engine size and fuel type of the car, HMRC will accept that there will be no income tax or National Insurance liability. Please click above for more information. The new rates may be viewed at www.hmrc.gov.uk.

Registration standards for providers of health or adult social care

From April 2010, providers of healthcare or adult social care services must be registered with the Care Quality Commission. The commission has produced consultation guidance that makes clear to providers what they will need to do to meet these requirements and is seeking views on this draft guidance. The deadline for comments on the guidance is 24 August. You can download the consultation at www.cqc.org.uk.

Guidance on disposing of charity land

The Charity Commission guidance note CC28 (previously known as Disposing of charity land) has been revised and republished as 'Sales, leases, transfers or mortgages: What trustees need to know about disposing of charity land'. www.charitycommission.gov.uk.

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Best practice, resources and offers

Carers Direct launches new telephone hotline

A Carers Direct hotline has been launched as a one-stop information and advice service for carers looking after ill, frail or disabled friends and relatives. Phone 0808 802 0202, or see www.nhs.uk/carersdirect. There is also a training course, Caring with Confidence, available face-to-face, online and by distance learning, www.caringwithconfidence.net.

Bromley Families Information Service – opening times

Free impartial and confidential advice from Monday to Friday: 9.30 am – 4.30pm on the following: Child minders, Day nurseries, Parent support, Children’s activities, Out of School Clubs, Holiday Play Schemes, Pre-school Playgroups, Parent and Toddler groups, Funding advice, Youth Information and much more.

Contact Telephone: 020 8464 0276

Email: childcare.information@bromley.gov.uk

Visit: 3rd Floor, Bromley Central Library, Bromley, BR1 1EX

Guide to 20 impact and quality tools

New Economics Foundation has published 'Tools for you', an update to the 'Prove and Improve Toolkit', designed to help development workers and frontline organisations navigate the world of social impact and quality measurement. The main booklet (PDF, 355KB) gives detailed summaries of twenty different approaches, while an accompanying tool decider and comparison chart make it quick to weigh up the varying benefits. All downloadable, but registration required, at www.neweconomics.org.

London Events Volunteering Calendar

Greater London Volunteering (GLV) events calendar is useful to organisations as well as volunteers.

As a volunteer looking to get involved with volunteering events in London, visitors to the website can click on an event to contact the organiser, get maps and directions. Add events to your calendar or share them with friends. Check out the get set go! [volunteers'](#) e-pack.

As an organisation you can manage your event through the calendar. You can [add your event](#), use the [event checklist](#), try the get set go! [clubs, organisations and events](#) e-pack and [team up with a Volunteer Centre](#) here at [Community Links Bromley](#).

Please note you will need to have a Google account to access the calendar and you can get a Google account [here](#).

Speakers Bank offers 20 per cent discount

Speakers Bank exists to support those working in the third sector and/or the beneficiaries of the third sector. It argues that the best way to ensure your organisation gets its message across is by recognising that everyone in your organisation is an ambassador for what you do and what you stand for. Whether in accounts, administration, project management or hands on running projects – each of your team needs to be equipped to both communicate in the workplace and be encouraged to be an ambassador for what you achieve together. Training is designed to boost confidence and self esteem through enabling people to speak with clarity and impact through: impromptu speaking, speech structure, making your point clearly, body language and self awareness. To take advantage of the 20 per cent discount mention the discount TB20 when [booking a place](#).

BBC Proms special for families - £5 a seat

Eight concerts have been picked out from this year’s proms season as ideal for families. Before each one there is a free ‘family music intro’ workshop designed specifically so

that you will all enjoy the concert even more. The conditions for booking are that at least one member of the group must be under 16. The £5 ticket includes entry to both the music introduction event and the concert, but as there are a limited number of places, it is important to book early. To book call 0845 401 5040 and ask for 'family music intro' tickets.

Bromley Children and Young People Trust - web bulletin out now

The Bromley Children and Young People Trust is a partnership of the following organisations: Bromley Hospitals NHS Trust, Bromley Mytime, Bromley Primary Care Trust, Children and Families Voluntary Sector Forum, Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, London Borough of Bromley, Metropolitan Police Service (Bromley), Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust, Primary and Special Schools, and Secondary Schools. [Read the latest web bulletin.](#)

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Financial Management

Budgeting for your organisation

Do You Know?

1. Budget is a plan translated into money
2. Budget is a tool for allocating resources and implementing strategic plans
3. Budget allows an organisation to effectively allocate capabilities and resources to create the maximum beneficial impact
4. Budget ideally, identifies financial problems that could arise in the coming year
5. Budget provides indicators for evaluating employee performance
6. Budget gives staff goals to reach and steps to achieve them
7. Budget is a cyclical process based on the organization's long-range plan
8. Budget preparation should ideally begin six months before the beginning of the period to which the budget applies
9. Budget must be carefully planned

Budget support is available from Maroof, your Community Accountant

For further support in accounting and financial management, please contact Maroof, your local community accountant, on 020 8315 1919 or e-mail:

maroofa@communitylinksbromley.org.uk.

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Membership

Join Community Links Bromley

Benefits of becoming a member of Community Links Bromley are many. Here are a few:

- Membership is free
- Specialist advice and support services
- Inclusion in the Directory of Local Voluntary Organisations
- Community library with over 500 titles
- Specialist funding information service
- Networking events
- Forum events

- Benefit from CLB's strong relationship with statutory authorities
- Opportunity to elect CLB trustees and attend the AGM
- Free or discounted prices on members' events
- Advertising job adverts and events on our website and e-bulletin free
- Volunteering brokerage and representation

Membership of Community Links Bromley (CLB) is open to charities, voluntary organisations and community groups operating for the benefit of Bromley people and those groups whose aims are compatible with those of CLB. To become a member your organisation needs to fulfil these criteria.

Please note that CLB is a company limited by guarantee. Therefore all members are liable for the sum of £1 if CLB should be wound up.

To apply or to check the full criteria, download the [membership form and criteria](#). Or contact Sue Lee on 0208 315 1902.

If you aren't sure whether or not your organisation is a member, follow this link to the full [membership list of Community Links Bromley](#).

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About the email bulletin

Contact Details

The editor is Philippa Leary, Membership, Information & Communications Officer, Community Links Bromley. Our website is at www.communitylinksbromley.org.uk

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