



August 2010

The Community Foundation
for Wiltshire & Swindon



Your Foundation Matters

The Newsletter of The Community Foundation for Wiltshire & Swindon

Hello and welcome to our revamped newsletter

We hope you like it. We would be grateful for any comments you have which you can send to info@wscf.org.uk.



'THE TEAM' AWAIT GUESTS AT BOWOOD (L-R) ROSEMARY MACDONALD, JON YATES, TARYN GEORGE, CAROLINE BROWN, HEIDI YORKE & CHAN CHITRODA

Annual Celebration

We decided to give our annual celebration a new look and feel this year following many years in the Devizes Rugby Club. On the 20th of April, we were joined by our supporters for an evening reception at Bowood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort in the company of Lord and Lady Lansdowne.

Despite the ash cloud keeping some attendees away, 120 guests gathered to celebrate our 2009/2010 year. After everyone had the opportunity to catch up over drinks and canapés, Richard Handover took the Chair and reported on how the Foundation had distributed £913,000 in grants to 255 groups across Wiltshire and Swindon.

We held a preview of our specially commissioned film focusing on two groups that the foundation funded during the year, then two of our current Shuker Scholars spoke. Jessica Ovens and Fred Wright received grants towards their university education. They spoke with confidence and appreciation about the opportunities that their

Shuker Scholarships have given them – a truly inspiring segment of a lovely evening.

Richard then moved us to the highlight of the event, the launch of our 'One Degree More' campaign. We want to build on the success of the Shuker Scholarships and make tertiary education or vocational training funding available to students from across the county who need our help. Our target is to build an endowment fund of £5 million to support 30 young people a year. Please see more about this on Page 8.

Lights, Camera, Action!

Nothing beats hearing about the impact of funding from the groups themselves. We worked with Level Films from Bristol to show the work of two very different groups we have supported. The Kennet Valley Driving Group, who provide carriage driving for disabled people and Erlestoke Social Enterprise Community Interest Company who give opportunities to young offenders to improve their skills and gain employment.

In 2009/10 a total of 255 groups or Individuals received a grant from The Community Foundation.

Totalling £913,000

Although the film is only five minutes long, it took two whole days to film and we were very lucky with the weather. Our film stars were naturally a little nervous to start with, but our filmmakers were able to put them at their ease. The end result is testament to their expertise!

Development Director Jon Yates was on hand throughout and ensured that the Community Foundation's identity was central to the film: he wanted to ensure that the message of how these groups really benefited from the generosity of donors to the Foundation really came across.

Of course nothing goes entirely smoothly in the film world. While interviewing Leroy in the nursery greenhouse at Erlestoke, the sound of gunfire was unmistakable in the background and made the glass tremble (one of the downsides of living near Salisbury plain!). Therefore the poor man had to do numerous takes – so we were very grateful for his patience!

The film is called '**Together Making Our Community Better**' and can be seen on our website – just follow the links from our home page or you can find it on YouTube – just search for The Community Foundation for Wiltshire and Swindon.



Do take a look by visiting www.wscf.org

The Wiltshire Society

We are delighted to welcome The Wiltshire Society as a new fund into the Community Foundation. The Trustees of the Wiltshire Society saw the foundation as a good way to continue their work in supporting young people from Wiltshire to advance their education.

Established at least as early as 1653 the Wiltshire Society was a society of Wiltshiremen and was frequently referred to as the Wiltshire Feast, from the practice of holding an annual fundraising dinner in London. Which is something we may look to resurrect! At the dinner the attendees subscribed their quota towards the apprenticing of some poor Wiltshire child or other charitable cause associated with the poor of the county.

By 1817 funds were dedicated to helping young apprentices and in more recent times this has evolved into supporting young people to pursue courses for which they are suited but from which they are likely to be precluded by lack of funds. Help is given towards travel costs and the purchasing of books, equipment and other essentials.

We are looking forward to continuing this work and have already made the first grant to a design student to enable her to take up an internship in New York. This fund sits well alongside our existing support for young individuals that we are aiming to build significantly through our One Degree More campaign, please see page 8.

'Your Foundation Matters' by email?

We are trying to cut our printing and postage costs whilst also aiming to be more environmentally friendly by utilising email. If you would be interested in receiving our publications by email please contact: jon.yates@wscf.org.uk

Here are just a few of the groups we have been able to support recently through the generosity of our donors

Wylde Coyotes

Wylde Coyotes – based in the Wylde Valley, provide an inclusive after school club for both children with disabilities and able-bodied children from ages 3 to 11. They are the only inclusive after school club in a 30 miles radius with children from as far as Salisbury and Trowbridge.



HAVING FUN AT WYLDE COYOTES

Wylde Coyotes provide much needed respite for parents and carers and training and personal development for volunteers as a result via Business Link and Train to Gain. Our grant of £5,000 has contributed to the running costs of this fantastic project.

The **HARBOUR** Project
For Swindon Refugees and Asylum Seekers
Registered Charity Number: 1097227

The Harbour Project

The Harbour Project operates a drop-in centre at St Luke's Hall in Swindon. They provide support to asylum seekers and refugees. This can be advice on accommodation, providing access to the Internet or simply a hot meal. Our grant of £2,500 will contribute to emergency food, accommodation and travel fares for destitute individuals.



THERAPY IN ACTION AT WESSEX MS CENTRE

Wessex Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre

The Wessex Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Warminster provides therapies and support to people with Multiple Sclerosis as well as their carers, family and friends. Did you know that 1 in 700 people can suffer from this disease? The Therapy Centre supports over 100 people every week using physiotherapy and a purpose built oxygen tank. Our grant of £5,000 is supporting the running costs of the centre.

Spinal Injuries Association

The families of those with spinal cord injuries receive support from The Spinal Injuries Association through their Peer Support Service based at The Duke of Cornwall Spinal Treatment Centre at Salisbury District Hospital. Our grant of £4,375 is supporting the costs of a Peer Support Officer providing advice and support on a range of spinal cord injury related issues. The Officer himself has a spinal cord injury and was treated at the unit. This is his first employment in 17 years.



'THE TRUSSELL TRUST'S FOOD BANK PROJECT WAS PIONEERED IN SALISBURY'

Trussell Trust

The Trussell Trust works to alleviate poverty, deprivation and despair in the UK and overseas. They give help direct to individuals and families through projects that are practical and sustainable. The Trussell Trust runs various projects including charity shops and have local food banks in Salisbury, Devizes and Warminster/Westbury. Our grant of £2,445 has contributed to the running costs of the organisation in Wiltshire.



ASK ST NICHOLAS

ASK St Nicholas Ltd

St Nicholas School in Chippenham is a purpose built specialist school for any child or young person, aged 4 to 19, who has a severe, complex or profound and multiple learning disability. Our grant of £5,000 has enabled them to set up an After School Klub (ASK) for children who have severe autism, cerebral palsy and other medical conditions.

South Asian Performing Arts Centre

South Asian Performing Arts Centre based at New College and Lawn Community Centre in Swindon run cultural vocal and dancing workshops open to all people in Swindon. Our grant of £5,000 will be used for the running costs of the workshops, including teacher fees and travel expenses.



SOUTH ASIAN PERFORMING ARTS

Broughton Gifford Youth Club

Based in Broughton Gifford Village Hall near Melksham this youth club runs a two week annual summer programme for young people in the area who otherwise have little access to organised activity. Our grant of £4,000 will support the costs of outings and activities for young people at the club during the summer.



BROUGHTON GIFFORD YOUTH CLUB

We sometimes need volunteers to help us with our administration for events and other office tasks. If you feel you might be able to help we would be very pleased to put you on the list to be called as necessary. Please call Jon Yates on 01380 729284 or email him at jon.yates@wscf.org.uk

The High Sheriff's Summer Reception

The High Sheriff of Wiltshire Dame Elizabeth Neville was delighted to receive over 200 guests to Stonar School, near Melksham on Sunday 27th June. The reception takes place each year to raise money for the High Sheriff's Fund for Crimebeat held with the Community Foundation. Dame Elizabeth has strong links with Stonar School that was a splendid venue for an event of this size with marquees placed on the magnificent grounds in front of the school.



DAME ELIZABETH RECEIVING A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS FROM JON YATES OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Despite concerns with the weather forecast in the week leading up to the event the day dawned beautifully and in fact turned out to be one of the hottest days of the year so far. The girls of Stonar School were central to proceedings with the sixth form musical ride giving a splendid display to a medley of James Bond Film themes. Complete with evening gowns, Walther PPK's and '007' marked on the flanks of each horse.

After seeing to their horses the girls then gave a singing recital in the marquee. The event raised £11,000, which will be matched on a £ for £ basis from the Government's Grassroots Grants Endowment Match Challenge. The addition to the Crimebeat Fund will therefore be significant providing a sustainable source of income to support projects helping young people to spend their time constructively, avoiding crime and anti-social behaviour.

It's our Birthday...

...well not quite but in 2011 we will be 20 years old and plan to mark the occasion with a series of events. A Birthday Committee has been formed and they have come up with a whole host of ideas and once we have firmer plans we will be letting you know.

You may not know but the first Community Foundation in the UK started in Swindon in

1975. There are now 58 across the country supporting thousands of groups with millions of pounds each year. Thamesdown Community Trust merged with The Wiltshire Community Trust in 1991 to form The Community Foundation, as we know it today. We are looking forward to celebrating 20 years of supporting our local communities through the generosity of our donors.



Social Media

We recently attended a presentation about social media given by Mike Fieldhouse from realityhouse, a Bath based company who support our own website. Among the fascinating facts given were:

- If the Facebook Community were a country it would be the 4th biggest in the world
- The fastest growing element of this community are women aged between 56 and 65
- 24m people in the UK spend up to an hour a day using Facebook

So we have succumbed to the inevitable and created our own Facebook page.

This has also been helped by Hana, our Czech student having the knowledge to do this for us.

If you are a Facebook user please come and take a look and maybe become our friend. You can find a link to this on our homepage at www.wscf.org.uk. We aim to keep the content fun, interesting and brief.

The Youth Action Wiltshire Growth Fund

In June an event was held at Cadenham Manor, Foxham to launch The Youth Action Wiltshire Growth Fund. Martin and Victoria Nye kindly hosted a garden party that was generously sponsored by Brewin Dolphin and over 250 Youth Action Wiltshire supporters and other contacts of the sponsor gathered in the beautiful gardens on a very sunny evening.

The Youth Action Wiltshire Growth Fund has been set up with The Community Foundation with a view to providing a long-term sustainable source of income for Youth Action Wiltshire's work around the county. We are delighted to have this association and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship.



FRASER AND ROSEMARY MACDONALD WITH MARY AND DAVID HOLDER AT CADENHAM MANOR, FOXHAM



HANA JANECKOVA

Hana Janeckova

We are delighted to have a student from the Czech Republic working with us over the summer. Hana Janeckova is 25 and from Vsetin and is living in Devizes while she works with us for 3 months. Hana has a Masters Degree in Information and Library Studies and is currently studying another degree in Russian Language & Literature, which she will finish next year.

Hana comes to us as part of a European Union programme called ERASMUS (European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students). This programme enables young people from across Europe to gain work experience in another culture and offers scholarships to cover the costs.

ONE DEGREE MORE

IF CHARLES DARWIN HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO GO TO UNIVERSITY, WE MIGHT HAVE VERY DIFFERENT THEORIES ABOUT HOW WE GOT HERE.

CHARLES DARWIN

Graduated from Christ's College, Cambridge in 1831

Went on to develop the theory of evolution and natural selection.

Help a disadvantaged student go to university and who knows where their journey might take them? They might just end up changing the world.

Call The Community Foundation on 01380 729284 or visit www.wscf.org.uk

If you would like to make a donation to the One Degree More fund please send a cheque, or donate online at our One Degree More page on our website www.wscf.org.uk or call Jon Yates on 01380 729284.

Thank you!

Launched at our Celebration Evening in April, One Degree More will build on the success of our Shuker Scholarships and make tertiary education or vocational training funding available to students from across the county who may otherwise be precluded for financial reasons.

The founders of our education funding were Brian and Marie Shuker of Trowbridge who left a £2.5m legacy to the Community Foundation. Their express wish was to provide financial support to young people from West Wiltshire to enable them to undertake a university education. We have been able to fulfil those wishes and are sure they would be delighted to know that in the past 3 years we have supported 34 young people through university.

We would very much like scholarships to be available to young people from across all of Wiltshire and Swindon. Our target is to build an endowment fund of £5 million to support 30 young people a year. Under the heading of One Degree More we will be asking for your help over the next year to make Wiltshire the first county in England to have an independent educational fund of this kind: a real boost to the aspirations of our young people.

Contact us:

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like to thank...



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