



Newsletter

April, May, June 2006

KINGSTON VOLUNTARY ACTION GIFT AID FUND

Kingston Voluntary Action and Thames Community Foundation want to ensure that all community and voluntary groups with a charitable purpose in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames are able to benefit from the very generous tax advantages that Gift Aid can bring.



Hilary Garner, Chief Executive, KVA and Nigel Hay, Director, TCF

We know that many local community groups are too small or too new to register as a charity. Similarly there are many worthwhile community projects where registering as a separate charity may not be a practical option because they only need to raise funds as a one-off, for example, to purchase equipment.

There may also be some local charities that are registered but are unwilling to take advantage of Gift Aid as they find the procedures complicated and time consuming.

Thanks to Gift Aid every pound given to charity can be worth 28 per cent more and at no extra cost to the donor. It's the smart way to give.

See Page 3 to see an example of how it works.

Inside this edition:

Page 3 & 4	KVA News
Page 5	Local Bulletin
Page 6	News
Page 7	Funding
Pages 8	Training Venue
Page 9	Training Courses
Page 10/11	Health & Social Care
Page 12	Notice Board

KVA Staff

KVA:

Hilary Garner, Chief Executive

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Maria Tunmer, Health & Social Care Manager

Zahida Saddiq, Community Development Worker

Kingston Furniture Re-use Development Project

Project Manager

Jim Christmas & Jamie Deane- Driver/
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Superhighways Partnership Team

Kate White, Project Manager

Pat Stanley, Training Manager

Marcus Otite, Maher Al-Ugaily, Paul Allen, Ngozi Mayo, ICT Support Workers

Community Accountancy Self Help (CaSH) Worker

Julie Woodhouse

Partnership Worker

Jacqui Finn, South London CVS Partnership
Co-ordinator

Mission Statement

KVA exists to promote and encourage the development of Kingston's voluntary sector; and to facilitate communication between the voluntary sector and the statutory authorities and the public.

Newsletter Information

KVA's Newsletter is distributed free of charge four times a year to all known voluntary organisations in the Borough, key personnel in the statutory sector as well as local councillors. Copies are also distributed to libraries, doctors' surgeries and schools. The Newsletter provides an opportunity to promote your organisation or forthcoming events. We welcome material and comments for inclusion. Inserts can be included by prior arrangement. Insert costs are £35 for statutory bodies and £20 for voluntary organisations. The Newsletter can be put on tape if required.

If you have an amendment to our mailing list please contact Linda Palmer, lindap@kva.org.uk tel: 020 8255 3335. We are always looking for articles, news and information on matters affecting voluntary and community groups in Kingston. If you would like to submit an item to the Newsletter please contact Linda Palmer on lindap@kva.org.uk or phone 020 8255 3335.

Copy Deadlines

Summer Edition (July/ August/ September 06): 15 June 06

Autumn Edition (October/November/December): 15 Sept.



Disclaimer – information contained in the Newsletter & inserts come from a wide range of sources. Opinions or statements expressed may not necessarily reflect those of KVA.

KVA aims to ensure all information is correct and up to date.

KVA Membership. Membership of KVA is open to all voluntary and community groups who are based or work in Kingston. For details of how to become a member contact Linda Palmer, email lindap@kva.org.uk

GIFT AID Cont'd

Here's an example of how it works

You decide to give £50 to support a particular community project.

You fill in a Gift Aid declaration available from KVA and T.C.F. and as many details of the project as you can and send it with your cheque made payable to Thames Community Foundation. TCF claims back the £14.10 tax you have paid, turning your gift into a gift worth £64.10 and sends this amount to the project with a note of your name and address - unless you prefer to remain anonymous.

Thames Community Foundation will write to you confirming the transaction and giving you a note of your donation in case you need this for your tax return.

Visit the KVA website, www.kva.org.uk to view our Directory of Voluntary Organisations in Kingston-upon-Thames.

We are looking to develop this service further by offering the opportunity to donate online through the T.C.F. website.

KVA Membership – voluntary groups affiliated to KVA will find enclosed with this newsletter a renewal form for 2006/07. We would be grateful if this could be passed to your Treasurer for payment.

For more details about becoming an affiliated member contact Linda Palmer – email lindap@kva.org.uk

KVA Directory of Organisations update

Thank you to all the groups that have returned the KVA Directory of Organisations form sent out with our last Newsletter. A further copy is enclosed for those groups who have not replied - **we particularly want to know if you still wish to receive our newsletter.** If there are any changes in your details, please return either by fax to 020 8255 8804 or send free to Admin, KVA, Freepost KT4464, Canbury Park Road, Kingston KT2 6BR. If you would like a copy of the form emailed to you, please contact Linda Palmer as above.

Creating a website for your organisation

Come along and find out how you can use the new Kingston ePublish tool, a partnership initiative between RBK, KVA and Superhighways, to build a website for your organisation at no cost.

We will be holding two introductory sessions on Weds 26th April at the Kingston Access Learning Centre. The first will run from 10 - 12, with a repeat session at 1 - 3pm. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

There will be a demo of all the features available with ideas for their use, including:

- providing information about your services
- uploading publications
- surveying users
- communicating with your trustees
- a calendar for events and meetings.

This will be followed by a chance for you to have a go at setting up a site for your organisation, with help at hand. Superhighways will be providing follow up support and advice to any group using the tool.

For further background to the ePublish tool, visit www.kingstonepublish.org.uk

If you would like to book onto either session, please contact Superhighways on 0208 255 8040 or email Maher on maherugaily@superhighways.org.uk

Date for your Diary

KVA is planning a Voluntary Sector Forum event on Wednesday, 12th July at the Centre Hall, United Reformed Church (see page 8 for venue details) between 12 noon and 3pm.

Topics likely to be included: Gift Aid, Local Area Agreements, ChangeUp, Compact and Compact Plus and Funding.

All voluntary and community groups in Kingston are welcome to attend. A lunch will be provided, giving an opportunity to network with other groups. Look out for further information on our website www.kva.org.uk in early June.

Women in Governance (WinG) is entering its final training phase with a programme in Kingston in May. Sandra Seymour-Dale, Promotions Worker says 'I am writing to remind you what WinG is all about, and to encourage you, or any women or organisations you think might want to take part, to get in touch with me soon. If you would like to meet or talk with women who have already taken part in WinG, please let me know. I look forward to hearing from you'.

WinG encourages women to take part in local democracy as Trustees, Governors, Councillors, Community Representatives. The project has been in Kingston, Richmond and Merton Boroughs for over two years, and is a real success. More than 125 women have taken part in the free training programmes. WinG is for women who want to learn how to express their opinions more effectively, how to represent themselves for and in their communities, how to become someone in the Borough who helps make decisions.

After 10 weekly, **free** training sessions of just 4 hours, women will be able to:

Campaign for better facilities for their families
Protest effectively
Promote their cause
Change their lives

Get a qualification
Surf the net and send emails
Design a website
and much much more.

The training course starts on 11th May at Kaleidoscope, Cromwell Road, Kingston and will take place every Thursday (except 1st June) between 10 am and 2.30pm. Lunch is included and childcare costs are available.

WinG has just won a national award - a GoldStar from the Home Office. The GoldStar recognises how good WinG is - our ability to spread good practice in the field of recruiting, managing and retaining volunteers. Paul Goggins, Home Office Minister, talking about the winners said 'These projects will change lives and strengthen the wider community'.

Women - come and be part of a real success story!

There are only three more training programmes to go, so if you are interested in taking part, or if you know someone who might be interested, get more information from me -

Sandra, 020 8255 8161 or sandrasd@richmondcvcs.org.uk

WinG works in R.B.K. with Kingston Voluntary Action and the Volunteer Centre

Pay scale information

The 2006/07 pay increases for the widely used local government NJC scales are now published. Effective from 1st April 2006, the rise is equivalent to 2.95%. The Outer London Weighting has also been increased to £1650 p.a.

So far, we are aware of the full scales being available on NACVS resource pages at <http://www.nacvs.org.uk/resources/reference>

You can also contact KVA for a hard copy of the NJC payscales.

Furniture Reuse in Kingston

Community Furniture is now into its seventh month and has collected over 33 tonnes of unwanted furniture, passing much of this on to those in need.

The furniture, available at low cost, is stored in a warehouse and allows Kingston residents to view a wide selection including beds, small sofas, tables and chairs (complying with fire safety regulations). The project is aimed at those on low incomes, including the unemployed, students, housing association tenants, etc.

Please contact Community Furniture on 020 8942 5500 or email furnitureproject@kva.org.uk if you know of anyone who would benefit from this scheme.

Raise your profile with free promotion on Kingston On The Web

RBK now has a new online town & community portal at www.kingstonontheweb.com This online portal is a comprehensive online guide, providing local businesses, services, information and events for the people of Kingston Borough.

The website has its own Community site which provides free promotion for all local community groups, organisations and institutions.

Through the Kingston Community site, all groups can register their group profile under the appropriate category and go on to add news items and events; whether they be information or fundraising events or maybe even a request for volunteers.

When added, these items appear as 'Featured Articles' on the Kingston Community front-page thereby giving your organisation extra exposure to your services and events.

Each group can have a nominated person who is registered as an editor. The editor can easily login to their site anytime with a password and add or amend news items at anytime.

The set up process is very simple taking no longer than a few minutes and assistance can be provided in person or on the phone. For those organisations stretched for resources and time, Kingston On The Web would be happy to arrange registration of your organisation and events for you.

Some of the organisations which have already registered are; The Straight Talking Project, Mental Aid Projects, Victim Support, Samaritans, Kingston Volunteer Centre and Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness.

For further information or to arrange assistance with registering your group profile, please call Salima Nurmohamed on 020 8240 1000 or e-mail salima@kingstonontheweb.com

Help for Korean Young People

Christian Youthwork Charity Oxygen runs a number of clubs targeted at Korean young people. These clubs provide both support and friendship to any Korean young people in the UK in need of help and support.

Youth Club

The Oxygen Korean Youth Club in association with Kingston Youth Service is a social club held at the Fountain Youth Centre whereby young Korean people can come to meet friends, play games (table football, playstation, pool) as well as chat to and get to know youthworkers who can help them overcome challenges they may face as a young people in a new country and culture.

Tuesdays 5 – 7pm @ Fountain Youth Centre, New Malden

Homework Club

The Oxygen Korean homework club takes place every week at New Malden Methodist Church and provides young people help with English. Each week Oxygen workers and local volunteers are there to help young people understand the work that they have been set.

Thursdays 5 – 7pm @ New Malden Methodist Church, High Street, New Malden

Both clubs are open to all Korean young people, for more information contact Richard James on 020 8547 0566 or korean@oxygen-online.org

Local Elections - don't forget that if your organisation is funded by the Royal Borough of Kingston, The Local Government Act 1986 (Section 2) prohibits local authorities - and therefore groups funded by them - from publishing material which '**appears to be designed to effect public support for a political party**'. This includes leaflets and newsletters, as well as meetings open to any section of the public where speakers promote their own political views or those of a particular party.

For further clarification please contact Gillian Pennington, Voluntary Sector Unit on 020 8547 5125

News

CAE launches Access and Sustainability Advisory Service

The Centre for Accessible Environments (CAE) is launching a new Access and Sustainability Advisory Service, funded by the Bridge House Trust, to advise voluntary and community groups in London seeking to make their premises more accessible and sustainable.

The service is aimed primarily at those organisations applying, or considering applying, to the *Access for Disabled People* element of the Bridge House Trust's grant programme, but is open to the voluntary and community sector in London as a whole. The service will consist of two main parts: a dedicated section on the CAE website and an advisory service.

The advisory service, staffed by an Access and Sustainability Adviser, will provide advice on access issues. The adviser will provide signposting and handholding support and help organisations get in touch with appropriate professionals.

The website will include information about access audits, how to find and appoint access consultants, architects, quantity surveyors and builders, what work is liable for VAT and what is exempt, building control and planning application processes and information about the Building Regulations and the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

For more information contact **Pontus Westerberg, Access and Sustainability Adviser, Centre for Accessible Environments, 70 South Lambeth Road, London SW8 1RL, tel 020 7840 0125, fax 020 7840 5811, email pontus.westerberg@cae.org.uk or visit the website www.cae.org.uk.**

Working with children and the vulnerable

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Bill, published on 1st March, is likely to have a significant impact on those working with young people or the vulnerable.

It will integrate list 99 and Protection of Children Act (PoCA) for the children's workforce and will also create a new list of people barred from working with vulnerable adults to replace Protection of Vulnerable Adults (POVA).

The government aims to roll out the new measures from 2007, with the penalties for failure to abide by the rules perhaps the greatest worry to organisations with limited resources.

A summary plus links to the legislation are at <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/hottopics/article23.shtml>.

Single Equality Commission approved

The Equality Act, the legal basis for setting up the Commission for Equality and Human Rights (CEHR), has received Royal Assent.

From October 2007 it will take over the work of the Disability Rights Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission, with the Commission for Racial Equality following in 2009. It will also deal with discrimination issues around age and religion. For more information visit <http://digbig.com/4gkkx> or www.gnn.gov.uk

Volunteering for All

The government has launched a new £3m programme to break down the barriers to volunteering. Visit <http://www.communities.homeoffice.gov.uk> for further details. The Volunteering England website also has a briefing on the programme at www.volunteering.org.uk

Criminal Records Bureau

The cost of the CRB checks will increase from 6 April: £31 for the standard disclosure and £36 for the enhanced disclosure.

POVA First checks and disclosures will remain free of charge in respect of volunteers see www.crb.org.uk.



Lloyds TSB Foundation will give grants to charities to support work enabling disadvantaged people to play a fuller role in their communities.

Grants will be awarded for one, two, and very occasionally, three years to support:

- Direct service provision
- Support second tier membership or umbrella bodies
- Infrastructure support
- Pilots, research and development work
- Collaborative projects

Potential applicants are advised to contact the England and Wales Grants Team for advice before submitting an application. For more information call: 0870 411 1223 or visit www.lloydstsbfoundation.org.uk

KPMG Foundation

The focus of the KPMG Foundation is on education and social projects for the disadvantaged and under privileged, with particular emphasis on unlocking the potential of children and young people, up to 30 years of age, who for primarily social reasons have not fulfilled their educational potential.

In particular, the trustees have chosen to support four very distinct groups within this broad umbrella of "disadvantage". Those groups are:

- Refugees
- Young offenders
- Children and young people who have been in care
- Children and young people with Dyslexia

An application folder, incorporating general information, may be obtained through the KPMG Foundation office - call Jo Clunie on 020 7311 4733 or visit www.kpmg.co.uk

A Jargonbuster defining and explaining terms used by funders and support agencies has been produced by the Big Lottery Fund and Charities Evaluation Service, with input from other funders. www.cafonline.org/jargonbuster

Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme offers one off donations of between £1,500 and £5,000 to voluntary and community groups in areas where there is a Tesco store. Visit www.tescocorporate.com/charitiesandfundraising.htm

Gannett Foundation

Local registered charities are invited to apply for a grant from the Gannett Foundation, - the charitable arm of Gannett, the owners of the Surrey Comet newspaper.

The foundation helps community initiatives within the circulation area of its newspapers and supports projects with a creative approach to issues such as education and neighbourhood improvements, youth development, cultural enrichment and support for disadvantaged people.

The closing date for completed applications is Friday 21st April so don't delay

for an application form email vandrews@london.newsquest.co.uk or call 020 8254 5404.

Last November, the local charity, Mental Aid Projects, was awarded a £3520 grant for new chairs and tables for its Fircroft day centre.

Please note that this charity has now changed its name to the Fircroft Trust.

FAST FORWARD GRANTS awards small organisations across London funding of up to £10,000 to help those furthest from the labour market improve their confidence and skills, helping them move closer to employment. Organisations eligible should not have more than 2 full-time paid staff or the equivalent and no more than £60,000 income in the last complete financial year.

An application pack can be downloaded from the website, www.gle.co.uk, or you can email fastforwardgrants@gle.co.uk to request a pack. Alternatively call 020 7940 1515. The application deadline is 5pm on Friday, 26th May.

Training

A community resource for all in the heart of Kingston upon Thames

After 5 years of fundraising and detailed planning including close liaison with **Kingston Voluntary Action**, the **Richard Mayo Centre** was opened in mid September 2005. The cost of the project was over £550,000 which was funded by grants from over 20 organisations contributing some £150,000, with the remainder paid by present and past members of the **United Reformed Church** in Kingston and beyond.

The church has dedicated this building as a Community resource with access to all people in our community from any race or creed. Four voluntary groups have offices based at the Centre at low rent who are nominated by Kingston Voluntary Action and use the rooms for start up plus 2 years, before they move on.

The new Foyer lounge is available for refreshment each day and the new lift has provided access to

the upper levels, a number of meeting rooms, a training room and 2 large halls. These facilities are available for use at a 50% rate for organisations with charitable status.

The design of the Training Room was undertaken with input from the KVA to ensure it would meet the needs of the sector. The Training Room can seat between 10 to 37 people with new tables and comfortable chairs for a variety of layouts - class room, U shaped, board room etc.

A separate meeting room at ground floor can offer seating for 18 people.

The Centre has offered its "walls" for use by "Art 4 Cause" who are a group of local artists who show their work at the Centre, and a proportion of their sales go to charity. They hold a 3 day exhibition at the centre every year.

What can be provided?

Richard Mayo Hall

Seating for over 130
Fully ventilated.
A kitchen is adjacent

The Centre Hall

Fully sprung Floor ideal for
Dancing, Gymnastics & meetings
Seating for over 100

The Meeting Room

Ground Floor 6m x 4.8m

Room 14

Seating for 10 –15 people

Room 26 2nd floor

Hot & Cold water available
Seating for 35

Rooms available 09 00 to 1700 and 1900 to 2200

A multi storey car park is immediately adjacent. Bus and Trains within 8 minutes walk

Full access for disabled persons with lift. Toilets at all levels.

Foyer with refreshment bar. Tables, Chairs, Crockery, cutlery & glasses available

The rooms can be viewed on the web site at www.Kingstonurc.org

A fully equipped Training Room

The Training Room located at 1st floor and is fully accessible via a 10 person lift. **The room is provided with the following facilities**

- Full air-conditioning
- A "break out" space with refreshment facilities
- Full audio visual aids, dimmable lighting, black out, TV, dvd/vcr, induction loop, 1500 x 1500 screen
- Tables and chairs for 4 different layouts with a maximum number of 37 chairs plus 2 for speakers and with 2 orientations.
- Light refreshments can be arranged in the breakout/ refreshment area.
- Refreshments via a local caterer provided a "DIY" serving basis. Tea coffee and milk.

Richard Mayo Centre

Eden Street
Kingston upon Thames KT1 1Z

Centre Manager : Mike Brennan

Phone: 020 8549 1888

E-mail: premises@urckington.org.uk

Web site www.kingstonurc.org

Contact Mike Brennan 020 8549 1888 to discuss use of the rooms Email premises@urckington.org.uk.



Spring 2006 Training Programme

Planning for the Spring Training Programme is now complete. The following courses will take place on Thursdays :

Managing Aggression in the Workplace	27 April
Managing your Time Effectively	4 May
Abuse of Vulnerable Adults	11 May
Skills for Managers	25 May
Presentation Skills	15 June

Child Protection - this course will take place on Saturday 24 June 2006

Managing Volunteers - this course will take place on Tuesday 27 June 2006

Above is a short selection of training courses KVA has organised. Please contact me to check availability, further details and booking.

We would appreciate your suggestions and comments on your organisation's training needs, both to ensure your organisation accesses relevant training courses and also to help KVA develop new training opportunities.

Your views are important to KVA in organising KVA's training programmes, so please contact me on 020 8255 3335 or at communitydevelopment@kva.org.uk

Zahida Saddiq

Deaf Awareness Courses in London (2-day courses starting in April 2006)

Do you work for a Voluntary or Community organisation in London?

Would your attending this course benefit Deaf people in London and help improve their access to training, employment or information?

And are you available for both days of this course (inc. exam)?

If you have answered yes to all of the above then you may qualify for this **FREE** training. The courses consist of 10 hours (2 sessions of five hours over two separate days) plus one half hour exam on day two.

Dates:

27th April & 4th May, 17th & 24th May,
21st & 28th June, 22nd & 29th August,
17th & 24th October, 21st & 28th November

Venue: YMCA, 8 Errol Street, London EC1Y 8S.

Time: 10:00 - 16:00

The Royal Association for Deaf People has organised this training with funding from the London Learning and Skills Council .

Places are limited and offered on a first come first served basis to people who satisfy the criteria set out by the funding organisations. For more information or to reserve a place....

Please contact Graham Olive Tel: 01206 509509 or Email: graham.olive@royaldeaf.org.uk

CaSH, the Community Accountancy Project, covering the boroughs of Hounslow, Kingston and Richmond, has arranged another series of FREE courses in April and May which are appropriate for new Treasurers, Project and Finance Managers and Trustees.

9.30 - 15.45 Thursday, 13 April - Preparing Budgets United Reformed Church, Kingston
This course will include the principles of good budgeting, preparing a budget checklist, project budgeting and using the information learnt to relate to your own organisation.

9.30 - 13.15 Tuesday, 25 April - Understanding the Balance Sheet U.R. Church, Kingston
This course will include an understanding of how the balance sheet follows on from the Management Accounts, being able to interpret a balance sheet and ask the 'right' questions, knowing the difference between income & expenditure and the balance sheet, debtors and creditors, accruals and prepayments. **This course is intended as a half day follow on to the 'Finance reports for management committees' but you can attend this as a stand alone course as there will be a summarised introduction.**

Two other courses planned are Risk Assessment Workshop - 18th May, 2.30 - 18.30 and 'Applying Cost Recovery to a Funding Bid' - Monday 22 May

For further details and booking please contact Julie Woodhouse at KVA on 020 8255 3335 or email cash@kva.org.uk



Health & Social Care

The Our Health, Our Care, Our Say: a new direction for community services White Paper.

The NHS is now halfway through its 10 Year Plan to provide a modern and effective health care service and this new White Paper is the next step.

The White Paper sets out the Government's vision of more effective health and social care services outside hospitals. To deliver this, the White Paper identifies five clear areas for change:

- **personalised care** will be driven by better access and more funding following the patient. NHS Walk-in Centres will also be expanded
- **services will be brought closer to people's homes** through investment in community hospitals and facilities and shifting care safely away from hospitals
- **better co-ordination between local councils and the NHS** will be a key goal – the Department of Health's new director of adult care services will lead this. Improving the way information is shared between social services and health care providers is also a vital part of the vision
- **increased choice will be underpinned by a direct payment or care budget** for people to pay for their own home help or residential care, and in the NHS PCTs will be required to act on the findings of regular patient surveys
- **prevention of illness** will be targeted with several measures, including the establishment of more healthcare teams to deliver better care across institutional boundaries.

A White Paper Bulletin has been specially developed by the NHS to support the publication of the White Paper and aims to set out the key messages from it. This Bulletin is intended to provide a concise summary of the White Paper for health and social care staff.

The White Paper Bulletin can be found on www.dh.gov.uk

A Celebration of Age & Diversity

Do come and join us at this event for older people in the borough on...

Friday 28th April 2006
11.00 – 3.00

United Reformed Church
Kingston

There will be food from different countries, music and entertainment. A range of information stalls giving advice on health, keeping well & active, home safety, financial benefits and lots more.

If you have any dietary, transport, or communication needs...
Please call 020 8547 4659

Children and Young People's Plan

The plan has been developed by the Children and Young People's Partnership and agreed under the new Children's Trust Planning arrangements. Working to the Every Child Matters Agenda all statutory and voluntary sector partners are committed to the plan.

The plan sets out a vision for children's services to have excellent integrated services to support children and young people in Kingston.

The priorities are to improve children's health, their safety, their achievements and enjoyment in life, their capacity to make a positive contribution and their economic wellbeing.

The plan can be found under Education and Learning on the RBK website www.kingston.gov.uk

Health and Social Care in Kingston 2006

10am - 2pm
Saturday 17th June
Surbiton YMCA

The aim of this event is to raise awareness of the services and support available from health, community services and voluntary organisations in the borough.

For more information please contact:
Kirstie Cochrane on 0208 547 6124

Kingston PPI Forum

Kingston Hospital and Kingston Primary Care Patient & Public Involvement (PPI) Forums are working together to improve the way healthcare facilities are provided to local residents. The Forums work independently of the NHS in monitoring the services provided by Kingston Hospital and Kingston Primary Care Trust.

They have statutory powers, are backed by the Commission for Patient & Public in Health and have their own Forum Support Organisation.

The Kingston Forums need forum members and are looking for volunteers to join them in helping to improve healthcare services within Kingston. Your involvement, whether large or small, could help others to get a better service from the NHS.

Work related expenses will be reimbursed.

To find out more about PPI Forums, or to become a member, visit www.cppih.org
Alternatively, please contact Azad Hussain on 0845 120 4307 Mob: 07834 130 521
Email: ForumSupport.Inhouse15@cppih.org

Farewell to Dr Carole Martin...

Dr Carole Martin, Director of Public Health for Kingston has retired from her post after taking the lead on public health matters for many years.

Carole has enthusiastically dedicated her work to tackling inequalities and improving health for people in Kingston. Her colleagues and partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors have acknowledged and recognised her contribution over the years to improving the health of the population of Kingston.

Those who know her well have commented on her “no nonsense” approach to highlighting issues of concern, delivering the Public Health Agenda and always “sticking to what is relevant to look after the people involved”. A professionalism carried out with determination, charm, wit and humour. She will be greatly missed.

Health Overview and Scrutiny

Childhood Obesity is one topic currently under review by the Health Overview and Scrutiny panel; Childhood obesity is increasing both nationally and locally.

A survey undertaken by KPCT to establish the levels of obesity among children at Kingston's schools identified that around 27% of 6-10 year olds were overweight or obese. Although the reasons for this are complex a small working group have agreed a number of recommendations to tackle the problem. These include; encouraging a multi-agency partnership approach to healthy life-styles among children and supporting a “whole life” approach to healthy eating and exercise both in and out of school. Some changes in culture and method of working are also recommended with a sharing of professional expertise and resources.

Surbiton Hospital

The panel have now appointed a working group to look at future KPCT involvement with the Surbiton Hospital site and the range of services and potential priorities that might be delivered there. Throughout the summer KPCT will draft a Strategic Outline Case (SOC), explaining the possible options for the site. A formal consultation on the SOC is due to begin in October and last for three months.

The Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings are open to the public; meeting notes and information about all past and ongoing reviews can be found on the RBK website.

www.kingston.gov.uk/CommitteesMinutes

Diary dates for Public meetings

Health Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Wednesday 21st June at 7.30pm at the
Guildhall Kingston.

~ ~ ~

Kingston Health & Wellbeing Board
Thursday 15th June 2-4pm at KPCT
22, Hollyfield Road, Surbiton

Notice Board

Tuesday 11th July
12 noon - 3 pm
The Market House,
Market Place, Kingston

The Children's Network invites you to take part in a Children & Young People's Networking Event.

- Come and showcase your organisation and spread the word about current projects and successes over the last year.
- Come and meet other voluntary and community groups working in the borough and find out about what they are doing.
- Come and meet the boroughs Extended Schools Managers and Family Liaison workers.
- Find out about 'Club 912' from the Sports and Recreation Department.
- Come and explore the re-launched Kingston Children's Service Directory and find out how it can help you find services for your families.

To book a place or to find out more please call Patricia Turner on 020 8547 6024 or email patricia.turner@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

Age Discrimination - be prepared!

Ministers will announce new anti-discrimination legislation to take effect from October 2006. This gives employers approximately 6 months to prepare for the changes before the new laws prevent discrimination against employees on the grounds of age.

Acas will be producing advice online on preventing age discrimination which will be available towards the end of April on the website www.acas.co.uk

Direct Payments for people with learning difficulties

Julie, Anne and Sheila are the people on the Direct Payments Support Team at Kingston Centre for Independent Living. We can help you think about how a direct payment could change your life.

We think people with learning disabilities should try direct payments. You could see how you get on. You might like some independence!

We will make it as *easy* as possible for you to join the scheme, and we will help you all along the way.

Are you a person with learning disabilities?

Are you thinking about a direct payment?

Want to find out how a direct payment could change your life?

Or do you support a person with learning disabilities?

Call **Julie Turner** on **020 8481 1441** to find out how a direct payment could work for you.

Stamps needed for

Kingston MENCAP

Kingston Mencap is fundraising for the 'Xpression Youth Project' for children with learning disabilities aged 12 - 18 years, by collecting used postage stamps. The used stamps need to have a half inch border cut all round so please leave on envelope or tear off leaving the border.

The used stamps can be collected by arrangement or can be sent to:

Liz Mayers-Reid 100 Roebuck Road
Chessington KT9 1JX, Tel: 020 8397 1268.

The Xpression project meets every Tuesday evening at the Shiraz Mirza Community Hall. Many activities are available including arts and crafts, sport, drama and music. To find out more please contact Liz on the above telephone number.