

OFFICIAL LAUNCH FOR HAYES FM

91.8 Hayes FM was officially launched on 1st September by Hayes born and bred former Director-General of the BBC, Greg Dyke (pictured below with John McDonnell, MP). The station will cover Hayes and the surrounding areas of Harlington, Yiewsley, West Drayton, Yeading, Hayes End, Hillingdon, Uxbridge, Sipson, Harmondsworth, Heathrow Airport, as well as parts of neighbouring boroughs of Ealing and Hounslow, and is at 91.8 FM.



The radio station was born in June 2003 and since then has grown into a local media skills organisation, and is now in a position to deliver a range of core skills as well as deliver local radio and on-line broadcasting and film and video production.

Hillingdon Community Trust provided £50,000 in funding to Hayes FM to develop an education and training media

centre and community resource centre in Hayes. The project is intended to provide learning opportunities for over 80 people in its first year, to help them move from unemployment into employment and to encourage access to further training. It will also improve community relationships by profiling community groups through broadcasts. Sutish Sharma, who co-founded the station with MP John McDonnell, and is Managing Editor commented, 'What is exciting about Hayes FM is not only that it is a community radio station aimed at serving the vibrant community in and around Hayes but that it will provide training and education aimed at improving employability and self-confidence. We will be making arrangements with broadcasting and production companies for work placement and volunteering opportunities.'

The BBC are supporting 91.8 HAYES FM as project partners along with the Universities of Westminster, Brunel and Thames Valley, as well as the local colleges.



A number of community and voluntary groups funded by Hillingdon Community Trust have already been featured on Hayes FM. To join these and to get more information on partnership working with 91.8 Hayes FM, then please e-mail Sutish K Sharma on office@hayesfm.org or call 020 8573 7992.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT EXTENDED

Hillingdon Community Trust has announced that it will be continuing its capacity building project through Groundwork Thames Valley. The original project started in May 2005 and was aimed at developing groups in the Trust's area. An evaluation took place earlier in the year and as a result the Trust decided to continue the programme for a further two years. In the second phase of the project, GTV will work with 20 groups, providing both basic support and more intensive development support, helping to develop community leaders and providing systems and tools to help groups to manage their organisations better.

To qualify for support, groups will be expected to have a minimum of 3 trustees, to work with 100 users annually, have a paid member of staff, a minimum of £10,000 turnover and ideally be constituted as a charity or a company limited by guarantee. However, these criteria are flexible and most important is

a commitment to developing your group. Community and voluntary groups which would like to benefit from the capacity building programme should contact Kingsley Antonipillai at Groundwork Thames Valley on 01895 839859 or email: Antonipillai.Kingsley@groundwork.org.uk



NEW CHAIRMAN AND TRUSTEES SOUGHT FOR HCT



Hillingdon Community Trust's founder Chairman, Mark Boleat, is due to stand down from his role in 2008 at the end of his term of office. Mark Boleat was instrumental in launching and establishing Hillingdon Community Trust, which makes grants of up to £1m annually to voluntary and community groups in the southern six wards of the London Borough of Hillingdon. Jon Newman, Deputy Chairman

of the Trust, commented, 'Mark's skills, expertise and enthusiasm have been key to the Trust's success. He has devoted a huge amount of time and effort to Hillingdon Community Trust, which in turn has benefited many thousands of individuals in the Trust's area who are linked to voluntary and community groups that have received funding from the Trust.'

Christine Little, the Trust's Director, added, 'Taking on the role of Chairman of Hillingdon Community Trust is an exciting opportunity for someone with strong leadership skills to further develop the Trust and make a real difference to local communities. The role calls for good interpersonal and networking skills at the most senior levels, a strong background in chairing high-level board meetings, a strong commitment to positive change for local communities and ideally an in-depth knowledge of the six wards in the south of Hillingdon.' The post is voluntary and Hillingdon Community Trust estimates that the new Chairman will need to spend around 12 hours a month on Trust business.

At the same time, the Trust is seeking to recruit new Trustees as a number of current Trustees stand down due to pressure of other commitments. Hillingdon Community Trust Trustees are expected to attend 6 Board Meetings a year, 6 sub-committee meetings and be prepared to spend some hours every two months assessing grant applications. Trustees are expected to be able to demonstrate a strong commitment to positive change for local communities and good knowledge of the south of the Borough.

They will also need to understand and accept the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship and be able to work effectively as a member of a team.

Hillingdon Community Trust's website gives further information about both the Chairmanship and vacancies for new Trustees. www.hillingdoncommunitytrust.org.uk



MAYOR VISITS HCT FUNDED PROJECTS

Hillingdon's Mayor, Cllr Catherine Dann, visited four Hillingdon Community Trust funded projects recently. Her tour started at Rabbs Farm School in Yiewsley, where she officially opened a new shelter funded by the Trust for outdoor learning for reception classes. The children sang the school song and presented the Mayor with flowers and Jon Newman, the Trust's Deputy Chairman, presented a plaque to mark the Trust's funding for the shelter.



Mike Cassidy, the school's head, thanked the Mayor for attending and the Trust for its funding. He said, 'We are delighted to have this new shelter which will be very well-used by the younger children at the school for learning and also for playtimes.' The shelter is equipped with sand-pits, games and a seating area.

After visiting Rabbs Farm, the Mayor visited the Community Cancer Care Centre in Yiewsley which has received funding from the Trust for alterations to its premises to improve the training area for community and volunteering staff and for facilities and workshops to enable cancer patients to cope with their illness. She then went to Harlington Hospice to visit an arts project funded by the Trust for people with life-limiting illnesses.



She finished her tour in Hayes, where she visited a garden belonging to a Mencap funded home for people with learning disabilities that had been made easy to maintain by Healing Gardens, which is part-funded by Hillingdon Community Trust.

MAXIMISING YOUR CHANCE OF RECEIVING FUNDING

To maximise your chance of success if applying for funding to any funder, it's worth making sure that your grant application genuinely demonstrates the value and importance of your project and that it is easily understood. It's very easy to fall into the trap of being so closely involved with your organisation that you forget that not everyone will understand it and what it does so well!

One simple way of making sure that your grant application is clear and will be easily understood is to ask someone who isn't connected with your group in any way to read through a draft of the grant application to be sure that it can be easily understood by someone with little or no knowledge of your group.

Ask them to be completely honest and if they feel that the bid needs sharpening or clarifying in any way, consider how this can be done before sending in the final grant application.



MAIN GRANT APPLICATIONS – NEW STYLE APPLICATION FORMS

We have been looking at ways of improving our main grants application procedure, and following discussion with a number of individuals and groups, have revised our 'Expression of Interest' forms for main grants.

The form now asks much more specific questions about a project and what it is intended to achieve. We believe that this will help groups to make a more focussed application, and will help Trustees to assess more readily to what extent an application has a prospect of receiving funding. In common with other funders, rather than referring to the preliminary application as an 'Expression of Interest' we have called the new form a 'Stage One' application.

The new 'Main Grants – Stage One' forms are now on the Hillingdon Community Trust website and it would be helpful if you could use only the new forms if you are anticipating applying for a main grant to the Trust. As previously, with the expression of interest process, the Trustees will invite only those projects that appear to fulfil the Trust's criteria and objectives and that have a reasonably prospect of funding to go forward to the second stage of the main grant application process.

Small grant application and main grant application (stage 2) forms have also been amended slightly, so that groups are now asked to indicate their level of reserves and so that it is clear that the Trust does not need copies of certain documents if they have already been provided (e.g., Constitution, Child Protection policies).

ELSDALE II OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Since its official launch in October 2006 Elsdale II the West London Floating Classroom has had a busy and successful year. For many of the 4000 young people who have joined us aboard the boat this has been their first opportunity to explore and discover their local canal. As well as school and youth groups Elsdale has become an incredibly popular venue for community groups and organisations.



Over the summer months it has hosted meetings, away-days and team challenges for a number of local organisations, with some groups choosing to use the boat as a meeting venue in the morning and then sit back and enjoy a leisurely cruise in the afternoon. Or for those feeling more adventurous learning how to use the locks and some basic crewing skills makes for an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Elsdale is fully equipped as a meeting venue with IT and audio-visual equipment and can comfortably accommodate 16 people. For more informal events Elsdale has a bar and PA is fully heated and is licensed for up to 60 passengers. Community Groups wishing to use the boat can do so at a discounted rate and with Christmas just around the corner she makes a novel venue to hold a festive party.

For more information or to make a booking please contact Ian Long on 01895 839 849



RECENT GRANTS AWARDED BY THE TRUST

The Board made the following grant awards in July & October.

ORGANISATION AND PROJECT	AMOUNT AWARDED
Hillingdon & Ealing Citizens' Advice Bureau Grant to improve access to CAB services for vulnerable families, the elderly, disabled, housebound and carers.	£58,793
Hillingdon Women's Centre Sustainable training programme for volunteers from south Hillingdon strengthening community support for women.	£15,725 Over 3 yrs
Challenger Trust and Hillingdon Employment and Business Partnership To provide a challenging outdoor programme aimed at improving life skills, self confidence and employability.	£40,400 Over 2 yrs
Crown Centre for the Deaf New carpets, chairs and dishwasher.	£7,500
HAVS To enable conference/training on new funding opportunities for the voluntary/charity sector.	£5,000
Hillingdon Table Tennis Club To purchase table tennis equipment for programme of activities to take table tennis to the community.	£5,535
Yiewsley Court Social Club To continue keep fit classes essential for the well-being of elderly and disabled.	£2,880
Bell Farm Christian Centre To replace dilapidated industrial kitchen/ catering equipment.	£4,909
Bell Farm Christian Centre Run courses to support parents.	£7,500
Hillingdon Business Forum To support the Business Forum Manager to deliver corporate social responsibility objectives throughout Hillingdon.	£3,000
Yiewsley and West Drayton Arts Council To renovate ladies/disabled toilets. Provide non-slip flooring, new worktops and refrigerator for kitchen.	£3,500

ORGANISATION AND PROJECT	AMOUNT AWARDED
Hayes Cricket Club Extension of club building and refurbish changing rooms.	£25,000
Hayes FM To support new project manager's post.	£17,500
Cornerstone Centre Employment of development worker to liaise over 2 years between Community and authorities to enhance and enrich lifestyles.	£36,900 Over 2 yrs
Hayes End Methodist Church Development of facilities at premises	£3,020
The Arts Centre, Brunel University Professional concerts for years 5/6.	£2,400
Metropolitan Police Hillingdon Police bikes to enable officers to effectively patrol their wards.	£6,340
Green Corridor Environmental education programme to engage young people with the environment and their community.	£4,500
Groundwork Thames Valley To provide business development support to voluntary and community organisations in HCT area.	£127,500 Over 2 yrs
William Byrd Pool Trust Ltd Professional fees linked to planning permission.	£7,000
Hayes and Harlington Old People's Welfare Committee Tables and chairs for dining centre.	£3,000

DEADLINES FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

Close date for applications **Thursday January 3rd 2008.**

Close date for applications **Monday February 14th 2008.**

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