

Greenham Common Trust  
Liberty House,  
Greenham Business Park,  
Newbury,  
Berkshire RG19 6HW

T: 01635 817444  
F: 01635 817555  
enquiries@greenham-common-trust.co.uk

# the common good

Greenham  
Common  
Trust



newsletter 20  
autumn 2012

[www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk](http://www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk)



above:  
the architect's drawing  
of the hospital  
right:  
the new hospital  
shortly after  
completion

## West Berkshire Community Hospital can begin to plan a dialysis unit thanks to a commitment of up to £300,000 from the Trust.

"I would like to say a very big thank you to Greenham Common Trust for their generous donations over the years."

Nick Galbraith,  
Newbury &  
Thatcham  
Hospital  
Building Trust  
Secretary



Newbury and Thatcham Hospital Building Trust approached the Trust recently to ask if they could help support a plan to build a £1.6 million new dialysis unit, with 10 stations capable of treating up to 40 patients at a time.

Currently kidney dialysis patients in West Berkshire have to endure a gruelling journey to Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading which is far from ideal,

particularly if they come from the west of the district and those travelling by ambulance or public transport can experience long journeys and delays.

The total project cost will be £1.6 million, with £1.2 million for the new building which will house the dialysis stations. The Trust has pledged to fund up to £300,000, half of the funding balance required to enable the project to move forwards.

Nick Galbraith, secretary of the charity Newbury and Thatcham Hospital Building Trust, which campaigned and fundraised for a local hospital, said: "We are now considering the construction of a dialysis unit at WBCH. This will cost an estimated £1.6 million because additional building is required. Greenham Common Trust has promised up to £300,000 and this magnificent donation, coupled with £1 million from the Newbury & Thatcham Hospital Building Trust, means that preliminary talks have started. It is anticipated that, providing planning permission is granted, a dialysis unit at WBCH is a strong probability.

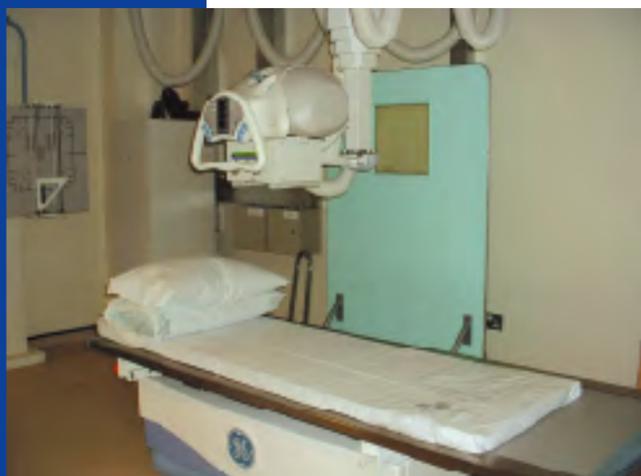
"On behalf of Newbury & Thatcham Hospital Building Trust and West Berkshire Community Hospital, I would like to say a very big thank you to Greenham Common Trust for their generous donations over the years."

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Stuart Tagg added: "We hope the Trust's contribution will help encourage other donations to ensure this important local service becomes a reality."

Newbury and Thatcham Hospital Building Trust was instrumental in making a hospital in Newbury a reality and Greenham Common Trust has supported crucial facilities there such as donating £450,000 for a digital X-ray which means any X-ray taken at West Berkshire Community Hospital can be read by a consultant in Reading (or other hospitals) within minutes, if necessary.

Greenham Common Trust also contributed £50,000 towards the cost of a special hardstanding for the MRI lorry at the hospital.

the digital  
X-ray  
machine



## Homelessness charity Two Saints is offering a free debt advice service for residents of The Nightingales and Pigeon's Farm in Greenham



The Nightingales

Julia Hobbs from Two Saints has been appointed on a 12-month contract by the Greater Greenham Project to increase the financial independence of households on the Nightingales and Pigeons Farm estates. She will be providing information, advice and guidance to individuals and families, helping them to reduce debt, maximise their income and have greater confidence and skill in managing a household budget.

The service, which has been funded by Community First Fund and the West Berkshire Partnership, offers one-to-one support to help with:

- Rent & Council Tax Arrears
- Bailiffs
- Loan Sharks
- Pay Day Loans
- Any Other Debts
- Budgeting Advice
- Benefits Advice

"Over Christmas people tend to get into more financial difficulty. A lot of the problems are with pay day loans. Some of these are legitimate loan companies but their practices can be close to emotional blackmail. We can offer you advice and pass you on to people who can help you get out of debt," said Julia.



**"With Christmas approaching it is a difficult time for vulnerable families who can be lured into taking out inappropriate debt."**

Julia Hobbs

Julia is working with West Berkshire & Wokingham Trading Standards Service to put pressure on unacceptable practices among loan organisations and is working with the authority's council tax department to promote the service to those who have fallen in arrears.

"Some of the advice is really facing up to circumstances in general and accepting that there is a debt problem. Sometimes these issues are easy to resolve. People are saying to me how relieved they are about getting things off their chests," she added.

The Greater Greenham Project is a locality project created by the Local Strategic Partnership, West Berkshire Partnership. The Project is run by Sovereign Housing Association and is supported by Greenham Common Trust, West Berkshire Council and Thames Valley Police, with significant contributions also coming from voluntary organisations such as Two Saints and community led organisations such as Community Youth Project.

To meet your local debt worker call in to Greenham Community Centre during the community cafe opening times or call / text 07753 935238. Alternatively email: [julia.hobbs@twosaints.org.uk](mailto:julia.hobbs@twosaints.org.uk)

## Newbury Weekly News is hoping to raise £20,000 to deliver Christmas Food Parcels to the over 80s in the Newbury area

The local newspaper has been giving Christmas Food Parcels to local residents over the age of 80 for over 100 years. Today each food parcel contains a Christmas dinner, tea and a few extra special treats.

In 2011 the NWN and its volunteers distributed over 2,200 parcels. In order to continue this valuable service they need to raise around £20,000 and they need your help.

If you would like to donate to this very worthwhile local cause please either send a cheque to 'NWN Over 80s Christmas Parcel Fund' addressed to Joanne Fulker, Newbury Weekly News, Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury RG14 2DW, or visit the Trust's online grant matchmaking website [www.findmeagrants.org](http://www.findmeagrants.org)

Greenham Common Trust, which donated £11,000 last year to the appeal, is also matching donations for the Parcel Fund

this year. All you have to do is visit the NWN's fundraising application on [findmeagrants.org](http://findmeagrants.org): [www.findmeagrants.org/wberks/payment/paymentform.aspx?appid=3df5bc06-59cc-4283-989a-ddcc8fa269f0](http://www.findmeagrants.org/wberks/payment/paymentform.aspx?appid=3df5bc06-59cc-4283-989a-ddcc8fa269f0) and make a debit or credit card donation.

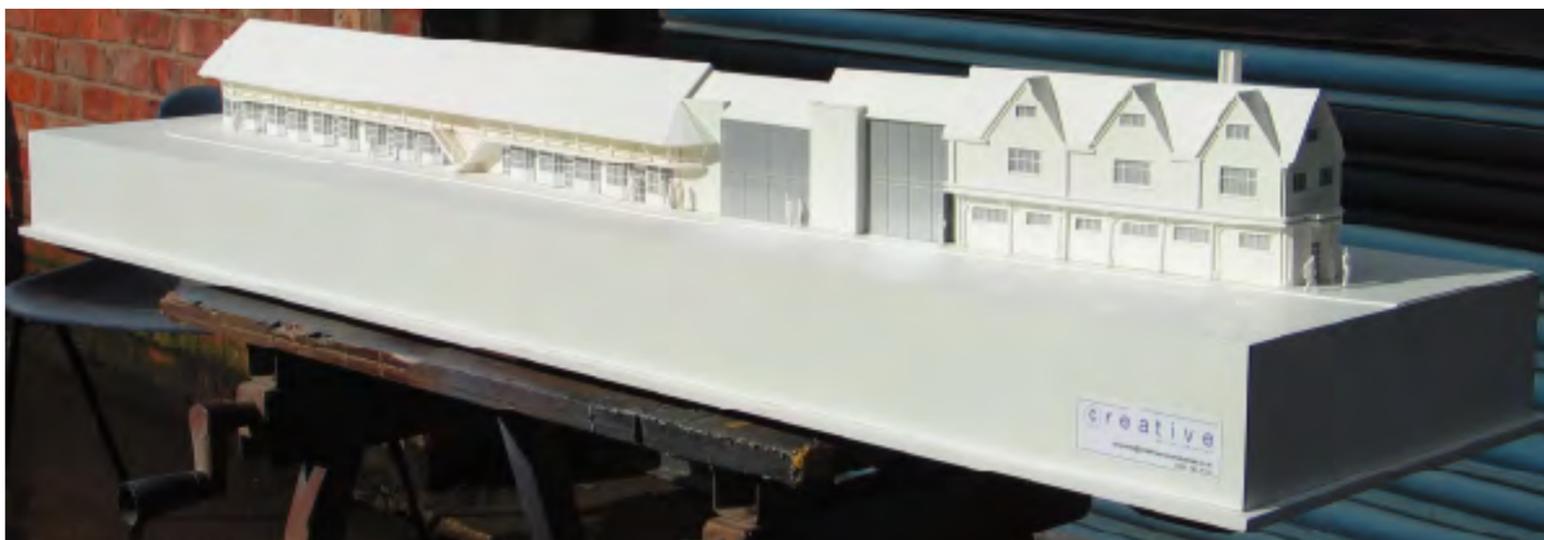
"For many of the elderly residents in Newbury, Hungerford and Thatcham, who don't have family around them, the delivery of the Christmas Food Parcel and some company for a few minutes is what they look forward to each Christmas," said Jo Fulker, Over 80s Parcel Fund Administrator.

Newbury Weekly News is also calling on all individuals to join in fundraising over the next few weeks. If you have any spare time or ideas that will help the NWN reach their target please contact the paper. For more details about the Newbury Weekly News Over 80s Christmas Parcel Fund please email Jo Fulker: [jo.fulker@newburynews.co.uk](mailto:jo.fulker@newburynews.co.uk)



Organiser Sue Kitchener & helper

## West Berkshire Museum is appealing for public donations to secure a £2.26 million redevelopment project so it can re-open the public facility in 2014



Architect's model of the restoration of West Berkshire Museum

This major project involves restoration of the historic Cloth Hall and Corn Stores, creation of a new link building and visitor facilities, and complete refurbishment of all display and activity spaces.

Thanks to an £815,500 investment from West Berkshire Council's capital asset programme, £40,000 from Headley Trust and a £100,000 commitment from Greenham Common Trust, the museum was able to secure £1.2 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund and halve its fundraising target to £100,000.

The public have generously donated over £1,000 towards the project after the museum put an application to raise the remaining required funds on the Trust's online fundraising website [www.findmeagrants.org](http://www.findmeagrants.org) but it needs your help to reach its total.

Museum Manager Steph Gillett said: "The offer of a grant of £100,000 from Greenham Common Trust has been a tremendous boost to our museum redevelopment project. Not only has this helped to secure the £1.2 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, but it has halved our fundraising target. The recently formed Friends of West Berkshire Museum group is working hard to help us raise the balance of funding so that we can move forwards quickly with refurbishment and ensure we re-open as planned in 2014.

We are very grateful to the Friends for their support and to those who have made donations via [www.findmeagrants.org](http://www.findmeagrants.org), including a very welcome contribution from Newbury Building Society."

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Stuart Tagg, added: "Preserving the local heritage of West Berkshire for future generations is very important and the Trust is pleased to make a contribution towards bringing this valuable resource back into full use."

The museum closed for refurbishment in 2010 but hopes to secure the remaining funding so it can re-open in the spring of 2014.

Planning and listed building consent applications have already been approved.

Anyone wishing to join the group can visit [www.friendsofwestberksmuseum.org.uk](http://www.friendsofwestberksmuseum.org.uk) or visit Newbury Library or Newbury Tourist Information Centre, both in the Wharf, for an application form.



Photo: West Berkshire Heritage Service

Roundhead soldier from the First Battle of Newbury, 1643, exhibited at Newbury Museum before its closure

**DONATE**

The public or local businesses can make a credit/debit card donation online via [www.findmeagrants.org/wberks](http://www.findmeagrants.org/wberks) by visiting the museum's donation page [www.findmeagrants.org/wberks/payment/paymentform.aspx?appid=917e1d51-7421-4b55-b972-4e6fc80d785d](http://www.findmeagrants.org/wberks/payment/paymentform.aspx?appid=917e1d51-7421-4b55-b972-4e6fc80d785d)

Donations will be match funded by Greenham Common Trust.

On 12th December 1944, 31 paratroopers from the 17th Airborne Division, (mostly from C Company, 194th Glider Infantry Regiment) and two glider pilots of the 88th Troop Carrier Squadron gathered at the Greenham airbase for Horsa Glider Flight training purposes. The flight ended in an horrific crash killing all 33 crew.



Keith Williams  
RBL Newbury  
Branch  
Secretary



The new memorial

HRH The Princess Royal unveiled a plaque and laid a wreath at the memorial ceremony which was attended by serving officers from RAF Welford, Denison Barracks and surviving relatives of the airmen who were killed. Colonel Brian T Kelly, Commanding Officer of 501st Combat Support Wing gave a speech thanking the Legion and the Trust for their support and respect for US servicemen and alluding to the special relationship between the two countries.

Wreaths were also laid by Major Steven Gorman (Commander) and Master Sergeant Darrel Brookes from 420th Munitions Squadron.

The event was introduced by Lt. Col. M.V.A Westropp, the President of the Royal British Legion (Newbury Branch) and Branch Chairman Chris Green.

Greenham Common Trust agreed to fund the majority of the project after being approached by Newbury RBL to help support a new tri-part memorial dedicated to the lives of the men who were tragically killed in two accidents above Greenham Common in December 1944. The third part of the memorial is designed to remember the US servicemen who were based locally and killed during the war.

Local stonemason Joss Nankoo, from StoneArt Memorials, Newbury, was commissioned to produce the three memorial stones, which have been expertly carved in Welsh Slate. He said: "It has been an honour to be associated with the design and creation of this war memorial commemorating the American allied forces of WWII. The finished monument speaks volumes for the airmen who gave their lives for freedom."

HRH The Princess Royal has officially dedicated a new memorial at Greenham Business Park to commemorate the lives of US airmen who served at Greenham Common and its environs during the Second World War and were killed in action.



photo: Allan Mercado

HRH The Princess Royal lays a wreath on the new memorial, 21st September 2012

HRH The Princess Royal talks to Patrick Mockus and Mary Mockus Shipler, son and daughter of 2nd Lt John P. Mockus



photo: Allan Mercado



2nd Lt John P. Mockus

2nd Lt John Mockus, co-pilot flying the B-17 from the 368th Squadron, was killed in the crash. Speaking about how much the memorial means to her, his daughter Mary Mockus Shipler said: "On behalf of myself and my brother, Pat and all of the Mockus family we wish to express our gratitude to the British Legion, Greenham Common Trust, the Royal Family and all the people in the Newbury and Thatcham area who have made this memorial a reality. For the sacrifice of these airmen to be remembered and honoured in this way by the British people has seemed miraculous to me and all the family members of these men who died fighting for our freedom so far from home."

"I think it's wonderful what you people are doing over there to remember my Dad."

Peggy Morrissey Albury, daughter of 2nd Lt Charles G. Albury, who was killed in the glider accident.



Peggy Morrissey Albury at the naming ceremony for Albury Way, New Greenham Park, December 1999

Greenham Common and the immediate area played a prominent role in the preparations for D-Day in 1944. The third part of the memorial is to honour the men who served at Greenham or were stationed in the surrounding area: men such as the



photo: Allan Mercado

Ex Royal Artillery Normandy veteran Stan Bowyer attends the Memorial Dedication Service



General Eisenhower's famous speech



General Eisenhower talks to 1st Lt. Wallace C. Strobel, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, at Greenham shortly before the D-Day offensive is launched



Great grand-daughter Camille Dahmen holds a photo of 2nd Lt Charles Crooks, who was killed in the B-17 accident

"My whole family is so very pleased that you and your wonderful countrymen have honoured my father. Knowing that you all still revere the dedication and sacrifice that our loved one made has warmed our hearts forever."

Christina Crooks Dahmen, daughter of 2nd Lt Charles Crooks, pilot, 368th Squadron

paratroopers from Easy Company 506th Parachute regiment of the 101st Airborne Division - The Screaming Eagles - who were billeted in the nearby villages of Aldbourne and Ramsbury and many of whom were killed in action.

General Dwight Eisenhower visited Greenham Common hours before the first troops left by Dakota bound for the shores of Normandy on Operation Overlord. It was at Greenham where he

gave his famous "Eyes of The World Are Upon You" speech.

Newbury RBL Secretary Keith Williams added: "The dedication of the new memorials will be the fulfilment of a dream which has taken nearly ten years to complete. The RBL asked Greenham Common Trust to help it raise funds for the new memorial and the Trust agreed to find a site and pay for the majority of the work. So it is thanks to the many people from both

organisations, but especially the Trust, that we at last are able to fulfil our dream."

After the ceremony Her Royal Highness was presented with a posy of flowers by children from Woodlands Day Nursery and also by Victoria Moxon (Newbury RBL Youth Section) and Julia Siergiej (youngest daughter of Ed Siergiej - son of Ed Siergiej Snr who was swapped from the Horsa Glider unit the day before the accident and survived).

Just three days later troops from the 368th and 423rd Squadrons of the 306th Bombardment Group (8th Air Force, USAF) were returning from a tough mission in the industrial heartland of Kassel when, rerouted to Greenham Common by bad weather, their two B-17 Flying Fortress Bombers collided, killing all but two of the 18 crew.



HRH The Princess Royal receives a posy from Zara Kelly-Phillips and Dominic Webb from Woodlands Day Nursery

A new 1,400 sqm building for NORMA UK Ltd at Greenham Business Park

NORMA UK Ltd, part of the international NORMA Group, has been established in the UK for over 30 years and, since 2006, has been proud to provide its market-leading range of engineered joining technology (EJT) solutions from its Greenham Business Park headquarters



NORMA UK's existing building at Greenham Business Park

The company acts as both strategic manufacturing centre for the Group's range of profile clamps as well as national distribution centre for the 40,000 plus EJT products that are also produced within the Group, examples of which include hose clamps, pipe connections, retaining products, quick connectors, fluid systems and plastic connectors. Products are used throughout the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer), industrial and distribution markets across a broad spectrum of applications and in addition, are accredited to numerous European and International quality standards.

manufacturing and distribution divisions means a new 1,400 square metre building is being constructed alongside the current premises. This new facility will provide further manufacturing, warehousing and distribution amenities for the company and is a key step in satisfying the forecasted product demands.

has started on our expanded facility. This new building is another important milestone in our development and is also a key step in our growth plans. Everyone within NORMA UK has contributed to the success of the company and we are all very proud of the achievements we have made."

Commenting on the new building works, NORMA UK Managing Director Nick Martin said "We're delighted that work

Building work will continue throughout the first quarter of next year and an official opening is anticipated in Spring/Summer 2013.

Significant recent investment in both product development and service levels at NORMA has now led to several large-scale, long-term contract wins for the company. This success in both the

Nick Martin,  
Managing Director,  
NORMA UK,  
on site with Simon Carey,  
Managing Director,  
Barnwood Construction,  
who are building the  
new facility



Work in progress



Ground plan showing the new building



## The Trust helps quadruple funding for foster care charity

AWE and Greenham Common Trust joined forces to turn a weight-loss challenge into nearly £300 for local foster care charity, Children 1st West Berkshire.

In order to promote a healthy lifestyle, AWE employees introduced an 'Olympic Challenge' event whereby teams of five could lose weight and take part in weekly weigh-ins.

To encourage improved performance, a fining system was introduced.

The AWE team of Lindsay Benjamin, Peter Dack, John Ansell, Tim Marsh and Jim Dobbie lost 8 stones over the 4 months of the challenge - 10% of their initial combined weight.



"Fines for bad dietary behaviours helped raise £70 to donate to AWE's local charity of the year, Children 1st West Berkshire, which does some great work with kids who are leaving care and making the first daunting steps towards independence."

Team member Tim Marsh

Tim added: "AWE's Community Committee then matched the amount raised and this was then donated to Children 1st West Berkshire via Greenham Common Trust's **findmeagrnt** website, which through Gift Aid and a generous "Trust Top-Up", was able to more than quadruple the initial amount raised of £70 to nearly £300!"

The Trust is already a keen supporter of Children 1st West Berkshire, having provided suitable accommodation for them to create their first home in the country for 18-21 year-olds leaving the care system.

Trust spokesman, Julian May added: "**findmeagrnt**, which is managed by the Trust in West Berkshire and North Hampshire, is a great way to raise money for local charities. When your employer makes a donation too, this can quadruple your original donation if your project is eligible for the matched funding element of Trust Top-Up and Gift Aid, as it was in this case. **findmeagrnt** is a fantastic and quick way to reach your fundraising targets."

Over £1m has been distributed in grants and donations through **findmeagrnt** since it started in September 2011. It currently has over 400 applications and over £100,000 has been donated to good causes by the public and local businesses.



Fundraising AWE weight-loss challenge team.  
L to R: Tim Marsh, Benjamin Lindsay and John Ansell



[www.findmeagrnt.org](http://www.findmeagrnt.org)



## festival of light

Sunday 16th December

Join hundreds of families in the 2012 Festival of Light lantern procession, a river of light winding its way up Northbrook Street and into the Market Place. With live music, a real community atmosphere and a glittering finale, the winter lantern procession has fast become a Christmas tradition in Newbury.

Make your own willow and tissue paper lantern in one of our FREE public workshops to join in the procession, or simply come along to feast your senses.

Create your own lantern workshops:

Sat 24 November & Sat 1 December 10.30am- 5pm, Newbury Library, Newbury Town Centre  
Sat 8 December 11am - 4pm, New Greenham Arts, Greenham Business Park

Group leaders workshop: Sun 9 December 1pm - 3pm, New Greenham Arts.  
To sign up for group leaders workshop e-mail [sarahg@cornexchangenew.co.uk](mailto:sarahg@cornexchangenew.co.uk)

The Festival of Light is part of the Outdoor Events Programme managed by the Corn Exchange and funded by the Trust and the Arts Council England. The events are free and preparations are already under way to continue them again next year, so keep up to date with news by visiting [www.cornexchangenew.com](http://www.cornexchangenew.com) and [www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk](http://www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk) or by visiting our facebook pages.



## The Community Buildings Improvements Programme was set up last year to contribute up to 50% of capital asset improvement costs for community halls, pavilions and other shared spaces.

A year ago Bradfield Cricket Club players awoke to find their pavilion in flames and completely destroyed by an arsonist. Without a pavilion they could not have continued to play in the Berkshire League. But with the help of a £42,000 grant from Greenham Common Trust, a substantial grant from Sport England, insurance and other funding from Englefield Charitable Trust the club was able to start rebuilding the pavilion.

Committee member Tim Wilson said: "Thanks to a huge fundraising effort and the enormous generosity of Greenham Common Trust and Sport England as well as Englefield we will have the pavilion ready for next season. We are planning an official opening on May 26th 2013 and are inviting former England cricket captain Chris Cowdrey and Richard Benyon MP. Without the support of the Trust and Sport England it would not have been possible to do anything at all."

Ashmansworth Village Hall celebrated the opening of their new kitchen with a Harvest Lunch for local residents recently. The kitchen was dedicated by the local vicar Rev Christine Dale.

The new kitchen (new worktops, cooker, fridge and dishwasher) was part of a complete refurbishment of the village hall which is the culmination of 18 months of fundraising by the village hall committee, led by chairwoman Helen Skinner.

The total cost of the kitchen refurbishment was £9,668 and was funded by Greenham Common Trust (£4,834), Hampshire County Council (£1,000), Ashmansworth Parish Council (£700) and the remainder from local fundraising.

The newly refurbished hall is now available for hire. For more information about how to book the hall please call village hall secretary Jackie Seaton on 01635 254845, or email [Jackie@sosoffice@orangehome.co.uk](mailto:Jackie@sosoffice@orangehome.co.uk).

The Trust is considering a further 30 applications for funding under the CBIP fund.



The Trust has committed over £1.75 million to help 75 local organisations refurbish or rebuild their community assets.

Bradfield Cricket Pavilion shortly after the arson attack

The Pavilion during reconstruction

Bradfield Cricket Club members outside the new Pavilion