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the common good

Greenham
Common
Trust



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www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk



THE QUEEN'S AWARDS
FOR ENTERPRISE:
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
2012

HRH The Duke of Gloucester presents the Queen's Award for Enterprise: Sustainable Development to Greenham Common Trust Director Charles Brims at Broadway House.

L to R: GCT Chief Executive Stuart Tagg, GCT Director Charles Brims, HRH The Duke of Gloucester, The Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire Mary Bayliss, The Lord Lieutenant's Cadet Samantha Reid.

GCT Chief Executive Stuart Tagg, GCT Director Charles Brims, and HRH The Duke of Gloucester with the Queen's Grant of Appointment

Greenham Common Trust is the first charity ever to win the Queen's Award for Enterprise: Sustainable Development three times for its innovation, employment creation and partnership work.

The charitable trust was recently presented with the award by the Duke of Gloucester for its continued regeneration of the 150-acre former RAF Greenham airbase into a mixed-use business park, Greenham Business Park, home to around 150 businesses employing over 1,500 people.

The Park has some of the country's leading R&D businesses and is home to several other Queen's Award winners.

The flexible approach and careful management of the business park, with its supported incubator units for fledgling businesses, investment and design & build opportunities, helps it stand out amongst the competition.



photo: Geoff Fletcher, Newbury Weekly News

It is the sustainable stewardship of the business park and its other assets which produces an annual income of around £3 million a year that is distributed to local good causes and social projects through charitable awards. Over £18m has been awarded to over 700 social, educational, artistic and environmental projects since the Trust was formed in 1997.

It is this innovative investment which has enabled the restoration of 750-acres of heathland and woodland on Greenham Common, owned and managed by local authority West Berkshire Council, into some of the most important wildlife and conservation areas in the UK.

The regeneration and transformation of the redundant nuclear airbase has not only safeguarded Greenham Common from piecemeal development but has created a sustainable commercial venture which has not only boosted the local economy but created a significant self-sufficient charitable income, benefiting the lives of thousands of local residents.

On receiving the award, the Trust's Director and High Sheriff of Berkshire, Charles Brims, said: "Greenham Common Trust is a great force for good in the community, and, by every measure, is sustainable. I am proud on behalf of the Trust to receive this award from HRH The

Duke of Gloucester and I congratulate all at Greenham Common Trust for deserving it."

Trust Chief Executive, Stuart Tagg, added: "The money the Trust generates is only as good as the purpose to which it's put and for that we really must recognise the local organisations who deliver such valuable services to the community."

Major projects the Trust has funded include:

- £450,000 - digital X-ray machine for the West Berkshire Community Hospital
- £550,000 - ground-breaking laser and ultrasound treatment of urological cancers by the Pelican Cancer Foundation, Basingstoke
- £572,000 - renovation of the Watermill Theatre, Newbury
- £2m - The Slater Centre, a purpose built facility for voluntary organisations
- £600,000 - restoration of the Crookham Common Athletic Track
- £300,000 - Trust bought Greenham Community Centre on a long lease and has refurbished it for the whole community
- £100,000 - new skate park and play area in Victoria Park, Newbury
- £50,000 - Robbie the Robot - State-of-the-art robotic equipment to assist surgeons at Royal Berkshire Hospital



photo: Geoff Fletcher, Newbury Weekly News

Funding
breakdown:
around
two thirds
to Berkshire
Youth
and around
one third to
the
Community
Youth Project
and others

The Trust pays a grant of £95,000 a year to provide a community sports coaching programme to improve the health and fitness of local young people



Berkshire Youth, a charity which supports youth leaders and young people across the county, manages the majority of the programme in the district, providing sports coaching in schools and the community to get young people involved in sport and physical activity. This includes engaging recognized and properly trained rugby players from Newbury Rugby Club to deliver coaching in local schools. The remainder of the programme is provided by the Community Youth Project and other local organisations, which provide coaching in youth clubs.

Operations Director at Berkshire Youth, Sarah Emery, said "Berkshire Youth has been fortunate to receive funding from Greenham Common Trust to fund Sports Coaches who work in the community. "Since the start of the Olympics we have seen a boom in young people wanting to be more physically active. Our sports coaches have been busy delivering sessions to nearly 3,000 young people since the summer. They have been

delivering both Olympic favourites such as football & hockey and non- Olympic sports such as dodgeball and Frisbee golf."

Working with over 250 volunteers in the community, Berkshire Youth has been supporting these voluntary based groups to find new and exciting ways to get young people involved in sport and physical activity. It has also been able to link up to other exciting programmes such as Big Dance and even seen Thames Valley Amateur Boxing Club coach, Paul Cooke, carry the Olympic torch.

Sarah added: "All of this is possible through the great work that is going on in our communities to give young people somewhere to go and something to do in their leisure time. By the hardworking volunteers providing a safe and secure environment to work with young people, Berkshire Youth, through the funding from Greenham Common Trust, can help young people try new sports, and get involved in some old favourites."



If you are interested in volunteering for sports coaching or would like your members to participate in sports coaching please contact splat@berkshireyouth.co.uk



Incidents of crime and anti-social behaviour in Greenham have fallen by 75% thanks to the success of initiatives like Community Youth Project and the newly refurbished Community Centre in the Nightingales, according to Thames Valley Police

"The Youth Club and Community Centre have provided a focal point for both the young people and residents in the Greenham area "

PC Nikki Flynn,
Thames Valley Police,
Greenham
Neighbourhood Officer



According to reports by West Berks Youth Offending Team, offences have fallen in Greenham ward from 51 in 2009/10 to just 13 in 2011/12 which coincides with when the Community Youth Project started a youth club and activities in Greenham.

Thames Valley Police - Greenham Neighbourhood Officer - PC Nikki Flynn said: "There has been a reduction in ASB related crimes in the area, which has been helped through this project providing a safer, friendly and enjoyable environment, encouraging residents of all ages to take part and talk to experienced staff in relation to many issues which arise."

PC Flynn said residents have been able to socialise together more thanks to the community centre and Community Café inside where they are also able to receive support from agencies such as housing associations, police and community wardens.

Jenny McIntyre, who manages CYP in Greenham, also attributes the fall in crime to the support of Greenham Common Trust, which took a long lease from the council and spent £300,000 refurbishing the community centre and reopening it to the public in January 2012.

Jenny said: "Children and their parents are beginning to take ownership of the centre and their community. It (the centre) truly is becoming a vibrant hub full of activities for all of the residents in Greenham and local surrounding areas."

CYP, under the management of Jenny and her colleague Charlotte Kennedy-Leech, has seen bookings at the centre double and the number of young people attending youth clubs and other activities, such as sports coaching, music and dance sessions, keep fit, Advice Drop-ins and Scouts, at the centre rise to between 80 and 100 per week.

CYP currently has 11 weekly active volunteers, with 17 more volunteers who help with bingo and community events. It also has 6 youth council members who volunteer and are very proactive at its Junior Youth Club and helping with Community Events.

One Youth Club member said: "It has kept me from getting into trouble, I know I can come and talk to the staff about anything and they will listen and I will get honest advice back."

The centre is also available for private bookings and corporate hire with competitive rates and discounts for residents, charities and not for profit organisations.

For more information on any of the above groups or for booking enquires please call Jenny or Charlotte on 01635 522566 or email Charlotte on info@greenham.org or visit their website www.greenham.org

Follow them on Facebook: Greenham Community Centre or Community Youth Project-Greenham.



Photos:

Community Centre
Fundraiser

CYP Alton Towers
Residential
for 12yrs +

CYP Group Camping
at Ufton Court

CYP Kayaking
for 8yrs to 11yrs

Ufton Court Educational Trust will be able to open its new outdoor residential centre programme a year early thanks to a £250,000 grant from Greenham Common Trust.

The Trust has committed over £1 million in grants via the Community Buildings Improvement Programme (CBIP) to over 100 organisations, helping to breathe life back into facilities at the heart of local residents' lives.

Greenham Common Trust has offered up to 50% of the funding required to enable capital projects (renovations, extensions and new builds) which will help transform community buildings, often the lifeblood of local villages and towns.

The programme has now closed and the Trust will not be accepting any new applications but we will be keeping you informed about the progress of many of the projects in your area in a series of case studies starting with Ufton Court Adventure.

Ufton Court Adventure is an ambitious new project that aims to raise the aspirations and achievements of local young people whose lives are affected by economic and social poverty.

The project is being run by the Ufton Court Educational Trust, a local charity which uses the house and grounds of Ufton Court to inspire and challenge young people. The Educational Trust had aimed to build Ufton Court Adventure, which will consist of seven timber cabins, over the next two years but thanks to the generous grant from Greenham Common Trust, building of all the cabins began in February 2013. This has resulted in reducing the building costs, enabling the centre to open a year earlier than planned and improving the sustainability of the project as the finished centre will be able to generate income to fund the ongoing programmes.

Ufton Court Adventure will be a residential centre based in the woods in Ufton Nervet that will provide those most in need with repeated access to residential outdoor adventure. Innovative programmes have been piloted over the last three years to develop confidence, independence and a positive attitude to challenge. As well as the physical challenges such as climbing, canoeing and mountain biking time is created for reflection and discussion with experienced mentors. Young people are accompanied on their visits by teachers or youth workers who ensure that learning achieved during their visit is integrated back into their home and school lives.

In 2012 camps were held on the Ufton Court Adventure site and over 300 children and teenagers participated. Feedback showed that as well as lots of fun and enjoyment they also grew in confidence as they faced challenges and achieved more than they believed they could. Jake, for example, was afraid of heights but with encouragement he reached the top of the climbing wall and said afterwards that he 'felt as if he had won an Olympic Gold' or Kath who left saying she 'felt proud of myself'. When asked six months after their visits what difference they felt the camps had made, typical comments included 'I still try things if I think I can't do it' or 'I never give up now'.

Mary Riall, Director of the Ufton Court Educational Trust, said; 'The grant from Greenham Common Trust has transformed the progress and impact of the project. We now expect to be welcoming young people in January 2014, a year earlier than planned, to a complete and fully equipped site, that can be used throughout the year, enabling us to reach more young people and offer a higher quality experience.'



Photos:
Ufton Court
Outdoor
Adventure
Programme
kids in action



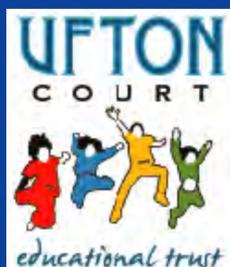
"The grant from Greenham Common Trust has transformed the progress and impact of the project."

Mary Riall, Director of the Ufton Court Educational Trust

Here are just a few of the other projects which the Trust has helped through the Community Buildings Improvement Programme.

Organisation/Building	Description	GCT Grant up to
Newbury Methodist Church	Refurbishment	£30,000
Gladstone Memorial Recreation Ground, Kintbury	New Skate Park	£39,750
New Era Players	Extension to theatre	£50,000
Reading YMCA	Rebuild Padworth log cabins	£70,000
Aldworth Village Hall	New Hall	£125,000
Bradfield Cricket Club	New club house	£42,000
Stockcross Recreation Ground Pavilion	New Pavilion	£55,000
Ecchinswell Village Hall	New Changing Rooms	£32,500
Brightwalton Village Hall	Extension and Modernisation	£15,000
Old Blue Coats School	Refurbishment	£60,000

Ufton Court Educational Trust is still fundraising on www.findmeagrant.org Make a donation by clicking on 'Live Applications' and adding 'wb10331' to the keyword search. Then click 'Make a Donation'.



a season of music

Greenham Common Trust has been putting on affordable Opera for All for the whole family since 2005 and has been in a successful partnership with Opera Brava since 2009

Greenham Common Trust, Opera Brava and Southern Sinfonia bring a festival of opera to Newbury this summer

Greenham Common Trust is teaming up with professional touring opera experts Opera Brava for a festival of opera this summer continuing the buzz of interest ignited by Dustin Hoffman's feel-good movie *Quartet*.

The packed programme begins with a wonderfully vivid adaptation of the C.S. Lewis classic fairy tale *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, performed by pupils at Whitelands Park Primary School on Thursday May 2 at the Corn Exchange in Newbury.

Children will not only learn how to sing but will be taught skills such as prop and mask making, dancing, stage management, acting and everything that goes into making an operatic success!

For 25 years Opera Brava has been providing inspirational and unique workshops for children aged 7-13, creating a participative and fun environment for both pupils and teachers.

Opera Brava Artistic Director Bronek Pomorski says: "We create a dynamic and friendly environment and aim to encourage confidence within each child leaving memories that last a lifetime. Having worked with over 20,000 children in over 250 schools, the feedback we have received is a testament to the success of our workshops."

Greenham Common Trust is funding the performance and has invited parents, teachers, family and friends to attend free of charge. Tickets are reserved for family and friends of pupils performing and will be organised through the school. Public tickets are subject to availability.



All tickets are available from the Corn Exchange Box Office in Market Place, Newbury; tel: 0845 5218 218 or visit www.cornexchangenew.com

Opera Brava

www.operabrava.co.uk

RIGOLETTO

You've laughed at and loved Dustin Hoffman's tale of four retired opera singers, *Quartet* - now come and see the live outdoor opera *Rigoletto* at Newbury Racecourse on Saturday June 29th.

A fabulous cast of young and thrilling singers, mixed with some international artists who have performed in major opera houses including Covent Garden and English National Opera, has been assembled. They will perform Giuseppe Verdi's classic tale of love, deception, a curse and murder.

The able cast will perform alongside Newbury's own Southern Sinfonia orchestra.

The title role of *Rigoletto* is the first fully developed character found in Verdi's operas; his changes of mood and emotion seem naturally wedded to the dramatic situation, and his music has an inevitable quality, seemingly driving the story to its tragic conclusion.

The opening of the final act contains two of the most famous pieces in all opera: the Duke's *La donna e mobile* (which needs no introduction), and the famous quartet, *Bella figlia dell'amore* (the focus of Hoffman's film), in which each character is expressing a different emotion.

Artistic Director at Opera Brava, Bronek Pomorski, says: "*Rigoletto* is one of opera's most vivid and compelling characters; a vengeful court jester desperately tries to protect his daughter from disaster in this heart-wrenching tragedy. If you haven't been to Opera for All before, bring a picnic and let the whole family see and hear a new magnificent production of Verdi's *Rigoletto*."

The performance starts at 7pm and gates open at 5.30pm. Early bird tickets are available from just £5 (until April 30th) and advanced tickets £7.50 (until June 29th). Tickets on the gate cost £10.



Tickets for the Gala performance are also available from Opera Brava. Please call 01444 443000 or book online at www.operabrava.co.uk



Candlelit
Opera Gala



The season finishes with an outdoor Candlelit Opera Gala by Opera Brava on Saturday July 27 at 7.30pm with Chamber Ensemble by Southern Sinfonia, set against the beautiful backdrop of the historic Shaw House.

This event promises to have something for everyone, the lifelong opera lover or the novice, and will contain a feast of opera's most inspiring music that will create a positive and lasting memory.

The first half includes such gems as: *La Traviata*, the *Lakme* duet, the *Pearl Fishers* duet, *Rigoletto* Quartet, Mozart trio plus many others.

The second half includes a *West Side Story* medley, Lehar, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Gershwin melodies and a popular medley from the Gilbert & Sullivan operas, interspersed with informative and comic anecdotes.

Singers from English National Opera, Covent Garden and International Opera houses will entertain you with world class singing, accompanied by Southern Sinfonia and the Opera Brava ensemble.

This programme encompasses some of the most frequently requested pieces on Classic FM.

Advanced tickets cost £25 for adults and £10 for children.

www.southernsinfonia.co.uk

Southern Sinfonia

Have the aliens landed? Is it the War of the Worlds? No - it's the latest spellbinding outdoor free arts performance

Chorus, by award-winning artist and composer Ray Lee, is a monumental visual and sound installation coming to Market Place, Newbury on Friday April 26th and Saturday April 27th.

The unique installation uses rotating speakers on 15 giant towering metal tripods to sing to us and tiny lights to create planet-like orbits.

Ray Lee, current British Composer of the year is fascinated by the invisible forces which surround us and wanted to use *Chorus* to explore what happens when sound moves through space, especially in public outdoor spaces.

In an interview with Base magazine, the Corn Exchange's Visual Arts publication, Mr Lee told Alex Amey that Newbury Market Place was an ideal location for his work because it acted like an urban amphitheatre to contain sound.

He added: "The Corn Exchange is an organisation at the forefront of creating interesting outdoor events and so is prepared to take on a challenge like staging *Chorus*."

Greenham Common Trust has been funding the Corn Exchange's Outdoor Events programme since 2010 and gives around £90,000 each year so families can enjoy free spectacular arts performances. Last year Arts Council England also agreed to add annual funding to enable the Corn Exchange to organise even bigger and better events.



Transport yourself into a mesmerising other world by attending this unique, intriguing and transfixing event.

Read the full interview with Ray Lee and find out more about other outdoor events on the Corn Exchange website

www.cornexchangenew.com

Performances start at 8.30pm, 9.15pm & 10pm on both days. No booking required.