

The Trust and West Berkshire Partnership announce grants of £171,250 to 58 arts, conservation, community, health, sport and leisure, education and disability organisations in West Berkshire and north Hampshire

Harry Thompson
of Thames Valley
Amateur Boxing Club
stands up to his opponent

The charitable trust, which has given over £20 million to local good causes since 1997, has just announced its latest reactive grant round in which it distributed £130,000 alongside the local strategic partnership which gave £43,500.

The Trust has given nearly £9,500 to the Thomas Slater Fund to go towards constructing a new BMX bike track at Henwick Worthy Sports Field in Thatcham in memory of the Thatcham teenager Thomas Slater who was sadly killed in a motorbike accident last year.

The Fund managed to raise over £25,000 for the project in less than three months after putting their application on Greenham Common Trust's fundraising website www.findmeagrants.org and starting a fundraising campaign. Friends, family and local businesses donated nearly £13,500 and the Trust matched £5,170 of those donations through its Trust Top-Up scheme and administered £2,744.50 of Gift Aid through findmeagrants. The Trust also gave a grant of £4,318 to allow the Fund to go ahead with the project. Thanks to the Trust, donors and other supporters the BMX track will be completed much sooner than envisaged.

Thanking all the supporters of the Fund, Thomas' father Paul said: "Findmeagrants worked very, very well for us. Being able to fund raise and then being awarded a grant was the topping on the cake for all our hard work. We would certainly approach findmeagrants in the future to help us fund raise, and could only recommend you to any local projects which need funding and help."



Thames Valley Amateur Boxing Club received £5,000 each from the Trust and West Berkshire Partnership to help pay for refurbishing premises next to the Newbury Weekly News to build a new home for the boxing club and for new equipment.

The club, which has been running for 56 years in West Berkshire, has recently moved from its existing home at Trinity School and requires the grant to turn the industrial unit on Faraday Road into sustainable training premises. The works include installing changing facilities and toilets for men & women, electrics and building works. It will also include the installation of some basic equipment.

The club's fundraiser Janice Cooke said: "Receiving this grant is brilliant news. We would not have been able to move to new premises or run the club without the support of the Trust and the Partnership, so thank you. The club really gives young people a positive channel for letting off steam, encouraging discipline and helping them to get fit and healthy."

The club, which runs boxing sessions from 10 years and upwards and focusses its sparring support for young adults, is still fundraising. To make a donation please visit www.findmeagrants.org/westberks and search for Thames Valley Amateur Boxing Club.



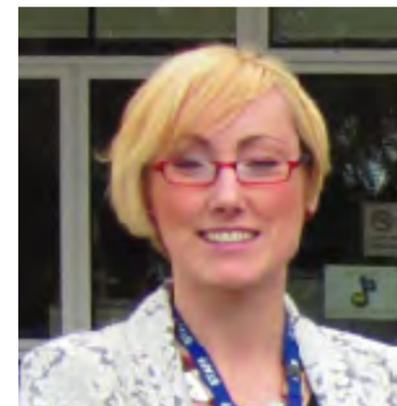
Thomas Slater Fund
Sponsored Bike Ride
from Newbury to Paris



Thomas Slater

The Trust's Instrument Loan Scheme has enabled scores of young musicians to play and learn instruments, including the marimba, clarinets, trombones, double bass piano, violins, recorders, electric guitars and drums.

The Trust has provided 30 ukuleles and 20 USB keyboards to Year 7 and GCSE Music pupils at John O' Gaunt School in Hungerford



"The ukulele is such a fun and enjoyable instrument to learn and allows anybody to have a go."

Aniela Zylinski,
Head of Performing Arts,
John O'Gaunt School

John O'Gaunt's Head of Performing Arts, Aniela Zylinski, said the school prides itself on enabling every pupil to learn an instrument.

"Students already learn the keyboard here at John O'Gaunt but the ukuleles will enable Year Seven students to develop their hand/eye co-ordination and improve independence between the hands on a different sort of instrument. We will be getting the pupils to learn new songs such as Bob Marley's *Three Little Birds* and Bruno Mars' *Count on Me*," added Aniela, who has been learning the ukulele, adding to her already impressive repertoire of piano, cello, guitar, recorder and singing.

Aniela said: "The USB keyboards will be used by GCSE Music students when composing using Sibelius music software, which will not only make the composing experience more enjoyable but will continue to help hone the students' keyboard skills.

"The ukulele is such a fun and enjoyable instrument to learn and allows anybody to have a go. Thank you so much for the really generous and kind support of Greenham Common Trust. Look out for the debut appearance of John O'Gaunt's first Ukelele Orchestra this Christmas!"

The instruments will be out on show during the School's 50th Anniversary Celebrations on 12th and 13th July. There will be plenty to enjoy as the school opens up to the public after 3.30pm on July 12th with buskers and an art and photography exhibition, and the opportunity to have a look around the school.

Greenham Common Trust has also given a £2,200 grant, in partnership with West Berkshire Council, to John O'Gaunt School for a new digital grand piano and has also provided protective cases for the ukuleles.

"I can't wait to have a go – they look fab!"

Katrina Vallance

"Wow! We are so lucky! If you haven't ever tried them, give it a go – ukuleles are really easy to learn as well as being loads of fun!"

Anthony White

Back L-R: Anthony White, Hattie Digweed, Katrina Vallance. Front L-R: Ian Gennard, Jack Maslin.





On Saturday 20 July
Northbrook Street and the Market Place
will be transformed into a giant aquarium
as enormous underwater creatures
take over the town



Peixos: Creatures from the Deep

Previous events include **Chorus**, **The Berkshire Giant**, **The Bell**
and the yearly **Lantern Procession**.



Gigantic colourful beasts, schools of darting tropical fish and luminescent jellyfish will swarm amongst you and dance above your heads as the wonderfully eccentric and unmissable artists Sarruga return to Newbury for another free spectacular outdoor arts performance.

from ingenious bicycle-powered mechanisms which are pedalled along to create an amazing processional spectacle. Their performances have been seen around the world from Europe to South America.

The performance begins at 9.45pm on Northbrook Street, followed by a theatrical procession into the Market Place.

Katy Griffiths, director of the Corn Exchange says: "We're so excited to be welcoming Sarruga back to Newbury. The Insects Procession in 2011 was one of our most popular outdoor events and people are still talking about it now. **Peixos: Creatures from the Deep** promises to be just as incredible. We're thrilled to be able to put on magical events like this and bring even more people into Newbury to see our performances"

Funded by Greenham Common Trust and Arts Council England, **Peixos** is the latest free event in the Corn Exchange's exciting outdoor events programme.

The world renowned Barcelona-based artists wowed crowds in 2011 with their performance of **Insectes** when gigantic glowing ants, a colossal nine metre high praying mantis and array of enormous insects took over the streets.

Now the inspiration has moved to the oceans and the giants are back with a mesmerising performance called **Peixos** (meaning fish in Catalan). Audiences can experience a glowing, moving, theatrical procession of enormous underwater creatures during this dream like performance.

Sarruga, which started in 1994, have perfected making their giant creatures

- Are you... passionate about building things from scrap?
- intrigued by giant carnival creations?
- interested in learning how to create an amazing street procession?

This could be the perfect opportunity for you.

Sat 20 July | 10am - 9.30pm
Volunteer to help build the show

Sat 20 July | 9.45pm
Peixos: Creatures from the Deep - The Performance

Sun 21 July | 10.30am - 12pm
Post-Show Discussion

Sun 21 July | 1pm - 5pm
Workshop for Makers and Artists



Book for the post-show discussion online:

www.cornexchangenew.com/events/info/peixos-post-show-discussion

Volunteer to build/operate on Saturday 20 July and/or attend the Workshop on Sunday 21 July then please contact Juliet Dale at julietd@cornexchangenew.co.uk.

The **Peixos** performance and the Post-Show Discussion are open to all ages. However, participants and volunteers must be 18 or over. All events and opportunities are free but workshop places are limited, so book early.

The Trust gave a grant of £3,500 to the Lambourn Imagination Library, a branch of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a book gifting charity which is part of the Dollywood Foundation - set up by the famous country and western singer Dolly Parton



The Trust is helping young children in West Berkshire to read by supporting a childhood literacy scheme which gifts free books to kids under the age of five

Each month, all registered children receive an age appropriate book addressed to them through the post - so, if registered at birth, a child could have their own library of 60 books when they reach the age of five. It is free to join but branches of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library have to fundraise. The current cost per year per child is £25 for 12 books, but anyone can register their child for free.

The programme is available for pre-school (under 5s) children who live in the Lambourn Parish Council area. The books, which are provided by Penguin, are selected and mailed out centrally by the Dollywood Foundation UK.

Helen Hastle, who started the Lambourn Imagination Library, said: "I have two little boys aged one and a half and four and they love books. I heard about the Imagination Library on the radio last year and thought how much my boys would love receiving books in the post and how sad it was that some parents don't have books and read to their children, so I decided to set up a branch of the library in my village. All children under 5 in Lambourn can register for the scheme and I fundraise to meet the costs. I am doing a 50km run on 14 July (the Race to the Stones along the Ridgeway) to raise money."

The Imagination Library has been running since 2007 and children in Lambourn have been receiving books since February 2013. Helen has been working with Lambourn Pre-School at Lambourn School, the Children's Centre and Lambourn Library to sign children up and publicise the scheme.

Natalie Turnbull from Imagination Library UK said: "It's great to have the support of Greenham Common Trust for the Imagination Library in Lambourn, which was launched by a local

volunteer in January. As the programme grows in the UK, we can reach more children through the delivery of a quality, age- appropriate book direct to children each and every month, encouraging a rich home learning environment for every child."

If you live in the Lambourn Parish Council area and would like to register your child you can collect a registration form from Lambourn Library, Lambourn School, Wednesday morning Children's Centre drop in at the Memorial Hall or

register online at www.lambournimaginationlibrary.co.uk

If you would like more information, please contact Helen Hastle
e: lambournil@gmail.com
m: 07881613472

Over 20,000 children are registered in the UK with local affiliate branches of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Please see <http://uk.imaginationlibrary.com/> for more information.

If you would like to donate to the Imagination Library please donate at www.findmeagrants.org and select 'West Berkshire', then search for 'Lambourn Imagination Library' and donate! Any donations are match funded by Greenham Common Trust, so £12.50 would become £25 which would buy books for 1 child for a year.



Greenham Common Trust continues to support local communities through the Community Buildings Improvement Programme funding scheme



The latest projects which have received support from the Trust to enable them to complete their schemes include Bradfield Cricket Club who rebuilt their pavilion after an arson attack destroyed the previous one and Kintbury Skatepark, a new BMX and skateboard park at the Gladstone Memorial Recreation Ground.

Eighteen months 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. In May a new Clubhouse was officially opened by Dr Robin Borthwick for the whole community to enjoy.

Club committee member and spokesman Tim Wilson said: "Thanks to a huge fundraising effort and the enormous generosity of Greenham Common Trust and Sport England as well as Englefield the pavilion was ready for this season. I must thank the tireless voluntary efforts of the local community which has made this wonderful facility a reality."

The clubhouse's reopening should help to boost playing membership, and the club is looking to attract players for any of its senior sides as well as juniors to join the current under 11, 13 and 15 teams. Anyone interested in joining the club should contact Richard Stansfield on 07825 089485.



In 2011 it was identified in the Kintbury Parish Plan that there were not enough activities for young people in the village. As a result, the parish council vice chair Mrs Ruth Kaye undertook research to identify a suitable facility, and with the help of local youth, it was decided to raise the £79,500 required make a skatepark for BMXers and skateboarders a reality.

Maverick Industries Ltd was commissioned to build the concrete skatepark, the same contractor who built the skatepark at Victoria Park in Newbury which the Trust also supported with a grant of £100,000 (including the new play area).

Mrs Kaye approached Greenham Common Trust which agreed to give £39,750, 50% of the cost of the skatepark, if the other 50% could be raised elsewhere. The balance was raised through a grant from Community First, Sovereign Housing, Kintbury Parish Council, The Gladstone Memorial Recreation Ground Trust, which owns the land the skatepark has been built on, and the local kids

"We are delighted the Kintbury skatepark is now complete and being used by young people in the village, without the help of Greenham Common Trust it would never have happened so thank you. Maverick finished the work at 3pm and by 3.30pm it was full of young people using it," said Mrs Kaye.

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

Photos:

Kintbury Skatepark
(photo: James Collins Design)

Dr Robin Borthwick
opens the new pavilion

Bradfield Cricket Club
members in front of
the new pavilion



The Community Buildings Improvement Programme was set up to contribute up to 50% of capital asset improvement costs for community halls, pavilions and other shared spaces. *The scheme is now closed to new applications.

International Taste Solutions



www.itstaste.com

Ever wondered how those amazing flavours and textures get into bread, cake and cereal products?

They are designed and created in food testing laboratories such as International Taste Solutions (iTS) at Greenham Business Park.



"We help people to create better tasting products that are healthier. There are no E numbers and we use all natural ingredients and processes."

Mike Bagshaw



iTS, which was launched in 2010 and moved to the business park in 2012, specialises in creating sustainable taste and texture solutions for the bakery and breakfast cereal markets.

iTS works with household names such as Quaker, Weetabix and Kingsmill and is expanding into the US, European and Asian markets.

The company draws from over 3,600 natural compounds in the flavour lab and uses the latest technology to combine them to create innovative tastes such as cola infused fruit.

iTS is run by Mike Bagshaw who is also vice chairman of the British Society of Baking, an industry group which is working to bring the bakery industry together. Mike created iTS with his wife Nadine from their dining room table. If proof were needed that there is money in dough, after three years turnover is expected to hit £2m for iTS; they have doubled in size over the last 12 months.

But that is a drop in the ocean in terms of growth potential for Mike who says the global flavour industry is worth a staggering £20bn.

"Most organisations concentrate on taste but are not good at texture or vice versa. iTS focuses on taste, texture and health; we work closely with our customers to design solutions and deliver innovation, passion and agility to the baking industry," he added.

iTS carries out research and development including test baking for new products at its Greenham Business Park base and manufactures from a purpose-built plant in Scotland.

When starting the business Mike, who used to be a sales director in the flavour industry, would survive on just four hours sleep, so determined was he to make iTS successful.

But now he prides himself on offering flexible work life balance for his staff. "We can get the best talent by offering flexible working hours to accommodate the modern lifestyle. It makes sense."

iTS rents five industrial units at the Enterprise Centre - fully serviced starter units for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, on the business park and describes it as a local community for businesses.

"We love it here. We definitely have no plans to move as we grow. The security and serviced office support we get are great. We also try and use as many businesses on the park as we can, such as staff meals at New Greenham Tandoori restaurant and the Coffee Exchange and we also get our cars serviced from Highclere Motor Company garage."



If you are interested in renting office space or starter industrial units at Greenham Business Park please call 01635 817444 or email enquiries@greenham-business-park.co.uk



Findmeagrnt, the fundraising website which matches grant applicants to grant makers, is being upgraded

we need your help to make sure we get the changes right



We are making some changes

The web portal, instigated by Greenham Common Trust, has been in operation for over 18 months now. The system has worked so well that we are planning two things:

- Rolling the system out regionally and nationally by sourcing regional partners who would lease the site and manage geographic areas on a franchise basis
- Upgrading the site to make it more efficient and easier to use.

In order to analyse exactly how to improve your experience of using findmeagrnt we need to hear from the most important people: you - the users of the system.

By utilising your honest feedback and new ideas gathered from a survey we can take an informed approach about how to deliver a better, more efficient service for you and other potential applicants and donors.

Here are just some of the changes we are proposing:

- Add geographic area of operation to match funders and applicants
- More comprehensive category matching
- Facebook fundraising page templates so donors can donate in one click
- New marketing website with blogs/forum, video and photo case study uploads

We would very much appreciate your feedback on the existing service but also your comments on proposed improvements to findmeagrnt.

In order to roll the system out regionally and nationally we will have to introduce charging options to cover the credit card handling fees, administration, development and support costs. We would like to stress that the Trust has no intention of implementing any charging policies locally - changes will only apply outside our area of operation - but we would very much appreciate your view on whether proposed charging policies seem fair and equitable. Any additional income generated through findmeagrnt after administration, development and support costs are taken out will be

ploughed back into local communities as charitable grants. This will be a contractual obligation for Regional Partners who lease franchises of the system in other areas.

We appreciate that the survey will take a few minutes to complete but we really value your views and hope that you will benefit directly from an improved system when we re-launch findmeagrnt later in the year.

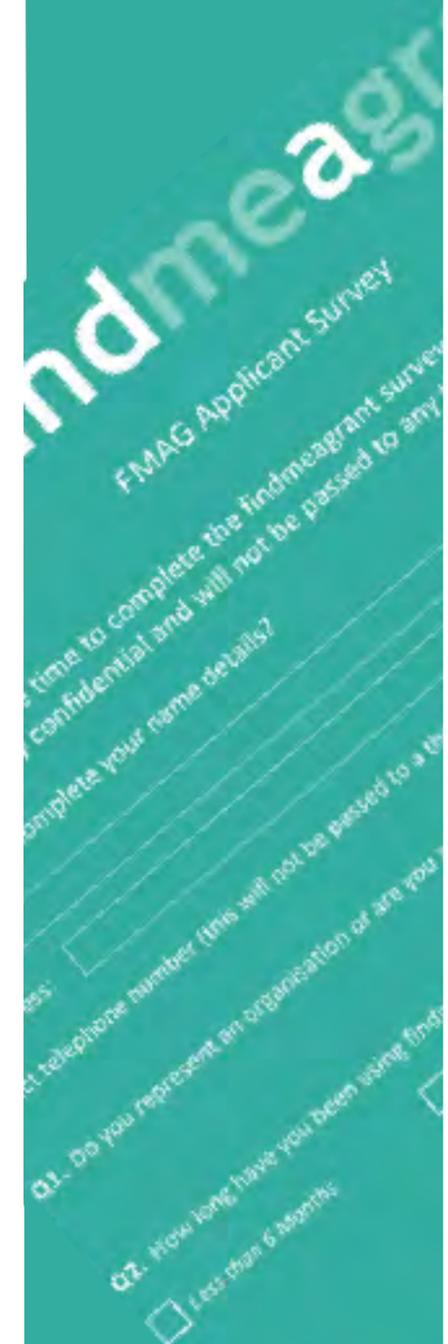
Please visit www.surveymeter.net/?f=8523 before 19th July 2013 to take part in the survey. Many thanks for your support.

Since its launch in September 2011 www.findmeagrnt.org has helped to distribute:

- Nearly £2.5m in funds to local organisations
- Nearly £350,000 in donations
- £230,000 in Trust Top-Up
- £62,000 in Gift Aid

Funders using findmeagrnt include Greenham Common Trust, West Berkshire Council, Englefield Charitable Trust, The Peter Baker Foundation, Greater Greenham Partnership, Hungerford Town Council, Thatcham Town Council.

for more information about findmeagrnt contact Julian May:
t: 01635 817407
e: julian@greenham-common-trust.co.uk



Hundreds brought their picnics to enjoy a fabulous evening of world class opera, courtesy of Greenham Common Trust, Southern Sinfonia and Opera Brava

Southern Sinfonia

Opera Brava

Outdoor opera company Opera Brava's partnership with the Trust is now in its fourth year and the renowned cast made up of English National Opera, Covent Garden as well as young new singers put on a stunning performance of Giuseppe Verdi's **Rigoletto**.

The sun shone and the wine flowed as opera lovers soaked up the atmosphere and drama of the occasion. Families who brought children along for their first taste of opera were treated to an enchanting performance.

Andrew Mayor and Laura Pooley put in first class characterisations as lead roles of the hunchbacked court jester Rigoletto and his daughter Gilda. They were perfectly accompanied by Daniel Joy who played the devious Duke of Mantua, Jonathan Story, who played the assassin Sparafucile and a sassy rendition by Christina Gill who played Maddelena.

This is the first year that Opera Brava has performed in partnership with local orchestra Southern Sinfonia, who played sublimely, adding to the success of the evening.

If you enjoyed **Rigoletto** why not come along to an exquisite Candlelit Opera Gala by Opera Brava on Saturday July 27 at 7.30pm set against the beautiful backdrop of the historic Shaw House.

This event, again with Chamber Ensemble by Southern Sinfonia, promises to have something for everyone, the lifelong opera lover or the novice. The fully staged programme will contain a feast of opera's most inspiring music, to create a positive and lasting memory.

The first half includes such gems as: **La Traviata**, the **Lakme** duet, the **Pearl Fishers** duet, **Rigoletto** Quartet, and 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. This programme encompasses some of the most frequently requested pieces on Classic FM.

Singers from English National Opera, Covent Garden and International opera houses will entertain you with world class singing.



Photos:
Picnic and Opera - a
winning combination

Laura Pooley as Gilda
and Daniel Joy as the
Duke of Mantua

Andrew Mayor as
Rigoletto

Gala Night advanced tickets

£25 adults | £10 children

available from:

The Corn Exchange Box Office, Market Place, Newbury - call 0845 5218 218 or visit www.cornexchangenew.com

Opera Brava - call 01444 443000 or book online at www.operabrava.co.uk