

* Find out about Vibrant Villages - a joint funding scheme from Greenham Common Trust and West Berkshire Council - see page 2.

* See the latest Community Buildings Improvement Programme grant on page 3.

* For more on this autumn's reactive grant round see pages 4 and 5.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Greenham Common Trust



Nearly **60** local charities and community organisations have benefitted in the Trust's latest reactive grant round

Nearly **£160,000** was awarded in grants

Nearly **60%** of the funded projects were awarded **100%** of what they needed to complete their projects.

Grants of between **£938** and **£15,000** were awarded

The Trust gave **£280,000** in reactive grants alone to local charitable and community organisations in 2014

Over **£4.5m** (including over **£1m** in public donations) has been raised for local projects in West Berkshire and north Hampshire thanks to the Trusts fundraising website

www.findmeagrants.org

Does your
local
community
need help
with a
building
project?

5 local communities have just benefitted from Greenham Common Trust and West Berkshire Council's joint funding scheme **Vibrant Villages**

Greenham Common Trust and West Berkshire Council invite local community organisations to apply for their match funding grant scheme **Vibrant Villages** - set up to grant aid small capital projects in rural communities. The scheme is designed to maintain economic and social infrastructure essential to village vitality and vibrancy.

Applications for **Vibrant Villages** should be made via www.findmeagrants.org, ensuring that the following criteria are met:

- The funding is for capital costs, not revenue costs
- The funding will only be granted if the project identified has wide community support
- The grant must be at least 50% match funded by the applicant
- No grant application will be approved unless there is evidence that the matched funding is in place.
- Preference will be given to applications from communities that have provided some or all of their matched funding through community activities such as sponsorship activity, village fetes or other typical community fund raising activities.
- Applications may be for a minimum of £500. Grants are normally between £500 and £5,000.
- Allocated grants must be spent in-year and cannot be rolled over to the next financial year.

In the most recent round of funding Mortimer Pre-School was awarded £1,000 for adjustable height tables and chairs, a reading area and play frame, needed to provide a safe and stimulating learning environment for children aged from 2 to 5 years old when drawing, writing, playing with table top puzzles and role playing.

East Woodhay Cricket Club was awarded £4,000 for two new permanent net bays to offer enhanced training and coaching facilities in a safe, inclusive environment that will allow high quality player specific coaching for both senior players and over 100 junior players.

Bucklebury PCC needed £30,000 to replace the colt cedar shingles and south facing windows and other general maintenance and repairs to All Saints' Church in Upper Bucklebury. Local fundraising events raised £19,415, £5,000 was awarded by Greenham Common Trust, £5,000 by the Englefield Trust and **Vibrant Villages** awarded the remaining £585 needed to reach the target.

Brimpton Parochial Church Council were also awarded the £130 they needed to reach their target of £9,770 for the repair of three stained glass windows at St Peter's Church, Brimpton, a Grade 2 listed building.

Bradfield Primary School PTA was awarded £2,000 towards providing 15 new laptops which will enable one computer between 2 children and allow whole class ICT lessons. Current computers at the Primary School are 15 years out of date.

Applications for the next round of **Vibrant Villages** funding should be made via www.findmeagrants.org by the end of February 2015.

If you would like more information about Vibrant Villages funding please call Jill Owen on 01635 760105 or email jill@greenham-common-trust.co.uk

Photos:

Former Vibrant Villages recipients:

A new skatepark for Theale,

Alice and Abdullah play on the new play equipment at Brimpton C of E Primary School



Woolton Hill Church Hall was officially re-opened recently by North West Hampshire MP Sir George Young after a £425,000 facelift.

The refurbishment included new children's, adult and disabled toilets, a new kitchen, entrance, and two new meeting rooms, a new hall floor, new lighting, under-floor heating and new storage areas.

The project, which cost £425,267, was possible following major grants from Veolia Environmental Trust (£100,000), Hampshire County Council's Community Buildings Capital Fund (£83,000), Greenham Common Trust (£82,513) and £81,342 in various awards from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Section 106 grants.

Following the ribbon cutting the building was blessed by the new Bishop of Basingstoke, the Reverend Canon David Williams.

The scheme was divided into three building phases to be delivered as funding became available. But sufficient money had been raised and all the building work was completed on 12th September 2014.

In her speech to guests and local residents The Reverend Christine Dale of St Thomas Church, Woolton Hill, thanked the generosity of the four major donors.

"The project has been very fortunate to be awarded major grants from four different funding bodies. Without these contributions we would not have been able to go ahead with the project so we are all extremely grateful. It has also benefited from a generous allocation of £11,350 from the estate of one of our church members, Phyllis Dodd, which was designated specifically for the refurbishment of the kitchen," she added.

The Church Hall contributed £28,000 and donations of £16,188 were received from the Woolton Hill Pre-School, £5,000 from the

Englefield Charitable Trust, £2,500 from the Bedhampton Charitable Trust and £1,000 from The Gerald Palmer Eling Trust.

Major funding was raised through Greenham Common Trust's fundraising website www.findmeagrant.org which also attracted £2,513 in public donations for the project, which the Trust match funded. Gift Aid payments (which can be claimed through findmeagrant) of £628.25 were also raised.

£80,000 of the funding from GCT was given as part of its Community Buildings Improvement Programme which has so far benefitted over 100 organisations with funding paid or committed totalling £3.1m.

For more information please visit www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk/cbip/woolton-hill-church-hall



Photos:
The new entrance

The new hall floor

Sir George Young cuts the ribbon to officially open the new Woolton Hill Church Hall

Nearly **60** local charities and community organisations have benefited this autumn from around **£160,000** thanks to Greenham Common Trust and its fundraising website **www.findmeagrants.org**

Charities and support organisations working on vital local projects in

- health and well-being,
 - community,
 - education,
 - arts,
 - sports and leisure,
 - conservation,
 - disabilities and mental health
 - volunteering
- all benefitted from reactive grants.

Newbury Choral Society received **£8,100** to stage an evening of music from WWI.

Jacquie Cooper from Newbury Choral Society said: "We're extremely grateful to Greenham Common Trust for supporting this concert, which was one of a number of events being promoted by Newbury Town Council in our area to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.



Photos:
Newbury Choral Society
concert

Brain Tumour Support and
Social Group

West Berkshire Mencap
Bubble Club

West Berkshire MS Therapy
Centre 'theraband' class

Home-Start West Berkshire

Brain Tumour Support and Social Group received **£1,000** to go with the **£1,000** they had received earlier in the year from the Trust.

Chairwoman Louise Maslin said: "Thank you so much for the wonderful grant which provided many days out for the group. Living with Brain Tumours completely turns your world upside down so please know just how wonderful you are to make all these events happen and give lovely times and laughter to the group."



Volunteer Centre West Berkshire received **£15,000** towards a supported volunteer role to assist local people with mental health problems.

Centre Director Garry Poulson said: "WOW amazing! Thank you very much findmeagrants and Greenham Common Trust.

"Supported volunteering is an overdue project in a world where poor mental health has a stigma still. This new project will provide a safe, supported and encouraging atmosphere to enable people with medium and long-term mental health problems to volunteer in supported settings."



West Berkshire Mencap received **£3,200** towards its wildlife observation centre and **£2,500** towards its Bubble Club.

Carrie-Anne Ferrie, Fundraising Manager of West Berkshire Mencap, said: "The grants will make a massive difference to our clients and their families, who use these vital services.

"Bubble Club has more than 20 families who attend these fun and sensory stimulating sessions for people with learning disabilities. "Bubble club is where many of our families have their first contact with us when their child has just been diagnosed. They can talk to staff about their concerns and worries, whilst knowing that their child can play safely with their peers," added Carrie-Anne.

West Berkshire Mencap's horticultural therapy project, Growing4all, will now also be able to set up their Wildlife Observation Centre. The centre is being built to allow for more than 40 clients to learn about local wildlife and nature.



Berkshire MS Therapy Centre received **£5,251** to cover the cost of providing 1-2-1 physiotherapy for the 251 clients in West Berkshire and north Hampshire.

Fundraiser Jackie Malcolm said: "Greenham Common Trust has supported Berkshire MS Therapy Centre for over ten years. In the past 12 months it has provided 491 1-2-1 physiotherapy consultations to people in the local area.

"Physiotherapy is an essential support to people suffering from MS as it enables the individual to maintain their dexterity for as long as possible."

Home-Start West Berkshire, the family welfare charity, received **£2,500** towards transport costs for reaching isolated families.

Scheme Manager Lynne Doherty said: "Home-Start West Berkshire is delighted that Greenham Common Trust continues to support us with their kind donation. This money will enable us to support 25 to 30 isolated families a year who struggle to access support in the local community. The money will transport families to our Family Groups, where the aim is to enable parents to have some quality time with their children in a supported environment.



During 2014 the Trust has, on top of its reactive grants, also

administered **£98,000** in Gift Aid

match funded **£210,000** in public donations

- all free through findmeagrants

If you have a local project you are fundraising for and want to attract grants and public and local company donations (with the potential to add match funding and Gift Aid on those donations) please visit **www.findmeagrants.org**.

Alternatively, contact Helen Carlile at Greenham Common Trust on 01635 817302 for more information.

"It is a fitting end to the protest. At the end of the day you have to put your differences aside and give things back to the community. Long after we are gone people will be saying 'what happened here?'"

Sarah Hipperson
Greenham Peace Woman

Photos:
The Flame Sculpture

Greenham Common Trust
Chief Executive, Chris
Boulton, plants a Maple
tree to commemorate the
garden's handover

Jean Hutchins (white hair
stood leaning on stick/chair
Sarah Hipperson (sitting)
Côr Cochian Choir (Wales
Socialist Choir) and
other Peace Women and
supporters

Sarah Hipperson

Greenham Peace Women returned once again to the former nuclear airbase that was their home for nearly 20 years to formally hand over their Memorial Peace Garden to Greenham Common Trust

The Peace Garden, created to commemorate the Greenham Peace Women's protest against nuclear weapons at the former nuclear airbase, was formally handed back to Greenham Common Trust in November.

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Chris Boulton planted a Maple tree in the Peace Garden in a short ceremony attended by Peace Women from all over the country, West Berkshire Council Chairman Jeff Beck and Thacham Mayor Gary Johnson. Also celebrating the ceremony with song were Côr Cochian Choir - the Wales Socialist Choir.

The Peace Garden, located opposite the security lodge at the main entrance to Greenham Business Park, was where the original Women's Peace Camp was situated - a continuous presence protesting against the former nuclear airbase and maintaining hopes for international peace. After nearly 20 years, the camp closed on 5th September 2000 to make way for the Peace Garden - a "Commemorative and Historic Site."

The woodland garden was designed by Roderick Griffin of local architects Sutton, Griffin & Morgan and contains many native British plants. In the summer the garden is filled with wild flowers and makes an ideal lunchtime picnic spot. Centred in the garden is a flame sculpture surrounded by standing stones, representing the Peace Women around their campfire.

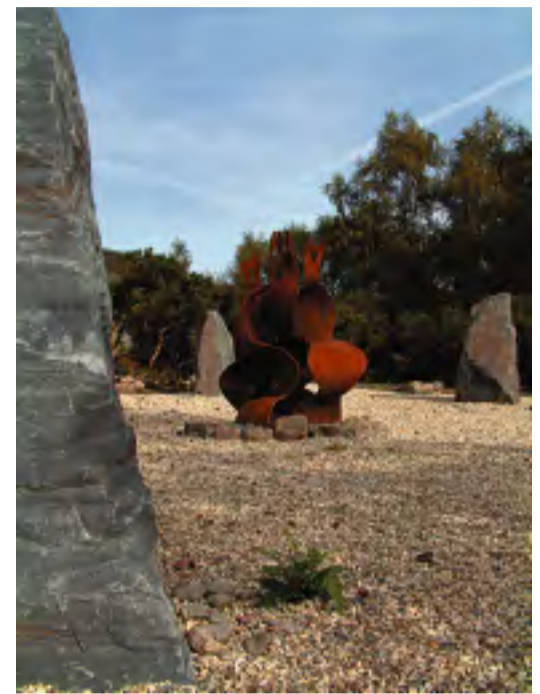
Sarah Hipperson, now 87, was one of the last Peace Women to leave the famous peace camp after living there for 17 years. Sarah joined the women in 1983 when the first of 96 cruise missiles arrived at the airbase.

She said: "Since 2nd October 2000 it has been our intention (at the time when the protest finished) to have some permanent memory of what happened here - the Peace Garden represents that. We are now happy to hand over the future care of the Peace Garden to Greenham Common Trust and reassured that the Chief Executive, Mr Chris Boulton, will ensure this continues.

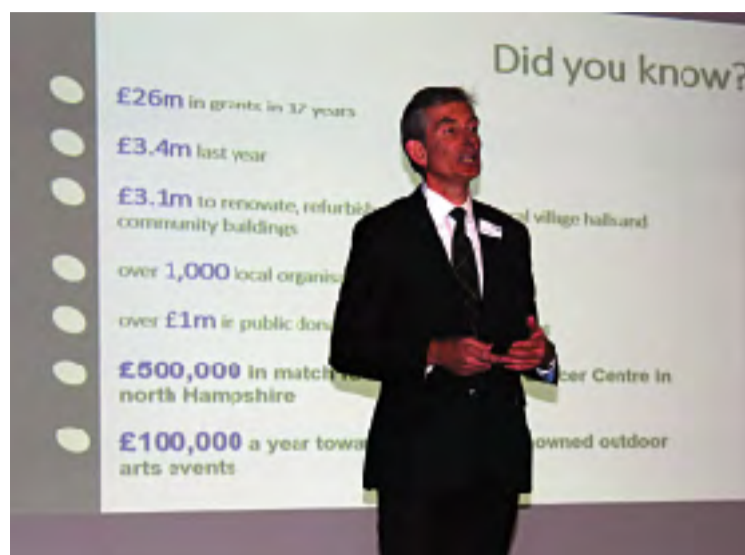
"It is a fitting end to the protest. At the end of the day you have to put your differences aside and give things back to the community. Long after we are gone people will be saying 'what happened here?'"

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Chris Boulton added: "The Peace Garden marks an important part of the history of Greenham Common. The Trust would like to thank Sarah and the other peace women for the upkeep of the garden and for asking us to manage it for the future."

Following the tree planting the party retired to the business park's Enterprise Centre conference room for the presentation of a cake and a glass of wine.



Greenham Common Trust held its tenth Annual Event recently to celebrate the voluntary sector in West Berkshire and north Hampshire.



"If you have any ideas about what kinds of projects you think the Trust should be funding we would love to hear from you."

Chris Boulton
Chief Executive



Around 125 people attended the event representing youth, conservation, care, disability, community, education, health and well-being, sports and leisure and equality and diversity charities and community organisations.



The annual networking event held at St Bartholomew's School in Newbury, gave fundraisers and local charity managers a chance to share information and learn from each other, with about 30 organisations exhibiting, and workshops on fundraising/bid writing and advice and tips on managing community buildings projects.



Presentations were also given on the future of Greenham Common Trust, the importance of social media in the voluntary sector, the tough issues facing youth service provision and the Trust's fundraising web portal www.findmeagrants.org, which is being redeveloped and will re-launch in the New Year.

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Chris Boulton said: "There is an enormous enthusiasm and vibrancy in the voluntary sector and the idea of the annual event is to harness that and get together to create better ways of working in partnership to deliver more efficient and effective services to the people most in need in our community.



"We always welcome feedback so if you have any ideas or requests about workshops, seminars or events that could help you improve the running of your organisation or indeed what kinds of projects you think the Trust should be funding we would love to hear from you."

The Trust is working closely with partner organisations such as Community Council for Berkshire, Berkshire Community Foundation and Empowering West Berkshire to deliver fundraising and community building workshops for the voluntary sector in the New Year.

Speakers pictured:

Greenham Common Trust CEO Chris Boulton tells the audience that the Trust has given over £26m since it started.

BerkshireCommunity Foundation CEO Andrew Middleton urges charities not to ignore social media.

Berkshire Youth CEO Dave Seward speaks about the national scandal of youth service cuts.

Displays pictured:

Friends of Young Carers

All2Gether

Berkshire MS Therapy Centre

If you want to contact the Trust with your feedback or ideas please telephone 01635 817444 or email enquiries@greenham-common-trust.co.uk



Greenham Common Trust is teaming up with Swift Couriers to help more disadvantaged and sick children get a present this Christmas

The Trust is hosting a Christmas event on Friday December 19th at Greenham Business Park with a silver band and carols around the Christmas tree, mince pies and mulled wine. Everyone who attends is asked to donate a toy for Swift Couriers Christmas Toy Appeal.

Greenham Common Trust Chief Executive Chris Boulton said:

"We wish all of our occupiers, beneficiaries, partners, friends and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, prosperous and peaceful New Year. What better way to start the festivities early with a traditional carol concert around the Christmas tree.

"We also want to support the fantastic Christmas Toy Appeal, so don't forget to bring along a present either before the event or on the night."

Swift is working with West Berkshire Council and Newbury Community Resource Centre to bring a smile to a local child's face by giving them a gift to open on Christmas day.

And the Trust has agreed to offer its office reception at Greenham Business Park to become one of the many gift drop-off points.

Please donate gifts suitable for boys and girls from newborn right up to 19+.

- Toys need to be **new** and not second hand and **not wrapped**.
- Makeup and toiletries make great gifts for teenagers, as do vouchers.

Adrian Smith, Managing Director of Swift Logistics Group, explained that unlike those in formal "care", the children who benefit from the toy appeal come from deprived, "at risk" or "in crisis" families and there is no local or central government consideration or financial allowance for their needs at this special time of year.

He added: "Fortunately over the past 8 years you and the people of West Berkshire have been alert to this short fall and have offered what can only be described as a fantastic response to address this desperate need within our community. Put simply; without your help and direct action, Christmas would be just another day for literally hundreds of kids in West Berkshire.

"This year I appeal to you once again for your support and assistance in bringing smiles to all the young faces in West Berkshire."

For those unable to drop off their gift, or for workplaces that wish to make a large donation Swift Couriers are running a collection service. To arrange a collection donors should call the Swift hotline on 01635 571773.

For more information go to <http://newbury.thebreeze.com/> or www.swiftcouriers.com.

Main drop off points

- Apple Print and Creative
- Budgens (Wash Common)
- Camp Hopson (Newbury)
- All Children's Centres in West Berkshire (please visit www.westberks.gov.uk to get locations and contact numbers)
- Entertainer (Newbury)
- Greenham Community Centre
- Hungerford Leisure Centre
- Libraries (Newbury, Theale, Thatcham and Hungerford)
- Newbury Building Society
- Sainsbury's (Newbury, Savacentre Calcot)
- Mothercare (Newbury) (Newbury, Thatcham and Hungerford)
- Swift Couriers, Hambridge Lane
- Main Tesco Stores
- West Berkshire Council Offices (Market Street)
- Reception, Liberty House, The Enterprise Centre, Greenham Business Park

"Without your help and direct action, Christmas would be just another day for literally hundreds of kids in West Berkshire"

Adrian Smith,
Managing Director,
Swift Logistics Group



For full details of all drop off points please visit
<http://websitevue.progressdms.co.uk/uploads/pdf/71673.pdf>