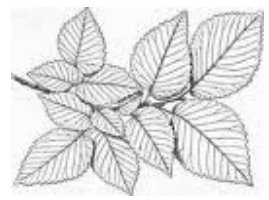


SKILLS EXCHANGE



October News 2009

Hello all, hope you are enjoying what is turning out to be a lovely Autumn. It was around this time last year that we were approaching our 100th member of the Skills Exchange. Welcome to everyone who signed up last month, all 14 of you: Emma, Saba, Anna, Jeff, Michele, Jon, Richard, Mel, Willow, Neema, Mark, Julie, Amanda, and Martha, which now takes our membership to 167 and still growing.

Over 2735 hours have been exchanged and our new members, come with new skills. We have included the latest Skills Directory with this mailout so you can all have an update. If the text is too small, please ask us for a bigger version and we will send you one.

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH TO.....

“meet new people by getting involved with some of the Skills Exchange’s organisational members. We now have 27 Organisational members of the Skills Exchange. If you volunteer to help them you will earn Time Credits in the same way you would if you were helping an individual. Organisations can earn Time Credits by offering their facilities, equipment, or maybe volunteer help from their employees

This Saturday 10th October our organisational member, Sherwood Rise Residents’ Association, are staging

THE STUFF OF LIFE FESTIVAL

12 NOON TILL 6.00PM

HEDLEY VILLAS PARK, SHERWOOD RISE

Entertainment, music, workshops, food, live art, bread making competition, children’s activities, and much more!

It would be great if you could go along and support them. It’s a lovely event, this will be our third year there promoting the Skills Exchange. If you would like to help us on our stall that would be fantastic. We will be there setting up from about 11:30am.



Do you want to go to the Panto? (Oh yes you do.....Oh no you don’t) See back page for details

WANT TO EARN TIME CREDITS HELPING ONE OF OUR ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS?

Here are a few examples of the sorts of help that are regularly needed.....

Glenstone Court:- Need people to organise activities for the residents,..... crafts, card making, history, share your knowledge on a particular subject, bingo callers – all could be arranged to suit your availability.

Sumac Centre: - Always need volunteers to help the garden club, run the People's Kitchen, vegan cafe on Saturday evenings, or help run the bar on Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

The New Art Exchange: - Often need people to deliver leaflets to advertise their exhibitions, or people to watch over the gallery space.

Nottingham Credit Union:- Need friendly, outgoing people with good customer care skills and reasonably good maths to staff their collection points.

OR HELP OUT OUR NEW ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS?

Central Educational Improvement Partnership

Are organising "Family Learning" festivals:

Tuesday 20th October 3:30 – 5:30pm Claremont Primary School, Claremont Road, Nottingham

Wednesday 21st October 3:30 – 5:30pm Scotholme Primary School, Fisher Street, Forest Fields, Nottingham

Saturday 31st October 10-12 noon, Radford Primary School, Denman Street West, Radford, Nottingham

Volunteers are needed to help serve food and drinks and to help parents fill in forms. You will need to turn up about 15 minutes before the event starts.

These events are promoting learning together as families and all feature taster sessions of pottery, dance and art.

Please let us know ASAP if you can help out.

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Other members need help from time to time and we will let you know about this in the Newsletter.

Steering Group News

Sadly one of our members has moved away so can no longer take part in the Steering Group. Thank you Jane for all your hard work.

!! CHANGE TO THE BOOK SWAP!!



The Steering Group agreed to a change of rules so that the Book Swap would be better used. So....from now on members will get 1 Time Credit when they donate books, no longer on a sliding scale. 1 book = 1 Time Credit, 10 books = 1 Time Credit. And there will no longer be any "charge" for borrowing books. They can be taken away or swapped. The main purpose being that they are being read and passed on rather than sitting on a shelf.

If you would like to take part in the Steering Group please let us know.

The next meeting is Thursday 22nd October, 6pm – 7:30pm, here at the Partnership Council.

ON THE SUBJECT OF BOOKS

Our **Telling Tales** event on 26th September was well attended and was a fine example of what can happen when people offer their time and imagination. Thank you to Kat, Rebecca, and Tracy who helped us set up, putting up bunting, getting the



Mad Hatter's Tea Party ready, and just generally getting us organised.

Thank you to Sue for sharing the books she reads to her Grandson with the younger children, to Ron for turning up "on spec" with a couple of his humorous verses, and to Rosie who made up a story on the spot, with some very tricky suggestions. Thank you to Wendy for bringing lots of lovely stickers and stuff along to make bookmarks. Thanks again to

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Tracy who spent hours drawing and painting puppets for the performance of “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” and brought in her pop up tent to make a cosy reading area for the kids. Thank you to everyone who brought in cakes or refreshments and to everyone who came, stayed, chatted, swapped books and generally contributed to what was a very pleasant afternoon.

Thank you to our organisational members – the Bridge who lent us a table for the tea party and Hyson Green Library who lent us rugs, books and sent the Book Doctor along.

And now the much requested Play Dough Recipe!!!!

Cooked (better method)

1 cup salt, 2 cups white flour, 4 tsp cream of tartar, 2 tablespoons cooking oil, 2 cups water, powder paint or food colouring for colour.

Mix the ingredients in a large saucepan and cook on a medium heat for 3-5 minutes, until solid.

Uncooked (If you want to make things to keep)

2 cups flour, 1 cup salt.

Mix together then add 1 tablespoon of cooking oil, 1 cup water, few drops of food colouring. Mix again, then knead. Things made can be baked at 350° for 45 mins.

More Ways to Earn Some Time Credits

By helping us:

We need

- ❖ People to make cards to send out to everyone at Christmas – meet at the Partnership Council to make them or make some at home
- ❖ People to be part of a “Housework Squad” – working in pairs to blitz houses, or work on a regular basis
- ❖ People to help with our next Social on 11th December 2009, we want it to be amazing. So.....performers, musicians, dancers, DJ’s, please come out of the woodwork and volunteer to do something. We also need people to decorate the venue too.....anyone any good at making wreaths, bunches from



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evergreens? **Food** ... We'll need lots of it, practise your recipes now. If you would like to be part of a planning group, let us know.

By helping other members

Requests include: painting and decorating, help with Photoshop, help with geography, fitness companions (walking or jogging), gardening, fence painting, housework, setting up and taking down cricket nets on a Thursday evening, repair to a sewing machine, downloading music, fix a printer that isn't printing properly.

WE ARE MOVING

Yes we know it's sad, because we love the Stables and the Courtyard, but we are moving to new, temporary premises on week beginning 9th November 2009. We are going to **181 Alfreton Road, Radford, Nottingham NG7 3NW**. (It's where the New Art Exchange used to be before it moved to its new posh location.)

Our telephone stays the same 970 8200, and our emails are the same, and of course we are the same! We will still aim to be lovely, welcoming, and helpful! So no Breakfast Morning on 13th November, but an extra special say goodbye to the Stables on the 6th November 2009. All welcome, bring some toastable stuff.

Dates for Your Diary

Breakfast Mornings: Fridays 9th October, 16th October, 23rd October, 30th October, 6th November, 20th November, 27th November. No Breakfast Morning on 13th November.

Next big Social 11 December 2009

Fancy a coach trip to Lincoln?

Mick, one of our members, has done a bit of research and we can hire a coach at a cost of around £10 per adult and £5 per child. The plan would be to go on Saturday 5th December, which coincides with the Christmas Market. There will be lots of stalls, children's entertainment and local produce for sale. If



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you don't want to shop Lincoln is a lovely historic city with a Norman castle and Gothic cathedral.

This is just at the planning stage at the moment. We need to know if there is enough interest before we go ahead and make a firm booking. Let us know if you would like to go, family and friends can go too. **Deadline: 5th November 2009**

It's Panto Time

This year we have a maximum of 50 tickets for "Beauty and the Beast" at Nottingham Playhouse. Tickets cost £7.00 and are available for family and friends too. (They are normally £21 and £17 each). The performances you can book for are as follows:-

Friday 27th November (first night) 7:30pm
Monday 30th November at 2:30pm
Tuesday 1st December at 7:30pm
Wednesday 2nd December at 7:30pm

Seats do get booked up very quickly so let us know by 30th October if you would like to go.



On a more sombre note... we can also book tickets for The Caucasian Chalk Circle by Bertolt Brecht. Performances are Wednesday 4th and Friday 6th November at 7:45pm. Tickets cost £6. Let us know ASAP if you would like to go.

"As a city burns with war a wealthy woman abandons her baby to flee to safety. As the war builds momentum a young servant girl discovers the abandoned child and braving unknown dangers takes it with her. But when peace is finally restored the boy's mother returns to claim her child."

How to contact us

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