

FEB08

Livewire

partnershipcouncil



Photos courtesy of 'George The Quiz Master'

The Big Bash!

Welcome to the February edition of Livewire, the Partnership Council's recently launched newsletter. Our big news this month is that we're celebrating our 10th birthday. To mark a decade of working with local people, volunteers and organisations throughout Nottingham we're planning 10 events - one for each year we've been around! To launch the celebrations, we popped

open the champagne corks and cut the cake at our recent birthday party, held at the Partnership Council on the 30th January. We were joined by local people, volunteers and colleagues. As well as champagne and candles our guests were treated to a buffet and the talents of local musicians who provided the evening's entertainment.



FITNESS ON THE FOREST

Fancy getting fit but don't like the idea of joining a gym? Get yourself down to the Forest Recreation Ground on Gregory Boulevard for an exercise class with a difference! British Military Fitness is running outdoor fitness sessions every Saturday morning at 10am and Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7pm. The sessions are run by former Army fitness trainers so you're guaranteed to get a really good workout!

Plus, Fliss Walker, the Forest Ranger is planning an Easter Egg Hunt for families on March 22nd. Whilst for dog lovers, Fliss is organising a special event for pets and their owners on the 5th April.

To find out more about the Forest and the campaign to restore the site to its former glory, please visit:

http://www.partnershipcouncil.co.uk/index.php?/projects/forest_project/

ALL SYSTEMS GO!

The Partnership Council welcomed two new staff members in January; Matthew Whitney and Aran Eales. They've joined to help run a very exciting new project funded by 'v involved', a nationwide initiative launched by the charity V for Volunteering and Nottingham's Neighbourhood Development Company (NDC).

The project is aimed at helping 16-25 year olds set up their own environmental volunteering projects. It gives young people the chance to make a difference and do things their way when it comes to looking after the world. Whether that's the world on their doorstep, or the world as a whole.

Thanks to NDC and V for Volunteering, the project has funding for at least the next three years. Matthew Whitney, Aran Eales and Rachel Wicks, the Partnership Council's Environmental Education Officer, have already been spreading the word and preparing for the official launch.

They've also started supporting young people's projects. Including the launch of a local environmental magazine for young people. The magazine will be run by young volunteers and supported by the Partnership Council.

Keep watching this space for more news coming very soon!

One man's rubbish...

David Greenop, one of our volunteers, has teamed up with the charity Family First to recycle 'rubbish' which might otherwise get dumped on the streets of Radford. He says - "after helping at a Partnership Council clean up day I saw furniture and things like children's toys going into crushers destined for land-fill sites. It seemed such a waste and not very environmentally friendly,

so I got in touch with Nottingham City Council to see what could be done." Thanks to David, volunteers from Family First and the Council's Streetscene teams now regularly check the streets for items which could be recycled and many of these are found new homes.

To recycle your unwanted items call Family First on 0800 0130497.

RECYCLING IT'S IN THE BAG!

Rachel and a group of volunteers dodged shopping trolleys at Asda's Hyson Green car park on the 4th February and handed out used carrier bags to shoppers. Helping them to be just that little bit greener.

As well as helping local people to recycle carrier bags the event also made sure that local people know about the recycling services available at Asda. Including the new tetra-pak recycling bin.

The green crew attracted plenty of attention dressed up in top hats with green ribbons around them.



Dunkirk Spirit

The Partnership Council joined in the Dunkirk Day of Action on the 6th February, along with organisations such as the Police, Fire Service, and the University of Nottingham. The day gave local people the chance to find out how organisations like ours can help them and to find out more about how to keep their neighbourhood clean and tidy.

Be a blogger!

A blog is like having your own mini website. They're very easy to set up and update even if you have little computer know how, plus they're free, all you need is an internet connection. They're usually informal, chatty and full of opinions. You can also comment on other people's blogs with your own opinions and views!

Here's some of the Blogs that we've set up recently. Get in touch with us if you'd like to find out more.

<http://cheapskategourmet.wordpress.com/>

<http://advisorsandleaders.wordpress.com/>

<http://skills2exchange.wordpress.com/>

<http://sneintonfestival.wordpress.com/>

<http://thirdsectormedia.wordpress.com/>

<http://basecampnottingham.wordpress.com/>

<http://aforestforall.wordpress.com/>

Write an article for Livewire

If you're a local person and you've always wanted to have a go at writing why not get in touch with us? You don't need to have experience or have your own computer, as we're planning a writer's workshop soon to tell you all you need to know!

If you'd like to find out what's involved please call or drop us an email.

Or please feel free to send us your articles or story ideas.

By email:

mail@partnershipcouncil.co.uk

By post:

**Livewire, The Partnership Council,
47 Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green,
Nottingham, NG7 4AX**

Chat for Change

Our Children's Forum, run by Amanda Spruyt and Cherece Ryan seeks to give children a voice and helps them play a part in shaping their lives.



Livewire talked to Cherece Ryan to find out more - "The Children's Forum has been involved in two very exciting projects. Amanda and I talked to over 130 local primary school children, at an event called, 'Chat for Change'.

As well as talking we used games and activities to help the children pick out the issues that matter to them.

At the end of the event we organised their thoughts and opinions into three themes - 'feeling safe', 'leisure' and 'the environment'. The points raised were then shared with organisations like Nottingham City Council who make decisions and provide services for children.

The adults worked with the children to make plans for change and agreed to take action on the children's behalf. It was a fantastic event and really got across that children should be involved in shaping their own lives.

Change in motion

The issues raised by 'Chat for Change' were also shared with our Film Club. This inspired the club's second film, 'Street Life', which was shown at Broadway Cinema in Nottingham in December. The new film involved 15 children from five local primary schools. They met over ten weeks and with the help of a professional film production company, Film City,

worked very hard to produce a short film. As well as starring in the film the children were heavily involved in its production.



The children also worked with a professional animator to include animation in their film. The December show at Broadway went brilliantly and was loved by both children and parents alike. All the children were given certificates and a DVD of their film".

'Street Life' was funded by One Nottingham and the Local Network Fund.

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