

## Local charity event to help families beat the recession

Hyson Green-based charity, the Partnership Council, is holding a unique 'Beat the Recession' Fun Day on Sunday 7th June 2009 - designed to help families through the credit crunch.

The event, which is being held from 12 midday till 4pm at the Forest Fields Community Centre, Sturton Street, Forest Fields, will include a free shop giving away refreshments, seeds and edible plants plus the chance to learn new skills such as how to grow your own fruit and vegetables (even if you don't have a garden!) and how to make your own greetings cards.

In addition, skilled volunteers will be on hand to help repair bicycles, small electrical items and even clothes. Some of those volunteering are regular Partnership Council volunteers whilst others are local residents.

The event is being run by two of the Partnership Council's leading projects, the Skills Exchange, which enables members to volunteer their skills in return for free help of their own, and Sprout, an environmental project which helps young people to set up their own 'green' projects. In addition, the event is being supported by Transition Forest Fields, a voluntary group set up to help tackle environmental issues such as climate change.

The event will also include plenty of fun for children including face painting and play activities. Together with 'swap shops' where people can swap items such as books, CDs, DVDs, belts, bags and toys for free.

### **Rachel from Sprout explains:**

*"Thanks to the amazing number of volunteers we have at the Partnership Council, we suddenly realised that we were in a unique position to offer local people a whole range of help for free.*

*For example, Skills Exchange member the Nottingham Credit Union will be on hand at the event to give people advice on saving money, budgeting and bringing down household bills. Whilst because the whole event is free, families will be able to enjoy a fun day out without spending any money.*

*There will also be many volunteers from the local area helping out on the day, which is testament to the vast amount of skills that there are in the community. For example, we have talented carpenters, gardeners, DIY experts and play workers coming along - all of whom have volunteered their time to help others. Plus of course, talented amateurs who enjoy card-making and sewing for example.*

*I'm really hoping the event will inspire communities throughout Nottingham and show people what can be done when we get together to help each other out."*

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## **Helen from the Skills Exchange agrees:**

“We want the event to be fun, but we also want to give people some practical help to beat the recession. For example, families will be able to get their bikes fixed for free, rather than having to pay for costly repairs or replacements, whilst picking up new books and toys at our swap shops for example.

In the longer term, we’re hoping that our skills workshops will help people to carry on saving money, by showing them how to cook on a budget for instance.”

Anyone interested should go along to the Forest Fields Community Centre from 12 midday on the 7th June.

Entry is free but the Partnership Council is asking people to bring along items in good condition for the swap shops.

Musical entertainment will also be provided, by local musicians and DJs who are volunteering their time to help out at the event.

**To find out more please call Rachel or Helen on 0115 970 8200  
or email [rachel@partnershipcouncil.co.uk](mailto:rachel@partnershipcouncil.co.uk) or [helen@partnershipcouncil.co.uk](mailto:helen@partnershipcouncil.co.uk)**