

CONFERENCE NEWSLETTER 2011

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**REGISTERED
CHARITY STATUS
FOR SLLP**

On 6th September Surrey Lifelong Learning Partnership (SLLP) was registered as a charity after a decade of working with partners to provide learning opportunities for adults who missed out at school.

**LONDON
LEARNING
CONSORTIUM**

SLLP has entered into partnership with the London Learning Consortium (LLC). This allows us to access Skills Funding Agency funding and to share expertise and resources. We are more robust therefore and able to continue with partnership working in Surrey.

**LAPTOP LOAN
SCHEME HELPS
400**

In the last year (2010/11) SLLP loaned 87 laptops to 15 different groups to enable hands-on access to new technology and offer classes in community with up to date software. Many were used in areas of multiple need for specific learning activities where exclusion from technology was a hindrance. A lack of skills in IT has a wide ranging effect as vital information from schools, local government and financial authorities is increasingly offered online as well as money saving purchases and comparison sites. 400 learners were engaged and we have received much positive feedback

**NEW RESEARCH
AVAILABLE**

Understanding the needs of those hardest to reach is key to better engagement. To help partners we have collated recent (2010/11) and relevant national research from trusted sources. A wealth of material is available on our website with search facilities for easier identification of subjects, synopses and links to over 50 original reports. Log on to www.surreyllp.org.uk - find 'national research' under 'resources'.

Happy browsing!



**New Community
Champion scheme
planned**

The Surrey Champions Inspire project, set up by the Surrey Lifelong Learning Partnership, has helped hundreds of local people, from a range of backgrounds and circumstances, into learning so they can get more control in their lives. The success of the project was recognised with a Community Learning Champions Award as part of the 20th Adult Learners' Week 14 - 20 May 2011. See picture.

Working with a range of partners, we trained Community Learning Champions based in a wide variety of public, private and voluntary services. These included organisations supporting mental health service users, offenders and ex-offenders and army personnel and their families throughout Surrey and Hampshire.

We are seeking to develop the scheme further by entering into partnerships with adult learning providers and seeking funding to support the training of Champions from within the local communities.



**Community Learning Champions
Award (picture left)**

Our Mission
To work with partners to ensure that those, in Surrey and beyond, who have who have missed out on learning in the past, have opportunities to learn and to reach their full potential.

TRANSITION FUNDING

SLLP is delighted to have been awarded a grant from the Cabinet Office's Transition Fund. The Fund aims to enable civil society organisations to deliver high quality public services and to be more resilient, agile and able to take opportunities presented by a changing funding environment.

PARTNERSHIP ACHIEVES HIGH NUMBERS OF LEARNERS

On the 14 September over 60 teaching assistants in Runnymede were awarded nationally recognised certificates for key skills learning in IT, Literacy and Numeracy, delivered through an SLLP partnership project. Partnerships were formed between the three schools Confederations in Runnymede - The Chertsey Partnership, North Runnymede Learning Partnership, Runnymede South Confederation and Brooklands College. All three Confederations keep a sharp focus on giving all staff in their schools the chance to develop their skills so that the teaching and learning is the best that it can be and that children get high quality support in the classroom.

TILING IN SPELTHORNE

Many ex offenders face particular problems in the job market, in particular: a low level of skills, the inability to concentrate and a lack of confidence. Our project was to support those who were ready for work to take the first steps by acquiring a few practical skills. SLLP in partnership with Brooklands College approached the Surrey and Sussex Probation Service with an outline of a course thought suitable for this particular group. After discussions with NACRO's local case worker, the final design was submitted to the BAA Community's fund and awarded funding. Two short 'taster' tiling courses provided learners with a skill that attracted higher rates of pay than just decorating alone. Sixteen people took part and the majority went on to further training in building trades or work.

Supported by
nominettrust
www.nominettrust.org.uk

ONLINE COMMUNITIES ACROSS SURREY

Working with partners from the adult learning and voluntary and community sectors, this three year project will deliver innovative information technology learning to 300 people per year in communities across Surrey, thereby creating 'digital citizens' with enhanced employability and life chances. It will help individuals and groups to use online social media to create their own virtual communities. It will inspire people to engage in local decision making and community activity, directly or through the medium of the online communities to which they belong. For some, community activity may involve them taking on the role of community champions who will support and encourage other learners engaged in the project. For those completing the above we can provide a drop in programme to help learners achieve familiarity with job search, CV writing and preparation for work) and to achieve Online basics to improve their social inclusion and economic independence. In addition we have been working with partners to develop workshops to encourage active digital citizenship (e.g. use of local services relating to local government, retail purchase and delivery, local clubs, learning opportunities etc). Courses are set to start up around Surrey, call us if for further information.

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WESTBOROUGH, PARK BARN AND BELLFIELDS COMMUNITIES TAKE CONTROL

Transform IT is a fantastic example of successful partnership working in North Guildford with particular credit due to Guildford Borough Council, the Guildford and Spinney Children's Centres, Surrey County Council Community Learning, the local Safety Wardens, St Peter's Church, Guildford Action for Families, Voluntary Action South West and the local Borough and County Council.

Local residents are trained to use information technology to improve their skills, confidence and employability. The project provides 'digital champions' who engage with groups of people, recruit new learners and provide a mentoring service. The project's main aim is the engendering of self-help that would ultimately provide opportunities for volunteering and work for Stoke and Westborough residents.

Six months into the project the project team has already engaged with over 130 individuals or families, run 15 different basic skills courses, set up 2 work clubs and planning for a number of social enterprises. During the first few weeks of operation, the work clubs have helped six local residents into work, volunteering or training. Two local residents have become involved in the project as IT trainers. Courses, work clubs or activities are currently running at the Park Barn Community Centre, the Spinney Children's Centre, the Park Barn Day Centre, the Guildford Children's Centre and St Peter's Church in Bellfields. Laptops are made available at each location and the project initiated the installation of broadband at the Park Barn Community Centre. The project also plans to create social enterprise opportunities.