

Groundwork News

Changing places, changing lives

Brighton & Hove and West Sussex edition November 2010



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Spots V Stripes

Events will be held throughout Brighton and Hove over the coming months and will include everything from tug of war to giant tiddlywinks!

Our community events co-ordinator is currently looking for competitive ideas and people and community groups who want to get involved.

Groundwork has joined with Cadbury to help bring their Spots v Stripes campaign to our area. To create the largest and longest running game ever, Cadbury is inviting the nation to divide into two teams, Spots v Stripes and play all sorts of games in the run up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

For more information, have a look on our website www.groundwork-solent.org.uk or contact Duncan Blinkhorn, Community Events Co-ordinator via the contact details overleaf.

Playbuilders!

Good news from Brighton and Hove City Council... the Playbuilder programme, suspended since June, has been confirmed as going ahead at all 11 sites in the city of which Groundwork are pleased to be involved with the following:

Barn Rise, Bexhill Road, Easthill Park, Happy Valley, Hodshrove Woods and Mackie Avenue

More news to follow soon...



Brighton Office Opens

At long last our Brighton based team have an office space to call their own!

You can pop in or contact the team at:

Room 16, 3rd Floor
The Executive Centre
Towerpoint
44 North Road
Brighton
BN1 1YR



Here you will find Duncan Blinkhorn, Community Events Co-ordinator and Melissa Usmar, Admin & Events Assistant.

Email us:- Brighton@groundwork.co.uk
Tel: 01273 669452

Green Doctor

Through free 1-2-1 advice and practical support Green Doctor is talking fuel poverty and increasing energy efficiency. Not only does this reduce carbon emissions but also make monetary savings. There has been great success of Green Doctor's launch in West Sussex, the scheme is hopefully going to be replicated in other local areas.



PEOPLE

PLACES

PROSPERITY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

TIM HOUGHTON
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

CO-ORDINATOR:

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We work in partnership with public, private and voluntary sector organisations to improve the quality of life for:

✓ *People- through skills learning and encouraging citizens to become more active*

✓ *Places- delivering environmental improvements*

✓ *Prosperity- helping businesses and individuals fulfil their potential*

GROUNDWORK

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Website:

www.groundwork-solent.org.uk

Grand Opening of Eco-Park

Saunders Park is a 4.2-acre plot between Hollingdean Road and the A270. It's a handy spot for local families, but the area was run down and the green space was woefully under-used.

Thanks to Groundwork's partnership with Marks and Spencer through the Greener Living Spaces scheme, which donates money collected from people paying for their plastic bags, this has all changed. On 29th August 2010, the grand opening of the park took place.



The park now has raised flower beds made from recycled timber which the community can use to plant their own fruit and vegetables (the blueberry and raspberry plants are already in full fruit). Bike racks, bird boxes and an educational 'info trail' around the park have been installed, as well as a bee-friendly garden. Brighton Permaculture trust has donated a fruit orchard to the site, planted by local school children. The main garden includes a butterfly garden, a nature pond, bog garden, living willow dome shelter and picnic tables and benches made from recycled wood.

M&S staff, children from local primary school, Coombe Road, and many members of the local community have come together to make the project happen – digging, planting, weeding and watering and the newly formed Friends of Group plans to keep this momentum going.

Beth Chapman, Development Officer for Groundwork in Brighton, said: "This is a great opportunity to provide the communities surrounding Saunders Park with a unique new outdoor learning environment.

"We hope the new eco-park will be a big hit with local residents – both children and adults – and provide them with ideas on how they can all use open spaces to reduce the impact of climate change."

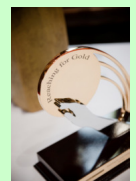
Following the launch, Friends of Saunders Park were delighted to win the **Green Project of the Year** at the **Argus Achievement Awards**. Described as "A heart warming ceremony, that gave the unsung heroes of Sussex their moment in the spotlight".



A chance to Reach for Gold

Reaching for Gold is a fantastic opportunity for young people to work with a top South East Company and Voluntary or Community Sector organisation to develop a project of their own creation.

To enter groups of up to ten, 14-19 year olds let us know about an innovative idea which will bring about a positive change to society.



The best ideas to become our finalist and they will be given high-tech prizes and linked to a set of mentors, who will help them prepare a pitch to win cash for their project.

For more information, please visit www.reachingforgold.org.uk