

Learning Throughout Life

Community Education Newsletter

Latest Developments in the County

New pilot schools for 2002/2003

City of Norwich High School

Litcham High School

Reepham High School

Acle High School

Alderman Peel High School (Wells)

And maybe more to come!

All at various stages of development looking for staff, planning the initial outcomes, forging the partnership etc.

Ofsted visit Community Education Pilots

As part of the LEA Ofsted in February 4 pilots were included in HMI visits — Flegg, Earlham, Fakenham and Sheringham High Schools. HMI reported back very positively on our partnership way of working, comments about the flexible approach and local structures being very helpful.

HMI are back again in June to complete the Inspection of the LEA.

Martyn Livermore

Lifelong Learning Development Officer

Sculthorpe Family Learning Day

As part of the national Family Learning Weekend, Claire a young mum from Sculthorpe, and I co-ordinated the day at the village hall. As a member of Fakenham Learning Community I was able to work with providers to put on tasters and make resources available. A grant from the Lifelong Learning partnership enabled us to cost in tutors for



such activities like stained glass appliqué, laptop IT facilities and printing with local artist Jane Ironside. What was much more

special about the day was the involvement of local business and community groups. A local printer was used to create the flyers which went out in the Parish magazine, local business were represented on the day with a display and Norfolk Farm Machinery brought in a large and colourful array of tools and tractors for the family. The local school, mother and toddler group and a nursery entered into a Christmas card competition, which Jane Ironside judged. The winner had her design copied by Fakenham Photosetting who turned it into 50 Christmas cards. The raffle money went to the mother and toddler group and the 1st prize was a

voucher for the Book and Jigsaw Company in Fakenham.

The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts made cakes and served



refreshments on the day raising over £40 for themselves. Face painting was put on for the younger ones who also were able to take books from the mobile library. Car boots stalls were offered free pitches, which provided an enticing welcome from the outside. The day culminated in a



drum session from the youth service, which was received well by the youngsters. A model for further family learning events

and resulted in courses for people in Sculthorpe.

Thank you to all who supported the day.

Sam Doughty

Community Education Worker

Fakenham High School

Business Links

Realisation of the enormity of this project hit home. My brief was to build up business and community links with Smithdon to enhance the community involvement with the emphasis on Life-long Learning. Study groups to involve whole families is also an important step forward.

An artists most agonising time is when you are stood in front of a blank canvas, and as a trained artist this feeling was very familiar. Unfamiliar with the local area I felt that direct contact with external groups was a good starting point. Armed with my nice new identification badge I set off calling upon all businesses, shops, offices, services, within the town and near by villages. Address of which were found by going through the telephone directory noting down all listings under the local post code.

Cold calling can be very daunting but in my experience if you are friendly and professional you will be taken seriously. During these visits I verbally invited contacts to our planned network evening to be held in December. Our network evening was planned to inform the local community of the intentions to build partnerships with businesses and groups for the overall good for the development of a committed future within our area. Initial contacts were followed up by a formal invitation. We asked existing partners to attend, and all previous and ongoing projects were also displayed on the evening. Invitations were followed up by a courtesy telephone call to establish interest and help with catering numbers.

We used our new building where we had stands for all existing partners and we greeted guests

and gave them name tags, and we showed a powerpoint presentation of Smithdon's plans for the future, what their involvement could be and also the results of previous projects. During the evening we asked for everyone to fill in data base forms, as well as input from them as to what they could offer in the forming of partnerships. What also occurred was the communication amongst our guests, people were communicating with one another, this one aspect gave me the greatest satisfaction as development only happens with communication. General enthusiasm was expressed by everyone and an overwhelming optimism was expressed by all and surprisingly very little pessimism for the project.

We also used the evening to display ideas for the planned community magazine. I hope to have the first issue out by the end of January. We requested that all groups contribute to this publication and the offer of advertising space was taken up.

Resulting from this evening we now have a working data base, also interest in our community magazine, this will involve everyone, as well as offers of development opportunities to work together this will be in the form of sponsors to build on a better future for our community and extend learning, resulting in prosperity and growth.

Communication at its best!

Jo Savage

Community Education Worker

Smithdon High School, Hunstanton

Sprowston's Community Archive

At a re-launch of the Sprowston Community Education Project in December, with mulled wine and mince-pies, the Partnership brought together a wide range of people to the High School. For part of the evening we split into three different interest groups; a reminiscence and research group, a creative group, and an archive group.

Since then groups have met regularly and formed a Sprowston Heritage committee which plans to buy its own equipment to continue the work already started. A small school club is also developing. Meanwhile some exciting material is flowing in from the past and present and becoming integrated into the archive.

The Comma Archive Software Programme has proven to be an enjoyable way into community involvement by both the older and younger generations in Sprowston so far. The Programme, lent initially by the Adult Education Services, is designed to be a multi-media archiving system which automates the scanning-in process to produce a collection of photographs, documents and reminiscences with sound. On 14 March a group of High School students will join the Senior Citizens to share experiences in a Chat Show on the theme 'From School to Work'. Each group will have contributed to the questions. On 21 March there will be a public showing of the archive material and its potential so far, at the High School. We are all on learning curve!

Liz Matthews

Community Education Worker

Sprowston High School

Living in a goldfish bowl



OK so most of you community workers commute from one community to another community the that you are engaged to develop. But what if you live in that community, how does that affect your relationship with the people of the village and them to you. Friends, acquaintances, well meaning types, guys whose names you don't know but always exchange information about the weather. All those social barriers to breakthrough and boundaries to draw. When does work stop, every conversation I have has the potential for fulfilling the community development agenda. If I'm at the pub and a friends sounds off about some issue in the village do I suggest with my support he initiates a village appraisal or, could I suggest with my support he suggest less whingeing and more beer.

It tickles me when I hear what villagers think my role is. I'm on the PTA. I work for the PTA. I'm the nice bloke who works in the community. I'm a volunteer. At this point I feel impelled to assure people I do receive some remuneration for being a worthy do gooder all things to all people person, or I might must appear a bit sad. But then say the words "Community" and "Development" and I'm met with blank glazed expressions. Put them together and you've got. "Hi, I'm a commu-

nity development worker".

"Huh, what's that?" I wish they wouldn't ask that as I fumble an explanation about this and that community group, trying not to dissolve into a spin of buzz words induced by too many funding applications.

Then my relationship breaks up. Hmmm! A bit of juicy gossip. "There goes John the community development worker, such a shame". I have to stride across the playground to finalise a small detail about the family base-jumping coffee club. When a six-month retreat in remotest Tibet seems the only sane option. You've got to be visible, accessible and approachable. But I might just feel like being a recluse for a while. Could always fill some funding applications, that'll keep me off the scene for a while. But the job is about developing, I'm a community development worker I'm here to develop and develop I will.

To boldly develop where no developer has developed before.

**John Preston Community
Development Worker Stoke Ferry**



Many fathers only see their children at best for 15 minutes every day and often this time spent is not quality time.

Active Dads Project, with support from CEDC, LSC, Adult Education and Lifelong Learning is being promoted in Norfolk.

The idea is to encourage identified local dads – about 40 in Norfolk – to build relationships with children.

It is envisaged that a local steering group will be set up with an appointed co-ordinator. Local support workers – deliverers – will be asked to liaise directly with the dads and their children and support them in the process. This will be achieved through a programme of activities which will be selected by agreement between father and child. Some additional funding will be available to support with the cost of particular joint activities. Their experiences together will be reviewed with their local support workers.

The project is scheduled to take place in 2002/2003. For more information contact:

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Healthy Living and Family Fun!

On Sunday 14th October 2001, Thorpe St. Andrew School hosted a Healthy Living Day in connection with the Family Learning Weekend promoted by the Campaign for Learning.

The activities organised for the day included martial arts workshops, table tennis, jazz dancing and trampolining. We also had specialist advisors from the British Red Cross and British Heart Foundation who delivered first aid workshops and offered advice to achieve a healthier lifestyle.

I was fortunate to secure sponsorship from Sainsbury's Supermarkets, Pound Lane, Norwich who very generously provided a selection of healthy eating options for everyone to try, as well as providing staff who were on hand to offer advice. Robinson's Drinks of Carrow, Norwich also donated a selection of sugar free fruit drinks and other promotional giveaways.

In exchange for completing a survey to assess the

success of the event, participants were given the opportunity to enter a free prize draw to win two football match tickets to a game of their choice at Carrow Road, which Norwich City Football Club had very kindly donated. The response was excellent with nearly 100 completed surveys collected at the end of the day.

In essence the community of Thorpe St Andrew were given the opportunity to try a variety of fund activities and enjoy a large selection of tasty food and drink—and all for free! The success of the event demonstrated the mutual benefits that can be achieved when business and school work together.

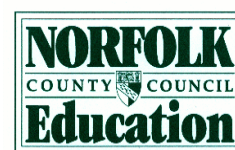
Louise Chapman

Community Education

Thorpe St. Andrew High School

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