

Our mission is to provide a united voice dedicated to promoting, advocating and lobbying for the regeneration and sustainable future of quality green spaces throughout the South West.

This News and Information bulletin is produced by Roger Gates, GreenSpace South West Regional Development Manager and its objective is to support GSSW members. It is currently circulated free of charge, to other green space sector organisations. The work of GreenSpace Southwest (GSSW) is mainly funded by organisations' annual membership, therefore membership is encouraged. For more information, please visit www.green-space.org.uk/southwest/

GSSW Diary Dates

15 June 2010 – **Steering Group Meeting and Open Meeting** – Exeter – Contact Roger Gates on 07838 584617

The Open meeting will include a presentation from Richard Crowe (2012 Creative Programmer SW) on the Cultural Olympiad.

Other Diary Dates

10 May – **GI Master Class (Natural Economy)** - Exeter

Sustainability South West and Natural England are holding a master class on the Natural Economy. This Master Class will examine how the economic value of the natural environment in the South West region can be unlocked.

Further details can be obtained from lynn.gibbons@sustainabilitysouthwest.org.uk.

17-21 May – **Foundation Ranger Training** – Derbyshire

Losehill, part of the Peak District National Park Authority, are offering [Foundation Ranger Training](#), at a discounted rate.

This course is ideal for site-based rangers, wardens, urban greenspace and countryside staff wanting a broader understanding of their role.

As a special offer, the final few places on this course are being offered at a fee of £540.00 (standard £675), plus four nights dinner, B & B £220.00.

For further information, please call Sue Field or Margot Seymour, on 01433 622472, training.losehill@peakdistrict.gov.uk.

1 June - **Environmental Management Systems** - London

Following the success of their recent workshop, Marketing your Park, The Institute of Parks and Green Space will be holding a workshop exploring Environmental Management Systems.

This one-day event, introducing environmental management systems and outlining how to adopt them successfully within your service, will be held in London on 1 June.

More details, including how to reserve your place, are available at www.ipgs.org.uk.

8 June 2010 – **Saving your Service** - Birmingham

This GreenSpace conference will focus on maximising park assets and exploring opportunities to secure the future of green space services.

The one-day event will feature a packed programme of presentations. Topics will include how to audit park assets, maximising community involvement, positioning parks on the political agenda, building effective partnerships with other services and organisations, maximising revenue from park assets and exploring sponsorship opportunities.

Further details can be found [here](#).

National News

National Culture Forum Leaders Programme

The National Culture Forum is running a third high quality leadership programme between September 2010 and July 2011.

The programme is aimed at Local Government Heads of Service with Culture and Leisure Services within their remit and Senior Managers of Culture and Sport Services across the UK.

The full cost of the programme is £5000. However, there will be a number of bursaries for between £1500 and £5000 which will reduce the cost to no more than £3500.

Applications can be made between 1 April and 30 July. Recruitment will be finalised by the end of August.

For further information, please contact Sue Isherwood, Director NCF Leading Learning Programme leadership@cloa.org.uk
Tel 01749 871110 Mobile 07919 540803

Positive Activities: Good Practice Guidance published by DCSF and DCMS

This joint guidance publication celebrates the progress that has been made in ensuring that all young people have access to high quality, positive leisure-time activities.

It sets out a number of case studies that demonstrate where strong partnership working is helping to meet expectations. It shows that partnership working in this way can help local authorities meet their statutory duty; supports the delivery of the five hour sport offer; and enrich local youth offers through the inclusion of a diverse range of arts, culture and sport activities – particularly on Friday and Saturday nights.

View guidance [here](#).

New case study on affordable greenspace

A new case study has been published on the IDeA website, detailing how Croydon is managing its greenspace (40% of which is natural greenspace). [More](#)

Launch of new charity Civic Voice

A new charity has been launched to fill the void left in the absence of the Civic Trust. Civic Voice will represent the civic movement and support civic societies, acting as a voice for local communities across England.

Civic Voice has launched its first campaign, *Love Local*, which aims to uncover how the

make-up of an area makes it distinctive and a source of pride for the community. Initial results of the survey, which took into account views of 250 local civic volunteers, found that open space and garden provision was the most important factor. [More](#)

Cultural Olympiad

A 12 week arts festival will be held in 2012, as part of the Olympics' cultural celebrations. Festival 2012 will run from 21st June to the last day of the Paralympic Games on 9th September. [More](#)

The People's Millions is now open for applications

ITV's The People's Millions, funded by the Big Lottery Fund (BIG), is offering grants to projects looking to improve local facilities or helping people get more out of their local area. Groups can apply for grants ranging from £20,000 - £50,000 before the deadline on 14 May 2010. [More](#)

Improving community spaces

Groundwork's Community Spaces programme is open to applications for grants from £10,000 - £50,000 until January 2011. The programme helps community groups create or improve green open spaces to enhance people's quality of life. [More](#)

Biffaward Landfill Communities Fund

Biffaward Landfill Communities Fund currently offers four levels of funding. These support a large number of projects across the UK which enhance communities and biodiversity. Grants of between £250 and £500,000 are offered. [More](#)

Local News

Green Infrastructure web portal

This new web portal has recently been launched and is located at www.ginsw.org.uk. It is the South West region's central pool of knowledge about the development and implementation of Green Infrastructure (GI) and is managed by a Task Group set up by the [South West GI Network](#). The information is aimed at developers, planners, communities and others involved in the planning, delivery and management of green infrastructure. It is also for anyone interested in the public benefits that natural spaces bring, particularly the role they have in supporting sustainable living.

If you'd like to make any comments on, or contributions to the web portal, please contact Naomi Wright, naomi.wright@naturalengland.org.uk.

GreenSpace News

Green Places Magazine

GreenSpace has reached agreement with the Landscape Design Trust to take on the publication of Green Places magazine and merge it with Spaces and Places.

Members Corner

This section contains questions or topical issues which will hopefully elicit responses from other regional members. It is envisaged that such information sharing will enable a co-ordinated approach to problem solving.

It was decided at the GSSW Steering Group in March to re-launch the Regional Forum's working groups. These will now cover:

- Training & Skills
- Promotions, Marketing & Fundraising
- Community Engagement & Projects

Roger Gates will soon be contacting existing working group members to gather ideas on how these groups can develop further over the next 12 months. New members of project groups will also be sought this year, so if you are interested in joining a project group, please contact [Roger](#)

Membership News

THANK YOU VERY MUCH to those of you, who renewed your membership or became new members in 2009-10. 16 local authorities and partner organisations were paid-up members of GSSW in 2009-10.

Your contributions help GSSW to further develop and thus provide our green spaces in the South West, with a united voice. Department of Communities and Local Government grants enabled the forum to increase the forum manager's post from part-time to full-time this financial year. This DCLG contribution will be greatly reduced next year, so increasing the number of regional members and receiving renewals from existing members will be essential to the continuing success of GSSW.

Membership Renewal – Membership packs are currently being printed and will be sent out in May to existing members, regarding

2010/11 membership renewal. Letters will also be sent to non-members encouraging them to join GSSW too.

Please contact [Sue](#) or to find out more about membership please contact [Roger](#)

Benefits of joining GreenSpace can be found [here](#).

Contact Us

GreenSpace South West is managed by Roger Gates. If you have any items for inclusion in future newsletters, please contact Roger at rgates@green-space.org.uk or on 07838 584617

Peter Wilkinson is Chair of the GreenSpace South West Steering Group, petejwilko@hotmail.com

Sarah Moore at GreenSpace co-ordinates and manages the activities of all of the regions, sarahm@green-space.org.uk

If you would like help or require further information, relating to the management of parks and greens spaces and/or the services related to them, please get in touch.

This message (and any associated files) is intended only for the use of the recipient and may contain information that is confidential, subject to copyright or that which constitutes a trade secret. If you are not the intended recipient you are hereby notified that any dissemination, copying or distribution of this message, or files associated with this message, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. Messages sent to and from us may be monitored. Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the organisation.

Printing is bad for your environment! Please forward to others.