



Photograph copyright: The Bath Chronicle / Lloyd Ellington

QUARTET REVIVES AGEING TRUST FUNDS, SAFEGUARDING OVER £1 MILLION TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Pictured: Skillforce youngsters are given an opportunity to go rock-climbing. See inside for full story.



From the Chairman

We are entering an exciting time of change here at Quartet Community Foundation. Helen Moss our Chief Executive, is retiring in March, and she will be sorely missed, but we are pleased to welcome Fran Jones who has been appointed as her successor. Fran was selected from a highly impressive group of applicants and comes to us full of energy and ideas to meet the challenges that lie ahead. The staff team and the trustees all look forward to working with Fran to develop and extend the reach of Quartet into those areas of our communities that have the greatest needs.

It's all change too for our funding streams, as we prepare to place a bid for the West of England's share of the £130m Grassroots Grants funding programme recently announced by the government. Success will mean £1m endowment available if we can match it in an endowment challenge, and £1.3m of grants to distribute in the next 3 years.

Don't forget that you can visit www.quartetcf.org.uk for even more information.

With best wishes,
Cedric Clapp

New life into old funds

Over £1 million from trust funds has recently been transferred to Quartet's capable care, safeguarding it for the future.

The issue: Hundreds of trusts set up to benefit our local area, which have fallen into disuse and their assets sit in bank accounts gathering dust. For other active trusts the burden of administration and grant making can simply become too much. Quartet's local knowledge and cost effective support has proved a tool for four such funds in recent months, and our communities are again winners.

Quartet is looking at the exciting potential of breathing new life into dormant funds through a scheme called The Boost Initiative. The scheme, a partnership between the Charity Commission and Community Foundation Network, works to identify, transfer, and release funds from inactive and other charitable trusts throughout the UK, and could bring millions of pounds back into local communities.

Bristol Association for the Care and Rehabilitation of Offenders, set up originally to benefit

prisoners, their families, and help rehabilitate offenders, had fallen dormant due to resignation of trustees and a lack of enthusiastic governance. Luckily, Quartet was there to help and the assets were given a new lease of life through Quartet's professional service.

"Local projects are the real winners," says Helen Moss, "And Quartet is glad to offer its tailored services to any trust which needs an efficient and effective way of getting their giving to causes that need it."

CASE STUDY: A MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

Stoke Park Group Friends' Fund

After the closure of Stoke Park and Hanham hospitals, the League of Friends continued to support former patients with learning difficulties by funding projects that would benefit their needs. Waning members and trustee

recruitment difficulties led the trustees to seek new management arrangements. Happily, Quartet was able to transfer the assets and offer a permanent solution to ensure their good work continued – a great result.

CHANGING LIVES ALL OVER THE WEST OF ENGLAND



A performance by Changing Tunes clients

CHANGING TUNES BACRO Fund • £4,000

Changing Tunes uses music teaching, rehearsing, and performance to develop supportive relationships, and boost self esteem among offenders. Its professional musicians run sessions in 9 local prisons, building an encouraging environment where prisoners can learn skills and experience the euphoria of making and performing music together:

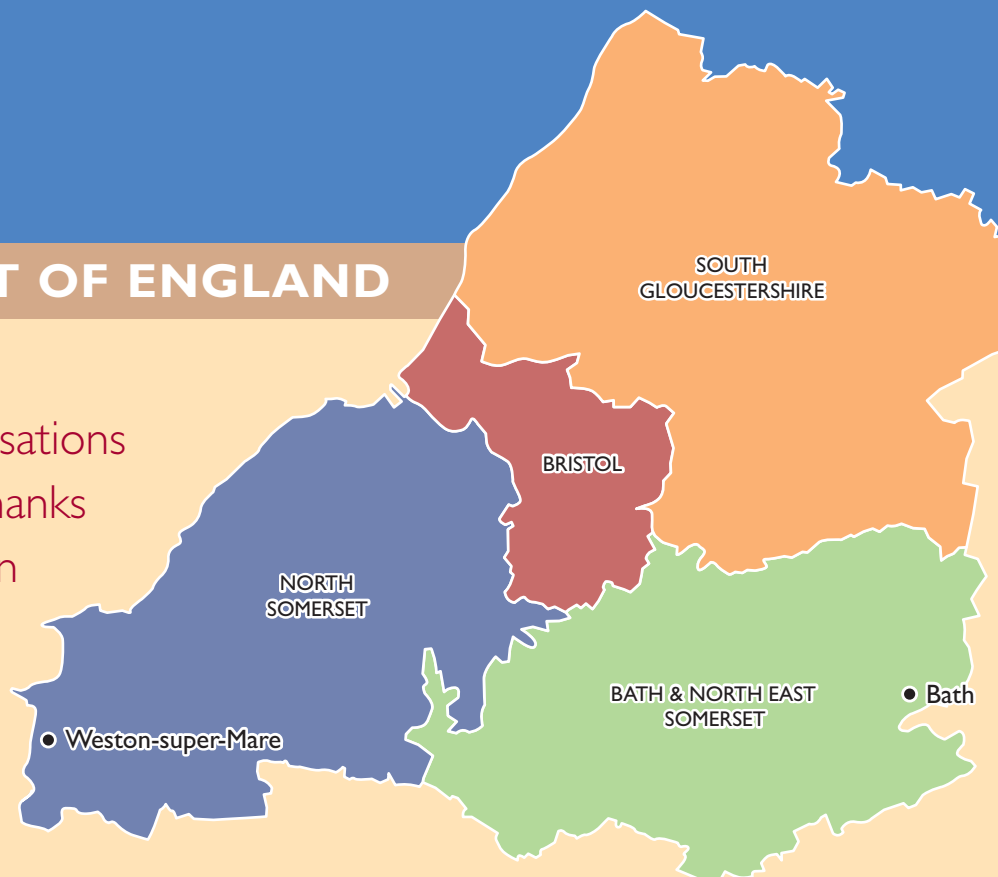
Impressively, ex-prisoners who actively participate in the

programme have a re-offending rate of less than 15% compared to a national average of 61%.

“Our work is vital,” says Tim Snowdon, Director of Changing Tunes. “On release ex-offenders face many problems: unemployment, often homelessness. And although music doesn’t provide answers, it’s the continuity of building relationships on the inside and being there after release that often makes the difference.”

“We rely on organisations such as Quartet. Thanks to their help we can do so much more.”

Tim Snowdon
Director of Changing Tunes.



SKILLFORCE

Bath Half Marathon Fund • £1,200

The Skillforce programme, working with underachieving teens in Bath, recently got a grant to buy equipment, and take 60 young people rock climbing. Skillforce use alternative vocational education to help young people gain qualifications and engage with learning.

“Physically demanding sports such as rock climbing give students a challenge to overcome and grow self confidence,” says Anthony Metcalfe, Skillforce Bath’s Team Leader.

“Thanks to Quartet, we’re now building up a stock of equipment that will enable us to keep giving these opportunities to lots more students.”

WOODSPRING DEPOSIT GUARANTEE BOARD

Local Network Fund • £3,500

Helping vulnerable under 25s in need of suitable, safe housing, the Woodspring Deposit Guarantee Board were given funding for a new telephone support service based in Weston-super-Mare.

Launched in December, the service reaches youngsters coming out of local authority care or those who for whatever reason can’t go home.

This grant follows two others made by Quartet to help set up the group, and allows them to extend the face-to-face mentoring and support already on offer. “This latest grant will be invaluable,” says manager Gary Twinn. “Homeless young people are the most vulnerable. This service will ensure that these young people are aware of their options and will help them in making the right choices that may ultimately affect the rest of their lives.”



A yoga class at Paul's Place

PAUL'S PLACE Sport Relief Fund • £1,440

Paul's Place in Winterbourne received a Quartet grant of £1440 for a yoga teacher to work with groups of physically disabled adults. The classes are proving a roaring success and up to 100 people are now taking part.

“Without grants like this we just wouldn’t have the

opportunity to offer this sort of activity to our members,” says manager Kath Aldom. “It’s vital to keep active and take part in physical activities if you’re disabled, especially if you’re in a wheelchair. The yoga classes help promote health and exercise, as well as general well being and are going down really well with members.”



Offering advice to young people in need

RECORD NUMBER OF NEW FUNDS

In the past few months, Quartet has experienced its largest influx of new funds, ever! Since September, nine new fundholders have chosen Quartet as the common sense service through which manage their charitable giving.

The Wilde Family Fund was recently established with an endowment gift of £25,000, and is a donor directed fund, allowing the Wilde Family the benefit of

choosing where their giving is spent without the hassle of administration. “Donating to smaller charities that we can get more involved with is important to us,” says Helen Wilde, “that’s why Quartet Funds are a great way to give, and I would encourage others in a similar position to us to do the same.”

Thanks to a generous initial donation of £50,000 from the Medlock Charitable

Trust, a new Fund for Older People has also been launched. It offers grants of up to £2500 to small organisations improving the lives and health of older people in the West of England.

To find out more about setting up funds with Quartet, please visit www.quartetcf.org.uk/setupfund or phone 0117 989 7700.

GIVE TO CAUSES THAT MATTER TO YOU

Do you want to get to the root of the problems in your local community? Giving into community action through Quartet is a highly effective way to make an impact. When you donate you can choose:

1. A geographical fund, reaching key needs in a specific area.

2. A themed fund, focusing on beneficiaries such as young people or the environment.

And if you set up a fund, our tailored services mean you can be even more involved in your giving choices!

It’s easy to make a donation, in writing or online: send it to use at the address on this newsletter, or visit www.quartetcf.org.uk/donate.

"THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS STRAIGHTFORWARD, WHICH IS A BREATH OF FRESH AIR FOR GRASS ROOTS CHARITIES WITHOUT A DEDICATED FUNDRAISING TEAM. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!"

Christina Edwards, Space Trust

PEOPLE NEWS

OBE HONOUR FOR QUARTET'S DIRECTOR



We are thrilled to announce that Quartet Director Helen Moss has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List for services to the foundation.

Helen has led Quartet over the last 11 years, during which time our endowment fund has grown from £3 million to £12 million and grants distributed annually have increased from £167,000 to £2.7 million.

"This is a great personal honour," says Helen, "but also an enormously welcome acknowledgement of the important role of community foundations and the hard work that all of the Quartet team has done."

Under Helen's skilled management Quartet has grown to be the major funding body for the community and voluntary sector for the whole West of England region. Originally focused in Bristol (and formerly named Greater Bristol Foundation), the foundation has expanded across the region, and now has offices in Bristol, Midsomer Norton and Weston-super-Mare. It also opened a new £1 million community resource centre, the Badger Centre, in Weston-super-Mare in 2006.

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

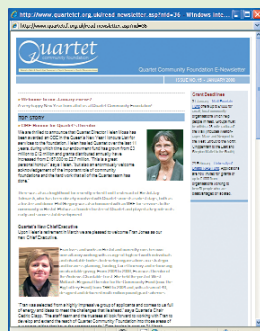
In our free monthly E newsletter

Sign up? Here's just five reasons why.

Our subscribers can:

1. Read about projects we're helping
2. Receive helpful reminders of grant deadlines
3. Hear about all our public events
4. Learn about new funding sources and funds we manage
5. Stay in touch with the latest news from our staff and friends.

To get YOUR name on the list, visit www.quartetcf.org.uk/enews



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Funding Network South West Funding Evening

7 May 2008

Environmental projects are the theme for the next TFN funding evening, which is being held at Engineers' House in Clifton, in partnership with Forum for the Future. Using The Funding Network's innovative and successful format, six charitable projects will be given the opportunity to 'pitch' to a gathering of potential donors.

For further information about how to sponsor a project, or if you would like to attend as a donor, please contact ronnie.brown@quartetcf.org.uk

Ambassadors Bridge Day

22 May 2008

With lunch, at Meeting House Farm.

Contact maria.dunn@quartetcf.org.uk

Ambassadors visit to Gatcombe Court

12 June 2008

A rare opportunity to enjoy the roses and new Roman herb garden at this historic house and grounds, illustrated in Simon Jenkins' book 'England's Thousand Best Houses'.

Contact maria.dunn@quartetcf.org.uk

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