

# West Suffolk Festival of *Culture*

*Come and join in the fun! Arts and crafts, music, dance, mask making, food tasting, exhibitions and much more.*

**Tuesday 29th May, The Corn Exchange,  
Bury St Edmunds, 10am—3pm. Free  
admission. For information, call Bury  
Volunteer Centre on 01284 766126.**

## **Contacting MAP**

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**Midsuffolk  
Action in  
Partnership**



**Supporting  
our Local  
Voluntary  
Sector**  
May 2007

## **Events Calendar For Voluntary Sector Support Activities**

MAP HAVE initiated the creation of a new online events calendar for voluntary sector support activities in Suffolk. The aim is to create a comprehensive diary of all events in Suffolk that are of interest and relevance to voluntary and community groups.

The calendar can be found at the MAP website, [www.midsuffolkaction.co.uk](http://www.midsuffolkaction.co.uk). Anyone can add to the calendar

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## **MAP MEMBERSHIP**

MAP membership was due on the 1st April. For details about how to become a member and the benefits of doing so please visit the MAP website: [www.midsuffolkaction.co.uk](http://www.midsuffolkaction.co.uk) or give us a call. It costs just £8 per organisation.

Midsuffolk Action In Partnerships is the working title of the Mid Suffolk Voluntary Organisations Forum Ltd. Company Number: 3666606, Reg. Charity Number: 1073101

## **Please Make Use Of Our Free Funding Advice Surgeries!**

WITH lack of funds being a common problem for voluntary and community groups, it's surprising that our free funding advice surgeries are not fully booked!

Our next funding surgery is in Stowmarket on May 23rd and attendees receive an hour of dedicated advice about possible funding sources for their organisation as well as help with how to complete funding applications and other funding related issues.

Our funding surgeries now only take place in Stowmarket—however for people who need funding help but can't get to Stowmarket please do still contact us and we will endeavour to visit you or provide you with the guidance you need by phone or email.

## Exhibition Trailer Available For Hire

THANKS to Mid Suffolk District Council and the hard work of MAP partner, Geoff Doggett, MAP are now able to offer voluntary and community groups the use of an exhibition trailer.

The trailer comes complete with DVD player, projector, television and other facilities and is available for hire at an extremely reasonable rate. Geoff has also managed to

secure a sponsorship deal with Lings Honda of Harleston who will provide a Honda CRV which hirers can use to tow the trailer.

The final touches are being put to the plan but if you think you could make use of the trailer at an event, exhibition or even for some rural outreach work, please let us know. This is an excellent facility and we want voluntary and community groups to make the most of it!

## Support MAP By Using Anglian Chemicals

MAP ARE looking for organisations who are interested in receiving a quotation for the provision of cleaning products from Anglian Chemicals.

Anglian Chemicals manufacture and supply a massive range of cleaning products and their prices genuinely are competitive—so if you use cleaning products already there's nothing to lose by having a quotation

If we generate business for Anglian Chemicals, they will make an annual donation to us which we will use entirely and

exclusively for the provision of services to MAP members.

If your organisation is interested in having a quote or if you know of any organisations who might be — whether a business, charity or even a local council, please let MAP know.

There is the potential for us to generate quite a lot of money through this scheme so there's every incentive for voluntary and community organisations to both become a MAP member and to then refer potential Anglian Chemicals customers to us!

## Summer Events in the Red Gables Garden, Stowmarket

### Mid Suffolk Axis Strawberry Fayre 23rd June, 2pm till 5pm

Enjoy strawberries and cream in the pleasant Red Gables Garden. There will also be a barbecue, cakes, teas and coffees and a range of fundraising stalls. All funds raised will go to Mid Suffolk Axis, a charity who provide leisure activities for people with physical and sensory disabilities.

### “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” by Stonham Theatre Guild. 13th July, Picnic from 7pm, Performance from 8pm.

Bring a picnic, blanket, chairs and, of course, a bottle of wine and enjoy a leisurely evening in the Red Gables garden in the company of Stonham Theatre Guild who will be performing “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

#### Prices:

Adults (14 years and over). £8

Junior: (5 to 13 years) £5

Under 5s free.

For tickets, please call David Kirk at the box office on 01449 710330 (a performance will also take place on 14th July at Middlewood Green)

*If your organisation is interested in holding an event in the Red Gables Garden, Stowmarket, please contact MAP*

Young Suffolk & Suffolk Clubs for Young People warmly invite you to participate in their first joint celebration event of 2007:

## ***“Positively Active”***

At Police HQ, Martlesham Heath, Tues 19th June  
Refreshments available from 6:30pm for 7pm start

### **The Lowdown:**

‘Positively Active’ will be an event that celebrates the positive activities available for children and young people in Suffolk. And, as this is a special joint celebration event, the formula will be slightly different. No minutes, no agenda, no PowerPoint presentations and no discussion groups. Instead there will be an exhibition of experts energising the evening - the young people themselves - showcasing their organisations through display stands, dancing, singing, music or through whatever medium they choose.

We would particularly welcome young people from each of our member organisations to participate. Our partners from statutory, private, voluntary and independent organisations that work with children and young people are also invited to take part and help make this event an arena for sharing and learning and a showcase for the many talents and skills that are evident, but not always, widely publicised or promoted in Suffolk

Our meetings attract an enormously diverse range of delegates from direct providers to directors so this high profile event will be an ideal vehicle to advocate and promote your activities, get people talking about your organisation and ultimately open doors and networking opportunities for everyone.

And finally, Rosalind Turner, Suffolk County Council’s Director for Children and Young People, has also kindly agreed to present the Young Suffolk Quality Standard Awards and to say a few words...

If you would like to join us, please contact Sarah McNaughton or Alison Archibald at [youngsuffolk@suffolkonline.net](mailto:youngsuffolk@suffolkonline.net) or call 01473 744187 to book your place now! Please let us know of any dietary requirements. Confirmation of bookings will be sent by email.

## **Possible Loan Source For Your Organisation?**

**SUFFOLK Regeneration Trust (SRT) lends money to individuals, businesses and non-profit organisations who would not be able to borrow money from the mainstream banks and building societies.**

SRT is itself a non-profit organisation that invests in communities and people and aims to help them achieve their goals by providing a financial ‘leg up’. SRT also helps people

understand and open various types of bank accounts, (including child trust fund accounts), promotes credit unions which are a great way to save and then borrow, and is actively working to establish affordable housing throughout Suffolk.

For further details about SRT and its services contact 01284 731780 or visit:

[www.suffolkregenerationtrust.org](http://www.suffolkregenerationtrust.org)

### **Events Calendar**

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so if your organisation is running an event, training course or any other activity that is supporting voluntary and community groups in some way, feel free to add it. The events will not just appear on the MAP website. They will also feature on the websites of

Suffolk Coastal Resource Network ([www.scrn.co.uk](http://www.scrn.co.uk)), Waveney Community Forum ([www.waveneycf.org.uk](http://www.waveneycf.org.uk)),

Babergh Communities Together ([www.bctssuffolk.org.uk](http://www.bctssuffolk.org.uk)) and the West Suffolk Consortium for Voluntary Organisations ([www.wscvo.org.uk](http://www.wscvo.org.uk)). We hope that the events calendar develops and becomes the first place that people in the voluntary sector go to in order to find out what support activities are happening in their area.

Contact MAP if you have any questions or comments about the events calendar.

**MAP Secure Grant  
From Stowmarket  
Town Council**

**MAP would like to thank Stowmarket Town Council who recently accepted their funding applications for safety and security improvements at Red Gables.**



## Convoy Will Boost Driver Campaign

MAP's CAMPAIGN to increase volunteer driver numbers in Suffolk will receive a boost on the 1st and 2nd of June when a convoy of community transport vehicles will travel round the county and hopefully gain a great deal of media attention.

MAP are working on the campaign with Suffolk Acre, Suffolk Volunteering Federation, Optua and the Coastal Area Transport Service. The convoy will see between 20 and 30 vehicles take part over the two days. There will be a number of scheduled stop offs during the convoy and these will be focal points of activity to promote community transport and the need for more drivers. Visit [www.drivesuffolk.org.uk](http://www.drivesuffolk.org.uk) for more information about the convoy and campaign.

## 74% of Awards For All Application Forms Contain Errors

SINCE THE revision of the Awards for All programme last April the level of incomplete applications has risen to 74%, according to the Big Lottery Fund.

The most common mistakes are:

- \* Unsuitable referees
- \* Missing or unacceptable accounts
- \* Bank statements missing or unacceptable
- \* Bank details form missing
- \* Governing documents missing or incomplete
- \* Dates of birth missing from contacts

New application forms and guidance have been introduced to try and ensure that applicants remember to include all the required information.

### OLD LIBRARY MEETING ROOM AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Our meeting room at Red Gables, Stowmarket is available for hire at a cost of just £5.50 per hour for MAP Members and £6 per hour for non-members. The room is suitable for meetings of around 30 people and particular times when it tends to be available are Wednesdays, Fridays and weekends—although there are other pockets of availability. To book contact MAP.

## Free Community Development Training

ADULT and Community Learning at Suffolk County Council are holding a range of courses for community development work in Spring and Summer.

These range from Working with Groups, Working with Young People, Monitoring and Evaluation of Community Development Work etc.

All workshops are free and held at Pemberton House, Curriers Lane, Ipswich and run from 10am—1pm. E-mail / call: [nicola.bradford@educ.suffolkcc.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.bradford@educ.suffolkcc.gov.uk) 01473 325298.

## Free IT Help Available

IF YOU are encountering any problems with a computer that you use for work related to a voluntary or community group, contact MAP now!

We can put you in touch with a team of volunteers with IT expertise who have offered their services free of charge to help voluntary and community groups. (A charge to cover travel expenses may apply)

To benefit from this service, please email MAP at [map@suffolkonline.net](mailto:map@suffolkonline.net) with details of the problem. We will in turn forward your email onto the IT volunteers who will make contact with you.



**Volunteer Centre Mid Suffolk**  
5 Poplar Hill, Stowmarket  
IP14 2AS Tel: 01449 612486

**Despite the difficulties we are all experiencing with finding sufficient funding, we are still here!**

If you are an organisation, which could benefit from some support from volunteers, we are here to help you. We can put you on our database, which is advertised throughout the UK, and provide you with as many volunteers as you need to make your group function really well.

Please drop in to see us or email [volunteer.centre@optua.org.uk](mailto:volunteer.centre@optua.org.uk). I look forward to adding you to our ever-growing database of local voluntary groups.

## Stationery Supplier Discount Rates For Voluntary Groups



SUFFOLK based stationery supplier, Everything Office is offering all Registered Charities a discount of up to 70% on certain lines within their 25,000 strong product range To check out the discounted rates please visit [www.everythingoffice.co.uk](http://www.everythingoffice.co.uk) and sign in as follows:

Account Name: buylocal  
User Name: guest  
Password: guest

*Please note, that you must sign in to view the discounted rates.*

If you find items of interest all you need to do is contact Neil Marsh at Everything Office on 01502 508080 who will create a unique account for you and process your order.

If you do not have access to the internet please contact Neil and a paper copy of their catalogue will be sent to you.

## There's Still Space For Charities at StowFest



**STOWFEST**

STOWFEST—the live music event at the Recreation Ground in Stowmarket on June 10th—is set to attract

thousands of people.

If you want your charity to have a free fundraising stand at the event please contact MAP as soon as possible. The expected attendee numbers means that this is an excellent fundraising opportunity.

Whether you have a stand or not, we hope you will be able to make it along for what promises to be a great day of music. Let's hope the weather holds out!

[www.stowfest.co.uk](http://www.stowfest.co.uk)

## SAVO Launch Training Course Providing Introduction to The Voluntary Sector

THE SUFFOLK Association of Voluntary Organisations, together with the Suffolk Volunteering Federation, have developed a new training session that can form part of an induction programme for new staff, volunteers and Elected Members of councils and other statutory agencies.

The aim of the session is to give a brief, but comprehensive introduction to the structures of the voluntary and community sector, the regulations that govern it and the role that the sector plays in society. The programme develops an understanding of how the sector is funded and the impact that policy change can have.

Jonathan Moore, Chief Executive of SAVO said, "This is an excellent opportunity for ensuring that staff and councillors have the right information before starting in their roles. This session will encourage better understanding between both sectors and should be part of the induction of all new staff who are engaging in multi-agency partnerships. It's very difficult

to keep up with the changes to policy and it's clear that the role of the sector is sometimes misunderstood"

The half-day session is aimed both at new staff joining the voluntary and community sector, and those working for or representing public sector agencies for whom engaging with the voluntary and community sector is part of their job role. This briefing is also relevant for Elected Members and Parish Councils.

**The first two dates the session is running are 18<sup>th</sup> May and 12<sup>th</sup> June.** The course can also be delivered in-house. Please contact Sue Stephens at SAVO for more information on 01473 273273 or visit the SAVO Events Diary at [www.savco.co.uk](http://www.savco.co.uk)

The course runs for a half a day.  
**Pricing:**  
£35 for public sector staff and Elected Members  
£25 for voluntary and community sector staff and Parish Councils  
£20 for SAVO members  
£200 for an in-house session for up to 20 people

## TV Channel Looking For Participants For New Show, "Charge"

A NEW SHOW on the Community Channel is seeking input from young people aged 16-25 years.

The show, called "Charge", has a strong community element and the producers would like to hear from young volunteers about how volunteering has impacted on their lives. They would also welcome interviews with voluntary sector representatives about the role, function and vision of their organisation.

Find out more from Julia Toppin on 07941 396684, [juliat@communitychannel.org](mailto:juliat@communitychannel.org), or visit: [www.communitychannel.org](http://www.communitychannel.org).

**MARQUEE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE:** IF YOU'RE planning summer events, MAP have a new marquee available which voluntary and community groups can use in the Red Gables garden for a very reasonable charge. Contact us if interested.

## Peoples Millions Deadline Soon

ARE YOU planning a project that will help communities to transform, use or enjoy local environments? If so, you may be interested in the People's Millions Scheme—but hurry as the deadline is 17th May!

The programme is open to voluntary and community groups, local authorities, schools and health organisations.

The joint project between the Big Lottery and ITV will see even more awards made across the ITV regions to projects that improve the environment in local communities. This year grants of up to £80,000 are available.

Groups who are short-listed will go forward to feature on local ITV news programmes towards the end of November 2007, when the public will vote for the project they want to benefit from the money.

For more information on the scheme, please call 08450 101112 or visit [www.thepeoplesmillions.org.uk](http://www.thepeoplesmillions.org.uk).

## Charities Act Finally Introduced

THE CHARITIES Act 2006 into force to date. Details of the became law in November act can be found in a document 2006. The Charity from SAVO on the homepage of Commission says that the the MAP website: aim of this major piece of www.midsuffolkaction.co.uk. legislation is to "set charities Please contact MAP if you'd like free from some of the a paper copy. previous bureaucracy, enabling them to adapt to If you require more advice or new needs in society and new information on the Charities Act and effective ways of please contact Robin working". Hodgkinson at SAVO on: 01473 273273 or email Robin at [robin.hodgkinson@savo.co.uk](mailto:robin.hodgkinson@savo.co.uk)

Only part of the Act has come

## Public Service Delivery Guidelines Available Following Results of Survey

A RECENT Charity [www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Library/publications/pdfs/RS15text.pdf](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Library/publications/pdfs/RS15text.pdf) Commission online survey, found that more than 40% of all charities that deliver public services are not paid the full cost involved.

It also highlights that almost 50% of charities that deliver public services can't agree whole-heartedly that their activities are determined by the charity's mission, rather than by funding priorities.

The survey results, 'Stand and Deliver: the future for charities delivering public services', are on the internet at

Following the survey, and after consultation, the Commission has published new guidance - 'Charities and Public Service Delivery'. This is a practical guide to the legal and good practice issues that charities need to be aware of if they are planning to deliver services under a funding agreement with a public authority. This can be found at <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/publications/cc37.asp>