



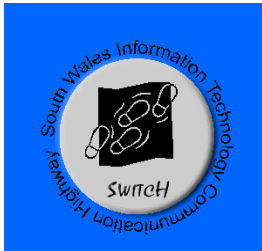
SWITCH on to a Brighter Future!



SWITCH



Volunteers News Update.



The SWITCH project is ready to train the next batch of Learning Advisors. SWITCH aims to encourage Lifelong Learning in the Community but to succeed it relies heavily on people such as yourself to give their time to encourage and assist those wanting to learn on the scheme. To equip people with the skills needed to become a Learning Advisor there is our 2 course spread over 2 to 3 sessions. To compensate people for doing this we will pay a fee of £25 upon the completion of the training package. There are 59 trained volunteer learning advisors to date. A further course is being planned for mid October. If you know of anyone interested in helping let us know. Ring Diane on 20487539

COURSES

ATTENTION TRAINED MENTORS

There is still quite a number of you who have not yet received payment for undertaking the initial training. And there are a few of you needing to finish one or other part. To arrange for payment either come to us at - The Scarman Trust, Shand House, 1st Floor, 2 Fitzalan Place, Cardiff. or ring Diane. Ring her to arrange to finish the last bit of your training. Don't forget to phone beforehand to make sure someone's in



MEETING

Meetings will soon be arranged, to discuss any queries or problems that may have occurred whilst becoming a mentor. Perhaps there are some areas you need touching up on. Every volunteer should be a part of a support group. The numbers are growing too large to accommodate all at one venue and so we need a number of smaller groups. The majority of you should have received confirmation regarding your support groups if not they will be posted on the Yahoo group email site.

Sept 2002 Issue

Community Centre's Involved with SWITCH

- ☺ Bangladeshi Womens group. BGW
- ☺ Bhatra Sikh Community.
- ☺ Black Association of Women Stepping Out BAWSO
- ☺ Butetown Community Centre
- ☺ Butetown Youth Pavilion
- ☺ Black Voluntary Sector Network. BVSNNW
- ☺ Cardiff Action for the Single Homeless CASH
- ☺ Cardiff Gypsy Sites Group. CGSG
- ☺ Cardiff Yemeni Community Association.
- ☺ Circles Network.
- ☺ Mentoring for All MENFA
- ☺ MEWN Cymru
- ☺ Shree Kitchi Leva Patel Samaj.



Update on what's happening within the SWITCH project.

OPENING UP ACCESS TO BROADBAND

We are currently involved both with the Digital College and a local "not for profit" organisation called Arwain which are looking at making broadband freely available via wireless transmission. We are planning to experiment at the Sikh centre to see if our broadband can be accessed from nearby houses. It means putting an aerial/ transmitter up on a chimney and connecting to the network in the centre below. If anyone is interested in finding out more or has a head for heights let us know.



WORKING SITES

There are now 9 centres all with their computers networked and connected up to the internet in working order - Cash, the Samaj, Bhatra Sikh, BAWSO, MEWN Cymru, the Yemeni, Bangladeshi Women, the Youth Pavilion and the Somali. Loudoun Square and the Slipper Baths will follow very shortly. Courses with tutors are being run at many of the centres and more are being planned.

CENTRE MANUALS & NEW VOLUNTEER AGREEMENTS

Following requests we are in the process of developing a manual for each centre, which should contain both information about Switch and also all the forms and processes that go with it. It should be available soon to show you in the support groups and will be kept in a prominent place at each centre should you need to refer to it. We also revisited the proposed volunteer agreement and made it a lot shorter, simpler and easier to follow. We will need to go over this with you

Training Courses in your centre

ON-LINE COURSES

Up to now Learn Direct has been the only option and for many learners they have only been able to browse the site and see the possibilities. Over the past couple of weeks we have been gradually doing the training to give learning advisors their registration passwords to allow learners to enrol. We need to get as many of you through this at all the centres. In the next few weeks there will be a direct link to both the S4C Digital College,

which has information on over 15,000 courses and to courses available at Cardiff ITEC. The Digital College will have a new range of basic skills courses in the New Year



Courses have successfully run at MEWN, CASH, Somali Progressive Centre, and the Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Samaj Centre. More are scheduled for the future.

If your Centre is interested in arranging any courses from computers to cookery, any topic at all please let us know. SWITCH can arrange them for you.

www.switch-cymru.org.uk

WEB SITE

The web site is progressing well. It's far from complete but you're welcome to look at it on

www.switch-cymru.org.uk.

We are still waiting for some of the translations to come but its now a working tool. There is a news section and you can give us items if you want. Each of the centres now has their own community web site of 5 pages within

and we are developing links to useful sites. If you know of any links you think might be useful or events that are taking place in your centre, let us know. At the moment the choice of learning provision is being expanded. The learning section currently has a link to LearnDirect but in the next few weeks it will be possible to go to the S4CDigital College

and Cardiff ITEC sites to view a whole new array of courses. Later there will be an employment section and we're hoping to carry job ads etc to help people find jobs and employers to draw on the local labour pool.

Would you like a volunteers section ?? Any Ideas let us know? Call Diane on 02920 471384 /487539