



TALL STORIES

Family fun day on Torrridge Way gives heart to Efford's Community.

The opening of a host of exciting new services, innovative facilities and imaginative resources on Torrridge Way was celebrated by hundreds of people from the local community with a family fun day held in the run up to Christmas.

It was a successful day, bitterly cold but packed full of activities and family fun designed for the whole family to enjoy. It all began with the first new library to be opened in the city since 1992 welcoming eager book lovers in. It culminated in a visit from the Kularoos Plymouth Raiders BBL pro basketball team, who lit up the three main developments in a spectacular festive 'switch on'.

"It was fantastic to get support from the Plymouth Raiders. Due to launch a sports initiative in Efford next year, they brought a fitting close to the day's events," says Debbie Burton, Neighbourhood Regeneration Officer.

Throughout the day, kids enjoyed a feast of festive delights including face painting, Santa's Grotto, a climbing wall and bouncy castle. Laura Youth Band trumpeted the musical backdrop out and professional creative arts and theatre company Stiltskin were also

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Lauren O' Conner meets Raiders Star James Noel and prefers a 'short story'.

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on hand to entertain, teaching children and adults alike a variety of dazzling circus skills. Visitors were also given the chance to explore St Paul's new Church and Community Hall.

To reach this point, agencies, local residents and councillors have been working extremely hard as part of the Building Communities Initiative, funded by the South West of England Regional Development Agency (RDA) and being delivered by Plymouth City Council. Building Communities aims to boost the economy in the Efford area as well as creating a focal point on Torridge Way for the delivery of a whole range of community services.

“Churches and libraries have had to adapt to meet the needs of the community and now represent so much more than just a place for

Plymouth Raiders fan Jamie Smith meets six of the players who added a giant helping hand to Efford's Community Celebrations.

worship or a place to get a book. St Paul's Church and Community Hall is now much more practical, accessible and economical to run and the library not only provides free internet access but brings

'Headspace' to Plymouth for the first time, providing a place for teenagers to meet friends, drink coffee and chat,” says Reverend Steve Payne, Chair of the Heart of Efford Community Partnership.



The Health BUS is coming your way!



The Health Bus will be coming back to Torridge Way soon.

Contact Denise Rudgley, Community Public Health Practitioner to find out more on 01752 315 761

Denise Rudgley and the Community Public Health Team will be on board to offer advice on a variety of health issues, including:

- ♥ Help with stopping smoking
- ♥ Free blood pressure and cholesterol checks
- ♥ Losing weight and becoming more active
- ♥ As well as general health advice

FREE COOKERY COURSE

NO COST TO YOURSELF - all ingredients will be paid for.

The course will consist of demonstrations, hands-on experience and sharing of knowledge.

It will give you skills in creating dishes, budgeting, understanding food groups and the safe handling of food.

Basic Cookery

6 week course

25th February - 31st March

Every Monday - 9.30am - 11.00am

at the Efford Youth & Community Centre, Blandford Road, Efford, Plymouth

To book your space

call Sharon at D.E.L.L. Telephone 01752 306 334

Church serves congregation and the local community

Having opened just in time for Christmas, the new multipurpose church building on Torridge Way forms an integral part of Efford's re-generation.

"We're so pleased with the new building," says Reverend Steve Payne. "It'll be a facility for the whole community - by providing a place for worship and for community activities.

Built on the site of the new library, it is modern in design but has elements saved from the former building like the stained glass window in the main lobby.

"The old church was becoming a tired building and would have required a lot of money to renovate. It was recognised that we needed better and newer facilities. We hope the

community will now use it for activities like a luncheon club and youth groups." Adds Steve.

Architect Jez Lavers 'listened very carefully to the brief', which was for a dual-use building, Mr Payne said. There is a chapel for the congregation of 30 to 40 and a roomy community hall, as well as an office and kitchen.



As visitors get the chance to explore St.Paul's new Church and Community Hall, Jessica Glanville, 14, lights a candle.



The demolition of the Royal Marine Pub, St.Paul's Church and the old Efford Library has created physical change over the last two years. A new striking extra care scheme providing 40 self-contained flats for the elderly, a new library and a new, modern St.Pauls Church and Community Hall have transformed the landscape and laid foundations for a new beginning.



Reverend Steve Payne

The dual use is echoed by the modernist cross, in aluminium wire and epoxy resin, which weaves a complex pattern on the plain facade of the church.

The cross is by sculptor Penny Hardy, who said she presented several designs to the vicar, who in the end opted for the 'radical' one.

The last word on the new church goes to the children: "The building is bigger, better and nicer, by Bradley."

"To God, thank you for loving us and we love you as well. From Jody."

"I like the new church. Because it's got lots of colourful things. From Chantelle."

Claude brings home MBE for Efford

An audience with the Queen and the personal thanks of the Prime Minister crowned a special day in the long distinguished life of a veteran Plymouth councillor who has served his local community for over seven decades.

Resplendent in top hat and tails, 92-year-old Claude Miller travelled to Buckingham Palace in November to be presented with his MBE amid royal pomp and ceremony by HRH, who told him there was no one more worthy of the honour.

Following the prestigious occasion the Labour member was whisked to Westminster where he met Gordon Brown who expressed his gratitude for Cllr Miller's service to the local community.

Cllr Miller's political career spans more than seven decades. Aged just 16 he helped form the Labour Party League of Youth in Plymouth. He was elected to Devon County Council to represent Plymouth in 1981 and joined the City Council in 1997 as Labour member



Claude with Gordon Brown and Linda Gilroy after receiving his MBE.

for Efford and Lipson. An Honorary Alderman of Devon, he has also served as a Justice of the Peace. He became the country's oldest ever Lord Mayor in 2005 following in the footsteps of an illustrious line of former mayors including celebrated seafarer Sir Francis Drake.

Born in Stonehouse into a political family, his father William was Deputy Lord Mayor in the 1930s and oversaw the building of the city's council estates after the Second World War. Miller Way in Estover is named after him.

Cllr Miller, who is believed to be the country's oldest councillor, admitted to being "slightly overwhelmed" at the day's events celebrating his achievements.

On receiving his MBE from the Queen, Cllr Miller said: "She said she was more than delighted to present me with this honour. She said there's nobody more worthy of it."

Later at his meeting with Mr Brown, the Prime Minister paid personal tribute to him saying: "Thank you for what you have done for the community. Your record of service to your local community is unparalleled and continues."

Cllr Miller, who was re-elected for four years in May 2007 and has no plans to retire, said later that he would wear the honour for everybody: "I'm really thrilled about receiving this honour. I'll be the one wearing the medal but what's wonderful about it is that it reflects the hard work of all those people I've worked shoulder to shoulder with over the years - people who spend their lives trying to help others in the community."



Claude shows his MBE to Linda Gilroy.



HAVE YOUR SAY!

Question by Mr Fred Thorne
(Chair of Horseshoe Residents Efford).

To: The Cabinet Member for Transport Councillor Wigans

Will the Council Confirm: *The Community in Efford are deeply concerned by the road safety issues presented at the crossroads of Blandford Road, Efford Road and Torridge Way. We would like to be informed of the date of the proposed consultation and be assured that council officers are treating this matter with the utmost urgency.*

Answer: *Safety improvement works at this location are included in the 'Efford/Blandford Road/Torridge Way Local Safety Scheme'. This scheme is included in the current approved Transport Capital Programme and incorporates the introduction of a new 20mph zone and traffic calming works.*

Preliminary design of the scheme is currently being undertaken and its anticipated that this will be completed by February 2008. Public consultation will then be undertaken between March and May 2008.

The consultation will include advertisement of the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders together with a public exhibition. The local Area Committee will be asked to consider the results of the public consultation in the Summer of 2008 and it is anticipated that construction works will be undertaken during the Autumn.

Councillor Wigans

*Make your mark
on Efford!*



Join the HECF committee

If you want to get actively involved in the community and help improve Efford, here's your chance! By joining the HECF Committee you'll be able to make a difference, learn new skills and meet new people. According to the HECF Constitution, annually a third of the Committee must retire, which means there will be 3 spaces to fill on the HECF Committee. It's a simple process if you are interested and willing to commit some time to attend Meetings and get involved in the regeneration of Efford, call Debbie Burton on 01752306521 or email Debbie on debbie.burton@plymouth.gov.uk to get an HECF Committee Nomination paper and information sent to you. Or, nomination forms can be downloaded from www.hecf.org.uk. Nomination papers will need to be sent back to Debbie by 12th March. You will need to have them signed by another local resident, before returning them.

There are 2 Local Resident spaces and 1 Local Business space. There are also two spaces available for local service providers.

All residents (members of the Community Partnership) are invited to attend the AGM which will be held on Wednesday 26th March, starting at 7pm.

All new members will be announced at the AGM on Wednesday, 26 March 2008.

New Advice Network and Drop In Centre

Reached a certain age? Feel like you've passed your sell by date? Need to get out more?

Free, friendly advice and help is at hand covering topics from form filling to making a will, whether you're housebound or want to get out and socialise. With over 26 years experience of caring for the elderly, Dave Churchward is the scheme manager of a sheltered housing scheme at Hurrell Court and has set up a new advice network and drop in centre for those in the community that could be missing out on access to vital services.

"We hope that people will come along to our meetings for a chat over some refreshments, especially those that need help with form filling, financial advice and making a will," says Dave who has organised regular meetings to be held at St Paul's Church and Community Hall in Torridge Way but is willing to provide house visits as well.

"We would like to provide services that our elderly people actually want and need so it would be great to get more ideas from those we're trying to reach," he adds.

If you would like to find out a little bit more about the group, whether it's for yourself, a friend, neighbour or relative, please contact **Dave Churchwood** on **01752 260 149**.

Activity	Time	Price	Who For	Venue	Contact
Monday					
Flo's Little Star's Parent and Toddler Group	9.30-11.30am	£1	Parents and children 0-5	Highfield Community School	Ann-Marie Jennings 07891 245974
Art drop in	9am-12pm	75p	Adults	Efford Community Centre	Margaret Johns 01752 776853
Music With Mummy	9.45-10.15am	£3.50	0-3yrs and their parent	Lipson (address call Caroline)	Caroline 01752 663236
Aki-Esgrima (Martial Arts)	6-7pm children 7.30-9pm adults	Call for details	Children and adults	Efford Community Centre	John 01752 783925
Youth Forum	6-8pm	Free	All Young People	Efford Community Centre	Margaret 01752 776853
Rainbows	5:30-6:30pm	Call for details	Girls 5-7	Laira United Church	Ange Chudley 01752 225020
Brownies	6-7:30pm	Call for details	Girls 7-10	Laira United Church	Ange Chudley 01752 225020
Girl Guides	7-9pm	Call for details	Girls 10-16	Laira United Church	Ange Chudley 01752 225020
Parent Support Advisory (Drop In) 	2-4pm (no appointment necessary)	Free	Parents that need confidential information, advice and guidance that is independent and focused on their needs	Purple Pod, Highfield Community School	Su Haswell 01752 773187
Tuesday					
Tumble Teds Toddlers	9.15-10.45am	£1 per session	18 months to 4 years	Plym View Space for Sports and Arts	DELL 01752 306334
Parent and Toddlers	9.30-11.30am	£1	Parents and 0-5yrs	Playtots Foyer	DELL 01752 306334
Baby Weighing	9.30-11.30am	Free	Parents 0-5yrs	Playtots Foyer	Sandra Fuller 01752 314283
Tumble Teds Baby Bears	11am-12noon	£1 per session	4-18 months	Plym View Space for Sports and Arts	DELL 01752 306334
In Touch Befriending Scheme Coffee Morning	10.45am-12noon (last Tuesday of every month)	£1.50 (lunch + £1.50)	Elderly residents in Efford, Lipson Laira & Compton	St Mary's	Bridget Roberts 07970 406476
In Touch Befriending Scheme Open House (coffee/lunch/exercise)	11am-3pm (1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month)	£1.50 (lunch + £1.50)	Elderly residents in Efford, Lipson Laira & Compton	Highfield Community Rooms	Bridget Roberts 07970 406476
Young Carers Group	6-7:30pm Juniors 7:30-9pm Seniors	£1	Young Carer's (referral only)	Efford Community Centre	Margaret Johns 01752 776853
Greenbank Detached Youth Work	6-8pm	Free	Young People 8-18yrs	Freedom Park	Margaret Johns 01752 776853
Girls Brigade	6-8pm	Call for details	Girls 5-18yrs	Laira United Church	Liz Pellow 01752 671771
Heart of Efford Community Partnership	AM	Free	Local residents who want to receive updates on improvements and proposals for the area.	Purple Pod, Highfield Community School.	Steve Payne 01752 785576
Extended Services Co-ordinator	1-3pm	Free	Everyone who wants to find out what services and activities are available in the area or would like to improve them.	Purple Pod, Highfield Community School.	Isabelle Kolinsky 07825 202227 isabelle.kolinsky@plymouth.gov.uk

Look Out For

The Efford Community Sports Initiative:

- The Plymouth Raiders working with young people.
- The YMCA providing community football activities.
- The Lipson Community College 'shuttle bus' taking local residents to Lipson Community College for a range of activities like aerobics, trampolining and climbing.

Look Out For

Plymouth Adult & Community Learning Service:

For more information contact Kim Muller, your local learning advisor, on 01752 665919.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Senior Advice Morning

AGE Concern

Monday April 21st
10am - 12 noon
Efford Christian Fellowship
Contact Dave Churchward
01752 260 149

Activity	Time	Price	Who For	Venue	Contact
Wednesday					
Step by Step Together Group	Mornings	Free	Families with children 0-3yrs with any form of additional need.	Playtots Foyer, Plym View Primary School	Karen Pearce 01752 314411
Flo's Little Star's Parent and Toddler Group	9.30-11.30am	£1	Parents and children 0-5	Highfield Community School	Ann-Marie Jennings 07891 245974
Baby and You	2-3pm	Free	All first time parents	Playtots	DELL 01752 306334
Boys Brigade	6pm	Call for details	Boys 5-18yrs	Laira United Church	Alec Lynn 01752 310665
Senior Youth Club	7-9pm	30p	12-18yrs	Efford Community Centre	Margaret Johns 01752 776853
Adult Music Group	9am-12pm	50p	Adults who play an instrument, guitars etc	Efford Community Centre	Margaret Johns 01752 776853
Badminton Club	8-10pm		14 years and above	Laira United Church	01752 225020
Lipson Coffee Morning.	9.30 - 11.30am	Free	Everyone.	Lipson Community College.	Paul Mason, Parent Support Advisor. 01752 671 318/07753 896921 pmason@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk.
Employment Advice	From 2pm	Free	Unemployed Single parents looking to find a job to suit their lifestyle and family responsibilities.	Purple Pod, Highfield Community School.	Karen Dugdale 07814463047 or Tracey Best, employment advisor 0789 1189537 or 01752 306334
Quit Smoking Drop In	9.30 - 11.00am	Free	All smokers wanting to quit	Purple Pod	Melanie Edwards 01752 314040
Thursday					
Detached Youth Work	6.30-9.30pm	Free	8-18yrs	Efford	Margaret Johns 01752 776853
Chatterbox Clinic	9.30-11.30am	£1 per session	Parents and Children 0-4yrs	Plym View Space for Sports and Arts	DELL 01752 306334
Parent and Toddlers	9.30-11.30am	£1	Parents and 0-5yrs	Playtots Foyer	DELL 01752 306334
Midweek Communion	10am	Free	Everyone.	St Pauls Church, Hurrell Court	Steve Payne 01752 785576
Over 55's lunch	Last Thursday of every month	Free	Over 55's	Efford Christian Fellowship Church	Stuart Dan 01752 767711
Aikido	Evening classes	Call for details	Children and adults	Laira United Church	01752 225020
Friday					
Rhyme Time for babies and toddlers	First Friday of the month 2.15-2.45pm	Free	Parents/ Carers with babies and toddlers	Efford Library, Highfield Community School	Ann Power 01752 308985
Junior Youth Club	6.30-7.45pm	Free	School years 1-6	Efford Christian Fellowship Church, Torridge Way	Stuart Dan - to be placed on the waiting list 01752 767711
Senior Youth Club	8-9.30pm	Free	School years 7+	Efford Christian Fellowship Church, Torridge Way	Stuart Dan - to be placed on the waiting list 01752 767711
Dance Class	4-5.45pm	Call for details	3-13 years	Laira United Church	Awaiting contact details
Parent Support Advisory. Drop In surgery. 	12-2pm	Free	Parents that need confidential information, advice and guidance that is independent and focused on their needs.	Lipson Community College	Paul Mason, Parent Support Advisor 01752 671 318/07753 896921 pmason@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk.
Parent Support Advisory. Drop In. 	9am - 11.30am (no appointment necessary)	Free	"	Purple Pod, Highfield Community School	Paul Mason, Lipson Community College 01752 671 318/07753 896921 pmason@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk.
Efford & Lipson Ward Councillor Drop-in Surgery	2-5pm	Free	Everyone with ward issues/problems.	Purple Pod, Highfield Community School	Steve Payne 01752 785576 Andy Kerswell 01752 269472 Brian Vincent 01752 316902
Bring & Buy Coffee Morning	10.15 - 11.30am			Common Room, Hurrell Court	Dave Churchward 01752 260 149
Saturday					
Dance	10-11.30am	Call for details	All children and young people	Efford Community Centre	Caroline Maddock 01752 776853
Sunday					
Sunday Service	10am	Free	Everyone	St Pauls Church, Highfield School Temporary Chapel	Steve Payne 01752 785576
Miscellaneous					
Health Visitor Clinic	2 clinics per week	Free and open access	For families with children 0-5	Playtots, Plym View Primary School	Sandra Fuller 01752 314283
Plym View Toy Library	Tues and Thurs 2.30-4.30pm, First Saturday of month	£26 per year to borrow 6 toys per month	Everyone welcome	Plym View Primary School	01752 202059
Efford Library	Call for details	Free	Everyone to borrow books and use internet	Torridge Way	01752 308985
Laira Library	Call for details	Free	Everyone to borrow books and use internet	240 Old Laira Road	Ann Power 01752 308985 or 665737

Efford Residents win Community Award

We're delighted to bring you news that Sam and Flora, members of the Devon & Cornwall Community Watch Association, were recently presented awards for their services to the community by Chief Superintendent Stephen Otter. Chosen as overall winners of their group (rural), it was a fitting tribute to the hard work undertaken for the Horseshoe Residents Association of Efford.

Thank you!



Volunteers and veggie eaters wanted!

We urgently need volunteers from Plymview and Highfield Primary Schools to run a vegetable bag scheme every Wednesday between 8.30 - 9.30 am from 27th February onwards. Your support will be rewarded with a food hygiene certificate and a family outing to Riverford Farm.

Each scrumptious veggie bag only costs £3.50, so come and grab one - you won't be able to get such a fresh, delicious bargain anywhere else! Interested?

Ring Isobelle on **07825 202227**.

The Big Spring Clean Saturday, 15th March

Get ready for change! Help give your community, house and life in general a Spring Clean. The whole of Efford will benefit and help and assistance will be on hand from Plymouth City Council to dispose of bulky waste. Volunteers are being sought to help - Anyone interested should get in touch with Debbie Burton on 01752 306521.

Never to be forgotten

Remembrance Day Children of Highfield School, Plymview School, Laira Green Primary School and Lipson Community College joined veterans, mums, dads and residents at the Efford war memorial to remember all those who have given their lives during past and present wars.



Play basketball with the Raiders

Learn to play basketball with the Raiders, for free! Call Wendy Brown at the Youth and Community Centre now on **776853** to find out more about the future of this pilot course.



Fresh Produce on your doorstep

From Monday, 25th February, Spuds home delivery service will be coming to Efford! From his mobile van, Lee Mayer will be selling a wide range of fresh local produce from eggs, potatoes, fruit and veg - all at competitive prices. Catch him on his route below every Thursday or ring an order through to him and he'll drop it off to you. There is no minimum order, delivery is free and prices can be found at www.spudsdelivery.co.uk

Spuds Delivery Service

Efford on every Thursday.

Tel: **01752 845 559/07720826664**

- 10.30 am Pike Road, By the Surgery.
- 11.00 am Thames Gardens.
- 11.30 am Blandford Road.
Outside Plym View School.
- 12.30 pm Efford Lane. By the Corner of Higher Efford Road.

Green Fingers needed for allotment project



Get gardening! Get stuck into a community allotment! A new piece of land has been bought for two allotments below Derwent Ave and above Brockley Road - one for Efford's youth to use and one for the whole of the community. We provide the tools, all you need to bring is your wellies and your kids, of course! You can even gain free Horticultural training and a certificate by getting involved.

For more information call Denise on **01752 315761**.

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Free Youth Football Training

Free YMCA football training will be coming soon to Efford Youth and Community Centre on a regular weekly basis.

Please contact the centre on 776853 for more information. Sessions will run from March 1st 2008, on a Saturday and Wednesday evenings, for young people between 11-18.

GET ACTIVE! Whatever your age, whatever your sex, you won't be able to resist the draw to get active and have a laugh. Free dance, fitness and sports taster activities will be held over three weeks, at three venues, starting in March. Grab a friend, get a goody bag, earn free sports vouchers, try something new, have fun, get fit!

Look out for your Get Active! Leaflet and collector card coming through your door soon with more details. If you don't receive one by March, ring Debbie Burton on 01752 306521.

Are you game?

If you want to battle it out with other keen game enthusiasts and have aspirations to conquer and rule the world you may want to get in touch with Andrew Wright who is putting together a Risk Championship.

Involving tactics, strategy, luck and

negotiation, Risk is a turn based strategic board game that requires players to control armies and attempt to capture territories from other players.

If you would like to get involved, text the word 'risk' and your contact details to Andrew on 07946113367.



Sunshine Nursery gets makeover

The Lord Mayor David James and Lady Mayoress Diane James officially re-opened the Sunshine Nursery after a city council grant enabled a major refurbishment. The nursery, which has about 17 children on its books and has been running for 20 years, received a grant of £8,500 from Plymouth City Council. The money was used to install new flooring and carpets and improve the kitchen and food preparation area. A separate entrance has now been created away from Plym View Primary School, which shares the same campus. Treasurer Claire Young said that the old joint entrance had become very crowded with pupils arriving for school and nursery at the same time. She added: "The nursery has

been running for 20 years and it was time to have a bit of a spruce up. We wanted to make it more appealing to families in the area." Mrs Young added that the children, all aged

between two and four, were a little overawed at first by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress in all their finery but soon warmed to the couple during their hour's visit.

(Picture supplied courtesy of the Evening Herald)



Lord Mayor David James and Lady Mayoress Diane James officially re-open the Sunshine Nursery

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR TENANTS

Over the next year Plymouth City Council will consult its tenants about the possible transfer of their homes to a Housing Association. This is expected to lead to a postal ballot of all tenants in the autumn of 2008. The transfer could only happen if a majority of tenants who take part in the ballot are in favour of the change and the Secretary of State gives approval.

The Council is proposing the transfer mainly because a Housing Association would be able to spend a lot more money on repairs and improvements to tenants' homes and be able to bring them up to the decent homes standard. This is because under current Government policy, if the transfer goes ahead, the housing association can keep all the rent collected to invest in your homes and they also have the freedom to raise money from banks and building societies, which the Council is not able to do.

Tenants will be reassured to know that Government policy ensures that the rents would stay the same as they would be with the Council. This means that you would pay the same rent for a similar property in a similar area whether you choose to remain with the Council or transfer to a Housing Association.

This consultation is an opportunity for all tenants to have a say in how the housing service should change for the better whether the transfer goes ahead or not. This could be about better ways to tackle anti-social behaviour, safer homes and structural improvements.

All tenants need to be represented in these discussions to ensure that the diverse needs of tenants from all different backgrounds are reflected in the Stock Transfer proposal.

Please note that tenants in the Radford Estate were balloted towards the end of last year on a proposal that their homes transfer to Sanctuary Housing Association. The consultation process with those tenants is therefore at a more advanced stage.

Appointing an Independent Tenants Advisor (ITA)

DWA were interviewed and selected by tenants and leaseholders and will give independent advice throughout the consultation. They will also ensure that tenants are given enough information to make an informed decision before voting. DWA will work closely with you throughout the Stock Transfer consultation, and will produce their own newsletters and posters, run drop in sessions and answer any questions you have. If you would like to speak to DWA phone:

FREEPHONE 0800 0855 492

How you can be involved

If you are a tenant or leaseholder living in a council property you can become involved and have your say at special meetings, events, activities and workshops. For all conferences, road shows and groups, lunch is provided and expenses are paid, from travel expenses to child care.

You can become involved as much as you like. Below are some of the different methods that you could use to take part in the Stock Transfer Consultation. The level of commitment needed is highlighted in stars:

- ★★★ Needs regular commitment.
- ★★ Requires some commitment
- ★ Little commitment needed

Register with the Interested Tenants' Network (ITN) database ★

Hyp Hop Group ★★★

Stock Transfer Advisory Group (STAG) ★★

Attend our Road Shows and Conferences ★★

Respond to our Prize Draw Surveys ★

Arrange a visit ★★

Read our 'What's Up' Magazine ★

Read the Better Homes newsletter ★

For more information on any of the above please call the Tenant Participation Team on 306281 or e-mail us at housing.feedback@plymouth.gov.uk. If you have any comments, suggestions or questions you can e-mail us at stocktransfer@plymouth.gov.uk

Putting *Art* into the Heart of Efford

Local teenagers put art into the heart of Efford after they collected over 70 residents' opinions about the area - and then spelled out the words using leaves to create temporary 'land art' on the slopes of Efford Valley.



Conceptual artist
Jayne Murray

Kimberley King and Laura Ryan, both aged 15, and Jessica Wafer, 13, were among those that took part, picking out 'beauty' in giant letters. 'Risk' and 'Imagine' were also highlighted as words that summed up what people thought about the valley and were spelt out across Efford's historic heart and its biggest green space.

They were working with conceptual artist Jayne Murray who is helping co-ordinate arts activities as part of a long term programme within the community and incorporating the opinions of young people about their district in the work created.

"The day was fantastic. The young people are really resourceful - really creative," says Jayne who made a short film about it which can be

viewed online at You Tube via the youth page on the HECF website www.hecp.org.uk. "This is the first public artwork in a longer-term process and we're looking forward to doing more." She adds.

The Art programme, integral to the regeneration process as laid out in the Efford Building Communities Initiative, has continued with two commissions undertaken by staff and pupils at Lipson Community College. One is a documentary film about Efford Valley that researches its past and explores its present and the other is a live performance project about a young person out and about in Efford. This will be performed on the streets of Efford in the Spring.



Plymouth Adult & Community Learning Service

Learning shouldn't stop when you leave school - we want to help you succeed whether you are:

- Returning to learn
- Wanting to improve your career opportunities
- Developing a new skill
- Updating your existing skills
- Family Learning
- Skills for life

Your local learning advisor, Kim Muller is based at Tothill Community Centre. For further information, please contact Kim on 01752 665919.

A new year of resolution

I would like to wish everyone in Efford a very good New Year and a peaceful and prosperous 2008. Last year was turbulent, with some excellent work done by HECP and the team, particularly with our young people. This was almost overshadowed by the actions of a very few, but this is when we must work harder and bring together all parts of the community to keep our vision going.

I am working with your Councillors and the police to do just this, and would be happy to hear from anyone with ideas or interests in helping defeat anti social behaviour and how we can promote the good work so many are now doing!

At the time I write this I have also started a piece of work around housing and the need for increased affordable provision of all sorts - both to rent and buy. Part of this work involves surveying tenants and residents to assess current needs. If you have not received a survey form, but want me to know about any aspect of housing locally contact me at the addresses below.

More details will also be on my website, which has full details of other projects and campaigns I am involved with. Please have a look and let me know what you think - www.lindagilroy.org.uk.

Linda Gilroy

Tel: 226626

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA



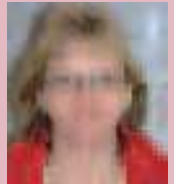
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Heart of
Efford
Community Partnership

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Note from the editor: This is your newsletter, so if you would like to contribute to it in any way please get in touch. Details of your news stories, features or events can be e-mailed to debbie.burton@plymouth.gov.uk.

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