

# Action-packed week of fun in the South West

**The annual Bournville Village Trust senior citizens' holiday took place earlier this year with a trip to Torquay.**

Marie Docker, Community Assistant at the Trust and organiser of the annual trip, arranged the holiday to Torquay for a group of senior citizens to indulge in an action-packed week of fun, entertainment and a dash of English culture.

Amongst the excursions, the holidaymakers toured the famous Eden Project, which boasts glass-domed structures called biomes, containing a vast array of tropical plants.

For those who preferred the outdoors the Eden Project, which was established as a landmark Millennium project, is home to numerous botanical style gardens perfect for a peaceful stroll in the sunshine.



• Mr & Mrs Needle

A trip to Torquay would not have been complete without an outing to the seaside, and Brixham beach proved to be a popular destination. The day trip was sweetened when the group were treated to ice cream.

The accommodation at the Sherwood Hotel was faultless with gorgeous views complemented by wonderful food. Every night guests enjoyed dancing and evening entertainment, which proved to be highly popular.

Jean Needle, one of the senior citizens on the holiday, said: "It was one of the best holidays my husband and I have ever had, and we are thoroughly looking forward to the next one.

"We would like to say a huge thank you to Marie Docker for organising the trip so well and making sure that our every need was catered for."



• Mr & Mrs Beaver

## Event Alert!

Join us for a special break before the Christmas chaos! Senior citizen BVT residents are invited to the Turkey and Tinsel trip from November 27 to December 1. The trip will be five days of festive activities at the Mill Rythe Village in Hayling Island.

**To book or reserve a place contact Marie Docker on 0121 415 6481.**

## Chance to be actively involved

Woodlands Tenant Association is looking for a new representative to promote their interests. The role offers any tenant the opportunity to be actively involved in the development and monitoring of policies and procedures through regular meetings of the Housing Services Committee and Bournville Advisory Committee.

To be eligible, you must be a member of your local Tenant Association, who then elects one of their members to represent the area's interests.

The term of membership normally runs for four years, following which new elections are held.

**If you would be interested in knowing more about how you can get involved please contact Zoey Stanton on 0121 415 6516/8 or email [zoeystanton@bvt.org.uk](mailto:zoeystanton@bvt.org.uk)**

### Currently the representatives are:

- Ian Waye representing the Shropshire Tenants: 01952 501331 / 07738 803723
- Paul Banner representing Shenley Manor Tenants: 0121 628 8060 / 07738 803725
- Mike McIntosh representing Shenley Court Tenants: Email: [mike\\_mcintosh@btinternet.com](mailto:mike_mcintosh@btinternet.com) 07738 803724

# Diversity a reality at BVT

**BVT has long been committed to promoting equality and valuing diversity, and we have been working with Ashram HA to explore questions of equality and diversity with focus groups of residents. The fundamental issue is 'How do we make diversity a greater reality at BVT?'**

Two workshops were held in the Spring, which a wide cross-section of residents attended. The informal approach encouraged lots of open debate on the kind of things which make us diverse. It was agreed that the rich variety within our communities is a 'wonderful bonus' to quote one of the participants. The feedback from residents is helping Ashram to advise BVT on how we might improve still further as an inclusive organisation. The following comments on the workshop came from Dennis

Carson, who has lived on the Estate for many years. We are grateful to him and all those that took part in the workshops:

*Eleven residents attended the Tenants' Focus Group Appreciative Inquiry Workshop which was held on March 1. There was a cross section of ages and backgrounds and after brief introductions, the young and old participants held lively and informative discussions in a friendly manner. Firstly, there was appreciation and criticism made of the environment and locality they all lived in with interaction*

*with Bournville Village Trust, which was seen as a stabilising, positive influence. Members of the group also explained how their involvement with neighbours and various local bodies, such as resident committees, schools, churches, playgroups, etc helped them to get to know other people. Ultimately everyone agreed that the varied "mix" of people on the Bournville Estate, the standard of housing and surroundings, made it an interesting, friendly and pleasant place to live.*

## Event Alert!

Budding playwrights can tread the boards this summer with a host of activities for all ages. Join us at Selly Manor this holiday to make a quivering quill, write an illuminated letter and dress up as theatre characters from the Tudor times. Act out plays, put pen to paper and find out what it was like to be a traditional playwright. Play on Words classes are being held from August 25 - 31:

Tuesday to Friday,  
10am - 4pm

Saturday & Sunday,  
2pm - 5pm

Adults £3, Concessions £2,  
Children £1, Family (2A,3C)  
£6.50

**For more details about these events call 0121 472 0199 or e-mail [sellymanor@bvt.org.uk](mailto:sellymanor@bvt.org.uk)**

## Hay Green open day just bursting with goodies!

Fresh fruit, vegetables, home-made jams and cakes - these are just some of the goodies you will find at this year's Hay Green Open Day.

This year's event promises to be the best yet with numerous bric-a-brac stalls and a diverse selection of flowers and plants available to buy.

Hay Green Allotments Annual Open Day is taking place on Saturday September 2 from 10.30am until 1pm. Hosted by organiser Margaret Pritchett, the event can be found at the High Heath Close entrance just off Heath Road, Bournville.

**For more information please contact Margaret Pritchett on 0121 426 4718.**



## Cash allocated to 11 projects

The Tenant Project Funding Assessment Panel, a body put in place to assess applications for funding of Bournville Village Trust tenant projects, have awarded more than £11,000 to 11 projects in the past year alone.

This initiative, launched in April 2004, is currently chaired by Ben Jordan, who was elected by the 2000+ Group, and is made up of ten Bournville tenants. Representatives from all associations are present on the panel and full training has been provided. In 2004/5 funding was awarded to numerous projects including improvements to communal areas, a football team for young people, gates to bin stores, and training sessions such as decorating.

The panel meets a minimum of four times per annum to discuss the project initiatives. Since being set up, the panel has given funds to a total of 25 applications out of 37 received.