# newsletter

April 2015



Issue 10

# Microsoft Research Limited Fund

#### fund update:

- Over £120,000 to local projects across Cambridgeshire
- Projects that:

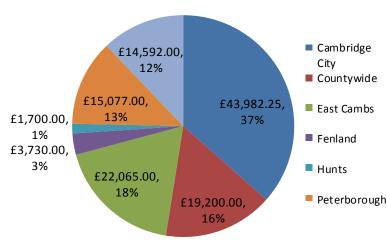
Enrich lives of disadvantaged local people through provision of cultural/educational events or experiences

or

Improve the local green environment through small scale projects

or

Provide support or training to improve the employability of people facing disadvantage



### grants offered November 2014:

- Bedazzle Projects £1,000 towards a 'Funky-Fit' film project for children with special educational needs.
- CAMTRUST £2,000 for students with learning disabilities to be part of a new magazine project.
- Headway Cambridgeshire £2,500 towards the running costs and integration of technology into life skills, fitness and groups for young people with brain injuries.
- RESTART-Illuminate Charity £1,000 to help set up a 5 day personal development programme for 10 unemployed people with mental health issues.
- Oblique Arts £1,000 towards the costs of a Literacy Support Worker for 10 workshops at the 'Traveller Together' literacy project at Smithy Fen working with Young Travellers.
- Peterborough and Cambridgeshire District Dyslexia Association £1,550
  to help kick-start an additional workshop for children with dyslexia and to train and equip teaching assistants with skills to apply to the classroom.

Geographical spread of grants made to date.

# **case**study

### £1,000 grant awarded to

## **Oblique Arts in Cambridgeshire:**

To fund Literacy workshops for young people from the Travelling Community:

- Funded 2 of 10 workshops
- 6 young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET attended the workshops
- All are from the Irish Travelling Community

"You get a lot more attention here. In school I don't always understand everything. They don't have the time. I have learnt a lot here" Jean aged 13

#### Case study - John aged 11

One young boy who is not in school has attended the workshops. We have been able to provide him with a structure for learning and **he now has a pencil case, note book and materials for drawing and writing.** 

He travels with his father to find work at frequent times. At other times he is at the site living in caravan accommodation that is not secure. He now has the means to document his life and to give expressive responses. **He draws and writes stories**, is able to share some with us and discuss spelling and reading. He is also able to **use the library** now. His mother has been very keen that we teach him as she had no education herself.



Marianne aged 13 also attended the workshops

"I don't go to school so this helps me with my reading and writing. I need to do more work on my writing. I expect to work with my dad one day and you have to be able to read and write to pass your (driving) test."



The **Cambridgeshire Community Foundation**, an independent charity (1103314), makes grants to local grass root community groups. Individuals, families, business, public sector organisations, and other charitable trusts make this possible by setting up Funds with us. For more information on CCF, please visit www.cambscf.org.uk.

This Fund newsletter has been written and produced by employees of the Foundation. Whilst every attempt is made to ensure the information is correct, this cannot be guaranteed. Please contact the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation if you have any comments about the content - info@cambscf.org.uk