



Summary and pictures of Better BANES event

Good afternoon

Many thanks to those of you who attended our recent Better BANES event on 28th September at The Guild, Bath. We had representatives from a wide range of local groups, charities and funders as well as representatives from The Council and The University of Bath.

After drinks and a chance for networking Marcelle Speller kicked off the formal part of the proceedings with a summary of the progress made with the Localgiving Development Programme in BANES. This now has almost 50 members across the whole of the region including; Radstock, Keynsham, Bath, Chew Valley and Midsomer Norton who are benefiting from free support with their online fundraising.

Chris Dormer, Head of Business Development for Localgiving then formally launched this year's Grow Your Tenner which starts on 18th October. Thanks to the Office for Civil Society, the total match fund for this year's Grow Your Tenner is now £345,000. This means each charity will have the chance to benefit from up to £2,500 of match funding: £1,000 from one-time donations and £1,500 from Direct Debits.

Julie Poll then gave a summary of her successful year running the Business in Community programme which has delivered events like Twerton's Got Talent and the forthcoming Bath Soup Project on Thursday 3rd November. We then heard from Sally Harris from Bath Welcomes Refugees who talked about the amazing work they've done this year and how they used the £2,500 raised via Localgiving so far to help families resettling in Bath.

Marcelle summarised the event by saying she was proud of what Localgiving have achieved so far, but the Bath Welcomes Refugees story shows that there will always be new needs, as well as the needs that will always be with us. As well as the valuable time that so many volunteers put into our local charities, all this will take money. Localgiving are helping to provide the means and the skills for local charities to raise funds. But we also need funding ourselves.

Marcelle highlighted that she is still funding Localgiving with a significant amount every year, and that does not include the incentivised giving and regional development programs. The event finished on an appeal for grant makers, local philanthropists or business to get in touch with us if you think you can help fund Localgiving's activities.

If you would like to see the photos taken on the night by Crescent Photography then please visit: www.crescent-photography.com, click on "Client Login", job reference is "Cavendish" and password "localgiving2016".

We will be in touch again soon with details of the next event

Best wishes

James Carlin

<http://www.betterbanes.org/>