



19<sup>th</sup> February 2004

### **THE MALL AWARDS NEW GRANTS**

Fourteen local charitable organisations have been awarded grants by The Mall's Fountain Charity Fund.

At its two most recent meetings to review grant applications, the Fund's Grants Panel agreed to provide one grant of £1,000 and 13 smaller grants, totalling over £8,000.

The £1,000 grant was awarded to Southmead Day Nursery, who requested help to fund their holiday programme of activities for children and families in the local community. Activities on offer during this week's half-term include cookery, an all-around-the-world day, multi-cultural music, dance, a paper-craft day, glass painting, badge-making and a healthy living day.

Part of the grant has been used to offer a Makaton/British Sign Language course for parents to help them overcome communication difficulties.

Annetta Ford from Southmead Day Nursery said: "We were delighted to receive such a generous grant. There is always huge demand for our holiday activities and the communication course has been going very well and will be of great benefit to our childrens' parents."

Sue Boor, marketing manager at The Mall and a member of the Grants Panel, visited Southmead Day Nursery during its half-term to see some of the activities on offer.

"It's very pleasing to see what a difference this grant has made to the children, their parents and the staff here at the Nursery. I am sure that all the organisations who received grants in this round will put them to very good use."

2/...

Other groups to benefit from The Mall's Fountain Charity Fund include:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Patchway Scout Group which was awarded £500 towards storage cabinets, dry lining and electrics in their new storage facility.
- Ashton Boys Under 15s Football Club which received £600 to cover the costs of training and indoor pitch fees. This team is made up of boys from Ashton and Bedminster, areas of Bristol which have seen the withdrawal of a lot of youth activity provision.
- Patchway Out of School Club which will use its grant of £645 to purchase some equipment for their older members.
- Thornbury Sea Cadet Unit was awarded £710 for two kayaks.
- Womankind was granted £500 towards the cost of chairs, a shredder and photocopier. The charity helps women suffering severe and enduring mental health problems.
- Side by Side was given £275 for gifts and an entertainer for their Christmas Party. Side by Side is a club for children with special needs (ranging from autism and epilepsy and heart problems) together with their siblings and their friends. The club aims not to isolate the children further by restricting their friends or siblings.
- 2442 Squadron Air Training Corps in Westbury-on-Trym received £250 towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- Cam House School Boys Fund received £260 towards a residential camp for boys with emotional and behavioural difficulties
- The Disabled Living Centre received £555 for telephone equipment to enable disabled volunteers to use the telephones
- Friends of Bluebell Valley Nursery School was awarded £693 for a new piece of equipment in the play area
- Kingswood Friendly Centre received £500 to take 100 elderly members on a trip out of the city
- £350 was awarded to Mothers for Mothers to set up a chat room for mothers with post-natal depression to support each other
- £750 was awarded to St Werburgh's City Farm for fencing to enclose some unused allotments into the farm to increase productivity.

The Mall's Fountain Charity Fund received a boost from Christmas shoppers who donated £1,500 as appreciation for the animated displays of elves at the centre.

-ends-