

## CRICKLEWOOD COMMUNITY PLAY

(ref.88/G/ACD)

Main address: 21 Oak Grove, Cricklewood, NW2 3LS

### 1. GRANT RECOMMENDATION 1993/94

existing: Nil (£1,999)

growth: n/a

(1992/93 grant: £1,990 from Borough Lottery funds)

This application was considered under the delegated powers procedure, but as the decision of the three members was not unanimous, it has been referred to the Grants Committee

### 2. OBJECTIVE OF GRANT

Towards cost of full time co-ordinator from April to December 1993

### 3. SERVICES GRANT-AIDED

#### 3.1 Client Group

Borough residents, particularly in Cricklewood area

#### 3.2 Area Covered

Cricklewood, Childs Hill, West Hendon, Clitterhouse

#### 3.3 Service Provided

The play involves 250 local residents, including those with disabilities, with 150 acting or playing music. Four evening workshops in drama, music, theatre design, writing for the theatre and Irish dance were held in Brent in March and repeated in Barnet in May. A community play office has been set up at Childs Hill school, where workshop space has also been offered free of charge. Libraries in Brent and Barnet hope to develop a joint project about the author's work. Funding has been applied for to run a linked project in four Barnet schools.

#### 3.4 Number of People Served

Participants - 250 Likely audience 2,500

#### 3.5 Hours of Service

Workshops running for 9 hours per week from March until December. Rehearsals for 30 hours per week from September to December. 12 performances in December

### 4. RESOURCES USED

#### 4.1 Paid Staff (1)

#### 4.2 Voluntary Workers (250)

#### 4.3 Buildings

None

#### 4.4 Other Resources

None

### 5. **FINANCES**

#### 5.1 Own Income

The organisation has now raised £4,000 through local fundraising and plans a monthly event through out the year

#### 5.2 Other Grants

Brent Council has contributed £2,204 and is considering a further £5,000 subject to adequate funding from other sources. Approaches have been made to Harrow and Haringey. Charitable funds have been received from the Milly Apthorp Trust (£3,000) and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation (£2,000). The London Boroughs Grants Scheme has contributed £5,000. The London Arts Board is considering support for the professional input into the production, but this does not include the salary of the co-ordinator. There is a second application to the Board for a linked project involving 4 local schools.

#### 5.3 Reserves

None

#### 5.4 Financial Details

See attached budget

### 6. **SERVICE EVALUATION**

The merit of a community play lies in the active involvement of all sectors of the community, including children, elderly people, those with disabilities etc. Through this diversity of ability and knowledge, a theatrical and musical production expresses the special character and history of a locale. The project aims to enrich the lives of people in Cricklewood and enhance its sense of community.

Arts, leisure and welfare provision in the area are poor, with little prospect of any urban regeneration plan. Although the play chosen has an Irish theme and will predominantly involve Irish people, it is the intention of the organisers to attract all sections of the community. Organisations for people with disabilities are being actively targeted. This project is benefiting from professional expertise and an enormous amount of voluntary



effort. Artists with experience of the National Theatre, BBC TV, radio and publishing are involved. The director, Robert Rae has directed several community plays and produced the Christmas Show at the Old Bull. Much of his work has received critical acclaim. Administrative advice is also being offered at a professional level.

This large scale project was supported last year by the Director of Educational Services, who commented on its value to the community as a base for future community arts initiatives. However, the organisation was informed that last year's grant from Borough Lottery funds must be regarded as a one off grant. As indicated in the service plan, the same project cannot be supported for two years running and therefore no grant is recommended this year.