

**W**elcome to the second news roundup from the Thames Valley Stop it Now! campaign. My name is Julia Worms and I am the new Stop it Now! contact for the Thames Valley following Tany Alexander's departure to develop her career elsewhere. We wish her well in the future.

This newsletter is a forum for ideas on how we can seek to prevent child sexual abuse. Please circulate it to anyone you know who might be interested (email version available).

● To contribute or comment please contact Stop it Now! Thames Valley on 01844-201619 or email [thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk)

## DIARY DATES

### Friday 18th March 2005 'Aspects of Abuse'

A seminar which seeks to combine the domestic violence agenda and the Stop it Now! campaign

Topics to include: -

- Feedback from perpetrator phone and help lines
  - Discussions around young people who sexually abuse
  - In-depth review of the internet as a conduit of abuse
- For details contact Lorraine Milburn on 01844-202001

## Stop! campaign expands

The Stop it Now! campaign continues to expand nationally. Local contacts are: -

**UK & Ireland (National):** Tink Palmer, [tinkpalmer@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:tinkpalmer@stopitnow.org.uk), 01527-598184

**Surrey:** Teresa Hughes, [thughes@lucyfaithfull.org](mailto:thughes@lucyfaithfull.org), 01372-847166

**Derbyshire:** Tracy King, [tkingstopitnow@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:tkingstopitnow@nspcc.org.uk), 01332-374560

**Croydon:** Ruth Allen, [croydonstopitnow@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:croydonstopitnow@nspcc.org.uk), 020-8256-5940

**Northern Ireland:** Brenda Horgan, [bhorgan@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:bhorgan@nspcc.org.uk), 02890-351135

**Thames Valley:** Julia Worms, [thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk), 01844-201619

## How switched on are you?

**S**top it Now! Thames Valley has successfully founded a network of 'Switched on Professionals', a group that seeks to raise awareness of child sexual abuse, promote best practice and engender models of protective communities.

This group came together at a conference in November 2004 to discuss 'creating protective communities', where Tink Palmer, the National Stop it Now! Co-ordinator, gave her view of abuse from the child's perspective. There were also opportunities for members of this network to demonstrate their progress during the year in furthering the campaign in the region.

This conference inevitably led to a discussion of what it takes to be a 'Switched on Professional'. Not only should they support the core aims of this campaign - perhaps volunteer for the steering group and contribute to the local action plan, but it is also a two-way street. 'Switched on Professionals' (that means you!) need to:-

- Be ambassadors for Stop it Now!
- Seek to proactively change practice within their own organisation
- Undertake, with our help, appropriate awareness training sessions
- Organise the distribution of publicity materials within their own networks
- Use every opportunity to raise these issues within their own forums

Ideally, the relationship should be



dynamic - supporting and promoting Stop it Now! but also seeking to change current practice and initiate progress whilst providing essential feedback into the development of the project. So how 'switched on' are you - and what else can you do?

● If you feel that you can either join this network or contribute in a wider capacity please contact Julia Worms, Close to Home Project Manager at the Thames Valley Partnership on 01844-201619 email [thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk)

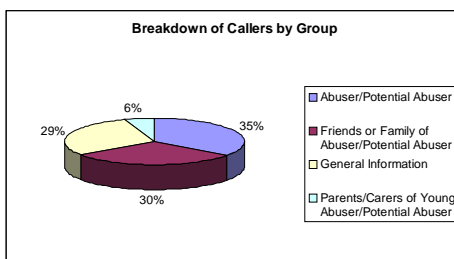
## National Campaign Update

**S**top it Now! UK & Ireland issued its strategic plan for 2004-2007 last November, drawing on progress to date and the De Montfort University evaluation. The vision for the campaign remains to prevent child sexual abuse by making Stop it Now! a household name within five years, instantly recognised by professionals and members of the public alike. Tasks for the next three years include: -

- Expansion of local projects geographically across the UK
- Development of the capacity of the national helpline as an established UK resource
- Increased public awareness and development of literature
- Further research in identifying behaviours that give cause for concern
- Political lobbying
- Sustainable funding achieved for the future
- Mass media and marketing campaign
- Dispelling the myths around sexual abusers

# Feedback from the Stop it Now! Helpline and Website

The Stop it Now! helpline and email advice service have proved to be a truly innovative approach to assisting members of the community who have concerns about their own or someone else's sexual thoughts, feelings and behaviours. It is notable that adults who have concerns about their own behaviours have made use of the helpline and this specific group represents the largest group of callers (some 35%). The number of calls is increasing week by week, clearly demonstrating the demand for this unique service. Up to December 2004 there were some 1,600 individual callers with some 20% of these calls related to abuse via the internet. The Stop it Now! website is also attracting sustained activity with some 11,500 hits to date both nationally and internationally. The links obtainable through the website continue to increase - a positive sign that the campaign is increasing in significance.



## Stop it Now! Public Education Materials

**Project Review 2004:** three-year review of the work of Stop it Now! UK & Ireland  
**Helpline number card:** discreet laminated card, good for leaving in public places  
**Credit card-sized card** with helpline and website details  
**Posters:** six different designs in A3, A4 or A5 (two new ones illustrated on this newsletter)  
**'Together we can prevent child sexual abuse':** short introduction leaflet (A5)  
**'What we all need to know to protect our children':** fuller booklet (A5)  
**'Child's play?':** introduction to abuse by young people (A5)  
**Annual report 2002-03**

Full details available on [www.stopitnow.org.uk](http://www.stopitnow.org.uk)

● If you would like any of this material and would be willing to distribute it within your organisation please contact Julia Worms, 01844-201619 for an order form



## The Derbyshire Dove Project

In Derbyshire, a Community Sex Offender Groupwork Programme (C-SOGP) is provided by a partnership of the National Probation Service and the NSPCC DOVE project.

The programme is approved for people convicted of contact or non-contact sex offences against children or adults. The aim is to prevent further offending by looking at how thoughts, attitudes and emotional responses are linked to abusive behaviour.

● For more info contact Tracy King on 01332-374560, email [tkingstopitnow@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:tkingstopitnow@nspcc.org.uk)

## The Internet Information Forum Lucy Faithfull Foundation (Surrey)

The Internet Information Forum is an educative course for partners, relatives and close friends of people who have been charged in relation to child pornography accessed through the internet.

It aims to provide factual information about child pornography, assist understanding of why people develop problems with viewing and collecting child pornography and provide a safe forum for discussion of personal problems and issues.

● For further info contact Teresa Hughes on 01372-847166, email [thughes@lucyfaithfull.org](mailto:thughes@lucyfaithfull.org)

## Home Office Funding

### Provision for Victims of Sexual Offending

The Home Office is placing £4 million, recovered from the proceeds of crime, into the new Victims' Fund to support the development of community-based services for victims of sexual offending, over the next two years.

Some of this funding will be used to extend the network of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs). The rest will contribute to the development of sustainable, alternative services provided by the voluntary and community sector working in the field.

Successful applicants will be providing either direct or indirect services ranging from acute/crisis for the immediate needs of recent victims; emergency call-out; longer term care-based support, advice or advocacy; sign-posting and referral; training, practice guidance or service delivery or the regional or national co-ordination of local services.

● Details of the funding and awards can be found on the Home Office website [www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk) or [www.governmentfunding.org.uk](http://www.governmentfunding.org.uk)

### Useful phone numbers:



**Stop it Now! helpline:** 0808 1000 900 (for those who suspect that someone is sexually abusing a child or are worried about their own thoughts or behaviour towards children)

**National Association of People Abused in Childhood:** 0800 085 3330 (9am-1pm, M-F)

This newsletter was produced by  
**Stop it Now! Thames Valley**  
Townhill Barn  
Dorton Road  
Chilton  
Bucks HP18 9NA  
Tel: 01844-201619  
[thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:thamesvalley@stopitnow.org.uk)  
[www.stopitnow.org.uk](http://www.stopitnow.org.uk)