

14 June 2004

## THE BIG LOTTERY FUND

Estelle Morris has appointed a further six people to the interim board of the Big Lottery Fund.

Tom Davies, Taha Idris and Huw Vaughan Thomas from Wales, and Dr Sam Burnside, Paul Cavanagh and Breidge Gadd CBE from Northern Ireland have been appointed as members.

Their terms will begin on 15 June and end on 30 November 2005. Board members receive a daily allowance of £198 per day for 2 days a month. Tom Davies is appointed as the Member of the Big Lottery Fund who will make the interests of Wales his special care. Breidge Gadd will make the interests of Northern Ireland her special care.

### Notes to Editors

1. The Big Lottery Fund is the name used to refer to the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund who are working closely together pending legislation to create a new Lottery distributor, when they will formally merge.
2. The persons appointed today have been appointed as members of the boards of both the New Opportunities Fund and the Community Fund. The appointments are interim in nature because new appointments would need to be made following the legislation setting up the single Lottery distributor.
3. Sir Clive Booth was appointed as Chair of the Big Lottery Fund in March. In May Dame Valerie Strachan was appointed as Vice Chair and David Campbell, Roland Doven, John Gartside, Douglas Graham, Dugald Mackie, John Naylor, Esther O'Callaghan, Anna Southall, and Diana Whitworth were appointed as members. Their terms began on 1 June.
4. All new appointments have been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.

### Biographies of the Board Members are as follows:

#### **TOM DAVIES**

Tom Davies has been a Member of the New Opportunities Fund since July 2000. In this time he has served on the Finance and Audit and HR committees. He is a Commissioner for the Independent Police Complaints Commission having been appointed by the Home Secretary in October 2003. Following a career as Director of Education for Cardiff City Council, Headmaster and a schools inspector, Tom held the post, Director for Wales, The Prince's Trust from 1999 prior to his appointment as a Commissioner. A Governor of the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, his interests include keeping fit and the arts. He has also held a number advisory and monitoring posts on Welsh Assembly education bodies and boards. He has not participated in any significant political activity in the last five years.

### **TAHA IDRIS**

Taha Idris, who is a Freeman of the City of Swansea, has been a Board Member of the Community Fund since April 2003. He was appointed Director of the Swansea Bay Racial Equality Council in November 2000. His other current and recent appointments include: Vice Chair of the Chorley & South Ribble Community Health Council for a number of years; Board Member of the BBC Children in Need North West Management Committee (1994 to 2000); Chair of Parklands High School (Chorley) Finance and General Purpose Committee (1996 to 2000); Member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee for West Glamorgan. Since 1991 he has been an assessor appointed by the Home Secretary to the County and High Court Judges. Mr Idris has a wealth of knowledge of the statutory sector through his work at a senior level within the Police Service as well as in local authority educational establishments. He has also been involved with many voluntary sector organisations like CABs, CVSS, Age Concern and the race equality movement for the past twenty-five years.

### **HUW VAUGHAN THOMAS**

Huw Vaughan Thomas has been a Director of Taro Consultancy Ltd, a North Wales based company specialising in organisational, governance and economic policy work in the public sector, since June 2001. He is currently a Consumer representative on the Hearing Aid Council, a Trustee of the RNID and a lay member of the Law Society's Governing Council. He recently served as a Member of the Commission on Powers and Electoral Arrangements of the National Assembly for Wales. His earlier career was spent in the civil service and local government. He was Chief Executive of Denbighshire County Council (1995-2001), Chief Executive and of Gwynedd County Council (1991-1996), and Director for Wales for the Manpower Services Commission and Department of Employment (1988-1991). In his previous voluntary and public appointments he has been, amongst other things, a member of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, a Council Member of the Prince's Trust, Cymru and a member of the National Trust's Committee for Wales. He has not participated in any significant political activity in the last five years.

### **DR SAM BURNSIDE**

Dr Sam Burnside's professional life has been spent in the secondary, further and lifelong education sectors (predominantly in community and adult education); between 1982 and 1992 he worked as tutor and organiser with responsibility for the Workers' Educational Association provision in the West of the Bann region of Northern Ireland. He was a member of the Western Education and Library Board from 1985 to 1997, serving as chairman of the Board's Library Committee, as well as being a member of the Library and Information Services Council. In 1992 he founded the Verbal Arts Centre (NI) Ltd, an educational charity devoted to the promotion of the language arts and acted as its Director until April 2003. He is a former member of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and has served as a governor of the North West Institute of Further and Higher Education and a member of its BTEC Performing Arts Committee. He was a Trustee and Board Member during the development of the Millennium Forum Theatre and Conference Centre in Londonderry in the period 1999 till 2003 and was a founder member and patron of Voluntary Arts Network UK; he chaired the steering group that led to the establishment of Voluntary Arts Ireland in 2004. He is past chair and executive committee member of the NI Adult Education Association, and a founder member of the Community Development Review Group. His interest in cross-community and

cross-cultural initiatives is reflected in his work over a seven year period as Associate Director of the John Hewitt International Summer School and as a current trustee of the Father Mulvey Memorial Trust, a schools' based cross community scheme set up to promote better cultural understanding. He has been an adviser to the Pushkin Prize and Guest Director of its first summer school for teachers. He is a member of the Foyle Civic Trust and currently acts as a voluntary member of the Altnagelvin Hospitals Healing Arts Committee. He holds no other public appointments and has not participated in any significant political activity in the last five years.

#### **PAUL CAVANAGH**

Paul Cavanagh has been a member of the Community Fund since September 2001. He is the Manager of the Northern Sector Local Health and Social Care Group for the Western Health and Social Services Board. Paul formerly managed the Western Health Action Zone, a partnership committed to reducing inequalities in health among older people and families living in poverty. He was previously the Chief Executive of City Centre Initiative in Derry, a town centre management company, and Co-ordinator of the North West Community Network, a leading community development support agency. He is a member of the BBC Northern Ireland Appeals Advisory Committee. Paul was the joint Chair of the Government and Voluntary and Community Sector Forum and founder of the Cross-Border Community Development Project. He has not participated in any significant political activity in the last five years.

#### **BREIDGE GADD CBE**

Breidge Gadd has been a member of the New Opportunities Fund since May 2001 and was previously Chair of its NI regional committee. Breidge retired from the Probation Board for Northern Ireland in May 2000 after 14 years as its Chief Probation Officer. During her full time career she was involved in social work/probation training in both universities in Northern Ireland. She was an expert advisor on criminal justice practice to the Council of Europe, a founding member of the European conference on Probation and visiting professor to University of Ulster. Breidge is currently deputy chair of the recently established Northern Ireland Legal Services Commission. She is involved with the Edward de Bono Foundation in its work to establish an international centre for constructive thinking in North Belfast and she is a weekly columnist on a local daily newspaper. She has several voluntary commitments including being a trustee of Lloyds TSB Foundation and Chair of Threshold, a mental health charity. She has not participated in any significant political activity in the last five years.