



RCC Weekly Bulletin

The weekly newsletter of the Rural Community Council (Leicestershire & Rutland)

Monday 10th November 2008

New Trustee appointed



Janette Ackerley

The Rural Community Council is delighted to announce that Janette Ackerley has joined its Board of Trustees.

Janette is an Executive member of Harborough District Council with responsibility for Community Engagement and Customer Services.

She has served as a Harborough District Councillor for Lutterworth Swift since 2007 and has been a member of Lutterworth Town Council for over 20 years

Married with two children and two grandchildren, Janette took early retirement after teaching science at Lutterworth High School for 24 years. She has served as a magistrate on the Market Harborough bench since 1996. Her hobbies include cycling, walking and canoeing.

RCC appoints new development officer



Sam Howlett

The Rural Community Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Sam Howlett as Community Development Officer (CDO). He will be working with community groups in Rutland, Melton and Harborough.

Sam graduated from the University of Derby in 2006 with a First Class Degree in Geography. For the last two years he has been employed by a management company in rural Leicestershire as Furnishings Manager, Website Administrator and Lettings Assistant.

Outside of work Sam is Assistant Leader of a local Scout group and also finds time to both play in, and manage a 7 'a' side football team for his local pub.

To contact Sam Howlett please email showlett@ruralccc.org.uk or telephone 0116 2689709

www.ruralcc.org.uk

Please email the Editor, Bridget Masters, with any news items: bmasters@ruralcc.org.uk

Rural Business Support Programme

As this is the **third and final year** of the programme, grants will be awarded on a first come first served basis.

If you are a farmer wanting to diversify, or a business dealing with tourists that wants to develop or improve your facilities, or a rural business operating within one of our key sectors needing support with marketing or equipment, please look to see if you are eligible: www.oakleaves.org.uk

The **deadline dates** for receipt of applications for consideration by the final grants panels, in December and January are **Tuesday 2nd December 2008** and **Tuesday 20th January 2009**

All applications approved **must** be able to be completed by **28th February 2009** at the latest.

For more information please contact Lesley Severn
Tel: 0116 3057034 , email: lsevern@leics.gov.uk

Act on Co₂ emissions - new £5,000 competition launched

Following the two successful Climate Change seminars arranged by the Rural Community Council, in conjunction with Enable. Government Office East Midlands has launched a competition to raise awareness of the National Act on CO₂ Emissions.

£5,000 (inclusive of VAT) is available to support a project for **each** of the following stages.

- Research into the tools or support needed by the councils to take the message back to their communities eg development of a resource pack or toolkit which can be shared with other Councils and communities.
- A reward to the community with the best proposal for making use of the resource provided and/or other available tools to reduce CO₂ emissions either by physical measures e.g.such as making the village hall more energy efficient.

Submissions to be made to Diana Cook at the Rural Community Council by 27 November 2008. email: dcook@ruralcc.org.uk for more information.

Eco Towns – 2nd round of consultation begins

Housing Minister Margaret Beckett last week launched the Government's second round of formal consultation on the proposed locations and standards for eco-towns.

The draft Eco-towns Planning Policy Statement (PPS) sets out the UK's toughest ever green standards for new development, including achieving zero carbon status across all the buildings in the eco-town and allocating 40% of the area within the town to be green space. The PPS also pledges that individual eco-towns will need to submit planning applications in the same way as any other major development proposal.

This second round of consultation runs until 19 February 2009. A new website has been launched at www.direct.gov.uk/ecotownshaveyoursay to both explain the eco-towns concept and standards, and to invite comments and ideas.



A third of the food we buy in the UK ends up being thrown away

Sad, isn't it?

Proud to support
LOVE FOOD
hate waste

Recipe Competition

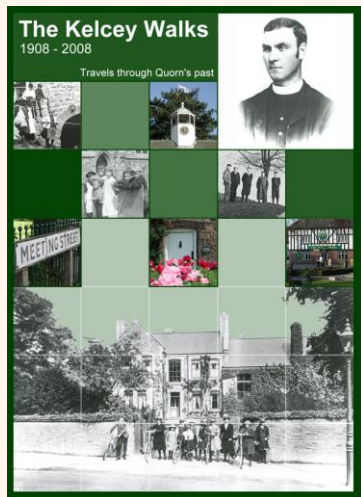
Are you creative in the Kitchen? Can you turn last night's leftovers into a three course meal? If so then we want to hear from you! We are looking for innovative ways to turn that forgotten carrot or potato into an impressive dish!

All you have to do for a chance to win one of our fabulous prizes including a first prize of vouchers to the value of £150 is submit a recipe of your own design.

For further details visit www.leics.gov.uk/waste or call 0116 305 7005.

Competition closing date: 28.11.08

Lottery win brings Quorn's history to life



An Awards for All Lottery Grant of almost £6,000 has just been awarded to Quorn Parish Council for an ambitious project to design and launch an interactive museum website for village local history.

The grant will enable Quorn to display its extensive collection of photographs, postcards, documents and photographs detailing the rich and varied evolution of this attractive Leicestershire village. The collection will be housed in a fully searchable database and will allow for anyone in the world who might hold Quorn memorabilia to photograph it and upload it onto the site.

The grant will also enable the purchase of recording equipment which will be used to capture oral memories of the past life of the village.

As a launch to this local history initiative, a special limited edition book, 'The Kelcey Walks' lavishly illustrated with photographs from the last century with an intriguing 'then and now' photo section is being published. Using a series of five walks around the village as written by the Reverend Edward Food-Kelcey in 1908, you can retrace his footsteps and easily visualise Quorn as it looked exactly 100 years ago. This book is a 'must' for anyone with an interest in the village or a desire to visualise their street as it appeared in days long gone.

The book, 'The Kelcey Walks', costs £6.00 and is available for purchase at Quorn Parish Office or by post from the same office. Further details at www.quorndon.com.

Save the Sapling Scheme

Sunday 16th November, 10am – 3pm

At the Asfordby Allotments and Cemetery site, located off the Hoby Rd, Asfordby.

Parking is available at the cemetery gates.

Next Sunday, come and bring all your home grown saplings and either drop them off or help The Friends of Ellistown Wildlife Garden to plant them into their tree nursery. These saplings will then be transplanted to suitable woodland sites within the county.

If you wish to plant the trees in the nursery please bring your own garden spades. This event does not require booking, turn up on the day.

Visit www.ellistownwildlifegarden.org

For more information.

Latest Grant offers see last of fund

A village and a Melton park are set to benefit from more than £20,000 of grants, the last to be awarded from the Asfordby Mine Fund administered by Leicestershire County Council.

Wooden gateway features are to be installed alongside the A607 at Kirby Bellars to emphasize the boundary of the settlement to try and make drivers more aware that they are entering a village environment. The project will cost just over £2000 with £1600 being awarded from the Asfordby Mine Grant.

Melton Town Estate has been offered a grant towards further enhancements at the Leicester Road Sports Ground. The scheme includes upgrading the riverside walk path, additional seating, shrub planting and a picnic area. The path upgrade will complete the network of surfaced paths accessible to all abilities and will once again give access to the waterside which is a key feature of the Town. The project will cost £25,000 with upto £20,000 being offered by the Asfordby Mine Grant.

Since its launch in November 2004 the Asfordby Mine Grant has offered a total of £159,000 towards 13 projects costing £345,000.

For further details contact the Community Projects Officer on 0116 305 7269

Film Screenings in Your Village!



Current and potential volunteer promoters of Centre Screen, the mobile cinema scheme for Leicestershire, are invited to attend an informal event to be updated on developments and to provide feedback.

If you've not yet had Centre Screen come to your village then you can find out how it all works. It is an opportunity for you to meet fellow volunteers and share experiences and you will also have the opportunity to look at what films are coming up.

Dates of events are:

- **Monday 10th November, 7pm – 9pm** at Hoby Village Hall, 32 Main Street, Hoby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE14 3DT
- **Tuesday 11th November – 2pm – 4pm** at Botcheston Village Hall, Main Street, Botcheston, Leicestershire, LE9 9FF

For further information, directions to the venue and to book your place please contact Emily Horwood on 0116 267 0015 or ehorwood@leics.gov.uk

Awards for All England to close

The Big Lottery Fund has announced that Awards for All England will close in its existing form in March 2009.

From 1 April 2009 groups will have access to equivalent levels of lottery funding through programmes run by the four providers that administer the current scheme: Arts Council England, the Heritage Lottery Fund, Sport England and the Heritage Lottery Fund

Applications can still be made under the current arrangements until 31 March 2009.

Annual district debate puts communities first



Cllr John Everett, Harborough District Council's portfolio holder for development and future opportunities, and HDC chief executive Sue Smith address the attendees

An event has been held focusing on the key issues and challenges facing Harborough District.

More than 60 representatives from the public, private, voluntary and community sector converged on Thomas Estley Community College in Broughton Astley on Tuesday (Oct 28) for the third annual State of the District debate.

The event – which had a theme of 'community-led action' – opened with a key speech from Cllr Alistair Swatridge, Leader of Harborough District Council, who addressed challenges including the proposed eco-town and wind farm proposals.

Workshop sessions followed, with district and parish councillors leading debates on how services can be improved to meet community needs. Ideas and issues raised during the debate included:

- Bringing council meetings out of the council offices and into the community
- Strengthening parish plans, which articulate the needs of villages
- Making 'Have Your Say' meetings more relevant to people's concerns and interests.
- Involving residents more in decision-making process

A report of the State of the District debate will shortly be made available on the Harborough District Council website and will go on to inform the work of organisations, such as the Police and County Council.