

RCC Weekly Bulletin

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

26th January 2009



Publicise your events



There is still time to include your event in our annual Diary of Village Events and Guided Walks. **All forms should be returned by 13th February at the latest.**

Last year over 5,000 copies of the diary were circulated to key tourist centres, libraries, cafés and tea rooms around Leicestershire & Rutland so your event will certainly benefit from the publicity.

For more information call Diana Cook on 0116 2689706 or email dcook@ruralcc.org.uk.

To receive a copy of the printed diary send a large SAE to Diary of Village Events, Rural Community Council, Leicestershire & Rutland, 133 Loughborough Road, Leicester LE4 5LQ.

You can also advertise your events online via the Events Calendar on our web site at www.ruralcc.org.uk. There is a facility to fill in a form with details of your event and these will then be posted online for you.

Many local events benefitted last year from the extra publicity so make sure your event does not miss out this year!

Have you renewed your RCC annual membership?

Renew before the end of February to qualify for a discount.



As well as continuing to receive your weekly e-bulletin, you will also receive the following benefits:

- 4 editions of our 20-page magazine, Village Voice
- A copy of the Funding Information pack; an invaluable tool for those who are seeking funding. It contains a comprehensive list of funders plus useful advice on making a funding application.
- The RCC Diary of Village Events which gives you ideas for days out in Leicestershire and Rutland during the year and includes details of village fetes, festivals etc.
- Finally, by becoming a member you will also have the opportunity to stand as an RCC Trustee, attend our AGM and be eligible to vote.
- Hopefully your organisation has already received a renewal form for this year but if you have any queries then please contact Geoff Gibson on 0116 2689704.

www.ruralcc.org.uk

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

Focus on Healthy Living at the library

If your New Year's resolution is to get fitter and healthier then Leicestershire County Council's libraries can help you. Libraries across the County have books on healthy eating, exercise and fitness as well as local walks and keeping children healthy.

A new webpage, Focus on Healthy Living, highlights useful websites that give information and tips for a healthier lifestyle.

To find out more go online to www.leics.gov.uk/focusonhealth or visit your local library

Lord Lieutenant's Award for Young People



Nominations for the 2009 Awards are now welcome. Closing date for receipt of nominations is 31st January 2009.

The award is open to young people aged 13-19 (as at 31st March 2009) living in Leicester or Leicestershire. The young person can be nominated by other young people, their school, parent/carer or any other agency. The award recognises and rewards young people who have demonstrated exceptional volunteering and/or leadership commitment and determination in five specific categories: Bravery; Kindness in helping others; Improving the community; A voice for young people and Creativity and innovation.

Visit www.leics.gov.uk for more details or email lieutenancyoffice@leics.gov.uk for more details

Researching your Family History at the Record Office

Many people have started tracing their family history, enthused by the BBC's 'Who do you think you are?' TV programme. Soon, however, they will reach a point where the documents that are familiar to them, birth, death and marriage certificates and the censuses, are no longer available. Where do they go from here?

The Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland is running a workshop 'The Next Step' where you can find out about other records such as Poor Law, Quarter Sessions, printed sources and others to help you to continue in your search.

The next workshop will be taking place on Tuesday 27 January from 10 am until 12 noon at the Record Office in Long Street, Wigston Magna, Leicester. The cost will be £10. Places are limited so it is advisable to book in advance.

For anyone new to family history and who doesn't know where to start, there will be a workshop for beginners called 'An Introduction to Family History' on Thursday 12 February at 10 am until 12 noon. The cost for this is £10 and it is advisable to book because places are limited.

For further information on either of these workshops or to book your place, please contact Mrs Pat Grundy at the Record Office on tel : (0116) 257 1080 or email : recordoffice@leics.gov.uk.

Looking to buy or sell equipment?

We are happy to include your item in the weekly bulletin, space allowing.

Fight back against scammers

As part of "Scams Awareness Month" Leicestershire Trading Standards, is asking Leicestershire residents to put scam mailings into 'Scamnesty' bins at their local library from 2nd to 15th of February.

Every year an estimated three million people fall victim to mass marketed scams such as phoney parcels awaiting delivery, bogus lotteries, deceptive prize draws, sweepstakes, fake psychics and miracle health cures. Many of these scams are sent by post, as well as by email or over the phone, and cause particular harm to the elderly and vulnerable. However, OFT research suggests that less than 5% of victims report the scam to the authorities.

David Bull of Leicestershire County Council Trading Standards Service said: 'We want the public to help us beat the scammers by taking part in Scamnesty and handing in these mailings. The letters collected will be vital in helping us to gather intelligence on the latest scams and in stopping the worst offenders from continuing to bring misery to thousands of vulnerable people each year.'

NALC to hold series of regional events

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) will be holding a series of regional events in the Spring of 2009 entitled 'Stepping Stones'. Parish councils, town councils, principal councils, community and voluntary groups will be able to attend a venue near them to hear and discuss how community action can make the lives of local people better.

The key aims are to share good practice across the sector whilst providing a regional networking opportunity for councillors and officers of all tiers of local government. Hopefully it will also provide an opportunity for newly established local councils, and principal authorities to learn more about the work and capabilities of the parish and town council sector.

Dates and venues are:

Stepping Stones (York) Sat. 21 February 2009
Stepping Stones (London) Tues. 10 March 2009
Stepping Stones (Coventry) Wed. 22 April 2009

Visit www.nalc.gov.uk for full details. Should you require any additional information please contact NALC on 020 7637 1865, or by e-mail nalc@nalc.gov.uk

FREE ONE-DAY FORUM FOR LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE TOURISM INDUSTRY

Leicester Shire Promotions is holding a free 'How To Survive The Recession' Forum to provide practical support and advice for local tourism businesses through this difficult time and beyond.

The Forum will be held from 9.30am to 3.00pm on Thursday 26 February 2009 at the Holiday Inn Leicester City. The event will help businesses in the tourism services industry - from B&Bs and tea rooms, through to visitor attractions and hotels - to identify and maximise their opportunities for marketing and business success in the current economic climate.

Simon Calder, leading travel commentator and Travel Editor of The Independent newspaper will be the keynote speaker at the Forum.

The purpose of the day will be to present best practice case studies and share practical advice from industry experts through a series of workshops. Leicester Shire Promotions will also be discussing a number of exciting new initiatives being introduced this spring to support businesses in the coming months. For more details and/or to reserve your place, please email helen.bevins@l-p-l.com or call 0116 299 6666 by Friday 30 January 2009.



Simon Calder

A Day in the Life

The Domestic Violence Initiatives and Awareness Team at Leicestershire County Council are offering you the chance to hire an original and innovative piece of art work.

This is a 3 dimensional piece of installation art to raise awareness around issues of domestic violence. The installation is separated into several small rooms, which are painted to give a three dimensional impact. Each room has a DVD player with someone telling a story, the last two rooms show where support is available and also positive outcome stories of those who have changed their lives.

The entire installation's dimensions are 8 foot high and 17x8 foot wide. They can send you a cd with some images on should you wish. The DVDs can be changed to raise awareness around other issues as well, such as drugs and health.

If you wish to take the opportunity to book this original and innovative piece of work, which has been funded by the Government of the East Midlands, please contact Maureen Anderson-Coe on 0116 3056906 or email manderson@leics.gov.uk.

They are taking bookings for up to a year in advance.

Installation of the unit, including safety checks takes up to four hours, therefore it will need to be booked for at least three days, including setting up time. On the first day there will be a supervisor available to give guidance on use of the unit.

What's on in February?

The Events Calendar on our web site at www.ruralcc.org.uk is always a useful place to look if you are searching for something to do.

Even in February there are events to entertain you:

Carmina 'Celtic Soul Quintet' are appearing at Claybrookes Village Hall at **7.30pm on Sunday, 8th February**. Carmina are described as a brilliant group who provide Celtic soul with a touch of Jazz and wonderful singing.

They have appeared at festivals all over Europe and feature an amazing range of instruments including piano, synth, uilleann pipes, whistles, bodhran, guitar, mandolin, mandola, sax & percussion plus great voices.

Clipston Beer Festival takes place from **Friday 20th February until Sunday 22nd February**. Featured will be 10 different beers and a couple of ciders on tap. Hot food is available at lunchtime on the Saturday and Sunday. There will be live background piano music on Saturday evening.

Entrance is £3 with free Commemorative Pint Glass, (Non drinkers £1)
Bring back your glass and visit as many times as you like!
Clipston Village Hall, High Street,
Clipston, Market Harborough. LE16 9RU

Sharnford are holding a **fashion show** in Sharnford Evergreen Hall on Tuesday, 17th February at 7.30pm.