RCC Weekly Bulletin

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

2nd February 2009

Dunton Bassett launch their Parish Plan

Members of the Dunton Bassett Parish Plan Steering Group

The village of Dunton Bassett held a successful launch event at Dunton Bassett Village Hall on 27th January 2009 to celebrate the completion and publication of their Parish Plan.

The plan has been produced by a large group of hard working and committed local volunteers ,with the help and guidance from the RCC's Rural Action Team. The project has been well supported by the local community with a 60% response rate to their questionnaire, over 30 people involved in the production of the plan and many more volunteering to help implement the action plan.

The launch evening was lead by Alex Mofford, Chairman of the Parish Plan Group, and was well supported by the local community along with key representatives from local service providers.

The event was also attended by Jeremy Prescott and Sam Howlett of the RCC who gave special thanks to the Steering group for all of their hard work and enthusiasm.

Rural Action Seminar 12th March 2009

6pm, Sparkenhoe Suite, County Hall, Glenfield Leicester

The seminar and displays will include the latest news and advice on:

- Vibrant Villages Funding and support
- Funding Opportunities
- Recycling and Re-use
- Local Food
- Hear about Community Projects from other communities
- Affordable Housing
- Local websites
- Leicestershire Health LINks
- Energy efficiency

Buffet and Displays from 6pm
Seminar starts 7pm.

This highly successful seminar has been organised by The Rural Community Council (Leicestershire & Rutland) with support from Leicestershire Rural Partnership and Leicestershire County Council for the past 10 years.

If you have any queries at this stage or would like to book a place, please contact Diana Cook. email: dcook@ruralcc.org.uk or telephone 0116 2689706

Hot Supper and Songs from the Shows

Friday, 27th February 2009
7.30pm

Diseworth Village Hall

Tickets £10 from 01332-810381

New £10m special school opens in Coalville

After three years of planning, a new state of the art £10million Area Special School is now open in Coalville.

The 137 pupils, aged from 3 to 19 years, will benefit from a full range of facilities including a hydrotherapy pool, multi sensory rooms and science and design rooms.

Forest Way Special School is the 3rd new Area Special School to be built in Leicestershire during the last 5 years and has been funded by a government grant and Leicestershire County Council.

The positioning of Forest Way Special School means it can work very closely with the 3 other schools on the site, Warren Hills Primary School, Castle Rock High School and King Edward VII College.

A wind turbine on site means the school meets some of the energy requirements and through donations and fund raising efforts, other enhanced facilities include indoor and outdoor sensory play equipment and a stunning forest themed 'heart' of the school providing sensory experiences for pupils.

Discover Rutland CiCLE Tour

Some of Europe's top professional and amateur cyclists are expected to converge on Rutland for two days in April when Rutland hosts the 'Discover Rutland CiCLE Tour'.

Registration is now open for keen recreational cyclists from across the UK. Choose from two routes – 100 or 50 miles – both of which are set to challenge even the toughest competitors with short steep climbs and hard riding throughout.

The 100 mile route, with over 4000ft of uphill riding, starts and finishes in Oakham, and also takes riders into neighbouring Northamptonshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire.Those choosing the 50 mile ride face a shorter but equally tough challenge through picture postcard villages and rolling countryside.Views on both routes are equally stunning with views of Rutland Water, Belvoir Castle, and the impressive Harringworth Viaduct.

Registration, which costs £20 and is first-come-first served, is now open at www.everydaycycling.com

Wheelchair for sale

Light-weight pushable "Breezy" wheelchair, folds to carry in car, very good condition,one careful lady user!

£40 with free wheelchair shopping bag

Phone 0116 2417584.

Help our libraries to interest you!

Leicestershire Library Services is carrying out a pilot survey to gauge the views of customers at three different libraries on the type of books that readers would like to borrow.

Kibworth, Measham and Thurmaston libraries are taking part initially after which an analysis on the surveys will be performed to discover the type of subject areas those three libraries need more of, and also whether to roll out the survey across the County.

If you are a regular visitor to one of the three libraries, please spare a couple of minutes to complete a short survey. The pilot stock survey will run from 2nd February to 30th April. This will help to put measures into place and ensure that libraries have the best books in stock for their readers.

Alternatively, you can complete the questionnaire online at: www.leics.gov.uk/libraries.

Leicestershire County Council shortlisted in national Competition

Leicestershire County Council have been shortlisted in the National Council of the Year Competition.

The inspection team were hosted by the County Council on 15th January and were given a tour of projects and work in the Loughborough area before meeting up with over 70 partners on 6 stands at the Holywell Park Conference Centre. At this venue partners were given the opportunity to talk about their work with the County Council .
The results will be known on 25th March.

Biffaward Small Grants 2009 Scheme now open

Biffaward

investing in the environment

The Biffaward Small Grants Scheme is ideal for groups seeking a small amount of money to make a difference to a local facility e.g. community building, nature reserve, cultural facility or outdoor space.

The Small Grants Scheme offers quicker access to lower levels of funding to make these projects happen. You can apply for between £250 and £5,000. Your project must not cost more than £10,000 in total.

The main criteria are:

•The project's site is within 10 miles of a Biffa operation.

•The project's site is also within 10 miles of a landfill site (owned by any company).

•The project is eligible to be registered with ENTRUST under category D.

•There will be a minimum of 104 days of full public access to the project per year..

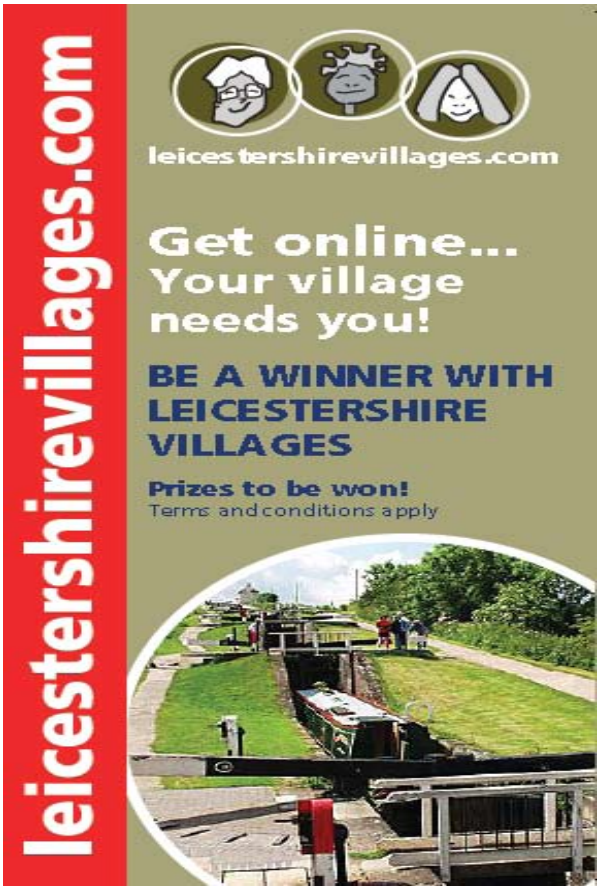
•The grant will be used for site-based improvement work, not for equipment or running costs.

•You should only apply for money for work that will take place in the future.

Full details and a downloadable application form are available on the Biffaward web site at www.biffaward.org

Laptop prize for sharp-eyed web surfers

leicestershirevillages.com has launched a major promotional campaign in the Harborough district to increase the number of registered users to their village website and identify people willing to serve as web-administrators.

The campaign aims to identify people with a passion for the internet, who want to serve as web-administrators taking a lead role in getting their community to develop the village website. It is being managed by Agora MC Ltd which has put together a stack of prizes (including a laptop) to incentivise people to register to the site and enter some competitions with a chance of winning one of the many prizes.
You'll find all the details about the competitions on www.leicestershirevillages.com/harboroughcomp.html

The LV admin team can be contacted on 0116 305 5676 and at admin@leicestershirevillages.com