

RCC Weekly Bulletin

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

15th June 2009



RCC scoops £432,000 in Lottery grant to combat suicides



The Rural Community Council (RCC) in Leicester has been awarded £432,000 to help combat suicide in the East Midlands.

Based on a successful pilot scheme in the county, which has seen the RCC running awareness seminars on suicide, the grant will now make it possible for such training to continue not only in Leicestershire and Rutland but also in Derbys, Northants and Notts.

Over 4,000 people die as a result of suicide every year; more than are killed in road accidents. It remains the main cause of death in fit, under 35 year old males and many hundreds of thousands are the victims of self harm.

This successful bid will help raise awareness of suicide, dispel myths and taboos and give positive support to those who as part of their work and every day life come in contact with vulnerable and depressed people, who in their own different ways cry out for help and understanding.

Jeremy Prescott, Director of the RCC states, "This success is much needed recognition that suicide is a problem that needs resources and positive action. It is an issue which affects society as a whole.

"This funding will now allow us the opportunity to involve staff from key agencies, employers and most importantly the general public in helping them have not only a greater understanding of the problem but how we can all work together to address the tragedy of suicide"

Job Vacancy

Suicide Awareness Partnership Training (SAPT) Project Manager

£24,402

(not including annual inflationary increase)

An exciting new opportunity, the Project Manager, who will be based in Leicester, will be responsible with specialist clinicians for co-ordinating suicide awareness training seminars in Leics and Rutland and supporting other staff delivering the seminars in Derbys, Northants, and Notts. Knowledge and awareness of mental health issues and those agencies involved in this field is highly desirable.

For an application pack see www.ruralcc.org.uk or Tel 0116 2662905.

www.ruralcc.org.uk

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

Flexibility in RDPE to help rural businesses through recession

East Midlands Development Agency (emda) has announced that there is now more flexibility in how it can allocate funds through the region's Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) to help farmers, foresters and horticulturalists beat the recession.

Applicants can now apply for up to €500,000 (approx £450,000) per project, which is more than double the amount previously allowed under European Commission rules. Farmers looking to diversify into non-agricultural activities are also able to benefit, with the relaxing of the 50% match-funding grant requirement where the need for increased financial support can be clearly justified.

To find out more about RDPE and how to apply, visit www.emda.org.uk/rdpe.

Stop for the lollipop

Drivers are being reminded that it is the law to stop for a school crossing patrol.

New signs with the message 'Stop for the Lollipop, it's the law' will go up around the county in the coming weeks.

Reports of drivers failing to stop were discussed at a conference held for school crossing patrols last year and the idea of using the signs has been developed by Leicestershire County Council as a result of this debate.

The temporary signs will be erected for a few weeks at sites where there have been reports of cars failing to stop when instructed to do so by a patrol.

There are over 130 school crossing patrols, affectionately known as lollipop people, throughout the county. It is hoped that the signs will act as an effective reminder to drivers.



StreetGames Market Harborough!

FREE drop in sports sessions for young people at Welland Park every Wednesday during term time from 6 – 7pm

Qualified coaches will provide: football, cricket, athletics and dance. Just turn up in your sports kit!

For more information contact Andrew Watson Harborough District Council Sports Development Officer 01858 821289 a.watson@harborough.gov.uk

Photos sought for Earl Shilton Social Institute's centenary

Earl Shilton Social Institute celebrates its 100 anniversary this year and as part of the celebrations it has registered to take part in this year's National Heritage Open Days.

A collection of photos, newspaper cuttings and memories is being put together in readiness for the event and a search is on for more material.

Do you have any photos or other memorabilia?

A coffee morning is being held on Thursday 18th June, 10am-12 noon where volunteers will be able to scan/copy any photos and listen to and note memories.

People can also phone Julia on 01455 457 696, or email: julia.pittham@ntlworld.com or Brannon at brannon@btinternet.com. Alternatively go to the website at www.thestute.co.uk

Looking for a singer for your charity event?

Maurice Traynor, a retired top tenor variety artist is kindly offering his singing talents to any charity free of charge.

He sings mainly classic and semi-classic songs, with some dance music. He has his own sheet music and prefers to sing with a backing.

Mr Traynor was Variety Artist of the Year in Huddersfield in 1982 and he was trained in Leicester by the same voice trainer who trained The Great Caruso.

He lives in Aylestone and is prepared to travel (subject to distance and cost). His number is 0116 2837788

Fabulous Festival of local archaeology

Over the last few years there have been some fabulous local archaeological discoveries. These include the Hallaton Treasure and the exciting finds in advance of the Highcross Shopping Centre in Leicester.

From July 18th to August 2nd there will be a chance to find out about these and other aspects of local archaeology with over 40 events around Leicestershire and Rutland.

Full details of the Festival programme can be obtained in leaflet form from museums, libraries and Tourist Information Centres or online at www.leics.gov.uk/archaeologyfestival

A taste of life at the RCC

The RCC recently welcomed Helen Lock to the offices where she joined us for a week's work experience.

My name is Helen Lock and I am 15 years old. I enjoyed working at the Rural Community Council and I really got an insight into how the organisation is run.

This is what I did during the week:

- Reviewed documents to make them more appealing to young people.
- Made a web page for young people.
- Discussed how to make information more accessible to young people
- Telephone enquiries for rural services survey.
- Inputted two surveys into the computer.
- Sat in on a meeting about climate change and took notes.
- Observed a short listing meeting.
- Learned how to use a franking machine and dropped the post off at the post office.



Helen settles into work at the RCC

Channel 4 seeking volunteers

Channel 4 is looking for volunteers from across the UK, from all walks of life, to take part in "Power Struggle",

This will be a unique educational experience designed to understand human behaviour.

If you're interested, and are aged 18 or over, please apply at:
www.dragonfly.tv/application
or call: 0845 652 0635

Your Voice, Your Choice

Do you have an idea for an exciting local project but need a boost? Are you a local resident looking to have your say on how funding is spent on local activities? Are you a representative of a local community group? If the answer to any of these questions is "YES!" this is the event for you!

We are offering residents and representatives of community groups from the district of Blaby the opportunity to propose and vote on exciting, innovative local projects worthy of a share of £60,000.

Workshops are still available as follows:

Blaby South - Monday 15th June, 5pm,
Thurlaston Village Hall, Thurlaston
For the areas of Leicester Forest West,
Thurlaston, Huncote, Potters Marston,
Elmesthorpe, Croft, Stoney Stanton,
Sapcote, Aston Flamville, Sharnford and
Wigston Parva

Blaby Central - Monday 22nd June, 5pm,
Brockington College, Enderby
For the areas of Lubbethorpe, Enderby,
Narborough, Glen Parva, Blaby, Cosby,
Countesthorpe, Kilby and Whetstone

Each proposal should be focused on
Children and Young People, Economic
Stability or Vulnerable People.

Please note delegates are asked to book their FREE space in advance for catering purposes, this can be done online at <http://www.leicestershireforums.org/your-voice-your-choice.html> or by calling 0116 305 8169. A finger buffet and refreshments will be provided.

For further information, please contact Victoria Bowers on 0116 3058169 or vbowers@leics.org.uk

Grand second hand book sale

Leicestershire Library Service is holding a book sale on Saturday, 27th June. The event will be held from 9.30am until 3.30pm at Library Services HQ in Loughborough Road, Rothley.

Library Services HQ is based at the Rothley Cross Road, Loughborough Road, Rothley (opposite the Red Lion)
The sale will be accessed through the Cossington Lane entrance of the building. There is a car park at the back of the building, disabled parking only at the front.

New LOROS shop opens

LOROS, the Leicestershire Hospice, has opened a shop situated at its Shops' Warehouse at 1 Station Road, Glenfield. It will be open to the public from 10am – 4pm, Monday to Friday. Donations of goods to sell e.g. bric a brac, books and clothes are urgently required.

They also require extra voluntary help in the Shops' Warehouse sorting clothes and bric a brac. If anyone can spare 3-4 hours a week, would they please phone Pippa on 0116 2313666

Offering placements to graduates

Voluntary sector employers are being encouraged to offer placements to graduates from September 2009, as part of the government's Graduate Talent Pool initiative.

Internships, both paid and unpaid, would vary in length but typically last around three months.

Visit www.dius.gov.uk/graduatetalentpool to register and to find more details.