

# RCC Weekly Bulletin

The weekly newsletter for RCC members

1st February 2010



## New RCC Chairperson appointed

Mrs Nikki Hening has been elected to the post of RCC Chairperson taking over from Dale Mortimer who served in this appointment with great commitment for 5 ½ years.

Nikki has been a trustee for 7 years and one of her many responsibilities is overseeing Quality Standards Accreditation. She has travelled all over England reviewing other RCCs in this capacity.

She is an experienced judge for the Best Village Competitions and has been involved in the Communications aspect of the charity.

Nikki comes from Diseworth, N W Leicestershire and was a key figure in their successful bid to the Heritage Lottery for the Diseworth Heritage Centre.



## Community Forum Seminar

A Community Forum Seminar was held at the NSPCC building recently involving Community Forum Chairman and representatives from other partner organizations.

This was the second such seminar held and allowed best practice to be shared amongst those attending in particular how best to promote the forums and achieve community involvement.

Chairman were generally very optimistic about the way Forums are progressing and positive feedback through evaluation at forum meetings endorsed this perception. For more details about Community Forums go to [www.leicestershireforums.org](http://www.leicestershireforums.org)



## Final chance to promote your village event in the RCC Diary

The RCC is compiling the very popular DIARY OF VILLAGE EVENTS AND GUIDED WALKS to help to promote activities taking place in rural areas of Leicestershire and Rutland in the forthcoming year. If you would like to promote your events in the diary then please contact Diana Cook at [dcook@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:dcook@ruralcc.org.uk) Tel 0116 2689706. Completed forms should be returned to Diary of Events Organiser, RCC, 133 Loughborough Road, Leicester, LE4 5LQ by February 14th

Alternatively you can enter full details of your events by filling in the online form at <http://www.ruralcc.org.uk/upcomingevents.html>

[www.ruralcc.org.uk](http://www.ruralcc.org.uk)

Please email the Editor, Bridget Masters, with any news items: [bmasters@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:bmasters@ruralcc.org.uk)



## Eon Sustainable Energy Fund

Financial assistance up to £20,000 is available to voluntary and community groups in England, Scotland and Wales for energy saving projects on non-residential facilities.

The E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund is provided by energy company E.ON UK to support community energy projects leading to the production of energy from a sustainable source or a reduction in the amount of energy used by community organisations.

Examples of possible projects include:

- \* The installation of one or more renewable energy technologies, for example, wind, solar thermal, PV, wood.
- \* The renovation of existing facilities to incorporate micro-generation technology, for example, the reinstatement of a watermill and the purchase of a

turbine to produce hydro-electricity.

- \* An energy-efficiency makeover for the group's building that could demonstrate significant energy savings and also behavioural change amongst users.
- \* The use of new or innovative technology to deliver either energy savings or micro-generation capacity.
- \* A project that can demonstrate the intelligent use of waste energy.

2010 deadlines are 2nd April and 8th October.

For further information please visit:

<http://eon-uk.com/about/sustainableenergyfund.aspx>

## Trusthouse Charitable Foundation

The Foundation currently makes over 300 grants a year and one of their policies is to accept applications from local and national charities or not-for-profit organisations which are addressing issues in needy rural areas. 'Rural' in this context means cities, towns, villages and areas with 10,000 or less inhabitants.

They are interested in, for example, projects providing transport for the elderly, disabled or disadvantaged; contact networks for young disabled people; projects which encourage a sense of community such as community centres and village halls; employment training schemes especially those promoting local, traditional crafts; projects addressing issues such as drug/alcohol misuse or homelessness.

For more details visit their web site at [www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk](http://www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk) or telephone 020 7264 4990

vcashpoint is giving away £1 million to 16-25 year olds in England with good ideas. The money comes from HSBC and v, the charity behind vinspired.com.



If you've got an idea for a volunteering project to improve your community, you could apply for a grant of up to £2,500 to bring your idea to life.

To apply for a vcashpoint grant, you must be aged 16-25, live in England, and be up for running the project yourself. You'll need to show how your project will help other people (not relatives), the environment or your community.

You can apply online or download an application for at : [www.vinspired.com/vcashpoint](http://www.vinspired.com/vcashpoint)

The next deadline for applications is 12 noon on Monday 10th May 2010

[www.ruralcc.org.uk](http://www.ruralcc.org.uk)

Please email the Editor, Bridget Masters, with any news items: [bmasters@ruralcc.org.uk](mailto:bmasters@ruralcc.org.uk)



## Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme

The Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme provides one-off donations of between £500 and £4,000 to local projects that support children and their education and welfare, elderly people and adults and children with disabilities.

There are four rounds of funding each year:

### Grants for Children's Education and Children's Welfare

Applications should be made between: 1st December & 31st January. Expected Decision date: End of April OR between 1st May & 30th June for decisions by the end of September.

### Grants for Elderly People and Adults and Children with Disabilities

Applications should be made between: 1st February & 31st March for decisions by end of June OR between 1st August & 30th September for decisions by end of December.

Please note charities can only make one application each year.

If you require any support whilst completing your application please contact the helpline or visit the website to download a copy of the criteria or view the application form.

Tel: 0845 612 3575 Website: [www.tescopl.com/tescocharitytrust](http://www.tescopl.com/tescocharitytrust)

## Support for Retailers

Improved support is available for businesses to help them in the fight against the sale of alcohol and other products to underage children.

Leicestershire Trading Standards has produced a new and improved trader advice pack providing clear and practical help on how to prevent underage sales.

Free business seminars will also be held across the County, City and Rutland which are open to alcohol and tobacco retailers. The seminars are aimed at business owners, Designated Premises Supervisors, and persons with a managerial/supervisory role of staff that sell age restricted products. They provide an ideal opportunity to take advantage of training for business and employees at no cost to the business other than the time taken to attend.

Businesses in the County which would like a free pack of practical precautions, or for more information on the trader seminars should contact the Trading Standards Business Advice Line on 0116 305 8000".

## Mercury Action Trust Fund

Small Grants up to £500 are available to bona fide voluntary groups providing services and activities for the benefit of communities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

The Mercury Action Trust Fund has been set up by the Leicester Mercury. Funding, in the form of one-off grants, is intended to support local voluntary groups for projects and activities that benefit local communities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Currently, funding is available for projects that provide benefits to people with health problems.

For further information please contact Melissa Harris at the Leicester Mercury: 0116 222 4202



## Good books are closer than you think



If you love to read good books, enjoy listening to CDs and watching DVDs but you are too far away from a static library, why not wait for the Mobile Library Service to come to a road near you?

There are six mobile libraries travelling to communities across the whole of Leicestershire, especially to rural areas, so you can take advantage of the many library books and materials available to you.

Managed by the Leicestershire Library Service, the mobile libraries visit communities every two weeks. To find out about the routes covered in Leicestershire and the times the mobile library runs, visit [www.leics.gov.uk/mobilelibrary](http://www.leics.gov.uk/mobilelibrary) to plan your visit.

Perhaps you are housebound and cannot visit a mobile? The Home Library Service is for people who may be too frail, have an illness or had an accident that affects their mobility. The service is subject to availability of volunteers in your specific area, please contact the Library Service on (0116) 305 6988 for details.

You can hire up to 24 books for free, or 12 CDs at any time for a small hire charge from a mobile or through the home library service.

For further information about the home library service, contact your local library on 0116 305 6988, email [libraries@leics.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@leics.gov.uk) or visit [www.leics.gov.uk/homelibraryservice](http://www.leics.gov.uk/homelibraryservice)

### Miners' Mornings are a big hit at Snibston

Since October, Snibston Discovery Museum has been celebrating its roots with a series of monthly, mining-themed coffee mornings. Proving to be a great success, and with much interest, the sessions are set to continue through 2010. Future talks include:

**Thursday 18th Feb 2010, 10.30-12.00**

**The making of 'Banded Together'** the CD, about the Whitwick Colliery Disaster – Brian Langtry

**Thursday 18th March 2010, 10.30 – 12.00**

**The Mines of Memory project** – Alison Clague, Project Co-ordinator, Leicestershire County Council

**Thursday 18th March 2010 7.30pm -9.30pm**

**A special Miners' Evening** for National Science and Engineering week: The return of King Coal - Professor Paul Younger, University of Newcastle.

Each session costs £3.50 per person to include tea, coffee and biscuits. Pre-booking is required by calling 01530 278444.

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