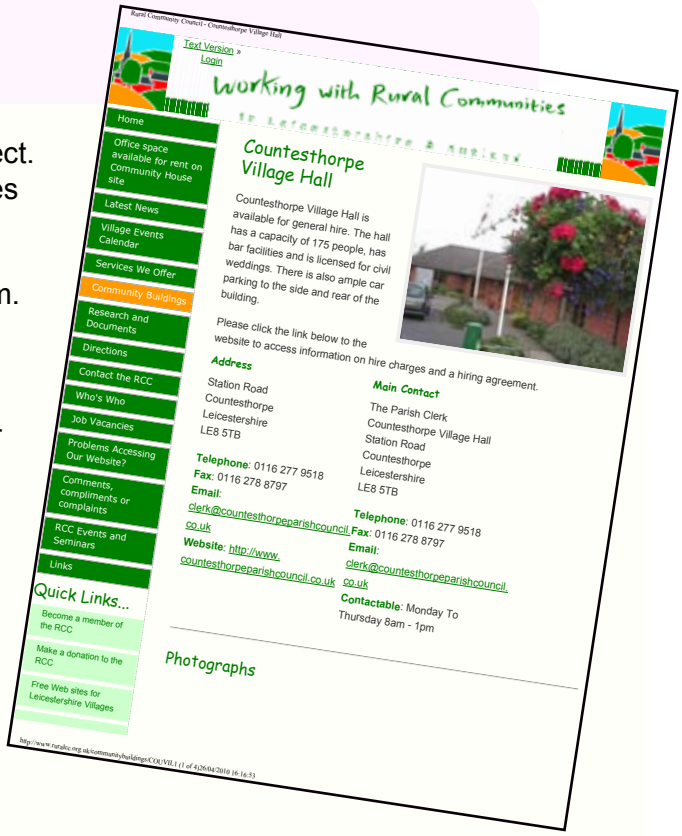
RCC Weekly Bulletin

The weekly newsletter for RCC members

3rd May 2010

Promote your village hall



Hi, My name is Faizal and I am part of the Future Jobs Fund project. This is a scheme that helps and supports people between the ages of 18 to 24 to get into work and training. I have been working with the RCC for two months now and thus far it has been a valuable experience. I count myself very lucky to be a part of the RCC team.

My job is to offer FREE publicity to Village Halls and to try and promote their unique values to our customers. What I'm offering you is the opportunity to promote your Community Building on our website Free of Charge. My main aim is to raise awareness of community buildings in and around Leicestershire and Rutland.

This is the right place to advertise your Village Hall as we have an average of 42,000 hits a month on the Community Building database. Since my time here, we already have 40 new community buildings advertised on the website. This clearly shows our success rate in marketing your Village Hall to a wider audience and will also give you the opportunity to increase your revenue.

All we need from you are a few details of your Hall(s), so you could be hiring out today.

If this is not enough we are also holding a special prize draw where you could win a Whopping £100!!!

You could be the lucky winner

DON'T DELAY, ADVERTISE TODAY!!!

email: fadmani@ruralcc.org.uk for more details.

ACRE's partnership project on older people seeks evidence

ACRE's new three year project Over the Hill? to raise awareness and community-led solutions that address the needs of rural older people is working with amongst others, the Rural Media Company and Age Concern.

Over the Hill? is starting to gather evidence of innovative solutions and initiatives that are currently being used to support older people in respect of housing, services and financial exclusion.

If you have a inspiring project or idea please contact Vey Straker on 01432 344039 or email veys@ruralmedia.co.uk or write in with your details.

The Rural Media Company, Sullivan House
72-80 Widemarsh Street, Hereford
HR4 9HG

Police Authority appoints new Chief Constable

Leicestershire Police Authority has appointed Simon Cole as the new Chief Constable for Leicestershire. Mr Cole will take up his role in the summer, although no commencement date has yet been confirmed.

Mr Cole is currently Deputy Chief Constable of Hampshire Constabulary and will take up the position following the departure of Matt Baggott, who moved to become Chief Constable for Northern Ireland in September last year.

Mr Cole started his career with the West Midlands police in 1988 and continued his career there until he moved to Hampshire Constabulary on promotion to Assistant Chief Constable in 2003. As Assistant Chief Constable he took the lead on Safer Neighbourhoods and was involved in the Special Constabulary in Hampshire and for the South East Region of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). He has also been a staff member of the Strategic Command Course which helps train senior officers so that they may become Chief Officers of the future.

Mr Cole said "I am really excited at the prospect of leading Leicestershire Constabulary. There are many areas where it is performing strongly and my job will be to build on the good practice and make still further improvements for the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland."

Byron Rhodes, Chairman of Leicestershire Police Authority said: "We are delighted to have appointed Simon Cole, who comes to us with a wealth of experience and skills to enable him to lead the force through these challenging times."

What does the Welland mean to you?

People are being invited to find out more about the River Welland and how they can get involved in preserving it as a "living part of the district".

In February, the successful RiverLife project saw volunteers don their wellies and waders to take samples of the river, with a view to identifying some of the creatures which inhabit it. Now, the Harborough Improvement Team Environment Group, which was behind the RiverLife project, has invited a new charity called Welland Rivers Trust, to hold an event in the town.

Welland Rivers Trust brings together water enthusiasts who are all aiming to maintain and improve the River Welland and the landscape around it.

They are keen to meet anyone who is interested in the river, the canals, environmental issues, or people who have concerns about things such as litter.

The event takes place on Wednesday, May 5, from 7pm to 8.30pm at The Settling Rooms, Sainsbury's Car Park, Market Harborough, when there will be a short film viewing, a presentation and open discussion about the river.

For more information visit www.wellandriverstrust.org.uk or email info@wellandriverstrust.org.uk or contact Chris Sewart on 07786276365

Join spring clean – and earn breakfast!

It's time for a spring clean – and those who help spruce up Harborough town centre will earn themselves a hearty breakfast!

The Harborough Improvement Team (HIT) will be out cleaning up the town and tackling 'grot-spots' between 9am and 12noon on Saturday, May 15 – starting at The Settling Rooms in Sainsbury's car park, Market Harborough.

The litter-pick is a chance for local people to get involved in adding a bit more sparkle to the town centre. All the equipment needed for the clean-up will be provided by HIT for volunteers to use and there's no need to register – just turn up on the day.

And for the first time, the group will be offering a healthy breakfast to all participants.

Mary Danks, of the HIT environment group said: "This year we have teamed up with Harborough council's Active Together team and Sainsbury's to offer a fantastic healthy breakfast so that people will be energized for the clean-up.

"Step-counters will be issued to all litter pickers to calculate just how much energy they use on the pick. Volunteers, new or old, are welcome to come along, get involved, and have a fun morning."

Volunteers for the clean up can get their breakfast, equipment and refreshments at The Settling Rooms, from 9am onwards. If you would like to nominate a grot-spot in the town centre, or need more information email Chris Sewart at c.sewart@harborough.gov.uk or call on 07786 276365.

Up with the larks for dawn chorus walk

Park Rangers at Watermead Country Park are inviting nature lovers to join them on a walk to witness one of springtime's wonders – the dawn chorus.

The Dawn Chorus Walk will be held on Sunday, May 16, and a hearty cooked breakfast is included in the price.

Rangers will point out bird species and their different songs during this spectacular event. Participants will also learn about why birds sing, and why there is a dawn chorus.

Places cost £10 for adults and £9 for concessions – pre booking is essential by calling 0116 305 5434.

Find out more about visiting Watermead at

www.leics.gov.uk/watermead

Sure Start Centres celebrate National Family Week

Leicestershire's Sure Start centres will be running a host of activities during the summer half term holidays in support of National Family Week.

National Family Week, the UK's biggest celebration of family life, will take place from May 31 to June 6 and will see more than 5,000 family-friendly events and activities taking place across the country.

If you have children under five, you are welcome to come along and join in the fun. The special week of celebration focuses on families spending more quality time together so Sure Start Children's Centres would like to invite families from Leicestershire to join us and do just that! During the week, many fun activities and events for all ages will also be run in schools, museums, libraries and country parks.

Ivan Ould, Leicestershire County Council cabinet member for the Children and Young People's Service, said: "National Family Week is a great opportunity for families to enjoy quality time together. There will be fabulous activities and events at Children's Centres and other local venues around the county. It will also be a good chance for families to find out more about the range of services in their local communities."

For more details on Sure Start events and activities, and to see what else is happening in your area click on the Family Information Directory at www.leics.gov.uk/family and search for 'NFW'. Alternatively call 0116 3056545 or visit www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk

For more information on Leicestershire's Sure Start Centres visit: http://www.leics.gov.uk/childrenscentres

Volunteers celebrate their achievements

Over 150 volunteers from the VIP project (Volunteering Internships and Placements) gathered at Snibston on 1st April 2010 to celebrate their achievements in over 40 different cultural and environmental projects across North West Leicestershire.

The Chairman of Leicestershire County Council Roger Wilson was delighted to give out Thank You cards and awards to local people. The volunteers themselves delivered heart warming presentations about how the activities they are involved with not only make a difference to their lives but the people around them in the wider community.

The VIP project runs until March 2011 and aims to increase volunteering in the area and offers support, training, and funding opportunities to organisations in need of new volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer or are an organisation who could benefit from some additional support please contact Amanda Hanton on 0116 305 3422 or email amanda.hanton@leics.gov.uk