

# RCC Weekly Bulletin

The weekly newsletter for RCC members

11th January 2010



## Green Grants Help Communities Cut Carbon

Community groups in Leicestershire can cut their carbon emissions and their energy bills. Leicestershire County Council's SHIRE Community Climate Change Grants were launched in October and have received a warm welcome.

Parish and Town councils, charities, community groups and religious organisations can apply for up to £5,000 towards a wide range of community schemes in Leicestershire, including energy efficiency audits, new heating systems, renewable technology and insulation in community buildings such as village halls, community centres and church halls, as well as composting, recycling and food growing projects, surveys, training courses, volunteer days and community events relating to climate change and energy efficiency.

Although there is no closing date for applications, funds are limited and must be spent by the end of March 2010.

For further details contact Kate Nightingale (Grants Administrator) on 0116 305 7971 or e-mail [kate.nightingale@leics.gov.uk](mailto:kate.nightingale@leics.gov.uk)

Alternatively go to:

[www.leics.gov.uk/climatechange\\_grants](http://www.leics.gov.uk/climatechange_grants)

## Women of Achievement Awards

Friday 19th March 2010 at the Walkers Stadium in Leicester

The Awards categories this year are:

- \* Young Achiever of the Year
- \* Woman with Determination
- \* Business Woman of the Year
- \* Woman in the Community
- \* Rural Business Woman of the Year
- \* Woman of the Year



2009 winners

The deadline for completed applications is Friday 22nd January 2010. This means that any nominations need to be made well in advance so that the application can be completed in time for the deadline. The Awards are a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the success of women both in business and in the community who very often go unrecognised for their contribution and achievements.

To make a nomination or to apply please either call 0870 170 9697 or email [woaawards@headstorm.co.uk](mailto:woaawards@headstorm.co.uk). Alternatively you can go on to the following website at [www.chamberofcommerce.co.uk](http://www.chamberofcommerce.co.uk) and click on the Women of Achievement logo on the right hand side of the screen.

[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)



### Managing Funding - new training dates now available

The following training is available for voluntary groups, community groups and charities:

#### **Strategic Funding and Finance Management**

Thursday 4th March 2010, 10am - 4pm Market Harborough  
Cost £20 per delegate/£40 out of Funds and Figures area

#### **This training includes:**

The World Of Funding – how it is changing and how to respond to these changes  
Costing Our Work – how to fully cost your work and how to present costs to funders  
Where Is The Money Going to Come From – effective fundraising and income generation  
Planning Ahead – to plan your fundraising, think strategically and avoid being funder led

#### **Finding & Managing Funding**

Tuesday 9th February, 7-9 pm Melton Mowbray  
Cost £10 per delegate/£20 out of Funds and Figures area

#### **This training includes:**

First Steps in Fundraising for a New or Existing Project  
Sustainable Approaches to Fundraising  
What Funders are Looking For?  
The Role of the Treasurer  
What do you need to Record and Report for your group?

To book contact Christine Barrett, email: [cbarrett@vasl.org.uk](mailto:cbarrett@vasl.org.uk) Tel: 01858 439264

## Green families slash energy bills

A total of 16 families living in Leicestershire and Rutland have signed up to take part in a year-long challenge to see who can cut their energy use the most. As a warm-up, the families took part in a week-long energy saving challenge run as part of the Big Switch Off campaign.

The winners were the Villarico family from Measham, who reduced their energy use by more than 23 per cent. The family took simple measures such as switching off appliances that were on unnecessarily and using timers on lights to cut their bills and help tackle climate change by reducing their carbon emissions.

The Villaricos will be presented with a family ticket to Snibston Discovery Park while the winners of the year-long challenge will snap up a hamper packed with green goodies.

For more information on the Big Switch Off please visit: <http://www.leics.gov.uk/bigswitchoff>



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## Leicestershire and Rutland War Memorials Trial Project a success!



*Shepshed War Memorial*

Leicestershire County Council's pilot war memorials project has been tremendously successful. The project aimed to record and research all war memorials in Leicestershire and Rutland and information is flooding in.

Fieldwork packs were sent to almost 60 people, asking them to fill out recording forms, carry out condition checks and biographical research, and take up-to-date photographs. On 1st December, participants met in Glenfield to present their results.

All kinds of war memorials are included in the project, from stone crosses, to plaques, playing fields, windows and lamp posts. Periods so far covered range from Bosworth 1485 to Afghanistan 2009.

Before the pilot began, 863 war memorials were on the UK National Inventory of War Memorials website for Leicestershire and Rutland. Almost 150 more have been brought to light, which pushes our known total number of war memorials over 1,000.

Missing names from war memorials have been discovered, and names of more recently fallen service people are being recorded. The condition survey is also highlighting memorials at risk.

Information will be added to the Historic Environment Record and available online from next year. We continue to invite local knowledge.

For more information contact the Project Coordinator, Elizabeth Blood, at [liz.blood@leics.gov.uk](mailto:liz.blood@leics.gov.uk) or on 0116 2670004.

## Council seeking views on top crime concerns

People living in Blaby district are being asked what their top three crime concerns are as part of a survey to help set community safety priorities for the area. The Blaby Community Safety Partnership, which includes the district council and police, will use the results of the six week public consultation, which started on Monday 21st December, to set the focus for next year's anti-crime campaigns.

The consultation period ends on January 31st. Residents wishing to give their views can do so online at [www.blaby.gov.uk/communitysafetysurvey](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/communitysafetysurvey). Copies of the survey (with pre-paid envelopes to return completed forms) will also be available at the main Council Offices on Desford Road, Narborough, or at Blaby Joint Service Shop on Forge Corner. For more information or to request a copy of the questionnaire by post or email please call Blaby District Council's community safety team on 0116 272 7725.



## DAVID TAYLOR MP – A TRIBUTE

The Rural Community Council (Leicestershire and Rutland) was saddened to hear of the sudden death of David Taylor MP on Boxing Day.

David supported many of the ideals of the RCC and was always extremely supportive of any community led initiatives including the RCC's Appraisal and Parish Planning process and the Best Village Competition. He attended many Parish Plan launches and was frequently seen at special events to mark the success of their projects.

Our photograph shows David with young people from Heather opening the multi use games area and teen shelter in Heather. The young people, with the help of the Parish Council, raised the money for its provision following an identification of need shown through the Parish Appraisal.

At the same time David Taylor played a significant role at national level in parliamentary committee work on the environment and rural matters. He also excelled as an MP in the House asking the widest range of questions on matters of general social concern as well as focussing on the needs of his constituents. In 2007 David was named Backbencher of the Year, but in the villages he represented David Taylor will be remembered as the MP who was known and highly respected by all whom he met, regardless of their political persuasions.

David worked hard for his constituents, for his area and for the rural community in general. The loss of this dedicated MP will be deeply felt.

The RCC offers its sincere sympathy to David's wife Pam and all his family

### Windy Ridge' - planning inquiry:

A public inquiry will begin in January to decide if a development of 141 homes should be built in Market Harborough. The three-day inquiry takes place in Harborough District Council's chamber at its offices in Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough. It will run from Wednesday, January 13, until Friday, January 15.

It follows an appeal by Mosaic Ventures Limited and Fletcher Homes Limited against Harborough District Council's decision to refuse outline consent to erect 141 dwellings on land off Glebe Road, Market Harborough, known locally as 'Windy Ridge'.

The public are welcome to attend the inquiry and can enter the council offices via the Church Square entrance. The inquiry starts at 10am, and doors will be open from 9.30am.



John Moore, the RCC Deputy Director and Village Halls Advisor, retired on 31st December 2009.

He thanks all those who sent emails, cards and letters of goodwill upon his retirement from the RCC.