



Recycling Rewards

Knowsley's recycling service is going **from strength to strength**. Since the introduction of our grey bin recycling service last year, thanks to your efforts we're now recycling more than a quarter of our household waste.

But we need to recycle even more. And to help us all make even better use of our grey bins – by recycling even more paper, plastics, glass and cans – we're launching a new Recycling Rewards competition.

This will reward householders – with prizes totalling £3,000 in gift vouchers – who can prove their commitment to recycling over the coming months.

How to claim your Recycling Rewards... £250 in gift vouchers is up for grabs for regular recyclers.

Simply cut out the coupon below, fill it in and send it to:
Knowsley News
Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
FREEPOST LV6600
L36 6AB

or hand it in to any of our **One Stop Shops** before the closing date (Friday 13 February 2009).

And don't worry if you miss this date, as we'll be running further Recycling Rewards coupons in the next two editions of Knowsley News. You can also apply on-line at www.knowsley.gov.uk.

We'll be holding prize draws after the closing date on each coupon – with two prizes awarded for each draw. Our recycling teams and environment officers will be monitoring recycling collections from all winning addresses to ensure entrants are regular recyclers.

Winners will be announced in the next edition of Knowsley News and on the Knowsley Council website.

Knowsley **Recycling Rewards** competition

How often do you put your recycling bin out for collection?

Every fortnight Less frequently Never

What materials do you recycle?

Mixed glass Plastics Newspapers/magazines
 Food and drink cans Cardboards

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____



Knowsley News

They're hired!
08

Knowsley gets tough on litter louts
13



Knowsley's first **Centre for Learning** is now open
Centre pull-out

This year there's a huge sense of excitement for the community in North Huyton as they start to use their brand new Centre for Learning.

Knowsley's first Centre for Learning is now open

Centre pull-out



in this issue:

What's hot 02

- 02 New centre transforms Halewood
- 03 Kirkby public inquiry draws to a close
- 04 Stockbridge Village gives 'thumbs up' for new development
- 05 £49,000 confiscated from Halewood counterfeiter
- 05 A lighter and brighter Knowsley
- 05 Knowsley campaign cuts claims by more than £6m



02 New centre transforms Halewood

In focus 06

- 06 **Safer Knowsley update:**
- 06 Neighbourhood pioneer
- 06 You said... We did!
- 07 Japanese see Knowsley success
- 07 Hate and domestic violence helpline
- 08 The Knowsley Apprentice They're hired!
- 10 Get energy smart
- 11 Think before releasing money from your home
- 11 Supporting businesses through the credit crunch
- 12 Don't let the loan sharks bite



04 Stockbridge Village redevelopment

Centre pull-out 13

- The opening of Christ the King Catholic and Church of England Centre for Learning
- 13 Knowsley gets tough on litter louts



08 The Knowsley Apprentice They're hired!

Lifestyle 14

- 14 MMR plea to Knowsley parents
- 14 Local 'time team' unearths Gladstone's roots
- 15 MBE awards

Your neighbourhood 16

- 17 South Huyton
- 18 North Huyton
- 19 South Kirkby
- 20 North Kirkby
- 21 Halewood
- 22 Prescot, Whiston, Cronton and Knowsley Village



13 Knowsley gets tough on litter louts

What's on 23

Happy New Year and welcome to January's

Knowsley News



“January is a time when many of us make New Year's resolutions and think about the future. In Knowsley, planning for the future and how we can improve the lives of residents is something we do all year round.”

This month is a very exciting one for the borough as our first Centre for Learning is open in North Huyton and, after years of planning, our dream of top quality education facilities fit for the 21st century has come to life. You can see more about the new centre in this issue and find out what the pupils, parents and teachers think about it too.

Across the borough we are working on other innovative and ambitious

projects to improve the lives of residents in the future.

We continue to seek regeneration for Kirkby Town Centre and are working on major improvements for Stockbridge Village and Raven Court in Halewood, as you'll see on pages two and three. And there is plenty more in this issue – we have a special section with advice on surviving the 'credit crunch', information about the work that is being done to make our

communities safer and interesting news from across the borough including the conclusion of an archaeological dig in Huyton and some home grown MBE award winners. **I hope you enjoy it.**”

Cllr Ron Round
Leader of Knowsley Council

Your views

If you have any comments or would like to write a letter for publication, please contact the editor, Steve Roberts.

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or email
customerservices@knowsley.gov.uk

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New centre transforms Halewood

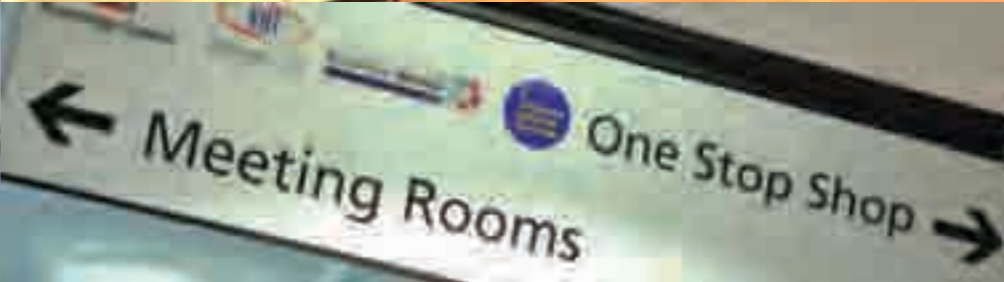
A NEW CENTRE WHICH WILL TRANSFORM THE SERVICES ON OFFER TO HALEWOOD RESIDENTS HAS OPENED THIS MONTH. THIS GROUND-BREAKING FACILITY BRINGS TOGETHER A RANGE OF COUNCIL, NHS KNOWSLEY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES UNDER ONE ROOF.



The £8m Halewood centre is at the heart of a major £15m scheme to regenerate the old Raven Court site. Residents can access a wide range of services at the new centre ranging from the council's One Stop Shop and library facilities through to GP surgeries and dentistry. In addition, there is even a Post Office and offices of Knowsley Housing Trust, Halewood Town Council, Halewood Credit Union, Knowsley Citizens Advice Bureau and Knowsley Works Plus (JETS).

There are also crèche facilities and meeting rooms which can be used by local community groups and hired for special events.

But there is more to the innovative centre than just bricks and mortar – residents will benefit from the joined-up way all the organisations based there are working together, which will improve the quality of services they receive.



“THE HALEWOOD CENTRE WILL TRANSFORM THE SERVICES WE OFFER TO RESIDENTS AND IS A FANTASTIC NEW DEVELOPMENT AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY. I WOULD URGE PEOPLE IN HALEWOOD TO VISIT THE NEW CENTRE AND SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE FANTASTIC FACILITIES ON OFFER. THIS IS MUCH MORE THAN A NEW BUILDING, IT IS ALSO A NEW WAY OF WORKING AND RESIDENTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BENEFIT FROM THE JOINED-UP WAY ALL THE ORGANISATIONS BASED THERE ARE WORKING TOGETHER.”

Cllr Ken Keith
Knowsley's Cabinet Member for Corporate and Customer Services



Visit us:
The Halewood Centre
Roseheath Drive, Halewood
Knowsley L26 9UH

- AT THE HALEWOOD CENTRE**
- Council One Stop Shop
 - Library and Learning Resource Centre
 - Cash office
 - Post Office
 - Offices for start-up businesses
 - Community group meeting rooms
 - Halewood Town Council
 - Knowsley Citizens Advice Bureau
 - Knowsley Housing Trust
 - Halewood Credit Union
 - Knowsley Works Plus
 - Crèche facilities
 - GP surgeries
 - Community pharmacy
 - Dental services

Kirkby public inquiry draws to a close

The public inquiry into the Destination Kirkby proposals is now drawing to a close. The Inspector has heard evidence from all interested parties and is preparing to gather her findings in a report that she will submit to the Secretary of State for consideration.

The completion of the public inquiry marks the end of a lengthy planning process that has seen these transformational plans initially approved by the council's Planning Committee and are now set to be considered at the highest possible level. The Secretary of State's decision, which is due some time later in the year, will determine the future of these proposals for Kirkby and its residents and hopefully will herald the start of a bright new future for the town.



“WE EAGERLY AWAIT THE DECISION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND VERY MUCH HOPE THAT OUR VISION FOR KIRKBY WILL FINALLY BE REALISED. THESE PROPOSALS GIVE KIRKBY AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY TO FINALLY FULFIL ITS POTENTIAL AND IN THE PROCESS, IMPROVE THE FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN.”

Cllr Ron Round
Leader of Knowsley Council



Stockbridge Village gives 'thumbs up' to new development

ALMOST 150 STOCKBRIDGE VILLAGE RESIDENTS ATTENDED AN EVENT IN NOVEMBER TO VIEW PROPOSALS FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA.

Those who attended were given a first glimpse of how the new village centre might look and what new facilities are planned. They were then given the opportunity to provide their comments and feedback.

The response was overwhelmingly positive with 94% of people asked stating that the improvements outlined will add things to the area that it needs and make Stockbridge Village a better place to live.

Cllr Bill Weightman said: "We are really pleased by the response we have had from local people and delighted to see so many residents excited about the future of their area."

"Developing Stockbridge Village, both physically and socially, is a priority for Knowsley Council and its partners, and this positive feedback from residents gives us the mandate we need to forge ahead with making real improvements to the area."

It is hoped that work on this project will commence in 2009.

This latest consultation follows an event held in March last year when residents were asked what they wanted to see from a new and improved Stockbridge Village. Residents' comments and views were collated and a number of specific needs and wants identified. The Stockbridge Village Regeneration Project Board was then established and a multi-million pound proposal developed to fulfil the needs of the community.

You asked for...

- A community meeting place;
- More activities for children and young people;
- Improved shopping facilities;
- Modern leisure facilities;
- A refurbished swimming pool; and
- A safer village centre.

We've proposed...

- A real centre for the village;
- A brand new swimming pool;
- A new gym and sports hall;
- A new hub building with library, café and community space;
- New multi-use games area and pitches;
- A new primary school with children's centre and nursery;
- An improved retail offer;
- A new outdoor play area;
- Well lit and well connected centre;
- Open and inviting building layout; and
- New sporting activities for young people in the gym, sports hall and all-weather pitches.

THE RESULTS

94%

of residents agree the plans will make Stockbridge Village a better place to live.

94%

of residents think the plans will add things to the area that it needs.

3 out of 4

people agree that the plans meet their expectations.

96%

of residents are looking forward to work getting underway.



£49,000

confiscated from
Halewood counterfeiter

A HALEWOOD MAN CONVICTED OF A SERIES OF COUNTERFEITING OFFENCES HAS HAD £49,000 CONFISCATED FOLLOWING A HEARING AT LIVERPOOL CROWN COURT.

Paul David John Marsh, 45, of Calveley Grove, Halewood, last year pleaded guilty to 63 counts of producing counterfeit DVDs, music CDs and computer games for sale. He was ordered to pay a total of £4,150 in fines and costs.

following a hearing at Liverpool Crown Court, a confiscation order was made under the Proceeds of Crime Act and £49,000 was recovered.

If you have any information about someone selling or producing counterfeit goods in Knowsley, call the Environmental Health and Consumer Protection team on **443 4737**.

Following his conviction, the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) also took up the case and in November,

A lighter and brighter Knowsley

THE COUNCIL IS WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES TO MAKE THE STREETS OF KNOWSLEY EVEN BRIGHTER AND SAFER FOR RESIDENTS.

Plans are in place for more than 70% of Knowsley's existing street lights to be replaced with modern, brighter intelligent street lighting and some traffic signs, bollards, beacons and subway lights to be renewed.

By summer, the council will have an external supplier in place and work is planned to start early 2010. Look out for updates and more news in future editions.

“THE IMPROVEMENTS WILL MAKE KNOWSLEY FEEL SAFER AND THE UPGRADING OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS, ALONG WITH BETTER LIGHTING, WILL HELP REDUCE ACCIDENTS AND INCREASE ROAD SAFETY. THIS IS A MAJOR PROJECT THAT IS SET TO TRANSFORM OUR STREETS BY MAKING THEM BRIGHTER AND INCREASING REASSURANCE THAT OUR STREETS ARE SAFE AT NIGHT.”

Cllr Ron Round Leader of Knowsley Council

Support and advice for volunteer groups

Community groups across Knowsley are to be given even better support to help them prosper. Under the stewardship of new chief executive Linda Richings, Knowsley Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) is heralding a new dawn with closer working relationships with Knowsley Council and other partners. It means even more opportunities for people to get involved in changing the face of local communities for the better. As part of this fresh commitment, the CVS will be asking voluntary, community and faith organisations to tell them what support and guidance they need to develop and become more efficient.



Chris O'Hare, Chair of Knowsley Council for Voluntary Services with new chief executive Linda Richings.

Knowsley campaign cuts claims by more than

£6m

A campaign by Knowsley Council to stop fraudulent insurance claims for trips, slips and falls has cut payouts by £6.5m in the last five years. Investigations are quicker and cases of potential fraud are passed into the police for review and possible prosecution or caution.

Knowsley's fraud hotline is on **0800 0730 532**.

Neighbourhood pioneer

Knowsley has signed up to become a new neighbourhood crime and justice pioneer.

The move ensures the public now know their entitlement under the new Policing Pledge. It will ensure people are aware of their rights, know who their neighbourhood policing team are, how to contact them and understand the minimum levels of service they can expect.

In addition, the public will know more about the consequences for offenders, including visible and tougher community payback. **We'll carry further updates in future editions.**

You said... We did!

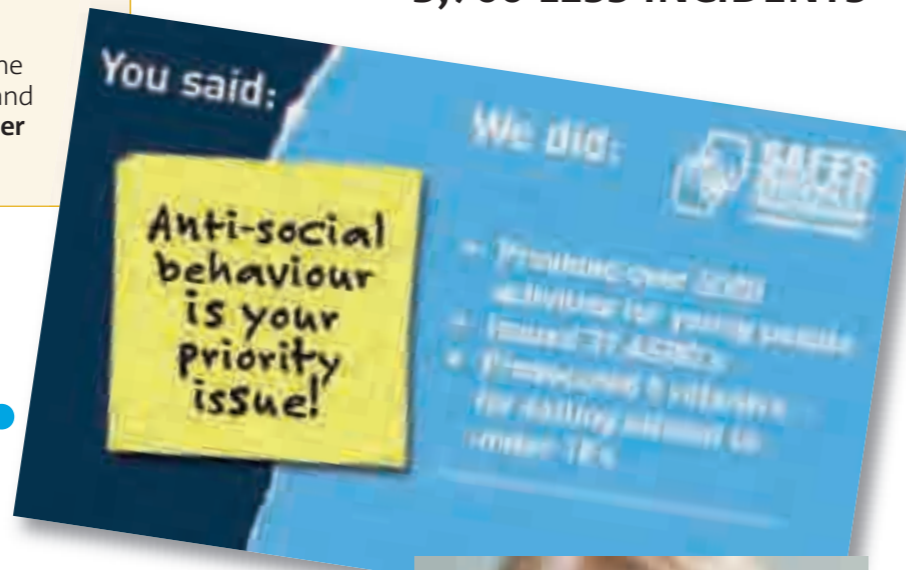
'You said...We did' is the theme of the Safer Knowsley Partnership's latest campaign. The new drive has been introduced to reassure communities that the partnership is taking action to address anti-social behaviour.

The message will be seen on buses, taxis, bus shelters and billboards across the borough. While anti-social behaviour can cause harm and misery to individuals and communities, people can clearly see action is being taken. Knowsley also has a dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Unit offering a range of services including



advice, support, enforcement, parenting support and the drug intervention programme.

If you would like help and support regarding anti-social behaviour, contact Knowsley's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit on 443 2000.



Safer

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REDUCED BY 23% – THAT'S 3,700 LESS INCIDENTS



“ WE ARE DETERMINED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND TACKLE THE ISSUES CAUSING THEM CONCERN. THIS LATEST CAMPAIGN WILL ENHANCE OUR ACTIVITIES AND LET PEOPLE KNOW WE ARE TAKING ACTION. ”

Cllr Jackie Harris
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Social Inclusion

Knowsley update



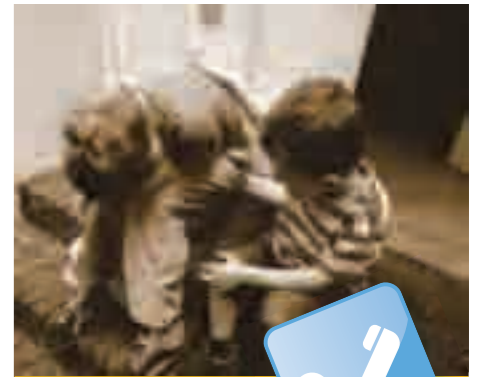
Japanese delegates on their visit to Halewood.

Japanese see Knowsley success

The Safer Knowsley Partnership hosted a visit by researchers from the Japanese Ministry of Justice in November.

The visit was prompted by the success of the borough's partnership working and its effectiveness in reducing repeat offending.

The visit gave the two researchers the opportunity to learn more about Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, Prolific and Priority Offenders and the Family Intervention Programme. They also learned how the restorative justice programme operated in Knowsley and visited a site in Okell Drive in Halewood that had benefited from an environmental clean-up as part of a reparation project.



Hate and domestic violence helpline

Hate crime and domestic violence can affect anyone, but if you are affected, our helpline means support is only a phone call away.

All calls are treated in the strictest confidence and our trained advisors will direct callers to the appropriate support agencies. The helpline is open 8am-8pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am-1pm on Saturday. Please don't feel isolated – call **0800 953 4433** now.

THE KNOWSLEY APPRENTICE



Nikki Brown, Internal Communications Administrator with QVC, received her gift from Cllr Round at a recent celebration evening.



Knowsley Apprentices Anthony Witterick, Jenna Bewley and Jamie Halpin feature in the short film that follows their first days as an apprentice.

“ I AM THRILLED WE HAVE PLACED 100 OF OUR MOST TALENTED AND ENTHUSIASTIC YOUNG PEOPLE IN APPRENTICESHIPS. WHEN YOU HEAR HOW GREATLY BOTH APPRENTICES AND BUSINESSES VALUE THE SCHEME, YOU REALISE HOW IMPORTANT THESE OPPORTUNITIES ARE.

THE SCHEME IS ALL ABOUT GIVING PEOPLE A CHANCE TO GET WORK, A QUALIFICATION AND EARN A DECENT WAGE. I WISH ALL 100 APPRENTICES THE VERY BEST OF LUCK IN THEIR FUTURE CAREERS. ”

Cllr Ron Round
Leader of Knowsley Council

They're hired!

THAT'S THE EXCITING NEWS FOR KNOWSLEY'S OWN APPRENTICES. LAST YEAR, THE BOROUGH FOLLOWED THE LEAD OF SIR ALAN SUGAR AND STARTED 'THE KNOWSLEY APPRENTICE' TO SEARCH FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE WHAT IT TAKES.

After hundreds of applications, challenging assessment days and interviews, Knowsley's 100 apprentices have now been selected.

Over the next three years, the Knowsley apprentices will take the vital steps towards the career of their dreams in areas ranging from engineering to accountancy and hotel management to football coaching.

All are now in full-time employment and earning a decent wage while they work towards qualifications and develop their skills and abilities.

Anthony Witterick, a trainee football coach with Everton in the Community, says: "I love the work, it's something different every day. I could be running

a tournament for adults with learning difficulties in the morning and coaching school children in Stockbridge Village in the afternoon. I'm so pleased to have this opportunity and I'm working really hard to do well."

Local businesses will also benefit from the new apprentice scheme by gaining some of the best young people Knowsley has to offer and shaping them to the needs of their business.

Roger Percy, Managing Director of Banknote Bodyguard based on Knowsley Industrial Park, took on Liam Johnston as an apprentice technical assistant. Roger says: "Liam has settled into work really well. He's really keen to learn and develop and I'm sure he will become a valuable asset to our business. I am very impressed with the

set-up of the apprentice scheme and the quality of applicants. It's a great way for businesses to recruit keen and enthusiastic talent and to give young people a great start to their working lives."

Knowsley News is following the success of the Knowsley Apprentices and we'll feature updates and news in future editions.

In addition to the 100 Knowsley apprentices, 23 other young people are employed in apprenticeship posts across the council, with more planned during the year.



Cllr Round with some of the Knowsley Apprentices.

Get energy smart

AS THE COLD WEATHER HITS AND THE CREDIT CRUNCH BITES, KNOWSLEY COUNCIL IS HELPING RESIDENTS TO STAY WARM AND KEEP THEIR FUEL BILLS DOWN THIS WINTER.

The Knowsley Warm Streets Scheme offers free loft and cavity wall insulation to all owner-occupied and privately rented properties and any Knowsley resident, regardless of age or income.

The service has already cut the number of fuel poor homes – households unable to heat their property to a designated standard – from 37 per cent to 20 per cent. For more information please contact Sally Carter on **443 2216** or sally.carter@knowsley.gov.uk.

In addition to this, from January the HeatSeekers project will take to the streets of Knowsley with a specially adapted vehicle using thermal imaging to identify properties that are losing the largest amounts of heat. Residents will then receive advice from the Council's specialist team on how they can save money and lock in warmth.

These simple suggestions can have dramatic results:

“ IT'S ESSENTIAL THAT WE CONSERVE AS MUCH ENERGY AS WE CAN BUT ALSO THAT PEOPLE DON'T SUFFER IN THE COLD WEATHER.”

Cllr Graham Morgan
Knowsley's Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economic Development

Only boil as much water as you need in kettles and saucepans, and use the right size pan for the job, with lids on if possible

Wash clothes at 30°C – you'll reduce the energy used by nearly half



Hang washing outside or in the garage to dry rather than use a tumble drier

Fit energy saving light bulbs – just one can save you £100 over its lifetime and they last up to 12 times longer than ordinary bulbs

Turn off lights, TVs, CD players etc when you leave a room and don't leave appliances on standby or charging unnecessarily



Hang thick curtains and close them at night so heat doesn't escape



Check your hot water cylinder thermostat – it should be no more than 60°C/140°F



Turn your heating down by 1°C – it could cut your heating bills by up to 10%



Use the internet to find the cheapest energy provider



John Mallaby from the HeatSeekers team operating the thermal imaging equipment.

Think before releasing money from your home



Equity release may often seem like an attractive option for people affected by the credit crunch. But Knowsley Council is urging people to think carefully before entering into one of these schemes.

The deals – which allow homeowners to release the capital tied up in their homes either as a lump sum or regular income – can affect an individual's entitlement to benefit, so before you sign on the line, consider:

- If a person has £16,000 or more in savings or capital they will not be entitled to benefit;
- Housing Benefit cannot normally be paid if you have owned the property that you are renting and less than five years have elapsed since the sale. The only exception is if you can demonstrate that you

had no other option but to give up ownership; and

- The amount of Housing Benefit that can be paid cannot be more than the average rent levels in the area. This means that your home could still be at risk if your new landlord increases the rent above market levels.

If you are struggling to pay your mortgage or any other bills ask for help as soon as you can. **Don't wait until it is too late.**

Useful contacts:

Advice on benefit entitlement:
Knowsley Council's benefit take up team **443 4135**

Advice on debt:
Knowsley Citizens Advice Service **0845 122 1300**

Government's 'Now let's talk money' campaign
0800 012 1656
www.nowletstalkmoney.com

Advice on Equity Release:
Age Concern England
To order a 'Raising income or capital from your home' factsheet **0800 00 99 66** (7am-7pm, seven days a week)

Supporting businesses through the credit crunch

IN TODAY'S TOUGH MARKET CONDITIONS, BUSINESSES NEED ALL THE HELP THEY CAN GET TO WEATHER THE CREDIT CRUNCH.

Knowsley has taken a new approach to its regular business networking events and hosted a super-networking event inviting local businesses from various sectors including the creative, automotive, manufacturing and tourism industries and social enterprises.

Those present were given the opportunity to meet more business contacts in one day than they would normally do in weeks.

The event started with an informal networking session and was then

followed by an afternoon of workshops offering support in the key areas of business development. With the addition of Hot Spots, five minute slots for people to stand up and promote their business, this new approach was a great success.

Ann Cooper from Web World Designs said *"The speakers were excellent, I got a lot more out of today than I would ever have thought possible, and I don't mean just job offers"*.

For more information on business support call **477 4000**.

Don't let the loan sharks bite

WITH THE CREDIT CRUNCH BITING, RESIDENTS MAY FIND IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO BORROW MONEY FROM BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES. **BUT USING A LOAN SHARK COULD LAND YOU IN A SPIRAL OF DEBT.**



Pictured (left to right): Cllr Norman Keats, Cabinet Member for Finance and IT, Cllr Jackie Harris, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Social Inclusion, and Cllr Ken Keith, Cabinet Member for Corporate and Customer Services.

Officers from Knowsley Council's Environmental Health and Consumer Protection Service are working in partnership with North West Illegal Money Lending Team to bring the borough's loan sharks to justice.

If you're already a victim or in danger of becoming one, the team can help you get legal advice, affordable credit and the support of debt advisors.

Cllr Ken Keith, Knowsley Council's Cabinet Member for Corporate and Customer Services, said: *"We know there are loan sharks operating in Knowsley. These people prey on people when they are at their most vulnerable and create a whole new set of problems for them to deal with."*

Cllr Norman Keats, Knowsley's Cabinet Member for Finance and IT, added: *"If you have already fallen victim to a loan shark, use the numbers opposite to contact our officers who can help you access a debt advisor as well as affordable, legitimate credit."*

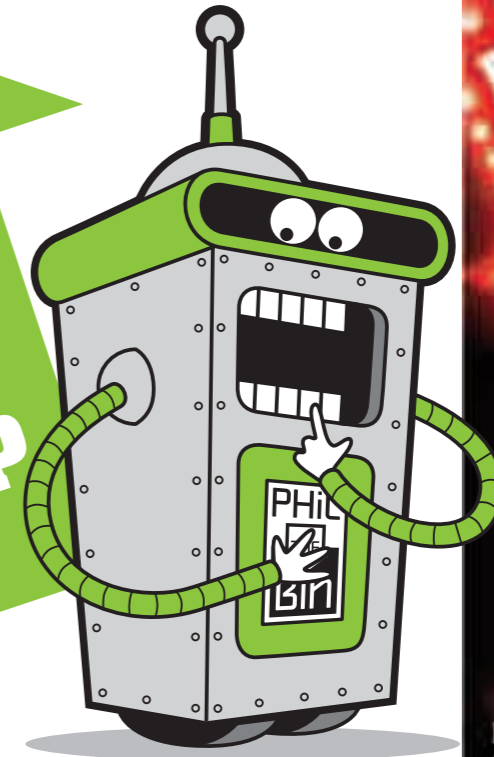
Knowsley Council is urging residents who can't get a bank loan to:

- Join one of the borough's credit unions;
- Ask family and friends for a loan;
- Call our Benefits Take Up and Visiting Team on **443 4135** to check you're getting what you are entitled to;
- Call Citizens Advice on **0845 122 1300** if you are already in debt, to a legitimate lender, and are struggling to meet the repayments; and
- Ring the Government's 'Now Let's Talk Money' Campaign at **0800 012 1656** or www.nowletstalkmoney.com.



If you have information about loan sharks operating in Knowsley, or have fallen victim to one, call the *Shop A Shark* hotline on **0151 282 1122** or **0300 555 2222** to talk to someone anonymously. You can also email stoploansharks@knowsley.gov.uk or text **loan sharks** and your message to **6003**.

BIG KNOWSLEY CLEAN UP



Mascot Phil the Bin is helping persuade people not to drop litter

Knowsley gets tough on litter louts

Knowsley Council is launching a new get tough approach to litter louts. From this month, officers are issuing £75 fixed penalty notices for people caught dropping litter in the borough.

Owners of businesses – including takeaways and fast food restaurants – who fail to take appropriate action to deal with litter created as a result of their work could face action too.

The move is the next phase of Knowsley's **'It's a Big Deal'** campaign and will target every type of litter – including cigarette butts and chewing gum.

Cllr David Lonergan, Knowsley's Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Delivery, said: *"We want to make sure Knowsley is a clean and bright place to live and work. These fines are being imposed on the minority of people who do not want to work with us to achieve that aim."*

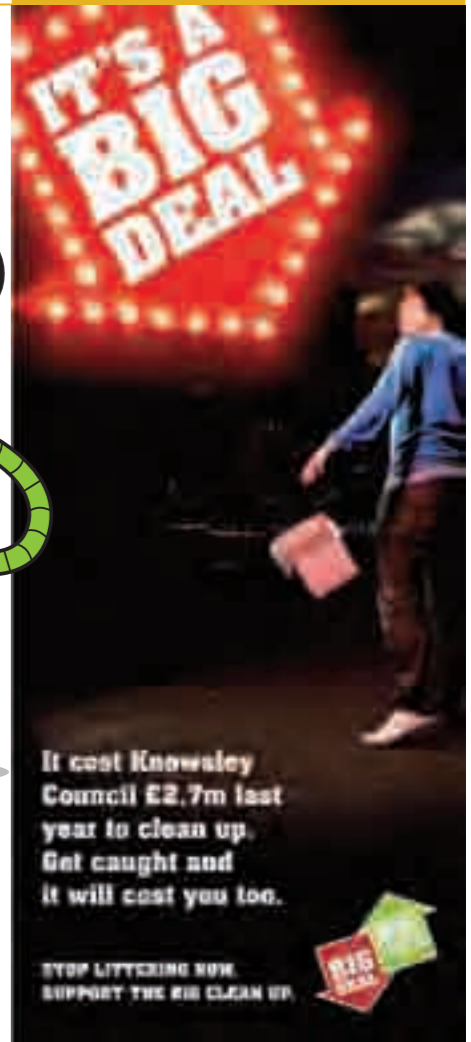
Knowsley has also launched a consultation exercise on laws which give councils greater powers to deal with problems caused by dogs.

Dog Control Orders allow councils to create a number of offences including:

- Failing to clean up after your dog;
- Failing to keep a dog on a lead;
- Failing to put and keep a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer; and
- Permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded.

Those caught breaking an order could face a fine of up to £1,000 or a fixed penalty notice. Residents who wish to take part can access the consultation by visiting the Knowsley Council website www.knowsley.gov.uk.

While the consultation continues, people who fail to clean up after their dogs still face a £50 fine under Knowsley bye-laws.



It cost Knowsley Council £2.7m last year to clean up. **Get caught and it will cost you too.**

STOP LITTERING NOW. SUPPORT THE BIG CLEAN UP.

"OFFICERS FROM OUR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION TEAM ARE TAKING A TOUGHER STANCE ON LITTERING ACROSS THE BOROUGH. LAST YEAR, WE LAUNCHED A HIGH PROFILE CAMPAIGN TO TELL PEOPLE IT COSTS KNOWSLEY £2.7M A YEAR TO CLEAN UP AND NOW IT WILL COST THEM TOO."

Cllr Ken Keith
Cabinet Member for Corporate and Customer Services



MMR plea to Knowsley parents

MMR IMMUNISATION IS THE SAFEST WAY TO PROTECT CHILDREN AGAINST MEASLES, MUMPS AND RUBELLA WHICH ARE DISEASES THAT CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR BABIES, YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Not all children respond adequately to a single dose of vaccine, so to ensure protection, children need to receive two doses of MMR. However, there are still children who haven't been immunised with the MMR vaccine, or have not received the full course and could therefore catch measles, mumps or rubella.

“WE HAVE ALREADY HAD REPORTS OF ISOLATED CASES OF MEASLES IN KNOWSLEY AND WE WANT TO ENSURE THAT, SHOULD THE OUTBREAK SPREAD, OUR RESIDENTS ARE AS PROTECTED AS THEY POSSIBLY CAN BE. USE OF OUR CATCH-UP CLINICS HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING SO FAR.

ANY SCHOOL CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON UP TO THE AGE OF 18 YEARS CAN BE GIVEN THE IMMUNISATION, SO IF YOUR CHILD HAS MISSED ONE OR BOTH OF HIS OR HER JABS, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND ONE OF OUR CLINICS, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FAMILY DOCTOR OR CHILD HEALTH CLINIC AND ARRANGE TO HAVE THE IMMUNISATION.”

Dr Diana Forrest
Director of Public Health for Knowsley



your lifestyle

MBE Awards

Photo courtesy of Knowsley Challenge



PAM JERVIS, THE HEAD TEACHER AT KIRKBY SPORTS COLLEGE, HAS BEEN HONOURED WITH AN MBE.

Pam's teaching career began in Liverpool 30 years ago. In 1986, she was appointed as deputy head at Brookfield High School and head teacher in 1992. Pam is now the principal of Kirkby Sports College. She is also a governor of a local primary school and of Knowsley Community College.

Pam said: "It is a great honour to be awarded an MBE and I am very proud to receive it on behalf of all those people who have made it possible and with whom I share it."

Cllr Graham Wright, Knowsley Council's Cabinet Member for Children's Services added: "Pam has made an enormous contribution to the academic education of generations of young people who are lucky to have been taught by her."

MONA MCNEE, FORMER SOUTHMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER FROM WHISTON, HAS ALSO BEEN HONOURED WITH AN MBE.

Mona moved to Knowsley from Norfolk in 1994 on a mission to help improve literacy rates in the borough. She has dedicated her life to teaching young people to read and has published a guide for parents, Step-By-Step, which has sold more than 20,000 copies. Mona is passionate about helping children of all ages and all abilities and, now she has retired, offers free tuition and advice to parents and students from her Whiston home.

More MBE news on page 18

Local 'time team' unearths Gladstone's Roots

A 'TIME TEAM' STYLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG WHICH HAS UNEARTHED A HIDDEN PART OF KNOWSLEY'S HISTORY HAS CELEBRATED ITS OFFICIAL OPENING.

The Gladstone Roots project, in the grounds of Court Hey Park, Huyton, has unearthed the remains of a Victorian mansion owned by Robertson Gladstone – the elder brother of Victorian Prime Minister William Gladstone.

The lottery-funded project – a joint initiative between the Friends of Court Hey Park and Knowsley

Council – was officially opened by Knowsley Mayor Cllr Michael Foulkes, alongside The Friends of Court Hey Park dressed in period costume, and Sir William Gladstone, the great, great nephew of Robertson Gladstone.

Right: Sir William Gladstone greets the Friends of Court Hey Park at the opening.



in your neighbourhood...

OVER THE FOLLOWING SEVEN PAGES YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE YOU LIVE AND ABOUT THE WORK OF THE AREA PARTNERSHIP BOARDS.

The boards have been set up to ensure the needs of local people are being met. Strong links have been developed with local interest groups to keep board members in touch.

the working groups' activities through their Neighbourhood Network representatives who sit on the area's Partnership Engagement Team.

The Neighbourhood Networks are made up of representatives from local interest groups, while their chair and vice chair join representatives from partner organisations to form the Partnership Engagement Team.

The boards and working groups make sure the various agencies are working together to find solutions. These might include organising litter picks and graffiti clean-ups, cracking down on crime and anti-social behaviour, tracking down school truants or organising community events.

The six boards represent North Huyton, South Huyton, North Kirkby, South Kirkby, Halewood and Prescott/Whiston/Knowsley Village and Cronton. Each board sets annual priorities to improve the quality of life for local people.

Each area has a working group that brings together officers from the council and partner agencies, such as the police, fire brigade and health workers, to tackle issues head on. Residents can express their views on



| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| SOUTH HUYTON | 443 3395 |
| NORTH HUYTON | 547 5183 |
| SOUTH KIRKBY | 548 2725 |
| NORTH KIRKBY | 547 5183 |
| HALEWOOD | 443 2171 |
| PRESCOT, WHISTON, CRONTON AND KNOWSLEY VILLAGE | 443 4692 |

If you would like details of your Area Partnership Board meetings, contact Knowsley Council's Democratic Services department on **443 3502**, or log on to the website at www.knowsley.gov.uk



Your neighbourhood

SOUTH HUYTON

Gardens saved in Court Hey Park



Gardens in Court Hey Park have been saved from the risk of being washed away thanks to major groundwork in the past few months.

In recent years some residents have lost parts of their land due to erosion of the banks by the brook that runs along the fence lines. Parts of the brook have now been diverted and the banks shored up in places where diversion was not possible.

Get involved with St Gabriel's network

St Gabriel's Neighbourhood Network is planning to formulate a three-year development plan, highlighting priorities from the local community. If people wish to be involved or contribute, they can visit the website at www.saintgabrielswardcommunitynetwork.t83.net

The network, which is chaired by The Reverend Malcolm Rogers, consists of local community members, schools, businesses,

councillors and partners working to improve the ward, including St John's, Quarry and McGoldrick park areas.

The network recently held a 'Star Party' at St Gabriel's church attended by more than one hundred young people who took part in craft sessions and were entertained by a professional magic show, as well as a spectacular indoor digital firework display.

NEW FOOTBRIDGE

Further work will be starting on the new footbridge between Edenhurst Avenue and St Paschal Baylon Boulevard in January. The old bridge collapsed in 2008 due to age and rising water.



Victorian Christmas at Roby



United Residents Association held a fantastic Victorian-style Christmas Fayre at Roby Community Centre on 13 December. Residents and children enjoyed a visit from Father Christmas, face painting, a climbing wall and many other stalls and activities. The event was supported by Knowsley Council and Knowsley Housing Trust and the funds raised will be used for future community events in the area.

Useful numbers

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| South Huyton Neighbourhood Management Team | 443 3047 |
| Merseyside Police | 709 6010 or 999 |
| Crimestoppers (<i>completely confidential</i>) | 0800 555111 |
| Bulky items removed for free (<i>no fixtures or fittings</i>) | 443 2400 |
| Knowsley Housing Trust | 290 7000 |
| Trading Standards (<i>ask for Trading Standards</i>) | 489 6000 |

Did you know...

You can drop in to the **South Huyton office** to tell us about incidents of anti-social behaviour, litter problems or anything else you think we could help sort out. **You will find us at the One Stop Shop, Municipal Buildings, Archway Road, Huyton, L36 9YU.**

NORTH HUYTON

Palace date for Joan

Knowsley lollipop lady Joan McLoughlin picked up an early Christmas present at Buckingham Palace when she received an MBE for her services to education.

Joan, who has helped children at St Aloysius and Park View schools in Huyton cross the road in safety for more than 40 years, was presented

with her award from Prince Charles in December.

The longest-serving member of Knowsley's school crossing patrol team, Joan works the Oak Tree crossing on Liverpool Road and has barely been off sick in four decades. She is now crossing the grandchildren of some of the pupils she looked after in the 1960s.

Nine-week blitz brightens Stockbridge Village

'Keep it up!' is the message from Stockbridge Village residents in response to the nine-week clean-up of the estate. Knowsley Council has been working in partnership with Villages Housing to improve the local environment with a seven-day

blitz in a different part of the neighbourhood every week. Residents seized the opportunity to get rid of bulky rubbish and each area was given a thorough clean that included sweeping pathways and cutting back trees.



Tea and tips for Longview over-50s

People over 50 in Longview now have a new advice centre they can drop in to any Tuesday afternoon. The new weekly service on Longview shopping parade offers residents advice, information and tips on benefits, pensions and welfare matters. A core team of advisors are on hand from Knowsley Council, Knowsley Housing Trust and NHS Knowsley.

Chair of the North Huyton Area Partnership Board, Cllr Diane Reid said: *"Many people are having to tighten their belts to cope with the rising cost of living and the credit crunch. Older people in particular are affected by the recent hikes in energy and food bills. The drop-in centre will help residents over 50 to ensure they are applying for all eligible benefits and discounts."*

"They will be able to drop in for a cup of tea and a chat while finding out about pensions and welfare matters from the council and our partner agencies. It's about the North Huyton Area Partnership Board working to meet the needs of local people."

Lizzy McNally with North Huyton Area Partnership Board Chair, Cllr Diane Reid.



“THE NEW CENTRE IS IDEAL AS IT'S ONLY A SHORT WALK FROM HOME. EVERYONE COMES TO LONGVIEW TO VISIT THE CHEMIST, HAIRDRESSERS OR SHOPS AND WILL NOW BE ABLE TO DROP IN TO THE CENTRE FOR ADVICE AND A CUP OF TEA BEFORE HEADING BACK HOME.”

Longview resident, 92-year-old Lizzy McNally

Did you know...

You can call in to the **North Huyton office** to tell us about incidents of anti-social behaviour, litter problems or anything else you think we could help sort out. **You will find us at the River Alt Resource Centre, Woolfall Heath Avenue, L36 3YE.**



Above: Lollipop lady Joan McLoughlin celebrates 40 years on the school crossing with children from St Aloysius school, Huyton.



Left: Joan receives her MBE from Prince Charles.

SOUTH KIRKBY

Farm fun for families

Hundreds of visitors have been enjoying seasonal fun at Acorn Farm. In the run-up to Christmas, Santa delighted young visitors who enjoyed a trip to his grotto and pony rides around the farm's winter wonderland.

This came after a crowd of 650 visitors enjoyed a spooky woodland walk on Halloween, with help from young volunteers who acted out the parts of ghosts and ghouls.

For the tenth year running the night was a huge success and offered family entertainment to local residents and people from further afield.

Acorn Farm had its very own Superlambanana take up residence after winning a competition on ITV's Granada Reports programme. **The colourful character delighted visitors in the run up to Christmas and New Year before moving on to pastures new.**

Chill-out room for young centre users

Westvale Community Centre is to get bigger and better. Money has been awarded from the Youth Capital Plus fund to build a new youth hall designed to the specifications of the centre's young users. A purpose-built facility that includes an internet café, coffee bar, games area and a chill-out room with a stage for music events will replace the current hall.

The project has been backed by the Whitefield ward councillors, Cllrs Jean and Norman Keats and Cllr Ros Smith. Work will begin in January with completion expected by the summer.



Left-right: Olivia Stuart, Becky McCarthy, Natasha Bergen, Hannah McNea, Michael Atherton (Werewolf), Penny Langton, Demi Walsh, Jessica Slater and Laura McCoag.

The event was organised by Acorn Farm and was this year jointly funded by Knowsley Council and Knowsley Housing Trust (KHT). It was also supported by the Neighbourhood Wardens and Merseyside Police.

Volunteer Julie Langton from Acorn Farm said: *"It was a lovely family event which was enjoyed by everyone – from babies in prams to grannies and grandads. We had a spooky fancy dress competition and a haunted walk, much of which was organised by our young volunteers who helped make it a real night to remember."*



NEW PITCHES AT WESTVALE

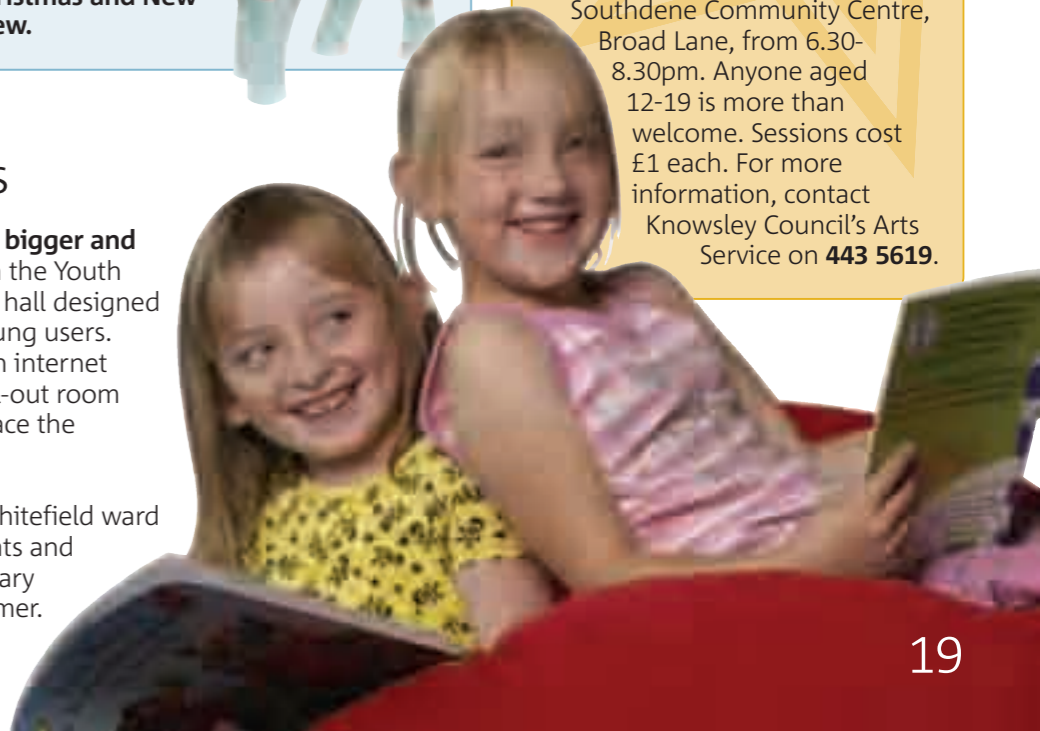
Westvale's new sports facility is now open at the Community Centre. The multi-use games area gives local young people the opportunity to join formal coaching sessions for football, basketball, netball and other sports, as well as using the pitch for informal sports sessions with friends. The two all-weather pitches will also be used by Westvale Youth Club and play scheme. The pitches were paid for by £450,000 of funding from the Department for Children, Schools and Families' Youth Capital Plus Fund.

Did you know...

You can drop in to the **South Kirkby office** to tell us about incidents of anti-social behaviour, litter problems or anything else you think we could help sort out. **You will find us at the One Stop Shop, Cherryfield Drive, L32 1TX.**

Stage stars sought

Budding actors are being invited to join a new theatre group in South Kirkby. Kirkby Youth Theatre was established in November and is looking for new members. They meet on Wednesdays in the Southdene Community Centre, Broad Lane, from 6.30-8.30pm. Anyone aged 12-19 is more than welcome. Sessions cost £1 each. For more information, contact Knowsley Council's Arts Service on **443 5619.**



NORTH KIRKBY



Tower Hill time trip

Stephen Chippendale from Tower Hill Youth Club, enjoys the pensioner's party with new friends Pat Jones and Marie Paton from Happy Hours.

Young and old have been taking a shared stroll down memory lane in Tower Hill. Members of the Tower Hill Youth Club got together with the Happy Hours pensioners group to exchange stories about growing up. Both groups were surprised to report many similarities in their experience of being young and have struck up a friendship which even saw the young people being invited to the Happy Hours Christmas party! As part of the cross-generation project, the Tower Hill Youth Club also produced a DVD which includes interviews with their friends and a series of photographs. The project was jointly organised by the IKAN Team and Knowsley Council's Youth Service.

The IKAN Team, which provides services for the over 55s, can be contacted on **0800 694 0270**.

Tower Hill Youth Club are looking for new members to join aged 11 or over. Contact Joe Fogg on **443 4347** or **07810 054146** for more information.

So what's on where?

A new booklet is now available detailing all the regular activities that go on in Kirkby. 'What's on in Kirkby' lists hundreds of clubs, activities and groups, with where and when they meet and how to find out more. The guide is perfect for residents keen to enjoy more of what the town has to offer. It is available from council and KHT buildings, libraries and other public buildings.



Did you know...

You can drop in to the **North Kirkby office** to tell us about incidents of anti-social behaviour, litter problems or anything you think we could help sort out. **You will find us at The Barn, Shevingtons Lane, L33 1XA.**



A brighter outlook

Winter maintenance has started to make North Kirkby's open spaces more attractive and safer to use.

The season's programme has begun with a major cutback of overgrown shrubs and bushes on Meadowside Drive at the edge of Tower Hill park. This work by Knowsley Council grounds maintenance and the local Pride team will continue across the area in preparation for spring.

HALEWOOD



Ann's tangy recipe for success

Ann Hanlon with, left-right, Becky Hughes, Ethan Calland, Chloe Smith, Megan Von Bargen and Louise Surridge.

It was third time lucky for Plantation Primary school cook Ann Hanlon when she entered the Knowsley heat of the School Chef of the Year competition. Ann beat off the competition to

take the top spot in the contest held at Roby College. Having entered twice before, Ann was delighted when judges named her the winner – with a guaranteed place in the regional final next spring. Cooks had to serve up a

healthy, balanced meal to appeal to the school's 11-year-olds. Ann wowed the judges with her crispy chicken strips with stir fried vegetables and noodles, and tangy orange tart – all for less than £1.10 a portion.



Everyone's talking about the 'Big Conversation'

A 'Big Conversation' is underway with community groups in Halewood.

Representatives from the council and partner organisations are dropping in on more than 70 groups in the area to find out more about their activities, while providing information about support available from the Halewood Area Partnership Board (APB). Building better links with the local community is a key priority for the Halewood APB and the 'Big Conversation' is just one of the ways it is doing this.

Bollywood brings £250 boost

Residents joined staff from Knowsley Council and NHS Knowsley at New Hutte in Halewood for an Indian-themed fundraising event. Everyone enjoyed Bollywood dancing and Indian food taster sessions with the community cooks. The sale of teas, coffees and Indian cuisine, together with money from raffle tickets and bingo, raised £250 for Children in Need.

Royle visit opens new community centre

Royle Family star Ricky Tomlinson officially opened Knowsley Housing Trust's (KHT) new Community Centre 'Fairview Park in Halewood'.

The centre is equipped with a kitchen and meeting room with DVD player. Ricky said: "It's fantastic that there is a great centre where locals can meet and enjoy each other's company."

KHT's Chief Executive Bob Taylor said: "The centre has been built as a thank you to the tenants who live at our sheltered scheme nearby as we have been doing a lot of work on their homes to improve them."



Ricky Tomlinson joins in the dancing at the community centre opening celebrations.

Christmas clean-up

Members of Leathers Lane and Wood Road Community Association, local schoolchildren and neighbourhood wardens took part in a pre-Christmas clean-up as part of the council's Big Deal campaign. More than 120 tonnes of rubbish was cleared and a free bulky household collection service carried out by the Environmental Pride Team. The clean-up was supported by Knowsley Housing Trust and Lee Valley Housing. Ron Sinclair, chair of the community association, said: "The clean-up sends out a message from local people that everyone should take pride in the area."

PRESCOT, WHISTON, CRONTON AND KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

Schoolgirl wins Global Student Prize



Beth Cullen wins Global Student Prize for South Africa fundraising efforts.

Eight-year-old Beth Cullen, a schoolgirl at Whiston Willis Primary School, has won a prestigious award in recognition of her tireless work to help tackle issues of poverty, disease, child protection and female empowerment in South Africa.

Beth Cullen is the only primary school pupil to be awarded the Global Student Prize by the international development charity, VSO. In 2005 Beth's headteacher, Elaine Maloney, went to South Africa as an ambassador for Knowsley Council and came back with stories and pictures of the children in the Mandela Township in Cape Town.

The issues captured Beth's heart and with a very supportive family behind her, Beth has been on a mission ever since.

“BETH IS WITHOUT DOUBT WORTHY OF RECOGNITION AS SHE WORKS TIRELESSLY AND SO EMPATHETICALLY FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS IN SOUTH AFRICA. SHE SHOWS AN UNDERSTANDING OF GLOBAL ISSUES WAY BEYOND HER EIGHT YEARS!”

Elaine Maloney Headteacher, Whiston Willis Primary School

Whiston Heritage Day

Whiston staged a highly successful Heritage Day at the Town Hall on 29 November. The event, jointly arranged by the Whiston Town Mayor's Charity Fund and Whiston Initiative Cultural Heritage, was made possible by a Grassroots grant from the Community Foundation for Merseyside. Items from the M62

Junction 6 excavation were on display, as well as old photographs, copies of local coal mine plans and a Crosville bus. There were also talks on Ropers Bridge, Whiston war memorials, the origin of the workhouse and hospital, trams, Prescott Union Workhouse Chapel 1880-2006 and Whiston Parish/Town Council.

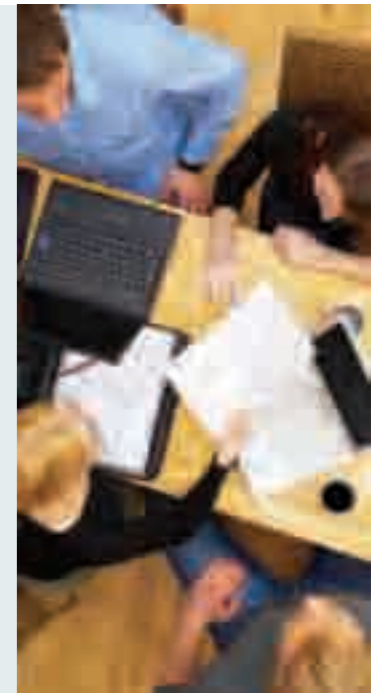


The Mayor and Mayoress of Whiston, Cllr Brian Corkill and Cllr Dorothy Corkill.

Meetings in Knowsley

PLEASE CONTACT DEMOCRATIC SERVICES FOR CONFIRMATION OF TIMES AND VENUES ON **443 3502**

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Council Wednesday 11 February, 7pm Wednesday 4 March, 7pm</p> | <p>Standards Committee Thursday 19 March, 5pm</p> | <p>Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 24 March, 6pm</p> |
| <p>Cabinet Wednesday 4 February, 2pm Wednesday 11 February, 2pm (Budget meeting) Wednesday 11 March, 2pm</p> | <p>Appeals Committee Tuesday 10 March, 10am</p> | <p>Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 4 February, 6pm</p> |
| <p>Planning Committee Thursday 12 February, 6pm Thursday 12 March, 6pm</p> | <p>Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee Monday 23 February, 4pm</p> | <p>Safer, Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee Thursday 5 February, 6pm</p> |
| | <p>Economic Development and Environment Scrutiny Committee Monday 23 March, 6pm</p> | |



- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Children's Information Service 443 5633 | Job vacancies 443 5000 |
| Complaints and compliments 443 4031 | Knowsley Council's bulky household waste service 443 2400 |
| Consumer Advice/Trading Standards 443 4711 | Knowsley Hate Crime Hotline 0800 953 4433 |
| Council tax 443 4476 | Merseyside Fire and Rescue 0800 953 0673 |
| Council Tax and Benefits Fraud Hotline 0800 073 111 | NHS Direct 0845 4647 |
| Dangerous buildings/structures/trees 443 2380 | Pest control 443 2455 |
| Education general enquiries 443 3232 | Refuse collection 443 2400 |
| General enquiries 489 6000 | Planning enquiries 443 2380 |
| Highways (including footways and street lighting) 443 2400 | Schools admissions and exclusions 443 3213 |
| Homelessness 290 7190 | School attendance service 443 3279 |
| Housing general enquiries 443 5834 | School bus passes 443 3212 |
| Housing repairs (Knowsley Housing Trust East) 0800 731 2023 (Knowsley Housing Trust West) 0500 969 694 | Traffic signal faults 443 2349 |
| | Truancy Hotline 0800 073 6161 |

EMERGENCY OUT-OF-HOURS

- Fire/Police/Ambulance (emergency) **999**
- Merseyside Fire and Rescue switchboard **296 4000**
- Merseyside Police switchboard **709 6010**
- Citizens Advice Bureau **0845 122 1300**
- Highways Emergency **443 2800**
- Social services and homelessness **07659 590 081**
- Housing repairs **290 7375/449 3958**

For more information visit www.knowsley.gov.uk or email customerservices@knowsley.gov.uk

Chance to air your views

Whiston Town Council is holding a Public Meeting at 7.30pm on Monday, 16 February at Whiston Town Hall, Old Colliery Road. Representatives from Knowsley Council and Merseyside Police will be on hand to answer your questions.

If you live in the area, it is an opportunity to share your views on local issues that interest you.

Debt advice session

The Enterprise Credit Union (ECU) and Citizens Advice Bureau held a well attended debt advice session at the George Howard Community Centre in Lickers Lane in January. ECU operates as a social enterprise offering savings, low cost loans and money advice to residents and employees. If you couldn't make the session or need further advice you can contact the ECU on **482 0177**.



What's on in February and March...

UNTIL 8 FEBRUARY 2009

The Vinyl Countdown
 Venue: Kirkby Gallery,
 Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby
 Phone: 443 5619

An exhibition timeline of vinyl to CDs with all sorts of other music things going on too!



9 FEBRUARY-4 MAY 2009

Marie Ryder exhibition
 Venue: Huyton Gallery,
 Civic Way, Huyton
 Phone: 443 5642

Exhibition of work by local artist Marie Ryder.

16-20 FEBRUARY 2009

Half-term events
 Venue: National Wildflower Centre,
 Court Hey Park, Huyton
 Phone: 738 1913

A series of events for families, children and young people based around an ecological creative theme. Call for more information.

23 FEBRUARY-10 MAY 2009

Gary Daly China Crisis
 Venue: Kirkby Gallery,
 Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby
 Phone: 443 5619

A retrospective exhibition by Gary Daly.



7 MARCH 2009

Gimme Shelter
 Venue: National Wildflower Centre,
 Court Hey Park, Huyton
 Time: 1pm
 Phone: 738 1913

Try your hand making willow structures. Suitable for anyone aged 11 and over.

12 MARCH 2009



How to... make compost
 Venue: National Wildflower Centre,
 Court Hey Park, Huyton
 Time: 10am-4pm
 Phone: 738 1913

A one-day course for adults covering all aspects of compost making.

14 MARCH 2009

Tall Tales and Short Stories
 Venue: National Wildflower Centre,
 Court Hey Park, Huyton
 Time: 1pm and 2pm
 Phone: 738 1913

An enchanting story telling workshop for all the family.



Ongoing events...

REVERBERATE

Reverberate is a new and exciting Merseyside music project for budding MCs, singers, bands, rappers, guitarists, drummers, producers, sound and lighting engineers, musicians and even non musicians.

If you would like to get involved, get your name on the database by calling Dave Wycherley in Knowsley Council's Arts Service on 443 5619, or email dave.wycherley@knowsley.gov.uk



Are you a young person interested in acting or theatre production? Why not come along to your local youth theatre group. They are held right across Knowsley as follows:

HUYTON CHILDREN'S & YOUTH THEATRE

Every Monday
 Venue: The Old Schoolhouse,
 St Johns Road, Huyton
 Time: 5-7pm (ages 7-11)
 & 7-9pm (ages 12-19)
 Age group: 7-19 years
 Sessions are £1 per person.

HALEWOOD YOUTH THEATRE

Every Tuesday
 Venue: Halewood College,
 The Avenue, Halewood
 Time: 6-8pm
 Age group: 12-19 years
 Sessions are £1 per person.

KIRKBY YOUTH THEATRE

Every Wednesday
 Venue: Southdene
 Community Centre
 Time: 6.30-8.30pm
 Age group: 12-19 years
 Sessions are £1 per person.

KABOOM! YOUTH PRODUCTION COMPANY

Every Thursday
 Venue: Higher Side School,
 Cumber Lane, Whiston
 (subject to change – so please check)
 Time: 6-9pm
 Age group: 13-21 years

Anyone is welcome to get involved!

CONTACT

Leanne Jones at Knowsley Arts Service
 Telephone: 443 5618
 Email: arts.unit@knowsley.gov.uk
 Website: www.myspace.com/knowsleyarts
 Write to or visit:
 Knowsley Arts Service, Prescot Museum, 34 Church Street, Prescot, L34 3LA

Please note: dates, times and venues do change occasionally due to school breaks and performances, so for up-to-date times and dates of these sessions, or further information, please use the contact details above.



The opening of
Christ the King

**Catholic and Church of England
Centre for Learning**



**Centres for Learning -
inspiring, exploring, achieving**





Christ the King

Catholic and Church of England Centre for Learning

“The opening of Christ the King is a landmark day for everyone in Knowsley. It brings to life our long-held dream that the young people of the borough should have the very best environment in which to learn, develop and realise their full potential.”

My late friend and colleague Cllr Larry Nolan, who for many years provided visionary leadership of education in Knowsley, said that our young people should, by right, attend ‘palaces for learning’. **Well, here is the first one.**

It is the first of seven such facilities across the borough, all of which will be opened by 2010.

If Knowsley is to become the place that future generations choose to live, they need to be assured that it can provide the very best learning opportunities. **This Centre for Learning proves it can.**

Cllr Ron Round
Leader of Knowsley Council

Cllr Larry Nolan



We're on the move

Look out for a special vehicle touring the streets to show you how education in Knowsley is changing to make your life better. And the message is 'get on board!' Inside you can enjoy a taste of what life is

like in the new Centres for Learning, with plenty of activities for young and old to enjoy. The vehicle was launched at the opening of Christ the King Centre for Learning, with ads saying 'We're on the move'.

The vehicle will visit all the schools in Knowsley this year and appear at key events in the area. So if you have any questions about the new centres, step aboard and find out more.

Halewood Centre for Learning is the next centre to open in June, with roofwork, curtain walling and cladding completed. Work has started on the sports pitches and the ground source heat pumps are in place, providing 20% of the centre's energy.



At **Whiston & Prescot Community Centre for Learning**, roof coverings are completed and cladding and curtain walling work is ongoing.



The roof structure of **Kirkby Sports College, a Centre for Learning** has been installed, cladding and glazing work is virtually complete and drainage works are ongoing.



At **All Saints Catholic Centre for Learning** roofwork is going well, concrete pours are continuing and the ground floor slab is 95% complete.



Coming soon!

While Christ the King Catholic and Church of England Centre for Learning has opened, work has been going well on the six other sites.

At **South Huyton Centre for Learning**, drainage works continue, along with cladding and aluminium curtain walling and glazing.



At **Whiston & Prescot Catholic Centre for Learning** underground drainage and ground floor slab works continue and roofwork has begun.

You've got to move on with the times

Donna Steele, 39, welcomes the new Centres for Learning. As a parent, she couldn't wait for her son Lewis, 11, to start at Christ the King because she believes it will transform his life as well as hers.

“I'm excited about the new Centres for Learning because I like change. I believe that you have to move on to make things better for you and for your children. I know it's all going to be so high-tech, a completely different education from the one I had. My son will love it there!”

“Lewis, 11, shares my enthusiasm. He saw the plans with me and felt good about the future. He loves science and maths, unlike me – perhaps I would have done better in those subjects if teaching had been more hands-on and had moved away from the traditional teacher facing the classroom routine.”

believe how big it was, so spacious. And the winter garden looks fantastic.

“I've heard parents saying it's a waste of money but if you're negative, you'll never move on. If you don't move on, you'll never improve your life.”

“I'm really looking forward to using the centre myself. It's great that you can do something in the evenings. It's great to have a choice and I may take up cookery.”

“Besides, the old school Lewis went to has had its time. When I visited the Christ the King site, I just said 'Wow'! I couldn't



The future is now!

With Christmas gone, New Year resolutions fading and winter setting in, this is usually a flat time of year.

But not so in 2009. This year there's a huge sense of excitement for the community in North Huyton as they start to use their brand new Centre for Learning.

And the rest of this new year should live up to expectations as a further six centres open across Knowsley between now and next January.

Christ the King Catholic and Church of England Centre for Learning opened its doors to the community earlier this month.

It provides a world-class school for pupils and teachers as well as a state-of-the-art recreational, sports and educational centre for the community beyond normal working hours.

Knowsley Council celebrated the opening with a ministerial launch by Rt Hon Ed Balls, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families and a community launch by the Mayor of Knowsley, Cllr Michael Foulkes.

The principal of Christ the King is Karol Grabowski, who has over 30 years' teaching experience, including heading a joint Catholic and Church of England school in Barnsley.

Mr Grabowski said: *"Being Principal for Christ the King is an exciting challenge and I am really looking forward to the opportunities this will afford to students and the local community alike."*



“The community were promised a centre that would transform their lives for the better. Now they can see that we are delivering on that promise. But this is just the beginning for Knowsley. In June, the Halewood Centre for Learning will open, followed by three more centres in September and two next January. This is a year of celebration, giving Knowsley residents centres they can be proud of owning.”

Cllr Graham Wright
Cabinet Member for
Children's Services

Caption:
to be provided once photo
has been taken

“THERE’S GOING TO BE SO MUCH MORE CHOICE, MORE FACILITIES AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES. I GO TO HALEWOOD COLLEGE AND WILL MOVE TO THE NEW CENTRE FOR LEARNING THIS YEAR. I CAN’T WAIT!”

Peter, Knowsley student



“I AM REALLY INTERESTED IN SPORTS AND SCIENCE AND AM REALLY EXCITED ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES ON OFFER. MY DAD AND BROTHER ARE REALLY IMPRESSED WITH THE OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES – IT WILL BE A GREAT PLACE FOR ALL THE FAMILY TO EXPERIENCE AND ENJOY.”

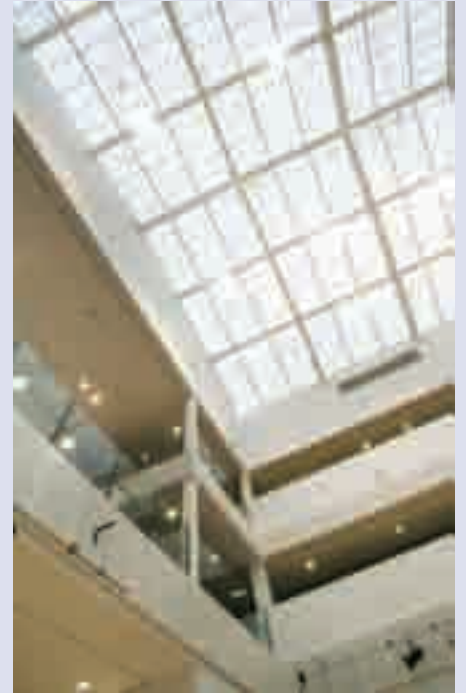
Jasmine, Knowsley student





“ A DIFFERENT, BETTER AND MORE INDIVIDUAL WAY TO LEARN FOR ALL, THAT’S WHAT THE NEW CENTRES FOR LEARNING WILL BRING TO KNOWSLEY. I THINK WE’LL ONLY LOOK FORWARD TO THE FUTURE... THERE REALLY IS NO STOPPING US NOW! ”

Dave Carline, Knowsley teacher



Joseph Wood
Apprentice



David Berry
Apprentice



“I’m made up with this news. I have really enjoyed learning the skills of the trade, working towards getting an NVQ and being given the chance to work in my community”

Kieran Canavan
Apprentice



Thomas Dodd
Apprentice



Gary Murray
Apprentice



Liam Miller
Apprentice



Thomas Caffrey
Apprentice



Our local contribution

“We are really happy with the apprentices, they are a credit to Knowsley and we’re delighted that we have now been given the work on the remaining Centres for Learning. We’re so pleased to be able to offer the seven young men a year’s contract in Knowsley during which time they will complete an NVQ.”

Nicola Mason
Press Officer, LB Telecom

Seven local young men have beaten the credit crunch by securing their jobs after helping to build the new Centres for Learning.

The seven youngsters, aged between 16 and 21 – Joseph Wood, Thomas Dodd, Liam Miller, David Berry, Thomas Caffrey, Kieran Canavan and Gary Murray – had their apprenticeships confirmed for a year with LB Telecom & Data Ltd, a data-cabling sub-contractor of Balfour Beatty.

They have all been helping to build the new Centres for Learning in North

Huyton and Halewood. This building project is one of a number within the National Skills Academies for Construction programme.

LB Telecom wanted to take on some local labour so the youngsters were found and were put on a three-month trial with a view to a permanent contract.

Councillor Graham Wright, Knowsley’s Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, said: “This is good news for Knowsley. It’s wonderful to hear that, despite the credit crunch, local young men are able to find and keep jobs, working on the new Centres for Learning. It is good to see them putting something back into the community that they can be proud of.”





Branching out into the community

Local people in North Huyton have been capturing their hopes for the future in a Forest of Dreams.

Young people, parents, grandparents and other local residents involved at the roots of the new Christ the King Catholic and Church of England Centre for Learning gathered local memories and aspirations in consultation with a local organisation called 'as creatives' commissioned by Knowsley Council and Transform Schools.

The local people's thoughts were captured on mini trees which were planted in an ever-growing Forest of Dreams presented to Christ the King. Barrie Yates, Transform Schools Project Director for the Knowsley Schools BSF programme, said: "We're very pleased to be working in partnership with Knowsley Council to greatly improve the learning and teaching within the borough." Damian Allen, Executive Director of the Directorate of Children and Family Services, said: "The Forest of Dreams artwork celebrates the visions of young people, bringing together the voices of different communities to increase the feeling of ownership for the new Centres for Learning and to get their backing for the vision for improved education and attainment."



as
creatives
think differently

Delivering the best for you – at the double!

It's official! Knowsley Council beat other local authorities by winning two awards – the first for student engagement with pupils on its new Centres for Learning and the second for having a groundbreaking teaching programme.

Knowsley scooped the two prizes in the Partnerships for Schools (Pfs) Excellence in Building Schools for the Future (BSF) awards. The successes came in the categories for the most promising transformational learning strategy and for innovation in student engagement.

Cllr Graham Wright, Knowsley's Cabinet Member for Children's Services, said: "This is wonderful news for Knowsley and great that all the hard work and vision of Knowsley Council has been recognised by Pfs."

Damian Allen, Executive Director of Knowsley's Directorate of Children & Family Services, said: "These awards are a tremendous credit to our team, demonstrating that we are listening to the needs of our pupils, parents and community and working to make Knowsley the best place to be educated with the new Centres for Learning."

Tim Byles, Chief Executive of Pfs and Chair of Excellence in BSF Awards judging panel, said: "The real winners are students, teachers and communities who will benefit from safe, inspiring and green places to learn thanks to BSF, which is certainly something worth celebrating."

Where can I get further information on the new Centres for Learning?

Visit the future schooling web pages: www.knowsley.gov.uk/education/future_schooling/

You can also find out more on the teachers' website resource: www.teachernet.gov.uk/

Who to contact: Future Schooling in Knowsley, phone: 443 2700

Write to or visit: Directorate of Children and Family Services, Huyton Hey Road, Huyton, Knowsley, L36 5YH

Email: info.fsk@knowsley.gov.uk