



West Lancs businesses invited to Phil the Box!

A new service has been launched in Burscough to help green West Lancs businesses.

A recent survey conducted by Global Renewables showed many businesses in West Lancs wanted to recycle but struggled to find easy and cost effective options. That's where Phil the Box the box comes in!

Phil the Box offers a local office paper recycling service with a smile. The service is easy to use, saves space and helps local business protect the environment - and for a trial period the service is free of charge!

"When you take delivery of our office paper recycling boxes, you just do what it says on the Box" said Phil the Box Manager Tess Reddington. "We collect regularly to make sure all your waste paper is recycled quickly and efficiently and without fuss."

Phil the Box supports the wider goals of the Waste Management Strategy for Lancashire by promoting the diversion of waste from landfill. Start up funding for the enterprise was provided by Lancashire County Council and Blackpool Councils with project and development support provided by Global Renewables as part of the Waste PFI Contract.

To request a free Box, call 01704 896304 or e-mail info@philthebox.co.uk



Phil the Box recycling assistant, Josh Howe and volunteer director Peter Reddington with recycling boxes ready for delivery across West Lancs

For further information and interviews, please contact:

Phil the Box Ltd

Tess Reddington Tel: 01704 880971
Manager Mob: 07518 347559

E-mail: tessreddington@gmail.com



St John's C of E Church Promote Fairtrade Easter Eggs

St John's Church is continuing to support Fairtrade by promoting their 'Real Easter Eggs'.

The Eggs cost £4.50 each which includes a charitable donation, VAT and delivery. Thirty pence from each egg will be donated to Traidcraft Exchange and a further 10% from profits will go to Baby Lifeline.

Traidcraft Exchange is a development charity which helps small-scale farmers and producers to gain the confidence and skills to work together effectively, find markets for their products, and trade successfully.

Baby Lifeline supports new mothers and new-born babies in the UK. It supplies hospitals with life-saving equipment such as incubators and helps to give specialist training to doctors and midwives.

Order forms, posters and magazine articles can be downloaded for free at www.realeasteregg.co.uk



Please register your church today at: www.realeasteregg.co.uk

THINKING ABOUT SELF EMPLOYMENT, OR WORKING FROM HOME?

07518 347559

for more information

Our Free Business Start Up Programme specially designed for carers, will provide the information and support you need to plan and start in Self-Employment and be successful.



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FREE ONE TO ONE BUSINESS SUPPORT

NO FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED. IF YOU HAVE AN ENTERPRISING IDEA, THIS IS FOR YOU.



This programme is funded for carers by Lancashire County Council, Carers' Grant programme

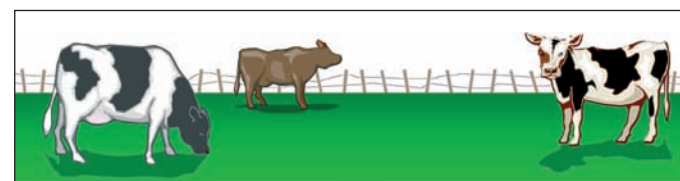


B.P.C.

Newsletter - Issue 22 - February 2011

B.P.C.

Local Produce Market



The monthly Local Produce Market sponsored by the Parish Council started again on Sunday 13th February after its Christmas break.

The Market was once again held in the Older Peoples' Club in Lord Street; however, the Parish Council is now considering moving its Market to the newly refurbished Wharf Building next to the Leeds & Liverpool canal. It is proposed that the Produce Market would have two elements: a range of traditional market stalls in the Courtyard area, plus a number of tables in the indoor gallery area.

The Market is open to individuals or traders selling produce that is grown, made or processed within a 30-mile radius of Burscough. If you would be interested in having a stall at this exciting new venue, please contact Keith or Nicola on 01704 894914 or e-mail us on burscoughpc@btconnect.com.

Or, if you are just interested in supporting local producers, and enjoying the very best of local produce, please come along to the monthly market.

The next market will be held on Sunday 13th March.

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'Something to celebrate!' 'Burscough Wharf' Opens for Business

Saturday February 12th saw the opening of the Burscough Wharf, with hundreds of visitors over the weekend period packing the shops and display spaces to get a view of this new asset to our village centre, including its community facilities.

This was followed by another outstandingly successful event for the first opening of the theatre at the Wharf on Valentine's evening, when West Lancashire's own Jill Fielding Band were performing to a packed house.

A Transformation Long Overdue

How it all started:

The Wharf building in Burscough sat empty for decades, most of the time with a 'For Sale' notice displayed. There had been many attempts by Councillors to engage the Waterways Board in dialogue to no effect.

The journey that finally produced a new life for the Wharf started on 15th May 2004 when an exhibition took place at Priory School as part of the Parish Council's work on the 'Parish Plan'. Those attending were asked what they wanted in Burscough over the next ten years.

There were many great ideas put forward, but all day people were talking about The Wharf, so the Parish Plan team approached British Waterways and arranged a visit to the Wharf. They saw a real opportunity not to be missed - and after much dedicated work opening day has finally arrived.

What's on offer at 'The Wharf'

As well as exciting shops and eating places, 'The Community' at the Wharf has something for everyone to enjoy. There are many attractions including a theatre, a cinema, a place for weddings and birthday parties, and a meeting place for community groups. The beautiful cobbled courtyard will hold lots of events all year round.

Looking forward A Date for your Diary

Look out for the Burscough Wharf's adverts for their spring programme and thinking ahead to summer watch out in June for the Canal Heritage Week that promises to be the biggest event ever in Burscough.

Support for Police Community Support Officers

Part of the legal responsibility of Parish Council is to seek to minimise crime and disorder in its area. Burscough Parish Council fulfils this role by co-operating closely with the Burscough PACT (Police and Communities Together) Panel and with the local Community Beat Manager, PC O'Toole; and, in the past, it has paid for a security guard to monitor activity in Richmond Park, which is now covered by Borough Council CCTV cameras.

Since 2009, the Parish Council has also sponsored one of the two Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in Burscough, and the Councillors believe that the presence of the two PCSOs has been a major factor in the noticeable drop in reported crimes in and around Burscough. Many of you will have seen in the news that the future of PCSOs is threatened because of the cuts in Police budgets that are being imposed by central government. However, at its budget meeting this month the Parish Council agreed to continue supporting the PCSOs for the next financial year.



Launch of Veggies to Grow

'Veggies to Grow' is a new community interest company (CIC) set up to help people across West Lancashire to grow their own herbs and vegetables.

A Social Enterprise supported by Help Direct, the team will deliver and install raised beds filled with compost and planted up with young vegetable or herb plants. They also provide easy to follow growing guides. See their website www.vegiestogrow.co.uk for more details.



News in brief : News in brief :

Successful Fundraising event

In January Infusions Cafe organised a raffle and collection in aid of 'Cancer Research'. The event raised £420 for the charity. Infusions Cafe wish to thank local businesses who supported them with raffle prizes, and hope to make this an annual event.

Shop Window Competition - Christmas 2010

Can you still remember the snowy scene at Christmas? - I'm sure everyone was pleased to see the shop window displays brightening things up in those difficult days - and the winning shop window in this year's comp was 'The Cat's Whiskers' - congratulations to everyone concerned!

Greenshoots Cafe - working for our community

The Greenshoots Community Cafe continues to impress with its welcoming environment and freshly cooked food. But not everyone will be aware that the cafe, run by local volunteers, is also providing work opportunities for young people with lots of support on hand and volunteering opportunities for people between jobs.

Greenshoots welcomes everyone, either as customers or in a more active way with involvement in the day to day running of the cafe. Whoever you are Greenshoots needs you. Opening hours - week-days 10.00am to 2.00pm.



Some 'thankyou's' from the Friends of Burscough Stations Group

Work continues on the disused platform at Burscough Junction Station. The Group would like to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of £500 from County Councillor William Cropper's Local Member Grant towards the purchase of a planter at the station.



Support from the community

Thanks also to everyone who supported the fundraising raffle held at Burscough Bridge Station in the autumn last year, including the businesses that generously donated prizes. Following this, the Group have also received a couple of offers of seedlings and cuttings from green-fingered local residents. If you can help in this way, or if would like to lend a helping hand with the maintenance of planters at our stations, please get in touch with the Chairman of the Group Brian Bailey on 894557.

Parish Council Meetings

On 2nd **Monday** of each month meetings are held in the Older People's Club, Lord Street, Burscough. Keep up to date with parish meetings and agendas via our notice boards across the parish. **The Parish Office is open** on a regular basis between 10.00am and 4.00pm on Mondays and Tuesdays. At other times a phone message can be left or email: burscoughpc@btconnect.com

Burscough Parish Council 2011 - Members' Contact Details -

Chairman: Brian Bailey • Vice Chairman: Joan Craft

Councillor	Address	Telephone
Burscough Town Ward		
Alan Bullen	1A Mill Dam Lane L40 7TG	896032
George Pratt	42 Langdale Drive L40 5SF	897310
Ellerbrook Ward		
Angela Felton	10 Mill Dam Lane L40 7TQ	893353
Ronnie Sutherland	2 Lathom Close L40 5XW	897466
Vacancy		
New Lane Ward		
Joan Craft	9 Canal Bank, New Lane L40 0RR	895679
Red Cat Lane Ward		
Gaynor Hackett	2A Caravan Park, off Liverpool Road North L40 5TW	894353
Richmond Park Ward		
Cynthia Dereli	10 Meadowbrook L40 7XA	895247
St John's Ward		
Brian Bailey	60 Trevor Road L40 7RY	894557
Roger Bell	Haydock Farm, School Lane L40 4AE	897491
Brian Kennedy	37 Weaver Avenue L40 4LE	894914
Stanley Ward		
Dawn Crolla	4 Truscott Road L40 7SF	891608
Tom Dawson	18 Alexander Road L40 7RT	895508
John Stanley	30 Higgins Lane L40 7SD	894600
Clerk to the Council		
Keith Williams	Office 1, Martland Mill, Mart Lane L40 0SD	894914
e-mail	burscoughpc@btconnect.com	

VACANCY FOR COUNCILLOR (ELLERBROOK WARD)

Following the resignation of one of the Councillors, there is now a vacancy on your Parish Council

If you live, or work, anywhere in Burscough and you are interested in doing something for your community, why not get in touch with the Parish Clerk, Keith Williams, and discuss with him the role of a Parish Councillor.

The Council meets once a month and Members get no expenses or allowances; but they do get the satisfaction of getting things done for Burscough and the people who live here.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Action on Renewable Energy

The Parish Council has sponsored the establishment of the 'Burscough Renewable Energy Company', a Community Interest Company (CIC), which is now up and running. Its aims include -

- raising awareness of the problems of fuel poverty
- working with community organisations on the installation of renewable energy technology to help to provide them with cheaper, greener energy and to make their community organisations more sustainable
- encouraging conservation of energy, including improvements to and insulation of buildings

If you are interested in getting involved, or would like to hear more about the company's plans, please contact the chair Cynthia Dereli on 895247.

PACT

(Police and Community Together)

The PACT is a panel of local people who represent various sections of our Burscough community including local business, schools, Youth and Older Persons organisations, Neighbourhood Watch, churches and the Parish Council.

The Panel work to support the Neighbourhood Policing Team in managing community policing issues. Their function is to discuss local crime and anti-social behaviour and to set priorities if necessary for policing action. Whilst being a behind-the-scenes group, they are an important part of policing strategy but remain independent of the Police.

If you are a member of the Burscough community, have an interest in local issues and would like to be considered for a place on the PACT Panel, please contact the Secretary on 078556 66848.

Public PACT meetings are open to everyone, and provide an opportunity to discuss issues with your local Policing Team. They take place on the first Tuesday of every month at 5.30 to 6.30pm at the Grove Community Centre, Station Approach, Burscough.

To find out more about the PACT, visit <http://www.lancashire.police.uk/neighbourhood>

Choose Well

Health Bosses Join Forces To Offer Winter Health Advice

The NHS 'Choose Well Campaign' is aimed at ensuring that people know about the range of Health services available, and also how to keep fit and well.

Winter always brings an increase in the number of people going to their GP, dialling 999 or turning up at A&E. However, there are other ways to get fast and effective advice and treatment, often without an appointment.

NHS Central Lancashire's urgent care lead Dr Bob Bennett commented that the number of people using A&E and 999 services is going up year on year in the North West despite the introduction of new services such as walk-in centres.

"I think we need to get back to the message that A&E departments are for life-threatening and emergency conditions....Yet A&E teams are faced daily with having to deal with conditions such as coughs and colds that could be dealt with through a trip to the high street chemist"

The 'Choose Well' team can help people access the right service and get the right treatment. They have introduced a 'traffic light' system to highlight the appropriate services to use. There is a lot of help available, so be prepared - look at the information on the web NOW.

A range of materials, including leaflets, posters and a screensavers can be downloaded from NHS Central Lancashire's website www.centrallancashire.nhs.uk/choosewell or by contacting the communications team on communications@centrallancashire.nhs.uk

You can also contact NHS Direct www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk; tel: 0845 46 47, and don't forget to keep your GP's number handy.

Environment Challenge Competition

The Parish Council Sustainability Group has run a competition to encourage young people in our schools to engage with environmental issues. This year, the prize for a pupil in a Burscough Primary school was awarded to a pupil from St John's Catholic School. Congratulations to the pupil and his school!

At Burscough Priory Science College the prize money of £250 will be going towards the creation of 'The Every Child Matters Garden' - 'a sensory garden with a wild flower area' - a proposal put forward by the School's Eco Council. There will also be £50 of vouchers for them to spend on improving the school library's offerings on environmental issues.

Eco-festival at Martin Mere

Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 March 2011

The Martin Mere Wetland Centre would like to invite you to come along to the forthcoming Eco-festival in March.

March is The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) official gardening month in 2011 and is being championed by Alan Titchmarsh to ensure they generate a selection of local, regional and national publicity for the event.

The aim of the event is to encourage the local community to learn what they can do to help the environment as well as providing fun activities for families. The event will be advertised by radio, leaflet distribution, regional and local press and through their website <http://www.wwt.org.uk/visit-us/martin-mere>.

There will be reduced admission for anyone who travels to the Centre by public transport.



Winter Gritting

During December, Burscough saw some of the coldest weather it has experienced for many years, with temperatures dropping as low as -18 centigrade.

The County Council is responsible for snow clearing and for gritting highways and, although it received many complaints, overall it did a good job in very difficult circumstances.

One thing that it could not do, however, was provide the resources to grit pavements and, in Burscough this can be a serious issue because of the steep slopes on the bridges.

The Parish Council, therefore, having engaged a contractor, purchased grit and a pedestrian grit spreader specifically to grit the pavements within the shopping area between the two bridges. This is something that the Parish Council has now committed to do during the winter months in the coming year. Also, an additional amount has been budgeted for snow clearance in 2011/12, just in case the same conditions are experienced next winter.



Allotments

With just twelve Borough Council Allotments available and over 50 local people on the waiting list for one, it is clear that Burscough, despite being in the centre of one of the most important vegetable growing areas of the country, is desperately short of allotments.

The Parish Council has been concerned about this for some time, but has now got together with the West Lancashire Allotment Federation and the Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) to establish a local Allotment Society that can push for some positive action, with financial support from the Parish Council.

A first meeting has been arranged for Monday 7th March at 7.00pm at Burscough Wharf, so if you are interested in having an allotment, please come along to this meeting, or call or e-mail the Council Office to get details.

Tel: 01704 894914,

E-mail:

info@burscoughparishcouncil.co.uk



Good news for the Grove Activity Scheme

After worries about the future of the Grove Activity Scheme, many families will be delighted to hear that Burscough Parish Council has stepped in to ensure that the programme will be able to run at Easter this year.

The parish councillors voted for a generous one-off donation of £6,000 to fund the project in the short term while long term funding is being sought. There have also been very welcome contributions from Lathom, Rufford and Scarisbrick Parish Councils.

Ruth Melling, chair of the Grove Community Association, said, 'We are

extremely grateful to Burscough and the other Parish Councils for this help. Their money will give us some breathing space to prepare applications for long term funding. I know this news will be very welcome to the many families for whom the Grove Activity Scheme is a vital support, and whose young people have benefited from the programme.'

Thanks to Burscough Parish Council, there will be another brilliant scheme during the Easter holidays in 2011.

The dates for the scheme are from Monday 11th to Thursday 14th April and

Monday 18th to Thursday 21st April, starting at 10.00am and closing at 3.30pm. Wednesdays are trip days: - to Camelot Theme Park on 13th April, and to Blackburn Ice Skating Arena on 20th. The centre is closed on trip days, but on other days there will be arts and crafts, cooking, table tennis, snooker, table football, board games, lego and much more. There will be a sports coach visiting on Mondays, and swimming trips to Park Pool on Tuesdays, and much more still to be organised.

For more information contact Liz or Sue on: 01704 896424.

Parish Council Finances

The principle income - in fact over 80% of the income - of the Parish Council is what is called the 'precept': that is, a local tax raised as part of your Council Tax paid through the Borough Council.

For next year, 2011/12, the Parish Council has decided again that the precept should not be increased but should remain at the figure of £78,000, which it has been since 2008.

Although it has not gone up, this still might sound like quite a lot of money; but it equates to £23 a year for a typical household in Burscough, or less than 50p a week.

With this money, the Parish Council does everything that it can to improve the quality for life for local residents. It does this mainly by acting as a voice for the local community in dealings with the Borough and County Councils and other government departments; but it also provide many services directly itself. For example, it

provides litterbins and park benches; play equipment in Mere Avenue playground; it erects and maintains bus shelters; it maintains the 23 Kilometres of public footpaths in the countryside around Burscough; and it provides the Christmas decorations in the town centre. But, most importantly your Parish Council provides support for local groups who are helping to make Burscough a better place to live.

During the current financial year, the Parish Council has been able to give grants to the Lancashire Arts & Crafts Guild, the Burscough Branch of the Royal British Legion, Burscough Richmond Football Club, Burscough Cricket Club, the Grove Youth and Community Centre and the local PACT Panel.

Without this financial support from the Parish Council, many groups would find it difficult to continue to provide their various activities for the people of Burscough.

Saving money - let's start with councillors? - No, we are not paid!

An interesting letter from a local resident raising issues about resources commented, in passing, on the allowances and expenses paid to councillors.

Councillors present at the meeting when this was read were quick to point out that they do not receive any payments or allowances for their work for the Parish and that expenses paid to the Chairman, the only Member of the Council who can claim expenses, are purely to ensure that he is not out of pocket when conducting business on behalf of the Parish. So far in this financial year, he has reclaimed just £154.

BPC are provisionally in negotiation with North West Ambulance Service to re-establish a First Responders Group in the local area. This, of course, is subject to a future formal resolution!

First Responders are volunteers specially trained in attending victims of life-threatening conditions, such as heart attack, and are provided with all the necessary equipment to deal with such incidents.

Because of their local proximity they are, in the majority of cases, the first on the scene. This can be critical in the case of heart attack, where it can be literally the difference between life and death.

Hopefully, this will be progressed and we should have further information for our next newsletter.

In the mean time, for more information please visit: www.nwas-responders.info.



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Help Direct is a FREE service offering practical support, guidance and information to help you get the most out of your life.

Make 2011 YOUR year, ask us about:

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www.helpdirect.org.uk



Fairtrade Fortnight! -Will you show off your label?



Many of you have been supporting Fairtrade for a long time and of course Burscough is a FAIRTRADE TOWN so..... Let's all show off our labels and tell others about the difference Fairtrade makes!

You could.....

- **ENTHUSE** about your cotton socks! - Your Fairtrade cotton socks do more than keep your feet warm. They mean that the women of Kita, Mali now have better opportunities and fairer wages. How often do socks stand up for women's rights?
- **RAVE** about your Brazil nuts! -Your quick snack now means that Fairtrade nut farmers in Bolivia can now afford medical care. Why not show off your Fairtrade peanuts & cashews?

Did you know.....

- B & Q now sell Fairtrade bedding - That should make you sleep more easily!
- Fairtrade sales have risen from £16m in 1998 to £800m in 2009!
- 7 in 10 households now purchase Fairtrade goods!
- More than 7.5 million people in 58 developing countries are helped by Fairtrade!

The Great Cake Bake!

As a Fairtrade Town our campaign this year, in response to the "Show off your label" campaign, will be "The Great Cake Bake!"

- **Greenshoots Café** - Come along to the café during Fairtrade Fortnight to enjoy cakes that not only taste good but also show off their Fairtrade labels.
- **Church Café!** - Why not bring along a friend, during the week in, Fairtrade Fortnight, and share a Fairtrade tea or coffee with a Fairtrade scone?
- **Fairtrade Cakes For Sale!** - At the 11.00am service at St John's C of E on March 12th you can buy a Fairtrade cake made by their amazing and talented youth!

- **FINALLY, Why Stop There! - Show off the label all year round!**

Here are some ideas.....

MARCH - Pancakes - Fairtrade syrup, lemons and sugar.

APRIL - Easter - Fairtrade chocolate, eggs, fruit cakes and flowers.

MAY - FA Cup - Fairtrade beer, wine, salted peanuts and footballs.

