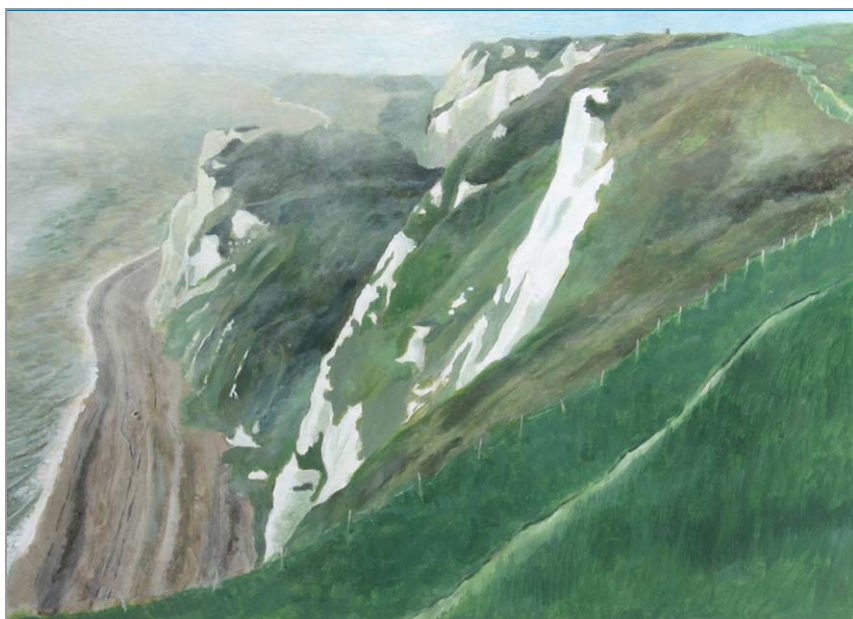


The Knowledge



Dave Robinson 'Branscombe Cliffs'
See page 2 - of 'A Taste of East Devon'

This week in The Knowledge

- ❑ To recipients of a paper copy of the Knowledge
- ❑ A Taste of East Devon exhibition
- ❑ Free new horse riding guide to the Blackdown Hills
- ❑ Rural Services Network (RSN)
- ❑ Fraud matters
- ❑ New documents in the Members' Area
- ❑ Find out more about funding
- ❑ Meetings
- ❑ Portfolio Holders decisions
- ❑ News from the IDEA
- ❑ In the press
- ❑ Appendix: Trickster – the bogus caller musical

1 August 2008

Record visitor figures for Frink exhibition



The acclaimed and successful exhibition of work by internationally famous sculptor Elisabeth Frink attracted over 1,000 viewers to East Devon's only public art gallery, The Thelma Hulbert Gallery, during June and July. Visitors were astonished and delighted to see such high calibre work in Honiton by this important figure in the world of art.

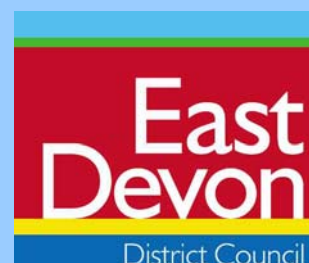
Comments from the public, who travelled from all over the South West to visit the show, included: "Powerful exhibition and beautiful gallery" "Great setting for a striking exhibition" "A happy surprise to find wonders in Honiton." "Just back from 3 months in Europe and saw nothing this good" and "Fantastic exhibition - great find - really wonderful setting - my first visit, will definitely return."

The gallery sold out of commemorative books on the artist (at £30 and £40 each) and £100's worth of postcards were bought as souvenirs.

Curator Angela Blackwell said "The response to the Frink exhibition has been truly amazing, especially as it marks the tenth anniversary of the Thelma Hulbert Gallery. Our visitor figures prove that there is an enormous call for this kind of exhibition in East Devon. It was hard work and we were extremely busy but it was worth it and we will definitely exhibit works of this status again."

Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Elmfield House, Dowell Street, Honiton, EX14 1LX
Wednesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm, Wheelchair Accessible, Admission free
Tel: 01404 45006 or email: thelmahulbert@eastdevon.gov.uk

Photo: Honiton Town Councillor Alf Boom at the Elisabeth Frink exhibition



Council Offices
Knowle
Sidmouth
Devon
EX10 8HL

www.eastdevon.gov.uk

To recipients of a paper copy of the Knowledge

Please let us know if you would prefer to receive the Knowledge electronically. An electronic version has the advantage of providing the reader with direct links to the various web sites referred to in the publications. If you would like to start receiving the Knowledge electronically, please advise the Democratic Services Team of your email contact details. Email: hjarvis@eastdevon.gov.uk

A Taste of East Devon exhibition



Devon Open Studios 2008

This year's East Devon Open Studios event takes place all over the county from 13-21 September, allowing the public behind-the-scenes access to the workshops and studios of some of East Devon's most interesting and creative artists.

In conjunction with this, the Thelma Hulbert Gallery in Honiton is hosting a taster exhibition showcasing examples of work by artists who will be opening their studios to the public this September.



The exhibition is running during August so that visitors can begin to plan their route around their favourite artists studios before the event starts in September. Free trail map guides will be available from the gallery throughout the month.

Everyone is welcome to attend the opening of the exhibition on **Saturday 2 August, 4-6pm**. The exhibition continues until Saturday 30 August.

Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Elmfield House, Dowell Street, Honiton, EX14 1LX
Wednesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm, Wheelchair Accessible, Admission free
Tel: 01404 45006 or email: thelmahulbert@eastdevon.gov.uk

Images: Viv Lydon 'Night Fishing', Kay McDonagh 'The Cat's Whiskers'

Free new horse riding guide to the Blackdown Hills



Horse riders can enjoy five new routes around the Blackdown Hills with a free guide out this month.

A local resident, John Presgrave, devised the series of routes. He got the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and Devon and Somerset Public Rights of Way teams on board to make the project a reality. Work has been done along the bridleways and green lanes to make sure they are at a high standard and a glossy folder has been produced containing guides to all five routes.

The complete series is also available to download from the AONB's website. The routes cover the areas around Membury, All Saints, Dunkeswell, Luppitt, Stockland, Dalwood, Uppottery and Chardstock.

Alternatively you can order your copy of the horse riding routes from the AONB office on 01823 680681 or download them from www.blackdown-hills.net

Rural Services Network (RSN)

Here are the latest news items from the [Rural Services Network](#):

▶ Police told to address rural concerns



Police are being urged to address the lack of confidence felt by rural residents in the criminal justice system.

▶ Minister pledges to act on rural housing

The Government has pledged to take further measures to boost rural enterprise and affordable housing.

▶ MPs in warning over Post Office funding

Inadequate funding has been set aside for "outreach" services to replace axed post offices, MPs have warned.

▶ Rural groups welcome housing report



Rural groups have welcomed a report calling for a major shake-up of affordable housing policy in the countryside.

Note: Members of the Rural Services Network (which includes Councillors and Council staff) can gain free and full access to RSN Online by registering at <http://tinyurl.com/2y7ssp>

Fraud matters

Investigators in the West Midlands have prosecuted over 3000 people in the last year for benefit fraud, including one man who claimed he could not work as he had a bad back – he was seen playing golf at a golf club outside his area BUT boasted to companions about the benefits he received.

Another case investigated involved a man who claimed he could not work as he had badly swollen knee joints – he was photographed by investigators teaching Karate.

Another Council's counter fraud investigators prosecuted 14 people last month for Council Tax and Housing benefit fraud, so if you have information that can save your taxes being used by fraudsters please contact EDDC's team on the fraud hotline.

Fraud reporting Hotline 01395 517489

Roger Caudrelier (Acting Principal Auditor (Contractor))

Email: rcaudrelier@eastdevon.gov.uk



New documents in the Members' Area

- ❑ **Adapting to climate change in England** – a framework for action from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (defra).
- ❑ **Devon Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011** – a publication from Devon Children's Trust.

Feedback from outside bodies

- ❑ **Safer Devon Partnership** – Notes of a meeting of the Executive Member Group held on 10 July 2008.
- ❑ **The East and Mid Devon Community Safety Partnership** – Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2008.

The above documents are in the 'Feedback from Outside Bodies' file on the bookcase in the Members' Area for your information.

Find out more about funding

► Improving access to nature



Natural England have grants of between £50,000 and £500,000 to help encourage people from all backgrounds to

understand, access and enjoy the natural environment.

► Preservation of important buildings

The Country Houses Foundation has grants of between £50,000 and £250,000 available to support the preservation of buildings of historic or architectural significance together with their gardens or grounds for the public benefit. Registered charities, building preservation trusts and private owners can apply.

Jamie Buckley (Engagement and Funding Officer)

Tel: 01395 517569 (or Ext 2769) Email: jbuckley@eastdevon.gov.uk

► Green energy opportunities

The Green Energy Trust has grants of about £10,000 available for up to half the cost of renewable technology. Only local community groups, not for profit organisations and charities based in the UK can apply. There are three submission deadlines each year.

► Helping the environment



The Community Sustainable Energy Programme has grants of up to £50,000 available for capital, and up to £5,000 for project development.

The project funding is for community based organisations to find out if they can reduce their environmental impact by using energy saving measures and technology. The capital funding is to put the energy saving measures in place.

Meetings

Meeting	Officer Contact	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub-Committee	Chris Lane	Monday 4 August	9.30am	CANCELLED
Local Development Framework Panel	Hannah Jarvis	Tuesday 5 August	4.00pm	Room 1
Exeter Airport Consultative Group	Chris Lane	Wednesday 6 August	2.15pm	Exeter Airport
Executive Board	Diana Vernon	Wednesday 6 August	5.30pm	Council Chamber
Planning Inspections Committee	Chris Lane	Friday 8 August	3.30pm	Council Chamber
Licensing & Enforcement Sub-Committee	Chris Lane	Monday 11 August	9.30am	CANCELLED
East Devon Business Forum	Chris Lane	Tuesday 12 August	6.00pm	East Devon Business Centre
Scrutiny Committee	Debbie Meakin	Wednesday 13 August	6.30pm	CANCELLED

Would Councillors please pass their apologies to Democratic Services whenever they are unable to attend a meeting so that post can be sent or withheld as appropriate. **Please check your pigeon holes for any post whenever you visit the offices.**

If you would like a copy of the papers relating to any of the above meetings, please contact the relevant Democratic Services Officer. (All the above meetings are at Knowle, unless otherwise specified).

Click [here](#) to view agendas and minutes on the Council's website. Click [here](#) to view planning applications online. Click [here](#) to view new applications received relating to the Licensing Act 2003.

Diana Vernon 01395 517541	Christopher Holland 01395 517543	Hannah Jarvis 01395 517542	Chris Lane 01395 517544	Debbie Meakin 01395 517540	Rachel Perram 01395 517542
------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------------

Portfolio Holders decisions

Decisions put to Portfolio Holders Decisions will be published in a future edition of The Knowledge

Economy (P Halse)	Sale of 9 sq metres of land at Ridgeway Lane, Colyton to Western Power Distribution for new electric sub-station To agree to the sale of 9 sq metres of land at Ridgeway Lane, Colyton to Western Power Distribution at a consideration of £500. Further details: Rob Speers, Senior Estates Surveyor, Ext 1588
Communities (Miss J Elson)	Land adjoining 'The Lodge', at All Hallows Playing field, Honiton: Sale of land That agreement be given to open negotiations with the owners of 'The Lodge', All Hallows Playing Field, Honiton, for the sale of two small areas of land shown on the plan attached to the report. Further details: Rob Speers, Senior Estates Surveyor, Ext 1588.
Resources (A T Moulding)	Transfer of public shelters at the sea front Sidmouth to Sidmouth Town Council To agree to the transfer of the sea front shelters to Sidmouth Town Council at nil consideration. Further details: Rob Speers, Senior Estates Surveyor, Ext 1588

Decision by Portfolio Holder Members are notified of the following decision

Environment (G K Liverton)	Allocation of site for electricity sub station at Ridgeway Lane, Colyton for Western Power Distribution Agreeing to the allocation of a site of 9 sq metres for a new electricity sub-station at Ridgeway Lane, Colyton subject to the agreement of terms and conditions for a sale to be agreed by the Economy Portfolio Holder.
--------------------------------------	---

The above decisions will become effective on 7 August 2008 at 9.00 am unless "called in". The published procedure for a "call in" is on pages 133-135 of the Council Constitution, or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation.

Chairman's engagements

Saturday 2 August – Sidmouth Folk Week Reception, Royal York and Faulkner Hotel.

News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

▶ **Adult social care paper: 'Communities - healthy, strong and prosperous'**

This new IDeA publication provides a compelling narrative on the future direction of adult social care services. It identifies the key issues for councils in making connections between engagement, local area agreements and community strategies.

Read it and find out how to produce better outcomes for users and citizens alike.

▶ **Saving the world: local government heroes**



Who will be the next local government hero? The IDeA's Sustainability Adviser, Steve Waller considers the local government heroes quietly working to combat climate

change. He pays tribute to the Merton Rule and asks who will come up with the next great innovation. Who are your heroes? Drive the debate and add your comments.

News from the IDeA (continued)

▶ Living working countryside: Taylor Review



Welcomed by Government, MP Matthew Taylor's report into rural economies and affordable housing dispels the myth that rural homes and businesses are not sustainable. The report advocates a series of reforms to the planning

system to enable small, rural communities to develop affordable housing and the paper also encourages the development of home working.

▶ LAAs tackle worklessness

Greenwich Employment Forum's worklessness strategy commits partners to improving the employment rate of disadvantaged groups, particularly lone parents, disabled people, minority ethnic groups and those with low qualification levels.

▶ Improving skills for the unemployed

Lancashire County Council has developed an ambitious apprenticeship scheme to improve the skills of local people and help them into the workforce. Read more about how this is offering the long-term unemployed the chance to gain valuable work experience.

▶ Workforce improvement challenge



The workforce improvement challenge is a new peer review that supports authorities to evaluate and assess how they recruit,

develop and deploy their workforce to meet business and service priorities. Read how this review can help councils take stock of their achievements and identify what needs to be in place to deliver service objectives through their people.

In the press

▶ £70 fine for careless parking



Motorists face being fined up to £70 for parking too far away from the kerb. The Department for

Transport is ready to allow councils to impose fines for "anti-social parking."

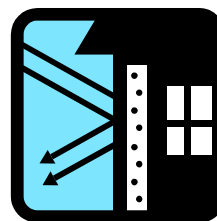
▶ Council happy to stop selling electoral register

Edward Welsh, Programme Director for Media & Campaigns at the Local Government Association (LGA), in a letter to the Times Public Agenda writes that most councils would be happy to accept recent recommendations to stop town halls having to sell the electoral register to marketing companies. He says: "Many councils would urge the Prime Minister to accept the recommendations of the report that he commissioned and stop councils getting the blame for something over which they have no control."

▶ Crime maps for every street

Crime maps giving details of offences that have taken place in every street in the country are to be published for the first time. Residents are to be given access to internet maps identifying assaults, muggings and burglaries in towns and villages across England and Wales.

▶ Councils must take the lead of tackling energy costs



In an opinion piece in the Society Guardian, Chairman of LGA's Environment Board Paul Bettison says councils should play a key role in tackling climate change and has called on energy companies to fund a scheme to insulate half of all homes in England and Wales. The LGA's plan would knock £200 million a year off household fuel bills, lift half a million homes out of fuel poverty and cut domestic carbon emissions by 20%.

In the press (continued)

▶ Call for cheap booze ban

The drinks industry has abandoned a voluntary code banning low-price offers on alcohol in more than half of Britain's pubs. The move by the British Beer and Pub Association has prompted the police and Alcohol Concern to call for legislation.



▶ Ladette binge drinking leads to surge in violence

The number of violent attacks by women has doubled in just five years in the age of the 'ladette' binge-drinking culture. Last year

87,200 women and girls were arrested for attacks - the equivalent of 240 every day. It is the first time in history that violence has been the most common crime among women and girls, taking over from theft.

▶ Domestic violence charity gets reprieve

Ealing Council has conceded defeat in a judicial review of its decision to withdraw its annual grant of £100,000 to Southall Black Sisters, which was to be replaced by a borough wide domestic violence service rather than a specialist one. An LGA spokesman said: "All local authorities should have regard to equalities legislation and best practice when they review funding relationships with voluntary organisations."

▶ Plastic bag tax



Customers face paying a tax on plastic bags under Government plans to ensure shops no longer hand out single-use carrier bags. Ministers hope supermarkets will follow the example of Marks &

Spencer, which cut plastic bag usage by 80% after it imposed a 5p charge.

▶ Higher age rating for films which show smoking



Council leaders from the ten regions which form the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities will be asked to put higher age certificates on films that show smoking. The move could mean children would be banned from

watching Disney classics, James Bond, Sherlock Holmes, Popeye, Peter Pan and a host of other films and feature-length cartoons.

▶ Hard-up kids denied free school meals

Nearly half a million children growing up in poverty are not entitled to a free school meal, a report by the Government-backed School Food Trust has revealed. The parents of 410,000 youngsters do not qualify because they are not receiving benefits.

▶ Education class divide



The education system is still blighted by class divisions and pupils from poor backgrounds have little opportunity of getting into

the best secondary schools - casting fresh doubt on policies designed to close the gap between rich and poor - according to a study by Bristol University.

▶ Police for every school?

A police officer should be based in every secondary school that wants one to tackle knife wielding pupils and body search for blades, Schools Minister Lord Adonis has said.

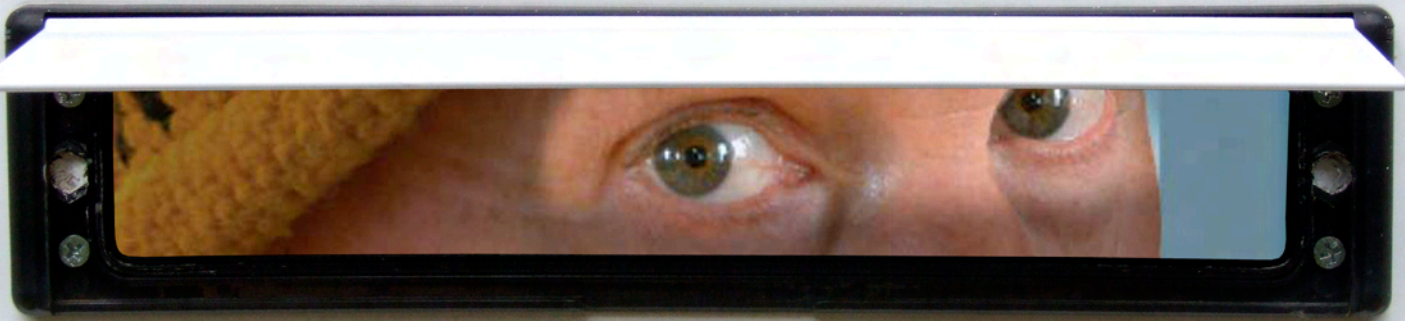
Production Information

The Democratic Services team produces this weekly information sheet every Friday for Members of East Devon District Council. Please contact Diana Vernon if you have any comments about the newsletter. **If you wish to reproduce any of the images used in The Knowledge, please contact the editor who will seek permission from the contributor.**

Telephone: (01395) 517541 or Extension: 2741. Email: dvernon@eastdevon.gov.uk

Submissions: If you have items that you wish to be included in the next issue, contact Democratic Services.

Telephone: (01395) 517542 or Extension 2742. Email: knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk



TRICKSTER

the bogus caller musical by Solomon Touring Theatre

**Plus talks and displays by other agencies
on BOGUS CALLERS and SCAMS.**

Friday 19th September 2008
from 9.45am – 12.30pm

Royal British Legion Hall, Dowell St, Honiton.



This event is aimed at older people. If you are interested in attending, to give us some idea of numbers, please contact Gerry Moore, East Devon Community Safety Officer on 01395 273802 (or email gmoore@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Based on a true story, a cast of three professional actors present this musical and energetic live story-telling event. George is an elderly gentleman who has become the victim of a distraction burglar. Once a proud soldier, we follow George as he battles with being conned and beats the bogus callers.

"you touched the hearts of 800 people ..."
Northamptonshire Police

"thank you! everyone I spoke to had a wonderful time"
Trading Standards, Southampton



**DEVON & CORNWALL
CONSTABULARY**