

The Knowledge



Bridge at Dalwood
Photo: Dave Collings

4 April 2008

New Farmers' Market for Budleigh Salterton

Working closely with the other farmers' markets in East Devon and supported by a grant from the AONB's Sustainable Development Fund to help with set up costs, this new market opened on 28 March. It was an exciting day for the town with the new venture being formally opened by The Rt Rev Michael Langrish, Bishop of Exeter. Located in Brook Road car park, just off the High Street, the market opened with 14 traders providing a wide selection of high quality locally grown food and produce. Over 200 people attended.

The benefits of buying at farmers' markets are clear: you can find just-picked, seasonal vegetables, juices made from specific varieties



of fruit, free-range and organic meat and

eggs, and specialities such as regional cheeses - things you can't always expect to find in supermarkets. You can also taste

many of the goods on offer before you buy and enjoy the social buzz of a market day.



Why not check out your local Farmers' Market?

Ottery St Mary (Hind St Car Park)
First Friday of each month, 8.30am - 1.30pm

Exmouth (The Strand Gardens)
Second Wednesday of each month, 9.00am - 1.00pm

Honiton (St Paul's Church Forecourt)
Third Thursday of each month, 8.30am - 1.00pm

Seaton (Seaton Town Hall)
Third Friday of each month, 10.00am - 1.00pm

Budleigh Salterton (Brook Rd Car Pk)
Last Friday of each month, 9.00am - 1.00pm

This week in The Knowledge

- ❑ Local residents get their bus passes
- ❑ Funding
- ❑ Success for Farringdon Society of Arts
- ❑ Portfolio Holders decision
- ❑ Forthcoming meetings
- ❑ Chairman's engagements
- ❑ New documents
- ❑ News from the IDEa
- ❑ In the Press
- ❑ Rural Services Network



Council Offices
Knowle
Sidmouth
Devon
EX10 8HL

www.eastdevon.gov.uk

Local residents get their bus passes on time



EDDC has sent out over 29,000 passes to residents qualifying for the national free bus fare scheme, which came into effect on Tuesday 1 April.

Existing bus pass holders, and anyone who sent in their application by mid-March, will have been issued with their new pass. And the Council's dedicated concessionary bus fares team is working hard to ensure all those applications received since the middle of March are processed as quickly as possible.

However, anyone who hasn't yet received their new pass because they have recently moved, or suspect it may have got lost in the post, may continue to travel free within the district, using the old pass, until their new one is issued. If there are any problems with passes issued, the Council is committed to resolving them quickly.

More information, including application forms, can be found in Tourist Information Centres throughout the district and on the Council's website, or phone 01395 571500 or email buspass@eastdevon.gov.uk



Funding

EVALUATION
TRUST



Building skills for useful evaluation - Do you want to improve your funding opportunities? Do other agencies understand the value of your organisation's work? Do you really know what difference your

organisation's work makes? Do you really struggle to collect the views of your service users? The Evaluation Trust is offering a training event in **Plymouth on Thursday 5 June** as part of a programme of evaluation advice, support and training for the South West region. All organisations must pay an initial deposit of £40 – this is FULLY REFUNDABLE to those groups with an annual income of less than £80K on completion of the programme. If your income is more than £80k your nominal contribution to costs will be £25. Please book by 25 April. For more information and to book your place:

Tel: Maria Clarke, Projects Manager on 0117 904 2636 or Pat Diango, Administrator on 0117 902 9656
Email: maria_evaluationtrust@blueyonder.co.uk/
patdiango@blueyonder.co.uk

Nationwide
Community & Heritage Awards
in partnership with the
Heritage Lottery Fund



Help us champion
your local volunteer

Nationwide
 proud to be different

The **Nationwide Community & Heritage Awards** recognise the thousands of people who give their time and energy to improve the life of members of the community. Initially 3 regional winners in each of the categories (young people, groups, individuals) will be selected, making a total of 9 community winners and 9 heritage winners in each of the 12 regions. The 216 regional winners will each receive an award, along with £50 dining out vouchers for individuals or £100 for groups.

From each region, 3 community and 3 heritage national finalists will receive an award, vouchers to the value of £250 and a £500 donation to the charity or cause of their choice, presented at the regional presentations. Deadline - 28 April 2008. To find out more and download an nomination form, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/ywzhnw>

Success for Farringdon Society of Arts



The Farringdon Society of Arts (FSA) has received an Awards-for-All grant of £5000 to help fund Exmouth-based FSA artist Michael Buckland in his role as Artist-in-

Residence this year. Michael will be using this grant to hold 'open studio' workshops for Farringdon residents and FSA members. He will be putting on exhibitions throughout the year. 2008 is the official European year of Inter-cultural dialogue and Farringdon has been making links with the Yeats Society of Ireland, based in Sligo uncovering the Devon Yeats Connection.

Additionally, Michael has a long interest in the work of Jack B Yeats, one of Ireland's foremost artists and brother of the poet WB Yeats, which first began when he was a student at Harrow Art School. He will be giving a talk about him to the Yeats Society members when they make a 3 day visit in May.



Michael will be recording activities and events in Farringdon this year. Like Jack B Yeats Michael is particularly interested in depicting performing artists. He will be producing

a special portfolio of work connected with the forthcoming and contemporary production of Seamus Heaney's 'The Burial at Thebes' to be performed at Farringdon Village Church from the 20 – 24 May [further information available at www.fsadevon.co.uk]. The Yeats Society of Ireland's tour to Devon will culminate in their attendance at the opening night of the play. Michael can be contacted by e-mail: buckart@hotmail.co.uk

Illustration: Michael Buckland receiving Awards for All certificate from FSA 'Friend' Sally Sedgman

Portfolio Holders decision

Decision by Portfolio Holder Members are notified of the following decision

Communities
(Miss J Elson)

Increase charges for home Safeguard Alarm Services 2008/09

Agreeing that the charges be increased as set out in the report:

RPI for 2008 = 4%. Our present quarterly charge for the rental and monitoring of alarm equipment including VAT - £35.

Based on a 4% increase of the RPI the quarterly charge will rise to £36.40. Our present quarterly charges for monitoring only including VAT - £9.70. Based on a 4% increase of the RPI the quarterly charge will rise to - £10.09.

Additional 3% increase. An additional 3% on top of the RPI for rental/monitoring quarterly charge - £31.49. An additional 3% on top of the RPI for monitoring only quarterly charge - £10.39.

Installation fee. Our present installation fee including VAT is - £29.38. Based on a 4% increase of the RPI this will increase to - £30.56. An additional 3% on top of the RPI this will increase to - £31.48.

The above decision will become effective on 10 April 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.

Forthcoming meetings

Meeting	Officer Contact	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	Chris Lane	Monday 7 April	9.30am	CANCELLED
Development Control Committee	Christopher Holland	Tuesday 8 April	2.00pm	Council Chamber
Local Joint Panel	Hannah Jarvis	Wednesday 9 April	9.30am	CANCELLED
Recycling & Refuse Partnership Board	Diana Vernon / Hannah Jarvis	Wednesday 9 April	10.00am	Committee Room
East Devon Business Forum	Chris Lane	Thursday 10 April	6.00pm	East Devon Business Centre
Beach Concessions Task and Finish Forum	Debbie Meakin	Thursday 10 April	6.30pm	POSTPONED - now 29 April (not 30 April)
Internal Audit Task and Finish Forum *	Christopher Holland	Friday 11 April	10.00am	Committee Room
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	Christopher Holland	Monday 14 April	9.30am	Council Chamber
COUNCIL	Diana Vernon	Wednesday 16 April	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Planning Inspections Committee	Christopher Holland	Friday 18 April	TBA	Council Chamber

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).

To view agendas and minutes on the Council's website, click [here](#).

Click [here](#) to view planning applications online.

Click [here](#) to view new applications received relating to the Licensing Act 2003.

* New Task and Finish Forum (TaFF)

The Audit and Governance Committee has set up an Internal Audit TaFF. The terms of reference are: "to review the structure and conditions of the internal audit team and address the matters (real or perceived) listed in the main body of the report to committee." The membership of the TaFF is Councillors R Bloxham, D Button C Gibbings and T Wood. The first meeting is on 11 April.

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

Chairman's engagements

Tuesday 8 April

Chairman's Civic Day, Honiton including visit to Dunkeswell Eco Business Park, Blackdown Hills.

Thursday 10 April

Chairman to attend Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service HQ, Clyst St George.

New documents in the Members' Area

- **Devon Pensioners Action Forum (DPAF)** – The newsletter for April/May is now available in the Members' Area. Includes the DPAF Annual Report 2007.

Feedback from outside bodies

- **Health and Adults' Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee** – This committee met on 13 March at County Hall. Reports and associated papers are available in the 'Feedback from Outside Bodies' file on the bookcase in the Members' Area for your information.

News from the IDEa (Improvement and Development Agency)

Local Area Agreements: Launch of 'Partnerships and Places Library'



Partnerships and places library
Sharing learning and innovation to transform localities

Enter your search here

(Example: youth crime in city councils in north west)

The IDEa has launched the new 'Partnerships and Places Library' of good practice. It tells stories of innovation that help to deliver better local outcomes. The library, which will continue to grow and respond to the sector's needs, already houses 200 up-to-date evidence-based case studies and other materials that support sector-led improvement. www.idea.gov.uk

Four-star councillor development

Kirklees is the only council in the country with a four-star rating for 'capacity and performance management'. Cabinet members believe a major part of this success is the council's member development programme. Find out more about the different development initiatives on offer. www.idea.gov.uk

Improvement express: March issue

New Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (RIEP) strategies and the National Prospectus were launched last month by John Healey, Sir Simon Milton and representatives of the RIEPs. Lucy de Groot (Executive Director - IDEa) surveys the new arrangements. www.idea.gov.uk

Developing women leaders



Research shows that public sector women are under-represented in senior leadership roles. This has been the case in Belfast City Council. To address the problem, the council designed and delivered a pilot programme to build

leadership skills among female councillors and senior officers. Find out how it did it.

www.idea.gov.uk

Year of healthy communities calendar

The new 'Year of Healthy Communities Calendar' contains 52 health improvement examples, one for each week of the year. Check out the month of April's innovative schemes that are tackling health inequalities. www.idea.gov.uk

In the press

Plans for low cost rural homes

Thousands of low-cost rural homes are to be built as part of plans by the Government to help local people who have been priced out of the housing market. [Telegraph](#)

Affordable housing plan considered

Ministers are considering proposals to give powers to England's 8,000 parish councils to identify sites for homes where demand for affordable housing is so high that they justify "exceptional" planning approval. This procedure - under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - can currently be used only by local authorities and is more commonly used to force developers to include social housing in bigger plots. [Times](#)



Ministers push through 10 new eco-towns with 200,000 homes

Ministers have drawn up plans to force through the development of 10 eco-towns despite widespread local opposition. The LGA will write to council leaders urging them to "campaign against the proposals". Sir Simon Milton, the head of the LGA, said the association would campaign against the notion that such large development applications could be considered outside the proper planning process. [Telegraph](#)

New parking rules come into force

Councils across England have new parking powers including the right to use CCTV to detect offences. Cllr David Sparks, transport spokesman for the Local Government Association (LGA), said: "The introduction of postal penalty notices will allow local authorities to clamp down on the minority of unscrupulous motorists who flout parking regulations by driving off while a notice is being issued." More than 200 councils have funded a new website, www.patrol-uk.info, which explains parking rules and the enforcement process and advises drivers on how to challenge a ticket.

[Times](#)



Public can tell bobbies which crimes to beat

Officers will be ordered to ask local people which crimes they most want tackling as part of a huge shake-up in policing unveiled today. Police will then have to publish their top 3 priorities, their targets and say what they are doing to reach them. And they will be held to account via a new website which will include local officers' mobile phone numbers and other contact details. [Mirror](#)



Drivers hit by record 3.5m parking fines

The number of motorists receiving parking tickets has risen more than fivefold in the past 6 years. More than 3 ½ million drivers received parking fines worth £214million to councils in 2006. The Daily Mail claims that if London councils and those councils still relying on the police for issuing fines were included, this would add another 8 million fines worth £480million. [Telegraph](#)

Coastal defences questioned

A plan by Natural England to build coastal defences off the Norfolk coast could leave many villages in the area susceptible to flooding. The proposal is based on an assumption that the area's defences will not stand up to rising sea levels prompting a decision to realign the coast. [Telegraph](#)



Peers reject economic benefits of migration

A landmark study by the Lords' economic affairs committee on migration has rejected claims over the economic benefits of new arrivals, calling for a cap on those from outside the EU. The report says that migrants themselves are the biggest winners of current policy and that their benefits to the UK have been exaggerated. Sir Simon Milton, Chairman of the LGA, is quoted: "The speed and scale of migration combined with the shortcomings of official population figures is placing pressure on funding for services like housing and children's services." [Guardian](#)

Life expectancy report

A report by Devon County Council suggests that those living in the same town can have different life expectancies depending on whether they live in a middle class area or on a council estate.



[Telegraph](#)

Free off-peak bus travel has begun

Free off-peak bus travel for the over-60s in England has begun. Some councils said the extra cost could force them to cut other services - including meals on wheels. David Sparks, LGA Transport spokesman said: "Free bus travel...is great for older people but will leave many councils in the areas where they are travelling to bear much of the costs. Authorities along the coastline or in places popular with visitors could be forced to cut meals on wheels to pay for visiting pensioners' free bus travel." [Telegraph](#)

Money for children's play areas

Ministers will announce a £225 million plan to provide more play areas for children. Ed Balls, the Schools Secretary, will pave the way for new planning guidance to ensure that those running parks and other public spaces do more to encourage children's play and sport. It comes in a week when the ministers were revealed to have approved the selling off at least 187 school and community playing fields since Labour came to power in 1997. [Telegraph](#)



Our views of house and home allows no place for travellers

Comment piece from Libby Brooks argues that legal changes over the past 15 years have in effect criminalised the Gypsy and Traveller way of life. She says councils have a £93m pot of cash to pay for new a needs assessment of Gypsies and Travellers starting in 2011, but little has been taken up. [Guardian](#)

£3bn climate change bill for energy firms

Environment Secretary Hilary Benn has announced that energy companies will have to spend £1bn a year for the next 3 years - double the current amount - to help people tackle climate change. The money could be spent on supplying energy-saving light bulbs or insulating homes. Mr Benn will also outline plans for 100 'green neighbourhoods', which would have to commit themselves to rapid cuts of 60% in emissions. [Guardian](#)

£3bn energy scheme could be a stealth tax

The LGA has demanded an assurance that consumers will not end up footing the £1bn a year bill for making homes more energy efficient under the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT). An estimated £18 has been added to every energy bill in the country to pay for current measures without the knowledge of householders and if the costs of the new £3bn programme are passed on this would almost double to £35. Cllr Paul Bettison, Chairman of the LGA Environment Board, is quoted extensively: "The Government is presenting this planned investment as a windfall tax on energy company profits when it could end up being a stealth tax on householders." Click link for full quote: [Telegraph](#)



Prison should be last resort

No one who has committed a criminal offence should be sent to prison when there is a suitable alternative to custody, the most senior judge in England and Wales has said. He called for a greater use of community services or probation which he said could reduce reoffending and help ease prison overcrowding. [Independent](#)



In the press (continued)

3.5m potholes

Councils paid out £53 million in compensation for damage caused by potholes and spent £12 million handling claims in 2007, compared with £52 million on actually fixing holes in roads. The annual Asphalt Industry Alliance survey says there are 3.5 million holes in roads across England and Wales - about a million are potholes while 2.5 million are the result of utility companies digging up roads. [Times](#)



Bucks tops quality of life survey

Residents of Buckinghamshire enjoy the best quality of life according to research by the Halifax Building Society. Bucks residents are the healthiest, have the highest life expectancy and are among the highest paid.

[Telegraph](#)

Rural Services Network (RSN)

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

Prince highlights importance of rural communities

The Prince of Wales highlights the importance of rural communities during a visit to north-west England. www.rsnonline.org.uk

'Deep concern' over Post Office closures



Lancashire County Council becomes the latest local authority to consider action to keep open rural Post Offices. www.rsnonline.org.uk



Rural wheels to work scheme expands

A scheme which lends mopeds to job seekers is expanded in rural Lincolnshire.

www.rsnonline.org.uk

Film study highlights plight of rural poor

An innovative multi-media study highlights the plight of rural people struggling to survive on low incomes. www.rsnonline.org.uk

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>

You can access press items by going onto the secure Members' web page of EDDC's website and clicking on the 'In the Press' link. This is updated every Saturday.

Please note that the Express & Echo web site for press coverage is: www.thisisexeter.co.uk

For Western Morning News stories the web site is: www.thisisdevon.co.uk

For Archant news stories the web site is www.devon24.co.uk

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, please contact Democratic Services.

Telephone: (01395) 517542 or Extension 2746. Email: knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk