

The Knowledge



Rolling out the blue carpet
Photo: Graham Godbeer

16 May 2008

Budleigh Salterton Festival



The box office for the Budleigh Salterton Festival of Music and the Arts opens to the public on the 18 May. This year there are festival season tickets available.

There is still time to join the Friends of the Festival. At £10 for an individual or £15 for a family this is excellent value for money. Friends meet at the reception arranged exclusively for them and enjoy other benefits too.

The festival offers jazz, classical music, art, drama and not forgetting the much-loved Imperial College musical presentation which this year is 'On the Town'. And what about the younger generation? The vibrant St Peter's School group is involved in several events with busking sea shanties, drama for two age groups and school bands.

In the presentation of Verdi's opera 'Rigoletto' with international soloists the festival organisers hope to dispel the myth that you can only see good opera performance in London or Cardiff.



Otter Mouth, Budleigh by Ray Steer Kemp

The festival runs from 25 July to 2 August. Look out for the festival brochure – free from all shops, the library, the Town Hall and most other places. In the meantime have a look at the [website](#).

The festival organisers acknowledge with grateful thanks the support provided by sponsors, Friends and by lead sponsor Michelmores.

This week in The Knowledge

- ❑ Parts of East Devon to get new recycling service soon
- ❑ Plastic single use carrier bags
- ❑ Connaught Gardens, Sidmouth
- ❑ Forthcoming meetings
- ❑ Portfolio Holders decisions
- ❑ Chairman's engagements
- ❑ New website for the Blackdown Hills
- ❑ Funding
- ❑ News from the IDEA
- ❑ In the Press
- ❑ Rural Services Network



Council Offices
Knowle
Sidmouth
Devon
EX10 8HL

www.eastdevon.gov.uk

Parts of East Devon to get new recycling service soon

The first phase in a major change to household recycling and waste collections in East Devon takes place on 2 June – which appropriately enough is the start of Recycle Now Week. Collection days across the district will be changing as EDDC prepares to launch an upgraded recycling service to include weekly collections of kitchen food waste from homes in the east of the district later this summer. Waste and recycling collections will both happen on the same weekday.



From the week beginning Monday 2 June, most homes throughout East Devon will find that their day for collections has changed. That change, once made, will stay constant over the coming years, as recycling and waste collection improvements are phased in across the district.

Leaflets are being delivered to every home in East Devon during May, so that residents are fully prepared for their waste and recycling bins to be collected on a different weekday than before. In a few cases, the day may stay the same as it is at the moment, but for the vast majority of households the bin and/or recycling collection day will change. Leaflets will indicate which weekday applies to each locality. The change in collection days is part of the process designed to make things run more smoothly.



SITA, the contractor collecting waste and recycling from East Devon homes, will first start operating the upgraded service to collections in the east of the district - Axminster, Beer and Seaton, plus the rural areas nearby (Phase One). Phase Two, in an area still to be decided, will start early in 2009.

Residents of the areas in Phase One of the new collection will receive further information leaflets early in June, explaining how the new system will work when it starts on 4 August. More detailed information will be delivered to these householders nearer the launch date of the new system.

In the new service area, people will receive two new plastic containers for food waste and also a wheeled bin for their other household refuse. These new bins will be delivered to every home in Phase One during July. Householders will continue to use the existing lidded green boxes for their recycling materials, which will now include plastic bottles. Collections of food waste and recycling – to include plastic bottles – will be weekly. Collections of non-food and non-recyclable waste from wheeled bins will be fortnightly.

The food waste containers can be lined with newspaper or with special compostable bags – not old carrier bags or other non-biodegradable plastic. To underline the “green” credentials of the new service, the bins supplied to households are manufactured in the UK and the new fleet of recycling and waste collection vehicles will conform with the very latest European exhaust emission standards.

In addition to the leaflet campaign – printed on recycled and recyclable paper – EDDC's website will contain full details of the changes. In the communities affected by the overall change, town and village road-shows will visit the area so that householders can see the equipment and ask questions.

An information road-show will be visiting the towns and villages that are part of the Phase One improvement area during the first week of June (see table on the following page).



More information is available on the EDDC website at:

www.eastdevon.gov.uk/recycling_and_refuse

There is also a telephone helpline: 01395 571 515

Parts of East Devon to get new recycling service soon (continued)

The changes at a glance:

Change	Impact	Area affected	Timing	Information
New collection days for waste and recycling	Collection day to change from current day. Both recycling and waste collected on same weekday. No other change yet.	All of East Devon	From 2 June 2008	Targeted Leaflets EDDC Website Local Press
Phase One waste improvement	Food waste collected weekly Recycling collected weekly – including plastic bottles Landfill waste collected fortnightly	Axminster, Beer, Seaton and surrounding area	From 4 August 2008	Targeted leaflets EDDC Website Local Press
Phase Two waste improvement	Same as Phase One	To be arranged	From February 2009	Targeted leaflets EDDC Website Local Press

The road-shows:

Date and Time	Town	What's on offer	Venue
2 June 10am to 4pm	Axminster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Visual display of leaflets and equipment ❑ Staff on hand to answer questions ❑ Ward Members in support 	Trailer in Tesco Car Park , Axminster
3 June 10am to 4pm	Seaton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Visual display of leaflets and equipment ❑ Staff on hand to answer questions ❑ Ward Members in support 	Trailer in Co-op Car Park , Seaton
5 June 10am to 12 noon	Beer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Visual display of leaflets and equipment ❑ Staff on hand to answer questions ❑ Ward Members in support 	Devon County Council's Community Roadshow Vehicle at Anchor Inn, Beer
5 June 2pm to 4pm	Colyton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Visual display of leaflets and equipment ❑ Staff on hand to answer questions ❑ Ward Members in support 	Trailer in Village Hall Car Park , Colyton
6 June 10am to 12 noon	Musbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Visual display of leaflets and equipment ❑ Staff on hand to answer questions ❑ Ward Members in support 	Trailer at Village Hall , Musbury
6 June 2pm to 4pm	Uplyme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Visual display of leaflets and equipment ❑ Staff on hand to answer questions ❑ Ward Members in support 	Trailer in Uplyme Village Hall

Plastic single use carrier bags – the waste continues

<http://www.defra.gov.uk>

- ❑ More than 13 billion carrier bags are distributed in the UK every year. These account for approximately:
 - 0.3% of the domestic waste stream (HM Treasury's Plastic Bags Tax Assessment in December 2002)
 - 1% of visible litter in the UK (Industry Council for Packaging and the Environment [INCPEN] Visible Litter Study 2004)
 - 2% of total litter on UK beaches (Marine Conservation Society [MCS] annual beach litter survey 2004)
- ❑ Limiting the use of disposable bags is an important way in which each of us can take action, as each adult receives on average nearly 300 every year.
- ❑ 88% of shoppers currently put all their shopping into free carrier bags. On average shoppers take 3-4 bags at every shopping trip.
- ❑ 45% of shoppers claim to have bought a Bag for Life but only 12% use one regularly.



Connaught Gardens, Sidmouth

Walk and Talk Programme 2008

Take an informative stroll around the gardens with a member of the Council's Parks staff at 2pm on the following Fridays throughout the summer:

23 May, 6 June, 20 June, 4 July, 18 July, 1 August, 15 August, 29 August, 12 September

The history of the gardens and recent changes will be explained, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

The walk will take around 1 hour and is free. Please meet in the area by the gardens notice board.



For further details contact: Mark Pollard, Parks Development Officer, East Devon District Council. Tel: 01395 516551, Email: mpollard@eastdevon.gov.uk

Forthcoming meetings

Meeting	Officer Contact	Date	Time	Location
Information/Drop-in Day – New Waste and Recycling Scheme	Paul Deakin - Interim Waste and Recycling Manager - Ext 2074	Monday 19 May	11am - 3pm (10am press launch)	Council Chamber
Recycling and Refuse Partnership Board	Rachel Perram	Tuesday 20 May	2.00pm	Room 1
East Devon Business Forum	Chris Lane	Tuesday 20 May	6.00pm	East Devon Business Centre
Audit and Corporate Governance Task and Finish Forum	Christopher Holland	Thursday 22 May	10.00am	Room 1
Information/Drop-in Day – New Waste and Recycling Scheme (for Members & Parish reps)	Paul Deakin - Interim Waste and Recycling Manager - Ext 2074	Tuesday 27 May	10.00am – 3.00pm	Committee Room

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.

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

Decision by Portfolio Holder

 Members are notified of the following decision

Resources (A T Moulding)	Leisure East Devon (LED) outsourcing Human Resources (HR) from September 2008 Agreeing to LED withdrawing from the use of the East Devon District Council's HR services on 30 September 2008. However, following the requirement to cover maternity leave and the emergent outcomes of the Boundary committee's work, a review of the structure of the department should be undertaken.
------------------------------------	---

The above decision will become effective on 22 May 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

Thursday 22 May

Chairman attending the Exmouth RNLI Open Evening at Exe Sailing Club.

New website for the Blackdown Hills

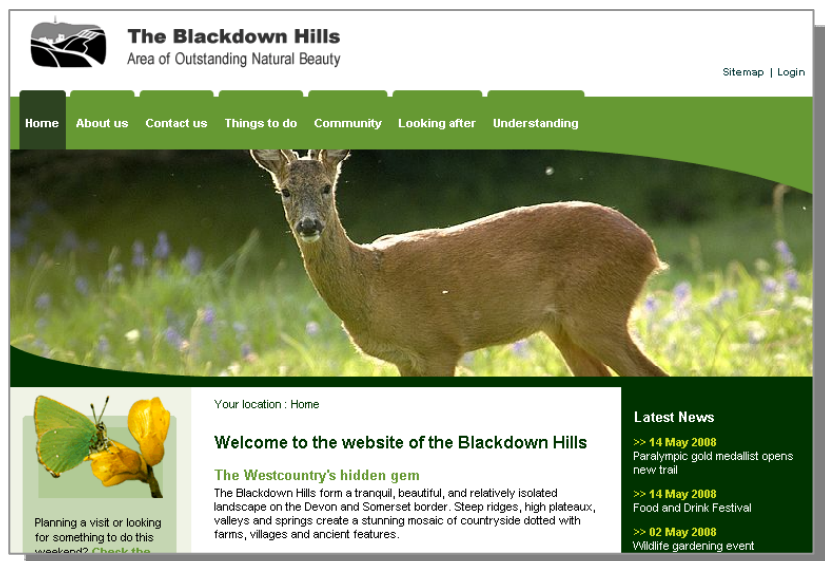
A new website all about the Blackdown Hills has been launched. The totally revamped site from the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) features free walking guides, places to visit, diary dates, information about the area and more.

The Blackdown Hills is beautiful and unique. It is home to wildlife and people - with valuable habitats existing alongside living, working communities. Unique geology creates an exceptional environment where rare plant, insect and invertebrate species can flourish.

On the new website you can find information about the Hills' Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty status, as well as a packed calendar of countryside events. There are facts about local wildlife and landscape, and a gallery of beautiful pictures - you can send in your photos to add! There are free walking and horse riding routes to download, and links to local businesses.

The site is designed to be a resource for anyone with an interest in the Blackdowns, from landowners and conservationists to local people with business ideas and families looking for something to do at the weekend. They'd love to know what you think of the new site - get in touch and let them know.

<http://www.blackdown-hills.net/>



Funding

The **Caudwell Children 'Enable Sport'** programme has been launched to fund adapted sports equipment for gifted and talented children with disabilities to participate in competitive sport. Children with sporting potential across the UK will receive donations such as individually adapted sports wheelchairs worth around £3000 and other equipment like hand bike tricycles worth around £1,000. For an application pack call 0845 300 1348 or email charity@caudwellchildren.com

Groundwork Community Spaces



The £50 million lottery-funded Community Spaces programme was launched this month. The programme helps community groups create or improve green and open spaces so that the quality of life in neighbourhoods across England is enhanced. Grants start at £10,000. Further information about the programme and who can apply can be found on the website: <http://www.community-spaces.org.uk/>

Funding for Trees is open to projects where tree planting costs are between £100 and £700. The group applying must meet at least 25% of the funds needed to carry out their complete tree



planting project. The Community Trees Fund is open to voluntary organisations, a parish or community council or a private individual working with an unconstituted community group and the tree planting must be on publicly accessible land. The closing date is **31 May**. www.treecouncil.org.uk

South West Screen - Regional Investment Fund for England (RIFE) - both the focus and



procedure for RIFE Lottery funding in the South West have been revised and simplified. Grants are no longer offered under separate

funds and support is now focused on projects which can achieve the following outcomes: Increased skills and creativity via projects which develop people and organisations; Extended access and participation which encourages more people to enjoy the moving image in the South West; Promotion and heightened profile of the South West's creative and media sector; Positive social and cultural impact at a local and/or regional level. Read more: www.swscreen.co.uk

Local Food, a new £50 million grants programme



funded by the Big Lottery Fund, is now open for applications. The programme is aimed at making locally grown food accessible and affordable to local communities. Grants from £2,000 up to £500,000 will be awarded to not-for-profit groups and organisations in

England to deliver projects such as growing, processing, marketing and distributing local food, composting and raising awareness of the benefits of such activities. Applications for Small Grants (£2,000 to £10,000) and Main Grants (£10,001 to £300,000) can be made at any time. Applications for Beacon Grants of £300,001 to £500,000 must be submitted by the end of June. www.localfoodgrants.org

Councillor's Guide 2008/09



If you're a new councillor who has just been elected, access the IDeA's must-have 'Councillor's Guide'. It provides vital information on how to be a councillor and guidance on civic leadership. Revised and updated, it reflects the latest

legislation and thinking on local government. www.idea.gov.uk

Note: this document will be posted on the EDDC Councillor page on our web site for easy future reference.

The 'must know' resource



A new guide has been produced to help lead members in adults' and children's services get to the heart of their roles and responsibilities. It provides advice and guidance on some of the most common 'how do you know...?' questions relating to their leadership role. The guide was created because IDeA recognised that many councillors were seeking assistance on how to filter out the 'don't really need to know's' and prioritise the 'must knows'. Councillors are invited to register for 'must know' updates by emailing jessica.obrien@idea.gov.uk. Further details are on the website and the final complete resource will be launched on **28 May**. www.idea.gov.uk

Tackling obesity: the Foresight Report

How do we meet the health challenges posed by obesity? Find out the implications for local government in new research commissioned by the IDeA, which analyses the recent Foresight Report from a local authority perspective.

www.idea.gov.uk

International insights: place shaping



The second in the series of international insights focuses on the Australian city of Melbourne. Twenty-five years ago, it had a 'useless' city centre - now it's a thriving, world-leading metropolis.

Professor Robin Hambleton draws lessons for the UK from its

transformation. Drive the debate and add your comment. www.idea.gov.uk

Strategic housing: resettlement of offenders

Three authorities provide three different solutions to managing ex-offenders in the community. Discover how Bolton, Greenwich and Tower Hamlets are using housing to help rebuild lives.

www.idea.gov.uk

Councillor comment: can we go beyond unitary status?

Ann Hartley, Deputy Leader of Shropshire County Council believes amalgamating services into a single authority is the way forward for shires, and that unitary status should be taken further. What do you think? Read Ann's views and add your comments. www.idea.gov.uk

In the press

3000 more post offices could shut

The Post Office may be forced to close a further 3,000 branches if it loses crucial



contracts for paying pensions and benefits, warns the National Federation of Sub-Postmasters. This would mean

the number of post offices will have dropped from 19,000 to 8,500 since 1997. [Mail](#)

Post Offices rescue plan unveiled

Plans were revealed at an LGA conference which would see hundreds of post office branches earmarked for the chop saved. One proposal is that services could be provided in council buildings such as libraries and sports centres, with Essex County Council leader Lord Hanningfield saying his authority hopes to save 15 of the 31 branches in the county set to close. [Mail](#)

New figures show Britons back recycling



The Office of National Statistics published new figures showing recycling has increased by 27% across all regions between 2002 and 2006. Separate figures released for 2007-08

by the environment department show that the recycling trend has continued this year, to 33% with a fall in the amount of waste going to landfill. Cllr Paul Bettison, chairman of the Local Governments Association's (LGA) environment board said while the figures were a move in the right direction, there was a need to do more, and is quoted: "Councils and council tax payers are still facing fines of up to £3bn if we do not dramatically reduce the amount thrown into landfill." [Guardian](#)

Train booze may go nationwide



Rail travellers face being banned from drinking alcohol on trains as the Government seeks to follow London Mayor Boris Johnson's prohibition

on the Tube. Opponents say it will unfairly penalise people who enjoy a relaxing drink on long journeys. [Mail](#)

Council webcasts funeral services

South Essex Crematorium, run by Havering BC, has installed a webcasting and recording service to make ceremonies more accessible. A DVD of the recording is also available to mourners. The service has recently been used to broadcast the funeral of a serviceman who died in Iraq to his colleagues in Basra. [Times](#)

Stratford deals blow to ecotowns

Plans for new 'eco towns' across the country suffered a setback when



councillors in the home of Shakespeare unanimously rejected an earmarked site. The plans for 10 towns, the first to be built in Britain, for 40 years, have

led to nationwide protests. [Telegraph](#)

Credit crunch to push up council house waiting lists

The credit crunch is causing a surge in people going on to council house waiting lists. There are already 1.6 million families waiting for council or housing association homes- 600,000 more than six years ago. And the number will grow to two million families, or around five million people, within 18 months, a Local Government Association report to be published this month predicts. The LGA's Cllr Paul Bettison is quoted: "Many thousands more people will be looking to councils to provide them with a permanent home as they find it impossible to get on the housing ladder or their home is repossessed." [Mirror](#)

Number of ASBOs issued drops by a third



New Home Office figures show the number of new ASBOs issued has dropped by 34%. The figures also showed that breach rates had soared to 61% among teenagers

as the total number of ASBOs falls from 4,123 in 2005 to 2,706 in 2006, with the downward trend believed to have continued over the past 12 months. [Guardian](#)

Nottingham tackles ASBO culture

Nottingham - dubbed the gun crime capital of the UK - has become the first "early intervention" city with the launch of a unique package of measures to break the cycle of educational failure and crime. Jon Collins, leader of Nottingham City Council, said: "We are looking for a long-term answer to some of the social issues that we have in Nottingham. A lot of what we do is dealing with the symptoms of these problems. Now we have a chance to tackle the root causes of problems like violent crime and antisocial behaviour." [Independent](#)

'Garden grab' for new homes



More than 22 per cent of new homes are built on former gardens and previously residential land according to new figures. [Mail](#)

In the press (continued)

The changing role of the council Chief Exec



Lucy de Groot, executive director of the Improvement and Development Agency writes an opinion piece about the role of council chief

executives in the Public Agenda. She says the demands are not so different from those of the city managers who shaped the golden age of municipal administration in the late 19th century as today's council chiefs also need to be entrepreneurial, collaborative, flexible and focused on improving outcomes. [Times](#)

Parking space tax

Nottingham City Council is to charge companies with more than 10 parking spaces £185 a year for each space from 2010 in a bid to cut congestion and invest more in public transport. [Telegraph](#)

Draft Queen's Speech

The draft speech contained plans for at least 18 new Bills designed to create a 'fairer, more prosperous' Britain. They include a Police Reform Bill with plans for chief constables to be directly elected, a Community Empowerment Bill which will give residents a greater say in how they want services run. On housing, Gordon Brown announced a £200m fund to buy unsold new homes and rent them to social tenants or make them available to those priced out of the housing market. [Independent](#)



new Bills designed to create a 'fairer, more prosperous' Britain. They include a Police Reform Bill with plans for chief

constables to be directly elected, a Community Empowerment Bill which will give residents a greater say in how they want services run. On housing, Gordon Brown announced a £200m fund to buy unsold new homes and rent them to social tenants or make them available to those priced out of the housing market. [Independent](#)

Tesco refuses beer to man shopping with his daughter

A father who tried to buy six beers from a Devon branch of Tesco was told that he could not be served because his teenage daughter was with him. Companies including Tesco have been clamping down on the sale of alcohol to under-18s in the face of fines of up to £10,000 and the suspension of their license. [Telegraph](#)



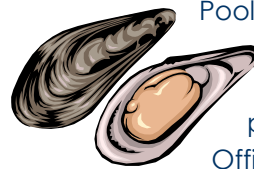
branch of Tesco was told that he could not be served because his teenage daughter was with him. Companies including Tesco have been clamping down on the sale

of alcohol to under-18s in the face of fines of up to £10,000 and the suspension of their license. [Telegraph](#)

Calls for guardians to protect trafficked children

Leading politicians from the three main parties are putting pressure on the home secretary, Jackie Smith, to halt the disappearance from care of hundreds of suspected victims of child trafficking. They are calling for a system of professional guardians to look after every suspected victim of child trafficking. Local authorities have admitted they are losing the battle to keep trafficked children from falling back into their traffickers' hands. [Guardian](#)

Surveillance being used to protect shellfish stocks



Poole Borough Council is using the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (Ripa) to scrutinise people gathering shellfish.

Officials used the controversial law to make sure stocks were not being harmed or taken from banned areas. Some local authorities have used the Act more than 100 times in the last 12 months to conduct surveillance, mainly against people suspected of being linked to rogue trading, benefit fraud and antisocial behaviour involving criminal damage. [Guardian](#)

Councils shame Whitehall



Government departments have performed poorly in official "capability reviews" (studies of each department conducted by top civil servants from

other departments and external assessors in the public and private sectors). Their performance is in stark contrast to local government. The Audit Commission assesses that almost one in ten councils are not only top performers, but are "improving strongly". [Financial Times](#)

Rural Services Network (RSN)

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

Thousands more post offices 'face closure'



Thousands more post office branches could be forced to close, government ministers are warned.

www.rsnonline.org.uk

Businesses in plea over rural postal services

Business leaders call on the government to restore lost postal services for rural firms. www.rsnonline.org.uk

Campaign seeks to protect village greens



Campaigners have called for better protection for registered common land and village greens. The Open Spaces Society has written to every planning authority in England and Wales, urging them to look out for green spaces threatened by planning

applications. 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>

Please note that links to some websites will only work correctly if you have Adobe PDF Reader Version 7 or 8 on your computer. You can download this free from the Adobe website:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readermain.html>

If you require further assistance please contact Democratic Services on 01395 517546.

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