

The Knowledge



Happy
Easter!

20 March 2008

Norman Lockyer Observatory



The Norman Lockyer Observatory in Sidmouth is a working historic astronomical observatory and planetarium. Founded by Sir Norman Lockyer in 1912 the observatory became a centre for astrophysical and geophysical research until the 1980s. Today, the

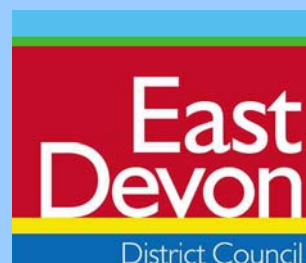
Observatory is managed and run by unpaid volunteers as a visitor centre supporting science education. The Society provides facilities for scientific projects, educational courses, and the recreational scientific interests of visitors and members. <http://www.projects.ex.ac.uk/nlo>

Visitors receive demonstrations, explanatory lectures and guided tours. Public open afternoons or evenings are held throughout the year. Here are some dates for your diary:

Dates for Spring 2008	Afternoon	Evening
	2.30pm	7.30pm
Wednesday 26 March	Public Open	
Wednesday 9 April	Public Open	
Thursday 10 April		Public Open
Saturday 12 April		Public Open
Wednesday 16 April	Public Open	
Wednesday 7 May	Public Open	
Saturday 10 May		Public Open
Thursday 15 May		Public Open
Wednesday 28 May	Public Open	

This week in The Knowledge

- Rural Services Network
- How to lower your carbon emissions
- Funding
- Cranbrook wins award
- Local democracy
- Audio description Service
- Promenade at Farringdon
- Forthcoming meetings
- Portfolio Holders decisions
- New documents
- News from the IDEA
- In the Press



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Rural Services Network (RSN)

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

Better settlement for members of SPARSE (Sparsity Partnership for Authorities Delivering Rural Services)



Local authorities which are members of SPARSE fared better than non-member authorities from

the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2008/09, reveals an internal report prepared on behalf of RSN. As a whole, the SPARSE grouping of local authorities will receive £1.41 billion in Formula Grant for 2008/09. This represents a 5.4% increase on a like-for-like basis from 2007/08 and compares favourably with an average England increase of just 3.5%. But it should be noted that the overall favourable increase masks many restricted funding increases for individual SPARSE member authorities. The report, including details appendices, can be downloaded [here](#).



Response to communities consultation

The network has responded to the Government's consultation on Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities. RSN's overall response welcomes the focus that the new Local Performance Framework creates on achieving positive outcomes for people and places, and on improved engagement (by policy makers and service planners) with communities. They also support the developing role of Local Strategic Partnerships and the primacy of Sustainable Community Strategies as the strategic framework within which to articulate a shared vision for local places. But RSN remains concerned that Local Area Agreements will continue to make it hard for rural communities to argue for, and achieve, proportionate impact. The response document can be downloaded in full [here](#).

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>

Performance Profiles now available

During the past year, RSN has issued a number of comparison reports detailing the performance of rural local authorities when delivering a variety of services. This service is invaluable because it compares service delivery performance across rural districts, unlike the Audit Commission which compares delivery only across all districts. Profiles issued so far include waste; recycling; planning and housing. In the future, performance profiling may be extended to cover Local Strategic Partnerships. All sheets will henceforth be posted on the website at www.rsnonline.org.uk. Performance profiles for planning and development control can be viewed [here](#).

Concern grows over eco-towns

Fears are growing about the impact that eco-towns will have on the countryside. The Government hopes to build 10 eco-towns, the largest of which would provide up to 20,000 new homes built to environmental standards. Concern has also been expressed that the Government might use these "green" settlements as an en masse means of meeting affordable housing targets in the countryside to the detriment of smaller developments in hamlets and villages. Stakeholders who wish to register a particular interest in the issue are encouraged to email info@rsnonline.org.uk with their contact details.

Experts to investigate cost of delivering rural services

Experts from Plymouth University are to investigate the cost of delivering vital services in the countryside. The Rural Services Network has commissioned a piece of research work with the university which will examine the funding formulas for various services and the reflection - or lack of it - in those formulas in relation to the additional delivery costs arising through rurality. A first stage of work will see researchers examine funding formulas for health, emergency ambulance provision, education and social services. A second stage will analyse funding allocations for fire and police services. An initial report will be published summer 2008.

How to lower your carbon emissions

Thanks to the Express and Echo which has agreed for us to include this thought-provoking article from one of their recent publications:

These days we seem to be being bombarded almost daily with ways to cut down on our carbon emissions. The trouble is, it can all seem a bit complicated and few tell you how the various ways compare. For example, do you have any idea which of these is the better choice for the average UK citizen?

- ❑ Using only energy efficient light bulbs or buying only organic products?
- ❑ Buy a wood burning stove or change to a hybrid car?
- ❑ Buy local, non-processed food, non-packaged food or stop flying?

I thought not, but then who would?

So if you're interested, here are the figures for the savings in annual carbon dioxide emissions that the average UK citizen can make. They are taken from a recent article in New Scientist magazine, based on information from the Energy Saving Trust:



- ❑ Stop flying: 1.6 tons.
- ❑ Buy organic products (including cotton): 1.0 tons.
- ❑ Buy wood-burning stove: 0.9 tons
- ❑ Change to low-emission car: 0.8 tons
- ❑ Insulate your home: 0.8 tons.
- ❑ Buy green electricity: 0.8 tons.
- ❑ Buy local, non-processed, non-packaged food - but not local from a heated greenhouse: 0.7 tons.
- ❑ Lower thermostat to 20C: 0.4 tons.
- ❑ Use energy-efficient light bulbs: 0.25 tons
- ❑ Only run washing machine full at 30C.
- ❑ Scrap tumble dryer: 0.25 tons.
- ❑ Swap PC for laptop: 0.2 tons.
- ❑ Unplug appliances on standby: 0.04 tons

Total: 7.74 tons (out of a total of about 12 tons per person, of which about 10 is under our control).

Some of these like washing at 30C, turning the thermostat down or unplugging appliances save money immediately. Insulation and low energy light bulbs pay back very quickly.

But what about recycling? There's no mention above. Steve Freeman, recycling manager for Exeter City Council, says we currently recycle 38% of all recyclable and compostable rubbish whereas it could be 60%. But working out how much carbon dioxide we can save by recycling more, is difficult. It depends on the type of material, how you transport it and how far and what you make it into. Far better of course, is not to buy it in the first place or to reuse it. The Echo's green bag campaign illustrates this perfectly - don't worry about what to do after you've got your plastic bag, don't take it in the first place!



Eco engineer Peter Hanson explains how much you can cut carbon emissions by simple lifestyle changes

Funding

Community Spaces is a £50 million open grants



programme that is managed by Groundwork UK as an Award Partner to the Big Lottery Fund. The programme will help community groups create or improve green and open spaces so that the quality of life in neighbourhoods across England is enhanced. Further information about the programme and who can apply can be found on the website: www.community-spaces.org.uk

The England and Wales Cricket Trust



welcomes eligible cricket clubs with junior sections to consider an interest-free loan to assist in the development of facilities on their ground(s). The Trust will award interest-free loans up to £50,000 with a repayment period of up to 10 years. Clubs with as little as 25% partnership funding can apply. More details, including criteria for applying, are available from the website: www.ecb.co.uk/ecb

Cranbrook's award in low-carbon housing competition

Not a brick has yet been laid, but the new community of Cranbrook in East Devon is already a winner – at least so far as the South West's renewable energy agency 'Regen SW' is concerned. The proposed housing development at the West End of the district is set to have among the lowest carbon emissions in the South West, after winning support in the region's first low-carbon housing competition.

The Cranbrook new community, which is part of a cluster of green field developments in East Devon, beat off competition from across the South West

to win one of just 5 packages of support on offer from Regen SW. This means that the ground-breaking development will now get up to 20 days of dedicated, expert help to help make the most of its CO₂-saving potential. The initial phase of Cranbrook is planned for 2,900 homes, but as many as 7,500 homes may be built in the long-term.

Regen SW launched the competition in November, with the aim of finding those large housing developments in the region that had the most potential to reduce carbon emissions. It was looking for new housing developments of over 1,000 homes that have set high carbon-reduction standards. The 15 sites that entered the competition represented more than 35,000 new homes that are due to be built in the period up to 2016, after which all new homes will be required to be 'zero carbon'.

Nick Stephen (Communications Officer)

Tel: 01395 517 559 Email: nstephen@eastdevon.gov.uk



Local democracy - feedback from Sidmouth College

Sidmouth College has developed a successful partnership over the last 4 years with East Devon District Council. This has provided important benefits for both partners. College pupils have been able to take part in several real-life projects, where they have been able to see tangible results from their involvement. For instance in 2006, a group of students from all year groups worked with council officers to suggest improvements and changes to the eastdevonunlimited website. The site provided information for young people on events and services of interest to them, especially over the summer holidays. Pupils saw that many of their ideas had been included on the site - links were provided to transport providers, to tide and weather information, and the format was changed to make it more attractive to young people.

After the election of the new council in 2007, the council turned to college pupils for consultation on the council's new 3 year plan. A class of Year 10 pupils met with council officers, including the Chief Executive and those conducting the consultation. As well as helping to prioritise the issues the council had already raised, such as recycling and leisure facilities, Sidmouth College students highlighted the need to put greater focus on young people across the district. Indeed as the final report makes clear, they are the biggest minority group in parts of East Devon! At the start of 2008, the council, supported by specialists in public consultation, began setting up "Scene and Heard", a panel of young people who can be called on to discuss issues or take part in surveys and questionnaires on matters that might affect them as and when they come up. Sidmouth College has provided the first cohort of students, following a meeting to refine the detail of the scheme held with the College's Student Council. It is hoped that useful links will be made between these two groups, as well as the Sidmouth Youth Council.

The centrepiece of the partnership between the college and EDDC has been Local Democracy Week. In a change of format initiated by the college, 10 councillors, 2 to each class, one new and one experienced, were invited to visit Year 8 during Local Democracy Week. Classes had studied the work of local councils in advance of the visit. Almost without exception, every pupil in the year group made a comment, asked a question or expressed a view, including what improvements they would like to see. The councillors left with a much clearer idea of young people's take on the future of East Devon, and enjoyed the quality of the interaction with the students.

The successful Political Speed Dating event with the sixth form has recently been widely reported. As a sign of its success, councillors have asked if they can return to the College, to follow up with some of the local issues they raised, such as: somewhere to go in the evening where they could chat with friends, and a wish that the police would crack down on the few troublemakers in their area who give them a bad name.

It is a really positive step for students to see that they are able to influence real decisions and meet with people who have a great deal of influence over their local communities. They have been encouraged to express their opinions, and will, we hope, feel more confident about being active promoters and campaigners for change in the future. For councillors it has allowed them to meet and work with a key part of their constituency in a very positive manner. The partnership has opened up lines of communication that can only be beneficial to both sides.

The success of the partnership has been reliant on support at a senior officer level, the willingness of councils to engage and listen to young people and the enthusiasm of the college staff to help make this happen. Active Citizenship? Make a positive contribution? Both important certainly. But making local democracy interesting, fun, and something for everyone to know about. Priceless.

Martin Long, Every Child Matters Coordinator, Sidmouth College



Audio description service saved, but volunteers always needed

Support from the Sidmouth Herald brings success

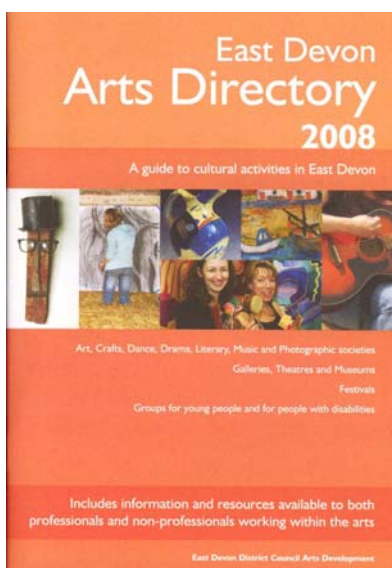
For some time the fate of East Devon District Council's audio description service at the Manor Pavilion has been in the balance. Sidmouth is fortunate because it has a team of describers ready and willing to help blind and partially sighted people to get the most out of their theatre visits by providing a live commentary on most plays. But in recent months there has been no-one to run the service or to provide administrative support. Now, thanks to an appeal in the Sidmouth Herald, 2 volunteers, Beverley Alleston and Alison Cook, have come forward to share the job. A third volunteer, Jackie Beckett, will be responsible for videoing each show, so that the describers have a video to work with as they prepare their commentary.



To be someone's "eyes" for an evening at the theatre is quite a responsibility. On the face of it, to describe what you see on stage sounds easy. In reality, it is a challenge. How do you describe but not interpret a scene? How do you avoid interrupting the flow of the play? Which silent gestures or facial expressions of the actors need to be mentioned if the partially sighted person is to be able to understand the subtleties of the plot and its characters? To do this well needs skill and it also needs training. The latter is provided by the Audio Description Association, whose expertise has greatly helped the Pavilion's team of describers in the past. Whilst most people are aware of the audio tape and description facilities routinely on offer for exhibitions and in museums and galleries, many are unaware that audio description is developing in many other fields, ranging from sport to digital television, and that here in Sidmouth we have it in our own local theatre – the Manor Pavilion.

If you would like to volunteer to join the audio description team and would like to know more, contact Ishbel Ramsay, Arts Development Officer, on 01395 517466 (or Ext 2666) iramsay@eastdevon.gov.uk

Out now – East Devon's Directory of local arts societies



The new-look 2008 East Devon Arts Directory has just been published, and it's available – free of charge – to anyone interested in finding out what's happening in the district's arts world throughout the year. Clubs, groups and societies covering a wide range of cultural activities are listed in an easy-to-find format. There are details on adult and further education evening classes, festivals, history and heritage societies, writers' circles, galleries and dance groups, amongst many others.

For young people, there are lots of opportunities to join youth theatres and orchestras, or to learn ballet, street jazz or modern dance. There are also details of local cinemas, theatres and museums. The completely revamped booklet contains details of the audio description service for blind and visually impaired people, enabling them to enjoy live theatre, and on the talking newspaper for the blind.

Copies of the Arts Directory may be found in local libraries, tourist information centres and at the Thelma Hulbert Gallery in Honiton. Or readers can call EDDC's Arts Development team on 01395 516 551, Extension 2515.

Promenade at Farringdon

The Farringdon Players production of *The Burial at Thebes* by Seamus Heaney is to be set in the grounds of Farringdon Church. In such a unique setting and with an excellent cast this production promises to be very special indeed. This is a "promenade play" which means that the action will move between different locations (not far) and the audience are very close to the actors at all times. There will be seating during some of the performance - when the play takes place inside the church and in Whyte House garden. As this is an outdoor production sensible footwear and warm clothes are necessary. There will be no interval, but a drink will be offered on arrival. In the case of inclement weather awnings and umbrellas will be provided. Phone 01395 239181 for tickets.



20 – 24 May 2007, 7.30pm start (matinee at 2pm on Saturday). Estimated time of ending is 9.15pm.

For more information about the play, please look at www.fsadevon.co.uk

Forthcoming meetings

Meeting	Officer Contact	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	Chris Lane	Tuesday 25 March	9.30am	CANCELLED
Executive Board	Diana Vernon	Wednesday 26 March	5.30pm	Council Chamber
Audit and Corporate Governance Committee	Chris Lane	Thursday 27 March	4.30pm	Committee Room
Planning Inspections Committee	Christopher Holland	Friday 28 March	2.30pm	Council Chamber
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	Chris Lane	Monday 31 March	9.30am	Council Chamber
Scrutiny Committee	Debbie Meakin	Wednesday 2 April	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Member Development Working Group	Diana Vernon	Thursday 3 April	9.00am	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
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Portfolio Holders decisions

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

Economy
(P Halse)

Hire charges for Manor Pavilion Theatre and Arts Centre, Sidmouth

To agree that the hire charges for the Manor Pavilion Theatre, Sidmouth for 2008/09 be as set out:

	New Charges for 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009		Existing Charges £
Manor Pavilion Theatre	Morning or Afternoon	65.00	60.00
	Evening	180.00	145.00
	All Day	240.00	210.00
	Weekly	820.00	770.00
Arts Centre	Morning or Afternoon	30.00	28.00
	Evening	60.00	56.00
	All Day	100.00	95.00
	Weekly	400.00	395.00
Lounge Bar	Morning or Afternoon	40.00	40.00

Supplementary Charges

Additional charges after 11pm Manor Pavilion Theatre only	£30 per hour or part thereof
Bank Holidays	Add an additional 'All Day' rate
Commercial Rates	Add up to 100% of the above charges plus VAT @ 17.5% subject to negotiation with the Manager

- Charges for non-commercial use includes VAT @ 17.5%
- Performing Rights Royalties will also be levied in accordance with nationally prescribed scheme and rates
- A 25% deposit will be made upon booking. This is non-refundable upon cancellation.

Further details: Christopher Holland, Democratic Services Officer, Ext 2743

Economy
(P Halse)

Request for a pedestrian access onto Flower Street Car Park, Woodbury from plot 4 The Drakes

To refuse consent for a pedestrian access onto Flower Street Car Park, Woodbury for plot 4 The Drakes and that enforcement be take to secure the closure of this access and to a similar access to plot 5.

Further details: Rob Speers, Senior Estates Surveyor, Ext 1588

Portfolio Holders decisions (continued)

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

Communities (Miss J Elson)	<p>Request for a variation to restrictive covenant to allow the owner of the former Council House at No 1 The Green – Exmouth to construct one additional two/three bedroom semi detached house attached to No 1 The Green.</p> <p>That in accordance with past practice, the request be agreed on terms and conditions to be negotiated with the Property Services Manager, for a deed of variation to allow the construction of one additional end terrace dwelling to the former Council House at 1 the Green – Exmouth, subject to a successful planning application.</p> <p>Further details: Chris Brookbank, Programmed Works Officer, Ext 2408</p>
	<p>Request for a licence agreement to form vehicular access over Council Housing land, in order to create off road parking in the front garden of No 1 Kirby Close, Axminster</p> <p>That the Council housing land by 1 Kirby Close, Axminster be leased to the owners of 1 Kirby Close under a licence agreement, to allow them to construct off road parking in their front garden.</p> <p>Further details: Derek Smith, Legal Executive, Ext 2439</p>

Decision by Portfolio Holder Members are notified of the following decision

Communities (Miss J Elson)	<p>Request for a variation to the existing lease at this former Council Ground Floor Flat at 1 Moorfield Road, Exmouth, to enable the current leaseholder to construct an extension to form an additional bedroom and bathroom</p> <p>Agreeing that subject to a successful planning application, the leaseholder of the former Council ground floor flat at 1 Moorfield Road, Exmouth, be permitted to negotiate a variation to the existing lease with the Property Services Manager, in order to exclude any future extension to the ground floor flat from the existing maintenance liability currently borne by this Council.</p>
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The above decision will become effective on 31 March 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.

New documents in the Members' Area

- The latest **Devon NHS Primary Care Trust Chief Executive's Briefing** is now available in the Members' Area. This covers staff appointments/changes, organisational development, commissioning contracts, move to County Hall, board meeting, stakeholder engagement and information management survey.

News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

LAA confidential: crime case studies

Tackling both violent crime and the fear of crime are priorities for many councils' local area agreements (LAAs). This series of case studies focuses on both issues, and the different approaches used to tackle crime-related problems. www.idea.gov.uk

'A Passion for Excellence': culture and sport strategy



While culture and sport are valued highly by people for their own sakes, they have an even greater resonance for councils. They can contribute substantially to the local economy, to

improving people's health and wellbeing, and to the strength and safety of communities in general. This new strategy paper outlines a framework for improvement in the culture and sport sector. www.idea.gov.uk

Competition: innovation in local public services

Find out which case studies have been chosen as winners in the Audit Commission and IDeA competition to promote examples of innovation in local public services. www.improvementnetwork.gov.uk

How-to guide: equality impact assessments

Councils must conduct equality impact assessments (EqIAs) to check the impact of their work on local residents and staff. EqIAs can help councils fulfil the requirements of anti-discrimination and equalities legislation. This resource gathers learnings from an 18-month EqIA mentoring programme. It gives accessible, step-by-step guidance for conducting EqIAs. www.idea.gov.uk

Tackling health inequalities

Read the Department of Health's third annual report on health inequalities, which reviews developments since the publication of the Programme for Action in 2003. It considers progress against the Public Service Agreement (PSA) target, the national headline indicators and other Government commitments. www.idea.gov.uk

Easy riders: Cornwall's silver pedallers



Discover how a joint scheme between the county, the district councils and the Primary Care Trust is encouraging elderly cyclists to saddle up once again. In a bid to promote a healthy means of exercise, this Cornish project has rekindled an interest in pedal power for over 1,000 push-bikers. www.idea.gov.uk

In the press

Teachers face attacks in class



Three quarters of state school teachers in Britain have been threatened or insulted, a poll by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers has found. [Guardian](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

New scheme to target children at risk of crime

Thousands of children at risk of offending or receiving an ASBO are to be targeting in a £218 million scheme unveiled by Children's Secretary Ed Balls. Under the plans local authorities would bid for the money to run 20 intensive youth support projects. [Guardian](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

Postal vote 'threat to democracy'



A High Court judge has warned that postal voting is "lethal to the democratic process" after finding a councillor guilty of vote-rigging in Slough.

Richard Mawrey QC said there is no reason to suppose that it was an isolated incident. In response Sir Christopher Kelly, Chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, said: "This latest example highlights the need for fundamental changes to our electoral system."

[Times](#)

Real cost of axing the Post Office

Comment piece in the Guardian looks at the closure of post offices as well as theatres and schools. It argues that as the state pursues short-sighted savings it is ripping the heart out of communities. [Guardian](#)

Councils get green light to save Post Offices

Post Office managers must co-operate fully with innovative plans by local councils to save their local branches from closure, ministers have said. More than 50 councils now want to save threatened branches, offering rescue packages of £18,000 per branch over 3 years from council tax receipts. Sir Simon Milton, chairman of the Local Government Association (LGA), was quoted: "It is a huge step in the right direction that the Minister has instructed Post Office Limited to enter into discussions with councils who have put forward proposals to save some of their local branches. [Telegraph](#)

Thousands rush to the South West



Thousands of people are moving home to the West Country, according to a study of more than half a million address changes by the Royal Mail. "The

West Country holds a unique charm that many find hard to ignore," said Humphrey Temperley, a Devon County Councillor. [Express](#)

In praise of Mayors

The Guardian leader praises talented mayors as people that can 'break party strangleholds and make local politics competitive'. It talks of the French system whereby mayors exist, not only in cities, but in towns and villages and the effectiveness of a good local 'maire' as a community focal point. [Guardian](#)

Vote on 'Rooney effect' mansions



People living in the wealthy Cheshire village of Alderley Edge are to be offered a referendum on whether a spate of millionaire

footballers' mansions are spoiling the area. Norman Moffit, vice-chairman of Prestbury Parish Council, said: "We've seen some very nice houses being knocked down and replaced by new ones, some of which are pretty grim and others which are simply horrific." [Telegraph](#)

Dance craze to hit schools



The Government is to unveil a £5.5m youth dance strategy to encourage a new generation of dancers. The initiative will be funded by the Department of Culture Media and Sport, Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Art Council England.

[Guardian](#)

Public demands Armed Forces Day



More than three-quarters of the public are in favour of an Armed Forces Day, according to a poll by the Sunday Telegraph. Service charities, MPs, military chiefs and councils - including Hampshire, Bury, Plymouth and Colchester - are backing the idea.

[Sunday Telegraph](#)

In the press (continued)

Lessons in happiness



Birmingham City Council is to put lessons in happiness at the heart of the curriculum. The authority is believed to be the first in Britain to give priority to children's happiness. Councillor Les Lawrence, lead member for children's service in Birmingham said: "It's not just about happiness for the sake of it. We all perform better when we are smiling." [Independent](#)

Easter egg makers fail to cut packaging

There has been almost no change in the amount of packaging on Easter eggs despite manufacturers' pledge to reduce the amount of card, plastic and foil they use. Some eggs on offer are so over-packaged that the chocolate makes up less than 10% of the volume of the wrapping. [Independent](#)

Call to regulate more care providers

The Healthcare Commission has called for at least 10,000 more healthcare providers to be inspected and regulated. [Financial Times](#)

Countryside 'betrayed by urban bias'

A nationwide coalition of local authorities and public service providers has criticised the Government for failing to mend problems faced by rural communities. [Western Morning News](#)

Report criticises lack of action over 'fragile' countryside



People living in the countryside are suffering because of poverty and isolation, two reports on rural issues have found. [In The News](#)

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.thissexeter.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

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](#).

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

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