



limestonenews

update from Limestone House, Creswell

for Education and Training - plus

- A Nearly New Shop
- A Genealogy Club
- A Heritage Centre
- A Wildlife Group
- A 2nd hand Book Shop
- A Sound & Multi Media Studio
- A free on-line Computer Suite
- A Coffee Shop

Youth activities

in various aspects of Multi Media will begin in the Limestone Recording Studio in February 2010 through to 31st March 2010, thanks to an award from the Derbyshire County Council Youth Opportunities Fund. After School, some Saturday morning and some half term school holiday activities will take place in the new Limestone Studio, in Karaoke and Recording. Fun learning on Computers/Apple Macs will also take place. Anyone interested in these activities should register their interest by calling in Limestone House or phoning 01909 724061

Training Courses

are ongoing in Limestone House for the Unemployed and this training programme includes Computers for Beginners, Accredited learning on Computers Level 1 OCN, Filming and Video Production and a day's training in Limestone House on Thursday, 25th February for Health and Safety:- the IOSH- 'Working Safely' Training which may lead to a qualification. Free Transport, funded by Alliance SSP, can be provided to the Learner to take them to the Course and return them to their pick up point. Anyone interested in joining a Training Course or requiring more information should contact 01909 724061.

Representatives from various Advisory Services

are in Limestone House each week to give confidential support as required. Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre are in Room 3 on Thursdays 9 to 11.30am, Family Employment Initiative are in Limestone House from 9am to 5pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays to support and advise with regard to gaining Employment or Training, Shaw Trust are in Room 3 on Tuesday mornings 9.30 to 1.30pm to help individuals with regard to Employment and Training. Chesterfield Law Centre are in Limestone House, in Room 8, on the 4th Monday of each month from 10am to 1 30pm. No appointment is required to see an advisor.

Elmton and Creswell Village Company

have gained an 'East Midland Achievement Award for Community Empowerment'. 65 organisations were nominated for an award in December 2009 and 10 organisations were selected to receive an Award. The Village Company chairman Julie Holling was recently invited to Melton Mowbray to present the diverse work of the Village Company for the community and the locality to a panel of judges. Julie collected the Award and was presented with £2000 for the Village Company at the one day East Midlands Empowerment Conference on Friday, 5th February 2010. The Conference provided a forum for open discussion with East Midland Councillors about the role Councillors play in championing Community Empowerment in their locality.

The Elmton and Creswell Wildlife Group (ECWG)

is an informal group of people who are recording wildlife sightings in the Parish and adding these to county records. All are welcome to attend ECWG meetings and help record wildlife of the Parish in Limestone House. Details are posted in Limestone House. On January 25th, the ECWG met and enjoyed an excellent presentation from Maurice Hammerton on the African Wild Dog – an endangered species, living mostly in Zambia. The group has also been in discussions with other Bolsover Biodiversity groups regarding input to a Heritage Lottery funded project called the Magnesian Limestone Journey, designed to protect and enhance access to this unique area.

For information about any of the above projects contact Limestone House on 01909 724061

LIMESTONE HOUSE 50-54 ELMTON RD CRESWELL
Tel 01909 724061 www.ecvc.org.uk
Open on Mon to Fri from 9am to 5pm and Saturday mornings from 9 to 12noon
Elmton & Creswell Village Company: Registered Charity 1128286

Birklands is Better Than Good!

Pupils and staff are celebrating the publication of their latest Ofsted report after an inspection was carried out last December.

The inspectors found that, 'As at the last inspection, this is a good school, and one which, in some important respects, is better than the last inspection'. A 'good' grade in Ofsted terms is the second highest grading a school can be awarded under the new framework.

Inspectors praised the school's curriculum which was thought to be 'outstanding' and judged the way in which children are assessed and monitored in science and information and communication technology as being exemplary. Inspectors also reported that children generally make good progress as they journey through the school and that Birklands' pupils also receive good care, guidance and support.

Staff were particularly pleased with the high standards of behaviour witnessed by the inspectors. The school now aims to work hard towards ensuring all lessons are of at least a good standard and to continue to broaden efforts to engage with parents and carers.



The 52nd meeting of Meden Vale the Future was held at the Village Hall on Monday 1st February 2010. 9 members of the Committee were present plus 3 Representatives from the Youth Club and Playscheme, 1 Representative from Welbeck Colliery Football Club and 2 Representatives from the Police. There were 4 apologies.

The Representative from Welbeck Colliery Football Club reported that the Football Foundation money would now be available throughout the financial year 2010/11. The groundworks to be undertaken by UK Coal have been costed and submitted to Fundsport UK. County Council funding of £50,000 has been secured via the Building Better Communities Fund. It would appear, that finally, after much effort, some physical work can now commence. Funding for the Playarea and MUGA is still sought and this will require additional funders, such as the Lottery.

The Treasurer reported that the financial position was satisfactory.

The Representative of the Youth Club commented that the Club has been running for approximately 8 months. Much positive support has been received together with favourable comments. A £1,500 grant has been obtained from Youth Services for the purchase of equipment. Applications for additional grants have been submitted, monies to be used for further equipment and trips out of the village. It was also confirmed that the Youth Club is fully up and running and has a Constitution, Bank Account, Child Protection Policy and the necessary CRB checks.

The Police Representatives reported that incidents of anti-social behaviour were declining in the Meden Vale area and that they had varied their patrol times in order to anticipate possible problems.

The Caretaker reported that several minor defects with locks, lights etc. required attention, the Committee agreed that these would be attended to. The question of signage for the Village Hall was raised and it was agreed that the cost of this would be ascertained. The idea being that a large Village Hall sign, with additional smaller signs, indicating Youth Club, Playscheme, Bingo etc. In addition, costing for making the back room independent of the main room with its own entrance, alarm etc. would be undertaken. This would allow a smaller and a larger meeting/activity to be held simultaneously.

Next Committee meeting will be held on: Monday 1st March 2010 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. All welcome.

Please contact the Secretary, Kay Walker on 01623 844282 for further information.



TO RESIST DRUGS AND VIOLENCE.

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION

Recently, all 59 pupils at Sherwood Junior School successfully graduated from the DARE programme.

The programme teaches the children strategies to avoid getting involved with drugs, cigarettes and alcohol. Jenny Dobb in Year 6 wrote the following poem for her graduation:

Stop and Think

I happily know what to do,
when someone tries to fool you.
I know that bad is near, when someone offers me a beer.
But those who do smoke a fag,
they should have listened when their parents nagged.
Most kids smoke to stay with the crowd,
but those who refuse should be proud.
Most kids who drink do it for a laugh,
while I believe they just look daft.
Meanwhile, sniffing glue makes people feel high,
but I know it would just make mum cry.
Most people just don't care,
but I know different because I have done DARE.
I listened to my teacher and mum,
and I don't find smoking fun
Next time you might have a fag or drink,
stop what you're doing – stop and think!



CAB ADVICE COLUMN

How can I get the best deal on my energy supply?

If you have never changed your energy supplier you could be paying more than you need to for your gas and electricity. Depending on where you live, on average you could save: £91 a year if you pay by Direct Debit, £86 a year if you pay by card, key or token meter, or £73 a year if you pay by cash or cheque.

When going to compare prices of different suppliers it's a good idea to get a copy of your last bill, or if you use a card, token or key meter to have an idea of how much you spend each month on energy. It is also helpful to know the name of your current suppliers; the name of the deal you are on, and your post code.

There are three ways to find out about the prices charged in your area.

- Phone round the energy supply companies to find out what deals are on offer and compare them with your current deal.
- Or you can use one of the approved online price comparison sites. These are listed on the Consumer Focus website: www.consumerfocus.org.uk
- You can also download a pricing factsheet for your area from the Consumer Focus website.

If you cannot access the internet you can call Consumer Direct on **08454 040506** for a pricing factsheet as well as general consumer advice.

If you are having problems paying gas or electricity bills get advice. For more information and contact details of your local CAB go to the Citizens Advice website www.adviceguide.org.uk

For more information and advice, and contact details of your nearest CAB, go to the Citizens Advice website

www.adviceguide.org.uk

