

# Partnerships Newsletter

January / February 2016



## Continuing Support for the Bosley Community

Since day one of the incident Cheshire East Council has been a key responder in the multi-agency response to Bosley, helping the emergency services and other partner organisations to support the residents, employees, businesses and wider community impacted. The Council is now leading a multi-agency, shadow strategic recovery co-ordination group whose main aim is to work together as a partnership, with the affected residents and employees in Bosley and Staffordshire, to restore the community following the disaster. This group will also provide strong and visible leadership, provide public reassurance and rebuild public confidence. There are a range of sub-groups working to ensure that the individual needs of all those affected by the incident are fully met. Their action plans cover three areas:

- Community health and wellbeing (social effects);
- Environmental and infrastructure (physical effects);
- Business and economy (economic effects).

As the recovery process continues the Council will continue to work with partners and with the community of Bosley in developing action plans and ensuring good communications. 2016 will see the establishment of events to record the history of Bosley village in both a creative and sensitive way to help people remember and commemorate.



## Bosley Disaster Appeal Fund

The appeal fund, set up by parish councillor and community activist Sylvia Jenkinson, exceeded all expectations as it grew from donating the sale of home-made quiches to fundraising events taking place all across the country and donations coming in from all across the world. The fund has currently received a total of £228,646 in donations and distributed in excess of £152,000 to those in need.

The trustees of the charity have now agreed to cease receiving donations as of the end of February 2016 and aim to wind up the charity prior to the one year anniversary of the disaster. Discussions are now taking place about how to celebrate the lives of those lost on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015 in a whole village event during the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

If you would like to support the community in recording their village history or planning or attending their whole village event [contact the Bosley Disaster Appeal Fund](#).

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### What is PACE?

Partnerships for Action in Cheshire East brings together all organisations who are working to maintain and improve the quality of life in Cheshire East.

## Local Area News

### Congleton

#### Life and Learning - Preserving and Revitalising St John's Historic School Buildings

St John's Church are pleased to announce that funding has been approved for the renovation of their church hall into a modern vibrant community centre, creating a place that supports local people and offers learning, personal development and recreation in Buglawton.



The main grant provider, [WREN](#), is contributing £50,000 towards the £300,000 plus project. The project has also received a Cheshire East Council grant of £15,000 and generous legacies and contributions from local organisations, the WI and the Ju-Jitsu Club, together with donations by St John's congregation. The Hall Refurbishment Chairman Peter Houldsworth believes that the resulting community centre will focus on all aspects of wellbeing activities, secular, charitable and Christian, across all age ranges and be a place of lifelong learning, relevant to the needs of Buglawton's local communities.

To get involved with the project or make enquiries about hiring the hall contact [Peter Houldsworth](#)

### Chose Alsager Bridgestone Amateur Swimming Club

Alsager Amateur Swimming Club (ASC) seeks new swimmers of all ages to strengthen its competitive squads. National times achieved by Mike Goodby and Jacob Copeland were the highlight of the club's 2015 calendar, with the youngsters hopefully going on to Team GB training camps in 2016. A regular training programme at the 50m Manchester Aquatics Centre has helped develop senior swimmers, along with training commitments in excess of 16 hours a week whilst still doing school work.



A few years behind are 9 year olds Tilly Copeland and Benji Townsend who both achieved 2015 UK top ten times in butterfly and front crawl respectively. Swimming 4 hours a week is a great way for anyone to keep fit and healthy. The club also supports disabled and open water swimmers. 2016 will see Liv Cork train with Beijing double gold medallist Ellie Simmonds OBE.

For more information, including how to volunteer as a coach, visit the [Alsager Bridgestone ASC website](#)

### Reaching Out at Radway

In the ongoing efforts to increase the number and quality of services being delivered from the Radway Estate in Alsager a number of engagement activities have taken place. Working in partnership with [Plus Dane Housing](#) the Radway Community Group has now been formed. They are actively promoting their activities via Facebook and through a resident's newsletter to ensure that people are aware of what is happening in their area and to ask for feedback on progress. For more direct contact they have been holding monthly meetings on the estate and working in partnership to hold family events at the Radway Social Club.

The Communities Team would like to hear from organisations that could deliver services from the estate, or would like to know how to add to existing projects such as I-Tea and chats, back to work and life skills support, reader groups, community speed watch and physical improvements to Wood Park.

For more information contact [Lisa Alcock](#) on 01270 686764



## Crewe

### Central Cheshire Buddy Scheme

Central Cheshire Buddy Scheme (CCBS) supports children and young people with disabilities, their families and their siblings through activity clubs, holiday clubs and residential breaks. CCBS currently runs 8 activity groups, supporting 170 young people, over 200 carers and 30 siblings and their families.

CCBS are based at Shavington Youth Centre where they run a Saturday Club for children and young people with disabilities to meet friends and play in a safe environment. They can also get involved in activities including cookery, crafts, dance, big ball games and wheelchair basketball. CCBS also support a weekly youth club at the Centre, which is run by the [Cheshire Youth Support Service](#).



Funding in 2015 enabled capital works to be carried out at the centre, which included installation of a new outdoor play area and kitchen. Stephanie Lawley, Service delivery manager at CCBS said: "The play equipment has made a huge difference to the play experience at the centre. The outside area is open all year round, the children love riding the special bikes, being in the sand pit and playing on the new equipment. The new kitchen means we can work with the young people to develop essential life skills and provide the children with a hot meal on a Saturday. Thanks to all the work of the organisations involved we have created a great play space which will be used by a number of different groups."

[For more information visit the Central Cheshire Buddy Scheme website](#)

### The Lost Carnival

Over a century after the mysterious Lost Carnival disappeared it will reappear in Crewe this May. For three short nights only, families will step into a world unlike any other in this large-scale outdoor immersive theatre experience from award-winning producers [Wild Rumpus](#), creators of the Just So Festival and [So It Is](#), creators of Bury Met and the Ramsbottom Festival.

For more information see the events section of this newsletter or [visit The Lost Carnival website](#)

### Crewe team graduate from Prince's Trust Programme



A group of young people from Crewe are looking forward to a better future after graduating from a [Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service \(CFRS\) led Prince's Trust Programme](#). The graduation took place at Wychwood Park Hotel Crewe and the team of 11, who were all dressed in evening dress, attended the event and gave a two minute speech about their time on the course. The speeches were in front of a packed audience of local dignitaries, family, friends and people who have helped and mentored them over the 12 week course.

Tamsen Lesko, Prince's Trust Project Co-ordinator for CFRS, said: "This course is another example of how the Service provides value to the community. Over the last 12 weeks these young people have learnt respect, self-confidence and a variety of new skills. They have grown as individuals and now have clear aims and objectives in life."

The Princes Trust programme is a 12 week course giving young people between the ages of 16 and 25 years the opportunity to learn new skills, complete qualifications and gain greater self-confidence. The next programme will be running from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. If anybody is interested, or you know anyone who you think would benefit from the Programme contact Sarah McCreddie on 07837 121523.

## Crewe Town Council Civic Awards 2016

Councillor Dennis Straine-Francis, Mayor of Crewe, invites local residents to nominate individuals, groups and organisations whom they feel have made a positive difference to the Town of Crewe. Nominations can be submitted under the following four categories:

- Crewe Civic Award
- Crewe Sports Award
- Crewe Youth Award
- Crewe Community Award



Nominations must be no more than 200 words in length and submitted in writing to Crewe Town Council before 12pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The Civic Awards will be presented at the Mayor's Civic Reception on the evening of Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Two free tickets will be given to the winning recipients of each award.

For more information visit the [Crewe Town Council website](#)

## Moving Up with Friends for Leisure



Friends for Leisure (FFL) provide activities for disabled children and young people who often experience social isolation and loneliness. To help disabled young people prepare for organising their own social life, as they approach the upper age limit for the charity, the Up Project will soon commence. Sessions will focus on topics and skills that will be useful to the group as they get older and start to become more independent. At the same time, the young people will build a friendship group that they can continue to keep in touch with as they move on from the charity.

Most of the Up sessions will be held in the [What's on in North Street Community Hub](#) in Crewe, a new venue for FFL. A residential will be held at the [Hollowford Centre in Castleton](#). Previous participants have said that this was their favourite and most memorable part. It gives the young people a chance to have some independence away from home in a safe place, surrounded by their friends. FFL recently learned that a 2015 participant, who is physically disabled, gained such confidence at Hollowford that she is now researching residential colleges away from home to learn about living independently.

[For more information visit the Friends for Leisure website](#)

## Knutsford

### Interested in the role of an on-call firefighter?

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service are being supported by Cheshire East Council's community team in recruiting people who live or work in the area to train as on-call firefighters. During the early part of 2016 local communities and businesses will be approached to ask whether individuals will consider this demanding but fulfilling role. On-call firefighters come from every walk of life, including shopkeepers, builders, plumbers, farmers, secretaries, engineers and directors of companies, together with people who are not currently employed.



Previous experience is not required thanks to the comprehensive training programme. You must be able to get to Knutsford Fire Station quickly after being alerted by a bleeper. This role can be physically demanding and therefore physical fitness is very important.

If you are interested in the role of an on-call firefighter at Knutsford contact [Sarah Dornford-May](#) on 01606 868451 and for other firefighter opportunities [visit the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service website](#)

## Knutsford Health and Wellbeing Activities

At the Knutsford Health and Wellbeing event, held at the Shaw Heath Social Club in December, consultation was carried out on activities those over the age of 50 years would like to attend locally. The Health and Wellbeing Steering Group are continuing to survey local residents at various locations and events on topics such as walking groups, lunch clubs and sheltered housing schemes. The results of the full consultation will be available in February from the [Great Places Housing Group](#) website.

Mondays and Fridays have been highlighted as the days that people would like to see more going on with 55% of those wishing to participate in an activity in the morning, followed by 35% who wanted to see more in the afternoon. Kurling and iTea and chat sessions are being planned to begin from February at the Sports Barn in the Longridge area of Knutsford.

For more information contact [Val Burlison](#) on 01625 374950

## Macclesfield

### Waters Green Public Art

Cheshire East Council is working to deliver a public art project that enhances the Waters Green area of Macclesfield alongside other interventions. Work has started on improving the Waters Green Underpass as part of the Council's commitment to the regeneration of the area. Improvements include the installation of two new CCTV cameras, significant landscape improvements, the removal of graffiti, deep cleaning and painting of all street furniture, and upgrading and enhancing lighting.



This public art will help to create a welcoming look and feel and will give this part of the town a much needed boost, reflecting the uniqueness and creativity of the town. The proposals for public art were exhibited for residents to comment on in October 2015, and a further community consultation workshop was held in December to gather memories, anecdotes and local knowledge of this area, which has previously been a cattle market.

[To add your comments and contributions to the project visit the Waters Green Public Art website](#)

## Choose Well to get Well – and save money for the NHS



More than 3,300 people who visited Accident and Emergency at Macclesfield District General Hospital between November 2014 and February 2015 needed no treatment apart from information and advice. Many of those people had common ailments like coughs and colds which they could have treated themselves or asked their pharmacist about.

It would have cost the NHS around £50,000 less if those people had stayed away from Accident and Emergency. That money would pay the salaries of two newly-qualified nurses. That is why NHS Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which plans and buys healthcare for 204,000 people, is running a multi-media campaign to give residents the information they need to choose the right service at the right time so they get better quickly and help ease the strain on hard-pressed services.

[For advice on choosing the right service at the right time, visit the Eastern Cheshire CCG website](#)



## Macclesfield Activity Centre

The Macclesfield Multi Activity Centre, known as The MAC, is now up and running. This community interest company wants to provide a range of services to the community of Macclesfield and currently has a community room for groups to use. After being given a grant from Cheshire East Council, and the hard work and determination from a number of local residents, this community activity centre is now available for activities, parties, community room hire and a place for all to enjoy.



[For more information visit the Multi Activity Centre website](#)

## Hurdsfield Community Memory Café

Local residents on the Hurdsfield Estate, Macclesfield, are working towards creating a social enterprise to run a community memory café. [Peaks and Plains Housing Trust](#) plan to undergo work on an unused building in February to ensure it is fit for purpose for the residents to utilise. The community will be supported by Cheshire East Council and a number of third sector organisations to ensure its success.

[For more information and to offer support contact Dan Coyne](#) on 01625 383845

## Funding Success for Community Partnerships



Partnerships working alongside three separate community groups have collectively been awarded £122,000 for facilities in Macclesfield through applications made to [WREN](#). South Park has been awarded £48,000 as a contribution towards a total project cost of £217,000. This will provide an action station consisting of a new multi-use games area along with a new set of tennis courts thanks to the support of the friends of South Park group - S:Park. This ambitious project is due to commence in March 2016.

Banbury Park has been awarded a total of £14,000 for a brand new green gym within the park, thanks to the support from the friends of Banbury Park. The equipment is due to be installed in February 2016. Further community development will take place in Macclesfield thanks to an award of £50,000 to the renovation of the Church of the Resurrection on the Upton Priory estate, again thanks to the support of a local community group, in this case the Friends and Residents of Upton Priory known as FAR-UP.

For more information on any of these projects or for support with other community activity in the Macclesfield area [contact Dan Coyne](#) on 01625 383845

## Participatory Engagement Events

In March 2016 Cheshire East Council, with the support of other organisations, will be running a number of participatory engagement events on the Moss Rose, Upton Priory, Hurdsfield and Weston Estates in Macclesfield.



**Delivering Differently**  
in neighbourhoods

This [Department of Communities and Local Government](#) funded project aims to involve local people in decision making on how and what types of health related early intervention and preventative services are delivered on their estates. This will take place across a number of venues and will be publicised at all community buildings.

If you believe your organisation could add value to these events or help with the promotion to local residents [contact Dan Coyne](#) on 01625 383845

## Nantwich

### Nantwich Aqueduct Makeover Complete

The Grade II\* listed Nantwich Aqueduct opened again at the start of December 2015, following a painstaking, two-month restoration project costing £200,000. Funding for the project came from the [Canal and River Trust](#), [Cheshire East Council](#), [Nantwich Town Council](#), [The Pilgrim Trust](#), [Acton, Edleston and Henhull Parish council](#) and Nantwich Partnership. It is hoped that the project will be a catalyst that brings new investment to the area, attracts walkers, cyclists and anglers, and provides boaters with an iconic engineering masterpiece to carry the canal for another 200 years.



To further promote the restoration a photographic display of the works is currently on display at [Nantwich Museum](#) and [Nantwich Marina](#) will be hosting a boat festival and open weekend. The event will take place on the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March, supported by the Canal and River Trust, Nantwich Partnership and Nantwich Museum.

### Wrenbury School – Coffee & Stop

On the third Tuesday of every month, during term time, coffee and stop sessions have been held at Wrenbury School. Mums and dads dropping their children off at school are invited in for tea, coffee and biscuits and have the opportunity to engage with various agencies where they can collect information, seek guidance and advice and partake in consultations to identify the services they would like to see in their community.

Latterly, the monthly events have taken on a theme, such as slow cooking and healthy eating on a budget and a craft workshop. Both of these themed events have proven very popular and have continued into the new year. Along with this a Wrenbury network meeting is being arranged involving the school, Wrenbury Friends, The Wingate Centre, the Health Centre, local churches, social landlords and pre-school to look at developing a Wrenbury Community Hub.

For more information contact [Carol Hill](#) on 07795 540614

## Poynton

### Community Centre Saved and Thriving



Fundraising efforts from residents and a community grant from Cheshire East Council have all helped to save the 180-year-old historic [community centre in Poynton](#). This enabled essential maintenance work to be completed and all sixteen community groups, which use the building on a regular basis, are now back in and utilising the popular centre.

Men in Sheds, a group set up to tackle loneliness and social isolation, has been successfully running on Wednesdays and will also be opening on a Monday from February. The group have worked on repairs in the community centre, painted railings, erected flower beds and are working on many various projects for local groups. Also from February a new lunchtime drop-in for all will be operating between 11.00am and 3.00pm on a Monday and Tuesday where sandwiches and light refreshments will be available.

For more information contact Trish Hill on 01625 872238 or [Val Burlison](#) on 01625 374950

## Partner News

### Disability Information Bureau Awards Success

This autumn, the Disability Information Bureau (DIB) were shortlisted by the [Living Wage Foundation](#) for the Living Wage Champion Awards 2015 in the North West Region. They received a bronze award for Excellence in Customer Service and a Special Commendation in the category of Best Company to Work For at the North Cheshire East Business Awards.



The DIB continues to commit to the living wage ensuring the health and wellbeing of its staff and a fair wage for the excellent work they deliver. The living wage is calculated according to the basic cost of living using the Minimum Income Standard for the UK. The DIB would like to thank all the staff and volunteers for their continued hard work and professionalism which has resulted in achieving their award. As an organisation they are committed to training and developing all staff and volunteers and offering the best service they can to the disabled people of Cheshire East.

[For more information visit the Disability Information Bureau website](#)

### Council calls for New Recruits to Mentor and Inspire Young People

Cheshire East Council and its partners are looking to recruit dedicated and enthusiastic people to become mentors to help inspire the next generation. In February, Crewe High Schools and Eaton Bank School in Congleton will run their Twista Connect programs to improve the journey through school, raise aspirations and create opportunities for young people.



Mentoring provides a unique opportunity to contribute to the personal development of a young person and can take many forms, from giving a 'mentee' access to information and experience in a particular profession to helping them academically with study advice and supporting them within the exciting program of activities. The mentoring relationship is special and allows both parties to develop personal and professional skills. The project seeks to encourage mentors from a wide range of ages, backgrounds and life experience, who can spare a few hours a month.

[For more information and to volunteer as a mentor contact the Twista Connect team](#)

### CVS Christmas Toy Appeal



[CVS Cheshire East](#) has thanked partners for the support and help given to their Christmas Toy Appeal. They managed to exceed quantities from all previous years and sorted, bagged and distributed around 2,300 toys, kindly stored at Storage Boost's warehouse in Crewe. These were collected by 51 local organisations that work to support children in crisis or were in particular need at Christmas. Thanks were also given to the Barclays Radbroke and Cheshire East Youth Engagement teams for sending along plenty of volunteer 'elves' to help sort the toys.

[If you would like to get involved in the 2016 Toy Appeal to help even more children contact Sally Davies](#)



## New Year's Honours

Congratulations are given to a number of community members across Cheshire East who have been recognised in this year's New Year Honours, recognising the achievements and service of extraordinary people across the United Kingdom. One of the awards, the Order of the British Empire, recognises distinguished service to the arts and sciences, public services outside the Civil Service and work with charitable and welfare organisations of all kinds. Member of the Order of the British Empire Awards were given to the following:

- Mr Stephen Neil Hodgkinson, for services to the community in Congleton.
- Mr Douglas Alan Parker, for services to the community in Congleton.
- Mrs Christine Ann Eyre, for services to the community in Sutton, Macclesfield.
- Canon Keith Cyril Ineson, Agricultural Chaplain and Coordinator, Cheshire Farm Community Network, for services to the farming community in Cheshire.
- Sarah Jane Munro, for services to business and the community in Macclesfield particularly through the Treacle Market.
- Mrs Deborah Ruth Quinn, for services to business and the community in Macclesfield particularly through the Treacle Market.

[To view the full list of honours and to see how to make a nomination visit the Gov.UK website](#)

## Hearing Dogs Socialising Project

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People launched their puppy socialising project in Cheshire in June 2015. Since then, they have been very busy, growing steadily with 10 gorgeous puppies now being trained in the area. Ably assisted by puppy training instructor Michelle Taylor, all pups are proving to be extremely intelligent, taking well to training and keeping both staff and volunteers on their toes. All pups have settled very well into their new Cheshire homes, getting along with their new volunteer families and charming everyone they meet.



2015 saw a number of group walks during the summer months, as well as visits to various events such as a fire station visit for puppies to meet uniformed officers and experience the sounds of the sirens. In 2016 the Charity plans to expand the project, taking on a new member of staff and appealing for even more volunteers to get involved by caring for and training these clever dogs.

[For more information visit the Hearing Dogs website](#)

## Want to join the Community Hub Network?

Cheshire East Council is developing Community Hub Networks across the Borough, bringing together a wealth of knowledge, experience and best practice from local organisations that manage or run services from community venues. The purpose of the local networks is to enable organisations to work together to serve the needs of local communities, to improve their shared offer and develop community commissioning and peer networking. Local networks are also starting work on collaborative bids for funding, to maximise opportunities and the value of new initiatives.

In addition to the local networks, Cheshire East wide events will be held, bringing a range of organisations together to look at the future development of hubs, training, and other development opportunities. The Council has also launched a franchise model for Community Hubs, which offers a range of benefits. It provides applicants with a framework and support to improve services, develop better governance, share operating techniques and 'back office' functions and provide practical help such as templates for policies and procedures and much more.

For more information contact Partnership Managers [Dawn Clark](#) or [Richard Christopherson](#)

## Tour of Britain Cycling Race 2016

Cheshire East Council has recently bid to host a stage of the [Tour of Britain cycling race](#) which will be held in September 2016. The bid is for the start and finish of the race with all 180km being held in Cheshire East.



The race is estimated to generate between £3m to £5m for the local economy (the average per stage in 2014 was £3.6m). It provides a number of areas of potential benefit, including business development, media profile, tourism and destination promotion. It provides opportunities to give a focus to cycling development and participation and promotion of cycle networks and sustainable cycling transport initiatives especially for cycle to work programmes, schools and public health.

The Tour of Britain provides the biggest live attendance of any sporting event in the UK attracting world renowned riders including Mark Cavendish and Sir Bradley Wiggins. It showcases approximately 20 teams from 10 different countries including 7 British teams, one of these being the national squad. As the UK's biggest free-to-attend sporting event it has more than 1.4 million spectators across the eight day event and will be broadcast on both ITV4 and British Eurosport.

If you have an interest in sponsoring or contributing to achieving the potential benefits associated with the tour; or if you have ideas on activities around the race involving business, schools and the community contact [Richard Milkins](#), Tour of Britain Project Manager, as soon as possible.

## Alzheimer's Society Cheshire on the move



Alzheimer's Society Cheshire East is strengthening its operations at a new base in Congleton. The dementia charity previously provided services and specialist support from two offices in Cheshire East at Crewe and Macclesfield. To make it easier for its team to work together the two offices are being amalgamated into one, central to Cheshire East at Prospect House, Lawton Street, Congleton, by the end of February 2016.

It will not mean a change to any of the services and support that people affected by dementia receive as the charity is fully committed to supporting people affected by dementia across all of Cheshire East. The move has been managed in two phases as the lease on the Crewe office expired before the new office was available. All administration is currently being dealt with from the Macclesfield office at the Springbank Centre in Victoria Road. The phone number is 01625 503302.

[For more information visit the Alzheimer's Society website](#)

## Carers' Hub Launched



[The British Red Cross](#) in Cheshire have just launched their new Carers' Hub to provide an opportunity for carers to come together for a few hours to chat, relax with a massage and access information and training, along with receiving a light lunch and refreshments. The Hub will run twice weekly, on Monday afternoons from 12.30pm to 3.30pm and Friday mornings from 10.00am to 1.00pm, for a period of 3 months initially, starting on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

There will be up to 12 places available on each session with an expectation that each carer would attend weekly for 6 sessions to take full advantage of the programme, but this would be flexible to meet the needs of each individual. The British Red Cross may also be able to assist with transport and/or provide a sitting service to give the carer peace of mind that the person they care for will be well looked after whilst they take some valuable time out to attend the hub. The sessions will be free of charge and will be held at The British Red Cross, Memorial House, Knutsford.

[For more information and to book a place contact the carers hub](#) on 07885 963808

## Life Links Digital Inclusion Project

[Life Links Cheshire East](#) is helping people to get online and connected through a new digital champion's network. Digital Learning Champions (DLCs) will be working with groups at local drop-ins as well as being able to provide one-to-one support within an individual's own home. There are a number of benefits to being online. 90% of recruitment is done online and benefit checks and new applications can only be completed via the HMRC/Government websites. It is also a great way to save money through shopping and paying bills online. Technology plays a huge part in our everyday life and for some people who are lonely it can be a big leap to reducing isolation. A study by the [Campaign to End Loneliness](#) charity show loneliness and isolation can be as harmful to health as smoking.



Life Links are looking for people who are keen to share their knowledge and passion for the internet with others. To become a DLC you just need to have a basic grasp of how to use computers and a bit of time to spare to support and encourage people who may be interested in learning digital skills. To become a DLC, you will need to complete an application form and attend a half-day workshop.

[For more information and to request an application form contact Life Links](#) on 0808 281 1052

## Fairerpower energy boost for small firms

Cheshire East Council's innovative [Fairerpower](#) energy tariff is providing a much-needed boost to smaller firms. 4,400 customers have already collectively saved more than £1,000,000, which is an average of £243 per household since launch <sup>[1]</sup>. Fairerpower also has access to a business tariff, through the partnership with [OVO Energy](#), which is ideally suited to the smaller business owner <sup>[2]</sup>. Through OVO, small businesses will always be given the best price available, a seven-day cool-off period and there are no auto-rollovers. Businesses will also benefit from having access to OVO's award-winning customer service team and will be able to fix the prices on the plan for 12 or 24 months.

To enquire about the business energy tariff through Fairerpower call 0800 358 3529

[1] £243 is the average saving of dual-fuel customers that have actually switched to Fairerpower between 16/03/15 and 30/10/15; individual savings will vary according to current supplier, location, consumption and Fairerpower tariff options. [2] For business tariffs, Fairerpower will act as a referrer to OVO Energy. Businesses that sign up through Fairerpower will be an OVO customer from point of sale through to end of contract. This will be made explicitly clear to all businesses who sign up to this tariff.

## For your Notice Board

This section allows you to download posters which you may wish to display on your notice boards, either for staff, customers or residents. Please email March / April notices to [Tina Jones](#).

- [Connecting Cheshire Newsletter](#)
- [Sandbach Town Hall Events Poster](#)
- [Driving Safely on Rural Roads Leaflet](#)
- [Barnies Memory Café Poster](#)
- [Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Posters](#)
- [Shared Reading Groups Poster](#)

## Conferences and Events

### Clean for The Queen

Locations across the whole of Cheshire East  
4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016



The Clean for The Queen campaign is gathering pace as March approaches, with groups across the whole of the country registering their support for the humongous blitz on litter. [For more information and to register your interest visit the Clean for the Queen website](#). For support from within Cheshire East register your interest by emailing [partnerships@cheshrieeast.gov.uk](mailto:partnerships@cheshrieeast.gov.uk) with your group name and area that you wish to clean to be the first to know about what support Cheshire East Council can provide.



## The Lost Carnival reveals its mystery location as .....

Queens Park, Crewe  
28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016  
4.00pm - 9.30pm

[LAStheatre](#) presents The Battle of the Carnivals, a story of two rival carnival families battling for supremacy. Expect spellbinding theatre and enthralling installations, circus, music, visual trickery and sideshows. Every year, as summer arrives and the evenings grow longer, The Lost Carnival will appear in a different locality.



The story will be revealed in the coming months in a series of podcasts, clues and archive footage, with families able to influence the drama in advance and at the live event. Look out for and meet curious characters popping up in locations across Crewe throughout May. Start the adventure now. Snap up early-bird tickets, choose which family you will support, follow intriguing clues and receive secret messages. Sign up to [The Lost Carnival newsletter](#) and follow #thelostcarnival, #teamingenue and #teambird on Twitter and Facebook.

## Training

### Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Training

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) can be hard to detect and abusers are very clever in their manipulation. Some young people won't even be aware that it is happening to them. Cheshire East Council's Communities Team have been running sessions to raise awareness within voluntary, community and faith groups. The talk lasts approximately 30 minutes and aims to provide an overview of what CSE is, what signs to look for and how to report suspected activities.

[To enquire about booking a session for your organisation contact Lisa Alcock](#) on 01270 686764

## Funding

### Postcode Community Trust - Community Sports

Funding is available to enable grassroots sports clubs and organisations to obtain kit and equipment. The next round is expected to open to applications in February 2016.

[For more information visit the Postcode Community Trust website](#)

**The next edition of the Partnerships Newsletter will be circulated at the end of March; the deadline for submission of articles is 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016.**

**To promote an event, conference or consultation, ask for help with a project, let people know of changes taking place in your organisation or share information which is of interest to our wide range of partners contact [Tina Jones](#).**

**Previous copies of the newsletter are available on the [Cheshire East website](#)**

#### Contact:

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