



Dullatur Community Council

New Year's Newsletter 2009

The Chairperson and members of the Community Council wish you all a very Prosperous New Year. We have had to deal with the ever present doom and gloom from the media of the Credit Crunch and but as long as you have your health and the love of family and good friends that is worth a fortune. Brighter days are just round the corner and the extra few minutes we have gained since the shortest day is noticeable. Despite the bitter cold the snowdrops are showing their faces and very shortly it will be gardening time.



The cast of the 2008 Christmas Show "North Pole High School Musical"

From Mid October the Village Hall was transported to the hottest spot in pre-teen music; High School Musical. Mix in a little "Happy Feet" and the penguins arrived to flesh out the plot of the Christmas Show, The North Pole High School Musical. The only person that didn't know the words of the songs was *MOI*, but I was soon singing along with the rest of the cast. What we did find out was that; boys can't dance, but Stella & Co soon put them right. The rehearsals soon ramped up and were great fun and a lot of laughing went on with the co-directors Annemarie McGuckin and Daina Whitelaw. I should not single out anyone in particular in the show; they were all stars, but Katie McGuckin who played Sharpay is made of solid stuff and a real trouper. Roisin McNamara (Gabby) almost decked her when the cream pie was pushed in her face in true pantomime tradition, with a bit more enthusiasm that was meant. With much sputtering of cream from Katie and hysterics from the rest of the cast and audience the show finished with ear spitting applause. I reckon this was the happiest show to date, with the youngest cast. I would like to thank the children for their spirit of fun and the parents for their support.

We will see you all in Mid October for; "**GREASE**" is the Word.

Can you do me a favour? If your child (up to age 12) has a leather jacket and has outgrown it can we have it as a prop for the show. We will put it to a charity shop afterwards; thanks in anticipation. See more from the show on our website: www.dullaturcommunitynews.com

This is the time of year to say a few words of thanks to all our community spirited people, who are my local heroes, who give up their precious free time and do so much to make Dullatur this special place. First of all my other half Bill, Terry & Caroline Williams, John & Anne Colquhoun, Stan & Pat Chard, Lorne Brown, Gordon & Marion Stewart, John and Annemarie McGuckin, Garry Davidson, Katy & David Roberts, Tony Coutts, Daina Whitelaw and Stewart Campbell and the Craighalbert Evangelical Church for the kind loan of audio equipment for the Christmas Show. Thanks to the committees of Dullatur Lawn Tennis Club and The Mother & Toddler and Playgroup for supporting the Dullatur Village Hall throughout the year. And a message of thanks to all the "Watch Dogs" out there that pass on invaluable information, keep up the good work, it is really appreciated.

A special message of Good Wishes goes to Pat & Stan Chard, of Antonine Road from all their friends. Pat suffered a stroke at the beginning of December. She is making good progress under the excellent care of the staff at Carrickstone Hospital. Stan is honing his culinary and home management skills in preparation for Pat's homecoming at the end of the month.

Lanarkshire plan earns the seal of approval

Dec 3 2008 by Robert Mitchell, Wishaw Press

NORTH Lanarkshire Council has approved the final draft of a plan that sets out, for the first time, a single development strategy for the whole local authority area. There is one more round of public consultation before the document can be finalised. The council aims to publish the finalised draft in February, after which there will be a statutory six-week period for objections.

During the month of February, the Community Council will be finalising the plan for the Dullatur area.

Christmas sprouts used for power

By Laura Pettigrew

Lanarkshire reporter, BBC Scotland news website

Fussy festive foodies who refuse to eat their Christmas day helping of Brussel sprouts could soon be doing their bit to help the environment. A recycling facility in Cumbernauld plans to turn leftover sprouts into green compost and electricity to power homes and businesses. Food recycling trials will get under way at the Scottish Water-run Deerdykes Organics plant in the New Year.

Environmentalists have welcomed the unique use of uneaten festive sprouts.

The project involves kitchen scraps, including sprouts, being stored in vast tunnels where friendly bacteria breaks down the matter into an environmental compost, known as Pod. The compost will then

be used in domestic gardens, at Glasgow's Botanic Gardens and at Dirleton Castle, home to the world's longest herbaceous border.

It will also be used in the creation of Scotland's first new town in 50 years at Polkemmet in West Lothian.

Eventually, the plan is to burn the gases produced during the recycling process to produce electricity. Business development manager at Scottish Water, Donald MacBrayne, was enthusiastic about the benefit leftover sprouts could deliver. He said: "Either love them or hate them, there's no avoiding sprouts at this time of the year." "If you're the kind of person who simply pushes them to the side of the plate then you could shortly be doing the environment a favour.

"Our facility will soon accept food waste, so scraps from next year's Christmas dinner plates will be transformed into Pod."

He added: ""Going forward we will harness the gases produced and burn them to create electricity. "This will initially used at the Deerdykes facility, but in the long term could be used to power the neighbouring industrial estate and even sold back to the national grid.

"So those seasonal sprouts could have a welcome side effect after all."

Environment campaigners have thrown their support behind the food recycling project.

Dr Dan Barlow, director of WWF Scotland, said: "Currently far too much food waste ends up in landfill.

"Anaerobic digestion can play an important role in cutting back the volume of organic waste we dispose of in this manner and enable the recovery of energy at the same time."

Chief executive of Friends of the Earth Scotland, Duncan McLaren, added: "This is an example of a big company taking a sound initiative to help address the twin problems of climate change and excessive organic waste being sent to landfill."

The Deerdykes recycling plant will also be transforming discarded Christmas trees into Pod compost.

Firs collected in January by local authorities in North Lanarkshire, Glasgow, East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and Argyll and Bute will be brought to the Cumbernauld facility for recycling.

Green MSP, Patrick Harvie, said: "Deerdykes is one of Scotland's most innovative recycling facilities, and I'm delighted to see it'll now be composting old Christmas trees from across the west of Scotland.

"Having a good time and doing the right thing by the environment shouldn't ever get in the way of each other, and Christmas time is no exception."



Did you know...?

Around 650,000 tonnes of food waste is thrown out by Scottish households each year, most of which goes to landfill where it gives off carbon dioxide and methane, major contributors to climate change.

By 2010, 40% of waste is to be recycled, and by the end of the following decade, a quarter of municipal waste must be recycled into a renewable energy source.

Note to Residents

On Monday 9th February at 8pm in the Village Hall there will be a public meeting to address the various enquiries regarding the New Brown Bin Collection and other bin collections. Representatives from NLC Recycle for Good and Scottish Water will be present to answer your questions. Questions Like; why do we need to wash containers; Where does it go; Why transport to India and China to have it incinerated; Who pays the cost; Raw and cooked food mixed with vegetable matter. All these questions will be answered. It is hoped that by a bit of gentle persuasion that a free bag of compost from the Deerdykes facility may be given to every resident attending the meeting. This will not be available on the night but can be picked up at a pre-arranged time and place.

There is a voucher for Pod Compost on the last page. But we still hope for the freebie

Government warns of tax-return fraudsters

I overheard this myself in a Town Centre Bank Branch on 6th January, where a customer had had her bank account cleared

LONDON (Reuters) - Fraudsters are trying to trick the public into handing over personal financial details in the run-up to the annual tax self-assessment deadline, the government warned on Thursday. Bogus emails, purporting to be from HM Revenue & Customs, attempt to trick people into giving out their bank details or other private information on the pretext that they will receive a fictitious tax refund. The authorities also warned that some people had been telephoned by fraudsters posing as tax officials trying to elicit details by claiming to arrange rebate payments.

"This is the most sophisticated and prolific phishing scam that we have encountered," said Lesley Strathie, HMRC Chief Executive. "We only ever contact customers who are due a refund in writing by post. We never use emails, telephone calls or external companies in these circumstances." She urged anyone who received such an email to send it to HMRC for further investigation. Officials warned there could be further attempts to con taxpayers after the January 31 deadline has passed when many people were waiting to hear about genuine refunds. Since April last year, HMRC said it had received more than 11,000 reports of fraudulent repayment emails.

It warned that customers who gave their details to the fraudsters could see their bank accounts emptied and huge bills run up on their credit cards.

Getting rid of an old computer? Smash it up first

If you're planning on getting rid of an old computer, make sure you remove the hard drive first and smash it up with a hammer, a British consumer group advised on Thursday 8th January 2008. Which? Computing magazine said the only way to make sure fraudsters could not steal personal details from an old computer's hard drive was to utterly destroy it, as simply deleting files or wiping the drive was not sufficient.

Which? said it had bought eight second-hand drives from Internet auction site eBay and recovered 22,000 "deleted" files, including some information that could be confidential. Criminals, who it said trawled council waste sites and internet sites like eBay, would be able use specialist software to retrieve the information which could then be used to commit identity theft. "PCs contain more valuable personal information than ever as people increasingly shop online, use social networking sites and take digital photos," said Sarah Kidner, Editor of Which? Computing. "Even if you delete your files, you'd be surprised how easy it is to recover your personal data. It sounds extreme, but the only way to be 100 percent safe is to smash your hard drive into smithereens."

Diesel Warning

John Leggett | PS 7114 | Driving Standards Officer; British Transport Police.



Please be aware that any drivers purchasing the new B30 bio diesel blend - currently available from Morrison's supermarkets alongside their conventional diesel pumps - could invalidate the manufacturer's warranty leaving unsuspecting users with a potentially hefty repair bill.

The new blend of diesel, containing 30% bio-diesel with the remainder being made up from conventional fossil diesel, currently does not have a recognised British Standard designation such as EN or ISO and, without this standard, the fuel will invalidate almost all vehicle warranties.

According to Motorconsult, who first raised this issue, a majority of manufacturers have said that using this fuel is not sanctioned for their vehicles and would cause the warranty to be invalidated.

Manufacturers which have said that B30 is definitely not approved include, Alfa Romeo, Audi, BMW, Chrysler, Fiat, Ford, Honda, Hyundai, Jaguar, Mazda, Mercedes Benz, Nissan, Renault, Seat, Skoda, Toyota, Volvo and Volkswagen. Vauxhall has approved it for some Vivaro and Movano LCVs but with conditions including replacement of the fuel filter at 24,000 miles and signing a 'conditions of use' document as well as providing VIN numbers of the vehicles intending to use the fuel. Peugeot will sanction use of the fuel but says that a special dispensation is required to ensure that fuel quality standards are respected. Citroen too, will sanction the fuel but also applies special restrictions. The main diesel injection equipment suppliers say that they would not sanction the use of more than five per cent bio-diesel until such time as a BSI or ISO standard was agreed.

A statement from Morrisons says that there are warning notices on the B30 pumps on their forecourts which advise customers to check with the vehicle manufacturer that the engine is compatible with the fuel before filling up. The pump handles are orange but are situated next to the black conventional diesel pump. For some drivers it could be easy to miss or ignore the notice and fill up with B30 believing that, since it is 'green', it would not cause any problems. While the engine may run on B30, should a subsequent failure occur and the manufacturer is one that has not specifically approved the use of the fuel, then the warranty almost certainly would be invalidated. The potential bill for a replacement engine could run to several thousand pounds.

To avoid a potentially high repair cost the general advice is, that unless drivers specifically know that the manufacturer has approved the fuel and that your business meets all of the conditions then they should use the black conventional diesel pump only.

The Dullatur Mother & Toddler and Playgroup

This is a great way of meeting other mothers and introducing your child to new friends if you have just moved to the village. The Mother & Toddler and Playgroup is a non-profit making, community based group run by a committee of parents and carers, who employ two qualified play leaders, Emma and Gillian. The Toddler caters for children up to the age of two and a half years and their parents/ carers. The Playgroup caters for two and a half years plus, as a progression towards nursery.

This month the Playgroup will celebrate the memory of Robert Burns with a traditional Burns Day lunch of haggis, neeps and tatties. They also celebrate the Chinese New Year of the Ox with a Chinese lunch. The theme this session is “your body and food and healthy eating”. For further information contact Emma on 451082.

See our Toddlers/Playgroup year photos on the web site: www.dullaturcommunitynews.com

Recycling Blue Friday	Domestic Black Friday
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Please note that all recyclable waste is sorted by hand so please put yourselves in the shoes of the person sorting the waste and try to ensure that food and drink containers are rinsed clean before recycling. If just one bin is contaminated the whole street may be condemned to landfill.

January 09		2	09	16	23	30
February			06	13	20	27
March			06	13	20	27
April			03	10	17	24
May	1	8	15	22	29	
June		5	12	19	26	
July		3	10	17	24	31
August			7	14	21	28
September			4	11	18	25
October	2	9	16	23	30	
November		6	13	20	27	
December		4	11	18	25	

Monday Green Bin Collection dates for 2009

Jan 26	Feb 23	March 23	April 20	May 18	June 15	July 13
August 10	Sept 7	Oct 5	Nov 2 & 30	Dec 28		

Monday Green Bin Collection dates for 2010.

Jan 25	Feb 22	March 22	April 19	May 17	June 14	July 12
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Shake off the winter blues; have fun and keep fit.....Try Irish Dancing

I hope to hold a class for adults to learn Irish Dancing on a Thursday evening and possibly Monday Evening between the hours of 7pm and 10pm. Interested parties from the village are welcome to attend. No experience needed. Contact Eileen Murray on 07736770358 for further information.

Please Note: The classes will not be in conflict with the Tennis Club Coaching Night and Community Council Meetings.

Can you help?

The Community Council are trying to cut down on the use of paper, if you are not already on my list can you please mail me your e-mail address to; margaret.smillie1@btopenworld.com. We would also appreciate some help with distribution to the houses only in your street.....It would really help.

And Finally

If you have just moved into the village, a warm welcome and we hope the move was not too stressful.

We are an active community, if you can lend a hand in any way, we would be delighted.

North Lanarkshire Council.....Bron Way.....01236-616200

North Lanarkshire Council.....Motherwell.....01698-302222

Cllr Gordon Murray.....07939280057: 01698 302638 or murrayg@northlan.gov.uk

Cllr Bob Chadha.....07939280063 ex 2329 or ChadhaB@northlan.gov.uk

Cllr Barry McCulloch....07939280056 ex 2658; mccullochb@northlan.gov.uk

Cllr Alan O'Brien.....07939280055 ex 2540 OBrienAL@northlan.gov.uk

Cathie.Craigie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Rosemary McKenna MP.....01236-457788 or mckennar@parliament.uk

Chief Executive.....Gavin Whitefield.....01698-302452; chief.executive@northlan.gov.uk

Environmental Contact Centre.....01698-403110; environmental@northlan.gov.uk

Head of Roads & Transportation....Graham MacKay.....01236-616202; MacKayG@northlan.gov.uk

Head of Environmental Services.....Paul Jukes.....01698-302746; JukesP@northlan.gov.uk

Head of Land Services.....Ken Wilson.....0141-304-1846; UWilsonK@northlan.gov.uk

Head of Planning & Development.....Patrick Kelly....01236-616203;

KellyPJ@northlan.gov.uk

Services available in the village

Learn to drive with Ability ...Des Flynn...01236-727662 or ability@tesco.net.

Saturday & Sunday Newspapers delivered; Euan.....734277.

High Class Bespoke Tailoring by Jack Houston @ Robert Dick 0141-554-0655

Fresh Farm egg delivery..... Anna on 732282

Mercedes Benz Independent Specialist.... established 20 years-T.J. O'Neill Tel: 0141 778 5314.

Stabling and livery.....Wester Dullatur Farm.....723218

Tree Surgery and maintenance.....Jim Fraser 724482

Luxury People Carrier.....Dullatur Private Hire.....Colin Dunigan, 01236-724225 or 007952-873223

Pressed for time....Let Gillian do your ironing.....01324-815536

Gordon Campbell.....Telephone Installations 07947143517.
Glenmavis Computers; Repairs & maintenance, home and business: 01236-762543
String Quartet for weddings, functions etc.....Peter Markham @Phoebus 724209
Roof Problems: Tom Rhymer, 01236-721339.
Plasma T.V Installations.....Graham.....730893
Plumber.....Stephen Scott.....01236-613118. Mobile 07795973942
Electrician.....Bill Mills.....734450 or 07732557485.

If you have a problem with uninvited house guests.....field mice, squirrels etc,
Contact Jim Armstrong....NLC Environmental Dept.....01236-616537

The Village Hall is available for hire for children's parties and the ceiling decorated and lit for a small fee. Hall hire for residents, £7.00 per hour. Likewise equipment, e.g. chairs, tables and catering equipment can be hired for a small charge.



Special Offer
£1.50
per 40L bag of *pod* compost

Available from
CED Ltd, Castlecary Depot, Allandale,
by Bonnybridge, Falkirk FK4 2HJ
www.ced.ltd.uk

Maximum of 5 bags per voucher, subject to availability.
Offer expires 31/04/09