



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

Council

at work

weekly information bulletin

Week beginning 4 July 2005

CORPORATE POLICY

Council Cabinet Member

Councillor Maurice Burgess

Telephone 258449

ACTION MAN DISPLAY OPENS AT PICKFORD'S HOUSE

A display of one of the most iconic and fondly remembered toys for boys is opening at Pickford's House Museum on Friday 1 July.

The museum now has a window display in its entrance which has been given over to a celebration of Action Man.

Action Man originated in the United States, where he was known as GI Joe. Palitoy manufactured the British version in Coalville, Leicestershire. At its launch in the late Sixties, the toy made history by becoming a pioneering dressable doll for boys, and paved the way for hundreds of imitators.

Action figures quickly became very popular during the seventies – many of the ones available were based on films and TV shows of the period, and some of these are also in the display.

The original dolls are now prized collector's items and this display is a rare opportunity to see classic examples in their original uniforms and costumes.

Action Man is appearing as part of the run-up to Pickford House Museum's Summer in the Sixties event on Saturday 20 August – a full day of special activities at the museum celebrating the most colourful of decades and featuring children's craft workshops, live music and Green Shield stamps.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Spencer/Val Loggie
Keepers of Pickford's House

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LOTTERY QUILT GOES ON DISPLAY

A never-ending quilt made from losing Lottery tickets will be exhibited at Pickford's House Museum from Saturday 2 July.

The quilt is a work in progress by Rhiannon Williams, a lecturer at Derby University. Since April 2002, Rhiannon has spent £10 a week on Lottery tickets, from which she makes hexagonal patches which she then sews into the quilt.

Rhiannon plays the same set of ten numbers once a week, and will continue to do so into the future. The quilt currently measures about one metre square. In five years' time, it will measure one metre by three and a half metres, and if Rhiannon continues until she is 80 years old, the quilt could by then be around 20 metres long.

Visitors will be able to see Rhiannon in the gallery putting the finishing touches to the quilt from 11am until 12 noon Friday 1 July.

Entrance to Pickford's House Museum is free. The museum is open at the following times:

Mondays	11am to 5pm
Tuesdays to Saturdays	10am to 5pm
Sundays and Bank Holidays	1pm to 4pm

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Spencer/Val Loggie Keepers of Pickford's House	01332 255363 elizabeth.spencer@derby.gov.uk
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MUSEUM LAUNCHES SIXTIES CHALLENGE

Pickford's House Museum launches its Sixties Challenge quiz on Friday 1 July.

Quiz sheets featuring dozens of brain-teasers about the 1960s will be available from all Derby's museums from Friday, priced at £1. The person who correctly answers the most questions by the closing date of Thursday 1 September will be awarded a special certificate proclaiming them a 'Professor of Sixties-ness', together with a copy of Robert Opie's colourful chronicle of Sixties culture, 'The 60's Scrapbook'.

The Sixties Challenge is part of the run-up to Pickford's House Museum's 'Summer in the Sixties' day on Saturday 20 August, when visitors will have the chance to construct psychedelic mobiles, listen to live music, make some hippy jewellery, meet a Dalek and even rediscover the lost art of Green Shield Stamp collecting.

Proceeds from the sale of the quiz sheets will go to the Friends of Derby Museums, a group of supporters who provide fundraising support to all three of Derby's museums.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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GUIDED TOURS AT LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY

Derby's Local Studies Library is giving behind the scenes tours on Friday 1 July at 10am and 2pm as part of Derby City Partnership Week.

Members of the public will be able to discover the city's historical treasure trove on a guided tour of the areas that are usually out of bounds at the library.

Places on the tours are free, but booking is essential on 01332 255393 or minicom 01332 380712 because places are limited.

Derby City Partnership Week runs from Monday 27 June to Sunday 3 July, and this year celebrates 10 years of partnership in the city.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING
Council Cabinet Member Councillor Phillip Hickson Telephone 255605

PUBLIC INVITED TO TAKE TOWNSCAPE TRAIL

Derby City Council invited members of the public to take part in guided tours around the Derby City Centre Great Townscape Trail on Tuesday 28 and on Wednesday 29 June as part of Derby City Partnership Week.

The Great Townscape Trail covers the historic core of the city centre, and takes in the area between Wardwick, St Mary's Gate, Irongate and Cornmarket. It also extends out to the Market Place and Derwent Street. The trail has been designed to highlight some of the city centre's finest buildings, and to celebrate Derby's rich architectural heritage.

The guided sessions are an opportunity to look with the experts at some of Derby's architecture, open spaces and streetscapes. Members of the public who join the tours have an opportunity to discuss the city treasures to be found along the way – or are just able to enjoy the tour as a pleasant stroll around some of the best bits of Derby.

Derby City Partnership Week runs from Monday 27 June to Sunday 3 July, and this year celebrates 10 years of partnership in the city.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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COMMUNITY SERVICES
Council Cabinet Member Councillor Balbir Samra Telephone 07889844953

INTERACTIVE INFORMATION FOR SINFIN RESIDENTS

Residents in the Sinfín area of Derby will be able to get information on local services through special electronic kiosks unveiled on Thursday 30 June.

The kiosks are a partnership between the City Council, Central and Greater Derby primary care trusts and other agencies involved with Derby City Partnership. They will give local residents information on services at the touch of a button.

They will be based at Asda, Sinfín Centre Post Office, the Old Sinfín Housing Office at Shakespeare Street, the Enterprise Centre on Sheridan Street and Sinfín Community School at Farmhouse Road.

Links from the kiosks will take users through to information and details on topics such as bus timetables and routes, news and events in the Sinfín area and where to find details such as out-of-hours chemists.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Public Relations Manager

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SHAFTESBURY...TOP 5 NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE

Shaftesbury Sports Centre has been registered as Highly Commended through a recent Quest assessment and is now ranked in joint fifth place out of 504 other centres that have been inspected nationally. The centre received an outstanding Quest score of 77%. This is only 10% behind the highest score of 87% which was given to Guildford Spectrum.

Quest is a UK Quality Award scheme for the sport and leisure industry. It is designed to raise standards within the industry by reviewing various elements of the organisation such as customer service, management, and cleanliness through a regular programme of on-site assessments and mystery visits.

During the two day assessment in April, the Quest assessor spoke to staff about their jobs, the centre and how they deal with customers, to get an insight into the daily operation of the centre. The assessment also included a mystery visit where facilities were used and evaluated.

Shaftesbury scored a full 10 points for Sport Development, 9 for People Management and 8s for Customer Care, Marketing and Programming. Other areas also scored highly.

Shaftesbury Sports Centre is located on Shaftesbury Crescent, next to the old Baseball Ground in Normanton. New activities recently started there include women's only aerobics, Springtots pre-school gymnastics and football coaching. Anyone interested in becoming more active is welcome at Shaftesbury Sports Centre, particularly if you are new to exercise or have not exercised for a long time.

In addition, Queen's Leisure Centre recently received its Quest mystery visit to determine its service standards. The excellent news is that the Quest report complimented Queen's on its continued high level of cleanliness, excellent café and reception staff and for providing a comprehensive programme of activities for users.

Moorways Sports Centre, Queen's Leisure Centre and Springwood Leisure Centre all hold the Quest award, recognising continued improvements in each centre.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Sport and Leisure

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GOOD RESULTS FOR ADULT LEARNERS IN DERBY

Derby's Adult Learning Service is good says a report published today by the Adult Learning Inspectorate, with all parts of the service considered to be satisfactory or better.

The service, which is part of the Council's Education Service, was first inspected in January 2004. Some aspects were judged as satisfactory but the overall judgement was that the service was "not adequate to meet the reasonable needs of those receiving it".

Just over a year later, the service has turned itself around. The re-inspection report emphasises that the overall standard of learners' work is good in all areas of learning, with 62% of lessons being judged to be good or better.

Particular praise was given to the service for the way in which it engages traditionally "hard to reach" learners.

Nearly half of the service's overall adult and community learning provision falls within the category of foundation programmes. This includes English for speakers of other languages, and literacy and numeracy classes. It also includes courses for learners with mental health conditions, for adults with moderate learning difficulties and for learners on probation.

The Foundation curriculum area was graded as good, with 92% of learners retained and achieving their learning goals. Support for learners in all areas was judged to be good, with adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities receiving strong support to enable them to participate and succeed.

Quality assurance processes within the service have improved significantly, with the quality of curriculum management being satisfactory overall and good in family learning. Family learning was described as having a beneficial impact on the school community, noting the improved behaviour and performance of children who participate with their parents on school-based courses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Council Cabinet Member

Councillor Lucy Care

Telephone 721291

MORE GROUND IS CLEARED FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Derby City Council cleared about 10 trees on Tuesday 28 June to allow further archaeological investigations to take place as part of the Connecting Derby transport project.

The archaeological investigations have been requested by the Council's Planning Control Committee.

The trees are at the junction of Uttoxeter New Road and Great Northern Road, behind the advertising hoardings on the north side of Uttoxeter New Road. They are self-seeded, and are mainly Sycamore.

The Council has already carried out an initial assessment of the area to determine access, feasibility and legality, but it will carry out a further flora, fauna and wildlife assessment immediately before clearance work begins on Tuesday. The Council has also made arrangements to inspect and clear the site of drug users' needles before the archaeological investigations begin.

The archaeological investigations are programmed to take place on Thursday 30 June. The investigations will be carried out by representatives from Birmingham Archaeology, based at the University of Birmingham.

The main aim of Connecting Derby is to remove unnecessary traffic from the city centre and residential areas while maintaining and improving access and safety for public transport, cyclists and pedestrians. Extra trees will be planted as part of the scheme.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Connecting Derby Project Manager

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MEETINGS**Members Services Meetings Hotline****Telephone 255468****NEXT WEEK'S MEETINGS**

Monday	Education Commission	6.00pm
Tuesday	Community Regeneration Commission	6.00pm
	General Licensing Sub Committee	9.30am
Wednesday	Area Panel 5 *	7.00pm
	General Licensing Sub Committee	10.00am
Thursday	Planning Control	6.00pm

* University of Derby, Kedleston Road

Meetings marked with # do not admit the public for most of their business. All meetings are held at the Council House unless otherwise stated. Access for evening meetings is from the Derwent Street entrance.

The Bulletin can now be found on CMIS within the Public Documents section and on the Council's intranet under 'document library', 'newsletters', 'corporate services'.

If you have any comments on the Bulletin, items or suggestions on what should be included in future editions please contact :

Constitutional Services
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