

TEAM NEWS

Welcome to **Stephen Howard, Brecks RDP Facilitator**, based with us in the Brecks Partnership Office. Stephen has been busy meeting many of you with initial project ideas and developing the 3 working groups covering:

Natural Resources- conserving resources including energy and water
Developing Responsible Tourism- developing long term sustainability for tourism in the Brecks.

Adding Local Value- Developing supply chains for local produce including wood. If you have **project ideas**, want to **join a working group**, or would like more information on this funding opportunity contact:

Stephen Howard T: 07760751300
 E: showard@easton-college.ac.uk
 or Lindsey Tyas, RDP Administrator
 T: 01603 731583 E: lytas@estern-college.ac.uk

Breckland Grants and opportunities BELA

Breckland Enterprise & Learning Account (BELA) is a small flexible grant available for established and prospective micro businesses Less than 10 employees in the Breckland area, that fits the criteria within the guidelines. BELA can offer assistance to applicants who often need early stage business and skills support in areas such as:

- Access to crucial or critical training schemes
- Purchase of professional services (i.e consultancy and advice)
- Purchase/hire of essential small items of equipment
- Accreditation of quality standards
- Investment in new, or upgrading of IT software or the development of websites.

For more information please contact Lindy Warmer, Economic Development Officer:
 T: 01362 656235,
 E: lindy_warmer@breckland.gov.uk

Breckland Competition, Dragons' Den Style

If you are an inspiring entrepreneur, run your own business from home, need a hand to kick-start your business venture or know someone that does fit any of these categories, then you may be interested in the 'Breckland Competition Dragons' Den Style', which will give the successful applicants the chance to win a business unit for up to 12 months.

For more information and to download an application form:
<http://www.brecksdragonsden.co.uk/> or
 T: 01362 656870

Training

Train to Gain

Book your place at a workshop where you can: - Find out what training and funding is available. - Complete the application form (with help from an advisor) - Have your success confirmed by the end of the workshop.
25th June, 10am-1pm @ Poringland Community Centre, Overtons Way, Poringland, NR 14 7WB
2nd July, 10am-1pm Voluntary Norfolk, 83-87 Pottergate, Norwich, NR2 1DZ
9th July, 10am-1pm, North Norfolk District Offices, Holt Rd, Cromer, NR27 9EN

For more information about the Leader

JUNE 2009

Welcome to the first of our summer newsletters.

Brecks Tourism Partnership membership

You may be wondering why you haven't been contacted about your subscription to the Brecks Tourism Partnership this year. In the current economic climate we propose to suspend the subscription scheme for the duration of the RDP programme. By doing so we hope that you will be able to get involved in one or more tourism projects that we are developing through the RDP programme. All projects will involve financial or time commitments from tourism businesses so you will be able to see a clear link between your spend and outputs from the RDP programme. Your views are welcome.

Destination Brecks

Thomas Paine 200 Celebrations

Last weekend saw Thetfords' streets filled with celebrations of Thomas Paine, with street performers, special exhibitions, concerts and other events, with many more events planned throughout the rest of the year.

For a full list of events:

<http://www.tompaine200.org.uk/>

Breckland Photography competition

It's that time of year again... launched at the beginning of this month, the **Breckland Photography competition**, opens up to all Breckland residents of all ages. The deadline for entries is 17th August 2009, and the photographs should capture 'the characters and spirit' of Breckland. Winners of each category will win £100. For more information and a full list of requirements and categories:

Contact: Sam Dawson, Breckland Arts Development Officer T: 01362 656870 E: sam.dawson@breckland.gov.uk

Friends of Thetford Forest Park Calendar

Friends of Thetford Forest Park, have just released a calendar for 2010. The calendar comprises images from their 08/09 photograph competition where 13 winners were chosen from 185 entries by wildlife photographer Chris Knights. The Calendar will help support the good work of the Friends of Thetford Forest Park, and are available to buy for £6.50 plus 50p p&p. They can be ordered from: **FREEPOST RRAT-JZSA-AYAG, Friends of Thetford Forest Park, 33 Elizabeth Close, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1QJ.** Cheques should be made payable to FoTFF



chosen for the front cover of the 2010 calendar

For more information and to view the winning photographs: <http://fotfp.org.uk/>

Go Green for Profit

Look out for sustainable business advice at the Norfolk Show on 1st & 2nd July. Shaping Norfolk's Future will be having a 'Spirit of Enterprise exhibition' focussing on Sustainable Prosperity, with information and advice on how you can **save money - green your business**, with the opportunity to meet businesses including Lotus and May Gurney to learn how they've done it as well as general business advice.

For more information on **Shaping Norfolk's Future**:

<http://www.shapingthefuture.org.uk/>

For more information on **The Norfolk Show**:

<http://www.royalnorfolkshow.co.uk/>



Business Link

Business Link East is the government funded agency whose role it is to provide free, independent and impartial advice and support for small businesses in The Brecks and across the eastern region.

Often, small businesses feel isolated, particularly in the current economic climate. Among its services, Business Link East can provide one-to-one advice appointments, within the business workplace, which can cover any issue from finance to marketing, from employment law to cash flow and much more.

Since leaving The Brecks and joining Business Link East, **Lynne Finnigan** has supported many members of The Brecks Tourism Partnership with business advice and continues to do so.

"I am greatly enjoying my role at Business Link East and it is enabling me to retain my relationships with businesses in The Brecks. As I meet with businesses across the whole of Norfolk and Suffolk, I find myself being a roving ambassador for The Brecks, its wildlife and landscape"

If you would like to have an informal conversation on the benefits that Business Link East can offer your business, contact: Lynne Finnigan
T: 07717 290307 E: L.Finnigan@businesslinkeast.org.uk

Don't forget if you or your business, members, or organisation has any news, training or events you would like to include in our newsletters please let us know, contact:
Michelle Turner T: 01842 760116
E: michelle.turner@suffolk.gov.uk

Local Produce

With summer, usually comes the time to invite friends and family round for a Barbecue, this summer, why not use your local suppliers to give your guests the best produce the Brecks has to offer, with local meats, salads and locally produced beer you could have your very own 'Brecks Barbecue'. For more information on local suppliers visit <http://brecks.org/farmers.aspx>

Members News

Congratulations to Jan Godfrey of The Wayland Partnership who has just been awarded with an **MBE** in the 2009 Birthday honors list. Jan has not only achieved much for the Wayland Community, but has always been an active supporter of the Brecks Partnership.

Congratulations to Dudley Stammers, whose newly established and converted self catering cottages in Larling 'The Old Smithy, Manor Farm', has just been awarded 4 star status, for more info on the properties: <http://brecks.org/where-to-stay.aspx>

Congratulations to Thorpe Woodlands, Caravan and Campsite, Thetford, who have been awarded the **Green Tourism Business Scheme Bronze Award**. For more information on the Green Tourism Business Scheme <http://www.green-business.co.uk/index.asp> for more info on Thorpe Woodland Caravan and Campsite: <http://www.forestholidays.co.uk/>

Top Events

National Bike Week 13th-21st June

Celebrate National Bike Week, and promote the bike as a fun, fitter and healthier (for you and the environment!!) alternative to your usual mode of transport. So why not try biking to work or go somewhere on your days off that you can explore by bike and leave the car behind. There are lots of cycle routes in and around the Brecks as well as a cycle hire centre in the heart of the forest. For more information on cycling in the Brecks visit <http://www.brecks.org/> for more information on National Bike Week visit: <http://www.bikeweek.org.uk/>

High Lodge Summer Concerts

June saw the first of the two major concert weekends at High Lodge Forest Park, with packed out crowds. In July three more acts perform in the heart of the Brecks. **Human League** play on 9th, **David Gray** on 10th and **Sugababes** on 11th. Tickets are still available for all three days, for more information contact the Box Office: 01842 814612, pick up from the venue, or <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-7NPLSX>

High Lodge Forest Centre Radio

Over the concert weekend, the Forestry Commission will be transmitting their own radio station on **87.7FM**. The station, dedicated to broadcasting essential customer information for those attending the concerts and those visiting the site on those days will also be accessible for those in surrounding areas, playing a mix of music and giving information about their surroundings in the Brecks.



Forest Heath
District Council



Breckland



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Borough
Council of
KING'S LYNN &
WEST NORFOLK

The Brecks

