



Calling all budding social entrepreneurs in West Lancashire!

The School for Social Entrepreneurs North West and Well Skelmersdale have teamed up to find local talent and help social entrepreneurs reach their full potential. The newly launched *Skelmersdale Social Innovators Start Up Programme* is now welcoming applications from people with ideas for a new social enterprise and/or a recently launched one that is already underway.

The programme is aiming to identify 12 local people who have first-hand experiences of social issues and have an idea and the motivation to tackle them and help their local community. Those selected as part of the programme will join the 12 month Start Up Programme and ongoing support will be given to each social business as it takes flight.

Applications will be accepted from anyone aged 17 and over. An application form or further information is available from Angela Stanley at the School for Social Entrepreneurs North West on 0151 708 3014, or email angelastanley@blackburnehouse.co.uk. Details also available at <https://www.the-sse.org/courses/well-skemersdale-social-innovators-start-up-programme/>. Printed application forms are also available in local venues across Skelmersdale e.g. health centres, community venues and libraries.

To support this programme, **two awareness sessions will be hosted in Skelmersdale Library on 9th November 1-3pm and 13th November 5-7pm**. Anyone is welcome to attend the events. The session will be focused on social enterprises and a great chance to ask more about applying for the programme. **The deadline for applications is 1pm Friday 17 Nov 2017.**

Well Skelmersdale is a community driven initiative which aims to help communities live happier and healthier lives. Find out more:

www.wellskelmersdale.wordpress.com



One West Lancs is a partnership of the local voluntary, public and business sectors which aims to improve the quality of life for everyone in West Lancashire

This One West Lancs quarterly e-newsletter is sent to over 500 people. It is circulated to all One West Lancs Forum members, the One West Lancs Board, our elected representatives as well as members of the wider VCFS community.

If you no longer wish to receive the One West Lancs e-newsletter, please let us know and we will take you off the circulation list.

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West Lancs Dementia Friendly Communities

Over 2000 people are currently diagnosed with dementia in West Lancs and the One West Lancs Ageing Well group has agreed to focus on supporting the development of **West Lancs Dementia Friendly Communities** as a priority. The group is now working to ensure there is a good level of awareness and capacity to support community members and their carers who are affected by these range of conditions and is working towards the goals of a dementia/Alzheimer aware and friendly community.

The **West Lancashire Dementia Friendly Communities Steering group** is a group of organisations who want to help gain dementia friendly community recognition status for West Lancashire. There is already much good work going on across the area and they want to unite this, build on it and – crucially - make sure people affected by dementia are aware of it.

As a first step towards this, the group held a **Dementia Friendly Communities launch** recently in Ormskirk and following on from this will be running an **information market place** on Thursday 23rd November at Ormskirk Fire Station from 10am to 3pm, where people will be able to get support from dementia friendly organisations.

The group also invites anyone interested to come to the **next steering group meeting** on Monday 13th November at Cottage Lane mission - 1-2pm at Cottage Lane, Ormskirk, L39 3NE

Contact Kathleen Storton on 01772 788700 or email: westlancsdfc@gmail.com

Skelmersdale Ambassadors' Network - new website

West Lancashire Borough Council is working with influencing organisations and business leaders from Skelmersdale to develop a strategy to put Skelmersdale firmly on the map as a place to do business. Businesses are encouraged to become ambassadors to help show the world everything that Skelmersdale is rightly proud of.

The **Skelmersdale Ambassadors scheme** aims to unite businesses, organisations and individuals across the area in a powerful network to help develop and raise Skelmersdale's profile.

For more information, check out the **new website:** www.letstalkskelmersdale.com





West Lancs schools' growing celebration

A blooming good time was had by all when primary schools from across West Lancs gathered to celebrate their school gardening achievements. 70 children from 8 West Lancs schools came to this year's Show What You Grow festival of school gardening held at West Lancs College in July.

The children brought school grown produce, homemade scarecrows and magnificent displays of drawings, paintings and photos of their gardening work to the event. They enthusiastically took part in activities such as making a veggie Pizza Face, took to the stage to give presentations about their gardening clubs and ended the day with prize giving.

The event was organised by the Community Food Growing Project of West Lancs CVS (as part of the Active West Lancs programme) in conjunction with West Lancs Allotment Federation and West Lancashire College, and was funded by Upholland Tawd Vale Lions. The event was supported by the local business community – M.A Forshaw of Scarisbrick provided the vegetables and prizes were donated by Morrisons supermarket.

A Skelmersdale based business ['All About Food'](#) donated a prize for the Best Chilli Plant. The lucky winning school was Pinfold Primary whose gardening club were then treated to a visit to All About Food's office 'The Tree House'. There they found out more about the partnership to grow chillies with Southern African farmers and also sustainable agriculture.

They were then be treated to lunch at Nando's (one of the brands that All About Food works with).





Safe Teens Project funding

The Liberty Centre, working with West Lancashire Borough Council and West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group has been successful in bringing new resources into West Lancs for a Safe Teens project. The fund of £160, 089 from the Home Office will go in part towards employing a Safe Teen Development Worker based at The Liberty Centre for three years. This project will aim to provide the necessary skills to deal with issues including domestic abuse, sexual harassment, child sexual exploitation, and social media abuse such as cyber bullying grooming or revenge porn. Other aims include building confidence in teenage girls and to promote an understanding of healthy relationships

The West Lancashire scheme was one of only 17 projects nationwide awarded money by the Home Office in this round of funding. Gwen Bleasdale, acting Liberty Centre CEO, said: "Domestic abuse ruins lives with many victims forced to leave their homes for their own safety to access the services they urgently need. The impact spreads across other family members and can seriously affect children.

"We are very grateful to the Borough and County Councils and all the other organisations who helped obtain this funding. One lot of money will help people who have suffered domestic abuse regain control of their lives and the other will help younger women avoid becoming victims"



www.onewestlancs.org

Lancashire Volunteer Partnership

Lancashire Volunteer Partnership (LVP) was established last year to bring together public service volunteering for local authorities, the police, fire and rescue and health, and is one of the first partnerships of its kind in the UK. The aim is to make volunteering for public services in Lancashire rewarding and to provide opportunities for people to make a real difference in their local communities.

From visiting lonely people to giving carer respite, from volunteering alongside the neighbourhood policing teams to being a cadet group leader, the [LVP volunteers can help in a wide variety of settings](#). All volunteers are mentored, trained and supported by a Volunteer Officer.

Public sector organisation who could benefit from volunteers, can find out more at:

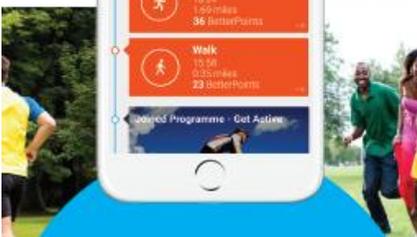
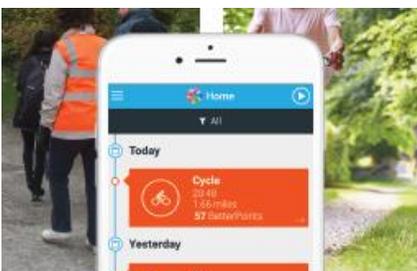
www.lancsvp.org.uk



BetterPoints for better health

Tech innovation company BetterPoints has brought its behaviour change app to Skelmersdale and is encouraging residents towards better health by increasing their activity levels. People in Skelmersdale can now use the BetterPoints app to track their walking, running or cycling and earn points to cash in for high street shopping vouchers - or to donate to charity.

The Skelmersdale Reward scheme has been introduced by Well Skelmersdale, as part of its drive to improve health in the town, and is supported by West Lancs Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Active West Lancs and West Lancs CVS.



**Skelmersdale
Rewards
Walk. Bike. Run.**
Feel better, get
fitter, earn
rewards

 **BetterPoints**
REWARD YOURSELF - REWARD YOUR WORLD
There's a BetterPoint for everything

Skelmersdale is significantly below the national average for general health statistics. There are also large disparities between Skelmersdale and other areas in West Lancs, with 'people living in Skelmersdale having an average lifespan of 9 years less than those living in the more affluent areas of West Lancs,' according to the CCG.

The Skelmersdale scheme rewards participants for being active up to 150 minutes a week because this is the basic level of exercise that the NHS says adults should do to be healthy. It aims to get people to the point where they want to do more and take control of their personal health.

The BetterPoints app can be downloaded at the App Store or Google Play, and more information can be found at skelmersdalerewards.betterpoints.uk or by contacting CVS on email enquiries@wlcvs.org or 01695-733737.

The LEADER Rural Funding scheme



The LEADER rural funding scheme aims to create jobs and help businesses grow, which will then benefit the rural economy. It is part of the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) and is partly funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

In Lancashire the funding is distributed via [three Local Action Groups](#) (LAGs): Lancashire North and Bowland, Lancashire West, and Lancashire Pennine Moors.

Each LAG has an Annual Delivery Plan, which details the activity it will undertake during that period. The Fund is now accepting new applications for projects within the Rural Tourism, Enterprise and Farming categories.

For more information on how to apply, go to: www.lancashire.gov.uk/rural-development/funding-priorities.aspx

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One West Lancs Thematic Groups

To date One West Lancs Thematic Groups have been set up looking at issues in the following areas:

- [Skills, Training and Employment Partnership STEP](#)
- [Community Safety Partnership](#)
- [Health and Wellbeing Partnership](#)
- [Children and Young People's Board](#)
- [People and Communities](#)
- [Ageing Well Partnership](#)
- [Transport](#)

These links will take you to pages on the One West Lancs website where information on the thematic groups and copies of their action plans, minutes and agendas can be found.

www.onewestlancs.org