



o n e w e s t l a n c s

our assets • our community

One West Lancs Forum Newsletter

June 2015

Liverpool Superport plans positive for West Lancs



The One Lancs Board was recently given a presentation by a representative from the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership on the exciting potential developments on the Liverpool Superport.

The project, could have significant impact on West Lancashire, especially Skelmersdale by offering employment opportunities and transport infrastructure upgrades. The project is looking for European Funding to support it and will enable the larger container ships to dock in Liverpool as an alternative to the Southampton and Tilbury on the south coast. It would bring significant economic benefits not only to Liverpool but to the North West as a whole .

A copy of the presentation can be downloaded from the One West Lancs website at www.onewestlancs.org/board.html

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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One West Lancs Forum

One West Lancs held its second **Forum & West Lancashire Showcase** on 13th May 2015 at Edge Hill University. The theme of the event was '**Tackling Poverty and Inequality by creating opportunities for all**'. It was attended by 126 people from 60 organisations across the public, private and voluntary sector, and featured presentations, displays and films.

Presentations

- Professor John Diamond, Director of Institute for Public Policy and Professional Practice at Edge Hill University (I4P) - on the **challenge faced by all sectors working to reduce inequalities**
- Hugh Evans, Deputy Chief Executive, North & Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce – on the **West Lancs Economy**
- Karen Thompson, Consultant in Public Health, Lancashire County Council, on behalf of West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - **Health Inequalities in West Lancs**

To read their presentations, go to: www.onewestlancs.org/forum.html

A number of community groups gave 'Shout Outs' on their work at the Forum event and these are outlined below

Lathom Park Chapel

Lin Camp, Curate, says: '*Lathom Park Chapel is a hidden gem still unknown to many in the area and is situated off the lay-by in Hall Lane in Lathom. Despite its quiet location and ancient building, it is an active growing Church, serving the community in which it stands.*

The rural setting for the Chapel with many farmers in our congregation enables us to be in tune with the rhythm of nature. We celebrate the farming seasons, from the blessing of the plough, soil and seed in January to the cutting of the grain in August and the baking of bread through to Harvest in the autumn.

As a gathered community of worshipping Christians, we look beyond our doors to live out our faith. With our Street Carers scheme we keep an unobtrusive lookout for our neighbours and new people to the area.

Beyond Lathom, with our understanding of the work of farmers we now support Farm Africa and "Give Hunger the Boot" campaign, a charity that enables farmers in Africa grow them-selves out of poverty and feed their community.'

www.lathomparkchapel.org



Home-Start Central Lancashire -

Helping families help themselves

Home-Start offers friendship and support to families with young children under the age of 11 yrs. It provides one-to-one support for parents, with volunteers visiting a family's home for a couple of hours every week and it also runs 10 Family Support Groups which are FREE for families to attend.

West Lancs Family Groups are currently run weekly in:

- **Digmoor Community Centre**, Skelmersdale – Mon 1-3pm
- **St Stephens Primary School**, Banks - Wed 9.45am – 11.15am
- **First Steps Tanhouse Childrens Centre**, Skelmersdale – Thurs 9.30 – 11.30
- **West End Primary School**, Ormskirk – Fri 9am-11am

Homestart Central Lancashire is also looking for parents and grandparents who could offer a few hours a week to give some help and support to a family with young children. Training and expenses are provided for this very rewarding work.



For more information, please **phone:** 01257 241636

E Mail: enquiries@homestartcentrallancs.org.uk

Website: www.homestartcentrallancs.org.uk

Dial-a-ride community cars

Philip Walker from Dial-a-Ride writes: *Volunteer car schemes can fill a vital niche in the West Lancashire's overall transport provision. It's a real win-win service because volunteer car drivers get their driving expenses refunded (partly by the passenger and partly by the scheme organiser - in our case Dial-a-Ride) and the passenger gets a door-to-door chauffeur at a fraction of the cost of a taxi.*

'The key, of course, is getting the volunteers. We are currently advertising in Local Life, and would love to hear from anyone who be interested in volunteer driving (high job satisfaction guaranteed!)

**Please get in touch with
Philip or Debbie at
Dial-a-Ride on
01704-893373**

An advertisement for the West Lancashire Dial a Ride volunteer drivers scheme. It features a collage of photos showing volunteers and passengers. The text includes: 'Volunteer drivers needed!', 'West Lancashire Dial a Ride runs a volunteer Community Car scheme whereby local car owners volunteer their time to drive elderly or disabled residents to appointments or to the shops.', 'We need more car drivers. Would you consider volunteering? Volunteers can choose how much time they offer and are paid a generous mileage rate. No special driving license or insurance is required. Applicants must undergo a driving assessment and security check.', 'If you would like to know please ring Dial a Ride direct on 01704 893373.', and 'West Lancs Community Car Scheme needs you!' and 'West Lancashire DIAL A RIDE'.

CAST NW

The Eco Centre in Newburgh is now under new management with an exciting joint venture called 'Apple Cast' being formed between Cast North West and Red Apple - resulting in major new investment in the site.

This new **social enterprise will combine horticulture (through a commercial plant nursery) and fish breeding ponds (providing stock for commercial fisheries)**. The site will also incorporate the only natural indoor angling centre in the region. These activities will provide volunteer and work opportunities for people of all ages in the region who would otherwise struggle to find a job or participate in stimulating activity.

The site will be managed by Cast North West and Site Director Neil Farnworth says *'it has been a very exciting winter for us and we already have 9 people employed on site and have plans to take on*



more as the business grows through social enterprises. We have been in contact with the local village community and we welcome their involvement in what we are trying to do here. The land to the rear will be used to keep rare breeds animals and a community farm. We have also had talks with Newburgh Parish Council about creating community allotments.



The centre is on Cobbs Brow Lane in Newburgh, post code WN8 7SF and is open from 8am to 6pm, 6 days a week. For more details on the new site and how you might be able to help or get involved, please contact the Site Director Neil Farnworth on 07939 233723 or Horticulture Manager Gary Strawson 07939665707 or gary.strawson@hotmail.co.uk



Volunteer Awards

At the Forum event, special awards were presented to recognise the dedication of local volunteers and CVS members were asked to nominate volunteers that they felt deserved a special award for **Outstanding Service to Volunteering**.

Peter Cousins MBE and Jackie Tittle from Brighter Futures Workshop presented the following volunteers (pictured below) with their awards:

- Michael Vella from Skem Athletic
- Ellie Nesbit from Skelmersdale Action for Youth.
- Elaine Roberts from Skelmersdale Community Food Initiative



Student Placement Scheme



The Student Placement Scheme is designed to support local organisations in communicating health messages locally - with an overall aim of mobilising local communities around health. It is a partnership between the West Lancashire CVS, West Lancashire CCG and Edge Hill University. Each placement worker is assigned for 12 months to a local VCFS member organisation with the purpose of increasing knowledge, information and activity around health issues to promote patient and public involvement within the health economy of West Lancashire.

In a recent award ceremony at Edge Hill University, all the four student placements received '**Highly Commended**' certificates under the External Employee awards - for their work with their projects within the Community Learning Support Hub student placement scheme.

West Lancs CVS was also awarded the **Voluntary Organisation of the Year 2015** in the Edgehill awards for our work with the University and the Connect4Life project.

Contact

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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. Work is underway to set up the Environment thematic group.

www.onewestlancs.org