

Chase Matters

Autumn '10

Cannock Chase Council's award-winning newsletter



Flying the flag
for our green spaces

Find out more inside

Inside

Budget

Your views matter

2011/12

PRIZE DRAW Complete and return budget survey inside...

Chief Executive's Welcome

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Chase Matters.

I hope you are enjoying the new format and are finding it both informative and interesting. I would like to thank all those advertisers who are helping to finance the publication.

You will know that spending within the public sector is under close scrutiny and all councils are facing difficult decisions over the next few months regarding the services and support we provide for our residents. The centre spread of this edition takes a closer look at how we are approaching this.

Whatever the outcomes reached over the next few months, you can be assured that the main priority for us is to provide the best possible service for the residents of Cannock Chase.

Please take a few minutes of your time to complete the questionnaire as your views really do matter to us.


Stephen Brown, Chief Executive



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All information is correct at time of going to print.



**More and more young people
are flying the nest thanks
to Orbit HomeBuy Agents.**

We are the HomeBuy Agent for Shropshire and Staffordshire, and we help people of all ages in all sorts of circumstances to find their dream home.



In this role, we act as the first point of contact for all those seeking a home through one of the range of HomeBuy low-cost home ownership and discounted market rent products. For full details visit www.orbithomebuyagents.co.uk or call us on **03458 50 20 50**.

Open the door to your new home with Orbit HomeBuy Agents



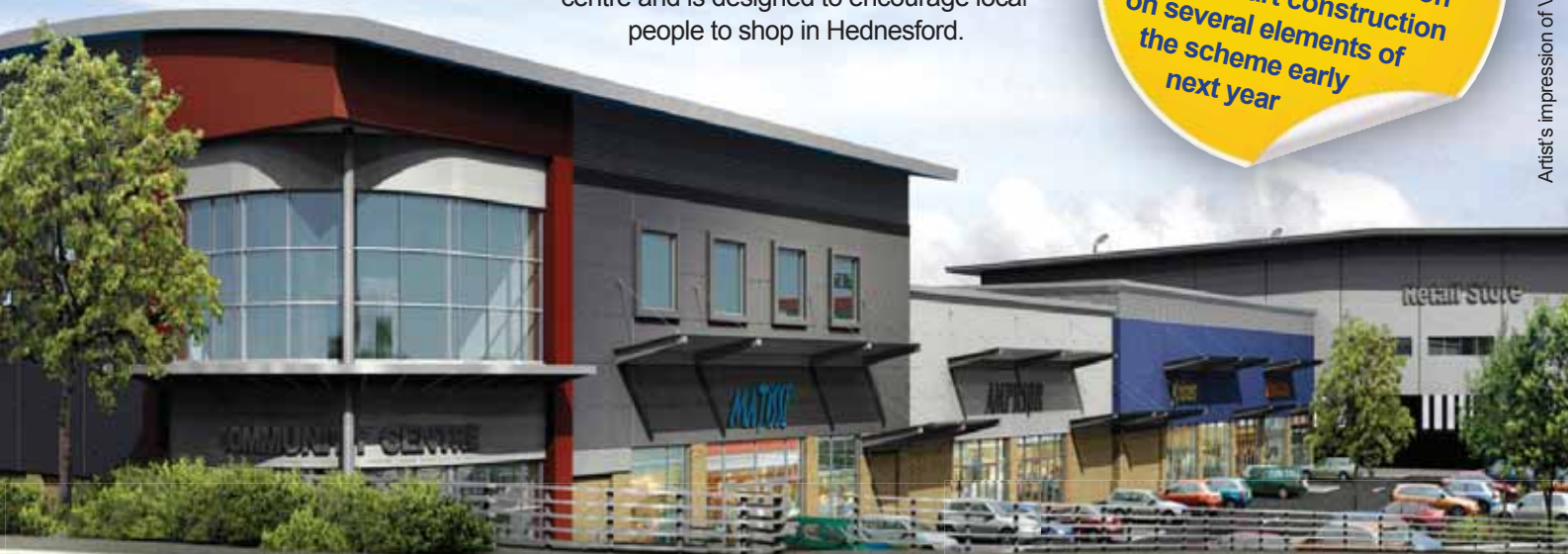
Terms and conditions apply – ask for details. Orbit HomeBuy Agents is managed by Orbit Homes (2020) Limited, a member of Orbit Group Limited which is an exempt charity registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965.

Gateway to the Chase

We told you in the last issue of Chase Matters that we'd signed a development agreement with St. Modwen for the Chase Gateway scheme in Hednesford, paving the way for the most significant regeneration project in the town's history.

This article gives you some more information about the redevelopment plans and timescales for work starting. The scheme will be phased to preserve the continuity of business for existing traders and occupiers. Both phases provide the town with two stylish new developments and helping to stimulate activity along Market Street. This location represents a natural place to accommodate the retail expansion of the centre and is designed to encourage local people to shop in Hednesford.

Did you know...
 Subject to planning consent for Phase 2, we remain on track to start construction on several elements of the scheme early next year



Artist's impression of Victoria Street development.

The Hednesford Gateway scheme is made up of two sites representing two distinct phases:

Phase 1

- Next to Rugeley Road
- Plans approved by our Planning Control Committee in June 2010
- Discount food store
- Six new units fronting on to Market Street
- Seperate retail block near Victoria Street
- Relocated bingo hall
- Enlarged car park.

Phase 2

- Victoria Street in the town centre, next to Hednesford Park and the railway line.
- Supermarket with net sales area of 50,000 sq ft
- Non-food retail terrace
- Large car park
- Community centre
- Relocated building for the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association
- New bus facilities along Victoria Street, with lay-bys and shelters on both sides.

A new community centre has been positioned to act as a focal point for the development when viewed from Market Street and Anglesey Street. The existing Heritage Trail that connects Market Street to Hednesford Park via Victoria Street is to be retained along Victoria Street and will be enhanced through landscaping and improved footpaths.



Artist's impression of Rugeley Road development.

Resident views...

Mrs Sheila Westwood & Beryl Corbett

Sheila said: "This is what the town needs, and hopefully it will make a nice place to shop"



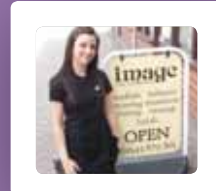
Julie March & Sonny

Julie said: "A very good idea for local people and businesses and should bring more people into the town"



Elizabeth Davies

Elizabeth said: "As a business we are looking forward to the regeneration, which will bring more people into Hednesford"



Scrap metal

We've all seen and heard scrap metal collectors going about their business in the District. The price of scrap metal is high at the moment and a number of collectors are operating. Legitimate, licensed collectors who follow the rules do provide a service for the community that many people value. However, unlicensed traders are breaking the law and we have powers to act. If you have any concerns about scrap metal collectors in the District, please let us know by calling 01543 462621. Give us as much information as you can, including the time and location that you saw the collectors and the registration number of the vehicle. We can check if they are licensed with the Environment Agency and take formal action if they fail to obtain a licence.

YOUR DOG YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

In the last issue of Chase Matters we told you about new Dog Control Orders that were introduced in April. These saw the Fixed Penalty Notice for failing to clear up after a dog rise from £50 to £75.

The Dog Control Orders also gave us extra powers to deal with strays. Please keep your dog on a lead when out walking and make sure your garden is secure so your pet can't escape. When a dog goes missing it's traumatic for the pet and the owner.



The Dog Control Orders make it an offence for a dog to be off the lead on a footpath or grass verge next to a road. We take any dog found to be straying to kennels. From 1st September, the fee for reclaiming a pet went up from £25 to £65. Kennelling and veterinary costs also have to be paid. You could also face a Fixed Penalty Notice of £75. It pays to look after your dog properly!

Did you know...

In 2009/10 162 stray dogs were taken to kennels. The huge majority were reclaimed by their owners. The rest had to be rehomed

**not all care homes
are the same...**

Horse Fair

Residential Care Home | Rugeley | Staffordshire

NEW!
Launching
September
2010!



Avery Healthcare, one of the UK's leading care home providers, is opening a 72 bed residential and dementia care home, Horse Fair, situated in Rugeley town centre's historic conservation area. Opening early September, the home has been built, equipped and is run to the very highest standards. It has light and airy communal spaces, a daily activities programme and an open door policy for visiting family and friends. Fresh local produce is prepared daily by our chefs and our rooms are all equipped with en-suite shower rooms and flat screen TV's. At Horse Fair, our residents stay for long or shorter term, respite care and are free to live life as they please. Our gardens are well stocked and secure, our staff courteous and experienced. Living in an Avery home is to join a thriving community of care, a positive lifestyle choice for anybody considering care in their elder years. **Interested? Call Julie, our care home manager, on 0845 643 3066.**

For further details or to arrange a visit please call today 0845 643 3066



Avery
Optimum Care Providers
Advocates of Person Centred Care

Manager Julie Johnson | www.horsefaircarehome.co.uk | email horsefair@averyhealthcare.co.uk

Flying the flag for our green spaces

Four of our parks and green spaces are now officially among the best in the country after they were awarded Green Flags.



Green Flag Awards recognise and reward the best parks and green spaces in the country. Four of ours stood out this year after impressing the judges with their excellent use of green space, well-maintained facilities and high standards of safety and security.

Cannock Park, Ravenhill Park in Brereton and Castle Ring in Cannock Wood all retained the Green Flags they won last year.

In fact, Cannock Park has now been awarded a Green Flag for the last three years - a hat-trick we're really proud of. And now Elmore Park in Rugeley has joined the prestigious group by winning its own Green Flag this year.

Elmore Park has a pets' corner, duck pond, play area, picnic spaces and a lovely circular walk - and it now has a Green Flag to proudly fly too!

Parks and green spaces play a crucial role in our communities. Providing high quality, free open spaces is really important and we are committed to continue doing this.

Our employees who run the parks work hard throughout the year to make sure that facilities are maintained to a high standard and enjoyed by the entire community.

If you've not been to your local park for a while, you don't know what you're missing!

Did you know...

There is a £100 reward for reported incidents of Flytipping that lead to a prosecution. Call 01543 462621 and report it!



What do you love about Elmore Park?

Clive Walker

Clive said: "I come to the park every day, usually as I'm walking into the town centre for shopping. I really enjoy feeding the ducks. The park has really improved."

Vesela Toteva and Michaela, four

Vesela said: "Michaela loves the play area. There's lots of great play equipment. The slide is her favourite at the minute. The park's great for picnics by the lake as well."

Raye Harrowsmith with grandchildren Luke, four, and Neve, two

Raye said: "The park is perfect! The children love it and it's great for me too."

Sam Wood and Gracie, aged two

Sam said: "We come to the park at least once a week. Gracie's favourite is the Pets' Corner. She loves looking at the chickens, rabbits, guinea pigs and birds!"

Your views matter

The Council will be holding a series of Budget Consultation roadshows throughout September.

Please visit us between 10am and 2pm at one of the roadshows listed below and tell us your views on what Council services are important to you.

Friday 10th September - by the CO-OP store, Hednesford


Wednesday 15th September - ASDA store, Cannock

Friday 17th September - Cannock Shopping Centre

Monday 20th September - Market Square, Rugeley



KIDZONE

 is a fun and interactive website for young people. It will be packed full of information on leisure, health and the environment.

Check out the sections:

- Play, See and Learn
- The Gallery
- In The Know



Visit www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/kidzone

For more information contact the PR & Marketing Team on 01543 462621

October Half Term **CHASE IT!** Activities Halloween

Chase and Rugeley Leisure Centre
Monday 25th October - Friday 30th October
5 - 13 years old

Come along and enjoy a range of Art, Craft and Sport activities
£60 for five days activities or £15 per day



For more information or to book a place contact

Chase Leisure Centre 01543 504065 or
Rugeley Leisure Centre 01889 586260

Chase Card discounts apply.
School GET ACTIVE discounts apply.
Pre booking is advisable due to limited places



Budget

Your views matter

2011/12

There is no secret that money is tight for public services right now. With national debt at record levels, organisations like local councils are having to look at new ways of delivering services for less money.

The coalition Government that came into power in May made it very clear that reducing national debt was its number one priority. The Government has made a number of cuts and efficiency savings over the last few months already - but the toughest cuts will come into force in April next year.

“ We don't want to make these kinds of huge changes without involving you. ”

We need to prepare for the cut in Government support that is coming our way. We already started this when we set the budget in March for 2010-2013 which anticipated a 5% year-on-year reduction in Government grants.

Additionally, over the last six years we have made £2.4 million of efficiency savings and taken £3.2 million out of service provision.

We won't know until October or November exactly how much we will need to save when the Government publishes its Spending Review. This sets out exactly how much each Government department, including local government, will have to spend. We do know, however, that the Government is imposing a Council Tax freeze and public sector pay freeze. Therefore, we have to make savings of between £1.2 million and £2 million a year from 2011 for the next three years.

This is a huge challenge and could effectively represent a 25% reduction in the Council's net expenditure.

As part of this process, we are looking at completely transforming the services we provide. We need to put ourselves in the best possible position to face up to the ever tightening purse strings.

This is where you come in because we do not believe it is right to make these kinds of huge changes without involving you.

There's a lot of information in this Budget special. I hope it's not too overwhelming but we are determined to keep you fully informed of the size of the task ahead of us and, with your help, to tackle it.



Stephen Brown, Chief Executive



Get Involved

- 1 Let us know what services are most important to you. Use the survey at the back of this four-page special.
- 2 Complete the survey online at www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/yourviewsmatter
- 3 Visit one of our roadshows across the District. Details on page 6, or email communications@cannockchasedc.gov.uk and we'll keep you posted.

Inside...

All facts & figures
Pages 2 & 3

Have your say
Page 4

What we spend

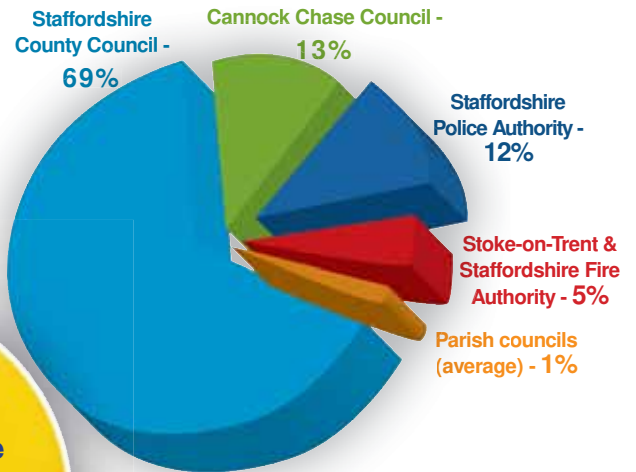
For this year (2010/11) it costs £11 million net to provide services for you.

This excludes the cost of local tax collection and central services and providing housing for our council tenants (which is funded by income from housing rents).

From April 2011, because of a reduction in the amount of funding we get from the Government, we need to make savings of between £1.2 million and £2 million a year for the next three years.

This is a huge challenge and some difficult decisions will have to be made.

Your Council Tax bill is made up of charges from ourselves, Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Police Authority and Stoke on Trent & Staffordshire Fire Authority. A further charge is also included from parish councils.



Did you know...

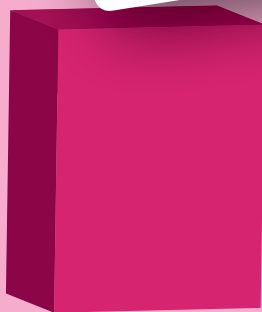
Over the last six years we have made £2.4 million of efficiency savings and taken £3.2 million out of service provision.

It can sometimes be confusing to work out which public authority provides which service. Below are some of the services we provide and how much they cost.

2010/11 budget

Community Services

Includes culture, sport, parks, tourism, allotments, playing pitches, recreation, museum, countryside rangers, leisure centres



£4.879 million

Environmental Services

Includes recycling and refuse collection, street cleaning, licensing, food safety inspections, air pollution, cemeteries



£3.652 million

Planning & Development

Includes development control, building control, economic development, running our town centre markets, conservation, town centre regeneration



£1.058 million

Complete and return the budget survey overleaf to:
PR & Marketing, Cannock Chase Council, Becroft Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1BG

on services

How are we tackling the huge cut in Government support from 2011?

Work has already started to identify how we can make the savings required from 2011.

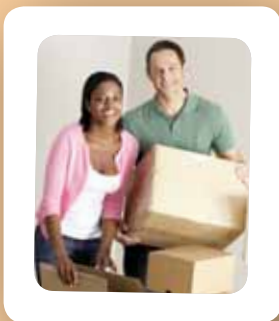
- 1 Our assets** The buildings and land we own. We need to see if we can sell any of these and whether it is viable to keep all Council offices open
- 2 Sharing services** We are progressing with proposals to share some of our services with Stafford Borough Council. The original plan to phase the sharing of some services is being accelerated in the light of the large-scale cuts facing local government. We are also now in discussions with the private sector to explore the potential for further cost-cutting measures
- 3 Fees and charges** Additional income may be generated by increasing fees and charges. We are also having to look at other services that we may have to start charging for
- 4 Outsourcing services** When we set the budget for this year, it was agreed that a private sector/third party partner would be selected to manage our Leisure and Culture services. Having a third-party partner manage these services for us would save us money each year. Outsourcing other services is also being considered as part of the budget-setting process
- 5 Reducing or stopping some of the services we currently provide** We need you to tell us which of our services are important to you. Please use the survey on the back page of this Budget Special or log on to www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/yourviewsmatter

Did you know...

We have to make savings of between £1.2 million and £2 million a year from 2011 for the next three years.

Housing Services

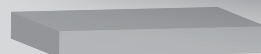
Preventing homelessness, accommodation standards for private tenants and supporting the provision of affordable housing



£889,000

Highways & Transportation

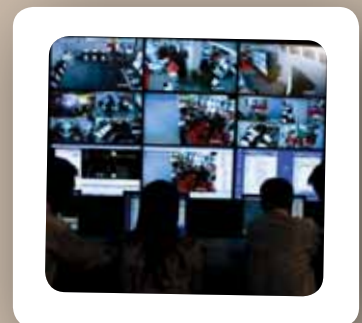
Includes maintenance of our car parks and support for public transport, for example the Chase Line rail service



£425,000

Community Safety

Includes the network of CCTV cameras in the District, working with partners to reduce crime



£414,000

and you will be entered into a prize draw. Closing date is 20th September 2010

How important are the following services? These are examples of the services we provide

(please tick box)

	Very important	Fairly important	Fairly unimportant	Unimportant	Don't know
Community Services					
Chase and Rugeley leisure centres	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prince of Wales Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Museum of Cannock Chase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and green spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promoting tourism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allotments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Countryside management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Services					
Refuse collection and recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Street cleaning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food safety inspections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tackling flytipping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Licensing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cemeteries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pest control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stray dog control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog fouling enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning and Development					
Town centre markets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building control - processing plans and inspecting work on site	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town centre regeneration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintaining conservation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing Services					
Preventing homelessness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accommodation standards for private tenants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting provision of affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Highways and Transportation					
Maintenance of Council car parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting public transport - for example the Chase Line rail service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Safety					
Town centre CCTV cameras	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working with partners to reduce crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please fill in your details below if you wish to enter the free draw. Return to **PR & Marketing, Cannock Chase Council, Civic Centre, Becroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG** by **September 20th 2010**

Name: _____ Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Contact number: _____

The winning entrant's name and town will appear in the next edition. Cannock Chase Council will hold and use your data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may share this data with other departments within the Council and partners of the Council where necessary. Your personal information will not be passed on for commercial use.

What's on Prince of Wales Centre

28th September - The Good Old Days of Music Hall & Variety. A nostalgic trip down memory lane.

3rd October - GA GA - A Tribute to Queen. A host of massive Queen songs. Highly rated by critics and audiences.

22nd October - Bon Jovi Experience. The only Bon Jovi tribute band to have played with Jon Bon Jovi himself.

10th - 13th November - South Pacific. A well-known musical performed by Chadsmoor Choral Society. A show for all the family to enjoy.

27th November - Postman Pat. A brand new show 'A Very Royal Mission'. Join Pat and his friends for 90 minutes of fun.

24th - 31st December - Cinderella. Make your Christmas complete with a trip to panto.

Call the Prince of Wales box office 01543 578762
www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/princeofwales



Why not come along to...

Community Forums

Community forums are your chance to get your questions answered by our councillors, senior officers and partners such as the police and fire service. The forums are held regularly across the district and start at 7pm.

14th September	Cannock
21st September	Hednesford
23rd November	Heath Hayes, Norton Canes and Rawnsley
24th November	Cannock
29th November	Rugeley
30th November	Hednesford

For more information visit www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk
To raise a question at one of the forums please email democraticservices@cannockchasedc.gov.uk

The deadline to receive questions is three weeks before the date of the forum. This is to make sure the right people will be available to respond to the questions.

Museum of Cannock Chase

18th September - 29th October - Cannock Chase Open Art Exhibition 2010

October Half Term Holiday Workshops. Workshops for children aged 5 - 11.

8th November - 17th December - Portraits from the Coalfields

Sunday 21 November - Winter Wonderland. Drop-in Arts & Crafts workshop with a nature theme for the winter season - for all the family. 12noon till 3pm.

5th December Christmas Family Day

For further details call 01543 877666 or visit www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/museum

Tate Modern Rolls into Town

Over 100 children had a ball when the Tate Movie Truck visited Cannock Park over the summer. We were one of the first stops for the national touring workshop which gave our local youngsters the opportunity to show their creative side and become film makers for the day.

Children aged from 5 to 13 were invited to be a part of the Tate Movie Project. Led by Tate, the project worked towards making a short animation film, made by and for children across the UK.

They contributed ideas and drawings for the Tate Movie, an animation film, about lives and communities across the country.

The truck folded out into a creative learning studio, complete with sound studio space, computers and a screening facility, which allowed children the access to create art and sand.

On the day, children attended the sessions held in the truck, worked with artists and film makers to explore art and animation, as well as generated ideas and drawings for the final Tate Movie.

Director of Tate, Nicholas Serota, said: "Showcasing the vivid imaginations of kids, the Tate Movie Project will use great artworks to inspire 5 to 13 year olds nationwide to contribute their ideas to an animated movie. We hope that more than one million children will be involved in The Tate Movie. We will help them to draw on their imaginations, lives and communities whilst developing their visual literacy and inspiring the artists of the future".



Did you know...

You can advertise your company, charity or event in Chase Matters contact Sandra Richards on 01543 464388

It's Autumn -
time for planting!

Available now...

- NEW SEASON'S SEEDS
- SPRING FLOWERING BULBS
- GREAT RANGE OF TREES, SHRUBS, ALPINES AND ROSES

Our award-winning Care Compost is produced on site at Hollybush from municipal green-waste collections. Organic peat-free compost is available at both Centres. Use as a mulch, soil conditioner and planting medium for great results.




hollybush
garden • aquaria • lifestyle • pets



Warstone Rd, Shareshill, Wolverhampton
Tel: 01922 417648 www.hollybush-garden.com
email: sales@hollybush-garden.com
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm Sun 10.15am - 4.15pm
500m from J11 M6 2 mins from T8 M6 Toll

Unit 6 Churchbridge, Oldbury, West Midlands
Tel: 0121 544 6794 www.ad-aquatics.com
email: sales@ad-aquatics.com
Mon-Sat 9am-6pm Sun 10.15am - 4.15pm
2 minsoff J2 M5. Adjacent to Mecca Bingo
on the A4034 Churchbridge

Your Brown Bin recycling journey

As Autumn approaches, your brown bins will be fuller than usual clearing gardens in preparation for Winter.

So what happens to your garden and food waste once it's been collected?

Collections from Cannock Chase residents are processed as part of a green waste recycling scheme run by one of the largest composting operations in the UK, Midlands Compost Recycling (MCR), the recycling division of Shareshill-based Jack Moody Limited. This form of recycling allows Local Authorities to divert significant amounts of household waste from landfill to composting sites, meet government recycling targets as well as producing a highly sustainable recycled end product.



The green waste arrives at MCR where it is sorted for processing. Specialised shredding equipment is used and once shredding is completed, windrows are formed. This material is turned at least once a week.

During turning it is important that all the material goes through a high temperature phase and receives adequate oxygen. Achieving high temperatures is essential to destroy pathogenic micro-organisms and plant weed seeds.

The composting process takes approximately 8-12 weeks to complete, during which time the material is constantly monitored. The final stage of the process involves passing the compost through a screener to remove the larger material. After screening is completed the compost is then ready for sale as CARE COMPOST™



MCR take great care during the whole process to ensure that the material is free from contaminants and mature at the point of sale and distribution. Customers have a 100% recycled peat free compost that is environmentally safe and beneficial, providing gardeners with a cost effective alternative material to peat based products.

CARE COMPOST™ is sold in both 40L bags as well as bulk for larger applications and has been used commercially on agricultural land to improve soil structure and fertility. It is endorsed by BALI (the British Association of Landscape Architects) the Soil Association and the Association for Organics Recycling. By using Care Compost, everyone can play their part in the recycling loop, and by recycling your garden trimmings you can also play a major role in your own local recycling initiative.

To purchase Care Compost visit the Hollybush Garden Centre, Warstone Road, Shareshill, WV10 7LX.

Did you know...
The Countryside Service team welcome volunteers to help manage Local Nature Reserves. For more information call 01543 450018



CHECK IT BEFORE YOU BIN IT!



Please use your brown bin service for garden and food waste only

Just one bin with the wrong items in it can mean it has to go to landfill rather than compost it - let's keep composting!



Be Aware Who You Scare

Halloween can be harmless fun but some members of our community can become distressed by unexpected trick-or-treaters, which can be classed as anti-social behaviour. Young people are being encouraged to "Be Aware Who You Scare" and to follow some simple do's and don'ts this Halloween.



Do

Only visit houses where you or your friends know who lives there.
Only visit areas where there are street lights - take a torch just in case.
Stay in a group - don't split up and never go on your own.
Always take care when crossing the road - make sure you can be seen.

Don't

Knock if there's a sign saying 'No trick or treat'.
Enter someone's house - always stay on the doorstep.
Frighten elderly or vulnerable people.
Talk to strangers.

Did you know...

Last year's campaign resulted in a fall of 4.3% in reports of anti-social behaviour



Keeping our communities safe and reassured

Cannock Chase - a safe place to be!

Neighbourhood officers from Staffordshire Police are working around the clock to keep you safe and deal with the issues that mean the most to you.



Help us to keep your property safe and secure.

- Always lock your vehicle and close windows and the sunroof when you leave it unattended.
- Remove all valuables and take them with you. This includes Sat. Nav systems, phones, laptops, bags, tools and cash.
- Where possible, park in a well lit area and garage the vehicle overnight.
- Make sure your car keys are safe at home, away from letterboxes and open windows.



Cannock NPU

Wolverhampton Road, Cannock
WS11 1AW
Email: cannocknpt@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Rugeley NPU

Anson Street, Rugeley WS15 2BA
Email: rugeleynpt@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

Come along to a community meeting and meet the officers for your area.

Full details are available on our website www.staffordshire.police.uk, in the local media and available from the officers direct by calling the non-emergency number **0300 123 4455**.

In an emergency dial 999.



'Your local police and council working together to keep your community safe'



www.staffordshire.police.uk

Victim & Witness Champion

We are aware that fighting anti-social behaviour is one of your major concerns. We're also aware that reporting anti-social behaviour can be a big step. You may be fearful of recriminations, for example.

Incidents of anti-social behaviour are falling in Cannock Chase District. But we are not complacent and we continue to work with our partners to address it. This is why we now have a Victims and Witness Champion - Oliver Greatbatch. Oliver's job is to support local people in tackling anti-social behaviour. Oliver is employed by Victim Support, the national charity for victims of crime in England and Wales, and is based with our Community Safety Team. He provides help and support for victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour. We hope this will encourage more people to come forward and report anti-social behaviour. For more information call Victim Support on **0845 521 2300**

Did you know...

Incidents of anti-social behaviour reported to the police in Cannock Chase District fell by 15% in 2009/10 - from 5,560 to 4,751. That's 809 fewer incidents.

People power

An area in Rugeley has had a makeover and it's all thanks to feedback from local residents.

Holyoake Place, Springfields has now been transformed into a work of art by Neil Willis, a professional spray artist. During the school summer holidays children and young people from the area worked with Neil to design and spray the shop shutters in Holyoake Place.

To complement this project it was decided to spruce up the land at the side of the Holyoake Place shops. This area had been neglected, was being used to dump rubbish and was attracting vermin. It has now been cleared, the gates removed and a new bin store area has been added, making it easier for residents to access their wheelie bins.



Jackie Mosey, a Springfields resident said: "It's great that the younger people have been involved. We are looking forward to the official opening on 30th October."

crack down on fraud

The Audit Commission currently requires us to take part in a special exercise to help prevent and detect fraud, called the National Fraud Initiative.

This exercise has been carried out every two years since 2000 and has identified more than £664 million of savings nationally. Data will be supplied from the following areas:

- Payroll
- Housing
- Housing benefits
- Council tax
- Electoral register
- Transport passes and permits (including residents' parking and concessionary travel passes)
- Insurance claimants
- Licences - market trader/operator, taxi driver and personal licences to supply alcohol.

The National Fraud Initiative does not require the consent of the individuals concerned under the Data Protection Act 1998 in order for the data to be shared with the Audit Commission. For more information about the National Fraud Initiative, log on to www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi or call 01543 462621.

your local recycling company

Cash 4 Clothes

WE PAY £5.00 PER BIN BAG OF CLOTHING
cash in return to donate or keep! (based on 50p per kilo.)

- We buy your unwanted clothes, shoes, bedding and curtains for cash!
- Bring your bags to us and we will pay you for 1 full standard sized bin bag £5.00 (based on 50p per kilo.)
- The more bags you bring the more cash you earn
- Collection service also available (minimum of 6 bags required)
- We recycle 100% of your clothing

Don't bin it
recycle it
Melvyn*



 **European Textile Recycling**
At the heart of recycling

Did you know we each throw away 30kg of textiles a year most goes to landfill and only a third to charity shops.

If you're having a clearout bring a bag is a service that we are offering to the public where you bring your bags of used clean clothing and we'll give you cash in return which you could keep or donate to your favourite charity.

Sell your old clothes for cash!

including: Adults & Children's Clothing, Handbags & Belts, Shoes & Trainers, Bedding, Curtains & Towels (Clothes must be clean, wearable and shoes matching, no duvets!)

Opening hours Mon-fri 9am-5pm, for all enquiries please call bring a bag on: 0845 900 4044

to book a collection or for any info call **Cash 4 Clothes 0845 900 4044**

or visit www.eurotextilerecycling.co.uk

NB: Terms and conditions apply. Prices may fluctuate due to market conditions. Prices are also quoted on 10kg bags, all clothes must be clean and no duvets.



Annual Canvass

By now, you should have received an Annual Canvass registration form. Please complete it with the names of all people in the household who are 16 years of age or older, who are British, Irish or qualifying Commonwealth citizens, or citizens of EU Member States.

Please return the form to the Electoral Registration Officer by 15th October 2010. If you do, then we won't have to send out a reminder letter. It's important to know that it's a legal requirement to complete the form, and not responding or providing false information, could result in a fine of up to £1,000.

You may not realise it, but in addition to ensuring your entitlement to vote at any upcoming elections or referenda, the electoral register is one of the main documents used by credit reference agencies when people apply for credit. So, if you're not on the register, or incorrectly registered, you may find it hard to obtain credit.

So please help us to help you by ensuring that you complete the forms and return them quickly; it'll only take a few minutes.

Did you know...
you could be fined up to £1,000 for non return of the Annual Canvass registration form.

This newspaper can also be provided in braille, on audio cassette tape/disk, in **large print** and in other languages on request to **Cannock Chase Council** on **01543 462621**.

Cannock Chase Council, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock WS11 1BG
Tel: 01543 462621 | Fax: 01543 462317 | Email: customerservices@cannockchasedc.gov.uk

When you have finished with this newsletter please recycle. This magazine has been printed on paper from sustainable forests.

Produced by the PR & Marketing Team

your local recycling company

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