

# CONTACT

for the District of Blaby

[www.blaby.gov.uk](http://www.blaby.gov.uk) Winter 2011, Issue 9

Inside this Issue

## Blaby cyclist crowned world champion

County Arms development

Kash 4 Kenya project

Outstanding Achievement Awards 2011



**Blaby** District Council

*the heart of Leicestershire*

Welcome to the winter edition of **Contact**, the magazine for residents of Blaby district.

**Distribution**

If you know of anyone who has not received a copy please let us know.

Contact is published three times a year in March, July and November.

Contact is available on request in other languages and formats including large print, CD or Braille by contacting:

Communications Team, Blaby District Council, Council Offices, Desford Road, Narborough, Leicester LE19 2EP  
 Tel: 0116 272 7577 Fax: 0116 275 0368  
 Minicom: 0116 284 9786  
 Email: public.relations@blaby.gov.uk



**Making payments**

Payments for council tax, business rates, waste bin rentals, benefit overpayments and invoices can be made via direct debit, online at [www.blaby.gov.uk](http://www.blaby.gov.uk) or by calling the 24 hour payment line on 0116 272 77 22. Your local authority bills can also be paid at your local Post Office or PayPoint providing you have been issued with a bar coded bill which will need to be presented when making a payment. Just look out for the logos opposite for places to pay. Should you have any comments about our payment facilities please contact customer services on 0116 272 7695 or send your comments to [customer.services@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@blaby.gov.uk)



**Christmas and New Year opening arrangements**

All council offices will be closed to the public on: December 26, December 27, December 28 and January 2.  
 The emergency contact number when the council offices are closed is **0844 736 9545**

**Christmas and New Year refuse and recycling arrangements**

The refuse and recycling days will not change in 2012, they will be the same as 2011 collections.  
 No collections will take place between December 26 – 30.  
 Additional bags of side waste will be accepted alongside the wheeled bins during collections from Monday January 2 up to and including Friday January 6.

**Christmas tree recycling sites** available from Boxing Day until January 9:

- **Countesthorpe** – Co-op supermarket car park, Main Street
- **Elmesthorpe** – Village hall car park, Wilkinson Lane
- **Enderby** Leisure Centre car park, Mill Lane
- **Glenfield** – Stamford Street Car Park
- **Huncote** – The Pavilion car park, Sportsfield lane

# Useful contact Numbers

**General Enquiries**

**0116 275 0555**  
[customer.services@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@blaby.gov.uk)

**Minicom**

**0116 284 9786**

**Benefits**

[benefits@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7510**

**Benefit Fraud**

[fraud@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:fraud@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7733**

**Building Control**

[building.control@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:building.control@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7533**

**Community Safety**

[community.safety@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7725**

**Council Tax and Business Rates**

[revenues@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:revenues@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7530**

**Elections/Electoral Registration**

[elections@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:elections@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7560**

**Enderby Leisure Centre**

[enderbyinfo@slm-ltd.co.uk](mailto:enderbyinfo@slm-ltd.co.uk)  
**0116 275 0234**

**Environment**

[env.health@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:env.health@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7555**

**Housing and Homelessness**

[housing.options@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:housing.options@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7770**

**Planning**

[planning@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:planning@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7705**

**Resident Support Service**

**0116 272 7771**

**Sports, Leisure and Arts**

[leisure@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@blaby.gov.uk)  
**0116 272 7703**

**The Pavilion, Huncote**

**0116 275 0246**

Emergency contact number when offices are closed **0844 736 9545**

We care about accuracy and aim to correct any mistakes in subsequent issues of **CONTACT** if we have got it wrong.

## Contents

Consultation on 4,250 homes plan  
First-time buyers given  
mortgage boost  
Page 4 - 5

District housing requirement set  
County Arms development  
Page 6-7

Kash 4 Kenya  
Page 8-9

Outstanding Achievement  
Awards 2011  
Page 10-11

Sport relief 2012  
Blaby cyclist grabs gold  
Page 12-13

Supported lodgings  
What's on  
Page 14-15

Recycle more from January 2012  
Page 16

Once you have finished reading this  
magazine please recycle.

Designed and produced by:



Tel: 01536 527297

Contact is available online at  
[www.blaby.gov.uk](http://www.blaby.gov.uk)



Cover picture: Lucy Garner following her  
world championship win in Denmark  
(courtesy of Leicester Mercury).

# Is this the lost generation?

“More than a million 16 – 24 year-olds are now unemployed across the UK. This means 22 per cent of our young people are out of work.

These figures do not include many young people who are working as unpaid interns to try and get into the job market.

Young people are often noisy and can be seen as intimidating in groups, especially to the elderly. But they are no different than any other generation. The vast majority are good folk who want to be part of and contribute to their society. If you look at some of the articles in this edition of *Contact* you will see there are several examples of young people who are a real credit to the district.

We need to provide opportunities for youngsters to fulfil their potential. Some employers in the district such as Westleigh Homes are doing great work with schools and colleges, offering apprenticeships and other training opportunities, but we need many, many more companies to create these types of opportunities. If you are in a position to do something where you work please don't wait. Giving a young person an opportunity into employment can give them structure, hope and the ability to live with self respect.

The Council is seeing an increasing number of young people becoming 'sofa surfers', people who spend a few days with friends before moving on because they have no way of finding a permanent home. In these situations there is a real danger that they can fall into problems with drink and drugs and eventually crime. Housing benefits for people aged under 35 are being substantially reduced and this will only add to the housing problems for this group.

If you have a room to let, get in touch with staff here at the Council. They can advise you how to go about taking in a lodger. If you have a vacant property you could get some income from and avoid having to pay council tax on the empty property – again our staff can help.



Steve Beard, Director  
Blaby District Council

“If we are to succeed in keeping the district a place where people get on well together we have to create opportunities for young people so they can live independently and develop careers.”

If we are to succeed in keeping the district a place where people get on well together we have to create opportunities for young people so they can live independently and develop careers. Let's not allow Blaby to become an area where there is a lost generation with little hope of achieving – if you can help in any way please do. ”

For more information and advice on housing contact the Council's housing options team on 0116 272 7770 or email [housing.options@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:housing.options@blaby.gov.uk).

# Second consultation on 4,250 homes plan

A second round of public consultation on plans for a major housing development in Lubbethorpe is expected to take place early in 2012.

The Council originally planned to carry out a second consultation in autumn 2011 but delays in gathering traffic data have pushed the timescale back and it has been decided not to ask residents for their views over the busy Christmas holiday period.

The second consultation will give people a chance to comment on any changes or additions to the original plans as well as any new documents that have been submitted.

More than 1,500 people have already commented on the proposals to build 4,250 homes along with schools, shops, parks and two motorway bridges on land between Beggars Lane and the M1. One of the biggest concerns already identified is the impact on traffic in the local area if the development is given the go-ahead. Given this, the Council wants to make sure all information on traffic surveys and studies is available before asking people to comment. Everyone who was consulted during the first phase will be invited to comment again as well as anyone else who has given their views on the plans.



Indicative layout plan

It is anticipated the Council will make a decision on the application in spring 2012.

**For more information visit**  
[www.blaby.gov.uk/lubbethorpe](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/lubbethorpe), email  
[lubbethorpe@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:lubbethorpe@blaby.gov.uk) or call  
 0116 272 7565.

## Green light given to leisure centre revamp



Centre boost

The Pavilion leisure centre in Huncote is set to undergo a major revamp after councillors agreed a £380,000 investment programme.

Works planned include opening a golf driving range at the back of the site, refurbishing the fitness studio, squash courts and changing rooms and creating more parking spaces for customers.

Councillor David Jennings, portfolio holder for health and community services said: "The Pavilion is a superb facility and has become very popular in recent years but we want to continue investing in it to provide local people with a top class leisure centre on their doorstep."

Cabinet executive gave the go-ahead to the proposals in July 2011 but the £225,000 driving range still requires planning permission.

A planning application is expected to be submitted early in the new year.

The investment is expected to generate almost £150,000 of additional income annually.

As part of the plans £80,000 will be spent on refurbishing the changing rooms, squash courts and fitness studio, while £22,000 has already been spent re-laying one of the outdoor football pitches with a new state-of-the-art playing surface. Redesigning the car park to create more parking spaces for the extra customers expected as a result of the revamp will cost a further £53,000.

## Community Actions' join forces

**Two local voluntary organisations have joined together to form Community Action Partnership.**

Community Action Blaby District and Oadby and Wigston Community Action (OWCA) merged in October this year to form the new organisation.

Services are still being delivered locally from the Pavilion in Huncote and OWCA's office in Wigston as well as the Bassett Centre in South Wigston and A Place to Grow in Enderby.

Andrew Ingles, joint interim chief officer said: "We are all excited about continuing to provide a wide range of services to people in both communities as we have

done for many years. There are some big challenges ahead but we believe that by coming together we are better placed to build on services we currently provide well into the future."

**For information on services in Blaby district contact 0116 272 7669.**



## Great news for first-time buyers in Blaby

First-time home buyers are being given a major boost onto the housing ladder in Blaby district thanks to a new scheme launched by the Council in partnership with Lloyds TSB.

The Local Lend a Hand scheme was launched in October this year and enables first-time buyers to purchase a home with a deposit of just 5 per cent. As part of the scheme the Council helps people who can afford mortgage repayments, but not a large deposit, to secure a house by guaranteeing up to 20 per cent of the total value of the mortgage.

Laura Baldock, 32, lives in Blaby and has been trying to save a deposit with her partner Ben Wickins so they can buy their first home together, she said: "This looks like a fantastic scheme and has come at just the right time for us.

"Saving a large deposit has been so hard and I think it's a problem for lots of young people looking to get on the housing ladder at the moment.

"We have already been to see an adviser at Lloyds and the process seems really simple so fingers crossed we could be in our new home soon."

The Council's guarantee would only be called upon if the borrower failed to make the repayments or breached the terms of the mortgage and the property was eventually sold at a loss.

Council leader Ernie White said: "This scheme provides a relatively low risk opportunity for us to help first-time



Laura and Ben

buyers onto the housing ladder while assisting the local housing market and relieving local demand for social housing."

**Anyone interested in the Local Lend a Hand scheme should visit their local Lloyds TSB branch for more information.**

## News on services during winter weather

People can get instant updates on their refuse and recycling service in the event of severe weather this winter by following the Council on twitter (@blabydc), facebook (facebook.com/blabydc) or visiting [www.blaby.gov.uk/severe-weather](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/severe-weather).

The Council spends months preparing for the harsh winter weather so services can continue but there are times when it is too dangerous for crews to go out and collections are disrupted.

A fully loaded refuse truck weighs 26 tonnes and is a major safety risk to pedestrians and other road users in snowy or icy conditions.

If the ice and snow does set in overnight or throughout the day then people are asked to leave their bins out as normal, but if they have not had a collection by 4pm they should bring them back in.

Any bins not emptied will be collected on the households next scheduled collection day (the following week if it was refuse and two weeks later if it is recycling or garden waste).

**Information on Leicestershire County Council's services, including the gritting of roads and pavements, is available at [www.leics.gov.uk](http://www.leics.gov.uk).**



## People in Blaby love their weekly refuse service!

97 per cent of people living in Blaby district are satisfied or very satisfied with their refuse collection service, according to a recent survey.

The independent poll, carried out on behalf of the Council and Blaby Together, also showed 96 per cent of people were satisfied or very satisfied with doorstep recycling and 93 per cent were happy with how their local parks and open spaces are maintained.

When asked about how well public services are performing, 89 per cent of respondents were satisfied.

Council leader Ernie White said: "These

are excellent results and they show that by listening to our residents and putting them at the centre of everything we do, we can deliver services that people value and need."

600 people from a range of age groups, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds were contacted by telephone during May and June 2011 and asked questions about information provision, local decision making and satisfaction with public services like transport, parks and open spaces and leisure facilities.

97 per cent of residents surveyed felt the

district was a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together and 90 per cent of those who gave an opinion felt that public services in the district provided good value for money. Service areas with lower satisfaction levels were affordable housing, employment opportunities and local transport.

Satisfaction with children's facilities across the district was relatively high (78 per cent), however results showed more facilities for young people and teenagers are needed with only 28 per cent of people satisfied with current provision.

# One new home a day until 2029

An average of one new home a day will be built in Blaby district until 2029 after councillors agreed an annual housing requirement of 365 a year.

The number was set at a special council meeting in September this year and will guide housing growth in the district once the East Midlands Regional Plan, which currently sets out housing need across Leicestershire, is abolished next year.

It was also agreed that 66 per cent of new homes should be located in the built up areas next to Leicester city (Braunstone Town, Glenfield, Glen Parva, Kirby Muxloe and Leicester Forest East) while the remaining number should be spread across the district.

The housing requirement will be part of the new Local Plan Core Strategy which is currently being prepared. The document will set a blue-print for the future of the district and allow councillors to make planning decisions based on sound evidence of housing need. Residents will be asked for their views on the emerging plan early in 2012.



More than 8,000 new homes are needed by 2029

## Santander development set to boost local economy

A £200 million development to bring Santander's UK computer operations to Narborough is underway, providing a major boost for the economy in Blaby district.

The European banking group has already started work to build the two data centres at its Carlton Park base after the Council approved plans in September this year.

Local people will directly benefit from the scheme as planning permission was subject to legal agreement that a programme of apprenticeships is made available to the local community during construction works and that local employment is used wherever possible. It is estimated that 75 permanent jobs will be created once the project is finished while more than 500 employees will be needed to complete the building works.

Blaby district councillor Guy Jackson represents the Pastures ward in Narborough, he said: "This development will create new jobs for local people but perhaps more importantly it proves Santander's commitment to Carlton Park as a base for its operations, which is excellent news for the local economy." The development will include one building to the south-west of the David Lloyd leisure centre, a further data centre on the edge of Carlton Park next to Forest Road, an electricity substation and an additional 110 car parking spaces for employees.

Santander have said the facility must be completed and in use by February 2013 at the latest.

More information on how local businesses and individuals can benefit will be made available as the project progresses.

## Did you know?

Since October this year all drains outside your property that are shared with a neighbour have been transferred to the ownership of Severn Trent Water.

Property owners are still responsible for drains within their boundary which are not shared with others.

If residents are having building work done on private land that they think might be within three metres of a public sewer, or if they are doing any work to the public sewer itself, then they are advised to ring Severn Trent for advice on 08456 016 616.

# Iconic pub will be flats for the elderly

Plans to transform the derelict County Arms pub into 65 retirement homes have been approved.

The landmark site in Glen Parva has been a target for vandals since the Art Deco pub closed nearly 10 years ago but work can now begin to convert the building into sheltered accommodation after plans were approved by the Council in October this year.

Simon Baird, 38, lives close to the site and worked at the pub as a waiter when he was a teenager, he said: "Seeing the pub derelict just seemed such a shame whether you are a fan of the building or not.

"People setting fire to it and all the rest of the vandalism that went on was really sad so I'm just pleased that it's going to be in use again."

The proposals will see some newer parts of the building demolished while the original Art Deco features will remain. Local people were also celebrating after planners negotiated the reopening of the stepped public footpath from Leicester Road to the canal.

The Council also secured an agreement for developers to put in another pedestrian access suitable for wheelchair users leading to the canal from Little Glen Road.

Blaby district councillor Geoff Welsh represents the Saxondale ward which covers Glen Parva, he said: "After such a long time standing derelict it is great news that planning permission has been granted for this exciting new development.

"People living near the pub have not been able to get down to the canal easily for some time now so it's good to hear that the footpath will be in use again.

"I am also pleased that the building's original features will be kept as it is a well-loved landmark for many local people." Developers McCarthy & Stone have said they plan to start work on the site in early 2012 and will update the local community before work begins.



*Impression of how the site might look*



*The derelict pub became a target for vandals*

## Did you know?

Residents who are planning to re-roof their property MUST submit a building regulations application to the Council.

For more information visit the planning and building page on our website, [www.blaby.gov.uk](http://www.blaby.gov.uk)

# Kash 4 Kenya



Pupils at Brockington College are on a mission to raise £40,000 so they can revisit two schools in Kenya and offer vital help in their struggle for survival.

A group of 20 students have been chosen to take part in the college's second trip to Africa as part of their Kash4Kenya project.

During the two-week visit they will be working at the Mtwapa Academy and the Sagail Primary and Nursery school, just north of the country's second largest city, Mombasa.

The first trip took place in March 2010 when 13 students raised more than £20,000 for the two schools, which was spent on building work, mosquito nets, desks and benches, food packages, water tanks and much more.

This time pupils and staff aim to raise twice the amount of cash to help the schools stay open and their students achieve academic goals.

The money will be used to help build, restore and furnish both schools. It will also pay for essential teaching facilities and a new toilet block to improve sanitation in the village.

Klaire Wright is pastoral manager at the college in Enderby and took part in the first visit, she said: "Without this kind of help these schools cannot exist, forcing the pupils into state schools with over 200 children in each class. Their only other



option is to not go to school.

"A good education gives these children a chance of breaking the chains of poverty." So far the group has raised around £15,000 through charity treks, sponsored bike rides, bag-packing at supermarkets, car washing days, dog walking and lots more activities.

The students will spend the fortnight teaching lessons, carrying out building and painting work and playing and interacting with the nursery children.

They will also visit local families living in poverty to get an idea of life what is like for them and leave care packages containing clothes, toys, mosquito nets, maize and rice.

Klaire added: "The team will spend

the vast majority of their time totally immersed in village life. This is not a luxury holiday for the staff and students taking part but something that involves months of hard work, dedication and commitment.

"The trip itself is two weeks of long, tiring days working within the schools and village, however, it provides life changing experiences for all involved and the chance to make a real difference to those less fortunate than ourselves."

**For more information, or to find out how you can help visit [www.kash4kenya.com](http://www.kash4kenya.com) or email [Kenya@brockington.leics.sch.uk](mailto:Kenya@brockington.leics.sch.uk).**

"A good education gives these children a chance of breaking the chains of poverty"



# Blaby's finest celebrated at awards show

People who have made an outstanding contribution to life in the district were honoured at the Council's annual awards ceremony in October.

The eighth Outstanding Achievement Awards were held at the Marriot Leicester where eleven fantastic finalists were whittled down to five fabulous winners.

Finalists included Chris Fulton from Stoney Stanton who has managed her local village hall on a voluntary basis for the last 25 years, Citizens Advice Bureau volunteer Heather Barnacle and Countesthorpe cyclist Charlotte Broughton who has won four national race titles in the last 18 months.

70-year-old Ian Patterson won the award for making Blaby district a safer place to live after volunteering at the Youth Offending Service for nearly 10 years, he said: "I was surprised when I was nominated for the award and totally delighted to actually win it. The whole evening was lovely.

"I don't regard what I do as hard work otherwise I wouldn't do it but its great to be recognised for helping young people." Council leader Ernie White said: "There are so many people doing wonderful things across Blaby district and it's important we celebrate their achievements."

The awards are funded entirely through the generous sponsorship of Grove Park Commercial Centre, Fosse Shopping Park, Marriott Leicester, Bardon Aggregates, Sytner, Ford and Slater and Leicester Chamber of Commerce.



*Volunteers at a Place to Grow*

## A Place to Grow

**Community or voluntary group that improves the quality of life for residents in the district**

A Place to Grow started life as a field of weeds five years ago but has now blossomed into a unique project providing vital community support.

The project was originally set up to help people suffering from mental health problems, but now provides support for a wide range of groups across the district. People with learning difficulties, physical disabilities and school children have all benefited from the innovative scheme. They get to plant a wide range of fruit and vegetables whilst meeting new people in a relaxing environment.

The aim of the project is to aid people's recovery from mental illness through gardening and to promote a better understanding of the contribution outdoor exercise can make to a healthy life.





### **Calum Loades** Outstanding achievement by a young person

Calum has been an active member of the community in Braunstone Town and Thorpe Astley for a number of years. He is dedicated to improving life for people living in Blaby district and has shown this by volunteering to help at all kinds of community events including community speedwatch and the summer fair in Thorpe Astley. The Braunstone Town Youth Council, Blaby Police Volunteers and Your Thorpe Astley community group are just some of the groups he has played a major part in making a success.

### **Joy May** Selfless services to a voluntary body or the community which is of a social or environmental nature

Joy volunteered to help at the community garden, A Place To Grow, after a series of strokes forced her into early retirement. People who work with her say her enthusiasm and energy is contagious. She is an integral part of the volunteer team and has helped make the project the success it is today, playing a major role in developing the sensory garden, children's garden and wildlife area.

### **Ian Patterson** Individual that makes the district a safer place to live

Ian has volunteered at the Youth Offending Service for almost ten years working with young people who have been referred there by the courts. He has served his community by making sure offenders take responsibility for their actions, repay the community through unpaid work and that they are given support to reduce the risk of them re-offending. As part of his role he has supported victims where necessary and has made tough decisions to send young people who have not complied with orders back to court.

### **Ashley Vineham** Sporting achievement

For more than 20 years Ashley has helped the local football club in Stoney Stanton survive and prosper. He supervises training sessions, helps mark out the pitches on match days and spends a great amount of time encouraging young people and parents to join the club. Ashley always finds time to help the community and has made a remarkable contribution to so many sports projects that have benefited the village.

### **Full list of winners and runners up:**

- **Outstanding achievement by a young person** – Winner: Calum Loades, Runner up: Luke Daines
- **Selfless Services to a voluntary body or the community which is of a social or environmental nature** – Winner: Joy May; Runners up: Heather Barnacle; Chris Fulton
- **Sporting Achievement** – Winner: Ashley Vineham, Runner up: Charlotte Broughton
- **Community or voluntary group that improves the quality of life for residents in Blaby district** – Winner: A Place to Grow, Runner up: 4Ward Strokes
- **Individual or group that makes the district a safer place to live** – Winner: Ian Patterson, Runner up: Braunstone Town Watchers

# Join the race to change lives



Leicester Racecourse will host its second Sport Relief Mile on Sunday 25 March and people are urged to sign up, get fit and change lives.

More than 700 runners took part in the 2010 event raising an incredible £26,000, and the aim is to better that target in 2012. People can enter a one, three or six mile run around the track with races taking place between 10am – 4pm.

All money raised by the public is spent by Comic Relief to help people living incredibly tough lives, both in the UK and across the world's poorest countries.

Enter online by visiting [www.sportrelief.com](http://www.sportrelief.com) and searching for the Leicester Racecourse Mile.

**Organisers are also calling for volunteers to help out on the day. Anyone interested should contact the health and recreation team at Blaby District Council on 0116 272 7703 or email [leisure@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@blaby.gov.uk).**



## Give a dog a home



The Council is currently looking after a number of stray dogs who are in desperate need of a caring home. Around 160 strays are picked up each year and about a third of these are left homeless.

To view photos and a description of all available dogs visit [www.blaby.gov.uk/dogs](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/dogs).

All dogs are assessed, vaccinated, microchipped and neutered (where possible) and a fee of £95 is charged to cover these costs.

**Anyone who feels they may be able to offer a home for a dog should contact the Council on [env.health@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:env.health@blaby.gov.uk) or 0116 272 7555.**

## Small grants for sports coaching

People interested in developing their sports coaching or leadership skills can apply for funding to attend courses. Blaby Local Sports Alliance are offering the grants to encourage the development of volunteer sports coaches in the district and to improve the quality of coaching in local clubs.

A maximum of £75 can be applied for (or 50 per cent of the total course cost plus travel expenses).

**For more information and an application pack visit: [www.blaby.gov.uk/blabylsa](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/blabylsa)**

# Lucy Garner wins world cycling gold

Cosby cyclist Lucy Garner was crowned junior world road race champion in September after a spectacular performance in Copenhagen, Denmark.

After crashing early on in the 70-kilometre race the 17-year-old came from nowhere to clinch gold medal after a dramatic six-way sprint for the finish line.

Lucy said: "It was the most amazing experience of my whole life, just crazy to think I am world champion.

"I was so shocked and it didn't sink in at all coming over the finish line, then all the emotions just came flooding out."

The newly crowned world champion is studying for her A-levels at Countesthorpe College and lives at home with her mum Wendy, dad Neil, and younger sister Grace, who is also national cycling track champion for her age group.

Her mum was watching the race on her computer at home while her dad and grandfather had travelled to Denmark, she said: "Just at the moment Lucy came off the bike my computer crashed and I was going bananas wondering what had happened. When I finally got it going again I couldn't see her and was convinced she was out of the race, I even text her to ask what had happened. Then all of a sudden she appeared from nowhere and I was jumping up and down cheering her across the finish line."

"It was an unbelievable feeling to see her win, we all knew she was good but none of us really thought she could become champion in her first year as a junior."

Congratulations Lucy – everyone in Blaby is proud of you and you are a great role model for youngsters up and down the country.



Lucy won the world championship just days after turning 17

Photograph courtesy of Leicester Mercury

# Young people need your help!

People with a spare room in their home and some time to support a young person in need are being asked to consider becoming a supported lodgings host.

The Supported Lodgings Service in Leicestershire is aimed at finding homes for people aged 16-25 who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless or leaving care.

Young people usually stay with host families or individuals for three to six months and the support they need could be learning to cook, budgeting, finding a college course or just having someone to listen to them.

The aim of the scheme is to provide youngsters with a stepping stone between being at home and living independently.

Alex Petersen, 21, lives with a host in Thorpe Astley after being made homeless last year, she said: "It's great to have someone to talk to and living with a host has really helped build my confidence for when I do live alone.

"I am beginning to start looking for my own flat soon and I feel ready now as I have an idea of how things work and the skills I need to live independently."

Hosts are paid an allowance for rent and the support they give as well as money from the young person towards food and heating.

Training and support is available to anyone thinking of joining the scheme as a host and all young people are assigned a project worker.

**For more information on becoming a host and changing someone's life contact Stonham Homes on 01455 618 004 or email [supportedlodgingsleics@homegroup.org.uk](mailto:supportedlodgingsleics@homegroup.org.uk).**

## Inspiring fund

The Council is offering small grants to young people in the district to take part in a cultural or sporting activity that has been inspired by the London 2012 Olympics.

Anyone interested in applying for the fund can download an application form at [www.blaby.gov.uk/inspiringfund](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/inspiringfund)



## Council Meetings

The following meetings are open for the public to attend and take place at the Council Offices in Narborough unless otherwise stated.

### December

#### Scrutiny Commission

Tuesday 6, 5.30pm

#### Development Control Committee

Thursday 8, 4.30pm

#### Council

Tuesday 13, 5.30pm

### January

#### Development Control Committee

Thursday 5, 4.30pm

#### Scrutiny of Council Budget

Tuesday 17 and Tuesday 24, 5.30pm

#### Cabinet Executive

Monday 23, 4.30pm

#### Council

Tuesday 31, 5.30pm

### February

#### Development Control

Thursday 2, 4.30pm

#### Scrutiny Commission

Tuesday 8, 5.30pm

#### Cabinet Executive (budget and council tax setting)

Monday 20, 4.30pm

#### Council (budget and council tax setting)

Thursday 23, 5.30pm

### March

#### Development Control

Thursday 1, 4.30pm

#### Development Control

Thursday 29, 4.30pm

# What's on

For more information on activities across Blaby district visit [www.blaby.gov.uk/activetogether](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/activetogether)

## December

### Christmas Carol Concert

Enderby Youth Band will be entertaining the crowd at the Council's Christmas carol concert this year. The service is being held in the Council Chamber on Desford Road, Narborough and will include singing by children from the Pastures Primary School, a raffle to support the chairman's charity (Royal British Legion) and mince pies and mulled wine. The show starts at 7.30pm on December 14. Admission is free but by ticket only. To reserve tickets call 0116 272 7501.

### Blaby Farmers' Market

Saturday 17 December, 9am-1pm. Blaby Social Centre Car Park, Leicester Road, Blaby. For details contact the market manager on 07860 834 139

## January

### 30/30 Fitness (Hula and Zumba)

Wednesdays (starts 8 January) 12.30pm-1.30pm. Full body workout of Hula Hooping and Zumba. £2.50 per session. Blaby Social Centre. Contact Active Together.

### Get Back Into Table Tennis

Mondays (starts 16 January) 7pm-8pm. £2 per session. The Pavilion, Huncote. Contact Active Together

### Hula Hooping

Mondays (starts Monday 16 January) 7pm-8pm. Full body workout. Brilliant for burning fat and losing weight. £3 per session. Blaby Methodist Church Hall. Contact Active Together

### Urban Rebounding

Mondays (starts 16 January) 1.30pm-2.30pm. £2.50 per session. Braunstone West Social Centre. Contact Active Together

### Zumba

Mondays (starts 16 January) 8pm-9pm. £3 per session. Blaby Methodist Church Hall. Contact Active Together.

### Aerobics

Tuesdays (starts Tuesday 17 January) 6.45pm-7.45pm. £2 per session. Winstanley College, Braunstone. Contact Active Together

### Winter Wednesday Walks – Blaby

Fortnightly walks in Blaby district. Bouskell Park, Blaby. 18 January, 10am. Gentle 30 minute walk finishing with refreshments. Contact Active Together

### Showtime Dance

Thursdays (starts 19 January) 8pm-9pm. Includes Modern, Hip Hop, Tap, Ballet and Theatre craft. £2.50 per session. Glenfield Methodist Church Hall. Contact Active Together

### Zumba

Thursdays (starts 19 January) 9.30am-10.30am. Great moves to great music. £2 per session. Whetstone Memorial Hall. Contact Active Together

### Zumba Toning

Fridays (starts 20 January), 9am-10am. £2.50 per session. Braunstone Civic Centre. Contact Active Together

### Zumba Gold

Fridays (starts 20 January), 10am-11am. Slower-paced Zumba dancing to help increase fitness. £2.50 per session. Braunstone Civic Centre. Contact Active Together

### Blaby Farmers' Market

Saturday 28 January, 9am-1pm. Blaby Social Centre Car Park, Leicester Road, Blaby. For details contact the Market Manager on 07860 834 139

## February

### Winter Wednesday Walks – Kirby Muxloe

1 February, 10am. Meet in car park next to library for short walk around local area. Free to attend. 50p for refreshments. Contact Active Together

### Winter Wednesday Walks – Sharnford

15 February, 10am. Meet in car park of Fosse Meadows for short walk around local area. Free to attend. 50p for refreshments. Contact Active Together

### Blaby Farmers' Market

Saturday 25 February, 9am - 1pm. Blaby Social Centre Car Park, Leicester Road, Blaby. For details contact the market manager on 07860 834 139

### Winter Wednesday Walks – Glen Parva

29 February, 10am. Meet at Glen Parva Memorial Hall for walk around local area. Free to attend. 50p for refreshments. Contact Active Together

## March

### Winter Wednesday Walks - Huncote and Croft

14 March, 10am. Meet at The Pavilion, Huncote, for medium intensity walk around local area. Free to attend. 50p for refreshments. Contact Active Together

### Blaby Farmers' Market

Saturday 24 March, 9am - 1pm. Blaby Social Centre Car Park, Leicester Road, Blaby. For details contact the market manager on 07860 834 139

### Sport Relief Zumbathon Event

Saturday 24 March, 2pm-7pm. Raise money for Sport Relief by dancing for as long as you can! Five hours of Zumba with five different instructors. Brockington College, Enderby. Contact Active Together for details

### Sport Relief Mile Event - Leicester Racecourse

Sunday 25 March. Sign up for a one, three or six mile lap. There are three times between 10am - 4pm. Enter online [www.sportrelief.com](http://www.sportrelief.com) and search for the Leicester Racecourse Mile. Contact Active Together for details

### Winter Wednesday Walks – Kilby

28 March, 10am. Meet at Dog & Gun Pub in Kilby for two hour walk around local area. Free to attend. 50p for refreshments. Contact Active Together

### The Pavilion Opening Times over Christmas and New Year.

Friday 23 December – 9am - 11pm  
Saturday 24 December – Closed  
Sunday 25 December – Closed  
Monday 26 December – Closed  
Tuesday 27 December – Closed  
Wednesday 28 December – Closed  
Thursday 29 December – 9am - 11pm  
Friday 30 December – 9am - 11pm  
Saturday 31 December – Closed  
Sunday 1 January – Closed  
Monday 2 January – Closed  
Tuesday 3 January – 9am - 11pm

For all Active Together sessions please contact 0116 272 7703 or email [activetogether@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:activetogether@blaby.gov.uk)

# Recycle more

in partnership with  mind

from  
**January**  
2012



## Introducing your new electrical waste collection

### YES please

- ✓ Irons
- ✓ Toasters
- ✓ Kettles
- ✓ Sandwich makers
- ✓ Deep fat fryers
- ✓ Electric knives
- ✓ Hair dryers
- ✓ Shavers
- ✓ Radios
- ✓ Alarm clocks
- ✓ Vacuum cleaners
- ✓ Sewing machines
- ✓ Personal computers
- ✓ Printers
- ✓ Calculators
- ✓ Telephones
- ✓ Video cameras
- ✓ Video recorders
- ✓ Portable televisions
- ✓ Small electric power tools
- ✓ Electric toys
- ✓ Small microwaves



### NO thanks

- ✗ Large household appliances, e.g:
  - washing machines → cookers → fridges
  - tumble dryers → dishwashers
- ✗ Large televisions

### ALSO NEW FOR JANUARY 2012:

#### Fortnightly textile collections

Residents will be able to put their textile collection bag out on any of their fortnightly recycling collections. Last year we collected 47 tonnes of textiles in partnership with Mind. **Well done Blaby!**

#### How do I recycle my electrical items?

Put them in your Mind collection bag, if they fit, or wrap the Mind collection bag around them and present them with your recycling. The items must be visible by the Mind collection team.

#### Can I put the electrical items in the bag with the textiles?

Yes.

#### What happens to the electrical items put out for recycling?

Mind will sort out the working items, test them and sell them on in their shops. If the item is not working it will be broken down and the parts recycled. Any plastic on the item will also be recycled.

#### How can I dispose of larger electrical equipment?

You can take it to the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Whetstone or ask the Council for a bulky waste collection (chargeable).

#### How often will they be collected?

Please put your items out with your recycling every fortnight.

#### Who do I contact if my electrical items have not been collected?

Please contact the Mind warehouse on 0116 278 0865.

#### What do I do if I'm unsure as to whether the item can be taken by Mind

Please contact the Council's customer services team or check [www.blaby.gov.uk](http://www.blaby.gov.uk) (details below).

Waste Hotline: 0116 27 27 555  
or email: [env.health@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:env.health@blaby.gov.uk)  
**www.blaby.gov.uk**