

Building Stronger Communities

Be part of it



Summer 2011

Love where you live...

That's the message from community champions and agencies in Golborne who are calling on local residents to roll up their sleeves and muck in!

Wigan and Leigh Housing, Wigan Council, Greater Manchester Police, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Golborne Tenants and Residents Group and many other local partners recently organised some community action days aimed at encouraging local residents to help make their estate cleaner and greener.

On Thursday 2nd June, partners visited the junction of Derby Road and Windsor Road, as well as Derby Road and Heywood Avenue, areas blighted by litter

to carry out a clean up. Volunteers were provided with litter pickers, gloves and bags - and also took advantage of some much needed refreshments, provided courtesy of Compassion in Action, a local charity based on Golborne High Street.

Several free skips were available to residents struggling to dispose of large bulky items - and caretakers were available to give a helping hand.

Kids were enthralled by Wiggy, the canine crusader who urges dog-owners to clean up after their pet. And Wiggy was joined by his partner in grime, Banana Skin Man, the super-hero grime-fighter who continues in his mission to combat his villainous archenemy - the litter lout.

A further litter pick on Friday 3rd June was followed in the afternoon by a range of family fun activities, including free sports, arts and crafts. Children also learnt how to make their own hanging baskets and were taught basic bike maintenance.

The events were supported by Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, local councillors, Surestart, Fit 4 Fun and the Young People's Drug and Alcohol Team.

What is the Building Stronger Communities Partnership?

Agencies across the borough, including the council, police, housing, fire, probation, leisure trust, NHS and voluntary sector, who are working together, tackling crime, providing positive activities and making our borough a cleaner, greener, safer place to live.



Leigh Neighbourhood Policing Team Update



Insp Ian Kennedy says:

Opportunist thieves are constantly on the

look out for easy pickings, so if they see a vulnerable target - a sat-nav on full

view in your car, the keys left in the ignition, or windows left wide open - they won't hesitate to take full advantage of what's on offer.

The vast majority of theft from motor vehicles occur when people leave valuables on show. When our officers are out on patrol they see many examples of this. So working in partnership with Wigan Council, we send a

letter to the registered owner advising them of the risks they are taking or get one of our PCSOs to do a home visit.

Working together, we can make it harder for the criminals, and continue to drive down vehicle crime.

To contact the Leigh Neighbourhood Policing Team call 0161 856 7225 or email leigh.apr@gmp.police.uk

CRIME SNAPSHOT

Whilst there was a drop in the number of theft from motor vehicles in Golborne in July compared to the previous two months, we urge motorists to follow basic crime prevention advice: check you lock your car, secure your property and don't leave it on show, and use well lit car parks.



Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Firestoppers 0800 923 9999

Art of the community

The Building Stronger Communities Partnership is all about making your local area safer, cleaner and greener. But local ward councillor Ged Bretherton is determined to make his community brighter too!

The Golborne and Lowton West councillor recently donated £500 from his Brighter Borough funds to help with the running of the Golborne and Lowton Art Group, which meets in the Parkside Sports and Community Club on Rivington Road each Thursday for a paint and a gossip.

Steve Williams of the group says: "One of our aims is to bring art into the community. This generous funding will be put to good use to produce 24 paintings which will be offered to various community places, such as retirement homes and Compassion in Action."

Cllr Bretherton says: "They're a

fine and eager group and I am delighted to support them for their important contribution to community spirit and local culture."

If anyone is interested in joining, the group meets every Thursday from 10am until 3.30pm. Members pay £3 per session with an annual subscription of £10.

For more information, telephone Terry Fairbrother on 01942 724270 or Steve Williams on 01942 375873.



Out on the beat: Last term, PCSO Dave Ratcliffe gave advice about stranger danger to pupils at Golborne Community Primary School.

Alive and Kicking!

It's going to be bigger and better than ever before!

So say the organisers of the hugely successful Lowton Alive, a free summer event which has been a highlight for the local community for the past two years.

But they need your help!

Organisers from the local charity Compassion in Action want more people to show their support and to

help make the event more informative and more fun-filled than ever before.

This year's Lowton Alive will be held on the Lowton Civic Hall site, and the surrounding playing fields on Sunday 21st August, from 10.00am until 4.00pm. Visitors on the day can expect marching bands, b-b-a's, tea rooms, street dancers, samba band, arts and crafts, beat the goalie... and lots more.

"The annual event is about more than just having fun," says organiser Pam Gilligan from Compassion in Action.

"It's an opportunity to showcase all the services which are available across the borough which are there to help people tackle any issues around health and wellbeing - from tackling loneliness to providing support for carers.

Staying safe4summer

There are more than 28,000 young people in the borough and each year they get to enjoy thousands of hours of positive activities laid on by agencies such as the council, police, leisure trust and fire service.

And now Safe4Summer is back! The campaign involving all local partners aims to divert young people away from potentially dangerous, risky or anti-social behaviour and into more positive activities, from healthy eating workshops and self defence lessons to sports and crafts.

To find out more, go to www.wigan.gov.uk/safe4summer



SAFE **4** SUMMER.COM

Contact us

Environmental Services Helpline **01942 404364**

Wigan Council **01942 244991**

Police **0161 827 5050** (to report a crime)

Wigan and Leigh Housing **01942 705040**

NHS Ashton, Leigh and Wigan **01942 482711**

All you need to take part is a small gazebo or tent, and your staff or volunteers to be on hand to share your information. It is free for all to attend and based on previous year's experience, organisers are expecting an overwhelming response for allocated spaces, so make sure you book yours as soon as possible.

"This is an ideal opportunity for your organisation to reach the people who need you, so why not come along and share your services with those who need it most." says Pam.

For more information follow the links at www.compassioninaction.info or call **01942 262636**.

