

SPONSOR OF THE MONTH
JO JINGLES - MUSIC and MOVEMENT EXPERIENCE for PRE - SCHOOLERS.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS
Music, Singing and Movement
for Pre-School children

Jo Jingles
is here!



- * For children aged 6 months - 5 years
- * Join us for percussion, instruments, action songs, dancing and singing, puppets, bubbles, pom-poms, teddies, parachutes and ribbons.
- * Fun sessions with an educational slant
- * Children's parties (1st to 5th Birthday) and Christenings.

Stinchcombe Village HALL
Wednesdays:-
9.30 - 10.15 Walking - 2 Years
10.30 - 11.00 6 Months to walking
11.15 - 12.00 2 - 3 years

Call Virginia on 01453 839464
 jojingles22@aol.com
 www.jojingles.co.uk/centralgloucestershire

TRAINING

NVQ

We are currently offering NVQ level 2 and 3 to volunteers assisting in the Vale Vision premises or with our many projects. Vale Vision work is very varied and provides valuable work experience for those seeking employment.

Level 2 courses - Industry Standard

Subject to local demand, we are planning further courses for Business & Industry. Courses on offer currently are: Full Day Courses in First Aid, Health & Safety, and Food Hygiene. These are industry standard leading to level 2 qualifications. If interested, please contact Vale Vision for further details.

VALE VISION VOLUNTEERS ACHIEVE ADULT LEARNER AWARDS

Congratulations to two of our volunteers who have achieved Regional/National recognition as Adult learners. Vera Ward has achieved a regional award for her valuable contribution over the past year at Vale Vision/GL11 and Kingshill Community project as well as achieving an NVQ Level 2 qualification in Business Administration. Mike Warwick has achieved a Regional award as well as travelling to London to receive a National award for his excellent work with Vale Vision and completing an NVQ Level 3 in Business Administration.

If you wish to comment on any articles in this newsletter or on any of our projects, please contact Vale Vision by telephone, e-mail or visit the Vale Vision shop.

Vale Vision Sponsorship

Sponsor this newsletter: £25 ½ page, £15 ¼ page
 (charities and community groups – please ask for reduced rates)

Advertisements must be two colour only, except for a logo
 Only two advertisements per copy.

Circulation: Parish, Town, District and County Council, community venues, Vale Vision shop
 Current and back copies will be posted on our website.

Sponsor a local project: Promote your company in the Vale Vision shop, in our publications and media releases.

Contact Details

Vale Vision can be contacted by Post:

**Vale Vision Development Trust Ltd, 28
 Long Street Dursley, Gloucestershire,
 GL11 4HX**

Telephone: 01453 544933

E-mail: valevision@btconnect.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.valevision.org.uk



Vale Vision News

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Issue: 8

JULY 2007

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Dates for your Diary

Wed 18 July New Dursley Education Centre	7pm
Tues 24 July VV Board Meeting	7pm
Wed 5 September Littlecombe Liaison Meeting	10 am

All meetings will be at the Vale Vision shop unless notified otherwise.

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Jo Jingles (see back page).



DURSLEY TOWN CENTRE DESIGN FRAMEWORK PROGRESS

Following extensive consultation with members of the public and local businesses and organisations, 27 schemes have been proposed by the consultants looking into possible future improvements to Dursley Town Centre. Working with Roger Evans Associates, the project team for the Town Centre Design Framework has drawn up a potential programme to implement the schemes starting with some early wins, and moving on to core projects that are key catalysts for the delivery of the framework.

While everybody involved agrees that the Design Framework should be kept in mind in making any new changes in the Town Centre, the whole programme would take some years to complete and each part will, of course, depend on funds being available.

One important proposal - to ensure that the pedestrian crossing on Castle Street should be moved so that it leads from the doors of the supermarket across the link way to Parsonage Street - has already been incorporated in the supermarket plans. Other early wins that are being investigated and costed include improving the area in this link way and around the Market Place, to make attractive public spaces and footway and cycle links from Littlecombe to the supermarket. Discussions are being held with the Lister Social Club to look at possible future options to keep a community facility there while renovating the whole site. The whole set of proposals in the Design Framework can be seen at the Vale Vision shop, and can be seen on the Vale Vision website.

A MULTI - PURPOSE COMMUNITY FACILITY FOR THE VALE VISION AREA

In collaboration with the SWRDA and Gloucestershire Market Forum, Vale Vision commissioned a study to look at the need and demand in the area for community facilities, and provide a summary of existing facilities and their uses. The results of the study showed that while some unmet needs could be met by the current community centres and halls, there was a widely perceived need for a large hall to cater for business and social events such as conferences, exhibitions and consultations; for private functions, daytime sports activities, commercial entertainment, cinema screenings and local dramatic and musical performances.

Vale Vision is now actively seeking to find how a large hall with modern facilities can be made available to potential customers at the times of day when people want to use it.

STROUD COLLEGE NEWS

The college is currently putting in a joint bid to the RDA and the LSC to fund the refurbishment of a training centre in Dursley. The current venue has been sold to Sainsbury and relocation will take place when building the new store commences. The college plans to be operational in the new centre in early 2008, offering training in Construction, Care, IT and a range of adult education provision. The centre will provide support for local businesses and will house a number of start up units.

DURSLEY EDUCATION CENTRE



Until the new Training centre opens on the Littlecombe development it is still possible to take advantage of the fantastic training facilities at the local Education Centre in Dursley - revolutionary flexible learning on your doorstep! All abilities and ages catered for, from 16 - 86, from absolute beginners to experts!

The Centre offers training opportunities in: -

Clait Plus	ECDL Parts 1, 2 & Advanced
Create and Integrate Files	Spreadsheets
Desk Top Publishing	Databases
Web Page Creation	Word Processing
Internet	Electronic mailing

Construction Skills Courses -

From 10th September, the very popular Construction Skills Training starts its new courses at The Dursley Education Centre

Brickwork - 15 week course Mon day and Tuesday 9am - 5pm

Painting & Decorating - 15 week course Monday/Tuesday 9am - 4pm /Friday 9am -12 noon

These courses lead to employment with recognised qualifications - The City & Guilds Foundation Award in Construction Skills. Free course for unemployed or those in receipt of benefit.

LITTLECOMBE DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES



St Modwen, the development partner of the SWRDA for Littlecombe, has carried out the clean up of 26 hectares on the site, involving some 200,000 tonnes of foundry sand. In the same operation the site of the former town gas works was also remediated. Overall however, only one lorry load of contaminated material had to be taken off site.

The masterplan for the site includes 600 households with 180 affordable homes, community facilities, and 200,000 square feet of business space.. Use and development of existing buildings include the new residential care home based around The Towers, while Drake House is the subject of investigation as the future home of the Dursley Education Centre, run by Stroud College. The new centre will incorporate the Construction Skills centre, the project that arose from the Vale Vision consultation with local people leading to the Community Strategic Plan for Cam, Dursley and the surrounding parishes.

Groups of residential units on the site will be built by individual developers, but within a design code to guide the individual designs. Bloor Homes have been appointed for the first 74 households at the North end of the site on Church Road, Upper Cam. The proposed character of the Upper Cam area is small detached and semi detached dwellings with a terrace of small units on Church Road to create a strong streetscape, in a mixture of designs to blend with the area, together with contemporary designs.

It is the aim of the developers to provide dwellings that have a high degree of energy use generated from sustainable sources together with passive conservation features – in all reaching the so-called EcoHomes Excellent standard. Space for solar panels is designed into the Bloor homes together with features to capture solar heating.

Existing businesses on the site – Lister-Petter, Lister Shearing, and Deutz – are currently negotiating with St Modwen on their relocation to the industrial area of the site now under construction in the North-West of Littlecombe. This area will also house units for small and medium sized enterprises, providing another 50 jobs. Up to 100 new jobs with training for local people will be created in the care home around The Towers building.

A major outcome of consultation of local people was that the development of the Littlecombe site should be integrated into the local area, both physically, through its infrastructure, traffic and transport links, as well as providing community facilities that will be used equally by new and existing residents. The Littlecombe Liaison group, hosted by Vale Vision, meets regularly to provide communication between the developers and local authorities and organizations on proposed developments and local concerns about current and future work on the site. The SWRDA continues to work with Vale Vision and other local bodies on projects within the Community Strategic Plan.

BAD WEATHER FAILS TO HALT THE RURAL FESTIVAL



Despite the atrocious weather on the Sunday and Monday, the 3 day Rural Festival held over the Spring Bank Holiday on the Recreational Field in Dursley, attracted visitors from various parts of the country as well as local people who participated in guided walks and other events to mark the inauguration of the Cotswold Way as a National Trail.

Besides the programme of guided walks, a beer festival ran throughout the event selling ales from breweries from towns and villages along the Cotswold Way. Particular days were given over to local foods sold in a farmers' market, with a popular cookery display by Cotswold chef Robert Rees, and local crafts including blacksmith and forestry displays, and cheese making.

People appreciated the various activities for children: competitions, magicians, conjuring and Louise Cole brought her falcon along, giving people the opportunity to hold a bird of prey.

Local Guided Walks

One outcome of the Rural Festival has been the interest in local guided walks for all abilities. Walk leaders have been meeting to organise regular walks from half-hour health walks, shorter walks on our hillsides, Heritage walks in Dursley & Cam complementing the longer walks organised by other organisations. These walks will be promoted in the Vale Vision window and through our 'What's On' publications. For those interested in becoming a walk leader, the next course will be held on 1 August, 6 - 8 30 pm at Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill.

VOLUNTEERING TO WORK ON COMMUNITY PROJECTS

There are many projects in the Vale Vision Community Plan - some completed, some in progress and some not started. Those working on these projects not only ensure that the projects in the Community Strategic Plan, which developed out of local consultation, actually happen but they help to bring money and improvements to the area which would not happen without the work of our many volunteers.

How can you help? Whether you have just a couple of hours to spare or would like to become more involved there are many different skills required on a range of projects.

General assistance - you could assist in the Vale Vision shop with our general day to day organisation.

Specific assistance - current projects in progress - a cycle track from Uley to the Railway station and to route 41 of the National Cycle track, Sculpture Trail, Community Facilities, The Town Centre as well as many environmental projects which have not yet started.

There is a great deal of work still to be done - if you would like to assist in bringing benefits and improvements to the area, please contact Geoff Wheeler on 01453 545583 or Shirley Hill on 01453 549208 or call in at the Vale Vision shop on Tuesday or Fridays.