

Community Recyclers NEWS

Recycling Works: come celebrate with a barbecue!

It's now agreed we'll start collecting food waste every week from every household in November 2009. So we're having a Community Recycler bash to outline the system to you – and we think it's a great excuse for a celebration of the Community Recycler Scheme so we'll have a barbecue afterwards. Please call Jane to book a place so we can order enough sausages, cheese and wine! See events listing overleaf.

In the meantime keep your eyes peeled for the trial Kerbsider, the first recycling truck of our new fleet with a pod for collecting food waste. Its new livery features some dedicated CRs, their children, and our staff, who agreed to act as models. Answers on a postcard, please . . . any resemblance to Ian Westgate intentional!



Stage stars back Bag Pool

Simon Shepherd, Jenny Seagrove and her dogs were only too happy to show their support for the Bag Pool scheme. CR Nicky Ford, a part-time dresser at the Yvonne Arnaud, grew tired of seeing the theatre's backstage crew pop out for their lunch and return with yet another plastic bag. As a member of Guildford Ban the Bag Campaign, Nicky suggested a 'bag pool' for the crew room and the idea has caught on.

Nicky said 'Although many weekly shoppers now take their own bags we would like the supermarkets to do far more to discourage the use of single use plastic bags. However we have identified office workers buying their lunch as one the major perpetrators of the continued use of the single-use plastic bag. We have written to town centre offices, offering a free poster and starter kit of 4 bags to start their own bag pool in their staff room. The uptake has so far been very encouraging.'

If you know a Guildford business that would like a Bag Pool starter kit please contact Nicky Ford on 01483 304890. Or if you would like to join the Ban the Bag campaign, give us a call!



Nicky on stage with Jenny Seagrove and Simon Shepherd.

One of the compromises GBC made when collecting plastic bottles from residents was to collect mixed glass at the kerbside. This meant the glass had to be recycled as aggregate. Now Surrey Waste Management has found a company to optically sort the glass back into separate colours so it can be melted down to make more bottles and jars. Come and see this fantastic process: see listings for details.

We really value all your efforts and know you are fantastic ambassadors for recycling in Guildford. So we're keen to let you know how our new scheme, Recycling Works, will operate, so you can pass on this information. And it's a great excuse to get together and party so please do come along!

We've had a busy spring so far, with three Swaps Shops and a Chipping event. Ban the Bag have been talking to the stars about Bag Pool and the community chipping schemes have been busy. But lots of CRs are also talking to friends and neighbours, making sure their workplaces recycle, organising events in schools and giving informal composting advice. We want to let you know how much we appreciate all your efforts!

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Swap Shops in the news

Is the credit crunch making Swap Shops newsworthy? BBC South filmed the Ash Swap Shop, showing how communities can benefit by swapping, not shopping, and the Compton Bring & Take was fantastically successful.

Lesley and Jo, the Ash community wardens, were so taken with the Guildford Swaps they wanted one in Ash. The textile recycling company LMB helped children at Ash Grange School make a promotional banner from reused fabrics, so it was a great community event. And it all seemed worthwhile when the Swap was well attended and loads of stuff was diverted from landfill.



Swappers thrilled with their haul at Ash.

Compost Heaven

New attractions in the garden of earthly delights that is Compost Heaven include a world-class juggler who happens to work in Parks and Countryside, fantastic veg grown in all sorts of containers in the eco garden and living compost bugs projected to scary proportions in the barn.

A willow maker will give you the opportunity to make a tepee for your beans. Kaye will demonstrate recipes to cut down on food waste and there's loads of free activities for kids. So don't just come for free compost and cake! Bring your friends and we'd still like a few more volunteers on the day.

Unsung heroines: Claire Brown



A professional border designer and garden advisor, CR Claire insists her clients compost and has a composter, wormery and bokashi bins herself. She offers advice at Compost Heaven, demonstrating her favourite rotary sieve. She gives talks to local groups and is involved with the NCT, promoting washables by speaking positively about her own experiences. She is helping her sons' school in the Grow Your Own competition.



Everything including the kitchen sink turned up at Compton Bring & Take.

Compton's fourth Bring & Take was incredible. Nicky said, 'It was the best ever – we shifted a huge amount of stuff. These events really are worthwhile: not only do we keep stuff out of landfill and people pick up things they need (I think one lady from Haslemere completely curtained her house) but the 'givers' seem enormously gratified that their things go so quickly.'

St Catherine's first Swap Shop was also a great buzz. And Onslow Village's B&T is just around the corner if you've still got good stuff you don't need or want something for nothing!

Pip shreds alone

Pip's shredder was put to great use chipping Puttenham's Christmas trees in January. A fantastic hoar frost made for a romantic, if chilly, setting as villagers came on foot and by car. Pip was really pleased with the response; he's looking forward to chips on demand all year!



Pip Adlam (behind) and customers.

COMING UP Saturday 25 April 2009 Onslow Bring & Take

10 – 12am Onslow Village Hall
Declutter, bring your unwanted treasures to Onslow Village Hall and find a wealth of items to take away.

Tuesday 28 April 2009 Furniture Project visit

10 – 12am
Visit Guildford's very own furniture reuse project in its fantastic new premises. Meet at Woking Rd Depot.

Sat 9 May 2009 Compost Heaven

11am – 2pm Burchatts Farm
Help needed with giving out compost bins, bags and caddies, serving tea, offering advice etc. Or just come and have a great day out. Tell your friends! Please call Jane with offers of help.

Thurs 21 May 2009 Optical glass sorting visit

9 – 3pm Southampton Docks
Come and see your glass optically sorted back into separate colours. Meet at the Depot at 9.00am. Free but call Jane to book.

Wed 10 June 2009 Recycling Works barbecue

7– 9pm The Green Ark, Lido Rd, Guild
Learn about our new scheme so you're up-to-date with how our new service will operate and meet fellow CRs to party! Free but call Jane to book so we have enough supplies.

Top Tip

Nicky Ford says give your seedlings the best start in life by reusing your plastic bottles as mini cloches. Cut off the bottom and place over the plant. You can leave the lid off during the day to but replace it at night if there's going to be a late frost. A surprise gift is on its way, Nik!

Call 01483 444499 or email
Jane.alexander@guildford.gov.uk for help with events, with queries, to book tours, or to submit Top Tips.

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