Ballymoney Bulletin

NEW Christmas Brochure

From pantos to presents and recipes to radio, we have shopping and celebration all wrapped up!

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Thanks to Ballymoney DPP for sponsorship of a page in the Bulletin
www.districtpolicing.com/ballymoney

BALLYMONEY
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Corporate Plan 2008 - 2011

Council recently published its **corporate plan** for the period 2008-2011. In it Council sets out its mission "to serve all our people and improve their quality of life."

The corporate plan also outlines issues that will require the attention of Council over the next three years. Council will continue to find innovative and cost effective ways to implement government policy on land filling and recycling. Our ratepayers deserve credit for their co-operation with all the recycling initiatives Council has introduced so far.

Council will also work to ensure that PPS14 and the Northern Area Plan (2003-16) permit continued growth and development in the borough and will continue to lobby to secure upgrading of the rail line and better rail services and for improved main road infrastructure.

If you would like further detail on the corporate plan or any other information about Council visit the Council's website **www.ballymoney.gov.uk**

Did you know?

Ballymoney Library has internet and email facilities that you can access on the broadband network and the latest software packages on 9 state of the art PCs for free

Membership is FREE for everyone.

Library opening hours
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9.30am – 8pm
Friday & Saturday from 9.30am – 5pm

Search For Young Person of the Year!

The Good Relations Unit within Council would like to acknowledge those young people from within the Borough, who are dedicating their time to help their community, their family or for a local cause. It has been decided to do this by hosting a search for **'Ballymoney Borough Council's Young Person of the Year'**.

The award will act as a grand finale to the overall Young Person's Recognition of Achievement Awards Ceremony, which will acknowledge the efforts of the young people in the Borough who have tried to 'take part' and/or 'take power'. The winners from each category will be announced and prizes distributed at an awards ceremony in March 2009.

The ceremony will highlight the important work taking place within the Borough and reward those young people who have been nominated for an award by their teacher/school, friend, place of worship, local Councillor, community group, community police officer or youth club.

The **closing date for nominations is Friday 19th December 2008**. Invitations for the awards ceremony will be sent to all nominees and associated parties following the closing date, with nominations to be judged in January 2009.

If you would like to nominate a young person for an award, please contact your local community group, youth club, Councillor, place of worship or:
Claire Crawford
Good Relations Officer
Telephone: 028 2766 0230
Email: goodrelations@ballymoney.gov.uk
Website: **www.ballymoney.gov.uk**

Council Celebrates Work of Community Groups

To recognise the calibre of community work, which takes place within the Borough, Ballymoney Borough Council is hosting a Building Positive Relations Awards Evening to reward the hard work and commitment of local community/voluntary groups and individuals who give their time to improve the quality of life for their community.

The Awards Evening will take place on Thursday 18th December at 7.30pm in Ballymoney Town Hall.

For further information, please contact:
Claire Crawford
Good Relations Officer
Telephone: 028 2766 0233
Email: goodrelations@ballymoney.gov.uk
Website: **www.ballymoney.gov.uk**

Drumaheglis gets WIFI Internet

Drumaheglis Marina and Caravan Park customers will now be able to enjoy all the latest technological benefits as if they were at home with the installation of a new WIFI internet access system on the site. Council's commitment to continually improving the facility and maintaining its status as one of the best Caravan Parks in the country means that anyone on the site with a wireless enabled laptop or pc is only a click away from the internet. All the information available to someone in their home is now available to them whilst on holiday, for example internet banking, email, tourist information and much, much more. Details regarding how the system can be accessed can be obtained from the wardens on site.

Telephone: 028 2766 6466 / 0227
Email: drumaheglis@ballymoney.gov.uk
Website: **www.ballymoney.gov.uk**

NEW EU FUNDING PROGRAMMES

Rural Development
The North East Group of Councils, covering the council areas of Ballymena (lead Council), Ballymoney, Coleraine, Larne and Moyle, has submitted a strategy to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) for funding of £18M to support a range of activities under the new Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013. These include farm diversification, business creation/development, tourism activity, improved services in rural areas, village renewal and conservation of the rural heritage. Check out the Strategy on our website
www.ballymoney.gov.uk/business

Peace III
A North East Cluster of Councils, comprising Coleraine (lead Council), Limavady, Moyle, Ballymoney, Ballymena and Larne has been formed for the management of Peace III funding 2008-2011. A Strategy and Action Plan for the delivery of £3.6M of Peace III funding which aims to tackle key issues at local level and reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society has been submitted to the Special EU Programmes Body. Check out the Strategy and action plan on our website
www.ballymoney.gov.uk/North_East_Cluster_Peace_III_plan_Final_Report.pdf

Winter is upon us, and now is the time to think about how you can keep warm through the winter months ahead. Most of the heat in your house escapes through the walls and the roof. Fuel prices are high at the moment so it's vital that the heat you pay for is kept inside for as long as possible. Make sure you have:

- ✓ **Cavity wall insulation** - reduces heat loss through walls by up to 60% and can save up to 35% on fuel bills.
- ✓ **Loft insulation** – should be at least 8" (200mm), preferably 10" (270mm).
- ✓ **Draught-proofing** – 15% of heat can be lost through draughty, ill-fitting doors and windows.
- ✓ **Hot water cylinder jacket** – one of the most effective ways of saving energy.

There are grants and cashback schemes available to help you install these measures. Call the Energy Efficiency Adviser at Ballymoney Borough Council telephone 028 2766 0257 or email warmerhomes@ballymoney.gov.uk for more information.

There are also other ways that you can save energy. Here are some simple low cost or no cost measures you can put into action today.

Turning your thermostat down by 1°C could cut your heating bills by up to 10% and save you around £40 per year.

Is your water too hot? Your cylinder thermostat shouldn't need to be set higher than 60°C/140°F.

Close your curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows.

Always turn off the lights when you leave a room.

Don't leave appliances on standby and remember not to leave appliances on charge for longer than necessary.

If you're not filling up the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher, use the half-load or economy programme.

Only boil as much water as you need (but remember to cover the element if you're using an electric kettle).

A dripping hot water tap wastes energy and in one week wastes enough hot water to fill half a bath, so fix leaking taps and make sure they're fully turned off.

Replace your light bulbs with energy saving ones: just one can reduce your lighting costs by up to £100 over the lifetime of the bulb – and they last up to 12 times longer than ordinary light bulbs.

(above information supplied by the Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre).

Or why not do a home energy check? Contact the Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre on 0800 512 012 or log onto www.est.org.uk/northernireland. Just answer some simple questions about your home to get a free, impartial report telling you how you can save up to £300 a year on your household energy bills and enjoy a warm and cosy winter ahead!

The rising cost of oil has seen the Ballymoney Affordable Fuel Scheme become increasingly popular. The scheme has been running for the past two years and helps residents who use central heating oil to budget for their oil payments. Over £87,000 worth of stamps have been bought to date.

How does it work?

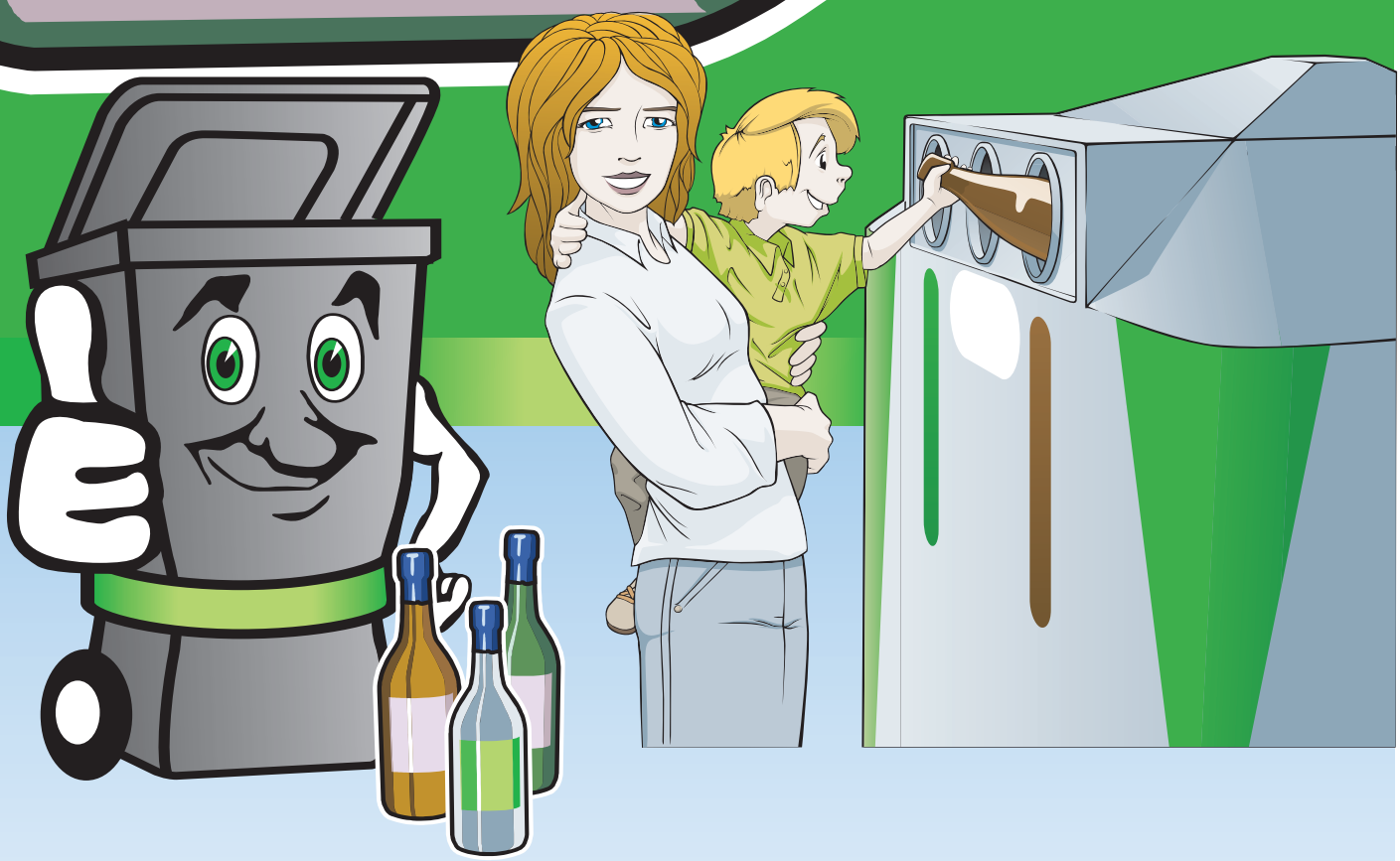
Go to one of the participating retail outlets and ask for an oil savings card. £5 oil savings stamps can be purchased from the same retailer and put on the card. These stamps will then be accepted as payment by a selection of local oil companies.

A list of participating outlets can be found on **www.ballymoney.gov.uk** or by contacting Borough Services Directorate Telephone 028 2766 0257

Each card holds 40 stamps. You may buy as many stamps as you want every week and spread the cost of oil over several weeks rather than having to spend hundreds of pounds in one payment.

Ballymoney Warmer Homes Group would like to thank those retailers who are handling the sale of the stamps even though they do not receive a payment for doing so.

Have you got the bottle?



Glass can be recycled many times, never losing its qualities. All glass collected in Ballymoney is processed in Co Fermanagh. Glass recycled in Northern Ireland is used to make new glass containers, sand for golf course bunkers and road surfacing!

In Ballymoney, we send almost 400 tonnes of glass to be buried in the ground.

On average, every family in Ballymoney uses 330 glass containers each year.

A bottle bank can hold up to 3000 bottles or jars.

The Egyptians are believed to have invented glass and thousands of years later you can do your bit by putting all your glass containers in a bottle bank.

Be a 'glass' apart and recycle...

Don't be a binner!

Bulkier items can go in the remaining skips. These items will be taken to a materials recovery facility for recycling and reuse.

The black compactor at Knock Road and dedicated skip at Crosstagherty are for BAGGED WASTE ONLY. If you are disposing of food waste please put it in a bag.

Users of both civic amenity sites can now recycle their cardboard in the blue compactor.

Don't Bin It... Bank It

COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRES

Cans • Glass • Paper • Textiles

Ballybogey
Balnamore
Cloughmills
Dervock
Dunloy
Killyrammer
Loughgiel
Rasharkin
Stranocum

CIVIC AMENITY SITES

Knock Rd & Crosstagherty

Aerosols
Aluminium Cans
Books & Music
Car Batteries
Cardboard
Cooking Oil
Electrical Equipment
Engine Oil
Fluorescent Light Tubes
Fridges & Freezers
Glass
Green Waste
Household Batteries
Mobile Phones
Paint Tins *(Empty)*
Paper & Magazines
Plastic Bags
Plastic Containers
Printer Cartridges
Scrap Metal
Textiles

SUPERMARKETS

Cans • Glass • Textiles

Glebeside Spar

Milltown Spar

Tesco

Trolan's Supervalu

Can you give a dog a second chance?

Sharing your home with a four-legged friend can be one of life's greatest joys.
Dogs give us unconditional love and loyalty, provide constant companionship and can even help reduce stress levels.

Ballymoney Borough Council takes great pride in re-homing as many stray dogs as possible that come into our care. The Council works in close co-operation with various organizations to provide dogs with a second chance, however, a large part of our success is a result of local people offering new homes to our stray dogs.

If you are interested in re-homing a stray dog the Council would be very happy to hear from you.
To arrange an appointment to view our stray dogs, please contact the Environmental Warden on (028) 2766 0257.

Dog ownership and your responsibilities.

Dog owners should always be aware of the following :-

- All dogs are required by law to be licensed. A licence costs only £5.00 per year or £2.50 if you are over 65 and live alone. Licences can be purchased from Council.
- It is much easier for the Council to return a dog directly to its owner if it is licensed and wearing an identification disc.
- If your dog fouls in a public place you are required to clean up after the dog and to dispose of the waste in a proper manner. Failure to do so may result in a fixed penalty of £50.00.
- Respect your neighbours – a barking dog can cause a noise nuisance, which if proved may lead to prosecution.
- Consider having your dog neutered to help reduce the number of unplanned and unwanted litters of puppies. Subsidised neutering schemes are available for eligible dog owners.
- Regularly exercise your dog.

Information & Advice Evening for Dog Owners

Is your dog aggressive? Does your dog bark excessively? Simply looking for some advice on your dog's welfare?

If so, why not attend this **free** information and advice evening for dog owners in the Borough on **Monday 24th November 2008 @ 7.30pm in Ballymoney Town Hall**.

Speakers: Katherine Daly – Qualified Dog Training Instructor & Member of the Academy of Dog Training & Behaviour

Karen Mitchell – Council Environmental Warden

To reserve a place, please contact Karen Mitchell on (028) 2766 0257 or Email: environmentalservices@ballymoney.gov.uk

Christmas Food Safety

Christmas is a time when families and friends traditionally get together to celebrate. Large quantities of food are bought and often crammed into fridges, freezers and cupboards to feed the hungry hoards. These large quantities of food then need to be prepared and cooked. It can often prove to be a headache and if not prepared properly can result in food poisoning.

The following useful tips will help to ensure that your family and friends enjoy their food and don't end up queuing outside the smallest room in the house!

Storing Food

Do use your fridge to store food.
Don't overfill the fridge with drinks, try keeping them in the garage or shed
Do keep raw meat/poultry at the bottom of your fridge to prevent juices dripping onto other foods
Do keep raw and cooked foods separate in the fridge
Don't leave food that should be refrigerated at room temperature
Do keep your fridge really cold. Purchase a thermometer to make sure the temperature is between 0-5°C
Do refrigerate cooked food as soon as it has cooled, preferably within 2 hours
Do check all date codes on food before using them

Cooking

Do fully thaw all foods before cooking. Take special care with poultry and meats.
Do remove the giblets from the bird before cooking
Do cook the stuffing separately. If you wish to stuff the bird, stuff the neck only.
Do ensure leftovers are not reheated more than once and that they are served piping hot
Do make sure the centre of the meat is well cooked and the juices run clear

Cooking time guidelines

Total Weight in Kilos	Unstuffed	Neck Stuffed
Up to 5.4kg	45 minutes per kg plus 20 minutes	45 minutes per kg plus 20 minutes
5.5kg to 7.4 kg	40 minutes per kg plus 20 minutes	40 minutes per kg plus 20 minutes
7.5 kg or more	30 minutes per kg 20 minutes	30 minutes per kg plus 20 minutes

General Hygiene

Do wash your hands frequently and especially after handling raw meats and before handling cooked meats
Do dry your hands on clean towels and replace them frequently.
Do clean utensils and work surfaces thoroughly with clean hot water and detergent before preparing different foods

If you would like further information please contact Borough Services at Ballymoney Borough Council Telephone: 028 2766 0257 or visit the Food Standards Agency Website at www.foodstandards.gov.uk

Christmas / New Year Bin Collection Arrangements

Public Holiday	Alternative Collection
Thursday 25th Dec	Saturday 20th Dec
Friday 26th Dec	Saturday 27th Dec
Thursday 1st Jan	As Normal

(Householders are reminded to present their bin by 8.00am for collection)

Civic Amenity Site Holiday Opening Hours

Date	Opening Hours
Wednesday 24th Dec	8.30am – 1.00pm
Thursday 25th Dec	CLOSED
Friday 26th December	CLOSED
Thursday 1st January	CLOSED

Knock Road and Crosstagherty Civic Amenity Sites will be open as normal at all other times.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF BALLYMONEY DPP?

Ballymoney Borough
District Policing Partnership
Local people shaping local policing

- **Identify policing issues**
- **Prioritise the issues**
- **Monitor the police**
- **Obtain public co-operation**
- **Discuss policing issues**

Given the recent changes within PSNI, members are currently very concerned about PSNI resources and the management of these resources for the Ballymoney Borough area.

The DPP will hold six meetings in public per year and you are welcome to attend and voice your concerns about policing in the Ballymoney Borough area.

If you have a policing concern or you want to find out more about Ballymoney District Policing Partnership please contact:

Jonny Donaghy
Ballymoney District Policing Partnership Manager
Ballymoney Borough Council
FREEPOST NAT9170
Ballymoney
BT53 6BR

Telephone: 028 2766 0254
Fax: 028 2766 0222
E-mail: jonny.donaghy@ballymoney.gov.uk
Website:
www.districtpolicing.com/ballymoney

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF BALLYMONEY DPP?

Ald Frank Campbell

Cllr Anita Cavlan

Ald Cecil Cousley

Mr Joe Donaghy

Cllr John Finlay

Mr Michael Fleming

Mr Richard Hargy

Mrs Elizabeth Lindsay

Mr Iain McAfee

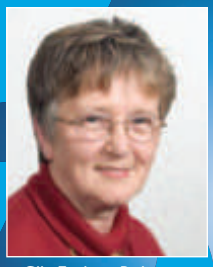
Mr Justin McCamphill

Cllr Malachy McCamphill

Cllr Philip McGuigan

Mrs Helen McKeown

Cllr Thomas McKeown


Cllr Evelyne Robinson

Mrs Frances Rock

Cllr Ian Stevenson

Cllr Roy Wilson

Our website contains information about the Council and its services and is updated regularly.

www.ballymoney.gov.uk

Ballymoney Borough Council
Riada House, 14 Charles Street, Ballymoney BT53 6DZ
Telephone: 028 2766 0200 Fax: 028 2766 0222
E-mail: info@ballymoney.gov.uk Web: www.ballymoney.gov.uk