



Summer is here!

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Bryon Hanna MBE

NDC Chairman Bryon Hanna has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, published on Saturday 24th June 2006.

The award is in recognition for his active work in the community and in particular the NDC programme.

Bryon – who as a resident volunteer gives around 10 hours a week of his own spare time – was surprised with the accolade.

He said: "I was absolutely floored when I found out; it was the last thing I expected.

"This MBE recognises the volunteers in the town and the work that they do, which is smashing."

Bryon became involved with the NDC programme in 2001 after attending a meeting on the project at the Belle Vue Centre. Five years on, Bryon regularly represents Hartlepool at national meetings and has been instrumental in giving the community a voice through the programme.

As an elected Chairman, Bryon has seen many positive changes in the area throughout the first half of the 10 year scheme.

Commenting on the best aspects of being Chairman, he adds: "Most importantly, seeing the change that takes place and giving something back to the community.

"Being able to improve the area and put something in place which has never been there before, ultimately for the residents."

Bryon – whose wife Carmel is also an active participant in the NDC area – has lived in Hartlepool all his life and hopes that more people become involved in volunteering in the future.

He said: "Everyone should play a part in volunteering whether young or old even if it is just one hour a week, a little contribution without burden."

His MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) will be presented during an official ceremony in London at a date to be confirmed.

If you would like more information on volunteer opportunities, please contact NDC on 894046 or HVDA on 262641.

Landlord licensing

Landlords - Should they be licensed? You may have heard that the Government has made it possible for local Councils to consider bringing in a Licensing Scheme for private landlords.

The Council has to make a decision by October on whether to bring in a scheme and, if so, what form it should take. The Council will be consulting widely on this issue during the summer. Please watch out for Council publicity and make your voice heard during the consultation period.

At NDC we have heard so much said over the last 5 years about private landlords that we would expect hundreds of residents will want to take part in the Council's consultation, when it comes.

Stay safe in the sun

The SunSmart code can help you protect your skin this summer:

Spend time in the shade between 11 and 3
Make sure you never burn
Aim to cover up with a hat, t-shirt and sunglasses
Remember to take extra care with children
Then use factor 15+ sunscreen or higher

Remember to keep hydrated in hot weather, drink regularly even if you do not feel thirsty and try to avoid alcohol, tea and coffee as they make dehydration worse.

Pick up a copy of the 'A guide to looking after yourselves and others during hot weather' leaflet in the NDC office on Park Road.

Bob's Visit To London

Bob Farrow, Belle Vue Centre Manager, has been presented with his MBE by the Prince of Wales.

He was awarded the MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List.

Bob added: "It was a great day and a real honour to receive the MBE off Prince Charles.

"It's a reward for lots and lots of people, residents from the Belle Vue area, NDC and in particular my staff at the Centre."



Bob Farrow and Prince Charles



Introducing... Anna Ferguson

Anna is the new Branch Manager for At Work located on York Road in the town.

She previously worked at the branch as Accounts Manager before being seconded to Middlesbrough Council.

Anna – who lives in Hartlepool – is looking forward to meeting local residents.

She said: "I would urge residents to come in and register for free to gain valuable employment advice, whether they are currently working or are unemployed."

Contact At Work on 292222 for more information.



Anna Ferguson

Environmental Task Force



Task Force Manager Geoff Wilkinson

The Environmental Task Force (ETF) – which has been in operation since 2001 - employs 6 workers to keep the residential areas of NDC clean and tidy.

The service operates as a rapid response to environmental problems such as fly tipping, litter removal, graffiti removal and horticultural work such as weed killing and planting of shrub beds and flowers.

They use a variety of equipment, vehicles and machinery, including a HAKO sweeper to mechanically cleanse footpaths.

Fly tipping, litter and graffiti continue to be an issue for NDC residents, which is inconsistent with the change needed to make the area one where residents want to live and stay.

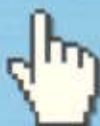
The level of litter on streets in the NDC is higher than in other residential areas of Hartlepool due mainly to the close proximity of the town centre, the number of fast food outlets and the night time economy which creates additional cleansing problems for the nearby residential area.

The ETF have programmed street cleansing rounds which are flexible to respond to resident reports received by the Council, NDC Wardens, and the NDC Neighbourhood Management Team.

In addition to the refuse collection and street cleaning that is implemented by Hartlepool Borough Council, the ETF provides an additional cleansing service ensuring all front and back streets are visited on a weekly basis – a project which is popular with residents.

Education and enforcement has been highlighted from residents as an area to be developed, there is a concern that some residents continue to throw their rubbish out on a daily basis and hinder the Task Force from keeping the area clean and tidy.

As such residents will soon receive information advising them when their rubbish bins will be emptied and streets cleaned.



Keep logging onto www.ndc.org.uk for all project information, recent news and discussion forums.

