



BLACKPOOL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP GROUP

Business Partnerships Report – January 29, 2016

Section 1: Visitor Economy

SHOWZAM! IS BACK

Blackpool's annual festival of circus and performance returns this February half-term for eight days of thrills and spills.



This year's programme, which has been organised by LeftCoast and commences on Saturday 13 February, features a host of international talent including:

- ✦ French circus stars **AKOREACRO**, who will make their UK premiere in Blackpool Tower Circus with a seven-day run showcasing their spectacular blend of high-octane circus skills and music.
- ✦ **BIVOUAC**, one of Europe's most talked about outdoor performances, will stage a mass street theatre show in Blackpool town centre on Saturday 13 featuring pyrotechnics, a rock soundtrack, a cast of blue-painted men and a fire-breathing dog!
- ✦ **SHOWZAM! CENTRAL**, a free four-day family circus and street arts extravaganza returns to the Winter Gardens and town centre between February 13 and 16 with a host of stunning acts from all over Europe.
- ✦ The Carnival Ball, with a theme of "Decadence Through The Ages" and hosted by Miss Abigail Collins, will be staged in the Tower Ballroom on the evening of Saturday 13 February.

For the full festival programme, visit www.showzam.co.uk

BLACKPOOL ZOO £2.5m INVESTMENT

Blackpool Zoo has submitted plans to create a new elephant enclosure, which would represent the biggest single investment in its 44-year history.



The £2.5m project has been earmarked for zoo land that is currently unused. The enclosure would provide a larger home for the zoo's Asian elephant, Kate (pictured), the first animal to arrive before the attraction opened in 1972. Kate would remain in the current elephant enclosure while the proposed work takes place.

The zoo's long-term aim is to be home to a breeding herd of the endangered species.

The previous biggest capital project at the zoo was the £1m invested in Orangutan Outlook.

VISITENGLAND TOURISM AWARDS

VisitEngland has confirmed that it is to stage its annual awards event at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool. The Awards For Excellence event, which will be held in the Empress Ballroom on the evening of Tuesday 8 March, will celebrate the best of English tourism.

SEASON LAUNCH EVENT

The annual VisitBlackpool season launch will take place at Pleasure Beach on Tuesday 15 March. Invitations will be sent out to individual businesses in due course.

ILLUMINATIONS SPONSORSHIP NIGHT

The launch of the new Blackpool Illuminations business sponsorship brochure will take place at The Beach House at 5.30pm on Thursday 4 February, hosted by designer Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen. Invitations have been sent out to all BBLG members. If anyone does wish to attend please RSVP to david.riche@blackpool.gov.uk.

Similarly, any business unable to attend the event but still wanting to explore ways of being involved in the 2016 Illuminations and LightPool show, please contact Dave.

MARKETING LANCASHIRE CHAIR

Marketing Lancashire has appointed Tony Attard, founder and group chief executive of fabrics company, Panaz Limited, as its new chair. Mr Attard replaces Lancashire restaurateur Paul Heathcote, who stood down last summer after three years.

IT'S SHOWTIME!

One of the most impressive programmes of shows in years has been lined up for Blackpool for 2016 – with the promise of yet more to come.

The resort's theatres have already unveiled a host of top-quality shows between now and Christmas.

The latest to be revealed is Footloose: The Musical (pictured right) which will run at the Blackpool Opera House from September 19-24 as part of a major new UK tour. It will star Gareth Gates and Blackpool's own Maureen Nolan. Tickets went on sale on January 27.



Other nationally and internationally-acclaimed shows already announced for the Opera House include:

- ✦ Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (starring Joe McElderry) from February 9-13
- ✦ Blood Brothers (starring Lynn Paul), April 5-9
- ✦ Save The Last Dance For Me, May 31-June 4
- ✦ Avenue Q, June 6-11
- ✦ The Sound Of Music, July 5-9
- ✦ Dirty Dancing, The Classic Story On Stage, August 11-30
- ✦ Great Expectations, December 10-January 7

In addition, The Grand Theatre has announced much of its 2016 programme at a special launch event, which also unveiled its new-look website (www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk)

As part of its new programme, The Grand is staging the international hit show, Let It Be from March 28-April 2, and The Last Tango (with Strictly stars Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace) from June 27-July 2. Tickets for the 2016 Christmas pantomime, Aladdin, are already on sale.

The show line-up is further enhanced by The Evolution of Magic, which runs at The Horseshoe from April 9-September 11; the 80th anniversary production of Hot Ice, which runs from July 7-September 7; and top quality entertainment at Sands Venue and Central Pier.

TIC RECORD NUMBERS

The Tourist Information Centre at Festival House on the Tower Festival Headlands helped and greeted a record-breaking 100,000 visitors during the 2015 season. The figure was reached in December after an exceptional year in which 17,000 visitors were recorded during October alone.

KING KONG RE-IMAGINED

Blackpool has been given the opportunity to create two ground-breaking productions after securing a £680,000 grant from the Arts Council.

The Grand Theatre, which successfully applied to the Ambition For Excellence fund, will develop the productions – one this year, one in 2017 – in collaboration with LeftCoast. Both shows will incorporate local talent as well as artists of international standing.

Details of this year's production are still under wraps, but it will be created with help from theatre company Dreamthinkspeak, which has created several works for the Brighton Festival and Liverpool's City of Culture programme in 2008. They say that the show will be bespoke to Blackpool and will take place at a "secret and fantastical site" in the heart of the resort.



The 2017 production will be a re-imagining of the King Kong story, at a variety of locations across Blackpool.

King Kong first appeared in a 1933 film which saw the giant gorilla captured on a tropical island and brought back to New York, where he famously climbed the Empire State Building. The character's story has been retold several times since, including by Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson in 2005 and by Hollywood stars Jeff Bridges and Jessica Lange in 1976.

The Grand Theatre's chief executive, Ruth Eastwood, says both works will celebrate the "uniqueness" of Blackpool. The theatre was given the funding after applying to the Arts Council fund, which is aimed at "stimulating and supporting ambition, talent and excellence across the arts sector in England".

BLACKPOOL HOTEL AWARDS

A number of Blackpool hotels and guest houses featured prominently in the annual TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards.

The Queens Promenade Hotel was ranked 7th in the world, 4th in Europe and 2nd in the UK in the Bargain Category. The Maples Hotel was ranked 5th in the UK and 17th in Europe in the same category, and the New Guilderoy was ranked 12th in the UK.

In the Best Service category, North Ocean Hotel was ranked 8th in the world, 4th in Europe and 2nd in the UK. The Queens Promenade Hotel was ranked 10th in the UK in the same category.

In the B&Bs category, The Kenley was ranked 17th in the UK and in the Small Hotels category, the Kings Hotel was ranked 23rd in the UK.

The Travellers' Choice Awards are based on millions of reviews and opinions collected over a year from Trip Advisor travellers worldwide.

BLACKPOOL TOWER

Steelwork nears completion

A seven-year project to restore Blackpool Tower is nearing completion, with the scaffolding set to be removed in time for Easter. The renovation work, which has cost several million pounds, has resulted in the steel structure being stripped down and rust-ridden sections of metalwork removed and replaced.

The next few weeks will see the gradual removal of the scaffolding which has been on the Tower throughout the project. Most of the money for the project has come from the maintenance fund that was created when Blackpool Council acquired the Tower in 2010 together with the Winter Gardens.

Recognition for heritage conservation work

Work to restore the Tower's famous arched frontage has been praised after winning a regional planning award.

The project was commended by the North West branch of the Royal Town Planning Institute for the creative way that council planners secured the highest possible standard of repairs for the Tower through their pre-application process.



Last year, Blackpool Council undertook a project to restore nine terracotta arches to the front of the building, bringing the façade back to its original design. Stained glass windows on the façade were also repaired, re-leaded and put on display for the first time in years.

Work underway on Tower Lounge

Work is continuing on the development of a new family restaurant concept in the former Tower Lounge. Boparan Ventures Ltd, owners of the famous Harry Ramsden brand, is developing the restaurant with a view to opening for the start of the main tourism season. A detailed announcement on the development is expected at the start of February.

PIGEON FANCIERS RETURN

Thousands of pigeon fanciers returned to Blackpool earlier this month as the resort once again hosted the Royal Pigeon Racing Association Show Of The Year at the Winter Gardens.

Around 15,000 people from the UK and overseas attended the event, which is the biggest of its type in the world and which boosts the Blackpool economy by an estimated £2.5m. Next year, the association will return to Blackpool for its 40th anniversary show.

EASTER RAIL DISRUPTION

Virgin Trains has advised that it will be undertaking major improvement works over the Easter holiday, which will lead to all services to and from London Euston being affected on the West Coast mainline.

The work will commence on Good Friday, March 25, and will continue throughout the Easter weekend, with a scheduled completion date of March 30. On affected services, the journey times will be extended because of diversions. Passengers are being advised to check the Virgin website, www.virgintrains.com

DESTINATION GUIDE IN NATIONAL AWARDS

Blackpool's destination guide for 2015 has been shortlisted in a national travel awards competition.

The guide, which was designed by VisitBlackpool's in-house designer, Gemma Alderson, has been shortlisted in the Best Brochure category in the national Travel Marketing Awards which will be held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London on Tuesday 15 March.



BBC SPOTLIGHT ON BLACKPOOL

Blackpool Illuminations and the new LightPool projection shows on the Tower were extensively featured on a new BBC2 programme, What To Buy And Why. The half-hour programme included numerous clips of the resort showcasing the Lights, the promenade and Empress Ballroom. The programme can be viewed on this link: [Watch here](#)

Section 2: Town Centre Economy

WILKO PLANS

Discussions are underway over the potential relocation of the Wilko's store on Talbot Road.

Businessman Peter Swann, who owns Sands Venue on the Promenade and whose wife, Karin, is part of the Wilkinson family, has applied for planning permission to develop a four-storey building on the Tower Street car park, adjacent to the Houndshell Shopping Centre.

If it went ahead, it would provide a new base for Wilko's, with the existing store site on the junction of Talbot Road and Dickson Road potentially becoming part of Phase Two of the Talbot Gateway regeneration scheme.

The outline scheme for Tower Street is for retail, food and leisure use with internal access to the Houndshell at ground floor level. A new development on that site would effectively become a new phase of the Houndshell scheme. Designs also include landscaping and public space along the pedestrianised section of Adelaide Street leading into the shopping centre.

The first phase of the Talbot Gateway Central Business District has seen development of a Sainsbury's supermarket and new Blackpool Council offices.

The Talbot Road multi-storey car park has also been refurbished, with a restaurant now open on the ground floor and a gym due to open in the spring.

TOWN CENTRE HOTEL

Blackpool Council has shelved plans to build a four-star hotel alongside the Talbot Road multi-storey car park. The Council had proposed to facilitate the building of a 130-bedroom hotel (expected to be a Holiday Inn) on the site of the car park on East Topping Street.

It has now decided to look at alternative sites in the town centre, potentially working with other partners. It is envisaged that additional four-star accommodation within the town centre will support conference business.

GRUNDY ART GALLERY GRANT

Blackpool Council's Grundy Art Gallery has been awarded £80,000 by the Art Fund to buy new artworks on the theme of light.

The award is part of the Art Fund's £400,000 'New Collecting Awards' programme which this year saw six awards given to museums around the UK.

The £80,000 award to The Grundy's curator, Richard Parry, was the joint highest sum, with the same amount going to curators at the Royal Pavilion in Brighton and at the National Galleries of Scotland in Edinburgh.



The idea of the awards is to invest in the development of promising curators at early points in their careers. Through the scheme, museum professionals are each given a budget to pursue a completely new avenue of collecting in their institutions.

The award follows in the wake of 'Sensory Systems', the widely praised Grundy exhibition which saw international artists display spectacular works exploring the connection between light and sensory perception this autumn as part of the new LightPool programme.

SYNDICATE DEMOLITION

The demolition of the former Syndicate nightclub is now almost complete. The site is being cleared in preparation for the creation of a temporary car park which will serve as an extension to Blackpool Council's existing East Topping Street car park.

WINTER GARDENS FUNDING

Blackpool's Winter Gardens has won £50,000 funding from the Government to help protect the historic Pavilion Theatre.

The theatre was among 77 projects across the UK to receive a share of £3m of coastal revival funding. The £50,000 granted to the Winter Gardens will be used to restore the walls of the Pavilion which is viewed as a possible location for the Blackpool Museum.

Created as a concert hall in 1878, the Pavilion was converted to a theatre in 1889. A major re-building took place in 1897, resulting in a splendidly opulent music hall. In the 1920s it became a picture palace and by the 1950s was used for summer shows and household names such as Morecambe & Wise and Tommy Cooper performed there.

It was placed on the Theatre Trust's "at risk" register in 2014, an indication of the need for investment to protect its long-term future.

ABINGDON STUDIOS EXHIBITION

A new exhibition is to be staged at Abingdon Studios in the town centre from January 29 to February 5. The In-Deference exhibition, featuring a series of images and installations by artists Jayne Simpson and Claire Griffiths, opens with a private viewing on Friday 29 January. The exhibition then continues until February 5 between 10am and 3pm each day. Abingdon Studios is a contemporary visual arts studio based above Abingdon Street Market.

Section 3: Enterprise & Economic Development

BIG HOSPITALITY CONVERSATION

At the September 2015 meeting of the BBLG, a presentation was given on the Big Hospitality Conversation – a national initiative aimed at showcasing hospitality as a great career choice for young people.

The initiative is intended to deliver 60,000 pledges from the hospitality sector by the end of 2016 comprising 20,000 new jobs for young people aged 16-24, 20,000 new apprenticeship places and 20,000 quality work placements.



To date, 46,000 pledges of action have been made at various events around the UK. The British Hospitality Association, which is leading the initiative, is hoping to grow that figure at an event that is now planned in Blackpool later this year.

The Big Hospitality Conversation Blackpool will be held at the Winter Gardens between 9am and 4pm on Wednesday 8 June. It will seek to showcase Blackpool's vibrant hospitality industry and bring together business leaders and young jobseekers to create new opportunities. Support is now being sought from local employers. To register for the free event, please click on the link below:

[Register Now](#)

FRACKING PUBLIC INQUIRY

Cuadrilla's appeals against Lancashire County Council's decision to turn down planning permissions for exploratory shale gas "fracking" and monitoring sites on the outskirts of Blackpool will take place at Blackpool Football Club Hotel & Conference Centre next month.

The county council rejected the applications at Preston New Road and Roseacre Wood last autumn. The appeal is due to commence on Tuesday 9 February and is expected to last 12 days. Evidence will be provided by representatives from Lancashire County Council, Cuadrilla, the North and Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, Friends Of The Earth and various parish councils.

The Secretary of State for the Communities and Local Government has already indicated that he will determine the appeals once the Planning Inspector has conducted the public inquiry and produced his report and recommendations.

DIGITAL EXPO EVENT

Blackpool Unlimited, in association with Launch Events, is holding a Digital Expo event for businesses at The Village Hotel on Friday 18 March between 8am and 3.30pm. The all-day digital clinic will give businesses an opportunity to explore how digital solutions can help achieve marketing objectives. To book a place, follow this link:

http://blackpoolunlimited.com/events/event-detail/blackpool-digital-expo?utm_source=Organisation&utm_medium=email&utm_term=NewsletterLink&utm_campaign=Events+CVS+and+EXPO+16+2&utm_content=peter%2Elegg%40blackpool%2Egov%2Euk#sthash.y0dURbkc.dpuf

Section 4: General News

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CENTENARY

The North & Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce has begun a year of celebrations to mark its centenary.

The first event was staged on Preston's historic Flag Market in January when more than 300 business and civic leaders gathered for a civic proclamation ceremony.

Other centenary events planned for 2016 include a black tie business dinner as well as match sponsorship packages at Blackpool FC, Preston North End, Preston Grasshoppers and Fylde Rugby Club.

To coincide with its centenary, the Chamber has also revealed a first stage redevelopment of its new website and corporate branding.

The site - www.lancschamber.co.uk - features the Chamber's new brand identity, which incorporates the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) branding.

The logo change formally acknowledges the Chamber's status as an accredited chamber of commerce - one of only 53 chambers in the UK.

NEW TK MAXX STORE

Fashion retailer TK Maxx is to open a new out-of-town store on Blackpool Retail Park at Squires Gate. The 15,000 sq ft unit is expected to open at the end of February, creating up to 30 new jobs. The existing store on Bank Hey Street is unaffected by the opening.

GLEDHILL ACQUISITION

The Blackpool-based Gledhill group of companies has been bought by a French family-owned heating firm. Gledhill has been acquired by Groupe Atlantic, which has a turnover in excess of £1bn and more than 5,000 employees worldwide with manufacturing plants across Europe and Asia.

Following the deal, Jason Hobson will take over as managing director for the Gledhill group. All of the present Gledhill board members, including the Gledhill family, will continue in management roles. As well as its Squires Gate base, Gledhill has depots in various UK locations including Blackburn, Nottingham, Paignton, Bristol, Southampton, Luton and Maidstone.

RAIL CHANGES FOR BLACKPOOL

Rail services in the North West are facing some of the biggest changes in decades following the appointment of new operators for two key franchises.

The Department for Transport intends to award the Northern franchise to Arriva Rail North Ltd and the TransPennine Express franchise to First TransPennine Express Ltd from April this year until 2025.

That means that Blackpool's direct rail services will be delivered by Arriva, although TransPennine will continue to deliver our visitors to Preston for interchange to Blackpool.



The Department of Transport says successful bidders will oversee a £1.2bn boost to rail services, which will include more than 500 new carriages across the region, the removal of the outdated Pacer trains by 2019 and 2,000 additional services a week.

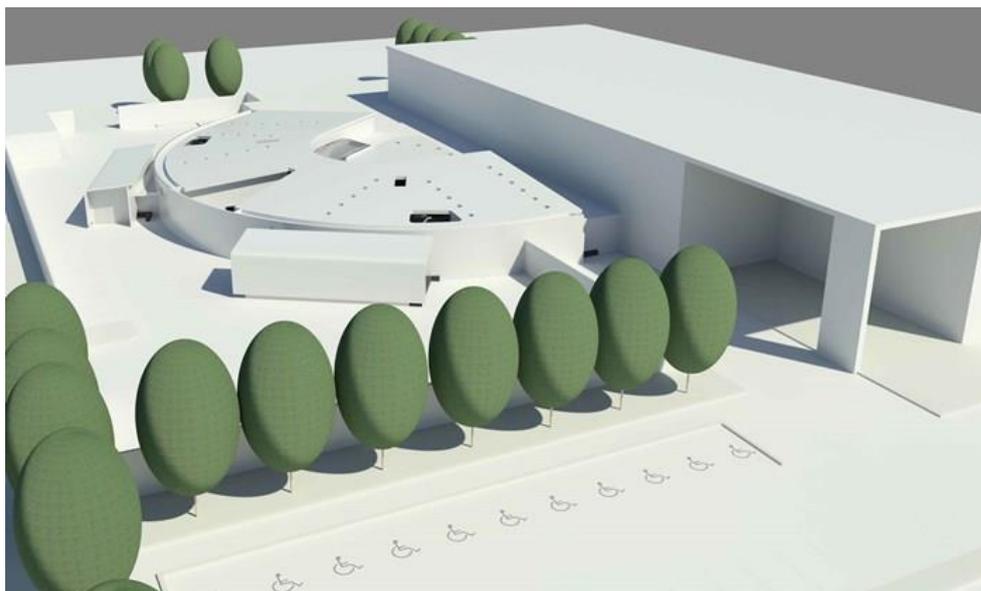
The implications for services to and from Blackpool are still being assessed. The initial assumptions are that there will be no additional direct services in and out of Blackpool prior to electrification (now scheduled for completion in 2018), so the initial focus is likely to be on improved journey times and improved passenger facilities.

Key points include:

- ✦ Arriva will roll out a new “Northern Connect” brand, with new or refurbished trains on longer-distance services, faster journeys and stations staffed daily with catering services and free wi-fi. Both Blackpool North and Poulton will become Northern Connect stations, manned from 6am to 10pm.
- ✦ The Blackpool services to York and Manchester Airport will both move to the Northern Connect brand and should benefit from new rolling stock and improved journey times.
- ✦ New electric services will run from Manchester to Blackpool once electrification is complete.
- ✦ The new franchise agreement also dictates that the Blackpool to Liverpool service, which is currently suspended, be restored following electrification.
- ✦ Similarly, subject to the electrification project being completed, GNWR will start running its daily Blackpool to London services from “early 2018”.
- ✦ The new franchise holders will support the roll-out of Oyster-style smart ticketing on public transport across the North, backed by £150m of Government funding.

Blackpool Council's transport team has arranged meetings with both Arriva and TransPennine in February to discuss the short and long-term implications of the franchise changes and determine how Blackpool can benefit from the new operations.

BLACKPOOL POLICE HQ



Plans have been developed for a new West Division police headquarters on a site close to the M55 motorway in Blackpool (see *artist's impression above*).

Subject to planning approval, the new HQ will replace the Bonny Street police station (adjacent to Central Car Park) in 2018. It will provide a base for local neighbourhood teams, immediate response officers and 42 custody cells.

A planning application for the new build on the site of the former Progress House council offices on Clifton Road, Blackpool has been submitted to Blackpool Council. The site is close to the Tesco superstore and the junction of the M55 motorway ensuring excellent links to the wider road network and the remainder of West Division.

During the build, hundreds of jobs and apprenticeships will be created with local businesses and suppliers given the opportunity to bid for work. As part of the relocation project, the Blackpool Town Centre neighbourhood team and public enquiry desk will move to Blackpool Council's municipal buildings. In 2019, Blackpool South police station will close.

The closure and demolition of the Bonny Street building adds another dimension to the former Central Station area, which is earmarked for a major leisure development.

ASTUTE AWARD

Poulton-based Astute Motoring has won a special recognition accolade in the Small Fleet Leasing Awards. The award, presented by Business Car Manager motoring magazine, is intended to recognise the efforts of smaller brokers that do not have the budgets or resources of some of the larger companies.

NEW HOMES DEVELOPMENT

A further 100 homes could be built in Blackpool in the next phase of a major residential scheme.

Lovell Partnerships and Blackpool Council have lodged a full planning application to build 81 houses and 18 self-contained permanent flats on 11.4 acres of land bounded by Stirling Road, Mather Street, Collingwood Avenue and Addison Crescent to the east of Blackpool North railway station.



It is envisaged there would also be 97 parking spaces.

The proposal represents the second phase of the three-phase Queens Park scheme.

Phase one involved construction of 92 homes on a site immediately to the north and has already been completed. Plans for phase three, which involves enhancement works to existing public open space, will follow.

COMBINED AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

Residents and businesses are being urged to take part in a countywide consultation asking whether people support the proposal for a Lancashire Combined Authority.

Councillors have labelled the move a once-in-a-generation opportunity to unite Lancashire and make sure it is a key part of the so-called 'Northern Powerhouse'.

Combined authorities give councils a stronger voice to influence Central Government and draw down more powers, functions and funding to benefit the area and let locally elected people drive change.

They are not about local government reorganisation and would not result in the creation of a 'super council' or local authorities merging.

Each council would still be responsible for the services it provides e.g. bin collections, highways, education.

The services a Combined Authority would potentially include are transport, economic development, housing and regeneration.

Every local council in Lancashire, except Wyre Council, has agreed to support the consultation, which started on Monday 11 January and will run until Friday 19 February.

To take part in the consultation, click on this link: [Complete the survey](#)

PRINCESS STREET BRIDGE

Work is well underway on replacement of a decrepit bridge at Princess Street.

The original bridge, which carries Seaside's Way, was demolished towards the end of last year and contractors are nearing completion of its replacement.

As well as replacing the bridge, landscaping around the area will provide stepped access from Princess Street on to Seaside's Way, as well as making the area safer for local residents. The previous bridge was a hotspot for anti-social behaviour.

During the project, Seaside's Way has been closed to through traffic between the junction at Bloomfield Road and Central car park. Princess Street is also closed between Middle Street and Caroline Street.

The work is currently on schedule to be completed in March in time for the start of the Easter holidays.

The maintenance work is part of a programme to repair 10 Blackpool bridges during the next four years at a total cost of £11m. The money comprises contributions from Blackpool Council, the Department for Transport's Challenge Fund and the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership's Growth Fund.

The majority of the bridges are in a desperate need of repair due mainly to the corrosive action of air-borne salts and chlorides that come with being near the seaside.

For more information on diversions and the four-year bridge project, go to www.blackpool.gov.uk/bridges

FLUORIDATED MILK PLAN

More than 8,000 children in Blackpool are to benefit from the introduction of fluoridated milk into their breakfast routine.

The milk, which is recommended by the World Health Organisation, is the latest initiative in Blackpool Council's plans to tackle poor dental hygiene amongst children in the town.

The proposal comes on the back of figures showing that almost half of 12-year-olds in the town have at least one decayed, missing or filled tooth – much higher than the national average of 33%.

Around 400 children in Blackpool are also admitted to hospital every year to have teeth extracted under general anaesthetic, at a cost to the NHS of thousands of pounds.

While fluoridating the water network is unfeasible in Blackpool, introducing the fluoridated milk can be carried out at no extra cost to the taxpayer, due to Blackpool Council's flagship free breakfast scheme.

The scheme means all primary school children in the town receive a healthy breakfast at school every day and 8,400 pupils receive milk on a daily basis. Fluoridated milk can be introduced without a financial burden by changing the milk that is ordered.

Section 5: Requests for Private Sector Support

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT

Local businesses are being encouraged to support an International Women's Day event which is being staged in the Spanish Hall at the Winter Gardens on Saturday 5 March between 11am and 3pm.

The event, which is free to enter, will include local bands and singers, information stalls, family activities and raffle. Around 40 organisations and businesses have already taken stalls but there is some availability.

For more information, contact UR Potential on 01253-344398 or to book a stall email, sue.thompson1968@gmail.com

All proceeds from the event will go to Fylde Coast Women's Aid.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL HELIPAD APPEAL

An appeal has been launched to build a helipad to serve four of the region's key hospitals, including the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

The appeal to raise £3.9m will enable the development of a new 24-hour access helicopter landing site on the roof of a new car park in Manchester.

Any business or individual interested in donating to the appeal should contact Nicola Cobham, Trusts and Major Gifts Manager, email: Nicola.cobham@cmft.nhs.uk

Further information on the appeal can be found at www.cmftcharity.org.uk

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Damian and Helen Broughton, owners of Danbro chartered accountancy firm and long-standing members of the BBLG, who were both awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours List in recognition of their work with the self-employed and the local community.

Originally based in Blackpool, Danbro headquarters is now sited at the former Land Registry building on Lytham Green and employs more than 200 people, working with more than 7,500 clients across the UK.

In the same New Year Honours List, ***Catherine Hill***, the Deputy Principal of Blackpool & The Fylde College was awarded an OBE for services to education.

Philip Welsh
Head of Visitor Economy