Here to help
Graham Harrison helps out at a HWRC

Find out how Resource Cumbria are helping Cumbrian kitchens

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If you require this information in any other format (e.g. audio cassette or large type) or in another language please telephone 01229 894401.

Help us to reduce LATS fines and keep our environment beautiful. Please recycle as much as you can!

The table below highlights our performance so far this year. The percentages are the combined recycling and composting rates.

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<th>1st Qtr</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allerdale</td>
<td>41.5%</td>
<td>37.19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barrow</td>
<td>25.69%</td>
<td>22.46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carlisle</td>
<td>49.28%</td>
<td>49.36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copeland</td>
<td>36.31%</td>
<td>34.84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eden</td>
<td>56.45%</td>
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<td>SLDC</td>
<td>42.71%</td>
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<td>Cumbria</td>
<td>42.39%</td>
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Meet the members

Here are the councillors who make up the Resource Cumbria partnership board.

Purple bags come to Allerdale

Allerdale Borough Council will shortly be introducing a new recycling collection scheme to areas of the borough – the mixed collection of glass bottles and jars, metal cans and plastic bottles from individual properties.

The new fortnightly collection from the kerbside will complement the existing paper, card and garden waste collections from these households, giving residents the opportunity to recycle the majority of their waste easily.

The scheme will start in south Workington, Harrington, Seaton, Broughton, Camerton and areas of Keswick. Initially there will be 13,000 properties on the scheme and it will be extended from there. It is hoped that around 39,000 properties will be on this type of collection within 3 years.

It won’t be necessary to separate these materials, they can all be placed out for collection in the same disposable purple bag. We will collect them in a standard refuse collection vehicle; our contractor will separate them for recycling later using a variety of magnets, screens and blowers.

The idea is to make recycling as easy as possible for the residents of Allerdale. This type of system is also very efficient in terms of collection – no specialist vehicle is required, collections can be carried out quickly and easily and the more time consuming sorting is done at the recycling facility.

For information on the scheme, feel free to contact a member of the recycling team at Allerdale on 01900 702964 or visit the web site allerdale.gov.uk

The Partnership Board meeting minutes and other documents are available at resourcecumbria.org

Review

Thank you to everybody who contributed ideas, features and time to this edition of Review.

Photography

WRAP
Cumbria County Council
Steve Barber
Cumbrian Newspapers Ltd

Hit the streets in Barrow

Engaging the public is one of the key roles of our Recycling Rangers, so when the opportunity presented itself to become involved with the Streetsafe project, Barrow and SLDC ranger, Katharine Smith seized it with open arms.

“Streetsafe is a fantastic project” Katharine said.

“The idea behind it is to tackle local community problems at a local level. Streetsafe operations are taking place all over Barrow and South Lakeland with involvement from the police, the fire brigade, environmental health, the refuse collection contractors and now Resource Cumbria.”

The streetsafe operation involves targeting certain streets within a particular area and interviewing residents about their concerns which can range from anything from anti-social behaviour to dog-fouling. Katharine has been using the opportunity to ask residents about their views on recycling.

“Basically I’ve been asking residents if they recycle already, what issues they might have with recycling and also whether they would like me to contact them to discuss their issues.” Katharine explained.

“People usually tend to have issues with their kerbside collection or simply need a new recycling container. So it’s a great time to make sure that people are using the recycling services that the council provides. About half of the residents interviewed often ask for more information on local recycling issues proving that people are keen to find out even more about recycling and what else they can do.”
Head of Cumbria County Council’s Waste Management Department does a shift at a HWRC.

It’s 8am on a drizzly October morning. Joe, Mike, Adrian and Stu are doing the usual routine to get their Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), Bousteads Grassing in Carlisle, ready for the day’s recycling. Trying not to get in the way is new boy, Graham Harrison.

“There are so much good done here” said Graham about Bousteads Grassing HWRC. “It’s clear that people don’t just come here to dump rubbish in skips, they come to recycle and there’s a big difference. Just this morning a guy came in with a microwave. He was aggrieved to dump it and told me it worked perfectly and joked that his wife just fancied a new one. I explained that we collect things like this and when we have enough a local company, Impact Housing, come along to collect them and put them all to good use.”

Over 600 cars a day use Boustead’s during the weekend. “We used to get as many as 1000 a day” Joe explained “But this was before the County Council’s permit scheme which stops traders using the site.” Previously, the council tax payer was bearing the cost of landfilling commercial waste, thanks to the introduction of the permit scheme it is estimated that a saving al£1.26 million will be made this financial year alone. “Mind you, it’s got a bit busier of late, I reckon we take in about twice as many bottles since the smoking ban came in. It’s good that people are remembering to recycle when they have a few beers at home.”

“I’m really proud of the lads here, as I am with everybody involved in waste management in Cumbria” said Graham. “Make no mistake about it, we face a challenge, but we’re rising to it, and the results are clear to see.”

“The waste management industry in Cumbria has undergone tremendous change since I became involved just 2 short years ago” said Graham. “We’ve undergone a recycling revolution as people have become more aware and indeed involved in the issues. Like everybody we’ve had to keep up. I’ve seen our team in the council grow from 3 to 13, and the development of Resource Cumbria, our partnership with the other authorities. Even today we’re moving into new territory with our new waste partner, Shanks. I’m constantly learning and I love that. I feel privileged to be in the position I’m in.”

When asked what they thought of the new boy, Mike said “yeah he’s really keen and a good worker, he can have a job”; Adrian chipped in with “We’ll have to get him back on Sunday; the weekend is when it’s really busy.” Graham unfortunately had to decline the offer “sorry boys, I’m on a course on Sunday”. He always was a keen golfer.

JMWMS goes out for Consultation

How we deal with our waste now and in the future is one of the biggest challenges we face. The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Cumbria sets out the issues we face and looks to the future.

The first draft of the strategy has now been published and is currently out for public consultation. As well as being distributed to various stakeholders, it has also been made available in all of Cumbria’s 53 libraries, and is even available to download via resourcecumbria.org.

Anybody who reads or downloads the JMWMS is then invited to offer their comment and opinion. All of these views are extremely important and Resource Cumbria will review each and every one before publishing the final strategy document.

The consultation process is open until the 10 December. After this date the results will be consolidated and analysed. A report summarising the results of this consultation will be available to download at resourcecumbria.org on 31 January 2008.
Resource Cumbria gets to grips with the county’s kitchen waste in our latest venture, ‘Love Food Hate Waste’.

Resource Cumbria is supporting new campaign, ‘Love Food Hate Waste’, which reveals we are throwing away a staggering third of the food we buy in the UK – most of which could have been eaten. The astonishing statistic follows pioneering research undertaken earlier this year by WRAP, the Waste and Resources Action Programme, which shows that for every three bags of food shopping we bring home, we effectively put one straight in the bin.

The campaign was launched nationally on the 1 November by celebrity chef and presenter Ainsley Harriott who agrees: “The amount of food we throw away is criminal and we all need to take action and start changing our behaviour. That’s why I’m supporting Love Food Hate Waste,” he says.

“It is sad that so much good food is being wasted needlessly,” explains Dr Liz Goodwin, WRAP Chief Executive. “At a cost of £8b a year, it’s a serious issue that not only impacts the environment but our pockets too”.

The ‘Love Food Hate Waste’ campaign has been created to raise awareness of the problem and provide information on what simple steps can be taken to combat the problem, which has a significant environmental impact. “Our research showed that 90% of us are completely unaware of the amount of food we all throw away. Once attention is drawn to it however, we know that people are surprised and keen to take action” comments Liz Goodwin.

As well as embarking on a press and radio advertising campaign, Resource Cumbria will also be hitting the road with our ‘Love Food Hate Waste’ roadshows, a number of which will feature cooking shows with local chef John Crouch. John will be on hand to demonstrate just what you can do with your kitchen leftovers by using a pinch of imagination and a dash of creativity.

The Resource Cumbria team will be on hand at the following events with all sorts of helpful kitchen tips. The events that will feature John’s show are also highlighted.

- Fri Nov 30 - Kendal farmer’s market
- Sat Dec 1 - Cockermouth farmer’s market Featuring John Crouch
- Thur Dec 6 - Whitehaven market
- Fri Dec 7 - Barrow indoor market
- Tues Dec 11 - Penrith farmer’s market Featuring John Crouch
- Wed Dec 12 - Carlisle city centre Featuring John Crouch

If you would like some more information on ‘Love Food Hate Waste’ or some menu ideas to help you use up your kitchen leftovers you can visit the campaign website at lovefoodhatewaste.com.

Or maybe an Omelette anybody? Don’t worry I’ll compost the shells!

**Swedish for recycling**

Having been sponsored by the North West Improvement Network, Waste Education Officer Martin Allman has recently returned from a study visit to the municipality of Umea, Sweden, to discover how waste education is incorporated into the school curriculum.

Umea has excellent recycling facilities ranging from first-rate recycling centres to embedded recyclable container bring back schemes. Any waste that is produced is incinerated and converted into district heating and electricity in one of the most efficient installations in the world. With this combination of services an amazing 90% of the city’s waste is diverted from landfill.

Amid this backdrop it’s not difficult to guess that better waste management practices are embedded in people’s behaviour - and the Umea schools are no different. Martin visited a range of schools and was lucky enough to observe a number of waste prevention classes.

“It is clear that sustainability is a key part of the Swedish curriculum” said Martin “furthermore, the schools themselves strive to become sustainability beacons with recycle collection facilities commonplace throughout.”

“Waste management in Sweden is excellent, as is their waste education programs” Martin continued, “However it was clear to me that here in Cumbria we are doing the right things, in Sweden this has just been happening for a much longer time. Like Umea we are engaging our children with the 3Rs and helping their schools access local recycling facilities. We may have a little way to go, but we’re certainly on the right road.”

© Martin at a WEEE collection point in Umea

Featuring John Crouch

Featuring John Crouch

Featuring John Crouch
Award winning communities

On the 1 November a party from Resource Cumbria attended the Cumbria County Council Cumbria Community Awards to present the Environment Award which was indeed sponsored by Resource Cumbria.

The awards recognise the important role played by individuals working in charities, social enterprises, voluntary and community groups throughout the community. The Resource Cumbria Environment Award as the name suggests also recognised those who also promoted sustainability within their community.

The winner of the award was Grayrigg Coronation Hall in Kendal. The hall’s committee managed to avoid the closure of the hall by making it into a sustainability beacon using the latest in environmentally friendly materials such as Thermafleece insulation and solar photovoltaic roofing tiles.

Chinese delegation visits Cumbria

On the 24 September the Waste Management Unit hosted a visit from The People’s Government of Suzhou City Science and Technology Bureau. The delegation wanted to find out how Resource Cumbria tackles waste and recycling issues.

The delegation were welcomed by Councillor Ian Stewart, Clive Pickering and Graham Harrison from Cumbria County Council, and Mike Gardiner from Carlisle City Council.

The five-strong Chinese delegation and the Waste team discussed how domestic waste issues are handled in a rural area of the UK and discussed how Cumbrians reduce, reuse and recycle their household waste.

In the afternoon the visitors were shown the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Flusco, near Penrith, and also saw a recycle point in operation at Plumpton.

Suzhou is a city in eastern China’s Jiangsu Province in the Yangtze River Delta. It is a major tourist destination famed as the Oriental Venice because it is a water city with numerous rivers, lakes and canals, such as the Yangtze River, Yangcheng Lake, Chenghu Lake and the Grand Canal. The area under the city’s jurisdiction, some 8,488km/sq, is larger than Cumbria (6,767km/sq), but is home to some 5.71 million people with 1.05 million living in urban areas.