

## **RECYCLING UNITS**

Secondly, the completion of local company Rainbow Waste's purchase of part of the former Musk Engineering premises on the Robian Way Industrial Estate (following Musk's earlier relocation to brand new premises on nearby Astron Business Park). Rainbow Waste's new facility comprises some 8,400 sqft of floor space with a large yard. The Company is a "home-grown" success, consolidating ten years of continued innovation in the environmental services and recycling markets by purchasing this unit with a view to expanding its operations. Roland Hill from Rainbow Waste said, "We are delighted to have found a base within Swadlincote where we can expand and grow and create more jobs for local people"... In a similar vein, Crescent Motoring Services have expanded their operations to include a Class VII MOT test station by taking a larger unit on the Viking Industrial Estate in Woodville.

## **MAJOR MELBOURNE INVESTMENT BOOST**

One reason for South Derbyshire's resilience has been the willingness of developers to continue to engage in speculative development. Enjoying its location in the centre of England, the area has seen a continuing rise in demand for small modern units for manufacturing, service and distribution companies. The recent completion and disposal of 5 of the 6 units at Holford Court in Swadlincote is a ready testament of this demand. So it is no surprise that PSA Developments have acquired a 0.25 acre site at the Castle Lane Estate in Melbourne and are currently constructing a terrace of 5 units in sizes of between 1,500 and 3,000 sqft. Work on the footings began last month and completion is scheduled for Autumn 2009. Further information can be found on the vacant property database on the Council website. These properties are a small but welcome addition to the District's 1.3 million sqft of readily available commercial space for prospective investors.

## **LOCAL ECONOMIC NEWS:**

### **COMPREHENSIVE EVIDENCE BASE CREATED**

One of the reasons the Council has focused on employment creation as a key priority is the expected growth in its population. South Derbyshire currently has around 91,000 people living in its towns and villages. The Regional Plan anticipates that this will rise to 108,600 people in 2025 (19% projected growth) *South Derbyshire Evidence Base 2009*. A key characteristic of the local population growth is its growing young workforce. Businesses needing a young flexible workforce or a ready supply of school leavers should be looking closely at South Derbyshire. Future editions of the Gazette will examine the measures available locally to help employers recruit and train people for modern business activities.

This example of economic information is taken from the most comprehensive research ever undertaken in the District. In January the Council prepared a socio-economic profile of every aspect of South Derbyshire life to inform Local Strategic Partnership and Council

priorities. Search for 'South Derbyshire Evidence Base' on the Council website. It can be freely downloaded and used to support a range of business planning and marketing activities.

## **FEATURED FINANCE:**

### **REDUNDANT BUILDING GRANT SCHEME**



Derbyshire County Council, supported by the Derby & Derbyshire Economic Partnership, has recently expanded a very successful scheme that brings redundant buildings back into active economic use. The scheme is designed to deliver both economic and environmental benefits by bringing redundant buildings back into productive use. It is helping to create local employment opportunities as well as improve the built environment of the area and make South Derbyshire an even more attractive place to invest.

Unlike the previous scheme, buildings can now be located in market towns as well as rural areas. The grant is open to a range of prospective applicants including owner occupiers, limited companies, charities and co-operatives. The level of grant will not exceed 25 per cent of the eligible costs of conversion or refurbishment. The maximum grant is £74,999 and the minimum £10,000.

A recent example of the scheme in operation is at Sapperton Manor, Church Broughton where Grade II listed farm buildings are being converted into five workshop units, supported by a grant of over £55,000. Although several other projects in South Derbyshire have applied, Church Broughton will be the first to be completed later this year. The District Council is keen that other projects should follow, before this very popular fund becomes over-subscribed. If you have a project or idea we would urge you to contact Sue Douglas on 01629 580 000 Ext. 7244.

*Pictures courtesy of Sladen Estates and Derbyshire County Council. Issue No. 1 June 2009.*



South  
Derbyshire  
District Council

Making South Derbyshire  
a better place to live, work  
and visit



Unit One, Tetron Point, Swadlincote taken  
by Lecky Metal Ornaments in 2009

# South Derbyshire

## Investment Gazette

In these times of economic challenge we wanted to tell people some good news... and there is plenty. South Derbyshire continues to receive enquiries, investment and business growth. We aim to use this Gazette to update potential investment partners, providing indications on the strength of the local economy, passing on property market news and tips and informing you of our general economic development activities. The Gazette will inform you of any grants and support - in this edition we feature the Redundant Buildings Grant Scheme.

### WELCOME PROPERTY DEALS:

#### **SINGAPOREAN METAL MAGNATE ATTRACTED TO SWADLINCOTE**

South Derbyshire is delighted to welcome three major investments into the area. Lecky Metal Ornaments Ltd took possession of a 33,197sq.ft. warehouse with ancillary offices at Tetron Point in Swadlincote to expand their UK operations in ornamental metal and iron. Lecky, a growing world force in the industry, have their origins in China and their world headquarters in Singapore. The company owns and operates a 20,000 sqm, ISO 9002 certified production facility in Beijing and two more plants in other Chinese cities. Mark Chambers UK MD said, "We found that we were transporting over 50% of our sales to customers in the Midlands from our Southampton base. We needed to expand and Swadlincote was the logical place to be, it is close to East Midlands Airport, has excellent road network coverage and an embedded hard working culture. Tetron Point was perfect..." The investment continues to underline the benefits of South Derbyshire as a base for the pre-fabricated construction products industry with famous names such as Bison, Keystone Lintels and Roger Bullivant all located in and around Swadlincote. To find out more about the District Council's support for the construction sector and other businesses log onto our web site: [www.south-derbyshire.gov.uk/business](http://www.south-derbyshire.gov.uk/business)

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