

## New in Town



**Claire Handley Health & Beauty** is a friendly, relaxing beauty salon based within the **Callanetics Studio in Bathgate**. With Bathgate's location and ongoing regeneration it was the ideal choice for Claire when opening her new business. Claire is looking forward to being part of the community and to improving the health and wellbeing of those in it.



**Carole-Anne Lindsay** has opened a beautiful delicatessen in South Bridge Street called **Cal's Deli**. The delicatessen provides freshly ground coffee, fresh breads, salads and sandwich fillings daily. Also in the shop you'll find a wonderful variety of cheeses, European meats, cured hams, seafood and fish. She also has a beautiful collection of hand painted pottery from selected artists. Pop in - you won't be disappointed.

## General Meeting

The first General Meeting of Enterprising Bathgate Limited was held in the Regal Theatre on Thursday 2nd July 09. During the meeting various speakers delivered presentations on a number of topics including: the Company Accounts, Marketing and Promotion, Safe and Secure, Clean and Attractive, the Public Realm Guide and the Regeneration Fund. After a questions and answers session the meeting was brought to a close by Enterprising Bathgate's chairman, David Stein. The minutes of the meeting can be viewed on our website [www.bathgatebid.net](http://www.bathgatebid.net)

Please get in touch if you have any good news you would like to share with the rest of the business community in the BID area.

Write to the team at: **The Bathgate Business Centre, Whitburn Road, Bathgate EH48 1HH**  
Tel: 01506 637537 Email: [info@bathgatebid.net](mailto:info@bathgatebid.net) [www.bathgatebid.net](http://www.bathgatebid.net)

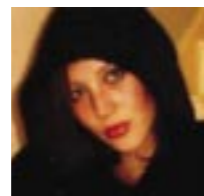


## Young people are our future

Volunteer Centre West Lothian, in partnership with West Lothian Council's "More Choices, More Chances" team, is to run a year long pilot project for 14 to 19 year olds who are recognised as under-achieving at school or, in the case of the 16 to 19 age group, unsuccessful in finding employment, education or training. The focus of the pilot will be to provide trained Volunteer Mentors to work with individuals for at least two hours per week.

Three schools will take part in the pilot Mentoring programme: Bathgate Academy, Broxburn Academy and Whitburn Academy. In addition, the More Choices, More Chances team will assist in identifying young people from the 16 to 19 age group.

As adults and business people, the phrase "what's wrong with the young people of today,



## Good Luck

Kris Hubbard, co-owner of A1 Paintball Ltd based in Whitburn Road in Bathgate is preparing for one of the biggest challenges of her life. When Kris is not managing a successful 4-Star Visit Scotland Paintball Company, she is 'singing for her supper'! Kris will be taking to the stage at the Open Mic UK LIVE Regional Finals on October 17th at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Enterprising Bathgate would like to wish Kris all the very best in the competition.

Visit [www.whiteroom-rock.com/krissie.html](http://www.whiteroom-rock.com/krissie.html) for further info and tickets!

## Enterprising Bathgate Move Office

Enterprising Bathgate has moved from its office in Lindsay House to new premises in The Bathgate Business Centre on Whitburn Road. David Stein, Enterprising Bathgate's chairman said, "In the last 18 months Enterprising Bathgate was very fortunate to be allowed to work out of an office space in Lindsay House courtesy of West Lothian Council. Now that Lindsay House will be demolished soon to make way for the new Civic Centre it was important for us to secure new premises in the town as soon as we could and we have been very fortunate to acquire this office space so quickly. I am also pleased that our partner, West Lothian Council will be sharing the unit with us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank West Lothian Council for providing us with our office space in Lindsay House and look forward to continuing our working relationship in the new premises.

Contact details of the new office can be found below.



it was not like this when I was young" is often asked aloud. Well now is your opportunity to make best use of your life experience and common sense to assist the young people of West Lothian, many of whom lack a positive role model in their life. The Mentoring project needs the business community to play a positive part in addressing the personal and social development of young people.

As a trained Mentor your primary task will be to offer advice and guidance, to see qualities in the young people that they don't always see in themselves, to get them to believe in themselves, and to act as a positive role model. This is about getting young people to do what they believe they can't do, that is succeed in life, succeed in school, succeed in finding and sustaining employment.

## Membership of Enterprising Bathgate

Any person within the BID area and pays the BID levy is eligible to apply for membership as a BID member of Enterprising Bathgate Ltd. BID members are expected to promote the objects and interests of the company. Membership gives you the right to attend and vote at General Meetings, in accordance with the company's Articles of Association. Please log on to our website [www.bathgatebid.net](http://www.bathgatebid.net) for an application form.

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September 2009

The newsletter of Enterprising Bathgate - Scotland's first Business Improvement District



# Town Centre Regeneration Fund

In February 2009 the Scottish Government allocated £60 million to a new Town Centre Regeneration Fund, which aims to support the regeneration and growth of towns across Scotland. Details of how the fund would be administered and detailed application forms were made public on 30th April.

At briefing sessions held throughout Scotland the Government emphasised the importance of partnership working between public and private sectors. It was agreed that Bathgate's application would be strengthened if a joint

bid was submitted from Enterprising Bathgate and West Lothian Council.

A successful application to the Town Centre Regeneration Fund would allow us to build on the work already undertaken by Enterprising Bathgate in the town centre, take ongoing improvements to the next level and add value to the projects planned for the next four years. A total of 133 funding applications were submitted from towns throughout Scotland and the first phase of awards was announced by the government in August 2009.

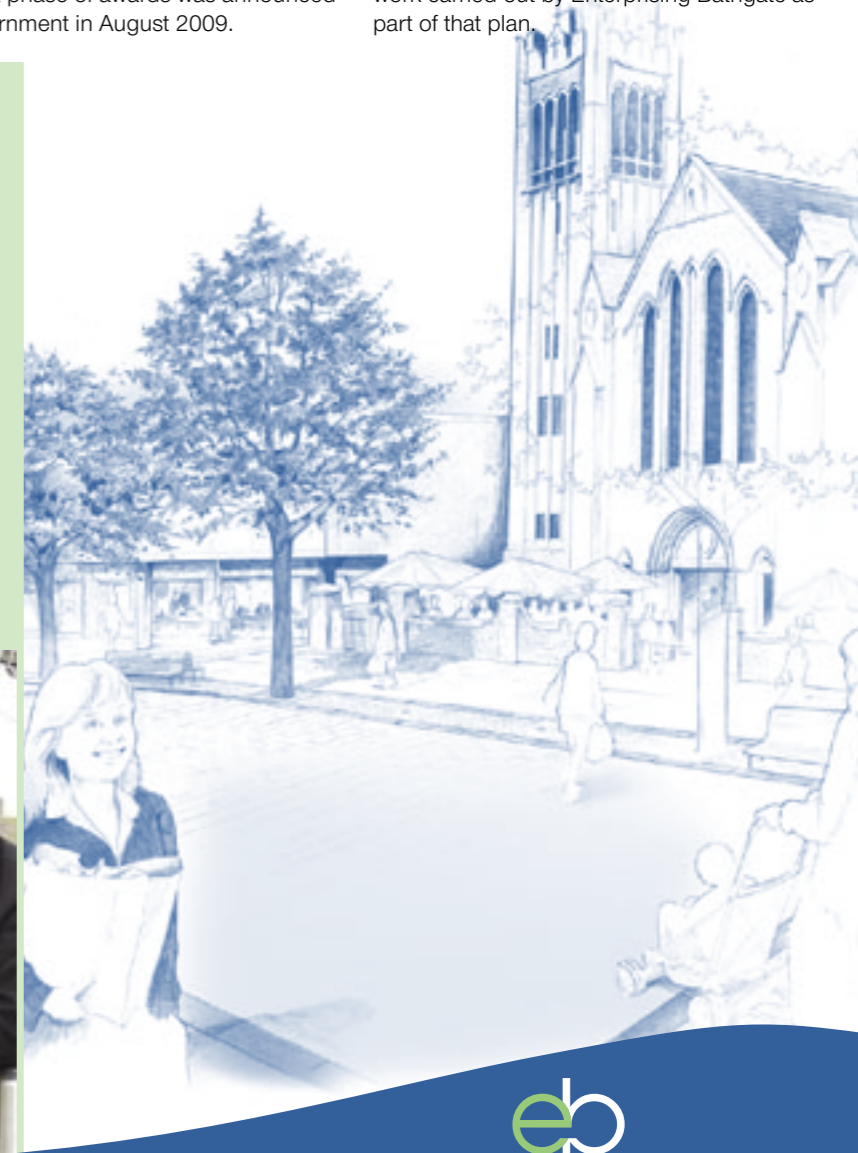
Disappointingly our bid was not included in this first phase, but all is not lost and a second application has been submitted for consideration for the second phase which, is due to be announced next month.

Our bid for Bathgate town centre was valued at £990,000 and the projects included many recommendations from the Public Realm Guide which was finalised in January 2009, and formed part of the Public Consultation work carried out by Enterprising Bathgate as part of that plan.

## The main projects include:

- New George Street streetscape
- Creation of new "St. David's Square" civic space
- Revamp for Steelyard
- Further Support for Premises Improvement Scheme
- New Wi-Fi supported town centre
- New access / mobility improvements for streets and vennels
- New signage to help create "sense of place"
- Creation of safe and accessible pedestrian connections

Suzanne McCordle, WL BID's Manager with Enterprising Bathgate's co-ordinators, Sam Crawford and Pat Kerr with the Town Centre Regeneration Application Forms



# Halloween in Bathgate Town Centre

**Enterprising Bathgate is staging the first Halloween celebration event the town has seen.**

The entertainment will mostly take place in the Steelyard and pedestrian precinct during the afternoon of Saturday 31st October.

The entertainment includes a 'bouncy haunted castle' and 'bungee run'. Face painters will be on hand to help those who wish to take part 'get in the mood'. The mobile stage unit will be located in the Steelyard where our DJ will play appropriate music to suit the Halloween theme.

Enterprising Bathgate will be advertising the event in the schools and elsewhere to encourage as many as possible to take part, dress up and take part in a Zombie March. After the celebrations in the town centre a PG rated film will be shown in the Regal Theatre free of charge to those taking part and their parents and friends.

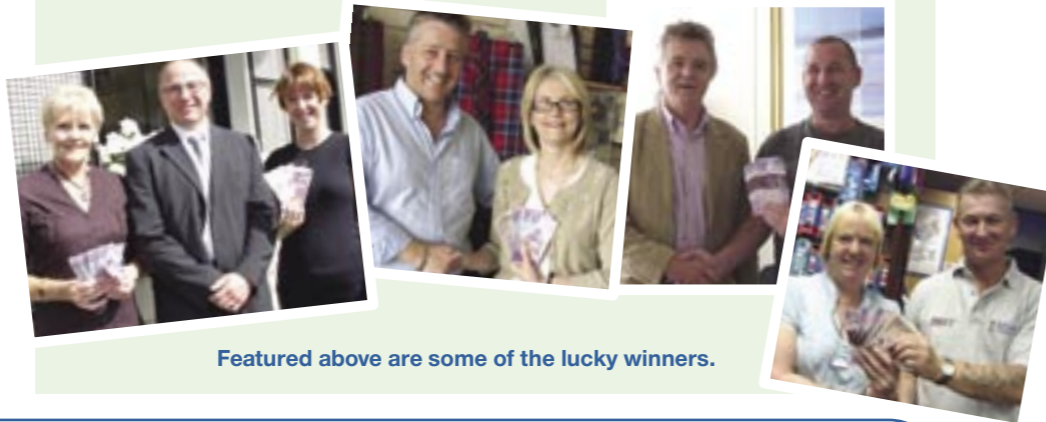
This celebration is part of a series of events and festivals Enterprising Bathgate will be staging throughout the year to help promote the town to a wider audience.

## Car Sticker Competition

Our car sticker competition proved to be a big hit in the town in July and August. The competition was programmed to continue on from the bus promotional campaign Enterprising Bathgate introduced in May. The stickers, available from various outlets in the town; Lindsay House, The Library, Xcite Sports Centre, CIS Office and various traders / businesses who agreed to advertise the competition in the windows of their

premises, advertised future events happening in the town.

A representative from Enterprising Bathgate sought out one vehicle each week over the 10 week period of the campaign. The 10 vehicles were chosen on different days of the week and from different areas in the town. Each winner received £100 in cash.



Featured above are some of the lucky winners.

## Premises Improvement Scheme Provides Financial Support To Levy Payers



*"It's hard work and costly setting up and maintaining a business in any town and the grant given to me by Enterprising Bathgate through their Premises Improvement Scheme was immensely welcome. It gave me financial help just when I needed it most. Enterprising Bathgate should be applauded for this initiative and the other projects they carry out on the town's behalf."*

Carole-Anne Lindsay,  
Cal's Deli.

**There has been an excellent response to Enterprising Bathgate's 2009-10 Premises Improvement Scheme with 69 businesses already participating in this project.**

As detailed in the previous newsletter, we have funding of £45,000 in place to contribute to external and internal improvements to premises by way of grants. All levy payers are eligible to apply and grants are banded to reflect the rateable value of the property with additional help being available to those businesses moving in to vacant premises.

May we remind those who have received application forms but have not yet completed and returned them that this should be done by 30th September 2009.

The Scheme will be reviewed at that time to evaluate the total grants awarded to date and any remaining funds will be made available on a first come first served basis. Again, all levy payers will be contacted at the same time to

make them aware of the situation.

In addition, as part of our application to the Scottish Government's Town Centre Regeneration Fund, we are looking for matched funding for our Premises Improvement Scheme. If successful this would result in a further £45,000 being available in the current year to provide additional support to levy payers.

If you have any queries regarding the scheme contact Sam Crawford, Enterprising Bathgate, Bathgate Business Centre, 6 Whitburn Road, Bathgate, EH48 1HH. Telephone 01506 637537 or email [info@bathgatebid.net](mailto:info@bathgatebid.net)



**West Lothian's newest festival is back. On Sunday 13 September Bathgate launches the second week-long Bathgate Music Festival with dozens of performances, workshops and events happening all across town at venues and in the open air.**

**The festival opens with an afternoon concert by the legendary Tam White and Brian Kellock at the Regal Community Theatre. This is the venue for the main concert programme, which this year has an international flavour taking in musicians from Germany, Israel, USA, Cuba and Spain as well as the best of Scottish and West Lothian talent.**

On Sunday evening the Regal will be swinging to the Big Band sounds of West Lothian based saxophonist Andy Mears and his Jazz Orchestra playing with West Lothian Schools Big Band. On Monday, everything cools as Brenda Cochrane takes centre stage. With a voice that the EdinburghGuide.com describes as Vonda Shepherd, Aretha Franklin and Eva Cassidy rolled into one, Brenda is not to be missed. Tuesday sees the arrival of the wonderful Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas who play big and little fiddles (violin and cello) with a virtuosity that just has to be heard to be believed. Things heat up on Wednesday as the flamboyant, brassy and euphoric Orkestra del Sol bring their hilarious stage show and glorious music distilled in Scotland. Thursday is cool as Joni Keen and her trio celebrate the music of Ella Fitzgerald in the afternoon and guitar greats Brian Gore, Itamar Erez and Lulo Reinhardt make the evening into International Guitar Night. On Friday 18 September the Regal will be jumping to the irresistible sound of The Hot Seats. During their last British tour this five piece band from Richmond, Virginia earned a Herald Angel at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe

and set Celtic Connections alight. The Saturday night sign off concert is a fantastic tribute to the mighty Led Zeppelin by local band Led Astray.

The festival offers something for everyone, small children can enjoy Mr Boom, Bounce and Tickle sessions and Mini Music Makers in the mornings while older kids take part in the new nursery and schools programme featuring the hugely entertaining Dave Trouton plus Skerryvore, "the boy band of traditional Scottish music". There is free music in the streets, especially on Saturday 19 September when, from 11 am until 3.30pm the Music Stage will be alongside the Continental Market in the Steelyard. Local bands have been booked to play evening gigs at ten local hotels, pubs and clubs all week.

**The full programme is detailed in the new Bathgate Music Festival brochure available now from shops and venues all across Bathgate and from libraries, community information and education centres across West Lothian. It is also downloadable from [www.westlothian.gov.uk](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk)**



**Bathgate Music Festival is a partnership between West Lothian Council, Enterprising Bathgate, Bathgate Traders Forum and the Regal Community Theatre.**

**Enterprising Bathgate would like to thank Maggie Mackay, Cultural Services, West Lothian Council for supplying this article.**

