

# The Recycler



January - March 2013 edition

# Launch of The Recycler magazine

Welcome to the first edition of The Recycler, brought to you by social enterprise Crest Co-operative.

The new magazine will be displayed in Crest's two community stores and will be hitting the inboxes of supporters and members.

In the first jam-packed edition of The Recycler, we look back on a busy few months at Crest Co-operative. Discover how staff have worked to transform an empty Llandudno shop unit into a budget department store and find out how Crest Co-operative's customers and supporters have helped the local community.

## Llandudno store is a hit with community!

CREST Community Store, Llandudno opened in February and has proved popular with town centre shoppers.

The budget store offers new and pre-owned goods at discount prices.

Re-conditioned washing machines, ovens, fridge freezers and other electrical items, are offered for sale.

The items are collected by Crest Co-operative from members of the public and are sold back to the community at low prices.

The new Llandudno store has already created work placements for the unemployed and adults with learning disabilities.

Mother-of-two Aysha Roberts, 22, from Llandudno, came to Crest on work programme after facing barriers when trying to find a full-time job. Aysha has now started a permanent retail assistant job at the new Llandudno store.



Aysha said: "I had a lot of support from Crest Co-operative. I now think that working in retail is where I am meant to be. I love coming to work."

Crest Co-operative also have a high street shop on Station Road in Colwyn Bay, which opened in 2012.

Crest Community Store in Llandudno Junction closed in February and stock was moved to the bigger site in Llandudno.

Crest Co-operative's head office will remain in Llandudno Junction.

Have you heard Crest's new radio advert?

Tune in to  
Heart FM 96.3



## **In this edition The Recycler looks at...**

**How customers and supporters have helped Crest Co-operative to give something back to the community!**

**Have you purchased something from Crest Community Store recently?**

**Have you filled a purple bag with clothing and donated it to Crest at your kerbside?**

**You may not realise it, but your custom and your donations have benefited the local community.**

**Here's how...**



**Crest Community Fund gives £10, 000 to Conwy community groups each year**



**New bowling equipment for Llysfaen Village Hall**



**New equipment for Cylch Meithrin Maelgwn**



**Blankets and tents for Llandudno homeless drop-in centre Hope Restored**

**Every time you buy something at Crest Community Store, you give something back to your local community....**



**Crest's surplus profits help to subsidise the work of FareShare North Wales.**

**Each week FareShare contributes to more than 3,400 meals for local people, who are vulnerable to food hardship**



**Provide real work experience to adults with learning disabilities**



**Provide volunteers with a programme of support and development**



**Help Crest to deliver recycling workshops to schools and trips to Crest Co-operative free of charge**

# Prime Minister praises Crest Co-operative!

In January Crest Co-operative scooped a Big Society Award.

The recycling social enterprise was praised by Prime Minister David Cameron.

Mr Cameron said: "Crest Co-operative has made a difference to a huge number of people across North Wales by making sure food, which would otherwise go to waste, is made available to vulnerable and homeless people. On top of this they work with unemployed people to deliver the service, helping even more people in local communities."



"Crest has an innovative and compassionate approach to tackling a range of social problems through one enterprise, which really demonstrates what the Big Society can achieve. I'm pleased to be presenting Crest Co-operative with this award and hope they continue to grow and reach even more communities," he added.

## Crest's prize money helps community!

Crest Co-operative was named Social Enterprise of the Year Wales, at a Prestatyn awards ceremony last year.

A cash prize of £1, 000 was awarded to the recycling company.

Sharon Jones, Chief Executive at Crest Co-operative decided to use the funds to support community groups across North Wales.

In 2013 Rhyl Nightshelter, ARC Communities LTD, Conwy Foodbank and Dan's Den, will benefit from free deliveries of food each week, which will be supplied by Crest's team of staff at FareShare North Wales.

FareShare North Wales works with food manufacturers to divert in-date food away from landfill.

Food is distributed to community groups, whose service users are vulnerable to food poverty.

Community groups pay a small fee each week to make the non-profit project sustainable.

Hazel Cleverley, Chair of the Dan's Den Project, said: "It (free deliveries) has helped us to keep costs down in our cafe. This benefits young people in need without us having to delve into our reserves."

"It has been extremely beneficial and enables us to provide affordable meals to young people in our area, some of whom we know come into our cafe and who have not eaten or have little to eat at home."

"Helping to reduce food waste is so important in today's economic climate, and we are pleased to have had this opportunity," she added.



## Spotlight on....

# Crest's Electrical Re-use Centre

Crest Co-operative's electrical re-use centre opened at the end of 2012. Unwanted electrical items are collected from the homes of Conwy residents and are repaired and tested at the Mochdre based centre.

### **What items do Crest Co-operative repair and re-use?**

Crest collect and repair washing machines, fridge freezers, ovens, dryers and many more household electrical items. Crest also collect small electrical items, including hair dryers and irons, from the kerbsides of Conwy residents.

### **How does Crest Co-operative re-use the items?**

Crest Co-operative has two community stores in Colwyn Bay and Llandudno. The stores are open to members of the public. Crest stocks a range of re-conditioned household electrical items. These items are PAT tested at Crest's electrical re-use centre and come with a 3 month guarantee.

### **I have unwanted electrical items. Will Crest collect them?**

Yes. If you would like to arrange a collection, please call Crest Co-operative on

**01492 596783.**

### **If Crest can not repair electrical items, are they still recycled?**

If electrical items can not be repaired, Crest Co-operative will re-use parts from the item/s. These parts will be used to repair other electrical appliances.

Crest Co-operative works to re-use items and save them from landfill.



## Did you know....

**Crest Co-operative collects bulky household waste, textiles, small electrical items, books, CDs and DVDs for Conwy County Borough Council?**



# Discounts for Cartrefi Conwy tenants



Crest Co-operative has launched a tenant discount scheme, working in partnership with Cartrefi Conwy

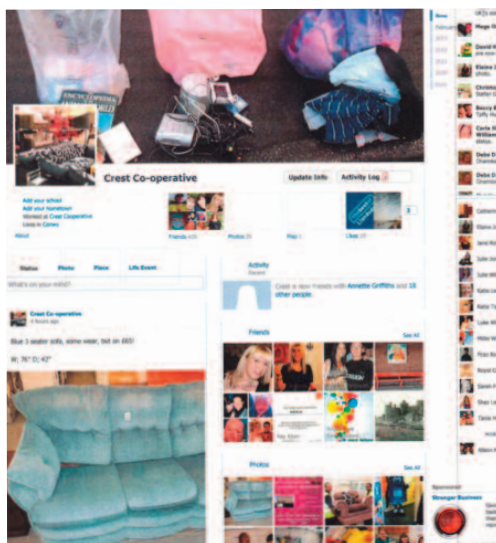
Tenants of the housing association will receive 15% off goods sold at Crest Community Store. Discount cards are issued by staff at Crest's Llandudno and Colwyn Bay stores.

**Have you seen the new sign writing on Crest's vans?**

**Members of the public can call Crest at any time on 01492 596783 to arrange collections of unwanted furniture and electricals**



## Join us on Facebook



Crest's staff upload shop stock to Facebook, including sofas, household electricals and more.

Ask questions and get instant answers!

Search Crest Co-operative on Facebook

**Shop online**

**Visit**

**[www.crestcooperative.co.uk](http://www.crestcooperative.co.uk)**

**Explore Crest's Ebay site and online store**



**CREST**



**FareShare Cymru**  
community food network  
rhwydwaith bwyd cymunedol