

YourMoney

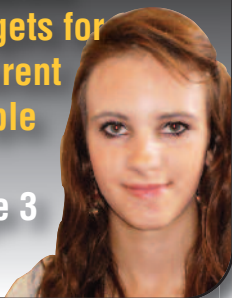
Issue 3



Winter 2009
Supplement

FREE

**Different
budgets for
different
people**



Page 3

**Help available
to make your
money go further
+
Why Budget?**



Pages 4 & 5

**Get a celebrity
look for less!**



Page 6

**FREE
ADVERTISING
FOR SELF
EMPLOYED
RESIDENTS**

Page 8

YourMoney ££££

NEED BIG PRINT?

We can supply this information in large print, on audio tape or in your language.

Please call 01202 264444 to discuss your requirements.

Your Money is designed and produced by IMS Group. Telephone: 0845 166 8595

Edited by Karen Toft.

For further information about any of the articles and features within this supplement please call Karen Toft on 01202 264484.

Reproduction in whole or part is forbidden, save with the express permission of the publisher.

Poole Housing Partnership Ltd
Beech House
28-30 Wimborne Road
BH15 2BU

Tel: 01202 264444

Fax: 01202 264441

E-mail: enquiries.php@poole.gov.uk

www.yourphp.org.uk



This magazine is brought to you by Poole Housing Partnership, produced in partnership with Bournemouth Borough Council. This edition also includes an article written by our guest writer, Holly Connell from Poole High School.

We aim to provide you with as much information as possible to help you make informed decisions about the different financial products and services available to you, and to help you make your money go further.

We hope you find some useful and interesting articles in this magazine. Please let us know your feedback, good

or bad. And if you have any articles, news, information or ideas about what else you would like to see included in future editions, please let us know.

For further details about any of the articles included in this magazine, please speak to (for Poole Housing Partnership residents) Karen Toft on k.toft@poole.gov.uk 01202 264484, or (for Bournemouth Residents) Colette Walmsley on colette.walmsley@bournemouth.gov.uk 01202 572947.

Competition Winner

In the last issue of Your Money, we asked you to complete a 'Your Money' survey. Everyone who completed this survey was entered into a prize draw. The lucky winner of the prize draw and the £50 of Love2Shop vouchers was Pauline Crofts (pictured) from Baiter Gardens.

Pauline says "My husband always laughs at me for entering these competitions, but it's paid off now. Now I'm laughing."



Pauline Crofts (right) is handed the £50 Love2Shop vouchers by Financial Inclusion Project Officer Karen Toft (left).

Recipe Competition

Do you have a special meal that is always a hit with your family and friends? If so, enter it into our recipe competition for a chance to have your recipe published in our cookery book and maybe win a prize too.

The top 20 recipes (5 starters, 10 mains and 5 desserts) will be published in a cookery book. We have various prizes available to PHP and Bournemouth residents which include a Meal for 4 at the Toby Carvery, the money to cook and make your winning meal and other prizes too. All entries will receive a free copy of the book.

To be in with a chance of winning, your recipe should not only be delicious but also:

- Healthy
- Low cost
- And all the better if it has a local twist too.



The closing date for this competition is 31.12.09 and you can enter up to 3 recipes per person. This is open to both Poole Housing Partnership and Bournemouth residents. Send your recipe ingredients and cooking instructions to (PHP Residents) Poole Housing Partnership, 28-30 Wimborne Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 2BU or email k.toft@poole.gov.uk or (Bournemouth residents) to Colette Walmsley, Bournemouth Borough Council, 224 Poole Lane, Kinson, Bournemouth, BH11 9DS or email Colette.Walmsley@Bournemouth.gov.uk.

A Young Person's Budget

Holly Connell is a Year 11 pupil at Poole High School.

The bright and cheerful youngster came to PHP for work experience in July, spending a lot of time working with our Resident Involvement Team. Marie Marsh, our Resident Involvement Coordinator said about Holly "Holly has been a valuable asset to the team during her short time here at PHP, she has learnt quickly and completed all tasks to a high standard. Holly has been a pleasure to have around the office and we are certain that she will excel in any career she chooses". Whilst spending time with us in the Financial Inclusion Team, we asked her to compose an article for us about her views on money. She whipped up this impressive article for us in a flash.



Holly Connell

Pocket money

Every week I receive £5 pocket money from my dad. Every month I receive £20; including £10 which I earn. The other £10 gets spent on my mobile phone contract from mum, but even then I still have to pay an extra £5 towards it!

Spending money

Most weekends I go shopping and all my money gets spent. Clothing, accessories, shoes, magazines, lunch, jewellery, presents and much more.

When I was little, I remember my dad telling me a little saying that his dad had told him. 'Save some, spend some'. What he meant was that every time I went shopping, I was to spend half of my money and save half of my money.

Earning money

I make the sandwiches the night before a work or school day for my dad, my younger sister and myself. From that I earn £10 a month.

Every so often I will wash our car inside and out - hoovering, polishing and scrubbing away to make it spotless. I normally get a fiver for doing that job. Or, another job I do to earn money is working

for my dad. He's a builder and runs his own company. Going to work with him for the day earns me £10 and I'm very grateful that I can do that.

About a year ago now, I tried out for a paper-round. The waiting list was far too long and so I gave up in the end and took my name off of the list. I expect I'd have been around thirty by the time it was my turn.

Saving Money

To be honest, my money burns a hole in my pocket and once I have hold of the cash, it goes as quick as you can say 'shop'. However, at home I have a piggy bank that holds all my 1p and 2p's in which when I have loads of them, I take them to the bank to be counted up and put into pound coins.

Banking money

The only time I bank my money is when I have received money at either my birthday or Christmas. That's partially because I never really have enough money to bank.

Owing money

Going out with my auntie most Mondays, I spend her money a lot. Especially when I have no money and we go shopping

together. Owing money isn't great because the minute you get some money for yourself, you have to pay it back to somebody else. Plus, being in-debt isn't very enjoyable. It sucks and the fact that you have no money to spend is really annoying.

So here's my final say. Pocket money is a great way to control your spending and earning extra for cash is even better. When spending money, try to save some for when you really need it instead of spending it on something else. And when you have a lot of money in hand, put some of it in the bank before you spend it all. And again when you have no money, try not to borrow it because you always know that you're going to have to pay it back at some point and that could take forever!

PHP and Bournemouth Council regularly take work experience placements from local schools to help young people gain an idea and experience of working life.

Budgeting 1950's style

We've been clearing some old files from our office recently and have come across a large number of very old letters, postcards, and snippets. Our Financial Inclusion Project Officer, Karen Toft, came across a sheet of paper dated 16th May 1952 and couldn't bring herself to just throw it out. It talks about one family's budgeting, and reads:

"Residents of Rockley Road, Hamworthy, Dorset, know the plump, happy-faced woman at Number X as "Mother Goose".

Mrs G has earned her nickname by having 18 children in 21 years.

One died very young, leaving 11 boys and six girls whose ages now range from twenty-eight to seven.

"I'm glad I had more boys", says Mrs. G. "They're more lovable."

Allowing for three children in the Army and others married, the family still totals 12 in the three-bedroom semi-detached brick house.

And as they can't all sit down in the living room at once, or get around the wooden table together for meals, they do it in relays.

Mr G, a rodent operative (once called a rat catcher) is always up first. He takes a cup of tea to Mrs G in bed.

Breakfast in turns

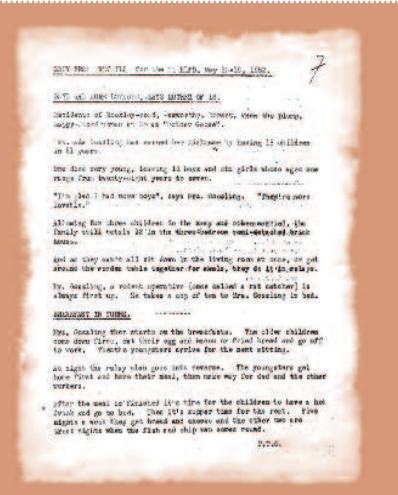
Mrs G then starts on breakfasts. The older children come down first, eat their egg and bacon or fried bread and go off to work. Then the youngsters arrive for the next sitting.

At night the relay plan goes into reverse. The youngsters get home first and have their meal, then make way for dad and the other workers.

After the meal is finished its time for the children to have a hot drink and go to bed. Then it's supper time for the rest. Five nights a week they get bread and cheese and the other two nights are treat nights when the fish and chip van comes around.

"I've never dared work out exactly how much food costs us", says Mrs G. "It would frighten me. My husband gives me most of his salary, the older children give me money and then there is the family allowance which comes on Tuesdays. So I split up my ration books into pairs and take two out shopping every day.

"All I know about figures is that I get 21 pints of milk, 45 loaves of bread a week and half a crown's worth of potatoes for Sunday dinner."





Help available to make your money go further

Money isn't easy to come by, and it's even harder to keep hold of. That's why we're coming up with as many ways as possible to help you make your money go further. **All the fantastic services advertised on this page are free of charge.**

To apply / book appointments or to find out further information about any of the services advertised on this page, please contact Karen Toft on 01202 264484 or email k.toft@poole.gov.uk. If you have any ideas of other money saving services you would like PHP to be offering our residents, please get in touch.

Finance Checks

Carried out in your own home by trained Citizens Advice Bureau staff, the Finance Checks aim to help you increase your income and reduce your outgoings. The CAB advisor comes to your home and confidentially discusses your circumstances and details of your income and outgoings. From the information you

provide the advisor can then establish if there are any further benefits you may be entitled to, find you cheaper energy suppliers/tariffs, refer you for help with any debt problems, advise you about banking and loans, plus lots more too.

So far 42% of residents were found to be eligible for more benefits than they were claiming. This amounted to a massive £887.14 per person per year in additional benefits (estimated). Finance Checks are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Debt Advice Appointments

Carried out at our offices by qualified Citizens Advice Bureau staff, the debt advice appointments aim to relieve any debt worries you have. The advisor will give impartial help and advice in complete confidence.

The advisor can negotiate repayment schedules with your creditors at more manageable amounts, negotiate agreeable repayment plans if you have rent arrears, check you are receiving all

the benefits you are entitled to, plus much more besides.

With the help of the debt advisor, residents have been able to reduce their debts by a staggering 10% in their first few appointments alone.

Debt advice appointments are available on Tuesdays.

Housing Benefit Appointments

Carried out at our offices by a Housing Benefit caseworker, the Housing Benefit appointments aim to help you overcome difficulties you may have with any housing benefits. The Housing Benefits caseworker is available to help with new claims, change of address/circumstances, payment/calculation information, estimates, and issues with ongoing claims.

The Housing Benefit appointments are available on Wednesday mornings.

Free Smart Meter Trials

This project aims to help you reduce your energy consumption by fitting a Smart Meter in your home for 8 weeks. This is done at no cost, and no mess, to you.

A Smart Meter doesn't reduce your energy consumption for you, but it will show you how much energy your household appliances are using. Hopefully you will then be able to find ways of reducing your energy and also your energy bills.

So far, 92% of residents who trialled the Smart Meters have found the trial useful. There is a small waiting list for this service.

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

TURN YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS INTO CASH OR BAG YOURSELF A BARGAIN

Advertise your items for sale, advertise for wanted items, advertise your lost and found items. ALL FREE.

It will free up valuable space in your loft or garage too.

www.yourphp.org.uk

facebook

Join our facebook page for money saving tips, discussions, event details, competitions & more.

YourMoney PHP

<http://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/Your-Money/218108905009>
or click on the link from our website: www.yourphp.org.uk



Budgeting is working out what money you have coming in and what money you have going out. It allows you to see how your money should be allocated, and helps you know how much money you have to spend once all your necessities are paid for.

Budgeting allows you to take control of your finances, instead of your finances controlling you! It enables you to see where you are spending money unnecessarily, and where you can save more. Once these unnecessary spends are stripped out, you will be able to afford things you couldn't before, and what's more, you will know whether you can afford them rather than wondering whether you can afford them!

If you share money with anyone, such as

a partner, having a budget you create together can be key in resolving differences in handling money.

Your income and outgoings are also useful information to have on paper so when you are discussing finances with anyone, you know exactly where you are and what is happening to your money.

Bournemouth Borough Council is currently looking at how we can offer more help to our tenants to deal with their finances. Some of the ideas that we have include producing a budgeting pack for our tenants to use or offering classes on money management. If you have any other ideas then we would like to hear from you.

❄️ ❄️ WINTER NEWS ❄️ ❄️

New Credit Union Service Point Opens in Turlin Moor

The Coastal Credit Union have opened a new Service Point at St Gabriel's Church in Turlin Moor. The Service Point is open on Tuesdays between 9.30am and 10.30am.

The next PHP free fun day is due to take place at Bearwood Community Centre on Friday 30th October 2009, between 1.00pm and 4.00pm.

Extra money for working tenants

The Department for Work and Pensions has announced an extension in housing benefit entitlement that could help up to 200,000 working families.

Child benefit will no longer be taken into account when calculating entitlement to housing benefit and council tax benefit.

Winter Fuel Payments

You will receive a Winter Fuel payment of between £125 and £400 automatically if you were aged 60 or over on or before 27.09.09 and are receiving a state pension or another benefit. If you think you qualify but don't receive it, you can call the Winter Fuel Payment helpline on 08459 151515.

Cold Weather Payments

If you receive Income Support, JSA, ESA and have a child under 5, a disabled child premium, a disabled premium or a pension premium you may be eligible for cold weather payments. These are paid when the weather drops below zero degrees for 7 consecutive days or more.

You will also be eligible if you received Pension Credit or income-related ESA. You should receive the Cold Weather payment automatically if you are eligible. If you think you should have received one when you didn't, you should contact the Job Centre or Pension Services.

Are You Claiming What You're Entitled To?

People in the UK are missing out on £10 billion of tax credits and benefits each year. **EntitledTo** is a web site which uses a calculator to work out what benefits individuals and families may be entitled to claim. The service is free and no personal information is required, so anonymity is guaranteed. The calculator is easy to use and it takes just a few moments to find out if you may be entitled to benefits or tax credits you are currently not claiming.



To discover if you're one of those in the UK who are missing out on money they're entitled to, visit www.entitledto.co.uk
If you don't have internet access at home, visit your local library where access is free.

Get a celebrity look for less!



Cheryl Cole has topped the charts with the most wanted celebrity hair style. But before you think "I could never afford to get my hair looking like that!" think again!

You can get the latest look for a fraction of what celebrities pay! Bournemouth and Poole College at the Landsdowne offer hair and beauty treatments for up to 80% cheaper than the High Street.

Their dedicated hair salon offers the latest cutting, blow drying, perm and

colour treatments for men and women. For example, a men's hair cut is £2, and a ladies cut and finish just £6. A full head of colour starts at £15, and if you want pampering an intensive conditioning treatment is just £3.

Their beauty and holistic therapy salon offers a wide range of treatments, such as facials, waxing, manicure and pedicure, massage and nail extensions. They also offer reflexology, aromatherapy treatments and much more.



**For more information,
phone the salon on
01202 205822
or Email
pamper@thecollege.co.uk**

Look the part for interviews

Even before you open your mouth or take out a copy of your CV your interviewers will be assessing you on your appearance. First impressions are hard to change, so make sure that you look the part.

Dress appropriately for the position you are applying for. Make sure the clothes you choose look neat and clean and are ironed: a creased and rumpled shirt can give the interviewer the impression that you're not too bothered about the job.

For guys, a shirt and tie is usually best for a job interview. Make sure that you wear shoes, not trainers, and that you give them a good polish. You should wear smart trousers and be sure to tuck your shirt into them.

For ladies, a formal skirt or trousers should do the trick, along with a smart-casual top. Don't go for a top that is

revealing or shows a lot of flesh. Your shoes should not be too high. Keep makeup muted and natural, and wear minimal jewellery.

Remember:

- Keep your hair clean, neat and out of your eyes
- Don't wear too much perfume/aftershave
- Clean your nails
- Iron your clothes
- Dress smartly.



Bournemouth and Poole Adult Learning
working in partnership, delivering excellence!

bridge2work

Bridge2work is a programme designed to meet your individual needs to help you prepare for work. It also aims to identify and support you in overcoming any barriers to employment that you may have. The programme is designed to find a job that suits your needs and ability.

- Start thinking about your future.
- Identifying employment goals.
- Help with choosing, finding, and getting the right job for you.
- Information on the local Labour market and Employer contacts.
- Signposting to training courses and useful organisations.
- Training in writing a CV, job applications, job search skills, interview techniques.
- Help with making you feel confident about going back to work.
- Overcoming barriers, building your confidence and motivation.
- Funding for a wide range of Back to work expenses.
- Ongoing help after you start work.



Please contact Karen Reid, Bridge2work co-ordinator, on:
**Bournemouth Adult Learning: 01202 451994 or
Poole Adult Learning: 01202 262317**

? Problems Column ?

Do you have a money related problem?

Send it in and we'll see if we can help you resolve it. Problem page letters and answers are also included on PHP's regularly updated website:

www.yourmoney.org.uk. Send your problems to PHP, 28-30 Wimborne Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 2BU or email k.toft@poole.gov.uk. For Bournemouth residents contact Colette Walmsley at 224 Poole Lane, Kinson, Bournemouth, BH11 9DS or email Colette.walmsley@bournemouth.gov.uk

Pension Problem

Q: *I am confused about the rules for Pension Credit. I am 66 years old but I have savings that I have been living off for some years. Someone told me that I may still qualify for Pension Credit but surely as I have savings I would be expected to use my savings before I am able to claim anything?*

A: Having savings does not automatically disqualify you from claiming certain benefits, Pension Credit being one of them.

The first £10,000 of your savings is disregarded and will not affect your eligibility at all. This limit recently increased from £6,000. If you have more than £10,000 in savings, Pension Services will count £1 a week as income for every £500 (or part of £500) you have above the £10,000.

To establish your eligibility for certain, there are a few different things you could do.

- If you are a PHP resident, you could take advantage of a free Finance Check. This would involve a CAB worker coming to your home and going through your income and outgoings and working out your eligibility for different benefits - including Pension Credit. To book an appointment contact Karen Toft on 01202 264484 or email k.toft@poole.gov.uk.
- Use the online Pension Services Calculator to find out if you are entitled and get an estimate for how much you would benefit from. The web address for this is www.thepensionservice.gov.uk/pensioncredit/calculator
- If you live in Sheltered Accommodation, ask your Sheltered Housing Officer to make a Pension Credit referral for you.
- Telephone Pension Services on 0800 99 1234.

money madness

You can't take it with you.

The old British tradition of placing a coin over each eye of a person who had died was done to ensure the person had enough money to pay the ferryman who operated the boat between the land of the living and the land of the dead.

The total cost of dying in the UK is now typically £5,923, with the funeral accounting for around £2,390 of it. The rest is made up of probate, flowers, notices in newspapers, catering at a wake, headstone, etc.

In Chinese tradition, the deceased are given 'hell bank notes' to ensure they are not short of cash on the other side. Hell bank notes are always in denominations of several thousands to ensure a healthy nest egg in the afterlife.

Until the early 20th century, those willing to pay could choose to have their corpses mummified and displayed on the walls of the catacombs beneath Palermo for posterity.

Find a penny, pick it up and all day long you'll have good luck.

A coin with a hole in it is said to be very lucky, which could be why the Japanese economy is doing well – several of their coins have holes in them.

An itchy right palm is said to mean that you will receive money. An itchy left palm that you will have to give money away.

The American 2 dollar bill was hated so much by Americans that they quickly became viewed as being cursed with ill fortune. In some parts of America clerks will refuse to accept them and banks won't give them out unless they are specifically requested.

In Roman times, salt was a very valuable commodity, giving rise to the word "salary" and was considered a form of money at the time. It was considered very bad luck if salt was spilled, so people threw some of the spilled salt over the left shoulder to placate the devil.

Loans

Q: *I'm so fed up! I borrowed some money a while ago from a doorstep lender, and it's taken me ages to pay off. Now I'm coming to the end of my repayments, they're trying to pressurise me to take out another loan. I'm worried that if I carry on borrowing I'll never get out of debt. Is there a better way for me to manage my money?*

A: Doorstep lenders usually charge high interest rates, so if you do really need a loan, it's advisable to shop around for the best rate.

One way of keeping out of debt in the future could be to put a few pounds aside each week so that you have some cash to fall back on. It's important you keep your money (or savings) in a separate, safe account like a bank, building society or Credit Union account. Even if you have CCJs you can often still open a basic bank account or open a Credit Union account. Credit Unions give you free access to your money, and you may be able to access much cheaper loans to top up your savings once you've been a member for a while. They're co-operative and not-for-profit too!

Life is but a gamble, let flipism chart your ramble.

A person who drives 10 miles to buy a lottery ticket is 3 times more likely to be killed in a car accident while driving to buy the ticket than to win the jackpot.

If you play the same numbers on the UK lottery twice a week, every week, your 6 numbers have a chance of being drawn once every 134,459 years.

133 ticket holders won a share of the £16million jackpot in the 14 November 1995 lottery draw.

Plastic Fantastic.

The average number of credit cards per person is 2.4. The average number of debit cards per person is 1.6.

The average transaction value on credit cards in the UK in 2008 was £63.22.

Debit card purchases in the UK in the year 2008 amounted to £5.5 billion.

FREE ADVERTISING FOR SELF EMPLOYED RESIDENTS

Are you a Poole Housing Partnership or Bournemouth Council resident who is self employed?

If so, we can help you to advertise your business to thousands of people in the area free of charge.

We are hearing from a number of self employed residents that in the current financial climate, their businesses are suffering and some months they are struggling to pay all their bills or maintain the quality of life they are used to. In response to this and to help our self employed residents through these difficult times, we would like to help by offering some free advertising space in our various publications.

We have quarterly newsletters and magazines such as this one, our internet site (www.yourphp.org.uk), a facebook page (<http://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/Your-Money/218108905009>) plus other publications too where we can offer you some free space to advertise your business.

**T C Reeves
& Sons**

Mobile tow bar suppliers.

**Fast reliable service
at a price that's right.**

**Phone today for a
no obligation quote:
01202 661646 or
mob: 07764347990**

Locks & Tresses

**Visiting Mobile
Hairdresser.**

**19 years experience, fully
insured, reliable and
friendly service.**

**Contact Fay on 07969
723628 / 01202 517 918**

**Email:
locksandtresses @yahoo.co.uk**

**CERAMIC TILER
based in Poole**

**Fully experienced in all
aspects of floor and wall
tiling including porcelain,
marble and mosaics.**

**Quick clean workman, no
job too large or small.**

**Day rates or pricework,
can supply materials if
required. Own reliable
transport. Willing to travel.**

**Please ring Ian on
07800 837029**

If you are interested in advertising your business, please contact (PHP residents) Karen Toft on 01202 264484 or email k.toft@poole.gov.uk, or (Bournemouth residents) Colette Walmsley on 01202 572947 or email Colette.walmsley@bournemouth.gov.uk

~ Advertising feature on Julian Barry ~

Julian Barry is a singer/songwriter born in Bournemouth who's lived in the Poole / Bournemouth area all his life. His music is an eclectic mix of alternative/pop. So far his music career has done well, but its only recently started to kick off for him and he's expected to go a lot further.

Julian first came to the attention of PHP in 2008 when he performed at RespectFest. His music was really well received and the crowds loved him. He came along with his gorgeous little boy Leo, who Julian hopes will follow in his musical footsteps.

Julian has performed in many venues in front of thousands of different people and has loved every minute of it. His last 2 singles have been on Radio Station playlists all over the world in countries such as the US, Canada, Australia, Italy, Spain and of course the UK! He's had some great reviews which you can see on his website - www.julianbarry.com.

Julian says "I've been singing for as long as I can remember. I remember running round the house singing to The Beatles, amongst others. I got my first guitar at 8 years old, I couldn't play it but it gave me hours of fun. I started to write poems

when I was in Junior school and then went on to writing songs at about 11. I still have a folder of all my earliest songs. It's strange to look back and see how much writing I did as a teenager. I've been playing guitar seriously since I was 13. I also play piano, bass, drums and I produce my own music."

Although Julian loves music and his music career, life in the industry isn't easy and he has a lot of hard work ahead of him. He couldn't have got to where he is now without the support of his loyal fans who he says have been excellent. He also really appreciates the support PHP have given to him.

He says "Everyone faces certain work related difficulties but what matters is how you overcome them and what you learn in the process. My main difficulty has been marketing my music due to the lack of financial backing. I've overcome this by doing the best that I can with the resources I've got. PHP have been fantastic giving me free advertising space. For that I'm really grateful. Since performing for PHP at Respect Fest about a year ago I've managed to stay in touch with a couple of PHP staff who have been really nice and so helpful. It's

great what PHP do for local businesses, ideas, my music and of course the Community."

Check out Julians music at www.julianbarry.com or see him on youtube www.youtube.com/julianbarry. You will also find him on facebook, twitter, myspace and bebo. All the links are on his website and ours too www.yourphp.org.uk.



Julian Barry performing at RespectFest 08.