

Continental flavour comes to Chorley

Thousands of people enjoyed a European flavour to their shopping trip with the Continental Market proving a big hit in Chorley.

Stalls selling everything from meats and cheeses to cakes and preserves lined Market Street last month offering something a bit different for shoppers.

Coun. Peter Malpas, who oversees the Markets and town centre said, "It was great to see something a bit different in Chorley town centre. We had everything from olives and cheeses to woodcraft and sausages and lots of people took time to wander around the Continental Market despite the windy weather.

"It got more people into the town so hopefully our local traders have also benefitted and we'll be looking to run it again in the run up to Christmas."

Some traders also enjoyed their first visit to Chorley and are hoping to come back again soon.

Jeff Lasnon, from Brittany in France and who runs the Continental Market as well as having a woodcraft stall, said it had been a good three days. "It's a new experience coming to Chorley but it's been good and we're hoping to be back in the run up to Christmas. We've had lots of people coming to visit the Market and everyone's been very friendly."

Covered Market traders also joined in the fun with Gabbots Farm hosting their own Sausage and Black Pudding Festival with crowds of people queuing up to try some of the tasty meats.

Dave Critchley of Gabbots Farm, said, "The Festival was a huge success and everyone enjoyed themselves. It was good to see lots more people coming to the Market and we'll be looking to hold it again next year."

It's the Real Deal at Sheffield Markets

Sheffield Markets has just signed up to a major new initiative to prevent the sale of counterfeit goods - meaning everything sold within the Markets will be the Real Deal'.

The national Real Deal Charter gives recognition to Sheffield City Council's commitment to ensuring counterfeit and illegal products are not sold in any of Sheffield's Markets. It will cover all Markets managed by the Council, both indoors and outdoors, everyday retail and specialist Markets too.

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The Bread Basket Police update

Following on from the news item in the August edition of Market Trade News, which highlighted the illegal use of bread trays within markets across the UK, an excellent response has been received by Bakers Basco from various market personal across the country.

It was highlighted that bread baskets were being illegally used as display tables and for purposes of holding stock.

As a direct result of the article in the August edition, Milton Keynes Market made contact with Bakers Basco requesting their assistance. A recovery officer attended and spoke with the Market Manager, Sean Gibson. Officers were escorted around the Market by Sean and highlighted the problem within the Market.

A further visit was made by recovery officers at which stall holders were advised in relation to the misuse of the bread trays and were given a reasonable time to make the trays available for collection.

This will be an ongoing process whereby Bakers Basco wishes to eradicate the illegal use of bread trays within markets across the country.

A further, more detailed update will appear in next month's edition. Watch this space.

Castle Market, The Market Place (in Crystal Peaks Shopping Centre), The Moor, King Street, Exchange Street, licensed car boot sales, farmers and specialist Markets will all be equally regulated and any trader found selling counterfeit goods will be removed and banned from further trading on the Markets.

Sheffield Markets Manager Andy Ward said, "The Real Deal Charter has built on previous work that Sheffield Markets and Sheffield Trading Standards have been doing. It allows Sheffield City Council and the Market traders to give a higher level of protection to the consumer and improve the public image of market shopping. We are always working hard to prevent the sale of counterfeit or illegal products and ensure that products bought in our Markets are one hundred percent genuine".

For further information on Sheffield Markets, visit www.sheffield.gov.uk/markets or phone 0114 2735281 for further details.