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UCKFIELD & HEATHFIELD Thursday, February 12, 2009 **Leader**

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UCKFIELD & HEATHFIELD Leader

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On the catwalk - children from Rocks Park School, Uckfield, hosted a fashion show. Forty children took part modelling spring clothes and dancing to a packed audience. The event was held to raise money for the school swimming pool. Rocks Park is lucky to have a beautiful sunken swimming pool but due to running costs the children can only use the pool for the summer term. The school is currently raising money to put a roof on the pool so that it can be used all year round and be available to the wider community.



Ten-year milestone

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UCKFIELD LEADER: 2009

Introduction

The Uckfield Leader is the only newspaper dedicated to the Uckfield and Heathfield area. Published every Thursday and delivered through the doors of more than 9,265* homes in Uckfield, Heathfield, Maresfield, Buxted, Ridgewood and Framfield, the Uckfield Leader offers the only comprehensive coverage of this key area of East Sussex. Local residents turn to the Uckfield Leader every week for it's local news, property, jobs and motoring guides as well as local business and service contacts for the region.

Advertisers can expect to benefit from maximum exposure created by an unrivalled local distribution and readership in the area achieved through closely-targeted editorial and effective and tailored advertising sections.

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Distributing 9,265* copies to Uckfield and the surrounding areas

Rates (all prices are exclusive of VAT at 15%)

Run of paper	£2.16 per s.c.c
Full page	£660.96
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Motors	£1.30 per s.c.c
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Recruitment lineage	£0.58 per word
Public Notices	£7.15 per s.c.c

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Distribution

We've got it covered...

Distributed to 9,265* homes, in a circulation area which stretches from Nutley in the north, Heathfield in the east, Sun Hill in the south and Sheffield Park to the west. Containing the most up-to-date local news and information.

WORK TO START ON FLOOD WALL

WORK on a flood wall to protect Uckfield town centre is finally set to begin after a nine-year wait.

The Environment Agency announced it would start building the high wall around the Somerville car park in River Way in spring. The news comes at the end of more than two years of legal wrangling with the site's owners. Claire Dowling, chairwoman of the Uck Valley Flood Forum, said: "It is a relief an agreement has finally been made but we have a mixed reaction to this. It's good news something is being done but some people remain unconvinced about what impact it will have."

Mrs Dowling said: "We have been assured by the Environment Agency that this will not happen. They have carried out modelling and we have to accept their word but the reality is we will only know for sure when the wall is built and we are hit by the first flood."

She added that a campaign to have a small reservoir at hand, built upstream in the River Uck would continue. That project, expected to cost at least £4 million, has been forecast to protect the town from almost all floods. Campaigners have approached MPs, European agencies and the South East England Development Agency for funding but have been unsuccessful so far. The Environment Agency said the wall would protect around 36 of the 130 properties devastated when the River Uck burst its banks amid torrential rain in October 2000. News of the wall has been welcomed during a week where the town experienced more flooding. On Monday the river spilled out

on to its flood plain but not beyond. The agency said Uckfield had flooded on at least nine occasions in the past 50 years. It said the wall would have protected the town from seven of those.

In 2004 it built a scale model of the town which it used to test different flood defence options. Andrew Pearce, Sussex area manager for the Environment Agency, said: "People living in Uckfield know only too well how devastating a flood can be. Building this wall is the only option currently available to us to reduce flood risk in the town. We are delighted to be able to confirm that we are now ready to go ahead with the scheme that will reduce flood risk to those people who had to deal with flooding in the past. He admitted the wall would not prevent all floods. Mr Pearce said: "Uckfield has been developed within a floodplain. This scheme reduces the risk but doesn't solve the problem."

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