

**RECYCLING:** Adam and Shona used new website to find what they wanted - for free



# Splashing out cost us nothing on Freebay!

■ **GOOD FIND...** Adam Newman and Shona Bosson celebrate their luck in spotting just what they wanted on Freebay.

Picture: Richard Nelmes.

**ADAM NEWMAN and Shona Bosson have a sparkling new bath thanks to a new internet swap shop.**

The tub was destined for the tip until the couple spotted it on a new website called Freebay, which is aimed at reducing the amount of rubbish we throw away.

They decided it would look great in their new Coventry home and snapped it up. It hasn't cost them a

By Dayle Crutchlow

penny - and it will help protect the environment.

The website has been launched to offer people in Coventry and Warwickshire the chance to pass on their unwanted things to someone else.

The idea is to reduce the amount of landfill - and it's expected Freebay could see 4,000 tonnes of rubbish

recycled this year, instead of ending up on a tip.

Adam, aged 24 and Shona, aged 21, who have just bought their first home together in Cherry Close, Holbrooks, are among the first to benefit.

The couple, who both went to Myton School in Warwick, spotted that a woman in Nuneaton no longer wanted this bath and agreed to take it off her hands.

Adam said the couple hated the

green bath that was in their home when they moved in.

Warwickshire County Council print finisher Adam said: "It was avocado green and not very appealing.

"I clicked on the website and found this bath. It's normal, it's white and it looks much nicer.

"Shona's pleased with it and now I'm going to put stuff on the site myself. Anything we don't want I'll stick it on there, instead of chucking it away. I don't like going to the tip anyway, so it saves me the job."

Adam and Shona, who grew up in Leamington and Warwick, are delighted with their Holbrooks home now that the bathroom has been sorted out.

The bath had been advertised on the site by Ursula Chodrat, aged 48, of Hollingwell Close in Nuneaton.

She said: "I just thought it was a fantastic idea. I had this bath I didn't want and I thought, 'one man's trash is another man's treasure'."

## Site that turns trash into treasure

**FREEBAY** is the brainchild of local environment group Action 21.

They teamed up with Coventry City Council, Warwickshire County Council and Warwick District Council to launch the site to reduce the amount of rubbish that ends up in landfill sites in the region.

Bikes, trikes, electrical goods, computer equipment, books, furniture, DVDs, clothing and other items are all



■ **NEW APPROACH...** Jenny Sansom of green group Action 21.

advertised and found new homes via the site.

The initiative, which started at the weekend, is dedicated to improving the environment rather than raising cash.

All transactions on the site are free of charge.

Jenny Sansom, of Action 21, hopes the site will change the way people think about their unwanted items.

She said: "As well as saving quality goods from being thrown away, we are hoping the site will begin to change attitudes to waste, and help build community links."

It is expected that Freebay will improve recycling in the region.

## Youth robbed in sale deal terror

A **TEENAGER** was threatened with a hammer during a terrifying robbery in Coventry.

Police said the thief went to the 17-year-old victim's house in Station Street East, Foleshill, at 3.30pm yesterday and offered to sell him cheap laptop computers and cameras.

The teenager initially declined and the robber went and sat in a white van which had an orange light on the top.

But the victim changed his mind and went to the cash machine in Station Street East after telling the man, who was a passenger in the van, to wait.

As he withdrew the cash, the victim told police that the man in the van shouted to him to hand over his cash, and threatened him by showing him a hammer on the van's dashboard.

The teenager handed over £80 and the van drove off after the victim was thrown a bag containing a camera box which had a can of pop and rubbish in it.

The thief was white, aged 23 to 24, 5ft 8in, and thin. He had short blond or brown hair and was wearing a hooded, light blue jumper.

Police appealed for witnesses to ring 0845 113 5000.

## Top secret A-ha gig

**EIGHTIES** pop stars A-ha perform at a pub somewhere in Coventry and Warwickshire tonight.

The group will be performing hits including Take On Me and The Sun Always Shines On TV at the exclusive gig with an audience of 180 people. The only way to get tickets was to win them through the Evening Telegraph.

## Statue for a naval hero

A **STATUE** of Elizabethan sea hero Sir Walter Raleigh, paid for by a tobacco company, is to be unveiled in the Devon village where he was born. Raleigh brought back tobacco and potatoes to Britain from his voyages to the New World.

**TO USE FREEBAY, GO TO WWW.COMMUNITYFREEBAY.CO.UK**