

AYLESBURY TOWN

Aylesbury Town Council Magazine
Issue Forty Three • Published Quarterly
December 2016 to February 2017

matters

Serving the people of Aylesbury



'Take pride in Aylesbury Town'
www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

FREE

CAROLFEST

Sunday 11th December 6pm - 7pm

St Mary's Church, Aylesbury



*Join us for traditional carols in a relaxed,
warm, friendly surroundings*

Lead by the Caduceus Brass Band, the Wingrave Singers and children from Oak Green School

Serving teas, coffees, hot chocolate, mince pies and biscuits courtesy of Tesco and the Matrix Scouts - raising funds for the Mayor's charity 'Space'

DON'T FORGET
**Festive
Family Fun**
11am - 4pm
Town Centre



www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Tel: 01296 425678



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Welcome Note

“ Hello, and welcome to another edition of Aylesbury Town Matters. We hope you were able to enjoy our programme of events over the summer and autumn. Our 'Parklife' weekend just seems to grow bigger, better and more fun every year! It was great to see thousands of locals, and a good few who told us they'd come from further afield, enjoying the music and fun, even during some 'iffy' weather at times! Pictures and a full report are on pages 4 and 5.

Aylesbury's proud association with the Paralympics is now well-known all over the world, following big celebrations held at Stoke Mandeville and in the town for London 2012 and Sochi 2014. We did the same for Rio 2016 as the 'Flame' was lit and started its journey right here! And once again what a great event it was, we're so proud to have played a part in bringing this to you.

With Christmas around the corner, please note in your diaries that our ever-popular 'Carolfest' returns to St Mary's on 11 December, a chance to sing along to all your favourite carols and get in the festive mood – bring your family, friends and neighbours along! There's plenty of other festive fun too, details are on page 2.

On August 1st, the Town Council took over the running of the Jonathan Page Play Centre from AVDC, and are committed to helping this hugely valuable local resource continue successfully supporting local families and their children. Check out details of our Christmas Holiday Playscheme on page 8.

You've obviously been busy over the summer tending to your gardens and allotments, as our pictures show on pages 6 - 7 the worthy winners of our competitions this year. Residents and local organisations put huge efforts into helping make all parts of our town look as beautiful as possible, thank you all very much.

Our grants programme has been attracting a large number of applications (which is exactly how we want it to be!!). It's always inspiring to hear that there are so many voluntary organisations out there doing immense amounts of great work to help people and communities, especially the most vulnerable. You can read about some of the work we've supported on page 17.

Remember, if you've got anything on your mind, our Councillors and staff are here to help – or point you in the right direction if it's not something the Town Council can deal with directly. The same applies to any suggestions you have for anything more we can do to improve the town. All Councillors' contact details are on page 20 and the details of how to get in touch with us and your other Local Authorities are on page 21.

Wishing you all the very best, a Happy Christmas and New Year. ”

With best wishes

Councillor Mike Smith

Leader of Aylesbury Town Council

Aylesbury is twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse.

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www.bpdesigns.co.uk





"Aylesbury is really lucky to have this great free entertainment on such a scale"

"Fantastic free event, well done to all involved. Even though the weather was hit and miss, a brilliant turn out. The way it's going you'll need a bigger park!"

ATC News

A Summer of Fun

This year's free Parklife weekend was a huge hit with so many of you. Over 8,000 people enjoyed the array of live music, fun-fair rides, family entertainment, bars and catering on offer during **Live in the Park** on the Saturday of August Bank Holiday. This year visitors also took part in a range of different activities from badminton and hoola-hooping to guitar lessons and a petting zoo, within the new CIA – Community Involvement Area – which saw local companies, charities and organisations offering their services for you to enjoy.

"Would just like to say thanks for organising a fun, FREE and fantastic day... councils from up and down the country should take a leaf out of your book!!"

Proms in the Park was attended by over 2,000 people, including many family groups and young children, all enjoying this great British tradition. With flags and picnics, rugs and umbrellas this really was a fabulous evening, bringing the whole community together, rounded off with a spectacular firework display – luckily the rain held off during the concert, with the skies opening just after the very last explosion of the very last firework, which made for a soggy, yet totally British end to the weekends events.

We appreciate that there were some sound issues on the day and we are already looking at ways to rectify this for other future events. Should you have any further comments we would be delighted to hear your thoughts, we take all feedback seriously, as it helps us to plan future events.

The annual **Tudor Fayre** had some familiar faces and lots of new entertainers and historians to inform, educate and amuse you. This is a day deeply steeped in history and one not to miss next year.

"It was a real treat for the whole community, very well organised in a safe environment and there was certainly something for everybody, very well done to all concerned! Maybe just maybe, next year we could order in a weekend full of sunshine" :-)

Festive Family Fun and Carolfest will this year take place on **Sunday 11th December**. Join us from 11am in Friars Square for an abundance of Nutcracker themed fun, games, activities and entertainment – with ballerinas, stilt walkers, live music and a jaw dropping unicyclist/magician to keep you all entertained. This will be alongside, games, crafts, face-painting and balloon modelling. Outside in Market Square you will find a traditional barrel organ, hot roast chestnuts and fun-fair rides – **ALL FOR FREE**.

Take part in our fantastic new treasure hunt; can you find all of the Nutcracker soldiers hidden across the town (map supplied) to be in with a chance of winning £200 to spend in Friars Square?

"Noticed you had some Dementia Friends amongst your staff. Way to go ATC! Another brilliant event"



Then at 6pm, join us, along with children from Oak Green Primary School, the Caduceus Brass Quintet and the Wingrave singers, in St Mary's Church for a festive, family-friendly sing-along, featuring many Christmas favourites, served with a generous helping of hospitality with mince pies, hot drinks and biscuits

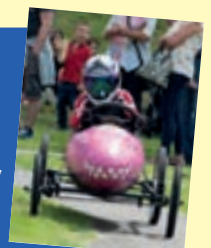
courtesy of Tesco and the Matrix Scouts – raising money for the Mayor's chosen charity Space, also based in St Mary's Church.

For more pictures at our events and information please visit [f aylesburytc](https://www.facebook.com/aylesburytc)



Early Interest Registration

If you missed taking part in this year's **Soapbox Derby** and would like to receive the registration pack on the day of release, ready for the 2017 race – please email your details to r.mayhew@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk





"Such a great day out. Really, really enjoyed it. Thought last year's was good, but this year's was even better. Keep up the good work. Makes me proud to live in Aylesbury. Well done to all the volunteers as well"





Aylesbury In Bloom Garden Competition Awards 2016

What a great competition it was. Our volunteer judges Sandra Ferguson, Janet Leech and Rosemary Brown are all keen horticulturalists and all commented on what a great variety of gardens they have seen throughout the summer months, ranging from smaller sized gardens just filled with pots to large ones which are divided into different sections to secret gardens.

Each garden was a joy to see and we would like to congratulate everyone who took part and the gardens they created. All participants were invited to an Awards Presentation evening where Town Mayor, Cllr Barbara Russel presented the winners with their prizes.

After much deliberation and debate the judges awarded the following:

Best Front Garden – Mr & Mrs Peter & Margaret Walker

Best Back Garden – Mr Phil Welch

Best Edible Garden – Mr Ron Murray

Best Wildlife/Nature Garden – Mr Ron Murray

Best Container Garden – Mr & Mrs Peter & Margaret Walker



We also had two **'Young Gardener'** entries this year in the Edible Garden category, which was won by three year old, Miss Emily Telfer, who grew carrots, peas and lots of other vegetables in her garden bed and planted marigold plants to distract the slugs and snails from her vegetables. It is great to meet the next generation of gardeners and we are looking forward to receiving more 'Young Gardener' entries next year.

Once again the 'Best Communal Garden' category, which was merged together with 'Commercial Planting', was the hardest to judge and caused the most debate and deliberation between the judges.

The overall winner of the **'Best Communal Garden Mayor's Cup'** was Friars Square. The team plant an area in the middle of the car park every year, and this year they incorporated a theme of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death into their planting and design.

We would also like to mention the residents from Sycamore Court who were awarded 2nd place in the Communal Garden Category, Tony Robinson from the Canalside Garden received 3rd and the Florence Nightingale Hospice and The King's Head both received a Highly Commended award. One thing is for sure, all of these gardens bring lots of joy, not only to those who look after it but also to passers-by and residents.

Then it was time to award the 'Overall Best Garden' winner in the resident's category. As the standard was extremely high this year the judges had some lengthy conversations before a majority decision was reached.

The **'Overall Best Garden'** winner of the crystal trophy was awarded to Mr Ron Murray. The judges described his garden as an oasis for wildlife, which can enjoy the many bird feeders, the big pond, the mature trees and nectar rich plants. The garden is combined with a large vegetable patch, which is packed full with vegetables, fruit trees and bushes. Everything you need to feed family and friends.



The **'Newcomer Award'** was given to Mrs Irina Gainullina for her enthusiasm and the fantastic roses she is growing, which are as tall as her garage by now.

The runner-up and commendation prizes were also awarded to the recipients during the awards presentation, which took place at the Railway Club.

The judges reiterated that all the gardens they had seen throughout the summer were simply stunning and they enjoyed seeing the great effort everyone puts in, but there has to be a winner in each category. Sandra, Janet and Rosemary are already looking forward to next year's judging days and seeing how the gardens are progressing.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and a big thank you to our judges who gave up their time for several days to see the gardens.



Competition Winners 2016

CATEGORY	1ST PLACE	2ND PLACE	3RD PLACE	COMMENDATION
Best Front Garden	Mr & Mrs Peter & Margaret Walker	Mr Gary Oselton	Mr & Mrs David & Lesley Ridgeway	Mr Joe Benham
Best Back Garden	Mr Phil Welch	Mr Joe Benham	Mr & Mrs David & Lesley Ridgeway	Mr Ron Murray, Mr Darren Garner-Richards
Best Edible Garden	Mr Ron Murray	Mr Joe Benham	Miss Bethany Cox	
Best Container Garden	Mr & Mrs Peter & Margaret Walker	Mr & Mrs David & Lesley Ridgeway	Mr Darren Garner-Richards	
Best Wildlife/Nature Garden	Mr Ron Murray	Mr Darren Garner-Richards	Mrs Elizabeth Hubery	
Best Communal Garden	Friars Square	Sycamore Court	Tony Robinson, Canalside Garden	
Best Young Gardener	Miss Emily Telfer	A Nother		
Overall Best Garden	Mr Ron Murray			
Newcomer Award	Mrs Irina Gainullina			



The 2016 Aylesbury Town Council (ATC) Allotments Awards were held in October at the Railway Club, Aylesbury.

We are very grateful to this year's judges, Alderman Ray James (Allotment Warden – Crown Leys) and Joe Benham (Secretary, Aylesbury Gardening Society) for spending time in July, on what was probably the hottest week in the month, judging the allotment plots.

With a very wet start to the season, followed by warm and very dry summer months, it has been a mixed year for our allotment holders, with success for some and others looking forward to something better next year.

The criteria for judging extended beyond simply considering the general appearance of a plot. They included the desirability for varied planting (a mixture of vegetables, fruits and flowers) and also considered factors such as composting and cleanliness.

The judges awarded prizes to the best three plots at each site, with additional prizes for Best Newcomer and Overall Winner. The presentations were made by The Mayor, Cllr Barbara Russel with the 1st place winners receiving an engraved shield. In addition, prize winners received a certificate and vouchers, which were kindly donated by the Aylesbury Gardening Society.

Jonathan Page play Centre

Summer Playscheme 2016

During the summer holidays at The Jonathan Page Play Centre children had lots of fun both indoors and outdoors. On the hotter days the children enjoyed water fights in the garden, running through the sprinklers and playing with our homemade water-mill. Not only did everyone get a little bit wet but it was also very cooling during the summer heat. Using the track way in the outdoor area the children made a car wash with our go-karts and learnt how to take turns and share equipment.

The children had so much fun during the Playscheme and also became very inventive. One group constructed their own giant marble run and raced their marbles to find a winner. The latest craze started when a member of staff started to draw amazing door names for children's bedrooms, who then created their own signs using their fine motor skills to create and express.

It was great to see lots of new faces this holiday and we hope to see everyone again soon and to welcome them through the doors at our coming Playschemes!

Christmas Holiday Playscheme

Wednesday 21st December 2016
– Wednesday 4th January 2017
(excluding Bank Holidays)



Come and join in with the Christmas cheer and New Year fun at the Jonathan Page Play Centre.

The staff and children are already planning lots of activities to bring us into the joyful season and are very much looking forward to an exciting and fun new year.

We have many activities to look forward to including handprint reindeer, creating Christmas trees and elves and making our very own magical Christmas corner with a giant sized reindeer. We will be bringing in the new year with firework biscuits, sparkly hats, a New Year party and helping to make New Year's resolutions with the children.

There will be opportunities for the children to enjoy both indoor and outdoor areas, including pool table, football table, role play grotto and go-karts.

The staff and children would like to wish everybody a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the coming New Year.

Correspondence



ATC invites your comments and correspondence... we'd love to hear from you!

If you have thoughts about the town we'd like you to express them through this magazine. What do you think of the events that take place in the town centre? How do you feel about the town in general? Do you have fresh ideas? What bothers you? We'd like to know.

You can send an email marked 'ATM Letters' to: info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk or write to us at: **Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 2QP.**

Please do give us your name and contact details so that we can reply to you.

Aylesbury Town Council – Festive Opening Hours



Opening hours over the Christmas/New Year period are as follows:

Date	Opening Times
Friday 23 December	Open 08:45 to 14:00
Monday 26 December	Closed
Tuesday 27 December	Closed
Wednesday 28 December	Closed
Thursday 29 December	Closed
Friday 30 December	Closed
Monday 2 January	Closed
Tuesday 3 January	Open 08:45 to 17:15



Dear Town Council,

Every morning I walk around Aylesbury and every morning I intend to write this. The hanging baskets and flower displays all around Aylesbury are really beautiful and brilliantly maintained.

It makes me really proud to live in Aylesbury and it shows how carefully the town is looked after. Thank you for creating the displays and bringing a bit of joy to my every day.

Sincerely, A Taylor

Did You Know?

Over the past few months ATC's Dementia Champion has been in the community educating and inspiring individuals, to be aware of issues facing those with Dementia. We now have over 130 'Dementia Friends' in the town. A big thank you to all businesses, community groups and organisations who are supporting our campaign to become a Dementia Friendly town - 3rd Aylesbury Cubs (Spitfires & Hurricanes), Apetito, Friars Square Management, Hampden Hall Care Home, The Nigerian Community Association of Aylesbury, The Rotary Club Hundreds, The Royal British Legion (Aylesbury branch) and Aylesbury Town Council office staff.

If you would like further information on how you and your colleagues can become a Dementia Friend email b.lasoye@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Dear ATC,

I just wanted to say a big thank you to all involved in this year's Live in the Park. I just felt I would leave you some feedback as a punter. I say this as I work lots at this type of event as security, but managed to actually sit down and enjoy this one. The music acts were fantastic. The sound quality was brilliant (we were quite far back). Bar/food prices were a bit on the enthusiastic side but not as bad as I have seen in the past.

Toilet availability was a lot better that my wife was expecting so a big tick there. I know the weather was out of anybody's hands but how lucky were we? If that would have been the intense sun we have seen recently it could have been uncomfortable. As it happens we were warm in t-shirts.

Did you notice the very quick shower did not dampen the good British spirit? So the event gets a massive 9 out of 10 for me and we hope the event will be staged in 2017.

Many thanks, B Wheatley, via email

Dear Sir/Madam,

My family and I would like to congratulate Aylesbury Town Council for the amazing evening of Proms in the Park. It was wonderful. The organisation, the performers and the terrific orchestra were so good. It was enjoyed by so many and from our point of view covered all ages. We had elderly, infirm, middle aged and children – all were immensely entertained. Thank you.

Yours Sincerely, C Di Carlo

Dear ATC,

Just wanted to say how spectacular the floral displays are around the town. We have relations over from France, who have also commented how glorious the town looks. Well done to you all and many thanks.

L Finnemou

Virtual Dementia



ATC's Dementia Champion stepped into the shoes of a Dementia sufferer. "To witness someone living with Dementia is one thing, but to physically live with Dementia for a short while seems inconceivable. On 21 September, for eight minutes my world altered. Myself and a group of volunteers participated in a

Virtual Dementia Tour at Avondale Care Home in Aylesbury which was held in support of World Alzheimer's Day.

Wearing a large glove on my dominant hand with finger-holes sewn together to simulate struggling with motor skills; carpet-grip insoles (spike side up) to give the sensation of peripheral neuropathy (pins and needles), sunglasses which blocked my peripheral vision and obstructed my general eyesight, and a set of headphones emitting various levels of white noise in addition to the random wail of a fire engine and a phone ringing at high pitch. I was about to start living with Dementia.

It was very noisy. I didn't know where to turn. Someone I didn't know grabbed my arm and said something to me. What they said I do not know. The shrill of the fire engine startled me. I swore, but no one was there to comfort me. I swore again – because the phone rang. My feet were starting to hurt, but I couldn't sit down. I was alone. And now I was scared.

This experience only lasted for eight minutes, but will stay with me forever. We cannot begin to imagine how someone who has Dementia spends their day. I was only in one room. How would that be if I were in a house? How would that be if I went into town to run an errand as simple as collecting a prescription?

Aylesbury has always been a community-centric town. As businesses, faith groups, schools, community groups, friends and family we can continue to be just that.

For more information on attending a FREE Dementia Friends session please email b.lasoye@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Community News & Events



**Are you involved in a local community group or charity in Aylesbury?
Would you like to promote your work and events?**

This magazine is delivered to every household in the Parish of Aylesbury. For more information call Judith on **01296 425678** or email: j.priest@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
There is no charge for community groups and charities.



A Local Community Based Alternative to Big Banks, High Street Lenders and Loan Sharks

Aylesbury Vale Community Bank is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned and run by its members. Saving with us, helps us lend to those in need and once again this year you will receive 1% dividend on your savings (subject to future AGM approval).

It's free and easy to join via our website and if you join now you will be eligible for our new incentive schemes:

Special Incentive Scheme for Borrowers

From 1st September, the first 100 new loans issued of £1,000 (or more) to new members, or existing members who have not borrowed from us previously, will receive a **£25** bonus paid into their savings account.

Saving Incentive Scheme

From 1 September to 31 December 2016, the first 50 people who save regularly for 3 months/13 weeks (£65 minimum) will receive a **£25** bonus paid into their account. This bonus scheme is being funded from the Government's Illegal Money Lending Team, which is responsible for prosecuting loan sharks.

For more information visit:

www.aylesburyvalecommunitybank.org.uk or
telephone **03030 300147** or email
enquiries@swancreditunion.org.uk

Looking for meeting room hire?

Town Hall Facilities

The Town Council hires out the Council Chamber for meetings and other similar events, as well as small meeting room hire. Full details can be found at:
www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk/the-chamber.
To check availability of the Council Chamber please contact the Town Council on **01296 425678**.



Masks for MASKS

Friday 7 October saw masked heroes appearing all over Aylesbury, as the local community took part in Masks for MASKS day.

Masks for MASKS is an annual event which invites people to wear a fun, colourful mask for a donation of £1 to Aylesbury charity MASKS (Make A Special Kid Smile). The local charity supports The Vale Federation of special schools in Aylesbury, Booker Park and Stocklake Park schools. MASKS provides the means to enhance and improve the lives of the students aged between 3 and 19 years, who have a range of learning difficulties.

The schools in the Federation entered into the spirit of the day with staff and students wearing an impressive array of colourful and creative masks, plus various local businesses also wore their masks in support.

Rhapsody Hairdressing in Aylesbury, the Black Boy at Oving, Parrott Bros Butchers in Whitchurch and Equitable Life were among the local businesses to take part in the event.

The total raised was in excess of £500, which will be put towards building a Multi-Use Games Area at two school sites.

Chris Stephenson, Federation Principal said: *"This is the second year we've held this fundraising day and it is something we hope to build on each year. It was wonderful to see the fantastic selection of masks worn by our students and we were delighted that the local community also took part. I am thrilled with the total raised; thank you to everyone that got involved."*

For further information contact:

Amanda Housego, telephone 01296 427221

email ahousego@thevalefederation.com

Booker Park School website www.thevalefederation.com



Rotary Club Santa Float

The Rotary Santa floats will be visiting local areas between 6pm and 8pm in December on the following dates. They are collecting for local charities which include PACE, Chiltern MS Centre, Lindengate, Medical Dogs and Gateway.

ROTARY CLUB OF AYLESBURY HUNDREDS

8th - Hartwell & Prebendal Farm

9th - Fairford Leys

13th - Fairford Leys

14th - Watermead

15th - Watermead

16th - Broughton Pastures

19th - Bedgrove (east)

20th - Bedgrove (west)

21st - Elm Farm area (south)

22nd - Bedgrove (west)

ROTARY CLUB OF AYLESBURY

5th - Haydon Hill

6th - Turnfurlong

7th - Mandeville Road area

8th - The Coppice

9th - Hawkslade

10th - Wing

11th - Weedon Road area

12th - Quarrendon

13th - Elm Farm area (north)

15th - Southcourt (south)



Walk the MS Mile Raises £20,000

The Chilterns MS Centre 'Walk the MS Mile' came to Aylesbury on the final day of their five day fundraiser in September, with 140 walkers tackling the mile long route around the town centre. The walk was opened by MP David Lidington and the people of Aylesbury generously put their hands in their pockets to donate to the Wendover based charity, helping them to smash their £15,000 target and raise £20,000.



The Walk the MS Mile sponsored walks, which also took place in Thame, Berkhamsted, Marlow and Buckingham, have helped to raise awareness of, and funds for, the Chilterns MS Centre that supports people in the local community with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Aylesbury resident Lois Macbeth regularly has physiotherapy at the Centre which helps with her MS symptoms like stiffness

and mobility problems, she said *"Thanks to the people of Aylesbury for getting behind us, the Centre is such an amazing place"*. Some of the walkers were regular visitors to the Centre, others have never been there, have no connection to MS, but saw or heard the advertising and were moved to do something for a local charity.

Local businesses, supermarkets and groups also supported this local, independent charity by providing marshals, refreshments, sponsorship and advertising the walks.

The Centre provides practical, physical and emotional support to anyone who is affected by the condition and the £20,000 will enable the delivery of 600 hours of treatment to a local person with MS.



Don't forget to make a note in your diary of our Carolfest and Festive Family Fun events. See the posters on the inside front and back covers.



Sight Loss and Disability Charity opens in Aylesbury

Just imagine... how hard everyday tasks are when you use a wheelchair and have multiple disabilities. Then think about what it is like when you also have sight loss.

SeeAbility has been supporting people with sight loss and multiple disabilities to live as independently as possible for over 200 years. We help people maintain and learn skills, make choices and do those everyday things they want in life.

SeeAbility is about to open Waterside House, Aylesbury with fourteen specially designed flats for people with sight loss and multiple disabilities.

If you have sight loss and disabilities, there will be specific things you need to settle in. Funding from local authorities covers essentials but it is charitable support that enables us to enrich and change people's lives.



Meet Mark, who lives in a specially designed SeeAbility flat. After he moved in he said he wanted to let friends in and make them tea. Things you might do without thinking. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, he now has a door intercom system and special tea making machine. So when Mark has friends round he can entertain them independently.

We want everyone moving in to Waterside House, to do as much as possible for themselves, so we have launched a special appeal at www.seeability.org/aylesbury

Thank you to everyone in Aylesbury for your warm welcome. Special thanks also to Aylesbury Town Council and Aylesbury Vale Community Chest for support with recent grants.



Relay For Life Aylesbury Raises £105,000

Relay For Life Aylesbury 2016 has broken the £100,000 barrier for the third year in succession – and won a special commendation from Cancer Research UK (CRUK) for its efforts.

The total was announced on Friday 15 September, when it was revealed that the 25 teams of 501 relayers had raised £105,035.46 both during the 24-hour event, and with numerous fundraising events throughout the year.

Since Relay launched in Aylesbury in 2009 the event has now raised an amazing £553,014.46.

Lucy Edie, Senior Manager for Cancer Research UK, presented Relay For Life Aylesbury, with a Flame of Hope Special Commendation for Fundraising in the Community. There were over 500 nominations for this award and it was presented to Aylesbury in recognition of its achievements:

"It's a staggering amount of money to raise and we know at CRUK how much hard work has gone into every single pound of it. There are very few Relays that raise more than £100,000 so it puts Aylesbury on the map of fundraising Relays in the country. But also, the thing that struck me, both at the weekend and here tonight, is the incredible atmosphere, energy and camaraderie that I think Aylesbury does brilliantly and that's why you are such worthy winners of the Flame of Hope Special Commendation," said Lucy Edie.

Relay For Life Aylesbury, Chair Paul Kirby said the amount raised in 2016 is unbelievable: *"Our teams, supporters, their friends and families continue to amaze us every year with their incredible hard work and effort. As a committee we have been blown away by the Fundraising in The Community Special Commendation Award. I love what we do and I couldn't be prouder of the event we create. We are all raising money with one aim – to beat cancer sooner – and we can't thank the people of Aylesbury enough for their support."*

Relay For Life Aylesbury 2017 will take place from 12 noon on Saturday July 1 2017 at Aylesbury Rugby Club. To receive information about the event when it opens for registration in November please email relayaylesburyteams@gmail.com



Tree of Light Celebrations

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity (FNHC) is inviting everyone who has lost friends or family, whether they were cared for by Florence Nightingale Hospice or not, and regardless of religion or faith, to join them at the Tree of Light Celebrations and to honour and celebrate their loved ones by sponsoring a Christmas light in their memory.

Christmas is a time when we particularly think of those who are no longer with us, and the Tree of Light Celebrations and Books of Honour provide a focus for families and friends to mark this in a variety of different ways.

The Tree of Light Celebration is open to anyone in the community who wishes to take a moment to remember loved ones



People can sponsor a light to honour someone special and write a tribute to them to appear in the Books of Honour which will be available to view at the two Tree of Light events in December.

The Tree of Light ceremonies are led by the Hospice Chaplain, the Revd Carole Hough, and include festive carols, music from the Leighton Buzzard Salvation Army Band and readings.

"Tree of Light gives us that moment of opportunity to come together, away from all the frenetic activity, to remember those who we love," said Reverend Hough. "As the lights are switched on, so we cherish their memories and hold them in our hearts in a special and meaningful way."

The first Tree of Light event will be at FNHC's Offices at Walton Lodge, Walton Street, Aylesbury, on Sunday 4 December at 5pm. The second will be at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Buckingham on Saturday 10 December at 3.30pm.

Find out more call 01296 429 975 or go to www.fnhospice.org.uk/tree-of-light-2016



*The Town Mayor
Cllr Barbara Russel,
Town Councillors and Staff
wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*





MTC-Aylesbury Musical Theatre Showcase

MTC-Aylesbury is proud to announce its Musical Theatre Showcase featuring the talents from Musical Theatre Choir, Aylesbury and some guest performances from Stagecoach Thame and local soloists.

Join us to hear songs from a variety of musicals including Jason Robert Brown's Songs For A New World and David Heneker's Half A Sixpence. Come and enjoy a fantastic evening of songs from the musicals! **Friday 16th December at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre, Second Space at 8pm. £8 full price or £6 concessions.** To book tickets visit eventbrite.co.uk or email musicaltheatrechoir@gmail.com

MTC-Aylesbury is a local choir open to all. We rehearse on a weekly basis at Queens Park Arts Centre and we're very excited to be performing in our first showcase. If you would like more information on the choir, please visit www.mtcaylesbury.wix.com/mtcaylesbury or [f](https://www.facebook.com/mtcaylesbury) [t](https://twitter.com/mtcaylesbury) [i](https://www.instagram.com/mtcaylesbury) [mtcaylesbury](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

What's on at Bucks County Museum

Hear from experts on fascinating subjects including the Civil War, Ice Age and Archaeology.

John Hampden's Battlefields

Bucks County Museum presents a series of talks by the Battlefields Trust and John Hampden Society. All talks are held at Bucks County Museum, Church Street.

Tickets are £7.50 per talk. **Please book in advance at the County Museum, call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscountymuseum.org**

Southam and Edgehill: An Introduction to War
Saturday 3 December, 2.30pm – 4pm

Brentford and Turnham Green: Decisive Intervention
Saturday 21 January 21, 2.30pm – 4pm

Reading and Chalgrove: Disease and Death
Saturday 25 February, 2.30pm – 4pm

NEW EXHIBITION

Beyond Description: an artist's journey from description to abstraction
21 January – 22 April 2017

A retrospective exhibition of the work of Jane Muir, who in her long and established career as an artist and designer has worked in many different media including mosaics, oils, watercolours, etchings and collograph prints. **Work is for sale.**

Bucks County Museum and Roald Dahl Children's Gallery, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP
For information and opening times call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscountymuseum.org



County Museum University Lecture Series

Moving and grooving, or stuck in the mud?
Thursday 15 December, 6.30pm – 8pm
Archaeologist, Dr Mandy Jay, Durham University, talks about skeletal isotopes, migration and the Beaker People project.

Mammoths in Britain
Thursday 19 January, 6.30pm – 8pm
Prof Adrian Lister, author and lead researcher at the Natural History Museum, talks about this iconic animal of the Ice Age including those found at Marsworth in Bucks.

Cost £7.50 including refreshments. **Please book in advance at the County Museum, call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscountymuseum.org**

Amanda Curbishley

Local Aylesbury artist Amanda Curbishley, originally from Plymouth, is a contemporary artist that works in acrylics and mixed media. She started painting in 2002 and now specialises in marine art.

Amanda feels a connection to light, shape and colour in nature which is reflected in her work. Using acrylic and mixed media she tries to incorporate bright colours and textures into her paintings, which lean toward the semi abstract.

Amanda takes numerous photos of places she visits and generally uses these as reference and a starting point for her paintings. Although she may use a sketch book to work out composition, she tends to go straight to canvas to get a base for a painting and allow it to develop in its own way. She continues to develop as an artist through attending art classes, workshops and a willingness to experiment.

Amanda is a regular exhibitor around Buckinghamshire. She has sold to private collections both home and abroad. This year her work was selected from over 1,100 submissions to appear alongside paintings by some of Britain's leading marine artists at the Royal Society of Marine Artists exhibition at Mall Galleries in central London.

Amanda is a member and secretary of the Buckinghamshire Arts Society and member of the Visual Images Group. She teaches an art class at the Queens Park Arts Centre, Aylesbury, and guest tutors at other groups throughout Buckinghamshire. You can see the full range of her work at www.curbiart.co.uk



Alice in Wonderland



Take a trip down the rabbit hole and into pantoland at the Limelight Theatre, as Queens Park Arts Centre's traditional family pantomime returns for 2016 with a brand new adaptation of Alice in Wonderland.

As Frabjous Day approaches something is amiss in Wonderland – time has stopped, the Queen of Hearts is about to embark on her latest evil scheme, and there's a terrifying beast lurking in the shadows... Can the headstrong young

Alice find out who broke the Great Clock of Wonderland? Will she stop the evil Queen (without losing her head)? And just why is a raven like a writing desk? You'll have to come and see the show to find out!

Featuring plenty of audience participation, memorable songs, riotous slapstick routines and beautiful costumes, sets and props created by the artists and makers of Queens Park Arts Centre, this year's panto is not to be missed.

The show is directed by local actor, writer and filmmaker David Pustansky, and adapted from Lewis Carroll's novels by Limelight Theatre Manager Dario Knight. It features a talented cast of local actors as well as students from the Susan Diane School of Dance.

Tickets cost just £13 for adults, £9 for concessions and £7 for under 16s. For a full list of the performance dates and times visit www.qpc.org or call **01296 424332**. Hurry though, tickets are already selling fast!

Christmas Pop-up Shop



Queens Park Arts Centre's pop-up Christmas craft shop is set to return this winter following a highly-successful debut last year. Featuring an array of handmade items created by the students and tutors of Queens Park, the shop is an ideal stop for anyone wanting to pick up a unique gift for Christmas. The shop opens on **5th December until the end of the month** – for full opening times visit www.qpc.org or call **01296 424332**.



Jazz by Candlelight

Get ready for an evening of great jazz with some of the UK's leading Jazz musicians who regularly play at Ronnie Scott's. Polly Gibbons, the James Pearson Trio along with Ronnie Scott's regulars Arnie Somogyi (bass) and Chris Draper (drums) will be performing on **Thursday 8th December 2016 at St Mary's Church, St Mary's Square, Aylesbury, HP20 2JJ**

Polly Gibbons is one of the most respected and talked about young singer/songwriters of her generation. Nominated for a BBC Jazz Award back in 2006, without an album to her name, indicated just how special a singer and performer Polly is. Much esteemed by her contemporaries, Polly has built a reputation as having an original and gifted voice. With warm, rich, soulful vocals and an innate blues sensibility, Polly has been likened to many of the jazz and soul greats bringing her own storytelling and earnest depth alongside unique humour and fun to performances.

Polly's influences are brilliant, broad and inspired – from the poetry of Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen, to the be-bop of Charlie Parker, the deep wails of Mahalia Jackson's gospel, to the emotional depth of Donny Hathaway, Billie Holiday and Nina Simone; the soul of Marvin Gaye, the blues of Buddy Guy and more contemporary brilliance in the sounds of Prince and D'Angelo.

James Pearson is one of the countries most respected musicians. Currently house pianist and artistic director of Ronnie Scott's, James has broadcast on all the

major radio and television networks. His work as a Jazz musician has taken him all over the world. This year his trio played a four night run in Birdland Jazz Club in New York. His fine piano playing and arrangements can be heard on over 50 albums.

Amongst the many people James has worked with are, Dame Cleo Laine, Maria Ewing, Marian Montgomery, Petula Clark, Kevin Spacey, John Wilson, Elvin Jones, Wynton Marsalis, Joss Stone, Dave Stewart, Buddy Greco, Johnny Griffin, Joseph Horowitz, Richard Rodney Bennett, Ray Davies, Jeff Beck and Paul McCartney.

Arnie Somogyi works frequently at Ronnie Scott's club as a member of the house band 'Ronnie Scott's All Stars'. He's performed with renowned Jazz artists including John Dankworth, Stan Tracy, Steve Grossman, James Moody, Bobby Hutchinson, Art Farmer and many more...

Chris Draper can be found most regularly at Ronnie Scott's with Tim Thornton, Femi Temowo, James Pearson, Polly Gibbons and Andy Davies' bands, respectively. Chris has also performed with the likes of Omar, Soweto Kinch, Jason Rebello, Zara McFarlane and many others.

Doors open 7.30pm, band starts 8.15pm. Tickets on sale now at £14 in advance, £15 on the door. Under 18s £6. Licensed bar and refreshments.

Contact Kim 01296 437641 or Frank 07518 306552 or Jazz Upfront Aylesbury

RSPB Aylesbury Group

The RSPB Aylesbury Group holds a series of monthly evening talks from September to April covering the birds and wildlife to be found in different parts of the UK and abroad. It also runs a number of car and coach trips. Entry to the talks is £3 for members, £4.50 for visitors (unless they join on the night) and under 18's £2. The car and coach trips are open to anyone, members or not. There is a charge of £10 for coach trips, but nothing for car trips except petrol money if getting a lift – plus any entry fees that may be payable.

Annual membership of the group is: Senior Citizens £3, Adults £4 & Families £8. Talks are held at the Prebendal Hall Community Centre, Fowler Road, Aylesbury HP19 7QW and start at 7.30pm. Upcoming events include:

- **Monday 28 November** – birds & other wildlife in Belarus by Andrew Cleave
- **Monday 12 December** – Volcanos & Dragons, plus The Lost Forest of Bernwood by John Tyler
- **Monday 23 January '17** – Bear Necessities – Alaska by Graham Lenton
- **Monday 27 February '17** – Migration Mysteries by Chris Ward

There is a coach trip to the London Wetlands Centre on Sunday 27 November and a car trip to the RSPB reserve at Otmoor on Monday 20 February '17. **For enquiries on any of the above, contact Group Leaders Alan or Della on 01844 208893.**



Aylesbury Town Council Grants

If you are involved in a charitable or voluntary organisation in Aylesbury, you could apply for a match funded grant from Aylesbury Town Council. Grants can be awarded to support a project, event or service. We are also keen to support young people in sport. Sports Grants are available to help outstanding individuals fulfil their sporting potential. **To find out if you are eligible visit our website or call 01296 425678.**

SPACE

£2000 grant from Aylesbury Town Council. Space provides support and care to adults in Aylesbury who are going through difficult times for whatever reason, let that be a relationship breakdown, long term health issues, loneliness, financial difficulties or bereavement. During a year we have about 3,000 interactions with about 170 people. The Aylesbury Town Council funding will go towards helping these much-needed services continue and develop, helping people like Molly, *"I have been attending Space since January 2015. I come to the drop-ins and have recently been having one to one counselling here too. I have struggled with anxiety and depression for 20 years. The drop-ins are a reason to get up, a place to make friends and a place to be me. I have made new friends here that I now see socially outside of the drop-in sessions. The counselling has helped tremendously. It has enabled me make better decisions in my personal life. It is good to feel a part of a community that cares"*.

Aylesbury Vale Community Bank

Aylesbury Vale Community Bank, a Branch of Swan Credit Union would like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to Aylesbury Town Council for the **£2,000 grant awarded to us**. The grant will increase our marketing activities to be 'better known in the local community' for safe savings and affordable loans from £250 to £10,000. Our affordable interest rates mean you only pay interest on what you owe NOT the total balance. Aylesbury Vale Community Bank is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned and run by its members. Saving with us helps us lend to those in need and once again this year you will receive 1% dividend on your savings (subject to future AGM approval). It's free and easy to join at www.aylesburyvalecommunitybank.org.uk or call **03030 300147** or email enquiries@swancreditunion.org.uk



Parkrun UK



Parkrun UK organise weekly, timed 5K runs every Saturday morning in over 400 locations in the UK, provided free of charge by local volunteers and supporters. On rare occasions, runners may encounter cardiac problems during a run. Parkrun UK Aylesbury wish to thank ATC for providing a grant so that we can install a defibrillator close to all of our events in Aylesbury. If CPR and a defibrillator are deployed within 6 minutes of cardiac arrest survival rates are increased to 74% versus just 9% where no defibrillator is available. For locations of defibrillators close to you download the SCAS #savealife app. Anyone can participate in our parkruns register at www.parkrun.org.uk

Enrych Buckinghamshire

Enrych Bucks is based in Aylesbury and is working to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities. We are always happy to hear from any adult with a physical or sensory disability; we'll work to partner you with a volunteer who shares your leisure or learning interest, or help you to take part in a group activity that fits your needs. If you are able to volunteer, we can promise you a rewarding friendship with somebody who shares your interests. If you'd like to join us, or find out more, visit buckinghamshire.enrych.org.uk or email beth.waters@enrych.org.uk



Should you wish to apply for a grant please contact our Grants Officer, Belle Daytonn on 01296 425678 or if you prefer email: b.daytonn@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Town Mayor's Update

As the winter evenings draw in and with Christmas on the horizon, we look back on what has been a busy summer and autumn for Aylesbury's Town Mayor, Cllr Barbara Russel.

We remember the wonderful warm sunny days at Aylesbury on Sea, the Tudor Fayre and the fantastic weekend of live music, family entertainment and fireworks at Live in the Park and Proms in the Park, during the Parklife Weekend in August.

Barbara has been honoured to have been invited to so many interesting and varied events over the past few months, in and around Aylesbury. Getting to meet many local residents, from winners of the Aylesbury in Bloom awards, those taking part in the recent Red Cross fundraising abseil down County Hall, the students and parents of Thomas Hickman School at their recent cake bake off, to Mrs Tew, a resident of Byron House, who celebrated her 100th birthday in style with a garden party.

A number of visitors came to the Mayor's Parlour and Town Hall during Heritage Open Day in September, where the town's paintings and silverware were on display.

The Mayor is busy supporting and fundraising for her charity, SPACE. We are currently planning some exciting fundraisers for the New Year. To register your interest in attending these events, or for more information please contact the Mayor's Office, details below.

The Mayor would like to take this opportunity to thank all the individuals and organisations that have invited her to attend their events over the year, from those she could accept to those she had to give apologies, for a successful future.

Barbara extends her warmest wishes to you all for the festive season.

Sue Carpenter



If you would like to invite the Mayor to attend an event you are holding, please contact the Mayor's Assistant Sue Carpenter at the Mayor's Office by calling 01296 425678 or emailing s.carpenter@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Heritage Flame Ceremony & Celebration

On 29 July 1948, the day of the Opening Ceremony of the London 1948 Olympic Games, Dr Ludwig Guttmann organised the first competition for wheelchair athletes which he named the Stoke Mandeville Games, a milestone in Paralympic history.

Twelve years later, in 1960, these games became the Paralympic Games, taking place for the first time in Rome. The event featured 400 athletes from 23 countries. Since then it has taken place every four years. In 1976, the first Winter Paralympic Games were held in Sweden, and as with the Summer Games, have taken place every four years. This year the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games featured 1,450 athletes from 161 countries, which demonstrates just how much the movement has grown and developed over the past 68 years, continuing Dr Guttmann's vision to transform the lives of people with impairment through sport, into something that today is widely regarded as the world's number one event for driving social inclusion.

A spectacular day of activities took place on 2 September marking Aylesbury's unique role as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement.

At Stoke Mandeville Stadium during a colourful ceremony in front of 1,500 people, the Heritage Flame was ignited for just the second time, starting its journey to Brazil to help begin the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Professional dancers and performers were joined by volunteers, with former wheelchair racer, Baroness Grey-Thompson DBE

and skier Kelly Gallagher MBE taking centre stage. The theme was 'Seeds of Diversity', celebrating how the first Stoke Mandeville Games organised by Sir Ludwig Guttmann in 1948 have blossomed into a worldwide sporting phenomenon. This event followed the very popular ParalympicsGB Carnival, during which hundreds of visitors to the stadium throughout the day tried out some of the activities taking place at Rio 2016 and found out more about getting involved in local sporting opportunities.

Later in the evening, Vale Park was the setting for a spectacular community event, which ensured inclusivity for all with an accessible fun-fair, demonstrations, displays and a vibrant Rio style carnival parade, featuring over 300 local people with a wide range of disabilities, each of whom had created colourful and illuminating banners and artworks. The entire day's celebration, culminated in a fantastic firework display which was ignited by the Paralympic Heritage Flame which had made its way around the park and community with a unique 'Passing of the Flame', in which hundreds of local people took part.

The day's events were organised by Aylesbury Town Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council, the British Paralympic Association and Wheelpower, and supported by Bucks Disability Service and Bucks County Council.

For more pictures of the Vale Park event visit [f FlameCelebration](#)





Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map

Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr Anders Christensen
07834 995690



Cllr Tuffail Hussain
07832 913171



Cllr Graham Moore
07886 369565

Ward: Central



Cllr Barbara Russel
01296 431314



Cllr Edward Sims
07580 703275

Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Susan Morgan
07799 074411



Cllr Jenny Puddefoot
01296 612461

Ward: Coppice Way



Cllr Mark White
07771 877488

Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Allison Harrison
07795 210808



Cllr Mark Willis
07723 091637

Ward: Quarrendon



Cllr Chris Adams
07968 444222



Cllr Andy Huxley
07711 837938

Ward: Oxford Road



Cllr Stuart Jarvis
07958 083519



Cllr Mike Smith
07854 178012

Ward: Southcourt



Cllr Peter Agoro
07548 952762



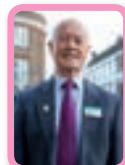
Cllr Mark Bateman
07858 973643

Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Ranjula Takodra MBE
07958 423083

Ward: Hawkslade



Cllr Brian Adams
07855 299999

Ward: Walton



Cllr Bill Chapple OBE
07702 031712

Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



Cllr Sue Chapple
01296 426814



Cllr Richard Lloyd
07887 685345



Cllr Denise Summers
01296 424903

Ward: Bedgrove



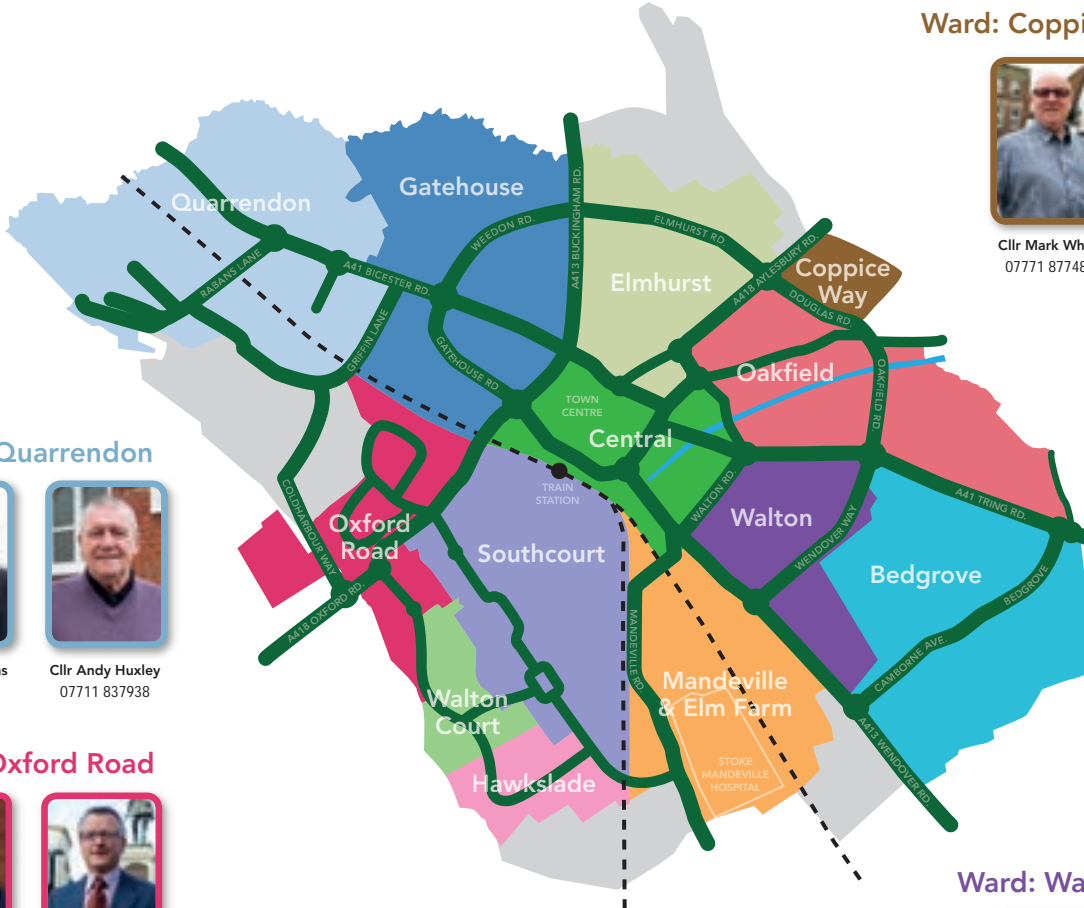
Cllr Jenny Bloom
01296 434123



Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts
07595 178660



Cllr Mark Winn
01296 393304

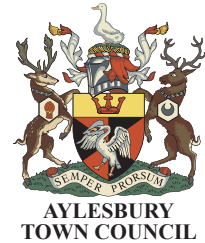




Who do I talk to about? ...

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Office of the Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- Management of the seven allotment sites
- Management of Tring Road Cemetery
- Devolved Services – grass cutting of urban highway grass verges
- Support Twinning of Aylesbury with Bourg-en-Bresse
- A programme of events throughout the year such as Parklife, Tudor Fayre, Aylesbury on Sea, Christmas and Summer events along with other free events
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Free quarterly magazine, Aylesbury Town Matters
- Jonathan Page Play Centre
- Britain in Bloom (a partnership project) and Aylesbury in Bloom (hanging baskets, planters, floral beds, roundabouts and more)



Aylesbury Town Council is the council closest to the residents in the parish of Aylesbury. The Town Council is here to be a voice for the residents by representing their views on issues affecting them.

Call: **01296 425 678** or visit: www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

AVDC IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Collection of Council Tax and business rates
- Household recycling and waste disposal
- Local planning and building regulations
- Public car parks
- Licensing and Environmental Health
- Leisure Services (including Aqua Vale and all parks)
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Grass cutting of open spaces and parks



Aylesbury Vale District Council deal with issues covering the whole of Aylesbury Vale and has a very regulatory remit. Call: **01296 585 858** or visit: www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Highways
- Education and Libraries
- Social Services
- Trading Standards
- Registrar of births, deaths and marriages
- Waste disposal (excluding household waste)
- Grass cutting of rural highways/grass verges



Bucks County Council is the top tier of local government and provides services on a county-wide basis.

Call: **01296 395 000** or visit: www.buckscc.gov.uk



Maxwell Swim Club

The return to school is doubly busy for swimmers at Maxwell Swim Club. The young up and coming Maxwell swimmers of 12 and under raced in the Milton Keynes Junior League (MKJL). It was a tough year with some very good teams taking part. The three round competition culminated at the beginning of September.

The first leg at Oxford saw strong performances from Sophie Govan, Alice Weston and Carmelo Almadin among the relay teams and saw Maxwell achieve 4th place.



The second round was very tough with the overall winners for the past two seasons being among the opponents. Despite great swims from Sophie Byron, Sean Richards, Kitty Galbraith and Kian MacNab the strength of the other sides was overwhelming and Maxwell finished in sixth place meaning the need for a positive result in the last round.

The final round of the MKJL was again very tough, but this time Maxwell showed its potential. The team achieved 6 first places and 12 second places with Alice Weston winning two races, Isobel Cox, Joshua Weston, Sophie Byron and Eliza Hudson all winning one.

Such a positive round allowed Maxwell to finish in third place on the night and gave them 13th place overall in the league and safety in the top division for another season.

The squad followed up this success a week later at the City of Milton Keynes Development Meet. Maxwell swimmers

won 15 gold, 12 silver and 17 bronze medals. Millie Midson-Brown shone with three golds and Poppy Baybutt came away with a tremendous haul of five medals from five races.

Maxwell's success is built around the club's core values of Excellence, Teamwork and Enthusiasm. The team hopes to extend this success into October where they will be competing every weekend. Interested in competitive swimming? Please visit www.maxwellswimclub.com to get involved.

Aylesbury Town Council Sports Grants

Aylesbury Town Council wants to support young people in sport and wishes to give young people in Aylesbury, with high competitive spirit, as much encouragement as possible to fulfill their sporting potential.

Aylesbury Town Council provides a sports grant as an opportunity for young sports persons who have demonstrated a high level of achievement representing their sport either at National or International events.

For further information, criteria and the application process please visit our website aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk and select Sports Grants on the Grants page.





Action4Youth National Citizen Service

On Monday 12 September, 260 young people from across the Aylesbury Vale area graduated from the Action4Youth National Citizen Service (NCS) Summer 2016 programme. Over 800 people attended the ceremony held at The Waterside Theatre where graduates received their certificates from The Countess Howe.

NCS is the government's flagship personal and social development programme for young people and is a once in a lifetime opportunity open to all 15 to 17 year olds. Action4Youth are in their sixth year of delivery and are ranked in the top two nationally for achievement.

The programme provides young people with the chance to challenge themselves, overcome some of their fears, develop their team work, leadership and communication skills. Most importantly the programme shows young people the impact they can make to benefit others by getting more involved in their own community through the social action project element. This summer, during their social action week, the young people raised an amazing £18,000 for thirteen local organisations who were also presented with their cheques at the ceremony.

**** COMING SOON... AYLESBURY YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL ****
A platform for youth views, interests and concerns in the Parish of Aylesbury.

Give a little this Christmas and make a BIG difference at Youth Concern, Aylesbury



Youth Concern, Aylesbury knows there will be many local young people needing support over the winter months as 535 'at risk' young people have accessed their support over the past year (16% rise from the previous year). Youth Concern is appealing to local businesses and individuals to "Give a little this Christmas and make a BIG difference" through its corporate supporters scheme. Local businesses support in a way which suits them eg. charity of the year; match funding schemes or sponsorship.



Sarah, Manager of Cartridge World, pictured, chose Youth Concern as their charity of the year "because it's local and with Youth Concern I know that every little helps. It's easy for us to help out and I know what a difference it makes to young people who are struggling".

Youth Concern helps young people through its drop-in centre, counselling department and emergency accommodation scheme. "We are there for young people when they need us most, to listen well and respond to their individual needs, quickly" said Fran, CEO of Youth Concern. "Young people come to us with diverse support needs including mental health, homelessness, abuse and family breakdown".

One young person, Charlie, who's been supported through homelessness, offending behaviour and mental health problems explained how Youth Concern has helped him in a short promotional film. You can watch the film at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=WBlgvJ7msKs "They're lifesavers, they really are!" he said.

To find out how you can help please email fran@youthconcern.org.uk or phone her on **07730 666608**.



FREE

FESTIVE FAMILY FUN

Sunday 11th December
11am - 4pm

Friars Square &
Market Square

Fun Fair Rides, Barrel Organ
Hot Roast Chestnuts
Live Singing, Ballerinas
Entertainment, **Unicyclist**
Face Painting, Activities
Balloon Modelling, Crafts
Games, **Stilt Walking**
Ball Manipulator

Find all of the **Giant Nutcracker**
Soldiers around town for the
chance to win £200 of Friars
Square Shopping vouchers.

Friars Square
Shopping

DON'T FORGET
Carolfest
6pm @
St Mary's Church

