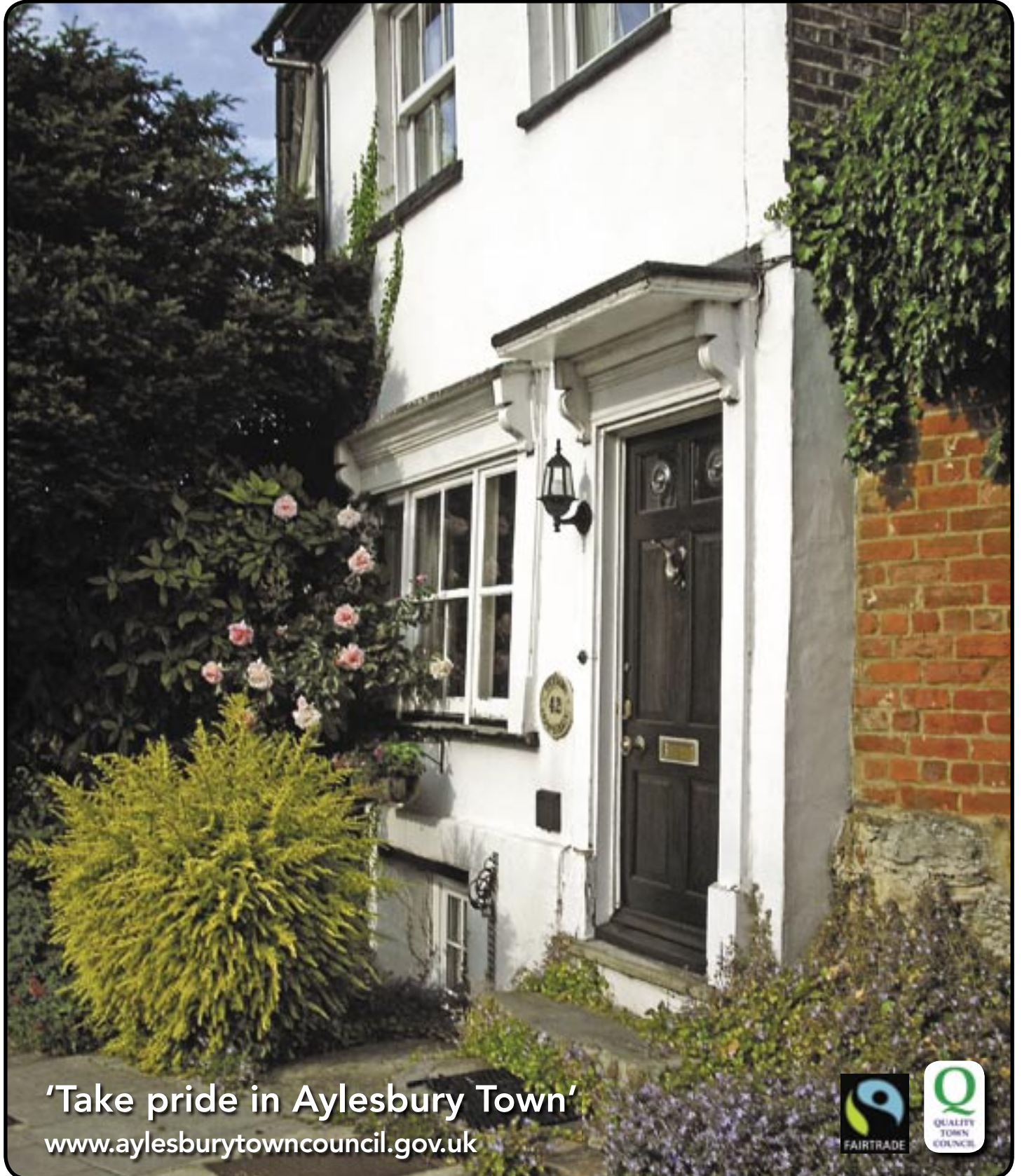


Aylesbury Town matters

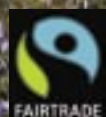
Aylesbury Town Council Magazine
Issue Fourteen September 2009



Serving the people of Aylesbury



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



Welcome Note

Welcome to the fourteenth edition of Aylesbury Town Matters. This issue celebrates Aylesbury's efforts for Britain in Bloom, which has made the Town beautiful for the enjoyment of all. The summer has brought many musical concerts to the Town, with offerings to suit every taste; and a revival of 'Friars'. We have an interview with David Stopps, celebrating the success of this famous and much-loved local institution.

In recent months we have written much about 'Reactivate Bucks', the campaign to ensure a permanent Olympic legacy of good health for residents. We are delighted to report a number of sporting initiatives in Aylesbury and to introduce you to some of our home-grown athletes.

As ever, we are interested in your news and views, so please keep sending the feedback: emails, letters and phone calls all are most welcome.

Cllr Steve Patrick
Leader of the Council

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Front cover photo: Cottage in Aylesbury.
Photo by Margaret Wagstaffe.

Contact Details: Aylesbury Town Council
Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP20 2QP
Tel: **01296 425678** Fax: **01296 426134**
Email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Contacting your Councillor

Councillor:	Telephone:
Jenny Bloom email: j.bloom@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	07729 011501
Alan Sherwell email: alan.sherwell@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 420672
Graham Webster email: graham.webster@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 483416
Penni Thorne email: penni.thorne@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 422232
Steven Mitchell email: steven.mitchell@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 392096
Denise Summers email: denise.summers@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 336731
Sue Chapple email: sue.chapple@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 426814
Mark Willis email: m.willis@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 586109
Roger Surguy email: r.surguy@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 425678
Pat Jamieson email: pat.jamieson@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 428275
Tuffail Hussain email: tuffail.hussain@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	0795 626 9544
Jenny Puddefoot email: jenny.puddefoot@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 612461
Julie Ward email: julie.ward@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	07766 545236
Mohammed Amjad email: a.mohammed@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	07956 803458
Steve Patrick email: steve.patrick@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 424986
Brian Roberts email: b.roberts@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 422881
Freda Roberts MBE JP email: freda.roberts@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 424452
David Ralph email: david.ralph@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 581975
Zulifqar Ahmed email: ahmed.zulifqar@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	0793 194 5804
Mike Smith email: mike.smith@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 421732
Ranjula Takodra email: ranjula.takodra@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	0795 842 3083
Ray Ghent email: ray.ghent@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	01296 489327
Noreen O'Sullivan email: n.osullivan@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	07796 804676
Kevin Peters email: k.peters@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk	07989 892896

Aylesbury Town Council is a member of English Historic Towns Forum and twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse.

Aylesbury Town Council Magazine



Britain in Bloom: Taking care of the town and the environment

The Town, District and County Councils have all worked even more closely together than ever this year to make Aylesbury as attractive as possible. We hope you are enjoying the clean, litter and graffiti free roads, squares and pavements; the newly painted street furniture and the many floral displays in the Town Centre.

Keeping the Town constantly looking its best is a real challenge, and we sometimes feel that graffiti and litter reappear almost as fast as we can clear them. Nonetheless, it is a job worth doing. We work all the year round on cleaning and maintaining the Town Centre. This is principally for the enjoyment of our residents but it also helps to attract visitors and shoppers who, with their spending power, support shops and services and protect jobs. The focal point of our efforts is Aylesbury's entry to the regional heat of the Royal Horticultural Society's annual 'Britain in Bloom' competition.

We have won at least one award in this prestigious event every year since we first entered. Starting with Silver in 2006 we progressed to Silver Gilt in 2007 and Silver Gilt again, but with higher marks, in 2008. We have also had special awards for the 'Riverside Walk' and our 'Roundabouts, Roadsides and Verges'.

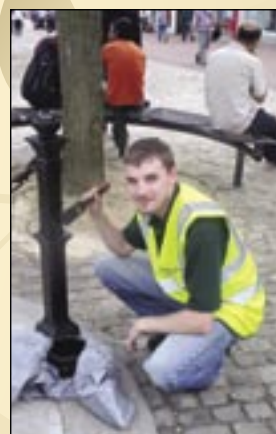
'The Bloom', however, isn't just about flowers. Its scope encompasses education, and care of our natural environment and of our planet. Between them, Aylesbury Schools have created wildlife ponds, biodiversity areas, sensory gardens and vegetable patches. Through a creative range of lessons, projects and eco-clubs they teach our children awareness of sustainability in food production and the importance of reducing our demands for energy.

Spring 2009 in Aylesbury saw numerous native saplings planted in every part of Town: to be beautiful, to absorb carbon dioxide, and to release oxygen into the atmosphere. And this year, as a consequence of investments in making public transport easier and faster to use; in building the Bourg Walk bridge, and in creating the Gemstone network of cycle paths, our Local Authorities have substantially reduced our residents' reliance on the private car. New artworks at the Bus Terminus and pretty planting at the Railway Station have made public transport more enjoyable to use. Innovative 'shared space' joining Station Boulevard and Bourg Bridge to the Bus Station, and allowing easy passage through to the Market Square and the shops, makes life easier for pedestrians. As a result, Aylesbury can boast a substantial reduction in its carbon footprint.

Margaret Wagstaffe
Town Clerk



Town Hall. Photo by Nathalie Thorne



Street cleaning and painting bollards. Photo by Nathalie Thorne



Ardenham Lane allotment. Photo by Nathalie Thorne



Pupils at Turnfurlong School (above) and Aylesbury High School (left). Photos by Roger King

Open for 'a shilling a head'



The story of National Gardens in Aylesbury

Twelve years ago a Highbridge Road resident, Jackie Goodair, thought her garden was good enough to open to the public under the National Gardens Scheme. The problem was that she needed at least three other nearby gardens to do the same. She approached fellow gardener, Rosemary Brown, from Spenser Road, and together they persuaded friends Val Lewis-Smith in Walton Way, and Sandra Ferguson in Westminster Drive, to join in, and in 1998 gardens in Aylesbury were opened for the first time under the NGS. What was unusual was that these were neat suburban gardens in a large town when most gardens in the scheme were in villages or were large country house gardens.

Every year NGS gardens across England and Wales welcome over half a million visitors. The tradition of opening gardens of quality, character and interest is supported by our Patron, HRH the Prince of Wales. Few people realise that through this scheme £2 million is raised each year for nursing, caring and gardening charities. Most of the 3,600 gardens are privately owned. Some open as part of a group which gets the whole community involved. But all the gardens are enjoyed by the garden owners and their visitors, funding charities to help people who are ill or under stress.

The National Gardens Scheme was founded in 1927 to raise money for the nurses of the Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI) by opening gardens of quality and interest to the public. The simple, but radical, idea behind the NGS was to ask individuals to open their gardens for 'a shilling a head'. In the first year 609 gardens raised over £8,000. A network of volunteer County Organisers was set up, and by 1931 over 1,000 private gardens were open, and Country Life magazine produced a handbook, known as 'The Yellow Book' because of its bright yellow cover.

The origins and development of the district nursing movement help explain why the NGS was established. In 1859 a philanthropic Liverpool merchant, William Rathbone, employed a nurse to care for his wife at home. After his wife's death Rathbone retained the nurse and asked her to help poor people in the neighbourhood. Then, convinced of the need for wider availability of local nursing care, he raised funds for the recruitment, training and employment of nurses to go into the deprived areas of the city, which



he divided into 'districts', each with an honorary 'Lady Superintendent'. Hence the title 'District' Nursing.

By the end of the 19th century, the idea had spread across the country and, with the help of Florence Nightingale and the approval of Queen Victoria, the movement became a national voluntary organisation responsible for setting standards and training nurses.

By 1926 the service, now renamed the Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI), set up a new fund investing in more training, and to give pension support to nurses who were retiring after years of service. A Council member, Miss Elsie Wagg, came up with the novel idea of combining a national obsession with gardening with raising money for charity.

After the Second World War the National Health Service took on the District Nursing Service, but money was still needed to care for retired nurses and invest in training, so the NGS continued as before. In 1948 the NGS joined forces with the National Trust to restore and preserve important gardens, resulting in the National Trust opening many of its most prestigious gardens for the NGS.

Despite massive inflation in the post-war years, the entrance fee continued to be one shilling until more realistic entrance fees were introduced in the 1970s



and the gardens began to raise significant donations for charity.

In 1980 The National Gardens Scheme Charitable Trust was established as an independent charity, with HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, as Patron, and HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as President. In 1984 Macmillan Cancer Relief joined the list of charities benefiting from donations, and in subsequent years other charities joined including Marie Curie Cancer Care, Help the Hospices and Crossroads Caring for Carers.

Aylesbury gardens have been opening under the NGS almost every year since 1998 with only one of the original gardens remaining, that of Rosemary Brown in Spenser Road. This year gardens opened in Milton Road, Walton Dene and two in Tring Road. Over £1,200 was raised in just 4 hours. Rosemary is now one of the Buckinghamshire Area Co-ordinators and inspects over 100 gardens to see whether they come up to the very demanding standards set by the National Gardens Scheme. She is already planning for next years open gardens in Aylesbury and is always looking for new entries.

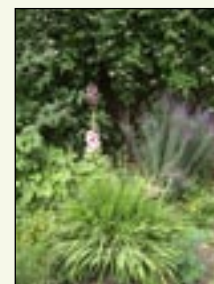


Rosemary Brown

Roger King

All photos by Roger King showing gardens in Aylesbury

Secret Gardens



On Sunday 28th June Aylesbury Old Town residents opened up their gardens to the public. Secret Gardens of Aylesbury is a very popular event and attracts a wide range of visitors, both young and old. After the launch at 2.15pm in the garden of the County Museum, for a small fee visitors were given a map (donated by ESRI UK) of 16 gardens to visit in the Old Town area. The weather was beautiful and the quality of the gardens was stunning.

The money raised is supporting two local charities: PACE in Aylesbury, who help children with cerebral palsy and Aylesbury's Child Contact Centre who enable children to meet with parents they no longer live with.

Doorstep gardening

Gardeners need very little encouragement to tell you what pleasure there is in cultivation. But what if you haven't got a garden? We have used some imaginative solutions created by Aylesbury residents for illustration. A windowsill, a balcony or even a doorstep can accommodate enough of a display to bring a smile to any face...



...and if you haven't started yet, it isn't too late. There is a gorgeous array of part-grown flowering plants in pots on Aylesbury Market at very reasonable prices.

Indeed, we liked their sunflowers so much that we used them on the cover of our 'Britain in Bloom' portfolio!



Photos and article by Margaret Wagstaffe

Local news and events

Tring Road Allotments – possible Anglo-Saxon burial ground

Local archaeologists believe there is potential to show the existence of an early Anglo-Saxon burial ground very near to the existing Tring Road Cemetery. Following a small number of finds of archaeological interest and some anecdotal evidence, archaeologists believe there is a real possibility that the area has been used as a resting place for the deceased for hundreds of years.

During the building of the houses along Walton Way both human and animal bones were discovered, and during the 1920s a scramasax (a type of knife) and quern-stone (grinding stone) were unearthed during burial excavations within the existing cemetery. These and other tentative pieces of evidence from the surrounding area will need to be investigated further before the Town Council can extend the existing cemetery into part of the Tring Road allotments.

Work has already started on clearing the site in preparation of the main work which is due to start in essence during November. The site will first be subject to a desk based study of the local Historic Environment Record. Secondly a surface collection survey, which consists of metal detecting and systematic collection of surface finds. And finally trial trenching; it is anticipated that approximately 13 trenches will be opened. All work will be conducted by a Registered Archaeological Organisation. The results of this should reveal the extent of any ancient burial ground, if any.

Following completion the Town Council will commence work on developing the site in preparation for the cemetery extension; this will consist of a tier one drainage study, new fencing to border the site, and hard landscaping.

David Cooper

DIG IT! – Youth Concern (Aylesbury) and Aylesbury Youth Action Allotment Project

Youth Concern (Aylesbury) and Aylesbury Youth Action (AYA) are delighted to announce the launch of their Community Allotment Project, **DIG IT!**, which can be found behind the new Uptown Coffee Bar in Whitehill Lane. This gardening project was proposed by young people when both charities independently consulted young people locally. It aims to engage those, aged 13 - 25, in positive activities, enabling them to learn new practical and independent living skills, building confidence and self esteem. Furthermore, the project challenges attitudes to healthy eating and promotes outdoor activities. Young people will work as a team towards a common goal providing a sense of achievement. Participants can have time accredited through "V", the nationally recognised volunteering programme.



Aylesbury Youth Action (AYA) enables young people to take part in voluntary, youth-led activities in their local community, supported by a dedicated team of staff and trustees. Simon Garwood, AYA's Project Manager says, "I really believe in the value of this project as it encourages young people to try something new. I look forward to seeing the positive impact this makes on the young people and the wider community."

Youth Concern (Aylesbury) is celebrating 30 years of supporting local young people, particularly those at risk. It runs a drop-in centre at the Uptown Coffee Bar and offers young people activities and intensive support. "I would love to see young people discovering a new passion and am happy we can offer more free out of school activities, as well as upskilling young people in this period of job-crunch," said Fran Borg-Wheeler, CEO, Youth Concern (Aylesbury).

May newsletter from the Walton Court, Southcourt and Hawkslade Neighbourhood Policing Team

Lock your doors securely and close all windows when leaving your property. When going on holiday, set a timer switch to put lights on at night. Barbeques are popular in summer so if you are cooking in the back garden, please lock your front doors and windows, as it takes just a few seconds for an intruder to get in and out again.

There has been a problem with youths around the shop in Paterson Road behaving anti-socially. We need your help to put a stop to it. If you see anything suspicious please give us a ring on 08458 505 505. Also, the mini-moto brigade are out and about so please call us if you see them and, more importantly, if you know where they came from. We are not allowed to pursue them so we need to know where to catch them.

Walton Court may finally get a facelift and the shopping centre will hopefully be restored to its former glory. We may get some lights fitted out on the field to illuminate the football pitch at night, to bring the youngsters out of the centre and onto the area designated for them.

Residents need to be aware of the restrictions on where alcohol can and cannot be drunk in public. If alcohol is causing anti-social behaviour, especially in the parks, PCSOs have the power to confiscate it,

even from people who are over 18. Note to Parents: please do not store your alcohol within reach of your teenagers as some enterprising youths are turning up in the woods at the back of Hawkslade, getting drunk, then shouting, swearing and starting fires. Generally, Hawkslade is faring slightly better at the moment so far as nuisance behaviour goes. The exception is of mini-motos in the fields and on the back footpath. They are dangerous and the farmer will NOT give permission to use the fields. Police will seize offenders' vehicles and use Roads Policing Units to fine and give penalty points to offenders, regardless of age.

Neighbourhood Watch, an active partnership of residents and the police, is one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives. Neighbourhood Watch schemes can cut crime and the opportunities for crime, help and reassure those who live in the area and encourage people to become neighbourly, resulting in closer communities. If you would like to get involved in Neighbourhood Watch, your local police will tell you if there is a scheme in your area, or help you to set up one of your own. Please contact your local PCSO or telephone us on 08458 505 505.

Keep Safe!

PCSO Peter Hall

Protect your property

As the weather becomes more favourable for getting out and about in the Aylesbury Vale countryside, please exercise caution when parking your vehicle at local beauty spots.

- Do not leave items, such as handbags, wallets, and mobile phones in your vehicle. They are targeted by thieves.
- Do not be tempted to 'hide' items in your boot or inside your vehicle, as a potential offender may be watching where you place them. Take all valuables with you.

Please report any suspicious activity in rural car parks to the Police. If possible, make a note of the registration number and type of vehicle involved. Pass this information to the Police on 08458 505 505.

If you have any information that might assist officers dealing with any of these crimes, please call on this number, and state that you are responding to a Ringmaster message. Alternatively, if you do not wish to give your details, you can call Crimestoppers, anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Organising an event? If you are organising an event for your community or activity group and would like some free publicity, why not put a notice in 'Aylesbury Town Matters'? If you are interested please contact Shirley Francis, Deputy Town Clerk at Aylesbury Town Council, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP. Call on 01296 425678 or email: s.francis@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Community news

How Safe is your Home?

The Home Office has introduced a new Self-assessment tool to help people check their home security. An online questionnaire "How Safe is Your Home" is available and takes about 3 minutes to complete. If you haven't already completed this questionnaire, please visit: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/secureyourhome/questionnaire/form.php

There is also a FREE advice pack available from the Home Office which contains burglary leaflets, discount vouchers on home security products from some leading DIY stores and details of the Policing Pledge. This pack contains a copy of the Home Security Self Assessment questionnaire, for those of you who are unable to carry it out online.

Only one pack will be issued per person. Call the Home Office Publications Department FREE on 0800 456 1213.

Please pass these details onto all members of your Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Community Officer of the Year

PCSO Wendy Taylor has been named PCSO of the Year in Buckinghamshire for the launch of an initiative she set up to help tackle anti-social behaviour. She organised an event for young people in the local area and surrounding villages to show them what activities and careers were available to them. The event was attended by more than 50 companies and organisations.

Wendy has also helped to introduce a Dispersal Order and a Youth Café to tackle anti-social behaviour, and has helped to tackle other local priorities, such as parking.

The runner up in the PCSO of the year award for Buckinghamshire is also an Aylesbury Vale officer. PCSO Clare Harrison, based in the Elm Farm and Mandeville neighbourhood, was recognised for her hard work and dedication to the neighbourhood with the introduction of a tag rugby initiative for local children last summer. This proved so popular that it is now being rolled out across the Vale. Clare has excellent relationships with residents, local children, partners and other local organisations. She has helped to improve the quality of life for the young children in the area by providing them with after-school activities.

Moth Monitoring in Riverside Walk – help wanted

Riverside Walk, which was once farmland, now provides a green oasis for Aylesbury residents to enjoy. Since 2001 the Riverside Volunteers have been meeting on a fortnightly basis to develop a habitat which supports a diverse collection of flowers, trees, birds, bats and butterflies.

Wildlife abounds now, and the volunteers undertake regular audits to record progress in the number and variety of species which have established themselves in the area.

Surveys of flora, trees, birds and butterflies have revealed successful breeding patterns and growing populations in all areas.

Now the group would like to record the many species of moth colonising the meadows and woodland, but help is needed.

If you are an expert, or if you know of an expert on moths, can we appeal to you to please join us and help to identify the varieties that are thriving in this wonderful habitat.



Grot Spots

Calling all citizens of Aylesbury!

Are there any spots in Aylesbury that you find a little bit grotty or not quite up to Aylesbury's high standards? Alternatively, do you have any community green projects that need a helping hand?

If you have a viable proposal for improving any area of Aylesbury, please contact the Town Council and we will see whether we can help, be it in the manner of a donation for supplies or manpower for the hard work!

Please call us on 01296 425678 or email : m.wagstaffe@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk with your suggestions.

St Mary's Music at Lunchtime... Only the very best for Aylesbury

'...What an audience,' wrote a very experienced pianist to us of a concert he gave recently. 'I love playing for you all.' He had been in Aylesbury to perform at one of the Music at Lunchtime concerts at St Mary's Church. We also have comments such as: 'How lucky we are to have such music in Aylesbury,' or 'The best reason for living in Aylesbury.' They are from our audience, and because of their enthusiasm and support we can now offer, week after week, some of the very finest young professional musicians working in the UK. More established performers are also attracted by the marvellous audience and acoustic.

We have the broadest selection of what is called 'classical music' – something for every taste, we hope. The music has to be for small combinations of instruments, from solo up to seven or eight players. The variety you will be able to see from the listing printed here, and we honestly believe that no comparable town in the country offers more in the way of range and quality. We also put some dates aside for local needs: we are going to strengthen our ties with the Aylesbury Music Centre, and concerts by the girls of the Aylesbury High School have been enjoyed for years.

We must emphasize that anyone with any interest, great or small, is made very welcome. We are happy to accommodate those with special needs, and if you are in a wheelchair you will find no problems. The volunteers running the concerts are always willing to help. If you are reading this and have the ability to organise an outing from a nursing home please do so (just let us know because of parking). Many who once thought they didn't really like classical music come along every week.

Yes, we have around 50 regulars who come as a relaxing interlude in their shopping, or to meet friends and combine the concert with a meal in the excellent church Refectory; some come from their central Aylesbury workplace – and if this seems a good way of spending your lunchtime it is easy to make an exit if you have to. And of course we have the dedicated music-lovers who arrive in full anticipation of a first rate performance of a favourite – or unfamiliar – piece of music. And for everyone there is the sheer pleasure and excitement of watching it all live!

We charge as little as £2.00 for entrance (nothing to do with quality!), for concerts lasting up to an hour. Anyone at school or college who is able to come

won't have to pay a penny: it is a magnificent resource for those studying music. Music at Lunchtime is on Thursdays (allow for Christmas and summer breaks) at 12.45pm.

For those of you who can't make it we have evening concerts featuring some of the marvellous daytime musicians.

Details from Concert Secretary at:
david-mulraney@hotmail.com

David Mulraney



Dimitris Dekavallas is a distinguished classical guitarist from Greece with a Europe-wide career, praised by Julian Bream.

He introduced and gave a virtuoso recital which would rival anything you would hear anywhere, lasting an hour.

www.dimitrisdekavallas.com

DIARY OF ST MARY CONCERTS

September – December 2009

MUSIC AT LUNCHTIME

3rd Sept	Arun Menon, violin, and Daniel Smith, piano
10th Sept	Escher String Quartet
17th Sept	Vardanyan String Quartet
24th Sept	World Citizen Soloists (vocal and instrumental)
1st Oct	Gábor Podhorszky, guitar
8th Oct	Sung-ah Kim, piano
15th Oct	Aylesbury High School
22nd Oct	Cathy Bell, mezzo-soprano
29th Oct	London Myriad Ensemble (wind quintet)
5th Nov	Donald MacKenzie, organ ('Organ Fireworks')
12th Nov	Zonda Ensemble (wind quintet)
19th Nov	to be confirmed
26th Nov	Kanae Furomoto, piano
3rd Dec	Andy Booth, guitar
10th Dec	to be confirmed

'LAST WEDNESDAY' EVENING CONCERTS

30th Sept	Violeta Barreña Witschi, violin, and Nafis Umerkulova, piano
28th Oct	Alea String Quartet
25th Nov	Mari Poll, violin and Jennifer Hughes, piano

Big Band Music in Kingsbury

The Heathcote Big Band gave a rousing show in Kingsbury on a fine Sunday morning on 21st June. A line-up of 16 musicians played pieces ranging from the relaxed style of Count Basie through the well-known 'Pink Panther' and 'Batman' themes, to more modern times and 'Pick up the Pieces'. There was also an excellent performance by Joe Oxenham, better known as the 'Voice of Sinatra', who sang a number of Frank's most popular hits. He had members of the public up and dancing on the pavements.



Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership, working with the Town Council, makes sure that the town centre remains lively and buzzing throughout the year to attract shoppers and visitors by providing varied entertainment. Every musical taste and age is catered for. Classical, reggae, rock, big band, jazz, African drumming bands and North American Indian musicians have performed in Kingsbury and the Market Square.

Check out the summer's programme of free entertainment for the whole family by visiting the "What's On" section of the Town Council's website on www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk or call us 01296 425678, and we will be only too pleased to provide you with further information.

Shirley Francis
Deputy Town Clerk

Southcourt Studios

Southcourt Studios is an exciting new local music project, based on Southcourt, which will enable young people to rehearse, record and perform live music.

The Charity Aylesbury Vale Youth for Christ (AVYFC) was established in the late 1970s and serves local young people aged 9-25. We respond to needs in the community by partnering with others to develop a comprehensive range of activities and opportunities. We currently run 8 weekly drop-in groups (www.youthcafe.info) attracting hundreds of young people.

In 2006, the charity conducted a research report into the needs of youth and community and identified five significant needs. Southcourt Studios was born out of the following need: "To explore ways for the community to help young people find creative things to do". One way of achieving this could be through holding regular "youth music band gigs, which would encourage young people to participate or attend. It was identified that many young people have shown an interest in the music events in the Town. Since Aylesbury Town was once known for putting on popular live music concerts, such an initiative might also help the town regain that identity." (see page 34, AVYFC Needs Report 2006 Available at: www.avyfc.org.uk).

Southcourt Studios started to gain momentum when we were offered use of the building at the Church

of the Guardian Angels on Chaloner Road, Southcourt. Since then, local young people and the AVYFC team have been networking and fundraising in order to transform the rooms in to a functional studio and gig space.



Since September 2008, we have run a number of activities at the Studio including 3 music gigs (or concerts if you'd rather!), guitar lessons, training workshops and sessions where young people have helped us clean, tidy, paint and set-up the space. We are planning to pilot more activities and sessions over the summer holidays and look to have an official opening and launch in September 2009.

We would like to thank a number of people and organisations who have endorsed and supported us in the process of setting up the studios including: local councillors, Thames Valley Police, VAHT, Bucks County Council – Youth Capital Fund, The Community Chest Micro Grant (AVDC and VAHT), local churches, B&Q Paint Project, The William Harding Trust and Aylesbury Town Council. As a result we have been able get the appropriate licensing for the project and purchase equipment in order to make the studio an excellent local resource for young people. For more information visit: www.southcourtstudios.com

Dave Rollins
Director, AVYFC

The legendary 'Friars' is reborn!



Stiff Little Fingers



Pretty Things



David Stopps

Outsiders find it hard to believe when we tell them that Aylesbury has been a major landmark on the British rock and pop music scene, playing host to such famous and diverse acts as David Bowie, Queen, Genesis, The Jam, The Ramones, Iggy Pop, Roxy Music, U2, The Police and Blondie.

The reason was "Friars", a music club founded in 1969 by Aylesbury's David Stopps (who has also managed the highly successful Howard Jones through his 25 year career). David's mission was to bring the very best rock and pop music, through both established and newer bands, to our town on a regular basis, and for 15 years he did just that. His contacts and ability to bring top acts here were nothing short of legendary, and Aylesbury became the UK's best known venue outside London for music fans.

For some years Friars concerts were held at the old Borough Assembly Hall, moving to the Civic Centre when it opened in 1975. So it was fitting that 40 years on from its beginnings, on June 1 2009, the first Friars gig for 25 years was held at the "Civic", featuring 3 of the acts that were on the bill back in 1969 and are still touring to this day! The Groundhogs, the Edgar Broughton Band and the Pretty Things had the crowd of over 1000 people rocking all night long. Many in the audience found themselves meeting old friends they hadn't seen since previous Friars events at least 25 years ago!!

The Pretty Things summed up June 1st with these words: "The Friars show was the high spot of our year so far. In an era of sanitised, corporate, portion-controlled music, made on computers and impersonally sold on the internet, to be back in Friars re-affirmed why we still do this and still love it. A lot of joy, a feeling of genuine support and a total commitment to the music, not the profits".

David Stopps was also delighted with how successful June 1st was, and has now set up the next Friars gig

on 23 October, revisiting the late-1970s punk era, with Stiff Little Fingers headlining.

Town Councillor Mike Smith, who as a teenager lived in Essex, remembers travelling here to see bands like Stiff Little Fingers. "Virtually every music fan in the country had heard of Aylesbury, and Friars was quite simply a great place to hear music. Some provincial venues were a bit wary of booking punk or new wave bands, but Friars always managed to maintain its friendly, sociable atmosphere without diluting the energy and rebelliousness that is the essence of rock music".

David Stopps puts that unique atmosphere down to the fans feeling it was "their" club. "Unlike most venues where you have just two elements, the band and the audience, at Friars there was a third element, that unique Friars magic and vibe that always made it an event rather than just a concert. We managed to avoid any major trouble at our gigs, partly by our good relationship with the local police and the artists' management, but also because our fans kept a clear message in mind – any drugs or violence will mean we are going to lose our club, and nobody wanted that".

ATC: Which were the best bands / gigs you remember at Friars?

DS: All 3 appearances by David Bowie, The Kinks, Genesis, The Clash, The Ramones. And the Pretty Things on June 1st this year were amazing, as were the Edgar Broughton Band.

ATC: Did any "big-name" artists, coming to a smaller venue like Aylesbury, throw their egos around and cause you headaches?

DS: Oh yes, I remember sitting in the Bell Hotel all afternoon persuading Freddie Mercury to carry on with the Queen gig in 1974 – he was threatening to go home as the stage was too small! And Gary Numan almost refused to do his show in 1979 after a group

of bikers in Market Square had called him a rather unpleasant name!

ATC: Are you planning more Friars gigs after SLF in October?

DS: I hope so, we're talking to bands and it would be great to have a couple more at the Civic. June 1st might have turned out to be just a one-off reunion, but it was so great we just have to carry on. The new Waterside theatre will be a different kind of venue, but I hope it will be the right kind of place to carry on the Friars tradition.

ATC: What was the secret of being able to spot up-and-coming bands and get them here just before they became such huge stars that the chance was gone?

DS: We were music fans too and to an extent had that fans' instinct for who was about to make it big, an example is U2 who were an established band with a decent following when we booked them in 1980, but very quickly afterwards went on to mega-stardom. And we had a band called Dire Straits here in 1978 - only as a support act though - I remember we paid them £25!

Another special feature of Friars was its place in the hearts of not just music fans, but musicians too. Top artists often came back to play Friars even when some might think they had grown "too big" and could sell out stadiums worldwide. It was not at all surprising to be standing in a Friars crowd or at the bar next to other famous musicians, everyone there to share a genuine love and respect for the diversity of music that Friars made itself a world leader of. David remembers Rick Wakeman, Robert Plant, Billy Idol and Feargal Sharkey as regulars, as well as numerous producers and record company managers.

Pete Trewavas, bassist of Marillion, remembers his first Friars gig, seeing Darryl Way's "Wolf" in 1973. He told us "Aylesbury had a great music scene in local pubs and clubs, but everyone wanted to make it to Friars, because we knew that important record company people went there and there'd be a real chance of getting noticed. Seeing a local guy we all knew really well (John Otway) go from Friars to getting a single in the charts made me realise being a professional musician could be more than a pipe dream"

Pete played Friars with Marillion and with his previous band, Orphi, and remembers the great atmosphere and audiences. "Friars was always about the quality of the music, not how you looked or whether your band fitted the latest trend or fad. Friars fans respected good music of all genres, there was no pigeonholing of styles - for example, many in the audience for Queen would also have been there for Stackridge and for Eddie and the Hot Rods".

Once again Aylesbury is a significant place on the musical map. We have the Hobble on the Cobbles,

our free all-day summer music festival, now in the 4th successful year of its revival and attracting thousands of fans to the town centre annually. Aylesbury Town Council is proud to support the "Hobble" financially.

The Town Council also gave a grant towards the relaunch of "The New Roxette", Aylesbury's very own monthly music magazine, showcasing new local talent as well as memories of the town's distinguished place in musical history. The Roxette is available free from the Town Council, the King's Head, the Civic Centre and Aylesbury Music in Temple Street.

With many thanks to The New Roxette and Bucks TV for their help in compiling this article. Interview conducted by Cllr Mike Smith.

Further information: www.aylesburyfriars.co.uk
www.thenewroxette.co.uk
www.aylesburyshowcase.co.uk
www.buckstv.co.uk/buckstv/music/friars

PRETTY THINGS QUOTE:

"The Friars show on Monday night was the high spot of our year so far. In an era of sanitised, corporate, portion-controlled music, made on computers and impersonally sold on the internet, to be back in Friars re-affirmed why we still do this and still love it.

During its time in operation, Friars (in Aylesbury) was one of the most important and influential places to play in Europe. The club, its attitude and management style, created a generation of music fans who looked to the club for direction and followed its taste and house style to the very end. A committed venue run by loving, informed and joyful enthusiasts is a huge benefit to any region. It affects and informs young people and creates real loyalty and love for music and artists, that lasts a lifetime. We regularly play the 100 Club in London - now London's oldest established rock venue and the feeling in the room is exactly the same. A lot of joy, a feeling of genuine support and a total commitment to the music, not the profits.

Friars was, and remains, the class of the field, and the people who came to the show on Monday were returning to the club, rather than coming to see us, 'The Broughton's' or 'Tony'. They trust the club to deliver and they are connected to the music they love, that Friars has built for all of the dedicated club members.

For our part, as a strange, ragamuffin bag of odd, assorted characters, who still do this for the pure love of music - we salute you. Without Friars, and the other style-makers we all used to love, there would be no Pretty Things... and no British rock music.

We played the O2 a few hours before our set at Friars. Guess which show left us smiling hard enough to generate lockjaw!

David, Mike, all of you... bring it on. People NEED direction to learn to love music as we all did. You seem to be gifted at providing it. Anytime you want The Pretty Things, just whistle - we'll be listening.

Best gig of the year for us. Thanks to you all...."
XX The Pretty Things

An introduction to Aylesbury Town Football Club



Aylesbury Town Football Club was formed in June 1998 and today, is recognised as one of the leading and most successful Junior Football Clubs in Buckinghamshire. This was endorsed in May 2006, by the Football Association who awarded Aylesbury Town Football Club with the FA Charter Standard, which means that the club is recognised by the FA in offering the best available coaching and administration and fully supports all aspects of Child Protection – magnificent achievement for the Club.

In season 2008/09, we provided football opportunities for around 250 boys and girls, playing in age group teams from Under 7s through to Under 18s. Since its inception just four years ago, our Saturday morning club TOWNies has gone from strength to strength as part of our ongoing commitment to developing junior football from an early age. We now have almost 60 children regularly attending this initiative and many already representing ATFC in our small sided teams from the Under 7 to Under 10 age groups.

At the beginning of season 2007/08, we joined forces with Aylesbury Vale Senior Football Club in an arrangement that would offer Town players, when reaching the ages of 17 and 18, an opportunity to progress to a higher level of football – an arrangement that would feed Vale with local talent.

The partnership is flourishing well, with a number of former Aylesbury Town boys having appeared for Aylesbury Vale first team and a number also representing Aylesbury Vale at Reserve and Youth team level.

Vale who play in the 'Molten Spartan South Midlands Football League – Premier Division', are delighted with the standard of the talent coming through. In May 2009, Aylesbury Vale announced exciting plans for a new semi-professional football club, to be called Aylesbury FC.

We now have more than 30 managers and coaches associated with our teams, trained to minimum expected Level One FA Coaching Certificate, which encompasses the Emergency First Aid Certificate and a Child Protection workshop. All managers, coaches and regular helpers are also checked against the Criminal Records Bureau in accordance with Child Protection Regulations applied to involvement in junior sport.

At the end of each season, the Club hosts its own Six-a-Side Football Festival, widely regarded as one of the best in the South of England, attracting a staggering 192 teams this year. The Club also celebrates the contributions and achievements of all the players with a Presentation Event.

The Club's success to date and future plans are built upon the foundations of being a family Club, with the children's welfare, education, personal development and enjoyment being the priority. We aim to ensure that everyone associated with Aylesbury Town enjoys their participation in football and celebrates playing this wonderful game.

Interested in joining Aylesbury Town Football Club?

Our teams range from Under 7s to Under 18s, so in the first instance please visit the club website: <http://aylesburytownfc.intheteam.com> or email liane.sheppard@btopenworld.com, the Club Secretary, stating your name and age, and your interest will be forwarded to the appropriate Team Manager.

We are particularly looking for players and parents interested in coaching for Under 9s (school year 4) and Under 7s (school year 2 and under).

TOWNies for 5 - 9 year olds runs from 10.00am to 11.30am each Saturday morning, involving basic ball control skills through to development of team awareness and match experiences. Currently at Broughton School and soon to commence at Aylesbury FC, Haywood Way.

Ryan Orlowski Aylesbury Town Football Club

June 2009 not only marks the end of another football season and the conclusion of the 11th season of junior football club Aylesbury Town FC, but for one member in particular it completes a quite incredible achievement.



16 year old, Ryan Orlowski has just completed his 10th season as a player for Aylesbury Town Football Club. Not only is ten years at a club a terrific achievement at any level of football or indeed in sport, but to complete those 10 seasons without missing a single fixture is a truly remarkable milestone.

Ryan, a Manchester United fan, made his debut for Aylesbury Town Under 7s on Sunday 10th October 1999 in a small sided six a side football match against local rivals Risborough Rangers. Ryan also marked that occasion with his first goal for the club. Since that first appearance, through small sided, 11 a side and football tournament appearances, Ryan has gone on to make 454 appearances for the club, scoring on 38 occasions. In all of these matches, Ryan has played the game in sporting fashion, respected refereeing decisions and never had to be shown the referees yellow or red card.

Of course, with Ryan's commitment and desire to play football, we should not forget his father, Andy who has accompanied Ryan to the majority of these fixtures, providing the usual parental 'taxi' service which so many parents undertake each week.

At Aylesbury Town's annual presentation event held at Aylesbury Civic Centre on Saturday 20th June, Ryan's achievement was recognised not only by the Club, but also by the Berks and Bucks Football Association. Aylesbury Town made a special presentation to Ryan, whilst the Berks and Bucks FA have arranged for Ryan to be a special guest at a forthcoming top level football match.

Town's current Under 16 Manager, Keith Harper, who has led the players from that first Under 7s fixture, through to the current day said "This is a remarkable achievement by Ryan. I'm not aware if the completion of ten seasons without missing a single match has ever been done before. It is a tremendous show of loyalty and I would like to thank Ryan for his unrivalled commitment over the years.

For further information: **Keith Harper: 07850 346539**
Aylesbury Town Under 16s Manager and Vice Chairman
Neil Bartholomew: 07905 811008
Chairman - Aylesbury Town Football Club

Bedgrove Badminton Club



Established over 25 years ago, Bedgrove Badminton Club is a friendly, social badminton club. We are a very competitive club and active in the local Aylesbury and district badminton leagues. With around 25 members aged between 18-70, we have the benefit of 4 courts in the new Aylesbury Grammar School sports facilities (Walton Road, Aylesbury, HP21 7RP). We play on Tuesday nights from 8.00pm - 10.00pm. Come along and visit, all are welcome. Just £5.00 per visitor for 2 hours of badminton at a mid to experienced varied standard.

Feel free to contact Neil Kemp for further details.

Tel: **07801 293177** Email: nak44@tiscali.co.uk

www.bedgrovebadmintonclub.co.uk

Sam Ridgway



Sam is one of the UK's most promising athletes in the under 17 age group. He is Bucks County Champion in three throwing events: the Hammer, Discus and Shot.

The 16 year-old Waddesdon C of E School pupil lives on the Hawkslade estate in Aylesbury and trains at the Stantonbury Stadium in Milton Keynes. Having just completed his GCSE exams, Sam awaits a place in the Waddesdon School sixth form where he will have use of excellent sports facilities.

Currently ranked 5th in the UK in Hammer and 12th in Discus, Sam recently competed in the Bucks Schools Championships in High Wycombe, where he successfully won both events which has now resulted in him representing Buckinghamshire in inter-county meetings.

He recently took part in an under 20s event with a 6kg hammer, where his achievement of 52.01 metres has elevated him straight to No 1 in the rankings for the South East of England. On July 10th and 11th he represented the County for the prestigious English Schools Championships at the Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield. This event was televised on Sky Sports.

Vale Reds Football Club



Vale Reds Football Club was established 5 years ago to give the opportunity for girls to play football locally. It is now one of the biggest girls' football clubs in the area providing football coaching and matches for girls from ages 8 to 16 years old.

With the countdown to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and 27 per cent of children in the UK overweight (often with unhealthy diets and little or no regular weekly exercise) now is the time to inspire young people across Aylesbury Vale to take up sport.

Football is one sport that can encourage young people to take exercise, eat healthily and have fun! Womens' and girls' football continues to grow with more players competing in affiliated competitions than any other team sport.

Sport England's Active People survey in 2008 established that 260,000 women and 1.1 million girls play some form of football in England. According to BUPA, 'As excellent aerobic exercise, football can have positive effects on how you feel. It can improve your mood and raise self-esteem.'

At the heart of this movement are the many local clubs providing opportunities for children to play football.

Vale Reds is an FA Charter Standard club playing in the Bucks Girls' League. All their coaches hold Level-1 or Level-2 coaching qualifications, and CRB certificates, with an aim to allow all girls within the club to reach their football playing potential whilst still having fun and creating a great team-spirit. Several of the girls have developed their skills and moved to clubs such as Milton Keynes Dons; one is now playing for Tottenham Ladies, whilst others have gone on to represent Bucks County.

With five years of achievements behind them Vale Reds are looking to greater success in the future. In the next couple of years they are hoping to start a

Ladies team so that as girls move through the age groups, they can keep playing together.

Vale Reds currently play matches and train at Fairford Leys football pitches but are looking for a more permanent location in the Aylesbury area to develop as their home ground.

So, now is the time to inspire and motivate girls to take up a sport and create team-spirit, improve their health and self-esteem and take part in regular exercise. Vale Reds are always looking for new players to join the teams and would welcome any interested girls to training at Fairford Leys football pitches on Friday evenings at 6.00pm. It doesn't matter if they have never played football before as anyone, of any ability, is welcome.

For more details call Mark Rogers on 01296 485536, Derrick Gardner on 07711 680328 or find out more at www.valeredsfc.co.uk



Bucks C.C. Female Football

Every Thursday 6.00pm – 7.00pm at Bedgrove Park. For those aged 14+, including social adult female session, younger females should enquire too. Contact Sharon O'Sullivan on: 07899 842786

Aylesbury Sea Cadets



Aylesbury Sea Cadets have had their bi-annual Royal Naval Parade (RNP) where they were inspected by Commander Giles of the Royal Navy. There was a full Ceremonial Colours Ceremony with a Marine Cadet Guard and, after the inspection, Commander Giles had the opportunity to watch the cadets present sketches based on Naval history but demonstrating the cadets' sense of fun and teamwork.

The RNP is the culmination of a series of inspections that the Cadet Unit must undergo on a regular basis, and we have recently received the very welcome news that the Unit has passed!

The Cadets parade on Monday and Wednesday evenings between 7.15pm and 9.30pm and anyone wishing to come along, be they interested in joining the cadets or interested in helping as an adult volunteer, should contact Lt (SCC) J Pike on 07768 652630 for further details.

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust

RECRUITING NOW!

Help save lives in your community

You can make a valuable contribution to your local community by becoming a Volunteer Community First Responder. South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust is now recruiting volunteers who will be trained to respond to certain types of medical emergencies while the ambulance is en-route. Interested to join or want to donate? Contact your Divisional Community Responder manager:

cfr@scas.nhs.uk or 0800 587 0207 or visit:
www.southcentralambulance.nhs.uk



NEW NETWORK GROUP FOR WORKING MUMS!

Membership is FREE! Children are welcome!

For more details of the next meeting go to:-
www.mumswhojuggle.co.uk

Reactivate Bucks: get up and give it a go!

It's never too late to give sport a try or to spend more time enjoying it. With this in mind, sport and leisure providers and attractions around the county are offering a range of free and special offer sessions so adults can 'get back into' or 'try out' an activity they've always wanted to do. Taking place between 19th to 27th September, Reactivate Bucks! will be offering a wealth of activities across the county.

Lots of venues around the county are taking part in the forthcoming Reactivate Bucks! week, which is all about helping more people in Bucks to get more active, more often. So don't miss out.

A wide range of sports and activities will be available for adults to enjoy, regardless of age, fitness level or ability.

To find out more log onto www.buckssport.org/reactivate
email: info@buckssport.org or call the Reactivate Bucks! Team on 01296 585215.



Olympic Gold Medalist and chairman of the Buckinghamshire 2012 Group, Adrian Moorhouse, and his family got on their bikes to launch the last Reactivate Bucks! week held in May.

Introducing your New Mayor...

Cllr Mrs Ranjula Takodra is a British-born citizen of Indian descent. She spent the early part of her life in Kenya and came to live in the Queens Park area of Aylesbury in 1968 and attended junior school in Queens Park and later at Aylesbury College.

Ranjula is married with two grown children who both went to local schools. Sunil now runs youth music projects and Nima works for the Young Offenders Service. Ranjula herself works for the Racial Equality Council specialising in equality and human rights issues. She also works at a local surgery as a Liaison Officer dealing with woman's issues, domestic violence, benefits and housing problems.

Cllr Ranjula Takodra said "I am very proud to serve Aylesbury. As a citizen I have seen the town grow from strength to strength over the years and with it so have I. As a councillor and therefore one of the many volunteers of this town, I can see that many people have contributed to the growth of this historic town. Aylesbury Town Council has been at the forefront of making a real difference to the town and I feel very honoured to be part of it. Sixteen months ago I was diagnosed as having breast cancer. While it was a significant shock to the system I fought this disease with the help and support of my friends, family and the medical team at the cancer care and haematology unit at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. It isn't until you go through such a life changing experience that you realise how much we rely on volunteers and carers and people that donate unselfishly to support these volunteers. Things happen when you go through Chemo; your tastes change and your hair falls out. But taking cancer face on I found the strength and courage to do things I thought previously I could never do. Sometimes life can be difficult but with support we can overcome the hurdles we encounter in life. To be an Indian woman and to be accepted by the wider community and having Aylesbury as my home and to be an ambassador for this magnificent town which has been so good to me is one of the proudest moments of my life."



...and your new Deputy Mayor

Graham Webster is a local and proud of it. He went to school in Wendover attending Wendover C of E then John Colet. In fact he attended on the first day the John Colet was open. He then attended Aylesbury Tech before starting farming, once again in Wendover. He was then accepted at Berkshire Institute of Agriculture where he gained the National Certificate of Agriculture. During these years he was a member of the Weston Turville Young Farmers Club, winner of public speaking competitions and represented Bucks at the London Dairy Show and in Kent as a junior sheep shearer.

Graham married a local girl in 1967 and purchased their house a few years later – and they are still there. They have two sons. He then moved from agriculture into the building trade, always working locally. He eventually branched into landscaping, spending 3 years with his eldest son working for himself. He has a love of the outside and has spent many years hill walking with friends. He joined the Scout Movement in 1985 as a Leader of a local group. He is currently the Deputy District Commissioner for Aylesbury and Assistant County Commissioner for the Scouts Fellowship. He attended the World Scout Jamboree at Highlands Park in 2007 and trekked in Nepal and Morocco in 1999 and 2003. He has been a member of Aylesbury Town Council since its inception and has always been a member of the Planning Committee and deeply involved in events and allotments.

Graham said "Aylesbury has always been my town. It was the place to come into from the villages – a 3d return on the Red Rose!! Evenings were spent at the Granada or the Odeon; Friars, Grosvenor or Courts School if we were dancing. We spent days at the Cattle Market and occasionally treated ourselves to an up-market dinner at the Bulls Head and bought the occasional trinket from the small shops in Silver Street. Coffee at the Regent Café in Kingsbury while waiting for a bus. The past, what joy, what fun and what a town!! Most of the above have gone now but replaced in one shape or fashion and it's still a good town to live in and enjoy. It may have spread over a larger area but with the new theatre and new developments to the town centre the future is looking good. What we all need to do is support our town, use the local shops and look after the town as a whole. We all have a role to play."



ATC Grants – June 2009

Aylesbury Town Cricket Club were awarded £2,000 to refurbish and re-carpet the cricket nets. The club are embarking on a project to send coaches into local schools to promote cricket and will provide them with the use of their facilities at the cricket club.

£1,000 was granted to Bucks Army Cadet League to purchase archery equipment. There are approximately 200 young people in Aylesbury who are linked with two large Cadet platoons. Archery is a very popular sport which can be performed both inside and outside.

Once again Open Door Community Church will be staging a Charity Fun Day at the Meadowcroft Community Centre. Flyers will be sent out to all residents in the area. £900 was awarded.

£2,000 was awarded to Save your Rights towards the cost of a Seminar and Debate on Forced Marriages. Approximately 100 people are expected to attend the project which affects one in five Asian families living in Aylesbury. It will make young people aware of their rights and educate the parents into the seriousness of their actions. DVDs will be produced and given to local schools.

£450 was awarded to Thursday Morning Club towards a boat trip on the Thames and lunch. The aim of the club is to provide recreational activities for senior citizens of Quarrendon and Meadowcroft. 30 members are expected to enjoy the day out.

Pat Phillips

If you belong to a non-profit-making organisation which provides a service for a section of the community, you may qualify for a grant. Please contact Mrs. Pat Phillips at Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP Telephone: 01296 425678 or email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk for application forms or further information.

Recent Grant Awards



Queens Park Arts Centre



Ryder Cheshire Volunteers. Photo by Roger King



Bucks CC Football Club (Under 12s). Photo by Roger King



Aylesbury Youth Theatre. Photo by Roger King



SHAKT: Womens Group



The New Roxette

Florence Nightingale Hospice Garden



The Florence Nightingale Hospice garden was created entirely by volunteers: the Friends of Florence Nightingale House. They first raised the money. Then they rolled up their sleeves and undertook the construction work involved in building raised beds, laying paths and installing a fountain. Over the twenty years since they first completed their task the friends of the hospice have given a large amount of their time and energy to support and maintain this beautiful amenity. Their work of maintenance and fundraising is ongoing throughout the year.

They do so to give pleasure to the very poorly people who use the hospice. Each individual room in the unit has double doors leading out to the garden. The garden itself has paths wide enough to allow beds to be pushed out into the open air, so that in addition to the patients who are ambulant, ladies and gentlemen who are confined to bed can also enjoy the colours and smells of this beautiful garden.

Planting has been very carefully thought out to ensure that in addition to the glorious colours of the flowers, aromatic and highly fragranced plants allow those who are and are not sighted to enjoy the garden equally.

Margaret Wagstaffe
Town Clerk



Photos by Nathalie Thorne



Aylesbury Farmers' Market

Aylesbury Farmers' Market supplies quality, fresh produce at a fair price. The goods are sold directly to the public by the people who produce them and must be produced within a 30 mile radius of Aylesbury. The stall holders can tell you how they grow their fruit and vegetables, rear their animals or prepare their produce for sale. Many of the stalls sell organic or free-range produce.

Our Farmers' Market started in 2000 and has gone from strength to strength with our current footfall around 500.

On our typical Farmers' Market day you will find:

- Homemade soups • Homemade pesto and cook-in sauces
- Plants and shrubs • Pasta and Indian sauces
- Sausages • Pies • Ostrich meat
- Chops and various other cuts of meat
- Potatoes and assorted vegetables • Honey
- Cheese • Cakes and biscuits
- Apples and freshly made apple juice • Beeswax
- Lavender • Local fruit • Dairy products

You can also come for lunch: try a freshly cooked pork roll, homemade soup and a roll, or homemade burgers.

Farmers' Markets are held in Market Square on the 4th Tuesday of the month from nine o'clock in the morning until two o'clock in the afternoon.

Diana Fawcett
Joint Town Centre Manager





Town Centre Events

It's been a smashing summer and Aylesbury's season of 'Fun in the Sun' has attracted great audiences. From St George's Day, through Robot Wars; The African Adventure; the Aylesbury Festival featuring the Roald Dahl Day; Aylesbury on Sea, Hobble on the Cobbles and other entertainments too numerous to mention – Aylesbury residents have flocked to the Town Centre to enjoy the entertainment. And there is plenty more to come.

Autumn starts in Vale Park with Parklife and Proms in the Park. Bring a picnic and enjoy the music. There will be Farmyard Fun in Kingsbury and the ever popular 'Ghouls and Villains' to send shivers down your spine at Halloween. November brings the Christmas lights switch on and Santa's Parade. Then we wind up the year with the superb Carolfest in the Market Square, and the Town Council's Candlelit Procession round the King's Head and Kingsbury.

It's free and it's for all the family... so please come along and join in the fun.



Photos by Margaret Wagstaffe, Nathalie Thorne, Roger King and Ray Ghent



What's On September - December 2009

September

4	Comedy Club	Adult	£8.00/£9.00	8.00pm	Civic Centre
4 - 5	French Market	Family		10.00 - 4.00pm	Market Square
5 - 6	Parklife	Family	FREE		Vale Park
5	Proms in the Park	Family	FREE	7.30pm	Vale Park
5	Rockin' On Heaven's Door	Adult	£17.50	8.00pm	Civic Centre
12	Country Legends: Solid Gold Show	Snr: £17.50 Jnr: £16.50		8.00pm	Civic Centre
13	Charter Day - Tudor Fayre	Family	FREE	11.00 - 4.00pm	Market Square
13	Roald Dahl Day	Family	FREE	2.00 - 5.00pm	County Museum
19	Signed, Sealed & Delivered - A Motown Review		£19.00	8.00pm	Civic Centre
23	An Evening with Jethro Tull's Ian Anderson	Adult	£24.50	7.30pm	Civic Centre
26	Demonstration of lace making with children being able to have a go	Family		10.30 - 4.00pm	Tourist Information Centre
26	Stonegroove - Soulweekender - Over 25s	Adult	£10.00	8.00pm	Civic Centre
27	Music in Kingsbury	Family	FREE	11.00 - 1.30pm	Kingsbury

October

2	Comedy Club	Adult	£8.00/£9.00	8.00pm	Civic Centre
3	Matt Munro Jnr - Intimately Yours	Snr: £17.50 Jnr: £15.50		8.00pm	Civic Centre
7	Ennio Marchetto		£16.00	7.30pm	Civic Centre
8	Moscow Ballet - Nutcracker	Snr: £20.00 Jnr: £12.50		7.30pm	Civic Centre
13	Clive Baldwin's Jolson Show		£12.00	2.30pm	Civic Centre
22	Peter Grant	Family	£18.00/£17.00	8.00pm	Civic Centre
24 - 31	The Grey Lady and other Ghostly Tales - Reported to be the most haunted building in Buckinghamshire, the King's Head will be the spooky site of activities and ghostly tours! Tours cost £8 and include a hot drink. Booking recommended.				
26	Wrestling	Jnr: £12.00 Snr: £10.00 Family: £35.00		7.30pm	Civic Centre
30/31	Ghouls and Villians (tickets required from Tourist Information in advance)			8.00pm	Kingsbury

November

4	Comedy Club	Adult	£8.00/£9.00	8.00pm	Civic Centre
4	Seth Lakeman	Adult	£16.00+	7.00pm	Civic Centre
15	Richard Digance	Adult	£16.00	7.30pm	Civic Centre
19	Christmas Lights Switch-on	Family	FREE	5.30pm	Market Square
22	Santa's Parade	Family	FREE	10.30am	Market Square
26	A Town and Country Christmas Shopping	Family		4.00 - 9.00pm	King's Head

December

6	Mayor's Carol Service	Family	FREE	6.00pm	St Mary's Church
17	Christmas Carol Fest	Family	FREE		Market Square
31	New Year's Eve Party Black and White Ball	Over 18s	£35.00	8.30pm	Civic Centre
8 - 30	Jack and the Beanstalk	Family	from £9.50	Various	Civic Centre

For details of events at Bucks County Museum Tel: 01296 331441, The King's Head Tel: 01296 381501, The Civic Centre Tel: 01296 486009, Limelight Theatre Queens Park Art Centre Tel: 01296 424332



Get Active is a project aimed at increasing and improving the sports opportunities available to people with learning disabilities in Buckinghamshire. A multi sports session for adults with a learning disability is held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on Tuesday evenings from 7.00pm - 8.00pm. Participants enjoy a chance to try different sports activities with professional, friendly coaches and volunteers. The sessions cost £2 per week and are open to anyone over the age of 16 with a learning disability.

We will be adding more activities in the Aylesbury Vale area over the next few months. Get Active is a Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Sports Partnership project, working in partnership with Buckinghamshire County Council and local leisure providers. For more information or to book a place please contact Polly Owens on 01296 585215 or powens@buckssport.org

Community Safety Shop

The Community Safety Centre is a multi-agency one-stop shop for people in the Vale, primarily Aylesbury, to find out more about crime prevention, ASB, health, trading standards and much more. In addition to the councils and the police, local voluntary organisations are also involved, such as Vale Volunteers.

A combination of staff will be manning the shop, Monday to Friday, 10.00am - 3.00pm. In addition to helpful information and the chance to speak to and report concerns to local officers, the shop will also showcase Vale-wide initiatives to target crime and disorder; initiatives such as Operation Artemis (reducing vehicle crime) and the Hard Target Service which improves the home security of burglary victims.

The shop launched on July 20th in the Hale Leys, opposite Boots and the shop will update themes throughout the year. September will include messages to students who may be at college/Uni on home and personal safety and October will see a drive to secure homes as the nights draw in and houses are left in darkness.

The shop will also target a range of age groups, typically adults but there will also be campaigns directed at young people and the shop hours will look to evolve to accommodate this. Residents can visit the shop in Hale Leys during opening hours to take a look or to speak to someone. There are freebies such as light timer switches and personal safety alarms available and the centre will also be able to property mark valuables such as phones and mp3 players.

dash... Disability. Arts. Sports. Health.

dash is a range of activities for young people (12+) and adults with disabilities provided by AVDC Leisure.

Doorways Dance Group is an integrated dance group offering the opportunity to explore movement, imagination and more. The class is held every Wednesday 4.00pm - 5.00pm, during term time, at Queens Park Arts Centre, Aylesbury.

The Thursday Club is run in partnership with Booker Park School in Aylesbury. The aim of the club is to provide both a recreational and social environment for local people with disabilities. The club encourages both young people and adults to take part in a range of organised activities designed to increase their physical skills (co-ordination and balance), life skills (confidence and leadership) and general health to enhance their quality of life. Sessions and activities are supervised at all times by our trained staff, and we aim to ensure that all members have fun and are challenged in a social environment.

To arrange your first visit or to discuss suitability of any of the clubs for either yourself, a family member or someone in your care please telephone 01296 585195.

Aylesbury Town Council

Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP

Tel: **01296 425678** Fax: **01296 426134**

Email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

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