

AYLESBURY TOWN matters

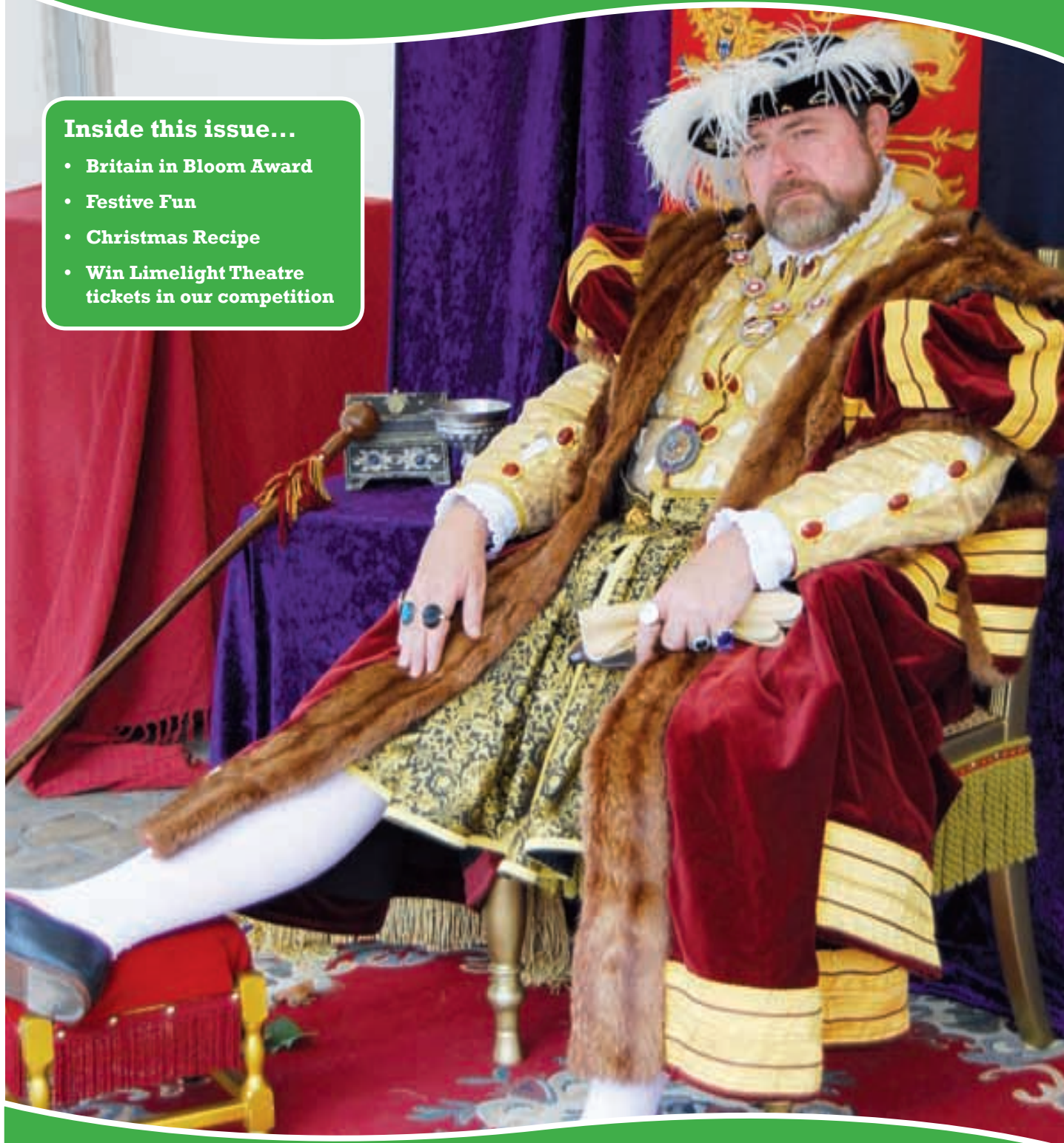
Aylesbury Town Council Magazine
Issue Twenty Three December 2011



Serving the people of Aylesbury

Inside this issue...

- Britain in Bloom Award
- Festive Fun
- Christmas Recipe
- Win Limelight Theatre tickets in our competition



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

Welcome Note

Welcome to Issue 23 of Aylesbury Town Matters. As Christmas gets closer the memories of a scorching end to September and the floral displays around Aylesbury, which by popular opinion were the best ever, become dimmer. Whilst we have no control over the weather we are planning to have even better displays next year.

In the new year we celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and, of course, the Olympics and would like to produce some themed planting and displays to support these important occasions. If you have any ideas please contact the Town Council as we always welcome input from as many people as possible. If you are planning any celebrations yourselves please let us know if we can help.

By the time you read this article the production of the Aylesbury Town Plan will be close to the end of the 'listening and consulting' period and the plan itself should be available early in the new year for further discussion. We all live in Aylesbury and therefore have a vested interest in the present and future of the town and the town centre itself. So once again we welcome your thoughts and input.

This year the Town Council want to target 'grot spots' around the town. The Council already works closely with Bucks County Council carrying out work such as cutting back hedges, work to trees and clearance of unsightly materials. If you know of any please let us know and we will do our best to resolve them.

I hope you find this version of Aylesbury Town Matters useful and informative and as always we welcome new ideas and comments from yourselves.

Keith Turner
Town Clerk



As part of Aylesbury Town Council's ongoing journey into the world of social media, we now have our own YouTube channel! Packed full of videos from our events, with more being added all the time, it's a great way to get a feel of the atmosphere of some of Aylesbury's most popular events.

Tune in to www.youtube.com/aylesburytc and get watching!

Don't forget to also take a look at:
twitter.com/aylesburytc
facebook.com/aylesburytc
www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



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Front cover photo: Henry VIII resting at Charter Day 2011 by Hilary Trahair

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

Aylesbury in Bloom - Allotment Awards



Mayor Cllr Jenny Puddefoot with P. Smith and J. Fisher of Fisher Plant Hire



K. Keasley with Phil Gooding, Manager of Worlds End Nurseries

On the 14th September the Allotment Awards were held at Worlds End Garden Centre in their lovely new restaurant. It was a fantastic evening to celebrate the best of the allotments across all 7 sites giving attendees the opportunity to meet other allotment holders and socialise over nibbles and refreshments. Each allotment site had a first, second and third place winner and we were delighted that so many of the shield sponsors were able to attend to present the awards.

OLD STOKE ROAD	1st - Plot 3 P. Smith	2nd - Plot 7 M. Stride	3rd - Plot 84 D. White
TRING ROAD	1st - Plot 10 K. Keasley	2nd - Plot 17 V. Lewis-Smith	3rd - Plot 6A V. Horne
WHADDON CHASE	1st - Plot 10 F. Seymour	2nd - Plot 37 Mr Richardson	3rd - Plot 20 F. Seymour
ARDENHAM LANE	1st - Plot 34 C. Speak	2nd - Plot 33 M. Rigby	3rd - Plot 15 D. P. Rolls
CROWN LEYS	1st - Plot 1 J. Neal	2nd - Plot 50 A. Ruta	3rd - Plot 69 A Golder
BIERTON ROAD	1st - Plot 45 Mr Bentham	2nd - Plot 4 Mr Sherley	3rd - Plot 50 Mrs Anthony
BEDGROVE	1st - Plot 92 G. Lang	2nd - Plot 20 Mr Stokes	3rd - Plot 18 J. Collins

Best Newcomer: Plot 39 Old Stoke Road, Mr Nelder **Best Overall:** Plot 10 Tring Road, Mr Keasley



A. & C. Wiltshire of Drive-In and Cllr Jenny Puddefoot with C. Speak



All winners and sponsors line up at the evening's end!



Cllr Jenny Puddefoot and Cllr Stuart Jarvis with J. Neal

Britain in Bloom 2011

Aylesbury rewarded for 'Doing More With Less'

ATC are very pleased to announce that Aylesbury has achieved a Silver Gilt in the Britain in Bloom Awards 2011 with 158 points which, unexpected but brilliant none the less, was a small increase on last year. Aylesbury also won a special 'Doing More With Less' Award. This was a new award that was brought in to recognise the changing economic times. We are extremely proud to be the first winners of this award and feel that it recognises the creativity and proactive spirit that we maintain with regards to the Britain and Aylesbury in Bloom campaigns.

If you would like to be part of our steering group or like to volunteer in any other way, please contact Claire Bignell on 01296 425678 or c.bignell@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



What's on this Season...



There's a definite chill in the air, but there's also something else... the Christmas Spirit! Event organisers in Aylesbury have pulled out all the stops this year to make sure there's something for everyone to do this winter in the town.



For last minute shoppers, make sure you catch the **Christmas Speciality Craft Market** in Market Square on the 5th December, and stock up on brussels sprouts (or more appetising vegetables!) at the **Christmas Special Farmers' Market** on the 19th.



There'll also be trinkets and Christmas decorations on offer, as well as many other activities and forms of entertainment at Aylesbury Town Council's **Victorian Christmas Fair** on the 18th December in Market Square. This **FREE EVENT** will include thrilling entertainment from a Victorian escapologist, juggling workshops, Victorian music, demonstrations, activities and of course, hot roasted chestnuts (more information about this event can be found on the back page).



Also, make sure you are part of Aylesbury's biggest **Carol Singing Experience** on the evening of the 15th December. Come and join in with some of the nation's favourite Christmas Carols. The event is **FREE** and songsheets are provided. If you're not keen on singing, don't worry, the event is accompanied by Aylesbury Choral Society and just to listen is to enjoy.

Finally, if you're stuck for something to do with the kids in the Christmas holidays, check out the **FREE Christmas Holidays Fun** events being held on the 22nd and 29th December by Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership. When the fun of the festive season is over, there's still plenty to light those dark January days – take a look at our events listings on page 22.

With two major events taking place in the UK in 2012 (the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee), 2012 is sure to be an exciting year!



Photos by Hilary Trahair, Russ Naylor and Maurice Cousins.

Autumn Review



September was when Aylesbury took a step back in time for the **Tudor Fayre** on the 11th. Children from St Mary's School started the day with a well rehearsed dance for King Henry VIII before getting stuck in to some of the other Tudor activities on offer to visitors, including purse making, candle making, entertainment from Peterkin the Jester, the Ratcatcher and music from the Tudor Ruffs and Hautbois Musicians. Have you ever wondered why we hold a Tudor Fayre every year in September? Turn to page 7 to find out!



Later in the month Aylesbury was reminded of its links with local RAF Station Halton with the Town Mayor's **Freedom Parade** through the town, and a church service. During the salute the parade was graced with the presence of a Merlin Helicopter from RAF Benson, RAF Halton Pipes & Drums and the Queen's Colour (RAF Halton hold one of only four Queen's Colours in the entire RAF). Find out more about the event's history on page 7.

*If you visited any of our events this year, why not let us know what you thought?
Our contact details can be found on page 2.*

Love your local market

On Saturday 8th October, Aylesbury Market celebrated its '**Love Your Market**' day organised by Aylesbury Vale District Council. Markets are held in the picturesque Market Square every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday with Continental markets throughout the year – traditional markets are at the heart of Aylesbury town centre. This event was designed to celebrate and showcase the traders of Aylesbury Markets, demonstrating why they are such a great place to shop. The highlight of the day for visitors was getting up close and personal to the 100 year old Model T Ford Tourer which on 18th May 2011 successfully made it to the top of Ben Nevis! Shoppers enjoyed a silver band, face painting and entertainment from 'Only Fools and Horses' look-alikes who amused the crowds. Visitors learned how to create their own winter garden, got ideas for seasonal recipes from the fruit and veg stalls, or just simply soaked up the atmosphere of the Charter market, browsing the freshly made produce, clothes, accessories and homewares to pick up a bargain.

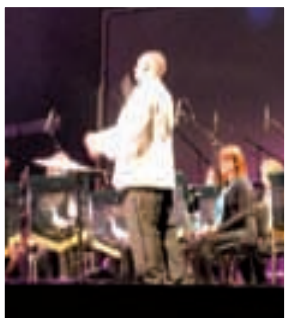


Proms in the Park 2011



September was a very busy month with **Proms in the Park** kicking off proceedings on the 3rd. This spectacular event was described by many as 'the best yet', and performances of patriotic favourites such as 'Land of Hope and Glory' and 'Jerusalem' from solists Jill Neenan and Richard Stark, accompanied by the excellent Aylesbury Concert Band, were met with much flag waving and singing from the enthusiastic audience. A video of the finale can be found on our YouTube site (see page 2 for details).

Proms in the Park was part of 'Parklife', a weekend of activities organised jointly between Aylesbury Town Council and Aylesbury Church Network, including a family fun day on Saturday and on Sunday, in 'Valestock', local bands from Southcourt Studios showcased their tracks on the big stage.



Why Do We Hold Certain Events?

Many of you will have enjoyed entertainment at Aylesbury Town Council's events over the years, but have you ever wondered why we hold some of our longest running events? In this issue we focus on two events which hold some of the longest traditions in Aylesbury.



Charter Day

Many of you have enjoyed Aylesbury Town Council's Tudor Fayre on or around the 11th September every year in Market Square, but how many of you have wondered what the significance of Tudors are to this event, what 'Charter Day' represents, and why we hold it on this date?

The annual Tudor Fayre takes place to celebrate the existence of Aylesbury's Ancient Charter, first granted to its citizens in 1209, then extended by Queen (Bloody) Mary in September 1554, 'for her most excellent Majesty's loyal subjects', so praised for putting down a minor revolt by the people of Buckinghamshire.

The granting of the Market Charter allowed Aylesbury to hold a regular Market, a tradition which is still upheld today with the many Farmers' and more modern continental markets which take place in the town. Interestingly, the first Mayor of Aylesbury, John Walwyn, was elected in the same year that the Charter was granted to the town (1554), another tradition which we still uphold.

Find out more about what the current Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Jenny Puddefoot, has been busy doing in the last few months on page 19. You can see photos and read more about what happened at this year's Charter Day celebrations on page 5.

Freedom Parade



© Crown Copyright 2011

Another, more formal, event in September upholds a historical military link with the town, while at the same time commemorating a tragic but important event in our history. Around mid September the sight and sound of a military band and marching boots through the

streets of Aylesbury is not uncommon. It's the annual RAF Halton Freedom Parade, put on at the request of the Town Mayor every year. But what does 'Freedom' mean in this context?

Freedom privileges date back to medieval times when fortress walls afforded protection to cities and towns from incursions of outlaw bands and attacks launched by feudal lords. The citizens wisely refused to allow the entry of bodies of armed men unless they were completely sure that those who carried arms would not use them against the townsfolk.

Hence the granting of permission for a formed body of armed men to enter a city, a 'Freedom of Entry', became a mark of trust and confidence in which that armed body was held by its citizens. Aylesbury was the first town in Buckinghamshire to grant RAF Halton the 'Freedom' 55 years ago. It is a tradition which continues to be celebrated with great pride by both Aylesbury Town Council and RAF Halton, who also take the opportunity of this event to pay tribute to those who fell in the Battle of Britain 71 years ago with a Church Service in St. Mary's Church.

You can see photos and read more about this year's Freedom Parade on page 5.

Now you know some of the history behind our events, we would love to know of anything that has happened in Aylesbury's history which you think should be celebrated. Aylesbury Town Council always welcomes ideas for new events, so please get in touch using the contact details on page 2.

**‘Positive, splendid,
powerful and
controversial’**



‘Concrete Jungle’



Walton Street in 1956 showing the buildings that were demolished to make way for the County Tower.

The County Tower

At 12 noon on Friday 21st October 1966 one of the most famous buildings in Aylesbury's history was opened by the then Labour Minister of Housing and Local Government, the Rt Hon Anthony Greenwood MP. That building was the County Offices in Walton Street later referred to as either 'Pooley's Folly' or 'Pooley's Tower'.

The building heralded a brand new age for the then sleepy market town of Aylesbury. The new building formed an integral part of the new development of the town and was to be eventually linked to the new Friars Square and bus station. It replaced some fine Regency houses in Walton Street and together with Friars Square which was opened a year later in 1967 replaced the quaint but run down shopping areas of Silver Street, Great Western Street and the old Friarage Road.

The Bucks Herald at the time ran a special six page supplement and in it Fred Pooley the County Architect, commented that "most new buildings which have represented an advance in architecture have had to bear a great deal of criticism and I accept that as a piece of architecture it (the county offices) will be judged by history either as a miserable failure or as a building which made a contribution to the development of world architecture." I think it is fair to say that no other building in Aylesbury has had such a love/hate relationship with the people of the town, and 45 years on, it continues to be controversial.

The tower is 200ft high and comprises 12 storeys. It took three years to build at a cost of £956,000, representing less than £5.50 per square foot. The main contractors were Robert Marriott with some of the concrete pre-sections manufactured in Hounslow by Bison Concrete Ltd. The architect was Fred B Pooley FRIBA, AMTPI, FRICS. The Architects Journal at the time said of the building: positive, splendid, powerful and controversial.

There is no doubt that the building is unique and certainly represents the optimism of the Wilsonian era and the swinging sixties and for that reason alone it is important. I hope that the building is here to stay and I have no doubts that it will eventually be listed as a classic piece of middle 20th century architecture. To the generations of people that have been born in Aylesbury over the last 50 years it is as part of Aylesbury's skyline as St Mary's Church and could be likened to 'marmite'; love it or hate it.

Roger King

Photos courtesy of The Aylesbury Society and Roger King



County Tower as it looks today

Seeking Otway Footage

Over the years Aylesbury's John Otway has performed thousands of concerts, many of them in this area. Perhaps the best known local performance was the original "Hobble on the Cobbles" - his Market Square gig in 1978 which was filmed by ATV television as *Stardustman* (and is celebrated by The Greys on page 14).



Next year Otway plans to celebrate his 60th birthday with a "rockumentary" charting the highs and lows of his career to date, and has even booked a Leicester Square cinema for the premiere. He's therefore on the hunt for any archive footage, and especially for a 16mm print of *Stardustman*.

If you've got any old video or film footage of Otway, please email: film@otnews.net with the details.

Photo courtesy of Vincent Mealing



The Corn Exchange, Market Square

ATM 22 Competition Answer

The carved facial feature of the Corn Exchange archway at the bottom of Market Square was the close up featured in ATM 22's competition.

Congratulations to **Madeleine Butterfield** whose sharp eyes picked out the location. Tickets to the Limelight Theatre are on their way to you!

Thank you to everyone who entered – we were genuinely impressed with the number of you who got the answer right.

If you think you know the town, particularly the older part, check the latest competition on page 14. This time we've made it harder!

Community News & Events

Supporting the High Street & Cancer Research



The Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership would like to thank the visitors, volunteers and retailers who supported its third 'Wear It Pink' event. Over £1,500 was raised in four hours on Saturday 24th September in the lower High Street, Aylesbury.

The Partnership organised decorations and entertainments in aid of Cancer Research. This year saw over 800 pink balloons in the lower High Street with main retailers dressed in pink. The past two years have provided differing activities from stilt walkers to balloon modelling.

The event is also intended to give other High Street businesses the opportunity to showcase their products and services – over 75% get involved annually. The High Street offers a great range, whether you are on the search for a bargain at Ashco, QD Store, Poundland or the charity shops. For a pampering head to The Nail Bar or UK Man. Tasty breakfasts and lunches are served at Bon Appetit and Mendozas. There is also Curves, the gym exclusively for women, Iceland or Jericho's to find a yummy snack on the go after the gym and a variety of other shops and services.

The Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership organises a wide selection of events and each one is analysed and carefully selected to support the town. Feedback sought at the events demonstrate that around 75% of people at the event have come into town especially for it and around 80% then go on to spend money in the town.

Our Sporting Life

Sports Heritage Network

Bucks County Museum will be undertaking an exciting community project to collect local people's sport-related stories and memorabilia from Aylesbury and Stoke Mandeville, building up to a major exhibition at the County Museum during London 2012.

Do you have an object, photograph, film or story connected to sport – amateur or professional – in the Aylesbury and Stoke Mandeville area that you would like to share?

If you do and you would like it to be considered for inclusion in our exhibition in 2012 please get in touch with Will Phillips, Keeper of Social History at Bucks County Museum on **01296 624519** or email: wphillips@buckscc.gov.uk



Girlguiding Aylesbury

We have over 300 members and provide a unique girl only space. We offer a wide range of activities and most importantly have lots of fun!



Why not join us?

- Rainbows 5 - 7 year olds
- Brownies 7 - 10 year olds
- Guides 10 - 14 year olds
- Rangers 14 - 26 year olds
- Volunteers 18+

For further information contact Debbie Potter on 01296 484632 or email: DebsFOL@aol.com



Aylesbury Choral Society is a large amateur choir made up of keen singers of all ages from Aylesbury and the surrounding area. The Society performs three concerts a year: Christmas, Easter and a light-hearted programme in the summer.

The Society sings well known choral society favourites but also performs less common pieces, meaning our concerts are often an opportunity to come and hear something different.

Aylesbury Choral Society will be holding its next concert featuring Bach and Scarlatti on the 10th December 2011 at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury.

The choir will be accompanied by the Frideswide Ensemble and offers the audience the chance to hear music performed live by an orchestra with some period instruments.

Tickets are available four weeks before the concert. For more details please drop us an email: tickets@aylesburychoral.org.uk or see our website: www.aylesburychoral.org.uk

If you enjoy singing, why not come along to one of our rehearsals on Tuesdays at Fairford Leys' Church from 7.30pm? Membership is subject to an informal and simple voice test held in private. Significant subscription discounts for the under 25s. For further information please email: info@aylesburychoral.org.uk

Don't forget to join Aylesbury Choral Society again this year for Carolfest in the Market Square on December 15th (see page 23).



A Time to Remember

The Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity (FNHC) is holding its annual 'Tree of Light' service on Wednesday 7th December, 7.30pm, at the Florence Nightingale Hospice – an opportunity for family members, friends and relatives, who have lost a loved one and wish to honour their memory, or would like to honour someone special in their lives by sponsoring a light to shine throughout Christmas and New Year.

As well as the 'Tree of Light' Service, The Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity is holding a number of fun events in the run-up to Christmas, including:

- a **Christmas Gift Supper Auction**, at Rippon Street, Aylesbury, on Friday 25th November
- a **Glitz & Glam Party Night** in Haddenham on Friday 25th November – wear your best frock!
- a **Music Quiz** at Hawkslade Community Centre on Saturday 26th November
- a **Christmas Bazaar**, at Bedgrove Community Centre on Saturday 3rd December for all those must-have special Christmas stocking fillers, and later that evening a fun **Christmas Bingo Night**, to really get you into the festive spirit. There's something for everyone in the countdown to Christmas!

Don't forget the cards! Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity Christmas Cards are available to buy through www.fnhospice.org.uk, by contacting **01296 429975** or by popping into any of the Charity's shops in Aylesbury, Wendover, Chinnor, Winslow, Leighton Buzzard, Labels of Amersham and Furniture Warehouse on Chamberlain Road, Aylesbury.

For more information about these and other Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity events in 2012 please contact 01296 429975 or visit: www.fnhospice.org.uk

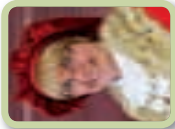
Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Mohammed Amjad
07956 803458



Cllr Iain Bozier
07941 164477



Cllr Jenny Puddlefoot
01296 612461

Ward: Central



Cllr Barbara Russel
01296 431314



Cllr Steven Mitchell
01296 392096

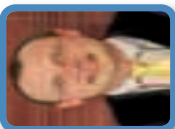
Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr Tuffail Hussain
07886 295946

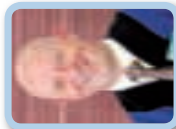


Cllr Pat Jamieson
01296 428275



Cllr Stuart Jarvis
07958 083519

Ward: Quarrendon



Cllr Chris Adams
07986 543211



Cllr Andy Huxley
07711 837938

Ward: Oxford Road



Cllr Zulfiqar Tom Ahmed
07731 328011



Cllr Mike Smith
01296 484299

Ward: Southcourt

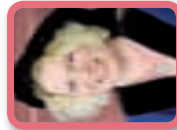


Cllr Michael Beall
01296 431499

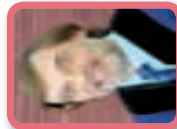


Cllr Matthew Launchbury
07837 604284

Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Allison Harrison
07795 210808



Cllr Steve Patrick
01296 424986

Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr Jenny Bloom
07729 011501

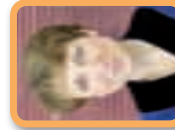


Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts
07595 178660

Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



Cllr Denise Summers
01296 426903

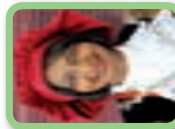


Cllr Sue Chapple
01296 426814



Cllr Brian Roberts
01296 422881

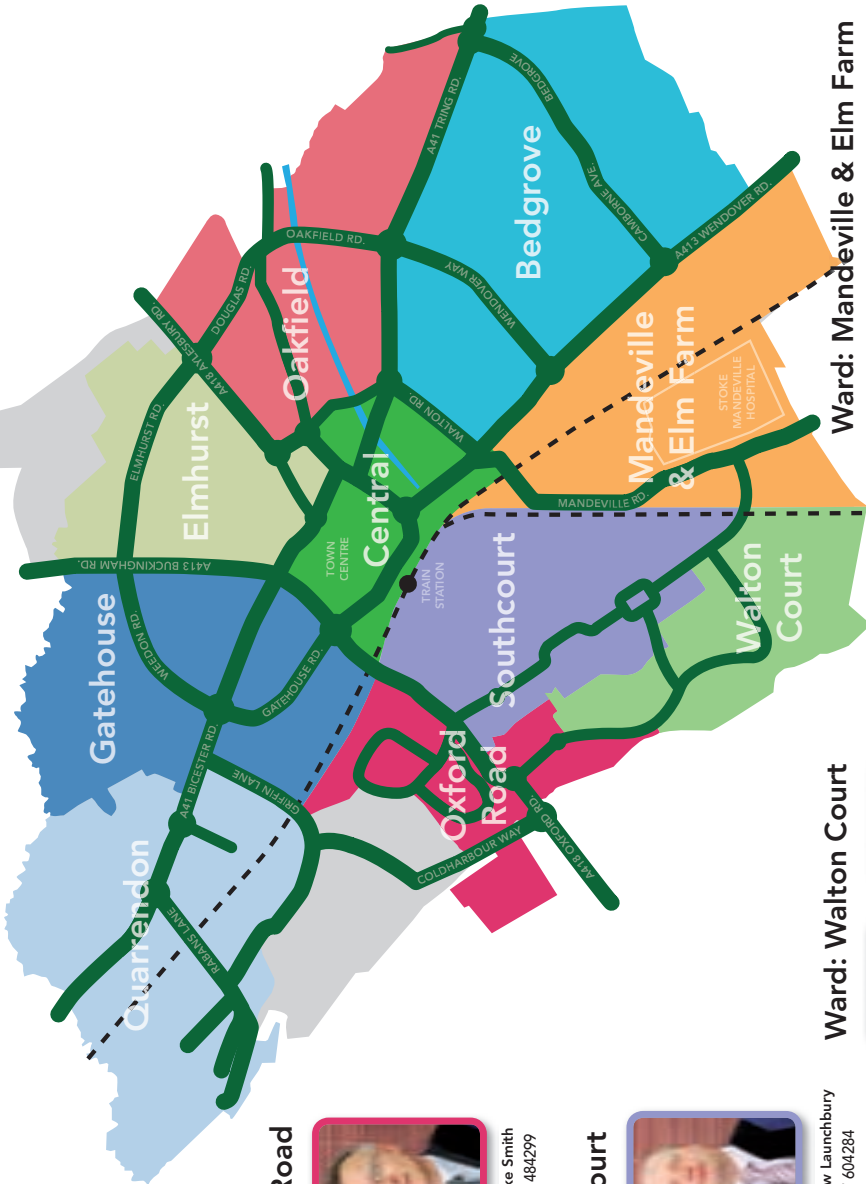
Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Ranjula Takodra MBE
07958 423083



Cllr Loui Cirillo
07767 478696



Ward Map



Aylesbury Town Council: Serving the People of Aylesbury

As the lowest tier of local government, Aylesbury Town Council takes pride in the fact that we are closest to the people we serve. We put the utmost care and attention into the work we do and the people of Aylesbury have come to expect the highest quality services from the Town Council.

Representation - The council's primary task is representation. Twenty five councillors were elected by the people of Aylesbury. Their role is to ensure that all sections of society are considered when decisions are made and to make sure that individuals' voices are heard.

Mayoralty - The Mayor, chair of the Town Council, represents the Town and its people at civic events. The Mayor is an elected councillor chosen by their peers on the council. Duties are diverse and Mayors use the opportunity to establish closer links with the community and raise money for charity.

Outdoor Staff - Via an agreement with Buckinghamshire County Council our outdoor staff undertake a number of improvements to the town, including path clearing, hedge cutting and pollarding and crown lifting of trees.

Tring Road Cemetery - Management of the Cemetery is one of our highest priorities. All year round effort goes into ensuring that your loved ones have an appropriate and dignified place to be laid to rest.

Allotments - With 7 popular sites across Aylesbury, the Town Council is committed to helping residents grow their own healthy fruit and vegetables. The Crown Leys site was recently described as a 'gem' by the Britain in Bloom judges. The ever increasing waiting list is testament to the care and attention we provide.

Grants - Grants permit the Town Council to assist a wide range of Aylesbury based individuals and groups and help sections of the community which would not normally get assistance from other sources. Previous awards have gone to Queens Park Arts Centre, Aylesbury Homeless Action Group, Buckinghamshire Cadet League and a number of young up and coming sports men and women amongst others.

Events - The ever developing events programme provides residents with a fun and vibrant town. It also stimulates the local economy with its proven track record of encouraging people into the town. We try to cater for a wide range of interests while creating a buzz. Highlights include the Proms in the Park and children's favourite Aylesbury-on-Sea.

Planning & Licensing - Aylesbury Town Council is legally empowered to make observations about planning and licensing applications. While our observations are not binding, they do carry weight with the Planning Authority and are an important feature of local planning.

Special Projects - In support of these activities, Aylesbury Town Council undertakes a number of special projects. These initiatives are varied and diverse with the environment a key concern. The annual Britain in Bloom and supporting Aylesbury in Bloom competitions are prominent, while other projects include the production of biodiesel and emergency planning.

If you would like to know more about any of the services please call us on 01296 425678 or visit our website: www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Winter Fun...



Festive Anagrams

The following is a list of seasonal words which have had their letters mixed up! Can you unscramble them all?

For each one, you will need to use the letters from both words to make one except number four whose name is two words. Answers are on page 17 if you get stuck.

March Sits _ _ _ _ _

Redcoat Ion _ _ _ _ _

Lo Arc _ _ _ _ _

Casual Ants _ _ _ _ _

Dilute Ye _ _ _ _ _

Dung Dip _ _ _ _ _

Set Nil _ _ _ _ _

Vat End _ _ _ _ _

Omit Steel _ _ _ _ _

Nee Rider _ _ _ _ _

Win tickets to the Limelight Theatre



We were genuinely impressed with your eye for detail in the last edition. This time we've chosen a more difficult feature to test your memory. Can you work out where this close up comes from? If you know the answer contact us for your chance to win tickets to a show of your choice at the Limelight Theatre, Queens Park Arts Centre.

Post your answers to: Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2PQ or email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Closing date for entries 31st January 2012. One entry per person. The winner will be chosen at random and will be notified by post or email.

Work Experience at the Town Council

Over the last twelve months Aylesbury Town Council has been fortunate enough to benefit from the enthusiasm and hard work of several young residents at various stages of their education. Layla Hussain, Ryan Gallagher, Scott Bull and Clare Briers have all contributed to the work of the Town Council in their own unique way, either in a school work experience placement or university internship. Below, Town Matters hears the perspective of two individuals about their time spent at the Town Council.

Scott Bull, The Mandeville School – One Week Work Experience

“Before work experience, just like many others I had never experienced work (except from the odd paper round and hair sweeping at the barbers of course) but this week of work experience was enlightening!

Whilst I was at the Council they had me doing everything from going to the cemetery to phoning up the Councillors making sure that they signed legal paperwork. The week was interesting because I learnt about the three governments in Aylesbury and about how the town is run. Furthermore it taught me the importance of volunteers.

Another good thing about working here was that it gave me a good insight into administration work, which will be helpful in the future. I also found out about committees and the decisions they make and how the Council Tax is used to improve the lives of people in Aylesbury.

I think that everyone should have the chance to do work experience because it gives a great insight into working life and if you don't already know what career you want to go into this might help you make your mind up. I learnt about how the Town Council is run; for example how to obtain an allotment, how the budget is agreed and how the different committees operate.

Moreover I had the opportunity to meet all the staff, and they gave me an overview of their roles in the Council. The staff are all friendly and very different but they were all good in giving me a valuable experience.”

Clare Briers, University of Bournemouth – Twelve Week Internship

“I would like to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve as a Special Projects Officer. I have gained an insight into the importance of the work the local town council do and the experience has been very rewarding. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with such a great team. You were all extremely welcoming and friendly.

I believe the internship has helped me to enhance my skills and given me essential experience within the marketing and branding areas of a business. I feel you have helped me to develop professionally and personally, with the time I have spent with you allowing my confidence to grow. The projects I have worked on have been invaluable in helping to sharpen my editorial skills.

I hope the projects I undertook, especially the branding and chamber project, are valuable and progress in the future. I am particularly intrigued to hear about the progression of these projects along with Best Bar None and what the outcome will be.

I am hopefully coming back in December to help with preparations for next year's Aylesbury in Bloom. I return to University for my second year with a sharper mind and an unexpected enthusiasm for marketing and branding which you have all helped to grow through these twelve weeks.

I particularly would like to thank Claire Bignell, who guided me whilst on my internship.”



We would like to thank Scott, Clare and our other work experience placements for their hard work. If you are interested in gaining work experience or an internship placement, please contact Shirley Francis on email: s.francis@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Aylesbury's Master Composters visit Calvert Landfill Site

Following in the traditions of the Roman Empire, Aylesbury's resourceful residents are showing a pronounced aptitude to composting. The cheap, easy home recycling method can reduce household waste by a third and produce fantastically nutrient laden compost – great for making your flowers bloom or crops bountiful. Buckinghamshire County Council's Master Composter scheme aims to give Aylesbury residents a helping hand by running courses and developing a compost community.

A member of the Town Matters team was cordially invited to one such event to get a first hand experience of the Master Composter scheme. We were lucky enough to have a guided tour of the Calvert land-fill site. Spanning 314 hectares, this is where the residual household waste from our green wheelie bins ends up. Our habits place relentless pressure on the site with four trains and thirty domestic lorries arriving daily. The entire operation is highly technical; geographical surveyors armed with GPS systems are regularly called out to help plan for the months ahead.

Strict environmental controls are observed to prevent contamination of the natural environment. At Calvert, which was once a brick manufacturing site, the natural blue clay formations in the local geography provide an ideal natural defence. The highly impermeable clay is engineered to form a barrier in each land-filled area prior to use. Finally, each area is 'capped' with one metre of engineered clay and another metre of agricultural soil. Nearby surface and ground water bodies are checked for contaminants while a high-tech anti-odour system keeps the air fresh against prevailing winds.

“Land-filling may appear simple, but methodical planning and strict environmental controls make this a highly technical endeavour”

Lechate, a mucky liquid produced by the decomposition of rubbish colloquially known as 'bin juice', is also managed. The pressure at the bottom of the land-fill is closely checked to match the surrounding water table. Excess is drained, filtered and once purified can be put back into the ecosystem.

Reuse of resources is a common theme at Calvert. Another product of decomposition is methane. This is tapped and used to fuel on site power stations. These produce 17 megawatts – enough to power the whole of Aylesbury!

Local residents won't have failed to notice the controversy surrounding a proposed Energy From Waste incinerator at nearby Greatmoor. We were talked through the plans. Unrecyclable waste will be incinerated at extremely high temperatures to produce electricity, and apart from a small amount of energy needed to get the system going, it will be self sufficient. This will supply some additional 22 megawatts of renewable electricity to the National Grid. Chemical scrubbers will be used to clean the exhaust gases and the facility will be strictly regulated by the independent Environment Agency. However, some residents are concerned that the flue will be a blot on the landscape and are worried that the exhaust will pose potential health threats.

Regardless of the outcome of the debate and planning application, the workings of the Calvert site are of interest to anyone who wishes to learn more about waste management, sustainability and how our individual habits affect the rest of society. Aylesbury Town Council would like to thank Lesley Tulitt and Steve Boddy from Buckinghamshire County Council for organising the event and April Jennings, Calvert Site Manager for the tour.

If you would like to find out more information about becoming a Master Composter in Aylesbury please contact Lesley Tulitt, Waste Reduction Project Officer at Buckinghamshire County Council via email: c-ltulitt@buckscc.gov.uk or visit the website at: recycleforbuckinghamshire/home-composting





Chocolate Chip Cookies

Great for Christmas nibbles!

MAKES: Lots!

INGREDIENTS:

225g unsalted butter
60g caster sugar
60g dark brown sugar
120g granulated sugar
2 eggs
1 tspn vanilla extract
325g plain flour
1 tspn baking powder
½ tspn salt
225g chocolate drops
75g mixed chopped nuts
(You can add cinnamon too, for that Christmassy touch)

METHOD:

1. Preheat the oven to 190C/375F/Gas 5.
2. In a bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and salt.
3. In another bowl, combine the butter, sugar, brown sugar and vanilla extract until creamy. Beat in the eggs. Gradually beat in the flour mixture. Stir in the chocolate and mixed nuts.
4. Use a teaspoon to spoon portions onto a baking tray (allow for the mixture to spread).
5. Bake for 9-11 minutes.
6. Serve.

Recipe kindly supplied by Rumsey's Chocolaterie
www.rumseys.co.uk



Christmas Opening Hours in the town centre

Late night shopping in Aylesbury every Thursday from the 24th November, with FREE street entertainment and a wide range of independent cafés, pubs and restaurants to relax in after your Christmas shopping.

FRIARS SQUARE & HALE LEYS SHOPPING CENTRE

Thursday 24th November

9.00am - 8.00pm (7.00pm Hale Leys)

Thursday 1st December

9.00am - 8.00pm

Thursday 8th December

9.00am - 8.00pm

Monday 12th - Friday 16th December

9.00am - 8.00pm

(9.00am - 7.00pm in Hale Leys, except Thursday 15th December 9.00am - 8.00pm)

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd December

9.00am - 8.00pm

Saturday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

9.00am - 5.30pm

Sunday 25th December (Christmas Day)

CLOSED

Monday 26th December (Boxing Day)

10.00am - 5.00pm (Friars Square)

9.00am - 5.30pm (Hale Leys)

Tuesday 27th - Saturday 31st December

9.00am - 5.30pm

Sunday 1st January 2012 (New Year's Day)

10.30am - 4.30pm

Monday 2nd January 2012 (Bank Holiday)

10.00am - 5.00pm

**For assistance getting around please call
shopmobility on 01296 336725**

Happy Christmas Everyone!

The Lantern Man

On Monday 22nd August a very new and exciting concept was launched in Aylesbury. Although audio plays are thought of as quite commonplace, it is believed that this is the first time that a site specific fictional walking audio play has been created. 'Lantern Man', written by Aylesbury playwright Hayley Sinclair, takes listeners on a journey, starting at the King's Head Courtyard and continuing through parts of Aylesbury's Old Town while bringing to life the fictional story of the 'Lantern Man'.

The play was run as a trial for a week this August, with members of the public able to hire an audio copy of the play and a description of the route on an MP3 player from the Tourist Information Centre in Aylesbury. The trial was deemed a success, and it is hoped that the play will soon be available as a free download from Aylesbury Town Council's website.

One local Aylesbury resident said on taking part: "I am aware Aylesbury Town plays an important part in history. I particularly enjoyed the inventive way that I was led to imagine what was happening within the buildings and how they were incorporated into a fictional play".

Former High Sheriff Amanda Nicholson expressed her enjoyment of the experience: "An enchanting opportunity to discover the hidden delight of Aylesbury whilst listening to an absorbing and skillfully constructed story".

There has been immense enthusiasm regarding the walking audio play, leading to a fulfilling result for playwright Hayley Sinclair. Watch this space to find out when the play will be available for download!

In the meantime, however, anyone interested in experiencing the walking audio play should contact Claire Bignell on **01296 425678** or email: c.bignell@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Mayor of Aylesbury Cllr Jenny Puddefoot, Playwright Hayley Sinclair and Bucks Herald Reporter Kirsten Rawlins experience the walking audio play



Photo courtesy of the Bucks Herald

Making the most of Aylesbury's Heritage

One of the comments from many of the 'think tanks' and groups who have been tasked with planning the future of Aylesbury is that the town does not make enough of its heritage and in particular the Old Town.

There is some truth in this as many residents of the town have not visited the Old Town and numerous visitors to the town are surprised at how much Aylesbury has to offer in terms of history. If Aylesbury's town centre is to remain viable as a destination we need to increase our promotion of the best and more interesting features of the town.

Numerous guides to the heritage aspects of the town have been produced in the past and Aylesbury Town Council and The Aylesbury Society have been working together for some time to develop a new and hopefully fresher approach – but still including the Aylesbury duck!

The difficulty is not identifying the rich history associated with our historic market town but what to not include in the guide.

The guide itself should be available early in the new year.



The Mayor's year... so far!

The Mayor of Aylesbury for 2011-12, Cllr Jenny Puddefoot, has been a busy bee so far this year. With numerous visits to schools, charities, openings and sports events, Cllr Puddefoot has been making the most of her term – and loving every minute.

On the 25th July, Cllr Puddefoot had the delight of welcoming over 40 German students to Aylesbury, giving them the chance to learn about the Mayor's role in the town and the history behind the position. It seemed, though, the students most enjoyed trying on some of the ceremonial attire (including the fur robe, hat and lace cuffs) the Mayor is required to wear.



The students are entertained in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall

A highlight for the Mayor, along with past Mayor Graham Webster on 10th August, was a visit to the Aylesbury Vale Support Group for grandparents who have lost or been denied contact with their grandchildren. The need to raise the profile of this is something that The Grandparents' Association exists to do and Cllr Puddefoot strongly supports.



Cllr Puddefoot commented: "I, like most people have taken for granted the contribution grandparents make to family life and the fond memories of that special relationship we had with them as children. The group are campaigning for changes in the law to recognise that 'Grandchildren have the right to know and have contact with their grandparents'. They also work to raise awareness of the issues and offer each other much needed encouragement and support." Future meetings are held at the Holiday Inn on Aston Clinton Road and new members are welcome.

Please see the events listings at the back for dates or contact Suzanne on 01296 582614 or visit: www.grandparents-association.org.uk



The Mayor addresses the Young Popstars following the prizegiving

Cllr Puddefoot very much enjoyed being involved in the prizegiving for the Young Popstar Competition on the 21st August, and was particularly impressed with the winner, 10 year old Elliot Barrow. Fourteen entrants aged between 10 and 18 took part and the standard was extremely high.



The Mayor, accompanied by the parade Commander, completes her inspection of the parade

Then onto a more formal occasion in late September when the Mayor attended the 55th RAF Halton Freedom Parade, which also commemorated the 71st anniversary of the Battle of Britain. In her speech, Cllr Puddefoot highlighted the importance of Aylesbury's link with the RAF base, commented on how much she enjoyed listening to the RAF Halton Pipes and Drums, and mentioned how impressive the standard of presentation from those on parade was.

With Christmas events just around the corner, Aylesbury's Mayor is set to have another busy season this winter! **If you would like the Mayor to be at your event, please contact the Mayor's Secretary on 01296 425678.**

Aylesbury Town Grants awarded September 2011



Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ranjula Takodra and Cllr Pat Jamieson presents Aylesbury Credit Union a grant for £1,000 to help raise awareness



Cllr Tom Ahmed and Cllr Andy Huxley present a cheque for £1400 to the Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers to support volunteer recruitment and training

Youth Concern - granted £2000

This grant will go towards the funding of the Prebendal Farm Youth Club for 15 – 19 year olds. As Buckinghamshire County Council has stopped funding most youth services the grant is needed in the interim period whilst other sources of funding are found. The Youth Club will provide activities as well as giving the youngsters access to various support groups.

Prebendal Farm Youth Club Management Committee - granted £2000

Meanwhile, Prebendal Farm's 11 – 15 year olds' Youth Club was also awarded a grant. This will also provide interim funds to keep the club going until other sources of funding are found. There are currently 25 – 30 children who attend. Youth For Christ's experienced leaders and volunteers will be running the club.

Turnfurlong Junior School - granted £200

The grant will be going towards the purchase of a greenhouse to help the children of Turnfurlong School who attend their Environmental Club. This is a very successful club and has taught the children about growing vegetables and fruit. The greenhouse will allow them to grow a wider variety of produce.

Aylesbury Vale Youth Theatre - granted £400

The grant will be used to fund a rehearsal space and the annual show which is held at Pendley Manor.

Pendley Manor is the only venue that the group feels provides affordable theatre space. 75 – 80% of the members are from Aylesbury and the surrounding areas. Aylesbury Vale Youth Theatre has now set up a management team in order to try to make the group more sustainable. They have also begun to hire out costumes and props to raise some income.

Bedgrove Dynamos Football Club - granted £1017

The grant will be used to fund equipment needed for the under 7, 8, and 9 age groups. Local companies and the Sports Council have been approached for funding but this has been unsuccessful due to the current economic climate. Bedgrove Dynamos need to purchase basic equipment including footballs, first aid kits, goals and posts to enable the coaching team to provide training for the youngsters.

If you belong to a non-profit-making organisation which provides a service for a section of the community, or are a dedicated young sportsperson based in Aylesbury, you may qualify for a grant. Please contact Donna Trichardt on 01296 425678 or email: d.trichardt@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk for more information. Alternatively, information and application forms are available on our website.

Contact us: We value your feedback and invite you to contact us with your comments on the content of this magazine or suggestions for content for the next issue using the following details:
Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP T: 01296 425678
email: k.turner@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk Acknowledgement – I would like to thank the Members and Staff of Aylesbury Town Council for their help in the production of this magazine. Keith Turner, Town Clerk

Aylesbury Town Correspondence



Another edition, another postbag full of your letters! Please do keep them coming in to the Town Hall. Here's what you have to say:

Flower Planting

Town Council Staff,
Two people at HBOS/Equitable have stopped me today to mention the excellent and beautiful display of flowers on the Exchange Street roundabout, the recently replanted 'railing boxes' and large square planters all around the same junction. From what I've seen myself, the same quality is evident all around town at the moment. Thanks to everyone involved, you're doing a great job.

Regards
Cllr M Smith

Dear Town Council,
I would just like to comment on how lovely the flower boxes and hanging baskets have looked this year. However, hanging baskets adorn Park Street but there are none down Stocklake which is one of the main roads leading into the town. All the other roads leading into the town have them. Could we have some there please?

Many thanks
Mrs P Saw

Ed: We are pleased that the hard work that we put into floral displays has been noticed! We are always on the lookout for new spots for planters or bulb patches and will have a look to see what we can do in Stocklake.

Aylesbury's Events

Dear Town Matters,
I just wanted to write to say 'thank you' on behalf of my family and I. We have all really enjoyed the many summer events happening in Aylesbury. There has obviously been a lot of hard work behind the scenes to make it all happen. We especially enjoyed the 'Proms in the Park' last night with our three children. It was a really great night. We all had a wonderful time!

Yours
Mrs C M Payne

Ed: We're really glad you enjoyed Aylesbury's events this summer, we had fun organising the Proms in the Park too! It's been very busy with events in the town this year, and the Christmas period will be no exception. Make sure you keep an eye on the 'What's on' page on the ATC website for upcoming events all around the town.

Aylesbury in Bloom

Dear Aylesbury Town Council,
Thank you and everyone else for the lovely comments on my garden. Over many years I have suffered ill health but the garden is the only thing that is keeping me going. God willing I hope I will be well enough to continue next year and beyond.

Yours sincerely
Mrs A Johnson

Ed: Mrs Johnson's garden has improved year on year in the Aylesbury in Bloom competition (see website). Her clever use of recycled items, including a washing machine drum, and diversity of fruit and veg plantings won her the Best Environmental Garden award.

Notes & Messages

Stefan, on holiday in Aylesbury from Germany, emailed in to say thanks for music from The Original Sinners, a band that performed as part of Aylesbury Festival. Stefan's sure to come back to Aylesbury again!
Mr and Mrs Strong also offered their thanks for the well attended Aylesbury in Bloom presentation evening. They both look forward to next year's competition.

By Phone

Mr Knight, resident of Bedgrove, felt that the Carbon Competition article (ATM22) didn't provide enough information, especially tips for reducing ones own carbon footprint. He was passed onto Zap Carbon who facilitated the competition for more information.

Twitter

@AylesburySting was cheered by the flower plantings around the town, a feeling shared by @silverfoxmentor who thinks they are an uplifting sight for Aylesbury. @RichLLoyd meanwhile, buoyed by his ability to grow, is dismayed by the allotments waiting list; *keep waiting, a space will come up!* For a quick cheer up why not look at the photos from Aylesbury-on-Sea? @MsBallooniverse was very happy to see them!

Tweet, Tweet! We're up to 194 twitter followers, and 102 Facebook likes. Why not join in the fun? It's a great way to see what the Town Council is up to.

@aylesburytc

or www.facebook.com/aylesburytc



Getting in Contact:

Contacting us couldn't be easier, write to:

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

Or email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

What's on in Aylesbury

DECEMBER - see next page for Festive Events

2	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
3	Open Mic Night	Music	£2/£4	8.00pm	Limelight Theatre
5	Behind the Scenes at the Museum	Tour	£10	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bucks County Museum
6	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
6	Chatterbooks Children's Reading Group	Ages 10-12	FREE	4.30pm - 5.30pm	Aylesbury Library
7	Roman and Saxon Jewellery	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.45pm	Bucks County Museum
7	Reading Group with a Difference	Workshop	FREE	2.30pm - 3.30pm	Aylesbury Library
8	The Music Club	Concert	FREE	12.30pm - 2.00pm	Market Square
8	Music at Lunchtime	Concert	£3 (u18s free)	12.45pm	St Mary's Church
8	Storytime	Family	FREE	10.30am	Aylesbury Library
9	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
10	Origami Workshop	Family	£15/£4	Various	Bucks County Museum
10	Aylesbury Choral Society Concert	Concert	tbc	7.30pm	St Mary's Church
13	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
13	Chatterbooks Children's Reading Group	Ages 7-10	FREE	4.30pm - 5.30pm	Aylesbury Library
14	John Piper's Stowe	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.45pm	Bucks County Museum
14	Grandparent's Support Group	Community	FREE	7.00pm	Holiday Inn, Aston Clinton
16	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
16	Phil Beer	Folk Music	£13/£15	8.00pm	Limelight Theatre
17-30	Jack & The Beanstalk	Family	£5/£10	2.30pm & 7.30pm	Limelight Theatre
20-22	Japanese Craft Workshops	Family	£2.50	10.00am - 12.00pm, 1.00 - 3.00pm	Bucks County Museum
20	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
23	Bounce and Rhyme - pre-booking only	Under 5's	FREE	10.30am - 11.00am	Aylesbury Library
28	Adult Quiz Afternoon	Quiz	FREE	2.30pm - 4.00pm	Aylesbury Library
29	Christmas Holidays Fun	Family	FREE	11.00am - 3.00pm	Market Square

JANUARY

9	Behind the Scenes at the Museum	Tour	£10	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bucks County Museum
11	Whiteleaf Cross, Paul Nash	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
12	Tour of 100 Pictures Exhibition	Tour	£7.50	10.30am - 12.00pm, 2.00 - 3.30pm	Bucks County Museum
18	Samurai Armour	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
20	Alpha Males, The Shaker Heights and Black Juju	Fundraising Concert	tbc	8.00pm	Limelight Theatre
24	Farmers' Market	Shopping	FREE	9.00am - 2.00pm	Market Square
25	Aylesbury Gaol	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
26	Life of the Samurai	Talk	£10	5.30pm - 7.30pm	Bucks County Museum
28	Tannahill Weavers	Folk Music	tbc	8.00pm	Limelight Theatre

FEBRUARY

1	Ice Age Fossils	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
4	Open Mic Night Live Performance	Music	£2/£4/£3	8.00pm	Limelight Theatre
6	Behind the Scenes at the Museum	Tour	£10	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bucks County Museum
8	Lady Amelia Long at Hartwell	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
14	Victorian Crafts Workshops	Family	£2.50	10.00am - 12.00pm, 1.00 - 3.00pm	Bucks County Museum
15	High Ropes and Spider Mountain Half Term Fun	Family	FREE	11.00am - 3.00pm	Kingsbury
15	Meet a Roman Soldier	Family Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
15	Fourth Silent Film Spectacular	Film & Organ	£10/£12	7.30pm	Methodist Church
17	Marcus Malone	Blues	tbc	8.00pm	Limelight Theatre
22	Bricks and Pots from Brill	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum
23	Tour of 100 Pictures Exhibition	Tour	£7.50	10.30am - 12.00pm, 2.00 - 3.30pm	Bucks County Museum
26	Fundraising for Hobbie on the Cobbles	Benefit Gig	tbc	tbc	Waterside Theatre
28	Farmers' Market	Shopping	FREE	9.00am - 2.00pm	Market Square
29	Balthasar Nebot and Sir Thomas Lee	Talk	FREE	12.30pm - 12.50pm	Bucks County Museum

For further details of any of these events, please contact: St Mary's Church - 01296 437641 • Aylesbury Waterside Theatre Tickets - 0844 871 7627
 Queens Park Centre, incorporating the Limelight Theatre - 01296 424332 • Friars Square Shopping Centre - 01296 483169 • Aylesbury Library - 0845 2303232
 Hale Leys Shopping Centre - 01296 429800 • Buckinghamshire County Museum - 01296 331441 • See also: www.buckscc.gov.uk/museum
 Aylesbury Town Council - 01296 425678 www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



FREE Festive Fun 2011

Sunday 27th November, 11.00am - 3.00pm

Christmas Speciality Charity Gift Market, Market Square

With a wide selection of goods from local charities and festive entertainment. What a great way to do your Christmas Shopping!

Also on Sunday 27th November...

Learning Together, Living in Harmony Friendship Walk

It is the season for good tidings, so why not take part in this interfaith walk around Aylesbury to celebrate friendship in the town? It's a great way to meet new people during the festive season.

Every weekend in December

The Rotary Club join Santa, Hale Leys Shopping Centre

Come and tell Santa what you want for Christmas...and whether you've been good or naughty!

Sunday 4th December, 11.00am - 3.00pm

Christmas Speciality Craft Market, Market Square

With a wide selection of Christmas gifts, this is the ideal opportunity to buy that extra special pressie. There will also be festive entertainment.

Sunday 11th December, from 11.00am

Aylesbury Santa Dash

Come and have fun getting in the festive spirit while raising money for local charities. For more information on this 3.5km dash around Aylesbury, go to www.aylesburysantadash.org or call **01296 744360**.

Also on Sunday 11th December...

Mayor's Carol Service, St Mary's Church

Come and join the Mayor of Aylesbury for a magical evening of carols, mulled wine and mince pies. For more information please call **01296 425678**.

Thursday 15th December, 6.30pm

Carolfest, Market Square

Come and take part in Aylesbury's biggest carol singing experience! All the traditional favourite carols will be sung, accompanied by Aylesbury Choral Society. Patio heaters and hot food and drink will also be on offer.

Sunday 18th December, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Victorian Christmas Fair, Market Square

For more details please look at the back page.

Monday 19th December, 9.00am - 2.00pm

Special Christmas Farmers' Market, Market Square

Come to the Festive Market this month for all those luxury items that make your Christmas dinner stand out from the rest! Buy some fabulous local produce and you automatically have the chance to win a festive hamper. Get your taste buds tingling with samples cooked by a Michelin Star chef from Aylesbury College.

**Thursday 22nd December, 11.00am - 3.00pm, Kingsbury
and Thursday 29th December, 11.00am - 3.00pm, Market Square**

Christmas Holidays Fun

Have a kick around with a difference, and challenge your friends to a game of human table football.



**FREE
EVENT**



Victorian Christmas Fair

**Sunday 18th December 2011
11.00am - 4.00pm
Market Square, Aylesbury**

ORGANISED BY AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

The best way to get into the traditional festive spirit!
With Magic from Mr. Alexander, thrills from the
Victorian Escapologist, juggling workshops, music,
hands-on activities, stalls and hot food and drink
(including hot roasted chestnuts)
Something for everyone – and it's completely free!

For more details please call 01296 425678 or
visit www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

**FREE
EVENT**

