

AYLESBURY TOWN matters

Aylesbury Town Council Magazine
Issue Twenty Seven December 2012



Serving the people of Aylesbury



Inside this issue...

- Heritage Open Day
- Britain in Bloom Award
- Aylesbury Hockey Club
- Meet your Councillor

'Take pride in Aylesbury Town'

www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

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Welcome Note

“ Welcome to the winter edition of Aylesbury Town Matters. We're now into those months of frosts, snowfalls and long dark nights, but also the season of blue skies and clear cold air, and of course times of celebration and excitement for young and old alike.

Inside this issue you'll find a review of our late summer and autumn events. If you went along to Proms in the Park or Tudor Fair we hope you had a good time and that we'll see you again next year.

Whilst we are still enjoying looking back, we are busy planning the year ahead. We are excited about the preparation for some of our favourite and well established events, like Aylesbury-on-Sea, but also the introduction of new events; look out for May Day and the return of Hobble on the Cobbles.

We'll be working hard to maintain and improve our seven allotment sites and the Tring Road cemetery. We'll see the return of the Aylesbury in Bloom gardening competition and the Allotments competition. After the success of our Britain in Bloom entry we're enthusiastic about our ideas for the coming year; more of that inside this issue.

The Town Council will continue to distribute grants to some of the many and often unsung community projects which really make a difference to people's lives. The Mayor will continue to visit groups and projects throughout the town, offering support and recognition for all the good work, often voluntary, that takes place within our communities.

Aylesbury Town Matters will always provide a mix of news, views, and practical information to help keep you informed and entertained. As always we invite you to get in touch and express your views. We really do like to hear from you.

Your Town Councillors are also keen to hear from you individually. Inside you'll find the Ward Map to help you identify the Councillors for your ward. You'll also see a short guide to the functions of each of the three Councils. We hope you enjoy our magazine.

From all of us at Aylesbury Town Council, have a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. ”

Best wishes
Cllr Mike Smith
Leader of the Council

Front cover: The County Tower on a snowy winter's morning; it remains an iconic building invoking feelings of love or hate. Opened at 12 noon on Friday 21st October 1966 by the Labour Minister of Housing and Local Government the Rt. Hon Anthony Greenwood, the building took a sleepy market town into the 20th century.

Its 200ft, or 12 storeys, was built at a cost of £936,000. In real terms or old money the tower would have cost £30m today. (That's using a pint of bitter as the common denominator; 10p or 2 bob in 1966 compared to £3.20 today). The architect was the County Architect of the time, Fred Pooley. It replaced nearly half a dozen listed buildings including some marvellous Queen Anne style houses, and maybe that is part of the continuing controversy of the County Tower.

Photo and text by Roger King



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All photos throughout the magazine courtesy of Maurice Cousins, Russ Naylor and Alan Norchi

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

Christmas Events 2012



Come along to Aylesbury's Market Square and combine your Christmas shopping with some festive fun.

Christmas Carolfest on 13th December, 6.30pm
Sing your favourite festive tunes and enjoy some hot soup.

Christmas Fair on 16th December, 11.00am - 4.00pm
Featuring Mr Alexander's Travelling Show, Christmas crafts, face-painting and gift wrapping.



THURSDAYS LATE NIGHT SHOPPING
starts on 15th November in Aylesbury
Live music in Market Square from 6th December

FREE PARKING in AVDC town centre
car parks, beginning on 15th November
with the Christmas lights switch-on



AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS
For more information contact us on 01296 425678



A Look Back at Autumn's Events...



Sunset in Vale Park; the crowd settles before the concert begins



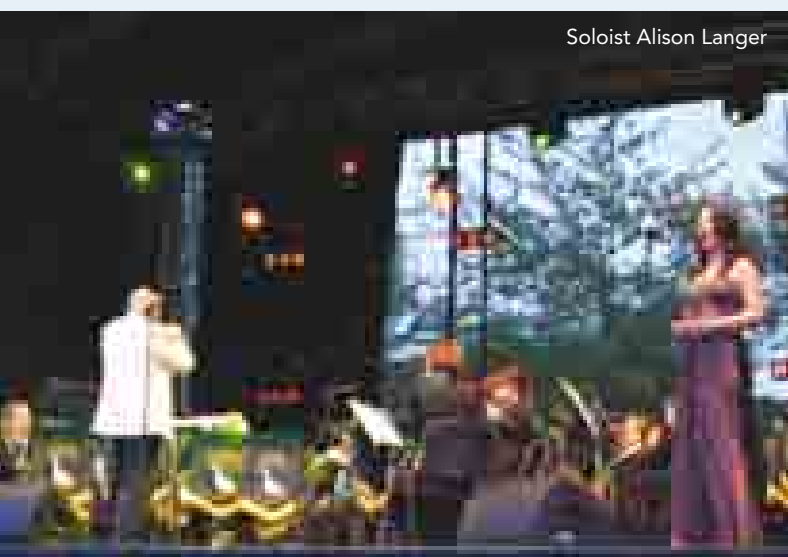
Aylesbury's fun-filled year continued with even more events in the town.

Proms in the Park

We all had a wonderful time at the Proms in the Park, featuring the Aylesbury Community Concert Band and new soloist Alison Langer.

A large crowd gathered with their picnics and added their voices to music that filled the park.

Photos by Alan Norchi and Maurice Cousins



Soloist Alison Langer



Town Councillors and volunteer Lauren giving out flags and having a good time



Tudor knights do battle in Market Square



The Mayor meets King Henry VIII



The children of St Mary's Parish School

Tudor Fair & Charter Day

Our Tudor Fair and Charter Day were celebrated in Market Square, beginning with the children of St Mary's Parish Church performing their dance before King Henry VIII; fortunately for them his Majesty was not displeased with their display. Adding to the historical colour were the Tudor knights and dancers, childrens' games, and our favourite jester, Peterkin The Fool.



Councillors and staff welcome visitors



Antique toys to entertain young and old

Bucks County Show

At the Bucks County Show the Councillors and staff had an opportunity to welcome the public to our marquee, show them the work of the Town Council and answer their questions. We had many visitors throughout the day and they all received a cup of tea and piece of cake. The café atmosphere was greatly enhanced with music; some jazzy live singing and some old hits played on an original gramophone.



Ghouls & Villains

The darkness descended, and amongst the moonlit shadows of the gravestones, the pale and ghostly children laughed and chased; waiting for the Ghouls and Villains of Aylesbury to return.

This popular walking play, written and directed by local playwright Hayley Sinclair, brings together an ensemble of local talent to tell the story of Big Gessi, Protector of Aylesbury.

Gessi narrates the true and sometimes gruesome story of figures from Aylesbury's past. The audience were led through the streets of the old town and the cast performed scenes from the play at a number of historical buildings. Hayley had obtained some original photos and these were projected on to the buildings, adding to the atmosphere of historical realism.

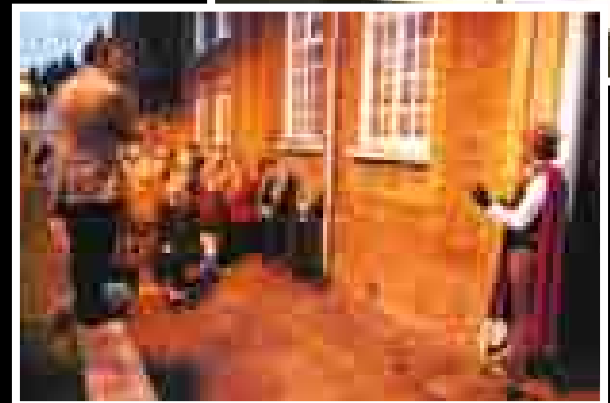
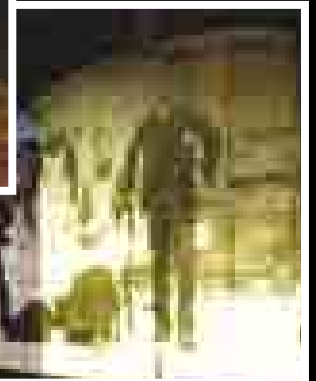
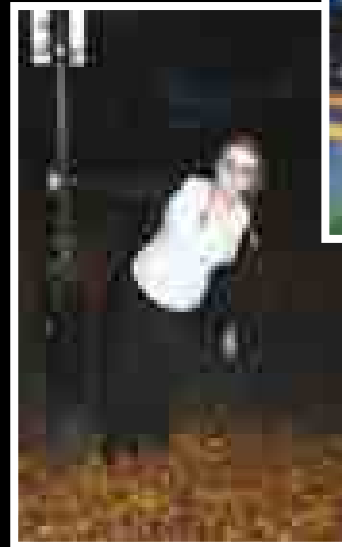
Local actor Kevin Connett returned to star as Gessi, ably supported by an excellent cast of local actors, all drawn from the pool of creative talent in the Aylesbury area.

The Town Council is especially glad to say that the entire production was performed and supported by volunteers from across the Aylesbury Community. In addition to the director and actors who performed without fees, we are very grateful to the students of Aylesbury College who provided the make-up, and the Aylesbury Youth Café who helped with props.

There were in fact a number of local experts who were drawn in for their expertise and equipment, and without them the Ghouls would not haunt our streets at this time each year.

Playwright, Hayley Sinclair, says that the inspiration for Big Gessi came from her deep interest in the history of Aylesbury and her fascination with the oldest buildings, witness to many episodes of violence and skulduggery.

The event was entirely sold out for the two evenings of performance. We hope many will return to see the Ghouls & Villains next year. There will be new elements to the play, and some scary surprises.



Photos by Maurice Cousins and Russ Naylor

If you were at any of our events in 2012 we hope you enjoyed them. If you missed them then come along and have a good time next year!

Heritage Open Days



Heritage Open Days this year was even bigger than similar past events enjoyed in Aylesbury. Co-ordinated nationally by Civic Voice, English Heritage and The National Trust it is England's 'unofficial festival of culture and architecture'. Hundreds of the country's finest and most fascinating buildings opened their doors to the public for free. The majority of these buildings are not normally open to the public, and those normally open put on special free events.

Heritage Open Days in Aylesbury on 8th September was co-ordinated by the Buckinghamshire County Museum. Participating organisations included Aylesbury Town Council, The Aylesbury Society, Quakers, The Thomas Hickman Charity, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, The Crown Courts Service and Bucks County Council.

There were a variety of events in Aylesbury across the weekend. On Saturday 8th these included a tour of the cemetery led by Roger King with over 40 people taking part, and trips to the top of the County Tower.

Over 80 people attended the tours of the Judges Lodgings led by County Archivist Roger Bettridge and County Museum Curator, Sarah Gray. The Aylesbury Town Council Chamber was open for the day, showing off the mayoral regalia and jewels. Former Mayor Ray Ghent was in attendance taking photos of the public trying on the Mayor's robes. He estimated over 160 people passed through our doors.

A similar number visited the Masonic Hall in Ripon Street where Keith Robinson and Les Shardlow conducted tours of the building.

One of the busiest places was Blacks on the corner of Market Street and Market Square. Former Mayor Graham Webster showed over 200 people the underground well in the basement of the premises.



The Aylesbury Society's market stall

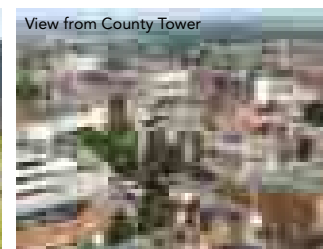
The well in Black's basement

Town Council Chamber

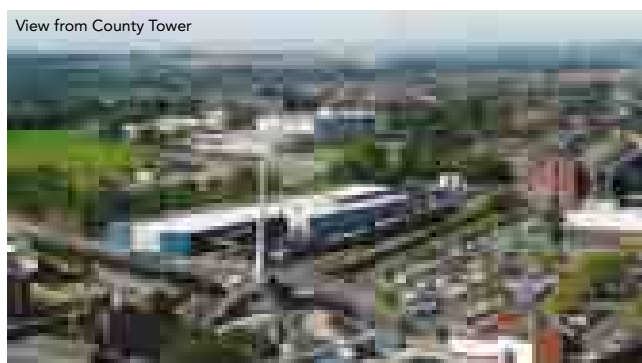
Photos by Roger King



Churchyard tour.
Photo by Sue Carpenter



View from County Tower



View from County Tower

There was a roaring trade in cream teas at the Friends Meeting House where over 200 people came to see the 18th century building. The Thomas Hickman Charity kindly opened the gardens of Green End House for the afternoon, where many visitors delighted in the beauty of the tranquil surroundings.

Throughout the day there were guided walks and tours led by the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society to complement their displays in St Mary's Church, all of which were very well received and well attended. Buckinghamshire County Museum gave guided tours around the beautiful historic buildings that make up the Museum, concluding in the new Early Aylesbury Exhibition; on display until 12 January 2013.

During the afternoon whilst on The Aylesbury Society stall in Market Square a number of visitors from Tyne & Wear told Roger that they wished they could spend more time in Aylesbury. They were on a Midsomers Murders weekend which had proved disappointing. Aylesbury was an unscheduled stop and although most of them had never heard of it they found it to be a delightful old town.

So overall the day went well and was nicely rounded off in the evening with a lecture by Mike Farley in St Marys Church on 'The Origins of Aylesbury'. **We look forward to next year.**

Roger King & Victoria Scrivens



Allotment Awards 2012

The annual Aylesbury Town Council (ATC) Allotment Awards were held in October. In what has been a bad year for gardening and growing, it was especially important to acknowledge those allotment holders who had persevered.

Kayleigh Wiltshire, ATC's Allotments Officer, had considered cancelling the Awards event because of the relentless rain we experienced throughout the summer. However, when she began to make regular visits to our seven allotment sites, Kayleigh realised that many tenants had worked very hard to produce some wonderful plots, remarkably full of growth, colour and vitality.

So it was that the cancelled Awards event was reinstated and plans begun in earnest.

The judges were willingly recruited and we are grateful to Cllr Matt Launchbury, Alderman Ray James (Allotment Warden – Crown Leys), and Mrs Sandra Ferguson, (a previous Aylesbury in Bloom Winner), for three busy, and ironically very warm days of assessment at all the sites.

The criteria for judging extended beyond simply considering the general appearance of a plot. They

included the desirability for varied planting (a mixture of vegetables, fruits and flowers) and also considered factors such as composting and cleanliness.

All three judges expressed their surprise at the quality and excellent condition of many allotment gardens, and sympathised with those who had abandoned their attempts to feed the family this year. There is no doubt that in difficult weather conditions a gardener needs even more time than usual to make it work.

The judges awarded prizes to the best three plots at each site, with additional prizes for Best Newcomer and Overall Winner.

The presentations were given by Mayor Cllr Ranjula Takodra and the 1st prize winners received an engraved shield, and all those awarded received a certificate and Garden Society vouchers.

Thanks to World's End Garden Centre for sponsoring and hosting the evening, and to Grammar School pupil Michael Rea who played beautifully on the guitar to welcome us all for a splendid occasion.

Alan Norchi

2012 PRIZE WINNERS

OVERALL WINNER – Ken Kasley

BEST NEWCOMER – Mrs Tolley

TRING ROAD:	1st place – Ken Kasley	2nd place – Mr Poulton	3rd place – Mr Palermo
ARDENHAM LANE:	1st place – Mr Annat	2nd place – Mr Dirarimwe	3rd place – Mr Cacchio
BIERTON ROAD:	1st place – Mr Colton	2nd place – Mr Rutland	3rd place – Mr Sheryly
CROWN LEYS:	1st place – Mr Walker	2nd place – Mr Williams	3rd place – Mr Torre
OLD STOKE ROAD:	1st place – Mr Ridgway	2nd place – Mr Mortimer	3rd place – Mr May
WHADDON CHASE:	1st place – Mr Desesare	2nd place – Ms Belardo	3rd place – Mr Hussey
BEDGROVE:	1st place – Mr Hatch	2nd place – Mr Hill	3rd place – Mr Birch



Aylesbury Hockey Club is the only hockey club in the North of the Vale, and as an Olympic sport it has been a club thriving on the opportunities generated from the Games.

Aylesbury is a medium sized family club, with 200 adult members and has a thriving junior section with over 185 members (under 18s).

Aylesbury Men's and Ladies Hockey Clubs were formed in the late 1940s as separate entities and the two senior sections formally amalgamated in 2001. Junior hockey has been developed by the clubs over the last thirty years until, at the present-day the Club provides coaching, training and competitive hockey for both boys and girls at all age groups between 6 and 18. Junior hockey is now seen as one of the strongest and most important sections of the club.

As with Aylesbury Town Cricket Club, featured in the last edition of Aylesbury Town Matters, Aylesbury Hockey Club is affiliated to the Aylesbury & District Sports Club and shares its clubhouse with the cricket club, using the pavilion on Wendover Road. Only within the last 10 years has hockey stopped being played on the cricket pitch at the Wendover Road site, and now all hockey is played on artificial pitches at Meadowcroft, RAF Halton and Ashfold School in Dorton.

The adult sections of the club train on Wednesday evenings with matches on Saturdays. Juniors train on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings (depending on their age) and matches are on Sundays. The club is always looking for new members



and welcomes players from all abilities and levels of experience.

Looking to get back into hockey? In partnership with England Hockey, Aylesbury Hockey Club is pleased to be championing 'Rush Hockey'. It tackles lack of spare time with shorter games and on smaller pitches, – no sticks or equipment needed! The sessions are held on the mini-astro at Ashmead School (Cole Road, HP21 8SU) from 7.00 - 8.00pm on Tuesdays from September 2012. Cost £3 per session.

**Contact: club.secretary@aylesburyhc.com for more information
or visit www.aylesburyhc.com**

Community News & Events



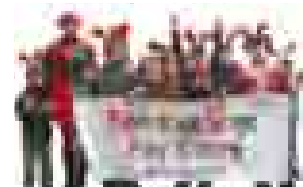
**Are you involved in a local community group or charity in Aylesbury?
Would you like to promote your work and events?**

This magazine is delivered to every household in Aylesbury Town. For more information call Alan on **01296 425678** or alternatively email us at: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk. There is no charge for community groups and charities.

New taxi service running from Buckingham Park Primary School

The Jonathan Page Play Centre in Aylesbury have organised a taxi service and After School Club sessions for the children attending the new Buckingham Park Primary school. Only £3 per child per day, the taxi service will be supplied by Crown Executive Cars.

Children will be collected from the designated meeting point at the school at 3.15pm and taken directly to the After School Club. For further details or booking, please contact the Play Centre staff on **01296 336413**.



Jonathan Page Play Centre Christmas Playscheme

SPECIAL OFFER 24 December - 8 January (excluding Bank Holidays) £12, 8.30am - 3.30pm per day. Get into the festive spirit by putting your creative hats on. Enjoy making decollage lettering, leather art, candle marking, scented scrap bags as well as lots of homemade recipes. Don't forget that you can whizz around the go-kart track, explore the Galaxy Activity Centre, play games and more. For further details or booking, please contact the Play Centre staff on **01296 336413**.

Southcourt & Walton Court Community Project

**SATURDAY CLUB FOR CHILDREN
AGED 4 - 11 YEARS
at Southcourt Community Centre
9.30am - 12 noon**

Children can enjoy arts & crafts, games, free play, trips to local areas and special events & much more!!!

So bring your children along to have fun and make new friends!!

**£2.40 FOR THE FIRST CHILD
£1.70 FOR SIBLINGS**

Passport to Leisure cardholders 50p discount
Optional lunch club £1 for first child and 70p for siblings.

Please call Julie on **01296 435844** or visit www.southcourtwaltoncourtproject.btck.co.uk
Email: scwccp@hotmail.com for details

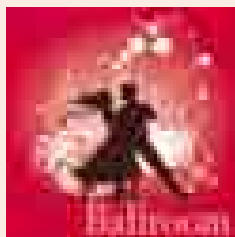
Community Usage Grant Scheme for Aylesbury Waterside Theatre

Are you a not-for-profit organisation?
Are you organising a non-commercial event?

If so, apply for an AVDC Community Usage Grant towards the costs of hiring Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. A subsidy may be available of up to £2,300 per hiring if you qualify under the following:

- Voluntary-run, not-for-profit amateur arts organisations including drama, musical theatre and music groups based within Aylesbury Vale
- Other voluntary-run not-for-profit community and youth organisations based within Aylesbury Vale (e.g. Women's Institute, religious groups, playgroups, Scout and Guide groups)
- Non-commercial activities being undertaken by businesses, educational organisations and individuals providing services to the community and which are based within Aylesbury Vale (e.g. local dance schools, schools)
- County, regional and national non-commercial activities being undertaken by organisations.

For more information contact Sarah Lloyd at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre on **01296 745135** or visit their website: www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/awtgrant

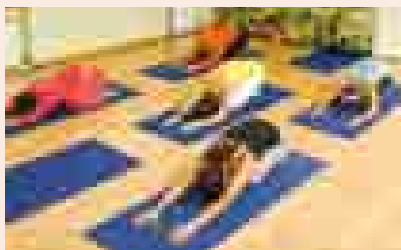


Term time activities for all in Aylesbury

FOR ADULTS

Anyone wishing to learn to **Waltz** or **Foxtrot** can attend **ballroom classes** at **Mandeville School** HP21 8ES, **Tuesdays** 6.00pm - 7.00pm (6.00pm - 6.45pm beginners and 6.45pm - 7.00pm).

Women can enjoy a female only **Yoga** class, open to all abilities at **Southcourt Community Centre**, HP21 8LF on **Wednesdays** 7.30pm - 8.30pm.



FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

Children can take up **Street Cheer** on **Wednesdays** at **Southcourt Community Centre** HP21 8LF from 6.00pm - 7.00pm and learn a mix of street dance and cheerleading.

On **Mondays** **Street Dance** classes from 3.45pm - 5.30pm, led by choreographer Izmael take place at **Prebendal Farm Community Centre**, HP19 7QT. For more information call **01296 585301**.

For those a little older, join **Rush Hockey**, a fast, furious, fun and new way to play hockey. Based on hockey but easier to learn and play, simply turn up – no team commitments. Sessions take place **Tuesdays** 7.00pm - 8.00pm at **Ashmead School**, HP21 8SU. Open to all genders over 14 years. Contact Ed Gurney at Aylesbury Hockey Club email: club.secretary@aylesburyhc.com for more information.

How about **Handball**? A fun and fast team sport for both men and women, handball is a physical, often rough, game which is likened to football but with your hands. Sessions take place **Mondays** 8.00pm - 9.00pm (12 - 15 years) and 9.00pm - 10.00pm (16+ years) at **Stoke Mandeville Stadium Sports Hall**. For more information call **01296 585233**.

Talented Athletes and Coaches Bursaries



The Aylesbury Vale Sport and Physical Activity Network (AVSPAN), a group of sports organisations in Aylesbury Vale is offering small bursaries for talented athletes and coaches in the district.

Following the successes of British Athletes in last summer's Olympic and Paralympic Games, this bursary scheme aims to support budding local athletes performing at regional competition level and above. Bursaries are also available to enable sports coaches to attend recognised coaching qualification courses.

Talented Athletes Bursaries:

- Provide funding support for help with training costs for local athletes
- Apply for up to £300 per individual

You are eligible to apply if you:

- Live in the Aylesbury Vale District area
- Take part in a sport recognised by Sport England
- Compete at a regional level against other regions
- Fulfil the detailed eligibility criteria outlined in the Bursary guidance notes

Community Sports Coaches Bursaries:

- Provide funding support to help you attend a recognised sports coaching qualification course (Level 1, 2 or 3)
- Apply for up to £200 for a Level 1 course, up to £300 for a Level 2 course or up to £500 for a Level 3 course

You are eligible to apply if you:

- Coach at a club or activity within the Aylesbury Vale District for the benefit of the local community
- Meet the minimum age requirements for coaching (16+ for Level 1, 18+ for a Level 2 or Level 3 course)
- Fulfil the detailed eligibility criteria outlined in the Bursary guidance notes

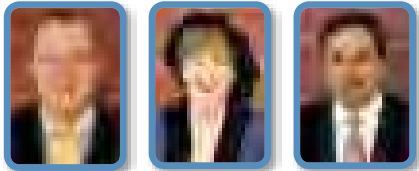
You can apply at any time throughout the year. Applications will be reviewed on a regular basis at the end of each month.

For more information telephone: 01296 585301 or email: sportbursaries@aylesburyvalcdc.gov.uk



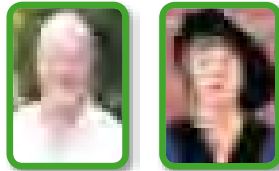
The Town Council Ward Map

Ward: Gatehouse



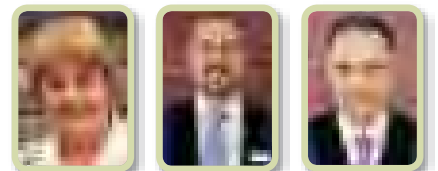
Cllr Stuart Jarvis 07958 083519
 Cllr Pat Jamieson 01296 428275
 Cllr Tuffail Hussain 07886 295946

Ward: Central



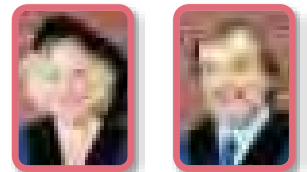
Cllr Steven Mitchell 01296 392096
 Cllr Barbara Russel 01296 431314

Ward: Elmhurst

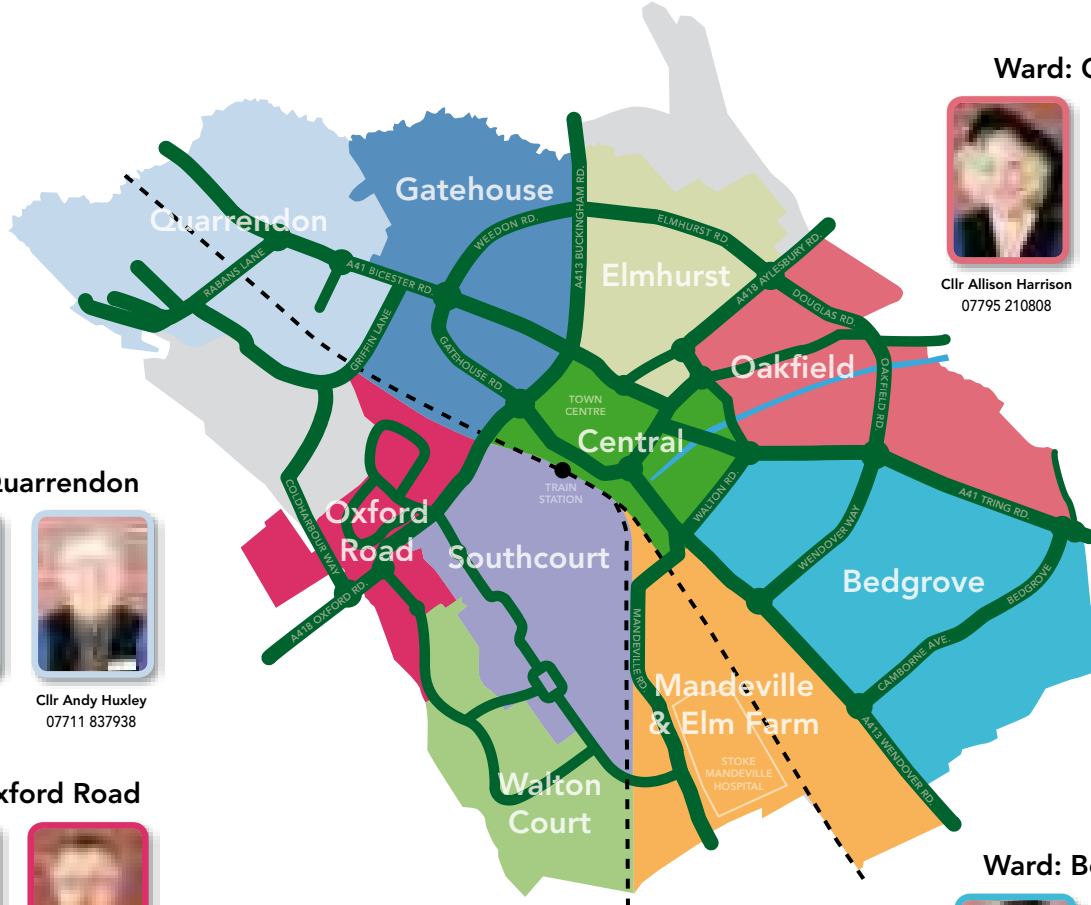


Cllr Jenny Puddefoot 01296 612461
 Cllr Iain Bozier 07941 164477
 Cllr Mohammed Amjad 07956 803458

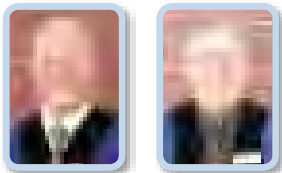
Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Allison Harrison 07795 210808
 Cllr Steve Patrick 01296 424986

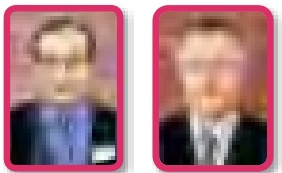


Ward: Quarrendon



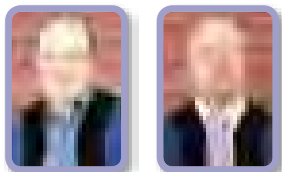
Cllr Chris Adams 07986 543211
 Cllr Andy Huxley 07711 837938

Ward: Oxford Road



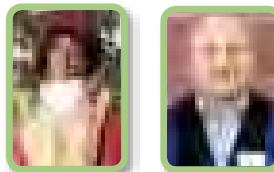
Cllr Zulifqar 'Tom' Ahmed 07731 328011
 Cllr Mike Smith 01296 484299

Ward: Southcourt



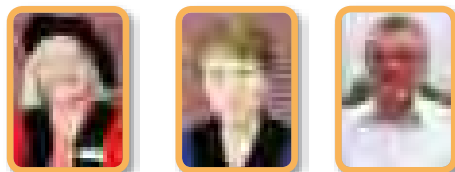
Cllr Michael Beall 01296 431499
 Cllr Matthew Launchbury 07837 604284

Ward: Walton Court



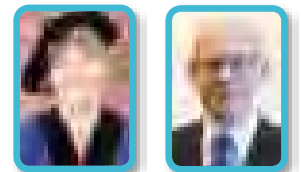
Cllr Ranjula Takodra MBE 07958 423083
 Cllr Loui Cirillo 07767 478696

Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm

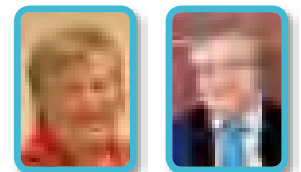


Cllr Denise Summers 01296 424903
 Cllr Sue Chapple 01296 426814
 Cllr Brian Roberts 01296 422881

Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr Jenny Bloom 07729 011501
 Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts 07595 178660



Cllr Penni Thorne 01296 422232
 Cllr Mark Winn 01296 393304



Did you know there are three Councils based in Aylesbury?



AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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

Aylesbury Town Council is responsible for:

- The Office of the Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- The management of the seven local allotment sites
- The Tring Road cemetery
- A programme of events throughout the year
- The award of grants to local groups and charities
- The free quarterly magazine, Aylesbury Town Matters
- Britain in Bloom (a partnership project) and Aylesbury in Bloom

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

Aylesbury Vale District Council deal with issues covering the whole of Aylesbury Vale and has a very regulatory remit. AVDC is responsible for:

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

Call: 01296 585 858 or visit: www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk



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

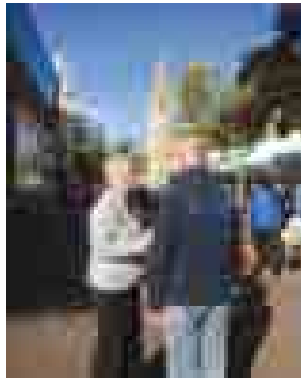
- Highways
- Education and Libraries
- Social Services
- Trading Standards
- Registrar of births, deaths and marriages
- Waste disposal (excluding household waste)

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

Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy



Thousands of people work in and visit our town centre every day. The Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy is an initiative by the local Christian community to help serve the needs of those people. All volunteers are motivated by Christian principles of love and service, and fully respectful and committed to serving people of all backgrounds and of all faiths or none.



It began as an idea amongst church leaders about 4 years ago, but planning and fundraising began in earnest just over 18 months ago. We registered as an independent charity earlier this year and are working in close consultation with the police, local authorities, the Town Centre Partnership members and others.

Our work is based on the success of similar projects in towns and cities across the UK including Watford, Luton and High Wycombe; we are recruiting teams of trained community minded volunteers to offer practical help and spiritual support to those who want it during both the day (as Volunteer Chaplains) and at night (as Street Angels).

Much of the help will be very simple and practical - a listening ear, giving out water, caring for people in difficulty or distress or helping people get home safely etc. Trained team members will also be available, as requested, to offer pastoral support to people facing more intense times of emotional stress or with spiritual needs.

We will serve both the needs of individuals and the interests of the wider community to help make our town centre a safer, more caring and welcoming environment.

We already have a small team of daytime chaplains. Please look out for them as they begin to visit retail outlets and businesses within the town centre area.

You may have also seen our Street Angels out in the town on a Friday night/Saturday morning to help people enjoying themselves on a night out.

At the moment we are able to work on a part-time basis only, but hope to grow as financial and volunteer support increases. If you would like to support us or find out any more about us, please get in touch.

By post: Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy, c/o Holy Trinity Parish Office, Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP21 7QX or by email: town.chaplaincy@htaylesbury.org



Aylesbury Lending Library

Books and so much more!

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Bounce and rhyme • Story time • Craft events • Chatterbooks
• Bookstart • Competitions

FOR ADULTS

Quiz afternoon • Reading group with a difference • Creative writing sessions
Family history • Internet taster sessions • Seasonal activities

Check our website or facebook page for details



Twitter
[@Bucks_Libraries](https://twitter.com/Bucks_Libraries)

0845 230 3232

We welcome Text Relay calls prefix 18001
www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries



www.facebook.com/AylesburyLibraries

Books • DVD Rental • E-Books • Magazines • Graphic Novels • Games Rental



THE FREMANTLE TRUST

Passionate about Care



*Fremantle
Connect*

Fremantle's new CONNECT service delivers bespoke, high quality Home Care.

The Fremantle Trust is a registered charity with a 20 year track record of providing first class care and support services that enhance the quality of life for older people and adults with learning disabilities.

Fremantle Connect is a new non-nursing Home-Care Service offered by The Fremantle Trust for adults across Buckinghamshire and its surrounding counties, for people in need of care who prefer to continue to live in the comfort of their own home.

This highly flexible service offers as much or as little support to the individual as required, when and where it's needed, day or night. This could include anything from providing support doing the shopping, preparing meals, or keeping a social engagement, through to providing dementia care or assistance following a return from hospital.

**For more information contact:
Sue Mcleod on Tel: 01296 393000
or visit:
www.fremantletrust.org**



Homeless? – we help

Aylesbury Homeless Action Group (AHAG) is a small, local charity which aims to help those who are homeless, socially disadvantaged or inadequately housed and to raise awareness and understanding of the issues they face. It is funded through grants and donations from national and local organisations, local authorities, local churches and individuals and is staffed by a very small paid team (3 part-time) and a large group of dedicated volunteers.

Our activities...

The Hub Day Centre

From 2009 this has run as a drop-in centre for those affected by homelessness. Our volunteers offer a friendly face, a listening ear and refreshments including lunch. It is run in Walton Hall and clients are also able to wash clothes and use shower facilities.



The Hub Volunteers

Winter Warmth

For the last two winter periods this emergency night shelter has run for a three month period. It offers an evening meal, a bed for the night and breakfast, for up to ten people. It is based in seven different church halls and staffed and run mainly by volunteers, supported and trained by AHAG's project worker. We expect Winter Warmth to begin again in January 2013.

Rent Deposit Scheme

After being successful in an application to Crisis, in 2012 we have been able to help many single people find a home through the private rent sector, by engaging with private landlords who might be uncomfortable accepting tenants from potentially chaotic lifestyles.

Would you be able to support us financially? Would you like to volunteer?

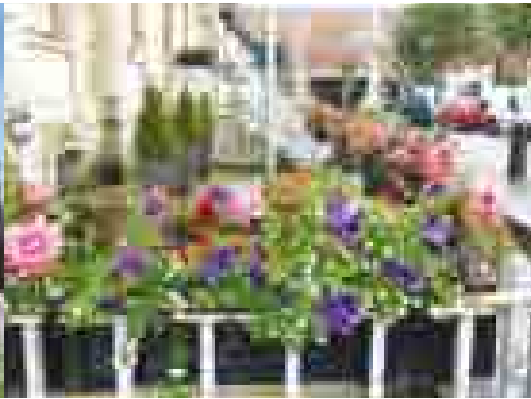
Please contact us on **01296 435026** or at
2 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2RX
www.ahag.org.uk

Britain in Bloom 2012

On a rare sunny day during the summer the judges came to assess Aylesbury's 2012 entry for Britain in Bloom.



The Chapel in Tring Road cemetery. Photo by Roger King



Floral display at the Court House. Photo by Alan Norchi



Pupils from Turnfurlong Junior School. Photo by Alan Norchi

The results were announced in September and Aylesbury was proud to host this year's Award Ceremony at St Mary's Church. In keen anticipation a small group of Councillors and Officers from the Town Council joined teams from throughout our region to hear the results of the judging.

Aylesbury is assessed in the Small Cities category, which is determined by our population size. So coming after the first category of Large Cities we didn't have long to wait. Only Bracknell joined us in the Small Cities category (Thames and Chiltern region) and we congratulate them on their Gold Award.

Aylesbury was pleased to be awarded a Silver Gilt, maintaining the standard set in previous years. We were also delighted when it was announced that Aylesbury was the winner of the special category for "Best Floral Input".

But a Gold Award eludes our town and plans are being set in motion to try and enhance those aspects of our entry which the judges felt needed strengthening.

To this end we are inviting the residents of Aylesbury to join the Town Council as volunteers on a number of projects in your own neighbourhoods.

The common perception of Britain in Bloom is that it is focused almost entirely on floral displays. Whilst this was perhaps originally the purpose of the competition it has increasingly broadened its scope to incorporate categories such as environmental initiatives, community and volunteer participation and cleanliness.

This year the judges noted that there was litter in the town and in the parks they visited. This is something we must all work together to change.

The real value of the Britain in Bloom campaign is that any award we receive is recognition for creating an attractive

town in which to live and work; one in which we all take pride.

You can help. Your contribution might be just making the effort to dispose of your litter carefully; or it might mean helping us to restore rough ground, create flower beds and wildlife gardens, or paint a bench. What improvements would you like to see?

There's much to be done but lots of people doing little bits will make all the difference.

With the increasingly rapid development and growth of Aylesbury it is easy to lose sight of the smaller scale. An attractive and well looked after town brings additional rewards. The correspondence from residents and visitors on page 20 is evidence that the expenditure, in time and money, is worthwhile.

This is recognised by the many businesses in the town that make a significant contribution to the cost of the wonderful flower baskets that have drawn praise from all quarters. The next step is to keep thinking beyond the flowers and towards other details.

This attention makes a difference to the perception of Aylesbury. It increases the possibility that a business or shopper might choose Aylesbury as the place to invest in. It also makes us all feel a bit better.

The Town Council will continue to work with all of its partners to create an Aylesbury that everyone can enjoy.

Alan Norchi

Contact Alan at Aylesbury Town Council if you'd like to be involved with others in improving your small corner of town – 01296 425678 or email: a.norchi@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Linguine Scoglio (Pasta with seafood)

This is the most popular dish in the restaurant La Salute, Kingsbury Square, Aylesbury. The seafood ingredients can be adjusted according to taste. Some elements can be excluded and replaced with more of others, e.g. no squid, more prawns, etc.

(Serves 2-3)

INGREDIENTS:

200g linguine
100g half-shelled clams
100g mussels
150g chopped squid
120g clam meat (no shells)
80g baby prawns, 4 king prawns, 8 medium size tiger prawns
2 cloves garlic – whole
100g cherry tomatoes (halved)
50ml white wine
2 tbs vegetable oil
Large pinch of salt
1 tbs olive oil
1 large pinch fresh chopped parsley

PREPARATION:

Gently heat the vegetable oil in a pan - add garlic cloves. When softened, but not browned, add the chopped squid and gently fry for 3 mins.

Add all types of prawn and cook for a further 2 mins. Add the clams, clam meat and mussels and cook for another 3 mins. Add the white wine and cook until reduced then add cherry tomatoes. Cook for 10 mins adding a little water and the salt.

In a separate pan cook the linguine for 8 minutes, or until al dente. Add the pasta to the seafood and mix. Drizzle olive oil over the cooked dish and sprinkle some fresh chopped parsley. Serve immediately.

Buon Appetito!

Thanks to the management and staff of La Salute, and in particular to Head Chef Pino and 2nd Chef Davide.
La Salute - 01296 399135

Aylesbury Town Council encourages you to THINK LOCAL

There are many food producers in the Vale and in the wider area of Buckinghamshire. You will find good quality, high standards and great flavours throughout the region.

www.food-on-our-doorstep.org.uk
www.local-food.net

Christmas Opening Hours in the town centre

Sunday trading every week 10.30am – 4.30pm. **Late night shopping** until 8.00pm every Thursday from 15 November up to Christmas. **Free parking** after 4.30pm every Thursday until 20 December in AVDC Town Centre and Friars Square Shoppers' Car Parks.

Thursday 29 November

9.00am - 8.00pm

Thursday 6 December

9.00am - 8.00pm

Thursday 13 December

9.00am - 8.00pm

Monday 10 - Saturday 15 December

9.00am - 6.00pm

Sunday 16 December

10.30am - 4.30pm

Monday 17 - Friday 21 December

9.00am - 8.00pm

Saturday 22 December

9.00am - 6.00pm

Sunday 23 December

10.30am - 4.30pm

Monday 24 December (Christmas Eve)

9.00am - 4.30pm

Tuesday 25 December (Christmas Day)

CLOSED

Wednesday 26 December (Boxing Day)

10.00am - 5.00pm

Thursday 27 - Saturday 29 December

9.00am - 5.30pm

Sunday 30 December

10.30am - 4.30pm

Monday 31 December

9.00am - 5.30pm

Tuesday 1 January 2013 (New Year's Day)

10.00am - 5.00pm

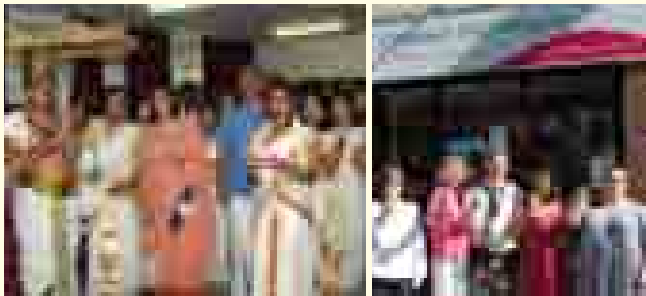
For assistance getting around please call Shopmobility on 01296 336725

Happy Christmas Everyone!

(there may be some slight variation between shopping centres and selected stores)

Summer events attended by the Mayor... and not all of them in the rain!

Aylesbury Town Mayor, Cllr Ranjula Takodra MBE has had a busy few months. Following on from the wonderful Jubilee parties, Olympic and Paralympic celebrations and our own Proms in the Park, the Mayor has been privileged to attend a number of varied events.



These have included; visiting the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity shop on the High Street to celebrate their fifth birthday, greeting forty two Austrian Students on an exchange visit here in the Council Chamber, formally opening the new children's park in Long Crendon and supporting the British Heart Foundation in their 'bag-a-thon' event in Friars Square.

The Mayor was also invited to attend the Aylesbury Malayali Samajam ONAM 2012 Festival, where she was greeted with a very warm reception and watched and participated in the celebrations.

The Mayor also held her Civic Service in September and despite the rain, was delighted to have many guests attending the service at St Mary's Church, and Haydon Abbey School's Choir, who performed two songs during the service.

Forthcoming events include a visit from fifty four students from our twin town, Bourg-en-Bresse to the Council Chamber, a visit to Queens Park Centre and we'll also be well into our Christmas Celebrations, with the Mayor's Carol Service on Sunday 2nd December at 6.00pm (all welcome).

Sue Carpenter



TOWN MAYOR'S AWARDS 2012/2013

Town Mayor Cllr Ranjula Takodra MBE, is delighted to present awards to Aylesbury town residents who have been nominated by persons who have performed an **unusual act of bravery**, an **achievement** (not standard exam passes), a **commitment** or an **act beyond the call of duty** for fellow citizens of the town in general.

CRITERIA

The nominee's contribution to the individual, group or community will be taken into consideration, and the Panel of Judges will also be looking for exceptional effort; innovation or enterprise in the service being offered; outstanding achievement and length of service.

The award will cover two categories:

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT, COMMITMENT OR ACT OF BRAVERY:

- Award 1 Child/Youth up to 16 years of age
- Award 2 Adult

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- Award 3 Group, School or Organisation
- Award 4 Individual, Youth/Adult

Closing date for nominations is Friday 29th March 2013

Winners and their guest will be invited by the Mayor to the Annual Mayor Making Reception in May 2013 to receive their awards.

If you know of an Aylesbury Town Resident that you would like to nominate, please visit our website for an entry form or contact Sue Carpenter, Mayor's Assistant on **01296 425678** or email: s.carpenter@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

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



Meet your Councillors

In this and future editions of ATM you will be able to meet your Councillors and learn something about who they are, what they like and what the office of Councillor means to them. Here we meet Cllr Steve Patrick who is Deputy Mayor and Cllr Allison Harrison who is Chair of Communities Committee.

Cllr Steve Patrick - Oakfield Ward



Cllr Steve Patrick is the current Deputy Mayor following 7 years as Leader of Aylesbury Town Council.

He has been an Aylesbury resident for 25 years, moving here with his wife and young daughter in 1987. He remembers giving the local

estate agents a hard task, requiring them to find a house with an especially large garden. Steve and his wife Janice have a passion for the outdoors, and gardening is extremely important to them.

Steve has two grown up children who both went through local schools before graduating and pursuing very different careers, one as a vet the other in Law.

Steve worked in education, spending the last 30 years as a lecturer and manager in Further Education. He finally accepted the retirement shilling a year ago. "The time had come when the passion for teaching was diminished by the current desire to run education by box ticking."

During his teaching career Steve was an active trade unionist, "The last year of work was really fraught dealing with the consequences of government cuts and 25 redundancies." His work as a District and Town Councillor has taken over as a full time occupation. Steve admits his biggest problem is finding the time to keep up with all the issues.

A recent challenge as part of his Deputy Mayor role has been to explain to two groups of Austrian and French students how local government works in Aylesbury. "Even local people find that a difficult question with three different Councils working in Aylesbury."

Outside of Council Steve's interests are quite varied. He now works a Town Council Allotment. He enjoys walking, particularly in the mountains and has just returned from a holiday in the American Rockies. Other hobbies include a diverse range of music, photography and motorcycle racing; he regularly attends MotoGP and Superbike races at Silverstone. He is a fan of American Football and attended a game in Denver between the Texans and the Broncos, another holiday highlight.

Cllr Allison Harrison - Oakfield Ward



Following my first election in May 2011 I am very pleased to represent the residents of the Oakfield ward.

I moved to Aylesbury in 1990 expecting to be here for no more than 2 years but I am still here 22 years later!! Why move when you can find

everything you would ever need in a town?

When I moved to Aylesbury I didn't know anyone in the area and decided the best way forward was to get involved, so with another young mum I started a Mother and Toddler group, which resulted in a number of lifelong friendships.

I have been involved in various ways in the local community ever since as: Secretary of Eagles Road Residents' Association; Chair of Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG); and as initiator and Chair of the HP20 Residents Association. I have written a bid for Big Lottery Fund award for a local community centre.

In March 2011 I decided the time being right, with my youngest daughter at school and the encouragement of my family, to stand in the forthcoming local elections. I wanted to make a difference and believed that I could do this more effectively being on the "inside" as the voice of local residents.

In my role as Chair of the Communities Committee I enjoy attending the events organised by the team at Aylesbury Town Council. Engaging with both residents and visitors in a social setting has given me the most valuable feedback on the town.

I own and run an IT services and systems company so I understand the needs of small businesses; something that I am particularly passionate about.

My five daughters range in age from 8 - 23 years old and I enjoy spending time with family and friends. When I'm not busy I love to read – mainly police fiction and horror.

My aim for the coming year is to learn to juggle!!

I would encourage anyone who has a desire to enter local politics to take the plunge...

Aylesbury Town Correspondence

Flowers

I just wanted to compliment you on the Aylesbury flowers around the town. I wish to say how wonderful they look compared to other towns in the area. They were absolutely beautiful and a delight to the town.

Mrs Pauline Cooper of Wilstone

Dear Alan,

Further to our conversation at County Show, I would like to reiterate Rosemary Leheup's letter in Aylesbury Town Matters September 2012. I think that the flowers in the town are really fantastic and the patriotic colours have really reminded us local residents of what a special year it has been with the Diamond Jubilee, the Olympics and the Paralympics. Please, please can we have more of the same next year?

Kind regards

Ann Walker

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please give my congratulations to your team who have put out a beautiful display of hanging baskets, troughs, and roundabouts all over Aylesbury this year; they are stunning. Please forward this comment to your team, and keep up the good work. And thank you once again.

Mary Chapman

Congratulations on the lovely planting in Walton Street.

Miss Martin, Thame

I have been meaning to write to you all summer to ask you to please pass on my appreciation to whoever has been responsible for the planning, planting and maintenance of the lovely floral displays along Walton Street and outside County Hall this year.

The use of the red/white/blue scheme has not only been patriotic but also beautiful to behold and they have kept flowering through scorching heat and torrential downpour and have cheered me up on many an early start to the day. Please do give all those concerned my thanks and congratulations on a job so very well done.

Kind regards

Diane Westray

Dear Sir or Madam,

My wife and I moved to Stone in April 2011 and we have been impressed by the show of beautiful flowers in containers and tubs lining the streets. They are lovely to look at driving the streets, and I congratulate you on the lovely show.

Judyth & John Maxwell

Hello Mr Norchi,

I am writing to congratulate you and your team on the wonderful displays throughout the town this summer. Friarage Road with its attractive grasses down the central reservation has also been greatly admired. Obviously because of the Olympics an extra special effort will have been made, but that effort has been very much appreciated. I live off Walton Street and I was delighted to see that troughs had been put along the central reservation. I had suggested this some years ago but was told that it would not happen because of health and safety issues, although flower troughs like these are a permanent feature in Southampton. My reasoning was that because there was less likely to be vandalism or even theft of the plants from the troughs in the centre of a very busy road than along the pavement.

I also note the flower troughs along the roadside by the new theatre have been removed, and it was about these that I originally wrote to the council. These suffered the most from vandalism, and I and other people who walk along Walton Street have been known to replant uprooted flowers and remove food debris deposited by late night revellers returning home from the town. I do hope that these troughs by the theatre will not be replaced, and that those along the central reservation may remain, funds allowing!

Madeleine Butterfield

Events - Proms in the Park

Dear Town Council,

I live in High Wycombe but my wife heard about the event. We attended and were absolutely amazed at how good the whole thing was. The staging, lighting, sound, seating, location, portaloos, the band, the soprano were wonderful. Your Mayor gave a good speech and my wife and our granddaughter had a really good night. Well done Aylesbury, I wish Wycombe had something similar. I would ask that if you have Alison Langer back again next year, could she not be draped in The Union Flag for the finale? We certainly intend to attend again.

Nigel Eagling

Dear Sirs

I am not sure who I should be writing to but we just wanted to say a HUGE thank you to the organisers of the live music in Aylesbury on Sunday. A small group, consisting of my mum, my partner and I travelled from the Surrey/West Sussex border to Aylesbury to watch Palenke play and were greeted by the organisers and a local restaurant owner, which made our visit so special.

We loved the setting, the calendar fountain, the sunshine, the people and of course the wonderful Latin music. We have never visited your area before but next year will recommend the day out to all our friends. Thank you for a brilliant day.

Yours faithfully,

Jo Laws




Aylesbury Town Council invites your comments and correspondence.

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

You can send an email marked 'ATM Letters' to:
info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk
or write to us at:

Aylesbury Town Matters Correspondence
Aylesbury Town Council, 5 Church Street
Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP

Tweet, Tweet! We're up to 496 twitter followers, Why not join in the fun? It's a great way to see what the Town Council is up to **@aylesburytc** 

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to inform you how much my husband and I enjoyed the free concert in the Park in Aylesbury on 1st September 2012 (Proms in the Park). It was the first time that we had been able to attend the concert. Having chatted to friends and neighbours after the event they were unaware that the concert was taking place so I wonder if, for next year, more advertising and promotion of the event needs to take place. As it was to benefit the Mayor's charity I think the more the merrier with the chance to raise more funds! Please pass on our thanks to the Mayor and all involved for a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Warm regards
Mikela Upton, Aylesbury

Hello,

My auntie and uncle took me, my sister and cousin to Proms in the Park for the first time this year. It was a great atmosphere, the songs were really good and we really enjoyed the evening.

Kara, aged 12

Events - Tudor Fair

We came over specifically for this event as our son is in Year 4 and learning about Tudors. This is a great event and I wish we had something like this where we live. Please can we join a mailing list and be kept up to date with future events?

Family from Watford

Events - County Show

Hi.

I visited the County Show today with my wife and 4 year old daughter. We enjoyed the ring events but were otherwise irritated by the general fleecing we suffered: food was exorbitantly priced in nearly all cases and actually inedible in two; children's entertainment with nothing available under £2; queues to get in, for food, and to use the toilets, and £3 for a "catalogue" so we might know what was on when.

Working our way round the stands we stumbled across and into the Aylesbury Town Council tent. We looked at the brochures and then, a table and chairs being free, sat down somewhat gratefully. We were offered a cup of tea by a very nice lady (the Mayor's Assistant I believe), which duly arrived in china cups and actually was tea, plus a squash for our daughter Emily. Cakes also on offer, and a lollipop for Emily who had by now had her face painted as a butterfly and was busy colouring a spinning top while we listened to a lady with a very pleasant voice singing 40s/50s songs. We were even asked if we would like more drinks.

And all totally and somewhat surreally FREE.

So we just thought we would take 10 minutes to send this to say thanks and to let you know that the Aylesbury Town Council stand was, for us, the highlight of the day. Please forward to all those involved in organising and attending the stand.

Regards
Helen, Davis and Emily King



Hire the Chamber

At the Town Hall, Aylesbury Town Council deliberates and discusses policy in the chamber. All full Council and Committee meetings are held here. When not in use during office hours, the Chamber is available to hire for meetings and presentations. There are facilities for refreshments and a projector is available if required.

All the information you will need, and the booking forms to complete, are available on our website (click the button on the home page) **www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk**.

We have preferential rates for not-for-profit groups but the Chamber is also available to businesses and individuals.

If you require further information please enquire by telephone: **01296 425678** or email us at: **info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk**

St Mary's Community Christmas Lunch

Christmas Day
25 December
12 noon - 3.00pm

St Mary's Church
St Mary's Square, Aylesbury

Everyone welcome!

Free of Charge

Three course traditional Christmas dinner
(vegetarian option available)
Enjoy games, entertainment and company

**For further details or
to reserve a place please call:**

07598 316126



Carolfest

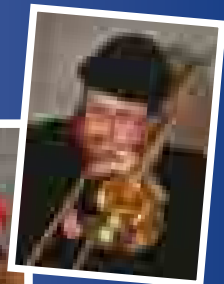
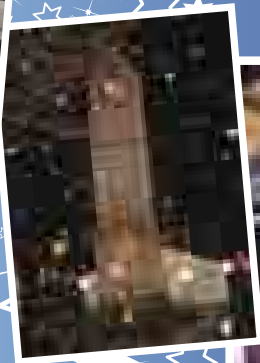
Thursday 13th December 2012
6.30pm in Market Square

Christmas begins with Carolfest.

Your chance to sing along with all of our favourite Christmas carols, accompanied by Aylesbury Choral Society and the Caduceus Brass Quintet.

Carolfest will be raising funds for the Mayor's charity, Home-Start. Volunteers will be serving soup and hot drinks for a donation to this valuable local service.

FREE parking in AVDC car parks, late night shopping, and song-sheets available - and it's completely FREE.



**Home
Start**
Support and friendship
for families



For more details please call **AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL** on
01296 425678 or visit: www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk





FREE Festive Fun 2012

November

Until 1st December

Making an Impression Print Exhibition

Bucks Museum. Call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/museum

Until 12th January

Early Aylesbury Exhibition

Bucks Museum. Call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/museum

Tuesday 27th - Farmers' Market

Market Square, 9.00am - 2.00pm
Come along to the Farmers' Market to buy some fabulous local produce.

December

Sunday 2nd - Christmas Speciality Market

Market Square, 11.00am - 3.00pm
An ideal opportunity to buy that extra special gift from the wide selection of different crafts and gifts on offer.

Sunday 2nd - Mayor's Carol Service & Lantern Procession

Town Centre & St Mary's Church
Parade 5.30pm, Service 6.00pm
The Mayoral parade leaves the Town Hall to walk to The King's Head Courtyard for Carols, then to Kingsbury and on to St Mary's Church for the Service.

Thursday 13th - Town Centre Carolfest

Market Square, 6.30pm
The audience are the stars of the show accompanied by a band and local choir. **FREE family entertainment.**

Friday 14th - Bounce and Rhyme/ Teddy Bears' Christmas Picnic

Aylesbury Library, 10.30am - 12.00 noon
Traditional songs and actions followed by picnic, fun and games. Bring a teddy, a drink and a biscuit to join the fun.
Call 0845 2303232 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries



**Saturday 15th to 12th January
Christmas Toy Box Exhibition**

Bucks Museum. Call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/museum

Sunday 16th - Christmas Fair

Market Square, 11.00am - 4.00pm
Featuring Mr Alexander's Travelling Show, Christmas crafts, face-painting and gift wrapping.

**Sunday 16th - Traditional Candlelight Service for all
St Mary's Church, 6.00pm**

Thursday 20th - Christmas Storytime and Craft

Aylesbury Library from 10.00am. Children's Stories and Craft - This month's theme Christmas Stories.
Call 0845 2303232 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries

Monday 24th - Special Christmas Farmers' Market

Market Square, 9.00am - 2.00pm
Come to the festive market this month and buy 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!

Monday 24th - Crib Service

St Mary's Church, 4.00pm
A special service for the whole family - younger people are invited to come dressed as their favourite character from the Christmas story.

Tuesday 25th - Free Community Christmas Lunch

St Mary's Church, 12.00 noon
Especially for those who would normally spend the day alone. Places limited and must be booked in advance.

Thursday 27th - Christmas Holiday Fun

Market Square, 11.00am - 3.00pm
Have a kick around in Market Square with a difference, and challenge your friends to a game of human table football!

January 2013

Thursday 3rd - New Year Laser Quest

Kingsbury, 11.00am - 3.00pm
Celebrate the New Year with your friends and a free game of Laser Quest!