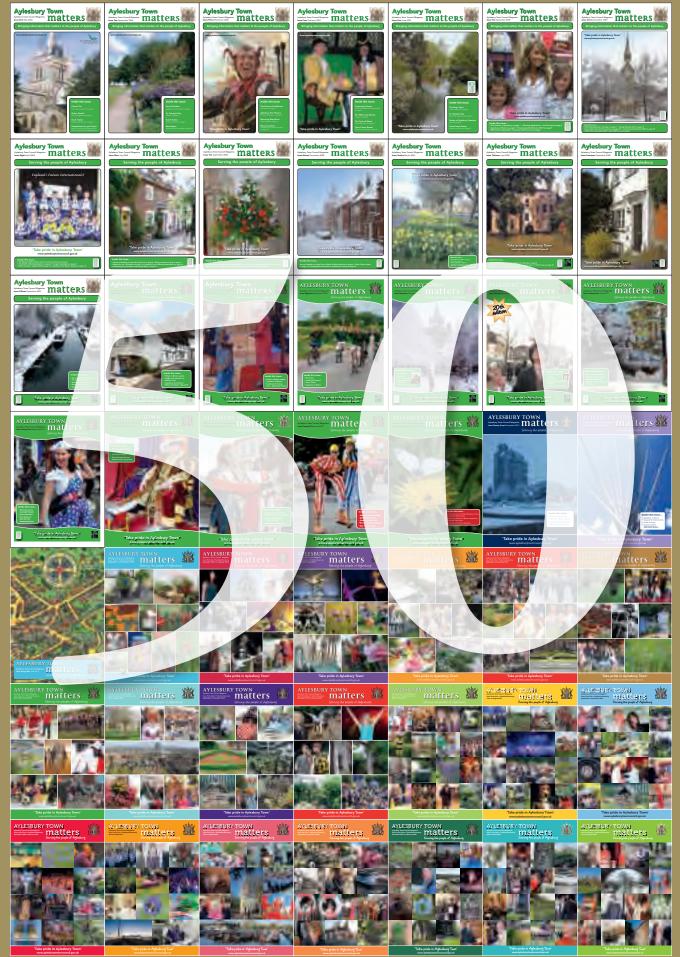
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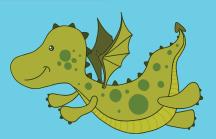
Issue Fifty • Published Quarterly September to November 2018







Fantasy Half Term 22 – 26 October 2018





This half term Playscheme is all about Fairy Tales, Princes and Princesses and ghastly dragons.

The team have been busy planning great craft activities such as Zig Zag Dragons, Shape Castles, designing your own crown and shield plus lots of fun fantasy games.

Weather permitting the children can also play outdoors utilising the go-kart track and climbing frames or stay indoors where they can choose from a great variety of toys and games.



HOURS AND PRICES (per child, per day)

8am-6.30pm £30 8am-3.30pm £22.50 8am-12.30pm £16 12.30pm-5pm £16

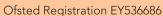
Playscheme is for all children from the age of 4 up to their 13th birthday

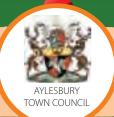
To make a booking please visit our website or Facebook page and click on **BOOK ONLINE or call the Centre on 01296 336413**

We can accept childcare vouchers as payment



Jonathan Page Play Centre · 147 Meadowcroft · Aylesbury · HP19 9HH 01296 336413 · email: jpplaycentre@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk/jppc





ATC News & Events

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Welcome Note

Welcome to our 50th issue of Aylesbury Town Matters, our quarterly magazine, which keeps you informed about the work the Town Council does as well as other Community News. You can see how much the magazine has changed in the last twelve years just by looking at the front cover. We often receive comments from residents and those further afield about how much they enjoy reading it and finding out about the various community groups and free events the Town Council organises. Equally, the groups and organisations who feature in the magazine tell us what benefits it has for them. This could be through new members or volunteers joining or greater attendance at their events, exhibitions and concerts. If you are a member of a local group, charity, organisation or sports club and you would like to be featured in the magazine, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We'd love to hear from you.

This is my first issue to welcome you as Leader of the Council and I look forward to welcoming you to many more in the future. As we go to press the preparations for our big Parklife Weekend are well underway and I hope I will meet many of you at the events. If I don't meet you at Parklife maybe I will have the opportunity at the Walking Plays (page 5), which are back again at the end of October or our Christmas events – Festive Family Fun and Carolfest (page 5) or the Mayor's Carol Service on 2 December at St Mary's Church.

Did you attend our Soapbox Derby on Father's Day? What a fantastic event and the enthusiasm, skill and imagination that has gone into the karts was fantastic. Every year the event gets bigger and better and so do the karts. Well done to everyone who took part and we are looking forward to seeing you all again next year. If you are looking for a great way to bring the family together then look no further and register your interest (page 23).

In November we will be taking part in the WW1 2014-2018 Centenary Events on Remembrance Sunday. At 5.30pm on the 11 November we will have a church service at St Mary's Church which follows the playing of The Last Post by a bugler in Market Square and the ringing out for peace by the bell ringers of St Mary's Church. Further events are planned for the day and will be announced in the coming weeks so please do keep an eye on our website for more information.

We are delighted to be working in partnership with the Waterside Theatre, Bucks Clinical Commissioning Group and Vamos Theatre to bring to you "Finding Joy". This is a fully masked production, taking place at the Waterside Theatre in November and approaches the subject of dementia with humour and humanity. For more information see page 9.

I mustn't forget to say a big "Congratulations" and "Well done" to all of the schools who took part in this year's garden competition. I heard that the standard was once again outstanding and that you all deserve to be winners. It is always a great delight to know that the children learnt something and that they will carry that knowledge through their lives and help conserve our environment and support our wildlife.

I do hope you enjoy this issue and if you ever have any comments about the magazine or the town and would like to give us your feedback then please do get in touch with us (page 13).

With best wishes Cllr Allison Harrison Leader of the Council

Aylesbury is twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse



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Photos throughout the magazine courtesy of Maurice Cousins, Swale Photography, Steve Cook, Neale Wareham, Derek Pelling, Sherron Razey, Randal Cheney, Angela Norton and ImageZ Camera Club.

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What a fantastic, sun and fun filled summer we have had so far. As we go to press we are about to embark on the excitement of Parklife Weekend, if you came, we hope that you had a great time. Look out for lots of pictures in the next issue.



Our fourth annual Soapbox Derby took place back in June. We would like to pass on our thanks, admiration and congratulations to all of the teams that took part. The time, effort and enthusiasm you put into building and racing your karts provided an amazing day for all of our visitors. We would also like to thank the TVP Cadets from Aylesbury who assisted in the car park and with marshalling on the day. Thank you.

Further congratulations to this year's winners; **Purple Pig** (senior), **Rebel Racing** (junior) and **The Darkside** (best looking kart). More information about the ethos of the Soapbox Derby on page 23.





Environment Aylesbury in Bloom Garden Competition Awards

Every year Aylesbury Town Council organises the Annual Aylesbury in Bloom Garden competition. The competition is open to schools, residents, communal groups and businesses.

First up to be judged this year were the schools, whilst the judging for the residents, communal groups and businesses is still talking place whilst we are going to press.



Our keen horticulturists and volunteer judges, Rosemary Brown, Janet Leech and Sue Wright spent a full day visiting seven schools within the Parish of Aylesbury.

At each school they met enthusiastic students who all enjoyed gardening and who were proud to show off their achievements and fruits and vegetables of their labour.

Rosemary Brown said: "It was such a joy to meet all of these youngsters and to see what they achieved in a particularly challenging year, with the late start to the season, snow in March and the heatwave which followed."

The standard was very high throughout and the judges saw everything from great wildlife areas to pot gardens to



fantastic produce ranging from courgettes, potatoes and onions to beans and strawberries and lots more.

In early July all participating schools were invited by the Town Council and the Aylesbury Gardening Society to receive their awards for the garden competition and for the Potato Growing Challenge, which is organised annually by the Gardening Society.

Aylesbury Town Mayor, Cllr Mark Willis, Aylesbury Gardening Society Chairman, Ken Keasley and President Ray James as well as Michael Donnachie from Michael Anthony Estate Agents welcomed the students together with their teachers and parents.

Everyone had a great evening and it was good to see so many smiles as the children received their awards.

Turnfurlong Junior School received first prize and the Ann Miles Shield for Heaviest Combined Weight and Heaviest Single Bag of potatoes from the Aylesbury Gardening Society.

AYLESBURY IN BLOOM SCHOOLS - LIST OF WINNERS: Category 1st 2nd 3rd **Best Edible Garden** Haydon Abbey School & Pre-school William Harding School Pebble Brook FFD Sixth Form Best Wildlife/Nature Garden Haydon Abbey School & Pre-school **Turnfurlong Junior School** Stocklake Park School **Best Recreational &** The Grange School Turnfurlong Junior School Pebble Brook FED Sixth Form **Learning Garden** Best Garden in a Pot Harding House School William Harding School Stocklake Park School **Best Overall Garden** Haydon Abbey School & Pre-school **Commendation for Construction & Future Planning** Pebble Brook Lower School





The focus then moved on to the winners and runners up of the various categories of the school garden competition.

Haydon Abbey School & Pre-school won Best Edible Garden and Best Wildlife Nature Garden, The Grange School received first prize for Best Recreational & Learning Garden and Harding House School and Stocklake Park School received joint first prize for Best Garden in a Pot.



The Spade for Best Overall Garden went to **Haydon Abbey School & Pre-school**, who impressed the judges with their Wildlife/Nature Garden and their Edible Garden.

Town Mayor, Cllr Mark Willis said: "It's fantastic to see so much enthusiasm and so many smiles and to know that this generation will continue gardening for a lifetime."



Environment



The RSPB Aylesbury Local Group actively supports the work of the RSPB through a series of regular monthly indoor meetings and occasional coach and car trips. Our meetings and talks are held at the Prebendal Farm Community Centre, Fowler Road, Aylesbury, HP17 7QW.

You do not need to be a RSPB member, as all with an interest in nature and conservation are welcome to join our talks, coach and car trips. All talks start at 7.30pm and upcoming events include:

Monday 24 September

"Life and Conservation of Swifts" by Edward Mayer

Monday 29 October

"Shetland to Scilly - Birds of the British Isles" by Ashley Grove

Monday 26 November

"Wings across America" by Ivor Porter

Monday 10 December

"South African Safari" by Chris Ward

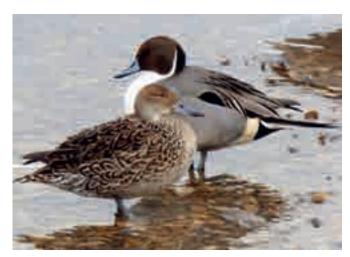
For more details about any of the above, please visit our website www.rspb.org.uk/groups/aylesbury

Aylesbury Local Group Leader needed

The Aylesbury RSPB Group has been running for 36 years and is now looking for a volunteer to take up the role of Group Leader, as the current leaders are stepping down next year. You don't have to be a wildlife expert, the role will be welcoming members to our monthly meetings and leading a small group of our Committee members.

If you are looking to give something back to your local area and are interested in wildlife, then this could be the role for you. If you are interested in helping the RSPB continue this important work in your community, please get in touch by emailing: nadia.archer@rspb.org.uk

Nadia Archer RSPB Community & Volunteer Development Officer







We can't believe it but another school year is over and the next one is about to start. Our After School Club has been busier than ever in the last year. With pupils attending from various schools within Aylesbury, a lot of new friendships were formed and lots of fun was had. We had a visit from the Mayor, local author Darren St Mart who wrote 'The Lowly Chicken' came to read stories to us, we talked about healthy eating and dental hygiene, painted rocks, which were hidden around Aylesbury, took part in Santa's Parade in the town centre, had the opportunity to see and feel a piece of meteorite, which was very heavy and planted our own vegetables and strawberries. We even watched our own caterpillars grow to butterflies and released them when they were ready to explore their environment. Needless to say that we all had a great time and are looking forward to coming back again in September.

Whilst we are going to press we are in the middle of our Summer Playscheme and so far all of the weeks have been packed full of fun and exciting activities. During the first few days we talked about all things 'Holiday' and made our own flip flops, created gigantic pictorial ice cream cones and made aeroplanes from Iollipop sticks. During 'Creative' week we made pictures and artworks from a whole variety of colourful materials. By the end of the week we could have opened our own art gallery!

With the weather being so fantastic we spent a lot of time outside playing games, climbing the frames and rock, playing football and of course enjoying a water fight or two to cool us all down. No doubt there is lots more fun ahead of us in the coming weeks, including visits from UK Astronomy, a steam machine and a train driver, local author Darren St Mart and the Police and Fire Brigade.

Our upcoming Playschemes are Fantasy Half Term, taking place from 22 – 26 October 2018 and our Christmas Playscheme on 20 and 21 December and 2 January 2019.

For more information on our Fantasy Half Term please see page 2 of the magazine. It is all about fairy tales, princes, princesses and ghastly dragons.

In December it is all things Christmas and New Year. The children will be baking, making cards and Christmas decorations with plenty of sparkles and smiles. We will be making New Year's resolutions together with the children and celebrating the New Year with a disco. There will also be plenty of singing, dancing and games throughout this festive Playscheme.

At all of our Playschemes, weather permitting, the children can also play outdoors, utilising the go-kart track and climbing frames or stay indoors where they can choose from a great variety of toys and games.

The Playscheme is open to all children from the age of 4 up to their 13th birthday. To book a session at any of the Playschemes and for more information please visit our website **www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk/jppc** or call us on **01296 336413**.

We are very much looking forward to more fun and action packed Playschemes and to welcoming everyone.









Meet your Councillor



Cllr Andy Huxley

My name is Andy Huxley and I have lived in Aylesbury for over 45 years. I am an independent Aylesbury Town Councillor for the Quarrendon ward which covers Haydon Hill, the area around Devereux Place and the part of Quarrendon which is Meadowcroft to Jackson Road and the Bicester Road

In addition I am an independent District Councillor covering the area above and also Berryfields, which is the Riverside ward. I enjoy serving the community. With a fellow Councillor, Chris Adams, we try to go the extra mile cutting hedges and clearing rubbish. These are normally in areas which are not covered by the councils or housing trust.

My interests are varied having played rugby, cricket and chess for Aylesbury. I have run six marathons, three half marathons and one 10K and raised in excess of £30,000 for charity.

I am Vice-Chairman and Secretary of AVTUG (Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group). We try to look after the interests of residents in the Vale and beyond regarding buses, trains and even the likes of cycling. I am a trustee of the Quarrendon and Meadowcroft Community Centre. I also represent Aylesbury Vale District Council on the Stoke Mandeville Stadium Committee for WheelPower who work tirelessly providing sporting facilities for the disabled at the stadium. I get a lot of satisfaction seeing those who are less fortunate than I am getting a lot of pleasure out of what is an excellent facility.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me on 01296 483659 or 07711 837938.



Finding Joy and talking about Dementia

We're part of a joint project reaching out to the community in an effort to continue driving Aylesbury towards becoming a dementia friendly town.

Dementia Action Alliance members, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre are hosting the production of Finding Joy on Monday 19 November as part of their 8th birthday celebrations to demonstrate further their access-for-all ethos.

The production of Finding Joy is hoped to increase an understanding of the types of issues those living with dementia face, and how each and every individual in the community can help; because small changes can make a big difference.



The award-winning performance by VAMOS approaches the subject of dementia with humour and humanity, and has performed to audiences across Europe and the UK.

Its consummate full mask skills, engaging storytelling, physical dexterity and emotional insight, engages audiences across borders and boundaries with its wordless theatre.

Tickets are limited. If you are interested in seeing the show, please email b.lasoye@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk for more information and a booking form.

DAA

Aylesbury Town Dementia Action Alliance





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

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

Interested in history?

The Buckinghamshire Historical Association is the local voice for history for everyone in Buckinghamshire interested in the study or teaching of history. Whether you are a student, historian, teacher or an avid reader of history books you are welcome to join the BHA.



Our monthly talks in Aylesbury include speakers on local, national and international history, and cover all eras from prehistory to medieval to 20th century. Our current programme can be found on our website 'talks' page.

We meet every third Wednesday of the month at Friends Meeting House, Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, HP20 2RT.

All are welcome to attend our meetings, admission for visitors and non-members is £3. Admission for members (annual fee of £10) is free. More information on how to become a member can be found on our 'membership' page. www.buckshistoricalassociation.org.uk

Town Council Meetings

All residents are invited to attend the monthly Town Council meetings, which take place every second Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Council Chamber, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury. Time is allocated at the beginning of the meeting for residents to raise any questions they have.





One of the brightest celebrations, Diwali Mela is coming back to Aylesbury by popular demand! Unfamiliar with Diwali Mela? We've got the key information that you need to know.

DIWALI: or the Festival of Lights is a five-day event originally celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains but welcomes anyone to join as its core values are rooted in peace and mutual respect. It celebrates new beginnings; the triumph of good over evil; light over darkness; knowledge over ignorance; and hope over despair.

MELA: means the coming together to celebrate.

This year the event will be held on **Saturday 27 October** in Kingsbury Square and Bucks County
Museum. It will be an afternoon full of lights, lamps,
collections of live music and dance, mouth-watering
street food and plenty of activities suitable for all
ages and abilities. To round off the day there will be
a Light Parade at dusk which anyone can join as we
all come together to celebrate the lights in life.

Aylesbury's Festival of Lights will be a great addition to your social calendar, and there is also an opportunity to get involved! We are looking for volunteers over the age of 14 to help with the festivities on the day and in the lead up to the event, as we plan various fun fundraising events. It's a great way to get involved, gain new skills and increase your knowledge, all whilst helping others.

Interested in the fun events planned in the lead up to the festival as well as the Festival itself? You can stay tuned and get more information, and see images from the 2017 Festival of Lights at www.holycowhome.co.uk/festival-of-lights

Please contact us on **01296 485158** or email: festivaloflightsaylesbury@gmail.com



The Fremantle Trust serves up a sweet surprise to mark the NHS turning 70

The manager of nursing and residential home, Fremantle Court, run by local care provider and charity, The Fremantle Trust, presented Stoke Mandeville Ambulance Service with special cakes to mark the NHS's 70th birthday, as part of wider celebrations across the Trust.

Antonios Loumousiotis and members of the team from the Stoke Mandeville-based care home turned up with treats and birthday cupcakes as a gesture of thanks and to reiterate the importance of partnership working in the local community.

Meanwhile, attendees at the Trust's management conference in Aylesbury dug deep to donate funds to the South Central Ambulance Charity in exchange for generous slices of a special anniversary cake, in support of the #NHSBIG7tea campaign.



Antonios commented: "As a local nursing and residential home rooted in the community, we are proud to support our ambulance service and to celebrate the care that people in the NHS in our area have provided over the years and continue to do so."

Tracy Mould, Clinical Mentor at Stoke Mandeville Ambulance Service, added: "It was a really thoughtful gesture to have a special delivery of cakes and snack bags from Antonios and the team from Fremantle Court to celebrate the NHS's 70th anniversary. It also shows the importance of developing good relationships with local care providers to support our community."



Last chance to become a human rainbow for the Hospice

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity will be holding its 4th Colour Rush at Green Park, Aston Clinton on Sunday 7 October. The Charity urges Colour Rushers (new and old) to sign up quickly as this will be the last year for local people to get covered in colour for their Hospice.

"Each year that we've done the Colour Rush around 600 people have had a hilarious time running through clouds of incredible colour at this hugely fun event," says the Charity's Head of Fundraising, Jo Turner. "Sign up very soon to help us make this event the most colourful ever!"

Like last year, the money raised will support Florrie's Children's Team, providing respite care for children with life-limiting conditions in their own homes. Colour Rush has created fantastic memories for families who have done it, and children love it.

"It's the perfect thing to do with all the family, and you're allowed to bring your parents," says Hannah, aged 10. "When you come out at the end, you have colours all over you."

"You should do Colour Rush for the charity of Florence Nightingale because it's great to help and you can get covered in paint," says Aidan, aged 13. "My favourite bit about Colour Rush was paint being chucked at me!"

"Don't miss out on the fun," says Jo Turner. "If you participated before and want to do Colour Rush again, or have been meaning to do Colour Rush and haven't got around to it yet, get registered this year, or miss out!"

To keep their events programme fresh the Charity will be introducing a new family fun event in 2019 as one of the ways of celebrating the Hospice's 30th birthday.

Colour Rush 2018 is a 5k romp through five colour stations around Green Park in Aston Clinton at 11am and 2pm on Sunday 7 October 2018. See website for more details at www.fnhospice.org.uk/colourrush



Looking to make new friends?

Aylesbury Town WI holds a monthly meeting on the third Thursday evening of each month. New members are welcome to come along to our next meeting to be held on Thursday 20 September 2018.



There are many reasons to join with a lot to look forward to including our monthly meetings where there are varied and interesting talks. There are also weekly craft meetings, a monthly lunch club, a book reading group which are popular with our members and outings such as the June trip to Ely Flower Festival. An afternoon tea with



speakers to commemorate the Suffragette Centenary is scheduled in October. In December there is an outing to Cadogan Hall to see Christmas Cracker.

Another reason to join is to socialise and make wonderful friends. In our past monthly meetings we have tried working with silver clay, basket making skills

and making bead earrings. It is so much fun trying new activities and being together. The cake, coffee and a chat are also very welcome.

We have had varied and interesting talks at our meetings. The Resolutions, currently are Mental Health and Plastic Soup, which are an important part of the WI. We have also made a commitment to support a local charity. There is a purpose to the WI.

Monthly meetings are held at 7.30pm at Granville Street Church, Granville Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2JL. If you would like to contact us first, telephone Jenny 01296 615709 or email aylesburytownwi@gmail.com



Aylesbury's Lymphoma Action cancer charity seeking volunteers

Did you know that every 27 minutes someone is diagnosed with lymphoma, the UK's fifth most common cancer and the most common cancer in teenagers and young adults? Today, 53 people, including one person under the age of 24, will be told they have lymphoma.

From the Lymphoma Action head offices in New Street, we help thousands of people affected by lymphoma, including patients and their carers or loved ones, by providing in-depth, expert information and wide-ranging support. We also offer specialist education and training events for healthcare professionals.

Our vision is to ensure that no one has to face their lymphoma alone. To help us carry out our vital work, we are looking for volunteers to join us in our Aylesbury offices to assist us with general office and administration tasks.

We take great pride in ensuring volunteering with us is a fulfilling and rewarding experience. Office volunteers will get to work with a dedicated and committed staff team, gain new skills, and make a real difference to people affected by lymphoma.

Established as a charity more than 30 years ago, we have been based in Aylesbury for close to 20 years and our local presence remains incredibly important to us. For anyone in the Aylesbury area affected by lymphoma, our Aylesbury support group meets every other month at Stoke Mandeville hospital (visit our website for more details).

Visit www.lymphoma-action.org.uk to learn more about us or call 01296 619407 to find out more about volunteering with us.

Nigerian Community Association Aylesbury

A big thank you to our Chairman and one of our Directors, Mr Yomi Odukoya for participating immensely during the former Mayor's (Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts) charity fundraising evening on 28 April 2018. We will continue to work with the community and make more positive impact within and outside the Aylesbury Community.

A huge congratulations to one of our Directors, Adedayo Olowosale who recently won the Buckinghamshire Community Dignity and Respect Award in the Community Engagement Category. Adedayo is known for his accomplishments in strengthening Community Integration and Cohesion while building confidence in people.

Still embarking on the Dementia Awareness Journey, many thanks to Marion Child – A Dementia Champion with the Alzheimer's Society who facilitated a Dementia Awareness session at RCCG Calvary Parish, Berryfields. A huge thank you to Pastor Deji Abioye and his brilliant wife Mrs Abioye for the opportunity to deliver the session. It has been absolutely amazing the increasing number of Nigerians and BME groups that are now Dementia Friends in Aylesbury.



£5 million boost to **Thames Valley charities**

Small charities across the Thames Valley have received almost £5 million from four community foundations following a record breaking year.

The four foundations; Heart of Bucks, Milton Keynes, Berkshire and Oxfordshire, each cover their own region. Between them over 650 groups were supported in 2017-18, with funding totalling £4,875,000, promoting better mental health, reducing loneliness and alleviating poverty.

Heart of Bucks is the community foundation for Buckinghamshire. The funding they award is a lifeline to grassroots charitable organisations and helps them to tackle local problems.



Peter Costello, CEO of Heart of Bucks savs: "This is a fantastic achievement for the Thames Valley community foundations, and enables local non-profit organisations

to continue their vital work. There are thousands of community groups across Buckinghamshire, all working to improve the lives of local residents. Small charities, which are pivotal to local communities, can be overlooked by larger, national charities. The support of community foundations is often essential for them to survive."

One of the groups funded in Aylesbury Vale was the Puzzle Centre, a charity that promotes and delivers early intervention for young children with autism or communication difficulties.

The charity's fundraising manager Anna Saunders says: "Thanks to our Heart of Bucks grant of £4,491, the early intervention we have delivered has given the children a greater chance to achieve their potential later in life."

Heart of Bucks is part of a network of 46 community foundations that bring together the resources of individuals, families and businesses to support effective non-profits in their communities.









Army Cadets' amazing mountain walking week in the Alps

Two army cadets from Aylesbury joined cadets from across the county on an amazing mountain walking week in the Bavarian Alps. The first day started very slowly with the cadets exploring the local town, finishing the day with a cable car ride to the top of the Zugspitze, the highest mountain in Germany.

The cadets began their walking week by trekking over the Partnachklamm, on to Eckbauer (1236m), back to Garmisch through Wamberg as a gentle introduction to the hill walking skills they would be needing for the rest of the week. On day 2 cadets then consolidated these skills with a walk in the Kreuzeck area up to Höllental hut.

During these two days cadets learnt to use their walking poles, became adept at selecting their equipment and packing a rucksack. By the end of the day they were even becoming used to German maps, however the differences in contour lines continued to confuse them throughout the week!

By Wednesday it was time for a break from the mountains and the cadets enjoyed a day at the high ropes course in Garmisch. Well rested, the team then spent a gruelling day trekking, headed up past Neuschwanstein Castle, over the Marienbrücke and to the Tegelberg summit (1708m).

The views were stunning across the Alps and certainly worth the climb up. The final day's trekking was cut short by a predicted thunderstorm, the cadets didn't let this deter them and enjoyed an afternoon in the local swimming pool before heading back for a barbecue at the apartments.

It was a challenging week but was certainly enjoyed by all. The cadets learnt to overcome their fears and truly achieved things they didn't consider possible.

ATC 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 Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP. Please do give us your name and contact details so that we can reply to you.

Looking to volunteer?



Becoming a Volunteer could, quite literally, change your Life!

Whilst the summer can be a great time to recharge your batteries, it can also provide the opportunity to take stock and make fresh plans. Volunteering is a fantastic, low risk, way of trying something new. It has multiple, proven benefits, including improving your health, boosting your CV, meeting different people, and supporting your local community. As the Buckinghamshire Volunteer Centre, we know a thing or two about volunteering!

In Bucks there are a whole range of volunteering opportunities to choose from – and it couldn't be easier to access them. Whether you are looking for something regular, one-off, using new or existing skills (including your professional ones), there are options for everyone.



Visit the volunteering section of our website www.communityimpactbucks.org.uk to find and apply for your perfect role, and read case studies of how volunteering has enriched the lives of numerous local people in a variety of different ways. You might even be interested in volunteering for us!

We have several openings, such as being a Communications Project Manager, or Local Ambassador for Aylesbury – get involved with a busy, thriving charity, at the heart of Bucks' voluntary and community sector. Check out the vacancies and opportunities section of our website for more details. If you'd prefer to discuss things on the phone, please call me on 0300 111 1250 or email hazel@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

Hazel Finney, Lead – Volunteering Community Impact Bucks



Walk a Mile and make someone Smile

Keeping active and being able to walk a short distance may seem fairly easy to most people. But for those living with multiple sclerosis (MS) it can be a real challenge, as fatigue and restricted mobility are key symptoms of this disease. Despite this, members and friends of the Chilterns MS Centre will be walking a mile through Aylesbury town centre on 22 September and they would love as many people as possible to take part, or to sponsor those involved.

The charity offers treatment and support to people with MS, to help keep them mobile and gain greater control over their symptoms, empowering them to lead happy and healthy lives and give them a reason to smile. However, it doesn't just support those with MS but also their families and carers too. The Van Lare family were affected when son Kojo was diagnosed eight years ago. His mum Zahra cares for him and they come to the Centre every week. Not only does Kojo have treatment here but Zahra enjoys spending time talking to others at the Centre and also volunteers her time to help the charity when she can.

It costs over £1m annually to keep the Centre going but it receives less than 10% of its funding from the NHS. That's why fundraising events like 'Walk the MS Mile' are vital. Over the past four years, the event has raised over £100,000 and provided over 2850 hours of treatment for families like the Van Lares.

The walk, in association with ESRI, starts in Market Square at 11am and will be supported by Mix96.

To join Zahra and Kojo on the walk, or for more information visit **www.walkthemsmile.org**





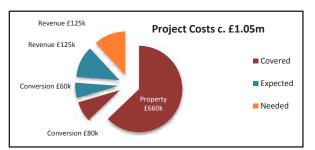
Youth Concern is setting up a flagship supported accommodation project for young people facing a homelessness crisis and we need your support. Since 1979 Youth Concern has been providing holistic support services for vulnerable young people in Aylesbury Vale aged 13-25 years old.

One of our services is Aylesbury Nightstop, an emergency host-accommodation scheme for young people facing a homelessness crisis. Over the past year we have supported 83 young people through Nightstop.

Whilst Nightstop is a great scheme which resolves the initial homelessness crisis, we sometimes struggle to help the young people find follow-on accommodation. In about 50% of cases, there is currently **NO NEXT STEP** and these young people remain homeless. In most cases they are not entitled to council accommodation as they're not considered 'priority' and private landlords usually won't rent to people on housing benefit.

To plug the gap in services, Youth Concern is setting up a flagship youth accommodation and employment pathways project called 'The Next Step'. This ten bed project will provide young people with a safe home for up to a year, combined with support around health, skills and employment, helping them make a smooth transition to independent living.

We have a significant amount of financial support in place for this project, about 70% of the costs. We now need the community's support to raise the final £125,000 so we can give homeless young people the chance to rebuild their lives.



WE NEED YOU TO:

- Become a corporate or individual supporter sponsorship opportunities available.
- Organise a fundraising event.
- Share your skills as an expert volunteer.
 Contact Fran fran@youthconcern.org.uk or
 07730 666608



Fabulous Festive fun in the Town Centre this Christmas

There is so much happening in Aylesbury Town Centre this Christmas time. We're ramping up the entertainment factor. It all starts with the Christmas Lights Switch-On in Market Square from 5.30pm on Thursday 15 November. Mix96 will be there entertaining the crowds, along with stars from the Waterside's pantomime. There will also be a Funfair in Kingsbury with a selection of stalls in Market Square, a vast range of street food and a spectacular fireworks show for the finale!

On Sunday 25 November it is Santa's Sunday Christmas Parade at 10.45am, with lots of other attractions to entertain you until 3pm. Try out some of the great range of street food that will be on offer.

Time to get that Christmas shopping underway if you have not already started. Pay a visit to the ever popular **Christmas Craft and Gift Fair**, in Market Square on **Sunday 2 December**, 11am – 3pm. It is the largest free event in Buckinghamshire in December. It's great for finding that personal, handcrafted and unique gift, you can also enjoy live festive music as you meander around the fair. Try some of the great range of street food that will be on offer.

For more on what's happening in Aylesbury, go to www.visitaylesbury.co.uk

Looking for meeting room hire?

Town Hall Facilities

The Town Council hires out the Council Chamber, smaller meeting rooms and Cemetery Chapel for meetings and other similar events. Full details can be found at www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk/the-chamber To check availability please contact the Town Council on 01296 425678.

Aylesbury Town Council Grants

Are you involved in a charitable or voluntary organisation working for the benefit of people in Aylesbury?

If so, you may be able to apply for a grant from Aylesbury Town Council. We award grants that will benefit the town and its communities. Grants can be awarded to fund projects or activities as well as projects working to improve public wellbeing. There are also grants to support young sports people competing at a national or international level, to help them achieve their full potential.

Aylesbury Town Council Grants scheme have supported many worthwhile charities, organisations and individual young sports people since the Grants Committee was established in 2002.

To date, 16 years later, Aylesbury Town Council has given £556,376 to local organisations and clubs. The funds given really do make a difference to the community of Aylesbury, the residents that need the support, and the fantastic services many organisations in Aylesbury provide.

One of the very first grants given in 2002 was to the Thursday Morning Club, a club that provides a place for senior citizens to meet weekly and organises outings for the club members. In 2002 the club was awarded £250 which the club spent giving all their members a Christmas dinner to make sure that at least they would have one good meal over the Christmas period.

Aylesbury Town Council still supports this fantastic club. In June this year the Grants Committee awarded £1000 to the Thursday Morning Club to help towards the cost of taking their club members on a magical mystery tour, an opportunity that many members would not have without this club.

For information on how to apply for an Aylesbury Town Council Grant visit www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk email Jane Eden, Grants Officer j.eden@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01296 425678.



The next Grants Committee meeting will take place on

Wednesday 17 October 2018

The deadline for grant applications to be considered at this meeting is Wednesday 3 October 2018 at 5pm.

Town Mayor's Update

Since becoming Mayor of Aylesbury in May I don't seem to have stopped. It has been fantastic to meet so many different communities in the town, drawn together by their shared values and interests, forming bonds that will endure and support.

Firstly, my charity for the year will be Carers Bucks. Unpaid carers are the backbone of the country, they deserve all our help and support and Carers Bucks provides just that to carers young and old. I'll do all I can to help Carers Bucks this year, raising not just money but the charity's profile. If you are a carer or you know a carer please contact them and let them know you are there for them. After all, behind every medical problem there are brilliant carers.

Secondly, I'm type 2 diabetic. I suspect that many of you reading this may be too and know just too well the implications this has on one's well-being. My health has been improved massively by exercise. I found Parkrun and the brilliant running community has helped me to lose weight (although I'm still too big). I got fitter and ended up doing the London Marathon in April this year. I know that small changes to lifestyle and exercise can have a massive effect on many health issues. This is why I'm holding my Mayor's Challenge Virtual Run/Walk/Cycle/Swim/Space Hop/whatever. The challenge will be to complete the 32 miles of the Aylesbury Ring within twelve weeks, that's just three miles or taking part in Parkrun once a week - there'll be a fantastic medal at the end too. For more information about the challenge please visit the "Mayor of Aylesbury" Facebook page.

As Mayor I've been invited to many events, from the RAF 100 rugby match at Aylesbury RFC where I was put in handcuffs; a great day with the Met Police winning both matches with the last kick of the match. The town's Freedom Parade celebrating our close links with RAF Halton was a wonderful experience and we were treated to a flypast by the BBMF Dakota; wearing the mayoral robes meant you couldn't see my legs shaking as I read the speech.

I've celebrated the work of charities such as Bucks Vision sharing the anniversary of the opening of their Resource Centre, I've visited schools and welcomed schools and overseas youth groups into the Council Chamber and Mayor's Parlour. The town played host to 180 Morris Dancers from all over the country, who were here to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Whitchurch Morris Dancers. I attended the 70th Anniversary Evensong service for the founding of the Paralympic movement at Stoke Mandeville stadium, something that we should be rightly proud of. Plus lots more events and visits to community groups and businesses.

By the time this has dropped through your letterbox the town will have held several more events including the brilliant Live in the Park and Proms in the Park over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Hopefully these will be as successful as last year, and I'll have met many more of you at these events.

> Best wishes to you all Cllr Mark Willis, Town Mayor















If you want to invite the Mayor to attend an event, launch a campaign, or just give a talk, write to Sue at: s.carpenter@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Art & Leisure



The Queens Park Arts Centre Art & Craft Fair returns on Saturday 10 November. This year's Fair is set to be bigger than ever, with a wealth of beautiful handmade art and craft to view and buy, all created by the region's very best artists and makers. The Fair is a perfect opportunity to pick up a bespoke Christmas gift – or even a treat to self! Work on display will include pottery and ceramics, fine art, glass, woodwork, textiles/fabrics, jewellery and much more.

Younger visitors will have plenty to enjoy too – the Centre's ever-popular craft activities will be running throughout the day enabling aspiring artists to create a special keepsake, and there'll be a chance to meet Father Christmas himself in his Grotto. Hot and cold refreshments will be on sale in the Centre's recently-refurbished Coffee Bar. Free parking is available at the venue and at an overflow site. Entry to the Fair costs £2.00/£1.00 concessions and members. Under 14s enter for free however there

is a small charge for attending the children's activities. The event takes place on Saturday 10 November 2018 from 10am to 4pm. See www.qpc.org for all of the latest updates on the Fair.



What's on at Bucks County Museum

Boogie Beat Sessions for under 4s, Fridays from 14 September until 19 October, 10.15am – 11am Music and movement sessions in the museum suitable for babies, toddlers and preschool children. Sessions last 45 minutes. £4 per session. Call to book.

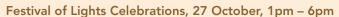
Silversmith, 22 September - 8 December

An exhibition of beautiful silver from the Hart Silversmiths celebrating the remarkable tradition of silversmithing that has been carried out by the Hart family at The Guild in Chipping Campden for over one hundred years. Entry by donation.

Mushroom Magic: A UK Fungus Day event, Saturday 6 October, 11am – 4pm Mystified by mushrooms or tantalised by toadstools? Then Mushroom Magic is the event for you! The Bucks Fungus Group presents a display of locally collected mushrooms and toadstools. No need to book. Just turn up. Entry by donation.

WW1: Legacy of War, 20 October 2018 - 12 January 2019

Special exhibition marking the end of the First World War and the legacy of war including a display of embroidered hearts by the Embroiderers' Guild. Entry by donation.



Celebrate the Festival of Lights with cultural and Bollywood dance, flavours of India, crafts, kids activities, storytelling, henna, face painting, music, fashion, and light parade. Events take place at Bucks County Museum and Kingsbury Square.

Fighting on Different Fronts: Representations of Women in the First World War 8 November, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Drawing on previously unpublished material, Peter Vass, Oxford Brookes University, examines the way women were represented in propaganda in WW1. £5 per person. Call to book or visit our website.

For all events check our website and sign up to our 'What's On' e-newsletter at www.buckscountymuseum.org
The Museum also has a café serving light snacks and shop stocking gifts, local books and cards.
Bucks County Museum and Roald Dahl Children's Gallery, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP.
Call 01296 331441 or visit www.buckscountymuseum.org



Jazz by Candlelight: Christmas Special

Sara Dowling appears with an all-star trio including: Gabriel Latchin - Piano, Dario Di Lecce - Bass, Steve Brown - Drums. Thursday 13 December 2018 at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury, HP20 2JJ. Doors open 7.30pm gig starts 8.15pm. Tickets on sale: £14 in advance from Aylesbury Music Shop or £16 on the night. "This is one vocal Jazz gig you do not want to miss", as we entice Sara Dowling up from London where she has been captivating audiences performing in the UK's leading jazz clubs at Ronnie Scott's, 606 Jazz Club, Pizza Express and The Jazz Café.



Aylesbury Choral Society to Perform World Première

Aylesbury Choral Society is pleased to announce it will be performing a world première of a new arrangement by a local composer at its Winter Concert on Saturday 8 December, 7.30pm at St Mary's Church in Aylesbury. The concert will feature a piece by highly-regarded local composer Chris Williams. Chris studied Music at Oxford University, moving on to the Guildhall School of Music where he won the prestigious 'Philharmonia Composition' prize. Concert-goers will be treated to a rearrangement of Chris's Tsunami Requiem, reworked exclusively for Aylesbury Choral Society, which will be performing alongside the fantastic RAF Halton Voluntary Band. This moving piece, originally created to remember the 2004 Tsunami, promises to be very special indeed.

The Winter Concert will also include Respighi's Lauda per la Natività del Signore, written in 1930. This wonderful Christmas cantata tells the story of the birth of Jesus through the eyes of the shepherds.

In addition, the RAF Halton Voluntary Band will play some orchestral pieces, as well as traditional Christmas carols to get everyone in the Christmas spirit. Support your local choral society and come along!

Visit www.aylesburychoral.org.uk to book your ticket. Bookings open on 9 October.



Aylesbury Festival Choir

Aylesbury Festival Choir's first concert in their 60th Anniversary Year will be at Aylesbury Methodist Church on Saturday 1 December at 7.30pm. The choir will be joined by soprano soloist Susanna Fairbairn and baritone Jack Holton and will welcome back accompanist Neil Kelley to perform Mendelssohn's Hear My Prayer and Brahms' Requiem under the baton of Music Director Nick Austin. Following their very successful Night at the Opera concert in Spring the choir hope to see you all at this concert to begin a celebratory year of music.

Forthcoming Events at the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies

All at County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, unless stated otherwise.

Saturday 13 October, Great War Buckinghamshire Showcase, Christ the Cornerstone Church, Milton Keynes 10am – 3pm, FREE

A day of local history displays, family history guidance, music, poetry and craft, all connected to WW1 and its impact on Buckinghamshire.

Wednesday 24 October Talking Archives: Record Keeping in Buckinghamshire 11am – 11.45am, FREE

In this talk former County Archivist Roger Bettridge tells us about the evolution of record keeping in the county. Booking essential, via archives@buckscc.gov.uk

Saturday 17 November, History Fair 9.30am – 3.30pm, FREE

Our annual bonanza of local history talks and exhibitions... keep your eyes on our social media to see who will be getting involved this year.

Thursday 22 November, Talking Archives: She Got The Vote 11.00am – 11.45am, FREE

Archivist Katherine Gwyn tells the stories of some of the women from Buckinghamshire who were able to vote for the first time in 1918. Booking essential, via archives@buckscc.gov.uk





Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map

Ward: Gatehouse





07832 913171



Ward: Central



Cllr Barbara Russel 01296 431314



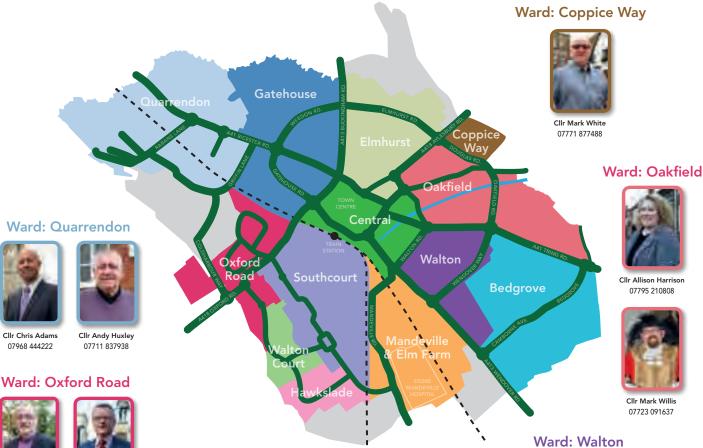
Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Susan Morgan



Cllr Jenny Puddefoot





Cllr Stuart Jarvis 07958 083519

Cllr Mike Smith 07854 178012

Ward: Walton Court



07958 423083

Ward: Hawkslade



07855 299999



Cllr Bill Chapple OBE 07702 031712

Ward: Southcourt



Cllr Waheed Raja 07969 056877



07858 973643

Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



01296 426814



Cllr Richard Lloyd 07887 685345



Cllr Denise Summers 01296 424903

Ward: Bedgrove



01296 434123



07595 178660



01296 393304

Council Services



Who do I talk to about?...

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

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

Aylesbury Town Council is the council closest to the residents in the parish of Aylesbury. The Town Council is here to be a voice for the residents by representing their views on issues affecting them. Call: 01296 425 678 or visit: www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

AVDC IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Collection of Council Tax and business rates
- Waste collection
- Local planning and building regulations
- Public car parks
- Licensing and Environmental Health
- Leisure Services (including Aqua Vale and all parks)
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Grass cutting of open spaces and parks
- Upkeep of Aylesbury town areas such as Kingsbury and Market Square

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

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Roads and pavements
- Education and main libraries
- Social care services
- Trading Standards
- Registrars births, deaths and marriages
- Waste disposal and household recycling centres
- Grass cutting of rural highways/grass verges

Bucks County Council is the top tier of local government and provides services on a county-wide basis. Call: 01296 395 000 or visit: www.buckscc.gov.uk



TOWN COUNCIL





Sports

Aqua Vale Swimming and Fitness Centre

Aqua Vale Swimming and Fitness Centre boasts a huge range of facilities designed to suit people of all ages, interests and fitness levels. We're famed for our aquatic activities, with a competition-standard pool being one of the main draws. We also boast a large pool that includes a retractable roof so weather permitting, you can enjoy swimming in the fresh air. Alongside these two fantastic facilities is a leisure pool that's packed with water features and fun slides and a lazy river that connects this with the retractable-roof pool, allowing you to float along nonchalantly.

If you'd rather stay away from the water, then there's always the 100-station gym that's full of all the latest cardio and resistance equipment, as well as boasting a large free weights area, meaning everyone can reach their fitness targets. We also host a huge range of group exercise classes such as Zumba, BODYCOMBAT, Yoga, Pilates and many more in our dedicated studio. Meanwhile, the football fans among you can also book out our artificial football pitch. Whether you just want to have a kick about with your friends, or are planning something a little more serious, we can accommodate you.

Furthermore, once you've finished your swim, completed your workout or your match has come to its conclusion, you can refuel at our onsite café that offers a great range of food and drink to help you get your energy back.

Maxwell swimmers break records at South East Regional championships



Maxwell Swim Club, Aylesbury Vale's leading performance Swim Club had a very busy May attending the regional championships. This year Maxwell fielded a team of 24 swimmers and having come second in the county championships expectations were high.

The team didn't disappoint and enjoyed a very successful championship winning eight medals and setting many new club records. An exceptional swim from Gracie Hudson, age 12, saw her not only win gold in the 200m Breaststroke but shatter her own club age group record and swam faster than any girl has ever swam for Maxwell.

Breaststroke is a special event for Maxwell swimmers as Kenji McDade came first in the 200m Breaststroke and third in 100m Breaststroke. Gracie Hudson added to her 200m gold with a silver in 100m and Elle Cogan set a new club record for 100m Breaststroke.

The role of honour also included Kenji McDade getting a further bronze in 400m Individual Medley; Millie Tomlin-Davies, bronze in 200m Backstroke, Megan Pirrie, bronze in 400m Individual Medley, Gracie Hudson, a further bronze in the 200m Individual Medley.

Other records were also broken by Charlotte Downing, Kenji McDade, Millie Tomlin-Davies and Poppy Baybutt who broke the club's eleven year old 50m fly record for 12 year old girls by finishing in 32.53 secs more than 1.5 secs inside the previous time.

Maxwell is the top competitive swimming club in the Aylesbury Vale. We have training bases in Aylesbury and Buckingham. Success is built around the club's core values of Excellence, Teamwork and Enthusiasm. Its professional coaches work with swimmers of all abilities to make them the best that they can be; ready for competition at club, county, regional, national and even international level. If you are interested in swimming competitively and would like to join a progressive and successful club visit www.maxwellswimclub.org for details.

ATC News & Events



Soapbox Derby was originated back in 2015 when we decided that our Father's Day event should engage with the entire family. The intention was to bring all members of the family together to design, build and race a kart; to develop interaction, imagination, communication, friendship, technical and artistic skills alongside team work and camaraderie – with a touch of competitive spirit thrown in – and that's exactly what we have achieved.

Over the past four years we have seen 93 karts race down the hill in Whitehill Park, with the designs varying from a shed on wheels to a replica Star Destroyer and everything in between. The success of this event is down to the teams involved, and they all seem to love it...

"This is by far my favourite annual event. Brings us as a family together working as a team. A fantastic bonding event"

"Thank you for putting the event together. Another fantastic year with much joy had by everyone. I look forward to next year. Very many thanks"

"A lovely friendly event with just enough pressure to make it a challenge"

"We fully intend to compete again next year especially as my daughter has now instructed me to build her a cart"

"We had a very young driver who LOVED it and is very keen to come next year"

"Well done to the Town Council, really creating a sense of community in the town"

"The event was fantastic as ever and continues to inspire the young and the old alike"

In an ever-expanding town like ours, it is important to bring people together in a fun, relaxing and entertaining manner. This is the ethos behind all of our community events and the results are clearly visible at the Soapbox Derby. Next year's race will once again take place on **Father's Day – Sunday 16 June**. If you are interested in taking part with family or friends then please do get in touch.



Youth Town Council

We couldn't think of a nicer way to show how happy we are to be on the Youth Town Council in our 50th edition. If like us, you have a passion for being involved in supporting and working within the local community, why not join us?

Contact b.lasoye@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk for more information or to join. Hope you've had a brilliant time at our Summer event, Live in the Park.

Looking forward to seeing you soon in your schools and community groups!!

