

Serving the people of Aylesbury

# AYLESBURY TOWN matters

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL MAGAZINE | ISSUE 64 | MARCH 2022



AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL





# Jonathan Page play Centre

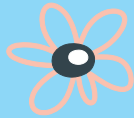
AFTER SCHOOL CLUB & HOLIDAY PLAYSCHMES



# Easter Playscheme

## 11-22 April 2022

excluding bank holidays



During our first week of fun we're thinking about **all things Easter**. The children will enjoy crafting, playing with toys and pedalling around our outdoor go kart track. In week two we will be appreciating Planet Earth as part of **Earth Day** on Friday 22 April. We can't wait for you to join us to learn more about our planet through fun painting and crafts.



### HOURS AND PRICES (PER CHILD, PER DAY)

- Full Day 8am-6:30pm - £31
- Half Day 8am-3:30pm - £23
- AM session 8am-12:30pm - £16.50
- PM session 12:30pm-5pm - £16.50



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

To register and book sessions for your child please visit [jppc.magicbooking.co.uk](http://jppc.magicbooking.co.uk)

All bookings must be accompanied by payment. We accept card, cash payments, childcare vouchers and tax free childcare.



**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

Jonathan Page Play Centre · 147 Meadowcroft · Aylesbury · HP19 9HH  
01296 336413 · email: [jppc@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jppc@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
[aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk/jppc](http://aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk/jppc)

Ofsted Registration EY536686



**AYLESBURY**  
TOWN COUNCIL

# Welcome



Welcome to your first Aylesbury Town Matters of 2022, a year in which we're hopeful for a full return of our free community events. This edition takes you through what's coming up and a lot of other fantastic news from our community.

We will be having a fresh new format for **St George's Day** on Sunday 24 April, get ready for the applications to open for Father's Day **Soapbox Derby** as our popular day of fast action thrills – and probably a few spills – returns. Details for both of these events are

inside with the application window for Soapbox Derby opening on 1 March.

We're also busy planning for **Aylesbury on Sea**, again with a mountain of sand, and our **Parklife Weekend** is never far from our thoughts. There's a 'cut out and keep' page full of our events inside. Please keep an eye on our social media channels for more details.

For the **Platinum Jubilee** bank holiday weekend, not only have the events team put together a 'Jubilee Party Planning Toolkit' but we're also offering free entertainers to those hosting street parties. So, if you're planning to host a street party, please turn to page 5 to find out how we can add that extra something special.

In charity news, we thank all those who donated towards **Bucks Radio's** first ever Toy Appeal which benefited so many local charities and families. The **Pace Centre's BIG Walk** will take place on Saturday 23 April. Walk 6, 12 or 18 miles to help the Centre provide life changing support to children and young people who access Pace's services.

We're proud to be one of the first Council's to support the **Hedgehogs R Us Hedgehog Highway** project to help with the conservation of hedgehogs in our area. A hedgehog highway is a small hole in a fence or wall to encourage hedgehogs' movement between gardens for foraging. We are selling hedgehog highway surrounds at the Town Hall for £5.

Last but not least we also have an infographic showing our budget for 2022-23 so that you can see where your Aylesbury Town Council precept goes, the cost of which is less than £2 per week per household.

Please do continue to stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all at our various events and functions over the course of the year.

Cllr Richard Lloyd  
Leader of Aylesbury Town Council

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

### AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

JPPC Easter Playscheme	2
Welcome	3
Aylesbury Town Council Events Guide 2022	4
The March of Time - A Walking Play, Soapbox Derby	5
Royal Street Party Celebrations and Application Form	
Dementia Friendly Aylesbury, Budget for 2022-23	8
RADAR Key, Jonathan Page Play Centre	9
Message from the Mayor	16
Aylesbury Town Council Grants	17
Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map	20
Council Services	21
Aylesbury Youth Town Council	23
St George's Day Victorian Historical Fayre	24

### ENVIRONMENT

Cheesy Chard, Aylesbury in Bloom 2022,	6
Great British Spring Clean	
Helping Hedgehogs, Devolved Services,	7
Buckinghamshire Conservation Trust	

### COMMUNITY NEWS

Active Communities, Calibre Audio	10
Cancer Support Service, ImageZ Camera Club,	11
Carers Bucks, Bucks Radio	
Street Association, The Source Café,	12
Community Impact Bucks	
Aylesbury Gardening Society, Lindengate,	13
National Vegetable Society, Pace's Big Walk	
Aylesbury Town Bowls Club, Buckinghamshire	14
Family Information Service	
British Legion Poppy Appeal, Youth Concern,	15
Aylesbury Market	

### ART AND LEISURE

Queens Park Arts Centre, Aylesbury Vale Stitchers,	18
Aylesbury Festival Choir, Aylesbury Choral Society	
Aylesbury & District Ramblers, Discover Bucks Museum,	19
Buckinghamshire Historical Association	

### YOUNG PEOPLE

Sign up for NCS, Young Chef Competition, Mock COP26	22
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Keep up to date with all things Aylesbury Town Council via our social media channels.

@aylesburytc @aylesburytc @aylesburytowncouncil

## CONTACT DETAILS

Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP20 2QP  
Tel: 01296 425678 Fax: 01296 426134 [info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk) [aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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Aylesbury is twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse

# AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS GUIDE 2022

Our fingers are crossed for 2022 being a year bursting with your favourite community events. **We've missed them!** All our events are **FREE** unless stated otherwise.

CUT OUT  
& KEEP

## MARCH

### THE DUNG BEATLES

**Saturday 19, 7pm, St Mary's Church**

The Dung Beatles perform to raise funds for Youth Concern. This is a rescheduled event therefore tickets from 2020 are still valid. Tickets cost £15.

## APRIL

### AYLESBURY CONCERT BAND

**Saturday 9, 2:30pm, St Mary's Church**

This is a free concert with donations being split between Aylesbury Concert Band and the Mayor's Charity - Aylesbury Women's Aid. This year's theme is 'Celebrations'.



## ★★ NEW FORMAT ★★

### ST GEORGE'S DAY VICTORIAN FAYRE AND PARADE

**Sunday 24, 11am-3pm, Discover Bucks Museum**

A day steeped in Victorian history, arts and entertainment. A parade in Market Square from 3pm, led by Amersham Marching Band and St George himself on horseback and a dragon!

## MAY

### THE MARCH OF TIME – A WALKING PLAY

**Saturday 7 and Sunday 8, 5pm and 7pm,  
Aylesbury Town Centre**

Continuing the saga of Professor Chronomier, join Unbound Theatre from Queens Park Arts Centre as their performance takes place on foot around Aylesbury town. Tickets cost £5 adults / £2.50 concessions and must be booked in advance.

## JUNE

### QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

**Saturday 4 and Sunday 5, 12-7pm,  
Parish of Aylesbury**

Planning a Jubilee Street Party? Apply for one of our amazing roadshow entertainers to visit your street party. Visit our website for more details [bit.ly/ATCPlanYourStreetParty](https://bit.ly/ATCPlanYourStreetParty)

### SOAPBOX DERBY

**Sunday 19, 11am-4pm, Whitehill Park**

Come and watch the homemade, gravity powered karts race through Whitehill Park on Father's Day at this wheely exciting event! Pre-register to take part.



## JULY

### AYLESBURY ON SEA

**Sunday 3, 11am-4pm, Vale Park**

60 tonnes of sand and traditional seaside entertainment in Vale Park, including Punch and Judy, land train, face painting and a wide range of games and activities.

## AUGUST

### PARKLIFE WEEKEND

**Saturday 27 and Sunday 28, Vale Park**

Our biggest event of the year. Join us for a fun-filled Bank Holiday weekend.

### LIVE IN THE PARK

**Saturday 27, 12-9:30pm, Vale Park**

An entire day of live music and family entertainment. Fun fair rides, market stalls and Community Involvement Area – there's something for everyone!

### PROMS IN THE PARK

**Sunday 28, 7:15-9:30pm, Vale Park**

Enjoy this traditional open-air concert alongside friends, family and a picnic. Fireworks finish a weekend of fun at 9:30pm.

## SEPTEMBER

### HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

**Saturday 10 and Sunday 11, 9am-4pm,**

**Various venues across town**

Activities and events celebrating Aylesbury's history and culture. Get in touch with us nearer the time for an event guide and map.

## DECEMBER

### MAYOR'S CAROL SERVICE

**Sunday 4, 5:30-7pm, St Mary's Church**

Join the Town Mayor for this festive carol service with local choirs and the Aylesbury Concert Band.

### FESTIVE FAMILY FUN

**Sunday 11, 11am-4pm, Friars Square**

Packed with seasonal entertainment and joy for the whole family. With games and entertainment in Friars Square and fun fair rides in Market Square.

### CAROLFEST

**Sunday 11, 6-7pm, St Mary's Church**

Sing along to your favourite Christmas carols, accompanied by a brass band and local choir.

For up-to-date event information, please visit [aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](https://aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk), Aylesbury Town Council social media pages or call **01269 425678**.

@aylesburytc @aylesburytc @aylesburytowncouncil



# THE MARCH OF TIME - A WALKING PLAY

**Something's very amiss in Market Square.** Time traveller extraordinaire Professor Chronomier finds herself caught in a time loop and the cause of the problem leads all the way back to the English Civil War. Soon she is reunited with John Hampden, who is readying himself for battle. But history has been re-written. Time is broken here, and there's a cost to be paid for fixing it. The clock tower awaits...

This fun family theatre show explores the story behind the statue, as Queens Park Arts Centre's Unbound Theatre team bring the Civil War to life with stories of John Hampden, Oliver Cromwell and the Battle of Aylesbury.

This walking play will take place on **Saturday 7 May** and **Sunday 8 May** at 5pm and 7pm. Tickets are limited – so be quick!

Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2.50 for concessions and are available from the Town Hall, 5 Church Street, HP20 2QP. Please call us on **01296 425678** to organise ticket collection.



## ON YOUR MARKS, GET SET... APPLY!

**From Tuesday 1 March, registrations will be open for our spectacular Soapbox Derby.** Looking for a fun project to take on with friends, family or colleagues? Think you have what it takes to build the best Soapbox Whitehill Park has ever seen?

To join us on **Sunday 19 June**, make sure you secure your spot online via this form [bit.ly/Soapbox22RegForm](http://bit.ly/Soapbox22RegForm).

Be quick! Spaces book up fast. Visit our website for full event day information.

# ROYAL STREET PARTY CELEBRATIONS



**Are you planning a street party to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee between 4-5 June?**

We're offering free entertainment from some of Aylesbury's finest entertainers to drop into your street party and add an extra sprinkle of fun and laughter. We've put together a useful street party planning toolkit to help you organise the best party your street will see! If you're interested in welcoming one of our entertainers to your party, complete the form below and return to the Town Hall or complete the online form. Application form, terms and conditions and the street party planning toolkit can be found at [bit.ly/ATCPlanYourStreetParty](http://bit.ly/ATCPlanYourStreetParty)

## ENTERTAINMENT ROADSHOW APPLICATION FORM

This form can be completed online at [bit.ly/ATCJubileeEntertainment](http://bit.ly/ATCJubileeEntertainment).  
Please read the terms and conditions online at [bit.ly/ATCEntertainmentTC](http://bit.ly/ATCEntertainmentTC)

### ORGANISER'S DETAILS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONFIRMATIONS AND CONSENTS

Please sign here to confirm that you have read the terms and conditions which can be found at [bit.ly/ATCEntertainmentTC](http://bit.ly/ATCEntertainmentTC)

Please confirm that parking for a car is reserved close to the event location

Sign for consent that photographs to be taken and used for publicity by Aylesbury Town Council/entertainers

### EVENT DETAILS:

Location name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of event: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of event: \_\_\_\_\_ Event times: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred time of entertainment visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name at the event: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact mobile at the event: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Age range of guests: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your form** to Ruth Mayhew, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP.



## CHEESY CHARD

**It's a cold, calm January day.** I'm on the allotment, admiring one of the beds in my eight-fold rotation. It's lying fallow at the moment, covered with a thick brown mulch. I push aside some of the mulch to expose the bare soil underneath – and there are the worms, wriggling to get out of the sunlight before the birds find them. My mind's eye sees the multitude of other organisms deep in my soil, most of them too small to be seen without a microscope. Successive generations of them, busy preparing the bed for spring when it will be planted with International Kidney potatoes followed by squash.

That bed may be full of life, but it isn't worth admiring for long in this cold. The bed behind me is what I have come for. It is planted with one of my winter vegetables; rainbow chard. It glows well in the sunshine, a very colourful crop. I need to take a bagful home with me for dinner tonight, because Cheesy Chard is on the menu. The green, red and yellow leaves will join last autumn's potatoes, garlic and onions stored in the garage to make a delicious meal. Only the cheese and cream will come from a shop.

Delicious as it is, chard is not an ideal winter crop. Without a cloud in the sky, there will be a frost tonight, and if it is cold enough the leaves will suffer and I will have to wait a few weeks for fresh growth. The bed to my right has my frost-proof sowing of kale which I can crop, leaf by leaf as I need it, all winter long. It looks and tastes similar to Savoy cabbage when it has been cooked and plated up. I also have a bed of leeks which will provide yet more tasty veg until they decide to flower in the spring.

There is a surprising number of useful jobs to do when I visit the allotment in winter; prune fruit trees, empty compost bins onto soft fruit beds, cut back raspberry canes, weed the garlic and onion beds, dig out ditches around each bed, straighten the paths...

Mind you, if it's very cold like today, I only stop long enough to pick veg for tonight's meal. And admire the fallow beds, anticipating what they will look like in the summer.

**Michael Brimicombe**

## AYLESBURY IN BLOOM 2022

**Now is a good time to start thinking about your garden and what you want it to look like in the coming seasons.** Which kinds of shrubs, trees and flowers do you want to plant to get ready for our popular annual Aylesbury in Bloom Garden competition?



No garden is too small or too big to enter. You can enter your front garden or back garden. Maybe your garden is a wildlife or edible garden? One of our categories will be suitable for your garden. If you're looking for some inspiration, have a look at some of the last year's entrants

on our website at [bit.ly/AIBResults2021](https://bit.ly/AIBResults2021)

Or visit the Royal Horticultural Society website ([rhs.org.uk](https://rhs.org.uk)) which is a great source for advice and inspiration. You may also consider visiting some of the many great gardens we have in Buckinghamshire and neighbouring counties. Visit the National Garden Scheme to find your nearest one: [ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden](https://ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden)

More information on the Aylesbury in Bloom Garden competition, including categories, criteria and applications forms will be available on our website from 14 March 2022.



## THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN 2022

**Taking part in Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean is not only good for the environment but great for mental and physical health too.** The campaign aims to encourage people up and down the country to pledge to pick litter in their local area and become Litter Heroes! This year's Great British Spring Clean will take from **25 March – 10 April 2022.**

If you're interested in volunteering and arranging a litter pick in Aylesbury with your neighbours, friends and families then let us know and we can lend you plenty of bin bags, litter pickers, and high vis jackets. Simply call the Town Hall on **01296 425678** to arrange collection.

## HELPING HEDGEHOGS

**Did you know hedgehogs roam between 1-2km each night during their active season?** A 13cm x 13cm hole in your garden wall or fence will let hedgehogs through but will be too small for most pets. This is known as a hedgehog highway.

This hedgehog highway allows hedgehogs to forage for food, meet mates to breed and access nesting sites. This is essential in the battle to prevent the extinction of our endangered spiky friends.

We're proud to be one of the first Town Council's in the country to be part of the Hedgehogs R Us Hedgehog Highway Project.



You can purchase a hedgehog highway surround for your wall or fence from the Town Hall, 5 Church Street (Monday to Thursday, 10am-3pm). They cost £5 each if you're collecting from the Town Hall. If you'd like your highway surround to be delivered to you, there is a £1.50 delivery charge.

**DID YOU KNOW** that rough estimates put the current hedgehog population in the UK at less than one million, compared with 30 million in the 1950s?

Call us on **01296 425678** or email **info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk** to arrange purchase before visiting the Town Hall. Money from each sale will go towards a community/hedgehog project. To see how you can care for the hedgehog community, visit **hedgehogrus.co.uk**

## WHAT ARE DEVOLVED SERVICES?

**Back in 2015, Aylesbury Town Council's Outdoor Maintenance Team took on a number of services under the former Bucks County Council's Devolved Services Agreement.**



This means that since then we have undertaken services to maintain Aylesbury's land. This includes weeding, sign cleaning and grass cutting of urban highway grass verges - these are areas which are within the 30mph speed limit area. These services help maintain the town's environment which we're proud to do for our town and neighbouring parishes, which we are cluster lead for.

We are remunerated for carrying out this essential work. The benefit of these Devolved Services means we as a Town Council can carry out the work in a way which best suits our communities. To see what else we are responsible for, turn to page 21.

## GRASS CUTTING SCHEDULE

**Weather permitting, our Outdoor Maintenance Team will begin grass cutting in March and will continue through to the summer months.** Again, weather depending, this will be repeated up to nine times this year. The team make their way through wards within the Parish of Aylesbury - starting at Central then Quarrendon and then the team work their way anti-clockwise through the remaining wards. We also go out to several other Parishes - Dinton with Ford and Upton, Weston Turville, Aston Clinton, Stoke Mandeville and Berton.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE CONSERVATION TRUST

Looking after Buckinghamshire's Natural and Historic Environment

**To many, Quarrendon is a suburb of Aylesbury built in the 1950s and extended in the 1980s, but, in fact, the name comes from a deserted village situated on the other side of the River Thames, and may have derived from the Old English Cweorndun meaning 'hill where mill stones are obtained'.** There is evidence to suggest that the village dates back to Anglo Saxon times, as the village was reputedly the birthplace of local saint St Osyth who was martyred by the Danes in Essex in circa 700AD. Quarrendon Leas is protected by law as a scheduled ancient monument and is now owned by the Buckinghamshire Conservation Trust.

The Trust was set up by Buckinghamshire County Council in 2008, with the support of the then Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC), Aylesbury Town Council and the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, to help conserve and enhance the county's historic and natural heritage and promote public appreciation of this rich inheritance. Access from Berryfields is via a new path suitable for disabled users running for 700m from the eastern edge of the new estate, past the ruined church of St. Peter, to a water-filled moat, which is believed to have encircled a mansion built by Sir Henry Lee in the 16th century. The path follows the historic road into Quarrendon from Berryfield Lane, which, before the 18th century, was the main Aylesbury to Buckingham road. Access will further improve when the Green Way linking Berryfields with Buckingham Park is built. This will run directly through the ancient site.

Over the next few years, Quarrendon Leas will be enhanced with more interpretation boards, clearing the moat and a possible dig on the site of the old Manor House. The area is already proving to be a great asset to the people of Aylesbury.

Further information may be found on the website, Facebook and Twitter. Should anyone's interest be peaked at this article and would like to find out more information about the Trust please email:

**conservationtrust@buckinghamshireconservationtrust.co.uk**



## #TUESDAYTUNES - A PLAYLIST FOR LIFE HELP POINT



Aylesbury Library is registered as a Playlist for Life Help Point. Playlist for Life is a music and dementia charity and their vision is simple. They want everyone with dementia to have a unique, personal playlist and for everyone who loves or cares for them to know how to use it. With the help of Dementia Champion, Benedicta Lasoye from Aylesbury Town Council, Aylesbury Library secured the voluntary services of Teri Davis and set about launching #TuesdayTunes.



#TuesdayTunes provides information on how to create a Playlist for Life, as well as a source of Dementia Friends information and support. The benefits of a Playlist for Life is they bring carers closer to the person living with dementia, they strengthen connections between family members and carers, they can improve the behavioural symptoms of dementia and they can reduce the need for drugs. All of this provides an opportunity for truly person-centred care.

Aylesbury Library and Dementia Friendly Aylesbury host #TuesdayTunes on the first Tuesday of each month, 10-11:30am.



Thanks to Bucks College students for being our first Dementia Friends of 2022

### SAVE THE DATE... SAVE THE DATE...



#### LEARN SOMETHING NEW IN 2022

Learn more about dementia and how you can support your local dementia community through our fun and insightful Virtual Dementia Friends sessions. Book yourself a space for free. Each session starts at 7pm via Zoom and is led by our Dementia Champion Benedicta Lasoye. Join us online on **Monday 16 May** as part of Dementia Action Week, **Monday 11 July** or **Monday 14 November**. Visit [bit.ly/DFAYlesbury](https://bit.ly/DFAYlesbury) and reserve your space.

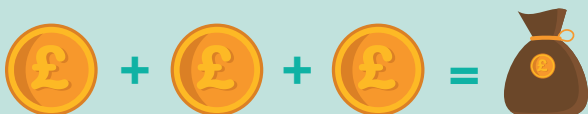
## OUR BUDGET 2022-23



**AYLESBURY**  
TOWN COUNCIL

### OUR ANNUAL BUDGET

Breakdown for 2022-23



<b>£1,874,849</b>	<b>£491,485</b>	<b>£16,850</b>	<b>£2,383,184</b>
Council Tax (Precept)	Commercial Income	Other Income	Our Total Budget

### BREAKDOWN PER BAND 'D' PROPERTY



### HOW WE SPEND YOUR COUNCIL TAX

**Civic Functions/Events**  
£3.25 / 3%

**Community Grants**  
£3.78 / 4%

**Devolved Services**  
£8.39 / 8%

**Jonathan Page Play Centre**  
£8.13 / 8%

**Cemetery**  
£10.23 / 10%

**Allotments**  
£4.88 / 5%

**Community Events & Partnership Projects**  
£19.94 / 20%

**Council & Environment**  
£41.40 / 41%





## CEMETERY SUMMER OPENING HOURS

From Sunday 27 March, the Tring Road Cemetery will be open daily from 8am-8pm.

## ACCESSING DISABLED TOILETS

A RADAR key opens more than 9,000 accessible toilets in the UK. These can be found in public areas, office blocks, pubs or restaurants.

RADAR is a national key scheme allowing people who need to use a locked disabled toilet to be able to go quickly with no fuss. The first RADAR toilet opened in 1981 and since then many local authorities and businesses have joined the scheme, including Aylesbury Town Council.



RADAR keys can be purchased from the Town Hall, 5 Church Street, HP20 2QP between 10am-3pm. Collection should be arranged prior by calling **01296 425678**. The cost is £4 per key. If you would like us to post it to you an additional £1 will be charged for postage.

## TOWN HALL OPENING TIMES

Our telephone lines are open Monday to Thursday from 8:45am-5:15pm and 8:45am-4:45pm on Friday. The Town Hall is open to visitors every weekday from 10am-3pm. We recommend you contact us in advance if you require assistance with a specific matter. To arrange an appointment call **01296 425678** or email [info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk). Thank you.



**Ofsted**  
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# Jonathan Page play Centre



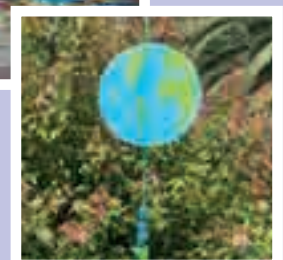
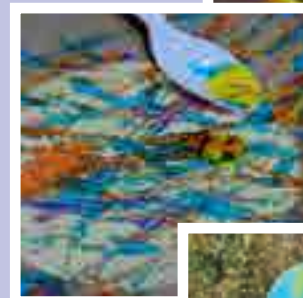
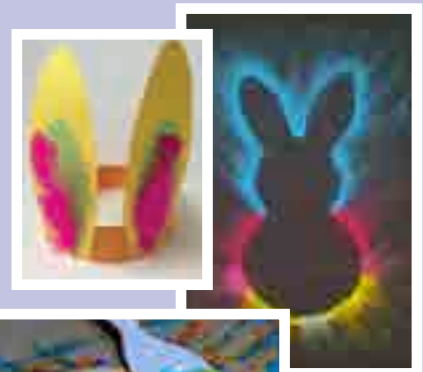
## FUN AND GAMES AT THE JONATHAN PAGE PLAY CENTRE

By now it seems quite a long time ago but we still wanted to let you know that we had a great time at the Christmas Playscheme. We crafted 3D Christmas trees, made reindeer hats, painted gift bags and had a good dance and sing-along to Christmas music. In January we made our New Year's resolutions before we went back to school.

But before we went back to school, the team at the centre told us what they had planned for the next playscheme at Easter. The **Easter Holiday Playscheme** (11-22 April) is all about Easter and Earth Day.

As the weather improves in the coming months, we can't wait to play outside in the great outdoor space. The playworker team have promised us that there will be some new things by Easter that we can play with. We can't wait to find out what they are!

We would like to say a big thank you to **Bucks Radio**, who ran the Toy Appeal before Christmas. They had so many presents from lots of very kind people who donated that they gave us some as well. We can't play with them all at once but are looking forward to finding out what new things we can play with when we are back next time.



We always like to make new friends so come and join us during the school holidays for some great fun and play.



## 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 Rachel **01296 425678** or email [rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
There is no charge for community groups and charities.



## GETTING ACTIVE AT YOUR CONVENIENCE

**What if you could get more active without jogging or going to the gym?** How about if you did not have to allocate extra time to exercise? What if being more active could easily become part of your daily routine?

Buckinghamshire Council's **Active Communities** programme works in exactly that way. Science has shown that lack of fitness is not our only health risk, but that sitting for lengthy periods can seriously affect our health too, including increasing the risk of diabetes, heart disease and even some cancers. We also now know that reducing our sedentary lifestyles by simply standing up and moving regularly can have huge benefits on mind and body.

So, make your day a little more active! Simply stand up every 20 minutes and in a 10-hour day you will reduce the effects of sitting down and complete the equivalent of nearly 11,000 squats. Go for a 200 step walk each day and walk over 41 miles a year whilst using over 3,600 calories. Avoid lifts and climb stairs and you'll use 3 calories for every 20 steps you take. Make phone calls standing up. Or why not take one of the four Active Communities walks in Aylesbury? Each one of these examples shows how just a little activity every day can go a very long way!

For more information about the Active Communities programme, visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/activecommunities](http://buckinghamshire.gov.uk/activecommunities)



**Calibre Audio, based on the edge of Aylesbury and Weston Turville, is the only national charity in the UK to provide a completely free for life audiobook service to everyone who has a disability that makes reading print difficult.** Members can enjoy unlimited borrowing, with the option to listen through digital streaming, download, or on memory stick using the free postal service.

There are over 13,000 unabridged audiobooks in Calibre's collection, made up of both commercial and Calibre's own professional recordings.



Calibre is currently looking for additional volunteer narrators that can help increase their range of voices so that even more books can be brought off the page for members to enjoy. In addition, they are seeking volunteers to run telephone and local book groups. If you would like to learn more about either opportunity, please email [emma.scott@calibre.org.uk](mailto:emma.scott@calibre.org.uk)

To join Calibre Audio, please contact Membership Services on [enquiries@calibre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@calibre.org.uk) or **01296 432 339**, or visit [calibreaudio.org.uk](http://calibreaudio.org.uk)

## WE INVITE YOUR COMMENTS...

If you have thoughts about the town we'd like you to let us know. How do you feel about the town in general? Do you have fresh ideas? We'd like to know. You can send an email marked 'ATM Letters' to [info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk](mailto: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.



## CarersBucks

The Adults Carers Support Team are delighted to be resuming in-person support groups. We will be delivering our popular Mindfulness, First Aid, Lasting Power of Attorney and Understanding Stress, Anxiety and Depression sessions, as well as new topics looking at Working with Professionals, and Carer Essentials. It's an opportunity to meet other carers and talk to our support workers. For more information visit: [carersbucks.org/services/workshops-and-information-programme-2022](http://carersbucks.org/services/workshops-and-information-programme-2022).

Our Young Carers and Young Adult Carers Support Team continue to provide support to young people through a mixture of face-to-face, Zoom and telephone calls.

We have been preparing a range of fantastic activities including arts and crafts and wellbeing workshops that will provide a break for young people from their caring role and give plenty of opportunities for young carers and young adult carers to share their experiences. If you would like support, please contact **0300 777 2722**.



©Kathy Chantler

## EXHIBITION AT QUEENS PARK ARTS CENTRE

The year is moving quickly, and we are preparing for our Print Exhibition which starts on Monday 14 March and ends on Wednesday 6 April. We have over 90 prints in the main gallery that offer a huge variety of subjects and hope that you will take the time to drop in and enjoy a quiet few minutes from the busy life we all lead. The admission is free and there is a lovely café where you can spend time chatting over a coffee afterwards.

Our website [imagezcameraclub.co.uk](http://imagezcameraclub.co.uk) shows all of the exhibition details including location of Queens Park Arts Centre and times of opening. We hope that you can make it and can guarantee you will see beautiful photos. If you would like to know more about the exhibition or the club you can ring Kathy Chantler, Chairman on **07738 112775** or Carol Haines, Vice Chairman on **07562 329539**.



## THE CANCER EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SERVICE AT STOKE MANDEVILLE HOSPITAL

We offer information and support to people living with cancer and are patients of Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust. If you, your relatives, friends or carers have any concerns about cancer we are here to help you.

We ensure people affected by cancer have access to good quality, comprehensive and appropriate information and support.

Our service is staffed by Macmillan Cancer Education, Information and Support Facilitators.

We can put you in touch with a Citizens Advice advisor (via email/telephone), support groups, other support organisations, HOPE face-to-face courses run by qualified Trust Healthcare professionals and Macmillan iHOPE online courses.

If you would like to talk to someone, the Macmillan Cancer Education, Information and Support Facilitators will listen to you and discuss how cancer is affecting your life.

**01296 316954** [bht.cancer.inf@nhs.net](mailto:bht.cancer.inf@nhs.net)

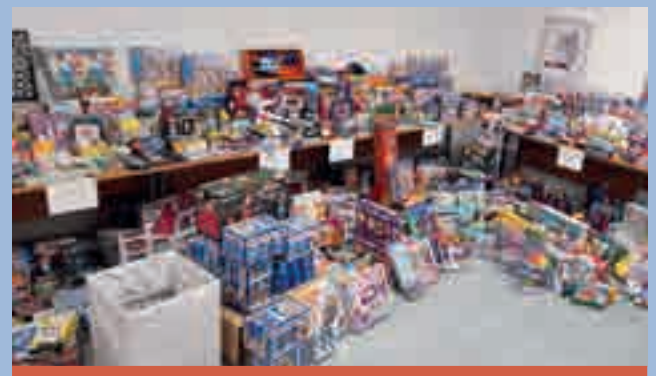
We would like to say thank you to everyone who made their first ever toy appeal so successful.

We collected a fantastic amount of toys, games and gifts, every one of which went to a disadvantaged child in Bucks for Christmas.



Some of those who received presents spent the holiday period in hospital. Others in care, away from their families. Some are terminally ill, while many will make a full recovery. But every child that got a gift will appreciate the extra love shown by you.

All the charities received more than they requested, and that's all down to the generosity of our listeners. We also thank all the Bucks businesses who supported the Appeal and acted as Official Donation Stations.



### MAKE YOUR STREET MORE THAN JUST A NAME

**The Buckinghamshire Street Association is calling for more residents to join their growing network of over 400 members.** The pandemic has highlighted and intensified some of the issues residents experience: lockdowns have increased isolation and loneliness, created financial insecurity, increased health issues including falls and at the same time generated opportunities for scammers and rogue traders. You could make a difference on your street by joining the Street Association.

As a member you'll have access to information to help protect your neighbours, including a simple directory of services to suggest support when needed. Joining the Street Association can also strengthen your community as you get to know your neighbours and make friends.

An existing Aylesbury member, Linda, joined the Street Association as she was isolated, didn't have a reason to get up in the morning and didn't know anyone in her road. After joining and meeting several other neighbours, they now arrange social activities and litter picking days. They were also able to spot those needing a little bit of help. She feels safer in her road, is less worried about her grandson playing outside and feels connected to her neighbours. The testimony of Linda speaks for itself: "The benefits are huge and the Street Association changed my life."



Make your street more than just a name. If you would like to join the Street Association or to find out more, please contact [communities@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:communities@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or **01296 382345**.

### THE SOURCE AT CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BEDGROVE

**The Source café in Bedgrove is open every Thursday and Saturday morning.** Good quality coffee and delicious homemade cakes are available in a welcoming, child-friendly atmosphere. Also, vintage morning and afternoon



teas are now available to book in advance at times to suit you and your guests and there is a special Mother's Day (27 March) vintage cream tea event, with live music. Contact our manager Corinne at The Source or email [thesourcechs@gmail.com](mailto:thesourcechs@gmail.com) to book for this or any other special occasion.

Church of the Holy Spirit also welcomes you to our services at 8:30am and 10am each Sunday morning and Good Friday (10am and 2pm) and Easter Sunday services (17 April).

This church continues to seek to serve our part of Aylesbury, with all sorts of activities throughout the week, including an open youth club on Wednesday afternoons, parent and toddler groups, mums and babies club, ministry to blind and partially sighted, friendship club, Mother's Union and the use of our excellent facilities for hire.

We have a nursery school, maths and English tuition, ballet and tap dancing, and Aylesbury Disability Club events, and various day conferences in our round "Jubilee Room". [holyspiritbedgrove.org](http://holyspiritbedgrove.org)

We look forward to seeing you!



### CALL FOR GARDENING AND HOME MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS

**Do you enjoy gardening or fixing things around the home and have some time to use those skills to help others?** Community Impact Bucks is looking for volunteers to help on two projects – Gardening and Wellbeing and Handy Helpers – which help keep vulnerable Aylesbury residents, who are aged 65+ or are disabled and under 65, safe, independent and well in their own home for longer.

Its Gardening and Wellbeing service provides gardening maintenance to those who are unable to look after their gardens due to ill health. Its Handy Helpers service covers both internal and external maintenance – even as simple as changing a light bulb or moving furniture – as well as undertaking work to prevent hazards around the home.

With both services, you can choose to be part of a supervised team or volunteer independently and help either one specific client or a number of clients depending on the time you can commit and your preferences. Our volunteers can give their time as a one-off, occasionally or regularly.

With 17 households in Aylesbury currently on its waiting list, Community Impact Bucks would love to hear from you. You can find out more about the projects and how to get involved by visiting [communityimpactbucks.org.uk/community/community-projects](http://communityimpactbucks.org.uk/community/community-projects) or email [karen@communityimpactbucks.org.uk](mailto:karen@communityimpactbucks.org.uk) or call **01844 617 231**.

# AYLESBURY GARDENING SOCIETY



Aylesbury Gardening Society is a not for profit, member only, organisation for the benefit of gardeners in Aylesbury and surrounding villages. We have a store on Old Stoke Road Allotment site, open from 9am-12 noon on Sundays and 6:30-8pm on Thursdays during April and May. The store is staffed by volunteers who are all gardeners willing to assist in any way they can. They all have lots of experience and are very willing to share their knowledge.

The store stocks all your gardening needs at very reasonable prices. We have recently introduced reduced peat and peat free compost into our range. Full details of all our lines are available on the website at [aylesburygardeningociety.co.uk](http://aylesburygardeningociety.co.uk). We currently have seed and potato orders ready for collection, along with onion sets and garlic ready for planting.

Why not come down for a look around and a chat with our friendly staff? The new season with all its promise is just around the corner and we look forward to welcoming you. Find us at Thurston Trading Store, Old Stoke Road Allotments, Old Stoke Road, Aylesbury, HP21 8DF.

## NATIONAL VEGETABLE SOCIETY BUCKS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

The Bucks DA has some 300 members who range from allotment and kitchen garden growers, through to some of the top exhibitors in the country.



In all we have some amazing knowledge and experience, even if we do say it ourselves. Our aim is to share this knowledge and experience to advance the education of others as well as ourselves in the cultivation and improvement of vegetable growing and showing. We do this through local talks, garden visits, exhibitions and the awarding of prizes in competitions.

In addition to this help and advice, we also train and provide qualified vegetable judges, making them available to local horticultural associations throughout the county. If you are looking for a speaker to talk about vegetables, we have a register of persons willing to give talks and lectures from small gardening clubs to larger associations.

We hold four local talks a year as well as a couple of garden visits. Our talks are open to guests and normally in Wingrave village hall. These meetings are friendly gatherings where we talk and learn about growing vegetables, swapping seeds, plants and ideas.

The Bucks DA has a regular display at the Bucks County show. Come and have a chat and pick the brains of one of our friendly team. Details of our events can be found at Aylesbury Gardening Society's store on Old Stoke Road Allotments, which is open on Sunday mornings or via the website. [nvsuk.org.uk](http://nvsuk.org.uk) [aylesburygardeningociety.co.uk](http://aylesburygardeningociety.co.uk)



## LINDENGATE – BETTER HEALTH & WELLBEING FOR ALL, THROUGH NATURE

Through the provision of nature based activities, we empower everyone to nurture their wellbeing, connect to the healing power of nature and respect the environment. After a well needed Winter Wellbeing break, our incredible team and volunteers have been busy onsite, planting bulbs and wildflower seeds to ensure that our bees and other pollinators have plenty of food in the spring and summer months.

We offer an all age, fully integrated service, through a variety of different programmes, all based on the Five Ways to Wellbeing to promote positive wellbeing. Why not come along to one of our free drop-in sessions as part of Rest & Reflect, to see how we can support you? Wednesdays 1:30-3:30pm (no children/dogs) and Saturdays 1-4pm. (seasonal opening times, please check website before visiting)

If you've ever thought about volunteering, why not get in touch to see how you can get involved? From weekend Green Volunteers (13-18 yrs), working alongside the Programme team, supporting participants, or supporting the team to keep Lindengate looking fabulous, there are plenty of opportunities to join our community. Further information on volunteering and all our programmes, can be found on our website: [lindengate.org.uk/programmes](http://lindengate.org.uk/programmes)



This year's Pace BIG Walk routes will take in the infamous Ridgeway Trail. There is a choice of 6, 12 or 18 mile routes or The Superhero Mile. There is something to suit all ages and abilities. This is a great opportunity to set yourself a challenge for 2022 and have some outdoor fun.

By taking part in the BIG Walk, you will not only have the opportunity to explore this beautiful countryside in a completely unique way, but you will also be helping us to provide life changing support to the children and young people who access Pace services. To sign up visit [thepacecentre.enthuse.com/cf/the-big-walk-2022](http://thepacecentre.enthuse.com/cf/the-big-walk-2022)



## AYLESBURY TOWN BOWLS CLUB CENTENARY

**Aylesbury Town Bowls Club has completed its 101st season with a year of centenary +1 matches the last being against a team from Bowls England, the national organisation.** The very short open window for play in 2020 meant that all major matches celebrating the centenary were postponed to 2021. Even so some bowls games were enjoyed between members in 2020 using all appropriate COVID-19 rules. An even greater time was enjoyed by members in 2021.

The club has gone from strength to strength over the years and has an ambitious programme both for the coming years and immediately to entertain and involve its members in activities off the green through the winter. Not only a form of indoor bowls but film, quiz and race nights with other entertainment are taking place. An all-year-round experience can be relied on. We are always looking to try new forms of bowls to challenge everyone's abilities.

Looking to the future the club would very much welcome interest from those attracted by an activity that requires little expenditure of time effort and money and is suitable for those of all ages, from as young as 8 upwards, and abilities. Free coaching for all.

To this end anyone interested whether on behalf of a community group or for themselves and their family should see for themselves at our website [aylesburytownbowlsclub.co.uk](http://aylesburytownbowlsclub.co.uk) and contact us for a membership form if interested.

## Buckinghamshire Family Information Service

**Buckinghamshire's Family Information Services website and directory provides families, parents to be, children and young people, and professionals information on where to find local support, activities, and childcare.** Head over to our website [familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk](http://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or visit our directory [directory.familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk](http://directory.familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk) to take a look and find:

- Support available to help with issues affecting your family
- What's on at family centres
- Things to do and holiday activities
- Support and inclusive activities if your child has SEND
- Childcare and early years providers
- Education and learning information
- Youthspace information for young people

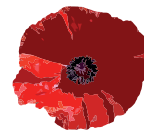
You'll find all the details you need to know about the activity, where it takes place, who to contact, the costs and much more.

Follow '**BucksFamilyInfo**' on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram for the latest news affecting families and young people, local things to do and helpful reminders for all sorts of parent tasks like applying for childcare and school places. Available Monday to Thursday from 9am-5:30pm and Friday 9am-5pm.

Have a chat with one of the Information and Outreach Officers who can help with advice on benefits, childcare, educational resources and more. Call **01296 383 293** or email [familyinfo@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)



# AYLESBURY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL



**A big thank you to all the people of Aylesbury for your support of the Poppy Appeal 2021.** Thank you to all the members from our branch for coming forward to man various stalls and for taking and collecting various equipment out to the schools in the Aylesbury area so the children of Aylesbury could make donations. Last but not least, a big thank you to the villages around Aylesbury for their support and various donations.

Although we haven't got the final figure for the Aylesbury collection yet, I believe it's going to be approximately £40,000. If anyone in Aylesbury would like to be involved in collecting for the Poppy Appeal this year please email me [cecily.turner@ntlworld.com](mailto:cecily.turner@ntlworld.com).

We are still on the hunt for someone to join our branch as a Chairman and also a Branch Secretary so that the Aylesbury branch can function as a normal branch again instead of as now, under County Committee control. If you think you can help, please contact either me (email address above) or Martina Stewart [martinastewart167@btinternet.com](mailto:martinastewart167@btinternet.com)

## NEW YEAR, NEW YOU, NEW VENTURE



**Aylesbury Market takes place every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 9am-2pm in the historic Market Square, based in the heart of the town.** We are always looking to increase the range on offer on the market from street food, fresh produce, clothing, or artisan products.

If you're thinking of starting a new business or want to extend your existing creative venture into a new area, a stall at the market could be exactly what you need. From only £20.40 you can bring your own gazebo and set up - it is an affordable and flexible way to test your business idea.



Becoming a market trader is a low cost, low risk way to turn your business dream into a reality. Benefits include:

- Start small and grow - it is a great way for any budding entrepreneur
- Flexibility - be your own boss
- Low risk - you can take your product or service straight to your customers without committing to long-term property leases
- Low cost - lower and fewer overheads than permanent premises
- A social gathering of like-minded traders

### There are incentives for you!

- Reduced rent for the first five weeks
- Regular event days to encourage footfall - Aylesbury is proud to win two national awards for its involvement in the national Love Your Local Market initiative
- Fully-engaged award winning town centre management team that works closely with traders

Want to know more? Email [paul.kirkham@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:paul.kirkham@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or phone **01296 585880**.



**New research reveals increased youth homelessness in Aylesbury Vale and urgent need for emergency accommodation volunteers.** Compared to the national average, Aylesbury Vale has 22% more homeless young people. Local charity Youth Concern aims to support all 16-25-year-olds in Aylesbury Vale facing a homelessness crisis.

CEO Hannah Asquith says: "When we think about homelessness, we usually imagine rough sleepers. But this is the tip of the iceberg. We don't know the true extent of hidden homelessness. And we don't often consider teenagers without a safe bed."

The problem is on the increase. Youth Concern's recent report found that in 2019, 330 young people in Aylesbury Vale aged 16-24 identified as homeless/at risk of homelessness. That's a 66% increase on 2018. Many issues cause under 25s to become homeless: sexual and domestic abuse, racially motivated violence, substance misuse and, most common, mental health problems. Most homeless young people 'sofa surf' at friends' houses but 30% of survey respondents had slept rough and 20% had slept in strangers' homes.

Working alongside Buckinghamshire Council and other services, Youth Concern's solution is its '**Nightstop Aylesbury**' service which provides emergency accommodation for 16-25-year-olds.

The charity is asking Aylesbury residents to help. Do you have a spare bedroom you could offer for a few nights? Or could you drive young people to their temporary accommodation? You don't need previous training or experience, and Youth Concern's thorough referral process will match you with low-risk young people. To find out more, please email [nightstop@youthconcern.org.uk](mailto:nightstop@youthconcern.org.uk)

If you would like to support Nightstop Aylesbury but can't volunteer, please do consider giving [givey.com/youthconcern](https://www.givey.com/youthconcern). Thank you.

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

**March marks the coming of spring.** For this year, following another winter with high COVID-19 infection levels and prevention measures, I hope we can look forward to a season with better weather and fewer restrictions. I am greatly looking forward to the Town Council's fantastic and free events getting back into their full stride with the **St George's Day** celebrations and preparations are already well underway for the **Soapbox Derby** on Sunday 19 June.

Nevertheless, before I am too carried away with thoughts of spring, I should remember the fantastic run up to Christmas. I was lucky enough to be invited, with my family, to the Gala Night of the Panto at Aylesbury Waterside. Already a firm favourite with many in the town the Panto was extra special. The cast and audience equally welcomed the return to the theatre and I wish to extend my personal thanks to the team at the Waterside Theatre, the amazing cast and the people of Aylesbury who threw themselves into the spirit of Panto to make an unforgettable night.

We were also able to hold the **Mayor's Carol Service**. Thank you to those that attended, Fr Doug Zimmerman and St Mary's church for hosting what is a highlight of the Mayoral year.

Since the start of the New Year, I have continued with a busy calendar of engagements including attending the **Young Chef Competition** at Aylesbury College and the **Technology Tournament** at Aylesbury Vale Academy both of which were organised by Aylesbury Hundreds Rotary. I am also greatly looking forward to attending the lighting of the **Winter Paralympics Flame** at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, which will take place as this edition goes to print. I am looking forward to making the most of my remaining months of mayoralty and grasping every opportunity.

Therefore, I hope to meet as many of you as possible before I end my year and take on the grand title of Former Mayor...

**Cllr Anders Christensen, Aylesbury Town Mayor**  
 @MayorOfAylesbury



**Aylesbury Town Mayor** presents the  
**AYLESBURY CONCERT BAND**  
performing  
*A Year of Celebrations*  
Saturday 9 April 2022  
St Mary's Church  
Aylesbury  
2:30pm-4:30pm  
Doors open at 2pm

**FREE ENTRY** but door donations are gratefully received to go towards the **Mayor's Charity Aylesbury Women's Aid** and **Aylesbury Concert Band**.

Refreshments are available to purchase from St Mary's Church.

**AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL**





# AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS



## COULD YOUR CLUB OR ORGANISATION BENEFIT FROM A GRANT FROM AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL?

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 in Aylesbury to improve public wellbeing. For information on how to apply for an Aylesbury Town Council Grant visit [bit.ly/AylesburyTownCouncilGrants](https://bit.ly/AylesburyTownCouncilGrants), email our Grants Officer [jane.eden@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jane.eden@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or call **01296 425678**.

The next Grants Committee meeting will take place on **Wednesday 30 March 2022**. The deadline for grant applications to be considered at this meeting is **Wednesday 23 March 2022**. Aylesbury Town Council Grants scheme support many worthwhile charities and organisations. The funds given really do make a difference to the community of Aylesbury and the residents that need the support that these fantastic organisations provide.



## THE AYLESBURY SOCIETY

Thanks to a generous grant of £1,500 from Aylesbury Town Council, we are pleased to be able to announce a continuation of our Historic Plaques Project with the erection of the first three commemorative historical plaques.

The photos above show the two plaques erected on the perimeter of Friars Square and the third on the wall of Aylesbury Cemetery. We now have permission to erect a fourth plaque on the wall of the former George coaching inn in Market Square, now Skipton Building Society and we are looking at other sites in the town.

Our plaques project started back in 1988 and we have erected 19 brown historical plaques so far across the town. The Society was started in 1974 by residents wanting to save Prebendal House.

We are an amenity and conservations group caring for all the town's built environment and is open to membership. For £10 per year you will receive a quarterly magazine and would be able to attend the meetings of the Society. These are generally held on the last Thursday in the month from September to May in either the Friends Meeting House or Aylesbury Town Council Chamber, both in the old town.

Sometimes we may have a guided walk or a visit to a local attraction. We also organise many coach trips and long weekends in the UK. Go to our website to join, [aylesburysociety.org.uk](https://aylesburysociety.org.uk) or see our Facebook page [@aylesburysociety](https://www.facebook.com/aylesburysociety)

### CELEBRATING CERAMICS AT QPAC

Aylesbury's Queens Park Arts Centre is hosting a special pottery festival this May, with a programme of events and activities aimed at encouraging the local community to get creative with clay. One of the largest and most-popular ceramics studios in the county, the Queens Park Pottery is open all year-round, offering students of any level of experience the chance to learn and develop a new skill. Classes cater to complete beginners as well as experienced artists.

On **Saturday 14 May** renowned ceramic artists Chris and Freya Bramble will be visiting the Centre's Limelight Theatre for an informative talk and live demonstration – a unique opportunity to see them work on a project and discover key tips and techniques for developing your own. The following day, on **Sunday 15 May**, two one-day workshops will be on offer, including a class led by former Great Pottery Throwdown contestant Elaine Wells on how to decorate pots with colourful clay slip, plus a session exploring the exciting and unpredictable art of Japanese raku firing, led by Helen Neighbour and Adam Hoyle.



Anyone looking to try their hand at pottery for the first time can join one of QPAC's weekly sessions, which run morning, noon and night throughout term time. New students can join at any time during the year and kick-start their creativity alongside experienced, friendly tutors and enthusiastic fellow students. For full information on dates, times and prices visit [queensparkarts.com](http://queensparkarts.com). You can follow QPAC on social media @queensparkarts



**Aylesbury Vale Stitchers started last year. We are a group who love all things related to stitch.**

Firstly, you don't need to stitch to visit or join us. We are a friendly group who welcome visitors who would like to see what we do. Most meetings include a speaker - well known in their field. Talks and displays of their work are on a variety of topics including history, traditions, textiles and much more. Other events are being planned and we offer workshops/courses several times a year.

We hold regular meetings usually on the 3rd Saturday of each month. We have been meeting via Zoom but have a new venue from March 2022. We will be meeting in The Memorial Hall in Wendover which has a car park and good public transport links.

Tea, coffee, biscuits and time to chat are included plus a sales table to find bargain threads, fabrics, books and more to help with any projects you are planning.

If you would like to know more, please contact us on [aylesburyvalestitchers@gmail.com](mailto:aylesburyvalestitchers@gmail.com) for details of how to become a member or friend and information on our current programme. We would love to meet you so do get in touch. Also see us on Facebook - **Aylesbury Vale Stitchers**

### AYLESBURY FESTIVAL CHOIR

**We are rehearsing a mixed programme that we hope will appeal to a larger audience. Our next concert is a mixture of British Folk songs and in complete contrast, a Gershwin Portrait, an arrangement of many of Gershwin's songs.** Any fans of Ralph Vaughan Williams will be aware that this year marks the 150th anniversary of his birth in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire.

To mark the occasion, we will be singing "Five Mystical Songs". Now that the way ahead is opening up, AFC will be rehearsing a programme of light music, from Rutter and Flanders and Swann. We will be rehearsing during May and June culminating in an afternoon concert on **29 June 2022**. Final details will be posted on our website soon. [aylesburyfestivalchoir.weebly.com](http://aylesburyfestivalchoir.weebly.com)

### AYLESBURY CHORAL SOCIETY

**The first concert of its 90th anniversary year, the Aylesbury Choral Society has chosen three works by well-known 19th and 20th century composers.** Our concert will take place on **Saturday 2 April** at 7:30pm in St Mary's Church. Tickets can be purchased via our website at [www.aylesburychoral.org.uk](http://www.aylesburychoral.org.uk)

The programme will include Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Benedicite*, *Benedictus* by Sir Edward Elgar and Gounod's *Messe solennelle de Sainte Cécile* (St Cecilia Mass) will round off a most enjoyable evening of music which will be accompanied on the organ.

Mindful of the continuing COVID-19 precautions, rehearsals continue to be held both live and online for choir members unable to attend on Tuesday evenings at Fairford Leys church. Please enquire at our website if you are interested in joining.



## AYLESBURY & DISTRICT RAMBLERS

**During the pandemic many people have taken up walking for pleasure which improves fitness as well as overall health and wellbeing.** Following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, Aylesbury & District Ramblers have enjoyed a return to walking around the beautiful countryside in and around the area. Walks are arranged three times a week and led by members of the group.

**Tuesdays** - start time 10:30am – 4 to 6 miles at about 2 miles per hour

**Thursdays** - start time 10am – 6 to 9 miles at a pace of 2.5 to 3 miles per hour

**Sundays** - start time 10am - up to 16 miles but are generally 10 miles

The walks are in the Chilterns and Vale of Aylesbury but also extend to Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, or Oxfordshire. Walkers need to have a reasonable level of fitness, strong boots or shoes, warm and waterproof clothing, water, snacks, and some find walking poles helpful. Members of the group have completed national trails such as the West Highland Way and the South Downs Way.

Walks can be tried by coming along and introducing yourself to the leader, but to walk with the group on an ongoing basis, individuals will be requested to join the Ramblers Association. Our group is run entirely by volunteers and operates with very limited funds. The Ramblers Association provides a small contribution for each member in the group, and this is essential to meet operating costs. You can find out more about us and how to join at [aylesbury-ramblers.org.uk](http://aylesbury-ramblers.org.uk)



**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 the 21st century. Our current programme can be found on our talks page.

We meet every third Wednesday of the month (October through June) online, starting at 8pm. All are welcome to attend our meetings, admission for non-members is £3 per talk. Admission for members (annual fee of £12) is free. More information on how to become a member can be found on our membership page or contact [secretarybucksha@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybucksha@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING TALKS

**16 March** - Dr Jane Harrison, Dept for Continuing Education, University of Oxford - *Moated Manors and Deserted Medieval Villages; changing settlement in the Appleton area, Oxfordshire*

**20 April** - Dr Susan Kilby, Centre for English Local History, Uni of Leicester - *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them: The Romanesque Capitals of St Kyneburgha's Church, Castor, Northamptonshire, and the Local Landscape*

**18 May** - Mark Gorman, Independent Researcher - *Popular Protest and the Preservation of Open Spaces in Victorian London*

**June 2022** - Summer Afternoon Event: *Linslade Church and its restored medieval wall paintings*, led by Dr Richard Gem

Further dates and details will be forthcoming in the year. [buckshistoricalassociation.org.uk](http://buckshistoricalassociation.org.uk)

## Discover Bucks Museum

**We are delighted to announce that 'Picasso and Masters of Print' is coming to Aylesbury.**

This major exhibition, opening on **2 April** and running until **2 July 2022**, offers a unique opportunity to view some of the most important prints by one of the greatest artists of the 20th century. The seven prints by Picasso on loan from The Higgins Bedford span seven decades of his career and spectacularly showcase the varied printmaking techniques that he mastered.

Picasso's works will be accompanied by a wider exhibition of major artists' original prints drawn from the Cecil Higgins Collection. Five centuries of printmaking will be on show, ranging from masterpieces by key figures in the history of European printmaking, such as Dürer and Rembrandt, through to 20th century icons such as Matisse and Warhol, and including contemporary artists such as Paula Rego and David Hockney.

To accompany the exhibition this year's Muir Trust Artist in Residence is printmaker Claire Willberg who will take up her residency at the museum from **8 April** for 6 weeks. Come and meet Claire on her open studio days and learn about her printmaking techniques. Visit our website to find out more about our exhibitions and events and to catch up on the progress of our exciting new Discover Bucks galleries. For more information, charges and booking please visit [discoverbucksmuseum.org](http://discoverbucksmuseum.org)  
**Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP**





AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL

# Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map

## Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr Anders Christensen  
07834 995690



Cllr Tuffail Hussain  
07832 913171



Cllr Phanindar Koya  
07709 923308

## Ward: Central



Cllr Sherrilyn Bateman  
07511 388978

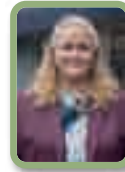


Cllr Tim Dixon  
07956 802402

## Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Ashley Morgan  
07799 878059



Cllr Susan Morgan  
07799 074411

## Ward: Coppice Way



Cllr Chris Hendren  
07545 107385

## Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts  
07595 178660



Cllr Mark Willis  
07723 091637

## Ward: Quarrendon



Cllr Alan Sherwell  
01296 420672



Cllr Gurinder Wadhwa  
07840 151444

## Ward: Oxford Road



Cllr Mohammed Azam  
07438 958347

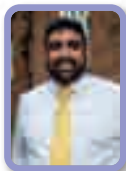


Cllr Steven Lambert  
01296 395511

## Ward: Southcourt



Cllr Niknam Hussain  
07540 842407



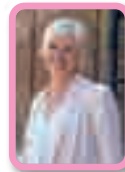
Cllr Waheed Raja  
07969 056877

## Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Nidhi Mehta  
07507 124756

## Ward: Hawkslade



Cllr Mary Baldwin  
07809 615840

## Ward: Walton



Cllr Richard Lloyd  
07887 685345

## Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



Cllr Sue Chapple  
01296 426814



Cllr Roger King  
01296 482812



Cllr Denise Summers  
01296 424903

## Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr Raj Khan  
07958 214480



Cllr David Thompson  
07836 694463



Cllr Mark Winn  
07469 711724



## WHO DO I TALK TO ABOUT?...

### 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. Call **01296 425678** or visit **aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk**



**AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL**

#### AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Office of the Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- Management of all allotment sites
- Local Burial Authority - management of Tring Road Cemetery
- Devolved Services including 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, Soapbox Derby, 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)
- Partnership working and engagement with other community stakeholders and Buckinghamshire Council

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL

Buckinghamshire Council provides services on a county-wide basis and has a very regulatory remit. Call **0300 131 6000** or visit **buckinghamshire.gov.uk**



#### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Collection of Council Tax and business rates
- Waste collection
- Waste disposal and household recycling centres
- 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
- Grass cutting of rural highways/grass verges
- Upkeep of Aylesbury town areas such as Kingsbury and Market Square
- Roads and pavements
- Education and main libraries
- Social care services
- Trading Standards
- Registrars - births, deaths and marriages



## SIGN UP FOR NCS

This summer, Action4Youth is excited to provide NCS programmes in Aylesbury for the following dates:

- **Monday 11 July – Friday 22 July**  
(excluding weekends)
- **Monday 8 August – Friday 19 August**  
(excluding weekends)

Programmes are also available in Milton Keynes and High Wycombe. Visit the NCS website for more information.  
[wearencs.com](http://wearencs.com)

NCS is an amazing experience, emboldening young people, giving them an experience of being what life may involve, without all the responsibility!

We will be completing lots of different activities, including water sports, climbing and challenges to take our participants out of their comfort zone!

We will also have lots of different skills sessions, before returning to the local area and linking with local charities to plan and complete social action projects! Sign up now at [wearencs.com/sign-up-to-ncs](http://wearencs.com/sign-up-to-ncs). Bursaries are available.

We will also be beginning our recruitment for the Workforce this summer – if you are interested in becoming a Team or Assistant Team Leader, please email [rebecca.fillingham@action4youth.org](mailto:rebecca.fillingham@action4youth.org). Applicants must be 18 years of age. **We can't wait for an amazing summer!**

## OUR MOCK COP26

On Wednesday 17 November, 58 students from AHS, AGS and The Royal Latin held their very own COP26 at Aylesbury High School. COP26 was a congregation of countries from around the world who gathered together in Glasgow to discuss and debate the issues surrounding climate. The aim of our COP was to debate (albeit on a much smaller scale) issues and topics similar to those debated in Glasgow, with small groups of students representing the beliefs of the country they were assigned. Each group had to give a short presentation introducing their country. Following this, students split into four areas of discussion: cities, energy, forests and food and oceans. These groups then delivered an agreed set of statements to reduce emissions and tackle climate change. The quality of the presentations and debate were excellent.

Students returned to their respective schools with a greater understanding of how complex this issue is and with a sense of purpose in addressing issues within their school and community. A big thank you to Sophie and Jess for organising this event, which was a huge success.



## YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

A keen selection of budding young Chefs from local schools occupied the kitchen of the Harding Restaurant at Aylesbury College to enter the first heat of the District Young Chef competition run by the Rotary Club of Aylesbury Hundreds. Members and parents were present to see what the youngsters could produce and were not disappointed with the outcome.

Quality meals were produced by seven entrants under the watchful eyes of the Harding Restaurant Manager Mark Goldstein and Head Chef at Hartwell House Daniel Richardson, who were both Judges on the day. The winner goes through to the next round of the Rotary District Competition.

Superb prizes were awarded to the winner and runners up kindly donated by Hartwell House Hotel, Harding Restaurant and The Shoulder of Mutton in



Wendover, consisting of: first - a family dinner at Hartwell House; second - a family meal at Aylesbury College's Harding Restaurant and third - a weeks training at The Shoulder of Mutton kitchen, Wendover.

**1st - C Bates, Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School**

**2nd - G Linford, Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School**

**3rd - W Johnson, Aylesbury Grammar School**

Other entrants received a book prize and certificate. The Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Anders Christensen, was in attendance to present the prizes and is pictured with all the entrants of the competition following their splendid efforts.

## A TASTE OF THINGS TO COME...



**My name is Meiyang and I'm a member of the Youth Town Council.** I recently graduated from Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School and am on a gap year, planning on studying Law at university. To build experience, I have been academically engaged through participating in essay competitions and Moot (mock judicial proceedings examining a

hypothetical case). However, I soon realised that it wasn't enough because I lacked exposure in how law works in practice. This eagerness for knowledge led me to pursue a judge marshalling work experience at the Aylesbury Crown Court.

The night before, I prepared my suits ready for this amazing experience but the morning of my first day was, of course, a nervous one. I walked inside the Crown Court, was checked by the security guards and marched my way upstairs. My stomach was full of butterflies as I walked through the long corridor with paintings of different judges on the wall. I greeted Judge Sheridan at court and was immediately amazed by the solemn atmosphere. I was excited but at the same time, anxious.

I witnessed Judge Sheridan's usual 'Monday' work where he listed all the cases for trial. The Judge carefully considered the details of each case and saw the defendant either in person or through screens. One case regarding a suspended sentence for non-compliance left me in a state of reflection. This case was associated with revenge

pornography and the defendant wished to be given another chance through community work instead of imprisonment.

However, weighing up the evidence, Judge Sheridan decided to dismiss the suspension sentence order. Such cases displayed the balance between rehabilitation and adequate punishment which plays an important element in our criminal justice system. I was amazed by the Judge's clear line of reasoning and admired the advocacy skills of criminal barristers.

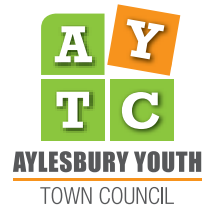
As for the second and third day, I sat through trials and legal debates between lawyers. The variety of events demystified the 'secret business' of Crown Court and expanded my legal knowledge. Not only that, I have learnt more legal vocabulary, and also sharpened my logic reasoning. This experience was certainly a precious one because it confirmed my desire to pursue a legal career. The professionalism of lawyers and all the Judges I have met inspired me deeply. They are my role models in the journey of Law.

I would like to express my gratitude to Judge Sheridan for accepting me and the Town Clerk who helped me in securing this opportunity. I am proud to be an active member of society because without being a member of the Youth Town Council, I would never have been this close to my dream and participate in this work experience!

**Meiyang Jiang**  
Youth Town Councillor

 @aylesburyouthtowncouncil

"The Town Council deserve great credit for assisting a student with work experience in difficult circumstances during Covid and they have placed a first-class student as their first candidate for work experience and they should be very proud of themselves. I shall be happy to assist in the future if asked." - **HHJ Sheridan**



Aylesbury Youth Town Councillors had their first meet up of the year in February and have chosen **Buckinghamshire Mind** as their charity of the year. The Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Anders Christensen, joined them to discuss their plans for 2022.

# ST GEORGE'S DAY VICTORIAN HISTORICAL FAYRE

**SUNDAY 24  
APRIL 2022**

**DR MELFORD'S  
TRAVELLING SHOW**

FEATURING THE AMAZING WORLD'S  
STRONGEST MAN & BONE THE SEER

***TABLES OF CURIOSITIES***

MAGIC LANTERN SHOW

**DRAGON TALES**

*ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, GAMES*

**AN AUDIENCE WITH  
QUEEN VICTORIA**

AND MUCH MORE...

**11am-3pm**

**DISCOVER BUCKS MUSEUM\***

\*Subject to COVID-19 restrictions. Please check our website and Facebook event listing for updates.



**ST GEORGE'S DAY  
PARADE 3pm**

**JOIN US IN MARKET SQUARE  
TO WITNESS A SPECTACULAR  
PARADE FOR THE ENTIRE  
TOWN TO BE PROUD OF!**

*ST GEORGE & HIS STEED*  
**DRAGON, FIRE DANCERS  
AMERSHAM MARCHING BAND  
REPRESENTATIVES  
FROM AYLESBURY'S  
UNIFORMED YOUTH**



**AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL**

