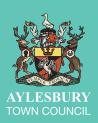
Serving the people of Aylesbury

AYLESBURY TOWN matters









ummer Playschem

24 July-1 September 2023

excluding Bank Holiday

We've got a fantastic summer line up for when school's out! We have six weeks filled with different activities and games for uour child. We like to plau but also learn about lots of different things at the Jonathan Page Play Centre. Why not join in with our fun-themed weeks? There's something for everyone to enjoy! We also have a fantastic outdoor space with games, go-karts and climbing equipment to play on.

24 July: Walking through the rainforest

31 July: Camping out

7 August: Let's go fishing

14 August: I can be an artist

21 August: Sculptures

29 August: People who help us

WHY NOT VISIT US **BEFORE BOOKING?**

If you and your child

BOOKINGS

We accept advance and last-minute bookings for the After School Club and Holiday Playschemes through our online booking system. To register and book sessions for your child please visit

jppc.magicbooking.co.uk

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

HOURS AND PRICES (PER CHILD, PER DAY)

Full Day 8am-6:30pm - £31

Playscheme is for all children from the age









Welcome to our latest edition of Aylesbury Town Matters. We are excited for our summer programme of events and to share with you what has been a busy first half of the year.

I am delighted to be able to report back on the Mayor's 10 Tonne Challenge for Aylesbury Foodbank which was exceeded by some distance, more details inside, but I'd like to thank all the residents and businesses who supported the former Mayor, Cllr Tim Dixon, and the campaign. The Town Council will continue to

support the initiative and our residents. Cllr Dixon's second charity of the year Emmett's Genies are also able to progress their wonderful work with the donations received across the year.

Back in May we welcomed our new Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Cllrs Steven Lambert and Alan Sherwell respectively. I am sure they will continue to represent and promote the town. Should you wish to invite them to your event or function please do contact the Town Hall. The final events of the previous Mayor's calendar included our hugely popular King's Coronation Roadshow joining multiple street parties across the town.

Aylesbury Town Council continues to promote and assist the town's business community with lots of new and ongoing initiatives. Details inside on our recycled coffee grounds, Borrow-a-Book scheme, free digital heritage trail and, launching in time for the summer holidays, will be our fun family quiz with questions based around things in town (with a fantastic prize of a trip on the Little Trip Boat from the canal basin for up to six people)!

Parklife Weekend returns on 26-27 August with Live in the Park and Proms in the Park. Live in the Park will be headlined by 'Who's Got The Dog?' (they played in 2019 and were amazing!) and Aylesbury Concert **Band** will be treating us to Disney-themed tunes as well as Proms classics. Heritage Open Days will be back this September, more details will be issued in August on our website and social media channels.

Last and by no means least, thank you to everyone that took part in the Great British Spring Clean. We are always happy to loan litter picking equipment, please do contact the Town Hall.

> Best wishes to you all. Cllr Richard Lloyd Leader of Aylesbury Town Council

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Keep up to date with all things Aylesbury Town Council via our social media channels.



CONTACT **DETAILS**

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AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL NEWS



A ROYALLY **GOOD DAY OUT**

St George and his lady in waiting met so many of you at this year's **St George's Day Royal Historical Fayre and Parade**. Kings and queens of Britain's past graced the gardens of Discover Bucks Museum and Queens Park



AYLESBURY CELEBRATES THE KING'S CORONATION

Back in May, neighbours throughout the parish celebrated the coronation of King Charles III at local street parties. Our King's Coronation Entertainment Roadshow made their way around 17 street parties and partied in style!

> for the second year in a row! A massive thank

you to everyone who

voted for us.



WEEKEND IS BACK!

August Bank Holiday plans = sorted! **Parklife Weekend** returns on **26-27 August** in Vale Park. Saturday 26 August will see awesome local bands and artists take to our two stages for 9.5 hours of live music at the award-winning Live in the Park. Who's Got The Dog? will be headlining and we'll see which band will come out on top at the Battle of the Bands competition in the Ent Tent from 6:45pm.

The following evening (Sunday 27 August) Aylesbury Concert Band will perform a magical programme of music at this year's Disney-themed Proms in the Park. Find out more about the whole weekend on our website

SUNDAY LUNCH **OPEN MIC**

Be part of a talented afternoon of music, poems and performances. The warmer weather means the monthly open mic sessions will take place in The Circle, outside of Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. Join from 12-3pm on 6 August and 3 September.

STAR **SUPPORTERS**



We'd like to give a special shout out to the amazing Marie, Rosie and Sarah from Hand Talking who bring so much to our community events. Hand Talking provide BSL interpretation alongside performances and offer a calm and quiet space for those who may need some time away from the energetic nature of our events. We want as many people as possible to enjoy our free events and Marie and her team make this a reality for us which we are extremely grateful for.







EXPLORE YOUR TOWN THIS SEPTEMBER

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture. Taking place in Aylesbury on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September, areas of Aylesbury will open their doors and offer the chance to find out

Visit aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk from 1 August to find out what's on offer this year.

A WALKING PLAY

Professor Chronomier's adventures continue in Aylesbury. Be part of the journey in this fully immersive walking play by the fantastic talents at Queens Park Art Centre's theatre company, Unbound Theatre. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2.50 for children and concessions. Visit queensparkarts.com towards the end of August to book your tickets.

SOAPBOXES SOARED **DOWN WHITEHILL PARK**

Our Father's Day favourite was another big hit on Sunday 18 June at Whitehill Park. Spectators and competitors came out and enjoyed a day of homemade kart racing. The top three fastest karts in the Senior category were (1st) C5OAPBOX in 33.22 seconds, (2nd) Florence and the Mechanics in 43.41 seconds and (3rd) FAB1 in 45.27 seconds.

The top three fastest karts in the Junior category were (1st) Inferno Racing Team in 34.4 seconds, (2nd) Rocket Riders in 38 seconds and (3rd) Aylesbury Wombles in 46 seconds. The Best Looking Kart, as voted for by spectators, was (1st) Mario Time, (2nd) Aylesbury Wombles and (3rd) Bug At Tea.

Event supporters, Michael Anthony Estate Agents, voted for Aylesbury Wombles to win the new award for 2023 - the Team Spirit Award. A big thank you to all the teams that took part.



SAVE THE DATE – **26 NOVEMBER**

It'll be here before you know it! We'll be celebrating the start of the festive season at Christmas on the Cobbles on Sunday 26 November. Be sure to save the date for a holly-jolly day for the whole family with an illuminated parade and firework display marking Aylesbury's epic light switch on.

AYI FSBURY GARDENING SOCIETY

Summer has arrived and gardens and allotments are bustling with activity - or should be! We keep hearing everywhere gardening is so good for our health, both physically and mentally. It can also be great fun too, especially if you can involve the children.



On Saturday 9 September we are visiting RHS Wisley Gardens, their Flower Show is from 5-10 September. It should be a very interesting and pleasurable day, especially visiting the Flower Show. To secure your tickets please visit the store at Old Stoke Road allotments to reserve and pay. See our website aylesburygardeningsociety.co.uk for more details or ask in the store.

The following Saturday 16 September is our Annual Show, held at Aylesbury Grammar School. There are classes for both members and non-members. Classes include vegetables, fruits, flower arranging as well as domestic (cakes and preserves). There are also some classes for children too. So why not grow or bake something to show? You never know, you may have a hidden talent!

We are looking to find some members to help man the store on Sunday mornings between 9am-12 noon, we operate a fourweek rota with free tea and biscuits! Also, we are looking for some new committee members, if you are interested, please ask in store or email us via the website. Why not pop in and see us? New members are always welcome. Happy gardening!

RIVERS WEEK 2023

Are you part of a community group that would like to get involved in river conservation? River Thame Conservation Trust (RTCT) is a local grassroot charity working for a river catchment with healthy fresh waters and wildlife, valued and enjoyed by local people. RTCT are inviting community groups and landowners across the Thame catchment to get involved with Rivers Week **18-24 September 2023**. This special celebration, now in its second year, spans an entire week and is filled with engaging activities organised by local communities, all in celebration of World Rivers Day. The aim is to inspire everyone to take action for our rivers and foster a deeper connection to the natural world.



Participating in Rivers Week gives you a fantastic opportunity to host a unique event in your own local area, joining forces with other passionate groups in the catchment. Potential event ideas include nature walks, art exhibitions, wildlife identification workshops, Bioblitzes, litter picks, or photo contests. RTCT will provide you with organisational and promotional support to ensure your event is a success. Get in contact with us at enquiries@riverthame.org with any questions. For more information visit riverthame.org/event/rivers-week-2023.

CEMETERY WILDFLOWERS

As part of our efforts to protect our environment, Aylesbury Town Council has introduced a wildflower area in Tring Road Cemetery. This area will be mown less often to allow wildflowers to flourish which will increase the biodiversity of the cemetery and provide habitat and food sources for pollinators. The Town Council has recently sown their first wildflower seed pulp from our Letters to Heaven post box and we hope that these will flourish.

Although there are daffodils and tulips which have provided a beautiful splash of colour through the early spring, we are hoping to be able to do more planting to provide year round colour.

Amongst the wildflowers, the cemetery has a large number of cowslips growing in several areas. The cowslip is a cousin of the primrose and is also an early spring flower. It was once a common plant of traditional hay meadows, ancient woodlands and hedgerows, but the loss of these habitats has caused a serious decline in its populations. Now fields coloured bright yellow with its nodding heads are a rare sight which is why we are especially pleased to see this beautiful plant thriving in the cemetery.



IMPROVING PLANTERS AT WALTON COURT

The area of Walton Court is home to several large brick planters which were installed many years ago. Unfortunately, they are no longer looking their best, but with some TLC we're positive they can be transformed into something beautiful for everyone to enjoy! Aylesbury Town Council has been granted permission by Fairhive Homes to work alongside the community to clear out the weeds and fill the structures with plants and bulbs to bring colour and joy to the area.

CAN YOU HELP? As the weather warms up, it's a great opportunity to get outside, meet your neighbours and create something special for Walton Court. If you have any suggestions or would like to get involved by helping to clear the planters, put in new plants or assist with weeding and watering longer term, please get in touch by emailing info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk or calling 01296 425678.

LOCAL STUDENTS TAKE ON **GARDENING CHALLENGE**





Four local schools entered this year's Aylesbury in Bloom Garden Competition. In early June, judges Sue Wright and Heather and Ron Murray visited the schools to see how the students had got on with the gardening challenge. The judges award each school an overall number of points to determine whether they receive a bronze, silver, silver gilt or gold award. The results were revealed at an award evening in the gardens of Lindengate in Wendover on Thursday 22 June.











Thomas Hickman School, Edible Garden (Silver), Wildlife Garden (Silver)

The students had grown a wide variety of vegetables. The judges particularly liked the innovative use of solar lights displayed around the trees to attract moths, and in turn, bats, at night time. Birds would also be able to find a nice home somewhere in this garden too.

Elmhurst School, Edible Garden (Silver Gilt)

The judges noted how tidy the garden area was. It's important to keep things maintained and organised. They loved the handmade labels that the children had made to identify the produce grown. A special mention to the radishes!

Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School, Wildlife Garden (Silver Gilt)

There were a nice variety of habitats and the judges loved to see that the relatively new pond is successful and thriving - they even spotted a froglet and a newt! The students are planning to use ladybirds to control aphids instead of using chemicals. The judges noted the students' knowledge and loved their use of recycled containers for growing plants.



Pebble Brook School, Edible Garden (Gold) and Overall Winner

The children were enthusiastic about what they had created. Judges were thoroughly impressed all round with the produce they had grown particularly the kale, cabbages, garlic and onions. They even said their broccoli was of show standard!











Congratulations to all the students and teachers involved in this year's competition. To view photos from the awards night, visit our website at bit.ly/BloomSchools23. The judging for the residents, organisations and businesses categories will take place in July and August with the winners being announced in September. Thank you to Michael Anthony Estate Agents for supporting the competition.

WOF IS FOR WEED

Bill and Brenda are by the water trough. Bob has just drained it, so they have to wait for it to fill. They talk about their allotments.

Bill Hasn't it been a funny old year? Cold, then wet, now dry...

Brenda Yes, but the pests got off to a slow start. The cold snap before Christmas must have hammered them...

Bill And my over-winter brassicas as well!

Brenda Anyway, you seem to be keeping on top of your weeds. I can't see any

at all on your plot. What's the secret?

Bill I pop in most evenings, on my way home from work. A bit of watering and weeding helps me unwind before I get home to face the family.

A quick stab with the hoe and I get the weeds as soon as they show.

It also means that I keep a careful and constant eve on my crops. Any

It also means that I keep a careful and constant eye on my crops. Any problems with pests can be dealt with early – I was able to pinch off the tops of my broad beans at the first sign of blackfly last week...

Brenda Ah, thanks for the reminder. I need to check mine today once I've watered

everything... I can only get here every few days, so that has priority.

Bill I guess that's why you have all those weeds.

Brenda Well, I only deal with weeds if they threaten my crops directly. Anything which could compete for light or water gets

the chop, but otherwise I leave them be. Think of my weeds as green manure, especially those with long roots – bindweed, dandelions and docks. They pump nutrients from deep underground to their leaves. Those leaves are

composted after each pass with the hoe, and end up under my potatoes each spring...

Bill So that explains why your potatoes always do so well!

Brenda I like to think so. Have you noticed that I've stopped mowing the grass under my apple trees? Loads of flowers

have popped up, so it doesn't look unsightly and they should keep the bees and other pollinators going...

Bill They're still weeds. They'll still set seed which will get blown around – making it more difficult for the rest of us to...

Brenda Oh look, Bob's on his way back. We'd better fill up before he drains the trough again.

As overheard by Michael Brimicombe

Weeds, green manure or insect food?



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY AYLESBURY











In April we delivered Dementia Friends sessions to Level 2 and 3 Health and Social Care students at Aylesbury College.

Our Dementia Friends Ambassador has now created more than 3,000 Dementia Friends within the community. A big congratulations to Bee and thank you for your hard work and dedication.

It wouldn't be fair to not join in with the coronation celebrations! The #TuesdayTunes group sung and waved flags to commemorate the historical occasion - great company, great food and a brilliant guiz!

We love hearing your feedback about the Town Council's Dementia Friendly Aylesbury project. Here are a few comments from our recent Dementia Friends sessions:

"Just wanted to say a huge thank you for coming in to lead the Dementia Friends training yesterday - I really enjoyed it and it brought back some lovely memories that I have of my beautiful nan. I enjoyed the memories that Bee brought back about my dear nan and how life must have looked through her eyes. You made the training feel very relaxed and through your own experiences with Papa Smurf this made it feel personal." Beccy, Jonathan Page Play Centre Manager

Thank you to these two Health and Social Care students from Aylesbury College for your fantastic feedback:

"I enjoyed the little activities and the way the lady talking about dementia made it fun so it wasn't a boring talk where you're just listening. She added humour and made it memorable and entertaining."

"I took away an important lesson which is a 'person is more than their dementia'. This shows that Aylesbury Town Council believe people are more than their disabilities."

We're thrilled our monthly **#TuesdayTunes** sessions bring brightness to the participants' days...

"Good engagement, fun, good for social skills, brings people together, great spending time with friends. I enjoy the community participation."

"I spoke to the staff from Avondale Care Home and they said how much everyone had enjoyed the music and dancing. They also said the interaction of everyone in the group was really nice." Teri, volunteer



LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

Aylesbury Town Council is working alongside Talkback UK, an organisation supporting autistic young people to construct two 'Little Free Libraries'. The handcrafted wooden structures will soon be situated in Quarrendon, outside St Peter's Church, and in Walton Court, adjacent to the play areas behind the local shops. The libraries will be built by Talkback UK's social enterprise, The Accessible Workshop. The workshop covers a wide range of woodworking and practical skills, teaching people how to plan and manage projects, as well as how to market and sell.

HOW IT WORKS - The Little Free Libraries will be fully accessible and open to everyone and will provide an opportunity for people to 'take a book or leave a book' free of charge and without the need for membership. The Little Free Libraries will always be open so books can be donated or

borrowed at any time and for any length of time - so there are never any late fees! We want to make sure the books can be stored safely so please, if you have a large number of books you would like to donate, get in touch with Emma at emma.elbadaoui@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01296 425678 so we can arrange for them to be stored safely.



ENTER OUR FAMILY FUN SUMMER COMPETITION AND WIN A TRIP ON THE CANAL!

Looking for something fun to do across the six weeks holidays, either with the kids, friends or just to indulge yourself? Aylesbury Town Council is delighted to be partnering with The Little Trip Boat which is based in the canal basin behind Aylesbury Waterside Theatre.

We are running a family fun summer competition where you could win a fabulous trip on The Little Trip Boat for up to six people. Liz, who owns the business, is an absolute mine of information about the canal and its history.



From Monday 24 July you can complete the online quiz on your phone. The quiz will open your eyes to parts of the town centre you may have missed. Visit bit.ly/AylesburyFamilyQuiz2023 to take part. Entries must be submitted before Saturday 2 September. The highest scoring entry will win the prize. If there are multiple winners, one entry will be selected at random to win this great prize. The winner will be notified on Monday 4 September. Have fun and best of luck!

NFW TOWN MAYOR FORMERLY DECLARED





The official inauguration of Aylesbury's new Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor took place on Friday 19 May at Aylesbury College. Cllr Steven Lambert is the new Mayor of Aylesbury and Cllr Alan Sherwell is Deputy Mayor for 2023-24. More than 180 guests, including Town Councillors, were in attendance.

- Former Mayor, Cllr Tim Dixon, presented the Freda Roberts Community Award to Annette "Silver Owl" Jones, who has been dedicated to Girlguiding in Buckinghamshire since 1988.
- To conclude his 2022-23 mayoral year, Cllr Tim Dixon, presented a cheque of £10,560.15 to representatives from one of his chosen charities of the year - Emmett's Genies.
- It was announced 57 tonnes of items were donated through Cllr Dixon's 10 Tonne Challenge and a cheque of £14,539 was presented to representatives from Aylesbury Foodbank.
- The new Town Mayor, Cllr Steven Lambert, announced his chosen charities of the year - Youth Concern, Age UK Buckinghamshire Aylesbury branch and the continuation of the legacy of the Mayor's 10 Tonne Challenge.
- The evening was compered by DJ Dan Blaze and guests enjoyed a two-course meal prepared and served by Aylesbury College students.



Photos ©Laura McG Photography

UPCOMING **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

All meetings commence at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, HP20 2QP. Please visit aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk or the main noticeboard at the Town Hall for all agendas and all dates for 2023-24.

JULY 2023

Tuesday 25 - Communities

Monday 31 - Planning and Licensing

AUGUST 2023

Monday 14 - Planning and Licensing

Tuesday 29 - Planning and Licensing

SEPTEMBER 2023

Monday 11 - Planning and Licensing

Wednesday 13 - Direct Services

Thursday 14 - Town Council

Monday 25 - Planning and Licensing

Tuesday 26 - Communities

Wednesday 27 - Finance

OCTOBER 2023

Monday 9 - Planning and Licensing

Wednesday 11 - Policy

Thursday 12 - Town Council

Please check with the Town Hall to make sure that the scheduled meeting has not been changed or cancelled.

FREE RECYCLED COFFEE GROUNDS TO **MAKE YOUR GARDEN GROW**

You might be thinking about your garden and how to make your summer displays flourish in the warmer months. Did you know that adding coffee grounds directly to the soil as a fertiliser can be a good option? Coffee grounds are rich in nutrients, especially nitrogen. They contain nutrients like potassium and phosphorous. As well as being a fertiliser, the grounds can protect your plants from pests like slugs and snails. The grounds are abrasive, meaning these pests won't like crawling over them to get to your plants.

Aylesbury Town Council works with local coffee shops in the town centre who recycle their used coffee grounds. They are provided with pouches to use to give the grounds away. Pick up a free pouch from: The Works, Esquires, Temple Coffee, The Coffee Tree, Coffee Corner, Thailicious, Costa Coffee Odeon, Rococo Lounge, Wimpy, Starbucks, Malebon, Iannelli's, Stay & Play, Discover Bucks Museum, Just the Crust and MORE+ Coffee. If you would like more information contact diane.harrison@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Please be aware that coffee beans, grounds and brewed coffee contains caffeine which is a toxic chemical to cats and dogs. Ingestion can be life threatening.



BORROW-A-BOOK SCHEME

Reading is a favourite past time for people of all ages, it relaxes us and is good for our wellbeing and mental health. Did you know that 1 in 15 children do not own a book? Aylesbury Town Council aims to help residents access books without spending any money through their Borrow-a-Book scheme. The scheme has been rolled out to a number of businesses in town.

The way it works is simple. Book donations are dropped off to participating businesses, a small space is dedicated to the Borrow-a-Book library and customers come in and select or swap a book.

Businesses that are involved are: Tilly's, The Coffee Tree, Bright Young Things, The Harrow, Temple Coffee, Starbucks, The Secret Grocery, Fireaway Pizza, The Library Bar, Rococo Lounge, Just Baguettes, Aylesbury Eco Stores, Wok Warrior and Just the Crust.

SHOP DISPLAYS GET A THUMBS-UP FROM TOWN MAYOR



Aylesbury Town Council is delighted to support local businesses through their initiatives. Our Best Dressed Shop Display competitions have proved to be very popular among town centre businesses in the last 12 months.

In April, businesses dressed their displays all things Easter. The former Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Tim Dixon, judged all 19 displays and chose **Aylesbury Ecostores/Rabbit Retail** as the winners. They won a three-month advertising campaign on Bucks Radio. Congratulations to Aylesbury Eco Stores owner Deanna and Rabbit Retail owner, Anna.

Florence Nightingale
HOSPICE CHARITY
WWW.Inhospice.org.uk

Town centre businesses had another chance to show off their creativity with their Coronation-themed displays. **Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity** shop on the High Street was crowned the winner. Congratulations to Carol and her team who won a £75 meal voucher for a restaurant in Aylesbury. We hope you enjoy your night out.

ALFRESCO IN AYLESBURY

Go Alfresco in Aylesbury this summer, relax and unwind in many of the cafés, pubs and restaurants that have relaxing outside spaces for you to enjoy. Pavement cafés, beautiful courtyards, roof top bars and relaxing beer gardens are all available in town.

Ease into your day with a coffee or grab a spot of lunch with friends, afternoon tea with family, drinks with colleagues after work or a meal out - there is something to suit everyone from dawn to dusk. So why not go Alfresco in Aylesbury?

You'll find somewhere to sit in the sunshine at the following places: Rococo Lounge, The Grill Steakhouse, Craftyard, Opuz, The Manor, Miya Japanese Grill & Bar, Herali, Vietnamese Street Food, The King's Head, Wagamama, Zizzi, The Harrow, The Coffee Tree, The Coffee Corner, Tilly's, La Salute, Esquires Coffee, The Egg & Monkey, Thailicious, The Rockwood, The Queens Head, Iannellis, Discover Bucks Museum, Meat 'n' Eat, The White Hart Aylesbury, Café Nero, Costa, Robus Deli, Temple Coffee, Nando's, Basin Café and Just the Crust.



A HERITAGE TRAIL RIGHT AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Aylesbury Town Council has launched a digital heritage trail in partnership with the 'Trail Tale' app which features more than 140 trails across the country. Both the app and heritage trail are totally free to download and offer a great insight into some of the history of Aylesbury. It is a great way to explore the town we live in and learn. The app will allow you to do as little or as much as you fancy. It's easy to access...



- 2) Open the app and search 'Aylesbury'.
- 3) Tap the map and away you go!





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? 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 give us your contact details so that we can reply to you.



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 on 01296 425678 or email rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk There is no charge for community groups and charities.

Older people across Bucks are the heart and soul of our communities - working, volunteering, caring, and childminding. They help make our worlds go round. But when the challenges of older age feel overwhelming, and someone's own world shrinks, Age UK **Buckinghamshire** is there to support them.



We are delighted to have been chosen, alongside Youth Concern, as Aylesbury Town Mayoral Charity of the Year. With this fabulous year of support from Mayor Cllr Steve Lambert, we will champion those who might feel marginalised and isolated due to their age and stage in life. Based in Meadowcroft ourselves, we can't wait to reach even more older residents in Aylesbury and recruit more fantastic volunteers.



We work with 4,000 local older people a year, nearly 1,000 of them in Aylesbury Vale. We urgently need more volunteers. Can you help?



175 Befriending volunteers help us tackle isolation and loneliness – but we have another 100 people waiting for a befriender - could that be you?



Our support and applications secured £1.6m worth of new welfare benefits for Bucks residents in 2022-23 – with your help, we can do even more as living costs rise.





We've settled hundreds of patients back into their own homes through our Stoke Mandeville Hospital Discharge Support Service – help us free up beds and get patients settled safely at home!

To support older local people in Aylesbury, do say "hi" at our stand at this year's Mayor's events. Ask us about volunteering opportunities and if you know of an older person that needs our help, get in touch visit ageuk.org.uk/buckinghamshire email age@ageukbucks.org.uk or call 01296 431911 (9:30am-1:30pm).

AYLESBURY UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE (UTC) OPEN **NEW HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FACILITY**



An Aylesbury secondary school has opened a new health and social care facility for its students at an event attended by Rob Butler MP and former education secretary Lord Baker. Aylesbury UTC on Oxford Road has launched the new facility to meet a demand from local employers for skilled workers. The health and social care suite will allow students to learn a variety of skills with state-of-the-art equipment in areas that replicate a working environment, including a hospital ward, home living area, assessment room and physiotherapy and reablement area.

Students, staff and governors celebrate UTC's new facility

The opening of the suite included a morning and afternoon event, with both featuring a demonstration by health and social care students of their skills and what they will be learning in the new facility.

The morning event was attended by special guests Rob Butler MP and Lord Baker, the latter of whom now chairs the Baker Dearing Educational Trust that supports the over 40-strong network of UTCs including Aylesbury. The two were joined by staff, governors and employers that are partnered with the UTC, and representatives from the school's parent body, Merchant Taylors' Oxfordshire Academy Trust.

Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Buckinghamshire Business First, Buckinghamshire New University, and Buckinghamshire College Group are supporting the new facility.



EKFB Working in partnership with HS2

HS2 IN AYLESBURY

The past few years we have been working towards a large milestone around the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury (PRA) line. This year we have begun the final preparation works for a 10-week closure of the existing railway line, known as a blockade.

This planned closure will be between Saturday 19 August and Monday 30 October 2023. We will be working 24 hours a day to allow for the construction of a new realignment and commissioning the live line on the new track. After the blockade, there will be some further railway possessions work from Network Rail.

The realignment, which is only around 20m from the original line, is integral to keeping the Network Rail line open as HS2 passes through, and the team have to work carefully in line with Network Rail regulations to construct it around regular passenger and freight services. Once the blockade has been completed, we will continue to construct the HS2 line and the Stoke Mandeville relief road within this area.

If you would like to find out more information about how these works may affect you, we have several events in the area over the coming months. There will be members of our construction and engagement team on hand to provide updates, videos and answer any questions you may have. Visit hs2.org.uk/events to find your nearest event.

Alternatively, join us for our next event for residents in the Hawkslade area on Tuesday 15 August, 10am-3pm at Hawkslade Community Centre, Orwell Drive, Hawkslade Farm, Aylesbury. Please contact the HS2 Helpdesk or visit hs2inyourarea.co.uk for more information on works in your area.

STOKE MANDEVILLE SPINAL RESEARCH

Aylesbury-based charity Stoke Mandeville Spinal Research (SMSR) is delighted to announce that it is almost halfway to hitting its £100,000 fundraising target - a special 10th anniversary year milestone, thanks to the generosity and support of local businesses, schools, and the community.



Businesses including Aylesbury Waterside Theatre have been helping to raise funds, with postshow collections and donations from sales of children's booster cushions throughout 2023. Aylesbury's Gerald Simonds Healthcare has also backed the anniversary year by partnering with them as an Anniversary Ambassador and continues to support the charity's Wheels at Work initiative.

Local schools have been getting involved too with Kingsbrook View Primary Academy hosting a disability awareness event and mufti day to educate pupils about spinal cord injury whilst raising funds. From abseiling and cycle challenges, to brave the shave fundraisers, and a Superhero Triathlon taking place on Saturday 12 August at the Olympics rowing lake near Windsor, there really are a variety of fun ways to get involved in supporting Stoke Mandeville Spinal Research's anniversary year!

ORGANISING A QUIZ NIGHT?

If you are a local pub, community group, rotary club, or organisation hosting a quiz night (or any other event!) in the future, please consider the charity as the beneficiary, in recognition of this special year and help us to achieve our £100,000 target.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Kate Favell on 01296 315255 or email kate.favell@smsr.org.uk lifeafterparalysis.com

VOLUNTEER WITH AYLESBURY-BASED CANCER CHARITY LYMPHOMA ACTION

Did you know that every 26 minutes someone is diagnosed with lymphoma, a type of blood cancer? Today, 55 people, including one person under the age of 24, will be told they have lymphoma. From the Lymphoma Action head offices in Smeaton Close, we help thousands of people affected by the UK's fifth most common cancer, their carers and 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 office. This would be to assist us with general office and administration tasks either on an occasional basis or a

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. We take great pride in ensuring volunteering with us is a fulfilling and rewarding experience. If you live nearby, we would love to have you join our team of office volunteers. To find out more about volunteering with us, visit lymphoma-action.org.uk/volunteering or call 01296 619415.

few times a month.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPICE CHARITY PROUDLY PRESENTS THE WIZ





Tickets are on sale for the community production of The Wiz, presented by Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity, coming to Aylesbury Waterside Theatre on Sunday 27 August 2023. The Wiz is a super-soulful, musical retelling of L. Frank Baum's classic children's story, The Wizard of Oz. Packed full of gospel, soul, rock, and groovy 70s funk, you're invited to follow the yellow brick road and be transported into a magical world of witches and wizards! The show will star more than 100 local children and raise money to fund specialist palliative and end-of-life care services for patients across Buckinghamshire and its borders.

Produced in partnership with Bucks Music Trust and Aylesbury Community Board and sponsored by many local businesses, including Lightfoot Solicitors and Barratt Homes, the project aims to bring the local community together for a performance that raises vital funds for the hospice. For more information and to buy your tickets visit fnhospice.org.uk/thewiztickets

THE CHRISTMAS **CRAFT AND GIFT FAIR RETURNS**



Local traders have the opportunity to be part of the ever-popular Aylesbury Christmas Craft & Gift Fair when it returns to take place in the town's historic Market Square.

The event, which is organised by Buckinghamshire Council, takes place between 11am-4pm on Sunday 3 December.

The fair will feature a number of stallholders offering a variety of unique and lovingly crafted items, including jewellery, candles and other handmade gifts for your loved ones. If you are



interested in taking a stall, you can do so by contacting the organisers on econdev@buckinghamshire.gov.uk



There will also be a range of other festive products on offer, as well as live music, children's activities and other seasonal delights. The Christmas Craft & Gift Fair runs every year in the lead up to the holiday season. It coincides with Small Business Saturday.

For the latest information on the event, see visitaylesbury.co.uk.

LIGHT ON BUCKINGHAMSHIRE'S PAST

The Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society - founded in 1847 - has always had its principal base in Aylesbury. However, its interests and publications span the entirety of the 'historic county' including Eton, Linslade and the area later to be included in the City of Milton Keynes.

In 1862 the society created the first museum in the town in order to show its growing collection of objects, artworks and manuscripts. Today it still owns most of the buildings of the present museum – the splendid **Discover Bucks** Museum in Church Street now managed by a trust – and also a significant proportion of the collections.

When first founded its membership consisted largely of county gentry and clerics; only those who were formally proposed could join! Today, long registered as a charity, anyone with an interest in the county's fascinating past is most welcome. It has an excellent website bas1.org.uk which, apart from providing information on its current lecture programme, the society's library, and its other activities, has a searchable index to the Records of Buckinghamshire, its annual publication.

So, for example, if you want to know about Bierton's history, Beaconsfield's church, the hillfort on Ivinghoe Beacon, or Olney's watermill - head for our website!

To learn more about what the society does join us in Aylesbury's Market Square on Saturday 9 September 10am-4pm when you can also try your hand at sorting out the 'The Muddled Museum'. It's a Heritage Open Days event - kids and adults welcome and it's free!



An archaeologist stands on the base of Aylesbury's Iron Age hillfort ditch (this length is now beneath Prebendal Court). No longer anywhere visible on the surface, the hillfort's bank and ditch was eventually to contain the whole of early Aylesbury and its church.

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

AYLESBURY TOWN'S **NEW MAYOR**

It is an honour to be elected as Mayor of our town. As I start this civic year, I'd like to thank the former Mayor, Cllr Tim Dixon, for an extraordinary year representing our town in this significant Coronation year and for the inspirational way he approached raising awareness of Aylesbury Foodbank through the 10 Tonne Challenge and for Emmett's Genies. Residents, groups and organisations collectively donated 57 tonnes of items for the Aylesbury Foodbank which is incredible.



One of my first engagements as Town Mayor was a visit to the Intensive Care Unit at **Stoke Mandeville Hospital** where they were celebrating International Day of Nursing. It was a treat to meet them as well as Kali the support dog!



I have met with small businesses at Aylesbury Buzz hearing about the challenges facing our local economy and spent time with some of the specialist nursing team of Florence Nightingale Hospice. I danced at not one, but two, SEND discos – even if I can't dance, I had an absolute ball with these extraordinary young people!



I also had the honour of awarding Alderman Ray James a long service award for serving our town's Royal British Legion for an astonishing 60 years and learned that our local branch had raised £68,000 in last year's Poppy Appeal!



As Mayor, you have the opportunity to choose local causes close to your heart to fundraise for during your mayoral year. While my aim is shining a light on and supporting as many of our local charities and organisations as I can, I have chosen Youth Concern and Age UK, Aylesbury and will be continuing to support Aylesbury's Foodbank.







I have been involved with Youth Concern since 2007, a local charity supporting young people from the age of 13 to 25 across and beyond Aylesbury Vale through their Dropin Centre, counselling service and homelessness projects as well as their unique Night Stop Service, Next Steps project and Youth Foodbank. They are inclusive but specialise in helping vulnerable or disadvantaged young people and are there for, and respond to, young people when they need us most.

Age UK, Aylesbury's Befriending Plus Service - I have seen first-hand how loneliness can be devastating to older citizens. Lockdown made this more acute for so many who have been unable to re-establish their sense of community. The aim of the Befriending Plus Service is to enhance quality of life and alleviate social isolation by fulfilling emotional and practical needs. They match trained volunteers to older people who have limited social contact. This regular contact can make a real difference to an older person's life as they try to pair clients with volunteers who have shared interests and experiences.

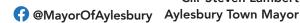
Aylesbury Foodbank

While I grew up in a loving warm and nurturing family home, the 1970s was hard on so many, my own family included. Food wasn't always plentiful – neither was gas, water, or electricity as my parents, like many, balanced way too many plates to raise their family. Today, many families face the same challenges. Building on the legacy of the Mayor's 10 Tonne Challenge, I am continuing to support Aylesbury Foodbank.



Our town is a vibrant community with extraordinary reach, a rich diversity of language, culture and religion. I look forward to meeting so many of you at the Town Council's events over the next few months.

Scan here to support the Mayor's charities. Thank you.



Cllr Steven Lambert

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS

The grants committee meet four times per year to discuss grant applications from local people. The following grants were recently awarded:

£900 to Southcourt Baptist Church towards equipment for the Southcourt Boxing Club.

£473 to Friday Social and Bingo Club towards a fish and chip meal and drinks for group members.

£2,000 to ISA Cricket Club towards the club's expenses.

£1,000 to Aylesbury Hindu Temple Trust towards the Holi Spring Festival event.

£5,000 to Citizens Advice towards staff costs to offer a document drop-in and appointment based service for vulnerable clients Aylesbury.



To find out more about the Town Council's grants programme, visit bit.ly/AylesburyTownCouncilGrants



We opened our doors to parents and carers at our King's Coronation Parent Evening on Wednesday 3 May. It was great to see everyone and show them our brilliant facilities and outdoor spaces. We decked the Play Centre from head to toe with red, white and blue bunting and even made our own throne which everyone enjoyed sitting on, as well as having a go at fun crafts and games.

We're really proud of what we do here at the Play Centre and welcome you to pay us a visit if you are thinking about booking your child(ren) in to join us at our Holiday Playschemes and/or After School Clubs. Did you know we offer school pick-ups from St Louis School, Buckingham Park School, Thomas Hickman School and Elmhurst School? We welcome children from age 4 up to their 13th birthday.

As we write this, we're busy planning our six weeks of fun at our Summer Playscheme (24 July to 1 September). We'll be creating arts, crafts and using our imaginations during each themed week - Walking Through the Rainforest, Camping Out, Let's Go Fishing, I Can Be An Artist, Sculptures and People Who Help Us.

We may still have slots available by the time this issue lands on your doormat but this can't be guaranteed. For further information please email jppplaycentre@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk or give us a call on **01296 336413**.

If you're 17+ years and are looking for casual work we'd love you to be part of our team. We're looking for Casual Playworkers to provide high quality care at our Holiday Playschemes and After School Club. Get in touch with Beccy on the above number and email address if you would like to find out more.



Discover Bucks Museum

This summer we are delighted to host a wonderfully humorous, hands-on exhibition combining art, science and engineering that will delight visitors of all ages. Mechanics Alive! celebrates the fascinating world of automata (beautifully handcrafted mechanical sculptures) and displays them alongside hands-on science exhibits that show children how they work. Press a button



©Cabaret Mechanical Theatre Science Projects

and marvel as these mini masterpieces come to life. The automata are from the collection of Cabaret Mechanical Theatre whose exhibits have been seen by over 10 million people worldwide. There will also be special craft days inspired by the exhibition for children to get creative. Check our website for dates and times. Mechanics Alive! opens on Saturday 22 July and runs until Saturday 2 September 2023.

Also during the summer, the Museum's walled garden will have a variety of activities and games for children to play with and explore. For more hands-on fun visit the fabulous Roald Dahl Children's Gallery where you will find exhibits inspired by Roald Dahl's children's stories.

And there's more to discover in the main museum where our wonderful new galleries take you on a journey through 200 million years of Bucks' history. There's a garden café and gift shop too. Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP. For times, charges and to book please visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

AYLESBURY VALE STITCHERS

Aylesbury Vale Stitchers are a group of people who love anything to do with thread, fabric and textiles. We love to welcome visitors and stitching experience is needed, just an interest in anything textiles. We have speakers visiting us and talking on a variety of topics. Talks coming up include goldwork, textile design, restoring a also offer two workshops each year where you can have a go at something new.

For more information and details of the full programme for 2023, please email us on aylesburyvalestitchers@gmail.com. We would love to see you. There is a charge of £7 for visitors and annual membership is also available.

SUMMER **ACTIVITIES**

Kick-start your creativity at Aylesbury's Queens Park Arts Centre (QPAC) this summer with an exciting programme of creative workshops



across the holidays! With children and teens workshops in pottery, crochet, ink and watercolour art clubs, why not try something new and explore your creative side this summer? There's also an adult pottery summer school and inspiring free-to-view exhibitions for everyone to come and enjoy at your local arts centre.

As well as an extensive summer programme of activities, QPAC will also be taking part in the **Buckinghamshire** Culture Open Weekend on 27-30 July with a weekend of family-friendly fun including theatre performances, art exhibitions and creative workshops. There are two free-toattend performances in the Limelight Theatre on Saturday



29 July of 'Aquatic Tales' a brand-new show full of seaside stories and underwater worlds from our award-winning theatre company Unbound. The gallery and coffee bar will host two freeto-view art exhibitions inspired by the theme

'One World' from artists Zeena Morris and Russell Weekes. Zeena will also be running a special forest inspired textile workshop on Sunday 30 July.

QPAC is also the home to SDSD dance school who are running their own summer classes for young people from street to tap, musical theatre, ballet and many more! Visit www.sdsd.dance for full details.

For more information about QPAC's summer programme and events, visit queensparkarts.com and follow @queensparkarts on social media.

AYLESBURY CHORAL SOCIETY

Autumn rehearsals will begin on Tuesday 5 September in preparation for our next concert, which will take place at St Mary's, Aylesbury on Saturday 25 **November**. The chorus, with orchestral accompaniment, will be performing J S Bach's Christmas Oratorio, one of the masterpieces of the choral repertoire.

The Society welcomes new members. Rehearsals take place from 7:30-9:30pm on Tuesdays at the Church on Fairford Leys. There is adequate parking nearby. Please come along and make yourself known. For more information visit our website www.aylesburychoral.org.uk or contact the chairman, Chris Dalladay, at acschairman@gmail.com.

LOCAL CYCLING GROUP GETS A NEW NAME!

Aylesbury CTC (Cyclist Touring Club) has changed its name to 'Aylesbury Cycling UK'. This local club is part of the national club Cycling UK, which changed its own name from the CTC in 2012 to reflect its changing role and now Aylesbury CTC want to do the same. In the early 20th century touring was the mainstay of the CTC, but cycling has evolved and far less people tour on bikes. Now Cycling UK's emphasis is on encouraging people from all walks of life to take up cycling, whether it's just popping out to the shops, down to the pub, or joining group rides like those run by Aylesbury Cycling UK.

Last June with the help of Aylesbury Town Matters magazine, the club launched a new programme of leisure rides. These have proved very successful with up to 20 people joining its regular Sunday rides. The rides all have leaders and alternate weekly between Newcomer and Easy Pace rides. The Newcomers are 15 to 20 miles at a nice, relaxed pace, and the Easy Pace a bit further up to 30 miles. Some of the new riders hadn't cycled since childhood but have become the mainstay of the group.



This year under its new name the club hope to build on their success and encourage even more people to join their rides. It's not just about the pleasure of cycling, it's about meeting new people, making friends, seeing our beautiful countryside and having the safety and support of group riding. For those who want to stretch themselves a bit more, Aylesbury Cycling UK also run faster Step Up and Moderate rides. Further information can be found on the website aylesburycyclingclub.org or email aylesburycuk@gmail.com

AYLESBURY VALE DYNAMOS FC FREE GIRLS' FOOTBALL TRAINING



To celebrate the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023, Aylesbury Vale Dynamos FC are hosting a summer of free girls' football training. The club is an FA-approved centre to deliver Weetabix Wildcats

and Squad Girls' Football. Training is on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings at Bedgrove Park until Saturday 26 August. The sessions are for ages 5-15 and open to girls of all abilities, from complete beginners to girls who already play football.

"We had an amazing response to the free training we offered last summer to coincide with the Women's EURO tournament," says Head of Wildcats and Squad, Hayley Thomas. "We're hoping that the Lionesses lift the World Cup and inspire even more girls to take up the beautiful game."

England's opening game of the Women's World Cup against Haiti is on Saturday 22 July and the club will be showing the game live on the big screen at their clubhouse in Haywood Way. "We'll be running Wildcats and Squad before the game so that the girls can cheer on the Lionesses," says Hayley.

Aylesbury Vale Dynamos has been nominated for two Berks & Bucks FA Grassroots Football Awards for girls' football, including Female Coach of the Year for Hayley.

As well as looking for new players, the club are looking for volunteer coaches and sponsors for the upcoming season. For more information on either playing, coaching or sponsoring, email avdfcgirls@gmail.com, call/text 07517 643152 or search for @avdfcgirls on social media.

HAZELLS BOWLS CLUB **CENTENARY EVENTS**



Hazells Bowls Club of Shakespeare Way, Aylesbury was founded in 1923 as a section of the former Hazell Watson & Viney Sports & Social Club.

The club has a membership in excess of 80 players with all members competing as equals. It runs social events as well as both competitive and friendly bowls matches and all playing members are encouraged to take part. There is a section specially for partially sighted members. The club also has non-playing members who are entitled to join in social activities and make use of the clubhouse. The clubhouse features a fully equipped bar and kitchen and can cater for private events.

To celebrate the Centenary, a major series of events are planned throughout the year. Arrangements to date are:

Thursday 7 September - Six mixed triples Hazells Bowls Club v Bucks Bowls Association

Friday 29 September - Special Night of Music at Hazells Bowls Club 7pm for 7:30pm start

Saturday 28 October - Centenary Dinner Dance at Weston Turville Golf Club, live music and three course meal, followed by tea and coffee

For further information contact:

Dave Day, Press Officer 01296 484382, 07743 479752,

David Edwards, Secretary 01296 582499, 07964

diddy11cg@talktalk.net

693843, pinballstar@virginmedia.com Steve McNeill, Club Captain steve@haydonhome.co.uk Tom Holland, Hon President 01296 580953,

holland_t@sky.com



Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map

Ward: Gatehouse



07834 995690



07832 913171



07709 923308

Ward: Central



07511 388978



07956 802402

Ward: Elmhurst



07799 878059



07799 074411





07438 958347



01296 395511

Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Nidhi Mehta 07507 124756

Ward: Hawkslade



07809 615840

Cllr Richard Lloyd 07887 685345

Ward: Southcourt



Cllr Niknam Hussain 07540 842407



Cllr Waheed Raja 07969 056877

Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



Cllr Sue Chapple 01296 426814



Cllr Roger King 01296 482812



Cllr Denise Summers 01296 424903

Ward: **Bedgrove**



Cllr Rai Khan 07958 214480



Cllr David Thompson 07836 694463



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

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 Weekend, Soapbox Derby, Aylesbury on Sea, Christmas on the Cobbles along with other free events
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Free 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





YOUTH **CONCERN**

As one of the Mayor's charities for 2023-24, Youth Concern and Age UK Bucks look forward to continuing to serve Aylesbury Vale's residents this year.

For more information (e.g Drop-in Centre opening hours, how to access counselling or housing guidance), scan the QR code below to visit our website or come and talk to us at one of the Mayor's events this summer!



Code Ninjas is the world's fastest-growing in-person Coding and STEM Club for kids with over 400 locations worldwide operating a proven, proprietary coding curriculum. Code Ninjas Aylesbury is now operating from Buckinghamshire New University



Campus on Walton Street. Over 100 local kids between the ages of 5 and 14 years are now learning to code there. The programmes are very flexible - Ninjas can join anytime and use their hours on any of the sessions in the week.



Kids have a blast and cannot wait to come back. Parents are updated of progress as their Ninjas gain confidence and resilience plus other future career-enhancing skills including coding, logic, critical-thinking, and problem-solving.

However, Code Ninjas Aylesbury Director Robin Theakston does not just point to the technology to explain the Club's success: "Sure our technology platform is amazing and the kids code in world-class environments. But while we see more and more 'learn to code on your own' online platforms pop up, I feel people are forgetting to ask if kids are learning anything. Code Ninjas takes a different approach. We believe

children learn best not just by the latest innovation, but when they are supported by a caring mentor (our Code Senseis) and peers who are learning right beside them. So while kids can work through our programmes at their own pace and code amazing video games, they always have access to in-person help from a guide who wants to see them succeed." Visit **codeninjas.co.uk** to learn more.

GIDDY UP!

As part of their 'Wild West' topic, our Reception classes were visited by two ponies, Banjo and Teddy. The ponies really enjoyed their visit to our school! They spent the day with the children being stroked, being brushed and being made to look very pretty by having clips put in their hair! The children also got to speak to Banjo and Teddy's owners, who told them all about looking after horses and what they would have been used for in the Wild West. I am pleased to say that all of the children loved their visit from Banjo and Teddy. It was a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

Andy Thorpe, Assistant Head, William Harding School



RUNDOWN OF YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

We've been busy supporting our community over the last few months. We just wanted to say thank you to everyone we have met who have made us feel welcome! We also wanted to congratulate our new incoming Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Steven Lambert and Deputy Mayor, Cllr Alan Sherwell and thank them both for inviting us to their Mayor Making ceremony.











St George's Day

MY YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL JOURNEY



I had always felt that there were limited activities for young people 'like me' who were not interested in creative or performing arts. Therefore, I decided to explore the opportunities within the community and discovered the Aylesbury Youth Town Council, a group for young people in Aylesbury that voice their opinions and contribute to the community. Since joining, I have volunteered at Aylesbury Town Council's Christmas on the Cobbles and the St George's Day celebration and at Aylesbury Foodbank. Through volunteering, I have gained confidence, a sense of achievement and have improved my communication skills.

The exposure led me to learning about Youth Voice Bucks (which I am now a member of) and led to me having the opportunity to take part in planning the first Bucks Youth Summit, which brought together over 140 students from different schools to discuss the most pressing issues. The summit included eight different conversation spaces. Although I could not attend all the spaces, I attended three: Feeling Safe and Protected, The Space for Creative Thinking, and Mental Health. Of the three, I found the Mental Health space the most interesting and impactful. We engaged in a silent debate on climate change and learnt about its impact on mental health. We also discussed nature's role in promoting mental health and how we could put this into practice as a young person. Overall, the summit was an engaging experience and I look forward to next year's event!

Chidum Eke, Youth Town Councillor

When you hear the word STEM, what comes to mind? For some, it's engineering, numbers, equations, experiments, and technology. However, there is much more to STEM than just those elements. STEM encompasses a broad field of study and practices that are rapidly evolving and expanding as more industries make use of technology to augment human practices. In fact, the new word is STEAM, which incorporates the arts alongside science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.



There are two reasons that caught my interest about the industry. The first is that it equips me with the necessary skills, experiences, and tools to make a positive impact in society. By being part of the STEAM industry, I've been able to address and solve human problems and challenges using innovative solutions, which have inspired me to continually improve.

Secondly, STEAM is a discipline that emphasises continuous learning and curiosity, enabling me to cultivate a lifelong passion for learning. Currently women hold only 26% of jobs in STEM industries, and predictions forecast that by 2030, this number will increase to about 30%. By being an early professional female in STEAM and working at a coding club, it has inspired me to become a role model that younger generations can learn from and be motivated to explore opportunities in this field as it provides a platform for them to express their creativity while making a difference.

Adebusiola Ola-Adebomi, Youth Town Councillor



Performed by Aylesbury Concert Band with Alison Langer and Lawrence Thackery

Featuring a variety of Disney tunes alongside popular Proms classics



SUNDAY 27 AUGUST Vale Park, Aylesbury

Arrive with picnics from 6:30pm Concert begins 7:15pm Fireworks at approx. 9:30pm







