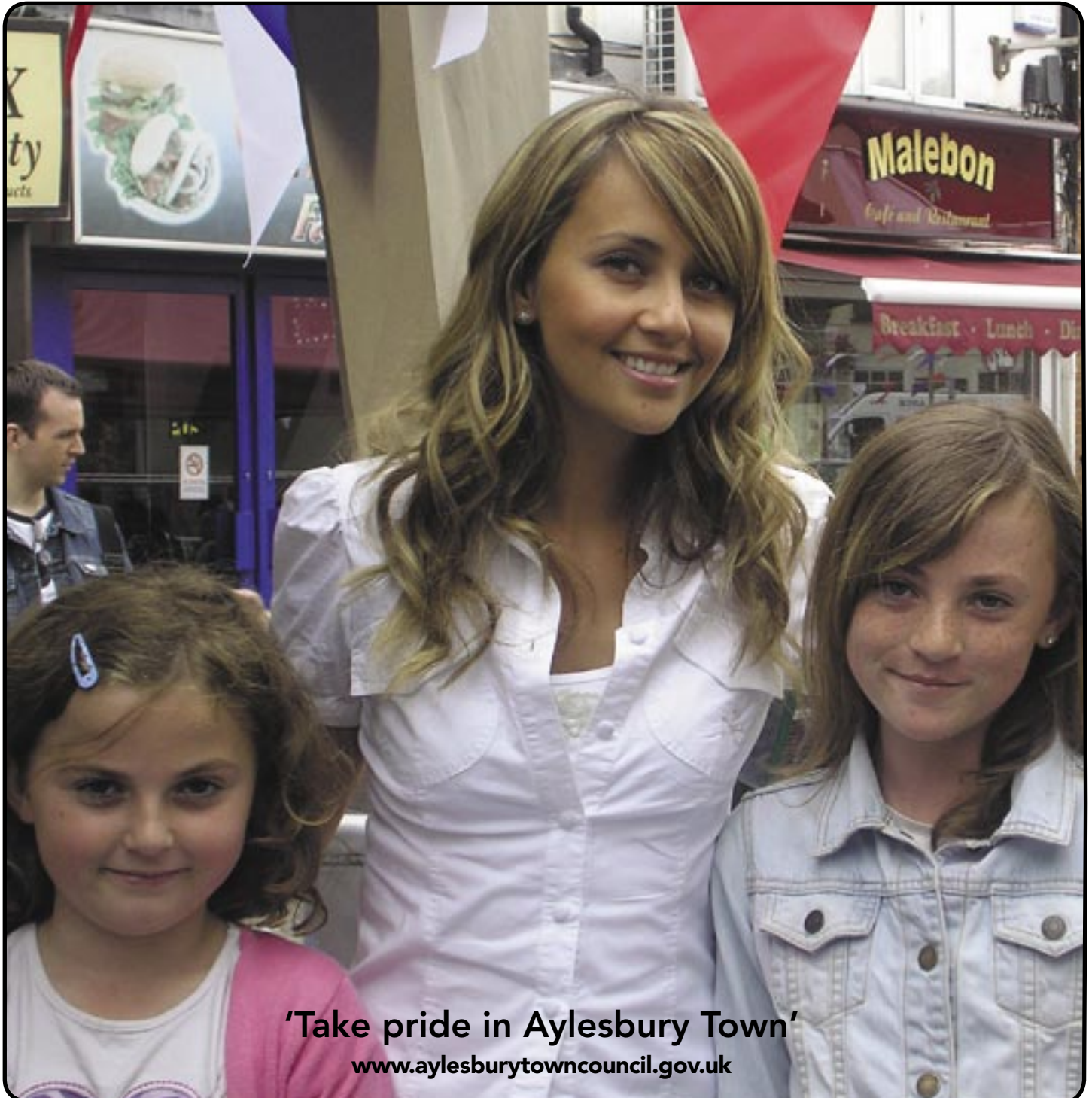


Aylesbury Town matters

Aylesbury Town Council Magazine
Issue Six September 2007



Bringing information that matters to the people of Aylesbury



'Take pride in Aylesbury Town'

www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

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Contact Details:

Aylesbury Town Council
5 Church Street, Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire HP20 2QP

Telephone: **01296 425678**
Facsimile: **01296 426134**
Email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Visit our website:
www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Opening hours:
Monday - Thursday 8.45 am - 5.15 pm
Friday 8.45 am - 4.45 pm

Cover photograph: Samia Smith from ITV's
Coronation Street at Aylesbury's End of the
Pier Show. Courtesy of Pat Phillips.

Welcome Note

Welcome to the latest edition of Aylesbury Town Matters. As you will see in the following pages, it has been a very busy Summer in Aylesbury. The damp weather did not deter people from enjoying themselves. In this issue we have a lot of news about what Aylesburians have been doing for their own localities.

If you have organised a festival or fun day, or set up any kind of neighbourhood scheme to improve the quality of life in your area, we would love to hear from you. And it may be that we can help, financially or by working with you. Please contact us and let us know what you have been up to. We'd love to hear!

I hope you enjoy our latest offering and continue to feed back with ideas and suggestions. We value your contributions enormously.

Cllr Steve Patrick
Leader of the Council

Contact

If you would like any further information on anything in this magazine, or if you would like to contribute to the next issue, please contact: Margaret Wagstaffe, Town Clerk at Aylesbury Town Council Offices, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks., HP20 2QP Tel: 01296 425678 or email: m.wagstaffe@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

and Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the Members and Staff of Aylesbury Town Council for their help in the production of this magazine.
Margaret Wagstaffe, Town Clerk

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

This Summer in Aylesbury

Cadet Sunday & Re-Badging Ceremony

Buckinghamshire (The Rifles) Army Cadets were issued with new cap badges during a parade around Market Square at an official ceremony held on Sunday 17 June.

A reception followed at the TA Headquarters in Oxford Road. Aylesbury Town Mayor Cllr Mrs Jenny Puddefoot attended the March Past and officiated at the ceremonial badge change.



Photo courtesy of Maurice Cousins



Photo by Maurice Cousins

John Wilkes Day

The Town Council celebrated the 250th anniversary of the election of John Wilkes, the "Father of English Liberties", as MP for Aylesbury on the 8 July with an 18th Century Garden Party.

Visitors were entertained with a play about Wilkes' stand against the government of the day, 18th Century minuet dancers and musicians, and speeches and ballads from his political campaigns. A delicious cream tea was served by the students from Aylesbury College. The commemoration day was very successful and the Town Council plans to make this an annual event.

Summer Fun

Aylesbury's Summer Fun Day and End of the Pier show was opened by Samia Smith, star of Coronation Street.

Despite the damp, Samia gamely signed autographs and posed for photos with Aylesbury Residents. She later commented that she had enjoyed her visit enormously. She thought that Aylesbury was a lovely Town and its residents were delightful people.



Photo courtesy of Roger King

Aylesbury Street Festival

Throughout the summer, residents and visitors were entertained with a series of concerts organised by Aylesbury Town Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council, in collaboration with the Town Centre Partnership.

Unpredictable though the weather may have been, it didn't stop the people of Aylesbury turning out in large numbers to enjoy the bands and tribute artists who entertained them with a mixture of old and new favourites covering music to suit every taste.



Photo courtesy of Roger King

Margaret Wagstaffe

What's on in Aylesbury this Autumn?

Heritage Day on Saturday 8 September (free admission), will be attractive to those who are interested in Aylesbury's historic buildings.

Assemble at the Old Corn Exchange Arches, Market Square, at 11.00 am or 2.30 pm for tours of the Old Town, and visit buildings such as the Friends Meeting House on Rickfords Hill (11.00 am to 3.00 pm), The Masonic Hall on Ripon Street (11.00 am to 3.00 pm) and the King's Head. Tours of the King's Head and Market Square kick off at 11.00 am, 12.00 noon, 1.00 pm, 2.00 pm, 3.00 pm, and 4.00 pm.

A tour of the cemetery occurs at 11.30 am and the chapels will be open from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm.

The Town Council's annual celebration of **Charter Day**, with the Tudor Fayre will be held in the Market Square on Sunday 9 September from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. **Bring the family to enjoy free fun!**

This year the Fayre will be bigger than ever. In addition to the old favourites from last year we shall also have demonstrations by the Barber Surgeon (with his blood-letting leeches), the arrow maker, the musical instrument maker, the coin maker, and the cloth maker.

There will be a Tudor Dancing Bear, the Gong Farmer (another madcap) and the George and Dragon Puppet Theatre, a great favourite with the very young.

We will also be offering a reasonably priced hog roast and the King's Head will be selling a range of traditional ales and cheeses.



Photo courtesy of Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership



Photo courtesy of Ray Ghent



Photo courtesy of Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership



Photo courtesy of Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership

The famous **Oyster and Local Food Fair** is coming to Aylesbury for the second year running on Sunday 23 September in the Market Square.

A chance to enjoy a glass of champagne, sample oysters and other fresh seafood and try the local foods on offer.

Keep everyone happy this half-term with fun and entertainment during the week beginning Monday 22 October, with a **Special Farmers' Market** midweek and the **Climbing Wall and Bungee Jump** for youngsters.

On 31 October the ever popular **Ghouls 'n' Villains Tour** of notorious haunted and crime spots in Aylesbury Town Centre leaves the Civic Centre at 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm for a one hour walk around Aylesbury. Tickets can be obtained from Aylesbury Tourist Information Centre in advance. **This event is very popular so book early to avoid disappointment.**

Kick-start the festive season in sparkling fashion: The **Christmas Lights** will be switched on late afternoon on Thursday 15 November in the Market Square. The event will be hosted by Mix 96, Aylesbury's own radio station, who will provide free family entertainment and music throughout the evening.

Bring the children to enjoy **Santa's Procession**, along with the cast of the Civic Centre Pantomime, on Sunday 18 November in the Market Square. After the parade youngsters can enjoy the small fun fair and entertainment around the town.

For your Christmas gifts and food why not visit the **Traditional Continental Market** in Kingsbury on Friday 7, Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 December and the **Special Christmas Farmer's Market** on Sunday 9 December in the Market Square.

These events are provided by the Town Council and the Town Centre Partnership working together to improve life for the people of Aylesbury.

Margaret Wagstaffe



Photo courtesy of Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership



Photo courtesy of Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership

See the What's On Guide in the centre pages for a full list of events.

Rutland Boughton: Aylesbury Composer and Socialist (1878 - 1960)

Rutland Boughton was born on 23 January 1878 at 18 Bicester Road. He probably attended the nursery school ran by two school ma'ams at 5-9 Parsons Fee. Later he was a scholar at the Grammar School – then in St Mary's Square – and in 1891, as recorded in the census, he was living at 13 Granville Street. He was composing music as a teenager, arranging concerts (some held at the then teetotal Victoria Club for Working Men in Kingsbury) and participating in the musical life of the town. His father and uncle's grocery business at 37 Buckingham Street could not support an expensive musical education, but in 1899 sufficient money was raised for him to attend the Royal College of Music in London. In less than 2 years the money ran out until, following a few more years living in poverty, in 1905 he secured an appointment at the Midland Institute of Music in Birmingham. By this time he had married - his mother-in-law had insisted he marry her daughter, as her reputation had been tarnished by a night out in London!

In Birmingham he began to flourish as a composer of choral music, as a conductor and as a singing teacher, as well as a thinker and writer on music and social issues. There he met the second woman in his life, the artist Christina Walshe, and began to develop his ideas of a specifically English type of opera. These ideas reached fruition with the founding of a commune of artists in Glastonbury in 1912. With minimal financial resources but with enthusiastic support from local amateurs and benefactors as well as professional friends, the Glastonbury Festivals developed into an important aspect of the British operatic scene - an outlet for experimentation and a learning opportunity for young singers. Audiences came from all over the country, including most respected musicians, writers and artists, to hear performances in Glastonbury.

His masterpiece, **The Immortal Hour**, was performed at the Glastonbury Festival in August 1914. The opera was eventually staged in London at the Regent Theatre, Kings Cross, in 1922. It ran for 216 consecutive performances, still a world record, and was revived in 1923, 1926 and 1932. The Winter, Spring and Summer Festivals at

Glastonbury continued until 1926, when in the year of the General Strike, displaying his socialist principles, Boughton put on performances of his Nativity opera, **Bethlehem**, in modern dress, – outraging local opinion; Christ was born in a miner's cottage and Herod was a wicked capitalist! Following this production, financial support for the Glastonbury venture ebbed away and Boughton, with his third "wife" and family, moved to a village, deep in the countryside, near the Herefordshire and Gloucestershire border. He continued composing, completing his Second and Third Symphonies, concertos and chamber music, and finally his cycle of five operas of the King Arthur legend.



The first two parts of the Arthurian Cycle of operas had been presented at Glastonbury - **The Round Table** in 1916 and **The Birth of Arthur** in 1920. The third part **The Lily Maid** received its first performance at Stroud in 1934 whilst the final parts, **Galahad** and **Avalon** completed in 1945 have never been performed. Although **The Queen of Cornwall** composed in 1924 does not form part of Boughton's Arthurian Cycle its story belongs to the same canon. Boughton adapted the libretto from Thomas Hardy's play, the famous tragedy of the Queen of Cornwall. It is this opera that the Rutland Boughton Music Trust is hoping will be the next opera to be recorded. The Trust is based at 25 Bearton Green, Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1UN (tel. 01462 434318). The Honorary Secretary is Mr. Ian Boughton, a grandson of the composer, whom you can contact to make a donation and to be included on the mailing list.

There are now 7 CDs of Boughton's works: some are in stock at Record House at 36 High Street, Aylesbury. They include the operas **The Immortal Hour**; **Bethlehem**; **Symphony No. 3** and the **Oboe Concerto**; **Aylesbury Games**, **Flute Concerto** and **Concerto for String Orchestra**; the **Oboe Quartet No. 1**, **String Quartets - From the Welsh Hills** and **On Greek Folk Songs**; **Songs of Rutland Boughton**; and a CD of **British Trumpet Concertos** which includes Boughton's **Trumpet Concerto**.

Steven Mitchell

Planning Applications - An Overview

Members of the public are entitled to examine and comment on all planning applications made. This way, everyone gets the opportunity to contribute to planning decisions that work for the good of the environment and the local community.

If you wish to comment on an application you can attend the meetings of the Town Council Planning Committee and make your views or concerns known, or write to the Town Clerk expressing your comments.

At the planning meeting, the Planning Committee will decide whether to support or object to an application, express concerns and/or make detailed comments. This decision will be passed on to Aylesbury Vale District Council which has the final say.

Aylesbury has changed and will continue to change. You can influence change so that it protects and enhances the environment and benefits everyone.

The planning system exists to ensure that the public interest is taken into account whenever a new development is proposed, and that new development does not harm the environment. If you hear of a planning application that interests you, and if you want to check what's going on, you can take simple steps to find out more and – if necessary – challenge the proposed development.

We can help you to present your views appropriately, effectively and to the right people.

1. Look at the planning application by visiting Aylesbury Vale District Council's Customer Service Centre or the AVDC website, where all details of applications and drawings are displayed and where you can see comments made by other interested parties.
2. Visit the site of the proposed development and assess its likely effects.

3. Come to a view on whether the proposal will be good for the community in terms of housing, jobs, and so on and whether it protects the environment, local amenities and wildlife. If you wish to object write to the planning authority, Aylesbury Vale District Council. Inform your local Councillors and other interest groups within the community.

In many ways, the planning application process is very straightforward:

- A planning application is submitted to the local planning authority.
- The planning authority publicises the application in the newspaper and posts a notice near the site.
- The public has a few weeks to comment on the application.
- A decision is made on the application, usually within eight weeks of it being submitted.

Most planning applications are approved. But if the application is refused, or the approval has conditions on it, the applicant may appeal against the decision to the Secretary of State.

If planning permission has already been granted you have no right to appeal against the granting of permission, so don't leave it too late.

Steven Mitchell



Could this happen in Aylesbury?

Britain in Bloom

After weeks of intense preparation (resulting in staff members dreaming of hanging baskets and floral planting), the day of judgment for Britain in Bloom finally arrived. As luck would have it, the judges came to Aylesbury on the only sunny day of that particular week. The Council Chamber was full of displays and photos demonstrating the various councils' work around the town.

As this is only the second year that Aylesbury has entered the Britain in Bloom competition, we are still learning and improving our entry. Nevertheless, Aylesbury Town Council feels that the combined effort from Aylesbury Vale District Council and Aylesbury Town Council was a huge success.

The aim of the nationwide Britain in Bloom campaign is to encourage positive and lasting improvements to the local areas for the benefit of the local residents. In turn, this should increase civic pride and encourage local people to look after and improve their own environment. The judging criteria for Britain in Bloom are not only based on floral planting displays and permanent landscaping: but points can also be gained for sustainable development and recycling. Projects in these areas are still ongoing in the Aylesbury area and need much improvement.

As the Town Council prepares for the judging, problems and jobs that wouldn't normally come to light are emphasised, which can then be dealt with as swiftly as possible. In the run up for this year's entry, a large stretch of the canal was litter picked and brush cut. Plans are currently being set in motion to clear more of the canal side.

Another point upon which to impress the judges is the use of community involvement in improvements. Recently, several local schools have been aided by the

Town Council to produce vegetable gardens. These were Thomas Hickman Combined School, St Joseph's Catholic Infants School and Elmhurst Junior School. We intend to help three more schools next year, however these have not yet been selected. Other schools have been encouraged to create biodiversity areas. Bearbrook School, for example, has succeeded in creating an enormous project involving their biodiversity area which includes bat and bird boxes. Pupils at the school were able to explain to the Aylesbury in Bloom judges all they had learnt using the area.

Community involvement also included volunteer cleanups. Queens Park Volunteers have turned a once dingy kerb side on King's Road into a nicely planted bed, and many other volunteers from the Holy Trinity Church of England helped to clean up and litter pick Walton Pond, Riverside Walk and St Mary's Churchyard.

It is hard to tell but we hope that the judges were impressed with Aylesbury Town. There is always room for improvement however and projects are starting now in readiness for next year's entry. The Town Council is currently searching for volunteers to help with the planting of spring bulbs during the month of September and early October at six sites throughout the town. If you feel that you would like to be a part of this project, please do not hesitate to contact the Council at the office address. Furthermore, if your community or area has

any projects to improve your environmental ambience, please let the Council know. We may be able to offer assistance in the form of grants or expertise and manpower.

Nathalie Thorne



Photo courtesy of Nathalie Thorne



Roundabouts, Hanging baskets and Floral displays

Aylesbury Town Council is determined to improve the floral displays and planted bedding in Aylesbury year-on-year. This year we erected 165 hanging baskets – 40 more than last year.

ATC replanted the 6 roundabouts it is responsible for with more colourful displays including a stunning display on the Exchange Street roundabout to mark the Scouts' Centenary year.

ATC didn't forget other parts of the town. Planters were put out as an experiment on 4 parades of estate shops. Unfortunately two of the 12 planters were vandalised, but the others looked glorious.

We are now in the process of finalising plans to plant thousands of spring bulbs at the entrances to the town in September and early October and plan to implement further measures to make Aylesbury a better place to live and work.

Keith Turner



Photos courtesy of Nathalie Thorne

Aylesbury Town Council goes green

At the Town Council meeting on the 14 June Aylesbury Town Councillors voted to adopt the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. This document acknowledges that Climate Change is a reality, and that it will have far reaching implications. Implementing measures to ameliorate climate change can bring significant benefits to the community.

Aylesbury Town Council has already started reducing its consumption of energy and fuel by changing its electricity supply to green electricity with Ecotricity. With the recent purchase of 5 Church Street a maintenance and upgrade programme will be put into place that takes full account of the environmental savings that can be made with the installation of existing and ground-breaking technology.

With the development of many new houses in the town, Aylesbury Town Council's Planning Committee has adopted the environmental building standards set by Oxford City Council. This document requires any development over 10 houses or 2,000 sq.ft. to have a minimum 20% renewable energy. Aylesbury Town Council does not actually make decisions on developments, (that is in the hands of AVDC) but the Town Council is taking a stand to ensure that all new homes are as sustainable and energy efficient as possible.

The Town Council has also continued to roll out biodiversity plans for the six allotment sites within the town, with the installation of bird and bat boxes and planned cutback of perimeters to maintain natural habitats for wild life.

Keith Turner



Photo courtesy of Toby Thorne

Aylesbury in Bloom

Judging day arrived, a flash of bright weather greeting us. Our judges, Cllr Mrs Freda Roberts MBE JP and Mrs Jackie Jarvis, were determined to succeed in getting out and about in Aylesbury Town to judge the variety of entries into this year's Aylesbury in Bloom competition.

This year's competition had been enlarged by encouraging the local schools to participate. Many of the schools in Aylesbury produced fabulous entries into the 12" pot category, which we were lucky enough to be able to display in the town centre for two weeks for the people of Aylesbury to enjoy. The Schools involved in these were: Bedgrove Infants School, Bedgrove Junior School, Booker Park School, Broughton Junior School, Elmhurst Junior School, Haydon Abbey School, Oak Green School, Pebblebrook School, St Edward's Junior School, St Joseph's Infants School and Stocklake Park School. We were very pleased that, for the most part, the schools' pots avoided vandalism, however a slight disappointment did come when it was discovered that Pebblebrook School's cactus pot had been raided and removed of its cacti on two separate occasions. A few schools were also able to enter their vegetable, nature and environmental gardens into the respective categories.



Photo taken by Nathalie Thorne

This year's competition has also tried to encourage biodiversity. Several local schools have created biodiversity areas in their gardens which have been an immense success. Bearbrook Combined School, for example, have created a project around their biodiversity area. In the residential categories, the quality of gardens and hanging baskets entered was incredibly high. It was an immense pleasure to visit the secret havens created throughout Aylesbury, and it was with great disappointment that the unpredictable weather forced us refuse the numerous offerings of tea.

The judging has now taken place, and results will be announced at an evening presentation on the 19 September. There are prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category, and a trophy for the overall winner. We would like to encourage everybody in Aylesbury to enter their gardens or hanging baskets into next year's competition. Advertising will start early next year so please keep an eye out for it!

Nathalie Thorne

How green is our pleasant land?

England is not alone in becoming increasingly dependent on imported gas and oil. We are one of 27 oil producing nations who reported declining output in 2006.*

In an era of vanishing cheap oil, the best gift any individual of this generation is likely to be able to make to his or her children, will not be the extended loan**. It will be the proof of not having used natural resources entirely selfishly. Passing on a home and lifestyle which contributes positively to a low carbon community may be just the proof that tomorrow's children will be looking for.

So, how do we move towards low carbon living? Well, first things first: 85% of the energy we use in our homes is used on space and water heating. The most cost-effective way to reduce this consumption is to better insulate our homes. For information on insulation grants and discounts, contact the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre on 0800 512 012.

* 27 of the 51 oil-producing nations listed in BP's Statistical Review of World Energy reported output declines in 2006 - The Times, 16 July 2007.

** A barrel of oil was priced at \$10 as recently as 1999. In July 2007, oil hit \$77 a barrel.

Grants Awarded by Aylesbury Town Council – Summer 2007

Autumn Leaf: A grant of £455 was awarded to fund an outing to Wickstead Park Showtime, lunch and tea for members of the Senior Citizens Club.

Southcourt & Walton Court Community Project: A grant of £1,000 was awarded towards the cost of purchasing new equipment for the children to use during play sessions. The project aims to provide affordable play sessions for children on the local estates.

Future Inspirations: £1,000 was awarded to help towards funding a free Family Day on 26 July 2007, to bring together the community, help to overcome cultural and religious barriers and to provide activities for the benefit of the children.

Army Cadet Force League: £1,000 was awarded to help fund a trip to Belgium where cadets will visit 1st & 2nd World War Memorials and the Ceremony of Remembrance at the Menin Gate.

Meadowcroft Pre-School: £1,000 was awarded for extra play equipment due to an increase in the number of children attending.

Thursday Morning Club: £300 was awarded towards the cost of an outing to the Museum of Kent Life for members of this Senior Citizens Club.

Aylesbury Community Partnership: £1,000 was awarded to set up a children's cricket initiative to help with the cost of employing tutors, hiring venues, coaches and purchasing equipment.

Aylesbury Multi-Cultural Centre: £1,000 was awarded to assist with a programme of events to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade. Among some of the activities are a church service at the Methodist Church, dance performance, display of artefacts at Aylesbury Vale Multicultural Centre, joint freedom service in the Market Square, freedom dinner and dance at the Civic Centre. It will benefit the African and Caribbean people in particular but will give the whole community a greater understanding about this historical period.

Aylesbury Town Football Club Under 7's: £516.17 was awarded to assist with the purchasing of football kits and equipment. The Under 7's Football Club meets at Broughton School on a Saturday morning. They have 25-30 children, both boys and girls. Ages range from 5 to 7 years old.

Pat Phillips



Presentation at Meadowcroft Pre-School

Photo courtesy of ATC



Presentation to Future Inspirations Family Day

Photo taken by Nathalie Thorne

What has your Town Mayor been doing?

The months of May, June and July have been a busy time for Aylesbury's Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs Jenny Puddefoot. Since her election in the middle of May, the Mayor has attended various civic services and Mayor's receptions, such as High Wycombe's Weighing-in Service; Banbury's civic dinner where the Mayor of Banbury was elected; Buckingham Town Council's Mayor's reception; the High Sheriff's Garden Party in Buckingham; Chesham's civic service; Drumhead Service on Veteran's Day; Marlow's Town Mayor's reception; AVDC's civic service and the Chairman of Bucks County Council's reception. These events are steeped in historic tradition, and are a good way of forging links with neighbouring towns.



Photo courtesy of Maurice Cousins

Cllr Puddefoot has also been present at many public functions such as the Chiltern Hills Vintage Rally; Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Open Day; Bucks County Centenary Scout Camp and the subsequent celebrations; the Tour de Vale bike ride; Buckinghamshire (The Rifles) Army Cadet Re-Badging Parade; Visitor's Day at the PACE Centre; the relocation of the Richmond Fellowship; tea at the Florence Nightingale Hospice; the opening ceremony commemorating the bi-centenary of the abolition of the slave trade; the Roald Dahl festival; Young Enterprise Celebrity; Hillside Nursing Home's fete; Bedgrove Park Fun Day; Aylesbury-on-Sea End of the Pier; Aylesbury Youth Action's AVID festival; Future Inspiration's Free Family Fun Day; RAF Halton's annual County Banner Service and the visit of the Princess Royal. Events such as these enable the Mayor to keep in touch with the local people and strengthen links within the community.

The Mayor enjoys going to charity events, and has visited a large number, such as Aylesbury Choral Society & Turnfurlong Junior Schools' Charity Concert to raise money for Florence Nightingale Hospice; the launch of Florence Nightingale's Sunflower Appeal; the opening of the Grove Respite Unit and tree planting at Alfred Rose Park. She was also present to greet cyclists arriving from Colchester who were raising money for Retts Syndrome.

Mrs Puddefoot often attends AGMs and Schools functions. Among recent AGMs attended are the AGMs for Women's Aid, Home-Start and Action for Youth. The Mayor also welcomes exchange students to visit the Mayor's Parlour, as well as visiting events at schools, such as Mandeville School's Hawaiian Beach Party; William Harding Extended School's 1st Birthday Party; the End of Term Show at Cedar's Upper School and the School Closing ceremony at RAF Daws Hill.

If, as sometimes happens, the Mayor herself is too busy to attend every function to which she is invited, the Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs Penni Thorne, is usually able to attend in her stead. Recent events that the Deputy Mayor has attended have been the Inauguration of Banbury's Town Mayor; the Market Square stall for "Blow the Whistle on Lung Disease"; the Young Carer's Barbeque at RAF Halton; Amersham's civic service; Aylesbury School of Theatre dance show; Mayor's Parlour visit by students from Chagaik School, Kenya; the Scouts AGM; the Multicultural Centre's AGM and an open morning at the Holy Trinity Church.



The Mayor and Deputy Mayor plan to attend many more events in the coming weeks, so if you spot them please do not hesitate to talk to them!

Nathalie Thorne

If your group or organisation has a forthcoming event at which you would like the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to be present, please contact Mrs Celia McCrae, the Mayor's Assistant, at the Town Council on 01296 425678, and she will be delighted to assist you.

Mayor's Charities

The Mayor has chosen two charities that support families.

- **'Home-Start' Aylesbury.**

Being a parent isn't always easy, and without the support of family and friends additional pressures such as postnatal illness, multiple births, disability or bereavement can become overwhelming. This charity provides support, friendship and practical help to parents with at least one child under five. Many parents who have received support in the past undertake Home-Start training and become volunteers themselves.

- **'Crossroads' – Caring for Carers.**

Caring for a relative who because of disability, illness or age cannot manage on their own can be a lonely, difficult and stressful time. This charity provides trained volunteers to carry out the tasks provided by the carers in their own home. This gives the carers quality time for themselves in the knowledge that the needs of their loved ones are being met.

Jenny Puddefoot

Aylesbury Town Mayor's Awards

The Aylesbury Town Mayor's awards ceremony is held in December each year. The awards are given every year for Service to Aylesbury Town Residents, to a person or persons who have performed an unusual act of bravery, or for an outstanding achievement, a commitment to public service or an act beyond the call of duty for fellow citizens of the Town in general.

If you know of anyone who deserves recognition we would love to hear from you. If you do wish to make a nomination, please contact me on 01296 425678 and I, or one of the Administrative Assistants here, will be delighted to talk you through the process.

Margaret Wagstaffe
Town Clerk

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS REGISTERED BLIND OR PARTIALLY SIGHTED?

A copy of this publication can be made available on CD. Please contact the Town Council on 01296 425678 or e-mail: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



(From September 2007) The Farmers' Bar at The King's Head is now offering **Cream Teas** in the courtyard between 11am–12noon and 2pm–4pm Monday to Friday and 11am–12noon and 3pm–4pm Saturdays. (Gluten Free available).

(From mid September) The Farmers' Bar at The King's Head is offering **guided tours of Aylesbury Old Town**. Leaving The King's Head at 3pm every Saturday (and other times by arrangement). £3.50 Adults (16 and over) £2.50 Children (between 5–15) £3.00 Seniors (65 and over). Or include a Ploughman's lunch for £7.95. (Available to over 18's only if dining inside the pub which is an over 18's establishment).

Every Wednesday evening throughout November The Farmers' Bar and The National Trust together are offering a **3 course meal** (including coffee) and **evening tour of The King's Head** to be served upstairs in the historic Gate House Chamber. £26.90 each. Booking is necessary and numbers are limited.

The **Farmers' Bar Beer & Cider Festival** starts at 6pm on Friday the 7th September and goes on until Sunday the 9th at 10.30pm or when the beer runs out! The festival coincides with "The Weekender" Charity music festival with live music at lunchtimes and evenings on both Saturday and Sunday.

As The Farmers' Bar specialises in "local products and produce" we have several "local" beer & food and wine & food tasting events scheduled between now and Christmas. Please phone us for more information on **01296 718 812**.



Heritage Open Day

Saturday 8 September 11.00 am - 4.00 p.m.
Buildings Open and Tours. Friends Meeting House, Rickford's Hill, Masonic Centre, Ripon Street, King's Head Tours, Old Town Tours (meet Corn Exchange Arches at 11.00 am & 2.30 pm) Tring Road Cemetery chapels and Dead House open and tour of cemetery at 11.30 am

Tudor Fayre/Charter Day

Sunday 9 September Market Square, Mediaeval Fun in the Market Square

Juan Martin Concert

Tuesday 11 September, 8.00 pm, Civic Centre

Recording Bucks Birds

Wednesday 12 September, Bucks County Museum

Antonio Forcione Quarter Concert

Thursday 13 September, 8.00 pm, Civic Centre

The Comedy Room

Friday 14 September, 8.00 pm, Civic Centre

Oyster Workshop

Saturday 15 September, 10.00 am, Kingsbury

Courts Carnival

Saturday 15 September, Procession starts at 12 noon. Edinburgh Playing Fields.

Tea Dance Tuesday

18 September, 2.00 pm, Civic Centre

Buckles and Britches

Wednesday 19 September, Bucks County Museum, 18th Century Men's Clothing

Memories are made of this Music Hall

Thursday 20 September, 2.30 pm, Civic Centre

Unsigned

Friday 21 September, 7.30 pm, Civic Centre

Puss in Boots

Saturday 22 September, 8.00 pm, Civic Centre

Oyster and Local Food Fayre

Sunday 23 September, Market Square

Farmers' Market

Tuesday 25 September, Market Square, 9.00 am to 2.00 pm

How to Make a Mummy

Wednesday 26 September, Bucks County Museum, Ancient Egyptian Death Rituals

Mozart - The Magic Flute

Saturday 29 September, 7.00 pm, Civic Centre

Fantastic Fungi

Wednesday 3 October, Bucks County Museum

French Market

Friday 5 and Saturday 6 October, Kingsbury

Autumn Fun Day - Season of Fruitfulness

Saturday 6 October, 11.00 am to 4.00 pm
Bucks County Museum

Shops and Shopping in Victorian and Edwardian Aylesbury

Wednesday 10 October, Bucks County Museum

Lost and Found

Wednesday 17 October, Bucks County Museum, Detected Archaeology



TRE EVENTS

December 2007

Photo courtesy of Ray Ghent

The Big Draw Event: Faces at the Museum

Saturday 20 October, Bucks County Museum.
Illustrated Initials 10.30 am - 12.00 pm. **Booking essential.** The Big Draw Drop-in 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Half Term Special Farmers' Market

Tuesday 23 October, Market Square

Funny Face Feltmaking

Tuesday 23 October, 10.30 am – 12.00 pm,
1.00 pm – 2.30 pm, Bucks County Museum.
Booking essential.

Half Term Inflatable Fun

Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 October,
Kingsbury, Climbing Wall and Bungee Trampoline

The Romance of the Lace Pillow

Wednesday 24 October, Bucks County Museum

Pirate Treasure Hunt

Thursday 25 October, 11.00 am – 12.00 pm,
1.00 pm – 2.00 pm, 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm.
Bucks County Museum. **Booking essential.**

Royal British Legion Official Poppy Launch

Saturday 27 October, Friars Square

Emergency Services Day

Saturday 27 October, Kingsbury TBC

Pirates at the Museum

Saturday 27 October, 11.00 am – 3.00 pm
Bucks County Museum

Ghouls 'n' Villains

Wednesday 31 October, Halloween tour of Aylesbury
Town Centre... and Shakespeare too!

All That is Gold

Wednesday 31 October, Bucks County Museum,
Archaeological Treasure

Christmas Light Switch On

Thursday 15 November, Market Square
5.30 pm to 7.30 pm

Santa's Arrival

Sunday 18 November, Market Square

Charity Market

Sunday 25 November TBC

Christmas Gift and Craft Fair

Sunday 2 December, Market Square

Peter Pan - Family Panto

Saturday 8 December - Sunday 30 December
Civic Centre

Traditional Continental Market

Friday 7 - Sunday 9 December, Kingsbury

Christmas Farmers' Market

Sunday 9 December, Market Square

Festive Fun in Kingsbury

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 December,
Kingsbury, Ice rink, stalls, street theatre

Town Centre Carol Concert

Thursday 20 December, Market Square

"Yeah Baby"

Monday 31 December, 8.30 pm to 2.00 am.
See out 2007 at the Civic.



Aylesbury Anti-Slavery Mystery

It was in 1787 that Granville Sharp and his friend Thomas Clarkson decided to form the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade. Although they were both Anglicans, nine out of the twelve members on the committee were Quakers. Influential figures such as John Wesley, Josiah Wedgwood and William Wilberforce also gave their support to the campaign as well as former slaves Ignatius Sancho, Olaudah Equiano and Ottobah Cugoana. All over Britain there began agitation to abolish slavery. Slave trading was abolished 200 years ago, in 1807, and finally in 1833 slavery itself was abolished.

As far as we know an Aylesbury group was the first to broadcast this noble sentiment in the form of a local coin. Thus, this is one of the earliest pieces of anti-slavery memorabilia and although weakly struck, is much rarer than the tokens based on Josiah Wedgwood's ceramic cameo of a kneeling male slave in chains with the slogan, "AM I NOT A MAN AND A BROTHER?"

The token was issued in 1796, when there was a shortage of small coinage. Although George III was then on the throne, on the front is a bust of King William III with a laureate wreath¹. Immediately under the bust is the name "James" who would have been the diesinker. Around the edge are the words "TO THE FRIENDS FOR THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY." On the reverse is the Phrygian Cap of Liberty above the nations' flags². Around the Cap of Liberty is written the words "AYLESBURY TOKEN" and the date 1796.

Little is known of the issuer of this token. It appears to be a genuine tradesman's token but this is very doubtful as it exists in such small numbers. It is very likely a private issue for an anti-slavery society in Aylesbury. We know that such a society was formed 30 years later, in 1826, by George Nugent Grenville, MP for Aylesbury³ and local church ministers, but can find no records of an earlier society in 1796.

Two tokens have been donated to the Town Council and we hope to loan them to the Bucks County Museum, where they may be viewed during the Black History Month in October 2007.

Steven Mitchell

Footnotes:

1. William III was a beneficiary of the slave trade as a major shareholder in the Royal Africa Company, founded by Charles II's brother the Duke of York, later James II. The company had a monopoly on slave trading and gold from West Africa until the market was opened up to all in 1698, when William III was king, and then the market greatly expanded. So to Anti-slavery campaigners William III, although many constitutional reforms were introduced in his "Glorious Revolution" of 1688, may have deserved his horns, which is how the laureate crown appears when the coin becomes worn.
2. The Phrygian cap was worn by freed slaves in ancient Greek and Roman times and this symbol of liberty was appropriated by John Wilkes and the American Revolutionaries and later by the French Revolutionaries.
3. George Nugent Grenville's sister-in-law, the wife of the 1st Duke of Buckingham and Chandos inherited two plantations in Jamaica from her mother, but his uncle George Wyndham Grenville was prime minister in 1807 when the slave trade was abolished.

Aylesbury's Disappearing Heritage

The old Electricity Showrooms in Exchange Street are currently being used by Aylesbury Vale District Council and will be demolished in the next few months when their move to Gatehouse is complete. The building which is not listed has a rich history and is important in the development of the town between the wars.



Photo courtesy of Roger King

By 1930 the supply of electricity reached almost every home in the town and the Borough were agents for the local supply from the Central Electricity Board. Local villages were plugging into Aylesbury's supply and lines of demarcation had to be drawn in the case of some rural areas. For example Cheddington and Ivinghoe were supplied by Luton Corporation but Wing was supplied by Aylesbury. The Borough Council had an Electricity sub-committee whose members read like a Who's Who of Aylesbury. The Chairman was Cllr Taylor and the others were the Mayor, Aldermen Jowett and Adkins, Viscount Stopford and Councillors Cannon, Gerrett and Standing.

In April 1930 the electricity committee considered plans submitted by Messrs J S Quilter & Son, Architects, for 'the erection of Show-room, Offices and Stores'. It was resolved that the plan be approved and applications be made to the Electricity Commissioners for sanction to raise the necessary loan, and to the Unemployment Grants committee for recognition of their proposals for the purpose of the grant. In June of that year, in order to get their loan, the committee were required to ensure that 50% of the men who would work on the building would be transferred from a depressed area. The tender of £11,868 from Webster & Cannon of Aylesbury, who at the time were one of the largest public, utility

and commercial builders in Southern England, was accepted. Work commenced on August 11 1930.

The service provided by the showroom was applauded throughout and the Borough burghers were very proud to have this as an addition to their town. It showed them to be modern and forward-thinking. Therefore an important person was required to cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony. That person was Ramsay Macdonald, the Prime Minister, who opened the building in April 1931 amongst much fanfare and publicity.



From the collection of Bucks County Council

It ceased to be an Electricity Showroom in 1967, and has been used by Aylesbury Vale District Council as offices and a council chamber since 1996. It was highly commended for its refurbishment in The Aylesbury Society Good Design Award in 1996.

The showrooms are just one of the many interesting 1920s and 1930s buildings that have disappeared from Aylesbury's skyline over the years. Others include the Keith Garages frontage in Bicester Road, the Territorial Army Centre in Oxford Road and the 1935 Open Air Swimming Pool in Park Street. Some landmarks remain. Let us hope they can be protected as a reminder of the town between the wars.

Roger King

Electricity Showrooms 1971



From the collection of Bucks County Council

Aylesbury Residents in Action

All over Aylesbury local residents are pulling together to make Aylesbury a better place in which to live and work.

A group of residents from Queens Park regularly litter pick the canal side. On the occasion pictured here, a van full of litter was collected from the canal and carted off in a British Waterways van. The day ended with the manager of the local Tesco store providing food and drinks to the volunteer group.



A community group based in Queens Park organised an action day which culminated in a clear up of the area, with overgrown beds being stripped and replanted and other environmental projects being undertaken.

The Police and Fire Service were on hand with the Probation Service providing an enthusiastic workforce that undertook and completed some projects, such as the recent graffiti removal initiative. Volunteers and Probationers worked side by side to eliminate the town's graffiti.

Photos courtesy of Keith Turner



Before - Queens Park

Photo courtesy of Richard Greenwood

Each year local residents of the St Mary's Square area set about the churchyard cutting back overgrown areas, removing nettles, trimming trees and removing litter. A huge amount of effort takes place in one evening leaving the churchyard clearer, cleaner and more attractive to both residents and visitors to the church and its surroundings.

Photo courtesy of David Stopps



After - Queens Park

Photo courtesy of Aylesbury Town Council





Photo courtesy of Keith Turner



Photo courtesy of Nathalie Thorne

Each July St Mary's Bloomers mount a flower festival, with spectacular arrangements of blossoms throughout the Church. This exquisitely beautiful exhibition is free to all and has to be viewed to be fully appreciated.

Residents of Ditchingham Close (above), decided to take over the green that their houses surround and enhance the environment. Spring bulbs and a number of flowering shrubs were planted. The green is now maintained to a very high standard and the residents have made a huge effort to make their front gardens attractive and interesting.

An environmental group from Holy Trinity Church of England, Walton Street, have carried out extensive work on the Walton Street pond. It is now regularly litter picked and some clearance work has been carried out. With the aid of expert advice a plan to increase the water quality and planting will be put into action once the growing season has finished.

Keith Turner



Photo courtesy of Keith Turner

Aylesbury Town Council wants to assist other groups who would like to enhance their local environment. Town Clerk, Margaret Wagstaffe said, "We want to try and help remove the barriers and obstacles that local groups may be confronted with when they identify a particular project. This could be done by way of a grant, physical help or, in some cases, advice." If you have a project in mind ring 425678 and talk to the Town Clerk or Projects Development Officer, Keith Turner.

Heritage Open Day celebrates Aylesbury's treasures

Heritage Open Day is a nationwide celebration of England's fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

Co-ordinated nationally by the Civic Trust in partnership with English Heritage, the event thrives on the enthusiasm and expertise of local people. Thousands of volunteers from all walks of life share their knowledge and memories with some 850,000 visitors every year, making Heritage Open Days England's largest voluntary cultural event.

In 1993 Aylesbury was chosen by the Civic Trust as one of nine towns in England to organise a European Heritage Day, and the successful day was organised by The Aylesbury Society.

After a gap of 5 years Heritage Open Day was back in Aylesbury town last year. Organised by The Aylesbury Society, the Town Centre Partnership and Bucks Archaeological Society, the event was a huge success. Aggregate numbers were estimated at 1700 visitors.

This year Aylesbury Town Council are in partnership with The Aylesbury Society in organising a day for everyone. On Saturday 8 September buildings open will be the Masonic Centre in Ripon Street and the Friends Meeting House in Rickford's Hill. The King's Head will also be conducting free tours during the day. Three walks are planned, two around the old town in the morning and afternoon and another of the cemetery in the morning. In the cemetery the chapels and Dead House will also be open for visitors.

Roger King



Photo courtesy of Roger King



Photo courtesy of Keith Turner

Community Centre

HP20 Residents' Association has begun fundraising for a new community centre which residents hope to build on the Victoria Park playing field. The field is owned by Bucks County Council and is currently allocated to Aylesbury Grammar School for football pitches. As a consequence of the poor state of the field, on health and safety grounds the Grammar School cannot use the pitches.

Since losing Eagles Road Community Centre through a fire in 2001, the local community has not had a building from which to run activities and in which to base groups. Eagles Road Community Centre was a highly utilised facility which, at that time, was the hub of the community.

A bid has gone into the 'BIG Lottery Fund' for cash for the construction of a new community centre to serve Oakfield and surrounding areas. If the Residents' Association is successful this money will go some way towards the cost of the building. Much more is needed, however. The Residents' Association has begun fundraising already, having held a quiz night, and is planning more social activities in the near future. Members have also been investigating other funding opportunities.

Anyone who is interested in joining the HP20 Residents' Association Committee or helping with the fundraising for the new community centre should please contact Allison Harrison on 07795 210808 or email: chair@hp20.org.

awful/FANTASTIC!

bringing contemporary art with a conceptual twist to Aylesbury, the Vale and beyond

A New Artistic Outlook for Aylesbury

In July, the site of the proposed Arts Centre at The King's Head in Aylesbury hosted the launch exhibition of *awful/FANTASTIC!*, an exciting new visual art initiative. The exhibition showed the work of sixteen member artists and highlighted the potential of the site as a new Arts Centre in Aylesbury.



The overall aim of *awful/FANTASTIC!* is to become a thriving network of visual artists. For more information on how to become a member artist of *awful/FANTASTIC!* and how local businesses can be associated with a dynamic new contemporary art initiative, please visit the 'Support Us' page at: www.awfulfantastic.co.uk.

Organising an Event?

If you are organising an event for your community or activity group and would like some free publicity, why not put a notice in 'Aylesbury Town Matters'?

If you are interested please contact Shirley Francis, Deputy Town Clerk at Aylesbury Town Council, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP. Call on 01296 425678 or email: s.francis@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Roald Dahl Festival

The Annual Roald Dahl Festival was held on Saturday 7 July. The sun beamed down and Kingsbury and the Market Square were packed with delighted children who noisily enjoyed the procession, this year themed on The Big Friendly Giant.

There were more fun activities in the County Library and at nearby Queens Park Arts Centre. As usual, the Bucks County Museum put on a magnificent exhibition which was very popular with visitors throughout the day.

The event is supported by the Town Centre Partnership.

Photo courtesy of Town Centre Management



JIGSAW will be 20 before 2008

In a startling show of longevity JIGSAW Theatre Company will celebrate its 20th birthday in November this year. JIGSAW was founded by and for local disabled people to offer new opportunities to take part in the world of theatre that had not been available to many of them before.

Since the beginning, very nearly twenty years ago, the number and type of opportunities has grown and expanded through JIGSAW. From the beginning the number of actors was limited to 10 due to lack of volunteers and support staff. For the last 3 years JIGSAW has had additional



volunteer Facilitators – although more are always needed – and now has 15 actors. Over the last 7 years the actors and others have been on dance, voice, drama workshop leading, and theatrical technical training courses. These have been run by the growing number of disabled theatre professionals.

JIGSAW currently has places available for its next 'Technical' course, which is being offered in conjunction with Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School and Performing Arts College. It aims to introduce a range of technical disciplines, including lighting, sound, set design, make-up, costumes, props and theatrical special effects. As with all of JIGSAW's opportunities, new people are not expected to have previous experience, just a willingness to try out new things and have fun!

It is very possible that 'Technical' course members could take some or all of the activities further, on later courses. Some of last years participants are keen to further their involvement and are being invited to join a Technical workshop leader's course. "Feedback from last year's course was very exciting and we are delighted to be able to offer the course to more disabled people this year" said Gill Gerhardi, Artistic Director of JIGSAW.

The course will be taught at Sir Henry Floyd Theatre on Tuesday afternoons from 4.00 p.m. until 5.30 p.m., starting on 6th November, and running until the Christmas holidays. The course will restart on 15th January and conclude on 12th February 2008. The course fee is £25. If you are interested in joining the course please contact Ali May on 01844 296192.

JIGSAW will be inviting everyone who has ever been involved with the company, including past actors, directors, volunteers and funders and donors to a big party in November. If you fall into one of the above categories, please contact JIGSAW before November at Queens Park Arts Centre, Queens Park, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 7RT. Telephone: 01296 436363 or 630617 email: gillg@nildram.co.uk

Aylesbury Scouts join World-Wide Centenary Celebrations

Scouts from Aylesbury Vale and the local area have joined together during the past few days to celebrate not only the Centenary of the Beginning of Scouting, but also the Scout Jamboree that is this year being hosted in the UK. The beginning of Scouting is regarded as being the first experimental camp which was held on Brownsea Island, Hampshire, 100 years ago.

On Wednesday 1 August, Scouts worldwide participated in what has been named the Sunrise Ceremony. Throughout the world, 28 million scouts, cubs, beavers and leaders renewed their promises at dawn in each country, traditionally at the highest local accessible hill. Sunrise in Aylesbury was at 5.47am, but for those who didn't make it quite that early, the Scouts did repeat performances at 8am, 12pm and 4pm.

Ed Ryan, the Aylesbury District Commissioner for Scouting, has been very pleased with the outcome of the day. He would like to thank the bell ringers at St Mary's for their help, and would also like to thank local superstores such as Tesco and Sainsbury's who have made generous donations.



Photo taken by Nathalie Thorne



Alfred Rose Community Day 26 July 2007

All things start with a small idea. Future Inspirations wanted to unite the community and also to have a day that families would enjoy. Their aim was not to exclude anyone so a day of free activities for all to enjoy was decided upon. Supported by local Councillors, residents worked with Ms Yasmin Younis to establish a formally constituted group with clearly defined policies.

When the appointed fun day arrived, it looked as if it was going to be a disaster as the weather forecast was poor. While organisers were setting up, raindrops fell from the sky, but they soldiered on. Eleven o'clock came and the initially few families who wandered into the park, soon became many. Parents smiled and relaxed as their children enjoyed the free treats on offer. The children especially loved the official opening by the Mayor of Aylesbury. They gathered around her, fascinated by her chain.

Feedback was very positive, with participants commenting that they had had a wonderful day and how needed such a community event had been. Future Inspirations had achieved what they set out to do. Their aim is now to build on this first experience and to plan future events. Without the support of the community this would not have been such a great success and the organisers would like to thank all who participated.

Cold Callers and Doorsteppers

There has been an increase in the number of travelling criminals and rogue traders currently operating within Thames Valley. Up to 20 different trading names have so far been identified (often the same people using different names) across the district who are cold calling and offering a range of services including tree lopping; landscape gardening; replacement uPVC windows and guttering; block paving; tarmac of driveways, and roof and gutter cleaning. Some may also trade as fish sellers.

As they are inclined to target the elderly, Police are keen to know when and where they are operating. Please call the Police on 0845 8 505 505 if they are cold calling in your neighbourhood. Try to obtain the name of the company (if any), type of vehicle and registration number, as well as a description of the cold callers. When calling, please request that PC Jim McGuinness, Force Travel Liaison Officer, is notified. Although Police may not always attend the area it does help to build up intelligence on these traders.

PC McGuinness has also requested that if you receive any flyers or business cards would you please forward them to him at: Thames Valley Police, Amersham, Bucks HP6 5ZS (this is a FREEPOST address, no stamp is required). Please also include your contact details. Please note that although most of these traders only list mobile phone numbers, some of them do have land line numbers so do not assume that this makes them genuine.

From time to time, companies will also cold call householders by telephone or doorstep regarding security or fire products. In the past, some have used sales techniques which have been the subject of formal complaints to Trading Standards and some of which are currently ongoing. When one of these companies operates in our area Trading Standards receive a lot of complaints, particularly if they say they are working with the Police or your local crime reduction advisor.

Can we remind you at this time of the following advice:-

- Do not accept unsolicited phone calls, politely say 'No' and replace the receiver. Do not get drawn into a conversation.

- If you need advice about home security please contact a local reputable company of your choosing, one that is NACOSS or SSAIB approved (their advert will mention this) or your local crime reduction advisor.
- If you need any fire safety advice then contact your local fire service.
- A password scheme may offer additional security when dealing with callers at your home. This is something YOU will set up with your service provider.
- If after obtaining advice you decide to buy something, then ask friends and family for personal recommendations.

The Crime Reduction Advisor for Aylesbury Vale has also asked for the following information regarding mobile phones to be passed on:

Mobile phones can become almost a 'currency in crime'. New and more sophisticated phones that are of 'cutting edge' are very attractive to the criminal. Even older phones are being targeted. Please take the following precautions:-

- Learn how to access your phone's IMEI number: By keying the symbols *#06# (star, hash, zero, six, hash) a unique 16 digit number will appear on the screen. Record this number so that in the event your phone is stolen you can tell your service provider and the Police, who will need to record it. The Police routinely check recovered phones to locate the IMEI number which is checked against various property indexes.
- Property mark your phone and its removable parts.
- Visit www.immobilise.com to register your phone. You may also register any item of identifiable property on this site if you have the serial number e.g. iPods, TV's, computers and bicycles.

For further advice, you can call your local crime reduction advisor on 01296 396022.

If you have any information you want to pass to the Police please contact the enquiry centre on 0845 8 505 505.

Aylesbury Watch Office

Introducing Our New Deputy Mayor

Cllr Mrs Penni Thorne, Aylesbury's new Deputy Town Mayor, is a long-time resident of Aylesbury and has lived on Bedgrove for 24 years. She has three children – one adult daughter, one at university and a son in full-time education.



Penni decided to get involved in local politics in 2001 when she was elected as a founder member of the new Town Council. She had previously been the chair of a national charity, the Stillbirth and Neo-natal Death Society (SANDS), which supports parents and families when a baby dies at or close to birth. Through SANDS she has had experience of making a difference for people nationally and knew that she could use her skills and expertise to make a difference locally.

Penni is very active in Bedgrove Resident's Association, of which she is Chair. She works for Bucks Association for the Blind where she is the Development Officer working mainly with children, young people and their families. She is enjoying her term as Deputy Mayor, meeting lots of people, supporting Town Mayor Cllr Mrs Jenny Puddefoot and developing her links with Aylesbury's many community and voluntary organisations. If your organisation has an event and you would like the Deputy Mayor to be present, please call Aylesbury Town Council on 01296 425678.

Margaret Wagstaffe

Aylesbury Town Council Presented with Clock by Local War Veteran



Photo taken by Nathalie Thorne

A High Wycombe war veteran, who has been making clocks and mugs as a hobby for around 7 years, recently presented Aylesbury Town Council with a personalised clock. Dudley Martin, a veteran of REME (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) has not only created clocks for Councils in local towns such as High Wycombe and Chesham, but they have spread as far afield as Adelaide, Australia.

Dudley has a network of friends who provide the transfers for the designs, and others who "bake" the objects he creates. It can take 4 to 6 months for a personalised clock to be produced.

Dudley says that he has had a fascination with clocks ever since he was young, and started creating clocks and mugs as a hobby: "It is a pleasure for me – I never create them looking for advantages!" Dudley usually sends customers a copy of the picture to be used before production so that they are able to approve it. His work is available to see and buy at <http://platedesigns.googlepages.com>.

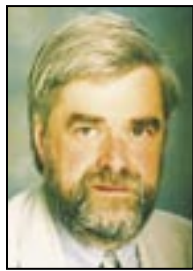
Aylesbury Town Council would like to thank Dudley Martin for the hard work he has put into creating such a lovely clock.

Nathalie Thorne

Aylesbury Town Councillors



Cllr Mrs
Jenny Bloom
Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr
Alan Sherwell
Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr
Graham Webster
Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Mrs
Penni Thorne
Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr
Steven Mitchell
Ward: Central



Cllr Mrs
Denise Summers
Ward: Mandeville



Cllr Mrs
Sue Chapple
Ward: Mandeville



Cllr
Mark Willis
Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr
Roger Surguy
Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Mrs
Pat Jamieson
Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr
Tuffail Hussain
Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr Mrs
Jenny Puddefoot
Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Mrs
Julie Ward
Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr
Amjad Mohammed
Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr
Steve Patrick
Ward: Oakfield



Cllr
Brian Roberts
Ward: Mandeville



Cllr Mrs
Freda Roberts MBE JP
Ward: Southcourt



Cllr
David Ralph
Ward: Southcourt



Cllr
Zulifqar Ahmed
Ward: Oxford Rd



Cllr
Mike Smith
Ward: Oxford Rd



Cllr Mrs
Ranjula Takodra
Ward: Walton Court



Cllr
Ray Ghent
Ward: Quarrendon



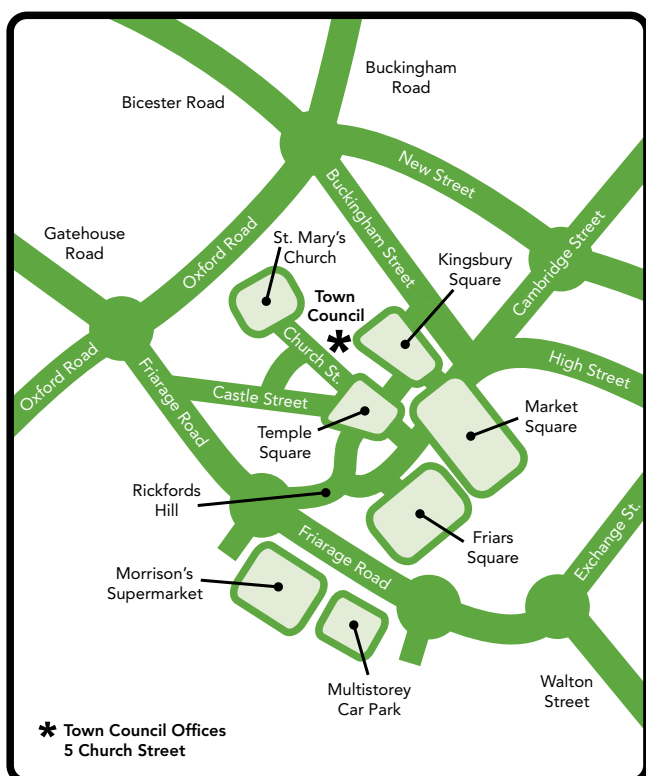
Cllr Mrs
Noreen O'Sullivan
Ward: Quarrendon



Cllr
Kevin Peters
Ward: Gatehouse

Contacting your Councillor

COUNCILLOR	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL
Jenny Bloom	07729 011501	j.bloom@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Alan Sherwell	01296 420672	alan.sherwell@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Graham Webster	01296 483416	graham.webster@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Penni Thorne	01296 422232	penni.thorne@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Steven Mitchell	01296 392096	steven.mitchell@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Denise Summers	01296 336731	denise.summers@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Sue Chapple	01296 426814	sue.chapple@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Mark Willis	01296 586109	m.willis@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Roger Surguy	01296 425678	r.surguy@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Pat Jamieson	01296 428275	pat.jamieson@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Tuffail Hussain	0795 626 9544	tuffail.hussain@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Jenny Puddefoot	01296 612461	jenny.puddefoot@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Julie Ward	07766 545236	julie.ward@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Amjad Mohammed	07956 803458	a.mohammed@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Steve Patrick	01296 424986	steve.patrick@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Brian Roberts	01296 422881	b.roberts@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Freda Roberts MBE JP	01296 424452	freda.roberts@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
David Ralph	01296 581975	david.ralph@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Zulifqar Ahmed	0793 194 5804	ahmed.zulifqar@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Mike Smith	01296 421732	mike.smith@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Ranjula Takodra	0795 842 3083	ranjula.takodra@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Ray Ghent	01296 489327	ray.ghent@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Noreen O'Sullivan	07796 804676	n.osullivan@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Kevin Peters	07989 892896	k.peters@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



Where to find the Town Council

Members of the public are always welcome at the Town Council offices, however, as we are located through an archway, some people have found us difficult to find.

If you would like to come in and see us, go to Church Street in the Old Town. Bucks County Museum is our next door neighbour, at number 3 Church Street. We are through the archway at number 5 Church Street and once you have walked through the archway our door is directly facing you.

If you have an issue or problem you would like to discuss, do please call in to see us. You will be very welcome!

Margaret Wagstaffe

COURTS CARNIVAL

celebrating our local community

FREE Carnival Day on Saturday 15 September at Edinburgh Playing Fields

Noon: procession starts from Edinburgh Playing Fields, through to Prebendal Avenue, Penn Road, Old Stoke Road, Cottesloe Road, Grenville Road and on to the field

1.00 pm - opening by actor Robert Donald and local book author Nicholas Halliday

1.40 pm - RAF flyover: Hurricane, Lancaster and Spitfire

1.00 pm - cream teas at the Healthy Living Centre

2.00 pm - auction of aviation prints at the Healthy Living Centre

5.30 - 7.30 pm - local bands including The Unchosen and Mirno on the field

8.00 pm - carnival disco at Walton Court Community Centre

During the afternoon, drama shows, musical interludes, sports competition, youth tent with a mixing competition, large fun fair, food court, go-karts, Playstation, Wii, bouncy castle, giant slide, sumo suits, stalls and all the usual attractions. Chance to win mp3 players in FREE competitions.

Aylesbury Town Council
5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP
Tel: **01296 425678** Fax: **01296 426134**
Email: info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

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creative design and print

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