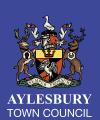
Serving the people of Aylesbury

AYLESBURY TOWN matters









Christmas Playscheme



Ho, ho, ho! It's Christmas Playscheme time at the Jonathan Page Play Centre! Crafting, games, activities and lots of dancing at our Christmas disco - there's plenty of festive cheer here this season! We'll be reflecting on the year and looking ahead to 2025 by thinking about our resolutions.

WHY NOT VISIT US BEFORE BOOKING? If you and your child would like to see the fantastic facilities and meet our team before booking, please contact us to arrange a suitable date and time.



HOURS AND PRICES (per child, per day)

Full Day 8am-6:30pm - £35 Half Day 8am-3:30pm - £26

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

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.



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

TOWN COUNCIL





Welcome to our latest edition of Aylesbury Town Matters. As I write this, summer is turning to autumn. This issue looks back over our summer events and forward to the end of the year.

Parklife Weekend was a great success and despite the rain on the Saturday we were able to bring you a fantastic line-up. I don't think I've ever seen so many people at **Proms** on the Sunday which closed a fabulous weekend. For the first time the weekend had started on the Friday

with the addition of Pride in the Park and credit must be given to the Aylesbury Community Pride committee, who organised with help from Aylesbury Town Council, but sourced all the funding themselves. I hope that this becomes a regular part of the weekend in years to come.

Once again this year we were delighted to be able to offer a space to so many voluntary organisations, local businesses and artists over the whole weekend. In addition, our friends the Aylesbury Wombles who not only cleared the site in record time but also managed to recycle 71.6% of the waste collected (the national average is 32%). Finally, I'd like to thank all our volunteers and our residents who came out over the weekend to make it such a special event again.

A massive congratulations to all of our **Aylesbury in Bloom** winners. We've had a really high standard of entries from residents, businesses, organisations and schools. See inside for all the winners and a big thank you to our judges for volunteering their time and expertise.

The cabinet painting initiative has seen some very different yet brilliant designs all around the town. It really does brighten up the area, creates a talking point and the comments from residents have been very positive. We do have more cabinets available so please do contact the office if you have a design for consideration.

Christmas on the Cobbles and the Christmas Lights switch on returns for its third year of being under Aylesbury Town Council since it was transferred from Buckinghamshire Council and I'm really excited to see the lights, and to take part in the parade and the games we're laying on. Please do come into town and kick off Christmas in style. There will also be the ever-popular Carolfest in St Mary's Church in December.

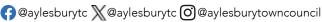
I know many of you are waiting on news of the re-opening of the **Railway** Club, following the purchase by the Town Council to save it for the community. This final purchase should have gone through by the time the magazine hits the doormats and we will be able to reopen the doors for the community in the very near future. Please keep those expressions of interest in its use coming in.

> Best wishes to you all Cllr Richard Lloyd Leader of the Council

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



CONTACT DETAILS

Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP20 2QP Tel: 01296 425678 Fax: 01296 426134 info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Photos throughout the magazine courtesy of Paul Adams, Steve Richmond, Phil Richards, Shuttersense, Steve Cook, Andy Scott, Damon Mitchell

Artwork by Bluepepper Designs, Aylesbury. bpdesigns.co.uk

Aylesbury is twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse

OUR BIGGEST PARKLIFE WEEKEND YET!

Seven events, 25 local bands and artists, 103 local businesses and 1000s of you!

Kicking off the August Bank Holiday weekend was **Pride in the Park**, sponsored by Aylesbury Waterside Theatre and organised by Aylesbury Community Pride in collaboration with the Town Council. This marked the town's first-ever Pride event of its kind! It was fantastic to see all generations celebrating diversity and inclusion with engaging entertainers, insightful talks, and participation from numerous local community groups. A tribute to Cher ended the first Pride in the Park perfectly!

In true British summertime style, **Live in the Park** saw rain, rain, and more rain. To those who stuck it out from the start despite the heavens opening – we saw you, and we take our hats off! Despite the very damp beginning, the sun soon shone, and we had a great day with lots of local bands and artists across the Bucks Radio Second Stage and the Main Stage, including last year's **Battle of the Bands** winners, Chiltern Groove, and headliners The Dung Beatles.

New this year, you were invited to sing along with the XYZ Music Academy House Band for **Bandeoke**. Thanks to everyone who took part!

Sunday brought an open-air service at **Church in the Park** and a chance to taste delicious food from all over the world at **Banquet in the Park**. The Radley Big Tent hosted Battle of the Bands, which wowed the crowd, but ultimately, it was Screamin' Irene and Soulust who impressed the judges the most and will be performing at Live in the Park 2025.

The weekend concluded on Sunday evening with **Proms in the Park**, featuring impressive musical performances by the Aylesbury Concert Band accompanied by the Next Stage Choir and soloists Alison Langer and Lawrence Thackery. Hosted by Erika Sanderson, the audience enjoyed a variety of songs from West End shows, including selections from Les Misérables, Hairspray, and The Phantom of the Opera.

On average, an event of this size recycles 32% of waste. Thanks to the incredible waste-sorting efforts from Aylesbury Wombles, a whopping **71.6%** of waste was recycled! That is huge! Thank you SO much to all the volunteers who helped make Parklife Weekend even greener.

Finally, a massive thank you to everyone who gave their time to make Parklife Weekend 2024 what it was. See you next year!



STAR **SUPPORTERS**



In this issue we are highlighting the outstanding commitment and skills of Martin and the team from **FBL Broadcasting**, who have provided live streaming across the entire Parklife Weekend since 2017. The extent and quality of the output continues to grow each year, and we are thankful for this service, which enables those who can't attend in person to still enjoy the shows. Thank you FBL Broadcasting.

HERITAGE **OPEN DAYS**

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Heritage Open Days in September! Whether you volunteered, shared stories, or simply came along to explore, your support helped make the event a fantastic celebration of Aylesbury's rich history. We couldn't have done it without our incredible volunteers and community!













CHRISTMAS ON THE COBBLES

Christmas on the Cobbles will once again return to Market Square, this year on Sunday 24 November. Based on what you told us you would like to see, we are making some changes to the parade - we will be starting the proceedings slightly earlier at 5pm, with the grand light switch on and fireworks at 5:30pm. Father Christmas and his special guests will be leading the parade, followed by a new and exciting spectacle which we will be unveiling on the night. The route has also extended to now include the upper High Street with the hope to provide a 'quieter experience' without the loud music.

The centre of Market Square will still be super busy and noisy with all the fun of the season! Don't worry though, the activities in Friars Square and funfair rides in Kingsbury will still be there to keep you entertained during the day from 12 noon, along with lots more to be revealed. Please do keep an eye on our social channels for all the latest updates as they are confirmed.

CAROLFEST



The year will draw to a close with the Mayor's Civic carol service on Sunday 1 December and the ever-popular Carolfest in St Mary's Church from 6-7pm on Sunday 8 December. If you haven't been to either of these events before, then do pop along to join in the festive spirit. More information will be on our socials nearer to the time.



AYLESBURY GARDENING SOCIETY



In September we had our very successful annual show. Well done to all winners. Thanks to Chris and the team for all their hard work organising it. We enjoyed a visit to RHS Hyde Hall in July, seeing the flower show as well as the gardens.

Also in July we dedicated a new bench outside the Thurston Store in memory of past committee members. Friends and families enjoyed tea and cake in the sunshine afterwards.

If you are interested in gardening, perhaps you would like to join us on Sunday mornings from 9am-12 noon? We have a four-week rota, supply free tea and biscuits and enjoy exchanging gardening ideas.

Please speak to anyone on the team or get in touch through our website at aylesburygardeningsociety. co.uk To become a member just drop in any Sunday morning and speak to one of our friendly team who will be able to help you. You can find us at Old Stoke Road Allotments, Old Stoke Road, HP21 8DF.



DAN'S **COMMUNITY CHARITY**

Dan's Community Charity, located in Aylesbury, organises regular litter picks around the town every Sunday. Here is a schedule of our 2025 litter picks and upcoming campaigns:

- Sunday 5 January at 11am at Friarscroft Car Park
- Sunday 12 January at 11am at Sydney Street
- Sunday 19 January at 11am at Stoke Road
- Sunday 26 January at 11am at Osier Way

For more information and to stay updated on upcoming litter picks in 2025, please visit our Facebook page, bit.ly/DansCommunityCharity

LITTLE LIBRARY

A third Little Library was unveiled recently in Aylesbury outside Prebendal Community Centre. The team at Talkback UK made the cabinet out of



recycled materials using traditional techniques which they learned in their Accessible Workshop.

Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Nidhi Mehta, was in attendance alongside Chairman of the Prebendal Street Association Ian Beard, Head of Adult Services at Talkback, Neil Sainsbury and Lewis who is a member of Talkback who helped to install the library.

We hope residents enjoy exchanging books in the new cabinet. We'd like to thank Read For Good for kindly donating a selection of children's books.

INTRODUCING THE **BALLOT BIN**

Cigarette butts are made of plastic and do not biodegrade, so when they are dropped on the ground it is no different to littering a water bottle or a crisp packet. Yet, despite only 12% of the population being regular smokers, we know that somehow cigarette butts make up an astonishing 66% of all littered items.

Cigarette butts cause devastating environmental damage. Over time each butt will break apart into microplastics, seeping toxic chemicals including arsenic, lead, formaldehyde and nicotine into the earth and watercourses. These chemicals affect ecosystems at every level, from microorganisms through to plants, animals and aquatic life.*

To help combat this issue, Aylesbury Town Council has recently installed a ballot bin. The ballot bin is an innovative method of cigarette end disposal which highlights the issue of cigarette littering and encourages participation by enabling people to 'vote' on light-hearted topics.



You can find our new ballot bin outside WHSmith on the High Street.

*Information taken from the Keep Britain Tidy website

AYLESBURY IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2024











	Certificate	Bronze	Silver	Silver Gilt	Gold
Best Front Garden				Peter Binns Mr & Mrs Ridgway Nirmala Takodra Mr & Mrs Dore Paul Trayling Late Gillian Henley	Lynn Ferguson Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan
Best Back Garden			Nirmala Takodra Carla Harder	Lynda Brown Mr and Mrs Ridgway Peter Binns Angela Mccafferty Jo Tunnell Hannah Sevier & Angie Lunnon Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan Mr & Mrs Walker Daniel Sadek	Paul Flower Sarah Cropley Emma Matthews Glen & Londa Quanico Nicholas Simms Ron & Heather Murray Henk Swanepoel
Best Edible Garden				Stuart Reid Daniel Riley Rose Miller Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan	Ron & Heather Murray
Best Wildlife Garden			Daniel Riley	Ron & Heather Murray	Paul Stroud
Best Communal Garden	Bearbrook House		The King's Head	Masonic Housing Friends of Aylesbury Train Station Poplar Grove Practice Byron House	Community Head Injury Service Florence Nightingale Hospice
Best Community Edible Garden				St Peter's Church	Community Head Injury Service

Congratulations to residents and businesses that took part in this year's Aylesbury in Bloom Garden Competition. They were awarded prizes by the Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Alan Sherwell, at an awards evening on Thursday 26 **September** at the Aylesbury Canal Society.

Judges spent the summer visiting gardens of all shapes and sizes within the parish of Aylesbury.

Thank you to everyone that entered and a special thank you to Michael Anthony for supporting the competition.



Best Overall Residential Garden	Nicholas Simms	
Best Overall Communal Garden	Community Head Injury Service	
Best Newcomer	Lynn Ferguson	
Design Award	Sarah Cropley	
Best Edible Garden	Ron & Heather Murray	
Best Wildlife Garden	Paul Stroud	
Innovation Award	Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan	



THE PAINTED **UTILITY CABINET PROJECT CONTINUES...**

BUS STATION

Inspired by the statues in Market Square, Jess has designed and painted this roar-some lion on this utility cabinet!

ANCHOR LANE

Jiya created this design and Sarah painted the cabinet on Anchor Lane with the help of Mr Waterman.

LANSDOWNE ROAD

"Aylesbury is a town I care about, and I wanted to contribute to making it a more pleasant and attractive place for everyone. By painting this cabinet, I hoped to bring some positivity and pride to our neighbourhood." - Rafiq

NARBETH DRIVE

"I'd seen some of the cabinets around town (including one painted by a friend) and was keen to paint one myself as art is my favourite subject at school. I love nature, and I thought a sunset would be a nice bright picture. I added the hills and grasses as a nod to the Chilterns." 10-year-old Grace has painted this stunning sunset on a utility cabinet on Narbeth Drive. Thank you, Grace!

MARKET SQUARE

"I spend a lot of my spare time painting, from theatre set design to creating stickers for Aylesbury United Football Club. I was excited to get involved in this project as a way to brighten up the town. I chose to paint the Aylesbury ducks because they are an important part of what the town means to me and also bring a lot of joy in themselves. It was lovely to hear everyone's reactions to seeing the ducks and I'm so glad that I got to be a part of this amazing project!" - Charlie

EDGECOMBE ROAD

Emily and Ethan were inspired by the stunning Chiltern Hills and local hot air balloons for this cabinet! Emily and Ethan's mum, Lizzie, said: "Thanks to Aylesbury Town Council for the initiative, it's a great community project and we'd encourage others to join in too, we love seeing them pop up around the town."

PARTON ROAD

"After seeing other painted utility cabinets in town, I wanted to have a go, mainly to try something new. Whilst I don't set out to make pieces with meaning, I let others find their own meaning in them. But I find the quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson to be fitting: "Adopt the pace of nature. Her secret is patience". My other works take months to complete which, you need patience for, as in most things in life. Overall I'm pleased with the outcome, if given the chance to do another, I'll be sure to go all out." - Volf

Thank you to all the cabinet artists for taking part in our ongoing project. If you're interested in being part of this project too, email Emma at emma.elbadaoui@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk





Jonathan Page play Centre





Our summer playscheme this year was very busy - with all sessions being sold out! The children had great fun in the garden in the sunshine, learning how to be a superhero, building superheroes and flying around the garden!

The children did an amazing job in sewing their own bag in Fashion and Textiles Week and we decorated our own giant person using lot of different materials. During Space Week, the children were amazed at how heavy a meteorite was when they had the opportunity to hold one as well as looking at Mars and moon rock!

Our neighbours must have heard us when we had our Music Week - banging drums, playing the guitar and playing the piano! It was lovely to see how many of our children have hidden talents or have lessons in a particular instrument.

We are busy planning inspirational activities for the Christmas period and making sure we have lots of glitter tinsel, music and dance around the centre. We are also looking ahead at our playschemes for 2025 so we can guarantee lots of play, fantastic fun and lots of laughs and smiles.

The children have settled since going back to school in September and we have a lovely routine when collecting them. They enjoy spending time with friends from other schools and the relaxed vibe at our After School Club – perfect after their busy day learning!



If you would like to keep up to date with all of the goings on at the Jonathan Page Play Centre, do follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/jpplaycentre

RECYCLED COFFEE GROUNDS SCHEME

Aylesbury Town Council's recycled coffee grounds scheme is going from strength to strength! We're thrilled to announce the success of our recycled coffee grounds scheme, which saw a fantastic uptake throughout summer. Local gardeners have embraced this free resource, and this in turn has helped to divert a remarkable 3,200kg of coffee grounds from landfill.



The scheme has not only provided a sustainable solution for coffee waste but has also enriched the soil for many green-thumbed residents. While demand typically dips during the autumn and winter months, we observed an encouraging increase in participation last year compared to the previous year. This trend suggests that seasoned gardeners are increasingly recognising the benefits of using recycled coffee grounds – so thank you!

We invite local businesses to join this eco-friendly initiative. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to diane.harrison@aylesburytowncouncil.go.uk for more information or call 01296 425678.

Together, let's continue to make Aylesbury greener and more sustainable.



In Aylesbury, the cobbles shine, With Christmas lights, a scene divine. Eco-friendly, bright and bold, LEDs with a touch of gold.

From sugar cane and parts renewed, A sustainable wonder, brightly hued. Saving money, green and clear, Spreading joy and Christmas cheer.

On Sunday, November 24, Christmas on the Cobbles, fun galore. Entertainment, laughter, and delight, Aylesbury's magic in the night.

Families gather, hearts aglow, Under lights with a golden show. Aylesbury's spirit, warm and true, In every twinkling, vibrant hue.

Join the celebration, feel the cheer, As Aylesbury's Christmas lights appear. Eco-friendly, bright, and clear, A golden glow we hold dear.

TOWN CENTRE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

There are a number of factors we look at when choosing the town's lights such as how environmentally friendly they are. A lower running of sustainable materials and bio print designs. Other sustainable features of the town's lights include:

- Designs are made from bio-sourced GMO-free sugar cane which is turned into dehydrated bioethanol and eventually used to colour the lights.
- Brand new eco-responsible materials allow the 2D motifs, which has a substantial impact on the carbon footprint. The bio print or Recyprint manufacturing process emits 10 times less CO₂ than aluminium.
- The 100% LED lighting components are recycled after use.



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 2024/25.

NOVEMBER 2024

Monday 4 - Planning and Licensing

Wednesday 13 - Finance Thursday 14 - Town Council

Monday 18 - Planning and Licensing

Tuesday 26 - Communities

DECEMBER 2024

Monday 2 - Planning and Licensing Wednesday 11 - Direct Services

Thursday 12 - Town Council

Monday 16 - Planning and Licensing

JANUARY 2025

Monday 6 - Planning and Licensing

Wednesday 8 - Finance

Thursday 9 - Town Council

Wednesday 15 - Grants

Monday 20 - Planning and Licensing

FEBRUARY 2025

Monday 3 - Planning and Licensing

Tuesday 4 - Communities

Wednesday 5 - Policy

Thursday 13 - Town Council

Monday 17 - Planning and Licensing

MARCH 2025

Monday 3 - Planning and Licensing

Wednesday 12 - Communities

Thursday 13 - Finance

Monday 17 - Planning and Licensing

Wednesday 19 - Direct Services

Wednesday 26 - Grants

Monday 31 - Planning and Licensing

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



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 households in the Parish of Aylesbury. For more information email info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk



THE FREMANTLE TRUST

Caring for a loved one can be rewarding yet challenging. A supportive environment can help ease the load, and we are here to help. We invite carers and their family members to join us for wellness events at our care homes – a chance to relax, have fun, and spend quality time in a safe space with professional care at hand.

At Fremantle Court in Stoke Mandeville, join us for Yoga & Meditation every Friday at 11am. This gentle session is open to all abilities – feel free to participate or simply enjoy the peaceful atmosphere.

At Lewin House in Aylesbury, we offer Zumba on the last Saturday of the month at 11am, and Seated Dancing every second Monday at 11am. Both are great for gentle movement and fun. We are flexible with timing to meet our residents' needs; times may vary slightly.

At Fremantle Trust, we provide high-quality care for older adults and those living with dementia. We are passionate about promoting independence and well-being in a warm, caring environment.

For more information, call 0333 222 0428 or visit fremantletrust.org

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?

You can send an email marked 'ATM Letters' to info@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.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.



CELEBRATING 110 YEARS THROUGH 110K APPEAL

Buckinghamshire Mind is celebrating 110 years of providing mental health services and fighting to reduce stigma by aiming to raise £110,000.

Our charity was founded at a time when many local people experiencing mental ill-health were neglected, abandoned or put into the Aylesbury workhouse as a 'place of safety'.

Since 1914, we have helped tens of thousands of people through a diverse range of services. One of the people we supported recently said: "Buckinghamshire Mind was there in the most difficult and challenging time in my life and helped me navigate through. It has been absolutely incredible for me."

In recent years, our charity has expanded dramatically to meet the need within our community. In 2023-24 we supported 9,130 individuals, through services such as crisis support, talking therapies, befriending, children and young people's services, peer support groups, community-based support and wellbeing services.



Andrea McCubbin, Chief Executive of Buckinghamshire Mind, said: "As we celebrate our 110th anniversary, we are calling on everyone to unite with us to fight for mental health across our communities. Together we can ensure no mind is left behind."

Please help us to continue to be here for those that need us by donating to our £110k appeal.

Visit bucksmind.org.uk/support-us/donate to support.

NEED HELP FINDING A VOLUNTEER ROLE THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU?



A new online platform, Volunteer Bucks, is now available to help people looking for volunteer roles in Buckinghamshire. Run by local charity Community Impact Bucks, you can browse for local volunteering opportunities by personal interests, location, and availability via the online platform.

Free and easy-to-use, it has an interactive map which shows opportunities in Aylesbury and beyond, and if you aren't sure what sort of role would suit you, there is a helpful online quiz to suggest roles that match your preferences.

Those aged 18 or over can apply directly via the platform and, for younger volunteers (13-17 year olds), the Volunteer Bucks team is on hand to help find a match.

For more details and to browse and apply for roles, go to the Volunteer Bucks platform website at **volunteerbucks.org.uk**







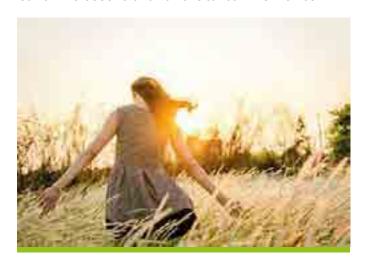
CANCER HEALTH AND WELLBEING EVENT

Come along to our free Cancer Health and Wellbeing event for anyone living with or beyond cancer.

Meet with healthcare professionals and browse stalls to hear about the many services available for help and support – local groups, emotional support, financial help, exercise, healthy eating and more. Lunch and refreshments provided.

Thursday 14 November, 10am-2pm at Brushwood Suite, Wades Field, Princes Risborough. Booking is essential.

Call 01296 838340 or email bht.cancer.inf@nhs.net





Find that something special for your loved ones when Aylesbury Christmas Craft & Gift Fair returns to the town centre on Sunday 1 December. The ever-popular event will take place in the town's historic Market Square between 11am and 4pm.

The fair will feature a number of local stallholders offering a wide range of seasonal and handmade gifts.

So wrap up warm and come join us with your friends and family for some festive cheer and a truly wonderful experience!

The event is free to attend with stalls set out on the cobbles of Market Square. For the latest information on the event, see **visitaylesbury.co.uk**

HS2 IN AYLESBURY



Since 2022, EKFB, HS2 and supply-chain partners have supported Pace, a charity dedicated to assisting children and their families with neuro-disabilities and motor disorders, by collaborating on various projects and fundraising activities. Our most recent collaborative project was to transform a little-used outdoor space into a useful storage area and a sanctuary for staff to relax. The results are proving to be very popular.

In terms of construction news, work has progressed very well during the summer and autumn of 2024. In the last six months, we have completed the realignment of the A41 near Fleet Marston and we are very close to completing the A418 overbridge near Hartwell House, the majority of the work being carried out off-line (i.e., away from live traffic) to minimise the impact. The main structure of the Thame Valley Viaduct is finished and work is progressing well on the A4010 Risborough Road which will contribute to the completion of Stoke Mandeville Relief Road.

If you would like to read more about the works and view the advance works notices and maps, please contact the HS2 Helpdesk or visit hs2inyourarea.co.uk where you can view the interactive map, or simply scan the QR code provided.



We will also be hosting several community engagement events throughout this year to provide local residents with the opportunity to speak to us and gain an insight into the works in their area. Scan the QR code or visit **hs2.org.uk/events** to find your nearest event.





SPACE (AYLESBURY)

At Space (Aylesbury) we know that feeling alone is a common experience. Whether you are navigating relationship struggles, depression, bereavement, unemployment, mental health issues, loneliness, or a combination of these challenges, we are here to offer our support. Our support services include:

- A safe and welcoming environment for you to relax and gather your thoughts.
- A compassionate and non-judgmental listening ear which respects your privacy and confidentiality.
- Providing information about other support organisations that may be of help.
- Opportunities for social connection through activities such as the Art Groups and Walking Group.
- 1:1 affordable counselling.
- Volunteering opportunities to help us with fundraising and events, drop-ins and group activities.

For more information please contact us on 01296 432769, email project-coordinator@spaceaylesbury.org or visit spaceaylesbury.org Our address is Space, St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Square, Aylesbury, HP20 2JJ.



"Space, has helped me to reintegrate into normal life from bouts of depression, has helped me establish a regular routine, enabled me to make new friends and given me a renewed sense of purpose & selfesteem." - Service user



ROTARY CLUBS WORKING TOGETHER FOR **DECEMBER SANTA FLOAT**

October may seem rather early to be planning for Christmas but now is the time when the two Rotary clubs in Aylesbury start preparing the Carol Float Programme. The Rotary Clubs of Aylesbury and of Aylesbury Hundreds are working together to provide the best service they can for the residents of Aylesbury. This year you may notice some changes to the programme and routes. Santa's Carol Float will continue to travel around some of the Aylesbury estates on the evenings in December as usual. For those who in the past have sometimes missed Santa, the combined clubs are developing an innovation with Santa visiting pre-publicised static locations around the town.

Full details of the relevant dates, times, routes and static locations will be posted on the Facebook pages and websites of both Rotary clubs as well as other social media nearer the time. The aim as always is to bring Yuletide cheer to Aylesbury residents and visitors, while raising as much money as possible for our local charities and foodbanks.

Further information nearer December on Facebook: Rotary Club of Aylesbury or Rotary Club of Aylesbury Hundreds or our websites: aylesburyrotary.com or aylesbury100srotary.co.uk

AYLESBURY LIONS

Earlier this year a decision was made by some members of Aylesbury Lions Club that they wish to retire. This had the unfortunate effect of reducing club members down to two. As a consequence, Lions Clubs International District 105a decided to place the club in rebuilding mode with a plan to rejuvenate the club encouraging new members. As part of the plan, an application is being made to Lions Clubs International to change the name of the club. The new name will be Aylesbury Vale Lions Club (CIO).

By way of explanation the club was first formed in 1978 when Aylesbury was a different town to its current incarnation, there has been considerable development with the formation of additional Parish Councils developing their own identity. The new name reflects the changes which have occurred over the years and encompasses the new villages and Parishes who may wish to work with us in providing service to the local community.

To continue the service activities and to go forward with new ideas, where we can increase our impact within the community, we do need more members. Lions clubs are open to all strata of society and we welcome everyone, regardless of age. Normally we would indicate where we meet and when, however we do not want to be prescriptive, as we think the membership should decide these elements of running a club.

Anyone interested in joining Lions please telephone 01296 929099 or email contact@aylesburylions. org.uk where we would be more than happy to tell you more about Lions.



Christmas is a time of giving, and this year Lymphoma Action is asking people to make a difference and show their support for people affected by lymphoma, a type of blood cancer. Based in Aylesbury, the charity provides the vital information and support that people need to help them through their lymphoma diagnosis, treatment and beyond.

There are many ways that you can show your support this festive season – from ordering charity Christmas cards and gifts in Lymphoma Action's Christmas shop, to holding a festive fashion day, making a donation or buying a beautiful Forever Flower as a special gift or way to remember a loved one.

Lymphoma is the UK's 5th most common cancer, and you can help make sure no one faces it alone. Please visit lymphoma-action.org.uk/christmas for further details on how you can support the work of Lymphoma Action this festive season.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Every Mayor has their own way of doing the Mayoralty as we are different people with different interests and different priorities but the tasks don't change with the Mayor. When you put on 'that chain', then you are representing the whole town and that is something I will never forget.

As Mayor, I try to accept every invitation that I get from Aylesbury based organisations because I believe that being there with the chain shows that Aylesbury cares about that organisation, the people who work within it and what it works to achieve. These visits give me the chance to find out more about local charities, show Primary School children a bit about civic life and broaden their horizons, let the care home residents know that the town hasn't forgotten them and cares about them and, quite often, I find out information that can be passed on to others or is simply interesting in its own right. That part of the role is both joyful and joy bringing.

Then there are the Town Council's public events. I was really sad to see Aylesbury on Sea cancelled but lightning and high winds left no choice. However, despite the rain, Parklife Weekend in Vale Park was a terrific success and it was wonderful to spend time there talking with folk. My favourite moment was when two people approached me to say that they came down from Manchester every year "We have nothing like this there". This event shows what a local town council can do to provide entertainment which is of value itself but which also brings all parts of the community together in harmony (in both senses of the word!).

I also get the chance to represent our great town at other events. In particular, the lighting of the Paralympic flame was a highlight – even if it did involve sitting in torrential rain for an hour. The campaign for the torch to start its journey at Stoke Mandeville every four years has been won, with the relevant international committees agreeing that the hospital should be recognised as the birthplace of the Games. The Council supported the campaign to get that to happen but now I believe that we need to go one stage further and make it possible for the general public of Aylesbury to be part of the process rather than simply the Mayor as their representative. We have four years to make progress on that.

The Mayoralty is a one-year term – and somehow I manage to feel I have been doing it forever and I have barely started at the same time but there is much to look forward to – not least our enormously moving Remembrance Service and the continuously improving Christmas light switch on event -Christmas on the Cobbles. The latter seems an age away as I write but it won't be by the time you receive 'Matters'. Finally, there should be a real boost to fundraising for Pace, my chosen charity of the year, now that the new school term has started.

I was proud of Aylesbury when I started this role and I am prouder still after all I have seen in the last few months.

> Cllr Alan Sherwell Mayor of Aylesbury 2024-25

@MayorOfAylesbury

Join the Mayor at the Town Mayor's Remembrance Service on Thursday 7 November at St Mary's Church from 7:15pm. There will also be a short service at 2pm on Monday 11 November at the war memorial at Tring Road Cemetery.









AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS SUPPORT GROUPS OF ALL SIZES

Spinal Injuries Association received £2,000 from the Town Council's Grants Committee to go towards their Aylesbury Support Network project which is for people who have sustained a life-changing spinal cord injury. Spinal Injuries Association's goal is to ensure people with spinal cord injury can overcome the barriers they face and access all the information, advice and support they need to lead fulfilling lives.

Our Grants Committee awarded £2,000 to the Aylesbury Youth Motor Project to go towards uniform for students. Aylesbury Youth Motor Project's aim is to improve confidence, lifestyle and employability in the community. The project works with students in a structured, industry recognised course which provides students their first stepping stone into a career in motor vehicles.

18 December. Visit bit.ly/AylesburyTownCouncilGrants for more information.







The Town Hall will close on Tuesday 24 December 2024 at 2pm and will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2025 at 8:45am.

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO FATHER CHRISTMAS WITH THE **NEW TOWN POST BOX**

As the festive season approaches, the excitement of writing letters to Father Christmas fills the air. This year Aylesbury Town Council is working in partnership with Darlington's Tea & More located on 8 Cambridge Street, Aylesbury to make it easier than ever for children to send their heartfelt wishes to the North Pole thanks to the post box in their window!

The post box is open from Friday 22 November until Saturday 21 December!

To avoid any disappointment, Darlington's Tea and More is open, Monday to Saturday 9:30am to 4pm and closed on Sundays.



CEMETERY WINTER **OPENING HOURS**

From **Sunday 27 October**, Tring Road Cemetery will be open throughout the winter period from 8am-4pm.

AYLESBURY CENTRE



A Voluntary Association of National Trust members and volunteers founded in 1974 to promote and prosper the work of the National Trust.

National Trust members and volunteers! Come and join us at the Aylesbury Centre as we celebrate our half century. We are a friendly, active, social group, enjoying ourselves while raising funds in support of the National Trust.

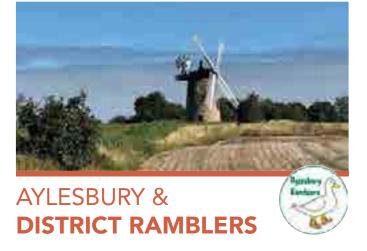
Meetings, with a guest speaker, take place at Broughton Junior School, Aylesbury, on the third Thursday of most months at 8pm. This year's talks cover a wide range of topics, from shopkeeping and jewellery to nursing, spies and crime.

Members pay £3 entrance, including refreshments. Visitors are welcome and pay a small supplement. Annual membership is £11 single, £16 double. There is usually a raffle and a book sale at meetings, and sales of plants and produce when available.

Other events include day outings by coach to places of interest, local self-drive visits, weekend walks, occasional coffee mornings and an annual holiday. For more information and a membership form, please contact the Hon. Secretary at aylesburycentrent@ gmail.com or phone/message 07399 540626.



ACNT members enjoying a tour of Claydon House and Gardens. The Centre has supported the Flower team at Claydon with donations for cut flowers for room displays, and for planting suitable flowers in the gardens.



The weather has been wetter and cooler than previous summers, but this has not stopped Aylesbury & District Ramblers enjoy walking around the beautiful countryside in and around the area. Walks are arranged three times a week and are led by members of the group.

- Tuesdays start time 10:30am 4-6 miles at about 2 miles per hour.
- Thursdays start time 10am 6-9 miles at a pace of 2.5-3 miles per hour.
- **Sundays** start time 10am up to 15 miles but are generally 9 miles.

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

Walking has been shown to improve individuals' mental health and wellbeing so come along and introduce yourself to the leader. If you wish to walk regularly, please join the Ramblers Association. You can find out more about us, the walk programme and how to join at aylesburyramblers.org.uk.

A PERFORMANCE OF MUCH-LOVED MUSIC

Aylesbury Choral Society has had a wonderful and successful season of concerts in 2023-24 which included Bach's Christmas Oratorio and a whole sequence of 'Magnificats' from composers such as Bach, Vivaldi and Arvo Pärt. The 2024-25 concert season has now started and on Saturday 7 December, we will be performing Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle, a much-loved, popular work. We will be accompanied on this occasion, as scored by Rossini, by Piano and Harmonium. The concert will take place at St. Mary's Church in Aylesbury (HP20 2JJ) at 7:30pm. This will be an unmissable musical experience, so please note the date, book your tickets and tell your friends.

Tickets are on sale now: £18 for adults and £7 for under 18s. Season tickets for all three concerts of the season are also available at £50 and £20. Tickets may be purchased online from ticketsource.co.uk/aylesbury-choral-society, or from choir members, and by email from acschairman@gmail.com. Further details can be found on our website at aylesburychoral.org.uk. New members are always welcome at The Church on Fairford Leys, Aylesbury on Tuesday evenings: 7:30-9:30pm, with tea or coffee available at the break. Please check out our website or with Chris, our chairman, at acschairman@gmail.com.



WHAT'S ON AT **DISCOVER BUCKS MUSEUM**

Back this year is our popular selling show Off the Wall Art Fair with a wonderful range of work for sale by 34 professional artists, including paintings, prints, ceramics, glass, sculpture, jewellery and photography. Running from 16 November to 15 December, the show



Oil painting by Barbara Green

is organised by the Friends of the Museum with all profits supporting the Museum.

On 15 November and 13 December, join Robert Ross, Britain's Comedy Historian and lover of popular culture for Nostalgia and Natter, a relaxed opportunity to make friends and remember treasures from your past over a cuppa, whether it's favourite TV shows, pop music, books or whatever makes you smile.

Thursday Afternoon Tea and Talk on 14 November is Mike Palmer, our Keeper of Geology, talking about the ups and downs of the Ice Age and its impact on Bucks followed by a delicious cream tea.



Our new exhibition **WEIRD** displays strange and curious objects from the museum stores until 5 January **2025**. Opening **18** January 2025, come and see the selected photographs from our **Bucks Photography** Competition.

And there's lots for under 5s during the week, too. Wednesdays is Stay and Play Café, Discover Ducks Activity Sessions on selected Thursdays and the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery is open to under 5s to explore on selected Fridays.

For times, charges and to book any of these events please visit discoverbucksmuseum.org Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP.



ImageZ Camera Club is a modern camera club that encourages and promotes photography and image making at all levels. We meet at Weston Turville Community Hall on Tuesday evenings from 8:15-10:15pm each week from September to May. We then switch to our summer programme when we meet in various local locations.

We have members who are new to photography and some who are more experienced, all have a passion for pictures. The extensive range of topics covered by our membership means that if landscapes, wildlife, portraiture, sport, journalism or still-life are your interest you'll find like-minded folks here.

We try to keep everyone involved within a friendly, helpful and sociable atmosphere in the Village Hall. We have a varied programme which includes speakers, workshops and competitions. The competitions are optional, there is no pressure to enter. If you feel you would like to know more about our club have a look at our website imagezcameraclub.co.uk We also ask that you are over 18 years of age for insurance purposes.

Please email our Chairman before coming along to the club to introduce yourself so that we can be sure to expect and support you on your first evening.

> Caroline Petch, Chairman chairman@imagezcameraclub



The Buckinghamshire Historical Association (BHA) is the local voice for history for everyone in Buckinghamshire interested in the study or teaching of history.



Whether you are a student, historian, teacher or an avid reader of history books you are welcome to join the BHA.

Our monthly talks in Aylesbury include speakers on local, national and international history, and cover all eras from prehistory to the 21st century. Our current programme can be found on our talks page. We meet every third Wednesday of the month (October through June) online, starting at 8pm. All are welcome to attend our meetings, admission for non-members is £3 per talk. Admission for members (annual fee of £12) is free.

More information on how to become a member can be found on our website buckshistorical association.org.uk or contact secretarybucksha@gmail.com

UPCOMING TALKS:

20 November 2024

Dr Richard J Goodrich, Independent Researcher Fear and Loathing in the Heavens - How the 1910 Return of Halley's Comet (almost) Destroyed Civilization

18 December 2024

Prof Fiona Edmonds, History Department, Lancaster University, Britain and Brittany: contact, myth and history in the early Middle Ages



Aylesbury Vale Stitchers are a local group who love everything textiles. We meet once a month on a Saturday afternoon at Wendover Memorial Hall. Visitors are always welcome.

You do not have to stitch just come and enjoy finding out about anything related to fabric, colour and thread. There's always tea, coffee and cake as well. We have a guest speaker each month. Some of our recent visitors include an artist showing how to develop and use colour, lace makers, dyeing fabric and threads with natural dyes made from plants and many more topics. We also offer two workshops each year run by experienced tutors to learn new skills which suit all skill levels including beginners.

To find out more and receive a copy of our programme please contact us aylesburyvalestitchers@gmail.com

AYLESBURY LUNCHTIME MUSIC



Music is 'food' for the mind and promotes mental wellbeing. Come along to St Mary's in the Old Town every Thursday lunchtime and join our regular audience for an hour of live, classical chamber music. Aylesbury Lunchtime Music, now in its 42nd year presents a varied programme featuring highly talented young musicians, local and international artists. Sign up for our weekly email for what's on and programme.

Entry is £7 (free for carers and under 18s). Doors open 12:15pm, concert starts 12:45pm. Pick up a flyer from the church, museum or library for this season's offering. New season for 2025 starts on 9 January. Sign up for weekly email at aylesburylunchtimemusic.co.uk Follow us @aylesburylunchtimemusic



MONDAY MELODIES

Home Instead Aylesbury support Aylesbury University Technical College (Aylesbury UTC) students with their Health and Social Care work placements, creating a vibrant and welcoming intergenerational setting. Monday Melodies is an opportunity for the UTC students to gain experiences supporting adults and for Aylesbury residents to meet. The residents and students enjoy each other's company, having fun, whilst sharing free activities including: singing, poems, readings, movement, live music and socialising. You can also bring your

own material to read to the group, instrument to play, or your dancing legs to bop to the tunes. Refreshments are available too. We're at Aylesbury Library every other Monday, 10:30 to 12 noon and everyone is welcome, so pop over when you can. The dates can be found here at facebook.com/homeaylesburyvale, with leaflets available in the library and in retail outlets across the town centre.

Aylesbury Town Council support Monday Melodies with a grant to help run the free to attend events.

Written and supported by Cllr Sherrilyn Bateman



Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map



07832 913171



07834 995690



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

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

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

WHO DO I TALK TO ABOUT?...

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Aylesbury Town Council is the council closest to the residents in the parish of Aylesbury. The Town Council is here to be a voice for the residents by representing their views on issues affecting them. Call 01296 425678 or visit aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL 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
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Free magazine, Aylesbury Town Matters
- Christmas light displays
- Local business and Town Centre support
- Jonathan Page Play Centre
- Aylesbury in Bloom and environmental projects such as hanging baskets, planters, floral beds, roundabouts, cabinet painting, Walton Pond 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





BUCKINGHAMSHIRE SCOUTS

Figures show the number of Scouts in Buckinghamshire has grown. Since January 2022, the number of young people aged 4-17 involved in Scouts in Buckinghamshire has increased by over 6%.

With increases in most of the five sections, Scout Groups and Explorer Units are looking for more volunteers to keep up with the demand for places. There are opportunities for adults to volunteer to help with boys and girls in Squirrels (ages 4 and 5), Beavers (ages 6 to 8) Cubs (ages 8 to 10), Scouts (ages 10 to 14) and Explorers (ages 14 to 17). There are also opportunities to volunteer in the background. This could be as a trustee, as an administrator, fundraising or IT.

Children and young people can get involved in over 250 activities. These range from abseiling to firelighting, geocaching to navigation and pioneering to zorbing. Skills they can learn and develop include teamwork, self-confidence, problem solving and social skills.

Cub Scout Lola said: "Over the weekend, I've been climbing, kayaking, making a bracelet, got wet with the water rockets, made S'mores and took part in singing around the campfire. It's been ace!"



Volunteer Nigel said, "More children and young people want to join Scouts and we have over 500 children and young people who could join tomorrow if we had more volunteers. Some additional volunteers would enable more children and young people to do these activities and learn skills for life."

If you want to know more about Scouts or where your nearest Scout Group is, visit bucks-scouts.org.uk/join

- The Merchant Taylors' Company
- Cisco
- Home Instead
- Buckingham Healthcare Trust
- Buckinghamshire New University
- Alcom IT
- Cloudy IT
- NHS South Central Ambulance Service
- Action 4 Youth
- The Freemantle Trust
- Study Higher
- British Film Institute
- Trellix (McAfee)
- VSK Test Solutions
- Baker Dearing Trust
- Amazon



Aylesbury UTC would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all of the wonderful companies and individuals who support us with our events, workshops, trips and so much more. We are proud of our immersive curriculum for both Digital and Health & Social Care, and couldn't do this without you!

If you think you could help young people with a keen interest in Digital and Health & Social Care interests, please get in touch by emailing principal@aylesburyutc.co.uk

We are holding our Open Events throughout 2024/25 and would welcome the community to come and visit us. Our Open Events will be held on Thursday 16 January and Thursday 15 May, 5-7pm.

Head to our website to find out more and to register. aylesburyutc.co.uk/upcoming-events



SOPHIE'S AYLESBURY YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL JOURNEY

66 Hi! My name is Sophie, I joined Aylesbury Youth Town Council (AYTC) in October 2022 because of my best friend's recommendation, it's mentioned in the Aylesbury magazines, and because I was looking for a social extracurricular activity outside of school. And honestly, I wish I had joined sooner! I love volunteering because it allows me to interact with the public, and I really feel as though I am making a positive impact on the community.

Events such as Christmas on the Cobbles are super fun as we help out with the activity stalls for kids and I enjoy spending the day with other AYTC members because they are all so friendly. One of my favourite memories as an AYTC member is attending the Mayor Making ceremony back in May 2023. It was such a unique opportunity to experience something I otherwise wouldn't have had access to.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed being a member as it has taught me many valuable skills such as teamwork as well as leadership... and that there's nothing more satisfying than seeing a volunteering project come to life! >>

We'd like to thank Sophie for her dedication and wish her the best of luck as she begins her law degree at University. Sophie will still be part of the Town Council through volunteering at our community events - which we're thrilled about!



XPRESS LABELS DO AYLESBURY PARKRUN FOR YOUTH CONCERN





In September, employees from local company Xpress Labels ran 5k at Aylesbury parkrun to raise money for Youth Concern. Supported by Aylesbury United Football Club, Youth Concern's CEO Hannah Asquith and one of the charity's trustees, Tom Edwards, the ten strong team took part in what was for some their first ever run.

Jack Clark, Xpress Labels Director, said: "Many of us haven't ever run before and will be working hard and stepping outside our comfort zones to do this." Race Director Andrew Openshaw told the 201 park runners about Youth Concern's work with 13–25-year-olds through the charity's Drop-in Centre, counselling, and homelessness prevention projects.

Xpress Labels, a leading printed label manufacturer in Aylesbury, announced their new charity partnership with Youth Concern in July 2024. The company has planned a series of fundraising events, aiming to raise over £9,000 for Youth Concern's Next Step Project, which provides accommodation and support for previously homeless 18-25 year olds in central Aylesbury.

Hannah of Youth Concern expressed gratitude for the partnership: "Huge thanks from everyone at Youth Concern to Xpress Labels for choosing us as their long-term charitable partner." For more information about the partnership and Youth Concern's work visit youthconcern.org.uk











