

Serving the people of Aylesbury

# AYLESBURY TOWN matters

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL MAGAZINE | ISSUE 70 | NOVEMBER 2023



AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL





# Jonathan Page play Centre

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB & HOLIDAY PLAYSCHEMES

## Christmas Playscheme

20-22 December 2023  
and 3 January 2024

We'll be rocking around the Christmas tree this Christmas Playscheme! We've got oodles of festive fun to look forward to from crafting, games, activities and dancing at our Christmas disco. We are going to be looking ahead to 2024 and thinking about our New Year's Resolutions too.

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

Full Day 8am-6:30pm - £31

Half Day 8am-3:30pm - £23

AM session 8am-12:30pm - £16.50

PM session 12:30pm-5pm - £16.50

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

### 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](http://jppc.magicbooking.co.uk)

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



**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.



# Welcome



Welcome to our latest edition of **Aylesbury Town Matters**. With summer turning to autumn, this issue looks back over our events and forward to the end of the year.

**Parklife Weekend** was a great success and, despite the rain at Live in the Park, we were able to bring you a fantastic line up including the **Battle of the Bands competition**. Sunday hosted **Proms in the Park** with Disney tunes in Vale Park and we were delighted to be

able to showcase many local businesses, voluntary organisations, and performers over the whole weekend. In addition, our friends the **Aylesbury Wombles** made sure 54% of the waste was recycled and we will continue to improve that year on year. Finally, I'd like to thank all our volunteers and our residents who came out to make the party a special event.

Inside you'll find details on our **Aylesbury in Bloom Garden Competition awards**. We've had resident and business winners and the judges have commented on the very high standards this year. Whilst focusing on the outdoors, you'll be able to see details of our **BT cabinet painting** project as well as a spotlight on the **cemetery**.

Our **Sunday Lunch Open Mic** events are moving back indoors for the colder months. This will be in a new venue in Friars Square and is open to all. Please see inside for more information.

After a very successful first year, **Christmas on the Cobbles** is back to start the Christmas season in Aylesbury on **Sunday 26 November**. Our lights will be switched on plus there's a whole day of fun planned throughout the town centre. The incredible LED drummers will be back in the Illuminated Parade too. This will be followed in December by the ever-popular **Carolfest** in St Mary's Church on the 10th.

As you wait for all these events, why not take part in our competition with a chance to win a signed copy of Sherry Hostler's latest book, 'Free Fall'? Sherry is a local author who has released her second book.

Best wishes to you all.

**Cllr Richard Lloyd**  
Leader of Aylesbury Town Council

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[f @aylesburytc](#) [t @aylesburytc](#) [i @aylesburytowncouncil](#)

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Aylesbury is twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse

## PARKLIFE WEEKEND 2023

Saturday may have brought an impressive storm but it didn't stop you from partying at **Live in the Park**. Community groups, charities and organisations entertained you with their fun activities. The Mayor even had a go at sumo wrestling! Local bands and artists rocked the main stage and Bucks Radio Second Stage and **Chiltern Groove** were crowned Battle of the Bands winners and will perform at the main event next summer.

Sunday saw **Church in the Park** and **Banquet in the Park** where residents feasted on food from all over the world. That evening, **Aylesbury Concert Band** brought some of Disney's films to life at **Proms in the Park**, including special guests, Captain Jack Sparrow and Captain America! British Sign Language learning group, **Hand Talking**, gave an inspirational interval performance too. It was a spectacular evening rounded off with a dazzling firework display.

Thank you to every volunteer that helped make the weekend such a success. A special thank you to Aylesbury Wombles for picking and sorting through litter to help make our event as green as possible.

On average, an event of this size recycles 32% of waste. Womble power smashed the national average and recycled **54%** of waste helping to make Parklife Weekend even greener.

And, of course, a big thank you to everyone who danced, sang, laughed and spent time with family and friends in Vale Park across our **biggest** weekend of the year. We'll see you in 2024!



### PARKLIFE WEEKEND IN NUMBERS



**13,000 people** joined us across the weekend.

Our amazing **BSL signers** signed for a total of **12 hours**.



Music was stopped for **30 minutes** at Live in the Park due to a **lightning storm**.



**155 songs** were performed.



**79kg of cans** were collected, crushed and recycled.

**114 individual charities, groups, businesses and organisations** were part of the fun.



Our three event organisers walked on average **64,000 steps** each over the two events – that's a total of about 81 miles, all in Vale Park.



## STAR SUPPORTERS ★★★★★

**Zoomania** have been part of our free community events since long before the pandemic. They provide a fabulous team of happy and enthusiastic face painters at each of our events. Thank you Zoomania for always bringing great energy and joy to our visitors!



## CAROLFEST



Sing your heart out at **Carolfest** this December! You're invited to a fantastically festive evening in St Mary's Church on **Sunday 10 December**. We'll be joined by local choirs with gingerbread men and hot drinks being served too! It's the perfect way for your family to get yourself into the Christmas spirit. So, put on your festive finery, bring your best singing voice and we'll see you there from 6-7pm.



## SHOWING OFF THE TOWN'S HISTORY AND HERITAGE



**Heritage Open Days** is a national festival where places of interest open to share their heritage and history. After a year away due to national mourning, areas of Aylesbury once again opened their doors to residents. Tours proved popular including the Tring Road

Cemetery tour led by Roger King from the Aylesbury Society as well as a presentation about Aylesbury's musical heritage with David Stopps and Stephen Daghish (pictured). We opened the Town Hall's doors too so you could snoop around the Mayor's Parlour, Town Clerk's Office and Council Chamber. Thank you to everyone that joined the celebration this year.

## A WHALE OF A TIME AT AYLESBURY ON SEA FEATURING WHIZZFIZZFEST

For the first time ever, we combined two much-loved free family events into one big event in Vale Park. The family-friendly literacy and arts festival, **WhizzFizzFest**, went on tour this summer to Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Chesham to spread the joy of all things creative and storytelling and it was a big part of **Aylesbury on Sea** on **Sunday 2 July**. 60 tonnes of sand took over the park and many enjoyed a ride on the land train!



## CHRISTMAS ON THE COBBLES RETURNS



Start the Christmas season right at **Christmas on the Cobbles**. We've got plenty of festive fun up our sleeve... the snowball arena is back in Market Square and so are the fantastic international street performers, Spark!, with their epic LED drumming. They'll be part of the Illuminated Parade, hosted by Bucks Radio, alongside Santa in his sleigh and pantomime star, Andy Collins. Don't miss the light switch on from 6pm and a stunning firework display that will really start the countdown to Christmas in Aylesbury.

There will be funfair rides in Kingsbury and indoor crafts, activities, games and performances in Friars Square too so, come rain, snow or shine, there's plenty to see and do – all for free! Visit our website for more information.



## SUNDAY LUNCH OPEN MIC



As we closed off the summer open mic period in September, the sun paid the town a visit. The excellent performers covered a range of genres with some familiar acts as well as some brand-new performers. It's always a pleasure to welcome new people to come along and give it a go. The audience appreciate all of Aylesbury's new and emerging talent – be it a musical number, a poem, prose or a comedic sketch – the mic really is open for you to perform.



**Sunday Lunch Open Mic** has a new location this winter in Friars Square shopping centre on the first Sunday of each month from 12 noon. These informal sessions allow an

opportunity for residents to perform in a friendly, non-judgemental and supportive environment. Over the course of the last two years, performers and audience members have commented on how the event has inspired, supported and improved emotional and mental health.

Thank you to Waitrose and Aylesbury Waterside Theatre for allowing open mic to use the outside performance space this summer and for looking after the event so well. Thank you to Simon Aldridge for compèring the Town Council supported event and a thanks also to Annette Jones for her support throughout the events.

**We hope to see you at our new location this winter.**

Cllr Tim Dixon

## AYLESBURY GARDENING SOCIETY



Autumn is here again, time to put everything away for winter, clean, sharpen and oil tools, get your mower serviced and tidy the shed/garage ready for next year. Now is the time to look forward and plan for next year. Aylesbury Gardening Society has seed catalogues for you to order your 2024 seeds. Potatoes also can be ordered now. Seeds will be ready to collect in December and potatoes will be ready in January.



In September we had our very successful 75th annual show with lots of wonderful produce, fantastic flowers and tasty home bakes and preserves. Well done to all winners. Thanks to Chris and the team for all the hard work organising it. We are looking forward to an autumn trip to Wisley in November. We are hoping to see some lovely autumn colours.

If you are interested in gardening, perhaps you would like to join us on Sunday mornings from 9am-12 noon to help other gardeners in our trading store on Old Stoke Road Allotments. We have a four-week rota, supply tea and biscuits and enjoy exchanging gardening ideas. Please speak to anyone on the team or get in touch through our website at [aylesburygardening.society.co.uk](http://aylesburygardening.society.co.uk). To become a member, just call in any Sunday morning and speak to one of our friendly team who will be able to help you.

## HAVE YOU SPOTTED THE PAINTED BT UTILITY CABINETS?

Local artists and illustrators have showcased their talents and added a splash of colour to areas in the Parish.



More cabinets will be painted in the coming months. Watch this space!

### Ellen Road

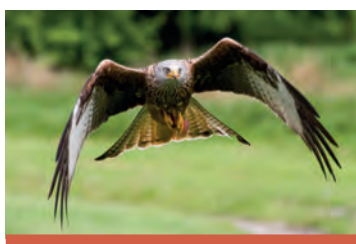
Local illustrator, Elliot Bulpett, completed their dissertation on street art and was thrilled to be tasked with bringing the two boxes to life with their vibrant designs!



### By NatWest near Hale Leys, Aylesbury Town Centre

Lauren has been busy painting one of the cabinets with this striking red kite! Isn't it amazing?

## PROTECTING RED KITES



Red kites were once wrongly believed to pose a threat to pets and livestock and were hunted almost to extinction. After reintroduction, their numbers increased and it's likely that you have seen these beautiful birds in Aylesbury. Red kites are a protected species and one simple measure can help them remain healthy – do not feed them.

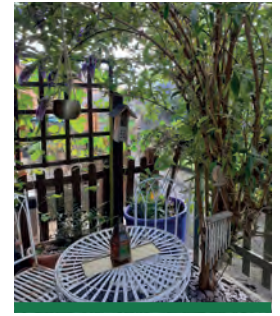
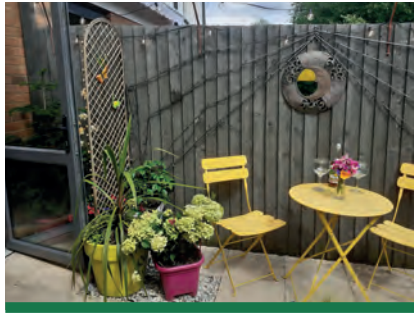
Feeding kites can cause them to become a nuisance. Kites have extremely sharp claws and a huge wingspan. If they become bothersome for example, swooping in and stealing your lunch, this could once again change people's view of them and put the birds at risk.

Leaving out food causes too many kites to gather in one area and smaller birds might move away. If red kites become dependent on an easy meal, they won't travel further afield to find new breeding and feeding areas. This restrictive behaviour can prevent the population from spreading to new areas. Kites mostly feed on carrion and eat the entire animal. Scraps of meat don't provide a balanced diet and can be harmful to dogs and cats who may eat whatever has been left out.

The best way to enjoy red kites is from a distance. When the weather conditions are right, they can soar at heights of 1600m and reach speeds of up to 100mph when diving to catch prey. Using thermal air currents, they stay airborne for an extremely long time and you can often hear them calling with a shrill whistling sound.

Let's keep these magnificent birds healthy so we can enjoy them for generations to come!

# AYLESBURY IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2023

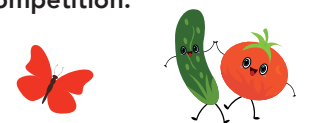


|                                 | Certificate | Bronze | Silver  | Silver Gilt  | Gold  |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--------|---|--|---|
| Best Front Garden               |             |        | Nirmala Takodra<br>Paul Stroud                                      | Phil Welch<br>Gillian Henley<br>Dovile Putramente<br>Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan<br>William & Teresa Dore<br>Daniel Riley<br>Paul Trayling | Peter Binns   |
| Best Back Garden                |             |        | Peter Binns<br>Nirmala Takodra<br>Dovile Putramente<br>Carla Harder | Stuart Reid<br>Phil Welch<br>Paul Stroud<br>Sarah Franklin<br>Thomas Brown   | Mr & Mrs Ridgway<br>Ron & Heather Murray<br>Paul Flower<br>Emma & Craig Matthews<br>Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan<br>Jo Tunnell<br>Glen & Londa Quanico |
| Best Edible Garden              |             |        |   | Stuart Reid<br>Ron & Heather Murray  | Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan   |
| Best Container Garden           |             |        |   | Phil Welch<br>Paul Stroud  | Henk Swanepoel<br>Mr & Mrs Ridgway<br>Emma & Craig Mathews<br>Jo Tunnell<br>Mr & Mrs Walker   |
| Best Wildlife/<br>Nature Garden |             |        |   | Daniel Riley<br>Paul Stroud  | Ron & Heather Murray  |
| Best Communal Garden            |             |        |   | Masonic Housing<br>The Kings Head  | Horatio's Garden<br>Florence Nightingale Hospice<br>Poplar Grove Practice<br>St Peter's Church  |
| Best Community Edible Garden    |             |        | Poplar Grove Practice   | The King's Head  | St Peter's Church   |

To see photos of the gardens and awards evening, visit [bit.ly/BloomWinners23](https://bit.ly/BloomWinners23)

**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 Steven Lambert, at an awards evening on **Thursday 21 September** at the Aylesbury Canal Society.

Judges spent the summer visiting 28 gardens of all shapes and sizes within the Parish of Aylesbury and awarded points to each. The points determined whether entrants would receive a Certificate, Bronze, Silver, Silver Gilt or Gold award. **Thank you to everyone that entered and a special thank you to Michael Anthony Estate Agents for supporting the competition.**



|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| Mayor's Cup – Best Overall Communal Garden | Florence Nightingale Hospice |
| Best Newcomer                              | Daniel Riley                 |
| Best Overall Garden                        | Paul Flower                  |
| Best Edible Garden                         | Kelly Smith & Emily Baughan  |
| Best Wildlife Garden                       | Ron & Heather Murray         |
| Judge's Commendation - Best Design         | Jo Tunnell                   |



## GROWING A HORSE CHESTNUT TREE FOR THE FUTURE

**When James Leigh was a pupil at Turnfurlong Junior School, he found a conker.** He was fascinated by nature and at about seven-years-old he planted his conker in a pot at home and patiently waited. Gradually his patience was rewarded when the conker sprouted and grew into a small sapling. When it became too big for the pot he decided he would plant it on the edge of the field at his school. This was 1987. James was in his last year at Turnfurlong Junior and due to leave for his secondary school.



Over the next few years as he grew, so did the tree. James often popped into the field to see how much the tree had grown. However, fences were then built around the school which meant he could only see his tree from a distance but he felt confident that his tree was growing strong and sturdy.

Little did James know that his small sapling would become part and parcel of this Junior School, where children play and shelter under it now and where the children at the Forest School pick up conkers and learn about the environment.

Nature and horticulture have always been important to James' family. Gardening seems to be in his blood with his father and mother keen gardeners and his sister, Karen, running a gardening business. His uncle was once a gardener at Hartwell House and his grandfather had been Head Gardener at the Waddesdon Estate. In 1977, the Queen's Silver Jubilee year, Ralph Saunders, James' grandfather, planted a silver birch near the Aviary at Waddesdon Manor. This was in honour of his service to the gardens of the estate. The silver birch now stands proud and tall next to a tree planted in memory of Alice Rothschild, socialite and member of the Rothschild family.

James emigrated to Australia in 2003 and now lives in Sydney where he is employed by a company who produce software for tracking carbon footprints of other organisations. He was over on holiday in early July and spent time with his family. After contacting the school,

James and his family paid a visit to the school to meet the Head, Jo Divers, and the Eco Council – the children who 'drive' the school's commitment to the environment. James was able to show the children his tree and relate the story of the little boy and the conker so long ago...

"Until you dig a hole, you plant a tree, you water it and make it survive, you haven't done a thing. You are just talking." - Wangari Maathai, the Kenyan social environmentalist who founded the "Green Belt" movement. Thank you, James.

Marian Colyer

## 1953 CORONATION BENCH

**When Jennifer Rogers was walking through the cemetery earlier in the year, she noticed how the 1953 Coronation bench needed some urgent work on it.** Determined to see it restored, she contacted Cllr Roger King who, with the Town Clerk, arranged for the bench to be delivered to her neighbour, Huw Stones.

Huw being a bit of handyman not to say craftsman lovingly restored the bench to its former glory replacing missing panels and the rotten wood. With a coat of teak oil it now looks as good as new and will have a new permanent position outside the cemetery chapel. Thank you Jennifer and Huw for your community spirit.



**CEMETERY WINTER OPENING HOURS** - Tring Road Cemetery will be open daily from **Sunday 29 October, 8am-4pm.**



## DEMENTIA FRIENDLY AYLESBURY



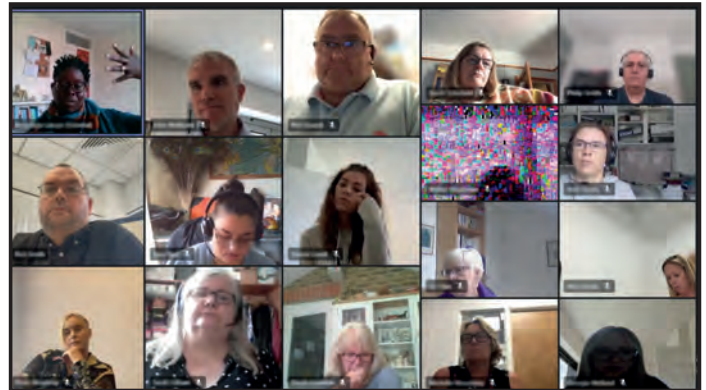
**A huge thank you to 23 members from Fairhive Homes Ltd who joined a Dementia Friends session that was delivered by our Dementia Friends Ambassador.** The session focused on inclusion and supporting the dementia community as the winter months draw closer. It was a brilliant opportunity to share and promote local services that are aimed at helping people age well in Aylesbury. We received some great feedback about the session:

“Absolutely wonderful – we would love to share about the session on our intranet (Workplace) and on LinkedIn too so more colleagues can see what we spoke about today and join a future session.”

**Abi Browning - Communications Business Partner at Fairhive Homes Ltd**

“Thank you for such a wonderful session! It was so engaging, and I know our employees thought so too.”

**Georgia Welland - Communications Apprentice at Fairhive Homes Ltd**



Dementia Friends sessions are delivered as part of the Town Council’s Dementia Friendly Aylesbury project.

### DEMENTIA HELP AND SUPPORT

There are a number of charities and organisations that can give guidance to anyone living with dementia, their carers or family members.

Dementia Connect **0333 150 3456**

Age UK **01296 431 911**

Carers Bucks **0333 777 2722**

Helping Hands **01296 531 151**

Citizens Advice **0344 245 1289**

Buckinghamshire Council’s Dementia Toolkit - [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/health-wellbeing-and-sports/dementia-toolkit](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/health-wellbeing-and-sports/dementia-toolkit)



### WE INVITE YOUR COMMENTS...

If you have thoughts about the town we’d like you to let us know. How do you feel about the town in general? We’d like to know. You can send an email marked ‘ATM Letters’ to [info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk) or write to us at: Aylesbury Town Council, Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP. Please give us your contact details so that we can reply to you.

## FREE RECYCLED COFFEE GROUNDS REDUCING WASTE

Aylesbury Town Council is proud to announce that through the coffee ground recycling scheme nearly 2,000kg of used coffee grounds have been successfully diverted from going to landfill. This is with thanks to the green fingered people of Aylesbury that have used these grounds in their garden to enrich their soil, not only reducing waste but also helping to combat climate change. Residents can pick up a pouch for free from any of the participating businesses listed below.

The Coffee Tree, Malebon, Temple Coffee, Esquire, The Coffee Corner, Wimpy, Stay & Play, Starbucks, Iannellis, Rococo Lounge, Costa Coffee at the Odeon, Discover Bucks Museum, Just the Crust, More+, The Coffee Bean, Aylesbury Eco Store.

Pop in, pick up a pouch and have a refreshment while doing your shopping. Let's continue to be eco-conscious and make our town even greener.



## LONDON MARATHON FOR DIABETES UK

Next April, Cllr Mark Willis will be attempting the London Marathon for Diabetes UK.

Speaking about this effort, Mark said: "Next year I'll be 50, last year we lost Dad, so I absolutely wanted to do something that has meaning to me. I've been diagnosed Diabetic for 10 years and the disease has had a big effect on my health. There is a local Diabetes UK group in Aylesbury which provides help and support, as well as the national charity."



You can find out more about Aylesbury Diabetes UK at [aylesbury.diabetesukgroup.org](http://aylesbury.diabetesukgroup.org) or call 07747 601 485. If you would like to sponsor Mark, please visit his JustGiving page: [justgiving.com/fundraising/MarkWillis2024LondonMarathon4DiabetesUK](http://justgiving.com/fundraising/MarkWillis2024LondonMarathon4DiabetesUK)

## AYLESBURY SET TO SPARKLE THIS CHRISTMAS

Aylesbury is getting ready to glow with a dazzling display of lights that will brighten up the streets and show off the town's festive spirit and delights. They are not just any lights, they are eco-friendly as they use bio-sourced materials and LED bulbs that reduce the environmental impact and cost.



They last longer, consume less, and emit less heat. They are made from sugar cane and recycled parts and are colourful, creative, and unique – we'd say an apt reflection of the town's heart.

So come and join us at **Christmas on the Cobbles** on **Sunday 26 November** and enjoy the excitement of the lights. They will be on until **5 January**, so don't miss it!

## UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

### NOVEMBER 2023

**Monday 6** - Planning and Licensing  
**Wednesday 8** - Finance  
**Monday 20** - Planning and Licensing  
**Tuesday 28** - Communities

### DECEMBER 2023

**Monday 4** - Planning and Licensing  
**Wednesday 13** - Direct Services  
**Thursday 14** - Town Council  
**Monday 18** - Planning and Licensing

### JANUARY 2024

**Tuesday 2** - Planning and Licensing  
**Wednesday 10** - Finance  
**Thursday 11** - Town Council  
**Monday 15** - Planning and Licensing  
**Wednesday 17** - Grants  
**Monday 29** - Planning and Licensing

### FEBRUARY 2024

**Tuesday 6** - Communities  
**Wednesday 7** - Policy  
**Thursday 8** - Town Council  
**Monday 12** - Planning and Licensing  
**Monday 26** - Planning and Licensing

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



## MORE THAN JUST A CEMETERY

Tring Road Cemetery is a place of tranquillity and remembrance. It is a biography of the local community and it helps to tell the stories of individuals, their lives, beliefs, and fashions. The cemetery has the following benefits to the community:

- It's a therapeutic space and allows us to face our grief head-on, while also bringing the community together to support each other.
- It provides tangible links to the past and clues to unravel our history.
- It can bring families together.
- It offers a place for the community to all gather in remembrance.
- It's a place of beauty and preserves the memory of those passed.
- It signifies a human being that impacted history in some way.



Tring Road Cemetery was designed by architects Poulton & Woodman of Reading and opened in 1858. The two listed chapels and the old mortuary are some of the best surviving examples of the cemetery work of Poulton & Woodman and are therefore historically important. The cemetery

also contains 107 war graves that commemorate the dead from the First and Second World Wars.

As well as being valuable windows into the past, cemeteries are important places for communities today. Aylesbury is a diverse town with many different communities and traditions. Tring Road Cemetery provides options for all communities in the town.

More and more people are visiting cemeteries, and not just to visit their loved ones' graves. Cemeteries are becoming destinations for photographers, genealogists, and historians. During lockdown, a flood of amateur genealogists began seeking their families' roots, meaning the cemetery became a place more people wanted to visit. One day, you'll be gone, and there might be no one left to remember you, but if someone walks by and your grave catches their eye, they might wonder who this person was and see that they were a mother or father, a son or daughter, an aunt or uncle. That's an everlasting memory.

Our chapel provides a beautiful space for workshops, exhibitions and events which is available for hire. We also have opportunities for those that would like to be involved in the cemetery by volunteering. If you would like further information please contact our Cemetery Officer on **01296 425678**.

## WHY YOU SHOULD SHOP PRE-LOVED THIS CHRISTMAS

**Christmas is a time of joy, generosity, and celebration.** But it can also be a time of stress, waste and overspending. If you are looking for a way to make your Christmas shopping more meaningful, sustainable and affordable, why not consider shopping at charity shops for pre-loved items? Here's why:

- **Support a good cause.** Choose to shop at a charity shop that supports a cause close to your heart.
- **Save money.** Charity shops offer items at a fraction of their original price, which can help you save money on your Christmas budget. You might even find some hidden gems or vintage treasures that are unique and special.
- **Reduce waste and carbon footprint.** By shopping at charity shops, you are giving a new life to pre-loved items and reducing the demand for new products that require more resources and energy to produce.
- **Improve your wellbeing.** Feel good about yourself for supporting your local community. Shopping at charity shops can improve your mental health by reducing stress, anxiety and depression.

You might be surprised by how much you can save, enjoy and contribute by shopping at charity shops this Christmas. We are lucky to have a great range of charity shops in the Parish of Aylesbury where you will find all sorts of hidden gems. **Happy pre-loved shopping!**

The Town Mayor,  
Town Councillors and Staff  
wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year

### TOWN HALL CHRISTMAS CLOSING HOURS

The Town Hall will close on **Friday 22 December 2023**  
at **2pm** and will reopen on **Tuesday 2 January 2024**  
at **8:45am**



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

This magazine is delivered to every household in the Parish of Aylesbury. For more information call Rachel on **01296 425678** or email [rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
There is no charge for community groups and charities.

## AYLESBURY LIONS – STILL GROWLING!

Since the end of the Covid lockdown, the Aylesbury Lions Club has relaunched its programme of events and activities to help local communities and raise money for good causes.

Some of you will have seen us at fetes at Berryfields and Bedgrove, and out at Haddenham. Several local pubs and shops displayed our Easter basket raffles, helping us to raise over £800 for Florence Nightingale Hospice and other charities. At Christmas we took Santa and his sleigh around Haddenham.



We are still supplying Message in a Bottle and Message in a Wallet, two schemes for recording a person's medical details for information in an emergency. Our spectacle recycling boxes have been placed with health centres and opticians around the town. This coming Christmas we will again be roasting chestnuts at the Town Council's Christmas on the Cobbles celebration.

But if we are to extend our work we need new members with energy and ideas. So if you have some time you can spare, and would like to help the local community and good causes further afield, do please get in touch on **0345 833 7863** or by email [contact@aylesburylions.org.uk](mailto:contact@aylesburylions.org.uk) or [aylesburylions@googlemail.com](mailto:aylesburylions@googlemail.com). We are a friendly group and will give you a warm welcome.

## MEN CAN HEAL

Back in March 2021, whilst driving into work, I had my usual morning chat with God. One question I had was this, "God, I really feel in my heart the need to be doing something for others that will help them in some way. Please show me how?"

So, he did. He showed me an image with the words Mental Health, but with the words 'Men & Heal' highlighted. This is how 'Men Can Heal' began.

After spending some evenings with a couple of trusted friends we came up with this idea of having an open informal meeting place for men to feel free to come and chat in a confidential and respectful environment.



Every man who attends the meeting will always be reminded that they can talk in confidence, be listened to and feel valued. We are not professionals, but we are providing a space where there is no charge to come along. All we are here for is to listen, to share stories and enjoy a cuppa and a biscuit.

My hope is that any man who comes along to Men Can Heal will be encouraged on their mental health recovery and be equipped to seek the right help they need. We are currently meeting in **Aylesbury Library** on the **last Saturday** of the month. Meeting starts at **9:45am** and tea/coffee is provided.

**Rob Clarke**  
Founder of Men Can Heal

## READ EASY

A Buckinghamshire resident who has signed up to a reading coaching programme with the Chilterns branch of the national charity, Read Easy, is delighted to be nearly halfway through the reading syllabus. Read Easy Chilterns supports adults living and working in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire who want to improve their reading skills. Trained coaches work one to one with the readers through the 'Turning Pages' reading programme at a pace that's right for them. This fully confidential service is completely free to users thanks to the support of its volunteers and venue partners.

Charlotte Lloyd first began her journey with Read Easy in October 2022 after a family member learned about the local group and felt this was the perfect opportunity for Charlotte to improve her reading skills. As a result of the programme, Charlotte is enjoying her growing independence and learning to do new things, such as reading her own letters and texts, reading menus and setting up apps on her TV.

If you know of someone who would benefit from the Read Easy coaching programme or are interested in becoming a volunteer, visit the website [readeasy.org.uk/groups/chilterns](http://readeasy.org.uk/groups/chilterns)



## MILESTONE FOR RAMWORTH WAY

The community around Ramworth Way in Aylesbury are celebrating a milestone in their donation efforts for Aylesbury Foodbank. They have just surpassed three tonnes of donations.

**How did it come about?** One of the residents began to volunteer at the Foodbank. Upon hearing this, neighbours started to drop tins of food and other essentials off at his house. To make things easier a small stack 'n' store was placed outside their front door. This was quickly replaced with a much larger box, but that still proved insufficient. Word had spread and donations were coming in thick and fast.



So, to keep up, the idea of a dedicated wooden cabinet, available for donations 24/7 was hatched. The cabinet was built purely from scrap wood and pallets. The cabinet proved so popular that the idea spread and a further eight cabinets have been built by the Ramworth Way community. These cabinets are now in use all around the

Aylesbury Vale. This has been a real community effort, that has brought the residents together for the good of the wider community. Friendships have been forged over the building of the cabinets and the donations are still coming in. As long as there is a need, the Ramworth Way community will help.

**Would you like to set up a similar scheme where you live or work? Can you help with building cabinets or providing frame wood for them? Please contact [collection@aylesbury.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:collection@aylesbury.foodbank.org.uk)**

## BUCKSVISION: EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH VISIONARY SUPPORT

**BucksVision's unwavering mission is to uplift visually impaired individuals, offering them support and a brighter future.** Rooted in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes, we're dedicated to enhancing their lives. BucksVision is a charity with a clear vision: a world where visual impairments don't limit fulfilling lives. Over our years of service, we've become a trusted resource and ally for those facing visual impairment.

Our services empower the visually impaired community by providing:

- **Practical Assistance:** Equipping individuals with essential daily living skills and fostering independence through mobility training.
- **Technology Support:** Providing adaptive technology training and access to assistive devices for digital inclusivity.
- **Social and Recreational Activities:** Combating isolation through engaging social activities, creating connections, and spreading joy.
- **Education and Advocacy:** As staunch advocates, we champion accessible public spaces, transportation, and employment opportunities for the visually impaired.
- **Information and Resources:** Serving as a comprehensive resource hub for vital eye condition information, available services, and family support.

You can be a vital part of our mission to brighten lives. Volunteering with us makes a genuine difference. We have several volunteering roles you could explore such as, befriending, driving, crafting, social group support and many more! Join us at [bucksvision.co.uk](http://bucksvision.co.uk) or contact our Volunteer Manager at [volunteering@bucksvision.co.uk](mailto:volunteering@bucksvision.co.uk) for an informal chat. Together, we illuminate lives, creating a more inclusive world, regardless of obstacles.



## BUSINESSES AND AYLESBURY FOODBANK



**Aylesbury Foodbank, in conjunction with Aylesbury Town Council, have engaged with 40 local businesses in a new campaign.** Scan the QR code below to see the full list of foodbank-friendly businesses.

Aylesbury Foodbank's Operations Manager, Heather-Joy Garrett, said: "We are truly grateful for the assistance of the Town Council in launching this campaign. The support of local businesses is vital for our continued capacity to fulfil local need. Please support these businesses as they support us."

If you can donate to the Foodbank, please do so online at [aylesbury.foodbank.org.uk](http://aylesbury.foodbank.org.uk) or by visiting any of the outlets named via the QR code.



## CANCER RESEARCH TOMBOLA



**Dawn's Bosom Buddies**, a local Relay for Life team raising money for Cancer Research UK, will be holding a Christmas Tombola at Rivets Sports & Social Club this **December**. There will be carol singing with a brass band from 6pm onwards. Come and join us and get into the festive spirit! Visit [rivetsportsandsocialclub.co.uk](http://rivetsportsandsocialclub.co.uk) or call **01296 424824** for more information.



## TACKLING 1,000 MILES IN JUST 10 DAYS...

Aylesbury resident Scott and his friend, Adam, will be taking on a huge challenge in aid of Ronald McDonald House Charities UK and Veterans' Foundation. They're cycling 1,000 miles in just 10 days from John O'Groats to Lands End next autumn.

The challenge was prompted by the ten-year anniversary of Scott being released from prison for petty crimes following a difficult time in his late-teens.

Scott said: "I took a stumble in life after I lost my Mum to cancer and soon after my Dad was then diagnosed with severe mental health bipolar disorder which had already caused him issues throughout my life. Struggling to face what was going on, I turned to a party lifestyle of using drugs and alcohol on a daily basis. I took the time I had in prison to finally understand and accept the person who I was, accept that I lost my Mum and become the person I was brought up and truly meant to be.



"I left prison with my own self determination and motivation and haven't looked back since. I tell my story and will continue to do so in the hope it may help others to turn a new leaf and to also prove that people can actually change. Since my release, I've become a Dad to two beautiful little girls and having made quite the success of my life and my career I have never taken my eye off of doing what I can for others and for charity."

In 2020, Scott was recognised by the Mayor of Aylesbury for his dedication to the community during the pandemic. He won the 'Delivery Duck' award after delivering groceries to vulnerable people at no cost to them.

If you would like to support Scott's challenge, visit [justgiving.com/page/scott-and-adam-jogle-2024](https://www.justgiving.com/page/scott-and-adam-jogle-2024). To follow their training updates see [bit.ly/JOGLEChallenge](https://bit.ly/JOGLEChallenge)

## WILLIAM HARDING'S CHARITY



The Trustees confirm the charity is going strong and is available for grant applications and aims to be so for the next 300 years! The new office details are William Harding's Charity, Rickford House, 12 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2RZ. Or call us on **01296 761688**.

Please share this information with any individuals or groups that might be interested in applying for grant consideration. Details of the grants can be found at [williamhardingcharity.co.uk](https://www.williamhardingcharity.co.uk) or by emailing [info@williamhardingcharity.co.uk](mailto:info@williamhardingcharity.co.uk)

## SANTA'S ON HIS WAY!

The Rotary Club of Aylesbury will be bringing Santa to the town streets during December. For more details of routes and times when we will be in your area collecting for local charities, please check our Facebook page [@rotaryclubofaylesbury](https://www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofaylesbury) or visit our website [aylesburyrotary.com](https://www.aylesburyrotary.com)



## HS2 IN AYLESBURY

Throughout September we have been working closely with Network Rail on the Princes Risborough to Aylesbury line (PRA). The 24-hour blockade on this line began on 19 August and will last until 30 October. The PRA line is being upgraded and realigned onto an overbridge, which will eventually travel over the new HS2 line. This blockade will allow for continued work on the HS2 railway underneath the PRA line while train services continue.

In addition, we have been progressing with the excavation works for the new HS2 line in the Waddesdon area. We will be excavating near the Waddesdon Greenway crossing in October, where the new railway route intersects with the existing footway.

Consequently, we must temporarily divert the Waddesdon Greenway while works are being undertaken. While we create the temporary diversion, Waddesdon Greenway will be closed for approximately five days in late October. During that time, there will be no access across the HS2 worksite via Waddesdon Greenway. This closure will be in place to ensure the safety of the footway users and staff operating on site. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works.

Elsewhere in our construction programme, we will also be working on preparations for the first phase of the A41 realignment. From November 2023, we are looking to connect the eastern section of the A41 realignment. This includes a roundabout connecting the new realignment to Blackgrove Road.

Currently, we are continuing with preparatory work ahead of the realignment works including utility works, curbing and waterproofing. We are also progressing with work on the A41 overbridge which is part of the western section of the A41 realignment due summer next year. Embankment works and earthworks in this area, including works near the Greenway starting in October.

If you would like to find out more information about how these works may affect you, we have several events in the area over the coming months. There will be members of our construction and engagement team on hand to provide updates, videos and answer any questions you may have. Scan the QR code below or visit [hs2.org.uk/events](https://www.hs2.org.uk/events) to find your nearest event. Please contact the HS2 Helpdesk or visit [hs2inyourarea.co.uk](https://www.hs2inyourarea.co.uk) for more information on works in your area.



## AYLESBURY'S JANMASHTAMI CELEBRATION: A DAY OF CULTURE AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Aylesbury witnessed a heartwarming celebration of Janmashtami on Saturday 9 September, a revered Hindu festival. Hosted as part of Heritage Open Days by Aylesbury Town Council and organised by the Aylesbury Hindu Temple Trust (AHTT), the event left an indelible mark. More than 100 attendees, including nearly 50 children, united for a day filled with cultural richness and unity. Creativity blossomed as participants of all ages decorated DIY 'matkas' - paper lanterns. This craft activity was followed by an engaging twist in the form of 'matka phod' for kids, resembling the 'break the pinata' game, adding excitement to the festivities.



For adults, a unique 'matka phod' challenge awaited, where guests took on the exhilarating task of breaking the ceramic pots hung from a tree outdoors, inspired by the mischievous adventures of Lord Krishna. In his youth, Krishna, also known as 'Makhan chor' or the butter thief, playfully stole butter from neighbouring homes in Gokul. The highlight was a captivating live skit portraying Lord Krishna's birth, mesmerizing the audience.

Volunteers' selflessness ensured the event's smooth execution, showcasing devotion and community spirit. AHTT expressed deep gratitude to Aylesbury Town Council for their support in publicising the event, offering the wider community a chance to immerse themselves in and celebrate rich Hindu culture and heritage. The day beautifully encapsulated cultural preservation and community unity.

Cllr Nidhi Mehta



### VOLUNTEER FOR BUCKS MIND, YOUR LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH CHARITY



**There has never been such a vital time for volunteers to come forward with their skills, passion and commitment.** Volunteers are essential to Bucks Mind's work, enabling us to provide more life-changing services to people experiencing mental health problems in Buckinghamshire and East Berkshire.

We are particularly seeking volunteers from the Aylesbury area for our Befriending and Peer Support Group services. We provide training and support for all our volunteers including:

- Volunteer induction and mental health awareness training
- On-going support
- Opportunities for further development

Be part of the Bucks Mind team providing encouragement, motivation and meaningful connections with people, either in our groups or on a one-to-one basis. You can find out more about volunteering for Bucks Mind at [bucksmind.org.uk/volunteer](https://www.bucksmind.org.uk/volunteer). Please contact us on **01494 463364** or email [info@bucksmind.org.uk](mailto:info@bucksmind.org.uk)

### SUPPORT FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

As part of their celebrations to mark the store's 10th anniversary, the team at Waitrose & Partners recently held a 'tin raffle' in support of Aylesbury Foodbank.



Raffle tickets were given to every customer who donated a tin of food, with prizes including theatre tickets donated by Aylesbury Waterside Theatre.

Thanks to customers' generosity, Partners more than doubled their weekly donation, with well over 400kg of food going to people in need.

Christelle Howel, Community Lead for the branch said: "We've loved being part of the town for the past decade, and always want to make sure we're giving something back. Our Community Matters scheme offers donations of both money and stock to local charities and community groups - in addition to our work with FareShare which supports local foodbanks."

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

### Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

**Our HAF programme, funded by the Department for Education, offers free holiday activities for school-aged children, in reception to year 11 inclusive, who receive benefits-related free school meals.** Children and young people attending HAF clubs and activities will be able to enjoy quality holiday activities and a healthy hot meal at each session they attend. You can choose and book free HAF activity sessions from a selection that will be on offer. Scan the QR code to visit the HAF Activity Finder to find more information and see the activities available this Christmas for you to book your child's HAF session.



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

With nearly 200 mayoral events since I became Mayor in May, it's fair to say it has been a busy few months! From seeing over 140 children perform 'The Whiz' to raise money for **Florence Nightingale Hospice**, to visiting my chosen charities of the year, **Youth Concern** and the befriending service of **Age UK Bucks**. I have seen first-hand how much goes on behind the scenes to support the most vulnerable in our town.

My consort and I have joined the **Aylesbury Wombles** on weekends, I demonstrated my knitting skills at Knit and Natter led by Maria Butler for **CPJ Field**, I learned how to use a defibrillator installed by **Fairhive Homes** after cutting the ribbon at Wycliffe End and I opened a '**Little Library**', a book sharing project by the Town Council, at Walton Court.

Aylesbury has a long association with **RAF Halton** so I was delighted to attend the graduation ceremony and parade in September. I visited the **Bucks Uniformed Youth** at Aylesbury Fire Station for a cadet night of drill and activities. I was also honoured to take the salute and award cadet promotions at the **Aylesbury Air Cadets** and attend the Battle of Britain memorial service and parade in Wycombe.

August Bank Holiday weekend was our town's biggest event of the year, **Parklife Weekend**. It seemed my dance during the **Live in the Park** warm-up was a rain dance as the heavens opened in the afternoon! Go to page 4 to see how much waste was recycled! Like hundreds of others, I took advantage of Aylesbury's **Heritage Open Days** and went behind the scenes of our town's buildings and was part of a fascinating history tour at Tring Road Cemetery led by Cllr Roger King.

I was honoured to view **Marteene Pringle's** exhibition at **Discover Bucks Museum**. As a champion of all our community's rights and overcoming struggles, the exhibition is personal and joyous about her journey as a transwoman. My consort and I also had the pleasure of attending a colourful and vibrant afternoon with the **Aylesbury Hindu Temple Trust** at their Lord Ganesh Utsav celebration.

Join me at the **Town Mayor's Remembrance Service** on **Thursday 9 November** at St Mary's Church from **7:15pm**. There will be a small service at **2pm** on **Friday 10 November** at our war memorial in Tring Road Cemetery too.

We're getting ready for **Christmas on the Cobbles** - our town's magical Christmas lights switch on with a parade and entertainment for all the family. Join us on **Sunday 26 November**.

Take a look at my new Instagram page at **@MayorOfAylesbury** and **@aylesbury\_mayor\_consort** to keep up to date with our engagements. Thank you all for being so welcoming to my consort and I as we serve our town this mayoral year.



Cllr Steven Lambert  
Mayor of Aylesbury  
f @MayorOfAylesbury





# AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS

Aylesbury Town Council awarded Animal Antiks £2,000 towards their **mental health wellbeing walk and talk sessions**. These sessions are designed for those struggling from isolation, anxieties and mental health issues. Animal Antiks provide an opportunity for disadvantaged and disabled children and adults to develop important life, social, functional and educational skills to overcome social exclusion through animal-assisted learning in a unique farm environment. The Animal Antiks approach is truly innovative and unconventional, by creating teams that mix young people and adults with a variety of needs and disabilities to work together.



**Could your club or organisation benefit from a Grant from Aylesbury Town Council? Does your club benefit the people of Aylesbury?** If so, you may be able to apply for a grant from Aylesbury Town Council. We award grants that will benefit the town and its communities. Grants can be awarded to fund projects or activities as well as projects working in Aylesbury to improve public wellbeing.

For information on how to apply for a Aylesbury Town Council grant, visit [bit.ly/AylesburyTownCouncilGrants](https://bit.ly/AylesburyTownCouncilGrants), email Jane Eden, Grants Officer at [jane.eden@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jane.eden@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk) or call **01296 425678**.

The next Grants Committee meeting will take place on **Wednesday 17 January 2024**. The deadline for grant applications to be considered at this meeting is **Wednesday 20 December 2023**.

Aylesbury Town Council Grant scheme support many worthwhile charities and organisations. The funds given really do make a difference to the community of Aylesbury and the residents that need the support that these fantastic organisations provide.

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider



## Jonathan Page play Centre



**We had plenty of summer holiday fun during our Summer Playscheme.** From a camping-themed week where we set up camp in our brilliant outdoor space to Sculpture Week where the children built their own sculptures from wood. We had a great visit from our friends at the Paralympic Heritage Trust Centre. They taught us about Dr Guttman, the founder of the Paralympic movement which started right here in our town.

We welcomed a familiar face to the Play Centre too. Jess first came to us when she was four years old and left when she moved onto secondary school. Jess, now aged 15, got in touch to ask if she could see the Play Centre 'from the other side' and spent her work experience placement with us. It was great to have you with us again, Jess.

We are busy planning not just our Christmas Playscheme activities, but we are also looking ahead to 2024 where we can guarantee some fantastic themed Playschemes. We're so grateful to have had such a fantastic year with a great group of children.

If you'd 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/jppplaycentre](https://facebook.com/jppplaycentre)

A reminder that bookings are open for our **Christmas Playscheme (20-22 December and 3 January)**. Book now to avoid disappointment at [jppc.magicbooking.co.uk](https://jppc.magicbooking.co.uk)



**JONATHAN PAGE  
PLAYCENTRE**



## Discover Bucks Museum

We're going back to the 80s at Discover Bucks Museum! Pull up your leg warmers and scramble your Rubik's Cube and take a nostalgic trip back to 80s childhood in our new family-friendly exhibition, **I Grew Up 80s**. A fascinating time capsule of over 200 objects, where visitors will experience the youthful exuberance of this iconic decade through the popular culture of the time. If you were a child, teenager or adult and experienced the 80s get ready to exclaim "I remember that!" I Grew Up 80s opens on **21 October 2023** and runs until **16 March 2024**. Visit our website for special 80s events including **80s Quiz and Disco Night** with Dan Blaze on **25 November**.



December is the start of our Christmas programme with our popular **Family Christmas Activity Day** on **2 December** with crafts, stories, games, a trail and Santa. For pre-schoolers our **Discover Ducks** sessions will take on a Christmas theme and run on **30 November, 7, 14 and 21 December**. We also have a special **Christmas Cream Tea** in the Georgian Room on **14 December**.

Please check times, charges and booking information at [discoverbucksmuseum.org](http://discoverbucksmuseum.org). Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP

## QPAC ARTISAN CRAFT FAIR 2023

Saturday 11 November  
10am-4pm



This year's event is the biggest yet as we celebrate 20 years of the craft fair which shines a spotlight on the finest handmade art and craft from the very best local artists and makers.



There will be handmade art and craft spanning ceramics, jewellery, woodwork, textiles, fine art, mixed media and more. It's the perfect opportunity to start your Christmas shopping and pick up a bespoke gift, or even a treat-to-self!

Storytellers from award-winning Unbound Theatre will be at the event too, performing a trio of brand-new tales in the 'Unbound Palace of Stories', in celebration of the Limelight Theatre's 40th birthday!

For more information about QPAC's winter programme and events, visit [queensparkarts.com](http://queensparkarts.com) and follow [@queensparkarts](https://www.instagram.com/queensparkarts) on social media.

## JOIN THE DIWALI LIGHT PARADE – FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



We invite you to join us on Sunday 19 November for an energising community celebration. Energising music, Bollywood dancing, Dhol drumming and a lantern parade - all of this will be taking place in the walled gardens of Discover Bucks Museum. Diwali is an uplifting festival that has been celebrated for more than 2,500 years. It is a five-day event in which families, friends and communities come together to eat, dance, pray, exchange gifts and share joy. The exact date changes each year, however, it always falls in October or November. Diwali is also known as the Festival of Light as one of the traditions is for families to light lamps to symbolise the victory of inner light over darkness.

Holy Cow Community wants everyone to get involved in the enriching experience of joining together in colour and light. For this reason, we've been organising and hosting the Aylesbury Festival of Lights since 2017. This has only been possible due to generous community partners, spectacular performers, volunteers and sponsors. If you love to get creative, we have wonderful lantern making workshops for you to participate in. No matter what your spiritual beliefs, age or background, come and take part. **Booking is essential!** For more details visit [holycowcommunityevents.org](http://holycowcommunityevents.org) or find us on social media [@foleylesbury](https://www.instagram.com/foleylesbury)

## SALSA IN AYLESBURY

Salsa in Aylesbury reopened its doors in the summer of 2021 with socially distanced lessons and has grown into a busy club with an average of 90+ dancers every Thursday night. A member was diagnosed with cancer whilst launching the club so fundraising for Cancer Research UK has been close to their hearts. We hold many events to raise money and took part in Aylesbury's Relay for Life in July. What fun it was dancing in the rain! Our first fundraising event in preparation for **Relay for Life 2024** is on **26 October** with a fancy-dress Halloween night. We have enjoyed taking part in Live in the Park for three years now, giving free salsa lessons to the public, this year, AGAIN in the rain! The Mayor was a great sport and joined us for most of the dances.



Come and join us on **Wednesdays** for beginner lessons at our newly launched venue, Roman Park (HP18 0YT) and lessons for all levels, plus social dancing on **Thursdays** at Red Kite Pavilion (HP22 5HL). Visit [salsainaylesbury.co.uk](http://salsainaylesbury.co.uk)



## IAS CRICKET CLUB OF AYLESBURY TOWN

IAS Cricket Club of Aylesbury Town was named after the initials of local young men who passed away in a tragic car accident on the Wendover bypass back in 2002. The Club marked the 20th anniversary of their memorial club by topping and winning promotion in the South East Shires Cricket League division 2. Along with IAS, Aylesbury Pakistani Cricket Club also gained promotion finishing as runners up in second place. Both clubs marked this special occasion for Aylesbury and celebrated their success and achievement together at the end of the season.

Chairman of IAS Cricket, Mr Waseem Khan, thanked Aylesbury Town Council for their continuous support and help and their club sponsors Jet Taxis, All Sparks Electric and Consult Pharmacy. He also thanked the local community for their continuous love and support.



## BADMINTON AND SHORT TENNIS

Over 50s Badminton and Short Tennis Club is a friendly sociable club encouraging competitive play, for all players who still enjoy racquet sport at the age of 50 or over. We play Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons with sessions running from 1pm. We have use of first-class facilities at Quarrendon and Meadowcroft Community Centre where the club has use of two courts in a sports hall with a high roof and proper lighting. We also have access to toilets, changing rooms, kitchen and car parking.

Go to our website [overfiftybadminton.co.uk](http://overfiftybadminton.co.uk) to request information or merely turn up, no joining fee just pay on the day. Your first session is free. Some badminton playing experience is required, but if you haven't played for a while or are a bit rusty don't let that put you off. If short tennis is your thing or you would just like to try it, Friday is the day for you. Racquets are supplied, just wear some sportswear and you are away. We are a happy, friendly, diverse bunch from all sorts of backgrounds and always welcome newcomers, so don't delay come and see us today.



## CELEBRATION TIME FOR STOKE MANDEVILLE AS THEY WIN THE 2023 INTER SPINAL UNIT GAMES

From 11-15 September WheelPower, the national charity for wheelchair sport and owners of Stoke Mandeville Stadium welcomed 72 recently spinal cord injured patients to its life changing Inter Spinal Unit Games event.

Eleven teams travelled to the birthplace of the Paralympic movement from Spinal Units across the United Kingdom, and over the course of three days the participants were able to try 20 different sports. This included athletics, tennis, sitting volleyball, bowls, rowing, wheelchair rugby, and handcycling, to name a few.

Josh, 35 from Kettering was injured at work and has Cauda Equina syndrome. He spent three months at Stoke Mandeville during his rehabilitation. "To be around like minded people in the same situation is so important and for me playing sport and going to the gym has always been a good release."



Janine, 59 from Wokingham also represented the winning team. "I've always enjoyed playing sport socially but being active is now essential for me after injury. Coming to the Games was an amazing experience and what WheelPower offers makes such a big difference to people like myself."

Emily Weller, Head of Sport at WheelPower said: "We are so grateful to all of our coaches, volunteers, participants and physios for making this event so special and we hope that following this experience many will go on to enjoy sport and activity for many years to come."

Find out more about Inter Spinal Unit Games at [wheelpower.org.uk/activities/inter-spinal-unit-games](http://wheelpower.org.uk/activities/inter-spinal-unit-games)



AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL

# Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map

## Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr Anders Christensen  
07834 995690



Cllr Tuffail Hussain  
07832 913171



Cllr Phanindar Koya  
07709 923308

## Ward: Central



Cllr Sherrilyn Bateman  
07511 388978



Cllr Tim Dixon  
07956 802402

## Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Ashley Morgan  
07799 878059



Cllr Susan Morgan  
07799 074411

## Ward: Coppice Way



Cllr Chris Hendren  
07545 107385

## Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts  
07595 178660



Cllr Mark Willis  
01296 425678

## Ward: Quarrendon



Cllr Alan Sherwell  
01296 420672



Cllr Gurinder Wadhwa  
07840 151444

## Ward: Oxford Road



Cllr Mohammed Azam  
07438 958347



Cllr Steven Lambert  
01296 395511

## Ward: Walton



Cllr Richard Lloyd  
07887 685345

## Ward: Southcourt



Cllr Niknam Hussain  
07540 842407



Cllr Waheed Raja  
07969 056877

## Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Nidhi Mehta  
07507 124756

## Ward: Hawkslade



Cllr Mary Baldwin  
07809 615840

## Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



Cllr Sue Chapple  
01296 426814



Cllr Roger King  
01296 482812



Cllr Denise Summers  
01296 424903

## Ward: Bedgrove



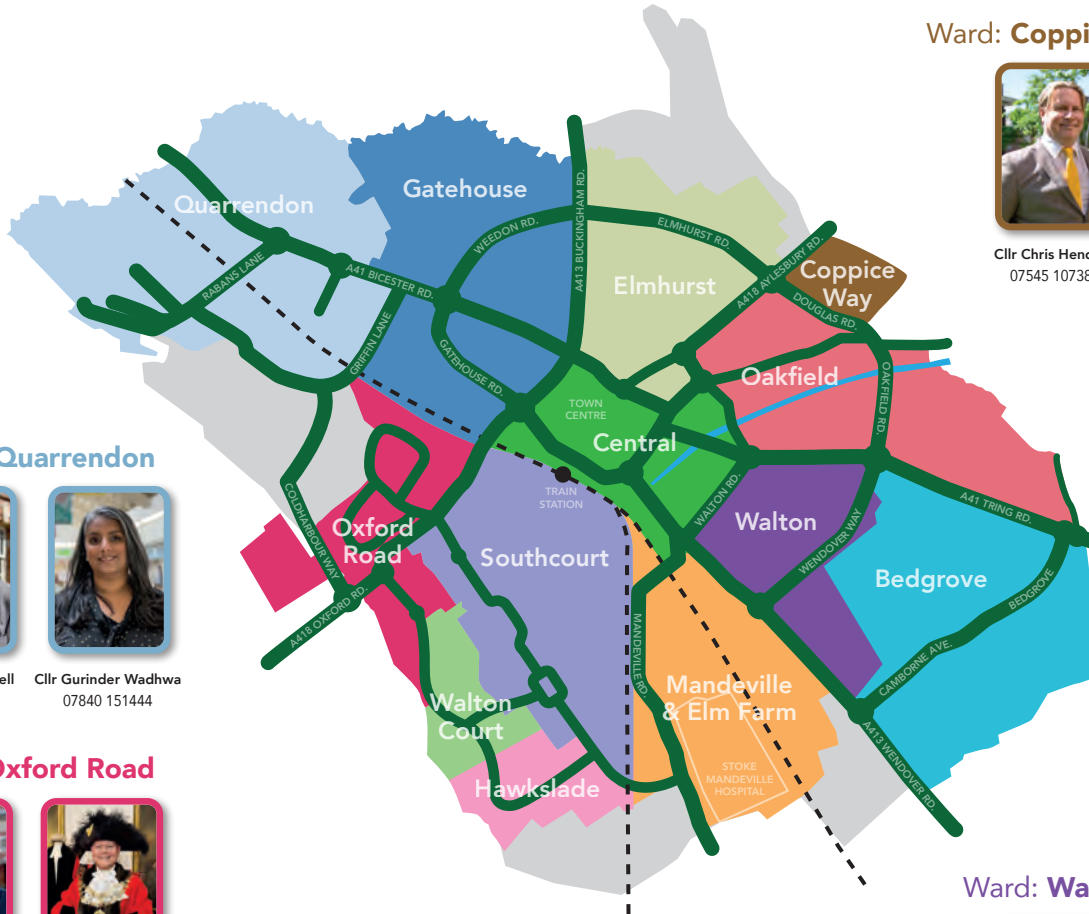
Cllr Raj Khan  
07958 214480



Cllr David Thompson  
07836 694463



Cllr Mark Winn  
07469 711724



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

### AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

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



**AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL**

#### AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Office of the Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- Management of all allotment sites
- Local Burial Authority - management of Tring Road Cemetery
- Devolved Services including grass cutting of urban highway grass verges
- Support Twinning of Aylesbury with Bourg-en-Bresse
- A programme of events throughout the year such as Parklife Weekend, Soapbox Derby, Aylesbury on Sea, Christmas on the Cobbles along with other free events
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Free magazine, Aylesbury Town Matters
- Jonathan Page Play Centre
- Aylesbury in Bloom (hanging baskets, planters, floral beds, roundabouts and more)
- Partnership working and engagement with other community stakeholders and Buckinghamshire Council

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL

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



#### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Collection of Council Tax and business rates
- Waste collection
- Waste disposal and household recycling centres
- Local planning and building regulations
- Public car parks
- Licensing and Environmental Health
- Leisure Services (including Aqua Vale and all parks)
- Award of grants to local groups and charities
- Grass cutting of open spaces and parks
- Grass cutting of rural highways/grass verges
- Upkeep of Aylesbury town areas such as Kingsbury and Market Square
- Roads and pavements
- Education and main libraries
- Social care services
- Trading Standards
- Registrars - births, deaths and marriages

## YOUTH CONCERN



Youth Concern has revamped its Drop-in Centre music studio. If you're aged 13-25, why not check us out? Visit our website for more information [youthconcern.org.uk](http://youthconcern.org.uk)



## LOCAL AUTHOR SHERRY HOSTLER

Sherry Hostler is an author based in Aylesbury Vale who has just published her second novel, 'Free Fall'. Her first, 'Hypnotic', hit no. 2 in the Amazon Crime Novels Bestseller List last year.



Sherry's second stand-alone psychological thriller 'Free Fall' tells the tale of Ellie, who is feeling alone and unhappy in her marriage. Her husband no longer shows any interest in her and is constantly travelling for work. So, when Saul, a handsome stranger, offers her everything she's been missing, what starts as a harmless flirtation quickly grows into something deeper.

A series of unexplained and sometimes threatening events soon lead Ellie to believe that maybe Saul isn't as out of her life as she'd thought. Both 'Hypnotic' and 'Free Fall' are available on Amazon, and you can find more details at [sherryhostler.com](http://sherryhostler.com)

### COMPETITION TIME

Win a signed copy of 'Free Fall'! Simply email your name and address to [rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.noon@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk) before **Monday 13 November**. A winner will be selected at random. **Good luck!**

## CRACKLEWICK MORRIS

We are the brand new, all-inclusive, 'Fusion' Morris side focused on the sheer enjoyment of all things Morris, and we'd dearly like to have you join us, any skill level - musician, dancer or both.

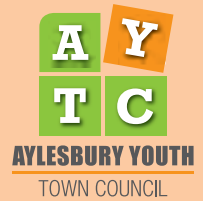
We take our inspiration from a range of Morris traditions from Border to Cotswold via Northwest - Border which includes dancing with big and little sticks. We perform many dances, some of which have been written by members of Cracklewick Morris and each one, whilst it has its own unique flavour, is influenced by one or more traditions.



Morris opens up a whole new world of friendship, music and fun so why not give us a try? It's also a great way to get your steps in for the day. Find us on **Facebook** or for more information or contact us on **07946 150 380** or email [cracklewickmorris@gmail.com](mailto:cracklewickmorris@gmail.com)

## AYLESBURY YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

We'd like to give a shout out to Youth Town Councillors **Conor** and **Sophie** for volunteering at **Parklife Weekend** as part of their commitment to the Youth Town Council. Every year our Youth Town Councillors are asked to volunteer at three community events as part of their role. Councillors and officers love seeing them at events and warmly encourage them as it helps them to develop many transferable skills.



**LOUD & PROUD**

Are you passionate about  
lgbtq+ rights and inclusivity?  
Aged between 11-19?  
Live in Buckinghamshire or the  
surrounding area?  
Want to be involved in a UK  
first?

Then why not join Prisma's  
Loud & Proud youth forum?

**SCAN AND  
SIGN UP HERE**

Former Youth Town Councillor **Ryan Hobbs** met with Youth Town Councillors **Evie** and **Sophie** to hear about a new organisation, Prisma, which helps to promote LGBTQ+ services and activities for young people across the county.



Aylesbury Town Council's

Christmas

on the

Cobbles

FREE  
EVENT

Sunday 26 November  
Aylesbury Town Centre  
1-6pm

Festive family fun

Illuminated Parade

Light switch on and fireworks



AYLESBURY  
TOWN COUNCIL



Bucks  
radio  
www.bucks.radio

