

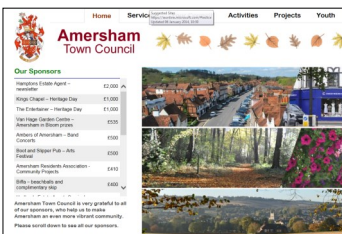
# AMERSHAM NEWS



Welcome to the **2015 autumn edition** of the Town Council Newsletter.

We hope that you enjoy catching up on our news.

We would once again like to thank **Hamptons International** for their support and for kindly sponsoring this newsletter.



Our new user friendly website is now live with a link to the **community event diary**.

Turn to page seven for further details and to see how you can access the calendar.



Amersham scoops Gold at the **Thames and Chiltern in Bloom Awards** for the second year running, along with two regional awards.

Turn to page four for further details.

The cost of printing and distributing this newsletter is roughly 4p per resident

Keep up to date with all our news, projects and civic events at



amershamtowncouncil



www.amersham-tc.gov.uk



@amershamtc



admin@amersham-tc.gov.uk



www.hamptons.co.uk

## Three good reasons to move with Hamptons International.

Get in touch now on **01494 256863**



Beyond your expectations



# Heritage Day

Once again Old Amersham came to a standstill when residents and visitors turned out in their thousands to celebrate our annual Heritage Day in September.

With so much to see and do we hope that everyone went home happy. Performances included those from the **Chesham All Girls Marching Band**, **Scoil Rince Ceim Oir Irish Dancing Group**, **The Merrydowners Morris**, **The Paladins of Chivalry**, **Soundforce Big Band** and the **Amersham Band**. There was a huge collection of classic cars, traction steam engines and over 50 stalls while the children petted farm animals, watched Punch and Judy, enjoyed pony rides, mini steam engine rides and took part in a medieval battle.

A huge thanks to all the residents who came along and to **The Kings Chapel** and **The Entertainer** for sponsoring the event.

If you have any suggestion on what to include at next year's event– planned for **11 September**– then please get in touch.



Graham Lawder-Stone and Miranda Dawe entertain the children

## Mad Hatters Tea Party

Despite the awful weather causing a last minute relocation from the Memorial Gardens to the Town Council Offices, the Mad Hatters Tea Party- proved a big hit with our younger residents who enjoyed a fun filled afternoon of magic, dance and song. While children had their faces painted and posed for caricatures, **Simon Says Magic** and **Miranda Dawe** entertained the children with magic shows, dance competitions, Disney Singalongs and interactive games.

## Amersham on the Sea was not

This year heralded the return of the new and improved **Amersham Carnival and Town Show**.

Amersham Town Council working in partnership with Amersham Action Group and Amersham Round Table put on a fantastic family fun-filled day out!

The beautiful weather helped to ensure we had the biggest procession in recent Carnival history and everyone who participated, including local schools, community groups and businesses really embraced the Fairy-Tale theme.



Amersham Carnival proved huge





Crowds enjoy a sunny afternoon in the Memorial Gardens

## Proms Hits the High Notes

A glorious July afternoon saw a packed Memorial Gardens enjoy a fantastic afternoon of music with the **Amersham Band** and **Vanessa Bowers**.

Singing '**Last Night of the Proms**' classics Miss Bowers had the audience waving union jack flags while enjoying traditional cream teas served by the Town Council.

The concert which also included a balloon release raised over £290 for local charity Scannappeal.



The Amersham Band

## It's just a Fairytale at the Carnival



Very popular



Lots of Union Jack flag waving



# Amersham Strikes Gold at Bloom Awards

Town also scoops two regional awards including a special award for Memorial Gardens

The Town Council is delighted to announce that Amersham was awarded **GOLD** at the recent Britain in Bloom Award 2015 presentation ceremony. This is the first time that the town has achieved gold in two consecutive years.

Amersham also won two **Thames and Chiltern in Bloom Regional Awards**— one for conservation and wildlife and the other for the display in the **Old Amersham Memorial Gardens**.



1st Chesham Bois Scout Leaders

It has been a fantastic year and as a group we are so pleased to have continued to add further vibrancy to Amersham with **striking planting, huge hanging baskets** and **additional colourful displays**.

This year has also seen the planting of sunflowers around many of our street signs which have received so many favourable comments.

The group are proud to have received the award for the Memorial Gardens, demonstrating how working together as a community can achieve great results. The beds were designed by the bloom group, planted by the town council depot, maintained by the WI Amersham Angels, Bloom Group and Town Council Depot staff, sponsored by Van Hage while the wonderful wooden *great event* models were constructed by the 1st Chesham Bois Scout Group Leaders.



Pondwicks Orchard was highlighted as a great open space by the RHS judges

Bloom is a year round initiative and you may have spotted volunteers planting the tubs, beds and borders over the past couple of weeks. We are very proud of our volunteers and they do an amazing job in keeping **Amersham beautiful**.



/amershaminbloom

## Join our team of volunteers

You don't need green fingers to get involved – but you do need to get your hands dirty! Amersham in Bloom is looking for volunteers to help plant and tend the tubs and planters in Amersham on the Hill and Old Amersham.

Even if you only have the odd half hour, there is lots to do for all ages and abilities. Amersham in Bloom is not all about the plants – it's about volunteering in the community to bring colour and make our town a better place to live. So get involved – make great new friends – and we might even take you for a drink!

For more information, please call the Town Council or email Steve at [stevec@amersham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:stevec@amersham-tc.gov.uk)



Volunteers and school children help to plant the beds throughout Amersham



# A Classy Show Produces Great Results



Our inaugural **Amersham in Bloom Flower, Fruit & Produce Show** proved a big hit at Heritage Day. We had over 100 entries in classes ranging from runner beans and soft fruit jams to raspberries and cross stitch, along with a number of children's classes.

The overall winners in each class are as follows- **Best in Show:** Susan Jeffery (Vegetables); Nicola Bishop (Fruit); Penny Wilson (Flowers); Alison Garvey (Produce), while the overall show winner was Valerie Barratt for her painting of sunflowers.

The winners in the **children's classes** were Clara Bradley (edible necklace), Harry Killeen (decorated Gingerbread Men) and Charles Bishop (original piece of Lego).

Thank you to everyone who took part and see you again next year.

"We were very happy to contribute to this important community event, by sponsoring the horticultural show and to continue in its supportive relationship with Amersham in Bloom"

**Bron Curley,**  
Chairman Amersham and  
District Residents Association



Harry Killeen proudly displays his winning gingerbread men.



## Bellman Back in Town

If you came along to Heritage Day you would have been hard pushed not to have heard our Town Crier who brought tradition and pomp to the afternoon.

**Mr Bob Higgins** was extremely proud and honoured to be invited to be our bellman for the day and we hope that following his success, Bob, Chairman of the Amersham and District Royal British Legion, will be enrolled as our full time Town Crier.



## Sounds of the Samba in 2016

Following the success of **Amersham Carnival 2015**, Amersham Town Council, Amersham Action Group and Amersham Round Table are delighted to announce the date of next year's Amersham Carnival – **Saturday 9 July 2016** – and the theme – Rio!

Rio is the scene of the 2016 Olympic Games along with famous fiestas, amazing costumes, samba drums, steel bands and..... Copacabana Beach! We are hoping that local community groups and schools will embrace the theme and join us for a fun-filled family day!

The steering group are gathering ideas for next year's fun event – if you would like to get involved, please call Zoe Richardson at Amersham Town Council on 01494 434000.

# Town Council Welcomes Tina and Scott



The team at Amersham Town Council

The Town Council are pleased to welcome Tina Coles and Scott Boyce to our team.

Tina who joins us as administration officer will be your first point of contact when calling or visiting the Council. Tina is part of the small team of office based staff which includes Mrs Janet Wheeler (insert

photograph- the Town Clerk), Lizzie Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk), Mark Richardson (Facilities Manager), Steve Catanach (Community Officer) and Zoe Richardson who is our graduate trainee.

We are a passionate bunch who are willing to go that extra mile to

ensure that we provide you with the best possible service.

If you have any local queries or issues then pick up the phone or send us an email.

In the **Depot**, based at Hervines Park, we have Paul Isom (Depot Manager), Shaun Grainger (Estates Manager) along with ten groundsmen who work tirelessly throughout Amersham and other neighboring parishes, cutting grass, trimming hedges, marking sport pitches and generally keeping the town tidy.



## Community Groups are getting Warmed up for Christmas

Now is the time to begin getting ready for the festive season!

This year, for the first time, **Amersham Museum** is hosting a **Christmas Market**. On Saturday 7 November from 10am-4pm you can shop for beautiful handmade crafts from local makers. There will also be festive refreshments available. Adults £2.50 and children are free.

Stop press..

2 December: **Community Carol Service**, Kings Church, Raans Road

4 December: **Old Amersham Christmas Late Night Shopping Event and Christmas Fair**, Broadway/High Street

5 December: **Christmas Showcase in Amersham on the Hill**

## New Apprentice

Scott Boyce has joined the Town Council as our new apprentice groundsman following a year gaining work experience at the Depot. Scott was educated at Stony Dean College.



# New Website is Launched with Community Links

At last! A website that residents can really use

The Town Council's new website has been a long time coming, but is more **informative, interactive** and **user-friendly!**

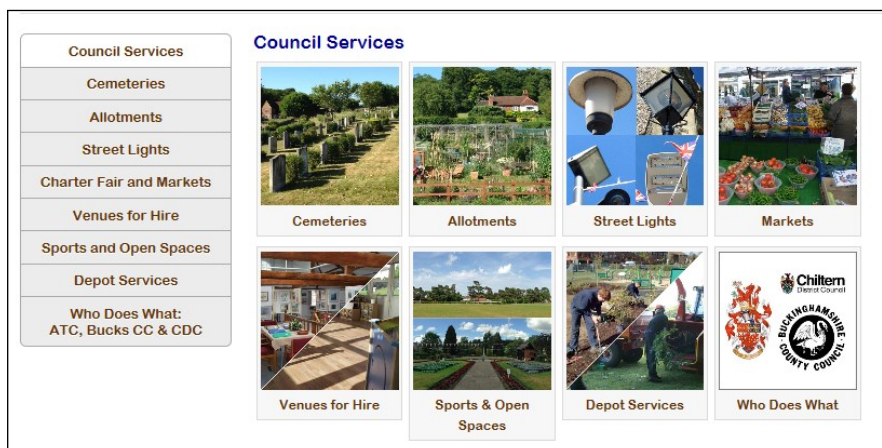
Recent Government legislation means that more and more information is required on the website. In addition to all the usual information about activities and events, the Town Council publish all agendas, minutes, reports, monthly expenditure and quarterly financial reports.

New features include:

⇒ Easy ways to report a faulty street light – simply click on your road to find a list of all

street lights maintained by Amersham Town Council. If it's not there – it belongs to Bucks County Council.

- ⇒ Home Page features our excellent sponsors – a roll of thanks to them.
- ⇒ Links to all Amersham Town Council Facebook pages and Twitter feeds.
- ⇒ Maps to show locations of Amersham Town Council properties and land.
- ⇒ Plus the latest information on Amersham Town Council's long term projects – HS2, Hervines Park Pavilion, Market Hall repairs plus lots more.



See the website for yourself at [www.amersham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.amersham-tc.gov.uk)

## Community Event Diary

Another great feature of the new website is the link to the **Community Event Diary** which we hope will be a comprehensive listing of all community events that are taking place throughout the year in Amersham.

We hope this link will enable residents to use the page as an invaluable **event guide** and **planner** to **what's going on** in Amersham whilst enabling groups to promote their event.

If you are a charity or community group in Amersham and would like to have your event listed then please email the details, including the time, date and location, along with a website address to [admin@amersham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@amersham-tc.gov.uk). We will then add your event onto the listing.

[www.amersham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.amersham-tc.gov.uk)

## Contact Amersham Town Council

Amersham Town Council  
Flint Barn Court, Church Street, Amersham, Buckinghamshire HP7 0DB

01494 434000      01494 725300 (fax)      [amershamtc](https://twitter.com/amershamtc)

[admin@amersham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@amersham-tc.gov.uk)      [www.amersham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.amersham-tc.gov.uk)

**Town Mayor** - Mrs Amanda Lamont 01494 432056

**Deputy Town Mayor** - Mr Mark Vivis 01494 725756

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## Amersham Town Council

## Playground is all Ship Shape

The school holidays are now a distant memory and the "What did you do in the school holiday?" essays have all been written. Hopefully some of the stories will include comments about happy days spent at the beautifully refurbished infant playground at **King George V Field**.



Emilia shows her approval with the new playground

Designed and installed by Playground Facilities, the new playground was opened by the Town Mayor on 5 August at the Family Fun Day on King George V Field. The vibrant and imaginative new design includes a pirate ship and a play village, as well as equipment suitable for wheelchair users, including the ground level trampoline and the easy access roundabout.

The project was funded by the Town Council, together with a grant from the Awards for All Scheme and donations from local organisations, for which we are very grateful. Judging by the numerous comments we have received and the number of children regularly seen at the playground, the new design has proven to be a big success, though there have been some comments from parents that they couldn't persuade their children to leave!



/amershamtowncouncil

# Latimer's Secret History

One of the highlights in Amersham Museum's autumn Programme of events is a special talk and tea at Latimer House on 15 November 2015. Author and eminent historian Helen Fry will share the story of Latimer House's vital role for British intelligence services in the Second World War. From 1942 Latimer House was an interrogation centre for German prisoners of war. The POWs were secretly bugged and their conversations listened to by German refugees working for the British. Helen Fry has worked with surviving 'Listeners' to tell their incredible story. Helen will talk alongside one of the last surviving Latimer 'Listeners', Fritz Lustig. The talk begins at 3pm and is followed by a wonderful afternoon tea at Latimer House. Tickets for the talk and tea cost £35 per person. To book tickets contact the museum at [ggotch@btopenworld.com](mailto:ggotch@btopenworld.com)



Colonel Thomas Kendrick with his naval intelligence officers during WWII

## Local Society Tackling Local Issues

The **Amersham Society** returns to Market Hall for its AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> October with a new format aimed to garner the widest possible range of views on local issues from as many of its 450 members as possible.

After a short formal meeting, there will be a relatively informal Parish Pump style session to give everyone present an opportunity to discuss matters of concern or interest. If there is a topic you would like to be discussed, call Society Chairman Martin Pounce on 01494 727674.

And it's not too late to join –

anyone will be welcome to join on the night and new memberships commencing in October will not be due for renewal until the beginning of 2017. In addition to taking part in general meetings, members get a newsletter three times a year, monthly evening talks through the winter and the chance to join the summer outing.

"There are so many small issues which together make a major difference to the lives of all who work or live in Amersham," says Martin Pounce.

[www.amershamsociety.org/](http://www.amershamsociety.org/)