

Aylesbury MATTERS

FROM YOUR AYLESBURY CENTRAL CONSERVATIVE COUNCILLOR
Barbara Russel

LET'S KEEP AYLESBURY CLEAN & TIDY



Barbara researching gum bins

Many residents have contact Barbara concerned about the level of waste and chewing gum littering our streets. On one of Barbara's regular ward walks she noticed an alarming level of chewing strewn across our town, especially the High Street.

Barbara said, "I think it is terrible that people aren't showing Aylesbury the respect it deserves. The litter and chewing gum are turning our pavements into an eyesore and spoiling our surroundings. I think the people of Aylesbury need to take pride in our town and show respect not for Aylesbury but for the people who live here."

Barbara is looking into ways to reduce the amount of litter and chewing gum on our streets, including the possibility of gum bins being fitted around the town. She will keep you updated on any progress she makes and will raise this with Aylesbury Town Council.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP?

We all need to do our bit to make Aylesbury clean and tidy. If you know of any areas that could do with a *clean up* in town don't hesitate to let Barbara know. She would also like to know of any *trip hazards, fly-tipping, pot holes or street lights out* so she can report them through to the relevant authorities and get them actioned.

CONTACT BARBARA

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WINTER WARMTH APPEAL

From January to 31st March Aylesbury Homeless Action Group (AHAG) will be running an emergency shelter in partnership with Aylesbury Churches, AVDC, BCC and Thames Valley Police. If someone is at risk of having to sleep outside this winter they can go to AVDC, High Street between 9.30am and 3.30pm Monday–Friday. If someone needs help a weekend or Bank Holiday they should go to Aylesbury Police Station before 3.30pm.

Concerned local resident **Edward Sims** said "The winter warmth scheme provides people with shelter on a nightly basis, a hot evening meal and breakfast for free. I think the volunteers are doing a great job and AHAG should be commended for everything they have done to help the people of Aylesbury who have hit hard times."



Edward packing donations for the winter warmth appeal.

HELP FOR JOBS

Bucks County Council is a founder member of the Local Enterprise Partnership which includes businesses and education and training institutions. The Council is committed to strengthening the local economy and increasing growth and jobs. The Council aims to introduce high-speed broadband throughout the county. It also supports apprenticeships for young people; the council has already introduced 30 apprenticeships in its own offices.

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL: DELIVERING THE THINGS THAT MATTER TO YOU

- 1 Road Repairs** Since 2011 the County Council has spent £30m on road repairs with an additional £25m pledged to continue this process.
- 2 Strong Education Results** Education results in Bucks are amongst the highest in the country both at primary and secondary level.
- 3 Good Care for Those in Need** The County Council continues to provide quality support for the most vulnerable, particularly the young and the elderly.

After 20 years serving as a Trustee of Thomas Hickman's Charity community leader and Aylesbury Old Town resident **Graham Aylett** has retired. We would like to wish Graham well for the future and thank him for his dedication and hard work for the people in need who live within Aylesbury town.

REDUCED CONCESSIONARY FARES ON OUR TRAINS



Local MP David Lidington with Barbara Russel

Thomas Hickman's Charity working with Aylesbury MP David Lidington were able to negotiate with Chiltern Railways for reduced off-peak rail fares for those who are entitled to concessionary off-peak travel on public transport already. For journeys on the whole of Chiltern network between Aylesbury & London Marylebone via Amersham and to Birmingham & Wycombe via Princes Risborough Aylesbury town residents need only present their concessionary passes and proof of their address at Aylesbury Station, in the Town Centre and the appropriate endorsement will be made.

David Lidington said, "I would like to thank the Thomas Hickman's Charity and Chiltern Railways for negotiating such a successful deal for Aylesbury town residents. In fact the charity was able to negotiate for this to be extended to the residents of the parishes of Watermead, Coldharbour, Stoke Mandeville and Buckingham Park, which is a major success."

BARBARA'S BITS & BOBS

Part of Barbara's roles as a District & Town Councillor is to deal with small issues such as flickering lampposts as well as larger, more strategic Aylesbury Vale wide issues. If you have any concerns, large or small please contact Barbara. In the mean time here are a few of the things Barbara has done for her residents.

- ✓ Posts in Highbridge Walk painted and the possibly dangerous tub at the bottom of Highbridge canal bridge is due to be removed.
- ✓ Posts to prevent illegal parking on grass verges outside Queens Park Art Centre are due to be installed.
- ✓ Croft Passage and the service lane have been swept clear, with over seven bags of rubbish and litter taken away.

RECYCLING RATE DOUBLES WITH NEW REFUSE SYSTEM

The new system has drastically improved the amount of recycling within Aylesbury Vale more than doubling our recycling rate from around 20% to over 50%. The feedback from residents has been very positive and other than the initial switchover and disruptions with the snow Barbara hasn't received many complaints. If you have any questions about your collection day you can contact the waste helpline on 01296 585510.