



# Amersham Matters

The Newsletter of Amersham Town Council

Issue number 9

Spring 2007

## Mayor's Charity Concert

This year the Town Council is arranging a new event—the Mayor's Charity Concert. The event is planned for Saturday 31 March at 7.30pm and will take place at the Polish Club in Raans Road, Amersham. Town Council staff have been busy sprucing up the hall at the Polish Club as a way of thanking them for their generosity in donating the hall free of charge for this event. The Mayor, Councillor Howard Maitland-Jones has chosen Mencap as his charity during his term of office, and all proceeds will go the locally run Mercedi Club, which is attended by local youngsters. Performers on the evening will be The Amersham Band, Chiltern Harmony and the Amersham Music Centre's Guitar Concert Ensemble, all of whom have given their time free of charge. There will be a charity auction and raffle during the evening, and the bar will be operated by the Polish Club staff. Tickets are available at a cost of £8.00 each or why not take a table which seats 6 and costs only £45.00. Further details and tickets can be obtained from Amersham Town Council on 01494 586892 or e-mail [info@amersham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@amersham-tc.gov.uk). Please support this worthwhile event—even if you are not able to come along on the evening, any donations for the charity will be gratefully received.



*Mayor with volunteer workforce at Workaid*

### Amersham Mayor says Workaid is amazing!

When Amersham Town Mayor Howard Maitland-Jones visited Workaid on January 19 he was hugely impressed by the charity's operation and the dedication of its volunteers. After his tour of Workaid's workshop on St George's Industrial Estate in White Lion Road, he said: "It's absolutely wonderful. Workaid is well known locally but I had no idea it was so big or had so many volunteers. What an amazing organisation of people giving their time to help others."

Workaid was set up by a group of Amersham Christians in 1986 as a practical way of tackling poverty in developing countries. The charity sends refurbished tools and equipment to vocational training projects, mainly in East Africa, giving around 4,500 people each year the chance to learn a skilled trade and support their families.

Last year, Amersham Town Council helped fund some of Workaid's costs. To find out more phone 01494 765506 or visit [www.workaid.org](http://www.workaid.org).



### Inside this Issue

**Mayor's Charity Concert**  
**Visit to Workaid**  
**Annual Town Meeting report**  
**Community Awareness—Beat the Burglar**  
**Window Boxes and Spring Planting**

**Amersham Fair Organ Museum**  
**Your Local Councillors**  
**Allotments**  
**Diary Dates**

# Community Awareness

## Window Boxes and Floral Displays

Now is the time of year to think about planting up your displays for spring and summer. By way of inspiration we are showing some pictures provided by a resident of Amersham of the window boxes in Whielden Street last year. Although the Memorial Gardens provide a blaze of colour and an area in the Old Town where visitors and residents can relax, it is always a pleasure to find a small oasis of colour!



## Bike Marking

The next bike marking event will be on Friday 1 June 2007. Thames Valley Police and Chiltern District Council will be offering the free service at Chalfont St Peter Police Office (at the Parish Council on Gravel Hill) from 10am to 12 pm and at Amersham Police Station from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. The labels used have been specially designed to be tamper-proof, do not damage the frame and are also suitable for use on scooters and shopping trolleys. Just bring your bike along and they'll do the rest! UV marking for mobile phones will be available as well. For more information please contact the Community Safety Team on 01494 732070.

## Beat the Burglar

Burglary is typically an opportunistic crime. Two out of 10 burglars don't have to use force but get in through an open door or window and one in five burglaries happen because tools and ladders have been left unsecured, making it easy to break in.

By removing the opportunity you can prevent the burglary. If your home looks like it would be too difficult or risky to break into a burglar is more likely to look for an easier target. Check your home security by asking yourself the following questions:

- **Does it look as though anyone's home?**  
An empty house is preferable to a burglar. Leave a radio on during the day and set a timer switch to turn lights on automatically at dusk.

- **Are you leaving your key for a thief?**  
Never leave spare keys outside your home and avoid labelling them in case they fall into the wrong hands. Keep keys out of sight and out of reach of doors and windows.

- **How could a thief get in?**  
Keep side gates, doors and accessible windows closed and locked. Check that high fences or hedges are not providing cover for a burglar or inhibiting natural surveillance. Keep ladders and tools secure and locked away at all times. One free timer switch and UV marking kit is available to each Chiltern resident by getting in touch with the Community Safety Team on **01494 586518** or at [communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@chiltern.gov.uk). For details of Neighbourhood Watch contact 01494 736642 or log on to [www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org](http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org)

## News and Information

### Town Council Annual Meeting

On 5 March the Town Council held the Annual Town Meeting, in the Market Hall in Amersham Old Town. This meeting allows the electors to raise and debate issues affecting the town, it is not a Town Council meeting.

Local charities made short presentations on their activities and reported how grants, which they had been previously awarded by the Town Council, had been used. Chief Inspector West from the Thames Valley Police made a report on policing in the local area. The Mayor read a report on Amersham Town Council's activities over the last year, and touched on the establishment of Little Chalfont as a separate parish from 1 April 2007. Certain facilities, such as allotments and cemeteries will not be provided for in the Little Chalfont Parish.

If you would like to receive a copy of this report please apply to the Town Council.

### Amersham Fair Organ Museum

With a dedicated band of followers, the Amersham Fair Organ Museum is a registered charitable trust, and besides attending many local fetes and fairs (Heritage Open Day included) holds Open Days at its base at Unit 1, 28 Plantation Road, Amersham (tel: 01494 433948). Details of these open days is given below. We would recommend a visit as the array of organs on display and playing on the open days brings pleasure to old and young alike. Refreshments are provided, and there is plenty of seating from which to enjoy this colourful and musical spectacle.

#### Open Days in 2007—2008

Sunday 4 November 2007

Sunday 9 December 2007

Sunday 6 January 2008

Sunday 3 February 2008

Sunday 2 March 2008



### Hervines Park Playground

Hervines Park Playground has undergone a upgrade and is now open for business. The new play equipment caters for a wide age range and provides some exciting innovations which should keep the children active and amused.

The pictures illustrate the before and after and we're sure that you will agree there is quite an improvement!



### Berks Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

There are talks on Friday 3 April at 8pm about the Birds of Islay, cost £2.50 and on 28 April at 2pm about Pond Dipping for Adults and Children which is free. All talks take place the Holywell Mead Environment Centre, High Wycombe. To find out more contact John Hoar on 01494 676091



### Signature Flower Beds

It may not look much at the moment but keep an eye on the signature flower bed planters, which have been built at the junction of Station Road and London Road and at the Boot & Slipper junction on the Chesham Road. Once planted up these should enhance the main entrances to the town and provide some colour and interest at these busy junctions. This is a joint initiative between Amersham Town Council and the Amersham Action Group.

## Allotments

Amersham Town Council has responsibility for three allotment sites, The Pyghtle in Amersham Old Town, Woodside Road and White Lion Road in Amersham on the Hill. There are waiting lists for the first two sites, but space exists at White Lion Road for the creation of further plots. Over the last year arrangements have been made for the allotment tenants to meet half yearly at the Town Council offices to improve liaison. This has led to progress on issues of security, water supply and the environment and a revised tenancy agreement, which will go out early in October.



## Councillors at Amersham Town Council

There are twenty councillors who give up their time voluntarily to serve the local community. They strive to give a voice in planning, leisure and amenities to ensure that the Amersham and Little Chalfont area is an enjoyable place to live and work.

They can be contacted on the following telephone numbers:

Cllr Mrs D I Allen	Amersham Town	01494 721085
Cllr J Breadmore	Little Chalfont	01494 433886
Cllr Mrs B Dykins	Little Chalfont	01494 763329
Cllr Miss C Gibbs	Little Chalfont	01494 763316
(Deputy Town Mayor)		
Cllr B Guest	Amersham on the Hill	01494 721565
Cllr Mrs V G Head	Amersham on the Hill	01494 727254
Cllr M King	Amersham Town	01494 722758
Cllr Mrs G Krendel	Little Chalfont	01494 764171
Cllr Mrs A Lamont	Weedon Hill	01494 432056
Cllr H Maitland-Jones	Amersham on the Hill	01494 722175
(Town Mayor)		
Cllr M McCormack	Amersham Town	01494 434960
Cllr V Morris	Amersham Common	01494 724212
Cllr Mrs B Ottaway	Amersham Common	01494 762490
Cllr M Phillips	Weedon Hill	01494 433634
Cllr D Rafferty	Amersham on the Hill	01494 764579
Cllr J Ricketts	Amersham on the Hill	01494 724 211
Cllr A J H Tate	Little Chalfont	01494 763316
Cllr A J Weedon	Amersham Common	01494 726631
Cllr Miss M J White	Amersham Town	01494 764256
Cllr R Williams	Amersham Town	01494 729229

## Chiltern Sea Cadets

The Chiltern Sea Cadets are now recruiting! This is a nautical youth organisation based on the customs of the Royal Navy. Age groups cater for Juniors from 10—12 years and Enrolled Cadets from 12—18 years. Meetings are held on Mondays and Thursday between 1900 and 2130. In the summer months the evenings are spent boating at Cookham. Courses and camps are held in **Sailing, Power Boating, Canoeing, Shooting, Seamanship, Summer Camps, Meteorology and Expedition Training**. For further information look on the website at [www.chiltern-seacadets.org.uk](http://www.chiltern-seacadets.org.uk) or call the Unit Telephone on 07786411838 (Monday or Thursday 1900—2130 only).

	<b>Dates for your Diary</b>
<b>31 March</b>	<b>Mayor's Charity Concert, The Polish Club, Raans Road, 7.30pm</b>
<b>3 May</b>	<b>Local Elections</b>
<b>6 May</b>	<b>Amersham Town Band playing in the Memorial Gardens</b>
<b>20 May</b>	<b>Rhythm 'n' Booze playing in the Memorial Gardens</b>
<b>3 June</b>	<b>Amersham Town Band playing in the Memorial Gardens</b>
<b>17 June</b>	<b>Civic Service, The Methodist Church, High Street, Amersham Old Town</b>
<b>24 June</b>	<b>Sir Real Jazz playing in the Memorial Gardens</b>
<b>1 July</b>	<b>Band Concert, Memorial Gardens</b>
<b>12—16 July</b>	<b>Visit from Bensheim Town</b>
<b>14 July</b>	<b>Amersham Round Table Carnival</b>

## Civic Service

This year's Annual Civic Service will be held at The Methodist Church, High Street Amersham Old Town on Sunday 17 June at 10.30am. Local dignitaries and VIP's will be invited to attend by the Mayor, whose election will take place at the Annual Statutory Meeting on 14 May, but all townspeople are warmly invited to join in this community service. The service will be led by Reverend John Amankwatia.

For more information contact:

Amersham Town Council  
The Court House  
King George V Road  
Amersham  
Bucks HP6 5ST  
Telephone 01494 586892  
Fax 01494 586890  
E-mail [Townclerk@amersham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:Townclerk@amersham-tc.gov.uk)  
[www.amersham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.amersham-tc.gov.uk)

**Organising an event?  
Like everyone to know about it?  
Tell us and we'll try to include it  
Copy date for next issue—  
5 June 2007**