• **WhizzFizzFest**
  - the spectacular festival is back by popular demand!

• **Vale Lottery**
  - find out about the special prize draw

• **The Tiger Who Came to Tea**
  - win tickets for the smash hit musical!

**ALSO:**
What’s on this spring, recycling tips, the latest on Aylesbury Garden Town and lots more!

News from Aylesbury Vale District Council
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Gastro Pub

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Now taking reservations for Easter weekend.

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Food served - Tuesday - Friday: 12 noon - 2pm and 5 - 9pm, Saturday: 10.30 - 2.30 and 5 - 9pm, Sunday: 12 noon - 6pm.

Tel: 01296 670216  www.thecrowngranborough.co.uk
Join us on Saturday 22 June for WhizzFizzFest 2019!

Preparations are well underway for this year’s WhizzFizzFest.

The eagerly anticipated family-friendly literary and arts festival will return to Aylesbury’s town centre with even more fantastical fun in store!

We’re excited to announce that joining us this year are Cressida Cowell, author of the incredible How to Train Your Dragon series, and national treasure Judith Kerr. Plus, there’s lots more to enjoy including storytelling and puppet workshops... You might even get a wave from our amazing GIANT new visitor!

And, following the success of last year’s ‘Magic of the Dance’ competition, WhizzFizzFest is proud to present ‘The Wonder of WhizzFizz’ at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre, featuring: Dance Fitness, a local schools’ dance competition choreographed and judged by Dame Darcey Bussell; magic by Maddox; and Aylesbury Rock Choir.

Cressida Cowell
Meet multi-million-copy selling, award-winning author Cressida Cowell, creator of the How to Train Your Dragon (also a DreamWorks film and TV franchise) and The Wizards of Once series. In a lively talk about her latest book, The Wizards of Once: Twice Magic, as well as How to Train Your Dragon, Cressida will share her inspiration behind her books and give tips on becoming an author or illustrator. Unmissable!

Judith Kerr
Illustrator and author Judith Kerr is creator of some of the best loved children’s books including The Tiger Who Came to Tea, the Mog series and her autobiographical novel When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit. Judith will be in conversation about drawing, her childhood, and her latest book with film-maker Jill Nicholls, who directed the BBC Imagine documentary about Judith’s life in 2013.

Buy tickets and find out more: WHIZZFIZZFEST.ORG.UK
Welcome to the latest edition of Aylesbury Vale Times

We’ve so much to share with you in this edition, including the latest news on this year’s WhizzFizzFest, what’s on in the Vale, and a look at the fascinating history of Waddesdon village.

You can also read about how 50 young engineers from the Netherlands are helping to improve the cycling network in Aylesbury Garden Town, and how you can help us save money and the environment by getting your recycling right.

There’s also lots more of interesting news and stories from around the Vale, so... enjoy!

Some fascinating stats from across the Vale:

£2million
Total of AVDC New Homes Bonus Project Grant funding recently awarded to 11 local parishes. (Please see page 6)

£225k
The amount raised by Vale Lottery for local good causes since its launch in 2015.

500
The amount of words young aspiring writers are being asked to write to participate in WhizzFizzFest’s Queens Park 500 Words Challenge.

0%
Percentage of household rubbish collected by AVDC that goes to landfill.

Aylesbury Vale Times is a publication from Aylesbury Vale District Council. It’s printed on environmentally friendly paper. Please recycle after reading.

If you’d like a free copy of this magazine in large print, or on CD, call 01296 585216.

Cover photo: WhizzFizzFest 2018 by Matt Fowler
Magazine design by Fortem Digital.

External advertising in the magazine does not imply an endorsement or promotion of the advertisement, nor its content, products or services by Aylesbury Vale District Council.

The views expressed by individuals in Aylesbury Vale Times are not necessarily the views of Aylesbury Vale District Council. Every effort is made to ensure that all information is accurate at the time of going to press.
Becoming a Garden Town brings lots of opportunities for Aylesbury to do things better. The aim is to make the town a more desirable place to live, to be more innovative in the way things work and to become more sustainable.

At the end of last year we held a three-day pop up exhibition in Friars Square Shopping Centre, to give people the chance to comment on what they’d like to see in Aylesbury Garden Town (AGT) as we work on our Masterplan for the future. One of the key themes was finding new ways to get around the town. Many of those who dropped by talked about improving the cycling routes and this has become a key focus for the AGT programme.

Sharing expertise

We’ve benefitted from input from a group of young professionals to whom cycling is second nature. Fifty engineering officers from the Netherlands visited AGT as part of a career development programme at their firm, Witteveen+Bos. They toured Aylesbury’s Gemstone cycling routes to share their insight on what could be done to improve them. Most of the employees at Witteveen+Bos use their bikes to get to work.

The Dutch team put forward a wide range of proposals to help make cycling more popular in the town, including better bike storage, park and cycle schemes for commuters and introducing new road layouts with allocated space for cyclists. All their recommendations are now being reviewed by the AGT Team.

Improvements are already underway

The new Exchange development in the town centre will provide cycle storage in a central location and the Waddesdon Greenway cycle path has proved hugely popular laying the foundations for a range of better cycling opportunities across the Garden Town. Plans are also afoot to repair and improve signage on the existing cycleways to make them easier for all to use. To keep up to date on what’s happening in Aylesbury Garden Town, follow us on Facebook or Twitter @AylesburyGT or check out aylesburygardentown.co.uk

Unlock your child’s potential...

With our expertly led singing, dancing and acting classes for 4 - 18 year olds.

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07376 361 495
We’re celebrating the continuing success of Vale Lottery with another fantastic prize draw.

This time we’re offering anyone who’s signed up to valelottery.co.uk before 8pm on Saturday 30 March the chance to win a £300 gift voucher to spend at Woburn Safari Park. Whether you’d like to treat yourself to annual passes, indulge in a VIP experience with the elephants or even join the Big Cats for breakfast - there’s something for everyone to enjoy with this roar-some prize.

And best of all, by signing up to Vale Lottery you’ll be supporting any one of 196 local good causes right across the Vale.

So what are you waiting for?

Tickets cost just £1 with 60p going directly to local good causes. In addition to our amazing prize draws, there’s plenty more opportunities for everyone to be a winner, from extra tickets and small cash prizes to our £25,000 jackpot!

WIN A £300 gift voucher to spend at Woburn Safari Park with Vale Lottery

Find out more at valelottery.co.uk

Sign up today at valelottery.co.uk
Our Vale turns community project ideas into reality!

Launched last summer, AVDC’s Our Vale is an online crowdfunding platform designed to connect and empower local communities and help shape the Vale for the better.

One of the first projects to launch on Our Vale was from The Adventure Learning Charity, who raised more than £3,500 to pay for a wheelchair-accessible high ropes course. Heidi Nugent, Development Advisor at the charity, was kind enough to chat to us about their fundraising experience:

What made you decide to list a project on the Our Vale platform?

“I went to a crowdfunding workshop at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre, and at the workshop, we were shown various projects that had been submitted to Our Vale. Seeing the different projects made me realise that the platform could help us successfully raise funds too.”

How quickly did you reach your fundraising target?

“Our project went live on 12 November, and we were thrilled when we reached our target on 5 December! We continued to overfund until the end of December.”

What are you using the funds for?

“We’re replacing and improving our ropes courses, to include one of the only wheelchair-accessible high ropes courses in the country. This will have specially designed obstacles that are suitable for inclusive use. The money we’ve raised will be used to purchase key safety equipment: a mobile hoist, slings, ropes, karabiners and safety lanyards.”

Who will benefit from the project?

“Young people, irrespective of their background or ability.”

Would you recommend Our Vale to other people and organisations wishing to raise funds for local community projects?

“Our Vale certainly gave our project the boost it needed. For anyone raising funds - I would definitely recommend giving the platform a go!”

Find out how to give YOUR project idea a boost: spacehive.com/movement/our-vale (Next Our Vale fund deadline is 8 April - so don’t miss out!)

Update on The Exchange

By the time you read this article, The Exchange new public square in Aylesbury will be close if not already open for everyone to enjoy.

The space will feature bespoke street furniture, including: USB ports in benches to enable mobile devices to be recharged on the go, an attractive cycle stand, decorative tree grilles as well as raised landscaped green spaces.

In addition, three unique sculptures commissioned specifically for The Exchange, explore human endeavour and inspiring creativity, reflecting the town’s proud link to the Paralympic Games.

The space provides a wonderful interface between the cinema complex and the new restaurants and apartments.

The new public space has been funded by a grant from SEMLEP (The South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership).
Eleven more parishes benefit from New Homes Bonus grants!

AVDC New Homes Bonus (NHB) Project Grant funding totalling more than £2 million was recently awarded to the following parishes:

- **Berryfields Parish Council** - for a new community centre at Roman Park.
- **Cheddington Parish Council** - for the extension and refurbishment of the sports pavilion.
- **East Claydon Parish Council** - for the restoration of the village hall.
- **Edlesborough Parish Council** - for the construction of a new sports pavilion.
- **Great Horwood Parish Council** - for a new roof and fully accessible entrance to the village hall.
- **Halton Parish Council** - for a new roof for the village hall.
- **Padbury Parish Council** - for the extension and refurbishment of the village hall cloakroom facilities.
- **Pitstone Parish Council** - for the extension and renovation of the football pavilion.
- **Stoke Mandeville Parish Council** - for the construction of a new burial ground.

Under what were considered to be exceptional circumstances, the NHB Panel also considered revised applications from Wing, Aston Clinton and Haddenham parish councils, resulting in an increase in the previous grants awarded to enable the projects for new community facilities to proceed.

In total, £2,045,000 was awarded from a total budget available of £2,045,700.

NHB Project Grant funding is open to parish and town councils that have been affected by growth (or the impact of growth) in their surrounding area, and expressions of interest are now being invited for funding in 2019/20. The closing date for full applications is Friday 14 June 2019.

In addition, the NHB Micro Grant Scheme is continuing to invite applications (for capital expenditure only) from local voluntary organisations as well as parish and town councils. These easily accessible grants of up to £1,000 are assessed on a monthly basis.

For further information on NHB Project Grants and the NHB Micro Grant Scheme, and the levels of funding awarded in this and previous rounds, please visit aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/newhomesbonus or contact our Grants Officer at jroffe@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk.

Local children learn how to stay safe

Last summer, AVDC held a Community Safety Schools event, which involved a total of 140 Year Six pupils from four schools in the Vale. Through presentations, group discussions and workshops, the children learned about healthy relationships, online safety, scam vulnerabilities and money management.

Local charities and businesses provided their expertise to help make the day a huge success.

The event will be repeated again this summer, with Barnardo’s R-U-Safe?, Bucks Mind, McAfee and Women’s Aid all hosting workshops.

For more information, please contact our Community Safety Team on 01296 585860.
Not sure of your bin collection day? There’s an app for that!

If you’ve ever struggled to remember your bin collection days, then you’ll want to take a look at our updated waste app.

Available for Android and iOS, the free app allows you to quickly and easily view your garden, general, food and recycling bin collection dates.

The app also provides handy links to our waste wizard and bulky waste collection service. You can also click through to your MyAccount, as well as viewing the locations of the three Household Recycling Centres in Aylesbury Vale.

Interested in downloading the app?

Then head over to Google Play or the Apple App Store and search for ‘AVDC Bin Collections’. (Please note that the app may not be available immediately, but will definitely be rolled out in the next few weeks.)

REMEMBER: If you don’t want to use our app, you can still check your bin collection days by visiting aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/find-your-bin-day

Looking for a parking space?

AVDC operates 17 car parks across the Vale, including 11 in Aylesbury. In total, we manage more than 2,500 parking spaces.

Some of the car parks are for short term parking only, while others are for long term parking. Additionally, one of our car parks in Aylesbury (Anchor Lane) is exclusively for blue badge holders.

Visitors coming to Aylesbury town centre for work or leisure can take advantage of Walton Street car park which, with 525 spaces, is the largest AVDC car park in Aylesbury. It’s located just minutes from the heart of the town centre, next to the Ex-Servicemen’s Club, and the car park offers a pleasant and scenic stroll to the shops and restaurants, with the walkway passing by the canal and the award-winning Waterside Theatre.

To view an interactive map showing the locations of all our car parks, their opening hours and the maximum time you can park there, please go to: aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/car-parks
Your council is changing...

From April 2020, there will be a brand-new unitary council for Buckinghamshire offering a single point of contact for residents, businesses and local communities. The new council will replace the existing county council and the four district councils.

Why is this happening?

The new council will be more efficient and save money for tax payers. It'll also bring together the best skills and expertise from the current councils - helping to create a simpler, stronger and better value county-wide council.

What will the new council be called?

Buckinghamshire Council.

How will the creation of a new council affect me?

There will be no immediate changes to services. But the new council will focus from the start on delivering the best and most cost-effective results. One way it will achieve this is by giving residents, businesses and local communities a simple, one-stop access to all services.

We'll update you with the latest news on Buckinghamshire Council in the next edition of AV Times.

We can’t help with the decorating...

...but our local knowledge can help you avoid property pitfalls. We’re much more than a conveyancing service.

Call Karen or Julia today to discuss your situation and receive a no-obligation quotation 01296 506035 or email kwhite@kiddrapinet.co.uk

Over £400 raised for our Chairman’s chosen charities

Our Chairman, Cllr Sue Renshell, hosted a Christmas raffle and bake off competition in late November to help raise funds for her chosen charities - Buckinghamshire Mind and SeeAbility.

A fabulous total of £410 was raised, thanks to generous prize donations from the following:

- Aqua Vale
- Bucks Railway Centre
- Cornelli Sugarcraft
- Green Dragon Eco Farm
- Mark Elvy (author)
- Michaela’s Amatsu
- Noodle Nation
- Rogue Bowling
- The Works
- Waddesdon Manor
- Waterside Theatre
- WhizzFizzFest

8 • your council

Call Karen or Julia today to discuss your situation and receive a no-obligation quotation 01296 506035 or email kwhite@kiddrapinet.co.uk

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‘Love Your Local Market’ returns to Aylesbury

Aylesbury Market sees the return of the national Love Your Local Market celebrations, which this year run from Friday 17 May to Friday 31 May.

The campaign kicks off with the ever-popular Foodie Friday Live on 17 May. On Saturday 18 May, the market will welcome vintage vocal harmony group The Bluebird Belles, who’ll be accompanied by the magical SwingDance MK.

On Tuesday 21 May, John Bly from Antiques Roadshow will be visiting the Vintage & Craft Bazaar to offer FREE valuations. So please bring along some of your possessions to have them valued.

And if you visit Aylesbury Market on Wednesday 29 May, you’ll be able to enjoy live entertainment and a range of delicious street food.

For further information on Aylesbury and Winslow markets, please visit: aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/information-markets-vale

VALP update

AVDC is currently working on the independent Planning Inspector’s latest communication about further changes to parts of the draft Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP), which will guide development up to 2033.

You may remember that the Inspector held two weeks of public hearings last summer, and then asked the council to look again at parts of the plan. This included how much new housing will be needed in the Vale, the best places for it and more detail on future infrastructure. The Inspector will need to see any changes to the VALP that we suggest, and there will also need to be a six-week public consultation period on any changes before a final plan can be approved and adopted for use.

AVDC is doing all it can to deliver the final adopted VALP without any unnecessary delay and will continue to keep you informed.

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MEET NEW FRIENDS
OVER 40 ACTIVITIES
FRESH AIR FUN

Changes coming to local Household Recycling Centres

From 1 April 2019 there will be changes to the way the household recycling centres in Buckinghamshire are run.

Make sure you find out how your nearest site will be affected. Ask the site staff next time you visit or go online at www.bucksc.gov.uk/waste
Interested in becoming a market trader?

Aylesbury hosts popular weekly markets in the historic Market Square, based in the heart of the town. There are four weekly markets - a Vintage and Craft Bazaar on Tuesday, general market on Wednesday and Saturday, and the popular Foodie Friday market. In addition, a general market takes place in Winslow every Wednesday.

If you’re thinking of starting a new business or want to extend your existing creative venture into a new area, a stall at the market could be just what you need. Starting from only £14.30 for an erected stall, it’s an affordable and flexible way to test your business idea.

Becoming a market trader is a low-cost, low-risk way to turn your business dream into a reality.

Benefits include:

- **Start small and grow.** Perfect for any budding entrepreneur.
- **Flexibility.** Be your own boss.
- **Low-risk.** Take your product or service straight to your customers without committing to long-term property leases.
- **Low-cost.** Less overheads than permanent premises.
- **Fit in with your other commitments.** You can trade from 10am-2pm.
- **Expand your social circle.** You’ll be part of a group of like-minded traders.

To help get you started on your new venture, we offer the following incentives:

- **Reduced rent for the first five weeks.** Keep your costs low as you build your business.
- **Regular event days to encourage footfall.** Aylesbury is proud to win national awards for its involvement in the ‘Love Your Local Market’ initiative.
- **Fully-engaged award-winning town centre management team.** They’ll work closely with you to help you succeed.

Want to know more about trading at an Aylesbury or Winslow market?
Visit aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/markets • email pkirkham@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk • phone 01296 585880

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Visit aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/markets • email pkirkham@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk • phone 01296 585880

And the People’s Choice Award goes to...

On 29 November, outstanding building and structural projects across Aylesbury Vale were recognised at the 25th annual AVDC Design Awards.

For the first time, we invited the public to vote for the People’s Choice Award from the nine shortlisted projects - and we were delighted with the response.

A huge thank you to everyone who voted and congratulations to your winner - Brenda’s Way in Aylesbury.

Visit aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/designawards for details of all the winners from the night.
LETS COMBAT CONTAMINATION!

Getting recycling right is really important. Putting the wrong stuff in your blue-lidded recycling bin is called contamination and sadly, this contaminant not only costs to dispose of, but also reduces the quality of the recyclable items collected.

We've created some useful tips for you below, so together we can combat contamination.

The top three ‘worst offending’ items

1. **Textiles** - These can be recycled but not in your blue-lidded recycling bin. Please take them to a charity shop, clothing bank or to your local household recycling centre.

2. **Nappies** - These cannot be recycled and must be disposed of in your green rubbish bin.

3. **Food** - Food waste can be recycled weekly using your outdoor food caddy, but it cannot go in your blue-lidded recycling bin. If you haven’t already got a caddy, you can order one online at [aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/new-bin](http://aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/new-bin)

Unsure what these recycling labels mean?

- **Widely recycled**: These items belong in your blue-lidded recycling bin.
- **Check locally**: Use our Waste Wizard to see which bin your item belongs in.
- **Not currently recycled**: Please place these items in your green rubbish bin.

Don’t spoil your, or others’, fantastic recycling efforts: if you’re unsure which bin to put something in, check out our online Waste Wizard: [aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/wastewizard](http://aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/wastewizard)

EASTER ESSENTIALS

Remember you can recycle all the packaging around your Easter egg - the foil wrap, the plastic packaging and the outer card can all go into your blue-lidded recycling bin. So be sure to munch, scrunch and recycle!

REDUCE CONTAMINATION

In a drive to reduce contamination, our collection crews will not be emptying blue-lidded recycling bins that are contaminated. If your bin is contaminated, we’ll let you know with an orange bin hanger which will also indicate what items need removing before your next due collection.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LUCKY COMPETITION WINNER CORINNE

“I was really pleased (and a bit surprised) to win an Amazon Echo with AVDC’s Recycling and Waste Facebook competition (as featured in the November 2018 edition of AV Times). It’s so important that AVDC continue with their 0% waste to landfill ethos to help keep the environment clean and safe for generations to come. We have been increasing our recycling efforts recently; if we all do a little it’ll add up to a lot.” - Corinne
ARE YOU A RECYCLING WHIZZ?

We’re committed to promoting and encouraging recycling across Aylesbury Vale.

Not only do our collection crews collect any extra recycling presented in a clear bag or cardboard box next to your blue-lidded recycling bin, but we also offer a FREE UPGRADE to a larger recycling bin (360l) for our recycling-savvy residents*.

Visit aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/recycle to find out more.

*subject to criteria

PS - Watch out for those April showers as we are unable to collect cardboard boxes with soggy bottoms!

BANK HOLIDAY COLLECTIONS

Due to the bank holidays falling throughout April and May, there will be some changes to your bin collection service. Please see the table below and use the ‘find your bin day’ tool online to check your revised collection day.

Visit aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/find-your-bin-day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usual Collection day</th>
<th>Revised collection day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19 April</td>
<td>Saturday 20 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Monday 22 April to Friday 26 April</td>
<td>Bin collections delayed by ONE day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Monday 6 May to Friday 10 May</td>
<td>Bin collections delayed by ONE day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May</td>
<td>Bin collections delayed by ONE day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you pay someone unlicensed to take YOUR household waste away, it could end up like this...

...and YOU could end up in court for breaking the law.

www.recycle4bucks.co.uk/flytip

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE

Registering with our garden waste collection service can make looking after your garden so much easier! We’ll provide you with a large brown wheeled bin and save you a trip to the tip with our fortnightly service.

What can I put in my garden waste bin?

- grass and hedge cuttings
- most weeds, except noxious weeds such as Japanese Knotweed, Ragwort and Giant Hogweed
- small branches and twigs (up to wrist thickness – about 10cm)
- garden plants and fallen fruit
- tree and shrub prunings
- leaves

Find out more and sign up through MyAccount today!

LET'S S.C.R.A.P. FLY TIPPING

If you pay someone unlicensed to take YOUR household waste away, it could end up like this...

...and YOU could end up in court for breaking the law.

www.recycle4bucks.co.uk/flytip
At Buckingham Lodge care home, we embrace wellness. We support each of our residents as individuals with their own rich history, skills and abilities and likes and dislikes. Our home is our community and it’s our resident’s life stories, combined with our unique expertise in caring for people, that ensures they can express themselves, maintain their dignity and identity and live full and meaningful lives. 

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Awards 2018
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Everyone is invited

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Offering a range of treatments from cosmetic work such as whitening and Smilelign orthodontics, to general family dentistry. We have invested in a Biolase Epic X laser to provide a more comfortable in-chair experience for the soft tissue parts of the mouth. Acupuncture is also available to help with the gag reflex.

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Win tickets to see -
The Tiger Who Came to Tea!
Direct from a smash-hit West End season, this musical play based on the book by Judith Kerr will be coming to Aylesbury Waterside Theatre in June.

Join the tea-guzzling tiger in this delightful family show; packed with oodles of magic, sing-a-long songs and clumsy chaos! A stunning stage adaptation of the classic tale of teatime mayhem... expect to be surprised!

For your chance to win a family ticket (two adults, two children) for Saturday 8 June at 11am, simply count the number of teapots hidden in the pages of this magazine.

Email your answer (along with your name and phone number) to: communications@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
Alternatively, post your answer with contact details to:
The Tiger Who Came to Tea Competition, Communications & Marketing, AVDC, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF.
Closing date is 30 April. Good luck!

Judith Kerr will be appearing at WhizzFizzFest! (See page 1)

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What’s on?

There’s so much going on in the Vale this spring - so use our ‘cut out and keep’ what’s on guide to make sure you don’t miss out!

REGULAR

First Sunday of every month, Winslow Farmers’ Market, 10am-1.30pm, Winslow. Fresh produce from the best local farmers, growers and producers. winslowtowncouncil.gov.uk

Every Tuesday, Vintage & Craft Bazaar, 9am-2pm, Aylesbury town centre.

MARCH

Every Thursday in March and April, classical lunchtime concerts, 12.45-1.45pm, St Mary’s Church, Aylesbury. aylesburylunchtimemusic.co.uk

9 March, 13 April, 11 May, 8 June, Wendover Music, 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Wendover. Fantastic musicians performing in a unique setting. wendover-music.org

18-23 March, Abigail’s Party, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. A hilarious comedy with potentially disastrous consequences. atgtickets.com/Aylesbury

20-23 March, Stepping Out, Stewkley Players, doors open 7.30pm, Village Hall, Stewkley. A comedy about a class of amateur tap dancers. stewkleyplayers.co.uk

APRIL

6 April-13 July, Samurai: Warriors of Ancient Japan, Bucks County Museum. Stunning examples of historical Samurai armour and weapons. buckscountymuseum.org

10-12 April, Honeycomb Dance Festival, 7pm, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. Dance extravaganza featuring over 30 groups of 8-18 year olds. atgtickets.com/ayselbury

11 April, Children’s Event, 11am-3pm, Aylesbury town centre. aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/events

16/17 April, Bucks Federation and the Ubiquitous Theatre Company present “Doubt”, 8pm, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. An old-fashioned detective drama by John Patrick Shanley. bucksfwi.org.uk/whats-on

19-22 April, Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt, 12-4pm, Ascot House, Wing. Egg hunt, crafts and face painting. Booking advisable. ascottestate.co.uk

MAY

1 May, Mayday celebrations, 11am, St Peter & St Paul’s Church, Buckingham. Local school children take part in maypole and traditional country dancing. buckingham-tc.gov.uk

11 May, May Maker’s Fair, 10am, Queens Park Arts Centre. Art and craft activities for children, live music, refreshments and BBQ. Free parking. qpc.org

17-31 May, Love Your Local Market fortnight, Aylesbury town centre. Love Your Local Market celebrations every market day. aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/events

17 May, Foodie Friday Live, 11am-3pm, Aylesbury town centre. Come and discover a whole new world of flavours. aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/events

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18 May, The Bluebird Belles and Swing Dance MK, 11am-3pm, Aylesbury town centre. Step back into the 1950s with fantastic live entertainment in Market Square. aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/events

19 May, Chiltern Hills 25th Vintage Vehicle Rally, 10am-5pm, Weedon Park. 1,000 classic and vintage vehicles on show. chilternhillsrally.org.uk

21 May, Valuations with John Bly at the Vintage & Craft Bazaar, 10am-2pm, Aylesbury town centre. aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/events

25-27 May, The 11th Mentmore Art Festival, 11am-5pm, Mentmore church and village hall. Exhibition of art from 60 artists. Come for lunch and stay for afternoon tea. mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk

26-27 May, Steam Gala and Model Railway Exhibition, Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quainton. bucksrailcentre.org

26 May, Music in the Market, 1pm, Buckingham. Popular music festival organised by Buckingham’s Acoustic Club and Buckingham Town Council. buckingham-tc.gov.uk

26 May, Larks by the Lake, 12:30-5pm, Balloon Meadow, Watermead. Community fair offering a great family day out. watermead-pc.gov.uk

JUNE

1 June, Turn End House and Garden Open Day, 2-5pm, Haddenham. An architectural gem in Bucks. Awarded the RIBA Award for Architecture in 1970 and Grade II listing status in 2006. turnend.org.uk/new-events

7-9 June, The Tiger Who Came To Tea, Friday 1.30pm, Saturday & Sunday 11am & 2pm, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre. The doorbell rings, who could it be? The tea-guzzling tiger is back in this delightful family show. atgtickets.com/Aylesbury

8 June, The Three Inch Fools Present - Much To Do About Nothing, 7-10pm, Ascot House, Wing. ascottestate.co.uk

8-23 June, Bucks Art Weeks, studios across Buckinghamshire. See the works of hundreds of local artists in studios and exhibitions across the county. bucksartweeks.org.uk

8 June, Haddenham Village Fete, 1pm, Church End, Haddenham. haddenham.net

9 June, Mix96 Tour de Vale Bike Ride. Buckinghamshire’s biggest and best charity bike ride is back with three glorious routes starting and finishing at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. wheelpower.org.uk/events

14-15 June, Edlesborough Music Festival, 6.30-10.30pm. Two evenings of live music washed down with some real ales or a glass of Pimm’s. edlefest.site123.me

16 June, Father’s Day – Historic Commercial Vehicle Rally, Buckinghamshire Railway Centre. Bring your dad to see the old commercial vehicles, and enjoy unlimited steam train rides. bucksrailcentre.org

22 June, WhizzFizzFest, 10.30am-5.30pm, Aylesbury town centre. Now in its 17th year, a family-friendly fizztastic literary and arts festival. whizzfizzfest.org.uk

22 June, Florence Nightingale Hospice’s 10th Anniversary Midnight Walk, Aylesbury. 5 or 10-mile circular walks. Registration closes 19 June. fnhospice.org.uk/events/midnightwalk

For more on events happening in Aylesbury throughout the year, go to: visitaylesbury.co.uk

If you have an event that’s taking place between July and October this year, please email: whatson@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
There’s no denying the arrival of the Rothschilds was significant in really putting Waddesdon on the map, however Waddesdon's rich (and not so rich!) history amounts to more than just the Manor...

**History of habitants**

The land now occupied by the parish of Waddesdon, and the countryside surrounding it, has supported human habitation for more than 8,000 years. Over the years, artefacts from the Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon periods have all been uncovered.

**A road once fit for the Romans...**

While regarded unfavourably by many Waddesdon residents, the Aylesbury to Bicester Turnpike Road, now known as the A41, was fundamental in bringing life, trade and money into the village. It acted as an alternative (and favourable) route to the neglected Akeman Street, the original Roman road which bypassed the village and connected London to Bath. Years of wear and tear meant it was no longer a road fit for travel, let alone for the Roman armies!

With the new and upgraded London road now passing through Waddesdon, the village assumed a new importance. Business boomed for local shops and inns, and The Marlborough Arms, located in the heart of the village, (now the Five Arrows) became a popular stopping point for stagecoaches and in due course, the first Post Office.

**Black Waddesdon**

Amidst the 18th century, wayfarers actively avoided passing through 'Black Waddesdon' - a nickname the village had acquired due to its unsavoury reputation. Tales of returning coach travellers’ waves with a hail of stones and mud as well as a murder of a Welsh horse-dealer at the Barley Mough Inn (the site now home to Princes Lodge, Silk Street) hardly made Waddesdon the popular Buckinghamshire tourist destination it is today.

**The Rothschild revival**

Unlike most other villages in the Vale of Aylesbury, for many years Waddesdon lacked a big house and a resident rich family which could provide steady work and business opportunities to benefit the community. Although the combined Manor of Waddesdon and Over Winchendon had passed from the Earls of Devon, The Black Prince, Henry VIII, and finally to the Duke of Marlborough, amongst many other worthies, none had ever resided in Waddesdon, until...

In 1874, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild bought and transformed the Waddesdon estates. Alongside the inescapable beauty of the Rothschild-inspired architecture scattered throughout Waddesdon grounds and the charitable offerings still available from the Rothschild Foundation, the most notable landmark left by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild is the outstanding Waddesdon Manor.

Once described as an ‘unremarkable settlement’, it is with the love, care and affluence brought by the Rothschilds that makes Waddesdon the interesting and charming village it is today.

**References:**


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**Did you know?**

The name was thought to be derived from the Saxon name for Bath ‘Akemannes-ceaster’ (the city of Invalids), as it was there that “Invalids” would travel in hope to cure their ills in the hot spring water.
Local Loves with Fran Borg-Wheeler

For this edition of Local Loves, we chatted to Fran Borg-Wheeler, who’s the CEO of Aylesbury-based Youth Concern.

Since 1979, the charity has been providing personal, informal and flexible support to young people who are going through difficult times in their lives.

**Favourite attraction in the Vale?**

My favourite attraction in the Vale is Wendover Woods. Such beautiful woodland on our doorstep! I love being close to nature, clearing away the cobwebs and watching the trees through the changing seasons. And the kids love it there too, so it’s a win-win! At a time when our lives are so busy and we often fail to find the time to stop and pause, Wendover Woods is the perfect retreat.

**Favourite landmark in the Vale?**

Since Youth Concern’s winter sponsored walk earlier this month, Coombe Hill has now become my favourite landmark in the Vale. Such fantastic views of the Vale and the Chilterns. Even though it was a 10K walk and I was feeling a bit under the weather recovering from a bug, the time flew past because of the great company of my 183 fellow walkers and the stunning scenery.

**Best day out in the Vale?**

I think my best day out in the Vale was a day out at Waddesdon Manor. It’s always a great place to go, but this trip was to see the Christmas lights. So much space for the kids to run free - and we brought a couple of their friends along too. (As National Trust members, it makes it very affordable.) The lights show was stunning, and we wondered how many hours work must have gone into the preparation!

**Favourite memory in the Vale?**

Having worked as CEO for Youth Concern for the past 12 years, I have so many great memories of many of our young people who have managed to overcome extreme adversity and have created happier lives for themselves. For example, seeing pride in their smiles when someone has finally found a job they love or when a young person has found some relief after trauma. Being part of a team which is there for local young people who need us most is a great privilege, and I’m grateful for all those young people who have made my role so fulfilling.

Youth Concern is supported by Vale Lottery and other grants, and has also used AVDC’s Our Vale crowdfunding platform (see page 5) to raise money for specific projects.

Find out more about Youth Concern by visiting: youthconcern.org.uk

Looking for things to do in Aylesbury Vale?

Head over to www.visitaylesbury.co.uk and www.visitbuckinghamshire.org to see the fantastic range of places to eat, drink, shop and enjoy. You may want to bookmark the sites too - as they offer listings of the latest shows and events taking place in Aylesbury Vale and beyond.
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