

AYLESTONE PARK NEWSLETTER

Community Newsletter for the Residents' of Aylestone Park - Issue 1 2017



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For well over 25 years this Post Office has provided a service second to none and under the new Royal Mail system is having to close.

The Royal Mail are saving themselves money by no longer paying a salary to our PostMasters. Post Offices everywhere are moving into other stores to reduce overheads.

Jas Singh and his family have been in the UK since 1948 and have been a part of the Aylestone Park community for many years. We are sorry to see your business closing down after all these years and, on behalf of all residents, wish you every success in your next venture.

The Aylestone Park Post Office will be operating from Saffron Supermarket 182 Saffron Lane (corner of Shakespeare Street) Leicester LE2 7NE. Ash will be there to provide Post Office services probably as early as 6th April 2017.



The Aylestone Village Post Office is also closing and its business transferred to Booze for Less on Aylestone Road (nearly opposite Aldi).

DISCLAIMER

The opinions and views in this Newsletter are those of the authors, and do not reflect in any way those of this Newsletter's editorial team.

JON ASHWORTH

Member of Parliament for Leicester South

Regular advice surgeries held in Constituency Office

For information and appointments and to contact Jon about any local or national issue please get in touch

Address: Floor 10, 60 Charles Street
Leicester, LE1 1FB

Tel: 0116 251 1927

email: jon.ashworth.mp@parliament.uk

Web: www.jonashworth.org

These are the people to contact if you have a problem:

Saffron Councillors

Bill Shelton - Saffron Ward Tel: 0116 220 1350
Email: bill.shelton@leicester.gov.uk

Elly Cutkelvin - Saffron Ward Tel: 07891 232662
Email elly.cutkelvin@leicester.gov.uk

Your local Labour Councillors hold surgeries at
Saffron Sure Start Children's Centre, The Crossway
LE2 6QW first Tuesday every month 1.30pm -2.30pm
Aylestone Leisure Centre, 2 Knighton Lane East
LE2 6LU Third Saturday of each month 10.00am -11.00am

Aylestone Councillors

Adam Clarke - Aylestone Ward Tel: 07875 546508
adam.clarke@leicester.gov.uk

Surgeries Lansdowne Centre 2nd Tuesday of each month
11.00am -12.00pm

Gilmorton Community Rooms 4th Saturday of each month
11.00am -12.00pm

Aylestone Hall Gardens Bowls Pavilion, Hall Lane
4th Friday of each month 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Nigel Porter Aylestone Ward Tel:0116 233 6150 and 07976 348032.

Email:nigel.porter@leicester.gov.uk

Surgeries Lansdowne Centre 2nd Saturday of each month
11.00am - 12.00pm

Gilmorton Community Rooms 2nd Saturday of each
month 12.30pm -1.30pm

Local Church Services

St Edwards Roman Catholic Church

655 Aylestone Road, Aylestone

Sunday Mass 9.30am

Palm Sunday 10am Distribution of Palms and procession.

We join the All Faiths procession in Aylestone Village at 10:30am

Good Friday 3pm

Good Friday 7pm Stations of the Cross

Easter Day 8pm blessing of the fire from which the Paschal Candle will be lit, followed by other liturgies including the blessing of the Baptismal Water

Please check our notice board for other activities and to confirm our services

Church of the Nativity

An Anglican/Methodist Partnership
Richmond Road/ Cavendish Road junction

Sundays 10.30am Morning Service

Holy Week Services

Thursday 13 April Maundy Thursday 7.00pm

Holy Communion

Friday 14 April Good Friday 2.00pm

Sunday 16 April Easter Sunday 10.30am

Holy Communion

Other Services

Sunday 23 April 10.30am - Holy Communion

Sunday 30 April 10.30am - Church Anniversary

Sunday 7 May 10.30am - World Development Sunday

Sunday 14 May 10.30am - Holy Communion

Sunday 21 May 10.30am - Christian Aid

Sunday 28 May 10.30am - Holy Communion

Further details of all activities are available on the church noticeboard and on the website:

www.nativityleicester.org.uk

Enquiries for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals contact the church warden Patricia Ewen 0116 299 4732

City Warden

Our City Wardens are Noel Cazley and Harvey Roberts (covers Aylestone).

Remember Street Wardens can deal with dumped rubbish, dog fouling, bins left in the street, fly posting and other complaints.

If you need them please email :
city.warden@leicester.gov.uk or
telephone: 0116 454 1001

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We need their support to produce this newsletter!

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LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Aylestone Leisure Centre has too many activities to mention, call in and pick up a leaflet. Fancy a swim or game of squash then come along and afterwards sit and have a chat and cup of tea with the over 55's on a Monday or Thursday am.

Theatre Outings, London and Birmingham. Contact Bill Evitt 0116 247 8531.

Knighton Lane Artists Group. Meet at The Studios, 68a Knighton Lane. Contact Deb Ward 07956 590284

Leicester C .H .A. Rambling Club

Ann Burdett 0116 266 1741 will give you details of their walks, Thursday and Saturday mornings from 4 miles, many of them end up at a pub for lunch. www.chaleicester.org.uk

Lancaster Community Choir. Thursday evenings 7.00pm till 8.30pm. The Lancaster School, Knighton. 0116 270 3176 ext 801.

Guided Walks & Tours by Accredited Leicestershire Tour Guide - Helen's Guided Walks - cover Aylestone Village history, Wigston Magna, Kilby Bridge, Todor Leicester, The Newarke and Castle areas of Leicester
contact 07908 557289 helenbaran@hotmail.co.uk

Railway Society meets at The Cricketers, Grace Rd, Contact Brian Holland 0116 236 8328.

Drama Group meets at the Church Hall, Cavendish Rd. New members required contact the Church for details of rehearsals, times and days.

Running for youngsters 9.00am on a Sunday morning around the Aylestone Recreation ground.

Adult Runs

Braunstone Park every Saturday at 9am
Victoria Park every Saturday at 9am

History Society meets regularly at the Aylestone Leisure Centre Contact Gill on 0116 283 6394. The Group is working on local history.

The Tea club takes place at the Aylestone Leisure Centre Thursday ams, ask at the desk where to find the group and join them for tea or coffee and a biscuit or two.

Golf lessons at Whetstone Golf Course given by the club's Pro, Craig Shave who can help adults and children learn to play and improve their game 0116 286 1424 for more information..

Athletics. Call at the stadium Saffron Lane/MacCaulay Rd entrance after 4.00pm and see Roy Cole who will give you information on coaching, training and racing, and use of the stadium. Find out also about the Sunday morning Park Runs.

Scouts @ The Church of the Nativity
young people aged 10-14 years are welcome at the Church Hall, Cavendish Road on a Thursday evening at 6:30pm

Cubs @The Church of the Nativity
Girls and Boys aged 8 - 10 1/2 are welcome at the Church Hall, Cavendish Road on a Thursday Evening 5:15pm to 6:45pm.

Beavers @ The Church of the Nativity to **start very soon!!**
contact Ivan Bennett for more information (see page 5)

Imperial Dancing class is using the Church Hall in Cavendish Road, to teach young children to enjoy themselves by learning to dance . To contact for class information ring 07548 208 610
I.S.T.D Modern, Tap and Ballet.

MORE LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Park Walks for 2017

April 19 -	Braunstone Park
May 17 -	The Bridle from Manor End
June 21 -	Bradgate Park
July 18 -	Swithland Woods
August 16 -	Wistow Park
September 20 -	Alison's Acre, Glen Parva
October 18 -	Aylestone Meadows

All walks commence at 10.00am
Meet outside The Church of The Nativity, Cavendish Road.

Healthwatch Leicester

Healthwatch is the consumer champion for Health and Social Care. A local Healthwatch is an independent organisation, able to employ its own staff and involve volunteers, so it can become the influential and effective voice of the public. It keeps accounts and makes its annual reports available to the public. It replaced LINKs (Local Involvement Network), has taken over their responsibilities and has implemented additional services around advice and guidance.

The aim of local Healthwatch is to give citizens and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how health and social care services are provided within their community.

More information can be found on the Healthwatch website:
www.healthwatchleicester.co.uk

Their latest newsletter can be found at:
www.aylestoneparkleicester.org.uk/misc.html

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Editorial

A thank you to those who have written and sent us articles for inclusion in the newsletter. We try to keep the subjects topical and to our area of Aylestone and Aylestone Park. Groups and clubs in the area are actively encouraged to write an article, as are people that are doing interesting or unusual things in the area.

I am glad to report that the 14th Leicester Scout Troop are going from strength to strength with rising numbers and the impending start of a Beaver group.

My thanks to Tony who I always describe as my 'computer whiz kid' who took over from Trevor in completing the layout and preparation of articles. A time consuming task.

The Residents Group has had volunteers come forward to become Treasurer and continues to meet monthly. Attendance is good and although you may not always get what you wanted the subjects get well aired. The Group and Newsletter are working well with the Cricket Club and are hoping to have an inter (local primary) schools competition with small prizes for the winning team.

Are there any people interested in joining some coach trips to places of interest over one day or even several, with a stay at a hotel. Woods coaches will be starting those trips soon.

Ann Sturgess

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Friday 7pm - Midnight

Sat 12 - 4pm & 7pm - Midnight

Sun 12 - 3pm & 7pm - 11pm

Easter Treasure Trail

Sat, 8 April, 10:00 – 13:00

Aylestone Hall Gardens, Aylestone Rd, Leicester

This activity is free but booking a place is essential.
For further information and to enrol
please ring 0116 454 1900

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Website www.allscrewed-up.co.uk



Mon - Thurs....6.45am to 4.30pm
Friday.....6.45am to 4.00pm
Saturday & SundayClosed



The 14th Nativity Cub and Scout Group

Our three groups meet at The Church of the Nativity, Church Hall, Cavendish Road, Leicester.

Beavers will be **starting soon** and is aimed at the 6 to 8 year olds. Contact Ivan or see Nativity website

Cubs meet on Thursday evenings 5:15pm to 6:45pm and is aimed at boys and girls aged 8 to 10 1/2.

Scouts meet on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm and is aimed at young people aged 10 to 14 years.

Yours in Scouting
Skip (Scout Leader)
Ivan



Tel: 0116 223 9730

Email:ivanbennettsaysgodlovesyou@gmail.com



Helen's Guided Tours

Although it seems that it is only the discovery of the remains of Richard III that has raised Leicester's profile as a City with historical value, all locals will know Leicester has a very long and very remarkable past.

But it's not just the City of Leicester that can offer great history and anecdotes.

The surrounding suburbs hold many hidden gems from long ago - all within a stone's throw of Leicester and easily accessible.

As a tour guide I take responsibility for showing you the best of Leicester and surrounding areas. All routes are carefully selected for their historical and significant interest.

All tours last approximately 90 minutes and are relayed in an easy to understand, humorous manner, suitable for all ages. I value each and every customer and I genuinely want you to enjoy your tour. It is with this in mind, I have created ways to keep you entertained and involved throughout. This includes the 'Lord's Pouch' which is brimmed with sweets and chocolates to encourage your participation. Most tours also offer the chance to sit and refresh yourself at a local museum or business and discuss what you've seen and heard before heading off.

Why not get in touch by email @ HelenBaran@hotmail.co.uk or telephone me on: 07908 557289 for more information and booking.

<http://helensguidedtours.uk>



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Saturday 9.00 - 15.00

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Leicester Children's Holiday Centre (Mablethorpe)

This local charity has been providing holidays to our disadvantaged children since 1898. In recent months there has been a lot of publicity about its future. So many charities today hit us with images and demands and we can forget those smaller ones that exist in our own city and county.

The charity offers holidays to any child between the ages of 6 and 10 who would not normally get a holiday, regardless of race, religion or family background. Amazingly the Mablethorpe home can accommodate 64 children at a time, so in the summer so many disadvantaged children can get a chance to holiday in a safe and fun environment.

The number of children that have had the privilege to stay at Mablethorpe over the years must be very high and the charity is keen to carry on providing holidays for years to come.

Have you ever had a holiday as a child there?
Would/could you help by a small monthly contribution?
The charity is keen for anyone that would like to make a small monthly contribution to get in touch with them.
Also volunteers are always required for their static collections.

They can be contacted on 0116 251 9863
email:lchcmablethorpe@btconnect.com

Website: www.leicesterchildrensholidaycentre.co.uk

Gasholder News

from Mr Gareth Taylor
Land Generation Manager for National Grid

National Grid included an update in November 2016 in the Aylestone Park Newsletter with further information about our programme of work at Aylestone Road, Leicester. This letter provides a short progress update.

The work at Aylestone Road comprised the dismantling of two gasholders and clearing of associated infrastructure. The gasholders were no longer used to store gas, and have been disused for several years.

I'm pleased to report that work has progressed well and we have finished the dismantling programme. The site has now been completely demobilised.

As the works are now finished, we plan to undertake a programme of further environmental improvement works in 2017 and beyond in order to bring the site back into beneficial use.

We'd like to thank you for your patience whilst we have been dismantling the two gasholders.

If you have any questions you'd like us to answer, please contact our communications team on aylestoneroad@communitycomms.co.uk or call our 24 hour phone line on 0800 093 4312.



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The Joys of Aylestone Library

by Rob Stacey

From when my children were very young, I have always encouraged them to enjoy books. Almost from birth, we used to go to the local library, then on Richmond Road.

The Tuesday Toddler group was a lifesaver to meet other parents and to let my children take part in lots of exciting activities. We often sat in the library reading stories together in the cold winter months and we got picture books out every couple of weeks to borrow.

When the Library moved to Aylestone Leisure Centre, I was initially against the idea. I felt it was a shame the old library building was closing, with all its history. I have to admit, however, it was underused - we were often the only people in there. We still use the library regularly at the Leisure Centre - my children are now 9, 7 and 4. They still enjoy reading with me in there and the older two are now competent readers themselves. They enjoy choosing their own books from the large selection on offer, and reading independently also.

It seems many more people now use the library in its new location. Lots of children and parents pop in before or after using the swimming pool or other activities at the Centre.

There is also a little café on site, open on weekdays for snacks and drinks. It feels more like a community centre now. We often see people we know in there. Lots of people of different ages and backgrounds seem to use it. The Librarians, while their numbers have been cut are helpful and friendly.

Libraries are under threat these days due to council cutbacks and the perception that electronic media has taken over from the written word. However, I believe it is vital this service is sustained. Encouraging a love of reading from an early age is so important - it helps encourage children's vocabulary, imagination and can transport them to a magical, amazing world of adventure. Libraries help families to do this - Long may they continue.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE CRIME PREVENTION

Distraction Burglary

Not all burglars break into your home, some try to trick or con their way in.

Known as distraction burglars, or bogus callers, they will try to mislead you or distract your attention to get into your home and steal your money or valuables.

Most people who call at your home will be genuine but sometimes people turn up unannounced, with the intention of tricking their way into your home. You should always be aware when someone you don't know calls at your door.

They can be convincing and often persuasive.

- Bogus callers may be smartly dressed and claim to be from the council, the police, health organisations or gas, water or electricity companies.
- They may be dealers offering to buy your jewellery, antiques or furniture at what seems to be a good price but could actually be a lot less than the item is worth.

- They may be workmen trying to persuade you that you need urgent repairs doing to your home. You also need to be careful of callers offering to make building repairs or to tarmac your drive. Sometimes they can ask for money in advance or even overcharge you.
- Beware of callers who attempt to distract you by claiming they have seen something untoward in another room or outside, which may encourage you to leave the room.
- Fitting, and using, a door chain or spy hole to the front door will help you to check who the caller is before opening and if they cannot produce an official identity card then do not let them in. You can even ring the company they say they are from to confirm their identity.
- A genuine caller will not mind you closing the door for two minutes while you check their ID and most will be happy to make an appointment and return at a later date or time.

LOCAL HOMELESS

by J A J Richardson

In these times of austerity the number of local people relying on food banks and community housing projects has risen. Likewise the number of homeless people sleeping rough in the local Aylestone area is on the rise. The basic necessities of food, clothes and shelter are often taken for granted by those with access to all three. In many cases there is a genuine divide between those with and without basic needs. Homeless people however tend to fall into a social category of their own – often with the fewest available community opportunities. Homelessness can be the symptom of many causes including debts, family break-ups, alcohol/drug addiction, mental health issues and sexual abuse. Thankfully there are several local charities, hostels, churches and temples that remember that behind every homeless face there is a person and a reason for living on the streets.

In the summer of 2016 several reports came in about a number of homeless people camping on the Aylestone Meadows. Living in a makeshift “tent-city hidden in the trees”, as one local reported, “they hide the tents in the day, and camp out again at night”.

In the summer of 2017 it is predicted that the number of homeless people camping on the Aylestone Meadows will only increase.

Helping local homeless people can be as simple as saying “hello” or giving a homeless person a ‘care pack’ of essential items (water, cereal bars, socks, peanuts, cosmetics, and clothing).

Homelessness in the Aylestone area is unfortunately a real issue. Recognising that local homelessness is a reflection of the local community and its resources is the first step towards awareness and hopeful change.

Knighton Fields Road Railway Bridge

Saffron Ward Councillors, local residents and Leicester City Council officers are working together to look at road safety on Knighton Fields Road under the railway bridge. All parties agree that the speed and volume of traffic using the road make it very unpleasant and potentially dangerous for pedestrians to use. This is especially so as it is used by many local children going to and from the local schools.

Ward Councillors have met Council officers to brainstorm options which could help to slow vehicles down. Safety under the bridge was also one of the issues discussed at the Ward Community Meeting held on 9th March 2017.

Options which are being looked at include measures such as closing the bridge to motor vehicles, installing traffic signals, enhancing the existing traffic calming measures, changing lighting under the bridge and re-vamping the signs and road markings.

In addition, there are already plans to install speed cushions on Knighton Fields Road East between the bridge and Welford Road. Public consultation on these proposals will start in late March 2017. If approved, this scheme is likely to reduce the amount of traffic using the bridge.

Further investigations are needed to detail and cost up potential options at the bridge as well as looking at the pros and cons of each. Dialogue will also need to take place with Network Rail who own the bridge. More discussions will also take place between local residents, Ward Councillors and Council officers to gauge opinion about the best way forward. It will again also be included on a future Ward Community Meeting.

If you would like further information, please contact:-

Cllr Elly Cutkelvin – Saffron Ward

Tel: 07891 232662

Email elly.cutkelvin@leicester.gov.uk

Cllr Bill Shelton – Saffron Ward

Tel: 07970 526473

Email bill.shelton@leicester.gov.uk

AYLESTONE PARK RESIDENTS GROUP NEWS

by Chris Garner, Secretary

At Your Service

Since the last Newsletter at Christmas, we have contacted both the Police and the City Wardens to remove the abandoned car in Hughenden Drive and a Transit Van on Knighton Fields Road East that had been there since November 2016!

Rubbish and wheelie-bins on the public footpath near the Newsagents on the corner of Duncan Road and Saffron Lane have also been cleared.

If you have an issue or problem that you think we could help, please contact me either by e-mail: cegarner@btinternet.com or text/telephone 07514 416 698.

Monthly Meetings

They are held on the first Thursday of each month except January in the Church Hall of the Church of Nativity on the corner of Cavendish and Richmond Road. The entrance is the side door on Cavendish Road and the Church Hall is the door immediately to your left. The meetings start at 7.30pm.

We have a speaker for the next few meetings:-
4th May CPR Training by a member from EMAS

1st June Heart Treatment. A talk by Professor Murphy from Glenfield Hospital

6th July Healthwatch. A discussion about how you can help to shape the health services within the City and our area.

If you require any further information, please text/phone Chris on 07514 416 698
We look forward to meeting you.

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Gibbeting by John Hunt

A gibbet is any instrument of public execution (including guillotine, executioner's block, impalement stake, hanging gallows, or related scaffold), but gibbeting refers to the use of a gallows-type structure from which the dead or dying bodies of executed criminals were hanged on public display to deter other existing or potential criminals. In earlier times up to the late 18th century, live gibbeting also took place in which the condemned was placed alive in a metal cage and left to die of thirst. The term gibbet may also be used to refer to the practice of placing a criminal on display within a gibbet. This practice is also called "hanging in chains".

The Murder Act 1751 stipulated that "in no case whatsoever shall the body of any murderer be suffered to be buried", the cadaver was either to be publicly dissected or left "hanging in chains".

The last two men gibbeted in England were William Jobling and James Cook, both in 1832.

James Cook was a bookbinder convicted of the murder of his creditor Paas, a manufacturer of brass instruments, in Leicester. He was executed on Friday, 10 August 1832, in front of Leicester prison. Afterwards:

The head was shaved and tarred, to preserve it from the action of the weather; and the cap in which he had suffered was drawn over his face. On Saturday afternoon his body, attired as at the time of his execution, having been firmly fixed in the irons necessary to keep the limbs together, was carried to the place of its intended suspension. His body was to be displayed on a purpose-built gallows 33 ft high in Saffron Lane near the Aylestone Tollgate. (now occupied by Sturgess Fiat motors)

According to The Newgate Calendar:

Thousands of persons were attracted to the spot, to view this novel but most barbarous exhibition; and considerable annoyance was felt by persons resident in the neighbourhood of the dreadful scene.

Representations were in consequence made to the authorities, and on the following Tuesday morning instructions were received from the Home Office directing the removal of the gibbet.

Park Volunteers Tue, 11 April, 09:30 – 15:00

Aylestone Meadows Car Park
479-489 Aylestone Rd, Leicester

Help us with path improvements to the park

To enquire please email parkforce@Leicester.gov.uk or call 0116454473
please also see the link to the volunteering page,
<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/parks-and-open-spaces/contribute-and-get-involved/volunteering-in-our-parks/>

AYLESTONE MEADOWS – ALL CHANGE!

A new year brings big changes in the ways in which the Local Nature Reserve is managed. Leicester City Council restructuring resulted in the disbanding of the Riverside Ranger Team. The senior Riverside Ranger, Adrian Lane, has taken retirement and has not been replaced. Management of the site has been split between various relevant departments. For example, the conservation and ecological work is the responsibility of the City's Conservation Officer, based within the Planning Department. City Cleansing deals with litter, the City Warden (who is on site daily but only for a short time) deals with anti-social behaviour and a volunteer officer, with a small team of workers arranges and supports the work of numerous volunteers working on the site. Volunteering on parks city-wide is organised under the umbrella of Park Force Volunteers, and much of the work which paid workers once did is now carried out by volunteers (a sign of the times unfortunately).

Aylestone Meadows Appreciation Society is still working away to promote, protect and enhance the Reserve and we are enrolled as part of the Park Force Volunteers. We were concerned however, that merely turning up to city council organised volunteering opportunities would lead to us losing our independence, and the City Council has supported us to enrol with a scheme run by the Royal Horticultural Society called 'It's Your Neighbourhood'. This scheme is very active in the city with many 'Friends' groups and other community organisations being enrolled. It encourages horticultural endeavour in its widest sense, along with care of the wider environment and community involvement.

We will purchase cut price Public Liability Insurance through this scheme, which will enable us to run events independently of the City Council. All participant groups are assessed as to their effectiveness, and whilst it is not a competition, it will give us an incentive to be as effective as possible.

Any community group is only as effective as its members and this is an invitation to anyone who has an interest in Aylestone Meadows to come and join AMAS. Alongside our activities as an It's Your Neighbourhood group, we continue to act as a pressure group, working in harmony with the council when that seems the right thing to do, but giving them a bit of an ear bashing when we feel they need it! This approach has worked for us and we have achieved quite a lot over the years. An example of this is last year when AMAS lobbied the Council and local Councillor Adam Clarke about the poor state of repair of the Packhorse Bridge. A meeting with Clr. Clarke on site led to him pursuing the issue and ultimately resulted in some large-scale repairs to the bridge. AMAS achieved this.

On the activity side, our members worked hard last year to control Himalayan Balsam on a stretch of canal from Mill Lock to Marsden Lane. We believe that we have made a difference – time will tell, go and have a look this summer.

Come and join us – find us online at:

<http://aylestonemeadows.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/98314319119/> This will keep you posted about our activities.

Anne Hayto, Chairwoman, AMAS

World War Two bombing of Cavendish Road

On 21st August 1940, the German airforce mounted not only the first air raid over Leicester but also a daylight one. After the raid, six civilians in Aylestone Park were dead.

The Aylestone Park Residents' Group wish to remember the dead.

We have permission to install a War Memorial on the wall outside of the Church of the Nativity which is on the corner of Cavendish and Richmond Road.

We remember

Annie Chafer	aged 54	of 8,	Saffron Hill Road
Frederick Chafer	aged 52	of 8,	Saffron Hill Road
Ada Marjorie Machin	aged 20	of 4,	Saffron Hill Road
Sarah Ann Payne	aged 76	of 73,	Cavendish Road
Dorothy Smith	aged 32	of 147,	Cavendish Road
Irene Smith	aged 2	of 147,	Cavendish Road

We are appealing for or if you know of any living relatives of the people who were killed.

If you have any further information, please either e-mail or write to Ann Sturgess aylestonenews@hotmail.co.uk
63, Percy Road, Leicester LE2 8FQ
alternatively telephone/text Christopher Garner on 07514416698.



Percy Road now has a snooker hall

After petitions and appeals the snooker hall opened to the public recently at 58, Percy Road.

Steve Flude has done a good job of converting one of the factories at the Grace Road /Percy Road junction into a snooker hall of 4 tables.

Previously in town, Club 147 is open to men and women to play snooker from mid morning till late at night.

Membership is NOT expensive per annum and the playing fee per game is also inexpensive.

The club has ample parking (from Saffon Lane).

No alcohol licence but refreshments are available.

Steve is hoping to keep any noise on leaving the club to the barest minimum.

Opening from 10am through to 11pm 7 days per week.

Lessons are available to anyone wanting to learn how to play and cues are available on site.

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE AN ORCHARD? Here's Your Opportunity!

An exciting new project is being proposed for Aylestone Meadows Local Nature Reserve known as the Evesham Road Orchard Project.

As part of essential maintenance works Western Power had to fell a number of trees within the Reserve that were in striking distance of the power lines. In one area, a number of trees had to be felled at the Evesham Road entrance within the former allotments. As part of compensation, Western Power offers a replacement tree programme which the City Council is making use of. In keeping with the former use of this area and to increase a UK Biodiversity Action Plan habitat (Orchards), a number of fruit trees are being planted with the hope of establishing a community orchard and meadow area.

A series of actions are planned to achieve this with clearing scrub, planting trees and creating a meadow. Interpretation and guided walks are planned to increase knowledge of the wildlife using this area and public amenity.

The City Council Grounds Maintenance cleared sections of the bramble in January with further days planned with volunteers as part of the 'Wild about Leicester Project'. The first conservation day is planned for February with subsequent days planned for March, August and September.

If you would like to become involved in the project or to find out more, please contact Richard Kelly Email:

richard.kelly@leicester.gov.uk

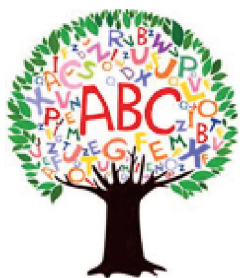
Information may also be available from the Aylestone Meadows Appreciation Society

ABC Day Care

(Former Aylestone Library)
89 Richmond Road
Leicester
LE2 8BB



ABC Day Care opened in January 2016. Opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm. ABC Day Care, cater for babies and children up to pre-school age. We accept 2 and 3 year funded children and we also offer an after school club, including pickups from local schools and holiday care.



We cater for all children's daily needs offering activities and following EYFS framework throughout the day.

For further information or to arrange a show around please call Maxine on 0116 319 5830

Email: info@myabccdaycare.co.uk

Website: www.myabccdaycare.co.uk



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FROM YOUR ORINATION

A Polish Easter Tradition

Easter will be upon us very soon and there are many people who follow the Easter tradition, many of them Polish immigrants who have settled in our area and wider city. Easter is still a very religious orientated bank holiday for Poles and those of the Christian faith with Ash Wednesday being the first day of Lent.

Lent is usually used as a time to try and give up something they like for 40 days (the number of fast days in the 46 days of Lent), chocolate or alcohol or maybe something else that they like. The people attend church (on Ash Wednesday) and the priest puts ashes (in the sign of the cross) onto their foreheads as a sign to remind believers of their sinfulness and mortality and the need for repentance.

On Good Friday, as on Ash Wednesday, fasting is essential in accordance with the Canon Laws of the Catholic Church and attendance at church is compulsory.

On Easter Saturday the Polish people bring a basket laden with food to the church. The basket contains Baka (Polish cake), hand painted hard boiled eggs (Pisanki), a pot of salt, garlic sausage, some butter, Polish rye bread and a tiny lamb made of sugar. The priest blesses the basket of food and then the family shares the food amongst themselves.

On Easter Day everyone attends church to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. It is a feast day for family and friends.

There are other foods that are enjoyed by the Polish community including Galareta (pork brawn), Sernik (cheesecake), Bigos (hunters stew), Pączki (jam doughnuts) and Makowiec (poppy seed roulade).

Happy Easter and you may care to try something different to eat this year instead of Chocolate Easter Eggs.

County Cricket Club News

The 2017 cricket season is fast approaching and Leicestershire County Cricket Club have a special competition for residents in the LE2 area thanks to Fischer Energy.

NatWest T20 Blast is the fastest, most enjoyable form of the game for families and there's a chance to win a hospitality package. To enter, please send an email to enquiries@leicestershireccc.co.uk, quoting NEIGHBOURBLAST17 along with your full name, address & contact number.

Interested in coming to some more games this season? We have NatWest T20 Blast family bundle tickets on offer during the 2017 season, admitting entry to any three fixtures of your choice for just £48!

This is less than half the price of normal admission, and permits entry for two adults and three children. To book your NatWest T20 Blast Ticket Bundle please call us on 0116 283 2128.

Floodlights:

Leicestershire CCC again have permission for 10 usages of floodlights in the evening during the 2017 season. The confirmed dates for these fixtures are as follows:

Royal London One-Day Cup:

- Warwickshire – Tuesday, May 2
- Northants – Friday, May 12

NatWest T20 Blast:

- Northants Steelbacks – Friday, July 21
- Birmingham Bears – Tuesday, July 25
- Durham Jets – Friday, July 28
- Notts Outlaws – Wednesday, August 2
- Lancashire Lightning – Friday, August 4
- Derbyshire Falcons – Thursday, August 17

The club will be holding a practice night under floodlights for players (date to be confirmed), while the NatWest T20 Blast quarter-finals are pencilled in as another potential home floodlit match if the Foxes qualify. Those four quarter-final matches will be played from Tuesday, August 22 to Friday, August 25.

Busy matchdays:

Leicestershire CCC are also hosting the ICC Women's World Cup in 2017, with seven exciting fixtures confirmed. The club are expecting good crowds, particularly for England v Pakistan on June 27:

Sunday, June 25: Pakistan v South Africa
Tuesday, June 27: England v Pakistan
Sunday, July 2: South Africa v West Indies
Wed, July 5: Pakistan v South Africa
Sat, July 8: South Africa v India
Tues, July 11: West Indies v Pakistan
Sat, July 15: Pakistan v Sri Lanka

Leicestershire CCC are also due to play South Africa in a T20 match on Sunday, June 18. The club are working with local organisations on Banks Road and Saffron Road in regards to staff parking and spectator parking in 2017, and will be communicating these details with all ticket purchasers to alleviate any problems that residents might face.

Residents Survey:

A big thank you to all residents who completed the survey, either online or through distribution of this newsletter. The engagement rate was good. Here is a summary of the findings:

- Parking/traffic the main concern among residents. Parking permits considered a good idea but residents would be concerned about payment. Permits now not part of 2017 plans due to another traffic survey being undertaken in the area.
- Elton John Concert: generally considered a success, traffic control/litter the main concern among residents for future concerts. There was plenty of positive feedback received at the time on these two issues.

- Is the club hosting a concert in 2017? There isn't one planned but the club are looking at potential of holding one in June 2018. Given the first concert was successful, the club are investigating the potential of holding two concerts a year, in June & September, depending on the fixture list/available artists.
Residents were generally supportive of another concert providing it's the right artist at the venue. General consensus – Elton John was a good fit.
- There was no major concern with the club having floodlights on between 10.30am-6.30pm if light deteriorates. The club have requested this through Leicester City Council. This would not affect the ten usages that the club currently have in the evenings.
- Suggestions for improved engagement between club and residents: Discounted tickets for residents (club doing), community events (club doing), continued e-mails (club doing), car clamping (not in club's control but traffic enforcement a part of traffic plan on busy matchdays), Christmas activities (club doing), regular meetings (club doing), floodlights going off on time (club accepted responsibility for the one-off issue during testing and have apologised), noise (acted on, no problem at Christmas), engage with Asian community (club doing), alternate parking (part of traffic plan), engage with schools/children (club doing)
- Ideas for community events: career fairs, family days, Christmas fayres/ice skating, more live bands/music events/concerts, school days, car boot sales. The club have appointed a new Catering Operations and Hospitality Manager and are exploring options.



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Email: eyecare2020@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.saffroneyecare.co.uk

Useful Contact Numbers

Cut to keep in a safe place



Gas

Emergency (Leaks and Smell of Gas)
0800 111 999

Electricity

Power Cuts Number 0800 6783 105
or visit www.westernpower.co.uk and follow the links for power cuts

Water

Emergency 0800 783 4444

Medical

999 is the telephone number you should call when you need emergency medical assistance following a serious accident, illness or injury - for example, in the event of traumatic blood loss, chest pain or loss of consciousness.

For other medical emergencies either consult your local Doctor, Pharmacist or NHS111

Leicester Medical Group 0116 283 7825

Saffron Health 0116 244 0888

The Surgery 0116 367 0012

Pharmacies are available on Saffron Lane and Aylestone Road

Fire

If a person's life or property is in danger, it is appropriate to dial 999. Give full details of the situation to the control operator and they will decide whether or not it is a proper emergency and if firefighters should attend.

Police

You should only ring the 999 system if there is a direct and immediate threat to life / limb or to property. For non emergency calls you should dial 101 or you can contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

Leicester City Council

The council can be contacted on 0116 454 1000 for a more accurate list please visit their website www.leicester.gov.uk/contact-us

Environmental Health Noise Nuisance Team can be contacted on: 0116 454 1001 or email noiseteam@leicester.gov.uk

Samaritans

You can talk to the Samaritans for free on 116 123. Talk to them anytime you like, in your own way and off the record - about whatever's getting to you.



Leicestershire
Police
Protecting our communities

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE POLICE

999 in an emergency, when life is in danger or a crime is being committed.

101 for non emergencies

0116 2222222 to contact our local police station

0800 555 111 to contact Crimestoppers

0800 789321 the Anti Terrorist hotline if you have any doubts about any activities around your house or business or a disused factory.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE CRIME PREVENTION Garden Crime

Don't let green fingered thieves spring clean your shed. Many people take a great deal of trouble securing their house and the property within it...but what about sheds and garages? With the array of lawnmowers, power tools, garden equipment, bicycles, sports and other valuable equipment kept in them, security measures should certainly be put in place.

Property

Gardening tools and garden furniture are not cheap - what's more they are very saleable items for the thief. Don't make it easy for them to be stolen and remember that tools stolen from your shed could be used to burgle your house.

Postcode or property mark anything in your shed or garage that is value and might be stolen, for example, lawnmowers, garden furniture, bicycles, sports equipment.

Take photographs of expensive items - they may be useful to police to identify the goods and return them to you, should you be unfortunate enough to have them stolen.

Never leave garden tools and equipment outside, even if you are just popping back into the house. It only takes minutes for an opportunist thief to take them.

Consider fitting a pair of garage door locks that are fitted either vertically or horizontally and can be locked both from the inside and outside of the garage.

Personal Safety in your home

Your safety and that of those around you is paramount and it is important to be aware of the steps you can take to maintain your personal safety.

Always secure outside doors, even when you're in. If you have a spy hole or security chain fitted to your front or back door make sure you use them when answering the door.

If you suspect previous occupants have working keys to your property, change the locks for extra peace of mind.

When answering the phone, simply say "hello". Don't give your name or number. If the caller claims to have the wrong number ask them to repeat the number required.

Never give any information about yourself to a stranger and never say you are alone.

