

# AYLESTONE PARK NEWSLETTER

Community Newsletter for the Residents' of Aylestone Park - Issue 4 2017



## Contents

Local Politicians Local Churches Rev. Edson Dube Fr. George Thomas	Page 2
Local Activities	Page 3
Editorial	Page 4
20-20 Voice Cancer National Politician	Page 5
The History of Christmas cards	Page 6
Leicester Civic Society	Page 7
Aylestone Park Residents Group The man behind Father Christmas	Page 8
Leicester is Buzzing	Page 9
A day in the life of a PCSO	Page 10
Phantom Debt Collectors Patient Transport Services	Page 11
Useful Contact numbers and Police Crime Prevention	Page 12

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## Times gone by - Telephony

Before the advent of our fast moving world and hand held telephony devices (mobiles phones) things were, what would now be called 'quirky.'

Certainly in the 1940's through to the late 1960's telephones for the mass population were not in the home but in the streets on corners, in railway stations and other public areas.

That meant each person had to be very organised about meeting points and time keeping as they were unable to just send a text message. (The first text message in the UK was sent in 1992!). Even as children we would have to call round to our friends rather than being able to send a text. The familiar 'Red Box' which is disappearing very fast was the hub of our electronic communication. Certainly before decimalisation (1971) these

boxes had the famous (or infamous) 'A and B buttons.'



Before you could make a call you had to put money into the box, you could then dial a number and once it was answered you would press the "A" button. After the call was ended you would retrieve any money that had not been used for the call by pressing the "B" button.

Most children knew that there was always a possibility that someone may have forgotten to press button "B" and they would as a matter of course go in to all the telephone boxes they passed to press the "B" button. Some more enterprising children would

sabotage the coin drop from button "B" by pushing a sock up, calling back later to see if there were any coins.

## 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.

**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**

**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

**Sunday 10th December 10:30am**  
**Christingle Service**

**Sunday 17th December 4:00pm**  
**Carol Service**

**Sunday 24th December 11:30pm**  
**Christmas Eucharist**

**Monday 25th December 10:00am**  
**Christmas Day Family Service**

### **Sundays 10:30am Morning Service**

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

**[www.nativityleicester.org.uk](http://www.nativityleicester.org.uk)**

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

### **NEW PRIEST AT St EDWARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

Towards the end of October, Bishop Patrick of the Nottingham Catholic Diocese, appointed Fr George Thomas to be "Priest in Residence" to see to the spiritual needs of the parishioners of St Edward's Catholic Church on the Aylestone Road. Since the Lord called Canon Peter Coyle to himself, the parish was served by retired priests or those from the Dominican Priory – Holy Cross – in the City. His is a dual appointment as Father George will also be responsible for the Syro-Malabar community in the county of Leicestershire. Father joined us straight from Kerala in India. More than 38,000 Syro-Malabar faithful who have emigrated from India have over the past 30 years, now reside in England, Scotland and Wales mostly in England, so many that Pope Francis erected an "Eparchy" for them on July 28th this year. An "Eparchy" is a diocese, with its own bishop, not founded on a geographical basis but for the needs of a special community of the faithful. Fr George will join the 23 priests, over 27 dioceses engaged in the pastoral care, the liturgical celebrations and establishing training programmes in the faith according to the Syro-Malabar tradition. The Cathedral for the eparchy will be the former church of St Ignatius, Preston, made available in 2015 for the exclusive use of the Syro-Malabar community under the patronage of St Alfonso; its Bishop is answerable directly to the Vatican and not to local bishops.

Fr George was ordained in December 1980 after being trained for the priesthood in Kerala. At University, after his first degree, he gained a post-graduate degree in theology. He learned his English from various language programmes. He has settled well with us, gets much support from his Malabar people and is set to enjoy his five years among us – but doesn't like the cold! In Kerala, the average highest temperature is 34° and the lowest, 22° and they were beginning their dry season.

### **Rev Edson Dube**

The Rev Edson Dube is the new Minister at the Church of the Nativity along with Mr Ivan Bennett the Associate Priest, Edson came to Nativity on the 1st September this year from the West & Oldbury Circuit in Birmingham.

Edson was born and raised in Zimbabwe where he was ordained as a Presbyterian in the Methodist Church in 1992.

He has served in several Circuits in both Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom; including serving as Chair in the Bulawayo Methodist District in Zimbabwe.

Edson was serving in the West & Oldbury circuit for 10 years before joining us here in the new enlarged Leicester Trinity Circuit as Superintendent Minister with oversight of 20 churches and 1 care home.

Edson is married to Smaukeliso (Sam) and they have 2 daughters Nomthandazo (Nommie) and Nozipho (Nozie)

When not at work Edson likes documentaries and supporting his favourite football team Liverpool! We will have to convert him while he is with us at Nativity. We welcome Edson and his family and hope that the next 5 years (at least) we will get to know them and enjoy working with Edson.

Peter Sercombe.

## LOCAL ACTIVITIES

**Aylestone Leisure Centre** has too many activities to mention, call in and pick up a leaflet. Fancy a swim 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.

### 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](http://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, Tudor Leicester, The Newarke and Castle areas of Leicester  
contact 07908 557289 [helenbaran@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helenbaran@hotmail.co.uk)

**Railway Society** meets on 3rd Tuesday of each month (not Dec) at The Cricketers, Grace Rd @ 7:30pm.  
Contact Brian Holland 0116 236 8328 or Michael Chapman 07768 355733.

**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

**The Tea club** takes place at the Aylestone Leisure Centre Every Thursday 9:45-11:15am, 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  
Girls and Boys aged 6 - 8 are welcome at the Church Hall, Cavendish Road on a Friday Evening 4:45pm to 6pm.

**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.**

**Singing Lessons** with Laura; welcoming children and adults from beginner level to enter for grades or just for fun.  
Contact 07590 999 591 //email: [lauraratcliffe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lauraratcliffe@hotmail.co.uk) for more information

## MORE LOCAL ACTIVITIES

### Park Walks

Park Walks will start again in 2018 - See the Church website.  
All walks commence at 10.00am  
Meet outside The Church of The Nativity, Cavendish Road.

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

**3 C's (Coffee, Craft & Chat)** most Saturdays 11am - 1pm @ Church Hall, Cavendish road. Families Welcome

**Thai Chi Classes** - every Wednesday 11am til 12 noon, for all ages, abilities and gender. Helps with relaxation, muscle movement and balance @ Eyres Monsell Community Centre, Hillsborough road LE2 9RQ. Contact Sue on 07732 813256 or just turn up.

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## Editorial

Well we've made it , four editions this year, my sincere thanks to Tony for all the effort he puts in to produce our newsletter. We hope you will continue to supply us with articles and advertising which keeps us going. Please leave a letter at L&S News on Cavendish Road or email us at [aylestonenews@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:aylestonenews@hotmail.co.uk).

Without the efforts of our deliverers you would not get the local news, again my sincere thanks to you all, without your delivery our efforts would be to no avail.

Having attended just about every Residents Group meeting over the last eleven years Marion Moule is retiring from her regular attendance, advancing years taking their toll. A presentation was made to Marion at the last meeting she attended, she always ensured that matters affecting the residents in her road and the wider Aylestone Park community were raised with the Group and Local Councillors. Her efforts to keep the pavements clear of dustbins will not go amiss. We wish Marion a long, healthy and happy retirement.

The group continues on with between 15-25 people coming to meetings to air their complaints and compliments to our local Police, Councillors and Civic Wardens. Every first Thursday of the month at 7:30pm the Group meets at the Church Hall of the Church of the Nativity, Cavendish Road in Aylestone Park (there is no meeting during the month of January).

The Wildlife Trust Fund of Kibworth would welcome old newspapers, bedding and anything that they can use for their care of the wild animals and birds that come into their care. They attended a recent Resident Group meeting to give a talk and present a slide show. The Wildlife Hospital holds a coffee morning and table top sale on the second Saturday of each month from 10am to 1pm at the Kibworth Village Hall, Station Road, Kibworth, LE8 0LN.

Congratulations to our City Warden Noel, who has recently become a father for the first time, he has been on paternity leave but will soon be back pounding the pavements of the Park.

Ann Sturgess



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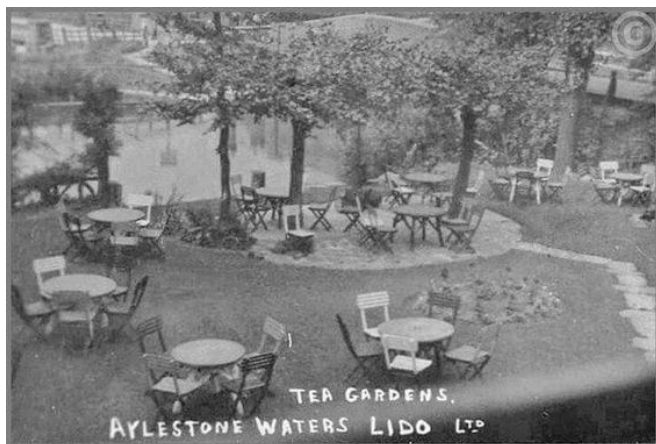


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**email:** jon.ashworth.mp@parliament.uk

**Web:** www.jonashworth.org

**f** :Facebook.com/JonAshworth

## "20-20 Voice" Cancer

Throat cancer is like no other cancer for the  
devastation it causes during treatment is  
unimaginable, believe me I've been there! This  
charity has always been a proponent of early  
diagnosis and the proof is seriously in the pudding  
as we can now get to diagnosis much earlier than  
was previously thought possible as we are buying  
the necessary equipment to do so - we have  
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For further information please contact:

web: <http://www.2020cancerappeal.org>

e: [admin@2020voicecancer.org](mailto:admin@2020voicecancer.org)

Tel/Txt: 07757 382970

Charity Registration No: 1156733



Pork Pie Island  
before the ring  
road was built

## The History of Christmas Cards

The custom of sending Christmas cards was started in the UK in 1843 by Sir Henry Cole. He was a civil servant who had helped set-up the new 'Public Record Office' (now called the Post Office), where he was an Assistant Keeper, and wondered how it could be used more by ordinary people.

Sir Henry had the idea of Christmas Cards with his friend John Horsley, who was an artist. They designed the first card and sold them for 1 shilling each. (That is 5p today(!), but in those days it was worth much much more.) The card had three panels. The outer two panels showed people caring for the poor and in the center panel was a family having a large Christmas dinner! Some people didn't like the card because it showed a child being given a glass of wine! About 1000 (or it might have been less!) were printed and sold. They are now very rare and are valued at thousands of Pounds!

The first postal service that ordinary people could use was started in 1840 when the first 'Penny Post' public postal deliveries began (Sir Henry Cole helped to introduce the Penny Post).

Before that, only very rich people could afford to send anything in the post. The new Post Office was able to offer a Penny stamp because new railways were being built. These could carry much more post than the horse and carriage that had been used before. Also, trains could go a lot faster.

Cards became even more popular when they could be posted in an unsealed envelope for one halfpenny - half the price of an ordinary letter.

As printing methods improved, Christmas cards became much more popular and were produced in large numbers from about 1860. In 1870 the cost of sending a post card, and also Christmas cards, dropped to half a penny. This meant even more people were able to send cards.

By the early 1900s, the custom had spread over Europe and had become especially popular in Germany.

## Vacuum Cleaner Services 315 Aylestone Road, Aylestone Park Leicester 0116 2833880

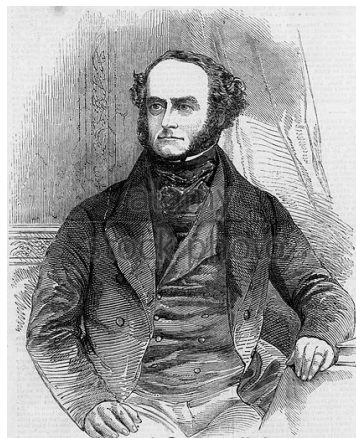


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## City Warden

Our City Warden is Noel Cazley

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If you need them please email : [city.warden@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:city.warden@leicester.gov.uk) or telephone: 0116 454 1001

*We congratulate Noel on the birth of his son.*

## OUR ADVERTISERS

We need their support to produce this newsletter!

**Please don't forget to support our local shops.....No support - no local shops.**



## The 14th Nativity Cub and Scout Group

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

**Beavers** meet on Friday evenings 4:45pm to 6pm and is  
aimed at the 6 to 8 year olds.

**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



## AYLESTONE & DISTRICT CONSERVATIVE CLUB

206 Saffron lane Tel: 0116 283 2594

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Friday 7pm - Midnight

Sat 12 - 4pm & 7pm - Midnight

Sun 12 - 3pm & 7pm - 11pm

## Fur and Feather Christmas Bingo

Fur n' feather bingo is a feature again this year at the  
Conservative Club, 206 Saffron Lane.

As in past years they have some brilliant prizes and it  
is open to non-members (a small door charge of £2  
for non-members).

Starting at 8pm the night is still young for a card or  
two of bingo.

The bingo nights are November 23rd and 30th,  
December 7th and 14th.



## LEICESTER CIVIC SOCIETY

[www.leicestercivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.leicestercivicsociety.org.uk)

Leicester Civic Society was founded in 1971. The Society is a registered charity and a campaigning organisation  
that champions the historic environment of Leicester. We believe that it is of no use to the future of our city if the  
great and the good come together merely to either record or lament the passing of our history and our rich  
architectural heritage. We do not want to be a part of any community that chooses to only look back on its losses with sadness and  
resignation.

We have fought and will continue to fight to retain the best of Leicester from needless destruction. The Church of St. John the Divine,  
Frontage of London Road Station, the Princess Road Frontage of Museum Square, the TSB Building on Town Hall Square, the  
Blackfriars Mosaic, the Wooden Warehouse on Butt Close Lane, the Gimson Houses and Applegate are all there today, either wholly  
or partially due to our intervention.

However, Leicester's losses are enormous. The Bowstring Bridge, All Saints Brewery, St. Lukes Chapel and The Empire Hotel, to  
name but a few from this century alone. These have been needlessly lost by the depredations of road development, greedy  
developers, or just thoughtlessness - and with little or no action by the City Council to save these splendid buildings. As you read this,  
mature trees in St. George's Churchyard and on Victoria Park are under threat. The Black Boy, The Ship Inn and Garden Street  
Island are all under threat.

By the simple act of joining the Civic Society the people of Leicester can help stop these depredations disastrous to the historic fabric  
of our City. Despite the positive initiatives of our new Heritage Partnership created by the City Mayor, and the creation of a Heritage  
Champion in Cllr. Adam Clarke, there remains a lack of joined-up thinking by Councillors, Council officers and heritage bodies in  
Leicester that constantly bodes ill for our historic built environment and that the Civic Society is determined to change. There remains  
insufficient civic pride and civic awareness of our history and our built heritage that the Civic Society is determined to change. We  
need a large, strong-willed and vociferous membership to help us make these changes.

We hold regular and varied events for our members and supporters throughout the year, including the Heritage Fair in May and  
Heritage Open Days in September. We operate an Annual Awards Scheme to celebrate and reward restoration of the historic built  
environment and new buildings that compliment that environment. We also conduct a programme of guided walks and tours. Our  
journal 'Leicester Citizen' is published three times per year and our chairman publishes a monthly e-Newsletter.

Please join us now and help create a much better place for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren in which to live. Download a  
membership form from our website, go to Visit Leicester on Gallowtree Gate, visit your local library or telephone 0116-285-6620 or  
01509-266818 for further information and a leaflet to be posted to you.

## AYLESTONE PARK RESIDENTS GROUP

### Secretary's Report By Christopher Garner

#### Leicester Local Plan

This is an attempt by Leicester City Council to meet the needs of its citizens for homes, jobs and leisure for the next 15 years. We wrote to the City Council opposing the inclusion of the East-West Link Road in any future Local Plans, any development on Aylestone Recreation Ground or Aylestone Meadows. Consultation closed at the end of October but there will be a further round of consultation in 2018 when more details will be announced in a revised Local Plan.

#### Monthly Meetings

They are held on the first Thursday of each month except January in the Church Hall of The Church of the 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.

#### Speakers for 2018

1st February **Leicester Environmental Volunteers.** Volunteering in Leicester's Parks, Open Spaces and on the River Soar

1st March **Police and Crime Commissioner.** Come and discuss your concerns about crime or anti-social behaviour

5th April **Urban Buzz.** How you can help bees and other pollinators to thrive in the City

3rd May **Open Forum.** Come and discuss any matter affecting you or your neighbours in the area

7th June **Saffron Acres.** Helping on a community area behind the allotments on Whittier Road

5th July **Leicester Animal Aid.** A talk about the charity

If you require any further information, please text/phone Chris on 07514416698

We look forward to meeting you.



## C & M

### Laser - Beauty - Hair

221, Saffron Lane

0116 319 2660



### Sisters Carrie & Maria

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*We have lived in the area all our lives and our Dad (Jim) has owned the green hut (old fashioned sweet shop) on TicToc park for 16 years, so we decided to stay local as well.*

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acne/acne scarring

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#### The Man Behind the Story of Father Christmas

St. Nicholas was a Bishop who lived in the fourth century in a place called Myra in Asia Minor (now Turkey). He was a very rich man because his parents died when he was young and left him a lot of money.

He was also a very kind man and had a reputation for helping the poor and giving secret gifts to people. There are several legends about St. Nicholas, although we don't know if any of them are true!

The most famous story about St. Nicholas tells how the custom of hanging up stockings to get presents in first started! It goes like this:

There was a poor man who had three daughters. He was so poor, he did not have enough money for a dowry, so his daughters couldn't get married. (A dowry is a sum of money paid to the bridegroom by the bride's parents on the wedding day. This still happens in some countries, even today.) One night, Nicholas secretly dropped a bag of gold down the chimney and into the house (This meant that the oldest daughter was then able to be married.). The bag fell into a stocking that had been hung by the fire to dry! This was repeated later with the second daughter. Finally, determined to discover the person who had given him the money, the father secretly hid by the fire every evening until he caught Nicholas dropping in a bag of gold. Nicholas begged the man to not tell anyone what he had done, because he did not want to bring attention to himself. But soon the news got out and when anyone received a secret gift, it was thought that maybe it was from Nicholas.



July 2017 marked the start of Urban Buzz Leicester, an ambitious project created by Buglife to increase the habitat for many of our much loved pollinators. The project is mostly funded by Biffa Award and will run for 20 months until March 2019. The aim is to create 100 'buzzing hotspots' foraging or nesting sites for pollinators, in, parks, on roadside verges, in local wildlife sites, schools, almost anywhere the public can access. These new habitats could include; wildflower meadows, woodland planting, planting along streams and other watercourses, bee bank creation, ornamental planting and lots more!

Urban Buzz is a project launched in answer to the National Pollinator Strategy that was launched in 2014, in which it claimed the UK has lost over 90% of its wildflower rich grassland since the 1940s, with a move towards more intensive farming and development, being the two main causes for this loss of habitat. Many of our pollinator species are in decline with some species restricted to certain parts of the UK. Several bumblebee species have declined significantly within the last 50 years with many other pollinator species at risk. Recent research from Bristol University has shown that urban areas can be a safe haven for many of our pollinators, with much of the countryside transformed into intense farmland contaminated with pesticides, urban areas in comparison can be rich in food and free from agricultural pesticides, with gardens, parks and other open space presenting a great opportunity for cities such as Leicester to be buzzing.

The objective of Urban Buzz is to create or enhance habitats in key corridors across the city that will help to link areas for pollinators, to better enable bees, butterflies, beetles, hoverflies and other to move more freely throughout the city, hopefully in the future increasing species diversity and abundance.

This is a large task, and one that will only be successful with the help from various volunteer groups, such as nature volunteers, scout groups, youth groups and more. Urban Buzz will work with local partners, and the community to create 100 buzzing hotspots consisting of bright wildflower patches, swathes of woodland and wetland plants, formal planting schemes, trees for bees, bug hotels, bee banks, and lots more!

Leicester presents many great opportunities for creating habitat, and we have already identified a number of key sites that present opportunities for creating and enhancing pollinator habitat, with Urban Buzz building on the fantastic work already completed across the city benefiting pollinators. Some of these new potential sites include Bennion Pools, Aylestone meadows and Castle Hill Country Park. Over the next few months we shall be searching for potential 'Buzzing hotspots' particularly in key corridors which will have the largest benefit for pollinators and opportunities to work with keen volunteer groups to help create and maintain the new buzzing sites, year on year.



*Bee bank*

People wanting to take part, or contribute to Urban Buzz can get in touch with Nick Packham, the Urban Buzz Conservation officer: [Nick.Packham@buglife.org.uk](mailto:Nick.Packham@buglife.org.uk) Activities could include; helping to identify potential new sites, attending habitat creation days or assisting with basic monitoring.



*Central reservation wildflower patch*



Users of the Great Central Way will recognise this bridge even with the changes in the immediate environment since photo taken



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### A Day in the life of a Police Community Support Officer

Police Community Support Officers work either from 8am til 4 or 5pm or 5pm til 11pm. The tour of duty generally consists of 3 early shifts, 3 late shifts and 3 rest days.

At the beginning of the shift the duty sergeant will brief the team, PCSO's and PC's, with information on incidents over the last 24 hours. Any tasks to be carried out will be allocated to the relevant officer to complete. Tasks are not only allocated by the duty sergeant but also by neighbourhood PC's, various other policing departments which effectively means anyone in the service.

Apart from the high visibility patrols, which the PCSO is expected to carry out, tasks can include conducting house to house and CCTV enquiries regarding an incident, reassurance visits, crime prevention advice and safeguarding vulnerable people. These are important roles undertaken by PCSO's.

Dealing with anti-social behaviour is a common everyday occurrence dealt with by PCSO's. This involves liaising with the council, housing associations and private landlords regarding their tenants.

PCSO's attend neighbourhood, resident groups and ward meetings to present an update on local crime figures and issues as well as listening to any concerns.

School visits are an important part of the PCSO's day, interacting with children and educating them on various safety aspects and hopefully building relationships with them at an early age to gain their trust.

Fun days, open days and fetes are fun events that PCSO's participate in 😊

Whenever a serious incident has occurred PCSO's are deployed to preserve the scene to prevent any persons from contaminating any evidence. This could last for a couple of hours, days or even weeks depending on the severity. It is therefore quite difficult, on occasions, to plan your day as you never know what you will face when you arrive for work.

## Phantom Debt Collectors and Bailiffs Fraud Alert

Action Fraud has recently experienced an increase in the number of calls to members of the public by bogus bailiffs requesting payments for a “phantom” debt. The fraud involves being cold-called by someone purporting to be a bailiff working on behalf of a court, attempting to recover funds for a non-existent debt.

The caller will request payment by means of bank transfer and if this is refused, will threaten to visit the premises to recover the debt that is owed. A range of different businesses and individuals are being targeted.

Though this type of fraud can occur throughout the UK, Action Fraud has noted that a significant level of reports are being made from those in the Yorkshire area.

### Tips for staying safe:

**Confirm** what the debt is regarding; bailiffs are only used to recover certain debts such as council tax, child support and compensation orders. Bailiffs are not used to recover debts relating to private advertisement; these would be collected by debt collectors. Debt collectors do not have the same legal powers as bailiffs and will not have special court authorisation to act. For more details regarding this, please look at the Citizens Advice website.

**If you work** for a business and receive a call or visit from bailiffs or debt collectors, be sure to speak with your manager or business owner first. Never pay the debts yourself on behalf of the business you work for; some fraudsters have suggested employees do this whilst talking with them, suggesting they can then be reimbursed by their employer, when in reality the debt is non-existent.

**Double check** with the court or originating company to confirm whether the call is legitimate; if you use a landline make sure you hear the dialling tone prior to dialling as the caller could still be on the line and you could potentially speak to the fraudster(s) to confirm the non-existent debt. Also be sure to independently search for a telephone number to call and clarify; never use a number provided by the caller without carrying out your own research.

**Request** details of the debt in writing to confirm its legitimacy.

**Do not** feel rushed or intimidated to make a decision based on a phone call.

**You can report** suspicious calls like these to Action Fraud by visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or by calling 0300 123 2040.



*Aylestone Baths*

### Non-emergency Patient Transport Services

As you may or may not be aware, TASL is the new provider of Non-Emergency Patient Transport in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) as from the 1 October 2017 and below is an update about their progress to date.

A month into the new service we can confirm that the majority of patients who require the service are being safely transported and cared for successfully. TASL continue to work closely with all local health providers to do everything possible to ensure that problems are resolved as quickly as possible.

However, we are still in a position where some patients are not receiving the high quality service that we expect.



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# Useful Contact Numbers

Cut to keep in a safe place



Leicestershire  
**Police**  
Protecting our communities

## Gas

Emergency (Leaks and Smell of Gas)  
0800 111 999

## Electricity

Power Cuts Number 0800 6783 105  
or visit [www.westernpower.co.uk](http://www.westernpower.co.uk) and follow the links for power cuts

## Water

Emergency 0800 783 4444 **National Rail**  
03457 48 49 50

## 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 Bus Travel Line

0871 200 2233

## Curve Theatre

0116 242 3560

## Phoenix Arts

0116 242 2800

## Sexual Violence helpline

0808 80 200 28

## Domestic violence helpline

0808 80 200 28

## NHS free advice

111

## All Leicester Hospitals

0300 303 1573

## Samaritans

116 123

## 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](http://www.leicester.gov.uk/contact-us)

**Environmental Health Noise Nuisance Team** can be contacted on: 0116 454 1001 or email  
[noise@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:noise@leicester.gov.uk)

## 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.

## Phishing emails

Phishing is a scam where criminals typically send emails to thousands of people. These emails pretend to come from banks, credit card companies, online shops and auction sites as well as other trusted organisations. They usually try to trick you into going to the site, for example to update your password to avoid your account being suspended. The embedded link in the email itself goes to a website that looks exactly like the real thing but is actually a fake designed to trick victims into entering personal information.

The email itself can also look as if it comes from a genuine source. Fake emails sometimes display some of the following characteristics, but as fraudsters become smarter and use new technology, the emails may have none of these characteristics. They may even contain your name and address.

The sender's email address may be different from the trusted organisation's website address.

The email may be sent from a completely different address or a free webmail address.

The email may not use your proper name, but a non-specific greeting such as "Dear customer."

A sense of urgency; for example the threat that unless you act immediately your account may be closed.

A prominent website link. These can be forged or seem very similar to the proper address, but even a single character's difference means a different website.

A request for personal information such as username, password or bank details.

You weren't expecting to get an email from the organisation that appears to have sent it.

The entire text of the email may be contained within an image rather than the usual text format. The image contains an embedded link to a bogus site

## Use email safely

Do not open emails which you suspect as being scams.

Do not forward emails which you suspect as being scams.

Do not open attachments from unknown sources.

**If in doubt, contact the person or organisation the email claims to have been sent by ... better safe than sorry.**

