

# EVENTS DIARY

## 2013



# Buckingham TownMatters

Summer 2013

### JUNE

Sat 15th – Sat 23rd  
Buckingham Fringe Week;  
Summer Events Week

### JULY

Sat 6th – Sat 13th  
Buckingham Summer Festival

### AUGUST

Thu 1st  
Thu 22nd  
Sun 25th  
Wed 28th  
Family Fun Day  
Family Fun Day  
BandJam  
Family Fun Day

### SEPTEMBER

Sun 15th  
River Rinse 1

### OCTOBER

Sun 6th  
Sat 12th  
Sat 19th  
River Rinse 2  
Charter Fair  
Charter Fair

### NOVEMBER

Sat 2nd  
Sun 10th  
Sat 30th  
Bonfire & Fireworks  
Buckingham Acoustic  
in the Market  
Remembrance Day Parade  
Christmas Lights & Carols  
Continental Market

### DECEMBER

Sat 14th  
Community Fair  
Christmas Parade

Please find further details inside or online:  
[www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/events/events.html](http://www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/events/events.html)



Mark Steel image © Idil Sukan



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Thoroughly MODERN  
Traditional  
BUCKINGHAM



# A Message from Mayor Ruth

The Town Council is working hard on the development of the **Neighbourhood Development Plan**; following the wide consultation we are now looking at all the sites suggested for development and are evaluating them.

On 4 March I enjoyed an invitation to **Buckingham School** to the opening of their **Centre for Further Education** and science laboratories, and was pleased to hear about the increased and well deserved popularity of the school. I am also pleased to support the **Royal Latin School** in their **600 campaign** to raise funds for their new Science block and laboratories which will give the school much needed space and teaching areas.

We have exciting events for you this summer with the Town Council's **Fringe Week** entertainments running from 15 to 23 June, and then the **British Ecological Society Centenary Fund** wildlife events that are running from the end of June to the beginning of August here in Buckingham; look out for the publicity.

We had our **Annual Town Meeting** on 22 March when the Town Council reports to the residents of the Town and answers any questions. It was pleasing to note that all the concerns expressed were the responsibilities of other authorities. As a tree warden and keen environmentalist I've shared the horror of many at the



Photo: Rachel Munday

destruction of mature trees along the verge of the by-pass near to the new development at Lace Hill. We will be seeking the replacement of mature trees in the new landscaping being undertaken as part of the road widening around the roundabout.

I am pleased to have been chosen by the Town Council to represent them as Mayor of Buckingham for a further year, and thank my family, **Robert, Rachel** and **Lara** for their on-going support.

I finally want to take the opportunity to thank all our Town Council staff and also our Town Councillors who put in many hours on a voluntary basis to try and improve things here in Buckingham for the benefit of us all.

## Ruth Newell

Mayor of Buckingham  
April 2013

# The changing face of Buckingham – part 7



The Town Council has appointed a new **Town Plan Officer, Sheena McMurtrie**, who will be aiding in the production of the Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan. The first stage of consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan has now finished.

We will be processing the results and preparing the plan between now and November. At the same time we are also looking at where housing, employment, leisure and other facilities can be placed in the town. As a result the Town Council will develop a number of preferred options for where development should take place. Once these have been identified the Town Council will consult you to see which you prefer.

In April the Town Council has agreed a number of Interim Policies to guide planning applications in the period until the Buckingham Development Neighbourhood Plan is adopted. If you wish to view the policies they can be accessed through our website.

**The Town Council would like to thank all of the stakeholders who have contributed to the process so far including the University of Buckingham and the Buckingham Society.**

## Youth Events

(or “There’s nuffin to do in Buckin’am . . .!”)

Apart from the numerous events and activities organised directly by your Town Council, many others are arranged in partnership with other organisations – like the recent Street Hockey in Chandos Park. Here’s what we are planning for the Summer:

- **Tag Rugby**
- **Gymivate (at Swan Pool)**
- **Boccia**
- **Skate park competition**
- **“Open Mic” event**
- **Sumo wrestling and other inflatable fun**
- **Visits by the Youth Bus**
- **Climbing wall**
- **Family Fun Days**
- **Mural painting and wood sculpture in Bourton Park**

**There’s always something to do in Buckingham – be sure to keep an eye open for separate posters giving more details for each of these exciting and fun opportunities.**

# MK CREDIT UNION

## local, ethical, affordable savings and loans



Credit Unions are locally based “not-for profit” financial cooperatives. They offer savings and loans to members at affordable rates and all members’ savings are fully protected by the Government Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

MK Credit Union is based in Milton Keynes, but has recently extended its coverage into MK18. This expansion is part of a coordinated effort to ensure that all residents of Buckinghamshire have a local Credit Union that they can join.

**Savings** The first contact anyone will have with Credit Union is when they set up a savings account into which they can pay either in cash via a PayPoint card, by standing order, or by salary deduction if their employer has signed up.

**Rents** With the agreement of their landlord, members can have their Universal Credit or salary paid into a special Credit Union account, the rent is then paid directly to the landlord and anything remaining is transferred to the member’s account for their use. This will be invaluable to both tenants and landlords when, under the Universal Credit scheme, all benefits will be rolled into one and payable only to the claimant. It will certainly reduce the potential for tenants to get into rent arrears.

**Loans** Only when someone has been saving on a regular basis for at least 3 months will they be eligible to apply for a loan. This is planning for a rainy day (eg when the washing machine or the car breaks down). The member can only then take out a loan having demonstrated their ability to save on a regular basis.

For more information and a membership application form:

t: 03030 300147

w: [www.mkcreditunion.org.uk](http://www.mkcreditunion.org.uk)

e: [enquiries@mkcreditunion.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@mkcreditunion.org.uk)



# Who you gonna to call?

A constant problem facing the emergency services are prank or inappropriate 999 calls. Partly in response to this and partly to make contacting your NHS and police services easier, new numbers have been introduced:



101 is the number to call when you want to contact your local police when it’s less urgent than a 999 call. 101 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year (calls to 101, from both landlines and mobile networks, cost a flat 15 pence per call).

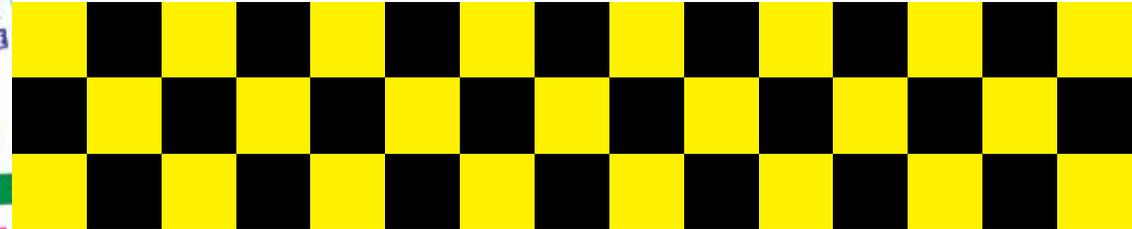


111 is the new way of getting advice about NHS / health matters available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year (calls are free from landlines and mobile phones).

999 is for calls which require an emergency response such as telling the police about a crime currently underway, a serious accident needing medical assistance, or a fire of course.

More information:

<http://www.police.uk/101> and <http://www.nhs.uk/111>





## Food Fair

February saw the launch of the first Food Fair in Buckingham. The event was opened by the **Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Lisa O'Donoghue** and **Claire Clark MBE**, one of the world's top pastry chefs. Despite snow showers and freezing cold temperatures, over 1200 people attended

the event. Exhibitors included **Monkshood Coffee, Buckingham Brewery, Party Bakes** and **Swanbourne Bakery**. Exhibitors branded the event as successful and are looking forward to taking part in the next one.

## Comedy Night

On Sunday 7th April Buckingham welcomed comedians **Hal Cruttenden, Dominic Holland** and **Angela Barnes**. The audience were entertained with such stories as Dominic Holland flying down the road on his young son's scooter, falling off and breaking his leg.

As usual the comedians were of a high quality and the evening was enjoyed by all.



*Hal Cruttenden, Dominic Holland and Angela Barnes*

## FUTURE EVENTS

- Sat 8th June** **Owls To Behold**  
Come and meet the owls outside the Old Gaol between 10am and 1pm.
- June 15th-22nd** **Buckingham Fringe Week**  
Among the events which will be held during the Buckingham Fringe Week will be:
- Sun 16th June** **Comedy Night** headlined by **Mark Steel**
- Mon 17th June** **A Ghost Walk around Buckingham** led by Ed Grimdsdale at 8pm. Places on the walk are limited, so get your tickets early.
- Tue 18th June** Enjoy a **cream tea at Villiers Hotel** and then go along to the Old Town Hall in the evening to see the **Oxford Fiddle Group**.
- Sat 22nd June** Buckingham Town Youth Council along with **Team Extreme** will be hosting a competition in the skate park. This is for anyone aged between 11-18.
- Tickets for all events are on sale at the Tourist Information Centre, Old Gaol, Buckingham.

- Sun 25th August** **Bandjam**  
Now in its 14th year, this free one day music festival is organised by Bandjam and supported by Buckingham Town Council. The big bash takes place in Buckingham Town Centre and brings out the best of Buckingham's rock bands and young musicians. Last year crowds were entertained by bands such as Rufus Stone, Spaced Out, The Holly Perkins Band and My Holiday Romance.



*Photo courtesy of Brian Simonds*

# THE BUCKINGHAM RAILWAY WALK CONSERVATION GROUP

Tucked away just off the busy A421 peace and quiet descends as a defined pathway takes you off in a north westerly direction on a route running alongside the old track bed of the railway branch line which served Buckingham until the late 1960s. Passing through wooded embankments, open sunny glades, alongside a spring-fed pond the path continues past the remains of the station platforms and further still over 2 bridges, allowing elevated views over the older parts of Buckingham and a community orchard. Onwards with St. Rumbold's Well on the left, finally ending at the Tingewick Road. (In total, just over 1mile). In 2003 the site was designated as a wildlife area and as such remains untouched by development and is managed with wildlife in mind.

The walkway is used by people for a quiet traffic free route to walk to the shops, work or school, for jogging, cycling or just

a place to go for a stroll. Others find a sheltered sunny spot to sit and read. For those who have time to linger and remain quiet, you may be treated to the sight of a wily fox or glimpse a muntjac deer. Whatever the time of year, there are always opportunities to discover and enjoy the countless varieties of native wildlife which can be found here.

At this time of year, visitors can hear sweet summer birdsong. The birds have made use of the bird boxes placed at intervals in the woodland, where they built their nests to raise a new brood in the spring. Frogs and toads congregate in the pond and muddy shallows, their distinctive croaking clearly heard. After a cold winter and late spring, the trees have burst into life, their fresh green leaves forming a canopy overhead. Watch out for all the summertime flowers as they colour and add dazzle to the verges and glades.



Every season holds its magic for this short but long one mile stretch!

The **Buckingham Railway Walk Conservation Group** is a small group of volunteers who have been working with the landowners of the Railway Walk (Buckingham Town Council) and the Scenic Walk (Aylesbury Vale District Council) for the last 6 years. We really enjoy working in this unique setting and take pleasure in helping to ensure the site continues to attract and support a variety of wildlife and is also a delightful and

interesting place for the local community to spend time.

We meet regularly on the first Saturday of each month in the University Car Park at the top of Station Road at 10am. Activities continue until about 2pm and we provide tools, safety equipment and light refreshments. New volunteers are warmly welcomed. Please contact **Jenny Manning** on **01280 815223** or **railwaywalk@hotmail.co.uk** for further details, or visit our website **www.buckinghamrailwaywalk.btck.co.uk**

## Community Grants

Buckingham Town Council supports a number of organisations in the town with grants to aid them in providing facilities and services for the people of the Town. This year the Council has helped the following organisations with grants:

Aylesbury Vale Dial A Ride	£250	Project Street Life	£500
Buckingham Churches Childrens Holiday Club	£500	Relate Mid Thames & Bucks	£100
Buckingham Festival of Music & Drama	£200	St Peter & St Pauls Church	£1,000
Buckingham Summer Festival	£750	The Swan Community Hub Ltd	£500
Citizens Advice Bureau	£5,000	Well Street United Church	£500
Milton Keynes Credit Union Ltd	£500	YC2 – Buckingham & Winslow Young Carers	£300
North Bucks Carers Support Group	£400	<b>Total Grants Awarded</b>	<b>£10,500</b>

In addition to this the Council gives long term grants to Buckingham Community Centre, Buckingham Old Gaol and The Film Place. As well as grants the Council also aids charities and other community organisations in a number of ways including advertising events, providing a venue for meetings and by campaigning for issues and changes with other authorities. The Town Council grants process starts again in October.

# WHAT HAS YOUR COUNCIL DONE FOR YOU?

## The Environment, Property and Health Committee

looks after the Council's "estate", which comprises **Chandos Park, Bourton Park, the Cemetery** (including the house and chapels), the **Railway Walk** and other open spaces. Apart from ensuring that these areas are properly maintained, we have continued to work closely with local conservation volunteers and various "friends" groups whose unstinting work helps to maintain and improve these valuable resources and protect the indigenous wild life for us all.

In Bourton Park, **new play equipment**, designed for older children and with inputs from local schools, was opened by our Mayor in mid-February. It is designed to blend in with its woodland surroundings, and will include landscaping and a seating area. Some **picnic benches** and **fencing** have been replaced, including a section of fencing destroyed by vandals during the last bonfire night. There has been further **tree** and **hedge planting**, all mixed native species.

A new **out-flow** has been re-instated in Chandos Park to help alleviate storm water issues. The **CCTV camera** has also been restored, and long overdue **repairs to the path** will be addressed in the Autumn.

In the Cemetery, a new **Garden of Rest** has been laid out, and further burial space has been identified. Some essential **memorial safety testing** has now started, and problems with the East Chapel mean that quite **extensive repair work** is about to be undertaken.

We have also started the process to renovate the base of the **war memorial** adjacent to the parish church, and to replace the surrounding bollards.

## The Planning Committee

has been incredibly busy over the last year; not only reviewing **133 planning applications** but also coordinating the **Neighbourhood Development Plan** and reviewing the many forthcoming changes to the planning system.

The Committee keeps a close eye on planning and advertising breaches, particularly when they could impact upon a Listed building or the Conservation Area.

We are currently in conversation with the County Council with regards to a new **strategic transport plan** and a revised and extended **cycle network**.

We were disappointed at the appeal decision regarding the additional houses in Moreton Road, and are pleased that AVDC are challenging the decision at the High Court. We are also concerned about further changes to the proposed Market Hill development, and the lack of retail and affordable housing now being proposed, together with the incomplete nature of Candleford Court and the state it has been left in.

Work continues with the Neighbourhood Plan, with some very well-attended events over the last few months. We are now moving into the more detailed stage of the Plan, so do look out for future events to get involved with, as we want to make sure the plan develops with input from a wide range of people.

## The Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee

has overseen the Town Council office and staff, advised and steered the budgets. **For the 4th successive year we have not increased the Town Council element of your Council Tax.** To ensure that the Town Council does not experience expensive litigation and undertakes good employment practices the Deputy Town Clerk has worked very hard over the last 12 months to provide the Committee with a number of employment policies. The Council has adopted these and will continue to improve in the coming year.

We will continue to strive to deliver a good service to the people of Buckingham and will be pleased to hear your concerns and thoughts as to how we can deliver the service you want.

The Committee also deals with the hiring out of the **Town Council Chamber**. If you wish to rent out a room which sits 17 around the impressive Town Council table then please contact the Town Council Office. Charges start at £3 per hour.

## The Town Centre and Events Committee

along with the staff in the office and particularly our Events Assistant **Amanda Brubaker**, have worked very hard this past year to provide residents and visitors with some wonderful events to attend.

We were able to facilitate the **Olympic Torch** passing through town giving Buckingham a piece of Olympic history and not long afterwards we had the **Queen's Jubilee** celebrations, which ended with the lighting of the beacon in Bourton Park.

The town also enjoys **3 music events each year**. We also fund the **Christmas Parade** and new **Christmas lights** for the town centre and each June there is a packed **Fringe Week**. We have seen many comedians perform at the Old Town Hall through our regular **Comedy Nights** with ticket prices remaining reasonable, but we need your support to keep the event going, so please check our website and Facebook page regularly.

**Cllr. O'Donoghue** led on our youth projects again, where both senior schools work together on a **Drama & Art project** and the **Local Democracy Event**, as well as supporting the **Youth Council** with the **Deputy Town Clerk, Anita Simonds**.

The Committee has also maintained a good **street market** two days a week through the hard work of Mrs. Simonds, who continues to bring continental markets here for a bit of variety.

Thanks to **Cllr. Mahi's** hard work many residents and visitors enjoyed a spectacular **fireworks display** in Bourton Park, which seems to get bigger and better every year!

We also held the first **Harvest Fair** in the cattle pens working in partnership with **Destination Buckingham** and held a **Flood Action Event**.

The Committee's **Vice Chairman, Cllr. Bloomfield** organised the **River Rinses** and **Pancake Race**, and is a great help when the **fair** comes into town.



These are tough times for millions of farmers and workers in developing countries. Climate change, rising food and fuel costs, and volatile market prices mean they face an uncertain future. 60% of Fairtrade farmers and workers are based in Africa. Thanks to them we can buy Fairtrade cotton clothing, cosmetics, wine, fruit, coffee, tea, chocolate and much more.

Small farmers often struggle to provide for themselves and their families and they're hit hardest in uncertain times. Fairtrade provides them with the security of knowing they'll receive a fair price for their crop and the long term stability that comes from having a better relationship with their buyer.

**So if we can do more for Fairtrade in Buckingham, more producers and their communities in developing countries will benefit.**

Buckingham has been a Fairtrade Town since 2007 and this year we aim to renew this status, but we need your help! We have to demonstrate our commitment to Fairtrade by developing greater awareness amongst retailers, caterers, schools, churches, clubs and community groups in and around the town.

So we plan to update and reissue our guide to businesses in the town who support Fairtrade principles, this promotes businesses in Buckingham alongside the message of fair pay and working conditions for all. We would welcome new members to the voluntary Fairtrade Town Steering Group, and also your ideas as to how we can develop Fairtrade more in our town.

**Please contact us:** Margaret Gateley 01280 816317 Anne King 01280 814963  
Tina Mitchell 01280 814544 Ruth Newell 01280 815229

Do join us at our **Anniversary Event** at the **Old Gaol** from **10am to 12 noon on Saturday 21st September 2013**. There will be stalls selling fairtrade goods and gifts, plus enjoy fairtrade coffee or tea and indulge in a homemade cake, baked with fairtrade ingredients, of course!

# Festival of Ecology

## Life in Air, Water, & Earth

Come along to Buckingham's AWE events this Summer and learn about Life in these three elements, while you enjoy a hands-on experience in some of Buckingham's beautiful green spaces, organised by The Conservation Volunteers.

Element	What?	Where?	When?
Earth	Habitats for Minibeasts	Maids Moreton Avenue	Saturday 15 June 10.30am-12.30pm
Water	Wildlife in Ponds and River	Burleigh Piece	Saturday 22 June 10.30am-12.30pm
Air	Bees in Buckingham	Buckingham Athletic Sports & Social Club	Tuesday 25 June 7.30-8.30pm
Air	Owls in the Evening	(to be confirmed)	Monday 1 July 7-9pm
Air	Build Bird and Bat Boxes	Maids Moreton Avenue	Saturday 13 July 10.30am-12.30pm
Earth	Guided Tree Walk	Railway Walk	Wednesday 17 July 7-9pm
Water	Pond Dipping & Dragonflies	Railway Walk	Saturday 20 July 10.30am-12.30pm
Earth	Archaeology Walk & Talk	Sandpit (meet at ATC)	Sunday 4 August 10.30am-12.30pm



The **British Ecological Society** celebrates its centenary this year, and in partnership with Buckingham Town Council is supporting and funding this project.

No need to book. For more information contact us on **01296 330 033** or email **buckingham@tcv.org.uk** Events are suitable for all ages. For outdoor activities, please dress appropriately for the conditions.

# BUCKINGHAM TOWN YOUTH COUNCIL

Buckingham Town Youth Council has been busy since the last update planning events for this Summer/Autumn.

As part of the Buckingham Fringe Week the Youth Council has hired **Team Extreme Ltd** to run a **Skate Park Competition** for those aged 11 – 18 yrs, in the **Bridge Street Skate Park** on **Saturday 22nd June 2013, 11am till 4pm.**



The competition has three categories – skateboards, scooters and BMX bikes – and to make it inclusive for all young people, **entry is only £1.** If the event is a success the Youth Council will look into making it a yearly event.

We require an **Expression of Interest form** to be filled out, so we know how many people are interested, plus Team Extreme need everyone to complete a **Disclaimer form.** Both forms can be obtained either by emailing

[deputytownclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:deputytownclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk) or online at **Buckingham Town Youth Council's Facebook page.**

Then on **Friday 20th September**, the Youth Council have booked the **Radcliffe Centre** for an **Open Mic Night.** If you're interested and aged 11–18 yrs, send a short video clip of your act to **BuckinghamTownYouthCouncil@gmail.com** or via the **Facebook page.** The event could range from juggling to comedy, singing to acting, whatever your talent don't be shy, send us your clip and give it a try!

Remember that BTYC was set up for young people to have a voice and from the start students of the Royal Latin School were quick to come forward, yet the Buckingham School were given equal seats but 5 remain empty. If you would like more information or you know someone living in Buckingham but attending a school out of County, they might still be able to join. Please call **Anita Simonds on 01280 816 426** or **Cllr. Lisa O'Donoghue on 01280 824 624** for a chat.

# Buckingham Town Councillors

## BUCKINGHAM NORTH

Cllr. Paddy Collins	01280 823 006
Cllr. Jon Harvey	01280 812 711
Cllr. Derrick Isham	01280 813 770
Cllr. Rob Lehmann	01280 817 331
Cllr. Andy Mahi	01280 816 562
Cllr. Howard Mordue	01280 815 418
<b>Cllr. Ms. Ruth Newell - Mayor</b>	<b>01280 815 229</b>
Cllr. Christine Strain-Clark	01280 816 832
Cllr. Martin Try	01280 816 202

Mr Christopher Wayman (Town Clerk)

01280 816 426

## BUCKINGHAM SOUTH

Cllr. Terry Bloomfield	01280 815 336
Cllr. Hedley Cadd	01280 814 112
Cllr. Mrs Geraldine Collins	01280 823 006
Cllr. Paul Hiron	01280 812 072
Cllr. Mrs Lisa O'Donoghue	01280 824 624
Cllr. Mike Smith	01280 822 215
Cllr. Robin Stuchbury	01280 824 285
Cllr. Warren Whyte	01280 820 531

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Buckinghamshire County Council	0845 3 70 80 90
Highways on Call	0845 2 30 28 82
Aylesbury Vale District Council	01296 58 58 58
Buckingham Winslow & District Citizens Advice Bureau	01280 81 67 07
Buckingham Tourist Information Centre	01280 82 30 20
Buckingham Community Centre	01280 82 35 84

## Your views count

Buckingham Town Matters is produced by Buckingham Town Council in order to provide you with a taste of what keeps Councillors and staff busy. But this is also an invitation for you to tell us what you think of what we do and what you think we should be doing. We are all working together to make Buckingham an even better place, so please let us know:

- what you think we should carry on doing
- what you think we should stop doing, or do less of
- what you think we should start doing, or do a lot more of

**You can email us at or just drop us a line at the address below. We look forward to hearing from you.**

**Town Council Office, Buckingham Centre, Verney Close, Buckingham, MK18 1JP**

**Email: [office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk)**



**Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Buckingham-Town-Council/222358454517086](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Buckingham-Town-Council/222358454517086)**

**Just a reminder...**

**all Town Council meetings are open to the public.**

**You are invited to come along and give us your views**