



TOWN HALL

WHAT'S ON...

Wedding Fayre
Sunday 30 August
Town Hall

Mayor at Home
Sunday 6th September 2009, 3.00pm - 5.00pm
Town Hall

Stratford-upon-Avon Heritage Trail –
National Heritage Open Days
Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September

Macmillan Cancer Support 'Macride'
13 September
A 10, 25 or 63 mile Charity Cycle Ride. Start from Stratford
Park & Ride at any time between 08.45 and 10.30.
Suitable for all cyclists and types of bicycle. Entering on line
saves Macmillan Cancer Support money and is quick, easy
and secure: www.macride.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support 'World's BIGGEST Coffee
Morning'
25 September
Various venues throughout the town including the Town
Hall. To take part, register now at macmillan.org.uk/coffee

'Festival of Food'
25 – 27 September
Recreation Ground
There's something for everyone so forget 'the diet' that
weekend and enjoy a great day out.
For further information, contact Julie Bennett on 01789
299011 or email julie@stratfordtcm.co.uk

The Variety Concert
Civic Hall
Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 September at 7.15 pm.
FREE of charge to those Stratford-upon-Avon residents
entitled to a bus pass. You don't need a ticket, just turn up
on the night, but if you need **FREE TRANSPORT** to and
from the venue, please contact either Maureen Beckett
on 01789 299347 or Jan Stanton on 01789 415910.
Maureen and Jan look forward to seeing you there!

Coffee Morning
Stratford-upon-Avon Afternoon Townwomen's Guild
Friday 2 October, Town Hall

Stratford-upon-Avon Operatic Society presents 'Chess'
28-31 October, 2009, Civic Hall
Tickets £15.00 (concessions) are available from the Box
Office Tel: 01789 207100 or Ticket Secretary 01789
664203. Enjoy classic lyrics by Tim Rice with music by Abba
stars Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Anderson. Directed by Philip
Beeson, conducted by James Suckling with choreography by
Julie Bedlow-Howard.

'Design.it' ...

Age Concern's 'Design.it' service has been successfully operational now for about a year, and offers affordable building and design plans with project management service in respect of any proposed building or alteration works to a domestic property. The service is offered across all age groups to include facilities for disabled as well as able bodied.

'Design.it' is a competitively priced architectural design service that provides scale drawings and building regulations approval for:

- Home alterations • Bathroom improvements
- Disabled facilities • Property extensions

For more details contact **Care and Repair** on **01926 458125**
Age Concern Warwickshire, 8 Clemens Street, Leamington Spa CV31 2DL
Tel: 01926 458125 E-mail: css@ageconcernwarks.co.uk

AND FINALLY

We are grateful to the reader who spotted this advertisement in the 'Evening Argos'. Glad this doesn't happen in Stratford!

People are invited to a meeting at 7.15 tonight at St Mary's Church Hall, Brighton. Meet councillors and beat police officers.



BRIDGING the GAP

Stratford-upon-Avon

ISSUE 5

Quarterly Newsletter from Stratford-upon-Avon TOWN COUNCIL



NATIONAL HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

'A CELEBRATION OF GROWING YOUR OWN'

The Stratford-upon-Avon Heritage Trail, part of National Heritage Open Days enables thousands of visitors to see some of the town's most interesting, but inaccessible buildings free of charge. Plans are well underway for the three day event from **Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September, 2009.**

The Town Hall is an interesting venue in its own right but in addition, Council always strives to display an added attraction. Being mindful of the need to achieve a sustainable, healthy food regime, the emphasis this year is 'A Celebration of Growing Your Own' kindly sponsored by Evesham Garden Centre.

Delve into 'Steve's Garden Medicine Chest' – informative and entertaining sessions at set times during the event (including plenty of question time) by gardening expert and BBC local radio guest presenter, **Steve Brookes**. Conservationist, **James Pavitt** or members of his team, will also be on hand to talk about allotments, Transition Stratford, the increasingly popular garden share scheme, and 'gorilla gardening'.

Take advantage of the courtesy hop-on-hop-off shuttle bus, making it easier to visit all the venues on the Stratford-upon-Avon Heritage Trail, sponsored by the Town Trust. So, nearer the time, look out for the Trail brochure available in the Midweek, or pick one up from the Town Hall. It'll be a great day out and it's **FREE**.

TRANSITION STRATFORD

What do you think of a loyalty card for Stratfordians to use in local shops? Would you like to join in with a community food and gardening project or solar energy purchasing club? All of these are practical ideas that have come out of the Transition Stratford initiative.

Transition is a relatively new movement, now capturing the imagination and energy of communities all over the world. There are over 200 Transition communities in the UK; including those in Oxford, Coventry and Leamington Spa. Even the Archers' Ambridge has a fictional Transition initiative.

Run on a local voluntary basis, Transition is grass roots and pro-active. Looking towards the future, it will look at what is needed to build resilience to future challenges. Challenges include climate change, economic uncertainty and the shortfall in energy needs as the population grows and natural resources become more expensive.

Transition Stratford has found that planning for a more austere future is not as gloomy as it sounds and can be inspirational and fun. Building on the excellent wartime slogan 'Dig for Victory', the Food Group instigated a sub gardening group. An amazing array of fruit and vegetables is the result of a vacant garden and donated seeds and cuttings; saving money and the need for transportation.



The Energy Group is researching practical and cheaper alternatives to heating water and electricity production. Despite the English weather, solar water heating and solar PV (electricity generation) are now very effective. Although still relatively expensive, an initial investment can be repaid in as little as four years. Purchasing as a group will bring the cost down even further and this option is definitely being developed further.

The initiative has the full support of Stratford Town Council and its environmental working party, but Transition Stratford is run entirely on a voluntary basis.

If you'd like to offer support or become involved in its work, please visit the web site: <http://transitionstratford.blogspot.com>, or email James Pavitt at: james@nettleoup.co.uk



Bridging the Gap is published by Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council
Town Hall, Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6EF
Contact – Tel: 01789 269332
E-Mail: info@stratforduponavontowncouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.stratforduponavontowncouncil.com



T: 01789 269 332 • F: 01789 297072 • E: info@stratforduponavontowncouncil.gov.uk • W: www.stratforduponavontowncouncil.com

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR COUNCIL



Yorkshire born Maureen Beckett settled happily in Stratford-upon-Avon, having lived here for over twenty years.

and serves on the Town Council's Finance & Scrutiny Committee. In 2002 she was elected and remains a member of Stratford-upon-Avon District Council.

Maureen instigated the very first meeting of the Town Centre Management and became Chairman in 1999. This evolved into the successful Town Management Partnership, and Maureen is still a very active member, heading the Geese Peace programme in particular.

She sits on the Stratford-upon-Avon in Bloom Committee, the Christmas Lights Co Ltd, is Deputy Chairman of Municipal Charities, and Chairman, for over 12 years, of the local branch of Talking Newspapers for the Blind.

Married to Keith, they have two daughters and six grandchildren. Maureen has numerous hobbies, is a committed Christian and active member of the Methodist Church.

Joining the Town Council in 1992, Maureen became Mayor in 1998 and is now the longest serving member, known as the 'Senior Councillor'. Currently, she Chairs the Mayoral & Protocol Committee

THE NEXT.....

Community Forum Meeting is 19 August 2009, 6.00pm, St Andrews Parish Centre, followed by the autumn meeting at Home Guard Club, Tiddington, 18 November 2009, 6.00pm.

BATTERY RECYCLING

In the last issue the Council flagged up its commitment to recycling household batteries by providing a Battery/Back collection point at the Town Hall.

From the photograph, you can see just how successful this has been. Since its introduction, the brim full bin has been collected three times.

The town is certainly doing its bit towards achieving the target of increasing household battery recycling to over 25% by 2012.



NO LONGER A DOG WALKER'S DILEMMA

Dog walkers will not have to walk 'for miles' in search of more dog hygiene bins. Stratford-on-Avon District Council has advised that provided the waste is double bagged, it can now be placed in ordinary litter bins.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2009/10

General Purposes Committee Tuesday (6.30 pm)	Planning Consultative Committee Tuesday (6.30 pm)	Finance Committee Tuesday (6.30 pm)	Mayoral & Protocol Committee Tuesday (6.30 pm)	Town Council Tuesday (6.15 pm)
28 July 09	21 July 09 11 August 09 1 September 09	15 September 09		22 September 09
27 October 09	Monday 21 September 09 13 October 09 3 November 09	17 November 09	6 October 09	24 November 09

Mayor at Home

The Mayor of Stratford-upon-Avon, Cllr Jenny Fradgley invites the ladies of the town to join her for afternoon tea in the beautiful surroundings of the Ballroom at the Town Hall on **Sunday 6 September, 2009 from 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.** It's an opportunity to

wear your best hat, and posh frock! Whatever you choose to wear, formal or otherwise, please just come and relax in the company of old friends and new.

For further information, telephone the Civic Secretary, Mrs Lisa Blaxall 01789 269332 or e-mail lisa.blaxall@stratforduponavontowncouncil.gov.uk

THE TOWN COUNCIL AND ITS STANDING COMMITTEES

HOW IT OPERATES

The Town Council conducts its business via Four Standing Committees which report to Council. There are also a number of sub-committees and working parties which report to the various Standing Committees. **DON'T FORGET, everyone can attend the Open Session of Council Meetings, and take part during public participation.**

Standing Committee - Planning Consultative

Members

Chairman: Councillor Michael Crutchley Tel: 01789 267564
Deputy: Councillor Juliet Short Tel: 01789 294247
Councillors: Bill Dowling, Joan McFarlane, Shelagh Sandle, Vince Seaman, Joyce Taylor and Clive Thomas

Although not the Planning Authority, which comes under the remit of the District Council, the Town Council is a planning consultee and has the right to be notified and make comments on planning applications affecting its area. It also considers licensing applications and matters relating to highways, waterways and railways.

The Planning Committee is assisted by professional Planning Consultant, Avon Planning Services, which offers valuable guidance on the intricacies of planning law, ensuring that the Council's observations are in accordance with planning regulations which the Planning Authority must take into account.

To the chagrin of many on the Committee, there are occasions when they have no choice other than to raise 'no objection' as the application does not fall foul of planning regulations. The District Council is now asked to give an explanation why applications are still approved, despite valid objections from the Town Council.

TOWN COUNCIL TO SECURE LAND FOR ALLOTMENTS

The Town Council is currently in negotiation to take over the management of some existing allotments within the town and is actively seeking to procure additional land.

If you would like to put your name on the waiting list, e-mail: sue.taylor@stratforduponavontowncouncil.gov.uk or give her a call on 01789 269332.

COUNCIL CONTACTS

Alveston

Cllr Michael Crutchley
01789 267564
Cllr Dr Rev Roy Lodge MBE
01789 204850
Cllr Joan McFarlane
01789 209033
Cllr Joy Seaman
01789 204633
Cllr Vince Seaman
01789 204633

Avenue & New Town

Cllr Donna Barker
01789 267216
Cllr Maureen Beckett
01789 299347
Cllr Keith Lloyd
01789 551856
Cllr Bill Lowe
01789 552606
Cllr Juliet Short
01789 294247

Guild & Hathaway

Cllr Kate Dill-Russell
01789 205819
Cllr Bill Dowling
01789 293591
Cllr Jenny Fradgley (Mayor)
01789 262522
Cllr Shelagh Sandle
01789 268322
Cllr Clive Thomas
01789 551648

Mount Pleasant

Cllr John Bicknell
01789 290947
Cllr Joyce Taylor
01789 268491
Cllr Chris Wall
07969 239753
Town Council Office
01789 269332

info@stratforduponavontowncouncil.gov.uk
www.stratforduponavontowncouncil.com