



MALMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

December 2015



Malmesbury's popular Late Night Christmas Shopping will be held on Friday 4th December. With a fabulous range of unique gifts to buy, a visit from Father Christmas, music and much more.

The upper High Street and adjacent roads will be closed to traffic and many of the shops will be open late. There will be Christmas cheer aplenty with mince pies and mulled wine for the shoppers! The fun starts at 6pm with a procession by Father Christmas on his sleigh through the High Street.

The occasion is organised by the Town Team and the Town Council.

The Town Hall's **Tourist Information Centre** is open for the sale of gifts and charity Christmas cards until December 24th. It will also be open for sales during Late Night Shopping, when complimentary drinks will be provided by the TIC and the **Athelstan Museum**, which will also be open.

Malmesbury Hub in the Town Hall will hold a market during Late Night Shopping and also on Saturday December 12th.



Town Councillors October 2015

L-R: Cllrs Poole, Budgen, Exton, Webb, Gundry (Mayor), Penfold, Woodcock, Jones (Deputy Mayor), Jennings, Sanderson, Vandelli & Cox. Not pictured: Cllrs Doody, Grant, Power & Wright.

With many thanks to photographer Steven Berrow.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is a privilege to have been elected Mayor. The Mayoress, Jacqueline Tong, and I are honoured to have the opportunity to serve for a second time.

I'm particularly grateful to be Mayor when there are so many positive things happening. The town is being expertly marketed as a shopping and visitor destination of choice. We have a thriving weekly market. Our Museum wins widespread acclaim. Malmesbury fulfils its reputation as a Festival Town, with the Garden Festival, St Aldhelm's Day Fair, Boondocks, WOMAD, Malmesbury in Bloom, Carnival, WWI Tea and History Weekend events — many run or facilitated by the Town Council.

The Dyson expansion will enhance the town's economy and reputation. We have a Neighbourhood Plan to protect us against unwanted development for ten years.

Movies@Malmesbury shows first-run films and arts broadcasts in our Town Hall. The Malmesbury Acoustic Sessions present exciting new music. Performers such as the Malmesbury Singers, Community Choir, Concert Band, Athelstan Players and The Long Players delight a range of tastes. The University of the Third Age and our myriad music and arts clubs inspire the mind and soul, while our fitness and sports

clubs exercise the body. And we have many more charity, church, conservation, craft, school, social and youth groups which provide enjoyment, engagement and service in our community.

I believe townsfolk have a lot to be grateful for. I hope you will all join the Mayoress and me in giving a resounding vote of thanks to everyone involved in these diverse activities that keep our town active, interesting and caring.

This year my charity is Carer Support Wiltshire, which supports carers of all ages in the town and neighbourhood. I will announce events to raise money for this charity soon.

My thanks are due to my predecessor, Cllr Sue Poole, for her unstinting work which has left a solid legacy. I am grateful to be supported by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Wayne Jones.

I believe there is much going well in this Town. But if you have concerns which you would like to discuss, then please do contact me.

With Jacqueline's and my best wishes for Christmas and 2016,

**Cllr John Gundry,
Mayor of Malmesbury**

Reporting Maintenance and Repair Issues

Wiltshire Council has changed the way it prefers to receive reports of maintenance and repair issues. Residents are asked to report these directly to the Council using the MyWiltshire smart-phone App, or online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts or by telephone on 0300 456 0105. (An online or App report costs Wiltshire Council only 2p to process, compared with £5 for a telephoned report.)

Issues that can be reported this way include car parks, playgrounds, pavements, kerbs & verges, grass & hedges, street furniture, road signs & traffic signals, potholes, drains & manholes, public toilets, graffiti, litter & litter bins, rights of way, fly-tipping and flooding. Residents can report issues directly using the methods above. It is not necessary to inform or report via the Town Council although the Council will provide assistance if requested.

About the Town Team

The Malmesbury Town Team is a group of local people who are working together to promote and support the Town Centre. Using the community contribution from the building of the Waitrose supermarket, it is working through its Action Plan publicised in February. It recently launched the DiscoverMalmesbury.life website and the tourist and shopper Town Guide which is being distributed.

The Friday Market is a Town Team initiative and an effective partnership with the Town Council is delivering the 2 hours free parking trial in the Station Road Car Park and Late Night Christmas Shopping.

Riverside Centre

The old Malmesbury Youth Club beside the Co-op is being transformed by Wiltshire Council into the community Riverside Centre. There will be a new lobby area and refurbishment of the main hall to cater for for all kinds of community activities, kitchen facilities for a café, plus offices. The Centre will be open to all ages from the town and the community area. It will be run on a voluntary basis, and is planned to open midsummer 2016.

News in Brief

Malmesbury Flood Wardens

Malmesbury Town Council has established a Flood Warden scheme to offer assistance to property owners who are at risk of flooding. Their role is principally to offer information and advice on flood precautions and flood recovery, to relay river flood warnings, report flood events and liaise with the relevant authorities. Flood Wardens are not members of the Emergency Services and will take a restricted role during any flooding event.

Each Flood Warden is covering a particular group of at-risk properties. If your property is at risk of flooding and you have not been visited by a Warden, please contact Cllr Gundry.

Station Road Car Park

At the end of October, Wiltshire Council reduced its charges at the Station Road Car Park to £4 for both 8 and 24-hour periods. It also reduced the price of a 12-month parking permit (season ticket) by over £70 to £184 (shorter periods pro-rata). For residents in the centre and east of town there is a residents' 12-month full permit for only £97 (shorter periods pro-rata) and a very cheap evenings-and-weekends option. Parking permits can be obtained through Wiltshire Council's website or Parking Services on 01249 706131.

It is hoped that these reduced charges will encourage motorists to use the car park provided and cease parking on our residential streets.

The 2 hours free parking trial, sponsored since August by the Town Council and Town Team, continues to increase the number of motorists using the Station Road Car Park.

Malmesbury Hub Market

There is a Saturday Hub Market from 9.30am to 2pm in the Hub at the Town Hall every month except August.

It has a great variety of stalls: cakes, linens, handmade cards, crafts, handmade jewellery, bric-a-brac, glassware, a tombola, books, charity stalls and collectables. Do come along and see for yourself.

If you wish to sell, the charge for a stall is only £5: please contact Cllr Exton.

Council Contacts

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Website www.malmesbury.gov.uk

★ MOVIES @ MALMESBURY ★

www.malmesbury.gov.uk/cinema.html

Full cinema listings are shown on the Town Council website above and displays and listing sheets are at the Tourist Information Centre. You can also sign up to a mailing list.

Tickets can be purchased through OxBoffice.com (there is a link from the listings page on the website - a handling fee applies) or from the Tourist Information Centre or on the door (subject to availability).