

Community NEWS

INCORPORATING **Recycling News**



AUTUMN 2014

ST ALBANS & HARPENDEN FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL



24 SEPT TO
6 OCTOBER 2014



The fabulous **St Albans & Harpenden Food and Drink Festival** kicks off with the famous CAMRA Beer and Cider Festival at the Alban Arena starting Wednesday 24 September. It comes to rip-roaring climax at the grand Food and Drink Festival Market finale in the City centre on Sunday 5 October. In between there are loads of great events and offers. The festival celebrates the best food and drink the District has to offer. See: www.enjoystalbens.com/foodanddrinkfestival for details or call 01727 819374.

A new brand for St Albans

St Albans Visitor Partnership, a group of leading local businesses working to establish St Albans as a top UK visitor destination, has created a new brand for the City. The brand aims to help position St Albans as a lively and aspirational destination, with a remarkable history.

Each letter in the new logo comes from a well known local landmark. The A for example comes from the historic 'Commit No

Nuisance' notice that many residents will recognise from the ancient door of the Clock Tower.

ST ALBANS
CHOOSE YOUR STORY

For more information see: www.enjoystalbens.com/visitor-partnership, or call 01727 819275.



Community News is published by St Albans City & District Council

www.stalbens.gov.uk



FOR RECYCLING NEWS see pages 6-7



What's on at the museums



Museum of St Albans, 9a Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RR, 01727 819340
Verulamium Museum, St Michael's Street, St Albans, AL1 4SW, 01727 751810

Exhibitions

Keeping the Home Fires Burning

Until 16 Nov. Museum of St Albans. Free.
Life in St Albans and Worms during the First World War.

Seventies St Albans

Until 28 Sep. Museum of St Albans. Free.
Celebrating the people, events and fashions of St Albans in the 1970s.

Making Trouble

19 Sep to 16 Nov. Museum of St Albans. Free.
Abstract sculptures by Emma Donaldson.

Day of the Dead

1 Oct – 1 Nov. Open 11am – 3pm Sats & Weds. Clock Tower, St Albans. Discover how various cultures represent the dead in art literature and belief.



Events

Tots Tales*

Wed 8 Oct, Wed 12 Nov. 11am – noon, 1.30 – 2.30pm. Museum of St Albans. £1. Ages 2 – 4.
Story, craft and museum hunt.

Legion XIII on Guard*

Sat 11 and Sun 12 Oct, Sat 8 and Sun 9 Nov, 2.30pm. Verulamium Museum. Free (museum entry charge for non-residents). Living history on life in the Roman Legions.

Story time session for the under 7s*

Museum of St Albans, 3 – 4pm, £1 (free to St Albans Children's Book Group members).

Sun 28 Sept – "The Great Granny Gang" and other Judith Kerr stories.

Sun 26 Oct – "Cake Girl" and other David Lucas stories.

Sun 30 Nov – "The Snow Lambs" and other Debi Gliori stories.

Reminiscence at the Museum of St Albans

Tues 30 Sept, Tues 28 Oct, Tues 25 Nov, 2-3pm. Free. Join us for a cup of tea and a chat about history within living memory.

A Dozen People Who Changed What We Eat

Sat 4 Oct, 10am – 3pm. Verulamium Museum. £25. A lifelong learning programme day school covering 300 years of history. Bookings 01727 751810 or email sue.davies@stalbans.gov.uk.

Woeful War

Sat 11 Oct, 2 – 5pm. Family Learning Event at the Museum of St Albans. Free (£1 for craft activity). Step back in time to the First World War and meet a brave soldier and the inspiring nurse, Edith Cavell. Design and make a medal to take home.

Big Draw*

Sat 18 Oct, 11am – 3pm. Roman Hypocaust, Verulamium Park, £1. Draw your own marvellous mosaics and see them displayed later in the year.

Half Term Holiday Activities

Mon 27 – Wed 29 Oct, 10.30am – 12.30pm, Museum of St Albans. £6 (£5 for Young Friends). Fun and creative craft activities for 6-11 year olds, inspired by the theme "Something Spooky". Book session in advance at the Museum of St Albans or on 01727 819340.

Crafty Capers at Verulamium Museum*

Tues 28 - Thurs 30 Oct, 2 – 4pm, £1 (museum entry charge applies to non-residents). Drop-in craft activity for children aged 3-11, with a Halloween theme.

Day of the Dead Activities*

Sat 1 Nov, 11am – 3pm, £2. Museum of St Albans. Discover the Mexican holiday 'Day of the Dead' which occurs around the same time as Halloween. Design masks and cards.

Adult Big Draw: Day of the Dead

Sat 1 Nov, 7 – 10pm. Museum of St Albans. £5.

Enjoy a glass of wine and a relaxed evening of drawing and conversation. Inspired by the Mexican Day of the Dead holiday. Please note this session will include observation of human remains. Bookings: 01727 819340. Part of lifelong learning programme.

Meet Queen Boudicca*

Sun 2 Nov, 2 – 4.30pm. Verulamium Museum. Free (entry charge to Museum for non-residents.) Come along and meet this amazing queen in the Museum galleries. Story telling at 2.30 and 3.30pm.

Soldiers' Stories Family Event*

Sat 8 Nov, 1 – 5pm. Museum of St Albans. Free (small charge for craft activity). Step back in time 100 years and meet two Gunners from the Royal Artillery, home on leave with tales from the front.

**All children must be accompanied by an adult.*



ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL FLOWER FESTIVAL

25th - 28th September 2014

Music in Bloom

See beautiful flower arrangements inspired by great music!

For tickets call 01727 890290
or book online at
www.stalbanscathedral.org



renaissance: St Albans
your new museum and gallery at the heart of the city

New museum and art gallery fundraising

X Fundraising to create a fabulous new museum and art gallery has begun. The £6.75m project will see the Museum of St Albans and the University of Hertfordshire gallery move to the grade II* listed Town Hall.

The Council is committed to raising £2.25m for the project. A large part of this sum will come from the sale of the Hatfield Road

site. The Heritage Lottery Fund has already pledged a further £2.8m. St Albans Museums and Galleries Trust is leading fundraising for the remaining £1.7m. There are lots of fabulous opportunities to be recognised as a donor. Find out more, and donate at: www.stalbansmuseumsandgalleries.org.uk, or call 01727 751830.



Sponsor a tree scheme

X You can sponsor the planting of a tree, perhaps in honour of a loved one, or to mark a special occasion such as the birth of a child. See: www.stalbans.gov.uk/sponsoratree or call 01727 819363.



UR Crew Halloween Party

The Farmer's Boy, 134 London Road, St Albans. Fri 31 October, from 8.30pm. Free. Age 18+. St Albans' most eclectic and electric DJ posse return for a night of chills and thrills, providing a party-mix of RnB, Rock and Pop to help raise your spirits at Halloween. www.lemonrock.com/urcrew.

ST ALBANS CHRISTMAS MARKET

27TH NOV - 21ST DEC

Open 11am-6pm, Sun-Wed; and 11am-8pm, Thurs-Sat.
IN THE GROUNDS OF ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL

- ★ Fabulous chalet-style stalls
- ★ Stunning location
- ★ Visit Santa's grotto

- ★ Music and merriment
- ★ Bags of Christmas magic

For more information please visit www.enjoystalbans.com or call 01727 864511

St Albans
City & District Council

Musicians, choirs and kids activities sought

X We are looking for choirs, buskers and other entertainers to serenade shoppers at St Albans Christmas Market. Please contact Jo Askham for details: saash.arts@1Life.co.uk, 01727 819303.

Do you run art or music classes for toddlers? Would you like to publicise your classes at the Christmas Market by running a session in our dedicated entertainment marquee? Contact liz.marcy@stalbans.gov.uk, 01727 819370 for details.



War memorials renovation

Memorials to local men who died in the First World War have been restored in commemoration of the centenary of the war's outbreak.

The work includes re-engraving some, and re-painting all, of the

names of over 600 men who died in the war, onto the memorial in St Peter's Street. Memorial plaques in the High Street and Verulam Road in St Albans are also newly cleaned and re-pointed. Further renovation works were completed earlier in the year.



Keep fit and have fun

REFIT is a great way for local people aged 45+ to keep fit and make new friends. Contact teri.smith@1life.co.uk, 01727 819528 for details

Monday 10am-11am

Tai Chi, Park Street Village Hall, £5
Chair Exercise, St Julian's Hall, Sopwell, £3

Monday 10am-12pm

Love to Dance, Holy Trinity Church, Frogmore, £5

Monday 11:30am-12:30pm

Tai Chi, St Julian's Hall, Sopwell, £5

Monday 1pm-2pm

Chair Yoga, St Julian's Hall, Sopwell, £3

Monday 6pm-7pm

Pilates, Holy Trinity Church, Frogmore, £4

Tuesday 10am-11am

Chair Exercise, Redbourn Parish Centre, £3

Tuesday 11.15am-12.15pm

Chair Exercise, Harpenden Public Halls, £2

Wednesday 1:15pm-2:15pm

Chair Yoga, Redbourn Parish Centre, £3

Wednesday 5:45pm-6:45pm

Pilates, Redbourn Parish Centre, £4

Friday 10am-12pm

Chair Yoga, Park Street Village Hall, £3



Civic Centre – a hub for info and advice

At the Civic Centre in St Albans, you'll find lots of advice, information and guidance on offer from all these local organisations above.

See www.stalbans.gov.uk/civiccentre for details of each

organisation's opening times or call **01727 866100**.

Visitors can also make use of a new touch screen service providing access to lots of additional information on other local services and sources of help and advice.



Update: new London Colney leisure centre

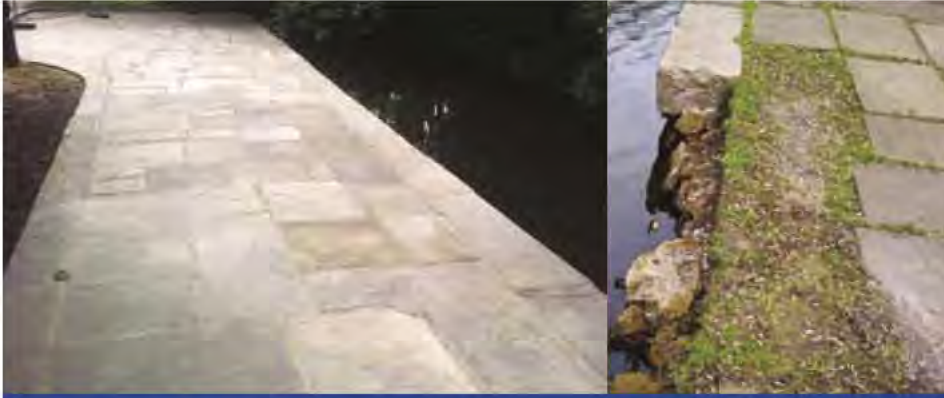
Development work has begun on a new leisure centre in Cotlandswick, London Colney.

It will be the third leisure centre to be built locally in the last three

years, following hot on the heels of Westminster Lodge and Batchwood Sports Centre.

Facilities include a 60 station gym, an exercise studio, a single court

sports hall, and outdoor and indoor children's play areas. There will also be eight five-a-side and one seven-a-side 3G synthetic turf pitches, offering all-year round football facilities.



Ver Park paving restored

X The paved area in Verulamium Park near Ye Olde Fighting Cocks pub has been restored after slabs of York stone were stolen last year.

Further work is being undertaken at Clarence Park with new fencing to be erected along Hatfield Road. Clarence Lodge will shortly be refurbished too.

Watch out! There's a cycle thief about

X Residents are being warned to lock their bikes after a number of cycle thefts in the District.

For bike security tips, including the pros and cons of various lock types, see www.whycycle.co.uk.

FREE high visibility rucksack covers and ankle straps are available at our St Albans Market stall on Wednesday 24 September, or contact communitysafety@stalbans.gov.uk, 01727 819538 (while stocks last).



Where to build new homes?

X The Council will shortly be consulting on a draft Strategic Local Plan. When adopted, the Local Plan will set out a long-term planning strategy for the District. It covers overarching policies and principles for what can be built and where over the next two decades.

Various independently conducted studies are informing the Plan including a review of the Green Belt and a housing needs assessment. Land is available in

existing urban areas to meet some, but not all, of the housing need and related infrastructure. The Council is now grappling with the tricky question of whether this will require some development in the Green Belt. There is lots of information online at www.stalbans.gov.uk/slp. A consultation is due to be launched this autumn. To pre-register, please visit stalbans-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal, or call 01727 814673.

Older People's Day Invitation

X Come along to an event at the Alban Arena in St Albans on 1 October, 10am-2pm.

The event celebrates older age and inspires people to get involved. Find out about local activities, take part in taster sessions etc. Officers from the Fire Service, Police and Trading Standards, among others, will be on hand to answer questions on crime prevention and personal safety. All welcome, just turn up on the day. To book lunch call 01727 819320. Limited transport available— please book.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN



X It's all change on voter registration. Some people need to re-register again under the new Individual Electoral Registration system.

If you have received a letter about re-registering, it's important

that you respond so you can have your say in future elections and referendums. If you have not registered online or returned your form, it is important that you do so now to ensure your details are included in the register of

electors when it is republished on 1 December 2014.

For more information see: www.stalbans.gov.uk/elections or call 01727 819294.

GREEN ISSUES

What can I recycle?

There are separate arrangements for flats.
See www.stalbans.gov.uk/flatsrecycling

For more information:

-  www.stalbans.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling
-  wastemanagementservices@stalban.gov.uk
-  01727 819285
-  @StAlbansCouncil

Paper and flattened cardboard
(place large sheets of card securely by paper box please.)



Plastics, cans and foil.
(No plastic bags please)



Green waste, food waste and shredded paper



(No soil or card please.)

(Some streets have bags rather than bins.)

Glass
(No broken glass please)




Need an extra recycling box?

You can have up to five recycling boxes for free. Extras cost £3. To get more boxes, contact 01727 819285, wastemanagementservices@stalban.gov.uk.




Waste down, recycling up!

 Local people are recycling more and sending less rubbish to landfill.

The amount of residual waste in the first quarter of the year is down 14% on the same period last year. People are also recycling more, with recycling for the first quarter up to 54% from 48% last year. Good news – thanks for your continued efforts to recycle more!

Improvements to cardboard recycling

 You can now recycle large sheets of cardboard with your other card and paper recycling. This new service is being introduced in response to requests from residents and to help get the District's recycling up to 60%.

If your cardboard is too big to go in your paper recycling box, please flatten it and place it securely with your paper box. Please make sure it can't blow away and that it is clearly visible for collection. All

types of cardboard, regardless of size, will be collected. Please put your recycling out by 7am.

To make the new service possible, we are using a separate vehicle to collect paper and cardboard. It will be collected on the same day as your other recycling, but not necessarily at the same time. Therefore, please wait until the end of the working day before contacting us if you think your box has been missed.



Customer service changes

X Amey, our waste and recycling contractor, is now handling resident enquiries directly.

We have also introduced real-time data systems to our vehicles so the team can see exactly where the collection crews are on their rounds. We hope this will help improve our service to you. We will be monitoring the new service over the coming months. For contact details see page 6.



Special Fly Tipping Operation

X Police, Council and Trading Standards officers have been working together to tackle fly-tipping in a special operation, stopping over 100 vehicles.

Over the summer four people have been identified as suspected fly-tippers with investigations progressing. Fly-tipping carries a maximum fine of up to £50,000. To report fly-tipping contact wastemanagementservices@stalbands.gov.uk, 01727 819285. If you see someone fly-tipping, a photograph may help us get the evidence we need to prosecute.



Free led bike rides

X Free, fun, 'Sky Ride Local' guided bike rides are on offer from British Cycling.

All rides are guided by friendly ride leaders along scenic routes. They're a great way to get out and explore the local area with family

and friends. There are levels to suit everyone. Look out too for Breeze bike rides for women, and rides organised through Social Cycling Groups, British Cycling's social network for cyclists. See www.goskyride.com for details or call 01727 819320.

Reduce food waste and save money

X Residents have reduced food waste under our new recycling scheme, but food still accounts for a quarter of all household waste collected and sent to landfill.

Every tonne of food waste that is not recycled costs taxpayers around £100 to dispose of. This means that local taxpayers are paying hundreds of thousands of pounds a year to bury waste that can be recycled.

Food waste can be collected in your kitchen caddy before being transferred to your green bin to be

composted. Use a paper liner for your caddy or wrap the food tightly in newspaper, paper bags or kitchen towel to keep your bin clean.

Recycling more food waste will help boost local recycling rates considerably. Thanks for your help with this important initiative!



Reporting pot holes

X You can report pot holes, faulty street lights and fallen tree branches easily and quickly through Hertfordshire County Council's online fault reporting system at www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults (0300 123 4047).





No A&E at the QEII Hospital

From October 2014, there will be no accident and emergency (A&E) service for the treatment of serious illness or injury at the QEII Hospital in Welwyn Garden City.

If you have a suspected heart-attack, stroke, major injury or other life-threatening condition, call 999. **Don't** go to the QEII, even if it is nearby. Paramedics will begin emergency treatment when they reach you and the ambulance service will take you to the nearest hospital with a full Emergency Department, either Watford General or the Lister Hospital in Stevenage.

The A&E department at the QEII is being replaced by an Urgent Care Centre, open 24/7, treating minor injuries and minor illnesses in adults and children of all ages. The Urgent Care Centre will move into the brand new £30m hospital which opens on the QEII site in Welwyn Garden City in spring 2015.

See www.enhertscgg.nhs.uk for more information.

Keeping the District Clean and Green

If you spot a problem with...

- ✓ Illegal fly-tipping
- ✓ Graffiti or litter
- ✓ Dog fouling or stray dogs
- ✓ Dumped rubbish
- ✓ Illegal fly-posting
- ✓ Spills from refuse collection
- ✓ Accumulation of leaves
- ✓ Street cleaning
- ✓ Drugs paraphernalia

...please contact

The Cleaner District Hotline: 01727 819598
Email: a.cleanerdistrict@stalbans.gov.uk

Together, for a Cleaner District.



Now on twitter: @StAlbansCouncil



Try our website first

✕ Our customer service centre covers everything from taking Council payments to answering planning enquiries.

Many of the things people come to talk to us about can also be done online from the comfort of your own home at www.stalbans.gov.uk
You can also find a wealth



of map based information tailored to your specific address. Also, many of our meetings can be viewed by webcast, either live or later. See: www.stalbans.gov.uk/webcasts.



Market dates

St Albans Market
every Wednesday and Saturday

St Albans Farmers' Market
2nd Sunday of the month

Harpenden Farmers' Market
4th Sunday of the month



My Council Services App



Now on Twitter @StAlbansCouncil



Have your say... We welcome anything you want to say about our services.

We hope you enjoy reading Community News. If you can spare a moment, please email communications@stalbans.gov.uk or call 01727 819572 and let us know your views and what else you want us to include.

St Albans City & District Council
Civic Centre, St Peter's Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3JE

Website: www.stalbans.gov.uk
Email: contactus@stalbans.gov.uk

Customer Service Centre opening hours:
Mon-Thurs 8.45am-5pm, Fri 8.45am-4.30pm

Housing Repairs: 01727 819256
Refuse & Recycling: 01727 819285*
Council Tax: 01727 819204/819205
Benefits: 01727 819220
Cleaner District Hotline: 01727 819598*

All Other Enquiries: 01727 866100

* Until 5pm on Fridays

Harpenden Town Council Information Point
Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10am-4pm

Telephone: 01582 768278

Alternative formats: If you want to receive this newsletter in an alternative format, such as Braille, or in another language, please call 01727 819572. See www.disabledgo.com for information about access to local facilities.