

Community NEWS



SUMMER 2015

SUMMER IN THE CITY

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE PAGE 2

Pick up a leaflet at the Tourist Information Centre, or see enjoystalbens.com



E-billing and easier ways to pay

 You can now view and manage your council tax and business rate accounts online at www.stalbens.gov.uk/onlineservices. We also have a new self-service payment kiosk at the Civic Centre in St Albans. You can use it to pay council tax and business rates, council invoices, housing and garage rents and leaseholder charges, for example.

New museum and gallery – we need your help!



 Beautiful visuals of the proposed new St Albans museum and art gallery have been released by architects, **John McAslan & Partners**.

The London-based architects have worked on award winning projects including the King's Cross Station development. The Museums and Galleries Trust, a local charity,

needs the help of residents, visitors, and businesses – all of us who love St Albans – to help raise £1.7m towards the total cost of the £7.75m project. See how you can help at: www.renaissancestalbens.org.uk, or contact trustees Mike Gray and Caroline Eldred at stalbensmgtrust@hotmail.co.uk, 01727 751830.

Jobs at the Council

 The Council's approach is firmly positive, entrepreneurial and forward-looking and we look for the same qualities in our people. To see the latest Council jobs and watch our video about what it's like to work with us go to www.stalbens.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers.

Community News is published by St Albans City & District Council

www.stalbens.gov.uk



ST ALBANS

CHOOSE YOUR STORY

SIZZLING SUMMER FUN!

www.enjoystalbans.com

June

St Albans Half Marathon

Sunday 14 June

Come on down and show your support at this year's

St Albans Half Marathon in Verulamium Park. 6,000 participants are taking part in the Half Marathon, the Walking Half Marathon, the 5k Race and the 1.5 Mile Children's Fun Run starting at 8am.

Details at: www.stalbanshalfmarathon.co.uk (01727 819327).

Magna Carta 800th Anniversary

Saturday 13 June

See panel, this page.

The Alban Weekend

Saturday 20 June

Don't miss St Albans Cathedral's spectacular Alban Pilgrimage, a celebration of the life of Saint Alban, featuring giant puppets. The

procession starts from St Peter's Church, St Peter's Street, at 11am, processing through the City Centre to St Albans Cathedral.

Sunday 21 June

The City comes alive for a free festival of superb street entertainment, music, merriment and delicious food from noon to 6pm. See all the latest details at www.enjoystalbans.com.

July

St Albans International Organ Festival

Saturday 4 -

Saturday 18 July

Fifteen days of glorious music and events brimming with fun, activity and music for all ages.

The rich programme features world premieres from leading composers and performances by internationally acclaimed musicians.

This year there's live folk, rock, jazz and blues as part of the brand new, eclectic, IOFringe festival across the City. Look out for live music and street theatre in the Vintry Garden, Christopher Place and at the Clock Tower on Saturday 11 July from noon until 6pm. Details at: www.organfestival.com (01727 844765) and www.lemonrock.com/iofringe.



Magna Carta 800th Anniversary Event

Saturday 13 June

There's lots of interest nationally in the Magna Carta in this 800th anniversary year of the sealing of the Great Charter at Runnymede. But what you may not know is that St Albans Cathedral is where the Barons first met in 1213, to demand new rights.

Magna Carta is the foundation of our legal system and the constitutions of many other countries.

Medieval Lives and Liberties

An exhibition about Magna Carta and the everyday lives of people living in St Albans in Medieval times. Town Hall, Market Place, St Albans (Sat 13 June – Fri 26 June).

Re-enactment of Victorian Trials

At the Town Hall, from 10am - 12pm.

Prison Education, An Historical View

History on Trial, 2 - 3.30pm, Town Hall. A debate chaired by Danny Shaw (BBC), featuring Dr Rosalind Crone (Open University) and Rod Clarke (Prisoner's Education Trust). Tickets from the Museum of St Albans and the Tourist Information Centre, £7.

Open Court at the Crown Court, Bricket Road, St Albans – Mock trials through the ages, displays, events and much more (10am - 3pm).

Exhibition and trails – at the Cathedral.

See www.enjoystalbans.com for details, or call 01727 864511.

Play in the Parks

Play in the Parks

 This year's summer play scheme for children aged 3 - 12 years takes place at 15 local parks and open spaces each week during the school summer holidays. Details at: www.stalbans.gov.uk/playintheparks, @stasporthealth, 01727 819531.



Great British Tennis Weekends

 For fabulous, free tennis for all the family this summer see: www.greatbritishtennisweekend.com



St Albans Beach Courts

 Forget Bali, Bora Bora and Bournemouth this summer! The local beach action is at Verulamium Park's St Albans Beach Courts. Booking now. Contact abbeyview@1life.co.uk, 01727 868227.

What's on at the museums

Museum of St Albans, 9a Hatfield Rd, St Albans, AL1 3RR. 01727 819340.

Verulamium Museum, St Michaels St, St Albans, AL3 4SW. 01727 751810.

www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk

Exhibitions

Wrapped, Packed and Ready to Go!

Wed - Sat, 1 June to 31 Aug, 10am - 4pm, Museum of St Albans. We are preparing objects for safe keeping ahead of the development of the New Museum and Gallery at the Town Hall. Find out more about behind the scenes work at the museum.

Medieval Lives and Liberties

13 June - 26 June, Courtroom, Town Hall. See Magna Carta panel, page 2.

Walks

From Dedication to Dissolution

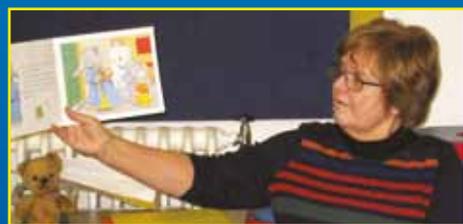
Wed 17 & 24 June, 11am - 12:30pm. Walk around the precincts of England's premier monastery and hear about the lives of medieval monks. Meet outside Merchant Tea and Coffee.

Medieval Lives

Thurs 18 & 25 June, 11am - 12:30pm. Discover the hidden secrets of our medieval ancestors.

Magna Carta - Why St Albans?

Thurs 9 July, 7 - 8:30pm (2 miles). Meet outside Museum of St Albans. What made St Albans so attractive to those planning the Magna Carta in 1213? Fundraising for new Museum and Gallery. £5 adults, £2.50 child aged 5-15. Tickets: 01727 819340, or pay on night.



Talks

Weekend Gallery Talks

Weekends, 3 - 3.30pm, Verulamium Museum. St Albans Guides offer free gallery talks on three weekends out of four. Details: www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk

Roman Solider on Guard

Sat 13 & Sun 14 June, 2.30 - 3pm & 3.30 - 4pm, Verulamium Museum. Gaius Allius, 1st Officer in Legion XIII gives a lively talk about the life of a Roman soldier. Not for the faint hearted! Free (museum entry charge for non-residents).

Children and Families

Please note: children must be accompanied by an adult

Story time sessions for the under 7s

Sun 28 June, 3 - 4pm, Sunny's Smile and other Leigh Hodgkinson stories. £1.

Sun 23 Aug, 3 - 4pm, Moving Molly and other Shirley Hughes stories. £2.

Museum of St Albans. Free to St Albans Children's Book Group members.

Tots Tales

Wed 8 July, 11am - 12pm; 1.30-2.30pm, £1.

Wed 12 Aug, 1.30pm-2.30pm, £2.

Museum of St Albans. Story, craft and a museum hunt. Ages 2 - 4.

Curious Coins

Sat 18 July, 2 - 5pm. Verulamium Museum.

Part of Festival of National Archaeology. Metal detecting, coins identification and coin rubbing. Stamp a souvenir coin. £1. (Museum entry charge for non-residents).

Roman Mask Making

Tues 28 & Thurs 30 July, 2-4pm. Verulamium Museum. £1. (Museum entry charge for non-residents). For ages 3 - 11.

Make Your Own Roman Keyring

Tues 4 & Thurs 6 Aug, 2-4pm, Verulamium Museum. £1.50 (Museum entry charge for non-residents). For ages 3 - 11.

Moving Gladiator Pictures

Tues 11 & Thurs 13 Aug, 12 - 4pm, Verulamium Museum. £1. (Museum entry charge for non-residents). For ages 3 - 11.

Archaeology Apprentices

Sun 16 Aug, 2.15 & 3.15pm, Verulamium Museum. Free. (Museum entry charge for non-residents). For ages 5 - 11.

Museum Creators

Mon 17 & Mon 24 Aug, 10.30am-12.30pm, Museum of St Albans. Design, make and display your own museum piece. £6 (£5 for Young Friends) in advance. Bookings: 01727 819340.

The Treasures of Sutton Hoo

Tues 18 Aug, 10.30am - 12.30pm, Verulamium Museum. Discover the amazing Sutton Hoo - an Anglo Saxon ship full of treasure! Make your own model boat. £6 (£5 for Young Friends) in advance. Bookings: 01727 819340.

Make Your Own Roman Fridge Magnet

Tues 18 & Thurs 20 Aug, 2 - 4pm, Verulamium Museum. £1.50. (Museum entry charge for non-residents). For ages 3 - 11.

Roman Coins Holiday Activity

Wed 19 Aug, 10.30am - 12.30pm, Verulamium Museum. Go on a coin treasure hunt and make your own coin necklace and badge. £6 (£5 for Young Friends) in advance. Bookings: 01727 751810.

Badge Making

Tues 25 & Thurs 27 Aug, 2 - 4pm. Verulamium Museum. Design and colour a badge of your favourite Roman object. £1. (Museum entry charge for non-residents). For ages 3 - 11.

The Mildenhall Treasure

Tues 25 Aug, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Verulamium Museum. Listen to this brilliant Roald Dahl story. Design and create your own Roman treasure. £6 (£5 for Young Friends) in advance. Bookings: 01727 751810.

The Wicked Lady

Wed 26 Aug, 10.30am - 12.30pm, Verulamium Museum. Who was she? What naughty things did she do? What happened to her? Picture making. £6 (£5 for Young Friends) in advance. Bookings: 01727 751810.

Art

Museum of Argument: But Is It Art?

Sat 4 July, 2 - 3.30pm. Town Hall Courtroom. Join UH Galleries Artistic Director and Collection Manager to explore a selection of works from the University of Hertfordshire's collections. Critique work and ask questions about contemporary art. Free.



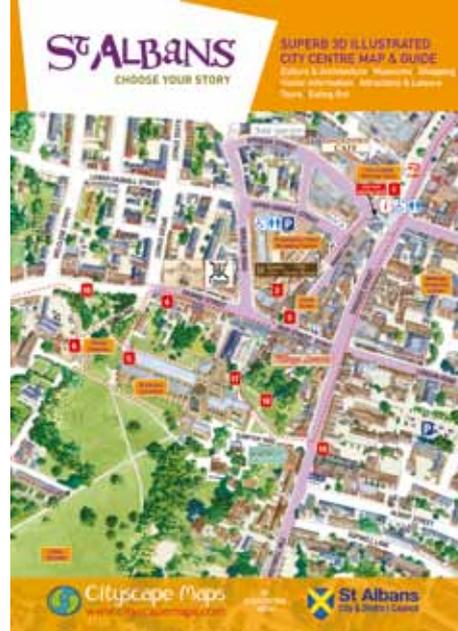


Harpenden health suite makeover

X Harpenden Swimming Pool's health suite has been given a £50,000 refurbishment.

The new Live Well Spa is one of a range of improvements being made at Harpenden Swimming Pool

following a customer survey carried out earlier this year. Steps have also been taken by 1Life, which runs the centre, to improve cleanliness and customer service at the pool. www.1Life.co.uk



New 3D illustrated city map

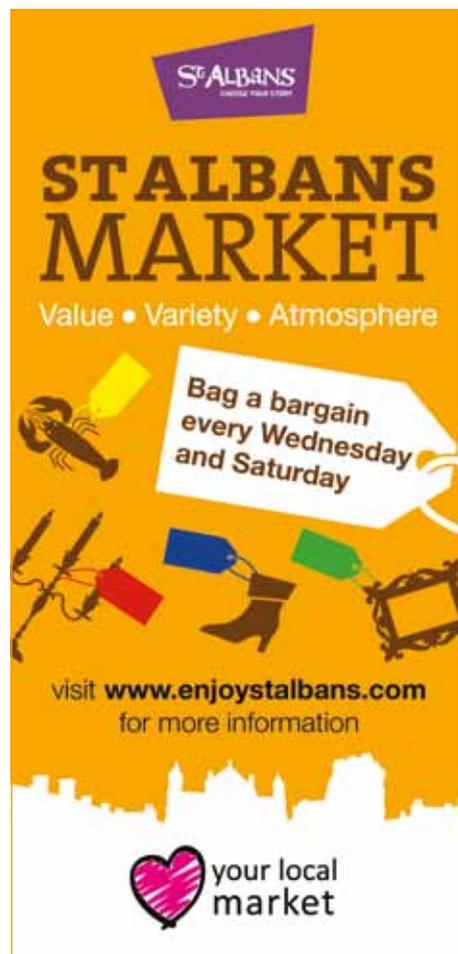
X Pick up a fantastic new full colour 3D illustrated St Albans City Centre map and guide at St Albans Tourist Information Centre. Yours for just £2. The map has been created in conjunction with the Visitor Partnership and Cityscape Maps.



Parking upgrade at Westminster Lodge

X The temporary overflow car park at Westminster Lodge Leisure Centre is being upgraded and resurfaced to provide new permanent parking.

Once resurfaced, the car park to the south of the leisure centre will provide almost 60 permanent car parking places. www.everyoneactive.com





Keeping safe at the school prom

Your school prom is something you are likely to remember all your life.

Smart decisions will help ensure it's a fond memory. There's lots of useful information (and some horror stories) online. Here are some top tips. Drink lots of water and eat plenty before, during and after. Keep drinks with you – you don't want them getting spiked. Avoid confrontation – it's really not worth it – and look out for your friends. Finally, have a plan for getting home safely.



Free cycle and safety equipment

Visit the Community Safety Partnership's stall at St Albans market on Wednesday 24 June and pick up some free goodies.

Officers from the Council, the Police and the Fire Service have free high visibility cycle wear, purse bells and wallets to give away, while stocks last. They will also be offering free fire safety checks.

Regular Wednesday police surgeries

Police surgeries are held every Wednesday between 10am and noon at the Civic Centre in St Albans, the new home of St Albans Police Station.

Call in for a chat with your friendly Police Community Support Officer, ask questions and raise any concerns.

These surgeries are designed to keep residents up-to-date with local crime matters and provide advice and information.

New London Colney sports centre – update

The new sports centre at Cotlandswick, London Colney, due to open this summer, is taking shape. It has a new 60 station gym, exercise studio and sports hall. There

are also eight five-a-side, and one seven-a-side, synthetic turf pitches offering all year round football facilities. New children's indoor and outdoor play areas are also being built.

Reduction in parking permit fees



Many Council NCP car park season ticket holders are to benefit from a reduction in fees. A new pricing structure is being introduced this summer.

The current NCP season ticket price is £950. This is coming down to £900, or £775 if purchased for a single Council NCP managed car park. Terms and conditions apply. See www.ncp.co.uk for NCP information.



St Albans and Harpenden Food and Drink Festival

Wed 23 Sept – Mon 5 Oct
Some dates for your diary – the ever delicious food and drink festival is back this autumn culminating in food-packed street festivals on

Sunday 27 September in Harpenden and Sunday 4 October in St Albans. For the latest news see www.enjoystalbans.com or call the Tourist Information Centre on **01727 864511**.

New Abbey Line Trail

Abbey Line Trail

Enjoy the combination of taking the train and walking up to 9 miles in the beautiful Colne Valley countryside.

For a new walking trail between Watford and St Albans, download the Abbey Line Trail leaflet at www.abbeyline.org.uk or pick up a copy at your local library.

The full 9 mile walk takes in rivers, scenic countryside, historic country estates and ancient woodland. It follows the route of the Abbey Line railway and can be walked in sections using the train to return. For more Hertfordshire Year of Walking ideas see www.hertsdirect.org/walking or contact walking@hertfordshire.gov.uk, 01992 588433.



Keeping the District Clean and Green

If you spot a problem with...

- ✓ Illegal fly-tipping
- ✓ Graffiti or litter
- ✓ Dog fouling
- ✓ 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

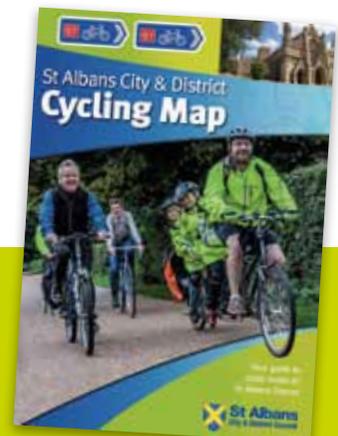
Together, for a Cleaner District.

St Albans
City & District Council

Now on twitter:
[@StAlbansCouncil](https://twitter.com/StAlbansCouncil)

Online benefit applications

For our new online benefit applications process please visit www.stalbans.gov.uk/advice-and-benefits.



Get your free cycling map

The Council has updated its map for residents showing cycling routes across the District. To get your free copy please contact communications@stalbans.gov.uk, 01727 819244. You can also see the map online at www.stalbans.gov.uk/cyclemap.

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.



GREEN ISSUES

We now take cardboard

Communal flats – what can I recycle?

For recycling arrangements for other types of homes, see page 8.

Paper and flattened cardboard

(No unflattened cardboard, plastic wrapping or Tretra Pak please.)



Plastics, cans and foil

(Please wash and squash. No plastic wrapping or plastic bags please.)



Glass bottles and jars

(No drinking glasses, light bulbs, spectacles, plate glass, or Pyrex/other heat treated glass please.)



Please separate your recycling as shown here, and place in the communal recycling bins. It's important that the right items go in the right bins.

Make a big impact – recycle your food waste!

 Lots of residents are doing a fantastic job recycling. Some tell us that they recycle as much as 90% of their waste.

But around 90% of the District's food waste is still going to the tip as landfill. It's bad for the environment and, at nearly £100 a tonne, it's hugely expensive and wasteful.

We are working on plans to make it easier for residents to recycle their food waste. Food waste recycling is not yet available at communal flats. For all other households, however, the big message is to please put your food waste in your green wheelie bin (or bag in some areas).

Some people use their small



caddies before transferring their food waste to their green bin. Others people put their large food caddies out to be emptied. Please use a caddy liner, or wrap the food tightly in newspaper, paper bags or paper kitchen towel to deter pests and keep your bin clean. Thank you for helping!

Beware rogue tree contractors

 Rogue tree work contractors are touting for work in the District.

Our advice is to use a reputable contractor certified by the Arboricultural Association. For advice and information see: www.stalbans.gov.uk/treesandwoodlands (01727 866100). To see if a tree has a preservation order or is in a conservation area, use our map based system (from the Council's homepage).

Become a tree warden

Tree species such as ash, oak, and horse chestnut are at risk from disease brought by climate change and the global trade in plants.

To help protect the trees we are looking for more voluntary tree wardens to join our terrific team.

Details at: www.stalbans.gov.uk/treewardens, or call 01727 866100.

What can I recycle?

There are separate arrangements for communal flats – see overleaf.

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 with paper box please. No unflattened cardboard, plastic wrapping or Tretra Pak please.)



Plastics, cans and foil

(Please wash and squash. No plastic wrapping or plastic bags please.)



Glass bottles and jars

(No broken glass please. No drinking glasses, light bulbs, spectacles, plate glass, or Pyrex/ other heat treated glass please.)



Green waste, food waste and shredded paper

(No soil, stones, turf or card please.)
(Some streets have bags rather than bins.)



Help catch fly-tippers

 Most people hate fly-tipping and frown heavily on those who are selfish enough to do it. The sad fact is, however, that fly-tipping has doubled in the last year.

The Council, the Police and neighbouring authorities are working together to investigate and prosecute fly-tippers.

You are responsible for what happens to your waste even after it has left your premises. You can

be fined up to £50,000 or go to prison for up to five years if the waste is dumped.

We need your help. If you spot someone dumping waste, please note their vehicle details and call the police on 999 if the crime is in progress. Alternatively, call the non-emergency number 101. A photo can provide evidence to help with prosecutions. Please leave everything untouched.

To report fly-tipped waste, please

call our hotline **01727 819598** or email a.cleanerdistrict@stalban.gov.uk.

Please take your waste to a local authority waste disposal site. If you are a business, use a waste carrier registered with the Environment Agency and ask to see their waste carrier licence.



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@stalban.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@stalban.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.