



About Town



Lydney Town Council Newsletter

Winter 2013



Lydney Fireworks Display in Bathurst Park 2013—Our Best Yet!

One of the Forest of Dean’s most spectacular fireworks displays was held at Bathurst Park on Tuesday 5 November and proved to be one of the best yet! The event has built up a good reputation throughout the County as year on year you are guaranteed an excellent display and the event will always go ahead whatever the weather!



All proceeds raised on the night were in aid of the Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust

There was a strong turn-out for the display organised by the Bathurst Park and Recreation Trust. As well as the professional fireworks display, there was also a funfair and hot food served by ‘The Coffee House’ located in the heart of Bathurst Park, alongside other catering vans at the popular family event.

Cllr Matthews expressed thanks to all who attended the display.



Winters here, so don’t forget; *Keep Warm, Keep Well.*

Do you have an elderly neighbour or relative? If so why not spend a little extra time ensuring they are safe and well; making sure their heating is working correctly, that they have a sufficient stock of food and medicines so that they do not have to venture out during very cold or adverse weather. It may only take minutes but it could be the difference between life and death!

- If you're worried about a relative or an elderly neighbour, contact your local council or ring the Age UK helpline on Tel: 0800 00 99 66.





SOUTH ROAD ALLOTMENTS—LYDNEY

Tucked away behind Spring Meadow Road in Lydney lies a hidden treasure, the allotments. They offer a chance to grow flowers or vegetables and to get healthy exercise in the open air.

Allotments have gradually gone into decline since their peak in the Second World War when 'Dig for Victory' became a popular slogan. Then there were 1.75 million plots. At that time previously ignored sites suddenly became available - pasture land, railway land, spaces in parks, front gardens, disused land on airfields, and even bomb sites. But by the 1970s the number of plots in cultivation had fallen to just over 500,000. Despite periodic bursts of interest, such as the 1960s and mid 1970s, the decline continued with only an estimated 250,000 plots in England by 1999.

There has been a surge in interest during recent years with the increased awareness of the healthy foods provided by the taste and quality of home grown produce.

The average plot size has changed in recent years. Shortage of land and increased waiting lists are resulting in

a gradual reduction. It has become apparent that people who are keen to grow crops but have limited time available are happier to take on plots that are easier to manage.

In the last year Lydney Town Council have taken steps to renovate and increase the allotment plots at Spring Meadow. Additional land, formerly two grass verges, has been leased from Two Rivers Housing Association which provides the opportunity to add four more plots. Subdividing the overall size of one large plot has added two more and one plot holder has released part of their holding to add an extra one. This has reduced the waiting list by seven new gardeners.

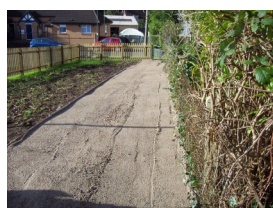
To improve the site, the overgrown boundary hedge has been trimmed back and access has been improved with the provision of a footpath between the plots. There is a lack of running water on the site but three water harvesting tanks will soon be installed to collect the run-off from a garden store.

And finally the whole area has had a smart new picket fence erected as an

enclosure.

This still leaves seven other keen gardeners on our waiting list. If anyone reading this knows of a suitable area that we could lease to develop into an allotment please contact the council offices.

Another possibility, that might be of interest to householders who have large gardens, is a sharing arrangement with other gardeners. Schemes such as 'Landshare' operate to bring interested parties together. The idea behind it is to allow others to cultivate unused areas of a garden in exchange for part of the crop such as flowers or vegetables. It produces free, easy to understand, legal agreements to protect and clarify the arrangements. If you are interested you can find their website at www.landshare.net/help or contact the council offices.



Pictures of the South Road allotments

Lydney Cemetery & St Mary's 'Closed' Churchyard



*Before
work commenced*



And since

Lydney Town Council ground staff have maintained high standards of work throughout the Cemetery and Churchyard and have continued to receive positive comments on how nicely presented both are. The 'Garden of Reflection' is beginning to settle down and the plants are maturing well. In the Cemetery the ground staff have worked hard to keep grass short and tidy, it has a weekly cut during the summer months and all affected areas have been treated with weed killer. The benches have been painted and all trees have been maintained. The shrubbery has also been attended to; dead plants have been removed, unattended graves have been tidied, paths are edged and the gates have been painted. New signage is in place and marble plaques are now clean. St Mary's Churchyard is also cut regularly which makes the whole area look neater. A wild flower mix has been

sown and should flower in Spring 2014 to give a beautiful, natural display. The ground staff have also planted four new tubs with shrubs, bulbs and winter heather and bedding; these are situated on the two entrances into St Mary's Church.

The Forest of Dean is rapidly running out of burial grounds, with all of the main cemeteries close to capacity.

Limited capacity exists at Lydney Cemetery and the Council is investigating a number of possible solutions. Cllr Carol Harris, chair of Lydney Town Council's Burial Committee, says 'the problems were foreseen around two years ago. With the population of Lydney expanding it is an important issue to be addressed'.



MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

*'Lydney Town Councillors are keen to
hear your views'*

- Why not visit one of the Town Councillor Surgeries?

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Although your Town Councillors may be contacted at any time should you have any form of concern, this Newsletter is an excellent way to bring your views, ideas, concerns and comments to a wider audience - in other words, to everyone within our community! Any subject is permitted; You may wish to ask a question (replies printed in the same edition wherever possible) You may like to 'air' a concern or just generally pass comment relating to a community issue?

Whatever your thoughts, the Town Council cannot assist if they are unaware — **so help us to change this !**

C/O Lydney Town Council, Council Chambers ,Claremont House, High Street, Lydney GL15 5DX.

Your views matter to us!

WANTED!



- For Fouling on our Pavements' and our 'open' spaces.

'Please, ensure that the Dog Waste Bins provided are used; not only is it unpleasant for those that may 'step' in yesterday's dinner, but it gives me a bad reputation!'



In The Park

We will be closing for the year as of 8th December 2013

We would like to thank the Lydney community for your support during 2013 and look forward to welcoming you all again, Easter 2014

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Town Councillors

Bob Berryman (Mayor)- 842036
Derek Biddle - 842180
Ruth Bonser - 841813
David Edwards - 840106
Carol Harris - 841026
Charlotte Matthews - 780203
Brian Pearman - 841452
Brian Thomas - 842373

Town & County Councillor

Alan Preest - 564107

Town & District Councillors

Valerie Hobman - 841079
William Osborne - 841970
James Bevan - 842146

District Councillors

Judy Davis - 842884
Terry Glastonbury - 562102
Marion Winship - 528289

Council Staff

Chief Executive Officer/RFO
– Mrs Jayne Smailes - 842234
Executive Officer
– Miss Carol Wheeler
Finance Assistant
– Mrs Hilary Exton
Admin Assistant
– Kate Hammond
Part-time Admin Assistant
– Alison Crawshaw

**LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL WISH YOU ALL -
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & A PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR!**