

# CROSS *talk*



## A message from the Town Mayor & Chairman of the Council.

We were all shocked at the news of the death of Sir David Amess MP at his constituency surgery and on behalf of the Town Council send our condolences to his family and friends. As a mark of respect, Cllr Josephine Biss and I postponed our own "Meet Your Councillors" event. A new date has now been re-arranged and I look forward to seeing you at our new Brushwood Suite. I think it's important that you have access to local councillors to sustain a vibrant, local democracy. More details on this event can be found on page 4.

Early in September our 'Welcome Back' event in Wades Park was very well supported by the community, with local musicians and theatre groups providing the entertainment and refreshments by local bars and caterers. Another Farmers Market in the King George V Park provided another opportunity to meet friends and neighbours whilst supporting local traders. The annual Kop Hill Climb at the end of September was another tremendous success in the town, thanks to its fantastic organisation and enthusiasm of the volunteers drawn from the community. It is good to see so many of you around the town supporting these events and hope you will continue to do so in future.

While the NHS are once again using the Wades Centre for the vaccination programme, the new Brushwood Suite is open and taking bookings. We have now appointed a manager for the Suite who will be happy to discuss your booking with you and make sure everything goes smoothly on the day. Look out for the video presentation on social media for more information. Further details can be found on page 2.

The Crew Café that opened in September is proving to be very popular, providing high quality food that I can certainly recommend, particularly the breakfast menu. Already this is turning out to be a great asset to the Wades Centre development.

As this publication goes to print, the town is very much looking forward to the opening of The Manor Coach House bar and restaurant. This promises to be a fantastic addition to our hospitality venues. On behalf of the Town Council, I would like to wish them every success.

Between 1st and 11th November our 101-year-old resident, Malcolm Cloutt walked a mile each day raising money for the British Legion. I joined Malcolm on several occasions and must admit he is certainly a well-travelled gentleman with lots of stories to keep me entertained whilst enjoying our walk.



Looking ahead to the festive season, please note the date of the town's Christmas Lights Switch On taking place in the High Street again this year on Saturday 4th December. The Town Council is very excited to be able to hold this event this year, and I look forward to seeing you in the High Street enjoying the festive fun that we have planned.

*Cllr Andy Ball - Mayor and Chairman*



Aerial shot of new Wades Centre development



Mr Malcolm Cloutt



The Crew Café at Wades Park

## Risborough's Brand New Function Suite & Bar



It's with great pride that the Town Council is able to announce that the brand new function suite & bar at the Wades Centre, is officially open for bookings. The Brushwood Suite is a spacious and versatile facility that can host a wide variety of events from weddings to conferences, birthday celebrations to charity events, making it the perfect choice for all your venue hire needs. The venue has a licensed, designated bar which has been designed to link to the feature wall and ceiling. The space can comfortably seat 12 tables of 10, with room for a dance floor and has a standing only capacity up to 250 people.



Facilities include a new commercial kitchen, modern toilets and an easily accessible disabled toilet. Installed with scene setting LED lighting including dimmers, ensuring the right ambient lighting for any event and an environmentally friendly air source heat pump supplies underfloor heating to the suite.

The suite also has two projectors and screens allowing the room to be orientated in different directions depending on use and preference. Microphones and data ports to

allow easy of communications as well as an induction loop to allow everyone to hear the music or speaker. So if you are looking for a venue with excellent facilities, flexibility for all occasions, great accessibility and transport links, please do get in touch.

**Please see our advert on page 11 for full details on how to book.**



## Welcome to the Manor Coach House

Building on the success of their first bar & restaurant The Manor in Aylesbury, the Town Council is delighted to welcome The Manor Coach House to the High Street.

The Town Council-owned building, a former NatWest Bank has undertaken an extensive refurbishment, comprising of three floors offering a restaurant on the ground floor, cocktail bar on the first floor and breath taking view of the Chilterns from the rooftop terrace.

Since acquiring the building in 2019, it was the long-term vision of the Town Council to continue to support the ever-changing demands of our High Street and to ensure it becomes a thriving place to live, work and visit, creating a community hub for all. The Town Council is confident that this new addition to the High Street, will not only enhance the town's night-time economy but offer the best financial return and long-term viability for our tax-payers' money.

To find out more to book please visit <https://themanoraylesbury.co.uk/bookings/>



## Crew Café

As part of the major extensions work to the Wades Centre, a brand new café was also built. The Town Council is delighted to announce that back in the summer a commercial lease agreement was made with local residents, Steve & Kim Davies aka The Crew Café.



The Café has been open since September and offers a warm, friendly environment with a wide range of food and drink on offer. From The Crew breakfasts to freshly prepared jacket potatoes, sandwiches, baguettes and paninis. You can also enjoy freshly made on site cakes with a sustainably sourced Eco coffee.

The team also accommodate many dietary needs with dairy free, vegetarian and vegan options. If you've not had a chance to pop down, please do, we don't think you will be disappointed. Dogs are also welcome and well behaved owners too!

Further details can be found by visiting [www.thecrewcafe.co.uk](http://www.thecrewcafe.co.uk)



## Meet Stephanie!



Hi, I'm Stephanie Boyle, I am the newest addition to the Princes Risborough Town Council team and will be fulfilling the role of Events and Communications Assistant. Since starting in September, I have been supporting the Deputy Clerk in the organisation and delivery of Town Council community events such as the Halloween Trail held in October and the upcoming annual Christmas Light Switch On due to be held on Saturday 4th December.

After completing a Higher National Diploma in Stadium and Events Management in July 2020, I decided I would like to go to University to top up my qualification into a degree. In September 2020, I entered into the third year of Oxford Brookes University's Events Management Programme. It was a challenging but highly rewarding year of study and I am pleased to say I graduated in July 2021.

Whilst studying I spent time volunteering for various event organisations with the most notable and consistent being for a Town Council within my home borough. Having volunteered within the public sector, I am enthusiastic about ensuring there are accessible and inclusive events for members of the community to enjoy. Alongside this role, I am working as a Marketing Assistant for an educational organisation which provides students with opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills and business ideas. I have loved balancing these roles and gaining both marketing and events based experience simultaneously.

I am very grateful to have been given a chance to join the Town Council office team. I look forward to working with the Princes Risborough community to produce an excellent calendar of events.

## Events in Risborough

Wasn't it lovely to be able to bring some events back to Risborough during the summer?



The new PR/Events Committee kicked off their regime with a Bucks Council initiative **Play in the Parishes** at the end of August.

The event hosted over 50 families and a postcode survey indicated that only 3 families were not from the Risborough area so a great local event for all! Thank you to the entertainers from Bucks Council who

were superb with the children and extremely pleased with both the attendance figures and the fact that Risborough was the first parish/town area south of Aylesbury to host the event. This is certainly an event that the Town Council would like to consider again during 2022.



Saturday 4th September the Town Council hosted a **Welcome Back Risborough party in Wades Park**.

It was a wonderful event, one that the whole town could meet and all generations reconnect with neighbours, friends and family after the summer holidays. The afternoon of entertainment by local artists was well received - bands Bubble Gum Hypnosis, Kindred Spirit and the MFU were complimented by talented singers Suzie Aries and Kathy Davies plus a few fantastic dance sets by AllStars Academy.

As in all events there were last minute issues especially in the catering area when businesses that had committed to attend decided not to do so. This however made a very lucrative day for those caterers that did attend, including the Crew Café, the Bell Pub and Duke's Wine Bar.

The variety of stalls run by local businesses, organisations and charities offered an interesting range of games, products and information, whilst the kids had great fun on the inflatables and fairground attractions.

Thank you to all those who helped with the event and to those residents who were able to join us.

**MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS**

Saturday 27th November 10:00-12:00 (GMT) at the Brushwood Suite, Wades Centre, Stratton Road, Princes Risborough, Bucks HP27 9AX  
Have your say on town matters that matter to you.

**Cllr Andy Ball**  
Town Mayor & Chairman

**Cllr Josephine Biss**  
Chairman of Planning Committee

**Christmas Lights SWITCH-ON!**  
Saturday 4th December, 3pm – 6pm

[www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk)  
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MICHAEL GRAHAM  
Proudly support Princes Risborough Town Council

## Christmas Light's Switch on is back for 2021!

The fun will start at **3pm on the 4th of December** with the lights being officially switched on at 6pm. This year the committee will be following the tried and tested processes that have served them well over the years and a road closure will be in place to allow vendors and entertainers free access to the town centre. The office has been busy with pitch applications and expect a full High Street of local vendors with food, drink and plenty of Christmas shopping opportunities on offer.

The very successful Ice Rink will also return as well as the most important guest of the day, Father Christmas and his grotto full of gifts. Look out for some amazing roaming acts that will also be joining in the fun on the day.

The council looks forward to welcoming local choirs, together with live music from local artists to the stage. Sadly it's not been possible to confirm a star from the local pantomimes for the light switch on (due to clashing of dates), however, make sure you follow us on social media for further updates.

A big thank you to Michael Graham estate agents who have kindly agreed to sponsor the event.

Also to Bucks Council for proving funding from their Welcome Back Fund and North West Chiltern Community Board fund.

NB: At time of going to press, we are not aware of any changes to the current central government guidance regarding events and Covid19 procedures.



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MICHAEL  
GRAHAM

## Summer festival 2022 – dates for your diary!

After the misery of last summer and having to cancel last summer's Town Festival the new Town Council are very excited at the prospect of re-establishing this fabulous Town event.

**The festival week will kick off on Saturday 2nd July**, running throughout the week with events at/or provided by local organisations/businesses (churches/clubs etc.) culminating in the Street Festival on Saturday 9th July.

As a Council we would like to involve as many residents/organisations as possible so should you wish to assist with the planning and/or implementation of the festival please contact the Town Council. Full contact details can be found on the back page of this newsletter.



## Making a Difference

Looking after our mental health and wellbeing is important for the team at The Nature Alliance. This local organisation brings together five incredible organisations that specialise in nature based activities, such as the Chiltern Society and Lindengate.



Last month our Town Mayor and Chairman Cllr Andy Ball was invited to get involved in the removal of weeds from the white chalk and painting the arms of the Whiteleaf Cross. It's was a tough job but a fantastic place to work, with one of the best views in the area. Big thank you to all involved in keeping this historic, chalk hill carving so visible.



## A Return to Normality at Risborough Youth Club

Anyone who has ever visited a youth club will normally describe it in a number of ways; "loud", "energetic", "fast paced" but a phrase they would probably never use is "socially distanced"!

Risborough Youth Club has existed since 1974 and has operated almost continuously. That was until March last year when the first national lockdown occurred. In September 2020, as the schools reopened and based on government advice for the youth sector, the club reopened. Although the doors closed again earlier this year, the Youth Club has been open every week since April.

With the numbers of young people gradually increasing each week and a stream of new faces, the club is well on their way to returning to "full swing".

Risborough Youth Club meets every Monday night, including during school holidays, from 19:00 to 20:30. It is open to everyone aged 11 to 17. More information is available at [www.risboroughyouth.club](http://www.risboroughyouth.club) or search for **Risborough Youth Club** on social media.



## News from St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church has spent the 20 months since the start of Lockdown 1.0 focusing on helping vulnerable members of our community.

First came Princes Risborough Food Cupboard, a local food bank set up with the other churches, to provide food and other essentials to those in need, including those impacted by pandemic restrictions on people's ability to work. At the peak volunteers were delivering to over 35 households (about 120 people) each week, although in recent weeks the number of customers has reduced as people are finding ways to support themselves.

Since July 2021 the Food Cupboard has been closely aligned with OneCan Trust in High Wycombe. OneCan has many years' experience, and a network of support organisations which customers can be referred to for debt counselling and other assistance.

In September this year, attention turned to a new Monthly Lunch Club aimed at helping the older, lonely, vulnerable or isolated members of the community. **The Lunch Club takes place on the 1st Wednesday of the month.**

If you or someone you know needs either of these services, or if you would like to help us deliver them, please contact the **Parish Office 01844 273300.**



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## Funding for local community projects up for grabs

Do you have a great idea for a community initiative that will benefit local people but just needs the funds to get it off the ground?

**Have you already got a successful community project that you'd like to expand or develop?**

If the answer is yes, then the North West Chilterns Community Board wants to hear from you.

Community boards are two-way partnerships between the council and local communities.

The essence of our vision is summed up in our simple strapline – Local voices, local choices, and local action.

By working together, we can truly bring change and improvement to our area, directly addressing your concerns and priorities at a local level.

We have funds available to support projects that meet the agreed priorities. This includes anything from support for older people to health and wellbeing, transport and youth initiatives.

Of particular focus this year are initiatives to improve the environment and supporting economic recovery.

If you have an idea for funding or are just keen to get involved in an action group looking at how to tackle local issues, get in touch Jackie Binning, Community Board Coordinator on [jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.binning@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)



## New Sensory Garden at Local School

The Rotary Club of Princes Risborough are delighted to announce the opening of a new sensory garden at the Princes Risborough Primary School.

**The New Sensory Garden was officially open on Tuesday 19th October** by Rotary President Christopher Tyrer with an informal ceremony involving school staff and pupils.

The garden is designed to provide children with a safe and tranquil area which is both visually and mentally stimulating. The funds to cover the £8,000 cost were raised by generous donations from local residents mainly at the recent Town Council farmers markets and a sponsored cycle ride.

Rotary Project Lead Trevor Fitch expressed his thanks to those contractors for their support and in particular the residents of Princes Risborough for their generosity.



## Councillor Wins National award



We're really excited to let you know that our previous Chairman and Town Mayor, Cllr Matthew Walsh, was recently named a winner in the National Association of Local Council's (NALC) Star Council Awards 2021.

NALC's Star Council Awards are the only awards in England to recognise and celebrate the contribution the local (parish and town) council sector makes to its communities.

The theme of this year's awards focused on projects that have positively impacted communities in the context of COVID-19.

Cllr Walsh says:

*"I am truly humbled to have won the Councillor of the Year Award. This award does not belong just to me but to everybody that played a part in the success of the Council over the past year, and the challenges brought on by the pandemic. Without the stellar efforts of our council officers and members, we could have not achieved what we did. Risborough is a wonderful community and I am very proud of my small part in it".*

Cllr Walsh is now a Bucks County Councillor and continues to work hard for the residents of Risborough. Congratulations Matt, a brilliant achievement.

# Slow Down!

Speeding has reached epidemic proportions and calls for a paradigm shift in the way we tackle it. That shift must include a change in the perception and management of community volunteers' involvement with road safety.

For many understandable reasons, enforcement and broad-stroke campaigning have made little progress over the past decade, and focused, large-scaled education is currently only organised efficiently in the shape of Speed Awareness Courses after an offence is detected. Modern preventative educational methodologies like Speedwatch have yet to be utilised to its fullest extent. Now is a good time to change that.

Research show that on average 97% of speeding offences (not including Speedwatch observations) are detected by speed cameras. The vast majority of these are fixed at the roadside in areas known to both local residents and regular commuters, hence - and in spite of the so-called 'Halo-effect', they have little effect in areas not covered by camera technology. Equally relevant - and especially to rural areas where fatalities are four times more likely to happen than in urban areas, the discussion about road safety has a tendency to focus on number of collision casualties alone. In most areas where Speedwatch operates and where speeding evidently is a concern to the communities, the quality-of-life issue as well as feeling safe when using the roads recreationally, are equally important to the



affected areas' residents. This is not an attempt at diminishing the dismay of the high number of fatal and seriously injured victims but a reminder that the problem of speeding goes well beyond quantifying its consequences with casualty statistics alone.

Inconsistently applied enforcement methodology is not likely to change socially perceived acceptable behaviour if the majority of those caught speeding either are not - or consider themselves habitual speeders. Increased compliance with the law can be achieved with other means than enforcement. In the case of Speedwatch, personalised education is a methodology that is just as efficient to help bring the problem under control.

Organising concerned, proactive

community volunteers on a grand scale is vital to succeed with this goal.

PRTC were asked by TVP to consider organising a Community Speedwatch team and the Council were pleased to oblige.

The new Speedwatch Group has now been established and the initial team put together, however we are now looking for non Council members to join the team.

**To join the team please refer to the contact details on the back page.**

There is an element of online training so it's essential/desirable to have access to a PC or tablet.

**Cllr Alan Frost**

# LOVE FROM RISBOROUGH

MONDAY 29TH NOVEMBER - SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2021

The giving season has come back around and this year the Town Council are partnering with local charities and businesses to bring you "Love from Risborough", a present giving initiative. Over a two-week period, we will have multiple drop off points across Princes Risborough collecting gift packages ready to be distributed to those in need this winter. You will be able to choose from the following age categories: 2-4, 5-9, 10-14, 14-18, or 65+.



For more information such as what to include, how to wrap, and where to drop off your Christmas giving donation, please head to our website and search "Love From Risborough".

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WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES AND GENEROUS CAPACITIES, WE CAN ACCOMMODATE A WIDE VARIETY OF EVENTS.



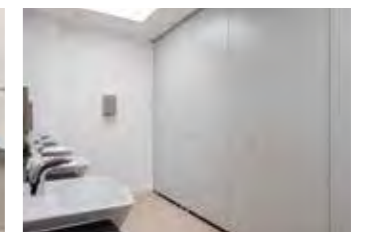
FROM CHARITY EVENTS TO CONFERENCES, WEDDINGS TO CHRISTENINGS, BIRTHDAYS TO EXHIBITIONS; WE HAVE GOT YOU COVERED. INSTALLED WITH THE LATEST AV EQUIPMENT, THE SUITE HAS TWO ELECTRICALLY OPERATED PROJECTORS AND SCREENS, ALLOWING THE ROOM TO BE ORIENTATED IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. THERE IS ALSO SCENE-SETTING LED LIGHTING, MIC & DATA POINTS IN FLOOR BOXES, AND AN INDUCTION LOOP.

BI-FOLDING DOORS OPEN ONTO AN OUTDOOR PATIO OVERLOOKING THE TRANQUIL GREEN SPACE OF WADES PARK AND FOR COLDER DAYS, THERE IS A NEW ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP TO KEEP THE EXTENSION WARM WITH UNDERFLOOR HEATING. BASED WITHIN THE WADES CENTRE, THE SUITE IS POSITIONED NEXT DOOR TO A SELF-CONTAINED 60- SEATER CAFE.

PERFECTLY LOCATED AT THE GATEWAY OF THE CHILTERN IN PRINCES RISBOROUGH, THIS VENUE BOASTS EXCELLENT TRANSPORT LINKS. FROM PRINCES RISBOROUGH TRAIN STATION, THIS VENUE CAN BE REACHED BY FOOT WITHIN 15 MINUTES. THE MOUNT CAR PARK, JUST A TWO-MINUTE WALK AWAY, OFFERS PUBLIC PARKING FOR 136 SPACES INCLUDING 2 DISABLED BAYS.

CAPACITY FOR  
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 120 SEATED FOR DINNER  
 155 FOR CONFERENCES

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 DESIGNATED BAR



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FOR ANY HIRE ENQUIRES, BOOKINGS, OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT [BOOKINGS@PRINCESRISBOROUGH.GOV.UK](mailto:BOOKINGS@PRINCESRISBOROUGH.GOV.UK) OR 01844 275912.

WADES PARK, STRATTON RD, PRINCES RISBOROUGH, BUCKS HP27 9AX  
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# Be part of the Queens' Green Canopy

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". This will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of The Queen's service and the legacy she has built.

Every tree planted will bring benefits for people, wildlife and climate, now and in the future.

The North West Chiltern Community Board - Environment and Climate Change Action Group are looking for sites to plant trees in public places and streets in local towns and villages.

The frequency of high temperatures during the summer months is going to increase because of climate change. Tree lined streets and public places will shield people from the sun, keep temperatures down, and make people feel more comfortable and safer while walking in the heat.

Do you have a spot near you where a tree or trees would fit nicely? Would you, maybe with a group of neighbours, be prepared to look after it during the first stages of its life?

These trees would make a fitting celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, make our Town even more beautiful and be a gift for future generations to enjoy.

If you are interested, please contact the office (details below) or speak to your councillors at the forthcoming Councillor's Surgery.

**Cllr Surinder Marshall**



## Princes Risborough Town Council

The Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough, Bucks HP27 0DP

**T:** 01844 275912 **E:** [towncouncil@princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@princesrisboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk)

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**ig**: princesrisboroughtc

### Councillors

Mayor & Chairman: Cllr Andy Ball

Chairman of Finance Cttee: Cllr Sue Coombs

Cllr Alan Turner

Cllr Cath Campbell

Cllr Ian Parkinson

Cllr Jane Rampin

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. Susanne Barter

Administration Officer: Jayne Mylchreest

Events & Communications Assistant: Stephane Boyle

Deputy Chairman: Cllr. Surinder Marshall

Cllr Alan Frost

Cllr Andrew Shipley

Cllr John Coombs

Cllr. Gary Hall

Cllr Josephine Biss

Cllr Mark Roberts

Deputy Clerk: Mrs. Kirsty Pope

Bookings Officer: Cate Holloway

Maintenance Team Leader: Barney Hefferman

Maintenance Team Operatives: Matthew Ball and Pete Quigley

**Office Hours** - Monday – Friday 9.30am – 3.30pm

**Please note that the office will close at 3.30pm on Thursday 23rd December and reopen at 9.30am on Tuesday 4th January.**

The full Town Council meets at 7.00 pm, bi-monthly on the last Tuesday of the month. There is a 10-minute slot at the beginning of each meeting when the public can express a view or concern relating to town matters. Please check the website to confirm

The next meetings are: **Tuesday 30th November 2021** **Tuesday 25th January 2022**

The Town Council aims to be as accessible as possible, and welcomes the views, comments and concerns of the Princes Risborough electorate. Although the views of the whole Council are given wherever possible, for constitutional and legal reasons we must state that the views expressed herein Crosstalk, and in any personal correspondence received from individual Councillors, are those of the author concerned and do not necessarily express the opinions or policy of PRTC unless explicitly stated.

**Come and join our friendly Maintenance Team! We are looking to recruit for the New Year, if you are interested please contact the Town Council**