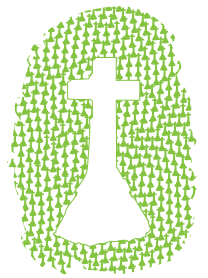




# CROSStalk



Princes Risborough Town Council Newsletter



Hypnos Award



Photo courtesy of Iain McLauchlan

## Message from the Mayor

The Town Council continues to be a hive of activity as we move towards the end of 2017.

Following on from feedback from our residents, we have made major changes to the format for the Christmas Lights Switch On. Thanks to the support of local businesses we will now have our very own ice rink for the day and Father Christmas and his reindeers will be joining us too. You can keep up to date on our current plans at [www.risboroughfestival.com](http://www.risboroughfestival.com). We also have a competition for the best mince pies so get those mixing bowls ready! Wycombe District Council has approved the Local Plan for submission to the Planning Inspector. The deadline for comments is 27th November (see page 2 for more information).

October saw Hypnos and their subsidiaries receive the Queens Award for Enterprise for International Trade. This is a huge honour for the Company, the Keen family and all the staff at Hypnos. Upon touring the factory, it was wonderful to see a huge number of young people working and learning new skills and trades. The company has created opportunities for apprenticeships not just in manufacturing but in many areas including sales, finance and marketing.

We have also been informed that a new business centre on Regents Park has received planning permission for eight new business units. This will hopefully result in further employment opportunities for our residents and contribute to the local economy.

In addition to all of our current devolved services work, we have been begun exploratory conversations with the County Council towards deepening our partnership further. As ever we will keep you updated in further additions of CrossTalk and our website and twitter account @Princesris

We met with the Cabinet of Wycombe District Council recently, to discuss matters that are important to the Town. This included rubbish collection and recycling, Red Kite Housing, Community Grants, Local Taxation support and Car Park provision.

After five years of planning and hard work, the restoration of the Market House has now been completed. I

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would like to thank everyone involved in the process; it truly is wonderful to have the Market House fully restored.

As this will be our last edition of Crosstalk before Christmas may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very peaceful, joyful and relaxing festive season and my warmest wishes for a prosperous 2018.

**Mayor & Chairman of the Council**  
Cllr Matthew Walsh



# Local Plan

## Your Final Chance to Comment!

Wycombe District Council (WDC) has published the Local Plan for a six week consultation period, ending on 27 November. This contains the plans to significantly expand Princes Risborough, including the infrastructure needed to support the 2,500 homes proposed. They have already held a briefing on the Plan, for the north of the District, on 2 November at the Community Centre.

The purpose of this consultation is to be sure your views are heard by the Inspector appointed to examine the Plan (probably in the summer of 2018). You may want to write in to support things you like about the plan (for example if developers are promoting sites that are not included in the plan), as well as things that you don't like.

The Inspector has a specific legal remit, to test the soundness of the Plan.

It is therefore in the interests of those making representations, to submit comments spelling out the 'soundness' shortcomings, rather than just general comment.

WDC is holding two drop in sessions during the consultation period to help people fit their comments to the relevant tests. The first one was held on 9th November and a second one is planned for 16th November 2.00pm to 8pm in the Cherry Baker Room at the Princes Risborough Community Centre.

Further information on the plan and how to comment is on the WDC website.

[www.wycombe.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.wycombe.gov.uk/newlocalplan)

Cllr. Matthew Walsh

## WE ARE ON THE HUNT FOR THE TOWN'S BEST MINCE-PIE MAKER!

Whether you use a recipe that has been handed down from generation to generation or is a modern take on the classic Christmas treat we want to hear from you!

Bring along six scrumptious Mince Pies to the Light Switch On and not only will you be in with a chance of winning a prize, you'll also be doing your bit to raise funds for local charities!

**The competition is free to enter and split into two age groups - up to 15 years and 16+**

All baked entries should be brought to the Market House, High Street between 1pm and 3pm on Saturday 25th November ahead of judging taking place by Santa's little helpers! The Mince Pies will then be put on sale during the event and all proceeds will be split between the local charities who are taking up stalls on the day.

Prizes for first and second places in each age group! To enter, simply download a form from [www.risboroughfestival.com](http://www.risboroughfestival.com) and hand it in with your Mince Pies on the day.



# GET YOUR SKATES ON, SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

## RISBOROUGH CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON Saturday 25 November 3pm - 6pm

Come along and enjoy a wonderful afternoon, filled with festive spirit and for one day only, Risborough's very own Ice Rink!

There's lots to enjoy including meeting Santa and two of his reindeer, fabulous fire performer, live music, choirs and this year nearly 40 stalls will be set up along the High Street.



Last but not least, Father Christmas, together with the Mayor of Princes Risborough, Cllr Matthew Walsh, and the stars from this year's Waterside panto Snow White will be switching the lights on. We are delighted to welcome the legendary Su Pollard (Hi-de-Hi fame) and Jon Moses, finalist in ITV Superstars!

The entertainment starts at 3pm, with the lights due to go on at 6pm.

We look forward to welcoming you to the event.

**For further information [www.risboroughfestival.com](http://www.risboroughfestival.com)  
or email [kirsty@princesrisborough.com](mailto:kirsty@princesrisborough.com)**



**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON!**  
Saturday 25th November • 3pm - 6pm

- Ice Rink
- Father Christmas & his reindeers
- Live Music
- Street Entertainment & much more!

**MICHAEL GRAHAM**  
Proudly Sponsor the Lights Switch On!

[www.risboroughfestival.com](http://www.risboroughfestival.com)

# Kop Hill Climb

September 2017 saw the 9th revival of the Kop Hill Climb. Over the previous 8 years it has raised over £440,000 for local good causes by showcasing wonderful vehicles in a historic setting, with a garden party atmosphere.

The climb was originally one of several throughout the Chilterns and was established in 1910.

Unfortunately the 1925 Kop Hill event saw an inexperienced driver in a Bugatti strike a spectator, who had refused to back away from the course despite being asked to do so by a marshal. The RAC steward stepped in and stopped the meeting.

A small group of motoring enthusiasts got together through RACA in 2009 to hold a celebration event on the hill. The emphasis would be on pre-war cars and bikes to highlight and capitalize on the historic nature of the venue and the climb itself.

Both the Town Council and District Council contributed to help finance the event; the rest of the income was from car and bike entrants and a small fee for spectators at the show. The co-operation of Princes Risborough School, Hampden Estates and the tenant farmer was vital and forthcoming.

The climb brought many interesting vehicle entrants and more spectators than expected, boosted no doubt by wonderful weather over that weekend.

When the dust had settled and the pennies were counted, it was discovered that there was a surplus of £18,500 which was distributed to charities and good causes in the area. Now came the dilemma. Rest on your laurels and retire to an armchair to bask in the self-satisfied glow of charitable giving, or repeat the event the following year and try to make more money for charities.

The choice was made. The team of volunteers was expanded; news spread about the great event in 2009 and 2010 produced a surplus of £31,500.

In 2015, a link was formed with Bucks Community Foundation Heart of Bucks (which is a registered charity) to take advantage of the tax exemptions that charitable status provides.

The benefits of this arrangement showed themselves in 2015 when the surplus became £78,000.

Then, in 2016 we had just over £100,000 to distribute to good causes.

Figures for 2017 are not yet available. The weather was not kind to us this year but we still had an amazing number of spectators through the gate. There will still be a significant surplus for donation, taking us well through the magic half million figure for the 9 years.

The funds generated have helped many local causes. There are details on our website (<http://www.kophillclimb.org.uk/>) of the charities we assisted last year.

If you are not a Kop Hill Climb supporter yet, please come next year. The dates are 15/16th September.

We would love to see you there and we guarantee you and all the family will experience a wonderful show with great atmosphere. You cannot fail to have a great time.

**John Biggs**, Kop Hill Climb Organiser



# The Market House Restoration

Princes Risborough's Market House once again stands pristine, after the third major restoration in its three hundred and sixty or so years. A mid-17th C building, its age may be inferred from an inscription on the present Market Bell - "Market Bell Princess [sic] Risborough 1661 recast 1824".



The original building had a simple timber framework, with the arches of the lower storey of brick, while the upper storey, accessed by ladder, had a herring-bone infill of tile and plaster. The roof appears to have been a single ridge with a belfry at the end facing the High Street.

In 1824 the ground area was extended on three sides by a sloping roof, and the upper storey, used as a granary, was rebuilt in brick. The now pyramidal roof was crowned by a central cupola with re-cast bell, weather-vane and a single dial clock.

In 1920 further restoration took place and the Market House was dedicated as the town's War Memorial. A new four-dial clock replaced the original, and soon afterwards the ladder access was replaced by a wood and brick stairwell, a practical move to facilitate Parish Council meetings in the upstairs chamber, but which marred the open plan by blocking the rear two arches.

In 2015 the Town Council commissioned a survey by Phil Ogley, of Oxley Conservation, Historic Buildings Consultants based in Henley. This revealed serious problems with the roof timbers and widespread damage from damp. MDJ Builders of Reading have carried out a full restoration, including replacing inappropriate cement mortar with traditional lime. Smith of Derby Ltd renovated the clock mechanism and dials, and the staircase has been replaced by an open wrought metal stairway by craftsmen at Gomme's Forge, Loosley Row.

Today the Market House, with its open market cross appearance restored and its upstairs chamber fully re-furbished with facilities appropriate to this digital age, fully justifies its Grade II\* listing as a building of historic importance, and is ready to regain its place as a functional asset to the town.

**Sandy Macfarlane – Risborough Heritage Society**



## Street Lights Set for LED Upgrade



A working group of councillors has held meetings with all the companies who wished to tender for the replacement of our old incandescent lanterns on the poles with new energy saving LED lanterns. Following on from our shortlisted tenders our plan is that we will replace approximately 450 lanterns over several months.

Because we will be changing all the old lanterns in the first instance which are dotted randomly around the town many roads will have a mixture of new LED lamps plus older style ones for the time being. This will of course be corrected next year.

The Council will see immediate energy savings from the new technology which of course leaves funds available to be spent elsewhere in the budgets.

Samples of our new lights are being installed in Ash Road; as ever we value your feedback.

