



## FOODBANK OFFERS HELP TO THOSE IN NEED

Many of us are having to cut back in these economically challenging times, but there are others who have nothing to cut back. If you have neither food nor money, or you know of someone in this situation, help is at hand. The Foodbank Centre, which is located at Regency Arcade, East Street, gives food to those in need in Warminster in exchange for vouchers.

Vouchers can be obtained from a number of agencies, including health and social care workers, housing societies, churches, children's centres, schools, and citizens' advice offices, as well as other organisations and charities. The Foodbank centre is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.00am to 1.00pm. You can contact them for advice about where to get your vouchers on:

**0785 5627945** or email them at: [warminsterfb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:warminsterfb@hotmail.co.uk)



## WASTE BINS FOR WARMINSTER



Have you got a new blue-lidded waste bin and wondered what's what? Well, this new arrival heralds the start of the new waste and recycling collection service for plastic and cardboard. If you have a bag collection, you won't be left out. Instead, you'll receive two new re-useable bags. This is all part of a drive to preserve our environment – and lower costs! So if you haven't received a blue-lidded bin or re-useable bags by 31 October, call 0300 456 0102 or email [wasteandrecycling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:wasteandrecycling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Remember to check your new service collection calendar for when your bins are due to be collected as your collection days for household waste and garden waste will have also changed. Lost your calendar? You can check your collection dates and print a new collection calendar online at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/collections](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/collections)



## PARKING IN WARMINSTER IS JUST THE TICKET

The subject of parking is never far away from the minds of motorists these days. But the Warminster Parking Partnership, designed to lessen the blow for car drivers, is working well. Ticket machines in Warminster car parks are dispensing two-part tickets, which allows shoppers in the town to claim a 40p refund from participating retailers for the first hour of parking.

Figures show that the Town Council refunded £64 to retailers in June, £85.20 in July and £147.60 in August. A list of participating retailers can be found in the library, the Information Centre or at Dewey House. Or look for the distinctive logo on the shop window. You'll find more than just a welcome when you go inside!

## Warminster Town Councillors – the Members

Warminster Town Council is made up of 12 Councillors who are known collectively as Members. The town is split into two wards, Warminster East and Warminster West, and six Members represent each ward.

The Council is led by the Mayor, Councillor Pip Ridout, and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Rob Fryer, both of whom were elected on 16th May 2011.

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(Vacant)

### forthcoming meetings:

Town Council and Committee Meetings are held at Dewey House and are open to the public. You are most welcome to come along either to listen or to say your piece in the public session. Times of meetings and agendas are listed below and are also posted on the notice board outside Dewey House and on our website: [www.warminster.uk.com](http://www.warminster.uk.com) Meetings are also advertised in the *Warminster Journal*. At the time of publication it was not yet known whether some of these meetings will be held in the Civic Centre. Any changes will be advertised in the press.

Planning Advisory	3rd October	7pm	Town Development	28th November	7pm
Town Development	10th October	7pm	Planning Advisory	5th December	7pm
Policy & Communications	17th October	7pm	CCTV	14th December	10.30am
Planning Advisory	24th October	7pm	Planning Advisory	3rd January	7pm
Finance and Assets	7th November	7pm	Finance and Assets	9th January	7pm
Planning Advisory	14th November	7pm	Full Council	16th January	7pm
Full Council	21st November	7pm	Planning Advisory	30th January	7pm



# engage

and make a difference

## editor's welcome

One thing you'll notice about this edition of *engage* is that there's a theme running through it. Perhaps we can be forgiven for concentrating on 2012 because next year promises to be a year of celebration – one of the highest order. First, we have the 60th anniversary of the Queen's succession to the throne, a milestone by any standards; second, there's the Olympics, a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the country to host the world's greatest athletes competing for sport's top honours.

The town is determined to make it a year to remember, but that takes a great deal of thought, planning and co-operation. But these are three things we're good at in Warminster. Inside, you can take a look at some of the events that are being discussed and discover ways of becoming involved yourself. What better way to mark such a momentous year than by being part of it!



## JUBILEE & OLYMPICS PUT WARMINSTER IN THE MOOD

There's been a lot of head scratching going on recently in and around Warminster and it's got nothing to do with the time of year. It's more to do with next year.

You wait ages for a major event, then two come along at the same time. The Diamond Jubilee will be a national celebration, and we're on course to make it a day we'll all remember. One of the main events will be the Picnic in the Park, which you can read more about on the inside pages. The Warminster Wobble, 16–17 June, the two-day 'must' for all two-wheeled enthusiasts, will have an Olympic flavour, while Carnival Fun Day on 24 June will continue the air of festivity. The Town Crier Competition will probably raise a shout or two, then there's the Warminster Festival, which is also covered on the inside pages. Lastly, on 27 October – after which most of us will be 'jollied out' – we have the Warminster Carnival. And, as if all this wasn't enough, sandwiched in between this summer extravaganza are the Olympics themselves.

We know many of you are adding your own events to the celebratory agenda, so the last thing we want is for two events to clash. That's why we urge everyone who is planning something to inform the committee. We may even be able to help with funding or in publicising the event to maximise interest.





# Warminster Town Council

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Staff at Dewey House



Heather Abernethie Veronica Mills Marion Blewett Judith Halls

The Town Council offices are open Monday to Friday, 9.30am–4.30pm. You are welcome to call in during opening hours, and are also welcome to attend the council meetings. Details of forthcoming meetings are given on the back page, listed on the website and advertised in the *Warminster Journal*.

## FESTIVAL WINDS UP FOR FESTIVE YEAR



The new Warminster Festival committee is proving to be chock-full of energy and purpose. The introduction of fresh blood and increased membership has given renewed life to what has become a much-loved feature of the Warminster calendar. And there was more good news when the Treasurer, Heather Abernethie, announced that the festival had received £4,000 in grant funding.

The committee has already issued a statement of progress, which declared the vision for 2012 to be 'Hidden Treasures', incorporating the people, places and buildings of Warminster. Jill Flanders, Chair of the committee, said: 'We want the festival to be a real community celebration in which everybody can take part.' With that in mind, the committee is urging people to become a 'Friend of the Festival' and stay in touch with developments through a monthly newsletter.

During the festival period, they're anticipating a fun-packed fortnight of events from 6 October all the way through to 20 October. Some acts have already been booked, including the rock and roll covers band, The Full Motley, who will be appearing at The Old Bell on Saturday, 13 October. The committee is also organising a poetry competition for January 2012, in which budding Shakespeares will recite their masterpieces in front of a sympathetic audience. Why not enter yourself? You may be selected to perform your ode on Sunday, 14 October. In fact, the committee is open to more than just poems – it wants to hear of any ideas you may have for events and will look kindly on every offer of help.

If you would like to become a 'Friend', either pick up a leaflet from the Information Centre or the Library, or you can send an email. You can also email them for an event form and for further information: [warminsterfestival2012@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:warminsterfestival2012@hotmail.co.uk)

# MAYOR'S PARLOUR

My first three months as Mayor have been thoroughly rewarding. I have attended approximately 30 events, including the traditional fêtes and garden parties that abound during the summer months – I opened the Minster fête, the 'Celebrate Summer' concert held by Warminster Philharmonic Orchestra and Henford House's Annual Garden Party amongst others. It has been a pleasure to be involved in meeting so many people and gaining an insight into how much work they do on behalf of others.

I also had the privilege of being invited to Beating the Retreat by the 3rd Battalion, The Yorkshire Regiment, was asked to read a service at the Armed Forces Day Service at the Chapel of St Lawrence and was invited to attend the Royal British Legion's 90th Anniversary dinner, all of which I was honoured to accept in recognition of the proud heritage Warminster has with the armed forces.

The events in Norway have touched the hearts of all nations, and we were very grateful that Roy and Fran Williams, two of our Warminster residents who were on a cruise to Norway, were able to hand-deliver a letter of condolence to the people of Norway on behalf of Warminster's townspeople.

As a member of the Events 2012 Working Group, I have been heavily involved in planning events for next year to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics. The group would like to urge everyone out there who is planning a celebration to let us know, so that we can all join together in making 2012 a year to remember. If we know what you've got planned we'll be able to publicise your event in our planned Events 2012 booklet.

It is pleasing to see that work on the new Civic Centre seems to be going to plan. This year, rather than hosting a Civic Reception, it is my intention to hold a tea afternoon at the Civic Centre, to which members from the voluntary sector will be invited and at which the Civic Award will be given. It will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the work of the town's 'unsung heroes' – the Members have received several nominations, all of which are well deserving, and it has been a challenge to choose from among them.

It only remains for me to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and the very best for what promises to be an eventful New Year.



P. H. Huddell

## Financial Help For Local Causes

Charities and similar worthy causes suffer disproportionately in a harsh economic climate, so it's good to hear that at least some are able to get a financial boost. This was certainly the case last July when the Town Council awarded grants totalling £20,285 to an assortment of local bodies. There was additionally a sum of £2,845 from the Dewey Trust, bringing the grand total to £23,130.

Among the lucky recipients were the Chapel of St Lawrence, who will use their grant to replace an old and inefficient lighting system with eco-friendly, low energy bulbs; and Tynings Allotments, who will put their £2,000 into a new members' hut. Warminster in Bloom and the Warminster Festival both received grants, as did the Scout Group, the Girl Guides Senior Section, the Table Tennis Club, and other youth and sports organisations.



## TOWN TO DRESS UP FOR 2012

We all put on our glad rags when there's a special occasion, so why shouldn't Warminster? No reason at all. So step in Warminster in Bloom, a group of green-fingered enthusiasts, who are bent on making the town a veritable extravaganza of colour for 2012. As reported in the last edition of *engage*, they will be entering the national Britain in Bloom competition next year, but they're also joining forces with Go Bustards!! to dress up the town.

Want to become involved? There's plenty of opportunity. Businesses will be encouraged to sponsor hanging baskets or a model bustard for their premises, while residents can turn their gardens into an oasis of loveliness and enter the Town Council competition. You can also get together with friends and neighbours to spruce up your local patch. Should you belong to an organisation or group, why not suggest sponsoring a model bustard?

## Why not Picnic in the Park?

Sunday 3 June 2012 is shaping up to be quite some event – but then it commemorates an all-important day for our country when Queen Elizabeth becomes only the second monarch in our history to have reigned for 60 years. And 60 is a rare milestone for anyone to achieve in anything, whether queen or a commoner. Buckingham Palace is hosting a royal lunch, there'll be a flotilla of boats on the Thames and throughout the country there'll be street parties galore. So no surprise that we're holding our very own Warminster garden party the same day.

Londoners may have a flotilla on the Thames, but Warminster will have its own version on the park lake – a flotilla of pedaloos. Children will be dressed up as princes or princesses as befits the occasion and we'll have a fancy dress competition to find a winner. There'll be three marquees in the park and different types of music throughout the town. Warminster pubs are known for hosting particular musical genres so there'll be something to please everyone. There's even talk of majorettes and a street band as part of the spectacle.

**Picnic in the Park** aims to be Warminster's big community day and, if early ideas are anything to go by, promises to be a grand day out for all the family. It won't be long before people are thinking about buying their diaries for 2012, so when you get yours, make sure one of the first dates you enter is Picnic in the Park. It won't be the same if you're not there!



## TO BEACON OR NOT TO BEACON

With the Queen's Jubilee fast approaching, thoughts have turned to putting Warminster on the map – specifically, with a beacon.

A trail of beacons – the Queen has requested 2012 beacons to mark the occasion – is being planned across the country for 4 June, the anniversary of the Queen's 60 years on the throne.

The trouble is, beacons have a number of implications – cost and safety being just two. But there are other considerations such as access for the public. A perfect spot may be found, but if there is limited access, that, as they say, is that. Then, of course, there's the cost – around £5,000 to build the metal basket alone. When it seemed that Warminster would remain dark and beaconless, another possibility loomed to raise hopes again, this time with church tower beacons, which can be purchased at a fraction of the costs. Already, some interest has been expressed, so watch this space for more news in a future edition of *engage*!

