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Look out for our fantastic free range of Easter events!

PLUS:

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

Updating our Community Plan

ALL YOU CAN EAT...

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DUST OFF THE BUNTING!

The carnival returns – ready to rock after a two year break



THE NEWTON

Crier

SPRING 2022

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL





EDITOR'S NOTES

A new lease of Life!

The arrival of brighter, sunnier, spring days, in conjunction with the steady easing of social restrictions, brings a very welcome boost for everyone's mental health – and that sense of optimism can certainly be felt around the town.

There's been a great deal of positive activity and regeneration on the high street, with several new businesses bringing fresh ideas and breathing new life into the retail, services and hospitality sectors.

We're also delighted to announce a programme of events and activities to celebrate Easter, PLUS the long-awaited return of Carnival Week, with a hatful of fun planned for early July!

In the midst of this palpable shift towards sharing the benefits of local unity, the town council is encouraging anyone with progressive ideas about how to improve any aspect of life for residents of Newton Abbot to make their views known – and help us to shape the future – by contributing to the forthcoming revision of our Community Plan. All constructive comments are welcome, of course, and can be sent to us via e-mail at: yourcommunity@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk.

And while we're on the subject of community, we hope you were able to pop in to the museum to enjoy some time in the company of Jan Newton's collection of teddy bears, recently on display in the *Your Space* cabinet – it was quite a picnic!

Sam

Samantha Scott, Deputy Town Clerk.

Keep in touch

call us: 01626 201120 | email us: info@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

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SUNDAY BAND CONCERTS 2022

All performances will commence at 2.30pm at the Courtenay Park Bandstand.

✦ Sunday 8th May
OKEHAMPTON EXCELSIOR SILVER BAND

✦ Sunday 4th June
SPECTRUM MUSIC CONCERT WIND BAND ★
(to coincide with Party in the Park, celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee)



✦ Sunday 3rd July
DEVON & SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
CONCERT BAND ❖



✦ Sunday 10th July
CARNIVAL PRAISE
(in conjunction with Newton Abbot Carnival week)

✦ Sunday 14th August
BAY BRASS *



Best Accountancy Services
(Newton Abbot) Limited

✦ Sunday 11th September
SOUTH WEST COMMS BAND ★

Key (and thanks!) to our kind sponsors:

- ★ Major Braden
- ❖ Davie Construction Ltd.
- * Best Accountancy Services

Community invited to comment on town's future

Anyone who lives, works or shops in Newton Abbot now has a chance to have their say on the town's future. Newton Abbot Town Council wants to hear what people love about the place – and what drives them mad.

Suggestions for improvements have been invited, whether physical changes or better services for the young and elderly. Also under the spotlight were cultural and sporting activities as well as neighbourhood projects that could benefit from town council support.

The move came in January as an updated Newton Abbot and District Community Plan is being prepared, some 14 years after the last version was published in 2008 (still available to download from www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk/newton-abbot-district-strategic-community-plan-2008-2028).



Mayor Cllr Mike Joyce said: 'It's important that people are given the opportunity to tell us what they think about the place. Clearly we're proud to call it home but that should never prevent us from wanting to make it better still.'

'The Newton Abbot and District Community Plan outlines what we hope to achieve in the coming years and although the powers of a Town Council are limited, we can't influence the future in a positive way unless we know what people want.'

'I've urged everyone to speak up, tell it like it is, and we'll do everything we can to make our town the region's favourite location for living, working and visiting.'

Town clerk Phil Rowe explained the roles played by different layers of local government:

'Devon County Council is largely responsible for our roads, schools, social care, health and well-being. Teignbridge District Council looks after some parks and public toilets, waste collection and recycling, car parks and the planning of new homes and infrastructure.'

'The town council provides the local voice on all these matters, and we deliver cultural benefits such as the new museum and community rooms at Newton's Place, which came about as a result of the 2008 Newton Abbot and District Community Plan.'

'We also organise the town's annual events calendar and financially support several community groups. So, thank you to everyone who took part in this latest survey, we'll get the results out as soon as we can and will ask for further feedback as we prepare the next Community Plan.'

For details of how to become involved, please e-mail us at yourcommunity@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk



Mayor Cllr Mike Joyce in town gaining the thoughts of David O'Connor and Linda Ratledge. The couple live in Plymouth, but Linda works at Newton Abbot Hospital

Monthly events at the museum

MAKE AND CREATE

1st Saturday of the month
Booking needed

Family-friendly creative workshops with a new theme every month. Go to our What's On page to find out what you could make this month and book your free place.




RELAXED VISITS

Dates vary, drop-in sessions
No need to book

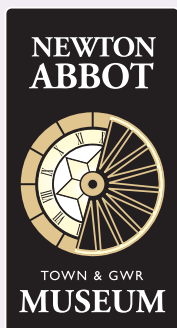
Each month we set aside special visiting hours for anyone who might benefit from visiting the museum at a quieter time. Reduced sound levels and a chill-out room upstairs make this a great time to visit if you have additional needs, but everyone is welcome.



 museum-newtonabbot.org.uk

 01626 201121

 museum@newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk



Museum News

WITH DR CHARLOTTE DIXON (CURATOR) AND KATIE PETLEY-JONES (CURATORIAL ASSISTANT)



First of all, thank you to all our visitors who came to the museum last year. Between May and December 2021 we welcomed nearly 6,000 people! We really value your support and know how important it is to make sure there is something new to see when you return.

With over 17,000 objects in the collection, changing the displays is a great opportunity to share more stories surrounding the history of our town, and our most recent 'costume change' presents another fascinating glimpse into the fashions of days gone by.



Sign of the Cross

Throughout 2022 you can also see a newly displayed Medieval crucifix figurine on loan from the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, Exeter City Council. This incredibly detailed figure of Jesus, with one glass eye still intact (*pictured above, at actual size*), dates between 1100 and 1230 AD and would likely have been attached to a wooden cross. It was discovered near Ashburton Road in Newton Abbot by a metal detectorist, and it is remarkable that more of it was not damaged and lost over the years.

Other updates include our Object of the Month case, and yes, you guessed it, this is something we change every month! If you have a group that would like to curate this case by having the opportunity to choose an object to be displayed, please do get in touch, we would love to hear from you.

1740s gentleman's sleeved waistcoat now on display in Newton Abbot Museum



Having carefully packed away the previous exhibits of a Victorian wedding dress and a ladies' mourning outfit, we set to work on displaying a remarkable sleeved gentleman's waistcoat dating from the 1740s. Made from silk and hand stitched with silk and silver embroidery on the edging, this elaborate garment would have been worn on special occasions.

The beautiful silk lining was damaged and there was staining residue left from previous repairs that needed attention before it could be in a stable enough condition to be displayed. This was made possible thanks to generous donations – made by two of our volunteers – to have it conserved. The work was carried out by a specialist textile conservator at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery in Exeter and involved careful cleaning, repairs and securing loose threads.

Then came the display of the waistcoat! To make sure we continue to look after this garment in the best way possible it was important to use a special conservation grade mannequin. Our mannequin was considerably smaller than the large man who once would have worn the waistcoat, so we called on one of our volunteers to help build it up with wadding!

Pop along to the museum to see this beautiful waistcoat on display alongside an 18th century bicorn hat.



@Newton.Abbot.Museum



@NewtonsPlace

An even warmer welcome!

We now have a range of free extras at the welcome desk to make your visit even better:

♦ AUDIO GUIDES

You can now hear all the stories that make our town so special; let our narrator take you through the museum. Separate tracks for each area mean you are still free to pick your own route through the space. You can listen through our brand new handsets: big buttons with added braille and hearing loop compatibility make them accessible to everyone, so pick one up on your next visit. Prefer to use your own device? You can download the tracks at museum-newtonabbot.org.uk/audio-guide.

♦ SENSORY BAGS

Keep your fingers busy with fidget toys, take a closer look with a magnifying glass and reduce sound overload with some ear defenders. Our Visual Story helps explain what to expect in the museum (also downloadable online).

♦ LARGE PRINT GUIDES

Text too small? Or just tired of stooping to read labels? Ask about our large print booklets with all our fascinating label text in an easy-to-read format. We also have a wide range of activity sheets and trails (you can also download them from our website before your visit).

Bring your pocket money!

We are excited to announce our museum shop is now open. You can now buy a memento of your visit, (we accept cash and card). From museum stationery and railway badges, to clock tower tea towels, teddies and books by local authors, there is something for everyone!



NEW DONATIONS

We began the year with some new additions: Felicity Cole, the museum's previous curator for 32 years, has donated a wonderful collection of toys from her childhood. The timing of this donation has been fortuitous, as several schools have been in touch to ask about visits that focus on 'Childhood Toys' and 'Then and Now' themes.

A particularly interesting object within this donation is a 'Rosebud' doll that was given to Felicity when she was aged 6, whom she named 'Rosie'.

Rosebud was a brand name of British company Nene Plastics Ltd., who began manufacturing dolls in 1947 with 'Rosebud' stamped on the back. The marque was soon recognised as a sign of authenticity and quality (particularly those produced before Nene Plastics Ltd. was bought out in 1967 by the American toy company Mattel). Rosebud branded dolls have become collectors' items due to the craftsmanship and detail that went into their manufacture.

Rosie has been donated wearing a green and pink checked dress and a white knitted cardigan with floral details. There is also a spare green striped dress with pink flowers and a pair of white plastic shoes. All the clothes were made by Felicity's mother (the original dungarees Rosie was wearing when she arrived at Christmas, along with a straw hat that she had, went missing years ago).

Felicity remembers how she loved Rosie dearly and recalls how she washed her hair far too much and ruined its shape, but we think Rosie still looks great at 60 years of age!

To find out more about the toys donated by Felicity, visit the museum blog, which can be accessed via our website.



Felicity with childhood companion, Rosie

Bear Care & Share!

WITH **KATE GREEN**, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER FOR NEWTON'S PLACE

Do you have a collection that you'd like to share? To find out if some of your cherished items could go on show in the Your Space cabinet in the future, please have a chat with staff at the museum or email me kate.green@newtonspplace.org



The 'Your Space' cabinet in the community area of the museum currently has a wonderful display of teddy bears, all from the collection of local craftswoman and artist Jan Newton.

Your Space is bursting at the seams with all sorts of teddy bears – large and small, old and new (the oldest bear in the case is over 100 years old) and all of them loved and cherished.

From a young age, Jan has collected teddy bears. Her first bear was given to her by her father as a travel companion when she emigrated to Canada at the age of three. 'Teddy the bear' was a good friend to Jan but, as with all things, eventually he had to be retired as his sheepskin fur perished and he fell apart.

It was Teddy who inspired Jan in later years to not only keep collecting bears but to learn how to restore them, helping others to never have to say goodbye to their beloved bear. Jan likes to say she helps out with the natural "bear and tear" of a teddy's life!

And so, Jan has spent many hours making collector's bears and restoring antique ones using the traditional methods of cardboard joints with cotter pins and mohair fabric.



You can see some of the tools and materials Jan uses to create her furry friends in the display cabinet, alongside bears she has made and one bear that is currently a work in progress.

Recently Jan has diversified into making pottery bears at Chudleigh Creative Corner. A ceramic bear's fur can never wear out – no matter how many cuddles it receives!

This display changes regularly and from April the display will feature personal memory boxes made by local Syrian refugee families exploring memories and thoughts about home. This will connect with the April Museum: Make and Create family workshop. To book and to find out more about upcoming free family workshops go to the What's On page on our website www.museum-newtonabbot.org.uk

Follow the Yellow Brick Road?

Newton Abbot Museum and Newton Abbot Library have partnered up with Brick Ideas to create a bespoke LEGO® trail throughout the town with the help of local businesses. These free trails are available throughout the Easter holidays from 9th April and can be collected from the library and museum. There are prizes to be won – happy searching!

Dance Style from the Emerald Isle

FANCY FOOTWORK EXPERT **MAGGIE DANIEL** SHARES THE JOY OF THE JIG...

Irish Set Dancing is a fun and lively style of social dancing, designed for participation, rather than display. Here at the Devon Irish club, we've been enjoying the dances in Newton Abbot for around 20 years and would love for more people to come and join our friendly club.

Irish Set Dancing has been popular in Ireland for over 150 years and has gradually spread all over the world. The dances were originally derived from French quadrilles, which were taken to Ireland in the nineteenth century. The moves were adapted to be danced to Irish traditional tunes and evolved in many ways in different parts of the country to produce a great variety of dances, all very enjoyable.

I've been teaching Irish Set Dancing here in Newton Abbot since 2014 and try to impart my love and enjoyment of the dances to the whole group. I always take time to explain the moves before they are danced, so everyone can approach the dance with confidence.

Sets are danced by four couples in a square, and usually consist of three to six parts, or figures, with a short pause between each. Within each dance, different music rhythms can be used for each figure, usually reels, jigs, polkas, slides or hornpipes. In Newton Abbot we use recorded music from some of Ireland's top traditional musicians and ceili bands. The music has fantastic drive and energy and really makes you want to dance. You don't need to come with a partner, we all dance with different people during the evening.

We dance every Wednesday evening in the function room above the Jolly Farmer in Market Street.

All the dancers are vaccinated, and we take regular lateral flow tests. We keep the windows open in the hall, and sanitise our hands between dances, to endeavour to keep Covid safe. The price is just £3 per session and the first one is free.

Groups of us sometimes take part in set dancing weekends or festivals elsewhere in the country, or in Ireland. There is nothing like the feeling of dancing to a live band in a big hall packed with dancers! Of course, that hasn't happened for a couple of years, but it will again in future.



Irish Set Dance is the most popular form of dancing in Ireland and has passionate supporters worldwide, including some in Newton Abbot! Why not come and join us?

If you would like to give it a try, just come along to the Jolly Farmer on any Wednesday evening at 8pm, or, for more information please visit our website devonirishsetdancers.uk or contact me on **07818 848395** or email maggie@devonirishsetdancers.uk





Out & About

with **Sally Henley**, TOWN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



I am writing this piece on the day that the Covid Plan B measures are lifted and I, along with many in the local business community, am feeling very upbeat!

Over the festive period, whilst Plan B was in place, we kept calm and we carried on with our Christmas town centre events. Being outdoors, shoppers could enter into the Christmas spirit, knowing that they would be safe, and we were incredibly lucky with the weather too!

It was wonderful to see **Father Christmas** return in person and children were really excited to visit him on his sleigh, parked by the clock tower on our three late night shopping Wednesdays. The clock tower, with its iconic 'Tree on the Tower' bespoke lighting installation was also the backdrop to the **Mayor's Carol Service**, and the **Rock Choir** was certainly in exceptionally fine form. It was clear that they were relishing the opportunity to sing together after a couple of years of meeting only on Zoom!

I was also grateful to the museum for the creative events they held and for putting on a brilliant cracker making event in the town centre one Christmas Saturday. Kate Green, our community artist, is full of great ideas, and she was flat out at the stall helping children make their own personalised crackers for the festive table.

Kate has agreed that she will organise more of these craft events this year, so do keep an eye on our events calendar for these.



Above: Santa and his helper make a careful note of another youngster's Christmas wish-list

Below: Kate Green's cracker-making craft session



ROCK CHOIR



Bark! The Herald Angels Sing!

We held our new Dog Friendly Carol Service on a December Saturday. Led by Rev Gareth, accompanied by the Ogwell church choir, the service was held at the town gates in Wolborough Street.

I was thrilled to see so many gorgeous pooches in their best Christmas outfits coming along with their owners to take part. It was such a success that the team at Animals in Distress have already agreed that we should hold it again this year, so put 12 noon on Saturday 10th December in your diaries now!





Diners spoiled for choice on Queen Street...

I was delighted to accompany the deputy mayor and town councillors to the grand opening of **Meddy Grill** (pictured above) just before Christmas. Dogan brothers, Imam and Mustapha have transformed the former **Burger King** premises and we now have a very smart new Turkish restaurant adding to an enviable selection of independent

family eateries on what is fast becoming a diner's destination on Queen Street – check out recently opened **Kim Pho**, Vietnamese restaurant at no. 34 too! If you have not visited the **Wholesome Hippo** by the clock tower, then you are in for a treat with its wholesome and delicious food in a stylish and beautifully refurbished listed building.

In fact, the next one will be an Easter themed creative event, so put Saturday 9th April in your diaries too, which is also the date when town councillors and officers come out into the town centre to hold the Town Council Annual Town Meeting. I do hope to see you there.

We love a bit of a shopper 'trail' here in Newton Abbot and over the years we have had all sorts. It was brilliant to see the 'Moor Otters' again this summer (see more about this in Katherine Stocker's piece in this edition of the Cryer) and we had a festive 'virtual trail' through town centre businesses this Christmas, which was extremely popular too – congratulations to the Taylor Family from Ogwell, who received their £100 **Austins** gift voucher prize during March!

In partnership with the museum, there will be a **Lego® Trail** to enjoy this Easter, with Lego® prizes to be won, so do watch out for more details of this on our website and more Easter fun as well!

There's been plenty of builder activity in commercial premises in the town centre over the last month or two. A very positive sign that things are going from strength to strength. You might have spotted **Greenlight Mortgages**, at 51 Queen Street, and on Valentine's Day **Simply Green** estate agents opened at number 88. Both new independent businesses have one thing in common (as well as the 'green' theme), in that they have taken a once tired property and given it some TLC, adding to a growing range of business premises of which we can be proud. We look forward to **The Foot Store** opening soon in Courtenay Street (next to **Percy's**) and to seeing the **MDA** team finally in their new home, in the famous Invertere buildings next to **Lloyds Bank**.

There is plenty more planned for the town centre, so these are exciting times!

Sally

Sally Henley

Town Development Manager

What a Lotta Shots the Otter Spotter got!

LAST YEAR'S MOOR OTTER TRAIL PROVIDED A LOT OF FUN – AND SOME COLOURFUL PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES...

Local resident, Katherine Stocker and her family completed the Moor Otter Trail last year and has provided a short account, along with many wonderful images of some of the otters they encountered along the way!



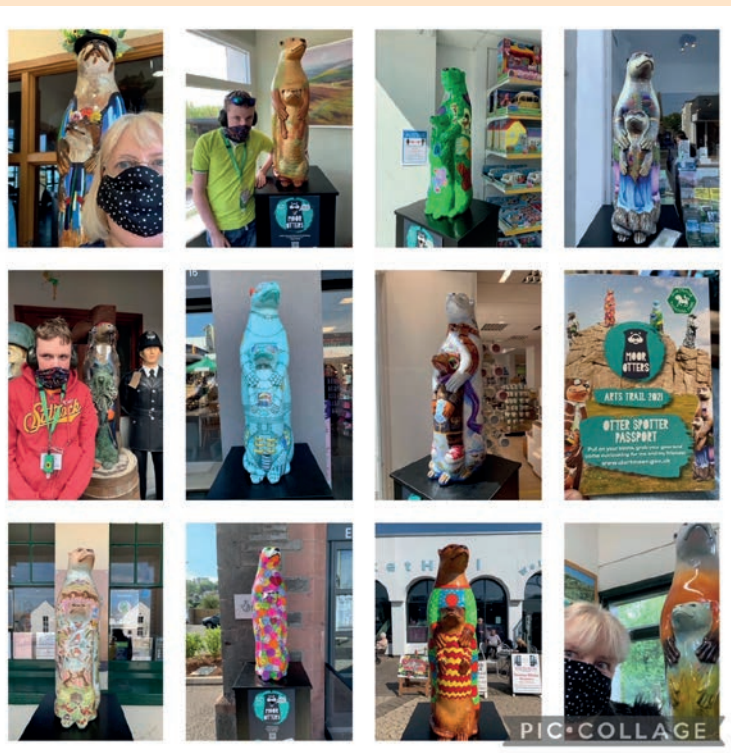
We started this trail on 28th May 2021, at the Tourist Information Centre in Haytor, to enable us to collect the important trail booklet, (maps were also available online) which we took with us to act as a guide along the way.

I did my research, finding out the opening times and days for each otter host, as not all otters were viewable 24/7. We began our trail in Newton Abbot. It was lovely to see and find the otters in Newton Abbot, and throughout the duration of the trail it was wonderful to see other otter spotters and people just stopping to admire each of the otters' fantastic artwork!

We also undertook the challenge to spot a roaming otter! It was very useful to access the social media 'Moor Otter' page, which announced where the roaming otter would be, and also gave hints on how to find some of the painted otters. Chris Sims at the Jolly Roger in Bovey Tracey (who delivered and collected all the otters) was a fantastic help.

The trail took us all over, and we discovered many new places along the way. We were lucky enough to find all 81 otters, and spent time driving to all the various locations, some of which were quite far out!

The Moor Otter Trail was suitable for all ages and abilities and provided something for everyone. It was a really lovely trail to follow.



A small selection of Katherine's snapshots, taken at various points along the 2021 trail route

These trails really do highlight the host venue and its surrounding areas, which is great for local businesses and tourism, and when the trail had finished, the otters were sold off, which raised almost £70,000.00 for Dartmoor National Park.

I really do hope that there will be future trails for us all to enjoy. Thank you to everyone who was involved in organising the trail.

www.dartmoor.gov.uk/enjoy-dartmoor/moor-otters



ARTS TRAIL 2021

Plastic Free Newton Abbot

PFNA COMMUNITY LEAD **BETINA WINKLER** HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABILITY ACROSS THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF MODERN SOCIETY

Newton Abbot was awarded 'Plastic Free Communities' status for its action around single-use plastic back in the summer of 2021. The award, given by Surfers Against Sewage (SAS), a marine conservation charity, saw Newton Abbot join a network of over seven hundred communities across the UK leading the way in tackling throw-away plastics at source. Due to the disruption caused by Covid-19, the journey has not been an easy one, but everyone's efforts have been rewarded.

The campaign kicked off in June 2019 when a group of local campaigners, along with town development manager Sally Henley, and the indefatigable Ben Bryant of Community Action Devon, signed up to the SAS Plastic Free Communities five-point plan.

Buoyed up by the success of other South Devon groups already accredited, we saw the positive impact on their communities. The SAS plan pulls together key organisations and businesses initiating a community led steering group, the SAS Plastic Free Schools education programme, and local council commitment.

Working together with local businesses, organisations and community groups then helps to spread the word and minimise the amount of disposable plastic they use.

Local businesses were already on a mission to find alternatives to damaging throw-away plastics. We simply needed to acknowledge on-going efforts and support them in the next phase of the challenge. We are working with Westaway's, who during the campaign received a prestigious recycled packaging award for their innovations.

Indoor market-based traders, Stoneman's Deli and Cressick's became two of our early business champions for their efforts on reducing plastic. Other champions are: Express Pasta Company; Pharmacy Café; Indulgence Tearooms; The Country Table; The Other Cup; Coffee#1; No Limits Community Cafe & Hub; Lemon Jelli; The Waffle Inn; Glebe Cottage Studios. Jacksons Fish, Wildflower Bakery and Scott Richards Solicitors also joined the group last year.

What do we get up to? Well, we have popular litter picks, where local councillors and local journalist John Balment often join us. You may have seen the features in his regular column in the Mid Devon Advertiser. We have information stalls in the town centre, give talks to local organisations and organise film showings. We might also repeat the Mass Unwrap event, which we held at local supermarkets!

I would like to thank Sally Henley and Emily Farrell for their ongoing support, and members of our steering group who guide us. Thanks too, go to: NATC, TDC and DCC councillors who encourage, support, and often get 'hands on', Lizzie Turner, recycling officer at TDC; and staff at Community Action Group Devon. Newton Abbot businesses and organisations are of course key to our continued success and we would welcome more business who want to become Plastic Free Champions.

We were over the moon to receive this award on behalf of the town. It recognises the strength of feeling and work being done in Newton Abbot to stem the vast tide of single-use plastics, but there is more to be done! As we come out of the Omicron Plan B measures, we are on our own next 'wave' of initiatives, and we are looking for members of the community to join our group. If you are enthusiastic about tackling the problem of single use plastics, why not join us? We would love to hear from you! Do contact me – Betina Winkler, Community Lead, Plastic Free Newton Abbot, via:

email: betinawinkler@hotmail.com or telephone 07986 358933

Additional information can also be found online at: www.plasticfree.org.uk and www.sas.org.uk



Community Speedwatch update

CLLR MIKE JOYCE UNVEILS A UNIQUE SCHEME TO DRIVE DOWN SPEED IN AND AROUND NEWTON ABBOT

A FRESH approach to driving speeds down took to the streets in and around Newton Abbot in January – with more than 20 drivers set to feel the long arm of the law!

In what is believed to be the first operation of its kind in Devon and Cornwall, three sets of Community Speedwatch volunteers, supported by police officers, simultaneously positioned themselves at different locations, armed with speed monitors.

One team was in Greenhill Way, Kingsteignton, another near The Sloop, in Kingskerswell and the third in Ashburton Road, Newton Abbot. The aim was to make drivers think, think, and think again as they crossed the area.

'It was a great success – this is the first time our Community Speedwatch volunteers have been able to join forces and offer drivers education right across Newton Abbot and its neighbouring communities' said Mayor Cllr Mike Joyce who is Speedwatch Co-ordinator for Newton Abbot and came up with the idea.

'We often have one speed monitoring station set up somewhere but having them in different locations at the same time means some drivers will have been reminded three times: that has to be more effective.'

Cllr Joyce was positioned in Ashburton Road. Of the 807 vehicles that passed him, ten were travelling above 35 mph, despite volunteers wearing hi-vis jackets.

'We had another team on the opposite side of the road and they recorded 11 breaking the limit by at least 5mph. The highest speed we recorded was 47mph' said Cllr Joyce.

'Offenders will be sent a police warning and for any previously written to, the consequences could be more serious.'



'The role of Community Speedwatch is to educate, the role of the police is to enforce the rules.'

'We're very grateful that officers could join us and I'm sure drivers are getting the message that we're determined to make our roads safer.'

Alison Hernandez, Police and Crime Commissioner, is chair of the Vision Zero South West road safety partnership and national APCC lead for road safety:

'Road safety is one of the four priorities in my new police and crime plan; I am so pleased to see the community of Newton Abbot responding proactively to this issue.'

'I'd like to pay particular tribute to Newton Abbot's mayor, Councillor Mike Joyce, who is one of the most active Councillor Advocates for my office and someone who I know cares deeply about road safety within the town he loves.'

Residents in Newton Abbot last December rejected a proposed blanket zomph limit across town but signalled support for targeted areas such as outside schools and nurseries.

How and when the new limits will be applied is being discussed by Devon County Council.

'Cracking down on dangerous road users is vital if we are going to reach the Vision Zero South West target of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2040, but we simply cannot do this without the help of local communities.'

'What we have seen here in Newton Abbot is a fine example of residents working with the police to make their town safer and that is something I applaud.'

Greens are good for you!

With the Covid restrictions slowly being relaxed, many of us will be looking to socialise and regain a bit of fitness, so why not combine the two and dive in to the fantastic world of flat green bowling?

Newton Abbot Bowling Club is always keen to welcome new members and will be holding two open days at its Courtenay Park headquarters – on Saturday 30th April and Sunday 29th May – offering everyone the chance to have a go at playing a few ends to see if this could be the sport for you!

The club was founded 1911 in Courtenay Park, just a 2 minute walk from the railway station, and is a vibrant and friendly group with over 100 members. There is bowling on the green during the summer months and short mat indoors during the winter with regular social events for members and their families held in the fully licensed club house.

Bowls is an inexpensive way of spending time in the fresh air, chatting and laughing whilst taking some exercise, and is an ideal sport for all ages and abilities.

The Open Days will be free to attend from 10am with spare bowls in a range of sizes available for anyone to have a go – and plenty of coaches on hand to offer advice. Refreshments will be available in the club house and the only requirement is that flat shoes must be worn on the grass.



For all enquiries about Newton Abbot Bowling Club, please contact Mr Paul Hawkins on 07976 515418 or Email paul.h.nabc@outlook.com



Devon & Cornwall Police confirmed the following data, collected during January's exercise:

Community Speedwatch

Information recorded: January 2022
Location: Newton Abbot

Excessive speeding: 14

Non-compliant registration plates: 5

Uninsured drivers: 2

Non-compliant tinted windscreens: 2

Untaxed vehicles: 2

Vehicles without valid MoT test certificate: 1

Vehicles without undeclared modifications: 1

Miscellaneous: 4

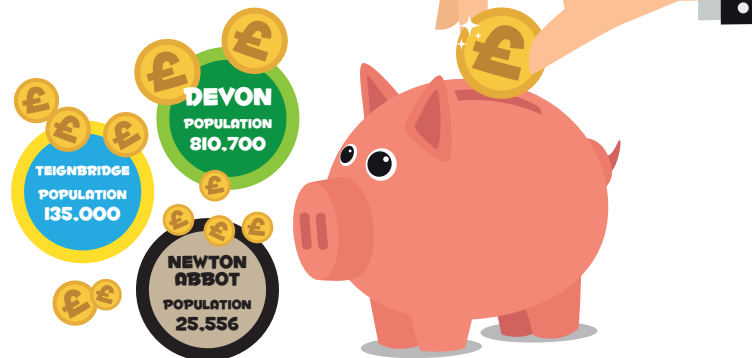
1x cracked windscreen
1x trailer without lights
1x bodywork in poor condition
1x not in proper control

Where does your money go?

HOW YOUR COUNCIL TAX SUPPORTS ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND BENEFITS THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

Teignbridge District Council collects Council Tax to fund services provided by: Devon County Council, Devon County Council Adult Social Care, Teignbridge District Council, Newton Abbot Town Council, Police & Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall and Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority.

From the collected revenue, Newton Abbot Town Council receives approximately 5.7% of the total. With these funds, we aim to provide the best possible balance of services, community enterprise, promotional events and town development. To illustrate the wide variety of amenities covered by the town council's share of the Council Tax, we've compiled the following list of fifteen positive projects and achievements of which Newton Abbot can be proud:



1 TOWN CENTRE HUB

We're committed to supporting an enhanced community facility and 'Cultural Quarter' including the town hall and museum through our community hub, Newton's Place. Newton's Place offers community rooms to local organisations at very reasonable rates, which continue to be very popular and well received.

2 NEWTON ABBOT MUSEUM

The intended role of the museum is to "excite curiosity" and to promote understanding and appreciation of local cultural heritage. Formal and informal learning takes place through the imaginative and innovative use of the museum collections, exhibitions, information and displays, inspiring people to enjoy and appreciate the endeavours of previous generations. Local communities are encouraged to become active partners in the development and use of the museum and, along with other social groups and school parties, regularly make use of this fabulous facility!

3 ALLOTMENTS

We have six allotment fields in the town, five of which are administered by the Newton Abbot and District Co-operative Allotments Association. We continually search for additional land to create more allotments, especially near new residential developments.

4 FOOTPATHS (public rights of way)

In and around the town, these are maintained by the town council under an agreement with Devon County Council.

5 TOWN ASSETS

We're responsible for: Newton's Place; Town Quay; St. Leonard's Clock Tower, canons and information boards; the War Memorial; land at Victoria Place (known as Victoria Gardens); Newfoundland Way public conveniences; two stretches of the ancient Bradley Mill Leat; street furniture (such as seats, benches and finger posts, flower basket poles, noticeboards and advertisement kiosks); and various bus shelters throughout the town.

6 NEWTON IN BLOOM

We undertake a lot of planting and floral arrangements within the town.

7 STREET CLEANSING/WEEDING

We now regularly spot-treat weeds throughout the town using specialist weeding equipment, and also oversee the cleansing of some public rights of way.

8 LOCAL ENTERPRISE GRANTS

A modest budget is available to assist local projects on an annual basis; applications from local community organisations are welcomed.

9 PAVEMENT CAFÉ LICENSES

We support the principle of establishing street cafes to improve the vitality of the town. Licenses are administered under delegation from the county council. In the past two years, fees to license holders have been waived as a small token of support during these difficult trading conditions.

10 ORGANISING ANNUAL EVENTS

These include: Victorian Evening; Autumn Fayre; band concerts; Town Criers' Competition; Newton Abbot Carnival, (led by, and in conjunction with, the Newton Abbot Carnival Committee); Remembrance service and parade; Christmas lights switch-on, late-night shopping, and lantern parade; Mayor's Carol Service; Easter events; shopper entertainment involving local schools, groups and organisations; and an annual programme of town centre music.

11 BUS SHELTERS

The council provides and maintains numerous bus shelters throughout the town. Town centre shelters carry advertising through an agreement with promotional companies.

12 COMMUNITY TRUST

We work with strategic partners to provide facilities such as Golden Lion Square, for the benefit of the wider community. The Trust resolved to support the provision of a community hub following its successful delivery of Golden Lion Square and continues to do so.

13 TOWN DEVELOPMENT

Our town development manager, Sally Henley, promotes the physical, social and economic well-being of the town. This is achieved by working in liaison with the local business community, general public, district and county councils, and representatives of organisations and agencies. Sally also oversees product placement and the council's Shop Improvement Grant Scheme, which aims to support landlords and tenants to improve the quality of their premises.

14 TOWN SECURITY

In conjunction with Newton Abbot Security Trust (NAST), we support the provision of the town's award-winning CCTV system, which helps to keep our town a safe place to live, work and visit.

15 CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS

We're committed to providing a quality festive atmosphere in the town each Christmas. Supporting various seasonal events, with some financial contributions from local businesses and bodies, we promote, sponsor and administer contracts for the provision of Christmas lights throughout the town centre each year.

COMPARATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS FROM A SINGLE PROPERTY CLASSIFIED AS COUNCIL TAX BAND 'D' IN 2022/23 (£2,206.87):

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL	£1,372.59	(70.5%)
DCC ADULT SOCIAL CARE	£183.87	(8.3%)
DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER	£246.56	(11.2%)
DEVON AND SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY	£91.79	(4.2%)
TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL.....	£185.17	(8.4%)
NEWTON ABBOT TOWN COUNCIL.....	£126.89	(5.7%)

Saturday 9th April

NEWTON ABBOT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Courtenay Street | 10am – 2pm

Your chance to meet the town councillors, ask questions and provide feedback and comments

PLUS EASTER FUN!

Egg decorating

Balloon modelling

Easter mischief
with the 'Chick Eggs'

Meet 'Newton'
our town mascot

LEGO® Trail
(free maps available from
the museum & library)

Saturday 16th April

FREE

chocolate egg giveaway
from town councillors,
live performance from
Spectrum Music & meet
Hop the Stagecoach Bunny!

Newton Abbot Carnival Returns!

MIKE RYAN (CHAIR) AND CAROL BUNDAY (VICE CHAIR) ARE DELIGHTED TO CONFIRM THAT SUMMER FUN IS BACK

The Newton Abbot Carnival committee is very pleased to announce that our carnival is back this year after a two year break due to the Covid pandemic. We are again planning a week-long programme of events for all the family, starting with a band concert in Courtenay Park on Sunday 3rd July, followed by our Carnival Parade on Saturday 9th July and finishing with Praise in the Park on Sunday 10th July. A full programme of all our events will be issued in the coming months.



Newton Abbot Carnival Float Queen & Attendants from 2018

The carnival committee has started to plan this year's events and anyone wishing to help and/or organise this year's carnival please contact our chairman Mike Ryan on 07746 534065 or email him on 6omeryan@googlemail.com we are always on the look-out for willing volunteers!

Our first event – before the carnival season starts at the end of June – is to pick our Carnival Queen and attendants. We are looking for any girl between the age of 14 & 16 that lives in Newton Abbot to be our Queen for this coming year. She must be willing, and able to attend our own and other carnivals within the South Devon area, most of which are held on a Saturday (with a couple of exceptions).

The selected individual will not only be our Queen but will also be an ambassador for Newton Abbot. Her attendants must be aged between 11 & 14 and also live in Newton Abbot, and, as with the Queen, they will be expected to attend all the carnivals held throughout the summer season (from the end of June though to early September).

Application forms for both Queen and Attendants can be obtained by emailing Mike Ryan on 6omeryan@googlemail.com or Carol Bunday on carol_bunday@sky.com and the selection event for both will take place during mid-April, with the crowning ceremony taking place on Saturday 25th June, ready for the South Brent Carnival, which will be held later that day.

We, the carnival committee hope this year's carnival will be bigger and better than before, but we need your help; we need people to take part in the events, join in the parade as a group or an individual, or just come along and support. With your help we can make it happen! This pandemic has proven that the community spirit is still alive and kicking, so please support us however you can.

Mike Ryan
(Carnival Committee Chair)

Carol Bunday
(Committee Vice Chair)