



WHAT'S GOING ON?

Residents will probably be aware that, as we go to press (14th Feb), the County Council is currently consulting on the future of your library. They wish to hear from residents or groups who have ideas on how to reduce the running costs of our library (by at least 30%) by the end of April. The library will then operate normally until March 2012 whilst the County Council talks to any groups that come forward on the way ahead. It has been made clear however that, if no-one comes forward - it will close. There is also a decision due on the Household Waste Site ("The Dump") on 17th Feb. If it turns out that the County Council has earmarked Leiston's Household Waste Site for closure it will be announced on that date.

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From your Chairman

Firstly I would just like to say how sad I and my fellow councillors were at the loss of Cllr Bryan Barnes in January. Bryan had been a Councillor since 2003 having also served four years from 1987. In February we were very sorry too to hear of the death of Mrs Josie Howard. Josie had also served as one of your Councillors from 1991—2003. Both of them have been so supportive and dedicated

to our community over many years and our condolences go out to their families.

I don't think anyone knows what this phrase "Big Society" actually means? Of course power to communities is a good idea, BUT without concrete funding and powers it will just be an empty phrase. Have they not noticed that there are already thousands of volunteers, running youth groups, cubs, scouts, brownies, guides, school governors, charity shop workers, citizens advice, dinner clubs etc. The list is endless. Where will all these others come from to take on all these new entities??? Our problem as your duly elected representatives at the moment is to take forward the town's objections to all the proposed changes. We hope that we can also support you as you also take forward and make your views known on these important issues. There are a lot of "consultations" going on at the moment with regard to Libraries, Youth Clubs and Care Homes etc. but not even that with our Household Waste Recycling Centre (the dump)

- we will know by the time this newsletter is delivered whether they have closed our dump or not. What with the proposals for care homes, reducing front line policing and cutting bus routes I shudder to think what will be next?

Please be assured however that we will at all stages keep you informed and hold meetings so that we can keep you advised, It may feel that we are not responding very quickly but we always wait till we receive all the facts and figures, and once we have had a chance to review them we will inform all our residents.

On a different note there are elections this coming May and should you have aspirations of becoming a Councillor then please contact our clerk Mr John Rayner for more information. My Vice Chairman, Bing Boast, has kindly written a short article below to tweak your appetite!

Tony Cooper

Being A Leiston Town Councillor.

When I first became a councillor in 2007 I wrote in the newsletter about my thoughts and aspirations as a newly elected councillor. I'm just completing my first four year term and it has been, interesting, challenging and a long learning curve but also most rewarding, feeling part of the changing needs of Leiston.

I have attended training courses and taken the opportunities to learn about various aspects of what goes on behind the scenes in the town. Various meetings regarding the new wind farms and their connections to the National Grid, being a representative on the Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group and learning about the marshes, management of the sluice and the potential threat by coastal erosion, with its threats to the sluice and possible consequences for Leiston sewerage works.

I have also visited the Anglia Water works at Lowestoft and the Viridor waste disposal operation at Gt Blakenham, to further my knowledge of local services.

More recently, the yet to be agreed proposals for Sizewell C and Tesco's wish to have a store in town all make for keeping life as a councillor interesting. With the new coalition government in power with their proposals to reduce the national deficit with the proposed cuts in services, libraries, youth clubs, lollipop school crossing services and policing all in the news, the new schools reorganisation programme, the next four years will be even more of a challenge.

In the last two years I have been honoured by fellow councillors in being elected Vice Chairman of the council, a role I'm very proud of. Again it has made me realise just what is involved in being a councillor, in representing the residents of Leiston and Sizewell, how I have to put my own views and opinions to one side on occasions and remembering to voice the towns best interests on all the important issues that arise.

The present Town Appraisal review has highlighted for me just how much more I have to learn. Listening to long standing fellow councillors referring to past actions, the history and realising just how the town of Leiston has evolved over the past decades from Garrett Works, through Sizewell A, then B. The changing face of our two large industrial estates, the changes in the high street shops all leave me feeling like a newcomer to the town although I've made my home in Leiston over the last 35 years.

The end of my first 4 year term is nearing. I have enjoyed my role as councillor. Only time will tell if I'm re-elected for a second term but it would be an honour if I were although part of the reason for writing this is to encourage others to step forward and offer themselves for election too. It's clear from my experiences in the town that there are many people who have the knowledge, skills and history of Leiston to fulfil the role of a Town Councillor. It's a challenge I offer to you all to

come forward and take Leiston into the next decade and maintain our great heritage.

Bing Boast

BECOMING A COUNCILLOR

If you are considering standing for election for the Town Council on 5th May this year you will need to fill in a nomination paper and hand it to the Town Clerk before 29th March. Residents can collect a nomination pack (or request a delivery) from the 7th March.

There are two forms to be completed, a nomination paper (signed by two electors) and a candidate's consent to nomination. You will get very detailed guidance on how to fill them in inside the pack.



FAIRTRADE COFFEE MORNING

Thursday 3rd March 2011

at

Peter Free Foyer

Leiston Film Theatre

10.30 am – 12.00 noon

Come along to learn more about Fairtrade
This event is being held during Fairtrade Fortnight



It was very encouraging to see so many young people giving their support

Save Leiston Library

At 10.30am on Saturday 5th February around 200 people gathered to protest against Suffolk County Council's proposals to close Leiston library and 28 other libraries in the county. This was an amazing turn-out and is a clear indication of people's support for the library and their rejection of the County Council's proposals. The protest was kindly organised by Steve Smedley. For further information on the Save Leiston Library campaign please go to:

www.saveleistonlibrary.wordpress.com

Ann Nunn



Many people queued up to sign a petition



Just some of the councillors that turned up to give their support and talk with the residents

Many residents at the demonstration expressed a wish to continue the protests so another day of action was planned for **Saturday 5th March**. It was hoped to make this an even bigger event with local reading groups and book clubs playing a leading role. It was also hoped that the children, who will be the biggest losers if the Library closes, will continue to give their support. Watch out for more details on how you can help or join in the campaign on the website opposite or through the posters that will be put around the Town.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT ASKING THE CAB?

Have you got a problem? What do you think your local Citizens Advice Bureau does - could it help you? Do you think that you have to pay for any advice you seek? Do you think that you need to make an appointment weeks in advance?

Here are some answers:

Your Local CAB is completely FREE to everyone. It is run by friendly, fully-trained volunteers and no appointment is needed. Everything discussed is kept completely confidential. The CAB deals with almost everything that affects people in their daily lives – problems at work, welfare benefit entitlements, debts of all sorts, neighbour disputes, consumer problems, housing difficulties, relationship breakdown and pretty much anything else. The adviser can help you to complete difficult forms, work out whether you are claiming all the benefits to which you are entitled, make sure that you are not being treated unfairly by utility companies or salespeople and lots of other things.

All you need to do is to go to your nearest CAB if you have something you need to talk about, or you can **telephone on 01728 832193**. There are several offices in this area and their opening times are below:

Leiston – 14, Colonial House, Station Road, Leiston

Monday	10.00 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.
Tuesday	10.00 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.
Thursday	10.00 a.m. – 2.30 p.m.
Friday	10.00 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

Wickham Market – Resource Centre, Chapel Lane, Wickham Market

Tuesday	1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.
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Saxmundham – Meadow Children's Centre (by the Middle School), Seaman Avenue, Saxmundham

Wednesday	10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon
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**Woodbridge – The Help Room, Framfield House Surgery,
Ipswich Road, Woodbridge**

Thursday 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon

**Framlingham – Volunteer Centre, 10a Riverside,
Framlingham**

Friday 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon

Ask the CAB – they are there to help you!

Nick Mayo

Continued from the front page.....

WHAT'S GOING ON?



The Youth Club has been told it will close at the end of May, although the Town Council are waiting to negotiate with the County Council to see how this can be avoided. We will know more next month. These are all measures proposed by the County Council to save money. The District Council are also taking action but not so severe. Currently all that is proposed is that there will be no annual bedding put out in the Cemetery from now on with the flower beds there being planted up with shrubs. You may also notice a reduction in the periodicity of the grass cutting around the town.

The Town Council have prepared themselves as best they can to try and stop this decimation of service to the town but it will be a hard year ahead before we know the true scale of the cuts. Some residents expressed concern about whether the Film Theatre was safe from cuts. I can at least assure you that , certainly for the foreseeable future, the Cinema will continue to show the latest movies and produce excellent shows.

Cruse Bereavement Care – caring for bereaved people for 50 years



Cruse Bereavement Care is the largest bereavement care charity in the UK, with 178 branches throughout the country and 6,300 volunteers. For 50 years, Cruse volunteers have offered practical and emotional support to the families and friends of those who have

died. In the early years, the charity was for the support of widows, but now Cruse is there for everyone bereaved by death: the 83-year old widow who cannot imagine life without her beloved husband of 60 years; the 10-year old boy whose mum is not there to watch his first football match; the hardworking nurse and mother who is shocked by how devastated she is by the death of her elderly dad. Cruse's highly-trained bereavement volunteers are there for them all, offering face-to-face, group or telephone support.

Cruse in Suffolk aims, like Cruse throughout the country, to offer free information, advice and support to anyone who is bereaved, regardless of age, race, culture or background. They hope to enable bereaved people to move forward and to regain a sense of future hope and independence.

Cruse in Suffolk is in urgent need of people not only to train as bereavement support volunteers but also to help in many other ways, such as

fundraising, administration, PR, etc. If you feel you have the time and commitment to become involved in this worthwhile work, please consider joining a training course for bereavement volunteers or contacting Cruse to find out how else you can help. The charity is committed to continue to care for all those who are grieving throughout the county and we are determined to be able to reach anyone who needs us.

For further information please contact :
Mrs Robin Meares, Area Administrator, Suffolk Cruse
Tel: 01245 233518
Email: suffolk@cruse.org.uk
Website : www.suffolkcruse.co.uk

LOCAL HISTORY RECORDER

As we reported last edition we are currently looking for a new Local History Recorder for Leiston. The role of Local History Recorder is really to just record history as it happens and, once a year, submit a very short report to the Suffolk Records Office for posterity. Our previous recorder did this by taking photographs which, as you can imagine, bring back some lovely memories as you flick through them and watch history unfold in the Town - extremely important if we are going to give the next generation a sense of place and belonging. Please ring the Town Clerk for more details if you are interested.

TREES

Thank you very much indeed to Glyn Button and Jim Taylor for volunteering to become the Town's new Tree Wardens.

Leiston Film Theatre News

We have a bizarre mix of films in March, from ballet and boxing, to western and aliens! There has to be something for everyone with the following films.

Black Swan (15), starring Natalie Portman as a gifted ballerina, who lands a dream role in Swan Lake, but faces competition from an impressive new dancer. As the two young dancers expand their rivalry into a twisted friendship, she begins to get more in touch with her dark side and a recklessness that threatens to destroy her.

Nominated for 7 Academy Awards, **The Fighter** (15) is based on the incredible true story of boxer "Irish" Micky Ward's unlikely road to the world light welterweight title. His Rocky-like rise was shepherded by half-brother Dicky, a boxer-turned-trainer who rebounded in life after nearly being KO'd by drugs and crime.

We reckon John Wayne would approve of the remake of his 1969 film. **True Grit** (15) stars Jeff Bridges and Matt Damon and follows a 14-year-old farm girl, who sets out to capture her father's killer. To aid her, she hires and insists on accompanying the toughest U.S. Marshal she can find, whose drinking, sloth, and generally reprobate character do not increase her faith in him. Against his wishes, she joins him in his trek into the Indian Nations in search of the murderer.

Paul (15) is a comedy adventure, starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, as a pair of sci-fi geeks, who venture into America's UFO heartland and accidentally meet an escaped alien named Paul, who takes them on an insane road trip that alters their universe forever. Chased by federal agents, the trio hatch a fumbling escape plan to return Paul to his mother ship!

I Am Number Four (12A) is the story of an extraordinary fugitive teen, on the run from ruthless enemies sent to destroy him. Changing his identity and moving from town to town, he is always the new kid with no ties to his past. However, in a small town he now calls home, he encounters his first love, powerful new abilities and a connection to the others who share his incredible destiny.

Anyone who enjoyed our hilarious pantomime voyage to Treasure Island in January will have noticed the hugely talented **Tom Horton** providing the live musical accompaniment during the show. Well, we are looking forward to welcoming **Tom back to the Film Theatre on Sunday 13th March**, for a special fund raising matinee concert, in aid of our hard working Leiston Film Theatre Support Club. Tickets are now available from our box office on 01728 830549, priced £7.50. Please show your support if you can and enjoy an afternoon of fine entertainment from this respected Suffolk organist.

Our Easter programme promises the best in big screen family entertainment, including **Yogi Bear 3D** (U), **Gnomeo and Juliet 3D** (U) and **Hop** (PG). For screening dates, times and to even watch the trailers, visit our website at www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk or contact our box office on 01728 830549 and we'll send you a programme.

We look forward to welcoming you to your LOCAL cinema soon - proudly serving the community now for 97 continuous years.



The 2011 Census questionnaire will be coming through your letterbox this spring.

On 27 March 2011 all residential households in the United Kingdom will be taking part in a census. Since 1801 (apart from in 1941 during the war) a day has been chosen every ten years for this purpose. The census provides an excellent source of information about the population. This enables central and local government, health authorities and many other organisations to plan housing, education, health and transport services for years to come.



The census statistics feed into resource allocation for local authorities and play a major part in their ability to provide local services, so it is crucial the population estimate is as accurate as possible. When the questionnaire envelope comes through the door you will easily recognise it by the purple 2011 Census logo. Take care of it. If, like many people, you want to complete the questionnaire online, your individual internet code is on the front of the questionnaire.

More information about the 2011 Census is available online at: www.census.gov.uk

IMPORTANT

If you are having trouble understanding or filling in your form please do not be afraid to ring the Town Clerk on 830388 and he will ensure you get the assistance you require to help fill it in correctly.

LOCAL INFORMATION

POLICE: Local Police Community Support Officer
 PCSO Philip Marshall Tel: 01473 613500
 (ask for Leiston or PCSO Marshall)
 Email: leistonaldeburgh.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

DOCTORS: K Hopayian, G Jones, S Simmonds, K Blades

SURGERY: Main Street, Leiston Tel: 01728 830526

COMMUNITY CAR SERVICE: Colonial House, Leiston Tel: 831215

JOBCENTRE: 6 Sizewell Road, Leiston Tel: 01728 404000

LIBRARY: Main Street, Leiston Tel: 01728 831252

LONG SHOP MUSEUM:
 Main Street, Leiston Tel: 01728 832189

LEISURE CENTRE: Red House Lane Tel: 01728 830364

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU:
 14 Colonial House, Station Road, Leiston
 Tel: 01728 832193

SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Refuse Collection	Tel: 01394 444000
Dog Bins	Tel: 01394 444015
Recycling Bins	Tel: 01394 444000
Bus Passes	Tel: 01394 444647

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

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Highways	Tel: 0800 591055
Social Care	Tel: 0845 6066067

EDUCATION

Primary School	Tel: 01728 830745
Middle School	Tel: 01728 830886
High School	Tel: 01728 830570

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Leiston Children's Centre, King George's Ave	Tel: 833129
Leiston Scouts	Steven Burch Tel: 832479
Leiston Guides, Brownies, Rainbows	Alison Smith Tel: 833086
Leiston Youth Club	Gary Butler Tel: 830438
Leiston Women's Institute	Betsie Black Tel: 688354
CYDS	Stuart Watson Tel: 830716
CATS	Sadie Staff Tel: 830516
Leiston Royal British Legion Band	Jacci Plant on jaccirocco@aol.com
Leiston Swimming Club	Matt Dye Tel: 833266 Mathew.dye@btopenworld.com

TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr David Bailey, 8 Garrett Crescent IP16 4LB	831032
Cllr Bing Boast, 10 Buller Road IP16 4HA	830391
Cllr Tony Cooper, 28 King George's Ave. IP16 4JG	830181
Cllr John Geater, 28 Westward Ho IP16 4HY	830761
Cllr Susan Geater, 19 Haylings Grove IP16 4DU	
Cllr Colin Ginger, 20 Heath View IP16 4JP	832400
Cllr Trevor Hawkins, 78 King George Ave. IP16 4JG	830234
Cllr Terry Hodgson, 27 King George's Ave. IP16 4JX	830917
Cllr Bill Howard, 52 Waterloo Avenue IP16 4HE	831455
Cllr Frank Huxley, 56 Waterloo Avenue IP16 4HE	830415
Cllr Jacqui Morrissey, 35 Ashfield Drive IP16 4EF	635592
Cllr Andrew Nunn, 1 Andrew Close IP16 4LE	830462
Cllr Ann Nunn, 1 Andrew Close IP16 4LE	830462
Cllr Nigel Parker, 19 Haylings Grove IP16 4DUY	833501

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr John Geater, 28 Westward Ho IP16 4HY	830761
Cllr Trevor Hawkins, 78 King George's Ave IP16 4JG	830234
Cllr Andrew Nunn, 1 Andrew Close IP16 4LE	830462

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Richard Smith MVO, 8 Albion Street, Saxmundham IP17 1BN	602714
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TOWN CLERK

Mr John Rayner,
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IP16 4ER

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Office open: Monday & Tuesday 09.00 – 12.30 14.00 – 16.45
Thursday & Friday 09.00 – 12.30

See your Town and Council at www.leiston.com

LEISTON FILM THEATRE 01728 830549

SEE WHAT'S ON AT www.Leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

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