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AYLESHAM GARDEN VILLAGE NEWS

YOUR NEWSLETTER FOR THE WHOLE VILLAGE - AUTUMN 2021



The ASPIRE hub, based at Bechange in Ackholt Road, Aylesham, is a welcoming and nurturing place where you'll find a fantastic wealth of support, advice and expertise to help you achieve your health, wellbeing and work goals.

Everything is free and flexible – you don't have to take part in all the sessions, just come to those that interest you, and take part for as long as you find it helpful.

ASPIRE Get Growing encourages you to start growing your own, or teach you some new skills if you are a gardener already. Our garden consultant Rachel and friendly volunteers have loads of knowledge to share with you. To get the gardening bug, join her on a Monday from 10am-2pm.

ASPIRE Get Cooking will give you loads of tips on how to cook a range of healthy, delicious, cost-effective meals and we regularly pick food from the garden and

cook with it – straight from plot to plate. Aspire will be running more free courses throughout the autumn and winter, so if you would like to book onto one (they run on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings), please phone 01304 840134 or email enquiries@bechange.org.uk

ASPIRE Get Working is a great chance to learn new skills, practise interview techniques, create an eye-catching CV and much more. Aspire is offering one to one and group mentoring to help you to reach your career goals and can find you work experience or volunteering opportunities to help you get started. You will also be able to join accredited courses such as First Aid, Health and Safety, Food Hygiene, Maths and English L1 and L2. Friendly supportive sessions are every Tuesday 12-3pm.

NHS Get Walking is run by ASPIRE's One You Weight Loss Advisor Teela who leads Health Walks every Monday starting at 11.15am from the Bechange Community Hub. Each walk will last 30-40 minutes and we explore the local area before returning to the Hub for a cuppa. Anyone is welcome to join these walks – there is no need to book, just pop along.

ASPIRE Get Active offers you 3 months free Your Leisure membership to be used at Tides Leisure Centre, which includes access to the gym, swimming, group exercise, tennis and online classes.

Keep an eye on social media for news or more ASPIRE sessions and activities coming soon.

Facebook: @AspireProjectEastKent

Instagram: @aspireeast

To book onto ASPIRE, phone 01304 840134 or email enquiries@bechange.org.uk



BARRATT SUPPORTS BECHANGE WITH £1,000 DONATION

Local housebuilder Barratt Homes has recently supported the Bechange Community Hub with a donation of £1,000 as part of its monthly Community Fund.

Barratt Kent's donation will be used to support the 'Time Together' initiative, which will enable the charity to provide workshops, clubs and activities that bring people together. Barratt Kent has previously supported the charity's FAB In a Crisis initiative, which saw the charity operate a thrice-weekly meal service for 120 vulnerable and shielding residents in and around Aylesham.

Angela Doggett, Manager at Bechange, commented: "We are really grateful for the support from Barratt Kent after a difficult year, especially for those who were already struggling with their finances, employment and housing needs before the challenges presented by the pandemic hit. The funding will help us to deliver key activities at our hub to bring the community back together again. We look forward to resuming workshops and clubs in person and continue to support individuals in Aylesham."

Natalie Perry, Sales and Marketing Director of Barratt Kent, adds: "This month we are really excited to continue our work with Bechange through our Community Fund project. Having supported Bechange with the meal delivery service last year, we know the charity works incredibly closely with the local community, offering support to those who need it most. We hope our donation will allow Bechange to develop activities that reduce isolation and enable them to meet people and try new activities."

The housebuilder continues to build new homes at the Aylesham Village development in Aylesham, with the next phase of homes due to launch later this year.



A FOND ADIEU TO EMILY AND A WARM WELCOME TO MARVIN

After six enjoyable years working with the community of Aylesham, Emily Barnes has left her Community Development Officer job with DDC and is embracing a brand new role with the Dover Port Health Authority. Everyone who attended the last Community Networking Meeting wished Emily well and thanked her for the enormous level of support she has given the village.

In the same meeting, Marvin Fishley introduced himself as the new Community Development Officer for Aylesham.

Born and raised in Jamaica, Marvin served as a police officer within the Jamaica Constabulary Force for nine years and created history in 2007 for being the first police officer to have won the longest held competition in Jamaica, called The Tastee Talent Trail (Like X-Factor) with a gospel song entry.

Migrating to the United Kingdom in 2012, Marvin obtained both his BSc Hons in Criminology and Law and a MA in Organised Crime and Global Security from London Metropolitan University respectively. He is currently pursuing his PhD Doctoral research studies at Canterbury Christ Church University.

As the Community Development Officer for Aylesham, Marvin's mission is to help improve the well-being of residents working together with partners, voluntary groups and local businesses for the good of the community. He is looking forward to meeting you.

REFUSE AND GREEN WASTE

Fortnightly garden waste collections resumed from Monday 11 October 2021.

Subscribers should have received a letter confirming details of their garden waste collections. The day of the week for these collections remains the same as before the service was suspended, and more information on this (and all your waste collections), can be found on the online collections checker: <https://collections.dover.gov.uk/property>

In recognition of the garden waste collections that were missed, the Council will be offering a discount off the subscription for 2022/23 to all existing customers. As usual, they will accept up to six bags of garden waste on each collection day.

DDC has apologised for the difficulties that the suspension of the garden waste service created, and thanks those of you affected for bearing with them.

'MEET YOUR POLICE' FRIDAY DROP-IN SESSIONS

HI!

WELCOME

HELLO

YES!

DROP IN AND MEET US!
#chatwithacoffee

Aylesham residents can drop in to the Bechange Community Hub for an informal chat, or to report any general concerns regarding community safety in the village, with Police Community Support Officer, Emma Carmichael, and Community Development Officer, Marvin Fishley, at the following dates and times:

- 15 October 11am-1pm • 29 October 2pm-4pm
- 5 November 11am-1pm • 19 November 2pm-4pm
- 3 December 11am-1pm

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Aylesham Networking Meetings take place monthly online via Zoom 3pm-4pm. The next dates are:

Wednesday 27 October
Wednesday 24 November
Wednesday 22 December

Please email marvin.fishley@dover.gov.uk if you would like to attend/for the meeting link.

SUMMER REFLECTIONS

Aylesham enjoyed a busy summer of pop-up events taking place across the village. Dover District Council's community team hosted a stand with advice and information on planned activities and local services, accompanied by local community groups including Bechange, ASPIRE and the Aylesham Hub.

Following the turbulence of the last 18 months, it was good to meet and chat with so many residents over the summer months, whilst sharing information about activities taking place in Aylesham.

Local children took advantage of Reconnect, a free summer holiday activity and food programme, benefitting from free activity days run by PACE soccer at Aylesham Primary School.

AYLESHAM LIBRARY IS OPEN TO VISITORS

Aylesham Library is open to visitors once more and the team looks forward to welcoming you.

The current opening hours are:

Monday CLOSED

Tuesday 9:30am-12:30pm, 13:30pm-17:00pm

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday 9:30am-12:30pm, 13:30pm-17:00pm

Friday 9:30am-12:30pm, 13:00pm-16:00pm

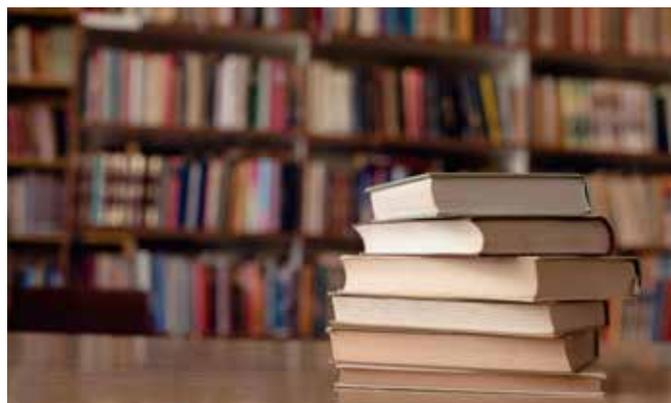
Saturday- 9:30am-13:30pm

Sunday- CLOSED

The library team also intends to get your much-loved clubs and activities back up and running soon, and is keen to start working together with schools, Bechange and other local community projects to see what more can be delivered.

They are looking for more volunteers to work within the library to help get all the services back up and running. The team particularly needs Home Library Service Volunteers who help to get books to those library customers who live in the local area and are unable to get to the library themselves. For more information, please speak to a member of staff within the library.

Kirsty Marsh is the main Customer Support Assistant at Aylesham and works alongside a team of others. Kirsty and the team are really looking forward to welcoming regular residents back to the library and also meeting some new faces too!





Marvin Fishley
Community Development
Officer for Aylesham.

Community meetings are
held monthly online.
All welcome.

Contact Marvin for more
information and the
meeting link.

marvin.fishley@dover.gov.uk
07564 045639



Rebecca Dyer
Community Development
Team Leader

rebecca.dyer@dover.gov.uk
07891 821 051



Samantha Stanley
Community Development
Officer (Aspire)

samantha.stanley@
dover.gov.uk
07547 714 655

YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Aylesham and Snowdown form part of Dover District Council's ward of Aylesham, Eythorne and Shepherdswell, represented by three councillors. They are:

Cllr Linda Keen, Labour,
01227 830790

cllr-linda.keen@dover.gov.uk

Cllr Peter Walker, Independent,
07768 106009

cllr-peter.walker@dover.gov.uk

Cllr Charles Woodgate, Labour,
cllr-charles.woodgate@dover.gov.uk

Further details about their individual
council responsibilities can be viewed on the
Dover District Council website
www.dover.gov.uk

KEEPING INFORMED

To keep up to date with local Aylesham news, sign up to the council's Keep Me Posted Service and select Aylesham from the list.

There are over 70 topics to choose from.
Visit www.dover.gov.uk/keepmeposted

For Aylesham residents on Twitter,
please follow us at @ayleshamgarden for regular posts and retweets of local news and activities going on in your local area.

Local Aylesham groups all have their own Facebook pages too. Search 'Aylesham Facebook' and they will pop up for you to visit/follow.

Please email pr@dover.gov.uk if you have anything you wish to include in the next Aylesham Garden Village News.

Useful phone numbers and emails

Please help Kent Police and Dover District Council maintain Aylesham's record of low crime by reporting directly to them anything suspicious you may see or hear.
The more detail you can provide, the better.

You can report antisocial behaviour of any kind by simply phoning Kent Police on 101 and leaving a voice message or calling Dover District Council's Community Safety Unit on 01304 872220.

Fly-tipping and dog fouling issues can be reported to the district council via 01304 872289.

You can email civil enforcement officers via envcrime@dover.gov.uk

For incidents at the railway station or on the tracks, please text the British Transport Police via 61016, call Eyewitness on 0330 095 8444 or email eyewitness@southeasternrailway.co.uk

For after sales support on the Aylesham Garden Village development, Persimmon Homes customers can contact local site manager Aaron Bhat on 07990 004640.

Persimmon's out of hours team (4.30pm-9am Monday to Friday and 24 hours a day at weekends) can be reached on 08700 605520.

For customers of Barratt Homes, please call 01304 841214 who will be able to arrange help and advice.

You can also email the district council's planning enforcement team via planningenforcement@dover.gov.uk and in emergencies only 07864 608817.

Aylesham Garden Village News

Follow Aylesham Garden Village on Twitter @ayleshamgarden and subscribe to Aylesham updates at www.dover.gov.uk/keepmeposted for up to date news.
Aylesham Garden Village News (www.ayleshamgardenvillage.co.uk) is produced by

Dover District Council and edited by the Communications Team.

Full information about the council and its services – which include bin collections and planning applications – can be found online at www.dover.gov.uk