



FREE
PARKING ALL DAY
SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER
YOUR COMPLIMENTARY COPY

Abingdon-on-Thames
Christmas
Extravaganza

To find out more www.abingdonchamber.co.uk
www.abingdon.gov.uk

 [christmasinabingdon](#)
 [#xmasabingdon](#)

 Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce



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ABINGDON

10 Broad Street, Abingdon OX14 3LH
Tel . 01235 548700
email . abingdon@wenntownsend.co.uk

www.wenntownsend.co.uk

Welcome

Welcome to this brochure which introduces you to our fourth annual Extravaganza day in Abingdon at the beginning of the lead up to Christmas and is brought to you by the Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce, with the support of Abingdon Town Council & Choose Abingdon Partnership. We have been working extremely hard since last December to bring you a fantastic Extravaganza & we do hope that you all enjoy the day. Whilst you are in town celebrating the start of Christmas please take a few minutes to walk around those streets that you may not normally walk down, you are sure to find some hidden gems in some of the fantastic shops & cafe's that make up our town. Our businesses offer great face to face customer service & a wide range



of knowledge, always on hand to help you find that allusive Christmas present. We would love it if you could support our local businesses and come and shop in Abingdon as well as enjoying our growing nightlife – have fun!

Thank you to our main sponsors Mays Properties, Wenn Townsend, Davis Tate, Kings Head & Bell, Crown & Thistle.

*On behalf of the
Abingdon-on-Thames Extravaganza
sub-committee*



Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce



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Message from the Mayor

One of the great joys of being Mayor is being allowed to make Abingdon, and what goes on in and around the town, my number one priority. Family, friends and colleagues all understand this, which is just as well given how many clubs and societies, and how many charitable and voluntary organisations there are in the town to discover or to get to know better; all, in their different ways, so admirable and worthwhile.

And of course one of the great events in the town's calendar is the Extravaganza.

Each year brings new ideas, and builds on past successes.



What do the local businesses, the Town Council, Choose Abingdon Partnership, and the Chamber of Commerce have in store for us all this year? You will have to read the brochure to find out and then go and discover it all for yourself.

One thing for certain is that the Christmas lights will burst into colour, heralding the approaching Christmas festivities, fireworks will shoot into the sky, the shops will beckon, and the town will be full of things to enjoy.

As ever, there is more to enjoy after today. As Mayor, I will be inviting everyone to a Christmas Carol Concert on Friday December 5th at 7pm in the Guildhall. It's a free event with the chance to sing all your favourite carols, accompanied by the Abingdon Town Band, and mulled wine and mince pies on sale to complete the festive atmosphere.

Have an enjoyable and memorable day, and I wish you all and your families a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Angela Lawrence



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This is our first Christmas in the new salon, so we want to make it special! We have put together exclusive gift ideas that start from **£3.50** and can be combined with vouchers to use on all hairdressing services. As always Christmas is a very busy period, so we do ask bookings are made in advance to avoid disappointment. All new clients to the salon will receive **£5.00** off their first visit.

We also would like the opportunity to welcome Irena to the salon, Irena is our beauty specialist who is highly experienced in Nail art and waxing. Irena works 3 days a week Tuesday to Friday. For more information about Irena's services please pop in for a price list.

For a unique hairdressing and beauty service you now know where to come!

01235 553642 www.seanantony.co.uk

3 East St. Helen Street , Abingdon on Thames OX14 5EG

Christmas opening hours:

Monday 22nd – 9am to 5pm

Tuesday 23rd – 10am to 8pm

Wednesday 24th – 9am to 1pm

The salon will reopen Wednesday 31st December 9am to 4pm



*We've still got
a few places left...*

Christmas Parties £26
Christmas Day £65
New Year's Eve £60

www.crownandthistleabingdon.co.uk

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Choose Abingdon

Partnership

This year the Choose Abingdon Partnership reached its fifth anniversary. As well as keeping favourite projects like the Local Excellence Market and Community Shop running, 2014 has been mainly focused on providing support services to the BID Team, the enthusiasts who have been putting together a business plan for the next five years of town marketing and place management based on the introduction of a Business Improvement District (more about the BID on other pages in this brochure).



The Partnership Board saw that BID legislation represented an opportunity for the businesses to put in place a structure with a five year funding arrangement, replacing the year on year uncertainty which has been the overriding problem faced by the Choose Abingdon Partnership since its three year funding arrangement expired in 2012.

Choose Abingdon would like to thank **Slade Legal** for their sponsorship during 2014. The Partnership's administrative office is now located at Slade Legal offices on Stratton Way.



For more information about Slade Legal's wide range of expertise: www.slade-legal.co.uk or call the Abingdon branch for advice **01235 521920**.



In 2015, with the potential establishment of the town centre BID, the Partnership will need to evolve. It may become an organisation that supports the BID or it may become a forum for councils, business and community to solve problems around the same table. No decisions will be made until the outcome of the BID ballot is known.

As Choose Abingdon Partnership Manager for five years I had one of the most rewarding jobs of my career and would like to thank all of those I worked with, especially the incredible volunteers of this town. I will still be around as I recently applied for and was offered the post of Community Services Officer with Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council, who very kindly agreed to “lend” me back to the Partnership part-time to maintain its work until decisions are made about 2015. It’s going to be an exciting time for the town if the BID gets a YES vote from the businesses and I will be enormously relieved to know that



Abingdon’s hard pressed independent shops will have a supportive structure and guaranteed funding to work with over the next five years which will mean they can think bigger and achieve better results than has been possible up to now.



Just some of the projects delivered or supported by the Partnership in the past four years

- Local Excellence Market
- Gazebos scheme
- Community shop project
- Loyalty card scheme
- Good Living Event
- Redesign of town maps
- Walk books & 52 Things to Do
- ‘What’s On’ leaflets
- Tourism Research Study
- Cycling Festival
- New town website



Our business is 50/50 but we always give 100%



Property is what we are all about. Whether it's Buying, Selling, Letting or Renting. We make sure you get the best professional advice. All the signs are there. In fact that's probably why you see so many of them around. Come and see us today.

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A L L P R O P E R T Y M A T T E R S

Christmas Services in Abingdon - 2014

ST NICOLAS' CHURCH

21st December	6:00pm	Carol Service
24th December	4.00pm	Crib Service
	11:30pm	Holy Communion
25th December	10am	Holy Communion

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

24th December	3.00	Crib Service
	6.30	Carol Service
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
25th December	10.00am	Sung Mass

OUR LADY & ST EDMUND (RC)

24th December	6pm 9pm	Vigil Mass of Christmas with Carols from 8.30pm
25th December	8, 9.30 & 11.30am	Mass - N.B. No Evening Mass

TRINITY

21st December	6:30pm	Carol Service
24th December	4:30pm	Torch Light Service
	11:30pm	Midnight Communion
25th December	10:00am	Family Worship

PEACHCROFT CHRISTIAN CENTRE

14th December	10.00am	All age Nativity Service
21st December	4.00pm	Carols by Candlelight followed by refreshments
24th December	4.00pm	Christingle Service
25th December	10.00am	Christmas Celebration for all ages

ABINGDON COMMUNITY CHURCH (at Thameside School, Cotman Close, Abingdon, OX14 5NL)

14th December	10.30am	Family Nativity Service – the Christmas story with activities for all ages
21st December	4pm	Carols in the Hall – community carol singing with refreshments
25th December	11am	Christmas day Family Celebration – short service for all ages

ST HELEN'S CHURCH

21st December	5.30	Carol Service
24th December	4.00	Christingle and Crib Service
	11.30	First Eucharist of Christmas
25th December	8.30	Holy Communion (1662)
	10.30	Sung Eucharist (all-age)

CHRIST CHURCH ON LONG FURLONG

12-13 December	24 Hour Sponsored Carol Marathon,
	Long Furlong Community Centre
21st December	10am Family Carol Service, Long Furlong School
24th December	4pm Christingle Service, Community Centre
25th December	10am Christmas Day Family Service, Community Centre

SALVATION ARMY

19th December	10:30am	Shoppers Carol Service
21st December	16:00	Carol Service

CHRIST CHURCH NORTHCOURT ROAD

14th December	9:30 & 11:15	Children's Carol Services
21st December	4pm & 7pm	Carol Services
24th December	3pm & 4:30pm	Christingle Services
	11pm	Midnight Communion
25th December	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Family Service

QUAKERS (at the Health and Wellbeing Centre, Audlett Drive)

21st December	10.15 am	All Age Worship
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ABINGDON VINEYARD CHURCH (at Preston Road Community Centre)

14th December	10.30am	Family Christmas Crafts
21st December	10.30am	Christmas Celebration with Nativity
25th December	10.30am	Family Christmas Celebration

ALL SAINTS

30th November	10:30am	Family Parade Service
6th December	10:30-12:30	Messy Church
17th December	6:00pm	Family Carol Service
21st December	6:00pm	Carols by Candlelight
25th December	10:30am	Family Worship

Abingdon-on-Thames

Christmas Extravaganza

**Saturday 29th
November
2014**

*running order**

Market Place

- 11:00 Majorettes Perform
- 11:30 Rock Choir Perform
- 12:00 Parade through the town
- 12:15 Abingdon Youth Ballet Perform
- 12:30 Sea Cadet Band Perform
- 13:15 Abingdon Concert Band Perform
- 14:30 Morris Dancers
- 15:15 Rock Choir Perform
- 16:00 Abingdon Community Choir
- 16:30 Fire performance
- 17:00 Presentations
- 17:30 Lights on followed by fireworks
- 17:40 Community Choir
- 18:00 Service in St Nics Church

Bath Street

- Donkeys & Circus Workshop all day
- 12:15 Punch & Judy
- 12:45 Morris Dancers
- 13:15 Punch & Judy
- 13:30 Sea Cadet Band Perform
- 14:15 Punch & Judy
- 15:15 Punch & Judy

*All times are correct at time of going to print & are subject to change

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www.abingdon.gov.uk

The Abingdon Christmas Extravaganza is brought to you by the Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce, working with Abingdon on Thames Town Council & the Choose Abingdon Partnership.

With thanks to our main sponsors

Mays Properties
Wenn Townsend
Davistate
Kings Head & Bell
Crown & Thistle

While you enjoy all the entertainment please walk around the town, many of the shops will be taking part with special events.

The Guildhall will be hosting a vintage fair all day, also the Sue Ryder Charity Shop will be holding a fun day with many activities.

You can find the information stand located within the Community Shop in Bury Street, our medical centre is also based here.


The Community shop is available for local community groups to use throughout the year so as to promote them selves, so it's always worth taking a look as the displays & groups are constantly changing,

A date for your diary ready for next year

Join us on **Saturday 28th November 2015** for another fantastic Christmas Extravaganza

**The Abingdon Chamber of Commerce accept no responsibility for the information supplied by third parties*

 [christmasinabingdon](https://www.facebook.com/christmasinabingdon)

 [#xmasabingdon](https://twitter.com/xmasabingdon)





ABINGDON-ON-THAMES SCOUTS & GUIDES

ABINGDON, RADLEY, SHIPPON

CHRISTMAS POST - 20p per card

Collections from

15TH NOVEMBER TO 12 NOON 15TH DECEMBER 2014

Collection boxes located at:

- Waitrose, Abbey Close
- National Westminster Bank, Market Place
- Charity Cards, Guildhall
- Simon's News, East St. Helen Street
- Radley Village Store
- Clarks Shoes, Bury Street
- The Shoe Shop of Abingdon, Bath Street
- Martins Newsagents, Peachcroft
- The Fone Box, Wooton Road
- All Saints Church, Appleford Drive
- Baptist Church, 35 Ock Street
- St Edmunds Church, Radley Road
- Christ Church, Northcourt Road
- St Helens Church Centre
- St Michaels Church, Park Road
- Trinity Church, Conduit Road

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Other events at Christmas

**31st October–
15th December**

Charity Christmas Cards from over 30 different national and local charities plus advent calendars, wrapping paper and other Christmas extras. Visit our pop-up shop in the Bear Room - **Abingdon Guildhall**

14th November

The Mayors Quiz - **Abingdon Guildhall**

5th December

The Mayors Charities Christmas Concert

12th December

Mayors Over 70's Christmas Party - **Abingdon Guildhall**

13th December

Craft market - A selection of locally crafted quality gifts
9am – 4pm - **Market Place**

Yuletide Celebration - Abingdon Concert band. Tickets £7.50 and £5 concessions. 7:30 - **All Angels Church Park Road**

14th December

The Pavlova Christmas Concert - The Pavlova Wind Ensemble present their annual Christmas concert with music, mincepies and mulled wine! Tickets £10/£9 concessions from the performers, on the door or 07775904626 - 3:00pm – 4:00pm

19th December

Farmers Market

26th December

Comedy Club Friday - www.abingdon.gov.uk
Abingdon Guildhall



SANTAS' ROUTE FOR DECEMBER.
The Lions take Santa around on his Sleigh between 18.00 and 20.00hrs in the following areas of Abingdon.

Tuesday Dec 9th Preston Road area

Wednesday Dec 10th Mill Road area

Thursday Dec 11th Peachcroft North
West area

Friday Dec 12th Peachcroft South
East area

Monday Dec 15th Boulder Road /
Alexander Close area

Tuesday Dec 16th Hanson Road /
Langley Road area

Wednesday Dec 3rd Kennet Road area

Thursday Dec 4th Sellwood Road /
South Avenue area

Friday Dec 5th Appleford Drive area

Monday Dec 8th Audlett drive area



Message from Abingdon BID Team

The legislation allowing businesses to create BIDs has been around since 2004 and there are now over 180 of them across the country. Abingdon-on-Thames may have been a little slow in picking up this idea but at least it has given us time to see if other towns, who voted in their BIDs early on, have found this mechanism to be a success. BIDs expire after a maximum five year period, and a renewal ballot is required to reinstate them. The current statistics are that renewal ballots have returned YES results in 86 out of 90 cases. Clearly there is something very right about BIDs and we needed to offer this method of place management to our businesses. Reading town centre is now on its third BID, having voted to renew twice.

For us, the BID Team, it has been a lot of hard work to meet the legal requirements, prepare paperwork, pass it through the authorities, collate ideas from all the businesses and prepare a costed business plan, whilst at the same time making sure we don't stray into doing the councils' work for them ...and meanwhile we are all trying to run our own businesses!

cont. p18

But it will all be worth it if we can bring in a new system that allows our businesses to have a controlling interest in marketing and promoting the town, and a realistic fund to work with. There is so much untapped potential in this beautiful, historic town on the River Thames but there's no getting away from the fact that great marketing and great events COST MONEY in the modern world. Consumers are getting increasingly sophisticated and amateur events cobbled together on a shoestring are not going to get Abingdon on the map with competition from Oxford, Didcot, Newbury, Reading and High Wycombe all within a short drive.

BIDs are a tried and tested legal method that ties in even the global chain stores if they are within the BID area, and requires them to pay into the local pot. Whilst the small independent stores do have to pay a small amount, the important point is that the multiples also have to pay according to their rateable value and this can mean significant funds are at last under local control. The fund is controlled through a BID Company which is run by a board of business-rate payers representing the different business sectors in the town.

Members of the BID Team include:

Specsavers, Dream Doors, Mostly Books, Walk.about Abingdon, Wenn Townsend, Babelquest, The Newbury Building Society, The Gift Centre.

Choose Abingdon Partnership has supported the BID Team with project funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government.



**For more BID facts go to:
www.abingdon.gov.uk/business/bid-proposal**



On Tuesday 14th April 2015 there will be an opportunity for all local businesses to put questions to the candidates standing for Oxford West & Abingdon in the forthcoming general election.

Abingdon-on-Thames Chamber of Commerce organised this prior to the last General Election and it was extremely well attended and has received good feedback from candidates and business people alike.

So do you want to ask where do they stand on Business rates? Taxes? Red tape? Or are there other topics you feel are relevant?

We will be finalising the arrangements for this early next year so please put the date in your diary, 14th April 2015, 6 p.m. in the Roysse Room, the Guildhall, Abingdon, and watch out for more information on our web-site www.abingdonchamber.co.uk and/or in the minutes of our meetings.

Season's greetings

Your family friendly building society would like to wish you a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

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Abingdon-on-Thames

FAIRTRADE GROUP



Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce



Abingdon on Thames successfully renewed its Fair Trade status in May 2014, thanks to the residents & businesses in the town.



The certificate was presented to the Mayor, councillor Angel Lawrence, to receive on behalf of Abingdon. Buying Fair Trade products locally not only ensures that the producers in other countries receive a fair price for the product they farm or make, but it also helps the businesses in Abingdon. There are many retailers, pubs, cafe's & restaurants within the town that stock or serve a variety of Fair trade products. Large & small businesses have identified the importance of Fair trade, and we also have the support of Abingdon Town council, who offer a variety of Fair trade products in the Guildhall.

Abingdon on Thames Fair Trade Group

More information about Fair trade in Abingdon can be found at:

www.abingdonchamber.co.uk



Christmas Fair at St Ethelwold's

30 East St Helen's Street, Abingdon

Saturday 29th November 10 – 4

- Find unique and ethical gifts this year!
- Fair Trade Bazaar
- Local Crafts and Vintage gifts
- Enjoy refreshments and Christmas goodies by our log fireside



Dates for 2015

<i>31st January</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>14th April</i>	Hustings
<i>3rd May</i>	Abingdon Air & Country Show
<i>9th May</i>	Mr Hemmings Day of Dance
<i>13th May</i>	Town annual meeting & Mayor Making
<i>30th May</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>6th June</i>	Fun & Music in the Park
<i>20th June</i>	Mayor Making of Ock Street Craft Market
<i>29th August</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>12th-13th September</i>	Heritage weekend
<i>26th September</i>	Splash of pink day
<i>5th-6th October</i>	Michlemous Fair
<i>31st October</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>28th November</i>	Christmas Extravaganza
<i>12th December</i>	Craft Market
<i>Every Monday</i>	Monday Market
<i>3rd Friday of every Month</i>	Farmers Market

- Abingdon-on-Thames Chamber of Commerce
- Choose Abingdon Partnership
- Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council



Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce

- Wenn Townsend
- Davistate
- Mays Properties
- Customers of Waitrose
- Kings Head & Bell
- Crown & Thistle
- Dream Doors
- Paul Viney Photography
- Sean Anthony
- Simon's News
- Thomas & Co
- Newbury Building Society
- Mostly Books
- Kemp & Kemp
- Duncan Brown, Master of Ceremonies



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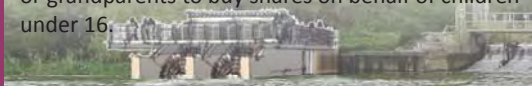
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ABINGDON HYDRO: POWER FROM THE THAMES

After four years of research and planning, Abingdon Hydro is near the end of the bureaucracy required for generating electricity from the Thames. The £1 million scheme will harness the sustainable, green power of the river without diverting it or enclosing it. Some of the water currently flowing over the Abingdon weir will instead go through two reverse Archimedes screws, 3.3m in diameter.

As far as we know this is Abingdon's first green, ethical community investment and the opportunity to buy shares will be launched on Saturday 1 November. This is a long term investment with a target return of about 4%. The minimum investment is £500 and it will qualify for a tax rebate under the Enterprise Investment Scheme. We hope also to have a scheme to enable parents or grandparents to buy shares on behalf of children under 16.



There is more on the web site,
www.abingdonhydro.co.uk.



The Kings Head & Bell
Abingdon

**CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS
NOW BEING TAKEN**

CELEBRATE THE SEASON AT THE KINGS HEAD & BELL

MULLED WINE - MINCE PIES - PRIVATE HIRE - ROARING LOG FIRE



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&
KEMP**

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and a Prosperous
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