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COMPLIMENTARY
COPY

Welcome to
Christmas
in Abingdon 2015

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Paul Viney
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Leachprint

To find out more visit www.abingdonchamber.co.uk

 /abingdonxmas

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Welcome

Welcome to the festive season in Abingdon, 2015. This magical time of year is upon us and in Abingdon this all kicks off with our annual Extravaganza. The Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce have been working hard since last December to ensure that the day is a success for all who take part, the charities with their stalls, the entertainers, the local businesses and, most of all, those of you who come along on the day to be entertained, shop and have an enjoyable time.

The Chamber of Commerce members are all volunteers who give up their time for the good of the town and to make events such as the Extravaganza happen. Whilst you enjoy the entertainment through the day, please do take the time to walk around our wonderful town, visit some shops you would not normally visit, enjoy a coffee in one of our unique coffee shops and then, in the evening as we are packing away, why not visit one of our great pubs or restaurants? We are here all year, so take a look at what is available right on your doorstep and please support your town centre.



A big thank you to our sponsors as without their support, the Extravaganza would not be possible - Mays Properties, Smeg, Slade Legal, Hodsons, South & Vale District Council, Abingdon on Thames Town Council, Wenn Townsend, The Kings Head & Bell, The Crown & Thistle. Particular thanks also to the Extravaganza sub-committee and in particular our member Paul Townsend without whom this event would not happen.

Jill Carver
Secretary
Abingdon-on-Thames
Chamber of Commerce



Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce



ABINGDON CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

As an Abingdon business we are proud to offer our support.

Come and see our Smeg retro christmas caravan and have your picture taken in our photo booth.

www.smeguk.com



HI CHILDREN! WOULD YOU LIKE THE CHANCE TO TURN ON THE ABINGDON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND MEET PADDINGTON BEAR?

PADDINGTON HAS LOST ALL OF HIS MARMALADE SANDWICHES WHILST DOING HIS CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN ABINGDON TOWN CENTRE.

Can you help him find them? Visit Added Ingredients, Stert Street, or Simon's News, East Saint Helen Street to pick up your competition form.

The hunt begins **Saturday 21st November** & Paddington's sandwiches need to be found by 4:30pm on 28th November - The Abingdon Christmas Extravaganza!

SEE YOU THERE!




**FREE PARKING
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**SATURDAY 28TH
NOVEMBER**

**REMEMBER ALL COUNCIL
CAR PARKS OFFER 2
HOURS FREE PARKING
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

Message from the Mayor

Christmas in Abingdon. What does it mean to you? For me, I have many happy memories of the Festive season in town, from driving through town on a sunny Christmas day in an open top car wearing Santa hats to losing my sons, then only toddlers, on Extravaganza evening and finding them in Superdrug trying on the lipsticks. And then, a few years ago, there was the memorable last shopping Saturday before Christmas, when the whole town ground to a halt after about 6 inches of snow fell during the morning.

Abingdon is a special place. I knew that already having moved here nearly 30 years ago – and stayed. However, since becoming Mayor I have been amazed by the number and variety of clubs, charities and community organisations based in the town and I am humbled by the hours that the volunteers of the town put into making Abingdon what it is.

And of course we must not forget our local traders. I know shoppers want the chains for their every day essentials – but we should also value the incredible range of independent traders that we have in Abingdon. I won't list names, because I am bound to miss some out, but we have shops that people travel miles to visit because they offer goods or services they can't get in their own town or city. These are the shops where we can buy the goods the chains don't stock, we can order that obscure item or find the out of the ordinary gift for someone special.

This is the fifth year that the Chamber of Commerce has organized the Christmas Extravaganza and they have turned it into a whole day of fun, activities and Christmas shopping. This year we can expect another full programme, from the Parade in the morning to the Fireworks in the evening.



So – please come along, join in the parade, support Abingdon's local community groups, charities and businesses, do a bit of Christmas shopping – but most important of all, enjoy the day and create your own memories of Christmas in Abingdon.

Merry Christmas to you all

Helen Pighills



Seasonal greetings from



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Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce

The Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce have taken over the gazebo scheme from the Choose Abingdon Partnership.

We have a number of gazebos, with weights, available to hire. These are available to everyone, with a discount for charities & community groups.



For more information please email events@abingdonchamber.co.uk



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Winter motoring Advice



Fact: Cars don't like winter, especially if they haven't been prepared to brave the elements! Martin Jamieson, owner of Martin Jamieson Motor Repairs, recommends the following advice to prevent your journeys over the festive season turning as nasty as the weather!

“ Antifreeze (coolant) stops corrosion and protects your car against the cold, however, over time antifreeze weakens and may freeze in very cold weather. Checking your car's antifreeze can prevent the engine from sustaining serious damage. When your car is serviced at our garage we always check the strength of your antifreeze and recommend that it is changed every two years, regardless of the strength.

Batteries are the most common cause of headaches for the motorist over the winter. Low temperatures cause the battery to discharge, which leads to problems with your car starting. It is also useful to ensure the lead connections are clean and secure. Haynes manuals are an excellent resource and explain how you can check your battery.

As you would expect, window wipers are used more frequently this time of year. Wiper blades are relatively inexpensive to replace, so it is worth investing in new ones if yours appear to be worn. Word of warning – if your windscreen has frozen up do not turn your wipers on! The wiper rubbers often freeze to the screen and the rubber tears off.

As with any time of year, it is imperative that the tread on your car's tyres is adequate. There is a legal requirement that a tyre has a 1.6mm tread, although in the winter months we would recommend a 3mm tread as a minimum for optimum safety on the road.

As a final check, remove the dipstick, wipe the oil off the end with a clean rag, replace it and check again. The oil level should rest between the minimum and maximum indicators. If necessary, top up the oil until it is in between these points. Oil should always be replaced with every service.

Despite your best precautions, if snow is forecast it might be worth taking a spade, wellies, a blanket and a torch (with batteries!) in case you get stuck.

The best way to prepare for the winter is to book your car in for a winter service!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!”



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Christmas Day Menu
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New Year's Eve Menu
 3 Courses - £49.95 / 5 Courses £39.95
 Includes a bottle of Prosecco per couple

10 E. St. Helen Street, Abingdon, OX14 5EA

For bookings, phone us on 01235 235369

For a look at our full menus, e-mail us at the.kingsheadandbell@foundationtrust.org.uk

Community FreeSpace

For the last few years, the **Friends of Abingdon** have worked with the Choose Abingdon Partnership to run the "Community Shop" in Bury Street. With the wind-up of Choose Abingdon, the Friends have taken on full responsibility for it and see this as a great opportunity to help promote the wide range of community activities in the town.

The first step has been to re-name it "Community FreeSpace" – the word "shop" caused confusion as we are not actually allowed to use it to sell anything! The space is available free of charge to local community groups, charities and not-for-profit organisations for periods of up to two weeks for small-scale activities such as displays, meetings, small celebrations and generally promoting their organisation. There is no charge for community groups and small local charities; larger charities and not-for-profit organisations are invited to make a donation towards running costs.

Autumn activities in FreeSpace include:

- Oxon and Bucks Woodcarvers 12 – 16 October
- Abingdon Flower Club 17 – 24 October
- Abingdon Wargames Club 31 October
- Didcot & District Woodturners 16 – 21 November
- GO Active drop-ins 26 October/30 November

To find out more, contact freespace@friendsofabingdon.org.uk



- Cheese boards made up
 - Food hampers made up
 - Panettones, pandoras & Portugese Christmas Cakes all available
 - Good range of Sherries, table wines and sparkling
- 14-16 Stert St. Abingdon - 01235 537405



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Abingdon on The

Abingdon's Local Excellence Markets

are back in 2016. The markets are now in their seventh year and are run by the Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce. Each market brings together a variety of goods which are locally produced, crafted or available from a local independent retailer. Some of our traders are unique in their field, many are using the markets to try out their ideas, see if there is a market for their wares before maybe establishing themselves with a permanent retail store, and all are brought together onto our wonderful Market Place. Live music & craft demonstrations are amongst the attractions along with the markets and these, with the County Hall as our backdrop, all add to the overall atmosphere. So do come on down and join us during 2016 to see what these traders have available for you. You can also find out more information at www.abingdonchamber.co.uk, like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/localexcellence

Christine Pettit Art

Local Artist specialising in animal portraits and mixed media art

Commissions undertaken

0845 315779

0770446113

christine.pettit@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/chrishinepettitart



ames Chamber of Commerce

or follow us on Twitter @abingdonle where more information will be available prior to each market.

29th January ~ 29th April

30th July ~ 29th October

Paul Townsend
Market Manager

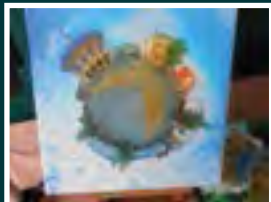


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nikki.mortimer@btopenworld.com



Abingdon Country Market began trading in the town over 65 years ago, originally as W.I. Market. It traded originally weekly, then monthly,

and latterly in the Market of Excellence quarterly. Beginning on Heritage Day this year we have had a new monthly market on the 2nd Saturday of each month, from 10 until 1230 in the Oxford County Councils Daytime Support Centre in The Charter. Our usual range of preserves, cakes, savouries, local honey, vegetables in season, and crafts have been available. Special orders for special occasions can be ordered from us.



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Come to our Christmas Market during the Extravaganza

From 10.30 to 5.30 in St Nicolas' Church in the Market Place

Concerts by local musicians throughout the day
Cakes, toys, gifts, Books, Christmas Cards, Traidcraft
Children's activities, Refreshments
Evening prayer at 6.15pm

Christmas Services

Trinity Church

Sunday 20th December

6:30pm Carol Service

Thursday 24th December **Christmas Eve**

4:30pm Torchlight Service for families, don't forget your torch!

11:30pm Midnight Communion

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

10:00am All Age celebration service

Christ Church - Northcourt Road

Sunday 13th December

9:30am Carol Service - led by our children

11:15am Carol Service - led by our young people

Sunday 20th December

4:00pm Carol Service - Followed by mulled wine and mince pies

7:00pm Carol Service - Followed by mulled wine and mince pies

11:00pm Midnight Communion

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

8:00am Traditional BCP Communion

10:00am Christmas Family Worship

Christ Church - Long Furlong

Sunday 20th December

10:00am Carol Service at Long Furlong School

Thursday 24th December **Christmas Eve**

4:00pm Christingle Service at the Community Centre

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

10:00am Family Service at the Community Centre

Christmas Services cont.

Abingdon Quaker Meeting

Sunday 20th December

10:15am This will take the form of all-age worship, part silent and part programmed readings and carols. All welcome to attend and to join us for mince pies after.

St. Helens

Sunday 29th November

5:30pm Dedication of the Jesse Tree

Sunday 20th December

5:30pm Service of Lessons & Carols for Christmas

Thursday 24th December **Christmas Eve**

4:00pm Christingle Service & Crib Blessing

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) with hymns

10:30am Sung Eucharist with all-age address

Peachcroft Christian Centre

Sunday 20th December

10:00am All Age Nativity Service

4:00pm Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 24th December **Christmas Eve**

4:00pm Christingle Service

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

10:00am All Age Christmas Celebration

All Saints

Sunday 29th November

10:30am Advent Parade Service led by Deacon Selina Nesbitt

Sunday 20th December

6:00pm Carols by Candlelight

Monday 21st December

6:00pm Family Carol Service

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

10:00am Family Worship led by Tabitha Griffiths

St. Nicolas

Sunday 20th December

6:00pm Carols Service

Monday 21st December

4:00pm Crib Service

11:30pm Holy Communion

Friday 25th December **Christmas Day**

10:00am Holy Communion

St. Michaels

Thursday 24th December **Christmas Eve**

6:00pm Carol Service - All welcome! For times of the other services, contact the church office (520144) nearer the time.

Abingdon-on-Thames

Christmas Extravaganza

**Saturday 28th
November
2015**

There will be entertainment throughout the day with various local charities, community groups & traders in Bath Street. Island Farm donkey sanctuary join us here as well.

The parade will leave Queen Street at 12 noon then travel along Stert Street, East St Helen Street, Lombard Street, West St Helen Street & back along High Street. It will then turn onto the Market Place in front of Natwest bank.

After the parade, you can meet Father Christmas on the Market Place while enjoying the musical entertainment throughout the afternoon.

The Rotary Club of Abingdon will again be providing mulled wine and mince pies on the Market Place throughout The Extravaganza. This will be the fourth year that they have brought their 'essential service' to this popular event.

Paddington Bear will be joining us throughout the day. He will be in the parade, you will then be able to find him on the Market Place at the Smeg caravan.

The Christmas lights will be switched on at 17:30, followed by a fantastic firework display courtesy of Mays Properties.

For up to date information please visit www.abingdonchamber.co.uk and don't forget to like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/abingdonxmas

On the day, various information can be found in the Community Free Space in Bury Street. The Red Cross will be based here throughout the day providing medical care; also promoting the essential services that they offer.

*All information is correct at the time of going to print. The Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce accept no responsibility for the accuracy of the information supplied by third parties.

Running Order*

Market Place

11:15	Majorettes
12:00	Parade
12:30	Sea Cadet Band
13:00	Majorettes
13:30	Ashnah
14:00	Morris Dancers
14:30	Charlie Leavy
15:00	Sophie Elise
15:15	Abingdon Concert Band
16:00	Community Choir
16:45	Fire Performance
17:15	Presentations
17:30	The big switch on, followed by fireworks
17:40	Community Choir

Bath Street

10:00	Stalls open for business
12:30	Punch & Judy
13:00	Morris Dancers
13:30	Punch & Judy
14:00	Sea Cadet Band
14:30	Punch & Judy
15:00	Morris Dancers

None of this could be possible without The Extravaganza Committee, Mays Properties, Smeg, Slade Legal, Hodsons, Wenn Townsend, The Kings Head & Bell, The Crown & Thistle

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Abingdon-on-Thames

FAIRTRADE GROUP



Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce



You may not realise that Abingdon is one of many Fair Trade towns across the country, and the world. To be recognised as a Fair Trade Town is a significant status and requires a level of commitment by many businesses and the Councils to both acquire and keep. The Chamber of Commerce was the major player in making this come about and today is still a major player along with other organisations in the town particularly the churches, the schools, the Carbon Cutters and the Friends of Abingdon in ensuring that we take pride in abiding by the principles of Fair trade. As you walk around the town in the lead up to Christmas you will find that many of our retailers & caterers stock and serve Fair trade goods. It is no longer the case that only Chocolate, Coffee & Bananas are fair trade marked and you can now find almost everything from cosmetics to children's toys, clothing & jewellery to your favourite wines all with this worthwhile trading principle .

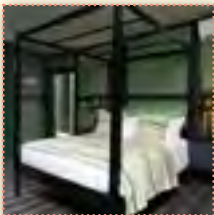


More information about Fair trade in Abingdon can be found at:
www.abingdonchamber.co.uk



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Abingdon on Thames Museum

Tel: 01235 523703

Picture – Paul Viney Photography

Kids Activities:

The Sewing Bee: 28 + 29 October. Ages 3+. Abingdon Museum, Kempster Room
The sewing bee is in town! An imaginative sewing and weaving workshop for kids.

Christmas Crafts: 5 December. Ages 3+. Abingdon Museum, Kempster Room
Get in the festive mood and create your own fabulous decorations for your tree at home!

WW1 Handling Workshop: 7 November, Ages 8+. Abingdon Museum, Kempster Room.
Talks at 11am and 1.30pm. Object handling 10am-3pm.
This workshop combines interesting objects and hard-hitting facts as we approach Remembrance Day.

Evening Events:

Museums at Night

30 October. 6-9pm. Abingdon Museum

The United Nations was formed in this week 70 years ago. Join us for an evening opening of the museum, with internationally inspired fancy dress, music and more.

The Napoleonic Wars & why we should remember them, by Gareth Howell.

6 November, 7-8.30pm. £5.00pp

Back by popular demand, Gareth delivers another compelling talk on the European conflicts that culminated in the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

Textile Workshops, by HapticArt.

19 September, 17 October, 14 November. Ages 14+.

A series of superb textile workshops, designed to introduce novices and intermediate textile artists to new techniques and ideas.



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CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Oxford & District
Cats Protection

Saturday
5th December
2:00 – 4:00pm

*entrance 50p or a
tin of cat food*

Northcourt Centre,
Northcourt Road,
Abingdon



SUE RYDER ABINGDON
ARE HOLDING THEIR
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
EXTRAVAGANZA
ON FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER

THIS YEAR IT WILL TAKE THE FORM OF
A FASHION SHOW TO BE HELD IN STORE
FROM 6.30 P.M. TILL 8.30 P.M.
THERE WILL BE A CHRISTMAS RAFFLE,
TOMBOLA & REFRESHMENTS WILL BE
SERVED

THIS EVENT WILL BE TICKET ONLY
(£5 EACH) SO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID
DISAPPOINTMENT

ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO OUR
NETTLEBED HOSPICE SO THAT THEY CAN
CONTINUE THEIR INCREDIBLE WORK FOR
THE COMMUNITY



What's on at Christmas

11th November

Abingdon & Witney College OPEN DAY:
3.30 – 7.00pm, **Wootton Road OX14 1GG**

**28th October–
15th December**

Charity Christmas Cards will be on sale at
St Nicolas Church, 10am – 4:30pm. Mon-Sat.

**16th October
29th October
26th November**

Added Ingredients Wine & Food evenings.
Visit www.addedingredients.co.uk

2nd December

The Mayors Christmas Carols.
The Market Place, 6pm. Free for all.

5th December

Craft Market, **Market Place**

11th December

Th Mayor's The Over 70's Tea Party, 2pm,
Preston Road Community Centre.

26th December

MG gathering, **Market Place**

Abingdon Squash and Racketball Club

Location: Northcourt Road
at the Rear of Abingdon
College

www.abingdon-squash.co.uk/
info@abingdon-squash.co.uk

01235-530374





Dates for 2016

<i>29th January</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>5th February</i>	The Mayors Civic Dinner
<i>10th April</i>	Cycle Festival
<i>23rd April</i>	Clubs & Societies day, Abbey buildings
<i>29th April</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>1st May</i>	Abingdon Air & Country Show
<i>4th June</i>	Fun in the Parks / Music in the Parks
<i>11th/12th June</i>	Royal Celebrations
<i>9th July</i>	Yeah Baby
<i>30th July</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>September</i>	Dragon Boat Races
<i>8th-11th September</i>	Heritage weekend
<i>2nd October</i>	Fair Sunday Service
<i>3rd/4th October</i>	Michaelmas Fair
<i>10th October</i>	Runaway Fair
<i>29th October</i>	Local Excellence Market
<i>27th November</i>	Craft Market* tbc
<i>Every Monday</i>	Charter Market
<i>2nd Saturday of every Month</i>	Country Market, The Charter
<i>3rd Friday of every Month</i>	Farmers Market

*Join us on Saturday 26th November
for another wonderful Christmas Extravaganza*

Organised by Abingdon on Thames
Chamber of Commerce



Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce



- Mays Properties
- Smeg
- Slade Legal / Hodsons
- Vale of White Horse District Council
- Abingdon on Thames Town Council
- Wenn Townsend
- The Kings Head & Bell
- The Crown & Thistle
- Illusion Fireworks
- The Nags Head
- Abingdon Squash Club
- Martin Jamieson Motor Repairs
- Thomas & Co
- Bridge House
- The Best of Abingdon
- Dream Doors
- Oxford Abingdon Hotel
- Clockwork Dragon
- Added Ingredients
- Paul Viney Photography
- Simon's News
- Stert Street traders
- Local Excellence Market traders



WENN TOWNSEND
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



A special thank you to Duncan Brown, our
Master of Ceremonies

Exceptional Care. Exceptional Luxury. Exceptional Value.

Bridge House Care Home is an exquisite and uniquely-styled care home in the heart of Abingdon-Upon-Thames in Oxfordshire, providing high quality residential, nursing and dementia care in a luxurious but homely environment.



Weekly fees
from £950

- Care focused on individual needs
- Experienced and highly trained nursing and care team
- Complimentary membership to the Riverly Club – spa, hairdressing salon, bistro, fitness suite, cinema
 - Support for all the family
- Full programme of activities and events

Contact us today on **01235 856 002** to see what life is like at Bridge House.

**Bridge House**
Care Home

Thames View, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 3UJ
www.bridgehouseabingdon.co.uk



Winner of CAMRA Town and Country 'Pub of the Year' 2013 and 2014 and features in The Good Beer Guides 2014, 2015 and 2016!

Stunning riverside bar & restaurant in Abingdon-on-Thames

MONDAY

Steak Night!

TUESDAY

Ale & Jazz Club!

WEDNESDAY

Fish 'n' Fizz!

THURSDAY

Ladies Night!

FRIDAY

Live Rock & Blues!

SUNDAY

Roast Lunch & Jazz!

Christmas Parties!

Commencing 16th November

Midweek Christmas Party Menu

Monday to Thursday only



2 courses **£19.95**

3 courses **£23.95**



Christmas Party Menu

3 courses **£28.95**

If you book your party between 16th to 30th November you will get **10% OFF** your food bill.

New Year's Eve Party!

4-course Dinner with a glass of **Prosecco** and dancing to live music with **Nameless**

£60 per person Party only – **£13**

(Party ticket includes free glass of Prosecco)

December Music Guide!

Fridays 9.30pm – late

4th Vinyl Night
11th Steve Summers Band
18th Russ Payne

Saturday
19th Sunfly

Sundays 5 – 7.30pm

6th Blake's Heaven Little Big Band
13th Oxford Jazz Quintet
20th Fleur Stevenson
27th Alison Bentley

