THE MAGAZINE OF HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

#### DECEMBER 2014 - ISSUE 48

## TOWN CRIER



Telephone: 01582 708540 E-mail: info@houghtonregis.org.uk Web: www.houghtonregis.org.uk
Delivered to all properties in Houghton Regis



We are kicking off three weeks of Christmas celebrations starting with:

## **Celebration of Christmas**

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm
The Grove Theatre, Dunstable
Be part of our 'Celebration of Christmas' with
festive songs old and new from seven Houghton Regis
schools plus signing from Luton Mencap &
performances from the young people of Art Town.
Tickets are available from The Grove Theatre
Box Office 01582 602080.

### **Christmas Carol Service**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm All Saints' Parish Church

The Town Mayor's Carol Service will be taking place at All Saints' Parish Church. This will be followed by the switching on of the Christmas Tree lights in Bedford Square, plus light refreshments courtesy of the Town Council. All are welcome to attend.

### Santa's Grotto

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 12pm in Houghton Regis Library

Santa and his elves are stopping by again in Houghton Regis Library on Saturday from 10am – 12 noon. Come and say Ho Ho Ho!

### \*A surprise gift for every child\*

Entrance is *free* although there will be a collection in aid of the Town Mayor's Charities.

The Mayor, Town Councillors and staff all join in wishing every resident of Houghton Regis a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

#### HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

The office will close at 12.30am on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and reopen on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 at 9am.

For more information on any of our events, please see our website: www.houghtonregis.org.uk





Car Show Success!
See page 6 and 7
for full story
& pictures



We will remember them 1914 -Present



## **Houghton Regis Town Council Contact Details**

Houghton Regis Town Council Peel Street, Houghton Regis Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

Telephone: 01582 708540 Fax: 01582 861102 Email: info@houghtonregis.org.uk Website: www.houghtonregis.org.uk

#### Officers:

Clare Evans Town Clerk	01582 708542
Stuart Oliver Deputy Town Clerk	01582 708543
Sarah Gelsthorp Promotions & Communications Officer	01582 708523
Sonia Stennett Accounts & Administration Officer	01582 708541
Jan Cooper Community Organiser	01582 708544
<b>Chantel England</b> Administration Officer	01582 708540

#### **Councillor contact details:**

Houghton Hall Ward:

Cllr. Edward Costello

Cllr. Mrs Shirley Gilchrist

Cllr. David Jones

Cllr. Robin Hines	01582 759026	
Cllr. Andrew Roberts	01582 868288	
Cllr. Tony Swain	01582 522952	
Cllr. Laura Ellaway	01582 537105	
Parkside Ward:		
Cllr Jimmy Carroll	01582 868006	
Cllr. Mrs Ruth Harris-Small	01582 758483	
Cllr. Robert Shimmin	01582 532444	
Cllr. Alan Winter	01582 514654	
Tithe Farm Ward:		

01582 515854

01582 655162

01582 519087

0300 300 8535

0300 300 8567

Cllr. Michael Hunting 01582 526630 01582 705830 Cllr Ken Wattingham 01582 866215 Cllr. Marion Rolfe Central Bedfordshire Councillors: Cllr. Dr Rita Egan (Parkside Ward) 0300 300 8518 Cllr. Mrs Susan Goodchild (Houghton Hall) 0300 300 8525

Cllr. David Jones (Houghton Hall)

Cllr. Peter Williams (Tithe Farm)

## **The Town Mayor**

Christmas is approaching quickly and I am pleased to reveal that I will be hosting 'A Celebration of Christmas' at The Grove Theatre on Tuesday 25th November in aid of my nominated charities. This special event will feature performances from seven Houghton Regis Schools, Luton Mencap and young people who are taking part in the Art Town Project. Please see further details on how to book tickets for this very special occasion in this edition and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day.

Since the last Town Crier, I was pleased to officially open the Classic and Vintage Motor Show on the Village Green on 14th September and the day was a great success. There were 119 vehicles on display and some amazing vehicles dating from Pre-War right up to the 2000s. I had a very difficult decision to make; but in the end it was a TVR Tuscan that won my vote for the Mayor's Choice Award!

I am looking forward to the Christmas Carol Service on 6th December and also meeting Santa on 13th December! I will be visiting the Sheltered

Accommodation and Care Homes in Houghton Regis over the festive season - and don't forget - (if you are aged over 65) to register for the Mayor's Christmas Card (please contact my Secretary Sarah Gelsthorp to ensure that you are on the list).

I would like to wish to all my family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and residents of Houghton Regis a very merry Christmas and a happy, peaceful New Year.



**Councillor Laura Ellaway Town Mayor** 

### **Town Clerk**

According to Wikipedia Christmas is an annual commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ and is a widely observed cultural holiday. The popular modern customs of Christmas include decorations and cards, carols and dinner and the exchange of gifts.

Yet amid the tinsel, the brightly coloured lights and unrelenting adverts for the latest gadgets, perfume and toys, it's easy to forget that this time of year is also about simple pleasures, like seeing family, meeting up with friends and looking forward to the year ahead.

The Town Council has worked hard over 2014 to provide great community events for all to enjoy, to keep residents informed as major plans are shaped and developed for the future of the town, and to see our community grow and flourish.

The great news is that 2014 is still not over... there is an exciting programme of events lined up to help you get into the Christmas spirit before we bid farewell to 2014. Get your tickets early for the School Choir Celebration of Christmas (last year was a complete sell out), and don't forget the Mayors Carol

Service and Christmas Tree lights switch on and the visit from a rather jolly man with a bright red suit on the 13th December!

2015 is all set to be another exciting year for Houghton Regis. Works will begin on the major infrastructure projects of the Northern Bypass and the Woodside Link, the planning application is anticipated for HRN2 and no doubt progress will be made on the plans for HRN1. The outcome of the Houghton Hall Park Lottery Bid is anticipated in December and if approved will significantly enhance this historic site at the core of our community. And have no fear the annual programme of free community events for you and your friends and family to enjoy will again be provided, details to follow in future editions of the Town Crier and on the Town Council website.

> I would like to wish all the residents of our town a Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



**Clare Evans** Town Clerk

## **Town Council Elections - May 2015**

#### National and Local Elections are just round the corner...

How are you going to be involved?

From voting on 7<sup>th</sup> May to standing as a town councillor there are many ways in which you can be involved in this significant and important process.

Contact your Town Council for more information:

www.houghtonregis.org.uk • 01582 708540 • info@houghtonregis.org.uk



## Any ideas / thoughts / suggestions?

The Council will be considering its budget for 2015/16 shortly. Do you have any ideas, thoughts or suggestions of improvements you would like to see? Projects that could be brought forward or issues which need addressing? If so please do get in touch by telephone, email or through the website. We would welcome your ideas.

## Local young people flourish through a new creative project

## Houghton Regis Art Town

Full House Theatre is on a mission to make Houghton Regis a more creative place! Since June this year more than sixty young people have already been involved in the Art Town project. These young people have taken part in the free creative sessions which have included drama, dance, art, film, photography, and costume design to name just a few of the activities on offer. Meeting each Tuesday evening at Sandringham Drive Hub local young people aged between 11-20 gather to channel their creativity and express themselves in a safe and positive environment.



Local participant, Addie Akinrinade, tells us more, 'The Art Town project allows everyone to explore and express their creativity within their own community, and it's a fun way of getting people more involved in the arts'. Addie has also recently received a 'Pride of Houghton Regis' award for her work within the town on the Art Town project.

If you're a young person or know a young person interested in learning new skills or developing existing talents by getting creative then contact **Lucy** on **07765030063**.

Art Town is a project funded by the People's Health Trust, The Arts Council through the Royal Opera House Bridge, and Houghton Regis Town Council. Full House Theatre is a professional theatre company based in Bedfordshire and is delivering the Art Town project.

There's a FREE opportunity to see these young people perform at the Winter Arts Garden experience outside the Houghton Regis Library. This experience will be in place from Saturday  $6^{th}$  December until  $6^{th}$  January 2015. Special performance events will be on  $6^{th}$ ,  $13^{th}$ ,  $20^{th}$ ,  $22^{nd}$  &  $23^{rd}$  of December 2014.

For more information visit www.fullhouse.org.uk/whats Follow on Twitter @HoughtonArt or Facebook /HoughtonRegisArtTown





The Pride of Houghton Awards 2014 took place at All Saints Academy, Dunstable on Wednesday 8th October and this year's winners were: The Right Track Community Café, Sally Langford, Adeyinka Akinrinade.

All award winners were presented with a framed certificate and a gold badge as well as a cheque for £100 from the Town Mayor. Each year the Town Council run the Pride of Houghton Awards for an individual or group of people, young or old, who deserve recognition for their efforts, skills, talents, perseverance or commitment within the Town.

Why not nominate someone for the 2015 Pride of Houghton Award? And let them have the chance to get the recognition they deserve. Forms will be available in the summer edition of the TC.

## **Neighbourhood Watch** in Houghton Regis

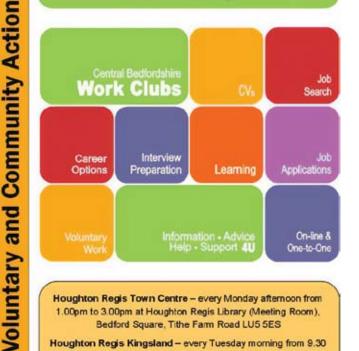
Although crime trends in Central Bedfordshire appear to be falling, areas like Houghton Regis still experience significant criminal activity.

Over the past months, burglary and vehicle crime has continued to affect many parts of Houghton Regis. Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is a voluntary organisation that has been operating throughout the UK for the past 50 years and has a proven record of crime prevention and crime reduction measures that benefits the whole community. Our role is to encourage neighbours to form small groups so that they can protect their own property, look out for each other and report all incidents, actual or suspicious, to the Police without delay.

Regrettably, there are only three NHW groups operating in Houghton Regis at the moment. But, all that it takes to get one started is for you and your neighbours to act together. We will provide the assistance you need to get organised and enable you to protect your neighbourhood.

If you would like to start a NHW group, or want more information, then look at www.bedfordshire-neighbourhoodwatch.co.uk, or contact your local NHW Coordinator at mgc.dnw@virginmedia.com, or talk to your local policing team and PCSOs.

Our work clubs welcome everyone who is looking for work, learning, training or volunteering



Houghton Regis Town Centre - every Monday afternoon from 1.00pm to 3.00pm at Houghton Regis Library (Meeting Room), Bedford Square, Tithe Farm Road LU5 5ES

Houghton Regis Kingsland - every Tuesday morning from 9.30 to 12.00pm at the Kingsland Skills and Enterprise Centre, Parkside Drive LU5 5PY

Drop in and see how we can help you!

## Free business adverts sponsored by HRTC in support of local businesses

## Roger **Marsh** & Co

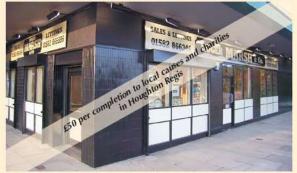
ESTATE AGENTS • LETTING AGENTS • VALUERS • MORTGAGE SERVICES

## SELLING & LETTING PROPERTY ON YOUR DOORSTEP FOR OVER 25 YEARS

THE **ONLY** AGENT BASED IN HOUGHTON REGIS

ESTABLISHED & SUCCESSFUL —

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THE LOCAL AGENT FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

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# J<sub>N</sub>SImage



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10 BEDFORD SQUARE, HOUGHTON REGIS, LU5 5ES

EMAIL: JNSIMAGE@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

TEL: 01582 866774

# SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS Business Interview...

The store has been trading now for 2 years, how has it been received in the community?



I am proud to be the manager of Morrisons Houghton Regis. It's a great store serving an inspiring community. We have had lots of favourable feedback from our customers especially in relation to the broad range of products on offer and our cafe.

In particular I am thrilled to announce the recent recruitment of an additional 29 members of staff, all from the local community.

#### What have been your best selling lines?

The cafe is unbelievably popular, especially our offer of a free kid's meal Monday to Friday with every adult meal purchased. In store wise, I would say our made to order pizzas always go down well.

#### What are your Christmas plans?

We are full steam ahead for Christmas. It's a manic but exciting time, staff can't help getting into the spirit of Christmas. We are particularly looking forward to our OAP's Christmas Party in our Cafe, details are available in store.

## You are a significant business within Houghton Regis, how do you support your local community?

As a company Morrisons is always keen to be actively involved in the local communities in which it trades. Here in Houghton Regis we are pleased to offer the free use of a conference room whenever the store is open, the use of an in-store community notice board, bucket collection opportunities at front of store and till and, very significantly, the services of a Community Champion to work with and support local community groups. To find out more about any of these services just pop into the store and ask at Customer Services.

## How many mince pies do you think you'll be selling?

Well, last year we just topped 160,000 mince pies... no doubt this year will be even more!



Houghton Regis Residents and car enthusiasts were all revved up on Sunday 14th September 2014 as the **Classic & Vintage Motor Show rolled** into town for the third year.

The Motor Show included a fantastic selection of 119 vehicles from classic cars, military and motorcycles up to some present day last minute entrants.

The star entertainment of the day was a performance by "A Voice in a Million", Fiona Harrison, singing songs from the early 1930's to the 1960's.

On behalf of Houghton Regis Town Council, we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along and supported the event and to the exhibitors and sponsors who helped make our event a success.







## Houghton Regis Chalk Pit Nature Reserve -Thanks for your support!

**Thank you** to all those who have supported the Chalk Pit throughout 2014, a year which brought a summer of fantastic weather, more special wildlife, more visiting families and far fewer motorbikes! If you have never been to the Chalk Pit (just behind the new Tilia Park estate off Houghton Road), why not make it your new year's resolution to visit in 2015?

If you want to keep informed of all news and events on the nature reserve, sign up to receive the free quarterly e-newsletter by emailing: rebecca.pitman@wildlifebcn.org

## Recruiting next generation of conservationists

The Wildlife Trust is looking for young people aged 13-19 to join our 'Wildlife Youth Rangers' group at Houghton Regis Chalk Pit. We provide free sessions one afternoon every school holiday to give young people a taster of what it is like to work in conservation, meet like-minded people, plus boost CVs and college/university applications. Why not encourage a young person you know to give it a try?

For further information and booking please contact Ruth Sneath on **01525 874317** or **ruth.sneath@wildlifebcn.org** 

### **Council Website**

Don't forget to visit our website for the latest information, available across all your devices.



www.houghtonregis.org.uk



There are many opportunities in Houghton Regis for volunteering – but WHY do people volunteer and WHY is there a need?

Many charities and local organisations would not exist without volunteers. The UK Government, making constant cutbacks, encourages volunteering in local communities – to quote the www.gov.uk website:

'Anyone can volunteer. It can be very rewarding and is a great way to:

- Meet new people
- Gain new or use existing skills
- Get experience
- Make a big difference to your community

There are lots of easy ways to give your time to help others – from having a cup of tea with an elderly neighbour, to helping out in your local area or making a regular commitment to volunteer with a charity or community group'.

In Houghton Regis volunteers worked tirelessly to get the swimming pool re-opened at the Leisure Centre; volunteers with passionate interests in local heritage and arts & crafts have established vibrant groups to involve the local community and share those interests; those with dementia and their families can meet with each other at the Singing Café, thanks to dedicated volunteers; the list goes on!

There are many reasons why people volunteer: to help others; gain work experience; to be part of a team; for social interaction; to give something back to the community when they have been helped; to HAVE FUN!

Houghton Regis Helpers is your local Good Neighbour Scheme, set up in 2011 to give occasional help to residents who are in need. We offer a range of services from gardening to befriending; from light DIY to giving residents lifts to appointments; from shopping to form-filling and letter writing.

Why not join us as a volunteer? We are fully aware that sometimes people are wary about making a commitment, or feel pressured by too many organisations asking for their time, but if you join our group the time you have to spare can be as little or as much as you can offer.

To find out more visit our website www.houghtonregishelpers.co.uk or email houghtonregishelpers@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 07587 004514, or find us on Facebook.

#### **Current Consultations**

For your chance to have your say to Central Bedfordshire Council please see below for details on current and forthcoming consultations:

- Park Homes Strategy Consultation –
   8th December 2014 to 9th February 2015
- Homelessness Strategy Consultation –
   17th November 2014 to 16th January 2015
- School Admissions Arrangements for Academic Year 2016/17 Consultation – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- Land North of Luton & Sundon Quarry Consultation – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014 to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014
- Pharmaceutical Needs Consultation 15th October to 15th December 2014

Log on to www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



Please find below the calendar of meetings for the Town Council from January to the end of March 2015. All council meetings are open to the public and are held in the Council Offices on Peel Street at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated. The agendas for forthcoming meeting can be found on the notice board outside the offices and on the Town Council website. Copies can also be obtained from the office.

Date	Day	Committee	Time
5 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.30pm
7 <sup>th</sup> January	Wednesday	Environment & Leisure	
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday	Community Services	
14 <sup>th</sup> January	Wednesday	Combating Crime WG	2pm
19 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday	Corporate Services	
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday	Town Council	
28 <sup>th</sup> January	Wednesday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.30pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Monday	Town Partnership	
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Wednesday	Events Working Group	
16 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.30pm
18th February	Wednesday	Combating Crime WG	2pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Monday	Environment & Leisure	
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Monday	Community Services	
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday	Accounts Sub Committee Planning & Licensing Committee	6.30pm
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Monday	Corporate Services	
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday	Combating Crime WG	2pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Monday	Town Council	
30 <sup>th</sup> March	Monday	Town Partnership	

#### HOUGHTON REGIS HERITAGE SOCIETY PRESENT

### THE TIMES OF MY LIFE



#### BY EVELYN WOOLLISON

"An interesting book telling the life story of a girl from County Durham coming to work for Colonel Part in Houghton Hall."

" All-in-all an excellent read giving a very good flavour of the times and places in which she lived." Exclusive to Houghton Regis Heritage Society

£8 Purchasing £5 Emailing

A PDF BOOK FOR YOU

CONTACT DAVID HILL ON 07956 546970



If you need to drive your child to school, for the safety of your child, their friends and the local community we request that you park safely, legally and considerately.

Consider parking further away from the school and walking the last 5 or 10 minutes. Walking to school is good

for your health, means there's less congestion outside the school which improves air quality and safety around your school, and you get to spend more time with your

DON'T PARK
THERE!
Show YOU Care

Please Park
Elsewhere

#### Remember DON'T;

Park on any Yellow Lines or Zig Zags

children!

- Stop in the middle of the road to drop off your child
- Park where you may obstruct other road users
- Leave your vehicle whilst the engine is running

## Committee Reports

The Town Council had a busy meeting in September. Significant policy documents were substantially reviewed and altered to reflect new national legislation. Importantly for our community it was also agreed to fund the installation of a community defibrillator. This is a modern piece of lifesaving equipment which will be sited in an accessible position for anyone to use in the event of an emergency. Watch this space for details of community awareness training.

#### The Corporate Services

Committee completed much of the hard work behind the policy reviews which were eventually approved by Town Council and appointed the Internal Auditor

#### **Environment & Leisure Committee**

As per the agreed Machinery Renewals Programme for 2014-15, the committee approved the purchase of a new pick-up truck to replace the oldest vehicle in the fleet, which did not warrant any further money being spent

Members received a report listing the repairs that had been carried out in response to the annual play site and equipment inspection. Members noted the report.

#### **Planning & Licensing** Committee

12 Planning applications have been considered in the last three months. The Committee objected to five of these on various planning grounds, while the other seven were considered as acceptable.

The Committee has also given consideration to CBC's review of its Draft Licensing Policy and also discussed the process CBC intends to apply to the control of parking on verges and footpaths.

## RINGMASTER COMMUNITY MESSAGING SYSTEM

## WHAT IS RINGMASTER?

RINGMASTER is a computerised communication system, run by Bedfordshire Police, which offers LOCAL RESIDENTS, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COORDINATORS AND MEMBERS, BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS and **PARTNERSHIP ORGANISATIONS** information about crimes, incidents and events in their local area.

- The service is free to everyone
- You do not need to be a Neighbourhood Watch
- You can receive the information via email or you can view your messages online
- > Help tackle crime in your local area and gives you advice to help avoid being a victim

If you are interested in joining a RINGMASTER scheme please contact the systems administrator using the details shown below, or sign up online at www.safer-beds.org

#### **RINGMASTER Systems Administrators**

ringmaster@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

#### Neighbourhood Watch

lynne.arch@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

#### **Crime Reduction**

crimereduction@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

#### Police Control Centre

Non Emergencies - 101 Crime in Progress - 999

Other ways to contact us and get advice . . .



Visit our website at: http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk



http://www.flickr.com/bedfordshirepolice Watch us on You Tube:



Follow us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/bedspolice



Listen to us on Audiobop:

#### Your Neighbourhood









#### Help us to help you to Stay Safe . . .

- BURGLARY—It pays to secure your home
  make sure you have good quality locks titled
  make sure your doors are locked securely
  visible alarms make burglars think twice
  lock all windows and tit restrictors
  chack for week spots and sagging tences on your
  boundary
  never leave garages or sheds unlocked
  register your property on wire limmobilise.com

PERSONAL SAFETY — Personal safety isn't just for children and women . . . if's for everyone 
• keep your mobile telephone and other valuables out of

- signt
  avoid remote areas If you can't, walk with friends or
  stick to well-lit areas
  never carry excess cash
  carry handbags close to your body with the clasp facing
  inwards
  let parents know where you are and when you will be

#### VEHICLE CRIME - Don't be a victim

- VEHICLE CRIME Don't be a victim

  never leave doors, windows or sunnosts open

  don't leave belongings in sight even if it's a cost or
  singly bag

  if possible, remove your stereo and take it with you

  don't leave wallets and bank cards in the glove box it's the first place a their will look

  remove ignition keys and engage the steering lock even in your own driveway

  fit lockable wheel nats and furlicap

  fit an anti-fielt device and USE IT EVERY TIME YOU
  PARK.

- · double check you have locked your car properly











#### The Community Services **Committee** were pleased

to award a grant of £500 to Networking at Dunstable in support Easter and Summer Playscheme and on usage of the new website.

## Houghton Hall Park -Renaissance & **Renewal Project**

Construction of the proposed car park off Park Road North was underway throughout October. It now provides an improved facility for all to enjoy the Park.

In relation to the Park itself the bid to the National Lottery has been submitted and the outcome is expected in December. You can check for the outcome on the Town Council website... Fingers crossed.

## **Strategic Development Updates**

#### HRN 1

The Judicial Review lodged by Luton Borough Council against Central Bedfordshire Council's decision to grant planning permission for HRN1 will be heard as part of a rolled-up hearing scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December.

#### HRN<sub>2</sub>

The planning application for HRN2 is still awaited, watch this space...

#### A5-M1 Link Road

Following the Secretaries of State for Transport and Communities and Local Government decision to proceed with the A5 - M1 Link Dunstable Northern Bypass scheme, advanced works have now started in the area. Currently UK Power Networks (UKPN) are on site to upgrade and relocate existing overhead power cables underground. The upgrading work is part of UKPN scheduled improvement work however this work has been brought forward as it is vital preparation for the A5-M1 Link Road.

The Highways Agency is due to start main construction work on the A5-M1 Link Road in early 2015.

#### **Woodside Link**

The scheme has progressed through the Development Consent Order process. The Secretary of State has announced approval of the Development Consent Order. Despite objections from local residents and the Town Council the Secretary of State included approval for the Parkside Link onto the Woodside Link (effectively a re-opening of the former Bus Link at the end of Parkside Drive).

It is planned that the Link Road will start on site in Spring 2015 where it will join up with the new junction 11A as part of the A5-M1 Link Road scheme. Expected completion date is late 2016.

#### The Co-op Site

The mediation process was successful and the legal agreement for surrender of the site by the Co-op to the Council has been completed.

#### Former Netto Premises/Site

A planning application was received in May 2014 for the demolition of the former Netto supermarket building and the erection of new petrol filling station with sales kiosk and car wash facility on the site. An extension of time has been agreed between the applicant and Central Bedfordshire Council in order that additional work to address highway and environmental concerns can be undertaken.

Are you coming to see
Santa's Grotto in
Bedford Square on December 13<sup>th</sup>?

Then why not stop for a FREE hot drink and a mince pie in the

## "Christmas Coffee Shop"

marquee in Bedford Square.

Seasonal music to listen to or join in, activities for little ones, and a chance to sit down and relax for a little bit.

Sponsored by Jewels Arts & Crafts Store and Houghton Regis Community Church.

## "Good Tidings of Great Joy!"

On December 14<sup>th</sup>
Houghton Regis Community Church
are holding an evening Christmas
Celebration,
designed for the whole family,
it will feature candles, songs and fun.

From 5:30pm until 7pm at Tithe Farm Lower School.

The time has come to start getting in Pancake training and join in our

# Houghton Regis Pancake Race for 2015

The Town Council is holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> Pancake Race on the **Village Green** on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015**This event is **free!** 

All teams (of up to four people) will need to compete in a short obstacle course.

Whether you are a school, community group, or business, sign up and join in the fun!

Forms will be available from early December from the council offices, or call 01582 708540 for more information!

All spectators welcome!

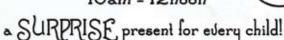




## Santa's Grotto

Santa and his Flues will once again be stopping off in Moughton Regis Library

> this year on 13th December 2014 10am - 12noon



Free Foirg
Sponsored by Houghton Regis Town Council



Houghton Regis Town Council presents

## Celebration of Christmas

Date: Tuesday 25th November 2014 Time: 6pm

Location: The Grove Theatre, Dunstable Tickets: £4 Adult / £2 Children / concessions

A 'Celebration of Christmas' with carols old & new from seven Houghton Regis Schools
plus signing from Luton Mencap and performances from young people from the Houghton Regis ART TOWN project.
All in aid of the Mayor's Charities

Hawthorn Park Community Primary
Houghton Regis Primary School
The Chiltern School
Tithe Farm Primary School
Thomas Whitehead Primary School
Thornhill Primary School
St Vincent's Catholic Primary School









The Grove Theatre. Box Office 01582 602080

\*

AN ENCHANTING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Naughty

# WINTER ARTS GARDEN

ABOUT \*

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Bring your family to our magical wintery setting for an enchanting FREE storytelling experience. Join Jack Frost as he leads you through his winter dwelling on a journey of fairytale mischief and mayhem, in the area outside Houghton Regis Library this December.

The FREE Festive Fun includes children's dance workshops, craft activities and even the chance to meet a husky!

Winter Arts Garden will be in place from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014 until 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sat 6 Dec Jack Frost storytelling, craft activities, meet the husky

Sat 13 Dec Jack Frost storytelling and Art Town

Young Company performances
Sat 20 Dec Jack Frost storytelling and dance

workshops **Mon 22 Dec** Jack Frost storytelling

Tues 23 Dec Jack Frost storytelling

#### VENUE

Next to Houghton Regis Library, Bedford Square, Tithe Farm Road, LU5 5ES

#### MORE INFO

- → fullhouse.org.uk/whats
- f /HoughtonRegisArtTown

**EVERYTHING IS FREE!** 

















ROYAL OPERA HOUSE BRIDGE