



# TOWN CRIER

Telephone: 01582 708540

E-mail: [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk)

Find us on 

Web: [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)

Delivered to all properties in Houghton Regis



## ***Celebration of Christmas***

Tuesday 21st November at 6pm

The Grove Theatre, Dunstable

Be part of our 'Celebration of Christmas' with festive songs old and new from Houghton Regis Primary Schools plus performances from some special guests.

Tickets are available from The Grove Theatre Box Office 01582 602080.

## ***Christmas Carol Service***

Saturday 2nd December at 5pm

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 All are welcome to attend.

## ***Santa's Grotto***

Saturday 9th December from 10am – 2pm in Houghton Regis Library

Santa and his elves are stopping by again in Houghton Regis Library Come and say Hello!

\*A surprise gift for every child\*

Entrance is **FREE** although there will be a collection in aid of the Mayor's Appeal Fund.

*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 1pm on 22nd December and reopen at 10am on 27th December.

The Office will be open 27th, 28th and 29th December hours 10am - 4pm.

Normal office hours will resume at 9am on Tuesday 2nd January 2018



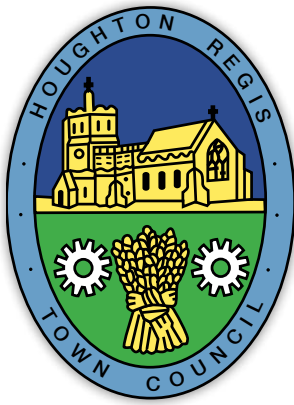
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# Houghton Regis Town Council Contact Details

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

Telephone: 01582 708540

Fax: 01582 861102

Email: [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk)

Website: [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)

[facebook.com/hrtowncouncil](https://facebook.com/hrtowncouncil)

[pinterest.com/houghtonregistc](https://pinterest.com/houghtonregistc)

@HRCouncil1

@HoughtonRegisTC

### Officers:

Clare Evans Town Clerk	01582 708542
Debbie Marsh Corporate Services Manager	01582 708544
Tony Luff Head of Grounds Operations	01582 708543
Tara Earnshaw Community Development Officer	01582 708540
Sarah Gelsthorp Civic and Events Officer	01582 708523
Sonia Stennett Accounts & Cemetery Officer	01582 708541
Chantel England Promotions and Administration Officer	01582 708540

### Councillor contact details:

Houghton Hall Ward:	
Cllr. Laura Ellaway	01582 537 105
Cllr. Robin Hines	01582 759 026
Cllr Tim Welch	01582 861 090
Cllr. Chris Slough	01582 751 881
Cllr. Susan Thorne	07847 702 499
Cllr. Ken Wattingham	01582 705 830

Parkside Ward:	
Cllr. Jimmy Carroll	01582 868 006
Cllr. Don Dixon-Wilkinson	01582 529 554
Cllr. Joanna Hillyard	07748 440 901
Cllr. Martin Kennedy	01582 702 274

Tithe Farm Ward:	
Cllr. David Abbott	01582 894 060
Cllr. Tracey McMahon	07948 532 662
Cllr. Richard Scott	01582 708 540
Cllr. Tony Swain	01582 522 952

Central Bedfordshire Councillors:	
Antonia Ryan (Parkside)	0300 300 8518
Susan Goodchild (Houghton Hall)	0300 300 8525
John Kane (Houghton Hall)	0300 300 8537
Tony Swain (Tithe Farm)	0300 300 8567

## Mayor's Foreword



**As the nights start drawing in, let's look back at what has been happening this year.**

The summer started with a bang. Carnival was big, bright and colourful with people both young and old taking part in the fun. The sun shone this year at Houghton Rocks and many people and families came out to enjoy the music and car show. This new event is growing every year with people coming from far and wide to see what Houghton Regis is offering its residents. The Skate Park competition was also very well attended with families taking advantage of all the free activities on offer, however it would be lovely to see a few more competitors next year.

There have also been some difficult times faced this year with all the uncertainty around developments, waste and encampments and this must be mentioned as these are something that impact on us all as a town. During the coming months both Central Bedfordshire Council and the Town Council will be undertaking more community engagement to ensure residents are kept informed and asking for your input as the Town undergoes these changes. The Neighbourhood Plan is being done so we can ensure the town gets the best deal from the

developers, but it will only be successful with input from the community.

As we move into these winter months we can look forward to Celebration of Christmas at The Grove Theatre, Fireworks at Tithe Farm Recreation Ground, the Mayors Carol Service, and I believe the man in red and his elves will be building his grotto in December in the Library. So there are lots of festivities ahead for the Town, but please spare a thought for the people that are alone, suffering and sad at this time of the year and offer support in any way you can. Houghton Regis has an amazing network of volunteers so if you have a few hours to spare please get in touch with a local group and see what help you could give to help others.

That leaves me to say thank you to everyone who have supported the Mayors Charity events so far, stay safe, have a wonderful Christmas and keep your eye out for all the upcoming Town events.....

*Cllr Jo Hillyard, Mayor 2017-18*

## Town Clerk



A warm welcome to the festive Edition of the Town Crier, with all the beauty of Autumn now in full swing my mind starts to turn to Christmas and a time to spend with family and friends, reflect on a year passed and plan for the New Year ahead.

This festive Town Crier is jam packed full of events to kick start your festive season!

We have 'The Celebration of Christmas' event at Grove Theatre on the 21st November, starring schools from around Houghton Regis along with some special guests. Then we start moving into December with the Mayors Christmas Carol Service and our Christmas Tree light switch on, that takes place on Saturday 2nd December which I hope you all can attend, and of course the Christmas season would not be complete without a visit from

Santa Claus on the 9th December at the Library.

2018 is all set to be another exciting year for Houghton Regis with the annual programme of FREE community events for you, your friends and family to enjoy, which you can follow details of in future editions of the Town Crier and on the Town Council website and Facebook pages.

So until next year, I wish you all a festive season of gladness, a festive season of cheer and to top it all off a wonderful New Year!

*Clare Evans*  
**Town Clerk**



The annual Pride of Houghton Awards returned this year to celebrate the achievements and success of some truly remarkable residents of the town. The award nominees, local businesses and the Town Mayor were just some of the guests that attended the event held at Houghton Regis Memorial Hall on Saturday 14th October 2017

The Pride of Houghton Awards was first held in autumn 2003 and has been

held annually since then. Each year nominations for the Pride of Houghton Awards are invited from residents during March until August; and the scheme is advertised on fliers, the Town Council website and the Town Crier Newsletter. Chosen by the public, the nominees are often from all walks of life and of all ages, their achievements are remarkable and a lesson to us all.

The Town Mayor, Cllr Joanna Hillyard opened the event to the audience of over one hundred special guests, which included the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire. Seven Pride of Houghton Awards and Highly Commended certificates were presented, as well as some special certificates of recognition to members of Houghton Regis Youth Council.

The event included a table buffet, a Rock n Roll bingo hosted by DJ Big Man Craig, a video presentation of previous winners.

The following awards were given out on the evening;

**Individual Award Winner – Carol Butler**

Presented by category sponsors – Perfect Profiles

**Individual Award ‘Highly Commended’ – Donna Ashley**

Presented by category sponsors – Perfect Profiles

**Local Group Award Winner – Houghton Regis Helpers**

Presented by category sponsors – D&I Butchers

**Local Group Award ‘Highly Commended’ – Sorted Youth Counselling Service**

Presented by category sponsors – D&I Butchers

**Carer Award Winner – Shannon Lunch**

Presented by Creative Decorations

**Young Person Award Winner – All Saints Academy Student Voice**

Presented by category sponsors – Vauxhall Motors

**Young Person Award ‘Highly Commended’ – Meaningful Education Bedfordshire Junior Ambassadors**

Presented by category sponsors – Vauxhall Motors

**Local Hero Award Winner – Anne Bailey**

Presented by category sponsors – Zebra Properties

**Local Business Award Winner – Razor Barbers**

Presented by category sponsors – Spicer & Co

**Local Business Award ‘Highly Commended’ – Beauty by Ladies**

Presented by category sponsors – Spicer & Co

**Special Award – D&I Butchers**

Presented by category sponsors Hair.comb.

Houghton Regis Town Council would like to take the opportunity to thank the following sponsors of the event for all of their support and help in making this year's Pride of Houghton a real success: D&I Butchers, Café & Smoothie Bar, Creative Decorations, Frugal Frog, Hair. Comb, Perfect Profiles, TWP Carpets, Vauxhall Motors and Zebra Properties.



# Strategic Updates

## Land at HRN1

No substantive update to report.

## Land at HRN2

No substantive update to report.

## A5/M1 Link

Highways England has confirmed that they have commissioned a review in regards to the road markings in this area.

## Woodside Link

Central Bedfordshire Councils Highways have reviewed the road safety audit document, which did raise a number of issues concerning road markings at roundabouts to which the designers have made recommendations for improvements.

## Kingsland

No substantive update to report.

## Central Bedfordshire Council's Local Plan

Consultation on the draft Local Plan closed on the 29 August 2017. Central Bedfordshire Council will now be considering all comments gathered during the consultation period. It is anticipated that they will publish their pre-submission Local Plan in Spring 2018, again there will be a public consultation period of eight weeks on this document. Please follow the link to keep up to date with the latest on the Local Plan - News and consultation for Local Plan or contact Central Bedfordshire Council on 0300 300 8000.

## Houghton Regis Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan

Houghton Regis Town Council knew that it needed to face the challenges and maximise the opportunities of the growth that was being planned for the Town. Therefore the Town Council committed itself, following community

consultation, to producing a Neighbourhood Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan enables local people, whether they work or live in the Town, to shape the future of land use.

Whilst Central Bedfordshire Council is preparing plans for the whole area from Luton to Bedford, the Town Council is working on a Neighbourhood Plan for Houghton Regis. A Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, comprising of town councillors and local people, are looking at issues like the future of the town centre, education facilities and the parish's open spaces. Of course the new development at Houghton Regis North will bring big changes, doubling the population and with a new arterial road pushing east and west across the South East of England.

In order for the Steering Group to better understand what you would like to see changed or improved for Houghton Regis, please visit [tinyurl.com/HoughtonRegis](http://tinyurl.com/HoughtonRegis) and have your say. The Steering Group will be developing ideas over the next few months and everyone's input is important. Therefore if you would like to be part of a working group that will meet to discuss those topics that are important to you then please contact the Town Council offices 01582 708540 and leave your contact details or email [debbie.marsh@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:debbie.marsh@houghtonregis.org.uk). These working groups will meet to discuss the following topics;

- Housing;
- Town Centre;
- Business & Employment;
- Open Space;
- Heritage;
- Education.

A draft Neighbourhood Plan is expected to be put together in the New Year for public comments. Information and updates regarding the Neighbourhood Plan are available on the Town Council's website.

## NEW MEMBER OF STAFF

Houghton Regis Town Council welcomed a NEW member of the office team in October, Mr Tony Luff.

Tony is an experienced Manager in the field of Contract Management with thirty years plus experience in the horticulture sector.

Having been trained on and around the ISO & IIP ethos, and with many years' experience, he is a well motivated and enthusiastic individual inside and outside of the work environment.

His working Career has seen him within County Council work for 23 Years and another 16 years with Sodexo.

He has also had in the past a Football Career as a Goal Keeper / Coach / Manager Director / Vice Chairman and Life President along with playing for

Bedford Town (Southern League).

He quotes "I am looking forward to working with you all and have received a great welcome from all the staff and councillors at the council offices & workshop which has been appreciated very much".

We also look forward to working with Tony, and hope you all get the chance to meet him.





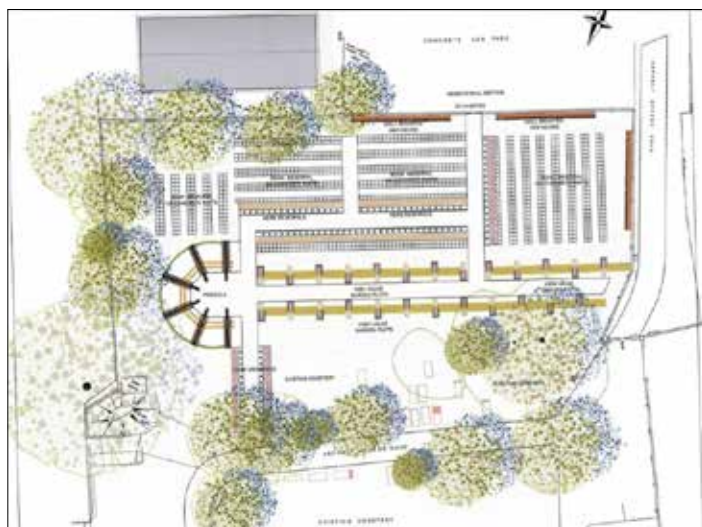
# Houghton Regis Cemetery

The Town Council has been honoured to have been able to offer residents of the Town a tranquil cemetery in which to inter loved ones and to visit them in due course. It is acknowledged that the Cemetery is a valued facility within the town and the Council are committed to ensuring this continues.

Inevitably as time has progressed the Cemetery has become increasingly occupied. In planning for the future the Town Council has sought to secure a new cemetery site through emerging planning applications and through investigations into existing areas of green open space to see if they could be converted. It was with deep regret that the Council were not successful in securing a new cemetery site within the plans for HRN1 and HRN2 and although hope remains that other land in proximity to these developments may come forward in due course it cannot be guaranteed. Residents can be assured that the Council will continue to monitor and explore options as they arise in future years.

However the need remains to provide interment space within the town. To meet this challenge within the confines of the existing cemetery the Council has worked with a cemetery design expert to maximise the space and opportunities available within the current site and plans have been drawn up to utilise the area to the right of the main entrance gateway. The memorial garden plans include for paved walk ways, peaceful reflective areas and a variety of cremated remains interment options / styles.

However in seeking to maximise on the space available the Council has come to the difficult decision to cease full body burials once the existing body burial space has been completed. Whilst it is acknowledged that this may present a great disappointment to some as personal burial choices may not be able to be met within a person's home town, the Council is confident that the high specification design of the new area will provide an exceptionally beautiful and tranquil interment space for many years to come. It is hoped that this new area will provide for interment space for the next 40-50 years.



This illustration shows the preliminary design for this new area:

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

## *houghton regis* *pancake race*

**2018**

The Town Council is holding its 5th Pancake race on the Village Green on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018**  
**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



## WINTER CRIME

The darker winter nights, and particularly the period leading up to and over Christmas, present their own problems when it comes to crime.

### Shopping safely and sensibly

- Be aware of your belongings when you're in a crowd - there may be pickpockets around.
- Put your purse or wallet away before leaving the till - don't let staff or other customers rush you.
- Take care at the ATM - be wary of people standing too close for comfort – try and use an ATM inside the bank.
- If you shop online, check out the site's payment methods and the security they offer - many sites can take orders over the phone if you don't want your details floating around in the ether.

### Using the car . . .

- Park in a busy and well-lit area.
- Leave personal and valuable items at home.
- If you must have them in the car, store them in the boot before you leave.
- Don't store your bought goods in the car and then return to the shops for more - you don't know who may be watching in the car park.
- Late night shopping may be more convenient, but do take care and take someone with you if possible.

### Time for a security health check

- Check outdoor security lights and replace blown bulbs.
- Check padlocks, hasps and hinges on your outside doors for wear and tear, and replace them.
- Many people have freezers in the garage - Christmas food and alcohol is vulnerable - and don't forget new bicycles are also at risk!
- Has your house alarm been serviced recently?
- If you don't have an alarm, you can always buy a battery operated single room alarm to protect your hallway, shed or garage.

### Protecting your home while you are out

- Use timer switches to operate lights and radios tuned to a talk radio station in the house when you are out.
- Although the tree looks lovely in the window, don't leave the lights on and curtains open when you go out - and don't leave presents under the tree!

- If you go on holiday, ask a neighbour or friend to pick up your post – they can also park their car on your drive
- After Christmas, dispose of boxes and packaging carefully - don't leave them on the roadside or on the top of the wheelie bin.

### Unexpected visitors

- Bogus Callers: pretending to be from a utilities company (water, gas, electricity, phone, even police).
- Distraction Burglars: one will keep you at your door with an excuse (eg, looking for an address or a lost ball/dog) while an accomplice commits the burglary round the back.
- Cold Callers: hard-sell sales reps who turn up without an appointment and won't leave till you have signed a contract.
- Rogue Traders: unqualified workmen offering to do jobs on your home, usually for cash, often badly and very expensively.

### Genuine unexpected visitors

- Utilities staff with ID regarding emergency repairs
- Political groups canvassing for election purposes
- Charity collectors with ID and charity number
- Emergency Services staff on production of warrant card or official identification
- Religious groups and carol singers
- People delivering business flyers
- Whoever it is, before you answer the door, check all back doors and windows are closed - if it's a genuine caller, they won't mind waiting a few extra seconds.
- If you're not sure, don't open the door!

### Property marking – Why do it?

- Acts as a deterrent to thieves as it makes selling on stolen goods very difficult.
- Increases the chances of your property being returned to you.
- Helps the police build a strong case against the offender.
- Many different ways of property marking:  
UV pen: electrical items, bikes, etc  
Etching: power tools and equipment  
Smartwater: can be used on any item  
Use your house number/name and postcode
- Remember to register your valuables on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)



# Houghton Rocked!



**Houghton Rocked on Saturday 2nd September at the free Houghton Rocks Music Festival, which took place at Parkside Drive Recreation Ground.**



Nicola Bond, The Trollies, Sean, the Young People from Houghton Regis Youth Centre, Big in Brazil, The Flying Ants and Tess and The Durbervilles performed on the dome stage with classic songs such as 'Gene Genie' 'Livin' on a Prayer' and 'Twist and Shout', to a special version of 'Parklife', adapted especially for the event. Houghton Rocks was hosted by Curtis Hinton, who is himself from Houghton Regis and the event was officially opened by the Town Mayor Councillor Joanna Hillyard.

Houghton Rocks included a classic and vintage motor show, stalls and information stands, car boot stalls, a beer tent, fairground rides for younger children and food retailers.



The Town Council would like to thank Signposts for their assistance with marshalling and Zebra Properties for sponsoring the event.





# Spotlight on the Community

## 1. How long has the club been running?

Houghton Regis Craft and Coffee was formed back in April 2013 by a group of ladies who were all interested in Crafting in one way or another. They wanted somewhere to get together where they could socialise, share crafting experience and have that all important cup of coffee and chat.

## 2. How many members do you have to date?

We currently have just over thirty members on our books. They are aged from 18 to ladies of retirement age and beyond.

## 3. Who runs the club and who does the teaching?

The club is run by a committee of volunteers who have been voted in by other members. We are "Non Profit" making club and have our Constitution, Rules and Code of Conduct to adhere to, but don't worry we are all very relaxed and friendly at our sessions. Sometimes we hold a "Workshop", where either a Guest crafter or one of our members will show you how to do a craft so that you can then try it for yourselves. My personal favourite workshop is on Water Colour Painting, where a lovely lady called Julie will demonstrate how to paint a scene and then we try and copy it. Other workshops are on Iris Folding, Book Folding, Glitz Art, Card Making, actually there's a long list.

## 4. What's the most popular craft?

There is a lot of knitting going on, sewing, cross stitching, crochet, felting, card making. The best thing is if you have a problem with your craft, there's always someone who can advise and give a helping hand.

## 5. How do you think the club is received within the community?

We asked for community involvement on some of our projects and in fact we have had a really great response to some of our



Appeals. We asked the community for help in knitting squares so that we could make up blankets for the needy and the response was so great we were not only inundated with squares but wool as well. They helped with our project on knitting Twiddlemuffs and knitted dolls for Dementia patients. Helped with knitting "Fish and Chip" jumpers and hats for the new born babies of Africa.

At Easter, we asked for paper daffodils and had the lovely job of putting the hundreds of daffodils that were made on display to brighten the Library complex.

## 6. How do residents/community join the club?

We meet every second Wednesday and the last Friday of the month at the Community Centre, between 10am and 3pm. We invite you to just pop along to see us and have a cuppa and see for yourselves what is going on, the first session is free. If you decide you like us and want to join us then it's a yearly membership of just £5 and £3 a session with workshops being extra. We have lots of different equipment and materials for your use, either come along and try a new craft or bring your own craft with you. Stay all day or just an

hour or two but most importantly bring your Mug we supply the tea, coffee or hot chocolate.

## 7. Have you any exciting plans for the club for Christmas?

We most certainly do! We like to decorate the Library Complex, whether it's for an Easter Fair or a Christmas Fair. We have had themes at Easter on "Follow the Rainbow" to "Host of Golden Daffodils", last Christmas we had the "Gingerbread House" and this year we are hoping to get the community, community groups and local schools involved with our "Christmas Tree" theme. We are hoping for a virtual forest of little Christmas trees, plus bigger ones that can be decorated with seasonal wishes and where community groups and schools can promote themselves on their trees. Information on how to get involved can be found on the notice board in the library complex.

We are also holding a Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 25th November and are looking forward to some Carol's performed by a local school. Oh yes! Forgot to mention our Club members also get a visit from our very own "Secret Santa".



# Houghton Hall Park Visitor Centre Opens to the Public



The brand new Houghton Hall Park Visitor Centre in Houghton Regis has opened its doors thanks to a £2.1m National Lottery grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and the Big Lottery Fund together with funding from Central Bedfordshire Council and Houghton Regis Town Council.

The brand new visitor centre is situated in the historic eighteenth century parkland of Houghton Hall. The fully accessible centre is home to two bookable meeting rooms, a discovery and learning corner, as well as a fully equipped café offering a wide range of drinks, light bites and meals to cater for all tastes.

The centre is free to visit and has free parking (for three hours) and is open all year, it is also fully accessible and has access to toilet facilities including an accessible toilet.

The centre forms part of the wider Houghton Hall Park Renaissance and Renewal Project which has also restored the formal garden adjacent to Houghton Hall, reinstated the kitchen garden, provided easy access paths and installed innovative natural play equipment around the park, making Houghton Hall Park a great destination for all of the family.

Caroline Romans, Project Manager at Central Bedfordshire Council said: "It has been a real team effort with lots of challenges. It's down to the hard work, creativity, and the help of some fantastic people that we have this beautiful visitor centre. We are looking forward to holding

a large family event in May as a celebration for the full project when the planting is starting to bloom, but we didn't want to delay the opportunity for the local community to enjoy the visitor facilities as soon as they were ready."

The Visitor Centre will be open to the public between 10am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9:00am – 5:30pm on Saturday and Sunday until the end of October. Thereafter they change to the winter opening hours of 10:00am – 3:00pm on weekdays, and 9:00am – 3:00pm on weekends.

An activity programme of events will be delivered throughout the year. For more information please visit [www.facebook.com/houghtonhallpark](https://www.facebook.com/houghtonhallpark) or visit the Houghton Hall Park website [www.houghtonhallpark.org/home](http://www.houghtonhallpark.org/home).





# SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS

## Business Interview with...



### 1. How long has Striker Beats been running for?

Striker Beats has been running for a number of months now, the first session took place on 14th July 2017.

### 2. What kinds of services do you provide to the community?

We provide multi-sports sessions for children aged 4 to 11 years, covering a range of different sports from individual ball skills to team games. The session is run with child appropriate music in the background to help set the friendly, fun and non-competitive atmosphere. Striker Beats also has a set party package which they offer to the community.

### 3. How do you promote these services?

Striker Beats has its own website and Facebook page which contains information on session content, prices, party packages as well as a section on meet the coaches. In addition to this, Striker Beats canvasses leaflets on a regular basis around local areas to remind the community of our services and what we offer.

### 4. When do you run these services?

The sessions currently run on a Friday evening at Hawthorn Lower School in Houghton Regis and Saturday mornings at the Pioneer and Community Youth Centre in Dunstable.

### 5. What is a typical day like?

A typical session for Striker Beats consists of practicing numerous sporting skills, team work and leadership skills.

At the end of each session, the coaches vote the Star of the Week, this child receives a certificate and a gift from the coaches. This is given to the child who shows kindness and encouragement to all the other children during the session.

### 6. What do you want kids to take from the service?

Our aim is to promote physical activity in a fundamental way. We want all children of every ability to enjoy playing sports and feel comfortable doing so.

### 7. What are your biggest problems/challenges you face?

The biggest challenge we face is trying to make our business well known around the local community; this was prior to the website being made.

### 8. Does your organisation take part in any kind of special events?

Due to Striker Beats being a newly formed business we haven't had the opportunity in doing so, however we do plan to in the upcoming future.

### 9. What are the organisation's plans for Christmas?

For the weeks running up to Christmas we intend on making the sessions very festive, with dressing up, Christmas music and a few surprises for the children.

[www.facebook.com/StrikerBeats](http://www.facebook.com/StrikerBeats)  
[strikerbeats@outlook.com](mailto:strikerbeats@outlook.com)



The Houghton Regis Society (HRHS) is pleased to announce that it is now a Registered Charity. Established in 2012, it is a leading organisation involved in seeking to preserve Heritage in Houghton Regis and make it available to the residents of the town.

HRHS is currently involved in three local projects: the Visitor Centre in Houghton Hall Park, the Red House on the Village Green and the digitisation of a Picture Archive of Houghton Regis, donated to the Society by Pat Lovering. HRHS has also developed History Walks around the town, which have become very popular.

David Hill, the Society's Chairman said, "The idea of becoming a registered charity has been on the 'cards' for some time and we are delighted that registration has been successful. It will open up opportunities for us in obtaining Grants to support future projects."

Details of membership will be released soon, if you would like further information please contact us at the address below. Don't forget to look at our website at [www.hrhs.org.uk](http://www.hrhs.org.uk) and our Facebook page.

David Hill said that, "HRHS is looking for Volunteers who are willing to be involved actively with the Society and who have an interest in local heritage". If you are interested please send an email to [information.hrhs@gmail.com](mailto:information.hrhs@gmail.com) or write to the address below.

Houghton Regis Heritage Society  
Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered Number 1174720  
C/O Houghton Regis Town Council Offices, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, LU5 5EY



Special Needs Out Of School Club In Beds.



SNOOSC, c/o The Kingsland Campus, Parkside Drive, Houghton Regis, Beds LU5 5PX  
Tel: 01582 868244/07468439878 Email: [Snoosc1@gmail.com](mailto:Snoosc1@gmail.com)  
Registered Charity No. 1098448

### S.N.O.O.S.C. are keen to recruit Trustees within our own local community.

This is a Volunteering role, to assist in the development of the Charity and its services, and to continue in the ethos of providing services for Special Needs and the most vulnerable within the area.

Becoming a Trustee is a most worthwhile role, and who can commit to 3 hours - once monthly for Saturday Board meetings.

**For more information  
please contact us on [snoosc1@gmail.com](mailto:snoosc1@gmail.com)  
or telephone 01582 868244**

S.N.O.O.S.C. is also recruiting for Support Workers with experience within the Special Needs range.



Houghton Regis Town Council  
PRESENTS

A CELEBRATION of  
*Christmas*

21st NOVEMBER 2017  
6pm

*The Grove Theatre, Dunstable*

Christmas songs old and new performed by our Houghton Regis Primary schools along with some other special guests

[www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)



## Town Council Calendar of Meetings 2018

Please find below the calendar of meetings for the Town Council from January to the end of March 2018. 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.

8th January	Monday	Accounts Sub Planning	6.15pm
17th January	Wednesday	Combating Crime Working Group	11am
22nd January	Monday	Town Council	
29th January	Monday	Accounts Sub Planning	6.15pm
6th February	Tuesday	Town Partnership	
7th February	Wednesday	Events Working Group	
14th February	Wednesday	Combating Crime Working Group	11am
19th February	Monday	Community Services	
20th February	Tuesday	Accounts Sub Planning	6.15pm
26th February	Monday	Environment & Leisure	
5th March	Monday	Corporate Services	
7th March	Wednesday	Events Working Group	
12th March	Monday	Accounts Sub Planning	6.15pm
14th March	Wednesday	Combating Crime Working Group	11am
26th March	Monday	Town Council	

 A colorful logo for the Houghton Regis Youth Council. It features a central circular image of a group of young people, surrounded by various icons representing different activities and services. The text '12-18 Age' is written in a stylized font across the middle.
 

**HOUGHTON REGIS YOUTH COUNCIL**

12-18 Age

- Have your say about what happens in Houghton
- Get involved in local events
- Make changes to your local community
- Share Your Ideas
- Help plan events for young people

Come along from 4pm to 6pm to find out more:  
@ Houghton Regis, Town Council Office

Friday 10th Nov  
Friday 8th Dec

**YOUR CHANCE TO CHANGE THINGS  
YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**Think before you call... Is there an imminent threat to life?**

Is it anti social behaviour?  
With the stretched resources of our local police, think before you call 999.

You could be on the phone whilst someone else is trying to get through in real danger of their life.



### Register for your Christmas Card

If you are aged 65 or over, you can register for the Mayor's Christmas Card. Please contact Sarah Gelsthorp on 01582 708523 to ensure that you are on the list.





**Christmas Carol Service**

**5pm**

**Saturday 2nd December**

**Followed by Christmas lights switch on**

**SATURDAY DEC 9th**

**Santa's Grotto**

**10 - 2pm Houghton Regis Library**

## POP-UP YOUTH CAFE

5 OCTOBER 2017 - 29 MARCH 2018

- ✓ Thursdays, 4 - 6pm
- ✓ The Village Green Pavillion, Houghton Regis
- ✓ Enjoy a free cheese or chocolate toastie and a free cup of squash

Come down and relax  
Join in with simple cooking activities  
Create a piece of art

PLUS: During October and February half term...  
try your hand at circus skills or graffiti!

For more information, contact David Ramsay, Senior Youth Worker on 07736 132293 or david.ramsay@groundwork.org.uk

www.groundwork.org.uk/east Houghton Regis Youth Centre  
@gwklutonandbeds #HoughtonRegisYouthCentre

Free business adverts sponsored by HRTC in support of local businesses

Phase 2 of SHOP LOCAL has launched for November – March.  
NEW SHOPS, NEW VOUCHERS

DON'T MISS OUT! Look out for the SHOP LOCAL sign in participating shops.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Pick up your Shop Local Loyalty card from any participating shop! (where you see the logo)
2. For every £2.50 you spend in participating stores on 1 purchase you will get a stamp.
3. Once you have filled up all 10 boxes take your card along to Houghton Regis Town Council, Peel Street.
4. Claim your FREE Shopping bag full of goodies and a voucher booklet containing discounts and freebies to use in the Town.

For more details, please see our website [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk) or email: [tara.earnshaw@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:tara.earnshaw@houghtonregis.org.uk)

## FRUGAL FROG FLOWERS

LOW COST FLORISTRY WITH HIGH STANDARDS

Studio based florist in Houghton Regis offering flowers for all occasions:

- Wedding flowers & prop hire
- Floral tributes
- Gift flowers
- Corporate

*Specialising in bespoke tribute work*

[www.frugalfrogflowers.co.uk](http://www.frugalfrogflowers.co.uk)  
07751644140  
[becky@frugalfrogflowers.co.uk](mailto:becky@frugalfrogflowers.co.uk)

**FOLLOW BECKY AND THE FROG ON FACEBOOK**