



OvoZ!

June 2006

**Your Town
Your Council
Your Newsletter
You're informed**

Town Twinning The Twinning Association is holding a barbeque for its members on Saturday 19th August. Food will be provided, BYOB, and hope that the sun shines! Attendance is **free to members**, but £2 otherwise, and children are welcome.

If you're interested contact Jennifer Trotman (committee@axbridge-twinning.org.uk).

Chamber of Commerce The Chamber of Commerce recently held their inaugural AGM at Compton House. Representative from many local businesses attended. The constitution was agreed and the committee was formally elected. After the main business, talks were given by Derek Groves of Business Links and Dawn Hill, our local County Councillor. Over half the businesses in the town have now signed up as members, showing how much support there is for this new organisation.

Anyone who would like more information, or is interested in joining should contact Robert Tallack at info@comptonhse.com or Carole Hamblin at rhema@onetel.net.

Youth Matters The Youth Centre is **NOT** moving to the Furlong. An overall plan for the Furlong's future is being drawn up to allow everyone to get the best use out of it. This plan will consider all activities for which the Furlong may be used, from football to cricket, including the parking issues, youth requirements, and children's playing area.

As part of the CRIS project, the need for a Youth Shelter was identified, and a location on the Furlong is being considered. Funding applications have been submitted to several sources, including the Avon & Somerset Police Community Authority which is fully supporting the project.

Several of the youngsters of the town are taking part in a sponsored walk on Exmoor to help raise funds for this, and other fund-raising activities are also planned, including a car-wash, which is well worth looking out for.

Play Area Sadly, after many years of happy use, the Tractor climbing frame recently reached the end of the road. It was identified as a health and safety hazard, no longer feasible to repair. The Leisure and Recreation Committee is working very hard to raise funds for a replacement, from many local organisations including the Axbridge Sports and Social Community Association, and the Jack Todd Trust. The Town Council agreed to contribute £1000 towards this, and a replacement will be installed soon.

Changing Rooms Various repairs have had to be carried out lately due to vandalism. To prevent further damage to the external air vents, metal grills are being sourced to cover them. Furthermore an electrical timer switch is to be fitted to over-ride the power in the event of the lights and/or heaters being left on. The initial £350 cost of this will easily pay for itself with the savings made in the electricity bill!

War Memorial Plans to clean the town's War Memorial are under way, and the work is planned for later this month, or early next.

AXBRIDGE

Historic Town on the old Strawberry Line

Axbridge Square 1615000

A train in Axbridge Station

Leading industries at Axbridge Station

EVENTS 2006

- First Saturday of every Month Farmers Market
- Saturday 1st July Strawberry Fair
- Saturday 8th July Church Fete
- Saturday 19th July Axbridge Fun Day
- Saturday 2nd September Somerset Showcase
- Saturday 23rd September Blackberry Carnival and Fair in the Square

Published and produced by Axbridge Town Council

Design & Artwork by Rod Corbett, 2005

Posters The Town Council will shortly be producing a limited run of "Axbridge 2006" posters, featuring original artwork and historic photos, and publicising the main events on the Town's calendar. The poster will go on display at Tourist Information Offices throughout the region, as well as at other venues.

Keep a look out for what is sure to be a collector's item in years to come!

Website Criteria for the inclusion of businesses and events on the Town Council website were agreed at the meeting as follows: *"Clubs, groups, organisations and businesses that operate within the town shall be eligible for inclusion, subject to vetting by the Council. Items relating to the Axbridge Benefice shall also be included. Others outside the parish may be included by invitation"*.

So, if your group is covered by that definition and you would like to have your business details, or your event, on the website, please email the webmaster at website@axbridge-tc.gov.uk.

Vulnerable Vehicles The Vulnerable Vehicle Scheme has been operating in our locality recently, successfully identifying cars that have been left locked, but with valuables on display and then warning their owners. Remember, it may be summer, and you may be on your holidays, but the thieves are not! Make sure that any valuables left in your car are left out of sight! **Lock it, or lose it.....**

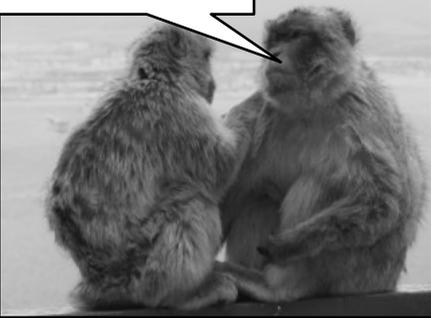
Fun Day The Furlong Fun Day on Saturday 15th July is fast approaching – always very popular and very enjoyable.

This year part of that event will be a photographic competition for photos taken that best sum up the day. All entries will be up for viewing after the event on the Town website. Make sure you take your cameras along!

As usual there will be plenty to do with fun and entertainment throughout the day. If you would like to get involved in helping with the Fun Day, if you would like to take part in the ‘open mike’ opportunity, or if your club or organisation would like to have a stall to raise money for your funds please contact either Pauline Ham, 01934 732062, Simon Booth, 01934 733654, or any committee member.

Meet your councillors Plans are afoot to arrange that town councillors will be present and identifiable at our very popular Farmers’ Markets.

So, nit-picking is allowed!



If you’ve got something you’d like to bring to your Council’s attention, come along, and collar a councillor!

Any matter that is town related may be a subject of discussion.

White Stripes As part of changes to the white lines for car parking spaces on the *south side* of the Square, the post there has to be moved. Whilst the cost of this is met by the County Council, the Town Council voted to spend an additional £300 on having this post replaced by a properly removable post. This will mean that moving it for future events or work incurs no further cost. It will also allow for more flexible use of the Square.

Axbridge School Governor Following a call for applications, the Town Council was delighted to receive letters from four people interested in the post of the Town Council’s nominated School Governor. All four excellent applicants were considered, and after a ballot, Mrs Stephanie Gall was duly elected.

A Quality Council The Council continues to take steps towards obtaining Quality Parish Council (QPC) status. As part of this, the Council agreed to spend the £185 required for the Town Clerk to attend an approved training course to obtain a Certificate in Local Council Administration, which is needed for QPC recognition.

Somerset Showcase The preparations for the Showcase are well underway. Visit the website at www.somersetshowcase.info for up to date information on all the entertainment and events planned. If you’d like to take part, help out, or be involved in anyway, please contact Jennifer Trotman at info@somersetshowcase.info.

On the Buses New Timetables have been put up. The Houlgate Way bus stop now has the timetable in the shelter, and the bus-stop sign has been re-positioned to the mast as requested. No excuses not to use the buses!

Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?

Entry forms are now available for the Blackberry Carnival Queen and Princesses. If you, or someone you know, fancies wearing the Crown, then put your name down ASAP.

Beating the Bounds Following the Beating of the Bounds this year, a very enjoyable if a little damp event, the Town Council has resolved to look into attractive ways of marking the Parish Boundaries. It was felt that when Beating the Bounds, it would be a good idea to have something to beat! Various old markers, such as the “Slydinge Stone” are referred to in our Town Charter, and it would be appropriate to restore some of our parish’s historical markers.

The next step is research into what used to be there and what would be suitable to replace them. **Any information - anyone?**

Museum Workshops The Museum Trust will be running two History Workshops for children (8-14 years) on August 21st and 24th. These will be fun and informative, hands -on research, art and drama. Each workshop will cost £5. Information and bookings - contact Wendy Mace 734603.

TOWN DIARY to date

02/09/2006 Somerset Showcase
21/09/2006 Visiting fair
22/09/2006 Blackberry Mile
23/09/2006 Blackberry Carnival
18/11/2006 Progressive Supper

To notify your proposed future event contact Paul Passey - 733373 or email on: paul@westmead31me17.freeserve.co.uk

This newsletter and other local information can be found on the Town Council’s website

www.axbridge-tc.gov.uk

Any elector, who wants information, or who has any issue to put before the Council should contact:

**Town Clerk, Mrs Vicky Brice.
Telephone number: 07884 264033**