The Luton Dunstable Busway is here – with fast services connecting Houghton Regis, Dunstable, Toddington, Luton and London Luton Airport in operation from Wednesday 25 September.

Local bus companies Arriva, Centrebus and Grant Palmer are running four initial new routes that together provide core services between Dunstable and Luton up to every eight minutes at peak times.

Journey time between the two town centres on the traffic-free guideway is just 15 minutes – now that’s fast, frequent and reliable!

The Luton Dunstable Busway is the second longest guided busway in the world and the longest in an urban environment.

Supported by the Department for Transport, the busway has been pioneered by Luton and Central Bedfordshire Councils to give people a high-quality real alternative to the frequent and frustrating traffic queues between Houghton Regis, Dunstable and Luton.

It also opens up a wealth of opportunities for speedy and hassle-free journeys to work, university, college or school, shopping, the theatre or just catching up with friends.

Via the new bus-rail interchange at Luton Station and London Luton Airport there are quick and easy onwards connections available to capital together with regional, national and international destinations.

Colin Chick, the Council’s Corporate Director for Environment and Regeneration, said: “It’s tremendously exciting that the Luton Dunstable Busway is now open.

“The great beauty of the busway is that with buses able to run on normal roads, and also in both directions at up to 50mph on the high-quality guideway, it enables passengers to enjoy seamless journeys and benefit from the speed of a train with the flexibility of a bus.

“It’s an impressive feat of engineering, and for passengers the facilities are fabulous. With high-quality, well-lit shelters featuring level boarding and real-time passenger information, making it easy for people with pushchairs or disabilities, it means there has never been a faster or more reliable way of beating the traffic queues at peak times.”

Fast, frequent and reliable, see p3
Love to make a difference?

If you would like to help improve your local park, why not join our volunteers and students from the University of Bedfordshire for some MADD Halloween fun – ‘making a difference’ by planting bulbs in Luton’s parks and green spaces on 31 October.

For more information telephone 01582 548773 or email volunteering@luton.gov.uk

www.luton.gov.uk/parks

Keeping our community safe

Pilot scheme for new mobile technology

Olly Martins, Bedfordshire’s Police and Crime Commissioner, has approved investment in new mobile devices to increase productivity and the time officers can spend on the front line.

The first stage has seen a pilot scheme launched this month with officers from each of the north and south local policing teams, as well as some senior officers, to test the technology. Three different devices will be trialled in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire to gather feedback about which is most suitable to roll out more widely to operational policing teams.

The force is planning to upgrade the equipment currently available to police officers while on the move from Blackberrys to tablet computers. The aim is to improve efficiency and save money in the long-term to help the force deliver further economies of scale.

Tablets would enable officers to complete paperwork and witness statements on the move without needing to return to the police station. They would also allow officers to carry out their work at different locations by providing access to real-time information as well as emails, the intranet and all the programmes available at their desktop.

Commissioner Martins said: “This is the latest element of our plan to save £7.5million but avoiding cuts to the front line. We are still facing a challenging financial future but police officers and staff cannot work any harder than they currently are. With this in mind, the intention is to better equip officers so that they can work smarter and more successfully than before, reducing costs and increasing efficiency.”

“With increased data at their fingertips, the evidence gathering process will become much easier and officers will be able to make better informed judgements in the field. The public would much rather have officers on patrol in their communities than filling in paperwork in the office, and mobile devices will help increase visibility and make people feel safer.”

“With increased data at their fingertips, the evidence gathering process will become much easier and officers will be able to make better informed judgements in the field. The public would much rather have officers on patrol in their communities than filling in paperwork in the office, and mobile devices will help increase visibility and make people feel safer.”

“The long-term plan is to roll out mobile technology more widely to improve detection rates and ensure officers have the right tools for the job.”

Chief Constable Colette Paul said: “I want to invest in providing the right tools to do the job and it has to be right for operational officers. The aim of the pilot scheme is to gather feedback about which device is most suitable for rolling out on a wider basis. We want those people on the front line to be part of developing the programme, as ultimately they will be the ones using the technology.”

Who have been Luton’s Best in 2013?

Thinking caps on everyone please – because we are looking for your nominations for the fourth annual Luton’s Best awards.

Once again are looking to honour the outstanding achievements of Luton’s individuals, groups and organisations – by people who are often unsung heroes, willingly giving up their time to help others and contribute to our community. The non-profit-making Luton’s Best Awards, bigger and better than ever in 2013, are our way of thanking them –

Award categories

Nominations are open until Sunday 20 October and the awards are:

- Young Achiever, sponsored by the Barnfield Federation
- Adult Achiever, sponsored by University of Bedfordshire
- Service with a Smile, sponsored by Arriva
- Community Company of the Year, sponsored by The Mall
- Child of Courage, sponsored by Waters Print
- Lifetime Achievement, sponsored by Volker Highways
- Care in the Community, sponsored by Gulfstream
- Community Project of the Year, sponsored by London Luton Airport
- Keeping Luton Safe, sponsored by Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Environmental Achievement, sponsored by Vauxhall Motors
- Best Volunteer, sponsored by Signature Flight Support
- Community Businessperson of the Year
- Best Fundraiser, sponsored by Basepoint
- Luton in Harmony, sponsored by Augur
- Lutonian of the Year, sponsored by easyJet
- Leisure and Culture, sponsored by the Luton Hoo Hotel
- Sporting Inspiration, sponsored by Active Luton
- Outstanding Teacher, sponsored by British Land
- Most Outstanding Citizen, sponsored by the Mayor of Luton
- People’s Choice, sponsored by Luton on Sunday

For more information and to enter visit www.loveluton.org.uk/lutonsbestawards

www.luton.gov.uk
Dunstable Busway.

Luton than with the new Luton Houghton Regis, Dunstable and

There has never been a better way of

Fast, frequent and reliable busway

Lutonline October 2013

3

Hip-hop tickets – the smartest way to get around

The multi-operator Hip-hop ticket allows travel with more than one operator and real flexibility as passengers can just turn up and go when the next bus arrives, whichever operator that may be.

Day and Week Hip-hop tickets were introduced two years ago in response to demand from residents and was initially accepted on all Arriva and Centrebus services across the Luton and Dunstable Zone (Luton, Dunstable and Houghton Regis). This has now been extended on the busway to allow passengers to travel on Grant Palmer service C too.

Just jump on the service you need, and either show or buy a Hip-hop ticket from your driver.

Day tickets: £4.60
Weekly tickets: £18.50

Advice on how to stay safe

Luton and Central Bedfordshire Councils have issued advice to help members of the public stay safe on and around the new Luton Dunstable Busway.

Buses using the new 4-8-mile stretch of concrete guideway between Houghton Regis, Dunstable and Luton are travelling in both directions at speeds of up to 50mph.

“We want to remind everyone, not only bus users but also other road users, pedestrians, cyclists and dog walkers in particular, that the busway is in use,” said Colin Chick, Director of Environment and Regeneration at Luton Borough Council.

Cyclists and pedestrians should ensure that they always use the crossing points provided at regular intervals when looking to cross the guideway, and take the same care and attention that they would when crossing any road, remembering to stop, look and listen every time. Dogs should be kept under close control on a lead.

The guideway itself has been specifically designed for use only by buses fitted with two special guide wheels and must not be accessed by any other vehicles, motorbikes, cyclists, runners or pedestrians.

Mr Chick added: “Pedestrians and cyclists are advised that buses have priority in order to provide the best possible journey times for passengers, and are therefore not expected to stop at crossing points or otherwise give right of way.

“The guideway also features an in-built trap that will prevent any vehicles other than buses accessing the track. Any cars or motorbikes, for example, attempting to do so will become stuck and require removal at the owner’s expense.

“Pedestrians, cyclists and any other traffic should pay careful attention when near the busway and give way to buses at all times. Never attempt to access the guideway for any reason as vehicles may be approaching at speed.”

Signs and notices have been placed at key junctions and crossing points advising members of the public that buses are using the route.

For more information about the Luton Dunstable Busway see www.busway.net

Share the path, share the journey

Walkers and cyclists have begun sharing a new path built alongside the busway.

This dedicated route is the perfect way to link the town centres of Luton, Dunstable and Houghton Regis, and can be alerted when they are near a bus stop and can have this information read to them. REACT 3 key fobs are available from both Luton and Central Bedfordshire Councils.

As part of the busway works a new passenger transport interchange has been built at Luton Station. This includes 13 bus stands with high-quality shelters, CCTV, help and information points, real-time passenger information and two large displays showing bus and train departures, weather and information.

Bicycle racks, which are covered, well-lit and monitored by CCTV, can also be found here.

Check out www.busway.net to find full timetables and maps to help you find your nearest bus stops.

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Check out www.busway.net to find full timetables and maps to help you find your nearest bus stops.

The entire route has a high-quality, well-lit shelters and level boarding so people can get on and off the bus without needing to step up or down. This makes journeys easier for wheelchair users and people with pushchairs.

Real-time passenger information displays provided at busway stops and elsewhere across the conurbation show when the next buses are due to arrive.

This system uses GPS tracking and can pick up on any congestion or incidents on the roads to provide more accurate predictions of bus arrivals. It is also ‘REACT 3’-enabled so that visually impaired customers can be alerted when they are near a bus stop and can have this information read to them. REACT 3 key fobs are available from both Luton and Central Bedfordshire Councils.

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Check out www.busway.net to find full timetables and maps to help you find your nearest bus stops.
Fast
Travel between Luton & Dunstable in as little as 15 minutes

Frequent
Main services arrive up to every 8 minutes

Reliable
www.busway.net for service details
**easyJet sponsors Christmas lights**

easyJet, the UK’s largest airline and biggest operator at London Luton Airport, has agreed to sponsor Luton’s Christmas lights.

The deal, in partnership with the Love Luton campaign, ensures that the tradition of illuminating Luton’s town centre – which dates back more than 20 years – can continue.

Festive lights in Luton are erected in George Street, between the Town Hall and Park Street, and are switched on at the popular annual Lighting Up Luton celebration which this year will take place on Saturday 7 December.

Hugh Aitken, easyJet’s UK commercial manager, said: “We were only too happy to step in and make sure that Luton town centre was not left out in the dark this festive season. We are one of the region’s biggest employers and recognise the importance of bringing people together and supporting our local community.

Everyone at easyJet is looking forward to this year’s switch-on event.”

Colin Chick, corporate director for environment and regeneration, said: “The Council is currently having to work hard to find new ways of funding many important and valued services and the popular Christmas lights have been no exception. It’s absolutely fantastic that one of our most important companies has been able to step in and make sure the town centre is again illuminated this festive season.”

**Stuents excel again**

This summer’s provisional GCSE results show that pupils are maintaining a high standard in Luton, with many students achieving above national averages.

Eighty-five per cent of pupils received five or more A* to C grades, and 59 per cent achieved five or more A* to C grades including English and maths in schools and academies across the borough.

Martin Pratt, corporate director of children and learning, said: “This is fantastic news for the town. In the past five years we have achieved a 20 per cent increase in pupils obtaining five GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and maths.

“We have a committed teaching workforce who are determined to raise standards in education and learning, providing targeted support for pupils who are in danger of slipping behind their peers. Our school improvement advisors have also helped to develop a strong collaborative approach, enabling the sharing of good practice and resources among our schools. Well done to all students and teaching staff whose hard efforts have been rewarded.”

All young people are now required to stay in some form of learning until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17. This means young people leaving year 11 in 2013 have had to make arrangements to continue their learning for at least another whole academic year until June 2014.

Those students who will be leaving year 11 from 2014 onwards must remain in learning until they are 18. This does not necessarily mean staying on at school. There are a range of learning opportunities available to young people including;

- full-time education, such as a school sixth form or college
- full-time work or volunteering combined with work-based training, for instance as an apprentice
- part-time accredited education or training if employed, self-employed or volunteering for more than 20 hours a week and more than eight weeks in a row.

Mr Pratt added: “We are doing everything we can to ensure Luton’s young people are equipped with a high level of skills, qualifications and training so that they can make the most of their potential and so that we can help prepare them for the successful careers they deserve and desire.”

GCSE results are validated nationally in November, after appeals have been finalised and other adjustments made.

**Council tax collection improves once more**

It’s official! Luton Borough Council is getting better and better every year at collecting and managing council tax, according to benchmarking results from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) – the leading accountancy body for public services.

Compared with 80 other local authorities who are using the national benchmarking service for expert feedback on overall performance, Luton is rated as ‘good’ in the following areas:

- balance outstanding as a percentage of net debt
- direct debit take-up
- staff costs per dwelling
- number of people claiming single person discount
- early issue of demand notices showing efficient year-end billing
- high rate of enforcement
- improving collection rate trend continuing (since 2007/8)
- longer opening hours compared to most councils

Robin Porter, corporate director for commercial and transformation services, said: “This is good news for both the Council and local taxpayers. We have made excellent progress in many key areas, particularly in relation to our council tax collection rates and our speedy response to enquiries. We will now be focusing on the areas where more progress is needed.”

Areas with room for improvement include:

- reducing gross service costs per dwelling
- reducing the number of exempt properties
- reducing the number of changes to council tax rates
- lowering summons costs
- continuing to improve collection rates
- reducing the number of phone calls
- reducing the number of complaints.

The Council is already encouraging anyone with access to the internet to help the Council save money and its services on more vulnerable residents by managing their council tax online by visiting www.luton.gov.uk/counciltaxservices and to pay by direct debit.

The Council is also recruiting a listings and valuations officer to review all local homes currently exempt from council tax charges.

www.luton.gov.uk
Barnfield by-election to be held on 17 October

The Council has announced a by-election on Thursday 17 October when one of Barnfield ward’s two seats on the authority will be contested.

The elected councillor will serve until May 2015, when the whole Council is up for election. The hours of poll are 7am to 10pm.

At full strength Luton Borough Council has 48 members representing 19 wards, and there are currently 36 Labour, 8 Liberal Democrat and 4 Conservative Councillors.

If there are two candidates or more, the confirmed list of candidates standing will be published on the Council’s website on the afternoon of Tuesday 24 September.

Residents of Barnfield who are currently on the Register of Electors should have received a poll card explaining how, where and when to vote. Electors can vote without the poll card, which is supplied for information only, but it can be easier if they take it with them.

Prospective voters who are not currently on the electoral register need to complete a registration form and ensure it reaches the Town Hall by midnight on Wednesday 2 October.

A registration form is available on the website www.aboutmyvote.co.uk and by calling 01582 510380.

Electors who know that they will be unable to get to the polling station on 17 October can apply for a postal or proxy vote. Voting by proxy means that the elector appoints someone they trust to vote on their behalf, and can be useful if an elector falls ill or if they are abroad on election day and may experience difficulty returning a postal vote in time.

To vote by either post or proxy, residents firstly need to be on the electoral register, then they need to complete the relevant application form. Electors can apply to vote by post or by proxy by visiting the website www.aboutmyvote.co.uk and by calling 01582 510380.

Electors voting by post or by proxy must sign their application form personally for voting security reasons.

Completed, printed and signed postal vote application forms must arrive at Luton Town Hall by 5pm on Wednesday 2 October.

Completed, printed and signed proxy vote applications forms must reach us by 5pm on Thursday 17 October, except in a medical emergency when an application can be made up until 5pm on Thursday 17 October.

Verification and counting of votes will take place immediately following the close of poll at Luton Town Hall and the result will be published on the Council’s website as soon as possible at www.luton.gov.uk.

For more information contact Roline Hargreaves or Hollie Lumley on 01582 547804.
Garden transformation at St Monica’s Day Centre

Clients and staff at St Monica’s Day Centre celebrated the official opening of their new sensory garden in Luton recently.

The garden at the Council-owned day centre was officially opened by staff at Luton Day Centres who have immediately begun to use and enjoy the outdoor space.

“Prior to its completion access was limited, especially for dementia customers and those with limited mobility. It is therefore great that the new seating areas and wider path means that all customers can now move freely around the garden or rest. “Day centres play a vital role in ensuring people can stay in their own homes living independently for as long as possible.”

Day centre client, Niall Price, said: “It was clear that the garden area not only looks fantastic and provides a much more pleasant environment, it also means staff can facilitate more group and individual activities which will give customers more choice and flexibility.”

Pam Garraway, the council’s corporate director of housing and community living, said: “The new garden not only looks fantastic and provides a much more pleasant environment, it also means staff can facilitate more group and individual activities which will give customers more choice and flexibility.”

New number for the Shopmobility transport service

Local charity Shopmobility has set up a special phone number for Luton residents who previously used South Beds Dial A Ride (SBDAR) service.

Following SBDAR’s sudden decision to stop operating, Shopmobility has agreed to assist in providing an interim transport service in conjunction with Luton Borough Council to meet the needs of many of our older and vulnerable residents.

Anyone wishing to enquire about the new service or book a trip is advised to call 01582 87 72 88. The line is open every week day from 8am-2pm.

Previous SBDAR customers must make contact with Luton Shopmobility regarding their needs and are required to give at least two days notice of any booking.

Ron Miller, coordinator at Shopmobility, said: “We have been working very hard with the Council getting the replacement interim service up and running.

“There are likely to be some teething problems, and we would just request customers be patient while the new systems and processes are being put in place. Please call us on our new number 01582 87 72 88 with any queries that you have.”

Pam Garraway, corporate director of housing and community living, said: “We are delighted with the way Shopmobility has risen to the challenge and are really grateful for what this means for some of Luton’s most vulnerable older people.

“There are more than 1,000 customers for them to make arrangements for, and I would echo Ron’s comment about asking people to be patient, as we do our best to re-establish the service.”

Make sure your car is safe

Drivers were offered the chance to ensure that their cars are in good condition recently by taking them for a free check courtesy of the Bedfordshire and Luton Casualty Reduction Partnership.

Bedfordshire Police will be working hard to crack down on worn tyres and other vehicle defects throughout October, so it is important that motorists check that their cars are safe and legal.

Anyone caught driving unroadworthy vehicles can face the possibility of receiving three penalty points on their licence, as well as a fine of up to £2,500.

Director of public health on the Great North Run

Gerry Taylor, director of public health at Luton Borough Council, tackled the Great North Run half-marathon on 15 September to raise funds for the Alzheimer’s Society.

Gerry’s mother had dementia, so helping to raise awareness to combat the disease is an issue close to her heart.

She said: “Keeping healthy including physical activity can greatly reduce the risk factors for dementia which include smoking, excessive alcohol use, obesity, diabetes, hypertension and raised cholesterol levels.”

The prevalence of dementia in the population is rising. Costs to the NHS budget are an estimated £17 billion which is more than heart disease, stroke or cancer.

Contrary to social misconceptions, there is a great deal that can be done to help people with dementia and their carers. If someone who thinks they may have dementia visits a GP at an early stage for diagnosis, they and their family or carers have the chance to plan for the future including social, psychological and pharmacological support as appropriate.

Toy libraries and games clubs

If you are looking for a convenient and low-cost way of giving your children access to a great selection of toys and games, then visit one of the many toy libraries and games clubs available in Luton.

Family friendly, they are usually based in your child’s school, children’s centre or nursery. Parents or carers can borrow toys, books, games, puzzles, DVDs and much more.

Games clubs are normally found in the family or community room and are run at lunchtimes or after school. Children are encouraged to attend with family members and offered a wide range of games to either play during sessions or to borrow and play at home.

Parents and carers just need to complete a registration form and may also have to pay a small annual fee.

For more information contact your local school or children’s centre or Mandy Maltman on 01582 51 47 38.

For more information on dementia please visit www.luton.gov.uk/dementia
It’s easy to switch to e-billing – just visit www.luton.gov.uk/counciltaxservices

No-one likes getting their council tax bill

e-billing

Registering for ‘e-billing’ means no more bills in the post

• It’s quick, safe and secure
• Register from the comfort of your own home
• See all your bills online
• No lost bills ever again, and you can check your payment history in a few quick clicks!

Free prize draw
If you sign up by 1 November, you will be automatically included in our 2 April prize draw. One lucky winner will receive a whole year’s worth of council tax in their bank account – £1446.16 (band D).

www.luton.gov.uk/counciltaxservices
Lottery helps to give families a Better Start

A partnership between the Council, the Pre-School Learning Alliance (PSLA) and other key organisations including the University of Bedfordshire, health and the police has successfully been awarded £380,000 to develop plans which would improve the lives of disadvantaged babies and children under the age of three years.

Luton is one of 15 local authorities in the country to reach the final stage of the Big Lottery’s ‘Fulfilling Lives: A Better Start’ programme and ultimately has the opportunity to receive further funding of up to £50 million.

The partnership will use the money to create long-term plans for five wards – Biscot, Dallow, Farley, South and Northwell – which have higher levels of child poverty and poor health or development issues.

The funding will be invested in a variety of projects focusing on communication and language development, social and emotional development and nutrition.

Martin Pratt, corporate director of children and learning, said: “The lottery funding gives the partnership an opportunity to enhance the quality of parenting, strengthen communities in our most disadvantaged wards and help make Luton a more prosperous place to grow up in.”

The partnership now has to develop an area strategy and submit a final application by January to see if Luton will be one of five areas that qualifies for further funding. A final decision by the Big Lottery is expected by the end of March.

Spin-a-thon in Lewsey raises £3,500

Pedal power was the theme as more than 60 people took part in a six-hour ‘spin-a-thon’ at Lewsey Sports Park recently.

The event was organised to raise money for local homeless charity NOAH Enterprise while showcasing the first-class facilities at the £1.5million sports and fitness centre.

Active Luton instructors led a series of spin classes, with some keen participants taking part in every session. Diverse FM DJs kept people motivated throughout the day and more than £3,500 was raised as a number of residents supported the cause by donating food, clothes and money.

Organiser and fitness instructor Jackie Neufville said: “It was fantastic to see regular gym users and residents coming together to support a very worthy cause. Raising money for charity was definitely a great motivator for people to come down and have a good workout.”

Helen Barnett, chief executive at Active Luton, said: “We were pleased to be able to offer the space, facilities and staff to help raise money for NOAH Enterprise. It sounded like a really fun day and is another great example of excellent community spirit.

“I am hopeful that the event has also attracted new people to come along and use the fantastic facilities we have at Lewsey Sports Park to improve their health and fitness.”

Tenants attend open day

Council tenants and leaseholders dropped into the Town Hall for an annual open day recently.

The event offered the opportunity to speak with staff in a relaxed setting and discuss services including repairs, antisocial behaviour, tenancy agreements, housing options, sheltered housing, cleaning, grounds maintenance and tenant participation.

As many Council tenants are affected by the major Government changes to welfare benefits, the event was also an opportunity for people to find out how they might be affected and what assistance is available.

The Council is a landlord for over 8,000 properties and offers a range of support services for tenants as well as ensuring homes are safe, warm and comfortable. For tenant inquiries call 01582 54 79 95.

Love to make a difference?

If you would like to help improve your local park, why not join our volunteers and students from the University of Bedfordshire for some MADD Halloween fun – ‘making a difference’ by planting bulbs in Luton’s parks and green spaces on 31 October.

For more information telephone 01582 548773 or email volunteering@luton.gov.uk

Stoptober

Be part of the challenge

Stoptober is back. All over the country people will take the 28 day challenge to stop smoking during October. Last year over 160,000 people successfully quit smoking for Stoptober, thanks to the wide range of quitting support on offer.

For more information search ‘Stoptober’ online or visit www.smokefree.nhs.uk/stoptober

Alternatively, speak to your local Stop Smoking Service on 08000 130845 or text Quit to 60003.
Bringing all things youth together ...

Voluntary groups, social enterprises and charities who work with young people across Luton are coming together to form the Luton Youth Network.

The groups provide a wide range of support and interventions for young people covering every area of the town, offering music, sports, art activities, training, meeting spaces, lobbying and mentoring, to name a few. Coming together into a network, they will help build the capacity of organisations across Luton.

Montell Neufville, director of Marsh Farm Youth Consultants and chair of Luton Youth Network, said: “What we want to do is to put young people first. Ensuring the youths of the town are involved in decisions which affect their lives is our number one priority. In the past there has been competition between groups for funding, space and contracts, this is not always in the best interest of young people. We now want to work differently.”

The network currently meets monthly at the UK Centre for Carnival Arts and at TOKKO Youth Space, but the intention is that it will soon travel to different areas of the town, raising awareness of the network with localised youth and sports groups throughout Luton.

Meet your Police and Crime Commissioner

Olly Martins

North Luton Area Board
(Bramfield, Biscot, High Town & Saints)
Thursday 17th October 2013, 7.30pm
Bramfield Primary School, Freeman Avenue, Luton, LU1 4GB

Central Luton Area Board
(Barnfield, Biscot, High Town & Saints)
Thursday 24th October 2013, 7.45pm
Bushmead Community Centre, Hancock Drive, Luton, LU2 7SF

East Luton Area Board
(Crawley, Round Green, Stopsley & Wigmore)
Thursday 7th November 2013, 7.30pm
Wigmore Primary School, Twyford Drive, Luton, LU2 9TB

Come along and ask the questions that concern you about policing in your town
For more information contact:
Gary J. Roberts
Area Boards Support Manager
01582 546985

An exciting new health initiative for the town has just been approved by Luton Council and the search is now on for an agency to run it.

The plan is to set up Luton’s first wellness service: a ‘one-stop-shop’ that will help boost health by encouraging and enabling positive lifestyle changes.

The Council will shortly be inviting suppliers to bid to run the new service.

It could be up and running by April next year, delivering information, advice, guidance and ‘tailored interventions’ in a number of key health areas such as:

- diet and nutrition
- physical activity
- weight management, for children as well as adults
- smoking
- alcohol misuse
- and mental wellbeing.

It could also deliver NHS community health checks and link up with other health services in addressing wider social issues.

Wellness: Luton’s new healthy option

Currently, such services are delivered by a number of different organisations. But, with a number of healthy lifestyle contracts coming to an end next March, there is now the opportunity to set up a fully integrated single service to greatly improve co-ordination, cut duplication and increase cost-effectiveness.

Director of public health Gerry Taylor is looking forward to seeing the new service as quickly as possible. “It’s well known that even the simplest lifestyle changes can be hugely beneficial,” she said. “And helping people maintain and improve their health helps reduce the pressure on GPs and hospitals.

“Until now this kind of service has been delivered by a host of different agencies. But after careful study and consultation we see a chance to deliver it more effectively to more people through just one single agency.”

A service specification has been developed and the formal procurement process will get underway this month.

Love Luton and Luton in Harmony

Love Luton and Luton in Harmony in partnership with Luton Culture and students and staff from the University of Bedfordshire to brighten up a subway in Stopsley recently.

Following a request from residents to smarten up the underpass which connects Stopsley Park and village, a competition was organised for graphic design and art students.

Briefed to design a mural that celebrates the local community, six entries were judged by local artist Abi Spendlove.

The winners were Monika Ciapala and Alan Fletcher with a mural that explores the town’s vast cultural history with panels telling the story of Luton since prehistoric times. Their unique piece also reflects important industries including the hat trade and the airport.

A team of artists commissioned by Luton Culture worked over the summer to paint the murals, while the Council’s street cleansing team helped to protect the panels by coating the walls with a special anti-graffiti sealant.

Schoolchildren from Stopsley Primary School and Mayor Cllr Sheila Roden, helped celebrate its official opening.

A Council spokesman said: “Thanks to a lot of hard work from many people, Stopsley now has hugely improved new subway for local people to use. It is fantastic to be able to carry out a project knowing that it is exactly what local people want.”
Make a Smart Restart to the new school year

The Council is supporting Smart Restart, a major new Change4Life campaign aiming to help families make healthy changes to their school routine, launched by Public Health England.

Smart Restart encourages families to use the fresh start to the new school year as a chance to establish healthier habits – such as walking to school, incorporating short bursts of extra activity into the day, and ensuring children eat a healthy lunch – to get parents and children moving more and eating more healthily.

Families who sign up to the campaign are supported through a six-week programme to help them stick to their chosen healthy change through to half-term.

The five Smart Restart changes families can choose from are:

- stretch your legs – encouraging families to swap regular car or bus journeys for walking, scooting or cycling
- 10-minute moves – incorporating extra activities into kids’ routines to help build to the goal of at least 60 active minutes a day
- screen-time switch – swapping time in front of the TV, tablet or computer for something active
- beat the treats – swapping unhealthy treats for healthier alternatives
- super lunches – helping kids through the school day with ideas for quick and tasty lunches.

Ann Hoskins, director for children, young people and families at Public Health England, said: “Families tell us they sometimes slip into unhealthier habits during the summer holidays, such as spending too much time in front of the TV or computer, or indulging in too many treats. The new school year is a chance for them to press the restart button and choose and sustain healthier habits for the year ahead.”

Gerry Taylor, Luton’s director of public health, said: “Making one small change at a time helps people establish and stick to a healthy new routine. Smart Restart makes this simple, fun and easy to achieve.”

Smart Restart is backed by a range of Change4Life partners including Asda and Aldi, UK Active, Flora and Disney.

For more information see www.luton.gov.uk

Do you want to make your neighbourhood stronger and safer?

Would you like to see an improvement to your local environment and economy, or improve the health and wellbeing of residents?

Have you got ideas for improving services for the whole community?

‘Your Say, Your Way’ increases opportunities for people to get involved in local decision making so they can help shape the future of their neighbourhoods.

Employment fair a huge success

More than 1,000 people attended an Employment Training and Skills Fair at Venue Central on 10 September.

Feedback was excellent, with local employers and training providers on hand to fill job vacancies and offer free advice to visitors. Throughout the day there were workshops covering a variety of areas, including CV writing, career choices and skills training plus recruitment, apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities.

Many of those who attended praised the day with 80 per cent of visitors saying they felt the fair helped their chances of getting a job.

Your Say, Your Way – Community Planning Decision Days

- Do you want to make your neighbourhood stronger and safer?
- Would you like to see an improvement to your local environment and economy, or improve the health and wellbeing of residents?
- Have you got ideas for improving services for the whole community?

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Do you live in East Luton? (Crawley, Round Green, Stopsley or Wigmore)

Since April East Luton has been part of the ‘Your Say, Your Way’ programme. A lot of good work has already taken place through the East Luton Area Board and ward forums. We now want to build on these achievements and hear and learn more from you.

If you would like to help shape future community priorities then come along to your very own community event in October (see dates below).

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Champions honour shining light Tina

An exceptional volunteer from Luton was recognised recently for her work promoting sports in the community.

Tina Ashby organised a two-day community festival last year in Leagrave – and at a ceremony in the Olympic Park was presented with a plaque by two-time gold medallist Lord Sebastian Coe and Barry McGuigan, former boxing world featherweight champion.

Supported by the Council’s ‘Your Say, Your Way’ scheme, Tina put on a raft of sports, music, games and other activities to engage families in her area, with more than 1,000 people attending.

The festival gave children the chance to take part in sports that some had never tried before, with Wates even arranging for people to have a go at blind Paralympics last year, Tina also built a beach volleyball court.

Tina was nominated for her award by Community Games, an organisation which aims to give everyone a chance to take part in sport, and she also received a letter of congratulations from Her Majesty the Queen.

Tina said: “I was truly blessed to have been part of such a successful two-day event and to have such amazing support. I was also incredibly honoured to receive an award for my volunteer work and to be invited to the Olympic Park to meet Lord Coe and Barry McGuigan.

“Accessing Your Say Your Way funding was not only a great way to receive financial support for the event, but it also really helped me to find out exactly what the community wanted so we could implement that into the festival and engage local people.”

If you require transport, phone Gary Roberts on 54 69 85.
Transport available for people with disabilities.

Tina is seen with Barry McGuigan

www.luton.gov.uk/areaboards

Don’t just be a face in the crowd... ...be a VOICE

Area Boards are designed to give you a voice in your neighbourhood. And a say in how things are run.

www.luton.gov.uk/areaboards

www.luton.gov.uk/wardforums

www.luton.gov.uk/areatours

East Luton Area Board
Crawley, Round Green, Stopsley & Wigmore
Thursday 7 November 2013
6.30pm Ward Meetings
7.30pm Area Board
Wigmore Primary School
Twyford Drive, Luton, LU2 9TB

South Luton Area Board
Dallow, Farley & South
Wednesday 13 November 2013
6pm Ward Meetings
7.30pm Area Board
Farley Junior School
Northdith Way, Luton, LU1 5SF

For further information contact
Gary Roberts
Area Boards Support Manager
Town Hall, Luton, LU1 2BQ
Telephone: 01582 54 69 85
Fax: 01582 54 63 69
Email: gary.roberts@luton.gov.uk or area.boards@luton.gov.uk

www.luton.gov.uk/healthandsocialcare or call 01582 54 76 59.

www.luton.gov.uk/areaboards

www.luton.gov.uk/wardforums

www.luton.gov.uk/areatours

www.luton.gov.uk
Luton’s high schools provide a high quality education for our town’s 11 to 16-year-olds.

Cardinal Newman Catholic School together with Barnfield West and South Academies have sixth forms providing education to pupils up to the age of 18.

If your child is due to transfer from junior/primary school to a high school or an academy in September 2014, you should receive information on the process via your child’s current school, if this is in Luton.

If your child attends a school outside of Luton or an independent (private) school, you must contact Luton’s admissions team to obtain information on the process.

You are strongly advised to read the How to apply for a school place for September 2014 guide before submitting your application. The guide can be downloaded from www.luton.gov.uk/admissions, or you can get a copy from your child’s current school or from our admissions team.

There are two ways to apply for a high school place.

1 Apply online:
   • you can apply online for a school place at www.luton.gov.uk/admissions by following easy step-by-step instructions
   • you get an automatic confirmation to show your application has been received. You can also change your preference at any time up to the 31 October closing date.

The online system is available now and applications must be submitted by 31 October 2013. If you apply online, there is no need to complete a paper application.

2 If you cannot apply online:
   You can get an application form and copy of the guidance from your local junior or primary school or from the Council’s admissions team.
   Your completed application must be submitted by 31 October 2013. Late applications will not be considered until after all applications submitted on time are reviewed.
Ashcroft High School

A learning community driven by high expectations and respect for all.

Open Evening
Wednesday 9 October
5-7.30pm
Headteacher’s address at 5pm and 6pm

Guided Visits by Appointment in the Morning:
Wednesday 9 October – Friday 11 October
Please contact the school for an appointment.

- Ashcroft High School is an ‘outstanding’ school (Ofsted March 2011).
- GCSE results reflect high standards of teaching and learning: 85 per cent A*-C grades, 99 per cent A*-C including English and maths and 24 per cent three A*/A.
- Students, staff, governors and parents work together as part of the Ashcroft family.
- The new school was completed in February 2013 and includes a professional theatre, youth and community spaces and a café. Refurbished areas offer Ashcroft staff and students exciting, vibrant teaching and learning spaces and modern facilities.
- Ashcroft High School enjoys an excellent reputation for its work in the expressive arts and physical education, having been awarded Artsmark, Sportsmark and Football Charter Mark status, and also boasts an all-weather floodlit football pitch.
- The school offers well qualified specialist teachers and high quality support to all students, from those who are gifted and talented to those with special needs.
- Ashcroft High School is nationally recognised for its work in developing student voice and engagement.

Challney High School for Boys

“This is an outstanding school. The ethos of the school is centred on achievement... the care, guidance and support for students’ academic and pastoral needs are exemplary.” – Ofsted

Having been judged ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted in February 2007, and outstanding in English in July 2008, Challney High School for Boys was one of only 12 schools chosen to be included in a 2009 Ofsted report ‘Twelve outstanding secondary schools excelling against the odds’ and the school continues to maintain these exceptionally high standards.

The rich curriculum offers choice, diversity and opportunities for all pupils, along with an excellent range of extra-curricular activities and high quality care, guidance and support for academic and pastoral needs. This has led to all pupils being highly motivated to learn and do their very best.

High achievement and access for all are our shared responsibilities.

Visit the website to find out more at: www.challneyboys.co.uk

Barnfield South Academy

Open Evening
Barnfield South Academy, Luton, invites you to attend a special open evening on:
Tuesday 8 October
6-9pm

- ‘Students have good attitudes to learning and they are keen to do well and succeed. This is as a result of the impressive work that the academy does in enabling students to develop high aspirations for themselves.’ (Ofsted 2013)

Barnfield South Academy has had a positive impact on education with traditional values in a modern context. The Academy is a vibrant, exciting place to learn, with an innovative curriculum which allows every student to follow a personalised route to success.

In 2013 Barnfield South Academy celebrated record-breaking GCSE results with 78 per cent of our students achieving five A* to C grades including English and Maths – an astounding 2.7 per cent rise on last year and the highest ever results in the history of the Academy – as well as an impressive pass rate of 99 per cent five A*-C grades.

Barnfield South Academy’s £30 million state-of-the-art building offers cutting-edge facilities, including brand new 3G AstroTurf pitch, smartboards in every classroom, iPads and Apple Macs.

As a member of the Barnfield Federation, the Academy holds a pivotal position in ensuring every student receives the very best education and offers natural progression routes to Barnfield Sixth Form and Barnfield College.

Challney High School for Girls

Open Evening
Thursday 3 October
6.30-8.30pm

Challney High School for Girls has experience and expertise in providing high quality education for girls. Pupils and staff are guided by the principles of Respect, Opportunity and Achievement.

A message from the headteacher:
Challney High School for Girls is a school defined and inspired by the principles of Respect, Opportunity and Achievement. We are a busy, ambitious and diverse community where everyone is encouraged and expected to get involved, try their best, persevere and enjoy themselves.

Whether your daughter wants to develop her talents in sports, the arts or other areas of interest, she will attend a first-class, purpose-built school, which is an inspiring place to work and study.

We have an extremely hard-working, highly qualified and dedicated team of staff, both inside and outside of the classroom. Staff do not underestimate or take lightly our responsibility to ensure that the school equips our girls to be successful lifelong learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens ready to become an influential member in a fast-changing world.

We promise our students our unstinting commitment and dedication, which allows every girl to have the best possible experiences, with the best possible outcomes, throughout her time with us at Challney High School for Girls.

Respect          Opportunity          Achievement
"Barnfield West Academy has improved outcomes for students from one of the lowest in the country ... this truly remarkable achievement is due to the dedication, passion and relentless drive for improvement with all involved in the life of the academy." (Ofsted 2018)

Barnfield West Academy believes in three core expectations: high achievement for all, happy and successful students and a blend of traditional values within a modern context. As a result, students are articulate, hard-working and well-rounded individuals who achieve considerable success by taking on challenges and working independently.

Standards are extremely important. In 2013 the Academy achieved 68 per cent five A*-C with English and maths and an excellent 100 per cent GCSE pass rate for five A*-C grades.

Barnfield West Academy became the first school in Luton ever to achieve 100 per cent five A*-C grades in 2011. The Academy was recognised as ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted following its last inspection in 2010.

Barnfield West Academy’s £30 million building boasts some of the best and most innovative educational facilities in the country, including the latest ICT facilities such as more than 500 network PCs, wireless laptops, iPads, interactive whiteboards and data projectors. The building also includes specialist sports studios, a fitness centre and a 3G all-weather pitch.

As a member of the Barnfield Federation, the Academy holds a pivotal position in delivering a world-class educational experience for students from the local community. Barnfield West Academy is committed to excellence, embraces challenge, and whatever the starting point provides the very best education for every child as well as natural progression routes to Barnfield Sixth Form and Barnfield College.

Winner of the ‘Secondary School of the Year Award’ and judged to be ‘outstanding’ by Ofsted, Barnfield High School has a long-established record of excellence and improvement. Students feel secure, supported and motivated to learn, and their “personal development and well-being are outstanding” (Ofsted). The school’s focus on success and achievement is uncompromising, with a curriculum which is broad and challenging, and the progress made by students from key stage 2 to key stage 4 is in the top five per cent of schools nationally.

Visit the website to find out more at: www.denbighhigh.luton.sch.uk

Cardinal Newman Catholic School

Cardinal Newman is the only Catholic secondary school in Luton. Our strong Christian values underpin everything we do. The school is a community of truth, justice and reconciliation, placing great value on personal freedom but at the same time tutoring young people in the use of that freedom. Self-restraint, respect for others and acceptance of consequences are the cornerstones of our discipline policy. As a result, the students develop a strong work ethic which leads to examination results that are always excellent and well above national averages. All the students’ GCSE choices have clear progression routes towards higher education and training so our sixth form is strong and very successful.

This is a school which has established strong links with parents, parishes and the local community and it is through these partnerships that it is able to successfully meet the needs of all students regardless of ability or background.

In our last inspection, Ofsted judged Cardinal Newman to be ‘a good school with many outstanding features’. In his letter to students the lead inspector said:

“The school’s very positive ethos and your own excellent personal development are strong features. You are developing into friendly and confident young people and you are a credit to your school. Your headteacher is leading the school very effectively during an important period of development. You are very supportive in welcoming and supporting newcomers from different countries and backgrounds. It is good to see how you respect each other and demonstrate excellent spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.”

Icknield High School

Icknield High School offers an education which brings together the best of ‘old-fashioned’ and high-valued traditions, and blends them with cutting-edge methods of teaching and learning.

Children are proud to belong to the school, and the school in turn is privileged to welcome them.

Icknield High School believes it provides a unique opportunity to help young people become well-qualified, healthy, self-assured and confident adults, ready to take their place and play a full role in the future of our global community.

It adopts a ‘can do’ culture and provides a safe and secure environment where support, advice and guidance are offered to enable children to say, ‘I can do that’.

The school is pleased to play a full part in providing the highest quality education and care for students in Luton, and hopes you will consider joining its continuing journey towards raising the achievement of all.
Lealands High School

The governors and headteacher are pleased to invite you to our annual OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 16 October
Arrival times: 5.30pm, 6.15pm and 6.45pm
OPEN MORNING
Thursday 17 October 2013, 9.30am-12.30pm, by appointment

“Outstanding behaviour”
Ofsted, 2013

“The teaching methods are varied and teachers’ passion for their subject is infectious.”
“The curriculum includes rich opportunities for physical, creative and intellectual development.”
“Students make a strong contribution to their own learning and that of other students in lessons.”
(OFSTED 2013)

Lealands High School is proud of:
• outstanding behaviour and safety
• outstanding GCSE results and student progress
• 72 per cent of students achieved a C grade or above in English GCSE, 2013
• 68 per cent of students achieved a C grade or above in maths GCSE, 2013
• high quality real GCSE courses and a balanced curriculum giving great prospects
• amazing facilities, clubs and resources in our completely refurbished school
• an ethos that celebrates every student’s achievements in a caring and extremely well-ordered learning environment
• strong partnerships with parents, carers and the wider community
• a dynamic curriculum and extensive extra-curricular opportunities that allow every child to fulfil their potential
• specialist sports college status
• an open door to parents/carers.

Email: lealands.high.admin@luton.gov.uk
www.lealands.luton.sch.uk

Can we help? For further details, call the Council’s admissions team on 54 80 16 (weekdays between 10am and 4pm)
email: admissions@luton.gov.uk or visit our website: www.luton.gov.uk/admissions

Lea Manor ‘Learning for Life’

OPEN EVENING
Thursday 17 October 2013, 6-8.30pm
Headteacher’s address, 6pm and 7pm

School tours available by appointment the week commencing Monday 21 October.

Lea Manor is a vibrant learning community committed to promoting high standards and ‘learning for life’. The school benefits from outstanding facilities which contribute towards outstanding learning.

Key features:
• A strong emphasis on high quality teaching and learning, contributing to ‘good’ learning and progress for all pupils.
• Explicit core values which lead to ‘good’ behaviour in lessons and around the campus and an ‘outstanding’ contribution from pupils to the school and the wider community.
• A happy and safe place; students are proud to belong to the school and enjoy coming here. “The school’s systems to care for and support students are outstanding”.
• An ‘outstanding’ curriculum that meets the needs of different learners. This includes a nationally accredited programme in year seven which promotes learning competencies and the development of basic skills.
• First-class provision in sports and the performing arts which is used as a vehicle to celebrate diversity and promote excellence and inclusion.
• Strong partnerships with our families and other local schools.
• Positive engagement with stakeholders through well-established student, parent and community voice groups.

Visit our website to find out more: www.leamanor.luton.sch.uk

Putteridge High School — The First Choice for a Successful Future

Putteridge High School
Putteridge Road
Luton LU2 8HJ
Tel: 01582 41 57 91

“Outstanding behaviour”
Ofsted, March 2013

Students make good progress because teaching is good." – Ofsted, March 2013

Putteridge High School, soon to be Barnfield East Academy, is a ‘good school’ (Ofsted 2013). At Putteridge High School, every individual matters and every individual succeeds. Our English and maths departments achieve excellent GCSE results, above the national average and in both subjects students make better than expected progress and have exceeded the national average for making three and four levels of progress. The school’s curriculum is designed to ensure that all students can attain academically; we also place importance on the development of the whole child by providing many opportunities to take part in enrichment activities.

We are a diverse and an inclusive school. We welcome students from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures, and students with visual and physical impairment take part in mainstream lessons alongside their able-bodied peers. We value and celebrate this diversity and believe that it enriches us, as a school community.

We extend a warm invitation to visit our school, where you will see staff and students working together to enjoy learning and achieve excellent outcomes.

We look forward to meeting you.

Stopsley High School

OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 2 October, 6.30-8.30pm

There will be two presentations by headteacher Karen Johns, at 6.30pm and 7pm. You will also have the opportunity to look around the school and talk to staff and students.

OPEN MORNING
Thursday 3 October 2013, 10am-12noon

An opportunity to see the school in action

Stopsley High School
St Thomas’ Road
Luton LU2 7UX
Tel: 01582 87 09 00

Stopsley High School is delighted to invite you to its opening evening and morning. This school and specialist sports college offers a strong commitment to the highest quality teaching and learning, and a friendly, positive ethos.

Stopsley High School places a strong emphasis on its close working partnership with parents. Expectations of work and behaviour are very high, and results reflect that. A huge range of extra curricular activities are offered. Students are encouraged to contribute fully to the daily life of the school and to take on extra responsibilities. Staff are proud of students’ successes and the progress they make during their time at the school.

Stopsley High School extends you a warm welcome.

Stopsley High School
Get on Track with Dame Kelly Holmes

An innovative programme that aims to give young people the skills and confidence to find work, volunteering or education opportunities is returning to Luton.

The Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust’s ‘Get on Track’ programme, which is delivered in partnership with the Council’s community development service, sees elite athletes act as mentors to young people who are currently not in education, employment or training.

Last year a group was supported through the programme by London 2012 Paralympian Alistair Patrick Heselton, English boxing champion Hannah Beharry, top flight basketball player Dru Spinks and Team GB wheelchair basketball player Niki Stanton.

As well as receiving advice from the athletes, all of the young people who take part in the programme benefit from a tailored itinerary of training workshops and volunteering opportunities.

The course develops important skills needed in the next stages of a young person’s life, including confidence, communication, teamwork and self-resilience.

“I would really encourage anyone who is not currently in work, education or training to register their interest for the scheme.”

For more information please contact Harriet Tamke, volunteering project assistant, on 01582 548782 or email Harriet.Tamke@luton.gov.uk

Free training for young riders

Young people planning to travel to college on a moped, scooter or motorcycle this autumn are being urged to consider a free training course to help them ride more safely on the roads.

Take Control is a half-day course for riders aged 16 to 20 years who have already completed their Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) and live, work or attend school or college in Bedfordshire or Luton.

The course has been developed by the Motorcycling Matters partnership to help young riders improve their riding ability and confidence, and make better decisions on the road. It’s delivered in a number of locations across the county by local instructors.

Chief Insp Richard Hann, of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Roads Policing Unit, said: “Currently there are too many young riders in our road casualty statistics. Some of these collisions could have been avoided if the riders involved had better bike handling skills and were better able to anticipate hazards. We know that extra training such as the Take Control course is very effective at helping young riders improve their capabilities, which will in turn help prevent these collisions from happening.”

The Motorcycling Matters partnership includes Luton, Bedford and Central Bedfordshire Councils and highways contractor Amey, and promotes lifelong learning for riders of all ages.

To book onto a Take Control course with a local instructor visit www.motorcyclingmatters.org/training/take-control

Buy or sell scrap metal?

Deal in second hand car parts?

Scrap metal and motor salvage will be covered by one licence from 1 December under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

So if you want to continue operating, you must apply for a new licence.

If you are already registered you can transfer your existing registration to the new licence if you:

- apply between 1 and 15 October
- provide a basic disclosure for everyone listed on the licence
- meet the application criteria.

Note: we urge you to contact the Licensing Service now for your application pack. A basic disclosure check can take some time and you must complete this separate procedure before you make your licence application.

If your application is received after 15 October, you will not be able to operate until your application has been processed and approved.

Application packs are available from Licensing Service on 01582 546040 or from licensing@luton.gov.uk

Scrap metal dealers

If you buy or sell worn out or discarded metal or metal products from fixed premises in Luton, or you live in Luton and operate without premises (itinerant collector), you must contact the Council for a licence.

Motor salvage

If you dismantle old or damaged vehicles for salvageable parts, repair previously written off vehicles for resale or trade vehicles for either of these purposes in Luton, you must contact the Council for a licence.
The new electoral register will be published on 17 February 2014.

For more information contact Luton’s Electoral Registration Office on 01582 510380 or email electoral_services@luton.gov.uk
Private fostering: who is sleeping in your house?

Have you got a child or young person under 16 years old (or 18 years if they have a disability) who is staying with you for 28 days or more, and you are not the parent, close relative or legal guardian with parental responsibility?

If the answer is yes, then in the eyes of the law you could be deemed to be a private foster carer.

Private fostering is an arrangement between parents and someone who has agreed to look after their child.

A private foster carer may be a friend of the family, a member of the extended family or someone previously unknown – and by law the parent and/or the private foster carer must tell the Council’s children and family services about the arrangement.

This is because the authority has a legal duty to ensure the child’s needs are being met, including making sure they are safe, well looked after, healthy, receiving a proper education, and are being met, including making sure they are safe, well looked after, healthy, receiving a proper education, and are living with someone who helps them value their culture and sense of identity.

A specialist member of staff will work with the child, parents and private foster carer to ensure that the best possible arrangements are in place, and offer support and advice for example about any financial benefits they might be entitled to.

The parent must retain parental responsibility for the child, and be available for any important decisions, as well as provide the Council and the carer with information including the child’s health records, dietary preferences, school records and hobbies.

The Council is particularly asking people who work with children to be aware of private fostering and to notify the Council if they believe such an arrangement is in place. The general public also has a part to play.

A spokesman said: “It’s vital that you inform the Council if you are in a private fostering arrangement so that we can keep children safe as well as provide support to families. We also want to ensure that children do not miss out on essential welfare checks and that you receive advice on claiming any financial benefits that you may be entitled to.

“If you know of a child in a private foster arrangement, please don’t ignore it – check with the carer to see if they have registered with the Council.”

Private fostering arrangements might exist to enable a child to access education or healthcare, for young people living apart from their families following a divorce or family breakdown, for a child from overseas living with a host family while attending school, or overseas students at boarding school who stay with host families during the holidays.

If you have a query or would like to register a private fostering arrangement contact our fostering team on 54 76 53.
Helping you get around

Another successful year!

The Travel Luton team, or the purple people as they are affectionately known, have been out and about across the town again this year to advise residents about their travel options – encouraging even more people to use sustainable transport methods including walking, cycling and public transport.

This year’s target areas included the Stopsley, Wigmore, Saints and Limbury wards. Residents were able to talk with one of our trained travel advisers to receive personalised information and advice on different ways to travel around Luton.

The Travel Luton team also held stalls at numerous community events – you might have seen our purple gazebo at Summer in the Sun and the community ward festivals. We have also been visiting workplaces in Luton to help staff find quicker and more affordable routes to work.

This year, since April, more than 5,000 people have signed up to Travel Luton and a host of travel challenges were taken up by residents. Some of our favourites included:

‘I will walk up the hill to my house in Stopsley, rather than asking for a lift, for a full week.’

‘I will use my bike to commute to Parkway station for one week instead of taking the car.’

‘I used my bus taster ticket to get to an appointment at the L&D hospital instead of taking the car, and walked back which meant I could go to the pub for a drink too!’

Thank you to all of the residents who have taken part in Travel Luton so far. If you want to join the thousands of people who have already signed up, it’s easy! Simply email info@travelluton.org.uk, call us on 0800 0281 755 or visit our website at www.travelluton.co.uk.

Travel Luton workplace cycle challenge

During the summer, staff at workplaces in Luton have been challenging themselves to cycle to work to save money, get fitter and earn prizes in the process!

The Travel Luton workplace cycle challenge is designed to encourage cycling to work by rewarding employees according to the number of journeys they make by bike.

For signing up to the scheme, participants received a set of bike lights and a workplace cycling ‘passport’, collecting stamps in the passport and making their way towards 12 journeys to be rewarded with a cycle computer. On completion of the advanced task, participants will receive a £25 voucher for a local cycling shop.

With support from Travel Luton, London Luton Airport has recently invested in significant secure cycle parking for employees at different locations. Being part of the scheme also helped those staff who had signed up for the ‘Luton2Paris’ cycle challenge in aid of Sue Ryder, as it gave them encouragement to use their commute to work as training.

Airport employee Dot Yang said: “I live fairly close to work and sometimes walk when I can. Cycling is quicker and the scheme gave me the incentive I needed to start cycling regularly to work.”

Three other Luton-based employers – TUI, HMRC and SH Pratt – have also signed up to the workplace cycle challenge and are currently promoting the scheme to their employees.

We will be looking for other employers to take part in the scheme next year, so if you too want to be rewarded for cycling to work, register your interest now on 0800 0281 755, or email info@travelluton.org.uk.
Challenge for smokers: October is Stoptober!

Stoptober – England’s mass 28-day stop smoking attempt – is back following its huge success last year when 160,000 people completed the challenge.

Throughout October smokers in Luton are encouraged to take up the mass quit challenge organised by Public Health England and supported by the Council.

A fifth of Luton’s adults are smokers and the habit is the nation’s biggest killer with half dying prematurely from a smoking-related disease.

Gerry Taylor, the council’s director of public health, said: “New research shows that someone who quits smoking for Stoptober and does not smoke again could gain an extra seven days of life, every 28 days, for the rest of their life.

“We know that if you can stop smoking for 28 days, you are five times more likely to stay smoke-free. Stoptober leads smokers through a step-by-step programme to help them reach their smoke-free goal.”

Simply search ‘Stoptober’ online and order the free pack of information and resources from www.smokefree.nhs.uk/ Stoptober. Extra support is available by signing up to a daily messaging service offering inspiration from celebrity mentors and expert advice using a 28-day mobile phone app or a 28-day text message service.

Look out for the national Stoptober awareness roadshow visiting St George’s Square on Thursday 26 September from 10am–6pm. The roadshow coincides with performance coach Rory Coleman’s challenge to run 28 miles a day for 28 consecutive days, pushing the Stoptober red wheel at sites across the country.

Smoking is the biggest cause of premature death in England and causes over 80,000 deaths in England every year. One in two long-term smokers will die prematurely from a smoking disease.

Along with the health benefits, quitting saves the average smoker over £150 a month and almost £2,000 a year. During last year’s Stoptober campaign, a staggering £25 million was saved by the 160,000 people not buying cigarettes.

Stoptober is supported by organisations, companies and charities nationwide including Arriva, Vauxhall and Luton Town Football Club.

For more information see www.smokefree.nhs.uk/Stoptober, contact the Luton Stop Smoking Service on 0800 013 0845 or text ‘quit’ to 60003.

Alternatively, speak to your local Stop Smoking Service on 0800 013 0845 or text Quit to 60003.

New road layout in Vicarage Street

Work has recently finished in Vicarage Street to renovate roads and provide a new bus lane.

The scheme was instigated and paid for by the University of Bedfordshire as a way to provide a safe shared area which links the new student accommodation to the main campus site.

Because the road is block-paved, it is all level and has no kerbs. The new bus lane runs from the UKCCA entrance to the junction with Lea Road, where buses will join Park Street.

Traffic can no longer enter Vicarage Street via Park Street and exit onto St Mary’s Road. Any drivers accessing Vicarage Street from Park Street can enter St Ann’s Road for the Iceland car park and also drive along Lea Road to use Vicarage Street car park but no further.

Motorists can still drive to the UKCCA from St Mary’s Road but traffic can go no further than that point.

Planters will be installed to finalise the landscaping, while bus stop flags are also set to be put in place soon.

Rod Black, interim highways development control manager, said: “The new shared area highway provides easy access to Vicarage Street and the university for buses and pedestrians.

“The street improvement programme has also allowed us to upgrade Vicarage Street, bringing it up to a far better state of repair than it was previously.”

DIY YOU KNOW...

That the average UK family throws away food worth £50 every month?

To help you make the most of the groceries you buy, Luton Borough Council is bringing you a super series of recipes in association with the Government’s Love Food Hate Waste campaign.

For more tasty tips from chef Lyndon Gee and advice on how to reduce food waste, go to www.luton.gov.uk/recycling

MINESTRONE

Recipe by Lyndon Gee

This hearty soup has its origins in ancient Roman cuisine and is still widely made across Italy. There is no set recipe as it varies with what is available and in season. It can be vegetarian or contain meat but almost always contains beans and either pasta or rice. With crusty bread it makes a satisfying meal.

SERVES: 4  PREP: 10 mins  COOK: 15 mins

INGREDIENTS

- Dash of any vegetable oil
- 400g mixed beans, drained
- 500ml vegetable stock (stock cube is fine)
- 50g pasta (any dried pasta or broken spaghetti)
- 400g mixed vegetables, chopped
- 1 teaspoon each dried oregano and basil
- 400g tin chopped tomatoes
- Pinch salt and pepper
- 60g grated cheese to serve (parmigiano, cheddar or any cheese)

HOW TO PREPARE

1. Add oil to a pan and mix in the vegetables, stirring regularly for five minutes until starting to brown.
2. Add the stock, bring to the boil then reduce the heat, add the pasta and cook for six to seven minutes with the lid on.
3. Now add tomatoes, herbs and beans, cover again and simmer, stirring occasionally.
4. Check the pasta is cooked, season if needed, then put into bowls and serve sprinkled with grated cheese.

Calories

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LUTON

www.luton.gov.uk
Successful 6 months for new businesses in Luton

New company formation reached a record high in Luton during the first half of 2013, according to statistics in the latest Duport Business Confidence Report. Between January and June, 1069 new companies formed in Luton. This is 20.7 per cent higher than last year, which compares well to the UK-wide figure of 6.4 per cent.

For more information see www.duport.co.uk/luton

Apprenticeship grants for employers of 16 to 24 year olds

Employers now have until December 2014 to claim up to ten grants, subject to eligibility and availability. Grant applications are considered on a first come first served basis.

For more information and to check eligibility see www.apprenticeships.org.uk or call 08000 150 600.

You can also call your local Business and Skills team for more details on 01582 490033 or email Julie.jeffery@lutonac.luton.gov.uk

Advanced Manufacturing Supply Chain Initiative (UK)

The Government has announced that round four of the Advanced Manufacturing Supply Chain Initiative is open for applications. This is a funding competition designed to improve the global competitiveness of UK advanced manufacturing supply chains.

Application deadline is noon on 16 October.

www.financebirmingham.com/amsci/

Innovation vouchers – round five

Up to £5k funding is available for start-up, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises to work with an external expert to gain the knowledge to innovate and grow.

Application deadline is 23 October.

http://tinyurl.com/ndjwce7
Affordable housing in High Town comes a step nearer

Prospects for a much-needed affordable housing development in Luton on the site of the former High Town Recreation Centre have moved a step nearer.

At a recent meeting of the Council’s Executive it was agreed to transfer ownership of the 0.7-hectare site in Old Bedford Road from the Council’s General Fund to its Housing Revenue Account to enable proposals for an affordable housing scheme to be brought forward.

Two years ago the site was nearly sold for community purposes but the proposal was withdrawn as the need for affordable housing was increasing.

Now the Council will work with partners to investigate how the development can be financed, before detailed plans are drawn up.

Pam Garraway, Corporate Director for Housing and Community Living, said: “This is great news. The Council has achieved huge success in delivering a number of new social housing developments in recent years, but Luton remains in desperate need of additional supply and much more still needs to be done.”

“This site has been unused since it closed as a recreation centre and regrettably it’s something of a decaying eyesore on a key route into the town centre. Now we have a fantastic opportunity to address that and help meet the growing housing need in our borough.”

Any scheme would involve demolition of the vacant Drill Hall. The Council will also continue discussions aimed at finding a new location for an Army Cadet group that currently occupies two other buildings on the site.

It is anticipated that between 60 and 80 new housing units could be delivered.

Mrs Garraway added: “Feedback received from the local community when the site was proposed for sale suggests there is strong support for an affordable housing scheme at this location.”

Deputy Mayor opens Runday

Deputy Mayor of Luton Cllr Mohammed Zia and his wife officially opened Tri for Life’s inaugural Runday event at Luton Hoo earlier this summer.

Individuals from local businesses, schools and charities laced up their running shoes to tackle 5k, 10k and half-marathon distances, while for children there was a series of shorter runs and entertainment.

The event was in aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital, Whizze Kids, Rays of Sunshine and Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

Councillor advice surgeries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labour</th>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Councillors</th>
<th>Date, time, venue/contact</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barnfield</td>
<td>Rachel Hopkins</td>
<td>Second Saturday of every month, 10.30am-12noon, Bury Park Community Centre, 161 Dunstable Road</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Biscot</td>
<td>Mohammad Ayub Naseem Ayub Tahir Khan</td>
<td>First and last Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, Bury Park Community Centre, 161 Dunstable Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chalneil</td>
<td>Khtija Malik Tom Shaw Tahir Malik</td>
<td>Every Saturday, 10am-12noon, Chaul End Community Centre, 515 Dunstable Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crawley</td>
<td>Melvin Cato</td>
<td>First and third Saturday of every month, 9.30-11.30am, Hart Hill Adventure Playground, Brooms Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dallow</td>
<td>Mohammed Ashraf Mohammed Farooq</td>
<td>Last Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, Dallow Community Centre, 234 Dallow Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farley</td>
<td>Sian Timoney Mahmood Hussain Robin Harris</td>
<td>Every Saturday, 10am-12noon, Housing Office, Farley Community Centre, Delphine Close</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hightown</td>
<td>Andy Malcolm Rosanna Whittaker</td>
<td>Every Thursday, 10am-11am, Hightown Community Centre, Concord Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leagrave</td>
<td>Waheed Akbar Shelia Roden Decline Stewart</td>
<td>First and third Saturday of every month (excluding August), 10am-12noon, Peterborough Ring Community Centre, Hayme Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lewsey</td>
<td>Joan Bailey Aslam Khan Hazel Simmons</td>
<td>Every Saturday, 10am-12 noon, Lewsey Farm Community Centre, Landrace Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limbury</td>
<td>Jacqueline Burnett Stephen Lewis</td>
<td>Second Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, Leagrave Library, Marsh Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwell</td>
<td>Roy Davis Don Worthing</td>
<td>First and third Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, Futures House, Marsh Farm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round Green</td>
<td>Yaqub Hanif Mark Rivers Mohammed Zia</td>
<td>Every Saturday (excluding August), 10-11.30am, 2 Yeovil Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saints</td>
<td>Mohammed Riaz Raja Saleem Asma Rathore</td>
<td>Last Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, Saints Community Centre, Solway Road North</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>Keir Gale Amy O’Callaghan Dave Taylor</td>
<td>First and third Saturday of every month, 10.30-11.30am, Park Town Community Centre, Bailey Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundon Park</td>
<td>Syd Knight</td>
<td>First Saturday of every month, 10am-12noon, Sundon Park Centre Trust, 210 Sundon Park Road</td>
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Liberal Democrats – please contact the numbers below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
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<tr>
<td>Crawley</td>
<td>David Franks</td>
<td>41 49 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stopsley</td>
<td>Jenny Davies Michael Dolling</td>
<td>72 69 95 42 96 46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sundon Park</td>
<td>Doris Hinkley</td>
<td>59 25 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wigmore</td>
<td>Peter Chapman Diane Mole Alan Skepelhorn</td>
<td>48 06 29 72 32 93 75 89 36</td>
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Conservatives – please contact the numbers below

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
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<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bramingham</td>
<td>Gilbert Campbell Katie Foord</td>
<td>57 22 32 61 51 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Icknield</td>
<td>Michael Garrett John Titmus</td>
<td>57 56 30 50 86 74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please call Kelvin's office on 488 208 for an Advice Surgery appointment

Please call Gavin's office on 457 774 for an Advice Surgery appointment

MPs’ Advice Surgeries

Luton’s two MPs, Kelvin Hopkins and Gavin Shuker, hold regular Advice Surgeries and are always happy to help their constituents.

Luton North

Kelvin Hopkins MP

Covering: Barnfield, Bramingham, Chalneil, Icknield, Leagrave, Lewsey, Limbury, Northwell, Saints and Sundon Park

www.kelvinhopkinsmp.com

Please call Kelvin’s office on 488 208 for an Advice Surgery appointment

Luton South

Gavin Shuker MP

Covering: Biscot, Caddington, Crawley, Dallow, East Hyde, Farley, High Town, Round Green, Slip End, South, Stopsley and Wigmore

www.gavinshuker.org

Please call Gavin’s office on 457 774 for an Advice Surgery appointment
Luton Central Library
St George’s Square, Luton LU1 2NG
01582 546722

Stockwood Discovery Centre
London Road, Luton LU1 4LX
01582 548600

Wardown Park Museum
Old Bedford Road, Luton LU2 7HA
01582 546722

The Hat Factory
65-67 Bute Street, Luton LU1 2EY
01582 878100

Luton Library Theatre & Visitor Information Centre are located within Luton Central Library

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**Children and Families**

**Toddler Time**
Friday 4 October, 11am
Wardown Park Museum

Fun and creative activities for ages three to five years. All children must be supervised by a parent or carer. To book call 01582 546722. £3.

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**Book Festival: Handa’s Surprise**
Saturday 26 October, 2-3pm
Luton Central Library

Take part alongside Handa as we celebrate Black History Month by performing Eileen Browne’s story as a picturebook play. Suitable for four+ years. Free.

---

**Book Festival: Goth Girl Gathering**
Monday 28 October, 5.30-6.30pm
Leagrave Library
Wednesday 30 October, 5-6pm
Marsh Farm Library
Thursday 31 October, 5.30-6.30pm
Luton Central Library

Herald the dark and delicious new book by Chris Riddell, ‘Goth Girl and a Ghost of a Mouse’ in style. Suitable for eight+ years. Free, drop in.

---

**Book Festival: Rastamouse in da Library**
Monday 28 October, 2.15-3pm
Stopsley Library
Tuesday 29 October, 2.15-3pm
Lewsey Library
Wednesday 30 October, 11-11.45am
Sundon Park Library
Thursday 31 October, 3.30-4.15pm
Bury Park Library

Listen to the original stories by Michael de Souza and help the Easy Crew who will be makin’ a bad ting good. Suitable for three+ years. Free.

---

**Full House Theatre: Beauty and the Beast Pop-up Performances**
Monday 28 October, Stockwood Discovery Centre
Tuesday 29 October, Central Library
Thursday 31 October, Stockwood Discovery Centre
Saturday 2 November, Stockwood Discovery Centre
11am, 12pm & 2pm

For more information and updates visit www.lutonculture.com/whats-on
Free.

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**Book Festival: Poetry to Celebrate Black History Month**
Saturday 19 October, 2.15-3.15pm
Marsh Farm Library

Luton teacher and poet Bernice Gayle shares poems. Suitable for eight+ years. Free.

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**Theatre: Captain Calamity’s Adventures in Story Land**
Wednesday 30 October, 2pm & 4pm
Luton Library Theatre

Follow Captain Calamity’s adventures through Story Land as he spreads cheer, solves problems and uses his special powers of magic, song, dance, balloons and bubbles to make dreams and wishes come true. Box office: 01582 878100. £10, £8 concessions.
Luton Culture is a local charity that provides you with excellent cultural activities | Charity No. 112296

www.lutonculture.com

Exhibitions

Monster Creepy Crawlies
Open until 3 November
Stockwood Discovery Centre

Discover a world of giant animatronic bugs. An interactive exhibition featuring human-sized models.
£3.95 adults, £2.95 children/concessions/Culture Card, £12 family of four (maximum two adults), £15 family of six (maximum three adults).

Theatre and Dance

The Monkey and Crocodile
Friday 1 November, 10am & 11.30am
Wardown Park Museum or The Hat Factory
(weather dependent)

Enter the forest and share an apple with friendly Monkey and her best mate Crocodile. Features aerial circus, acrobatics, juggling, skateboarding, live music and over 100 apples!
£3, £1 under 18s.

North, North, North
Friday 4 October, 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

Award-winning use of physical theatre, live music and projection to tell the true story of three Swedish adventurers who tried to reach the North Pole by hydrogen balloon in 1897. Recommended for 12+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10, £8 concessions, £5 NUS, £3 under 18s.

The Playground (Scatch 'n' pitch)
Tuesday 8 October, 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

A night for creative artists from the world of theatre, dance, music, circus arts, digital installation, live art and spoken word performances to test out their ideas in front of a live audience. Interested in giving your creative ideas a try? Email oluwatoyin.odunsil@lutonculture.com. Recommended for 12+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£3.

My Heart is Hitchhiking Down
Peachtree Street
9 & 10 October, 3pm & 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

Using animation, folk music and spoken word, this intimate show is about making sense of where you come from when you are far from home.
‘Packs an emotional punch.’ – Total Theatre.
Recommended for 14+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£8, £3 under 18s.

Under My Skin
Tuesday 15 October, 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

Evocative dance piece aiming to capture the unspoken practices of the operating theatre. Recommended for 12+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10, £8 concessions, £5 NUS and Culture Card, £3 under 18s.

Ali Cook: Principles and Deceptions
Friday 11 October, 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

Ali Cook’s anarchic mix of comedy and magic has made him a headliner on the UK comedy circuit and a TV regular.
‘This show is perfection!’ – Broadway Baby.
Recommended for 12+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10, £8 concessions, £5 NUS, £3 under 18s.

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Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£3.

On My Way
Thursday 17 October, 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

Stefano Di Renzo’s piece of circus-theatre about a man who is a long way from home. Recommended for five+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10, £8 concessions, £5 NUS, £3 under 18s.
Film

Gina Yashere
Friday 18 October, 8pm
Luton Library Theatre

‘One of the best comics in the world’ — The Guardian
Stand-up comedy and TV star Gina is also well known in the US for her appearances on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. Bomastic delivery, infectious personality and cheeky observations. Suitable for 14+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£5, £3 under 18s.

Happy Days
Wednesday 23 October, 7.30pm
Luton Library Theatre

Spreading joy to a university town near you! Top quality comedy, singing and game shows. Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10 in advance, £20 on the door.

Fuga Per Canonem
24 & 25 October, 7.30pm
The Hat Factory

A siren and a lighthouse keeper fall in love in this inventive and engaging tragi-comedy featuring clowning, satire, eroticism and pathos. Recommended for 14+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10, £8 concessions/NUS/Culture Card.

Mory
Friday 18 October — Friday 21 March, every third Friday of the month, 2.30pm
Stockwood Discovery Centre

£7.50, £5 concessions.

Talks, Courses & Workshops

Luton Book Festival 2013
28 September – 2 November

If you love a good book you will be delighted to hear that the wonderful world of words and imagination is throwing open its doors once again this autumn for the Luton Book Festival. With loads of events from talks by authors to illustration workshops and performance poetry to story slams, there is bound to be something for you. These listings contain lots of the event information; see the Talks, Courses and Workshops and Children and Families sections for details.
Check www.lutonlibraries.co.uk for more information and updates on all Luton Book Festival events.

Book Festival: Social Media for Writers with Mike French
Wednesday 2 October, 11am-12pm
Luton Central Library, Conference Rooms

A workshop on using the internet to promote your writing, led by established author Mike, who leads the Luton Writers’ Group and edits literary magazine The View From Here. Booking essential. Suitable for 16+ years.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£10, £8 concessions, £5 NUS, £3 under 18s.

Book Festival: An Audience with Charlie Lovett
Thursday 3 October, 7.30-9pm
Luton Central Library, Lending Library

American author Charlie’s new novel The Bookman’s Tale made the New York Times bestseller list. Charlie will be talking about the novel as well as his passion for antique books. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£3.

Book Festival: An Audience with Diana Jackson
Saturday 5 October, 11am-12pm
Luton Central Library, Conference Rooms

Author of romantic and historical fiction Diana Jackson will be talking about her novels, Riduna and Ancasta Guide Me Swiftly Home, as well her interest in early flying boats. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
Free.

Book Festival: An Audience with Kate Griffin
Saturday 5 October, 2.30-3.30pm
Luton Central Library, Conference Rooms

Winner of the Stylist-Faber crime writing competition for her first novel, Kitty Peck and the Music Hall Murders, Kate will be travelling all the way from sunny St Albans to chat about her novel and how to get published. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£2.

Book Festival: Performance Poetry
Thursday 10 October, 7.30-9pm
The Hat Factory

Local poets Xander Ford, Clive Gresswell and Duncan Willox perform poetry about everything from society to gothic horror and party gatecrashers. Booking recommended. Suitable for 16+ years (under 18s must be accompanied by an adult).
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£3, £2 concessions/NUS/Culture Card.

Book Festival: An Audience with Declan Duggan
Thursday 17 October, 7.30-9pm
Luton Central Library, Lending Library

Lutonian Declan Duggan’s son Kevin was just 19 when he died in a car accident involving a drunk driver. Declan will be talking about his book In The Name Of The Son, an account of coming to terms with loss, his efforts to change the law and preserve the memory of his son. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
Free.

Artist Salon: Non Verbal Theatre – Different Way to Communicate with an Audience
Thursday 17 October, 2-6pm
The Hat Factory

Workshop sessions to help artists and producers understand how to launch their creative projects. Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£5 workshop, £10 workshop and ticket to evening show (On My Way).
Luton Culture is a local charity that provides you with excellent cultural activities | Charity No. 112296

Book Festival: An Audience with Wendy Jones
Saturday 19 October, 2.30-3.30pm
Luton Central Library, Conference Rooms

Author of The Thoughts and Happenings of Wilfred Price and The World is a Wedding, Wendy will be talking about creative writing, her novels and artist Grayson Perry, about whom she has written a biography. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£2.

Book Festival: Conn Iggulden
Thursday 24 October, 7.30pm
Luton Central Library, Lending Library

Conn Iggulden, best-selling author of the Emperor and Conqueror series and co-writer of the Dangerous Book for Boys, is a fantastic storyteller as well as one of the most popular writers of historical fiction in the UK. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£3.

An Evening with James Whale
Saturday 9 November, 8pm
Luton Library Theatre
The controversial radio and TV host talks about his career interviewing the biggest names in showbusiness.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£14, £10 concessions

Music

PDM Raw
Friday 4 October, 8pm
The Hat Factory
Come along to watch or to collaborate with other musicians, including house band Good Little Roses. If you are new to performing or have loved it for years, register to perform at raw@lutonculture.com.
£3.

Groups and Societies

Luton Poetry Society
Last Saturday of the month, 2pm
Luton Central Library
£3, free for Poetry Society members.

Luton Writers’ Group
First Friday of the month, 8-10pm
The Hat Factory
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
£5, £2.50 concessions.

An Audience with Wendy Jones
Saturday 5 October, 8pm
The Hat Factory
Geno’s kick-ass, up-tempo, house rockin’ R&B band play a blistering set of street soul, rock ‘n’ roll and down and dirty blues. Suitable for 16+ years.
£12.50, £10 concessions/NUS/Culture Card.

Geno Washington and The YoYo’s
Saturday 26 October, 2.30-3.30pm
Luton Central Library, Conference Rooms
Isn’t it about time you met your new best friend...Geno and the rest of his band, The YoYo’s? Join us for an evening of roof-raising R&B. Looks like the line-up is like this...Geno, lead vocals and guitar; Jonty, lead vocals and keyboard; Nick, bass; and Simon, drums. Suitable for 16+ years.
£12, £10 concessions/NUS/Culture Card.

Music on Monday
Monday 7 October, Sacconi Quartet
Monday 14 October, The Music of Ludovico Einaudi
Monday 21 October, Britannia Triumphans with Galliarda
Monday 28 October, Timothy Ridout
Luton Library Theatre, 7.45pm
Professional classical chamber and instrumental music concerts, played by a dazzling selection of top international soloists and ensembles.
Box office: 01582 547474.
£15, £8 concessions, under 18s free on the door.

Book Festival: Mythological Monsters
Illustration Workshop with Adrian Stapleton
Friday 1 November, 1-3pm
Luton Central Library, Conference Rooms
In this fantastic workshop experienced illustrator and comic book creator Adrian Stapleton shows budding artists how to use dip pen, brush and ink to create their own cartoon monsters. Booking essential. Suitable for 11+ years.
£5.

Book Festival: Luton Writers’ Group Story Slam
Friday 1 November, 7.30-9pm
Luton Central Library, Lending Library
Be surprised and entertained by the town’s literary talent at this lively story slam. Booking recommended.
Box office: 01582 878100 or 547474.
Free.

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Luton Poetry Society
Last Saturday of the month, 2pm
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Saturday Speakers
A series of Saturday afternoon talks on a variety of topics. For further information visit www.lutonlibraries.co.uk or call Neil Rowland on 01582 547426.

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Luton Art
Submission Dates: 8-10 November
Exhibition Dates: 7 December 2013 – 2 March 2014 (free entry)

Luton Art asks aspiring artists of all ages and all levels of experience in the local area to submit their work, and subsequently displays shortlisted pieces at Wardown Park Museum for the public to enjoy. Since 1934 the competition has showcased local talent and has grown to include children’s work and photographic entries.

The competition is open to entrants that live in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire or Buckinghamshire. Artwork can be in any medium and on any theme. All details on how to enter can be found at www.lutonculture.com or from Wardown Park Museum.
Christmas Party Nights
The Marquee, Stockwood Park

Classic

Dates
5th, 6th, 7th, 12th & 19th Dec 2013

Dance the night away with classic party music to create that fun, festive spirit.

£28 per person

80s Night

Dates
13th & 21st Dec 2013

Blow the dust off your leg warmers, bring out the Spandex and embrace a night of classic 80s tunes.

£32 per person

Casino Royale

Dates
14th & 20th Dec 2013

Enjoy a night of glitz, glamour and casino fun that’s definitely licensed to thrill!

£32 per person

Top quality 3 course festive meal, DJ and disco every night
Luxury heated marquee with licensed bar including shots bar 7.00pm - 1.00am
Small or large, all group sizes welcome to share in the party fun (Max 200)
Exclusive Marquee Hire available 15th, 18th & 22nd Dec 2013

For more information and to book your Christmas party, please call the Catering Manager on 01582 488856 or email info@activeluton.co.uk

NB £10 per person deposit required to confirm any booking.

For more information, please call Active Luton on 03000 30 30 30 or email info@activeluton.co.uk
Alternatively you can visit www.activeluton.co.uk or facebook.com/activeluton and @activeAL

www.luton.gov.uk