

Yate Town Council Newsletter - 2020 Edition

AUTUMN



Working Hard For You



Picture from Rich McD
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Mayor's Message



**Cllr Karl Tomasin
Mayor of Yate**

As I write I hope everyone has had as good a summer as could be expected in the circumstances, the weather on the whole was lovely and at times glorious! Now, with the changing season, I am appreciating the vibrant and colourful autumn leaves and have enjoyed witnessing the joy of others, including our dog playing in the fallen leaves, on local woodland walks.

From 5th November 2020 the Government moved the country into lockdown. Tough times are on the horizon and the predicted second wave of the coronavirus is beginning to have an impact right across the country and abroad, therefore it is important that we all continue to follow the Government advice. With cases locally beginning to rise we must all act now to control the spread of the

virus and be vigilant against complacency, continuing as we have done to keep ourselves and others as safe as we can.

Remembrance Day Parade - Unfortunately the public event has alas had to be cancelled this year, however we are still holding a private act of remembrance at St Mary's Church and will lay wreaths on behalf of the town to honour those who died so that we can continue to live now in peace. On Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, if you wish to lay a wreath at the Lych Gate at St Mary's Church you are welcome to do so from 12 noon throughout the afternoon. Please observe the new social distancing rules.

Also at St Mary's Church many people have painted stones to honour those fallen. These are being laid in a path around the churchyard and it is a good way for the community to collectively make an act of remembrance.

While we continue to keep each other safe, I would like to report on a number of positive things that have happened or are going to be happening in Yate this autumn and early winter.

- During the schools half-term holidays Friends of St Mary's School have organised their 3rd annual scarecrow trail, which I have enjoyed walking around the town, even in the rain!
- The shopping centre organised a Hedgehog Hunt too, with 20 hedgehogs to be found around Yate Shopping Centre.
- I was also lucky enough unveil our latest attraction at Kingsgate Park, a fantastic tree sculpture, created by Andy O'Neil, a local chainsaw artist with incredible imagination and vision.
- This Christmas we know that many of our normal festive traditions may be cancelled or changed which is disappointing but necessary, however I am aware that St Mary's Church is organising a Christmas Tree Trail which I am looking forward to doing, come rain, snow or shine!

Please stay safe and I hope to see you all again soon.

COVID-19 Battle Fund

Yate Town Council has decided to divert its usual grant round and make 2020/2021 funds available with immediate effect to local organisations to support the Yate community in the battle against COVID-19 and help the residents of Yate.



If your organisation is assisting the local population in this time of crisis and needs financial support, please visit [Yate Town Council's COVID-19 Website Page](#) to view guidelines and download a copy of the application form. Once complete, please return to Yate Town Council (see details on page 14).

COVID-19 Support Groups

Through the COVID-19 Battle Fund, Yate Town Council has been able to help many local community groups to support the community of Yate.

In July 2020, Yate Town Council had granted a total of over £6,000 to those who requested funding to help run their projects.

So many fantastic groups have been offering many different services to the community including the local food and toy bank. Below are just some of the groups who we have helped to support.

If you know of a group or run a group yourself which would benefit from a grant, please see details above.



Yate and Sodbury COVID-19 Help & Support

To help and support every road in Yate, Sodbury and surrounding areas



Yate and Sodbury Toy and Activity Bank

A project set up by YSNS for children, seniors and the vulnerable



CVS South Gloucestershire

Supporting the local community by working with local groups



Age UK South Gloucestershire

Supporting those in later life by providing a variety of services to older people both at home and in the community

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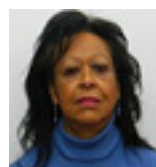
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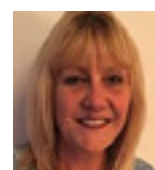
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Changes to Yate Remembrance Day

Yate Town Council, in consultation with St Mary's Church and The Royal British Legion, has sadly taken the decision that the Remembrance Day public parade and service will **NOT** be able to take place this year due to COVID-19 Government restrictions and to avoid any large gatherings for the safety of the public.



There will be a very small private Act of Remembrance outside on Sunday and laying of wreaths for invited representatives of Yate Community, adhering to the Government lockdown rules.

St Mary's Church have prepared a pre-recorded Remembrance Service which will be available to view from 10.30am on Sunday 8th November 2020 with the Act of Remembrance at the Lych Gate being recorded and uploaded to view online from 12.00noon.

To watch both recordings, please visit the Yate Parish website:
www.yateparish.org.uk/remembrance2020

Please support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - Poppies will be on sale in the foyer of Tesco's at Yate Shopping Centre.

If you would like to pay your respects, there will be an opportunity to lay wreaths at the Lych Gate from 12.00noon onwards throughout the day on Sunday 8th November.



Please maintain social distancing.

For information on the 'Painting Poppies on Pebbles Project' to pain stones to line the path to St Mary's Church, please visit the [Yate Parish website](http://www.yateparish.org.uk).



We hope that you understand that your safety is our priority, and that is why we have had to make these adjustments this year.



VJ Day Commemorations

On Saturday 15th August 2020, commemorations took place to mark 75 years since VJ day which signified the end of the Second World War.

After VE Day was announced in May 1945, many thousands of Armed Forces personnel were still engaged in bitter fighting in the Far East until August 1945.

Yate Town Council joined with St Mary's Church Ministry, the Royal British Legion and Dodington Parish Council to remember the huge sacrifice and suffering so many endured.

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions and social distancing guidelines, two very small services took place at St Mary's Church, Yate.

At 11am, Reverend Iain McFarlane led a 'Cry for Peace' at the Lych Gate with representatives of the Royal British Legion and Councillor Karl Tomasin representing Yate Town Council in audience. During the 'Cry for Peace', a candle was lit in remembrance and remained alight in the church all day. Prayers were said and the names of those who died during the Second World War from the Yate area (who are listed under the Lych Gate) were read out. Three bell ringers joined the 'Ringing Out for Peace Around the World', ringing the bells 75 times from St Mary's Bell Tower.

At 5pm, a further Service of Commemoration and Remembrance took place with representatives of the local Government and the community joining in a social distanced service within the church led by Reverend Ian Wallace and Reverend Leigh Maydew. Wreaths were blessed during the service representing the Yate and Dodington communities and laid under the Lych Gate on leaving the church.

Thank you to all of those who took part in these commemorations.

If you wish to view the service, you can watch this on Youtube:

Search: Yate Parish A Service to Commemorate VJ Day and VE Day



Defibrillators

Yate Town Council is making Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) more widely available to the local community and have so far installed 3; the first part of two phrases.

The first phase includes the installation of the AED's on the outside of Poole Court, on an external wall at Sunnyside Pavillion, by the playing fields at Sunnyside Lane and outside the Armadillo Youth Cafe on Station Road.

The Town Council liaised with South West Ambulance to ensure the AED's installed are easy to use and maintain, and they have all been registered with the South West Ambulance Service.



A further AED is soon to be installed at Kingsgate Park near to the Elmwood entrance in November this year.

If, in an emergency an AED is required, please dial 999 in the first instance, for the ambulance service who will direct you to the nearest accessible unit; if it's a lockable cabinet, they will provide you with the code. The Yate Town Council AED's are bright yellow and require a code to access them. They have voice and visual prompts when the cabinet is open. The Town Council is planning to have a public AED awareness session when possible.

Councillor Alan Monaghan, Chair of the Environment and Community Committee commented: "Less than 1 in 10 people survive an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. The on-going installation of easily accessible defibrillators in our town will play an important part in saving more lives."

We are very grateful for the generous donations received so far from Reinshaws and also from Councillor Ben Nutland, through South Gloucestershire Council Member Awarded Funding.

If you are interested in supporting our ongoing project to make defibrillators more widely available and help save lives, any contributions would be gratefully received. Alternatively, if you would like to sponsor the purchase and installation of a defibrillator - as a business or an individual - please contact Yate Town Council (contact details on page 14).



Multi-Activity Community and Boxing Club Building

The exterior building of the Multi-Activity Community and Boxing Club Building at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex (YOSC) is now complete and arrangements are being made for it to be fitted out for use by the community.

This project would not have been possible without National Lottery and [Sport England](#) grant of £100,000! Thanks to everyone who plays National Lottery games for your support, we couldn't do it without you!

The remaining funding of £160,000 will come from a the Public Works Loan Board, of which we are currently in the process of drawing down.

We are excited to take the next steps in the project very soon!



Lozenge Roundabout

Yate Town Councillors have worked with South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group and South Gloucestershire Council to install two items, used in the mining of celestine in Yate, on the Lozenge Roundabout just beyond The Armadillo Youth Cafe and Venue.

The restored cylindrical skip bucket and V-shaped tipper wagon were used when celestine was dug by hand in Yate and the surrounding area.

Celestine is a crystalline mineral mined in Yate for over 100 years and was used to produce compounds for making many products from hair restorer to televisions as well as producing the red colour flares and fireworks.

An interpretation board with photographs and further information on the mining of celestine is currently being designed.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Yate Heritage Centre (see details on page 12).



@yatephotographs

Overflowing Rubbish Bins

The Town Council is more than aware of the littering problem within our town, which escalated during COVID-19. Our Estates Team colleagues are constantly battling to keep up with the extra mess, particularly left at weekends and we are trying to understand why this is happening. Is the answer to spend more money on buying bigger bins?

In a bid to help where he can, Yate Mayor, Councillor Karl Tomasin, has worked with McDonalds and as a result, they have volunteered to empty the bin by the bus stop on Station Road (near McDonalds) at weekends, for which we would like to pass on our thanks.



We would also like to give our thanks to the local "litter heroes" who selflessly volunteer to litter pick this tide of unwanted rubbish from our streets and parks.

We urge you to take your rubbish home. If your nearest public bin is full - do the right thing!

Learning Partnership West

Learning Partnership West (LPW) have been working hard throughout this pandemic to help support the local community by delivering youth sessions.

Due to the recent announcements from the Government LPW are currently awaiting guidance as to whether youth sessions will be allowed to continue. Keep an eye on their social media for updates:



@yateyouth



yateyouth

New Staff!



We are delighted to have recruited 2x Estates Site Cleaners!

We are excited to welcome these new members of staff who will play a key role in the upkeep and maintenance of our lovely Parish.

The Armadillo Youth Cafe & Venue

Youth Group Sessions Update

During term 1, the Armadillo provided youth services for up to 200 young people in the community each week!

Following the announcement made by the UK Government on 31st October, the Armadillo will be postponing youth cafe sessions from Thursday 5th November. We are working closely with our governing bodies, Government guidance and COVID-19 support teams to review our plans and we hope to welcome customers back soon.

The Armadillo remains committed to supporting young people in our community throughout the new lockdown and while sessions are postponed, young people and their carers can contact the team for guidance and support.

To keep up to date with the Armadillo and join us online, follow us on our social media!

Senior Cinema Events - Message From the Team

We are missing you all dearly!

If you need support or would just like a friendly chat, please get in touch with us especially throughout the new lockdown.

Please make sure you keep safe and we hope to see you all again soon!



Hiring the Armadillo

The Armadillo is a COVID-19 secure facility and remains open for hire to support groups that meet the UK lockdown exemption list.



If you are looking for a safe place for your support group or essential service to meet, please contact Yate Town Council (see details on page 15).

Contact Us

The Armadillo Youth Cafe and Venue
Station Road
Yate
BS37 4FW
01454 869441

info@yatearmadillo.co.uk



[@yatearmadillo](https://www.facebook.com/yatearmadillo)



[@ArmadilloYate11](https://twitter.com/ArmadilloYate11)



[yatearmadillo](https://www.instagram.com/yatearmadillo) Page 11

Yate & District Heritage Centre

Museum Accreditation

Congratulations to Yate Heritage Centre for being awarded Full Accreditation by Arts Council England Scheme for Museums and Galleries in the United Kingdom!

This accolade sets the UK industry standard for museums and galleries and is awarded for proper management of collections, appropriate governing standards and engagement with visitors.



20th Birthday



On 17th September 2020, Yate Heritage Centre turned 20!

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to our visitors, supporters, staff and incredible community of volunteers!

Here's to the next 20 years!

Lectures

Yate Lecture Series is now taking place via Zoom:

10th November
Gloucester Tall Ships

24th November
"Men Behaving Badly" - Crime & Punishment in
17th & 18th Century Stroud

YHC lectures begin at 7.30pm

To book or for more details,
please contact the team!

Walking Tours

In September, Yate Heritage Centre launched walking tours!

These walks are a great way to learn about our local history as well as a lovely walk in the fresh air and maybe you'll discover something you never knew about Yate before!



@yatephotographs

The walking tours are now currently postponed until 2nd December following recent announcements made by the UK Government.

To keep up to date with Yate Heritage Centre, follow us on social media!

Contact Us

Yate & District
Heritage Centre
Church Lane
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BS37 5BG

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@yateheritageYH



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[yate.heritage](https://www.yateheritage.co.uk)

Yate Scarecrow Trail 2020

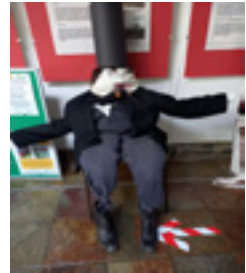
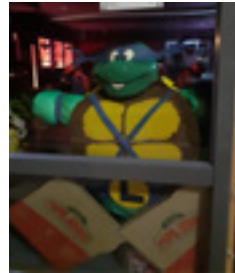
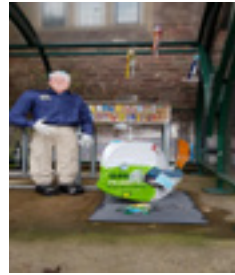
Once again, Yate Town Council took part in the annual Yate Scarecrow Trail to help raise money for St Mary's School.

This year's theme was "Heroes".

Our scarecrow was Sir David Attenborough with the Armadillo creating Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and the Heritage Centre creating Isambard Kingdom Brunel!

We were amazed by all the scarecrows this year- the standard gets higher and higher every year!

If you didn't get the chance to go out and see all the scarecrows for yourself, check out the [Yate Scarecrow Trail Facebook page!](#)



St Mary's Christmas Tree Trail

Every year, St Mary's Church, in Yate, traditionally hold a Christmas tree festival with local organisations/community groups and business sponsoring a tree. This year, the festival has been changed to a trail due to the current pandemic.

This year's theme is 'The Wonderful World of Christmas'. Yate Town Council will be decorating our tree with recycled and natural materials!

The trail lasts from Saturday 5th December to Thursday 31st December 2020.



Venues For Hire



Yate Town Council has the following facilities available for hire for groups that meet the UK lockdown exemption list:

- Poole Court · Parish Hall ·
- Armadillo Youth Cafe and Venue · Pop Inn Cafe ·
- Yate Heritage Centre · Bowls Club · Sunnyside Tennis Courts · Sunnyside Football Pitches ·
- Yate Outdoor Sports Complex · YMCA ·

If you are looking to book a venue, please contact us so we can discuss your requirements.

Please note, to book the following venue, please contact them directly:
The Armadillo (01454 869441) and Outdoor Sports Complex (01454 326600)

Yate Town Council

CONTACT DETAILS

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Town Clerk
Hayley Townsend

Office Opening Hours:

08.30am - 5pm (Mon-Thurs)

08.30am - 4.30pm (Fri)

Please note that currently our offices are closed until further notice but staff will be available to contact during the times stated above.

