



# ABOUT TOWN NEWSLETTER FOR LYDNEY

JULY, AUG, SEPT 2025

VOL: 8



Dear reader, welcome to the latest edition of the About Town Newsletter.

Over the coming year, we will aim to provide information that is useful and interesting.

The next edition will be released in December 2025

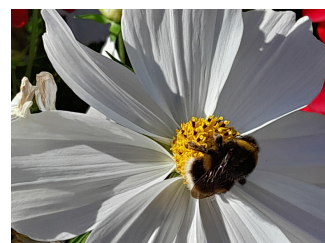
If you have any photos/stories for inclusion in the next editions, please forward them to me:

[Reception@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Reception@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

## WHAT'S IN THIS EDITION?

This quarter's About Town Newsletter is packed with community highlights and exciting updates for Lydney! We celebrate creativity with the Destination Lydney arts initiative, featuring a stunning flower arch and local artist displays at Bathurst Park. The July Community Event was a fantastic success, bringing residents together for a fun-filled day. Safety remains a priority with seven new bleed kits installed across town and sustainable travel gets a boost with new bike racks at Bathurst Park and Lydney Recreation Trust.

We also mark the Victoria Centre's 50th Anniversary, see a surge in pollinator activity across our green spaces and announce the re-opening of Newerne Street Bridge for two-way traffic—a major improvement for local infrastructure. Plus, don't miss upcoming live events at Lydney Town Hall this autumn!



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# DESTINATION LYDNEY

As part of the Destination Lydney arts initiative, a beautiful new flower arch has been installed on the bandstand in Bathurst Park!

Created to celebrate creativity and community, this stunning display is the perfect addition to the park — brightening the space and offering a lovely photo opportunity for visitors.

Be sure to pop by, take a look, and enjoy the local art installations throughout August and September.

As part of Destination Lydney we have had several artists display their work at the Bandstand. Please see some of their work below.



Jennie Blunt (Drawnbyjennieb)



Jennie Blunt (Drawnbyjennieb)



Grace Engel Arts



Grace Engel Arts



# LYDNEY COMMUNITY EVENT

It was fantastic to see so many people enjoying our Community Event on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July at Bathurst Park!

We would like to thank all the individuals, performers, volunteers, stallholders and organisations who helped make the day such a success. Your time, energy and community spirit are truly appreciated.

Events like this show the very best of Lydney – and we are proud to be part of such a vibrant, supportive town.





# NEW BLEED KITS

Lydney Town Council were pleased to receive 7 new bleed kits from the Forest of Dean Community Safety Partnership.

Mayor Tasha Saunders commented "Thank you to the Forest of Dean Community Safety Partnership for providing Lydney with seven bleed kits. We are incredibly grateful for their support. These kits will be placed in key locations around the town, near some of our existing defibrillators. It is heartbreaking that such resources are necessary, but if even one kit helps save a life, it will have been worth it. We are proud to have them as part of our commitment to protecting our community."

Lydney Town Council was pleased to share that four of the new emergency bleed control kits have been installed at key locations in the town.

## Current kit locations in Lydney:

- Lydney Town Hall
- Lydney Town AFC Football Club
- Bathurst Park
- Hips Harbourside Café

More kits will be added across the town soon. Each kit contains trauma dressings, a tourniquet, gloves, scissors and instructions.

To use: call 999, break the yellow cable tie and follow the guidance inside or given over the phone.

We would like to thank the Forest of Dean District Council and the Community Safety Partnership for their support in helping keep our community safer.





# NEW BIKE RACKS

Lydney Town Council was pleased to announce the installation of two new bike racks at Bathurst Park and Lydney Recreation Trust, following a successful application to ParkThatBike.

These additions support our commitment to encouraging active travel, improving access to public spaces and promoting a greener, healthier Lydney.

We would like to thank ParkThatBike for their support in making this possible. Cyclists are encouraged to make use of the new facilities!



## THE VICTORIA CENTRE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

On behalf of Lydney Town Council, Mayor Councillor Tasha Saunders extends her warmest congratulations to The Victoria Centre on the occasion of their 50th anniversary celebrations today.

This remarkable milestone reflects the Centre's proud history, which began in 1974 as a significant Rotary project. The initiative was launched by the late Eric Futch of Cinderford during his Presidential year (1974–1975), carried forward by President Ernest Horritt of Lydney (1975–1976), and brought to completion in 1977 under President Hubert Smith of Coleford.

Current Chairman Glynis Halling welcomed all in attendance and delivered an inspiring speech, recounting the Centre's development and the many individuals who contributed to its success. She also shared the Centre's future vision, highlighting strategic plans to further benefit the local community.

Once again, congratulations to The Victoria Centre on reaching this impressive 50-year milestone.





# BEES IN LYDNEY

We are thrilled to see so many bees out and about this year!

Bathurst Park, the town tubs and our wildflower areas are absolutely buzzing with activity — it is the most we have seen in years!

It is wonderful to see that all the planting efforts are paying off and our pollinator pals are enjoying the warm sunshine and blooming flowers.

Lets keep creating spaces where nature can thrive.





# NEWERNE STREET BRIDGE OPENING

We were delighted to announce that the commemorative plaque, unveiled by HRH The Princess Royal on Wednesday 26th February 2025, has now been installed on Newerne Street Bridge by Gloucestershire County Council.

Even more exciting — the bridge is now fully open to two-way traffic!

Councillor Carol Harris (Chair of Planning & Highways) and Mayor, Councillor Tasha Saunders, are pictured alongside the newly installed plaque, marking this moment for our community.

Thank you to everyone for your patience during the works. This project not only improves local infrastructure but also commemorates a historic royal visit.





# MEET THE TRADER AUGUST



## Michelle of Inspirations Picture Framing—Lydney

Q: When did you start trading on Lydney High street?

A: We have been here as a family business for more than 34 years! My mother and father started the picture framing business and I have now taken over.

Q: How did your career bring you to framing?

A: I always wanted to do something different than retail, but I started working with my mother and father and the years just flew by!

Q: What are the challenges for you on the local high street?

A: Online shopping has definitely had an impact and for some people they have struggled with returning to the high street. I have definitely felt the economic impact on the business but I have had to adapt. I no longer have a landline for the business I use a mobile. I have also adapted the shop so my daughter uses my workshop as a café which is doing really well—"Coco & Bliss".

Q: What do you need to do to future proof your business?

A: In this business we have built up a loyal customer centered approach and most of our advertising is through word of mouth. Our shop is also very much a place where people come in and have a chat with us so I feel we are an important link with the community of Lydney.

There has always been a corner shop on this road so there is still a generation in Lydney who remember.



### A Quote from Michelle

**"I love my business. This isn't just putting a piece of wood around a picture.**

**Customers visit us with treasured personal possessions, they tell us the stories behind them the joyful ones and the sad ones, and we listen to them to ensure we provide the best way to highlight something that means a lot to them"**





# MEET THE TRADER SEPTEMBER

## Kirsty of Forest Friendly Lydney

“Eco Conscious and Zero Waste” shopping in Lydney and the Forest of Dean where the customer controls the quantity!

Q: When did you start trading on Lydney High street?

A: I have been here for 6 years, I started the business during “lockdown” from my home.

Q: How did your career bring you to eco friendly service and products?

A: I always wanted to do something that showed my passion for providing a local service to local people selling local produce. I also have a local refill service which can also be accessed through St Stephens Church in Cinderford.

I provide Lydney high street with lovely organic vegetables, organic local baking products, dairy, beauty and household products. I also cater for a wide variety of different dietary requirements.

Q: What are the challenges for you on the local high street?

A: I am a mother of young children also running a business so I am juggling school runs with trading, however my customers know this and support my trading hours. As a small trader keeping up with the seasonal changes is difficult but I really cannot afford to not follow trends.

Did you know when “Strictly Come Dancing” is being aired I do a roaring trade in crisps and olives!!!

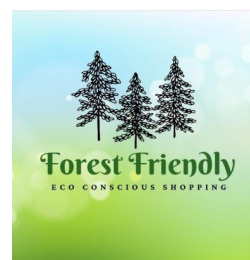
And “Bake Off” causes a mad rush on baking goods flour and eggs!!

Q: What do you need to do to future proof your business?

A: I have to think outside of the “Vegetable Box!” I have diversified for example I support Slimming World Clubs who use their award vouchers to buy fruit. I support local traders such as goats milk soaps from blakeney and other locally made gifts while still supporting a climate and nature friendly service.

I even support the new Hedgehog Sanctuary Tiny Spikes....any of these causes helps me engage with my customers and support my local community.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/forestofdean/>



### A Quote from Kirsty

“ I love my job—who else gets to show their passion to so many people?”

However....

“My business also allows that extra service that larger retail outlets cannot...I sell single eggs to older persons who live alone and would waste food so often will go without!”





# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Fireworks Event



Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Remembrance Sunday



Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
Light Up Lydney Parade





**BATHURST PARK & RECREATION TRUST  
PRESENTS THE:**

# **ANNUAL FIREWORK DISPLAY**

**BATHURST PARK**

**WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2025**

**GATES OPEN AT 5:30PM**

**LIVE MUSIC BY LOCAL BANDS FROM 5:30PM**

**LOW NOISE FIREWORKS 7:10PM - 7:20PM**

**HIGH NOISE FIREWORKS 7:40PM - 7:55PM**

**ENTRY: £5.00 ADULTS**

**£2.00 FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 16**

**FREE ADMISSION FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5**

**FAMILY TICKET: £12.00**

**(2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN)**

**CASH  
ONLY!**



HOSTED BY TRUSTEES  
OF BATHURST PARK  
AND  
RECREATION TRUST



# Lydney Town Hall

## Upcoming events

### **The Unravelling Wilburys**

Date: 11th October 2025

Time: Doors open 7pm

Location: Lydney Town Hall

\* LTH event \*



### **Trigger – The Stadium Rock Experience**

Date: 18th October 2025

Time: Doors open 7pm

Location: Lydney Town Hall

\* LTH event \*



### **West Coast Eagles**

Date: 25th October 2025

Time: Doors open 7pm

Location: Lydney Town Hall

\* LTH event \*



### **ZZ TOPPD**

Date: 1st November 2025

Time: Doors open 7pm

Location: Lydney Town Hall

\* LTH event \*



## **Contact details**

Lydney Town Hall

High Street

Lydney

GL15 5DY

Tel: 01594 843113





### **Councillor Details**

#### **Cllr Tasha Saunders (Mayor)**

07488 251049

[cllr.tsaunders@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.tsaunders@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Roger Holmes (Deputy Mayor)**

01594 840316

[cllr.rholmes@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.rholmes@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Carol Harris**

01594 841026

[cllr.charris@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.charris@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Steve Cave**

07972 917906

[cllr.scave@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.scave@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Susan Holmes**

01594 840316

[cllr.sholmes@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.sholmes@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Pam Johns**

07824 666629

[cllr.pjohns@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.pjohns@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Peter Macklin**

07401 067377

[cllr.pmacklin@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.pmacklin@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Emma Taylor**

07825 413096

[cllr.etailor@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.etailor@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Michele Jones**

01594 780289

[cllr.mjones@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mjones@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Tracey Lindsay**

[cllr.tlindsay@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.tlindsay@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Mark Howard**

[cllr.mhoward@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mhoward@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Susan Hillier**

[cllr.shillier@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.shillier@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

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#### **Cllr Gillian Phelps**

[cllr.gphelps@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gphelps@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

### **Council contact details**

Lydney Town Clerk

Michael Greenfield

[town.clerk@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@lydneytowncouncil.gov.uk)

### **Council positions and roles**

#### **Finance and Scrutiny Committee**

Cllr Roger Holmes (Chair)

Cllr Carol Harris (Vice Chair)

#### **Personnel Committee**

Cllr Roger Holmes (Chair)

Cllr Tasha Saunders (Vice Chair)

#### **Planning and Highway Committee**

Cllr Carol Harris (Chair)

Cllr Pam Johns (Vice Chair)

#### **Amenities Committee**

Cllr Susan Holmes (Chair)

Cllr Tasha Saunders (Vice Chair)

#### **Burial Committee**

Cllr Emma Taylor (Chair)

Cllr Carol Harris (Vice Chair)

#### **Regeneration Committee**

Cllr Pam Johns (Chair)

Cllr Carol Harris (Vice-Chair)

#### **Lydney Recreation Trust**

Trustee Tasha Saunders (Chair)

Trustee Steve Cave (Vice Chair)

#### **Bathurst Park and Recreational Trust**

Trustee Tasha Saunders (Chair)

Trustee Tracey Lindsay (Vice Chair)

### **Forest District Councillors**

District Cllr Mark Topping      01594 840086

District Cllr James Bevan      01594 842146

District Cllr Andrew McDermid

District Cllr Harry Ives      07443 343395

District Cllr Allen Preest      01594 564668

### **County Councillors**

Gloucestershire County Cllr Mark Howard

[Mark.Howard@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Howard@gloucestershire.gov.uk)



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**Lydney Town Council**  
**Municipal Year 2025/2026**

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