

Clean air plans for Bath ...

BreATHe

ath and North East Somerset Council needs to introduce a charging Clean Air Zone (CAZ) in central Bath in 2020 to meet a Government requirement to reduce high levels of nitrogen dioxide in the air, caused by vehicle emissions. Many other cities face the same problem.

Air pollution puts people's health at risk, making existing heart and lung conditions, such as asthma, worse, and is linked to the increased possibility of heart attack and dementia. A charging zone will improve the air we breathe by deterring certain high-emission vehicles from driving in the city.

Evidence suggests that to meet required air quality targets, a Class D CAZ will

need to be introduced. This would mean a charge on all high-emission buses, coaches, taxis, HGVs, cars and vans driving in the city centre.

The Council is encouraging everyone who lives and works in Bath – as well as those who regularly visit or pass through – to take part in its six-week consultation on a Clean Air Zone for Bath and is keen to hear your views on the proposals and how they might impact on you or your business/organisation. If the proposals are approved, a Class D CAZ would be in place by the end of 2020.

For more information and to complete a questionnaire, go to <u>www.bathnes.gov.uk/breathe</u>; visit a B&NES library or One Stop Shop; or attend an event or surgery (details online or call 01225 394042). The consultation closes on **Monday, November 26, 2018.**

... cause concern for Wilts

Meanwhile, across the county border, fears are growing that the issues of traffic congestion and pollution could be shifted to west Wiltshire towns and villages,

if Bath & North East Somerset Council gets the go-ahead for a CAZ charging system.

Under the B&NES proposals, petrol vehicles over 12 years old and diesel vehicles more than three years old would be charged £9 a day to enter the city zone.

But Bradford on Avon councillors fear motorists will drive through the town and surrounding villages to escape the charges and want B&NES to consider the impact of its proposals on neighbouring areas before implementing its CAZ.

Wiltshire councillors have raised serious concerns with B&NES about its

plans and have asked for assurances that the proposals won't simply shift the problem onto Wiltshire.

Supporting local athletes

Wiltshire Council, in partnership with businesses, is offering grants to fund young athletes. In the past five years, 34 potential champions have benefited from funding and the hunt is now on to find more sporting stars of the future.

Sports Scholarship Grants of £500 are available for Wiltshire athletes aged between eight and 18 competing at regional or national level. Funding can be used on equipment, coaching or any other linked costs.

Applications for the current round of grants should be submitted by **Monday**, **November 5**. More information at <u>http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure-supporting-athletes</u> (scroll down to Sports Scholarship Grant).

We will remember them

Church services marking the end of the First World War will commence at St Peter's Church, Freshford at 10.30am on **Sunday, November 11**, when the Armistice will

be commemorated within the broader context of remembrance. This service will include the reading out of the names of the local fallen, with particular reference to those of World War One. The two-minute silence will follow at 11.00am.

Afterwards, the Royal British Legion will invite the congregation to services at the village war memorials in Freshford and Limpley Stoke, starting at 12.00 noon.

An additional service will take place at St Mary's Church, Limpley Stoke, at 5.00pm.

Poppy wreaths will be laid at all services.

County's main roads in sorry state

Wiltshire's A roads are in a worse state than south-west and national averages, according to the *Wiltshire Times*. A report discussed at a recent Wiltshire Council cabinet meeting disclosed that A roads were in greater need of repair than in other counties, with 4 per cent of roads currently in poor condition, compared to 3 per cent nationally.

The more positive news is that B and C roads were deemed to be in "significantly" better condition, making the overall network of Wiltshire's roads of a better standard than the national average.

Pothole spotter strikes again

A high-tech 'pothole spotter' being trialled by Wiltshire Council has won another national innovation award. The spotter uses cameras attached to bin lorries to build up a map of the county's roads and identify problems so they can be repaired before becoming an issue.

The scheme was 'highly commended' at the Awards for Digital Innovation and Technology at the prestigious Association of Directors' President's award, and has already won 'best use of new technology' category at the Highways Awards 2017. Wiltshire is one of only three areas in the country to take part in a Department for Transport trial.

Fireworks fun

Freshford Fireworks Show (in aid of the primary and preschools) kicks off on **Friday**, **November 9** at Brown's Field, Abbey Lane, Freshford (BA2 7TD) Cates

7TD). Gates open from 6pm.

As well as spectacular fireworks, there'll be music; hotdogs, cakes and



popcorn; beer, cider and juices; and mulled wine and hot chocolate.

Advance tickets: £6 adults/£4 children. Any remaining tickets will be available at the gate on the night. To reserve tickets visit <u>freshfordpta.wordpress.com</u> and follow the links to the Fireworks Show.

Remember, remember the firework code

With firework displays seeming to stretch either side of November 5 these days and with occasional loud bangs disturbing the late-night peace, it's worth bearing in mind that the Fireworks Regulations (www.firework-

review.org.uk/firework-lawsregulations/) state that fireworks should not be set off between 11pm and 7am, except on Bonfire Night, when the official cut-off time is midnight. New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year are other exceptions.

If you are planning your own display, please spare a thought for pets and wildlife. The RSPCA has recorded a 50 per cent rise in calls about fireworks since 2011.

Winsley Hill safety measure

Winsley Hill Traffic Action Group (WHTAG) was formed two years ago by local residents to address traffic concerns on the B3108 in the vicinity of the Kennet and Avon canal bridge. There is no pathway across the road bridge, which presents a significant risk for all road users. Primary concerns include danger to pedestrians and excess vehicle speed along a stretch of road with poor visibility.

The road across the bridge is too narrow for an actual pavement but, with support from Winsley Parish Council, as part of an overall road safety package, and as a result of lobbying by WHTAG, Wiltshire Council now plans to install a 'virtual' pavement there. Winsley and Limpley Stoke Parish Councils will make a financial contribution towards the cost, subject to other funding approval.

Wiltshire Council says, however, that the only way to make this stretch safe for pedestrians is to build a pedestrian bridge, which it is unable to fund, so WHTAG continues to fund-raise towards a bridge and, to this end, has now formed a charity, Bridge@175 (pending). The Canal & River Trust, Wiltshire Council and Conkwell Grange Stables all back the project.

The next fund-raising event is a **Barn Dance and Ploughman's Supper**, with live band and caller, in Winsley Village Hall on **Saturday, November 3**.

Book your tickets at <u>WHTAG.co.uk</u>.

Doorstep callers

Wiltshire Police are urging people to take a stand against doorstep scams. They advise people not to use cold callers; to checking the caller's identity; ask a trusted person for advice on reputable traders; display a 'No Cold Callers' sticker; and report any suspicious activity. Remember: if you're not sure, don't open the door. Report scams to Action Fraud 0300 123 2040. Find out more about scams at friendsagainstscams.org.uk.

Transport Link AGM

The Limpley Stoke and Freshford **Transport Link AGM** is on **Thursday**, **November 29** at 4pm in The Old Bakery, Freshford High Street. Tea, coffee, wine and Christmas delicacies will be on offer. Everyone welcome.

Grit bins near you

Wiltshire Council is re-filling grit bins located around the county before winter sets in. If the bin near where you live remains empty, you can report it using the MyWiltshire system. Go to wiltshire.gov.uk/mywiltshireonline-reporting.

Waste collections

Domestic waste/ black box: Monday, November 5 Monday, November 19



Green bin: Wed, November 7 Wed, November 21

Plastic / cardboard: Monday, November 12 Monday, November 26



Useful numbers

Transport Link 07714 16 92 16 Power supply emergency 105 Police (non-emergency) 101 Bradford on Avon Police: Andrew MacLachlan 0752 897 2236 andrew.maclachlan@wiltshire. pnn.police.uk

Wiltshire Unitary Councillor: Johnny Kidney 07805 236 480 johnny.kidney@wiltshire.gov.uk

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LSPC Clerk: Bryony Kohn 01225 723749 / bryony.kohn@gmail.com



Mobile library monthly visit: Thursday, November 1 & 29 10.00-10.25am Uplands Close, Midford Lane

What's On Ice maidens' record-breaking feat

Leader of the Ice Maiden Antarctica Expedition, Major Nicola 'Nics' Wetherill, will give a talk on Monday, November 12 about their amazing feat of endurance at being the first all-female

team to ski coast-to-coast across Antarctica early this year. The talk will be at **Bath Sailing Club, The Village Club, Bathford High Street** at 7.45pm.

No group of women has completed this formidable challenge using muscle power alone, providing the ultimate opportunity to



show that they have the mental strength and physical endurance to operate in the most hostile environment on earth.

The Ice Maiden team of six British women covered over 1,600km, pulling sledges and battling temperatures of -50° C and wind speeds of over 60mph during their three-month journey.

Unsupported, and with only two re-supply points along the route, the women carried all the supplies and equipment needed to survive for up to 600km at a time.



The women all serve in the British Army or Army Reserve and followed in the footsteps of Felicity Aston's record-breaking solo Antarctic crossing in 2012.

The Ice Maidens are supporting Breast Cancer Care and Army Cadet Forces Association. Donations would be welcomed on the night.

BATH SAILING CLUB is a small, friendly group which meets at The Village Club, Bathford High Street, at 7.15pm on the second Monday of the month throughout winter. Meetings usually start with an informal gathering in the bar, before moving into the function room for a talk from a guest speaker. Members have a common interest in sailing, although not all of them are active on the water, and new members are always welcome. To find out more, visit website at www.bathsailingclub.org.uk or email bathsailingclub@gmail.com.

Bath's World Heritage

Freshford & District Local History Society welcomes Professor Barry Gilbertson on **Wednesday, November 28** for a talk on World Heritage and its importance to Bath. Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month at Freshford Memorial Hall. Annual subscription: £10. Visitors welcome: £2. More information from <u>peter.pennyjones@gmail.com</u> / 01225 723447.

Henges & hand-grenades: discoveries from the army re-basing project

Archaeologist Martin Brown shares exciting finds from Larkhill and Bulford, including henges, cemeteries and more. Wednesday, November 14, 10.30am. Cost £4.

Researching local history

Find out how to research village history on Wednesday, November 21, at 7pm, when author Julian Wiltshire will share his tips and useful sources for local history. Cost £4.

Book your place by contacting the Wiltshire History Centre in Chippenham on 01249 705500 / localstudies@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Limpley Stoke News is an independent publication, produced and edited by Sheena Broadhead, who reserves all editorial rights. To submit an article for publication, email <u>sheena.broadhead@tiscali.co.uk</u>.