Raising the roof!

Ipswich Borough Council’s new house building programme is really taking shape. The development at Bader Close consists of 108 new homes for rent - the first substantial council house building programme in the town for 50 years. The Council aims to build 300 homes for rent in the next three years. Our picture shows the Leader of the Council, David Ellesmere, the Mayor and Mayoress of Ipswich, Bill and Barbara Quinton, and Housing portfolio-holder, Councillor John Mowles, being shown how work is progressing at Bader Close.

There is a lot going on at the Regent Theatre over the coming months – make sure you don’t miss your favourite shows.

Dreamboats and Miniskirts, complete with songs such as Hippy Hippy Shake, is on stage from Monday 27th October to Saturday 1st November. A complete change of style comes with Agatha Christie’s classic country house whodunnit The Mousetrap, which is on from 17th to 22nd November. Before that, on Wednesday 15th October, is an Opera Gala night with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Our own soprano superstar Laura Wright is back in Suffolk to bring highlights from The Marriage of Figaro, Carmen, Tosca, Phantom of the Opera and many more.

Over at the Corn Exchange, highlights include a remarkable commemoration of the start of the First World War. The Ipswich Orchestral Society “English Greats” concert on Saturday 29th November comes 100 years after its own wartime concert in the same venue.

See pages 7 and 12
Firework fun

The 2014 Fireworks in the Park event will take place in Christchurch Park on Saturday 1st November.

This year, it will combine another fantastic firework display with a special Halloween theme with spooky surprises around every corner. Organisers, the Ipswich Scout Group, want people to dress up for the scare-fest procession through the park lining up at the Reg Driver Visitor Centre at 7pm. It might be dark, but don’t be too scared!

The music accompanying the new firework display also has a spooky sound track. The family friendly and traditional event will include music and fun and laughter from Town 102, Heart and BBC Radio Suffolk.

Special prizes will be offered for the best-dressed members of the audience. A faun for all ages and a glistening array of fireworks from hot dogs to hog roast and a licensed bar are all available.

Gates open at 6pm. The fireworks are at 8pm.

Ticket prices
Tickets are now on sale and discounts are available if you purchase tickets before the day. Discount tickets prices are: children £3, adults £5. Cash entry to the park: children £5, adults £7. Buy them now online at www.ipswichfireworks.com or from The Tourism Information Centre in St Stephen’s Church, The Wheel in The Verulamium, McColl’s in Tower Ramparts Shopping Centre, Ipswich Star offices in Lower Brook Street, Sainsbury’s in Beach Street, Upper Brook Street and Huddling Road stores.

Brownies help to make Ipswich green!

There is a green summer for Ipswich residents as more people recycled their household waste.

It was a green summer for Ipswich residents as more people recycled their household. In fact, households tipped their rubbish from costly landfill. In July, they reached a 47.4% recycling rate – up from 44% for the period April to June. This spring and summer, an incredible extra 526 tonnes of green waste was collected by Council refuse teams - that is 40 kerbs loads and a saving of £23,000 in landfill costs. Thank you for putting less in your black bin and putting more into your blue and brown bins. With even more items that can be recycled in blue bins from November that 50% could soon be reached! More details next month.

How do I apply?
To apply online please visit www.ipswich.gov.uk/secondbrownbin
To apply by phone please contact 01473 430890

What can go in the brown bin?
Grass cuttings, leaves, hedge trimmings, raw fruit and vegetables, tea bags, shredded paper, paper, twigs and small branches. NO soil, turf or rubber/metal please. NO general waste, pet litter or plastic bags.

Brownies help to make Ipswich green!

Any old irons?
Any old irons? Or kettles, radios and hair dryers?

If you are not sure what to do with your old or broken small electrical appliances don’t throw them away.

Ipswich Borough Council has joined forces with local charity the Ipswich Furniture Project. They will empty special WEEE (waste electrical and electronic equipment) bins and recycle or reuse what they can.

These bins have been installed at the Woodpuck pub in Tuddenham Road, the Waitrose store in Cranbourne Road and Vincent's Court in Cambridge Drive.

The bins can be used to recycle or re-use your broken and unsorted small electrical items such as irons, hair dryers, phone chargers and lamps. Please remember: no televisions, fridges or light bulbs, which can all be recycled by taking them to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre or by contacting Ipswich Furniture Project, who can collect certain large electrical items for free - even if they are broken. To arrange a collection call 01473 440504.

By using WEEE bins you will be helping the environment and supporting a local charity, too.

For further recycling advice: www.ipswich.gov.uk or phone 01473 430890.

Second brown bin service
Due to public demand, Ipswich Borough Council is improving its brown bin collection service. Ipswich residents have the opportunity to apply for a second brown bin to help them recycle even more of their garden waste.

How much does the service cost?
A second 240 litre brown bin currently costs £45 per year. This brown bin is collected fortnightly on the same day as your current free brown bin. Residents of Ipswich who already have a brown bin are entitled to apply for this service.

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Most Borough Councillors are "backbench" councillors. They are not members of the ruling Executive committee but they have an increasingly important role in the community.

In fact, becoming community leaders and advocates for local residents is a key part of what they do, according to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. "(They need) the ability to communicate with their local community and represent everyone fairly, and to balance local concerns with the political demands of the group manifesto," it said.

"As an elected person, I am humbling that I am in this position. I am still getting used to the idea that as an elected person, I am still been a steep learning curve."

In Ipswich, this role has become even more important with the development of Local Area Committees.

To find out more about what backbench Councillors do, we spoke to two who have just visited their local political life in local government.

Edie Phillips, one of three Counsellors representing Bixley Ward and joined the Council in May. "I had a pretty good idea of what to expect, however it has still been a steep learning curve. I am still getting used to the idea that as an elected person, I am responsible (with fellow councillors) for contributing towards important decisions for this town. The people of my area have put their trust in me to carry out my duties fairly and that is the most appropriate choice."

Andi Hoppood was also elected last May and represents Gainsborough Ward. "I am also heavily involved in the local community. I have met some lovely people. I am really pleased to be involved with local organisations and use and enjoy already, such as the New Wolsey Theatre, and I hope to become more involved with some singing events at the library soon too. "There is a passionate community spirit in the people I have met and I hope to be able to help them with the many future plans and aspirations they have for their area.

"Of course, I’d love to see more arts, culture and music in the town, and I’m working with great people who feel the same way. Town planning has been a baptism of fire, but I’ve learned a lot, I’m now really down with the meaning of a section 106!"

"Gainsborough has some great things going on and I’m hoping to become more involved with some singing events at the library soon too. "There is a passionate community spirit in the people I have met and I hope to be able to help them with the many future plans and aspirations they have for their area.

"I have been placed on a committee as this is where the public can come and get together to find out about local services to support them or simply to network," said Colonel (Retd) Rae Leighton, Suffolk Armed Forces Commissioner.

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Visiting Ipswich is Now Cheaper!

All IBC Town Centre Car Parks
Parking for £1 Per Hour
Entry After 3pm £1 and 8pm Free
Portman Road, Crown, Regent, William Street, Upper Barclay Street, Bond Street and West End Road
www.ipswich.gov.uk/parking www.allaboutipswich.com

We Can Help Your Business Make Ipswich Cleaner

- Years of experience and great customer service
- Wheeled bin service
- Glass recycling
- Paper/card recycling
- Special collections - including electrical items
- Clinical waste
- Event waste management
Whatever the size of your business Wastesaver can help you.

Telephone 01473 433084
ipswich.gov.uk/wastesaver

Regent Looks and Feels Better

The Ipswich Regent is looking - and feeling - better thanks to a major restoration programme.

Audiences can now marvel at the restoration of the original foyer, inner foyer and vestibule ceilings to their 1929 glory as well as the installation of new air handling units to significantly improve the control of heating and cooling throughout the theatre and backstage areas. Other improvements include a new bar till system designed to speed up service. Some £250,000 has been spent on improving audiences’ visits to the St Helen’s Street venue. Ipswich Borough Council has been working with KJI, Barnes Construction, Cook and Sons, M&M Hymas, Besant Fuller and Optimum Controls since July, while the theatre had no booked shows.

Councillor Bryony Rudkin, the Borough Portfolio Holder for Culture, said the Council had undertaken a lot of research to make sure things were restored exactly as they were where possible.

“It really has brought a sense of light back into the building. It is important people have a great customer experience when they come to see a show, that they sit somewhere nice, welcoming and can really appreciate what wonderful architecture they have come to visit.”

Stuart Oxborrow, the Council’s Project Manager, said: “As the main client, Ipswich Borough Council would like to thank its construction and design teams for this excellent project which was completed to time and within budget and will make coming here a more enjoyable experience for customers and performers alike. The theatre is now very much fit for purpose and future-proofed for the years ahead.”

Councillor Bryony Rudkin views the restored ceilings at the Regent with Mark Whiting.

Preserving our Heritage

The Town Hall, one of Ipswich’s most important buildings is currently undergoing a facelift but is remaining open during the work that is due for completion in December.

“The project is designed to completely brighten up the whole building,” says Mark Whiting, the Borough Council’s Arts & Entertainments Assistant Operations Manager. “Ipswich Borough Council will want to keep with the age and feel of a building of such civic importance. A detailed paint analysis was carried out to determine the original colours and we are using this to highlight the features of the building. Mr Whiting added: “We hope to make the Town Hall a brighter more welcoming building. It is used by a wide variety of groups, we hope it will fit everyone’s needs while adding an element of class to events such as wedding receptions, graduations, conferences and functions.”

The main contractor for the £70,000 project is DJ Carters working closely with the Council’s Building & Design Team.

Pictured: Council Leader David Ellemore looks at the Town Hall decoration work with Arts & Entertainments Manager Jonathan Stephenson.

100 Years on ... An Orchestral Classic

A hundred years ago, when normal life suddenly came to a stop at the beginning of the First World War, a notable event in Ipswich was the Grand Patriotic Concert for Belgian Relief, performed by Ipswich Orchestral Society with the Ipswich Male Voice Choir on 24th November 2014.

Fast forward to 29th November this year when Ipswich Orchestral Society commemorates the centenary of the start of the First World War with a remarkable programme of works by three English greats - Elgar, Vaughan Williams and Benjamin Britten, all written during or between the two world wars.

For more details: www.iosoc.org
Ticket: Ipswichcouncilchange.com

With Mark Whiting at the Regent.
Ipswich Market has introduced a new loyalty card scheme, giving customers a chance to win up to £100 in vouchers in a monthly draw.

All you need to do is become a possible winner is to get your loyalty card stamped every time you spend £5 or over on any Ipswich Market stall. Once you have all 12 stamps just hand the completed card to your market trader who will enter it into the monthly draw. Market vouchers worth £50, £30 and £20 will be given to three completed loyalty cards picked at random each month.

Councillor Carole Jones, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, said: “We hope this will provide a boost to the market and its loyal customers ... and attract some new ones to the heart of town.”

Kevin Walker, Market Supervisor, added: “This is a great scheme to bring more people to the market and buy produce from our local traders. We would love to see as many people as possible using the loyalty cards and helping to create a thriving market in the centre of our town.”

Loyalty cards are available from all the market traders, the Customer Services centre in the Town Hall or the Tourist Information Centre in St Stephen's Church. For terms and conditions please visit: www.allaboutipswich.com/markets

The first draw will take place on 31st October.

Questions on policing

Suffolk’s Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore and Chief Constable Douglas Paxton will be meeting the public at St John’s Church Hall, Cauldwell Hall Road, Ipswich, on Monday 13th October at 6.30pm.

Mr Passmore said: “Having direct contact with the people of Suffolk that I represent is extremely important to me. I do hope people will accept this invite to come and find out more about policing. Douglas Paxton, the Chief Constable, and I will be pleased to discuss any matter that arises.”

Ipswich Borough Council’s Cemetery and Crematorium staff are dedicated to providing a sensitive and caring service to the bereaved, their friends and relatives at all times. By providing information on the choices and services available we hope that the difficult and sad task of making arrangements can be a little easier.

Do contact us if you want any advice:

The Cemetery Office is situated on Cemetery Lane in the corner of the Lawn Cemetery.

Bereavement Services, The Cemeteries Office, 10 Cemetery Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2TJ

t: 01473 433580 f: 01473 433588 e: bereavementservices@ipswich.gov.uk

www.ipswich.gov.uk/bereavementservices

The office is open Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm and is closed on weekends, public holidays and at times for staff training.
Your Area Committees

The next meetings are:

**Central Area Committee**
Tuesday 18th November, 6.30pm at the Bag Dog Visitor Centre, IP4 2BA

**North East Area Committee**
Wednesday 22nd November, 7pm for presentation, 7.30pm at St John’s United Reform Church, 1 Cooper Street, IP4 5ED

**North West Area Committee**
Thursday 27th November, 7pm at Whitehouse Baptist Church Hall, Waterloo Road, IP1 5NW

**South East Area Committee**
Thursday 16th November, 7pm. See website for details.

See website for details.

**South West Area Committee**
Thursday 25th November, 6.30pm at St Francis Church Hall, 102 Halford Drive, IP2 1GO

See website for details.

Please check the website for location details. www.ipswich.gov.uk/area-committees

### Local area committee action update

**NORTH WEST**

“As recently elected Chair of the Area Committee in a time of austerity the challenge is to maintain vital local services.”

“In the north west, we have the advantage of a £4.1 million grant from the National Lottery to be spent over a 10-year period.

“The North West Ipswich Big Local Trust administrator this money and is able to offer grants to local community groups seeking funding. It has already granted more than £250,000 of funding in the region of its local organisations and is starting to have a real and beneficial impact on our local community.

“The North West Area Committee has been working collaboratively with Big Local and together we have been able to help fund more substantial projects than would otherwise be the case.

“We are at present seeking to improve the play facilities on Whitehouse Park with the focus being on a new skate park. Our priorities over the next year include supporting young people and helping people to age well.

“At our July meeting we agreed funding to Whitton Football Club, Inside Out, a local mental health group and the Friends of Whitton Primary School.”

*Councillor Glen Chadburn*

**SOUTH WEST**

“I feel the Area Committees are so much more than the meetings that we have in place to discuss funding projects and finding areas of need in the community.

“It’s a transparent and accessible way for residents to have a say in what happens in their area.

“Ipswich Borough Council and its partners organised a week of action around money skills, debt awareness and loan shark awareness.

“This was the culmination to a summer-long drive, supported by the South West Area Committee and in partnership with the National Illegal Money Lending Board.

“So, come along to our next committee meeting and join other North East residents in helping shape the projects that we will spend our money on.”

*Councillor Nazneen Rana*

**NORTH EAST**

“We have money to spend and want your ideas to help us. Over the past year, we have spent money on projects that tied into the action plan you helped formulate. They have been varied, from buying play equipment for Cherry Lane Recreation Ground to keep fit classes for our senior residents at Danderline. Most of our best projects have come from your ideas — helping residents improve road safety in Greenland Road is one of the latest to be completed. We have also used our ‘Making a Difference’ plan to help fund a project at Northgate High School and this will see pupils build their own electric racing car.”

*“As summer turns into autumn, local residents are continuing to use the table tennis tables in Christchurch Park, which were part-funded by the Central Area Committee. This is but one example of where funds from the Committee have been matched by a contribution from another organisation, in this case the Friends of Christchurch Park.*

“It is by taking a strategic approach to partnership that the Central Area Committee has been able to invest in addition funds to support the aims and objectives of the Committee’s action plan. This is apparent with the contribution made by the Committee to support the Community Panel Pilot, a joint project between Alexander Ward Councillors and Suffolk County Councillor Mandy Garfoot. This project will provide a pilot budget of £200,000 enabling the local residents to apply for grants to meet the needs of the local area. The Central Area Committee has contributed £5,000.

“The Committee will be meeting in October, November and January. If you are interested in how we work, please come to one of our meetings, meet your local Councillors and shape the community you live in.”

*Councillor Julian Gibbs*

Next month we hear from the Chair of the South East Area Committee, Councillor Bill Knowles.

### Council helps Fran to develop business skills

A series of postcards featuring Ipswich’s public art has been used to create the table tennis tables in Christchurch Park, which were part-funded by the Central Area Committee. This is but one example of where funds from the Committee have been matched by a contribution from another organisation, in this case the Friends of Christchurch Park.

The postcards feature statues of three famous people connected to the town: Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (Henry VIII’s Chancellor, who was born and grew up in Ipswich), Prince Alexander Obolensky (England rugby player and fighter pilot, based at Marlesford Heath during World War Two) and Grandma (the famous character created by cartoonist Carl Giles, who lived and worked in the area).

The postcards are sold exclusively from the Ipswich Tourist Information Centre in St Stephen’s Church, priced £2p.

*Councillor Carol Jones, Portfolio-holder for Economic Development, explained: “The Committee funds the ‘Ipswich 18’ project at Ipswich’s Eastern Enterprise Hub, which supports local people with business ideas they need to develop and test out, and Fran was one of the first students. I am really pleased the Tourist Information Centre commissioned these new images from Fran.”

Fran, founder of Fran Joy, said: “While on the Ipswich 18 programme I learnt the importance of leadership; engaging with people while pitching and marketing my business. The programme also provided a clear indication of what my business was lacking and where it needed to be developed further.”

Fran Sibthorpe (see left) said the programme had really helped her. “It taught me to be adaptable and flexible in order to meet the requirements of my customers. My pitching skills have increased and having a mentor has helped me to remain focused.”

Students will “grow” by learning from the real life experiences and expertise of established business leaders in the local area.

Fran Sibthorpe (see left) left said the programme had really helped her. “It taught me to be adaptable and flexible in order to meet the requirements of my customers. My pitching skills have increased and having a mentor has helped me to remain focused.”

### Ipswich entrepreneurs can sign up for free business course

A four-month free course, which will encourage people living in Ipswich to become more entrepreneurial and to develop their business ideas and self-confidence, is returning.

The Ipswich 18 programme is delivered by the Eastern Enterprise Hub in partnership with Ipswich Borough Council. It returns in January 2015 and recruitment is now under way.

Students will “grow” by learning from the real life experiences and expertise of established business leaders in the local area.

Fran Sibthorpe (see left) said the programme had really helped her. “It taught me to be adaptable and flexible in order to meet the requirements of my customers. My pitching skills have increased and having a mentor has helped me to remain focused.”

### Meaning business … the Ipswich 18 entrepreneurs

Fran Sibthorpe and some of her business products...