

CARNIVAL

Saturday 20th September 2025

PARADE

from 5pm

STALLS

available to book

FETE

from 12pm in
the Square

aylesham.carnival@hotmail.com



AYLESHAM

IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER

1 SEPTEMBER 2025

ayleshamintouch@gmail.com

Bechange wins National Lottery Aylesham Together funding

BUILDING on nearly three decades of community work, Bechange Community Hub will expand their support services, create new opportunities, and will aim to support and encourage families and individuals to do well.

Bechange Manager, Angela Doggett said: "Through *Aylesham Together* Bechange will aim to grow our one-to-one support for individuals and families, offer more inclusive wellbeing activities, and open up new ways for people to volunteer and develop our lovely village community. Whether it's

through gardening, crafts, peer support, cooking, or simply coming together for a cuppa, the project is all about helping people feel welcome, included, and part of something.

"We'd like to thank the National Lottery for supporting our vision, and to all players of the lottery who help fund projects like ours."

If you'd like to find out more or get involved, drop in and see us at Bechange, Ackholt Road, Aylesham, CT3 3AJ, or visit

www.bechange.org.uk.



COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

Saturday 13th September

between 10am and 2pm

Made In Aylesham is a celebration of our community. The event offers residents, new and old, the chance to meet with many of the clubs, groups, activities and local businesses that are available in the village. At **Aylesham Community Trust**, Ackholt Road CT3 3AJ. **More details >>**



DROP-IN Support & Guidance

If you need support, then please get in contact - there are a number of ways you can do this.

DROP-IN SESSIONS: We have three sessions a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 10am to 12pm when you can drop in and talk to one of our support team.

No need to make an appointment. You can talk through your situation with the team and discuss the next steps.

If we are not able to help you with a specific area that is concerning you then we will help you to access assistance from other agencies.

You can also telephone us or call in at our hub to make an appointment to see one of our team. **Please call 01304 840134**

CAMERADOS

Our Camerados Public Living Room is open to all every Tuesday to Friday morning 10am to 12pm

It's a no agenda space, where people get together and can be themselves alongside others. There is always a friendly welcome, you can come and chat with people, or simply enjoy the relaxing environment. The Kettle is always on.

Bechange regular weekly timetable:

MONDAY PILATES
10am -11am
Phone for info & cost

MONDAY DROP IN
(Benefits, Housing Advice)
FREE
10am -12pm

MONDAY "LITTLE GROWERS"
Outdoor play in Bechange Garden. No need to book.
1.30pm -2.30pm

TUESDAY One Stop Shop: DOMESTIC ABUSE HELP LINE
FREE
10am -12pm

TUESDAY ARTS CLUB
FREE 1pm - 4pm

WEDNESDAY SEWING CLUB
FREE
10am - 12pm

WEDNESDAY DROP IN
(Benefits, Housing Advice)
FREE
10am -12pm

WEDNESDAY PILATES
12.30pm - 3pm
£6 per session

THURSDAY KNIT & NATTER
FREE
10am -12pm

THURSDAY HOE, SOW & GROW
FREE
12.30pm - 3.30pm

FRIDAY "Just Craftin' Around"
FREE
10am -12pm

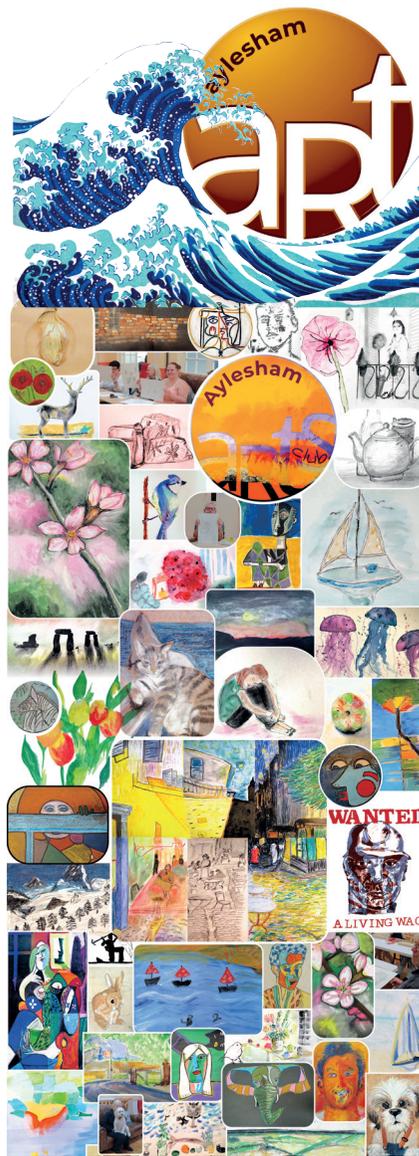
FRIDAY DROP IN
(Benefits, Housing Advice)
FREE
10am -12pm

FRIDAY SHED PROJECT
FREE
9.30am - 3pm

FRIDAY LITE BITES
Community Lunch
12.30pm - 2pm
£2.50

This is our usual weekly timetable. Call ahead if you want to confirm or for more information 01304 840134

Calling all Artists and Creatives!



WE believe there are dozens, maybe even hundreds of people who 'do art' of the many varied kinds, or who would like to start creative activities, in our local villages.

There are groups, some for learning and others to collaborate or display work, some to sell pieces, others that create just for the joy of making art.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Let's connect, perhaps meet, come up with ideas and projects, share skills and maybe teach others the skills we have.

Let's create a calendar of events around the villages to promote the groups that exist and encourage new ones.

Let's find out how we can collaborate and grow.

Aylesham Arts Club are putting out this call and would be so happy if you were to contact us – even if just to say hello!

Contact details:
ayleshamartsclub@gmail.com

Aylesham Arts Club

meets every Tuesday

Pop in any time between 1pm and 4pm at **BECHANGE Community Hub, Ackholt Road.**

For further info, email:
ayleshamartsclub@gmail.com
ayleshamartsclub.co.uk





Aylesham Carnival Day is fast approaching. See page 6 for details

VILLAGE NEWS ROUND UP

Aylesham In Touch magazine Autumn edition out soon



Great New Look for Skate Park

This has been one of Aylesham Parish Council's projects for 2025-26. It is extra special because the designs were inspired by artwork submitted by the students at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. Their ideas and imagination gave this mural its heart – and the result is something our whole community can be proud of. The Parish Council has thanked the team at localgraffitiartists.com who transformed the students' creativity into a powerful piece of public art.



The Living Wage Foundation

Join the Aylesham Business Network at our September meeting to hear from Patrick Timmer, the Living Wage Foundation's Sussex & South East Programme Officer.

Patrick will discuss the real Living Wage and its significance, alongside the Foundation's Living Wage, Living Hours, and Living Pension accreditations.

He will highlight the business and societal benefits of these schemes, followed by a Q&A session and collective discussion.

11th Sep 2025 from 9.30am
Main Hall,
Aylesham Community Trust
Ackholt Road, CT3 3AJ

Refreshments available.

Aylesham Parish Council VACANCY

A by-election will be held to fill a vacancy on Aylesham Parish Council following the resignation of Cllr Sean Vizor. When the date of the election is set, it will be displayed on a Notice of Election on the Dover District Council website and within the Aylesham parish.

Aylesham Parish Council meets
Second Tuesday of the month for the Full Council Meeting
These meetings are open to the public.
7pm in the Pearson Room,
Aylesham Community Trust Ackholt Road,
CT3 3AJ

These are not official Parish Council notices

The support you need, when you need it from



YOUR FOODBANK

DEAL AREA FOODBANK also covers AYLESHAM and neighbouring villages, offering support to local people who are struggling to make ends meet.

We also know, that with the current rise in cost of living, that it is not just families with school aged children that are struggling. We understand that people's financial situations are harder right now, not just those with children.

As the cost of living rises and budgets are stretched, unexpected costs, such as a broken appliance, a large utility bill or an increase in petrol for essential journeys, can push households into crisis and debt.

As well as supporting with food and essential household items, we may be able to help you, through the Household Support Fund, to meet some of these extra demands on your household budget.

If you need help you are not alone, we are here to give you the support you need. We help people in many different circumstances, you do not need to be on benefits, you may be working or

retired, young or old. Whether you are living alone, as a couple or in a larger family unit. Everyone's circumstances are different, and we will treat you with respect and kindness, we know how tough things are right now.

How to get help from us:

We are working with our partners Bechange Community Hub who are based in Aylesham.



Bechange, Ackholt Road,
Aylesham CT3 3AJ
Tel: 01304 840134

You can give them a call on 01304 840134 or 07889 595426 between 9am and 5pm or call in to one of their drop-in sessions **Monday, Wednesday or Friday 10am - 12pm.**

You can also contact Deal Area Foodbank on 01304 728428 or 07926599439

If you don't get through straight away, please leave a message, someone will always get back to you



Aylesham & Snowdown are in full bloom!

Huge thanks to everyone who entered the 2025 Garden Competition – your hard work made our villages shine. 🌸

Winners:

-  Best Patio – Carl Moses
-  Best Front Garden – Pauline Rodwell
-  Best Rear Garden (Joint 1st) Kevin Carey & Margaret Henson
-  Best Vegetable Garden Steve Charman
-  Best Young Gardener (U16) Fred Smith

Congratulations to all!

#Aylesham #Snowdown #GardenCompetition2025

Hope Blooms At Bechange

5th - 20th Sept 25



Pilates: Holistic & Revitalising
(first session free)

Monday 8th & 15th Sept 10.00am - 11.00am
Wednesday 10th Sept 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Bauble Decorating with a message of hope

Friday 5th Sept 10.00am - 12.00pm
Tuesday 16th Sept 09.30am - 12.00pm

Pebble Art : Messages of hope & wellbeing

Tuesday 9th Sept 09.30am - 12.00pm
Friday 12th Sept 10.00am - 12.00pm

Art: Canvas creation

Tuesday 9th & 16th Sept 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Relaxation: A session for mental, emotional & physical relaxation

Wednesday 17th September 12.00pm

Bulb Planting: Calm/Growth

Thursday 11th & 18th Sept 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Story Time for Children in our outdoor space

Thursday 11th Sept 11.00am - 11.30am
Follows Ryhme Time in the Library 10.30am - 11.00am

Hope Blooms - Finale Thursday 18th Sept 4.30pm - 6.30pm - FREE

A vibrant trail of art & crafts leads to our finale, where messages of hope and painted pebbles guide the way to the tree of HOPE. Along the path, look out for new signage from the Shed Project, gently directing us with words of encouragement and self care.

Music and refreshments



Made In Aylesham is a celebration of local community power! The festival offers residents, new and old, the chance to connect with many of the clubs, groups, activities and local businesses that are available in the village.

Whether you're looking to learn about the village past and present, are interested in joining a hobby group, or would just like to get more involved, this event offers a welcoming space to drop-in to ask questions and take the first steps on getting to know some of the people and places a bit better.

MAIN EVENT: Sat 13 September 10-2, Aylesham Community Trust

The Community Showcase is the main event and will take place on Saturday 13th September between 10am and 2pm next to the Old School Coffee Shop which will be open.

There will be more events featured in the run up to the village Carnival. Follow our social media as we announce the details as we put the finishing touches to the arrangements.

There will be:

- FUN AND FREE ACTIVITIES that everyone can take part in.
- HERITAGE DISPLAY about the village; You could even win our BIRTHDAY CAKE (we are 30 years old this year) Our resident Chef Elliott will be creating this so it is sure to taste and look great!
- THE CREATIVE CORNER a makers-market where Aylesham based creatives will be able display and sell their wares.

● The Old School and Shop & Kitchen will be launching its full weekday BRUNCH MENU alongside the details of the planned Sunday Lunch Service (starting on Sunday 28th September) and the 2025 Christmas offers.

There will be lots going on throughout the week and the full schedule will be announced soon, including:

- FREE taster sessions with clubs and groups based at the Aylesham Community Trust's Old School site
- "Made In Aylesham" special menu offer at the Old School Coffee Shop & Kitchen.



HISTORY ON FILM

THE cinema club will have a 'pop-up' cinema at the Community Showcase on Saturday 13 September. We will be running a booth with rarely seen video of the Aylesham and the Kent coalfield villages. The video will be running throughout the event. *Do pop in to see us!*