

# Citizen

Feb/Mar 2019

Your free newspaper from Slough Borough Council

In this issue...

The Centre leisure site nears completion

A Slough App is on the way

Future regeneration in Chalvey

Learn more about CSE

You can also read this online at  
<http://citizen.slough.gov.uk/>

[www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)  
**Slough**  
Borough Council

# Slough's priorities

We have a new Five Year Plan, where our vision is growing a place of opportunity and ambition.

## Our priority outcomes - putting people first

- Our children and young people will have the best start in life and opportunities to give them positive lives.
- Our people will become healthier and will manage their own health, care and support needs.
- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and visit.
- Our residents will have access to good quality homes.
- Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide jobs and opportunities for our residents.

Find your ward councillor 2018-2019

### Baylis and Stoke

Sunya Sarfraz (Lab)  
07593 572028  
sunya.sarfraz@slough.gov.uk

Fiza A Matloob (Lab)  
07984 209529  
fiza.matloob@slough.gov.uk

Mohammed Nazir (Lab)  
07958 794007  
mohammed.nazir@slough.gov.uk

### Britwell & Northborough

Rob Anderson (Lab)  
01753 531649  
rob.anderson@slough.gov.uk

Martin Carter (Lab)  
07856 723037  
martin.carter@slough.gov.uk

Pavitar K Mann (Lab)  
07832 345887  
pavitar.mann@slough.gov.uk

### Central

Safdar Ali (Lab)  
07904 963639  
safdar.ali@slough.gov.uk

Shafiq A Chaudhry (Lab)  
01753 529881 or 07855 955250  
shafiq.chaudhry@slough.gov.uk

Sabia Hussain (Lab)  
07967 822124  
sabia.hussain@slough.gov.uk

### Chalvey

Khaura Usmani (Lab)  
07841 536743  
khaura.usmani@slough.gov.uk

Mohammed Sharif (Lab)  
07984 260582  
mohammed.sharif@slough.gov.uk

Atiq Sandhu (Lab)  
07931 797161  
atiq.sandhu@slough.gov.uk

### Cippenham Green

James Swindlehurst (Lab)  
01753 532441  
james.swindlehurst@slough.gov.uk

Nora Holledge (Lab)  
01628 541590 or 07795 975730  
nora.holledge@slough.gov.uk

Roger F Davis (Lab)  
01628 542549  
roger.davis@slough.gov.uk

### Cippenham Meadows

Dilbagh Singh Parmar (Lab)  
07929 115379  
dilbagh.parmar@slough.gov.uk

Natasa Pantelic (Lab)  
07745 398001  
natasa.pantelic@slough.gov.uk

Satpal S Parmar (Lab)  
01753 535278 or 07703 912019  
satpal.parmar@slough.gov.uk

### Colnbrook with Poyle

Avtar K Cheema (Lab)  
07533 060322  
avtar.cheema@slough.gov.uk

Dexter J Smith (Con)  
01753 683542 or 07785 723764  
dexter.smith@slough.gov.uk

### Elliman

Arvind S Dhaliwal (Lab)  
07920 485142  
arvind.dhaliwal@slough.gov.uk

Naveeda Qaseem (Lab)  
07852 404038  
naveeda.qaseem@slough.gov.uk

Sohail Munawar (Ind)  
07789 941543  
sohail.munawar@slough.gov.uk

### Farnham

Muhammad Waqas Sabah (Lab)  
07846 391279  
waqas.sabah@slough.gov.uk

Mohammed Rasib (Lab)  
07877 551239  
mohammed.rasib@slough.gov.uk

Ishrat N Shah (Lab)  
07577 470972  
ishrat.shah@slough.gov.uk

### Foxborough

Madhuri Bedi (Lab)  
07980 493314  
madhuri.bedi@slough.gov.uk

### Haymill & Lynch Hill

Paul Kelly (Con)  
07947 435812  
paul.kelly@slough.gov.uk

Wayne Strutton (Con)  
07580 361884  
wayne.strutton@slough.gov.uk

Anna S Wright (Con)  
01628 664929 or 07706 445629  
anna.wright@slough.gov.uk

### Langley Kedermister

Preston Brooker (Lab)  
07791 913555  
preston.brooker@slough.gov.uk

Michael J Holledge (Lab)  
01628 541590 or 07795 975740  
michael.holledge@slough.gov.uk

Mandeep K Rana (Lab)  
07957 334387  
mandeep.rana@slough.gov.uk

### Langley St Mary's

Ted Plenty (Lab)  
07534 682295  
ted.plenty@slough.gov.uk

Harjinder Kaur Minhas (Lab)  
07455 994766  
harjinder.minhas@slough.gov.uk

Amarpreet S Dhaliwal (Con)  
07732 875015  
amarpreet.dhaliwal@slough.gov.uk

### Upton

Rayman Bains (Con)  
07790 575468  
rayman.bains@slough.gov.uk

Balvinder Singh Bains (Lab)  
07723 618402  
balvinder.bains@slough.gov.uk

Rajinder S Sandhu (Con)  
07956 839126  
rajinder.sandhu@slough.gov.uk

### Wexham Lea

Haqeeq A Dar (Lab)  
07800 587851  
haqeeq.dar@slough.gov.uk

Shabnum Sadiq (Lab)  
07932 069484  
shabnum.sadiq@slough.gov.uk

Paul Sohal (Lab)  
01753 714906 or 07534 387291  
paul.sohal@slough.gov.uk

You can also read this online at  
<http://citizen.slough.gov.uk/>

## We are not alone

Slough Borough Council doesn't work alone.

As one member of the Slough Wellbeing Board we team up with other local agencies including the police, as well as voluntary sector groups to provide local services to you and make Slough a better place to live, work and visit.

You can find out more about how we work with our partners on pages 5, 13 and 20.

**MyCouncil: 01753 475111**

# Citizen

is produced by  
**Slough Borough Council**  
St Martins Place, 51 Bath Road,  
Slough, SL1 3UF

For more information call  
Ruth Cross on 01753 875568

or email [citizen@slough.gov.uk](mailto:citizen@slough.gov.uk)

While every care is taken with submitted material, no responsibility can be taken for material lost or damaged. The views expressed in Citizen do not necessarily reflect official Slough Borough Council policy.

If you would like assistance with the translation of the information in this document, please ask an English speaking person to request this by calling 01753 875088.

यदि आप इस दस्तावेज में दी गई जानकारी के अनुवाद किए जाने की सहायता चाहते हैं तो कृपया कृपया अंग्रेजी भाषी व्यक्ति से यह अनुरोध करने के लिए 01753 875088 पर बात करके कहें।

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਬੋਲਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਨੂੰ 01753 875088 ਉੱਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਕਹੋ।

Aby uzyskać pomoc odnośnie tłumaczenia instrukcji zawartych w niniejszym dokumencie, należy zwrócić się do osoby mówiącej po angielsku, aby zadzwoniła w tej sprawie pod numer 01753 875088.

Haddii aad doonayso caawinaad ah in lagu turjibaano warbixinta dukumeentigaan ku qoran, fadlan weydiiso in qof ku hadla Inriis uu ku Waco 01753 875088 si uu kugu codsado.

اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز میں دی گئی معلومات کے ترجمے کے سلسلے میں مدد چاہئے تو، براہ کرم ایک انگریزی بولنے والے شخص سے 01753 875088 پر کال کر کے اس کی درخواست کرنے کے لئے کہیں۔

This document can be made available on audio tape, braille or in large print, and is also available on the website where it can easily be viewed in larger print.

# Council leader James Swindlehurst

## Welcome to the first printed edition of *The Citizen* of 2019.

I hope this helps update you on what the borough council and our partners are doing around the town.

The Mayor has been planting the trees he promised in his tree appeal, so they get their roots down before the weather warms up in spring.

We've got bicycle training news from the council's transport team, so you can be ready to venture out on our hire bikes or new cycle routes as spring arrives. And we're gearing up for the

opening of our new main leisure centre on the Farnham Road in spring, laying a time capsule on site before final construction works reach completion over the coming weeks. The council's elections team is preparing for the local elections on 2 May - and more details of polling places in use this year, is on page 12 (it's not too late to register to vote - find out more at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)).

This edition also showcases the work of our regeneration team (and my own cabinet portfolio) with features on our place-shaping work to re-shape



*Councillor James Swindlehurst*

Chalvey on page 11, and on our plans to support the redevelopment of the town centre. You can also learn more about our future plans for community hub buildings, events in our libraries, local arts, and community and cultural activities around the town.

My best wishes for the year ahead.

## Time capsule buried at The Centre site

A decades old Mars bar, historic photographs and Slough Half Marathon medal were among a variety of items buried in a time capsule at the site of the council's new flagship leisure centre.

Councillor James Swindlehurst, leader of the council, and Councillor Rob Anderson, cabinet member for leisure and environment, attended the event in December.

They were joined by students and staff from Slough Centre Nursery and Herschel Grammar School, council representatives, Slough Urban Renewal, leisure provider Everyone Active and Morgan Sindall.

The construction industry's mascot, Ivor Goodsite, who teaches students how to stay safe, also made an appearance.

A ceremony was held to mark the burial and the school students covered the capsule with sand. An engraved plaque will mark where it is buried.

The borough's largest leisure facility will include a 25m eight lane swimming pool, a 15m x 8.5m teaching pool with moveable floor, four court sports hall with specialist LED lit flooring, 115 station gym, café and more.

Councillor Rob Anderson said: "The Centre leisure facility is fast approaching completion and I become more and more impressed every time I visit.

"It will join Arbour Park, Slough Ice Arena, Salt Hill Activity Centre and Langley Leisure to complete our impressive provision of state-of-the-art leisure facilities in the town. Our broad range of leisure options means there really is something for all our residents to use and enjoy."

The Centre build is being undertaken by Slough Urban Renewal (SUR).

The Centre is due to open to the public in the spring.



# Trees in tribute

**The Mayor of Slough is acting on a commitment to plant hundreds of trees during his year in the role.**

Councillor Paul Sohal wants to plant 550 trees - a special number which has been chosen to mark the 550th anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism.

The Mayor invited special guests to join him on 23 November for the ceremonial tree planting of the first eight trees in Wexham, which included Slough Borough councillors, representatives of local community groups, residents and the High Sheriff of Berkshire, Graham Barker Esq. who assisted with the planting of the first tree.

The Mayor's fellow councillors pledged their support for planting trees and the purchase of benches by allocating some of their community investment fund which they can use for projects in the borough. Local businesses, organisations and individuals also generously pledged funds to the

project to help bring the total of trees to be planted to 550.

Councillor Sohal said: "Guru Nanak was a great environmentalist; he spoke often about the importance of protecting animals and the environment. So I thought that planting 550 trees throughout the borough would be a fitting way of marking this occasion."



## Help save Slough's Salt Hill Stream

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) is recruiting new volunteers to help rescue Slough's Salt Hill Stream.

Residents are invited to help improve local waterways and green spaces in their town.

The WWT is working with the council, Environmental Agency and Thames Water to create new wetland areas in Salt Hill Park, encourage local people

and community groups to restore the river and to educate schoolchildren.

Conservation officer Claire Hutchinson said: "Thanks to our volunteers on the Saving the Salt Hill Stream project we have already restored a small woodland area in Chalvey by removing overgrown vegetation, building new steps and a path, planting a new wetland area and removing litter.

"Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet new people, get more physically active, spend time outdoors, learn about the nature and work as a team to improve it. There is a real sense of reward that comes from making a genuine difference to the environment around you to make it better for people and wildlife."

The WWT is looking for more volunteers to join in monthly activities or ad-hoc activities if they can't commit monthly. Activities include stream cleans, planting wetland habitats, building rain gardens, river monitoring and wildlife surveying.

Most events take place on weekdays, however, there will be some weekend events.

For more information, email [claire.hutchinson@wwt.org.uk](mailto:claire.hutchinson@wwt.org.uk)



*Volunteers at a previous session*

# Major town investment

It's been a year of major milestones for Slough Urban Renewal (SUR), which has delivered new housing, school and leisure projects.

SUR is a joint venture between Slough Borough Council and Morgan Sindall Investments Limited and lots of positive changes have been made through the 50/50 partnership.

## Creating more school places

SUR has delivered some significant improvements at Claycots Primary School, St Mary's Primary School, Priory SEN and Wexham Secondary School, increasing their capacity and improving their facilities.

Over the four projects, 65 new classrooms have been created in addition to new sports halls, study areas and staff accommodation.

There is a new SEN resource base and sensory room at Priory, and a new three-storey teaching block, with sixth form centre and library at Wexham.

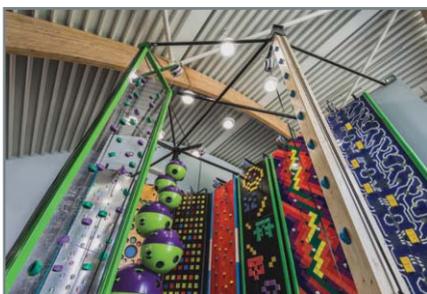
It's all part of the council's investment to provide enough places for Slough's current and future young people.

## Getting more people, more active, more often

Slough's leisure offering has been greatly enhanced. In 2018, SUR delivered the major extension and refurbishment of the Ice Arena, the Salt Hill Activity Centre and the Langley Leisure Centre refurbishment.

Between them they offer an ice rink, climbing wall, party zone, ten-pin bowling, trampolining, soft play, indoor high ropes, caving, 100-station fitness suite, exercise studios and swimming pool.

All these new leisure facilities have been proving popular among residents, as well as attracting visitors from further afield.



## Meeting the need for more homes

The Wexham Green development of 104 family homes is nearing completion.

Through a portfolio of small sites, SUR will build more than 130 homes across 25 sites, transforming a series of disused, small sites into new council housing. In 2018, phase two delivered 16 new dwellings, phase three (25 homes) is well underway and works on phase four have begun for another 36 homes.

## To come

In 2019, SUR has a number of new projects which are set to further enhance the town for the benefit of its residents and visitors alike. With plans afoot to deliver new hotels, residential and commercial space on the former library site, a significant regeneration project planned to transform the existing Slough canal basin and further residential and commercial projects entering planning, there is still plenty to look forward to.

Councillor James Swindlehurst, leader of the council, said: "Our partnership with Morgan Sindall, Slough Urban Renewal, continues to go from strength to strength. It's a partnership that has Slough residents at its core. Our future regeneration works at the Thames Valley University site and Stoke Wharf are testament to the fact we want to ensure all our residents benefit from this outstanding partnership which is redefining Slough."

## Slough facts and figures

- The best place to work in the UK 2017 and 2018 (Best Places to Work, Glassdoor).
- The most productive place in the UK 2018 (Cities Outlook 2018, Centre for Cities).
- More than £2.5billion of developments.
- The 6th best schools in the country.
- The second highest number of head offices in the UK.
- The most diverse population in the UK.
- It's estimated that by 2021, Slough's population will increase by 18,154 people.
- Slough is home to 42 parks and open spaces.
- Slough won town of the year in the 2018 Thames Valley Business Awards.
- Thunderbirds was originally written, produced and filmed at Slough Trading Estate between 1964 and 1966 - it has recently returned.
- The Queensmere Observatory Shopping Centre plans include 1,160sq m of additional retail space and 674 flats.
- Slough house prices saw a 13.8% increase in 2017.
- Salaries in Slough average £29,500 per annum.
- £1billion of projects will transform Slough, including £12.5million Slough Mass Rapid Transport (SMaRT).
- It takes around 20 minutes by train to reach Slough from Paddington.

# New early years places for two year olds

**An extension and refurbishment of Olive Tree Montessori Nursery in Manor Park Community Centre is now complete.**

The funding to support the building work was provided by the council's early years service to create more space in the nursery and offer 24 additional part time funded early education places for two year olds in the borough.

The funding was used by the nursery to extend and refurbish the main nursery space, which included converting a storage room into children's toilets.

The building work forms part of the council's modernisation project for the whole of Manor Park Community Centre.

Cllr Shabnum Sadiq, cabinet member for children and education, said: "Research has proven that children who get a good start in early years,



perform better at school and later in life in their chosen career. I would urge all parents with 2, 3 or 4 year olds who are not already attending a nursery or children's centre, to get in touch and find out what they are entitled to.

"Funded places are also there for working parents and I know how difficult it is for some parents to go back to work after having children because of the high childcare costs. Again, get in touch, we can help and will let you know if you are entitled to

30 hours free childcare - it could make a huge difference to your family."

Olive Tree Montessori nursery has been Ofsted registered since 2011 and is open term time between 9am and 3pm for children aged between 2 and 4 years. For details on the places available, call 01753 574591 or email [info@olivetreemontessori.com](mailto:info@olivetreemontessori.com)

Find out more about funded nursery places at [www.slough.gov.uk/earlyeducation](http://www.slough.gov.uk/earlyeducation) or call 01753 476589.

## Slough steps up fight against inactivity and obesity

The council's public health team has extended its current partnership with Active Movement to deliver a new activity programme across all 10 Slough Children's Centres.

Working closely with the council's early years team, the programme aims to educate children, staff, parents and their community on the benefits of reducing sedentary behaviour and the lifetime benefits of being more active.

Sedentary behaviour is one of the precursors to obesity and poses a number of risk factors to health, including cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes.

Councillor Natasa Pantelic, cabinet member for health and social care, said: "More than a third of children in England are overweight or obese by

the time they finish primary school and in Slough 41.5% of year six students are overweight or obese.

"Low levels of physical activity and sedentary behaviour also lead to a reduction in academic performance, concentration and behaviour in children, so it is increasingly important to get children active at the earliest age possible."

Chalvey Grove Children's Centre has already integrated the Active Movement programme as part of an initial pilot, and reported excellent results.

One mum of a two year taking part said: "Active Movement has helped me and my children think about how important it is to be keeping active. This has benefited all of us as we are

now walking and exercising more. Instead of my children going to school in the car they now ride their bikes to school."

This ambitious initiative comes as a direct result of the success of the Slough Wellbeing Board's #BeRealistic campaign, which encourages small positive changes in lifestyle, to achieve and maintain a healthy weight.

For more information, please email [publichealthslough@slough.gov.uk](mailto:publichealthslough@slough.gov.uk) or visit [www.activemovementschools.co.uk](http://www.activemovementschools.co.uk).

# Growing our own talent

**The council has launched the Slough Academy, which will offer a new approach to its apprenticeships, including for the first time, a range of profession-based roles for all ages.**

The Slough Academy will oversee all of the council's apprentices and the continuous professional development of existing and new staff to provide the best services it can for the residents of Slough and recruit new talent to bridge the skills gap.

Talent of any age will soon be able to apply for the council's new apprenticeship training programmes, some of which will offer degree level or post graduate qualifications in key professions, such as planning, social work, childcare, leisure and many more.

Cllr Sabia Hussain, deputy leader of the

council, said: "The Slough Academy is about developing and growing our own staff, attracting new talent to the council and creating new opportunities in Slough. Ultimately it is about making sure we have the right skills in our workforce to meet the needs of our residents both now and in the future. Our new apprenticeship programmes will help to deliver this.

"So whether you are starting out in your career, or want to further your

skills and experience, there is something for everyone."

All apprenticeships will be paid jobs with competitive salaries and access to all the same benefits as other council colleagues. As well as gaining hands on experience, apprentices will be given 20 per cent of time off-the-job to study and prepare for assessments.

The changes have been introduced following the government's apprenticeship reforms. Previously, the council offered a small number of NVQ business apprenticeship programmes to school leavers aged between 16 and 19.

New apprenticeships will be rolled out from early 2019 with opportunities advertised on the council's website at [www.slough.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.slough.gov.uk/jobs)

For further information, search Slough Academy at [www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)



## Top marks for school extension

Wexham School students have been enjoying their new classrooms and library facilities in a large new build addition to the school.

The new teaching block has been named the Woodside Building and the new library, resource centre and sixth form named the Orchard Library.

The work at Wexham School is part of the council's ambitious school places programme - a multi-million pound investment in primary and secondary school buildings, extensions and new schools - to provide enough places for Slough's current and future young people.

The Wexham School expansion includes the new 3,000 square metre three storey Woodside Building that houses 29 new classrooms for English, Special Educational Needs (SEN), Humanities and Languages, three of which have dedicated ICT facilities. The Woodside Building also provides staff workrooms, group rooms, a new student reception and welfare facilities, a new library and a sixth form study centre.

The existing library has been converted into two new science laboratories and external landscaped areas will be provided, along with a new staff car park, and improvements to the local highway to complete the site.

Lawrence Smith, headteacher at Wexham School, said: "We couldn't be happier with our school's new facilities. Our new state-of-the-art teaching spaces will be instrumental in helping us build on this year's 'Good' Ofsted report."

Councillor Shabnum Sadiq, cabinet member for education and children, added: "We are committed to providing high quality learning environments and improved teaching spaces for both current and future students.

"The outstanding learning environments we've built at Wexham School will serve to help our young people get the best start in life and we couldn't be more pleased to see them in use."

The Wexham School expansion project is being undertaken by Slough Urban Renewal (SUR), a partnership between Slough Borough Council and Morgan Sindall Investments Ltd.

Andy Howell, SUR general manager, said: "It has been a pleasure working with the school on the construction project and creating wider educational benefits such as the BTEC Level 1 course."



# Join the Speak Out forum

**Speak Out is a forum for adults with learning disabilities living in Slough.**

At Speak Out, the people who come decide what they want to discuss and what issues affect them. It is a chance to have a say and to get involved in making a difference to learning disability services in Slough and to empower the members to have the confidence to speak up.

Speak out members have said they come along to the group to meet their friends, to talk about issues that are important to them and to have their voices heard. Many have grown in confidence since attending. The group also suggest training they would like, such as first aid or basic banking.

The group meets on the second Monday of every month, (excluding bank holidays), from 1-3pm in the community room at Tesco Extra, Wellington Road, Slough, where refreshments are provided.

Any adults living in Slough with a learning disability are welcome. You can bring your support worker or carer with you if you need support and there is no pressure to be involved in discussions.

#### 2019 forum dates

- 11 February
- 11 March
- 8 April
- 13 May
- 10 June
- 8 July
- 12 August
- 9 September
- 14 October
- 11 November
- 9 December



## Find out more

Call Shari Bulmer on 01753 415299 or email [Sbulmer@advocacyinslough.org.uk](mailto:Sbulmer@advocacyinslough.org.uk). You can also look up Speak Out on Facebook.

## Speak Up

Speak Up is an innovative council training project about learning difficulties, written and presented by a team of local people with learning disabilities.

Originally aimed at helping front line council staff whose knowledge of learning disabilities might be limited, interest has now spread and, after 20 presentations to council colleagues, the team is currently putting on a weekly presentation at Wexham Park Hospital.

The presenters are a team of five or six, with additional contributions from others with more complex needs in two filmed sections which are included in the training. Support for the group is provided by Slough Employ-Ability.

Speak Up was first launched in May 2017 and since then nearly 150 people have received the training. The Wexham Park presentations started in June and so far more than 200 people have received the training, with more sessions planned for 2019.

The comments on the feedback forms are consistently positive with people recognising the training is more valid because the trainers have lived experience of learning disability.

To find out more about the training, or to request the Speak Up group to visit your organisation, please contact Peter Jost from Slough Employ-Ability on 01753 572249.



*Members of the Speak Up team at Wexham Park - Michael, Chris, Gurbinder and Michelle, along with adult safeguarding nurse Lilly Aliyas*

# Employment support for those with learning disabilities

**The statistics for people with learning disabilities having a paid job are disappointingly low - 6% is the average.**

Slough Employ-Ability is the council's employment service for local disabled people and it supports about 100 clients, some in paid work and some as volunteers.

The following people have shown how with the right support they can make a positive contribution to businesses in and around the town.



Richard volunteers at Wexham Park Hospital, getting involved in putting up posters, gardening, distributing their in-house magazine and sorting the donated bookshop which generates valuable additional funding for the trust.



Michael had been out of work for about 10 years when he was offered a job with B&M. He works part-time and has joined the team that keeps the stocks

replenished both in the store and in their warehouse. Michael said: "I'd had so many rejected applications that I thought no one wanted me, but I was delighted to get a positive response from B&M."



Sarah volunteers for Age Concern in their café serving hot drinks and refreshments. She always gives a cheerful greeting to the old folk who drop in not only for a cuppa but also to see friends and enjoy the social activities that Age Concern is able to offer.



Herman is a familiar figure at Asda as he has been working there since 1991. He helps keep the store clean and tidy, collecting baskets and clearing surplus cardboard from the shelves and aisles.

Slough Employ-Ability would be pleased to hear from any employer who would like to find out more about the benefits of employing someone with learning disabilities. Call 01753 572249 or email [peter.jost@slough.gov.uk](mailto:peter.jost@slough.gov.uk).

## Highways customer survey results

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 2018 highways customer survey.

Nearly 300 people answered a series of questions to tell us what they thought about the condition of roads, footpaths, street lights and bridges in the borough.

We're very pleased the overall level of satisfaction with the service was high with 70 per cent of responses 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'.

However, we won't be complacent and will continue to maintain the highway network in accordance with our asset management strategy and the national code of practice.

The top three priorities from respondents are:

1. road condition
2. street cleansing
3. footway condition.

We will consider these results when developing our maintenance programme for this year.

The respondents were also entered into a prize draw. The winner nominated Slough Foodbank as the recipient of their £50 prize. You can find out more about this charity at <https://slough.foodbank.org.uk>

## Funding for sustainable travel

The council's sustainable transport team, Better by... is awarding funding to Slough organisations to help them set up environmentally friendly initiatives.

Organisations can apply to receive match funding, which can be used on anything to help employees travel more sustainably, such as cycle parking, electric vehicle charging, sustainable travel events, staff bikes and more.

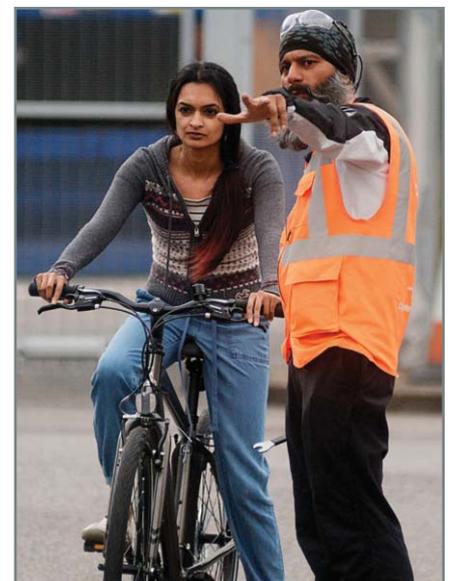
Wexham Park Hospital, which received £10,067, has used the money to offer electric vehicle chargers for its new e-car fleet, which are available for staff use.

The fleet will help the hospital reduce its carbon footprint, while enabling employees to use alternative modes of transport to get to work; where they might have otherwise relied on their own car for work related travel.

UCB, which was awarded £1,260, used its funding to deliver cycle skills training for its employees.

These activities are part of the wider Better by... campaign.

For more information and to find out if your organisation could be eligible, email [anton.deacon@slough.gov.uk](mailto:anton.deacon@slough.gov.uk) or visit [www.slough.gov.uk/betterby](http://www.slough.gov.uk/betterby)



A cycle skills training session at UCB



*Small sites at Wentworth Avenue*

# New council homes on the way

## Work is underway to build more new homes on small sites across the borough.

The council's small sites transformation programme aims to bring small sites, such as old garages and parcels of land not usually attractive to developers, into use for new homes.

The fourth phase includes:

- Turton Way, Chalvey - four new two-bedroom homes on a disused car parking and garage site
- Belfast Avenue, Manor Park - one four-bedroom, six three-bedroom and five two-bedroom homes, including two homes adapted for use by people with disabilities on a disused site bought from Herschel Grammar School
- Newport Road, Lynch Hill - two two-bedroom homes on a disused garage site
- Wentworth Avenue, Britwell - 12 three-bedroom homes and a new ex-serviceman's club on the site of the former Britwell ex-serviceman's club
- Cheviot Road, Langley - three two-bedroom homes on a disused garage site

- Bowyer Drive, Cippenham - one two-bedroom and two three-bedroom homes on a disused garage site.

Councillor Mohammed Nazir, cabinet member for housing, said: "These small sites, in addition to the six in phase three, six in phase two and four in phase one, are the reality of our strategy to utilise small plots of land - garages, derelict properties and infill - to provide desperately needed, quality council homes for the people of our town.

"With more than 130 new properties being built just in these small sites, alongside ones in SUR's new developments, we will be offering even more people access to decent quality affordable homes."

In 2016, the council identified 25 small development sites to be used for building new, and extending existing, council homes. In total, more than 130 new properties will be built.

The new developments are being undertaken by Slough Urban Renewal (SUR), a partnership between Slough Borough Council and Morgan Sindall Investments Ltd.

Andy Howell, general manager at Slough Urban Renewal, said: "We are delighted that by working in partnership with the council, we are able to make a real difference to the people of Slough, providing much needed new homes for local people.

"SUR has been working hard to bring these challenging sites forward and it is very satisfying to see phase four beginning.

"By transforming various small sites, we are improving local communities and contributing to the council's demand for housing which will benefit all."



*Small sites at Belfast Avenue*

# Exciting regeneration to come

## Chalvey is set to undergo further major investment and regeneration over the next five years.

Cabinet approved the latest Chalvey regeneration strategy at a meeting in November. The plans, subject to planning approval, will see up to 555 new homes, a new all-through school and four court sports facility (with community use), a new community hub and associated environmental improvements.

This would bring the total investment in Chalvey, since 2013, to more than £150m by 2023.

The council launched its vision for Chalvey in 2009 and since then the council has:

- transformed the former Thames Valley community building
- introduced a refurbished Chalvey Early Years Centre
- created 420 new school places in the refurbished old Town Hall
- created a new one-way traffic system and improved car parking
- undertaken environmental improvements, including the introduction of planters and organising community clean-ups
- installed new CCTV cameras in Ledgers Road to deal with anti-social behaviour
- resolved problems associated with ongoing complaints and anti-social behaviour in prominent sites that were abandoned and blighted for several years
- improved access to and created new sports facilities that promote health and wellbeing and realise the objective of making more people, more active more often.

Since 2013, Chalvey has seen investment projects totalling around £53m, including the construction of 111 new homes, 23 of which are affordable homes now owned by the council.

### Grove Academy and Chalvey Hub

A planning application for construction of the Grove Academy was submitted in October.

As part of this, and subject to planning, Chalvey Community Centre and Chalvey Nursery will be demolished. These will be replaced by a new integrated Chalvey Hub, which will be designed to be multi-functional and as flexible as possible to accommodate the changing needs of local residents.

Work on both projects is intended to start in spring, with the school open in September and the overall project completion anticipated for November 2020.

### Montem Leisure Centre

The multi-million pound new leisure centre on Farnham Road, called The Centre, will be open in the months to come (see page 3). This means the existing Montem Leisure Centre site, in Montem Lane, will be able to be redeveloped.

Slough Urban Renewal (SUR), a 50/50 partnership between the council and Morgan Sindall Investments Ltd, is set to submit a planning application for the proposed redevelopment of the Montem Leisure Centre site by August. There is the potential for up to 160 new properties, as a mixture of apartments and 2-3 bedroom houses.

The demolition of the current Montem Leisure Centre is expected to begin by June. Building works will begin in 2020.

### Town Centre Alpha Street

SUR will be building 14 new build affordable housing apartments at Alpha Street. These will go on site by June 2019 and will complete within 12 months.

### Former Adelphi Theatre, Bath Road

The council bought this site in August and is looking at a range of options for future use. More news will be coming later in 2019.

### Hotels project

Works on the old town centre library site will begin in spring to create two Marriott branded hotels that provide a total of 244 rooms. There will be 152 short stay (Moxy) and 92 long stay (Residents Inn).

Both hotels will be owned by the council and leased to a hotel operator - operating under a franchise agreement with Marriott.

SUR will simultaneously build 62 residential apartments with ground floor restaurants. This mixed use scheme will complete by January 2021.

Councillor James Swindlehurst, leader of the council, said: "We've been working hard to set out and shape a regeneration strategy for Chalvey over the past few years - which has at times been quite complex due to the disparate nature and ownership of the sites involved. "We have already helped broker redevelopment of the former petrol station site in Chalvey Road East and the former 'Cross Keys Pub' site to provide a first tranche of flagship new homes. We are now working to shape the Department for Education's plans for a new school, to ensure it significantly improves the built environment and open space in central Chalvey.

"Through our efforts, £150m is being invested into improving Chalvey as a place. The work to bring about much-needed new housing on the Montem site will provide a marker as to the kind of quality development we now expect in Chalvey and to the quality homes we seek for our residents."

# 2019 council election

**Fourteen seats will be up for election on Thursday 2 May - one in each of the borough's wards except Foxborough.**

Nominations to stand in the election will be accepted from when the 'Notice of Election' is published (26 March) up until 4pm on Wednesday 3 April.

A full list of candidates (statement of persons nominated) will be available from 4pm on 4 April.

Polling cards will be sent out in early April, although you do not need to bring this with you on polling day in order to vote.

Ensure that you are registered to vote. The last date for registration for the 2 May elections is Friday 12 April.

If you wish to apply for a postal vote, the last date to apply is Monday 15 April by 5pm. You are able to appoint a proxy. If you wish to do so the last date to apply is Wednesday 24 April by 5pm.

To find out more information about the election, including a full timetable, deadlines for nomination and the process to follow, visit [www.slough.gov.uk/elections](http://www.slough.gov.uk/elections)



## Polling station changes

Polling stations will be open from 7am until 10pm on election day.

A few polling station locations have been changed for this year, so please ensure you check where you need to go.

- Chalvey (CHB) - Brook House, High Street, Slough, SL1 2TX. It was previously at Chalvey Community Centre.
- Elliman (ELA) - James Elliman School, Elliman Avenue, Slough, SL2 5BA. It was previously a portable office in Lismore Park.
- Langley St Marys (LMC) - Langley Leisure Centre, Parlaunt Road, Slough, SL3 8PD. It was previously a portable office in Tamar Way.
- Upton (UPA) - St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School, 1 Langley Road, Slough, SL3 7AF. It was previously a portable office in Middlegreen Road.

You can find your nearest polling station by searching 'polling station' at [www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)

## Future of parish councils

The decision over the future of the three parish councils in Slough has been made. The parishes were reviewed last year and two rounds of consultation were held into their effectiveness. Councillors reviewed the feedback from electors on community governance arrangements within the borough and made a final decision at a special council meeting in December.

Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council will remain, but has been asked to improve its engagement with local people. While both Britwell and Wexham Court parish councils have been abolished, with effect from 1 April.

Visit [www.slough.gov.uk/communitygovernancereview](http://www.slough.gov.uk/communitygovernancereview) for more information.

## Residents' 'privilege' scheme on the way

Residents will be able to get discounts and vouchers for services across the town, once the new Slough App has been launched.

Teams across the council have been talking to local food retailers, restaurants and shops to see what discounts they can offer, and many have already signed up.

Anyone with the Slough App will be able to support the local economy and benefit from discounted prices at certain places in the town.

By spending money in Slough it helps the town to thrive and helps regenerate local businesses.

Don't worry if you haven't got a smartphone - there will be a number of alternative ways to access the App.

Look out for the exciting launch announcement later this year and visit [www.slough.gov.uk/sloughapp](http://www.slough.gov.uk/sloughapp) to learn about the scheme, its offers and to look for updates as more discounts and services are added.

If you are an independent, local business or visitor attraction and want to promote your special offers, please email [towncentre@slough.gov.uk](mailto:towncentre@slough.gov.uk).



# Help to prevent Child Sexual Exploitation

## Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse.

Young people are tricked or forced into taking part in some form of sexual activity in return for something the young person needs or wants, including; affection, money, drugs or accommodation. An individual or group can take advantage of and abuse a young person face to face or with the use of technology.

## What are we doing in schools?

CSE impacts both the child and family. We are working proactively to prevent as many people as possible from being affected. This includes supporting the work of the Choices Programme, which aims to enable primary and secondary school children to make informed safer decisions. The Choices programme is offered to every Slough school and is currently being rolled out across primary settings. The aim is to prevent children being exploited, by giving them the tools to recognise abusive or grooming behaviours.

CSE rarely happens in isolation, with victims often suffering multiple types of abuse.

Below are a few of the indicators you may become concerned about.

- Staying out overnight or going missing.
- Skipping school and/or other planned activities.
- Coming home with money, clothes, jewellery or a mobile phone they can't account for.
- Having an older boyfriend or girlfriend you are concerned about.
- Using drugs and/or alcohol.
- Losing contact with family and/or friends of their own age.
- Self-harming or low self-esteem.
- Being secretive about where they go and who they see.
- Chatting to people online they have never met and being defensive about their online usage.



## Are you the parent or carer of a child in school year 4 or above?

We invite you to come along to a free information session, as below.

- Cippenham Community Centre, Earls Lane - 2 April, 10-11.30am or 7-8.30pm.
- Britwell Centre, Wentworth Avenue - 4 April, 10-11.30am or 7-8.30pm.
- Langley Pavilion, Langley Road - 9 April, 10-11.30am or 7-8.30pm.
- Upton Lea Community Centre, Wexham Road - 23 April, 7-8.30pm or 25 April, 10-11.30am.

Please do not bring children under 18 to these sessions.

For more information, contact Nadine Barrett (CSE and Trafficking Co-ordinator) on 01753 875450 or at [nadine.barrett@slough.gov.uk](mailto:nadine.barrett@slough.gov.uk).

## CSE is a crime!

If you are worried about any child's safety please contact:

- Children's One Front Door - 01753875362
- Police non-emergency line - 101
- Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111 (you can pass on information anonymously).

## Co-production

A Slough woman took centre stage at the National Children's and Adult Services Conference.

A panel consisting of key figures in health and social care held a Q&A session during the conference in November.

Anna Severwright, who was born and brought up in Slough, and is co-chair of the Coalition of Collaborative Care stole the show, describing the impact services can have - or not have - on her life.

Anna said: "It was great to be at the conference and to be able to use my lived experience of social care to influence the discussion on the future of social care. I am very happy to see that Slough Borough Council is launching its own co-production group, which will be co-chaired by Alan Sinclair, director of adults and communities, and a member of the community.

"This is a really important opportunity for people who use adult social care or support services in Slough to share their experiences and ideas to help make improvements.

"Co-production is about working together to design new services and ways of working.

"By listening to residents' feedback and suggestions, the council will be able to identify the best ways to promote wellbeing and independence and build stronger, more active communities."

Alan Sinclair, who was at the event, said: "It was so great to see a Slough woman on the stage at a national event, talking about social care and the need for services to support people to lead a fulfilling life."

Visit [www.slough.gov.uk/coproductio](http://www.slough.gov.uk/coproductio) or contact [beinvolved@slough.gov.uk](mailto:beinvolved@slough.gov.uk) or 01753 875594 to find out more.

# Celebrating positive male role models

## The positive value and contribution men in Slough bring to the town has been highlighted by the Safer Slough Partnership.

In recognition of International Men's Day, where the theme was role models, the partnership shared a series of inspirational quotes and advice from men who live and work in the borough.

Sometimes boys and young men find the transition into adult life difficult and lack a positive role model in their lives. The partnership wants to raise awareness of the amount of support and help there is in Slough for boys and young men to reach their full potential.

Councillor Paul Sohal, Mayor of Slough, shared some words of wisdom. He said: "Have a clear vision. Focus on your objectives. Go out and talk to others and always be ready to lead to make a difference to other people's lives. Aim-Act-Achieve - this is a lesson

I learnt at college and have followed throughout my life."

Kyan Heywood McLean, 14, from Slough Youth Parliament, said: "I would say whatever challenge or issue you are facing, the chances are somebody has been through it themselves. So ask someone who has been through the same thing, try putting yourself first and surround yourself with few friends that you know you can rely on."

The quotes formed part of a social media campaign throughout the week in November, with the hope that other men who may be facing challenges in their lives read them and find solutions to the problems they may be experiencing.

To read the inspirational quotes and to see information on the opportunities out there for anyone who may feel they are stuck in a rut and want to make a change in their life, visit [www.slough.gov.uk/IMD](http://www.slough.gov.uk/IMD)

## Evening and weekend healthcare appointments

Additional appointments are available with GPs and other healthcare professionals during evenings and weekends.

The appointments are in place to help people who find it difficult to take time off work or have other commitments during daytime hours.

The appointments are for routine general practice issues only and not for urgent care. They must be pre-booked in advance, through your normal GP surgery.

For Slough residents, the evening and weekend appointments are available at Bharani Medical Centre in Lansdowne Avenue SL1 3SJ.

They are available:

- Monday to Friday, 6.30-8pm
- Saturday, 9am-2pm
- Sunday, 9am-2pm

These appointments are in addition to some local GP practices offering in-house extended hours appointments for their patients.

# Healthy smiles - dentist open days

Slough Healthy Smiles is working with the council and local dentists to raise awareness about the importance of good oral health.

Slough currently has the highest tooth decay rate in the South East and each year, hundreds of children need a general anaesthetic to have teeth removed.

Open days have been planned for February to introduce children to a dentist and to encourage them to take care of their teeth and gums.

Cllr Natasa Pantelic, cabinet member for health and social care, said: "We want to drastically reduce the amount of children with tooth decay, and those who have to have their teeth out because of poor diet choices and little or no brushing."

Last year, Slough Healthy Smiles delivered free general oral health information sessions to more than 1,500 children and 500 adults.

All 10 children's centres in Slough have gold accreditation, for reaching high standards in oral health advice and promotion.

## Three steps to a healthy smile

- Visit the dentist regularly (visit [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) or call 111 to find one near you).
- Brush twice a day for two minutes using fluoride toothpaste.
- Swap sugary foods and drinks for lower sugar alternatives.

For some healthy smile tips, visit [www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/take-care-of-your-teeth-and-gums](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/take-care-of-your-teeth-and-gums)

## Open days

The next dentist open day is Wednesday 20 February, where there will be games, activities and free check ups. These will be happening at:

- Abbey Dental Surgery, SL1 3EG 01753 536601
- Smile High Street, SL1 1EQ 01753 523410
- Farnham Road Dental Practice, SL2 1HA - 01753 537634
- Smile Cippenham Dental Practice, SL1 6JA - 01753 577017.



# Early education

**“Research has never been clearer - a child’s early education lasts a lifetime” Ofsted, 2015.**

Children attending an early years provision in Slough get a great start to their education. All early years providers deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and focus on supporting the development of each unique child through the creation of positive relationships and the provision of good quality learning environments.

The early years curriculum is play based and helps young children to be ready to make the most of their school experiences when they start in Year 1. Play is essential for young children’s development, and when playing, children investigate and experience new things, concentrate and persevere when they encounter difficulties and develop new ideas and strategies.

Practitioners in early years settings consider the individual needs, interests and stage of development of every child in their care and use this information to plan challenging and enjoyable experiences in all the areas of learning and development.

This provision supports practitioners to

identify individual children who may benefit from specific teaching techniques or specialist support.

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are often attending early years provision when their specific requirements become clear. Others may have a diagnosis before their family starts to look for a suitable early years place.

A group of Slough childminders recently identified the rewards they had experienced when supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). These included:

- working closely with a parent who was keen to share her child’s experiences
- helping a child to reach their personal milestones through a series of small steps
- observing a child’s developing interactions with other children.

You can find out more information about what settings can offer to children with SEND by looking at the local offer on the Family Information Service website at [www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk/localoffer](http://www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk/localoffer)



## Job vacancies

Visit [www.slough.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.slough.gov.uk/jobs) for more details on the salaries and job descriptions.

### Children’s Centre Early Years Practitioner - term time only

Chalvey Grove:

1 x 17.5 hrs per week, 1 x 30 hrs

Elliman Avenue:

2 x 28 hrs per week over 4 days

Penn Road: 1 x 17.5 hrs per week

Romsey Close: 1 x 21.5 hrs per week

Yew Tree Road: 1 x 28 hrs per week.

### Children’s Centre Deputy Early Years Manager

St Andrew’s Way: 1 x 37 hrs per week term time only

Monksfield Way: 1 x 30 hrs per week

### Housekeeper in a Children’s Centre

Five part-time posts each 20 hours per week

*For an informal discussion about the Childcare and Operational posts please contact Marie-Claire Avis, Senior Co-ordinator Operations, on 01753 476566.*

### Family Services Practitioner

1 full time post (37 hrs per week)

1 part time post (18 hrs per week)

A vital front-line role in which you will provide support groups, workshops and other early intervention activities at Slough’s Children’s Centres for vulnerable families with young children.

*For an informal discussion about these posts, please contact Johanna Mullin, Senior Family Services Officer, on 01753 476566.*

## Slough Early Years Service



### Ever thought about a career working with children?

Working with children can be extremely rewarding and there is a huge range of roles to choose from!

Come along to an information session and find out more

☎ 01753 476554

✉ [earlyyears@slough.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@slough.gov.uk)

🌐 [www.slough.gov.uk/earlyyears](http://www.slough.gov.uk/earlyyears)

# Could you be an amazing foster parent?

There are many children in our local area in need of a safe and loving home and foster parents provide just that.

They make an incredible difference to vulnerable children, offering stability in times of crisis, teaching life skills and helping to build self-esteem. Their impact often lasts a lifetime.

Slough Children's Services Trust works with a number of fantastic foster parents but there is a real need for more people to come forward.

Teena Wilcock, from the fostering team at the Trust, said: "We often find people want to foster but think for some reason, like their background or situation, that they can't do it. There are many misconceptions around fostering but things like marital status, sexuality, age etc. are not barriers at all. The other thing people often don't realise is that foster carers are paid for the amazing work they do, are given full training and receive support. We encourage anyone who's interested to please find out more."

## Five minutes with one of our foster carers

Mandy Foley is a 47-year-old single mum from Cippenham. Before becoming a foster parent, she'd worked in accounts, for a nursery and was also a childminder.



### Why did you choose to foster?

I always wanted more children but was only blessed with one son. I didn't realise I could foster as a single parent until I bumped into an old school friend who was fostering. After that I was on the next prep group! I converted my garage into an extra bedroom and my then 11 year-old son moved downstairs into the new bedroom, leaving me with a spare room upstairs ready to foster.

### The best thing about fostering?

Watching children blossom and be able to enjoy their childhoods again.

### Tell us more about your fostering experience

I've fostered 17 children over eight years, with placements ranging from one night to more than two years.

I've cared for newborn babies, sibling groups and a few older children. Every ending brings mixed emotions - it can be really hard but we are always pleased for the children when they find happiness in a forever home.

### How has your son reacted to being part of a fostering family?

He thinks of the children as his siblings. Each one has brought a different dynamic to our house but all of them have brought us joy.

### Anything else you'd like to tell us?

Fostering is a job that makes you feel proud; it's a real privilege to be a small part of these children's lives. It truly makes our day as carers to receive a photo or a text with news of how a child we have moved on is doing.

**LOTS OF CHILDREN DREAM OF A SAFE AND LOVING HOME**

Could you be just what they're looking for?

Whether you're interested in fostering or adoption, with Slough Children's Services Trust you won't be alone. We provide full training, support and you will be paid. "The team has made our journey into becoming foster carers the best experience possible." Mark & Karolina

Text CITIZEN 07771 505 774 | foster@scstrust.co.uk | 01753 690 960 | www.scstrust.co.uk/citizen

If you're interested in becoming a foster carer, here's how you can get in touch.

- Text CITIZEN to 07771505774
- foster@scstrust.co.uk
- 01753 690690
- www.scstrust.co.uk/citizen



www.scstrust.co.uk

# Try something new with Libraries and Culture

For tickets, or to see the activity brochure and find out more about all our regular events, visit [www.thecurveslough.com](http://www.thecurveslough.com), or follow Slough Libraries and The Curve on social media.

## Three Sat Under The Banyan Tree

Saturday 16 February, noon and 3pm at The Curve

A Tara Arts and Polka Theatre production, by Shamser Sinha. Near the foothills of the Himalayas, three orphans open a magical book under a Banyan tree. They were told the book wouldn't give them answers but they'd learn from it, so they watch as three stories of the forest rise from the pages. Stories of headstrong crows, a mongoose who wants a family, and a brave lion come vibrantly to life, with masks, movement and music. Recommended for children aged 7-12.



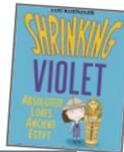
Tickets £5 (child)/£6 (adult)/£20 (family).

## Meet the Author!

**Meet Nick Arnold** - Horrible Science, Wednesday 20 February. Langley Library, 11am and Cippenham Library, 2.30pm. Tickets £2 per child.



**Meet Lou Kuenzler** - Shrinking Violet series and Jack Splat, Thursday 21 February. Britwell Library, 12noon and The Curve, 2.30pm. Tickets £2 per child



## Hoshiyaar Oont the Clever Camel

Friday 22 February, 11am

When the kite seller finds just a tiny tent, he leaves his camel in the cold open desert and huddles for a good night's sleep. What will the camel do? Will the evil kite seller pay for his unkind act? A trickster tale from India full of songs and dance - join in the workshop after to make little tents and try your hand at making sock puppets.



Tickets £5 (child)/£3 (adult)/£12 (family)

## Story Time with Mama G

Saturday 23 February, 11.30am at The Curve

Mama G brings her Story Time roadshow to Slough! Combining panto, drag and the art of storytelling, this all-singing, partial-dancing extravaganza is filled with stories about being who you are and loving who you want. Let Mama G introduce you to her range of wonderful characters: confused horses, feuding fairies, twerk deniers and Oprah, in stories that will make the whole family think, laugh and love. If you enjoyed panto, you'll love this!



Tickets £5 each.

## What's on in March?

### Celebrating International Women's Day

Members of Slough Youth Parliament held an inspirational event in November, inviting the community to nominate an inspirational female from Slough to be part of a special portrait exhibition. The exhibition features 100 women and girls and will be on display on the first floor at The Curve throughout March.

Keep an eye out for some fabulously female productions throughout March including A Super Happy Story About Feeling Super Sad and Bicycles and Fish - tickets available at [www.thecurveslough.com](http://www.thecurveslough.com)

### Beowulf

Saturday 9 March, 7.30pm at The Curve



Beowulf is an interactive performance where each show is unique, guided by your choices. Accompanied by an evocative soundscape, explore the world of a legendary story from our ancient past... without leaving your seat. Because we still need stories about heroes. Because there are still

monsters that lurk in the dark.

Recommended for audiences interested in storytelling; fans of Game of Thrones, The Hobbit/Lord of the Rings; people who like games; undergraduate and A-Level students (theatre/performance students or English students).

Tickets £9 early bird/£12 full price.

### A Super Happy Story About Feeling Super Sad

Saturday 16 March, 7.30pm at The Curve

A hilarious cabaret musical about depression that explains, sings and throws glitter about how it's OK not to be OK. Sally's a happy person. She doesn't let little things get her down and she almost never cries. But she's got an illness. It makes her feel like she isn't the person she wants to be, but she doesn't want anyone to know about it. It's joyful, buoyant, gleeful, slightly silly, sugar coated, unrelenting and completely super happy! (Except for all the bits about depression).

Tickets £10 adult/£35 group of 4.

# Road safety measures

## Action is being taken to stop inappropriate use of bus lanes in the borough.

Complaints have been made in various areas, including in Langley, about car drivers using the bus lanes to undertake and overtake.

New bus lane cameras have been ordered and will be installed throughout the borough to help improve safety for all road users.



Councillor Rayman Bains, who represents Upton, had received more than 20 complaints about inappropriate use of the SMART bus lanes in London Road, Langley, causing a hazard to residents. He is now pleased the cameras will be in place to act as a deterrent to other drivers using bus lanes.

This is a good reminder for everyone to drive responsibly, while looking out for other drivers and road users.

## Make a difference in your community

A Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) is a group of people with a real interest in helping to improve their local area.

They get together to discuss local concerns and how they can all work together to tackle them by proactive problem solving.

Partner agencies, police and key stakeholders also attend meetings but it is chaired independently. The neighbourhood policing team will be there to help make decisions and commit to realistic and achievable actions.

For more details on local NAGs, visit [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) and click on 'find your neighbourhood'.

# Advice to help prevent burglaries

Thames Valley Police has issued burglary crime prevention advice to help residents to protect their homes against burglary.

Some tips include never leaving valuables on display or posting about your expensive items on social media.

For gold jewellery items, these should be secured in a hidden safe, and properly insured and photographed. This will help prove ownership if it's ever recovered following a theft.

You can mark valuables using a UV pen and register them on the national property register at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

If you are going away, tips include:

- checking you have locked your windows and doors before leaving
- never advertising on social media that you are away
- asking a trusted person to look after your home, for example, by putting out and collecting your bin

- lighting up your living room using a timer switch or a TV simulator, which gives the appearance of a TV screen being used.

Detective Chief Superintendent, Richard List, said: "Our officers are working hard, along with our partner agencies, to reduce the impact of burglary within our local communities."

"By taking a proactive approach to home security, residents can reduce the risk of becoming a victim, while helping to protect others and building local resilience against burglary."

More burglary crime prevention advice can be found at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk/burglary](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/burglary).



# Town's judo stars

**An Active Slough coach, with more than 30 years experience, has been awarded the 2018 Talent Coach of the Year at the prestigious annual British Judo Awards.**

Robert "Basil" Dawkins, from Langley, has been coaching since 1990 and set up Moberly Stars Judo club in West London in 1997. He has established the club as one of the best junior clubs in Great Britain with more than 200 National Medallists over the last 20 years and 32 black belt promotions.

In 2016, he set up Moberly Stars Slough and working in partnership with Active Slough, he delivers two sessions a week for 5-18 year olds in the local community.

Basil said: "I feel incredibly proud of this award. It is recognition of the

many years I have dedicated to the sport. I love the fact that Judo teaches kids how to keep trying until they succeed. It's a sport that builds character with a determined focus and perseverance while making small steps. To see a child start Judo and gradually progress to their first championship, or first belt to the first national or area title or black belt fills me with so much pride."

The Slough Moberly Stars sessions are on:

- Tuesdays at the Singh Sabha Sports Centre, 6-7pm (5-12 year olds) and 7-8pm (ages 12+)
- Wednesdays at Montem Leisure Centre, 5.30-7pm (ages 8+).

Sporting talent runs in the family as Basil's daughter Myeisha was jointly named as young sportsperson at the



Slough Youth Awards last year and is the British school's Judo champion.

Visit [www.moberlystars.com](http://www.moberlystars.com) or email [mobstar8@aol.com](mailto:mobstar8@aol.com) to find out about the sessions, or see the full Active Slough programme at [www.slough.gov.uk/activeslough](http://www.slough.gov.uk/activeslough)

# Exercise outdoors at our green gyms

If you started 2019 with plans to get more active and improve your wellbeing, well done!

Life can get busy and we don't always prioritise our own health, but there are loads of year-round activities available in Slough.

There are 22 green gyms across the borough and each is free to use.

The Great Outdoor Gym Company, who installed the green gym equipment for the council, hosts weekly exercise sessions at the Salt Hill Park green gym.

A qualified instructor shows residents how to get the most out of the equipment and gives them a workout from just £5 a month for one session a week.

There is also a free Saturday morning session at 10am, called the Big Community Workout, which is family friendly and open to everyone.

Georgie Delaney, from The Great Outdoor Gym Company, said: "Help activate Slough by joining our Big Community Workout. It is never too late

to start. The Big Community Workout is all about making you feel good. You go at your own pace and there is no pressure."

To join in these sessions at Salt Hill outdoor gym, download the TGO Activate app. Select Salt Hill gym and look at the events. Choose 'Join the gym' for the membership, or you can just register for the free Big Community Workout.



## Fancy trying another activity?

The Active Slough timetable has everything from judo, netball, basketball, football, to running groups, boxercise, Bollywood dance, disability dance, self defence and Pilates. Visit [www.slough.gov.uk/activeslough](http://www.slough.gov.uk/activeslough) to see the latest timetable.

# What's on in the town centre

## Slough Arts Forum

**7 February, 7-9pm, The Future Works, Brunel Way, Slough**

An evening for Slough-based artists and local arts organisations to discuss their work, hear about arts activities and develop collaborative work with others. There is always an opportunity to show and tell. Book your free tickets online at <https://bit.ly/2UDJIE4>

## St Mary's Music Concert

**9 February, noon-12.30pm, St Mary's Parish Church, Church Street, Slough**

Free concerts are held every Saturday during lunchtime. Refreshments are available after each concert. To view the full programme, visit <http://euphoniumcollective.co.uk/Stmarys.htm>

## MECC Lite

**14 February, 10am-1pm, Main Hall, 29 Church Street, Slough, SL1 1PL**

The training will teach participants and give you tools to develop the understanding and confidence required to support individuals and groups to identify and make positive improvements.

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mecc-lite-tickets-53580965109](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mecc-lite-tickets-53580965109)

## Are you affected by Heathrow Airport?

The Heathrow Community Engagement Board was set up to increase community and stakeholder participation in Heathrow Airport's planning and decision making processes. We also work with local people to provide challenge and scrutiny of their day to day operations and expansion proposals.

This year, Heathrow will be carrying out two public consultations. The first, which is open until 4 March, is called the Airspace and Future Operations Consultation. It consults on:

- the next stage of airspace changes

## Documentary film making course

**8 March, 10am-4pm, 29 Church Street, SL1 1PL**

Interested in telling stories? Learn about the different styles of documentary filmmaking to capture real-life people and events. The cost is £80 (bursaries available). Book online at <https://documentaryandfilmmakingcourse.eventbrite.co.uk>

## Slough Town Centre Partnership meeting

**19 March, 10-11.30am**

**The Curve, William Street, SL1 1XP**

A bi-monthly meeting and free networking event for retailers and businesses to discuss town centre improvements, issues impacting their business and devise measures to attract more visitors and shoppers into the town centre. For more information, email [towncentre@slough.gov.uk](mailto:towncentre@slough.gov.uk)

required for the proposed expansion of the airport

- how they will operate the runways, including night flight restrictions
- proposed changes the airport wants to make to the way some aircraft currently arrive that could mean new areas being overflown.

The second consultation, beginning in the summer, is the statutory consultation they are required to carry out on their preferred plan for expansion.

For more information, visit [www.hceb.org.uk](http://www.hceb.org.uk)

## Funding for more arts opportunities

HOME Slough, which hosts arts and cultural activities for the local community, has received £1million of funding from Arts Council England.

Slough Council for Voluntary Service (SCVS) is the lead of HOME Slough's consortium and the money will support three more years of activity.

The group now has a pop-up space on Slough High Street and hopes to reach more than 15,000 people a year, with activities, family events, workshops, performances and conversations.

In 2019, HOME Slough will host artist residencies, starting with the Rifco Theatre Company, who will work with local volunteers to shape a programme of theatre, comedy and writing in the space.

HOME Slough will also commission SHIFT, an exciting new festival about perceptions of Slough.

Councillor Natasa Pantelic, cabinet member for health and social care, said: "Arts in all forms make a major difference to people's lives in terms of their education, health and wellbeing. With this support from Arts Council England, Slough residents can look forward to exciting, fun filled and family friendly arts events and activities in the high street. We will be working in partnership with Slough Council for Voluntary Service to build on this as we develop a Slough Cultural Arts Strategy."

Jamie Green, Chairman of SCVS and lead of HOME Slough's consortium, said "The programme empowers and involves the community in its decision-making, enabling people to have brilliant art experiences in the place they live."

Visit <https://HOMESlough.org.uk> to find out more about activities planned this year.