



# ANDOVER TOWN

January  
2016

# CENTRE NEWSLETTER



## Happy New Year

As we move away from the busiest time of the year for many of our members, we hope that the Christmas trading period was as buoyant as possible. The Town Centre Partnership are very busy planning a number of our key projects in 2016. We hope that this newsletter provides a flavour of our range of activities and wish you all the best for the new year!

## Announcing the Christmas Winners

We are delighted to announce that local resident, Barry Cummins, won the £250 prize draw having made a purchase from a Town Centre Partnership member business over the festive season. Barry elected to spend his prize with M&S Andover and so our congratulations go out to him. We are also pleased to announce that Leightons Opticians in the Chantry Centre won the Christmas Window competition and so we have made a £50 donation to their nominated charity, the National Trust Coast campaign.

## Marketing update

As part of our ongoing work to promote the town, we have recently commissioned a series of new photos for the town, are also continuing to work up a new promotional map & guide for the town centre and are about to publish a new promotional video for the town.

## Town Tidy Day

Following the success of the inaugural Town Tidy Day last year, we are delighted to announce the date for the 2016 event, which is Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Last year, the Tidy Day encompassed a range of events involving local businesses and the local community including a Litter Pick and River Cleanse, as well as Street Furniture painting and improvements to key areas of concern. The event is again being sponsored by local firm Simply Health, who are providing a team of staff to support the activities and is being supported by local campaigner Manuela Wahnon. We are also linking the event to the national Clean for the Queen campaign so, if you or your staff would like to lend their support on the day, please contact Chris Gregory using the details at the end of the newsletter.



## 2016 Events

The Town Centre Partnership is continuously working on the development of new events to drive footfall into the town and, as part of this have developed an exciting plan of proposed events for 2016.

We are finalising the arrangements and seeking further funding for our event plan, so watch this space for further details !

## Action Plan 2016-17

The Town Centre Partnership are busy working up their annual Action Plan for the forthcoming financial year and, as well as retaining many successful projects & initiatives, will be unveiling a host of new activities for 2016-17. To become involved, please get in touch with Chris Gregory using the details shown.



### Equality Act 2010

Members and businesses are reminded that the Equality Act provides people with disabilities with the same right to their services as everybody else. Shops have to make “reasonable adjustments” for assistance dog owners and have to consider making changes to “physical features” which may make it unreasonably difficult for disabled people to use their services.

## An Interview with the legendary Julie Felix

*This was an interview I did a few months back but did not manage to put in in print. With Christmas just gone and the New Year starting, I thought it was a good way of celebrating 2016 with this interview with a legend - Ed.*

### 1. Your voice and range is as powerful as it was and your performance as vibrant, for someone that has just celebrated over half a century of singing and performing. What is your secret?

*Thank you. I always feel it's the element of creativity inside me that keeps me young. It's inside all of us - the creative energy that flows and is channelled through you when you are performing that makes you young. Also, the strong bond with a wonderful audience always work on me. The atmosphere, their enthusiasm and energy feeds me and makes me feel alive and charged and I feel connected to them.*

### 2. Your roots were in California and you were born in Santa Barbara. What made you settle in the UK?

*Some would call it fate. I was performing in Germany at a military base and I met two other Scottish performers there. Later, a friend in the UK paid for my passage to the UK (I was running out of money at that time) and I performed in clubs. Whilst here I linked up again with one of the Scottish performers I met in Germany who made a CD of my performances and sent it to various record companies. I was really thrilled when DECCA records signed me up and it all started from there.*

### 3. Do you come from a musical family?

*Yes, my father was born and raised in Mexico and he was a singer and performer in a band. He was a self taught musician, teaching himself the guitar, accordion and piano. My dad taught me how to play the guitar. My mother was also quite musical but she taught literature in school. My mum taught me her love of words and my dad his love of music. Together they have made me the performer and song writer I am.*

### 4. You have had many hits, some of which you have written. Which is your favourite song and why?

*That's a difficult question. I like many of the songs and they all mean something to me. My favourite song changes over time. Right now it's Heron which is about peace which means a lot to me. Another of my favourites is Woman as it appeals to the passion I feel for womenkind and the trials and tribulations the undergo, some because of their circumstances, and some as a rite of passage.*

## An interview with Julie Felix ... continued

### 5. You have written so many wonderful songs and they have become huge hits in UK. How long do you generally take to write a song?

*That's depends. It can take days, months or even years. Sometimes it's just hours. I like to perfect my songs and go over them. Eg the initial part of Heron took me 5 minutes. That came easily – sometimes there is a spark of inspiration and it can start from there. I get a sense of fulfilment when I have written something I am happy with. Finishing Heron however took me a couple more days. However, there have been unfinished lyrics I have written, which I have not been that happy with, and they are unused.*

### 6. If you were not a singer/performer, what do you think you would have been?

*That is a tough question. A criminal - as John Lennon said when he was asked the same question (she laughs!) On a serious note, I love surfing and the outdoors and I would have liked to have been a surfer as I love water (I can body surf). Growing up and through various stages, I had wanted to be a swashbuckler (after watching some swashbuckling movies) and a nun! But I have always wanted to travel places and to have adventures and I think I would have been an ideal tour guide as I would get to explore new places.*

### 7. You have made it in the music world. What advice would you give to aspiring performers just starting on this journey?

*It's now easier with the advent of the internet to reach out to an audience. Performers can now record their songs and put it into Youtube or other social media and be able to reach an audience. Some have achieved fame through this. In the days of old, you needed to work your way through many clubs and sing in other places until you get "discovered" some way. My advice would also be for them to go and perform at clubs and gigs so they experience what it is to perform live with an audience and feel the connection with their fans. This is what makes performing so worthwhile.*

## In the Spotlight - Cartridge and Personalised Print World

Starting out as a Cartridge World franchise in September 2001, the owners, Mark and Lesley-Ann Simmonds soon saw an opportunity to diversify their business with the increase in online shopping. A re-branding of their business to Think Print, with the addition of print services. When the Jessops branch in Andover closed, they filled the gap in the market by equipping themselves with a digital photo printer and added photo printing services, photo frames and photo albums to their range of services and the business changed its name to Cartridge and Personalised Print World. Three years on have now elevated their business in becoming a Fuji Digital Imaging Centre by making their biggest investment yet - a state of the art Fuji digital imaging processor. With this new technology, they now offer a very wide range of photo services from photo printing, photo books, mugs, t-shirts and photo gift printing, canvases, posters, photo restoration to VHS to DVD Transfers. **Cartridge and Personalised Print World** also has a vast range of occasional frames and albums and offer a fast design and print service for business cards, invitations and orders.

**Cartridge and Personalised Print World** is also equipped with facilities that print personalised celebration cards for all occasions. They continue to supply ink and laser cartridges with their continuing expertise in printers, but with the range of services offered, they now employ three staff to help them deliver a friendly, reliable and personal photographic and print service in Andover.

If you have any printing that you need done, why not pay them a visit ?



**Q. I know you have performed in Andover before. How do you like Andover?**

*A. Andover is a wonderful place. I love it here. I also love the audience I get here and the venue I play at (the Lights theatre). There is an intimate quality in playing in a small theatre and you can connect much more easily with your audience in a smaller and more intimate place. Andover is truly charming.*





## Andover Young Musician of the Year

The annual Young Musician of the Year competition takes place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February and all moneys raised will be used for the St Mary's Church Appeal.

Tickets are £10 per head for the evening, which starts at the church at 6.30pm. For further details and to book tickets, please contact Chris Lynn via [christopher.lynn@talktalk.net](mailto:christopher.lynn@talktalk.net)

**Andover**  
TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

## Car parking improvements announced

The Town Centre Partnership welcome the new parking arrangements, shown below, as a pay on exit system has been something which our members have been extremely keen to see introduced - the reason for this being that shoppers and visitors now have the simple and inexpensive option of extending the length of their stay in the town centre. We therefore wholeheartedly applaud Test Valley Borough Council for their decision to put this in place.



## A new way to pay at Chantry Centre car park

The new payment machines in the Chantry Centre mean that if you pay for your car parking by debit or credit card, you can now do so at the end of your visit. This means that you won't have to predict how much time you will need in town!

To use the new system, you will need to know your vehicle's registration number and have a valid credit or debit card. The card must have an available balance of at least the current all-day parking amount.

### When you arrive

- 1 Use the card payment machines in the lift lobby area of the Chantry Centre. Insert your credit or debit card to 'pre-authorise' the current all-day parking amount.
- 2 Key your vehicle's registration number into the machine.
- 3 Remove your card when prompted.



### When you leave

- 1 Before you return to your vehicle, insert your debit or credit card into a card payment machine again. Make sure you use the same card that you checked in with earlier.
- 2 Remove your card when prompted and wait for your receipt. You will be charged for the length of stay used, in line with normal parking tariffs.

If you forget to 'check out' when you leave the car park, please ring 07833 930655 between 8.30am and 4pm. In any event, you will be checked out automatically at 4pm that day.

You will still be able to continue to pay by RingGo or by cash using our existing pay and display ticket machines if you prefer.

**Test Valley**  
Borough Council

@TestValleyBC

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[www.testvalley.gov.uk](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk)

## Your Town Centre Manager

Chris Gregory is a freelance Town Centre Manager, who is contracted for 22 hours per week for Andover. Chris is usually in town on Wednesdays and Thursdays and is keen to talk to all businesses. Please therefore contact Chris using the details below to arrange a visit.



Chris Gregory – Andover Town Centre Manager – 07854 027080 – [chris@heartflood.co.uk](mailto:chris@heartflood.co.uk) – [www.heartflood.co.uk](http://www.heartflood.co.uk)