

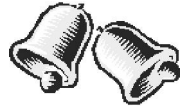
# THE HIGH WYCOMBE SOCIETY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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## newsletter



NUMBER 162

WINTER 2011

### Constructive Consultations in Action

The Autumn began on a high note with a special meeting at Bucks New University to review the Town Centre Master Plan during its public consultation period. "Now we know how to get a good attendance at a meeting" Jerry Unsworth, WDC Director of Planning and Sustainability, said in his opening remarks, crediting the High Wycombe Society with that achievement. "Just what the High Wycombe Society *should* be doing!" was the general verdict on the event. That's not to say there was unanimity in the room. We were all actively encouraged to engage with the subject matter and express our individual views. A lively session resulted.



Like many who attended, I found myself vacillating between wanting to share in the idyllic vision of a vibrant town centre, and worrying about the projected traffic volumes and journey times. There's no doubt that transport issues could make or break any future plans for our town.

There's a new name for Transport at the County Council this quarter, too: Peter Hardy, Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport, lost no time in seeking a meeting with the High Wycombe Society and its Transport Group, the first of many, we hope.

Meanwhile many members were alarmed and dismayed by the invasion of the Rye by bulldozers, flattening a section, prior to its reseeding and use to provide four new football pitches. The footballing fraternity, who had been consulted about this, supported the initiative with an enthusiasm not matched within our Society. There has been general unease, too, about the reported future move of Wycombe museum. What will happen to the much-loved gardens and the Scheduled Ancient Monument if Castle Hill House is sold? Your Executive Committee were pleased to be invited to a meeting with Cllr Katrina Wood and Elaine Jewell, Head of Community Services, to discuss our interests and wish to be consulted. It is early days yet as far as the proposed museum move is concerned but a constructive dialogue has begun.



**Jackie Kay**



***Wishing you A Bright Start to the New Year!*** We have been offered two tickets courtesy of Wycombe Swan to the production of "On Golden Pond" in January (24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>). We will be raffling these at our first Quarterly Meeting of the New Year on 13<sup>th</sup> January, so please come prepared to part with an extra pound or two for raffle tickets and you could be the lucky winner! All proceeds to Society funds.



...caring about our town: past, present and future

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