

AYLESBURY

10 things not a lot of people know about Aylesbury:

1. The first recorded reference to the town name was in 571, when it was called "Aegelesburg" — i.e. the "burg" or fort of Aegel — whoever he may have been.
2. Until the 19th century Buckinghamshire was just an arch-deaconry of the diocese of Lincoln, and so has no cathedrals within its boundaries. Even though Aylesbury has long been the capital town of Buckinghamshire its church, St. Mary's, is not therefore a cathedral.
3. At the turn of the century Aylesbury had, for a population of around 11,000, 31 grocers' shops and 62 public houses!
4. The town was once the property of Thomas Bullen, the father of Ann Boleyn.
5. The King's Head, where Oliver Cromwell stayed (and which still has a chair in which he is reputed to have sat), is the only "working" public house owned by the National Trust.
6. The old County Hall at the south of the Market Square originally had a "drop" installed in a balcony in front of the building, where public executions took place. The last was in 1845.
7. The King's Head was founded in 1386 as a monastery guest-house, but the head on the sign is that of Henry VIII.
8. In the Civil War Aylesbury was a base for both Roundheads and Cavaliers, and Prince Rupert and his Royalist army suffered a crushing defeat at Holman's Bridge just north of the town.
9. Louis XVIII of France lived in exile for 5 years at Hartwell House, just outside Ayl̄esbury.
10. St. Mary's Church dates back to the 13th century, but the spire was an afterthought, added in the 17th century.

THE AYLESBURY CLUB

Duck Dinner



TUESDAY, 15th OCTOBER 1991

at

THE WALTON LOUNGE

THE CIVIC CENTRE, AYLESBURY

