



Autumn 2015 Newsletter

HAYWARDS HEATH
TOWN COUNCIL



Mayor's Message



It is an honour and privilege to be elected as Mayor of Haywards Heath. As a resident for over thirty years, it is a pleasure to contribute my time and energy to the wellbeing of the community.

It has been just over a month since I was elected and I have had a number of invitations to local events. Many of these events have been very educational. As Mayor, it is my intention to raise the profile of voluntary groups, both with fund raising and by supporting initiatives such as helping to make our Town "Dementia Friendly."

My charity for the year will be "4 Sight" www.4sight.org.uk for whom I aim to fundraise. I want to raise awareness of the issues faced by those with vision impairment. For example "Stargardt's disease" which is not commonly known, but is a disease that affects the peripheral vision and is a strain of macular dystrophy.

Recently, I attended the Greater Haywards Heath Bike Ride, which raised money for worthy causes and was a success despite the rain. The Carers Event, organised by

Haywards Heath Town Council was once again enjoyed by a number of carers. My thanks go to all the businesses and individuals who contributed and supported the day.

My wife and I have visited several care homes and as a safeguarding champion for West Sussex County Council, I hope to visit all care homes and hospitals to ensure our elderly are well looked after.

My thanks go to The Orchards Shopping Centre for fund raising for Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children; a worthy and deserving cause. My experience of Zumba dancing was tested and helped raise an extra two hundred pounds.

My sincere thanks go out to volunteers/groups/councils, fellow councillors, local businesses and residents who support our local events. My wife and I thank all the residents for their good wishes. Finally, my thanks also to Town Council staff and to the grounds staff who always keep our parks and green areas beautiful.

Wishing everyone a happy and enjoyable summer holiday.
Cllr Sujan Wickremaratchi

Save the date: Town Day and Sussex Police 999 Fun Day

Saturday 5th September – 11.30am to 5.00pm
– Victoria Park Haywards Heath

Victoria Park will be full of exciting attractions this Town Day as we host Sussex Police's 999 Fun Day. There will be displays from Emergency Services and other attractions. The ever popular fairground rides are back and this year Popsteps will be taking over the stage and arena to display their talents. There will be stalls from local groups and the ever popular Mewes Vets Dog Show.

Sussex Factor will be opening Town Day. In May, finalists had to compete in heats that took place at The Orchards Shopping

Centre, as part of The Orchards fundraising day for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Town Councillor Sandy Ellis, along with Dragon Events was delighted to organise The Sussex Factor. "We were looking for the next super star and we were not disappointed," she reported. The winner, Ali Langner's prize was a day in a recording studio. Ali and runners up Katie Todd and Alysia Read will all be performing at Town Day.



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Email town.clerk@haywardsheath.gov.uk

The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, Haywards Heath,
West Sussex, RH16 1BA
Tel: 01444 455694

Haywards Heath's Victoria Cross, Sgt Arthur George Knight

Mike and Lesley Bright, of Haywards Heath Twinning Association, represented the town at an event in Villers-les-Cagnicourt, near Arras, in France, where Sgt Arthur George Knight VC, born in Haywards Heath, died in 1918.



On 25th April 2015 over 200 Canadian soldiers of the Calgary Highlanders took part in a service of remembrance with the village's mayor, council, and children's council, to honour Sgt Knight and two fellow Canadian soldiers.

The Twinning Association were invited to attend, and during the reception Mike and Lesley presented the mayor with a ceramic poppy from last year's Tower of London installation, a wooden plaque from Haywards Heath Town Council, and a letter from Mayor Sandy Ellis. They were presented with commemorative plates for the Town Council and the Twinning Association, with sincere thanks to our town and association for our assistance and participation.

Relatives of Sgt Knight invited Mike and Lesley to join them at the graveside, where the family laid poppy wreaths, and they laid a small wooden cross inscribed with the names of the Town Council and the Twinning Association.

There is a UK Government scheme to provide each birthplace of those awarded with a VC from the First World War, with a commemorative paving stone. This is to be presented on the anniversary of receipt of this honour and Haywards Heath will receive this paving stone in 2018.

Peace Garden



The project to restore the Peace Garden near the Sussex Roundabout is close to completion. The idea for the Garden was initiated by former Town Council Mayor, Mrs Irene Balls.

The Haywards Heath In Bloom Committee took on the challenge to further restore and embellish the Garden.

Local schools have participated in the restoration, providing poetry on peace and hand prints which serve as a permanent reminder to our community, future generations and the world at large, on the importance of peace.

Local businesses, Councils as well as the County have supported the project. Balfour Beatty supplied materials which Town Council Ground Staff have put in place. Wooden doves, symbols of peace, have been donated for the project as has a beautiful granite bench.

The In Bloom Committee hopes the garden will create an oasis of peace in a busy town environment, providing a restful and calming space for rest and contemplation. The Garden has been designed to act as a pollinating green area in the town.

The In Bloom Committee looks forward to officially opening the area to the public, leaving a legacy of peace and harmony for the town.

Councillor Sandy Ellis
Chairman of HHIB

Haywards Heath Dementia Action Group reports on developments



A number of local partners including the Town Council, the Town Team, Nuffield Hospital, and The Orchards are members of the Action Group which meets regularly and is working towards Haywards Heath becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. District and County Councils have representation on the group which is supported by a member of staff from the Alzheimer's Society.

David Williams, Chairman of the Group explained: "It is important to have a town-wide co-ordinated approach to dementia, the instances of which are rapidly increasing." He encouraged local business and voluntary groups to join the Action Group to raise awareness and ensure those living with dementia in the Town have a good and fulfilling quality of life with empathy and understanding from those around them.

The Action Group works with local Dementia Friends Champions who are able to deliver awareness sessions which last approximately an hour. To date, Champions have delivered sessions to over 70 people in Haywards Heath. If you or your group are interested in attending awareness sessions, please contact:

Fatima Mirza
Community Liaison Officer
on 01444 455694
or email fatima.mirza@haywardsheath.gov.uk

Battle of Muster Green



A lectern has been placed at the Eastern end of Muster Green to tell the tale of the battle which took place during the English Civil War from 1642 to 1651. The project was led by Heath Ward Members and the South South-east In Bloom Committee. The Committee would like to give special thanks to Phil Pavey who provided the historical background for the project.

A new project helping vulnerable young people move into employment, education or training with support from volunteer mentors has launched in Mid Sussex in partnership with Mid Sussex Council and the youth service



'Positive Placements', led by YMCA DownsLink Group, are recruiting and training adult mentors to work with vulnerable young people who are not in Education, Employment or Training.

Project Coordinator Kensa Cooper says, "We will be working with adult mentors from a wide variety of backgrounds to help young people aged 16-25 year olds in Mid Sussex move forward on their work journey."

Mentors can support young people to identify and overcome any barriers that they may be facing, such as low confidence, lack of work experience, issues with attendance or interview preparation.

One young man currently being mentored says "it's great having someone to talk to who listens to me and supports me in achieving my goals."

Positive Placements are looking for volunteer mentors who have 1-2 hours spare per week and are able to commit to mentoring a young person for at least 6 months. Full training and ongoing support is offered, and all volunteers will need to undergo a DBS (Disclosure and Barring

Service) check paid for by the project. Contact kensa.cooper@ymcadlg.org for more information. No particular experience is needed except a passion to support a young person to make positive choices in their life, patience and a sense of humour are all welcome.

The project is also looking for local businesses that are able to offer work experience, apprenticeship or employment opportunities to young people. Positive Placements would offer full support to the businesses in setting up the apprenticeships.

Carers relax at "Time for You" day

The Town Mayor Sujan Wickremaratchi opened the 'Time for you' day Carers Event, which took place on 10th June at the Town Hall. Welcoming thirty one carers he said that "Carers play an important part in our society and we need to do a lot more to help and support them." The day organised during National Carers Week, offered an opportunity for local carers to try different pampering activities and speak with local services about their own health and wellbeing.



Local sponsors, Haywards Heath Lions Club, The Orchards and F Goddard and Sons supported the event. Practitioners from The Vinings, Natural Health Centre and the Koorana Centre in Ardingly encouraged carers to relax with a range of complementary treatments. Hayley Bradbury of Hayley's Nails took a day off from her job as Accounts Manager to give manicures to as many carers as she could during the day.

The Town Council has received overwhelmingly positive feedback with one attendee saying that "It was lovely to be greeted by lots of happy, smiling and welcoming faces, an excellent day!"

Haywards Heath Horticultural Society

meets the third Thursday each month from 7.30pm at the Centenary Hall, St Wilfrid's Church on Church Road. The next meeting is on 17th September. Admission is £2 for members and £3 for visitors. There are illustrated talks and film demonstrations on all matters horticultural. Plants and seeds will also be on sale. For more information see www.hhhs.org.uk

Community Noticeboard



Your Town Councillors - how to get in touch

Ashenground Ward

Cllr Sujan Wickremaratchi | 14 Colwell Close, HH, RH16 4HF | Tel: 07968 179083
Cllr Anne Boutrup | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 07912 112484
Cllr Howard Munding | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 07802 603446

Bentswood Ward

Cllr David Dorking | 8 St Pauls Close, HH, RH16 3DB | Tel: 01444 450067
Cllr Julie Hayden | 141 Hoblands, HH, RH16 3SB | Tel: 01444 458666
Cllr Stephen Hillier | 38 Bentswood Crescent, HH, RH16 3QR | Tel: 07830 200722

Franklands Ward

Cllr Rod Clarke | 101 Beech Hill, HH, RH16 3TS | Tel: 01444 413529
Cllr Jacqui Hollister | 3 Laburnum Way, HH, RH16 3SD | Tel: 01444 453589
Cllr Michael Pulfer | 6 Burma Close, HH, RH16 3JE | Tel: 07734 407467

Heath Ward

Cllr Sandy Ellis | 60a Queens Road, HH, RH16 1EE | Tel: 01444 473154
Cllr Jonathan Ash-Edwards | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 01444 413902
Cllr Clive Laband | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 07966 196302

Lucasted & Bolnore Ward

Cllr Chris Ash-Edwards | 45 Turners Mill Road, HH, RH16 1NW | Tel: 01444 413902
Cllr Matthew Jeffers | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 07917 842566
Cllr James Knight | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 07769 704063
Alastair McPherson | c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, RH16 1BA | Tel: 07966 057664

Town Councillors can also be contacted by email
firstname.lastname@haywardsheath.gov.uk

Beach Week 26 -29th August



Enjoy the beach in the middle of Town 10.30am to 3.30pm

Christmas Festival Saturday 28th November-attractions from midday in The Orchards Shopping Centre. Christmas lights switched on at 5pm and firework extravaganza in Victoria Park at 5.30pm. Celebrations continue in The Orchards on Sunday 29th.

Blue Skies for Spring Festival

Muster Green was busy with local charities fundraising for their particular good cause on Sunday 10th May.



A range of delicious cakes, scones and biscuits were on sale and The Friends of the Yews provided tea and coffee throughout the day. The Rainbow Stroke Club and British Heart Foundation were delighted with funds raised from their stalls.

And the weather – well it was blue skies with a gentle breeze. Haywards Heath Town Council would like to thank all the stallholders who participated in making the afternoon a great success.

Grants to voluntary and community groups

Mr James Jennings and Mr Mike Jennings from Embark present Deputy Town Mayor Cllr James Knight with two bird boxes and a butterfly box.



Embark are based at The Yews and provide work experience opportunities, such as woodwork and gardening projects for young adults with learning disabilities. Embark recently received funding for their project and the presentation was to thank the Town Council for their support. For more information on Town Council funding, contact the Community Liaison Officer on 01444 455694 or check for criteria and guidelines for applications on www.haywardsheath.gov.uk



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