



Winter 2021 Newsletter

HAYWARDS HEATH
TOWN COUNCIL

TO SERVE THE PEOPLE WELL

Mayor's Message



Dear residents,

My what a busy and wonderful time I have enjoyed over the last few months as Mayor of this great town and I am truly delighted to have met so many of you at the varied events I have been fortunate to attend or open.

This year's Town Day & Music Festival was such a tremendous success. The businesses and charities I spoke to were full of praise for the event, so

many of you spoke to me personally about the lovely family feel of the day and I felt it was fantastic to see our community coming together in such a happy environment after a difficult couple of years. It was also such fun to see so many residents dancing and singing the evening away to top off a brilliant day out in Haywards Heath! I would like to thank everyone involved in making this such a success for our town.

I was delighted to present the Covid-19 Community Support Awards at this event too. It was humbling to see the extraordinary efforts these residents and groups made to ensure the wellbeing of the vulnerable in our town during lockdown. Times like this highlight the resilience and spirit of our community that I am privileged to be part of.

Over the Summer, I had the pleasure of visiting the Tree Tops holiday club at St Wilfrid's School. This was part of the Government's Holiday,

Activities and Food Programme and while I was busy joining in the fun with the children, I was able to witness the range of activities and healthy food these children had access to – what a fantastic resource for parents and children in our town! I was also delighted to attend The Yews Community Centre's 10th Anniversary celebrations, along with three former Mayors of our town, and more recently I got to deliver treat bags to each of our care homes in our community to ensure they enjoyed a Silver Sunday afternoon tea with safety still in mind.

Along with Cllr Mike Pulfer, Leader of Haywards Heath Town Council, we paid tribute to the hard-working men and women in our Merchant Navy (past and present) on Merchant Navy Day as the Red Ensign was hoisted on the Town Hall. It was also my honour to lay a wreath at the Battle of Britain Commemoration at Muster Green, together with members of our 172 (Haywards Heath) Air Squadron Cadets, to remember the extraordinary contribution made by the pilots who defended our country.

I would like to thank all the residents who came along to my drop-in session on the future of Clair Hall. We care deeply about the future of this great community resource and it was incredible to see such strong support from our residents too. We have now submitted our formal response to the MSDC Clair Hall Consultation.

I do hope to meet many more of you at the Christmas Festival at the Orchards Centre and at our Christmas Fireworks in Victoria Park. I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cllr Howard Mundin
Town Mayor, Haywards Heath

Christmas Festival & Fireworks

Saturday 27th November

Come along to the Orchards Centre on Saturday 27th November, from 10am to 6pm, for the annual Christmas Festival and Christmas lights switch.

Mickey, Minnie and lots of their friends will be joining the celebrations at 2:30pm, along with Santa and his elves. Join in the traditional countdown as the Mayor switches the Christmas lights on at 5pm and then head over to Victoria Park for the annual Christmas Firework display from Haywards Heath Town Council at 5.30pm.

Bring all the family to enjoy this evening as we build the mood for Christmas!



Remembrance Sunday

14th November 2021 - 10.45am
War Memorial, Muster Green

Haywards Heath Town Council invite you to a Remembrance Service which will be held on Sunday 14th November at the War Memorial at Muster Green. We are thankful to be able to arrange this service this year and it will be wonderful to have the community together with us paying their respects on this special day.

The service will take place at the War Memorial on Muster Green and will commence at 10.45am to observe the 2 minutes silence at 11.00am. Our Remembrance Service will be led by the Rev Charles Sargent and will be attended by local dignitaries and Councillors, members of the Armed Forces, the Royal British Legion, youth organisations, local groups and members of the public. Everyone is welcome to attend to mark this special 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

Mayor honoured to present Covid-19 Community Support Awards

Town Mayor, Cllr Howard Mundin was delighted to present prizes to the winners of the Covid-19 Community Support Awards at this year's Town Day & Music Festival. He comments *"The Covid-19 pandemic brought this community together in a wonderful show of support for each other and it was my absolute honour to present awards to some of the individuals and groups who went that extra mile to ensure the wellbeing of the vulnerable in our town during lockdown. Times like this highlight the resilience and spirit of our community and I would like to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you who worked so hard to ensure that help was available to those in need during this time. I also give a special thank you to Ryan Andrews & Co Business Performance for kindly sponsoring the Haywards Heath Covid-19 Community Support Awards."*



The Community Group/Organisation (applied) was awarded to Mid Sussex Voluntary Action (MSVA), for their hard work to support the voluntary sector during the pandemic. MSVA's staff worked in many ways to offer support, often working outside contracted hours to ensure that everyone who needed it could be supported.

The Business category (applied) was awarded to Caremark Mid Sussex and Crawley for staff going 'above and beyond' on a daily basis. They went the extra mile with the highest standards of care and support for people living in their own homes. They focused on client's physical and mental wellbeing, involving care workers putting themselves at risk.

The Community Group/Organisation (nominated) category was won by Haywards Heath Library. The community nominated this organisation to recognise how its staff went to great lengths to continue to provide a service, particularly to those vulnerable and isolating. Staff would do many extra tasks, including going out of their way to personally deliver books to help those isolated and shielding. These trips often meant everything to isolating people and helped to keep spirits up during a very difficult time.

The Individual Volunteer (nominated by the community) was awarded to Fay Flude for showing outstanding efforts to support her team, parents and children. She led the way, creating her own YouTube channel with wonderful home-made videos and provided regular emails with activities to connect with parents via the online learning portal.

Two certificates were also awarded in recognition of outstanding community spirit.

Elizabeth Graydon received a Certificate of Commendation, not only for her work during the pandemic, but also to recognise and thank her for her time, effort and kindness for others over the years. Steve

Gardiner-Bristow was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for his bravery and commitment to helping others in spite of being extremely vulnerable himself. Congratulations to all our winners.

Free drop-in sessions at St Richard's Church in Haywards Heath



St Richard's Church have launched a new drop in facility for residents to chat, relax or read in a safe nurturing environment. At Ric's Bench you will find a warm welcome, a cup of tea or coffee, a snack, and something to read. If you wish, you can talk, or simply just be in the company of other people. If you have a particular problem, you will find someone who will listen.



Cllr Sandy Ellis is delighted to support this wonderful initiative and says *"I really wanted to get involved in this wonderful project as I feel that everyone can benefit from a safe space where there is someone to listen, enjoy a good chat, or a place to relax and enjoy other people's company. Ric's Bench has created the perfect atmosphere to enjoy a coffee and cake, relax with a book or a paper, and never feel lonely. It's a very friendly and welcoming way of getting to know your community. There is also a group aimed at the younger members of the community as we all sometimes need a Ric's Bench to enjoy the company of others, enjoy shared interests and get that feeling of connection that is so good for our well-being."*

Ric's Bench run sessions on Mondays from 7pm to 9pm and Fridays from 2pm to 4pm. The young adults club is run on Fridays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm for 16-25 year olds.

For more information on Ric's Bench visit www.ricsbench.co.uk or call 01444 413621

A big thank you to all our Town Day & Music Festival sponsors

Haywards Heath Town Council would like to take this opportunity to once again show our deep appreciation and thanks to all our sponsors of the Haywards Heath Town Day & Music Festival and the Covid-19 Community Support Awards. Their contributions and support truly helped towards making the day such a success, enjoyed by so many members of our community. Thank you to Barratt Homes, Orchards Shopping Centre, Ryan Andrews Business Performance, PSP Homes, Brock Taylor, P & S Gallagher, Haywards Heath Town Football Club and A-Plan Insurance.



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Haywards Heath Dementia Friendly Community News



Haywards Heath Town Council and the Haywards Heath Dementia Friendly Community (HHDFC) would like to express their gratitude to Jacqui Smith who has recently decided to step down as Chair for HHDFC. Jacqui has worked endlessly to drive HHDFC forwards. Her passion, loyalty and commitment has touched the hearts of everyone and she will be greatly missed by us all. Carolyn Brading and Rachel Mortimer, who are already part of the steering group, have kindly decided to join forces to co-chair and we thank them and welcome them to this new role and look forward to the skills they will bring to our dementia friendly community.

Come along to the Bentswood Hub, all welcome!



It's all go at the Bentswood Hub on America Lane. There is something for everyone and you will always find a listening ear, a smile and someone who will help. Each day between 9-12pm there is food available for everyone and by taking the food you are also helping reduce food waste. We run a community café on Tuesday mornings and on Saturday mornings there is free breakfast available for children. On Wednesday mornings, families are encouraged to drop in for a free coffee and chat, with children welcome too! There is also a new dad's group held on Thursday evenings, which is a great chance for dads to connect and unwind.

We run a youth club on Monday and Friday evenings, with two sessions for children between 7-11 and 11+, where we encourage children to try new experiences and make friends. Our group went to a camp over the summer and everyone had a great time learning about the outdoors.

We have lots of free training available at the Hub and will be offering a paediatric first aid course and a beauty therapy course very soon. There are volunteers ready to help with digital training each Monday, so if you are struggling to get online or use emails, just drop in and someone will be able to help. We additionally have the Citizens Advice in on Thursdays and the Department for Work and Pensions on Fridays, where advice is readily available.

The Bentswood Hub is a community space for everyone. Please just drop in and have a chat with any of the volunteers who are only too happy to help. If you have some time and want to get involved, just pop in as we are always looking for more people to help us work together to make our community great!

Supporting Community Action



Have you ever wondered what support there is for community groups and charities in Haywards Heath and surrounding area? Then you should know about Mid Sussex Voluntary Action (MSVA). MSVA exists to provide free support to help local charities and community groups to get set up, grow and thrive. This includes help with funding, training, volunteering and networking - to find out more visit www.msva.org.uk.

MSVA is now based at The Cherry Tree Centre in Fairfield Road, in Burgess Hill, where it hires out rooms to many local social groups. Their vision is to create a Community Hub that will be used for training courses, hot-desk hire, healthy eating cookery classes and even a community café. Their other role is promoting volunteering. Did you know that volunteering improves your confidence and career prospects? It's also a great way to keep sociable!

If you would like to explore what volunteering roles are out there, go to www.msva.org.uk/opportunities, email volunteering@msva.org.uk or ring 01444 258102.

Whatever your age, ability, race or religion - there is a volunteering role waiting for you!

Beautiful Muster Green wins 7th Consecutive GREEN FLAG Award!



Muster Green has once again been recognised by the Green Flag Award Scheme as one of the very best green spaces in the country, with an impressive increase in the judge's scoring. Our Town Mayor, Cllr Howard Mundin, comments "Muster Green is one of my favourite places to visit and this is marvellous news for our Town. We received huge praise from the judges and this award is a huge credit to the Town Council's dedicated Grounds Staff, whose hard work in keeping Haywards Heath's green spaces looking immaculate, colourful and seasonal, is truly appreciated. The judges were particularly impressed with the environmental policy in place for the green and were delighted to see no use of pesticides or peat on the site and that the green waste was all recycled. They also loved our practice of donating old tulips bulbs to the local community, which they stated was a lovely thought process and gesture."



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Winter Management Plan

The Town Council has finalised its Winter Management Plan for this coming Winter 2021/2022. The plan is a public document and is available on our website (or as a hard copy on request from the Town Hall) along with the strategies of our principal authorities, Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council, with some top tips on how to respond to snow weather events.

The documentation on the website also includes the areas of response each authority is able to undertake and suggestions where residents may be able to help themselves and/or their neighbours.

Haywards Heath Town Council will endeavour to support residents of the town in the event of severe weather. This includes:

- **pre-emptive measures** in the existing provision of the 107 salt bins in the town (you can find your nearest one on our website)
- holding a **mass storage** of salt in addition to the bins

- the **clearance of some pavements and pathways** which are required so residents can reach important services such as doctors' surgeries or to enable access to vulnerable people
- providing local businesses with a **small supply of salt** and the opportunity to borrow snow shovels
- providing information and updates during Winter weather events.

Please remember to use salt sparingly as the town only gets one full fill of the bins each year and has to manage salt from its mass storage. Kindly remember if used properly, a teaspoon of salt should clear 1sq metre of ice/snow.

Useful contacts

West Sussex County Council
01243 777100 – www.westsussex.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council Highways
01243 642105

Mid Sussex District Council
01444 458166 – www.midsussex.gov.uk

Your Town Councillors - how to get in touch

Ashenground Ward

Cllr Richard Bates (LIB) : West Corner, Lowfield Rd, HH, RH16 4DW : Tel: 01444 452092

Cllr Stephanie Ingelsfield (LIB) : 41 Cedar Avenue, HH, RH16 4UQ : Tel: 07780 456316

Cllr Sujan Wickremaratchi (CON) : 14 Colwell Close, HH, RH16 4HF : Tel: 07968 179083

Bentswood Ward

Cllr Clare Cheney (CON) : 26 Greenways, HH, RH16 2DT : Tel: 07582 304345

Cllr Rachel Cromie (CON) : 11 Quakers Lane, HH, RH16 3QD : Tel: 07948 279782

Cllr Jack Langley (GREEN) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 07401 838754

Franklands Ward

Cllr Christopher Evans (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 01444 455694

Cllr Howard Mundin (CON) : 34 Wellswood, Haywards Heath, RH16 4FQ Tel: 07802 603446

Cllr Mike Pulfer (CON) : 6 Burma Close, HH, RH16 3JE : Tel: 07734 407467

Heath Ward

Cllr Sandy Ellis (CON) : 60a Queens Rd, HH, RH16 1EE : Tel: 07827 813366

Cllr Clive Laband (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Road, HH, RH16 1BA Tel: 07966 196302

Cllr Richard Nicholson (GREEN) : 24 Barnmead, HH, RH16 1UZ : Tel: 07971 051645

Lucastes & Bolnore Ward

Cllr Chris Ash-Edwards (CON) : 45 Turners Mill Rd, HH, RH16 1NW : Tel: 01444 413902

Cllr Matt Jeffers (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 01444 455694

Cllr James Knight (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 07769 704063

Cllr Alastair McPherson (CON) : c/o The Town Hall, 40 Boltro Rd, HH, RH16 1BA : Tel: 07966 057664

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

Santa's Grotto at the Orchards

Saturday 4th, 11th and 18th December



HO HO HO Santa's Grotto is returning to the Orchards Centre in December, with a Covid-19 safe risk assessment and additional staff to keep everyone safe. At £3 per visit per family, each child will receive a present and a socially distanced photograph with Santa, and all proceeds will go to Dementia UK. Santa looks forward to welcoming you all to his Grotto!

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