

Sevenoaks Town Crier

From Sevenoaks Town Council for the Community of Sevenoaks

June 2014

Message from the Mayor

A new local authority year brings with it a new mayor. Firstly, praise for Cllr Roddy Hogarth and his wife Mary, who did such an excellent job for the town over the past twelve months as Mayor and Mayoress. They seemed inexhaustible and it will be very hard to live up to their example. Having been Mayor before, I know how demanding the role can be for both and I approach the role with even more trepidation than last time.



Over the past few years with the excellent and dynamic support of our staff we have, as a Town Council, been trying our best to develop Sevenoaks as a market town which thrives, where people want to live or visit and where businesses want to hang up their signs. There is a large element of chicken and egg – if there are no businesses or leisure activities, people will not come. If people do not come, nor will the business and other activities necessary for the town to thrive. A major part of the role of the Mayor is to promote the town he or she represents so that the people and the businesses etc want to come. If I can help in promoting local businesses and activities, please contact Sevenoaks Town Council. I have lived in Sevenoaks most of my life and I find this part of the role made so much easier by the immense pride I have in the town of Sevenoaks, its history, its architecture, its landscape, its culture, its businesses, its people and so much else.

For example, in the past few weeks I have been amazed by standards set by the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra in a very ambitiously programmed concert (OK so my wife plays in the orchestra, but then so does Matilda Lloyd, semi-finalist in the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition) – and this in a fairly small town. Then there was *The Bartered Bride* performed by Kentish Opera at the Stag. What a show and what a venue! Now we have Stag Select programme of live performances of operas and plays beamed direct into the cinemas at Stag. *King Lear* – an unforgettable live broadcast from the National Theatre; what an experience! Then there are the markets, Knole, the beautiful Vine cricket ground. And all those amazing people who work so hard to keep the vital charities going.

This year I have chosen Mencap and Royal British Legion as my charities. I hope you will be able to see the wonderful work of Mencap at various Mayoral functions this year and be moved to help me in supporting it. And of course as we will be commemorating the start of the First World War this year in various different ways, it was natural to support Royal British Legion in the work they do for our servicemen and servicewomen.

- Cllr Simon Raikes, Mayor of Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks Commemorates World War I in 2014



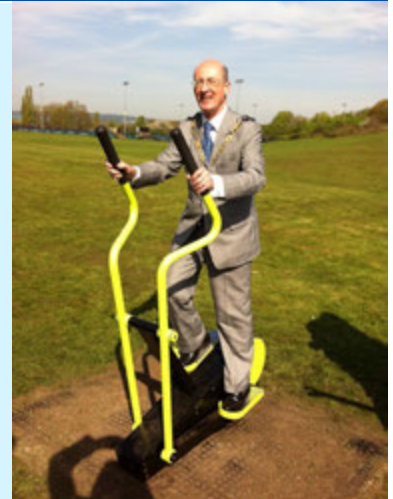
See centre page for details

Outdoor Gym Opens at Greatness

Sevenoaks Town Council have been successful in securing external grant funding from ICET and SDC to underwrite the installation of outdoor gym equipment at Greatness Recreation grounds.

The equipment is free for all to use and helps to meet one of Sevenoaks Town Council's strategic aims where possible to provide free and accessible sports provision.

The installation of the outdoor gym equipment is part of a bigger project to improve the Greatness Environs and as a result of public consultation held during the summer of 2013.



Call for more play areas

At the Annual Public Town Meeting held in March 2014 members of the public asked for additional play facilities to be provided or installed.

In the past five years Sevenoaks Town Council has installed new playground equipment, Skateboard Park, and outdoor gym at Greatness Recreation Ground and additional play areas at Hillingdon park and Julian's Meadow.

As part of the Neighbourhood Development Plan the Council would be pleased to hear from members of the public regarding practical locations for additional play facilities for the future. Please email council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Vintage Bus returns for 2014



Sevenoaks Town Partnership are pleased to announce that the success of the Route 7 Vintage Bus last year has provided the resources, alongside additional sponsorship from Knole and Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve to bring back the bus in 2014.

This year the Vintage Bus will run for additional dates including the four day Easter weekend and during the summer holidays for five days per week, Saturday – Wednesday.

The circular route of the bus will have two new stops – Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve and Bat & Ball station.

Knole for house and gardens	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00
Stag Theatre	11:05	12:05	13:05	14:05	15:05	16:05
Sevenoaks Station	11:08	12:08	13:08	14:08	15:08	16:08
Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve	11:13	12:13	13:13	14:13	15:13	16:13
Bat and Ball Station	11:18	12:18	13:18	14:18	15:18	16:18
The Vine, Cricket Ground	11:23	12:23	13:23	14:23	15:23	16:23
Bus Station	11:26	12:26	13:26	14:26	15:26	16:26
Knole for house and gardens	11:33	12:33	13:33	14:33	15:33	16:33

The ticket price will remain at £2 per day ticket with under 5s free.

If you are interested in being a volunteer bus conductor please email admin.tp@sevenoakstown.gov.uk or telephone 01732 459953.

Halls For Hire

Business meeting? Fitness Class? Lecture?

We have a hall just right for you!

Call us on 01732 459953 or visit our website at:
www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Raleys Gym

Children's Gymnastics, Toddler, Pre-school & Junior classes, Zumba Gold and Total Body Workout.

Raleys Gym; Plymouth Drive; Sevenoaks;
Email : raleysgym@sevenoakstown.gov.uk
Tel: 01732 458614

What's On in & around Sevenoaks

You can find information on the latest events around Sevenoaks at our new Town Partnership website:
<http://sevenoakspartnership.org/>

Want to have an event included?
Email: admin.tp@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

HOUSE IN THE Basement

Youth Cafe for ages 11 – 18

- FREE WIFI
- INTERNET CAFE
- POOL TABLE
- FOOD & DRINK
- CHILL OUT AREA
- INFORMATION & SUPPORT
- CHESS CLUB
- Guitar
- Drums



FREE Music Lessons

In the Basement of the Stag Community Arts Centre
London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1ZZ

Opening Hours:
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 4:30pm - 9:30pm (school holidays 2:30 - 9:30)
Saturday 12 noon - 2:00pm (FREE Music Workshop)
2:00pm - 9:30pm

Tel 01732 466593
Email info@houseinthebasement.co.uk
Twitter www.twitter.com/houseinthebasement
Facebook www.facebook.com/houseinthebasement





Can you help Sevenoaks Town win a prize in the 2014 South East in Bloom Competition and maybe win a prize yourself?

Sevenoaks Town entered the South East in Bloom competition for the first time in 2011 and won a Silver Gilt Award. We are hoping that with support from the local community and businesses we can improve on this in 2014. Sevenoaks Town Centre will be judged on **Friday 4th July 2014**.

Everyone entering one of the competition categories will be helping to make Sevenoaks a more attractive place to live and visit, and also demonstrate community support for Sevenoaks in Bloom.

By entering one of these competition categories you will automatically be entered into the Sevenoaks District In Bloom Competition and receive a £5 voucher to spend at Coolings Garden Centre.

For further information or any queries please email neiljackson@coolings.co.uk or council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Local businesses can also assist by:

- i. Providing sponsorship towards Sevenoaks in Bloom
- ii. Displaying the 'Supporting Sevenoaks in Bloom 2014' poster for judging day on Friday 4th July 2014
- iii. Ensuring that outdoor areas of your property are as clean and tidy as possible on judging day



Commemoration in Sevenoaks of World War 1914 – 1918

Saturday June 28th 2014

Help for Heroes – WW1 Themed Concert

Sunday 3rd August 2014

10.00 a.m. start

World War 1 dedicated Remembrance Service

Sevenoaks Town Council will be assisting the Royal British Legion to provide a specific service relating to remembering those involved in World War 1. Family members of those men who are named on the War Memorial have been asked to be present.

Following the sombre event, subject to weather all are invited to picnic on the Vine and enjoy the Tonbridge & Malling Concert Band who will be providing vintage 1914 music. Refreshments will also be available to purchase.

Sunday 3rd August 2014

3pm

Tonbridge & Malling Concert Band play on the Vine Bandstand providing vintage 1914 music.

Monday 4th August 2014

LIGHTS OUT is an invitation to everyone in the UK to turn off their lights from 10pm until 11pm, leaving on a single light or candle for this shared moment of reflection.

August 2014

Photographic exhibition relating to Sevenoaks & World War 1

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 19th, 20th & 21st September 2014

The Princeford Pals, a Musical at the Stag Theatre

Set in a small fishing village in Devon just after the start of The Great War and then moving to the battlefields of France during 1916. This is the story of four young men who volunteered to join one of the battalions raised in the early months of the war in response to Kitchener's call for a volunteer army and their experience of the difference between their idyllic life at home and the horror of the Somme. Their lives are changed, many die and they can never return to what they were.

13th (Service) Battalion (Princeford) South Devon Regiment, better known as the "Princeford Pals".



HELP FOR HEROES CONCERT
SAT 28 JUNE 2014 @ 7.30PM
Kent Police Band
Sevenoaks Community Centre,
Cramptons Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5DN
Tickets £10 Concessions £8
The Stag Box Office: 01732 450175

Kent Police Organised by Sevenoaks Town Council

The poster features a gold medal with a ribbon at the top left, the Kent Police crest in the middle left, and a silhouette of two men carrying a stretcher on the bottom right. The background is a green field with a blue sky at the top.



16th November 2014

3pm

Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra will perform a commemoration to World War I in music and poetry at the Stag Theatre, Sevenoaks 'All quiet on the western front'. Delius' double concerto with solo violin and cello is the concerto item - the date of its composition (1917) and its beauty, set against the austere back drop of World War I, has the musical effect of the poppy flowers on the fields of Flanders. The other items in the concert are all English: Tintagel by Bax, The Banks of the Green Willow by Butterworth and finishing with Symphony no. 6 by Vaughan Williams which, unusually for a symphony, ends quietly which will be appropriate for the occasion.

November 2014

Remembrance Day Book

Written by Mr Ball the book is to provide a picture and story of the names of the 226 men whose names are engraved on the War Memorial. Also research relating to as many survivors as possible and the impact on the women and families left behind, and the contribution made by women either as nurses or through other work, such as munitions factories.

The aim is to produce the book in time for 2014 Remembrance Day with a percentage of proceeds supporting appropriate forces charities.

Extracts of the book have been featured in the Sevenoaks Chronicle requesting contributions for the content from the public.

November 2014

Plaque to be installed outside Greatness Cemetery indicating the presence of World War 1 graves.



Throughout the year red poppies will be planted in key locations throughout the town. The Theme for Sevenoaks in Bloom will be red and silver to commemorate World War 1.

Voting Opens for the Sevenoaks Business Awards 2014

Following last year's successful event nominations have opened for the 2014 Sevenoaks Business Awards.

Members of the public are invited to nominate businesses in and around the town which they believe are worthy of recognition. The categories in 2014 are as follows:

- 1) Independent Retailers of the Year (Split into <10FTE and 10+FTE categories)
- 2) National Chain Retailer of the Year
- 4) New Business (under 5 years)
- 3) Young Entrepreneur (under 25yo)
- 5) Customer Choice
- 6) Home Enterprise
- 7) Judges' Choice

Voting closes on the 30th June 2014. For further information please visit sevenoakspartnership.org



Children's Art Competition



Young people in Sevenoaks were asked to provide a piece of art that answered the following question – *if you could change one thing in Sevenoaks in the next 10 years what would it be?*

The competition was strongly supported, particularly by local schools and entries included a Harrods for Sevenoaks, chocolate fountains, and many other fun and more practical sessions.

The winners were

Grace Talbot
Izzy Mackenzie
Ellis Heussenm
Grace Bellhouse

Recycling Centre
Hotel
Cycling Paths
Youth Centre

The former Mayor, Cllr Roderick Hogarth presented the winners with book tokens at a recent Council Meeting.



2014 Band Stand Programme

Following receipt of a grant from Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust the Bandstand will be repaired in time for the summer programme (see later in newsletter for details) and for its long term protection. An information board regarding the Bandstand History will also be installed.

The summer programme of bands playing in the Bandstand will continue for the summer of 2014, this has also been extended to Thursday evenings. On both days there will also be the provision of arts and craft stalls on the Vine Gardens.

Sunday Bands playing 3pm to 5pm		Thursday Bands playing 6pm to 8pm <i>Arts & Craft Market Stalls to be confirmed</i>	
22.06.2014	Wadhurst Brass Band		
		26.06.2014	Orpington
29.06.2014	Green Street Blues Cantate		
		03.7.2014	Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Concert Band
06.07.2014	Cranbrook Town Band		
		10.07.2014	East Peckham Silver Band
13.07.2014	Second Wind Band		
		17.07.2014	Orpington
20.07.2014	UK Paper Band Sittingbourne		
		24.07.2014	Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Concert Band
27.07.2014	Orpington Band		
		31.07.2014	Anything Goes
03.08.2014	Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Concert Band		
		07.08.2014	Green Street Blues - Capella Singers
10.08.2014	Oxted Band		
		14.08.2014	East Peckham Silver Band
17.08.2014	Medway Concert Band		
		21.08.2014	Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Concert Band
24.08.2014	East Peckham Silver Band		
		28.08.2014	Stour Valley Jazz Band
31.08.2014	London Saxophone Choir		

Neighbourhood Development Plan Questionnaires

Questionnaires have been distributed to all households in Sevenoaks and were also available on line at www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk. We are now beginning to receive returned questionnaires, and pleased to report that this again has been strongly supported by the local community.

The data from these questionnaires will enable the development of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, putting in place a strategy for Sevenoaks for the next 10 – 20 years.

If you wish to be involved or receive regular updates on the Neighbourhood Development Plan please email Planning@sevenoakstown.gov.uk, or view www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk or telephone 01732 459953.



TOWN COUNCILLORS 2014

	PARTY
EASTERN WARD	
Cllr G R S Clack	Conservative
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat
Cllr Mrs P C Walshe	Liberal Democrat
KIPPINGTON WARD	
Cllr A Eyre	Conservative
Cllr R J Parry	Conservative
Cllr R L Piper	Conservative
NORTHERN WARD	
Cllr C L L Baker	Liberal Democrat
Cllr M Canet	Liberal Democrat
Cllr P E Towell	Conservative
ST JOHNS WARD	
Cllr Mrs A E Dawson	Conservative
Cllr R Hogarth	Conservative
Cllr S Raikes	Conservative
TOWN WARD	
Cllr Mrs M A London	Conservative
Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Conservative
Cllr Stephen Arnold	Conservative
WILDERNESSE WARD	
Cllr Mrs M E Crabtree	Conservative
<p>To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format: Cllr.surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk</p> <p>i.e. To contact Councillor Clack, the email address would be: Cllr.clack@sevenoakstown.gov.uk</p>	

Functions & Facilities Provided By Sevenoaks Town Council

Precept

The Town Council's portion of the Council Tax for the financial year 2014/2015 is £791,736 equivalent to £88.69 per Band D house.

- ALLOTMENTS
- ARMED FORCES DAY TOWN SUPPORTERS
- BETHEL ROAD BURIAL GROUND
- BRITAINS COMMON
- BRITAINS LANE WOOD
- BUS SHELTERS (*Dartford Road x2, St John's Hill x3, Bradbourne Vale Road x1, London Road x4, Seal Road x1, Tonbridge Road x1*)
- CHRISTMAS TOWN CENTRE ILLUMINATIONS
- CIVIC FUNCTIONS
- CONSULTEES (*Planning, Highways, etc.*)
- FREE SUMMER CONCERTS @ THE VINE BANDSTAND
- GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS twice yearly bids in by 1st February and 1st August
- GREATNESS PARK CEMETERY
- GREATNESS RECREATION GROUND & PLAYGROUND
- HANGING BASKETS
- HILLINGDON RISE PLAY AREA
- HORSE TROUGHS (*Old Police Station, Rheinbach Gardens, St Boltophs Road*)
- THE GREEN, HILLINGDON RISE
- JUBILEE CLOCK (*Old Market House*)
- JUDD'S PIECE
- JULIANS MEADOW & PLAY GROUND
- KIPPINGTON MEADOW
- LAND AT LITTLEWOOD
- LAND AT TONBRIDGE ROAD
- SPORTS PITCHES
- MIDLINGS WOOD
- MILLPOND WOOD
- MOUNT CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND
- PLANTERS (*The Shambles, Dorset Street, Pembroke Road, London Road, Buckhurst Lane*)
- PONTOISE CLOSE OPEN SPACE & PLAYGROUND
- PUBLIC TOILETS (*The Stag, The Vine, Lower St Johns*)
- RALEYS CAR PARK
- RALEYS GYM
- RALEYS & KNOLE PAD DOCK
- RHEINBACH GARDENS
- SEVENOAKS COMMON
- SEVENOAKS COMMUNITY CENTRE - Available for hire - meetings, conferences
- STAG COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE
- SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL
- STREET LIGHTS IN SOME UNADOPTED ROADS
- THE POUND
- TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES / CHAMBER - Available for hire - meetings, conferences,
- TWINNING WITH RHEINBACH AND PONTOISE
- UPPER HIGH STREET GARDENS
- VARIOUS PUBLIC SEATS, LITTER BINS AND GRIT BINS
- VINE GARDENS (*including Bandstand, Band Practice Room and Public Toilet*)
- VINE CRICKET GROUND & PAVILION (*including Tea Kiosk*)
- INFO-PODS & DIGITAL DISPLAY SCREENS
- VINE WASTE
- WAR MEMORIAL
- WHITE HART BEECHES
- WOODLAND AT LETTER BOX LANE
- WOODSIDE ROAD OPEN SPACE

Sevenoaks Town Council

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