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# SEVENOAKS Town Crier

News and information from Sevenoaks Town Council

Autumn 2025

## Extraordinary community effort for Britain in Bloom

**T**he Sevenoaks community came together for RHS Britain in Bloom, as school pupils, gardening volunteers, local businesses, crafters, and the Town Council's Open Spaces team all went the extra mile to make the town look stunning in preparation for the national finals. Volunteers aged from two to 100 helped with Sevenoaks in Bloom's campaign.

Charming knitted bugs were exhibited around the town, made by crafters including from Rockdale Housing Association, Knole U3A, Knit and Natter and Sevenoaks Soroptimists.

Decorated rocks were displayed at the Vine painted by local children, including from Sevenoaks Day Nursery and 15th Sevenoaks (Otford) Beaver Scouts.

Sevenoaks Soroptimists tended to flowerbeds at the Vine and station.

Rockdale Housing Association residents and staff put in 1,000 hours of volunteer work in their garden! Pupils from Walthamstow Hall School and tots from



Volunteer Bonnie



Willow Loudon with Mayor of Sevenoaks



Lesley Lee with butterflies

Oakley Day Nursery helped out with the Rockdale garden display.

Year 10 students at Weald of Kent Grammar School created withie sculptures of dragonflies and a snail. An amazing wire insect sculpture was created by Year 12 students from Trinity School.

St John's Primary School Year 2 Forest School made clay bugs and minibeasts on display at House in the Basement,

along with LEGO flowers and other crafts created by young people.

Willow Loudon crocheted toppers for post boxes. Bonnie and Emma took part in a sponsored litterpick to raise money which they used to buy plants for the Vine.

Many more organisations and people contributed to Sevenoaks in Bloom, thanks to all involved! The result will be announced later this autumn.

**Sign up to receive our Town Crier via email to keep up with Town Council news!**

Sign up at:

[www.tinyurl.com/sevenoakstowncrier](http://www.tinyurl.com/sevenoakstowncrier)



**Join us for a friendly chat!**

We have a new Chatter & Natter table at Café on the Vine - come along to this welcoming space for conversation and connection. **Read more on page 7.**



# SEVENOAKS Town Crier

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## Autumn 2025

Come along to Sevenoaks Markets on Wednesdays in the High Street 8am to 2pm, and Saturdays in the High Street and Bligh's Walk 9am to 4pm.

### September

**6 September**

#### Sevenoaks Street Food Fest

*Vine Gardens*

A free-to-attend food-filled celebration from 12pm to 7pm, organised by Heart of Sevenoaks and supported by Sevenoaks Town Council. There'll be an exciting line-up of musicians, children's entertainment, as well as craft and gift stalls.



**7 September**

#### Almost the Last Night of the Proms

*Vine Gardens*

Free Music on the Bandstand concert from Oxted Band 3pm to 5pm. Come and wave a flag, bring the Pimms and picnic or buy food and drink from Café on the Vine or the Pavilion Bar.

**20 September**

#### Sevenoaks Bike Festival

*Vine Gardens*

An exciting day dedicated to the joy and freedom of riding bikes, from 10am to 4pm. Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or just getting started, this festival is fun for everyone! **See page 13.**

**26 September - 5 October**

#### Sevenoaks Literary Festival

*Various locations*

Bringing the best authors together to share a love of books. **See the schedule on pages 8 & 9.**

### October

**4 October**

#### Sevenoaks Vegan Market

*Vine Gardens*

A day of live music alongside a variety of vegan street food vendors, artisan bakers, craft brewers, jewellers, environmental charities and more.

**See page 11.**



### November

**9 November**

#### Remembrance Day Parade and Service

*Vine Memorial*

Everyone is invited to attend this memorial event at 10.50am.

**29 November**

#### Christmas Lights Switch-On

*Town Centre*

A fun, family-friendly event from 3pm to 5pm, with live entertainment, rides, a Father Christmas Grotto, stalls and food.

**See page 6.**



**5 December**

#### Holly Party

*Bat & Ball Centre*

An evening of festive fun from 7.30pm to 11pm. Dance, mingle, and enjoy delicious treats. Big band Jonah's Wail will be making the party rock. **See page 11.**

For updates, visit our Instagram, Facebook page or website:

Instagram: [sevenoakstowncouncil](#)

Facebook: [SevenoaksTC](#)

Website: [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

### Read our latest news and events in the Town Clerk's Update



Our Town Clerk, Linda Larter MBE, has a regular newsletter to share all the latest news and events at Sevenoaks Town Council.

Get the newsletter sent directly to your inbox by subscribing at [www.tinyurl.com/stctownclerk](http://www.tinyurl.com/stctownclerk) or scan the QR code.



# Mayor shares event highlights and plans for a greener Sevenoaks

**Cllr Tony Clayton**  
Mayor of Sevenoaks



It's been a busy summer! I hope many of you have enjoyed events in Sevenoaks as much as I have, from all the performances at Sevenoaks Summer Festival, the Sevenoaks Business Show, all the Bandstand concerts on the Vine, the Skate Jam at Greatness which drew a big crowd, Family Fun Day and children's theatre shows at our parks all around the town.

A huge thank you to the volunteers who helped to make all this happen, supporting Town and District Council staff. And special thanks to all the volunteers and schools who put so much time and effort into the Town Council's Britain in Bloom entry. You did a lot of work to show Sevenoaks at its best and it really made a difference. We will discover very soon how well we impressed the judges.

The Vine has already retained its Green Flag Award as one of the most attractive green spaces in Britain. New access friendly surfacing around the pond in Vine Gardens – gravel bonded by resin from over one million recycled plastic straws – has also drawn favourable comment.

There's more to come. Sevenoaks Bike Festival will be running at Vine Gardens on 20 September, following its success last year. Sevenoaks Literary Festival starts on 26 September with a great programme of talks and readings – see pages 8 and 9. The Vegan Market will also be back on Vine Gardens on 4 October.

The Town Council's next big project coming up is the new Football Pavilion at Greatness. With funding now in place from the Football Foundation, Community Infrastructure Levies from developers, and smaller contributions from the Council



*Sevenoaks Sings concert on the Bandstand (above), and Mayor of Sevenoaks on his bike (left).*



and the Premier League Stadium Fund, we've started the procurement process. Work on site should start around October. The Council will also renew and relocate the children's play area as part of this exciting development. Read more on page 5.

Our holiday in Brittany, timed to watch the start of the Women's Tour de France, made me look at what's going on there to encourage cycling. The town of Brest runs an e-bike share scheme which allows you to hire an e-bike for about £300 a year – then to buy it for another £350 if you'd like to keep it.

It's made a real impact as hills in

Brittany are as steep as in Sevenoaks. A local business has offered to help sponsor an e-bike scheme in Sevenoaks – based on their good experience as users in other UK towns where they operate. What do you think? You can send us your thoughts by emailing [communityeng@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:communityeng@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

To stay in touch with what Sevenoaks Town Council is doing, check out:

- My Mayor's blog on the Town Council website, which usually comes out once a week. Scan the QR code below:



Read the Mayor's blog

- Our Facebook and Instagram:

[SevenoaksTC](#)

[sevenoakstowncouncil](#)

# Dartford Road zebra crossing update

Originally intended for delivery in tandem with the 20mph scheme in 2024, the zebra crossing at Dartford Road was delayed due to time constraints and the need for a further Road Safety Audit and detailed designs to be produced.

We are pleased to say that this stage is finally complete, with the detailed plans having been consulted on by Kent County Council in July, and the following funding secured towards its delivery:

- £25k from Sevenoaks Town Council. This is

from Developer contributions we have received from planning applications (Community Infrastructure Levy).

- £20k from Sevenoaks District Council, applied for by Sevenoaks Town Council.
- £55k from Active Travel England, applied for by Kent County Council.

We await the results of the consultation from Kent County Council, with construction hoped to take place by the end of 2025.



# Masterplans for Town Centre and St John's Hill



Following feedback on the draft, a review by our consultant, and adoption by the Town Council, this plan could be used by prospective developers, as well as the District Council's planning team, to guide future development proposals.

Read the draft Masterplan and give us your feedback on our Consultations page at [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk).

## Town Centre Masterplan

Consultation on our draft Town Centre Masterplan will remain open until 30 September.

The Masterplan is a spatial exploration of how the town centre could potentially be improved.

We would love to get your feedback on wide-ranging ideas from how the town centre looks in the future, to options for changing traffic routes, potentially considering one way or pedestrian areas.

Scan the QR code to find our survey.



## St John's Hill Masterplan

We consulted on our draft St John's Hill Area Masterplan in March and April this year, and our consultants are now reviewing and updating the contents in line with feedback.

# Give your views: should Town Council request transfer of local assets from District Council?

Central Government has requested that District and Borough Councils – being one tier above Sevenoaks Town Council – make plans to merge with a number of their neighbours into several new, larger Unitary Councils. As part of this process, the expectation is that all of the District Council's currently-owned assets would be transferred to this new Unitary – alongside those of its counterparts.

In a bid to protect key local assets, Sevenoaks District Council has initiated

a protocol for considering asset-transfer applications from its Town and Parish Councils – the second “tranche” of which is due to open to new applications in September 2025. Sevenoaks Town Council is seeking local views on which, if any, District Council-owned assets local residents believe would benefit from being transferred to more local, centralised ownership.

Please respond to the survey using the QR code provided. This survey will remain open indefinitely, as any responses received after the District

Council's submission deadline of 30 October could still be instrumental in demonstrating local support for any further asset requests, and potentially securing their retention.



# New Football and Community Pavilion at Greatness Recreation Ground

**S**evenoaks Town Council and Sevenoaks Town Football Club have secured additional grant funding to support the exciting plans for a new Football and Community Pavilion at Greatness Recreation Ground, and construction should start around October.

The Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation approved a grant for £759,100, and the Premier League Stadium Fund is providing funding of £150,000.

Sevenoaks Town Football Club Chairman, Paul Lansdale, commented, "Years of hard work has paid off with the news of this funding for the building of our long-awaited clubhouse. The Football

*Foundation has agreed to provide a significantly larger figure than we expected."*

Between Sevenoaks Town Football Club and Sevenoaks Town Council, just under £2m external funding has been obtained for this project.

Mayor of Sevenoaks Cllr Tony Clayton commented, "This will be a new asset for the town, accompanied by other improvements to the Rec, and a real gain for sports people of all ages. We recognise local concerns about increased traffic, and I look forward to being able to access the new Pavilion safely by bike."

The new Greatness Recreation Ground Football and Community Pavilion will be built close to the 3G pitch, and will

Offset Architects' image of new pavilion



include changing rooms, kitchen and refreshment areas and other facilities. It will incorporate a green roof and living wall. The current brick pavilion will be released for community use.

## Community celebrates revamp of Vine Gardens

**S**evenoaks Town Council has completed an exciting revamp of the pond and pergola area of the Vine Gardens. The space has been revitalised with a new ground surface,

made up of a mix of stone and recycled plastic waste. The equivalent of 1,074,000 recycled plastic straws was used in the surface. The new anti-slip surface not only looks smart and has environmental benefits, but it will also reduce long-term maintenance costs.

The project has received rave reviews from the community. One mum, Lisa Frost, was particularly delighted, thanks to the positive impact it has had on her son, Oakley. She commented, "It's things like this that improve access for my complex needs disabled son. We will now be able to get his wheelchair in there much more easily and he will be able to take his steps holding our hand without tripping. This sort of thing makes such a huge difference to his life."

The Vine recently received a Green Flag Award for the 9th year running. This award is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

Cllr Dr Marilyn Canet (pictured right), Chair of the Community Asset Committee at Sevenoaks Town Council,



commented, "The Vine is a historic and important green area of Sevenoaks. Many residents of all ages enjoy playing, walking and listening to music from the Bandstand at the Vine. Cricket has been played here for over two hundred years, which I trust will continue."

The Green Flag Award recognises the pleasure that the Vine gives to the town and the hard work that the Town Council team puts into maintaining it."



## Forget-me-not Café welcomes people with dementia and carers

**O**n the last Wednesday of the month, between 10.30am and 12pm, we host our free Forget-me-not Café at Bat & Ball Station. These dementia-friendly events are for those who are recognising issues with their memory or cognition, and their family or carers.



Bob Ogley gives a talk at Forget-me-not Café

At our recent events, Bob Ogley has delivered a fascinating talk about 'When Sevenoaks was Bombed', Susanne Beard from Sevenoaks Kaleidoscope Galley has hosted a fun art session, and we've had a TV theme tunes quiz with Phil Raymond.

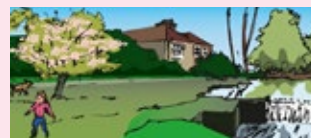
If you know of anyone who might benefit from joining our free events, encourage them to come along! There are free refreshments, and our volunteers provide friendly company.

Pop these upcoming events in your diary:

- **24 September** with singer Annelene Beechey
- **29 October** with Canterbury Archaeological Trust
- **26 November** with artist Susanne Beard
- No café in December

For more information, visit our News and Events page at [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

### Stay in the know: Bradbourne Lakes newsletter



As part of the 'Bradbourne Re-bourne' project, Sevenoaks District Council produce a regular email newsletter about their exciting work to improve Bradbourne Lakes.

Sign up to receive this at:  
[www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/bradbournenewsletter](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/bradbournenewsletter)

## Join us at our Christmas Lights Switch-On!

We're pleased to invite you to our Christmas Lights Switch-On event on **Saturday 29 November**. Following the success of last year's earlier switch-on, this fun community event will be from **3pm to 5pm**. The Mayor of Sevenoaks will switch on the lights in Sevenoaks High Street at 4.30pm.

There will be lots of festive activities to keep the whole family entertained, from live entertainment, fairground rides, a Father Christmas Grotto, stalls, food and drink, as well as street entertainment.

Please note, the High Street and part of Akehurst Lane will be closed from 1.30pm to 6.30pm.

Bring the whole family and enjoy an afternoon full of festive cheer. We look forward to celebrating with you as we light up Sevenoaks for Christmas!

We are running our Christmas Light competition again this year, where kids up to 11 years old can design a light, with the winner's on display in town! See page 12 to find out more.



## Free support from Kent Advice Hub at Bat & Ball

Kent Advice Hub is a free, confidential video advice service from Citizens Advice.

Dedicated Advisers can support you with a wide range of issues, including benefits, energy, housing, debt, and more.

You can make a video call at your local kiosk at **Bat & Ball Community Centre**, Crampton's Road, Sevenoaks, TN14 5DN from Monday - Friday between 10am and 3pm. Alternatively, you can make a video call from your home by visiting: [www.kentadvicehub.com](http://www.kentadvicehub.com)

From **8 October 2025**, Kent Advice Hub is offering in-person Meet & Greet support to help you contact

expert Advisers at your local video kiosk. This service will run on Wednesdays, 9.30am to 12.30pm at Bat & Ball Community Centre.

**Kent Advice Hub**



## Meet, chat and connect at our weekly Chatter & Natter table

**W**e have launched a Chatter & Natter table at Café on the Vine and are inviting residents to come together for conversation and connection. A Chatter & Natter table creates a space for people to talk, whether it's for 10 minutes while you enjoy a cup of tea or an hour of good conversation.

Whether you fancy a friendly chat or know someone who might benefit from a warm and welcoming space, this Chatter

& Natter table is a simple way to connect with others in your community.

The Chatter and Natter table will be at **Café on the Vine**, Dartford Rd, Sevenoaks, TN13 3UH. Our lovely volunteers will host the table on **Wednesdays from 1.30pm to 3pm** throughout September and October.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact us at [communityeng@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:communityeng@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

The Chatter & Natter table is part of The Chatty Cafe Scheme. For more information visit [thechattycafescheme.co.uk](http://thechattycafescheme.co.uk)



Use our free thermal imaging camera



**S**evenoaks residents can borrow a thermal imaging camera from Sevenoaks Town Council to help identify cold and damp spots, and where heat is being lost within your home.

Our thermal imaging cameras can be borrowed by residents at no charge; we will just charge a late fee if the camera is not returned at the agreed time.

For more information and to book, visit our website or email [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

## Friends of Rheinbach celebrate 25 years

In mid-July, a group from the Friends of Rheinbach travelled to Germany to celebrate 25 years of twinning between the two towns.

During the four-day trip, visitors from Sevenoaks were entertained with excursions in the area and attended a formal reception. This was held in the attractive Glass Museum with its many fine exhibits produced by local artists.



Guests were addressed by the Mayor of Rheinbach and heard a greeting from Sevenoaks Town Mayor, Councillor Tony Clayton, who had been instrumental in establishing the formal twinning arrangement.

At the reception, piano and violin duets were played by Peter Young from Sevenoaks and by Julia Maassen who played as a schoolgirl 25 years ago at the inaugural twinning celebrations.

The visit ended with a farewell dinner and many wishes for a continuance of the warm friendship with our twin town in Germany.

To find out more, see [www.friends-of-rheinbach.org.uk](http://www.friends-of-rheinbach.org.uk)

## Could Ceto in Italy be our new twin town? Get involved!



The picturesque medieval town of Ceto, located in the province of Brescia in Italy's Lombardy region, could soon become Sevenoaks' newest twin town.

If supported by the Sevenoaks community, the two towns would be linked in the same way we are with Rheinbach in Germany, and Pontoise in France.

Town twinning offers a unique opportunity to build international friendships,







celebrate cultural diversity, and promote mutual understanding.

A partnership with Ceto could open doors for educational exchanges between schools, cultural visits, and new connections between residents of both towns.

If you're interested in supporting this initiative or would like to be involved in the plans, email [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

# THE SEVENOAKS LITERARY FESTIVAL 2025



DATE & TIME	AUTHOR		VENUE
Friday 26th Sept, 7.30pm		Adam Kay	The Auditorium, Trinity School
Saturday 27th Sept, 2.00pm		Julie Summers	The Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall
Saturday 27th Sept, 4.00pm		Kassia St Clair and Polly Mason	The Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall
Saturday 27th Sept, 5.30pm		Tracy Borman	The Ship Theatre, Walthamstow Hall
Tuesday 30th Sept, 7.30pm		Jonathan Freedland	The Sackville Theatre, Sevenoaks School
Wednesday 1st Oct, 7.30pm		The Reverend Richard Coles	The Assembly Hall, Walthamstow Hall



For tickets and full details scan this QR code.



DATE & TIME	AUTHOR	VENUE
Thursday 2nd Oct, 7.30pm	 Tristan Gooley	The Assembly Hall, Walthamstow Hall
Friday 3rd Oct, 7.30pm	 Juliet Nicolson	The Plaza Suite, The Stag
Saturday 4th Oct, 2pm	 Alexis Keir & Mir Rahimi	The Footlights Bar, The Stag
Sunday 5th Oct, 11am	 Writers' Workshop with Rachel Seiffert	The Pavilion Restaurant, Wilderness House
Sunday 5th Oct, 2pm	 How To Get Published	The Pavilion Restaurant, Wilderness House

## HOW TO CONTACT US

Online: [ticketsource.co.uk/sevenoaks-literary-festival-2025](https://ticketsource.co.uk/sevenoaks-literary-festival-2025)  
By telephone: 0333 666 3366 Enquiries: [info@sevlitfest.com](mailto:info@sevlitfest.com)  
Follow us on Instagram and Facebook

# Town Team supports business and spruces up Sevenoaks

The Town Team is always busy helping Sevenoaks develop as a great place to live and to help businesses thrive. In June, we held a very successful Business Show where 85 per cent of responding exhibitors reported having enough customer contact to make exhibiting worthwhile and 70 per cent will be returning in 2026.

The Team has also been busy continuing work to spruce up the town with a variety of painting and cleaning projects of things like railings, lamp posts, cattle troughs and the fountain at HSBC.

The main sponsor of Sevenoaks in Bloom, Purelake, has enjoyed plenty of coverage. Staff from NFU Mutual have volunteered to do gardening, and Barclays

Bank staff cleaned the Blighs bollards.

Work is progressing on developing the Sevenoaks BID (Business Improvement District) with a team of interested parties having formed a Steering Committee to create the Business Plan.

For updates on this, read the news page at [www.sevenoaksbid.co.uk](http://www.sevenoaksbid.co.uk)



Volunteers from NFU Mutual help with Sevenoaks in Bloom (left) and Sevenoaks Business Show 2025 (above).

# Sevenoaks Health & Wellness Initiative: help shape a healthier, happier Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks Health & Wellness Initiative is designed to create a healthier, more active community for all ages. Be part of the change – for yourself, your family, and your town.

This initiative is a collaboration between Sevenoaks Town Team and Better Body Group, who are making it

easier to get moving, improving access to health advice, and promoting simple steps to prevent illness.

Working together, the Town Team and Better Body Group will reduce health risks, strengthen local connections, and make Sevenoaks one of the healthiest places to live.

The organisers are working with local restaurants, food suppliers and businesses to increase healthy food awareness, and will also integrate with local schools, sports clubs and the NHS preventative health care initiatives to make health awareness fun.

It all leads up to the 2026 Sevenoaks Health and Wellness Fair, an exciting day to discover, try, and experience new activities, healthy foods, wellbeing hacks and expert insights. This is not just a one-off event but an entry point into a healthier lifestyle for all.

But first, the Town Team and Better Body Group want to hear from you.

### What would improve health and wellness for you or your family?

Answer six quick questions to have your say. Scan the QR code below to get started or visit [www.tinyurl.com/2khf2rnj](http://www.tinyurl.com/2khf2rnj)



### Do you want to involve your business?

If you would like to involve your business in this initiative, contact the Town Team at [townteam@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:townteam@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)



DJ | LIVE MUSIC | BUFFET | BAR | FUN

HOSTED BY  
SEVENOAKS  
TOWN TEAM

# HOLLY Party

18+

JOIN US AT SEVENOAKS  
BIG SHARED CHRISTMAS PARTY

FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025 | 7.30PM-11PM

BAT & BALL CENTRE, CRAMPTONS ROAD, TN14 5DN

with great dance music  
from BIG band,  
Jonah's Wail

Book  
here

Tickets just £27.50 (+ booking fee)  
Contact [townteam@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:townteam@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)  
or phone 01732 459953

LIVE MUSIC

# SEVENOAKS VEGAN MARKET

FOOD & DRINK / SUSTAINABLE LIVING  
COSMETICS / CHARITIES / & MORE!

SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCT | 10:30-16:00  
VINE GARDENS, TN13 3UH

SEVENOAKS  
TOWN TEAM

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Live Music for You

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Contact our Sevenoaks office now to discuss your legal requirements on 01732 496 496 at 15 Pembroke Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1XR.

[www.thackraywilliams.com](http://www.thackraywilliams.com)

[hello@thackraywilliams.com](mailto:hello@thackraywilliams.com)

Photo courtesy of Paul Burgess Photography.

(l-r) Andrew Reby, Senior Partner, Vikki Herbert, Joint Managing Partner and Nick Gabay, Corporate Partner.

# House in the Basement host celebration

There is always so much going on at House in the Basement Youth Café (HitB), from SEN Club, to open mic nights, photography workshops and more! Located in the basement of the Stag Theatre, HitB offers an inclusive and engaging environment for young people aged 11-17.

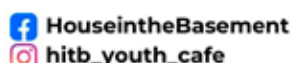
In June, the team celebrated Paula Woolhouse's 40 years of youthwork. She has served the young people of Sevenoaks with such dedication and passion. She has helped many young people during this time and continues to do so.

The Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Tony Clayton, presented



Paula with a certificate to mark this milestone (pictured).

Follow HitB on social media to keep up to date with all the news and upcoming activities.



# Dinosaurs and skateboarding at Greatness Recreation Ground

Sevenoaks Town Council kicked off the summer holidays with Skate Jam, hosted by King Ramps. Athletes led demonstrations and coaching sessions in skateboarding, BMX, and scootering, drawing 150-200 young people to Greatness Recreation Ground.

In the lead-up to Skate Jam, Samsara Sport delivered free skateboarding sessions, sponsored by Sevenoaks Town Council and District Council.

August saw the return of Family Fun Day at Greatness Recreation Ground. Organised by Sevenoaks District Council and Town Council, we had fun activities for all



ages. Kids loved the baby dinosaurs from Quest 4 Entertainment (pictured).

Our free summer events concluded with children's theatre shows about how mushrooms clean up plastic!

For upcoming events, see our News and Events page at [www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

## JOIN SEVENOAKS YOUTH COUNCIL!

Are you aged 11-18 and passionate about your community?

### This is your chance to:

- ✓ Share your views
- ✓ Make real change happen
- ✓ Get involved in local projects
- ✓ Build skills for your future



### What does a Youth Councillor do?

- Represent the views of young people in Sevenoaks
- Attend regular Youth Council meetings
- Organise events and campaigns
- Collaborate on community projects
- Work alongside local leaders and councillors
- Develop confidence, leadership & teamwork skills



### Why get involved?

- Make a real difference in your community
- Meet other motivated young people
- Looks great on UCAS and job applications
- Counts towards DoE and IB CAS hours

For more information, please email: [youthwork@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:youthwork@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)



Calling all little snow-stars aged 0-11! Your dazzling design could be the brightest thing in Sevenoaks this Christmas.



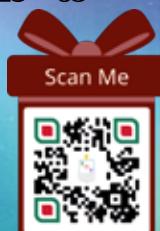
Wrap up your ideas and send us your Christmas light designs!



You have until **September 19<sup>th</sup>** to send in your entry.

Pick up an entry form at:

Café on the Vine (TN13 3HU)  
Bat & Ball Station Café (TN14 5AP)  
Sevenoaks Town Council Offices (TN13 3QG)  
or scan the QR code.



For more information, please contact:

✉ [Youthwork@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:Youthwork@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)  
☎ 01732 459 953

A HUGE THANK YOU to our sponsors:



Previous winners:



[www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk](http://www.sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

**HOUSE IN THE Basement**  
**FREE Youth cafe for all ages 11-17**  
 Your Space to Relax & Have Fun

**Opening Hours:**

<b>Tuesday (SEN Club):</b>	<b>5 – 8 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>4 – 8 PM</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>4 – 8 PM</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>2 – 8 PM</b>

(During School Holidays we open at 2 pm instead of 4 pm)  
 House in the basement is **FREE** for all to attend.

✉ [info@houseinthebasement.co.uk](mailto:info@houseinthebasement.co.uk)  
 ☎ 01732 466 593

Follow us for updates!!  
 @HouseintheBasement  
 @hitb\_youth\_cafe  
 @houseinthebasement

**Video Games** **Free WiFi** **Info & Support**

**Chess & Board Games** **Chill out zone** **3 in 1 Games Table (pool, Air hockey & Table tennis) & Darts**

**Internet Cafe & Gaming PCs** **Food & Drink £3 Meal Deal**

**Visit Us!**  
 In the Basement of the Stag Community Arts Centre,  
 London Road, TN13 1ZZ.  
**What3Words: Actual.Covers.Intervals**

**HOUSE IN THE Basement** **Sevenoaks town council** **STAG SEVENOAKS**

**SEVENOAKS BIKE Festival**

SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER • VINE GARDENS, SEVENOAKS

**TEST RIDES (+14YRS & PHOTO ID) • STARTS 10AM • ENDS 4PM**

**WISPER** **TRAILKIND BCS**

**HAIBIHE** **SCOTT** **gocycle** **ORBEA**

**RALEIGH** **LAZER** **RIESE & MÜLLER** **WISPER**

**TROUSTACHE** **tern** **Muc-Off** **BACK PEDAL**

**FREE ENTRY**  
 10am-4pm

## WE'RE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Having a local office means we're accessible, whether you need to make changes to your policy or make a claim.

We offer insurance products including:

- Car
- Home
- Business
- Tradesman
- Fleet
- Commercial Vehicle
- Pensions
- Investments
- Income Protection

For more information, get in touch with your local office:

01732 496050 | 144 High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1XE  
 01474 813 141 | Satellite House, Wrotham Road, Meopham,  
 Kent, DA13 0QB



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K Beer, R A Siggs, M B Griffin & A R Maclean is an appointed representative of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited (No. 111982).

# Volunteering roles

There are many volunteering opportunities in Sevenoaks. Why not do some voluntary work and meet new friends in the process? Here are a few organisations you could volunteer with:

**The Chatty Café Scheme:** become a volunteer at our Chatter and Natter table at Café on the Vine. See more on page 7.

**Home Start South West Kent** is looking for volunteers to support local families with babies and young children with weekly home visits. Home Start West Kent need people with parenting experience and a couple of hours to spare a week to volunteer in Sevenoaks, Edenbridge and Tonbridge. Email manager Sarah at [contact@home-startswk.org.uk](mailto:contact@home-startswk.org.uk) or find the charity on Facebook.

**Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees (SWR)** works to ensure refugees are welcomed into Sevenoaks. It is managed and staffed by volunteers who perform a variety of roles to support refugee families in Sevenoaks. SWR is looking to fill these volunteering opportunities: Treasurer (a trustee position), a language lead, an assistant family support lead and a variety of communications roles including helping with the SWR website and social media. Get in touch by emailing [volunteers@sevenoakswelcomesrefugees.org](mailto:volunteers@sevenoakswelcomesrefugees.org)



## Come and join our team!

Parents/grandparents needed to join our team of home-visiting volunteers in Sevenoaks, Edenbridge and Tonbridge, helping families with young children to have fun again!

Free training, monthly volunteer meet ups and ongoing support and training.

Call Sarah on 07395 775826 or email [contact@home-startswk.org.uk](mailto:contact@home-startswk.org.uk) to find out more.

## Sevenoaks in Bloom top tip: water wisely!



Watering 'little and often' wastes water: some of the water will be lost to evaporation, and plants roots will need more water as they stay close to the surface where the soil dries out faster.

Wise watering is about applying a good amount of water that goes deeper, 20 cm or more, encouraging roots to follow so that watering can be less frequent.

For a newly planted tree, between 20 – 50 litres a week (depending on size of tree) is optimal in dry periods; rainwater is ideal, but grey water (like bath or washing-up water) can also be used.

When watering established trees and shrubs, the water should be applied around the edge of the canopy as this is where the finer roots, that take up water, will be growing.

This advice applies to plants that are grown in the soil; plants in containers will need more regular watering as their roots have limited space.

You can improve the amount of water your soil can hold on to by mulching with well-rotted farmyard manure (which can be bought in 50 litre bags from garden centres, or delivered in bulk bags to your door), or better still, your own home-made compost of leaf mould. By looking after your soil you will be looking after your plants... and saving money!

## On-street hourly rental

Free two years' membership  
(usually £60/yr)

Plus get £20 driving credit\*  
for Sevenoaks residents

Quote offer code:  
**SEVENOAKS20**



\*First two years' annual plan membership FREE (usually and thereafter £60/yr). £20 driving credit valid for 90 days and excluding mileage, applied once application is approved. For Sevenoaks residents only. Offer valid until 30/12/2026. 10% off Enterprise Rent-A-Car is valid for UK and Ireland reservations only. For full terms and conditions, please visit [www.EnterpriseCarClub.co.uk/tc1](http://www.EnterpriseCarClub.co.uk/tc1). ©2024 Enterprise Car Club. N01998. 07.25. EB



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[www.berryandlamberts.co.uk](http://www.berryandlamberts.co.uk)



SEVENOAKS OFFICE - 01732 460565

First Floor, Hearts of Oak House, 4 Pembroke Road, Sevenoaks  
Offices also at Tunbridge Wells and Paddock Wood



# WHAT'S ON AT THE STAG SEVENOAKS

**STAG**  
SEVENOAKS

## WHAT'S ON SCREEN

**NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: INTER ALIA**

**4<sup>TH</sup> & 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**DOWNTON ABBEY: THE GRAND FINALE**

**SHOWING FROM 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**THE ROYAL OPERA: TOSCA**

**1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

**THE METROPOLITAN OPERA:**

**LA SONNAMBULA**

**21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**

**NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE:**

**MRS. WARREN'S PROFESSION**

**STARRING IMELDA STAUNTON**

**23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER**

**NEW FILMS UPDATED WEEKLY!**

**BARGAIN WEDNESDAYS!**

UPTO 50% OFF CINEMA TICKETS WHEN BOOKED ON THE DAY

## WHAT'S ON STAGE

**DIANA REIGNS SUPREME**

**6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**OTB COMEDY: STEPHEN BAILEY**

**11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**WHITNEY - THE CANDLELIGHT CONCERT**

**12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**CELEBRATING GEORGE MICHAEL**

**13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**SEVENOAKS ENTERTAINERS: AVENUE Q**

**18<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**BEATLES COMPLETE**

**19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**THE FLOYD EFFECT: DARK ANIMALS TOUR**

**26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**MAJESTY - A QUEEN TRIBUTE**

**2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER**

**OASIZ UK TOUR 2025**

**3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER**



BOX OFFICE: 01732 450175  
[WWW.STAGSEVENOAKS.CO.UK](http://WWW.STAGSEVENOAKS.CO.UK)  
THE STAG SEVENOAKS,  
LONDON ROAD,  
SEVENOAKS, TN13 1ZZ

B11



**FREE HOT DRINK OR POPCORN**

ENJOY A FREE HOT DRINK OR SMALL POPCORN ON PRODUCTION OF THIS VOUCHER AND A VALID THEATRE OR CINEMA TICKET. VALID UNTIL 01/11/25

**STAG**  
SEVENOAKS

# Functions & facilities provided by Sevenoaks Town Council

## Precept

Sevenoaks Town Council's total annual revenue budget for the 2025/26 financial year is £1,997,096. The average Band D household would pay £153.67 per year, equating to £2.96 per week.

## OPEN SPACES & LEISURE

- Allotments:
  - Bradbourne Vale Road
  - Quaker's Hall Lane
- Bethel Road Burial Ground
- Brittains Common
- Brittains Lane Wood
- Greatness Recreation Ground
- The Green, Hillingdon Rise
- Hanging Baskets
- Horse Troughs (Old Police Station, Rheinbach Gardens, St Botolph's Road)
- Judd's Piece
- Land at:
  - Letterbox Lane
  - Littlewood
  - Tonbridge Road
- Longspring Wood
- Muga (Multi Use Games Area)
- Middlings Wood
- Millpond Wood
- Planters (The Shambles, Dorset Street, Pembroke Road, London Road, Buckhurst Lane)
- The Pound, Pound Lane
- Raley's Field & Knole Paddock
- Rheinbach Gardens
- Sevenoaks Common
- Sports Pitches
- Upper High Street Gardens
- Vine Cricket Ground & Pavilion



- Vine Gardens (public toilet, telephone kiosk with defibrillator)
- War Memorial
- White Hart Beeches
- Woodside Road Open Space

## CAR PARKS

- Raleys Car Park

## PLAY AREAS

- Buckhurst Lane Play Area
- Greatness Recreation Ground & Playground
- Hillingdon Rise Play Area
- Julians Meadow & Playground
- Kippington Meadow
- Mount Close Open Space & Playground
- Pontoise Close Open Space & Playground

## SERVICES

- Bat & Ball Centre: rooms available to hire for meetings, conferences etc.
- Bat & Ball Station building including café: rooms available to hire [batandballstation.com](http://batandballstation.com)
- Business Hub
- Bus shelters (Dartford Road X1, Bradbourne Vale Road X2, London Road X2, Tonbridge Road X1)
- Café On The Vine [cafeonthevine.com](http://cafeonthevine.com)
- Consultees (planning, highways, etc.)
- Grants to local organisations
- Greatness Park Cemetery
- House in the Basement (HiTB) Youth Café: room available to hire [houseinthebasement.weebly.com](http://houseinthebasement.weebly.com)
- Info-pods & digital screens
- Litter bins and grit bins
- Markets (Wednesday and Saturday)
- Masterplan for Northern Sevenoaks
- Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Orbital No 8 Bus

- Public clocks (Jubilee Clock Old Market House and Warren Clock above Brewers)
- Public seats in various locations
- Public toilets (The Stag, The Vine, Lower St Johns, Greatness Recreation Ground)
- Sevenoaks Town Team [sevenoakspartnership.org](http://sevenoakspartnership.org)
- Stag Community Arts Centre (defibrillator in foyer) [stagevennoaks.co.uk](http://stagevennoaks.co.uk)
- Street lights in some unadopted roads
- Town Council Offices/Chamber: room available to hire for meetings, conferences etc.
- Twinning with Pontoise and Rheinbach
- Youth Council [sevenoaksyouthcouncil.weebly.com](http://sevenoaksyouthcouncil.weebly.com)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Christmas illuminations in Town
- Civic functions
- Vine Bandstand free concerts

## SEVENOAKS TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES

- Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks TN13 3QG

## Town Councillors 2023-2027

Name	Party	Name	Party
Eastern Ward		St Johns Ward	
Cllr L Ancrum	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S Camp	Liberal Democrat
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat	Cllr Dr P Dixon	Liberal Democrat
Cllr S Layne	Liberal Democrat	Cllr D Skinner OBE	Liberal Democrat
Kippington Ward		Town Ward	
Cllr C Daniell	Liberal Democrat	Cllr V Granville	Liberal Democrat
Cllr C Gustard	Liberal Democrat	Cllr L Michaelides	Liberal Democrat
Cllr N Varley	Liberal Democrat	Cllr G Willis	Liberal Democrat
Northern Ward		Wilderness Ward	
Cllr Dr M Canet	Liberal Democrat	Cllr N Wightman	Liberal Democrat
Cllr L O'Hara	Liberal Democrat		
Cllr C Shea	Liberal Democrat		

To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the following email format: Cllr.Surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk eg. to contact Councillor Ancrum, the email address would be: Cllr.Ancrum@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



**Town Clerk/Chief Executive**  
Linda Larter MBE  
[townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)  
**Subscribe to Town Clerk's Update at [www.tinyurl.com/stctownclerk](http://www.tinyurl.com/stctownclerk)**

**RFO/Deputy Town Clerk**  
Georgina Jackson  
[rfo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:rfo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)

The Town Council or its Committees meet on most Mondays at 7pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For further details contact the Town Council on 01732 459953. [council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk](mailto:council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk)