WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

From Sevenoaks Town Council for the community of Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks

Autumn has arrived and the The good news is that, just as we go to press with the latest wretched Covid pandemic is edition of the Town Crier, we have learnt that the Stag is to receive a grant of £444,395 from Arts Council England, which should secure its future until April 2021. This comes as a tremendous relief. I must pay credit to Andrew Eyre and his Stag management team for keeping the show on the road and putting the application together. I must also extend a grateful thank you to our MP Laura Trott, who has lobbied hard in the corridors of power on the Stag's behalf. This means that the very real danger of having to close the Stag early in the New Year has passed. But the battle to secure the Stag's long-term future is still very much upon us. To make sure that we keep the Stag which is the beating cultural heart of Sevenoaks - we need to make use of it by going to the cinema and the theatre. I can personally attest to the fact that the Covid safety and social distancing procedures at the Stag are excellent. You just need to make a personal resolution, get on the website, book tickets and go – and then go again...

> Finally, I would like to thank our Town Council Staff, who continue to go above and beyond the call of duty to keep our regular services going – and to support unplanned events such as the Live on the Vine concerts. So popular has the Vine been over the Summer, that the cricket club outfield has suffered. The fencing that was put up in early October is part of a £16,000 project by your Town Council to restore the grass to its former glory.

> To end on an upbeat note, we did brilliantly in South East in Bloom in September, with the Town Centre and the Vine both earning Gold, Sevenoaks Common won Silver, Upper High Street Gardens Silver Gilt and the Friends of Bat & Ball Station group was described as 'Thriving'. I am also increasingly excited as the formal opening of the refurbished Bat & Ball Centre approaches later this year. The building is going to be spectacular and provide amazing facilities that community groups and local businesses will be able to take advantage of.

Now that really is something to look forward to.

Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE, Mayor of Sevenoaks



still upon us. As a founding partner in a small business, I understand only too clearly how difficult and challenging it has become to keep the economy

moving forwards. Although infection rates are once more trending upwards, I am personally strongly of the view that we must try to avoid another full lockdown at all costs. If local businesses grind to a halt, so does the economy and with it the taxpayer funds that drive the services upon which so many of us depend. I have daughters at school and university and dread the thought that their education will be disrupted again. My wife, who is a year 5 teacher, is delighted to be back in school and believes strongly we simply must not allow ourselves to turn children away. But what gives me hope and cause for optimism is the determination so apparent within our local community to keep fighting. We are learning to live with this challenge - and we are going to overcome it together.

As Mayor, my charitable focus until the end of my extended term will be to help Save Our Stag. As you know, the Town Council rescued the Stag from bankruptcy 10 years ago. Since then, it has been run on a professional, commercial basis. Before Covid struck, the Stag was on course to have its most successful year ever. Now, the Stag's future is deeply uncertain. At the end of June, the Town Council pledged funds to keep the Stag afloat into the New Year, providing that the public was able to support that fund-raising exercise. Many of you will have participated in this by attending Live on the Vine concerts or simply by donating via the Stag website. The public have now raised £60,000 which is an absolutely fantastic effort. Thank you. But the job is by no means done. Live on the Vine has now moved into the Stag theatre, where a brilliant programme of acts began in late October. At the time of writing, I am already booked in to see three shows with family and friends. I am also greatly looking forward to the Panto over Christmas – one of only 42 still planned to take place in the country.

Autumn 2020

LEGION





Sevenoaks 'Fair Weather' Live on the Vine Festival Raised £21,000

2020 has brought an unprecedented challenge to the arts industry, and kept music, theatre, and comedy fans away from venues around the country.

But, for eight weeks through the summer, Sennockians have been able to get their fix of live entertainment every Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 'Live On The Vine', a fair weather festival featuring an array of acts performing on the bandstand in the Vine Gardens, right in the middle of the town.



The festival of performances, featuring stars of the West End, and some of the UK's finest jazz bands, as well as music, comedy and variety acts from Britain's Got Talent, were all laid on for local people, who were asked to donate funds instead of buying tickets.

More than 3,500 people attended events over the eight-week festival, donating £21,000. The funds are to be split equally between the Save Our Stag fund, raising money to secure the future of the much-loved theatre and cinema, and the artists who performed at each event.

The £10,500 raised by donations from 'Live on the Vine' has helped the Stag reach its second target of £60,000. That secures matched funding from Sevenoaks Town Council, which the theatre urgently needs to ensure survival through the current crisis. Although this is very good news it is not the end of the fundraising necessary, as confidence from individual customers still lags behind the work carried out at The Stag to make it safe throughout. The Stag needs more customers to buy tickets for it to survive, as bills still need to be paid.

Lisa Whitworth, Business Development Manager at the Stag said "The concerts at Live on the Vine have been a wonderful and welcome break for so many people in Sevenoaks, and we thank the many artists for performing. This kind of entertainment is at the heart of what The Stag provides and what we want to provide into the future. Thank you to the people of Sevenoaks for their continued generous donations and we look forward to welcoming many more people back to the safe and Covid-secure Stag soon."

The Mayor of Sevenoaks, Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE, said "Live on the Vine has been a brilliant success. It has been a wonderful show of community resilience and teamwork in the face of Covid in support of our Stag Theatre. A big thank you to all the volunteers, the Town Council team, and the creative dynamism of Jamie Alexander Wilson for making it happen. Saving the Stag is not yet a done deal. We will have to continue to work hard on this for the foreseeable future. My fund-raising efforts will be focused on the Stag for the remainder of my mayoral term. This campaign is only getting started."

Sevenoaks Town Council has recently installed some new benches in Sevenoaks. Pictured below, left is the **Key Workers** bench, which is on St John's Hill, near the hospital; and pictured below, right is Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE, Mayor of Sevenoaks, with the bench on the Vine, which commemorates the **75th anniversary of VJ Day**.





Remembrance Sunday 2020 REMEMBER AT HOME Sunday 8th November

Sunday 8th November 11AM

Due to covid restrictions we are unable to hold a parade or full public commemoration at The Vine War Memorial. We please ask this year that you **'Remember at Home'** by observing two minutes silence at 11am, either inside your home or outside with neighbours.

(we ask that anyone commemorating please follow social distancing rules, thank you)



WORK TO REPAIR CRICKET OUTFIELD AND PROTECT HERITAGE LANDSCAPE



Work has already started on the outfield of The Vine Cricket Ground following Sevenoaks Town Council's agreement to provide a grant of up to £16,000 towards the work needed to enable high level cricket to be played again, and protection of the heritage landscape important to the local community.

The condition of the cricket outfield had become a considerable problem in 2020 due to several factors coming together, drought, build-up of thatch, PH balances and intense use of public during Covid-19. The public use of disposable BBQs, riding of bikes, football studs and beer tops embedded in the grass had collectively made the outfield classified as unsuitable to enable premier league cricket to be played on the grounds.

The total project will cost £25,000 with the balance being provided by Sevenoaks Cricket Club.

The work consists of fencing off the area until Spring 2021, applying treatment, rotavating to a depth of 150mm, reseeding, applying fertilizer and further treatments, regular watering and a secondary level of seeding.

We understand that seeing the Vine Ground fenced off will be upsetting to some people, however we hope that people will be patient and understand that this work will help with the long-term sustainability of the public open space.

Cllr Nicholas Busvine OBE, Mayor of Sevenoaks said: "During the Covid crisis, the Vine has taken on added prominence as a 'green refuge' in the heart of the Town. It has been wonderful to see residents relaxing there in these troubled times. Live on the Vine has been a great success and the Vine Café and Cricket Club bar have been busy... But the numbers of visitors have taken their toll on the outfield of the cricket pitch. We are so pleased to be able to help contribute to restoring the pitch to its former glory".

Andy Richardson, Chairman of Sevenoaks Cricket Club said: "The Vine is an historic and iconic venue for the playing of cricket and is an important piece of the Sevenoaks community identity. I am therefore excited that the key partners have agreed to undertake an extensive and ambitious refurbishment of the Vine this winter and extremely grateful to the Sevenoaks Town Council for their significant funding contribution. In all of the recent discussions I have realised the importance of the Vine to everyone and I look forward to welcoming you to our open league match in May next year where the Vine may be viewed in all her glory."

Sevenoaks Town Council continues to financially assist local community groups and, through its Youth Services and Finance and General Purposes Committees, has awarded the following grants:

Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival: Contribution towards first prize in Sevenoaks Young Musician of the Year competition 2021. **Grant approved for £600**

PS Breastfeeding CIC: Provision of Babywearing Peer Supporter training for 10 existing volunteers and 5 new local parents. **Grant approved for £1,000**

Sevenoaks Counselling: To supplement bursary fund which assists clients who cannot afford full cost of counselling. **Grant approved for £1,500**

Sevenoaks Vine Cricket Club: Works necessary to return the Vine outfield to usable and sustainable condition for all levels of cricket. Grant approved for up-to £16,000

Bradbourne Residents Association: To part fund purchase of a second heavy duty picnic table made from 100% recycled plastic. **Grant approved for £250**



the royal british



Remembrance Day 2020

Like many events in our lives at present, this year's Remembrance Day will not be commemorated as we

have been used to doing in the past.

The Royal British Legion has an excellent website <u>https://www.britishlegion.org.uk</u> where one can download a poppy to display at home and show your support for the Armed Forces community.

The British Legion states: "In 2020 we pay tribute to the men and women of the Second

World War generation, and to those of today's, who have served and sacrificed to defend our nation. We remember the collaboration of the Commonwealth and Allied nations who stood shoulder to shoulder then to secure our freedom and the communities coming together today to protect us all."

Residents are encouraged to hold a 2 minute doorstep silence at 11.00am on Sunday 8th November 2020 in remembrance of the fallen.

Sevenoaks Town Council will arrange for live streaming of the Mayor laying a wreath at the Vine War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, however there will not be a full Service and Parade at the War Memorial this year.

Details will follow closer to the date.

A MAGICAL WALKING TRAIL TO LIGHT UP OUR STREETS



 Go on an evening walk with a map to guide you and see your neighbourhood in a whole new light!

windowwanderland.com



windowwanderland.com

HOW CAN I TAKE PART?

- Wrap up warm and go out on the night it's going to be magical!
- Make a display in your window or garden. Anything goes!
- A lounge with candles, fairy-lights in the garden, a front room disco or your favourite book in the window... it's completely up to you.
- . Lend your window to someone who wants to make a display.
- Put your address on the map on our page at windowwanderland.com

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

- Visit our page on the website with more details.
- See the website for ideas for displays from other events.
- Find our event on the Facebook page, windowwanderland.com

Share, like and get involved:



Application Form

A.General Questions		
Name: (Piease use capital letters)	2016 Gender: Male	2
Birth Date: 01 January 2		il in
Address:	Email Addition	
Phone Number:	Social Security Number:	
ID Number: Status: Single Married	Devorced Others Are you a retiree? Yes No	
Occupation:		
E.V.		

Are you looking for a job, or need a new challenge?

West Kent Works can help.

Are you unemployed and looking for a job? Are you stuck in a rut, and want a better paid job? Have you had a break from work and lost confidence?



Places to live. Space to grow.



Places to live. Space to grow.

M Government

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND

In partnership with

Looking for work, or just need a change?

We can offer support with the following

- Creating a bespoke CV
- Internet job search and help with uploading documents
- Interview skills and techniques
- Supporting you with job applications
- Confidence building
- Careers advice

- Helping you to access training courses which will help you find employment
- Digital support
- Apprenticeships
- Redundancy

Contact Pauline on 07715 993293 or Dawn on 07850 506383 alternatively email us at westkentworks@wkha.org.uk

visit westkent.org

@west_kent WestKentHA@westkenthousingassociation

South & South East in Bloom Results 2020



This year's entry into South & South East in Bloom had to be modified by the organisers into a desktop judging without any site visits owing to Covid-19.

Based on the written submissions, the Council was awarded the follow awards:

Town Centre – **Gold** The Vine – **Gold** Upper High Street Gardens – Silver Gilt Sevenoaks Common – Silver Friends of Bat & Ball Station – **Thriving** (which is one less than outstanding)

The judges were pleased to see edibles included again in the planting and are looking forward to seeing the planters and seed swapping boxes in place for next year.





It was the first time that Bat & Ball Station garden had been entered and it did exceptionally well.

Congratulations to everyone who helped to make this year's event a resounding success: the staff and volunteers from Sevenoaks Town and District Councils, and Sevenoaks Soroptimists, despite the difficulties coping with the Covid-19 situation.

Here's to a bigger and better entry next year!

Bat & Ball Centre

The refurbishment of the Bat & Ball Centre (formerly the Community Centre) in Cramptons Road is nearing completion, with the final touches and snagging taking place over the next few weeks.

A brand new MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area) is being laid in place of the tired, old one and the landscaping and gardens will be completed with a beautiful water feature, pergola and yew hedging.

A stunning sculpture was commissioned from local artist, Glenn Morris, who has used some of the oak wood which

fell in the Great Storm of October 1987, which he hopes "… might also serve to remind us of our frailty and vulnerability as a species in the face of nature." This now stands in the foyer of the building.

The large, main room in the Centre has been named the Harry Garrett Room in honour of a local resident and veteran of the Second World War, who died in September 2019 aged 101.

The smaller of the two rooms has been named the John London Room after a long-serving Sevenoaks Town Councillor and former Mayor of Sevenoaks.

The official opening of the Centre is planned for early December, subject to government guidelines regarding Covid-19. Further details will be announced in due course.





We are delighted that the **Café at the Station** at Bat and Ball has re-opened following the lengthy closure during lock-down.

Hot and cold drinks and light snacks are available to eat-in or takeaway.



The simplest way to talk about location

Street addresses weren't designed for 2020. They aren't accurate enough to specify precise locations, such as building entrances, and don't exist for parks and many rural areas.

This makes it hard to find places and prevents people from describing exactly where help is needed in an emergency.

That's why we created **what3words**.

What is what3words? We divided the world into 3 metre squares and gave each square a unique combination of three words. It's the easiest way to find and share exact locations.

Used by millions. Millions of people around the world use **what3words** to make life safer, more efficient and less frustrating.

Ways to use what3words: From organising meetups to receiving contact-free deliveries, here are some of the most popular ways of using **what3words**:

Plan activities and share locations: Join the runners, hikers, cyclists and bird watchers using what3words to share the precise starting points of activities as well as their favourite spots. To make life easier and less frustrating, always ask for or s hare a what3words address.

Get deliveries exactly where you want them: Many leading retailers accept what3word addresses on their checkout pages. When you spot one, enter your what3words address for a smoother delivery.

Find any destination in the world: From walking trails to incredible viewpoints – you can use what3words to save and share the exact locations of hidden gems with friends and followers.

Get help faster in an emergency: When it's hard to describe where you are in an emergency, you only need to read out three words for 999 to know exactly where to find the incident.

Want to know more? Simply download the app







Sevenoaks Town Council's Love Sevenoaks Campaign

Love us or Lose Us – Supporting Local Businesses

During the Covid-19 pandemic, many local businesses stepped up immediately to provide community support, with donations for food parcels and carrying out deliveries. We would love it if you would show your gratitude and here is how you can do just that:

1. Help the high street and support the local economy

Shopping at local businesses pumps money into the local economy, and by spending money in their local shop, restaurant, café or pub, shoppers can do their bit to aid our national recovery across the country.

2. Save jobs – and create even more

Supporting our high streets creates jobs in local communities, supporting often young and disadvantaged people to find employment. Helping to grow the number of jobs in our local areas makes for a better place to live and work, which then creates a healthy economy for the community.

3. Great deals

People might be surprised to see just how competitive the prices are in your local shops. Independent retailers often reward regular customers, while others often provide great deals that can't be found in major outlets – meaning people save money as they spend.

4. A safe way to shop

Businesses across the country have been following government guidance and implementing a range of measures to ensure people are safe while they shop, such as customer limits inside the store, plastic partitions at tills and hand sanitizing stations.

5. Preserving the heart of the community

A thriving high street is key to boosting the potential of a village or town where people can socialise as well as shop. Local businesses also generate revenue to support council services such as libraries, parks and roads that benefit communities across the UK.

6. Spoilt for choice

Small and local businesses often stock items which are made locally and aren't available elsewhere else, providing a great range of choice and unique products that bring much-needed originality and variety into communities – including rare finds and items that aren't mass produced.

7. A better shopping experience

Small businesses are often run by people who live nearby. As the UK continues to recover from the pandemic, the experience of buying locally from a friendly face offers a dose of normality that many people may have missed.

8. Help the environment

Local shops often source their goods locally, helping to reduce their carbon footprint. When shopping local, people are also more likely to walk or cycle to get there – doing their bit to reduce air pollution, reduce traffic and improve the quality of the nation's high streets.





Forget-me-not Allotment Garden

The Sevenoaks Area Dementia Friendly Community Charity (SADFC) were delighted to open a Forget-me-not Allotment Garden in September in memory of co-founder Symone Salwan, in a peaceful spot in the Quaker's Hall Allotments in Sevenoaks.



Dementia Friendly Community

Symone helped to set up the Sevenoaks Area Dementia Friendly Community in 2015, which became a charity last year. The charity runs dementia friendly cafés, singing groups and cinema events.



The plot before ...

... and after

The Forget-me-not Allotment space is for people living with dementia to enjoy with their family. Those using the garden will be encouraged to grow and tend the plot and to take away produce. We are grateful to Sevenoaks Town Council for their support and encouragement; we have been welcomed by other allotment holders who have stopped to chat and who have given us plants from their own plots.

A memorial fund was set up in Symone's name raising over £2,000, which has part-funded the allotment. Mouseden Farm Shoot donated £1,000 and the Sevenoaks Round Table a further £500. Many residents also donated their registration fee for 'Run, walk or push against dementia' after the event was cancelled last May.

Symone's partner and children opened the space in September. SADFC trustees, Kieron Brennan, Sharon and Marcus Gavin and Elaine Murray worked in the project.

Elaine, co-founder of SADFC says: "Dedicating The Forget-me-not Allotment is a fitting tribute to our friend Symone. We have worked over the summer to realise this project, we are delighted with the outcome and hope that this addition to the groups SADFC offer will be well attended.

"We are so grateful for the donations received in Symone's memory. They will ensure our projects continue and we can sustain the work of SADFC in the coming year albeit in a socially distanced way. The Forget-me-not Allotment will enable enjoyment of an outside space in a safe environment and will offer purpose to a visit."

SADFC are still offering a Forget-me-not Zoom Café once per month where our patrons meet virtually and enjoy a speaker presentation, catch up with friendships they have formed and have some fun. We really hope we can meet again face-to-face in 2021.

If you would like to join us please contact us at <u>forgetmenot.sadfc@gmail.com</u>. We would be delighted to welcome you to our group.

Pictured left-right Kieron Brennan Trustee/Treasurer Marcus Gavin Trustee Elaine Murray Chair/Trustee





Functions & Facilities provided by Sevenoaks Town Council

Precept

Sevenoaks Town Council's total revenue budget for the 2020/21 financial year is £1,740,923 per annum. The average Band D house would pay £125.41 per annum equating to £2.41 per week.

OPEN SPACES & LEISURE

- ALLOTMENTS:
- Bradbourne Vale Road Quaker's Hall Lane
- BETHEL ROAD BURIAL GROUND
- BRITTAINS COMMON
- BRITTAINS LANE WOOD
- 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
- 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 STATION BUILDING (including Café and rooms available to hire) batandballstation.com
- CAFÉ ON THE VINE cafeonthevine.com
- CONSULTEES (Planning, Highways, etc.)
- GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
- GREATNESS PARK CEMETERY
- HOUSE IN THE BASEMENT (HITB) YOUTH CAFÉ (available for hire)
- INFO-PODS & DIGITAL DISPLAY SCREENS
- LITTER BINS AND GRIT BINS
- MARKETS (Wednesday and Saturday)
- MASTERPLAN FOR NORTHERN SEVENOAKS

- NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
- ORBITAL NO 8 BUS

- PUBLIC SEATS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS
- PUBLIC TOILETS (The Stag, The Vine, Lower St Johns, Greatness Recreation Ground)
- SEVENOAKS COMMUNITY CENTRE Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.
- SEVENOAKS TOWN PARTNERSHIP sevenoakstownpartnership.wordpress.com
- STAG COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE Defibrillator in foyer stagsevenoaks.co.uk
- STREET LIGHTS IN SOME UNADOPTED ROADS
- TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES/CHAMBER Available for hire: meetings, conferences etc.
- TWINNING WITH PONTOISE AND RHEINBACH
- VINTAGE BUS
- YOUTH COUNCIL sevenoaksyouthcouncil.com **EVENTS**
- ARMED FORCES DAY TOWN SUPPORTERS
- CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS IN TOWN
- CIVIC FUNCTIONS
- VINE BANDSTAND/FREE SUMMER CONCERTS

PROPERTY

- BUSINESS HUB (former Red Cross Building)
- BUS SHELTERS (Dartford Road x2, St John's Hill x3, Bradbourne Vale Road x1, London Road x4, Seal Road x1, Tonbridge Road x1)
- JUBILEE CLOCK (Old Market House)
- WARREN CLOCK (above Brewers)

Town Clerk/Chief Executive: Linda Larter MBE: townclerk@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk: Ann White: dtc@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

The Town Council or its Committees meet on most Monday evenings at 7pm and members of the public are welcome to attend. For further details of the meetings please contact the Town Council Offices on 01732 459953.

council@sevenoakstown.gov.uk



Liberal Democrat

Cllr C Shea

2019-2023				
NAME	PARTY	NAME	PARTY	
EASTER	N WARD	ST JOHNS WARD		
Cllr A S Clayton	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S Camp	Liberal Democrat	
CIIr T Morris Brown	Liberal Democrat	Cllr R M C Hogarth	Conservative	
Cllr E T Waite	Liberal Democrat	Cllr S G Raikes	Conservative	
KIPPINGTON WARD		TOWN WARD		
CIIr A Eyre	Conservative	Cllr K Bonin	Conservative	
Cllr R J Parry	Conservative	Cllr N J L Busvine OBE	Conservative	
Cllr R L Piper	Conservative	Cllr Lise Michaelides	Liberal Democrat	
NORTHERN WARD		WILDERNESSE WARD		
Cllr M Canet	Liberal Democrat	Cllr Mrs R E Parry	Conservative	
Cllr V Granville-Baxter	Liberal Democrat	To contact a Sevenoaks Town Councillor, please use the follo email format:: Clir surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk		

Town Councillors

e use the following email format:: Cllr.surname@sevenoakstown.gov.uk eg. to contact Councillor Piper, the email address would be: Cllr.piper@sevenoakstown.gov.uk

