



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

If anyone wanted proof of the Community spirit in Littlehampton then all they need to do is to look at the last few months. Since becoming the Mayor of our town I have witnessed the fantastic community involvement at all the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

There was so much going on and I attended numerous special functions and met so many of our residents. It was a magical time to become Mayor and I thank everyone for entering into the spirit of the occasion. The town also came together to celebrate Armed Forces Day, another very important and memorable event. I thoroughly enjoyed the day, especially the amazing Portsmouth Action Field Gun Run Club!

I have been to so many events. From awarding prizes for a crabbing competition to celebrating a resident's 105th birthday and the grand openings of Lymminster and River Beach Beach Primary Schools – I never know what will be next! Every single Mayoral engagement means so much; big or small, you all make our town the very special place it is.

I have also had more fundraising events for my charities Cancerwise and Home-Start Arun, including a 'Jubilicious' Cream Tea and taking a stall at our market. Thank you all for the support you are giving me. The next event will be a Fish, Chip and Quiz evening at The Fish Factory on 14th October. Tickets are £10 per person, which includes a two-course fish and chip dinner and entry to the fun quiz. There will also be a raffle and auction. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available from The Fish Factory.

It has been an amazing summer especially having the Jubilee and the Olympics, despite the very unpredictable weather!



I am looking forward to the Autumn and in particular to seeing our new Southfields Jubilee Centre being open and available for everyone to use.

With warm wishes,
Cllr Emma Neno,
Town Mayor ●



A Forces Day To Be Reckoned With

Armed Forces Day 2012 was once again a triumphant celebration of our military servicemen and women - past, present and future.

Including a stunning acrobatic display by two single engine aircraft that performed a series of incredible stunts, Littlehampton pulled out all the stops to create a day that struck just the right note, balancing appropriate solemnity with excitement, spectacle and fun for all.

The Town Council's Chair of Community Resources, Councillor Alan Gammon said: "This event is about honouring those who serve and have served our country, as well as providing a relaxing day that residents and visitors can enjoy with their friends and families."

LTC would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to ensure the continued success of this very special annual event. ●



A TRIBUTE FIT FOR ROYALTY

Staged to mark the Diamond Jubilee, some six thousand people flocked to The Green on a warm summer's night to enjoy a magnificent concert.

Including Chuck Berry, Amy Winehouse, Jessie J, Elton John and Abba to name but a few, a galaxy of stars were brilliantly portrayed by the cast of The Tribute Show, one of the very best professional tribute acts in the country. The Littlehampton Academy Steel Band was also in fine form, kick-starting the evening with a superbly upbeat performance.

Thanks to support from Above All Scaffolding UK, Littlehampton Town Council arranged the extravaganza, opting to hold it in August so as not to clash with the abundance of Jubilee events.

Keeping the concert free of charge, ensuring that it was absolutely inclusive, donations were willingly handed over for the Mayor's charities; CancerWise and Home Start Arun. Concluding in an explosive fireworks display, followed by applause that was almost as loud, there's no doubt that Littlehampton celebrated the Diamond Jubilee in right royal style! ●



LITTLEHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Feel involved. Be involved.

Come along to a Littlehampton Town Council meeting in 2012. For more information, dates and times visit www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



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Always a popular date in Littlehampton's calendar of events, this year's Sandcastle Competition produced much more than just a grain of talent on our glorious beach.

Creativity was as abundant as the sand itself, with sculptures and structures being designed and constructed by eager competitors. The London 2012 Olympics was the recurring theme for many of the creations, and the weather just about held so that over 200 entrants could build their sandy masterpieces.

Judged by the Mayor, Cllr Neno, Sandy the Harbour Park mascot and the carnival princesses, and supported by local radio station Spirit FM, the prizes were kindly donated by Action Boat, Littlehampton Railway and Harbour Park.

The winners in the Over 11 Years category were Alfie, Archie and George, who created the Olympic rings, torch and all medals won by Team GB. The Under 11s saw Lauren Green triumphant, as her Olympic rings using pebbles and flowers to recreate the five colours of the rings were given the ultimate thumbs-up by the judges. In the Under 5s category Ruby Maslin won for her castle of flowers.

Spirit FM presenter Milly Luxford told Progress that she was "in awe" of the castles and sculptures. "Littlehampton certainly has more than its fair share of artistic brilliance," said Miss Luxford, adding: "Littlehampton beach is simply one of the best in the country." ●



It was grand on the sand!



And the Rains Came Down

The extraordinary downpours of summer resulted in localised flooding that made life undeniably difficult for some residents, despite the best efforts of LTC.

As a town that is well geared to deal with the most obvious flood threat – the sea – there were however pockets of the Town that were affected by the unseasonably heavy and persistent rain.

Unfortunately national press reports suggested that the situation was far worse than it was, and as a result the Town, which was open for business, saw a dramatic drop in visitor numbers during the week of the floods.

Someone who witnessed the worst hit areas first hand was Town Mayor, Cllr. Emma Neno. "I went down to the South Terrace area first thing on Monday 11th June, as soon as I heard what had happened," said Cllr. Neno.

"I was shown one of the basements flats that had been affected, the water at that point was still waist level – it was unbelievable. I then went straight to the Swimming Centre which had been set up as a rest centre for residents evacuated during the early hours. I stayed with the residents while the Arun District Housing officers arranged temporary accommodation for them. I was amazed at their strength, it must have been so very frightening having water coming into their homes in the early hours, being in the dark, with no electricity, but even with no sleep and dealing with such a difficult situation they all kept their spirits up."

As to the future, residents may be assured that the Town Council will fully support West Sussex County Council, which has been appointed as a Lead Local Flood Authority and whose work includes flood investigation. In the meantime a thorough check of the Town's drains has been done to ensure that they are fully functioning. Littlehampton Town Council will be adding a Flood Advice section to the Town Council website, including information, contingency plans and emergency contact details.

Littlehampton Town Council is also considering purchasing a stash of empty sandbags to be filled up with sand as required in flooding emergencies. The importance of alerting local media to the specifically affected areas but emphasising that the Town is open for business is something else that Town Councillors will also prioritise for any such flooding emergencies in the future.

One thing that everyone is agreed upon, however, is the fantastic community spirit that, as a Town, came to the fore. "Over the time of the floods and the clear up I have met so many strong people who have all inspired me," says the Mayor, proudly. "It is said that the true British spirit comes out in the face of disaster, and that was certainly true during this very difficult time." ●

DECLARED OPEN: Southfields Jubilee Centre

An opening ceremony in August marked the official beginning for the newly-built Southfields Jubilee Centre, with many groups already booked to enjoy its facilities.

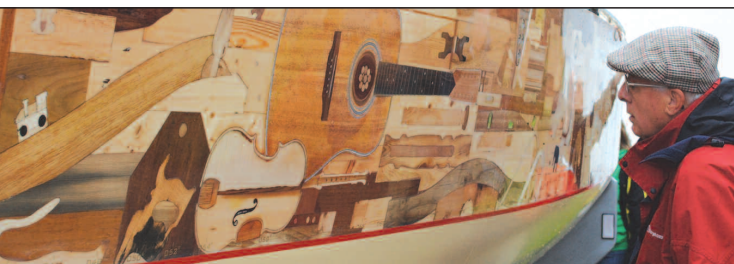


The long-awaited resource, the result of combined funding and a working partnership between LTC and ADC, the new Centre has been designed to incorporate all the practical elements (as highlighted during a public consultation period in 2011) needed to make this community hub as versatile and useful to its users as possible. Now boasting changing rooms with enough space for four teams, a space for meetings and/or exhibitions, a well-equipped kitchen, a fully-functional office and much more, Cllr Alan Gammon told Progress that he was thrilled that the Centre had finally come to fruition.

"It is fantastic that we have been able to deliver this project and, in conjunction with the extensive pitch improvements undertaken by ADC, we really do have facilities for the Town to be proud of," said Cllr Gammon. "Further improvements by ADC are still in the pipeline, including a new MUGA to replace the existing basketball court that is situated alongside the building, and new fencing to the front of the recreation ground," he concluded.

A 'What's On' guide to the new facility can be found on the LTC website: www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk ●

Patchwork Wooden Boat Drives Into Town



Although sailing into town might have been the most obvious thing to do, the boat **Collective Spirit**, was driven into Littlehampton in July, and is the winning commission for the South East region - one of 12 public art commissions across the UK to celebrate the London 2012 cultural Olympic.

Constructed from thousands of donated wooden items and features pieces from the local area, Littlehampton Town Council donated its wooden progress shield to be incorporated in to the commemorative craft. Find out more at www.theboatproject.com. ●



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The weather smiled on the Town Show and Family Fun Day this year, providing the perfect backdrop for a huge range of attractions and entertainment.

The Rhythm & Blues, the Sussex Tornados, Razzamataz, Dance Industry Studios and the Madeira Dancing & Singing Group were just some of the highlights. While the ever-popular community marquee and annual pet show once again proved crowd-pullers.

This year's horticultural and craft show drew in excess of 600 exhibits, with flowers, fruit, vegetables, crafts and pictures looking superb and being showcased in all their magnificence.

Cuddle Me Do pet farm offered a major 'ahhh!' factor, with the final animal guest of the day being none other than movie star owl Billy. Billy's CV includes playing Errol, Ron Weasleys family owl in the Harry Potter movies. ●

Blue Skies & Sunshine FOR TOWN SHOW & FAMILY FUN DAY



UNIQUE COLLECTION SAILS INTO THE MUSEUM

Littlehampton Sailing Club's collection of trophies and other memorabilia has been donated to the Town's museum.

The unique collection, some items of which date as far back as the 1890s, were gifted by Janet Hodge, former Club Secretary at the Sailing Club and who bought the items at auction earlier this year.

Part of the collection was displayed as the perfect accompaniment to the Museum's 'Sporting Life' summer exhibition. Cllr Alan Gammon Chair of Littlehampton Town Council's Community Resources Committee told Progress that Ms Hodge's kindness was "a fascinating and very generous donation," adding: "It's wonderful to have such a collection at the Museum".

The Littlehampton Sailing and Motor Club was founded in 1896 and ceased in 2003. Their meeting place had been the current 03 Club along South Terrace, Littlehampton. ●

Switch On for Winter Fun



With the darker nights just around the corner the Town Council are already revving up to make this year's autumn and winter events even more colourful, fun and inclusive than ever before.

As well as the traditional big lights switch on Friday 30 November, (5-8pm in the High Street) complete with late night shopping event, come and join the Town Mayor and special guests as the 2012 illuminations mark the start of the festive season. Including activities in the precinct – don't miss the horse drawn carriage – there will also be shows and food stalls.

Check the LTC website in the coming weeks: www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk for more details. ●



Best Infant's / Junior School



Best Back Garden

Hurrah for Team GB! (That's 'Gardening Brilliance')

THE ANNUAL LITTLEHAMPTON GARDENS & ALLOTMENTS COMPETITION gave judges some tough choices this year, so high was the standard of the 2012 entries.

As the Olympic Games took place, here in Littlehampton many residents were also hoping for medals, but for plots and pots rather than in track and field.

And despite the drought and rain local gardeners once again achieved outstanding results. The introduction of three new categories saw additional prizes for Best New Allotment (allotments taken up since 2011), a children's category for the tallest sunflower and Best Kitchen Garden.

LTC thanks everyone who took part for their hard work and commitment in producing such beautiful gardens and allotments and helping make the town an attractive place. A big thank you also goes to sponsors Fairhaven Nursery, Towing Spare and F A Holland & Son. ●



Best Patio

For a full list of winners visit the Town Council website www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk



PROJECT 82'S HECTIC SUMMER!

As well as an active role in **Wick Week**, Project 82 provided a place for Wick Week meetings and rehearsals for **Wick's Got Talent**. P82 also worked in partnership with the **Arun Community Church** to deliver activities every day at the **Keystone Centre** and hosted 'Wick's Got Talent' at the Wickbourne Centre. This event was one of the busiest nights of this year's Wick Week, attracting over 130 guests and 23 acts.



Project 82 was also involved in **SPACE Week**, providing facilities for DJ and Graffiti workshops, as well as staging a football workshop out of the Keystone Centre run by Project Manager, Emma Biffi.

Future projects include working with **Littlehampton Lions Club** on a **Young Leaders Scheme** and also a **P82 float** in the **Bonfire Night** procession. For more information about Project 82 visit www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk ●



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Neighbourhood Plan Gathers Momentum

Currently in the middle of the consultation period, the Neighbourhood Plan is progressing a-pace.

On track to publish the revised plan in January 2013, with a referendum in May, the Town Council is urging residents to use this time to view the plan and to express their views.

Ultimately in the hands of its townspeople, development in Littlehampton will reflect their opinions. Town Councillors want to ensure that everyone gets involved in the decision making process. ●

For full details of the Neighbourhood Plan visit the LTC website at www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk and follow the link. Consultation dates to be held in October and November.



**NEW
COMMUNITY
PROJECT!**

A new community project is proving to be everyone's cup of tea, a bus has provided an unusual setting for a coffee shop in Wick.

Manned by volunteers and supported by LTC with a £600 grant, the distinctive purple and silver single decker has also won financial backing from Littlehampton's Police Property Fund, local churches and the Roddick Foundation.

Spearheading the community café on wheels, Town Councillor for Ham Ward Marian Ayres, also an Ambassador for ROC (Redeeming Our Communities), told Progress that the converted bus can hold around 15 people comfortably for light refreshments and seated activities.

"The plan is to park for 2 hour sessions in suitable roads every week and to build relationships. Older folk can meet their neighbours and be a part of the community because the bus is for everyone, so inter-generational friendships can be formed and neighbourly care developed, whether it's garden and produce sharing, parenting advice and support or just to feel accepted and valued," said Marian, adding that local police have promised to hop on board now and again to combine taking tea with meeting and listening to residents.

Similarly organisations like Age UK and Health and Wellbeing teams have offered to share their expertise with the project.



All Aboard the Beverage Bus!

"We want to balance 'best practice' and common sense and make this a truly community-run facility, recognising the gifts and expertise often lying dormant for the want of an initiative that is near at hand and not too demanding on time. When talking to residents about 70% have expressed an enthusiasm to meet with us. We want to have times of caring and sharing but also to inject a bit of fun into what is often the only outing in their week," concluded Cllr. Ayres.

So the message to Wick residents who fancy company with their cuppa is to keep your eyes peeled for the silver and purple bus. You may not get a ticket to ride, but you will be assured of a warm welcome, a cup that cheers and a healthy snack. ●



INTRODUCING...

Meet Littlehampton Councillor **Tony Squires**. Tony is a Labour Councillor for Ham Ward. He is married to Wendy, is a keen Scoutleader and loves to travel.

I was inspired to become a Councillor because... I believe in **Social Justice**.

What makes me laugh is... the cast of 'Last of the Summer Wine'!

My favourite film is probably... **633 Squadron**.

The place I like best in Littlehampton is... **the river**.

Something few people know about me is... I have a real interest in historic buildings and restoration.

The local issue I am currently most passionate about is... to keep our Town Show and Family Fun Day together.

My favourite book is probably... **Birds of Britain**.

The Public figures I admire most are... **Nelson Mandela**.

My favourite saying is... **Here today, gone tomorrow**.

My philosophy for life is... **If at first you don't succeed, try try again!** ●

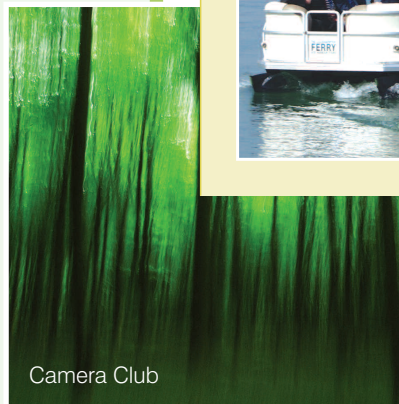
With the poor weather initially resulting in low usage the Town's new ferry service has enjoyed a busy summer, with visitors using the service to discover the 'other side' of Littlehampton.

CATCH THE FERRY!

The result of a partnership between the Town Council, Littlehampton Harbour Board, Littlehampton Yacht Club, the East and West Beach cafés and Action Boat Limited, the ferry gives residents and visitors much easier access between the East and West banks.

Why not pay a visit to Littlehampton's forgotten gem, West Beach and sand dunes, by taking the ferry across the river from East Beach.

Tickets can be obtained from the Harbour Office. The ferry will run until 1st October. ●



Camera Club



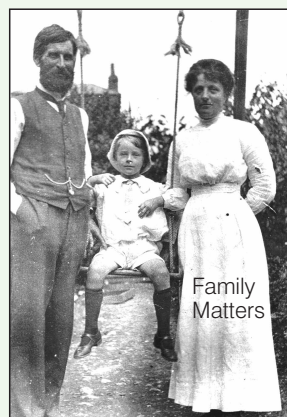
LITTLEHAMPTON MUSEUM

FREE ADMISSION OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9am to 4.30pm SATURDAY 10.30am to 4.30pm

HEARNE GALLERY

Saturday 15 September to Saturday 3 November

Learn how to research your family tree at this interactive exhibition full of useful advice and hands on sources from the Museum's collection. We will also be holding **family history workshops** where you can get advice from the experts, see below for further details.



Family Matters

FAMILY HISTORY: ASK THE EXPERTS

Saturday 22 September 2pm to 4.30pm and Saturday 13 October 2pm to 4.30pm

Come to the Museum and put your genealogy questions to local experts from the Sussex Family History Group. You will have access to their unique databases, and you can find out more about the Group and how you can join. Sessions are **free**, so just drop by!

MAKE YOUR FAMILY TREE

Tuesday 30 October 10.30am to 12pm and Wednesday 31 October 10.30am to 12pm

As part of our **Family History** themed Autumn the Museum will be giving children the chance to create their very own family tree this half term. Booking is essential.

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday 10 November to Saturday 22 December

A colourful exhibition by the **Littlehampton Artists Group**, showcasing a range of painting styles and mediums from pen and wash to oils. Each Artist's work will show their unique individual perspective of our local area and the wider world.

COMMUNITY GALLERY

Wednesday 12 September to Saturday 3 November

An inspiring exhibition of new work by this years' competition winners from the **Littlehampton & District Camera Club**.

ARCHIVE ART

Wednesday 7 November to Saturday 22 December

Once again we are delving into our stores and showcasing some of the hidden gems within our art collection.

CHRISTMAS CAPERS

Saturday 8 December 2pm to 4pm

This Christmas we are hosting exciting drop in activities for all the family. Visitors young and old will be able to join the Museum team in making beautiful Christmas cards and dazzling decorations to give to their loved ones this festive season.



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