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2014 Year in Pictures Special!



Mayor's Message



Summer seemed to last a long time this year and as a Town we enjoyed many events against a backdrop of beautiful blue skies.

It was also gratifying to see the results that the good weather had on local home-grown produce.

At the Town Show and Family Fun Day the horticultural marquee was full of wonderful fruit, vegetables and

foodstuffs that had benefitted from the warm growing conditions. (Other events at the Show will also stay in our memories, not least the Onesie competition!)

Now we're looking ahead to winter, which in Littlehampton offers time for both reflection and enjoyment. We will have our Remembrance Sunday procession and service on Sunday 9th November. In December there will be many Christmas fairs and carol concerts, preceded by the spectacular Christmas Lights switch on events in Wick and in Littlehampton High Street at the end of November.



Town Mayor with Onesie Competition winners at the Town Show & Family Fun Day.

The Town continues to be a vibrant place to live and work. The Neighbourhood Plan referendum vote was held in October, and the outcome means that Littlehampton should continue to develop as a place cherished by its residents.

Speaking of residents, if you have elderly or vulnerable neighbours, please keep an eye on them in the winter months, especially in severe weather.

I hope to see many of you at some of the Town's events in the near future, but in the meantime I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Christmas and a hopeful and healthy New Year.

With warm regards,

Cllr Jill Long, Town Mayor

A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE



With a whopping 86% in favour of adopting it,

the Neighbourhood Plan has become the talk of the Town, with both councillors and the community expressing their delight with the result of October's referendum.

Cllr Jill Long, the Town Mayor, who has also chaired the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, told Progress: "It is fabulous that the town has worked together to produce such a comprehensive document. What we want now is for all the other authorities working in Littlehampton to give heed to the people. Their views are very clear. Our task is now to ensure that the proposals are taken forward. I thank everyone who has helped pull the plan together and get us to where we are today."

Terry Ellis from the Community Charter Group who has been campaigning hard in support of the Neighbourhood Plan added: "What a rollercoaster of a ride! I would like to thank all those who worked on the Plan, and all those who voted in the Referendum. With an 86% YES vote we now have a real chance, together with help from Littlehampton Town Council and Arun District Council, to keep our great Town as a unique seaside resort and also to improve the leisure facilities in a way that the people of Littlehampton really want. Localism for the people gives us great opportunities, so let's grab them."

Adding her thumbs-up to the result, Angela Tester of the Littlehampton Civic Society and Flood Action Group said: "This is the start of Localism in our town. It's very encouraging that people have grasped the importance of making this positive community decision".

You can view the plan at www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplan



Young Sportsperson of the Year – Charlie Strickland

Snooker legend is special guest at Sports Awards

Littlehampton's annual salute to the Town's athletes and sportspeople, the winners in the 2014 Sports Awards were selected from a bulging post bag.

The initiative, managed by the Littlehampton Sports Forum and the Town Council, and set up to recognise the achievements and contributions made by local sporting heroes and community champions, culminated in a ceremony on the 6th October, held at the Coco Lounge.

Chair of the Sports Forum, Cllr Malcolm Belchamber MBE, was the evening's host. Handing out this year's gongs, the special guest was none other than snooker legend John Virgo. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



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Could YOU make a difference to our Town?

Interested in becoming a Town Councillor but think you don't have the necessary qualifications? Think again...

You don't need to have been educated to degree level to be a councillor, nor in fact do you need to be political. You just need to care about our Town and want to make a difference. And with local elections looming now could be the perfect moment to give serious consideration to whether or not being a councillor is for you. And to help you make up your mind, here are some frequently asked questions about what the role entails:

What skills do I need?

If you care about Littlehampton and the issues facing local people, you could be a councillor. A rewarding and privileged form of public service, being an effective councillor does require both **commitment and hard work**. A **sense of fair play** is also important. Councillors have to balance the needs and interests of residents, the political party they represent (if any) and the Council. Members of Town Council staff are here to provide support and assistance, regardless of whether you belong to a political group or not.

Do I need to know a lot about local issues?

A **fundamental interest in local affairs is key**. If you follow and have strong opinions on local issues, or if perhaps you feel that individuals or certain sections of your community get a raw deal and need stronger representation, then you have essential qualities for the role.

What do Town Councillors actually do?

They are involved in the decision-making process for the services that the Littlehampton Town Council is responsible for, such as householder planning applications, allotments, Littlehampton Museum, events, Rosemead Park, street scene and graffiti removal, Southfields Jubilee Centre, grant aid and Project 82.

Can I be a councillor and have a job?

Yes. By law if you are working your employer must allow you to take reasonable amount of time off to perform your duties as a councillor.

Will I get paid for being a councillor?

Councillors do not receive a salary. However, they do receive a small Allowance in recognition for their time and expenses incurred whilst on council business.

Independent or Political?

A large majority of councillors are members of political parties, but you don't have to be a member of a party to stand for election as a councillor.

Any other required criteria?

You need to be British or a citizen of the Commonwealth or European Union, aged 18 years old or over and registered to vote in the area for 12 months before an election. Councillors are elected to represent their local community, so they must live or work in the area.

Four Town Councillors tell us why they became a Councillor:



"I wanted to get a swimming pool for the Town, and later to keep our hospital; amazing how the fight still goes on!"

Councillor Dr James Walsh KStJ,
Beach Ward, Liberal Democrat Party.



"I realised that the Town would not progress unless I actively got involved and tried to make things better by supporting the residents' views. It can be a big commitment but it's thoroughly rewarding when your work can shape the future of the Town."

Councillor Mike Northeast, Ham Ward,
Labour Party.



"I have always been observant when walking around our lovely town and when a friend suggested I could have a say in what went on by becoming a Councillor it seemed a good way forward. I don't believe party politics should be the main incentive at local level."

Councillor Marian Ayres, Ham Ward,
Conservative Party.



"I became a Councillor to try and get the Council to understand the public's wish to have a swimming pool built, something that had been turned down a few times. Our battle was finally won in 1981 and today we are fighting it again!"

Councillor Malcolm Belchamber MBE,
River Ward, Independent.

For more information on how to become a councillor visit

www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/become-a-councillor or call the Town Clerk on 01903 732063

KEEP UP TO DATE KEEP UP T

Almost done and dusted on the East Bank

The Environment Agency's timetable for completion of the flood defence works on the East Bank will see the project done and dusted by Easter.

Pier Road is scheduled to be finished by the end of January 2015, with River Road: Waterside/Britannia Quay due to be completed in February and Arun Parade due to be completed by the end of March.

In River Road (northern end) piling work has been completed, with work on landscaped gardens and seating areas already underway. But for some final touches, being carried out later in the year, the road is now complete.

At the Arun View Inn work to install the improved flood defences that comprise part of the structure of the pub are underway, with the venue now fully reopened.

Adjacent to the A259 bridge and beyond, open stone asphalt erosion protection south of the bridge is complete. Works to widen and strengthen the earth embankments alongside the river, together with the provision of a salt water marsh environment at the north end of the works, have also been completed.



Wick Housing

It is extremely disappointing to report that Arun District Council Development Control Committee has granted planning permission for 18 Council houses and 4 Council flats in Wick.

The Town Council and the community fought these proposals which will increase the density of housing in an already crowded part of the Town; will reduce car parking and available green spaces.

Councillor Marian Ayres, Chair of the Town Council's Planning & Transportation Committee said: "Local people have not been listened to and Wick will not benefit from this. Let us hope that the District Council will listen to us in the future."

Consulting on leisure facilities

Arun District Council has announced that a public consultation on the future of the Swimming Pool will be held after further site evaluation, including the new development site in north Littlehampton. No decision will be made until the consultation is concluded. The District Council is also reviewing the delivery of leisure services; as the current contract is due to expire in 2016. Proposals suggest that the Windmill and Leisure Centres would be central to the contract.

North Littlehampton Development

The outline planning application for the development in North Littlehampton was approved in January 2013. Since then much of the site has been purchased by Persimmon Homes, who are seeking to deliver some 1200 new homes, community facilities, strategic infrastructure such as new roads and a wide range of landscaped open space over the next 10-12 years. Persimmon expect to start on site in Spring 2015, with the first phase of housing (116 houses) completed by 2017. The Town Council will be working with Persimmon for the development of a youth and community centre on the site which is due to be delivered by the beginning of 2018.

and the winners are...

Spanning a diverse range of sports, including triathlon, swimming, badminton, football, cricket and golf, this year's winners were:

SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY THE COCO LOUNGE 75 year old tri-athlete **Daphne Belt** (Commended: **Joshua Barnes** and **Andrew Gowland**)

YOUNG SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY LITTLEHAMPTON TRADER'S PARTNERSHIP 15 year old golfer **Charlie Strickland** (Commended: **Lewis Edwards** and **Jordan Okonta**)

SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY LITTLEHAMPTON GAZETTE **Badminton Men's Combi Team**

YOUTH SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY LITTLEHAMPTON GLASS & GLAZING **Lyminster Primary School Gymnastics**

COACH OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY C&M TROPHIES **Carol Rusbridge**, Lyminster Primary School Gymnastics

CONTRIBUTION TO YOUTH SPORTS, SPONSORED BY INSPIRE LEISURE **Mark Savill**, Littlehampton Swimming Club

SPORTS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR, SPONSORED BY GOING SPARE **Dan Rive**, Littlehampton Cricket Club

CONTRIBUTION TO DISABLED SPORT, SPONSORED BY FA HOLLAND & SON **Enable Me**

UNSUNG HERO, SPONSORED BY MEWSBROOK CAFE **Norman Hogbin**, Kaminari Kickboxing



Let us direct you to the Directory!

Aimed at helping Littlehampton residents to become fitter, healthier and to have easy access to a comprehensive array of sports and physical activities, The Town Council and Sports Forum have launched the Sports Directory. Detailing many local sporting clubs and classes, grab your copy from the Council Offices in Church Street, via the Town Council's website and from other selected outlets.



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What's On



Littlehampton: a winter FUNderland for all the family!

Guaranteed to provide a rosy glow of happiness, the Littlehampton winter events schedule is stuffed with more fun, activities, exhibitions and events than Santa's sleigh has gifts. And talking of gifts, many events are FREE OF CHARGE! To keep up with all the Town's happenings in 2015, be sure to collect your free Events & Exhibition Guide, available from the Manor House from January.

November

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service

Sunday 9th November at the War Memorial Beach Road

The parade forms by the Town Clock in the High Street at 10.30am and proceeds to the War Memorial where a service is held. A second service is held immediately after at St Mary's Church. All veterans are welcome to participate in the parade and everyone is welcome to join in the two services.

Armistice Day

Tuesday 11th November, 10.45am at the War Memorial, Beach Road

Everyone is welcome to commemorate the signing of the armistice between the Allies and Germany at 11am on the 11th November 1918.

Vistas of the Cosmos

Wednesday 12th November – Wednesday 24th December at Littlehampton Museum

Science, art and imagination combine to create stunning and thought-provoking paintings by artist John Lewis.

70 Years in the Frame

Saturday 15th November – Wednesday 24th December at Littlehampton Museum

A special exhibition to celebrate the Littlehampton & District Camera Club's 70th season.

Meet the Artist: Littlehampton & District Camera Club

Saturday 22nd November at Littlehampton Museum 10 – 11.30am

Free photographic workshop. Advance booking essential. Tel. 01903 738100.

Wick Street Christmas Lights Switch on & Late Night Shopping

Thursday 27th November, Wick Hall Car Park 5 – 7pm

Live entertainment, raffle, children's lantern making and fancy dress competitions, special stalls and much more. Switching on the lights at 6.15pm will be CBBC's Wolfblood star, Bobby Lockwood. Full details available on www.wickvillage.com

Christmas Lights Switch on and Late Night Shopping

Friday 28th November High Street Littlehampton 5 – 8pm

With more sparkle than a 'Strictly' costume, don't miss the annual launch of Littlehampton's Christmas festivities.

December

Meet the Artist: Littlehampton & District Camera Club

Saturday 6th at Littlehampton Museum 2 – 3.30pm

Free photographic workshop. Advance booking essential on – 01903 731800.

Small Business Saturday

Saturday 6th December, High Street, 11 – 4pm

Show your support for local businesses by visiting the Town Centre on this special day. There will be freebies, tasters, offers, entertainment and much more. Free parking all day in St Martins and Manor House car parks.

Christmas Capers

Saturday 13th December Drop-in at Littlehampton Museum 2 – 4pm

Make beautiful Christmas cards and dazzling decorations to give to loved ones this festive season. No booking required.

Carnival Christmas Fun Day

Saturday 13th December High Street Littlehampton

Annual family fun with a Santa's Grotto, stalls and children's entertainment.

Wickmas

Saturday 13th December Wick Hall, Wick Street
A Victorian themed festive event for all the family.

January

From Paper to Painting

Hearne Gallery - Saturday 10th January – Friday 6th March

Littlehampton based artists Jo Dowers and David Webb begin the year with this exhibition designed to show us their artistic process.

125 Years of Littlehampton Golf Club

Wednesday 7th January – Friday 6th March at Littlehampton Museum

A look back at the history of Littlehampton Golf Club as they celebrate their 125th year.

Meet the Artist: Jo Dowers

Saturday 24th January at Littlehampton Museum, 11 – 12.30pm

A free art class especially designed for adults who wish to pick up some new skills, or hone existing talents. Advance booking essential - 01903 738100.

PROJECT 82

Offering friendship, fun, activities, advice and support, P82 has plenty for young people in Littlehampton. Check out the different session times below and come and see us soon! Enjoy your first session FREE!

Youth Club Evening Sessions @ P82

Inters (ages 11-14) - Mondays 6.30pm – 8.00pm
Seniors (ages 15+) - Wednesdays & Thursdays 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Youth Drop in @ Southfields

Ages 11+, Tuesdays 7.00pm – 8.30pm

Project 82 @ Keystone Centre

Juniors (ages 8-11), Thursdays 4.00pm – 5.30pm

All sessions 50p

Email: project82@littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

Twitter: @Project_82

82 Wick Street, Wick, Littlehampton, BN17 7JS. Tel: 01903 739250



Lots of love from Littlehampton

It's not just local history on offer at the Town's museum – we've got some superb local gifts, too! From local books to unusual pieces of jewellery and gorgeous gifts, while entry to the Museum is free you'll certainly be tempted to spend on our small but perfectly formed collection of goodies! And if you need to divert kiddywinks while you get on with wrapping presents, get them to explore the Museum's website, which is choc-full of fun and fascinating activities for children. Just visit www.littlehamptonmuseum.co.uk

Discover what's on at Southfields Jubilee Centre

From dance and sports to clothes sales and social clubs, for full details of what's on when visit www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk

February

Meet the Artist: Jo Dowers

Saturday 7th February at Littlehampton Museum, 2 – 3.30pm

A free art class especially designed for adults who wish to pick up some new skills, or hone existing talents. Advance booking essential - 01903 738100.

Half Term Fun: 'Under the Sea!'

Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th and Friday 20th February at Littlehampton Museum

Young people are invited to join the Museum team and take part in marine mural craft workshops. Advance booking essential - 01903 738100.

Community Market Stall

The Littlehampton Market Community Stall is a great resource for local community groups and organisations, providing them with the opportunity to raise funds and awareness right in the heart of Littlehampton. The incredibly popular stall is available every Friday throughout the year. To book, please contact the Town Council.



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I beg your pardon – did you hear about the rain garden?

Exploring ways of dealing more effectively with heavy rainfall, LTC has been working with the Flood Action Group to look at how Littlehampton might significantly reduce the risk of flooding. And, as unlikely as it may sound, a possible solution could be 'rain gardens'...

Localised flooding can occur during heavy rains, especially when there is accumulated water on rooftops, pavements and roads, which can quickly overwhelm surface drains leading to the sort of property damage that some residents experienced during the heavy rains of 2012. But the introduction of rain gardens, which absorb excess water, could make a big difference.

Created especially for problematic areas, a rain garden is a shallow depression, filled with absorbent yet free draining soil and planted with vegetation that can withstand temporary inundation. Designed to mimic the natural water retention of undeveloped land and to reduce the volume of rainwater runoff from resistant areas like roof tops, these simple gardens do not require any redesign of the existing drainage system and can be installed wherever space permits.

One of the areas currently being reviewed is Maltravers Road, a regular hotspot for flooding during bad weather. The before and after pictures of the outside of the Civic Centre shows how a small intervention might have a significant impact.

Hoping that rain gardens will be one of many small improvements that will make our Town greener, more resilient and a more pleasant place to live and work, councillors reckon that this initiative could be 'awash' with success.

For further information call LTC on 01903 732063.



Small intervention – big impact. Before and after pictures outside the Civic Centre.



Need a superb space? Knock on our door!

A beautifully refurbished Grade II Listed Building with a grand domed ceiling, oak panelled walls, lift access, extended parking facilities and space for 180 guests, the New Millennium Chamber at Littlehampton Town Council's Manor House is a superb and reasonably priced venue for a civil marriage or baby naming ceremony.

Also offering an attractive range of venues for meetings, seminars and training sessions, as well as the Manor House the Town Council offers for hire Southfields Jubilee Centre (where classes and clubs in everything from cookery to kick-boxing can be found!).

Both venues are fully accessible and have disabled persons toilet facilities. Prices are competitive and booking is easy.

For more information please call 01903 732063.



WISHING YOU A VERY LOCAL CHRISTMAS!

With Small Business Saturday approaching (6th December 2014, and with Christmas shopping to be done (when sales can account for between a third and nearly two-thirds of a retailer's annual turnover), LTC continues to champion local businesses and contractors – with good reason. For instance, advantages of shopping locally include:

- Reducing food and air miles, making locally-sourced goods eco-friendly
- The chance to personally choose gifts
- Investing in local traders and services and making a positive economic impact
- No need to wait in for deliveries
- Being able to experience events like the big lights switch-on and other seasonal high street activities

Boasting a range of varied independent local shops, collectively offering gifts for all the family – even the dog! – if you haven't shopped in Littlehampton for a while then Christmas is the perfect opportunity to rediscover our Town's retail charms.

Shopping local is also good for the property market too. Research suggests that house prices are boosted by high streets boasting a diverse range of well-supported independent businesses.

So as you prepare to shop for the festive season; be it gifts, groceries or garden lights to guide Santa on to your roof, be sure to look first and foremost to businesses and shops on our doorstep.



- Teddy Count with me £29.99** Age 6 months+ from Baby Days, 5 Arcade Road
- Winmau Blade4 Dartboard & Harrow Club Brass Darts £39.99** for the set from David O Jones, 7-9 High Street.
- Chamilia Range prices from £30** from L.Guess Jewellers, 56 High Street
- Penguin Gift Bag filled with sweets** (other characters available) £6.49 from Bah Humbug Sweets, 2 Anchor Springs

TOWN TRIVIA

There's lots of fascinating facts about Littlehampton. For instance, did you know that ...

● The initial First World War recruitment campaign appealed for one million men to volunteer for the army. Littlehampton, along with the rest of the country, was swept along on a tide of patriotism. The local recruitment office was situated at 41 Gloucester Place and a local businessman, Mr A. J. Constable, was given the role of Hon. Recruiting Officer.

● When War was announced, councillors and local business owners feared the collapse of the holiday trade, which had become the town's biggest source of income. However, such fears were quickly allayed as, with people seeking escape from the realities of war, the town actually saw a rise in the number of visitors. Over Easter in 1916 Littlehampton was packed; full of day-trippers and holiday makers. Many came from the munitions factory in Middleton.

● Local papers continued to advertise local shops and services, encouraging people not to let the War stop them from carrying on with their lives. In an issue of the Littlehampton Observer in 1914, the 'Matrimonial Circle' encouraged its readers thus: 'Don't marry a German, but don't let the Germans stop you from getting married'.

● Nationwide councils were granted power to turn unoccupied land into allotments. Littlehampton Council wasted no time in encouraging residents to grow as much of their own food as they were able to. In total, two-and-a-half acres of land in the town were turned over to allotments. The sites were located at Arundel Road, North Ham Road, Goda Road, on the Beach area, St Flora's Road and St Catherine's Road.



Council meetings – Have your say!

Details of all Council Meetings can be found online at www.littlehampton-tc.gov.uk/meetings



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