

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2009

MAYOR'S LETTER



SEAFORD BIKE-FEST



SEE-ABILITY



COLLECTING FOR THE
GHURKAS



LIONS DONKEY DERBY



May I start this edition with my sincere thanks to the office staff for their support during my first 6 months as mayor and also to my Deputy who has attended functions on my behalf, their hard work and support has been greatly received. I cannot believe that I am already half way through my mayoral year, it has been one of the most exciting times of my life, I have met so many lovely people and received so much support, I feel truly blessed to have been given the opportunities that I have had. There are many organisations in and around our town that contribute to so many great causes and I would like to thank them all for allowing me the opportunities to meet with them.

So onto the year so far, it has been a pleasure to welcome new businesses into the town, and although we still have a large amount of empty shops, the chamber of commerce along with the Seaford Town Council are doing everything in their power possible to address the situation, The Chamber of Commerce held their first ever "Seaford Means Business" event at Wave Leisure and this was widely attended and brought people in from other areas which was an opportunity to show them what Seaford has to offer.

I have attended many events this year and although there are far too many to write about individually I have enjoyed meeting lots of new people and been inspired by the many volunteer organisations that we have in our midst that we know nothing about, our very own unsung heroes! I feel extremely pleased that we organised and hosted Seaford's first ever Armed Forces Day on the 27th June this was a truly magnificent day; the event was well supported by ex servicemen and women and indeed some members who are still serving in each of the forces today, It was an emotional day for all and I felt so honoured to be taking the salute alongside the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mr Peter Field and the High Sheriff of East Sussex, Mr William Shelford, for a moment in time I felt as though the earth had stopped spinning and that will be a memory that I will hold dear to my heart for a very long time to come!

On Sunday 23rd August Seaford was woken to the sound of over 100 motorbikes of all different shapes and sizes. I myself met with the riders and the classic car owners in Newhaven never before have I ever seen such a sight and I can't describe the emotions that I went through, it was a fantastic sight and I appreciated the fact that so many people had come out to support the event. I had the privilege to lead the ride along the A259 to Seaford, people came out to support the event clapping and cheering as we rode past - truly a wonderful sight. I am already working on event number two as with the armed forces day I hope it will be bigger and better next year.

MAYORS LETTER CONTINUED.....

I have taken part in World Sight Day which involved me being blindfolded and led through the town, I was well supported by the Lions and especially Bill Yoxall who was my perfect set of eyes for the duration of the walk. This was a very worthwhile experience and once completed I was met by the staff at and users at Seeability in Seaford who very kindly gave me a guided tour, the staff and the users of the facility were very kind and may I congratulate them on such a wonderful job.

The launch of SeafordLive! was well attended and a great success, I managed to attend a few of the venues and it was great to see so many people of the town enjoying themselves and supporting the charities, the charities chosen were Chestnut Tree House and the Lifeguards, two very worth while causes, I was also pleased to be able to attend the cheque presentation a great ending to a very successful SeafordLive! 2009.

I was please to attend various events involving the Sea Cadets, I am always so happy to see the young cadets being put through their paces, they never fail to amaze me with the dedication and determination to always go that extra mile, the presentation of awards by the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex went very well and the certificates for the poppy collection was totally inspiring as each cadet had put in endless amounts of volunteering work to collect for this very worthwhile cause.

Remembrance Sunday was a very emotional and well supported event this year the weather did not dampen the spirits of the towns folk, and it is an event that I feel is growing in numbers every year, it is always a sad day and one of reflection but one I feel should always be remembered.

I have had an opportunity to meet with our four Primary schools in a 'Meet the Mayor' session, these were very inspiring visits and I was made to feel most welcome by the schools. The purpose of the visit was for the children to ask questions about the role of the mayor I must say some interesting questions were asked and although I don't have the budget to deal with all the things they want, I will try my best!

Most recently I have attended an open day at Chestnut Tree House in Worthing, this is the only children's hospice in the whole of East and West Sussex, this is a hospice for families with life limited children, the staff are truly dedicated to this cause, they rely very heavily on donations and it needs a whopping 2 million pounds before anything else gets taken into consideration, this is a very much needed facility and I would hope that as many people that can will support it.

So, as we are nearing Christmas and getting ready to celebrate the festivities, I look forward to seeing and meeting as many of our towns people as possible, the council continues to work hard for the benefit of all and continue to fight for the much needed facilities, I am looking forward to what the next six months of my mayoral year will bring and I also look forward to representing as many organisations as possible.

Thank you one and all for the tremendous support you have given me, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Councillor Tracy Willis

COUNCIL MEETINGS

You are welcome to attend Council Meetings which usually take place at the Council Offices at 37, Church Street, Seaford. Agendas and minutes of previous meetings can be found at the Tourist Information Centre at the same address or on the council website at www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk

Occasionally parts of meetings may be held in-camera when personal or sensitive information is being discussed. The public have an opportunity to ask questions at the beginning of each meeting.

The next Council meetings are:

Planning and Highways:	6.15pm on Thursday 10th December 2009
Finance and General Purpose:	7.pm on Thursday 17th December 2009
Community Services:	7.pm on Thursday 14th January 2010
Full Council Meeting:	7.pm on Thursday 21st January 2010
Golf Course:	6.15pm on Tuesday 2nd March 2010

STAFF CHANGES AT STC



In November, Mike Wright retired after 9 years working for Seaford Town Council. Mike joined the Council in 2001 after previously leading the Trading Standards Department for the London Borough of Wandsworth.

As Administration Manager he has fulfilled a number of roles including taking minutes of Council Meetings and as the Honorary Secretary of the Seaford Head Nature Reserve. Mike has a keen interest in natural history and was also responsible for conserving Seaford's trees.

He intends to spend his retirement in his garden with his wife Jenny and volunteering at the Spa Valley preserved railway.

A new member of staff joined the Council in August. Kevin Gordon, a retired British Transport Police officer will be known to many readers as he previously worked part-time in the Tourist Information Office at Seaford and writes a weekly history item for one of the local newspapers. Kevin will work as the secretary to the Mayor and will also undertake general admin duties.

LOCAL CHARITIES BENEFIT FROM REVENUE GRANTS

A total of £4,400 was provided by Seaford Town Council to local causes as part of the local revenue grant scheme. Grants between £50 and £500 were awarded to 32 local organisations including the Sussex Air Ambulance and the Seaford Life-guards who ensure that Seaford people and visitors are kept safe when they visit Seaford.

Charities representing both younger and older residents were supported as well as musical charities such as the Seaford Silver Band and Seaford Music Society.

£100 grant was given to the Friends of Tide-Mills and their chairman, Jim Skinner thanked the council saying "This grant goes towards providing litter-pickers and refuse sacks so that our members can continue to provide a monthly beach-clean at this important part of our coast"

STAFFING STRUCTURE REVIEWED

Seaford Town Council has reviewed its staffing structure to reflect its current and future needs better. The posts of Administration Manager and Responsible Finance Officer will be replaced by a Corporate Services Manager who will be responsible for the finance & accounting and office management functions; whilst a Projects and Facilities Manager will look after the Council's land and assets and develop projects.

In the next financial year administration staff will work additional hours to assist in the development of services.

Councillor Jon Freeman, Leader of the Council said "Seaford Town Council has recently begun a Vision Planning process by prioritising the development needs of assets, the new staffing structure will ensure we have the staff in place to deliver our plans"

FORTHCOMING EVENTS—For Further details contact the Tourist Information Centre at 37, Church Street

4th December	6.pm	Christmas Lights switched on at the War Memorial by the Mayor
5th December	7.30pm	Seaford Choral Society Concert at St Leonard's Church
11th December	7.pm	Seaford Museum Christmas Concert at St Peter's Church
13th December	3.pm	Homelink Carol Concert at St Thomas More Church
15th December	7.45pm	Mayor's Carol Concert at St Leonard's Church.
17th December	7.pm	Seaford Town Council Finance & General Purpose Committee Meeting
19th December	7.pm	"Get Vocal" Annual Christmas Show at the Little Theatre

2010 Dates for your Diary

31st May 2010	Lioness Carnival—Martello Fields
27th June 2010	Armed Forces Day
18th July 2010	Seaford Family Fun Day
30th July to 1st August 2010	Seaford Live! at Martello Fields
14th August 2010	Seaford Triathlon

SEAFORD TOWN COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

(A leaflet is also available listing all councillors with their direct contact details.)

<p><u>Central Ward</u> Mrs P Bennett 15 Kingsway, Seaford, BN25 2NE</p> <p>Mr R Bennett 15 Kingsway, Seaford, BN25 2NE</p> <p>Mr P Bower 1 Homefield Close, Seaford, BN25 3DQ</p> <p>Mrs C Lambert (Mayor) 5 Chapel Close, Seaford, BN25 2JJ</p> <p><u>East Ward</u> Mrs R Amery 28 Old Nursery Close, Alfriston Road, Seaford, BN25 3JZ</p> <p>Mr C Conil 30 Hazeldene, Sutton Avenue, Seaford, BN25 4NQ</p> <p>Mr M Cornforth 11 The Covers, Seaford, BN25 1DF</p> <p>Mr J Peterson 20 Vale Road, Seaford, BN25 3EY</p>	<p><u>North Ward</u> Mr E Collict 7 Balmoral Close, Seaford, BN25 3DF</p> <p>Mrs R Collict 7 Balmoral Close, Seaford, BN25 3DF</p> <p>Mr J Freeman Windysheels, Links Road, Seaford, BN25 4HX</p> <p>Mrs T Willis 93 Lexden Drive, Seaford, BN25 3JF</p> <p><u>South Ward</u> Mr B Allen 7 Heathfield Road, Seaford, BN25 1TH</p> <p>Mr R Brown 25 Cunningham Court, Ringmer Road, Seaford, BN25 1AW</p> <p>Mr R Sinclair 10 Connaught Road, Seaford, BN25 2PT</p> <p>Mr R Taylor 1 Elm Villas, Saxon Lane, Seaford, BN25 1QN</p>	<p><u>West Ward</u> Mr B Groves 72 Marine Drive, Bishopstone, Seaford, BN25 2RU</p> <p>Mr L Holland 4 Beacon Close, Seaford, BN25 2JZ</p> <p>Ms L Wallraven 1 Eadric House, Bishopstone Village, Seaford, BN25 2UE</p> <p>Mr I White 83 Hurdis Road, Seaford, BN25 2TH</p> <p><u>Clerk to the Council :</u> Mrs Sam Shippen FCIS, Principal ILCM</p> <p><u>Office opening hours :</u> Monday – Friday 9.30 am – 4.30 pm</p> <p>Address : 37 Church Street Seaford East Sussex BN25 1HG</p> <p>E-mail : admin@seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk Tel : 01323 894870 Website : www.seafordtowncouncil.gov.uk</p>
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