

Newsletter

Winter 2017



“What is it like being Mayor?”

“Well, ... it is like being Princess for the Day, but every day”.

This is one of the commonest exchanges that I have with the younger residents of Faversham, they are fascinated by the regalia and the “importance” of the Mayoral role and the answer neatly matches up their expectations and my findings:

People are warm and friendly to me, I get well looked after and I get included in a great many local events, what is not to like? Much of what I do is made up of the little things that don't make a headline. I get invited to many AGMs or Awards Presentations, Shows and Celebrations, Openings and Launches. A fascinating opportunity to share a little time with some of the many groups, clubs, societies and associations that are available locally.

I've had enormous fun showing the cubs and brownies around the Guildhall and the Mayor's Parlour talking about the history of the role and giving them a chance to dress up in the robes, sit in the Mayor's chair and bang the gavel. That last activity was by far the most popular!

Chairing the Council meetings is another of my roles (though not at all Princessy). In this I am well supported by an active and enthusiastic council of 14 members with a huge range of issues to deal with. Every month I put in a list to the Council of the dozen or so events that I have attended outside of the town representing the Faversham Mayoralty. It is a great honour and privilege to do so and I have had many wonderful experiences as a result. All Council activities and my events can be tracked on the Council website, there are far too many to list here.

Of course there are also many, many meetings, briefings, presentations and preparations to make, it is a busy time and the first thing to go is the social life, then family life, then work life. But it is a moment in time, I am on the home run now as my two years come to an end, it would be crazy not to give it my all while I can!

Over the next page you can read about my chosen charities for this Civic Year and the marvellous work they do for the town. Please do support them if you can.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Mayor of Faversham, Cllr Shiel Campbell



Mayor of Faversham's Charities for the Civic Year 2017-2018

Faversham Carnival and The Faversham Community Christmas Lights

Faversham Carnival Once again Faversham was lucky enough to have a Carnival - this year on 14th October. The weather stayed fine for what was a very good Parade, with lots of local people taking part.

Special mention should be made of the wonderful display of gymnastics by Faversham Gym Club - I don't know where they get their energy from but they certainly seemed to be enjoying themselves while entertaining everyone else at the same time.

It was lovely to see so many schools and youth groups represented in the Parade, and the visiting Carnival Courts gave it a touch of glamour. Personally I especially liked the Viking ship float, but everyone taking part deserves a mention, but that would take too long.

The 2017 Faversham Carnival Court consisting of Georgie Jones (Miss Faversham), Karla Baring and Chloe-Marie Wood (Faversham Princesses); Charlotte Muncaster (Jnr Miss Faversham), and Roxanne Macey and Sydney-Rose Manser (Junior Faversham Princesses) proved good ambassadors for the town and looked really lovely in their regalia.

Congratulations and thanks should be given to the Faversham Carnival Club for all their hard work during the year to give Faversham this one night of fun. They all give their time and energy for nothing, and very rarely get the praise they deserve.

I was lucky enough to be invited to help count the street collection on the Sunday morning at Faversham Football Club, a lot of our Faversham Court and committee members turned up to what has become, annually, a very fun morning. Unfortunately the street collection was only just over £2,000 and I was disappointed to see how many foreign coins had been put in the collection. Euros are OK, but small American coins (of which there seemed a lot) can't be changed back.

On my way to help count the money on the Sunday morning I was given a reminder that Christmas is nearly upon us - the Faversham Christmas Lights committee and workers were already out putting up lights. Another group who sometimes don't get the praise and support they deserve.

I hope that everyone enjoyed Faversham Carnival this year, and will do everything in their power to support this event to ensure that this was NOT the last one.

Cllr Anita Walker

Abbey Ward

The Faversham Community Christmas Lights was established in 1983 after Swale Borough Council offered a grant to Faversham for the town to have Christmas lights provided there was a committee to administer the lights. In June 1983 the Mayor called a public meeting to see if there was enough support from the traders and local people. The outcome of the public meeting was a Committee was formed and named Faversham Community Christmas

Lights. The first year involved much hard work deciding if we were going to have the strands of lights straight across the road or to have them zig zag and where we would like to attach the lights to the buildings and to achieve this permission from the owners had to be obtained and these fixing points are in still in use today. After many meetings the Committee achieved strands of coloured lights from Stone Street to Court Street which were put up in the evenings of November in below zero temperatures. The Committee gradually expanded the display to include West Street and East Street.

The Committee in the early years were given grants from both Swale Borough Council and Faversham Town Council but a few years ago the grant from Swale B.C. stopped and we only now receive a grant from Faversham Town Council. This grant does not cover the cost of the illumination and the Committee raise the remainder by various social events and donations from the traders of the Town and organisations who raise money for us. Each year the Committee try to enhance the display by purchasing new features but some of the large displays cost in the region of £1,500.

The erection of the lights ready for the switch on at the end of November starts the day after the Carnival each year and takes the Committee and Volunteers five Sundays starting at 8am until approximately 5pm and numerous evenings during the summer months in checking and repairing the features and testing the bulbs for the forthcoming display and also some evenings in the run up to switch on. The first two Sundays after twelfth night (6th January) you will find the volunteers all out again taking all the lights down and storing them away for another year. These volunteers give up their time in all weathers to decorate the town for the festive season. The Committee have been organising the display each year for the last 34 years and two members of the original committee (Ken Neame and Steve Sherlock) are still very much involved today for this our 35th display. You can keep in touch with our events and how you can assist us on our website www.favershamchristmaslights.org and also our Facebook page.

By the time you read this the illuminations for the 2017 display will have been switched on and we hope you all enjoy the various new features that we have placed around the town.

*Ken Neame President, Steve Sherlock Chairman
Faversham Community Christmas Lights*



Litter Picking

The last litter pick of the year was held on Saturday 21st October on the East side of town. We all met on the Recreation Ground at 10am. It was a very blustery morning but no rain. Several members of the Town Council and the Mayor turned up along with a good number of public volunteers. After a quick photo, we all headed off in different directions – covering the recreation ground itself and several roads including St. Marys, St. John's, Park, Cyprus and Jubilee Way to name a few. Approximately 26 bags of refuse, were collected in just under 2 hours, along with an old electric fire and a children's plastic slide. This was later collected by BIFFA. All-in-all it was a good morning's work. Next year we hope to do more litter picks in and around the town. It would be fantastic if more people would volunteer. (It's only a couple of hours on a Saturday morning). I would like to thank everyone who has participated over this year in helping to make our town that little bit cleaner to live in.

CLlr Claire Belsom



Farewell to Grahame Kane, as the Market Manager Retires

After six years as Market Manager in Faversham, the Market Co-Operative has said goodbye to Grahame Kane.

When the Traders Co-Operative took over the running of the Town's historic market the first thing they did was appoint Grahame as Market Manager. Steadily over time Grahame increased the number of stalls on the market and the number of regular visitors increased.

The Preston Street Market was introduced to improve footfall in that part of the town centre. Other innovations were the Night Food Market, after the Christmas Lights switch on, and the Mid Summer Night Market. Grahame also started a regular Antiques Market on the first Sunday of each month.

The good ideas kept coming and now the market is one of the best in Kent. Grahame will be greatly missed, but he will have more time to spend with his grandchildren. He will keep in touch with the market and will help out when needed.

A packed meeting of Traders in the Guildhall on 31st October thanked Grahame for his hard work and presented him with a number of gifts including an engraved tankard.

CLlr David Simmons

Building a Faversham Future

Listening to and working with local communities, let us hear your thoughts.....

In 2012 the Faversham 2020 Action Plan was published. Since then the council has been implementing the actions and building capacity to fulfil its goals. In these challenging times the Council is working to ensure that the services it and others provide are affordable, deliverable and take into account views expressed by local residents and businesses.

After consulting local people in 2015 it bought No.12 Market Place to become the new town hall and, with the Guildhall, form the heart of the town. As part of the project a new heritage centre is being developed with the other specialist Faversham museums to signpost routes to their attractions, increasing footfall in the town to support local business.

Influencing decisions outside the direct control of the Council is more challenging. Our recent experience of new residential development being imposed highlighted the need to be more proactive with Swale Borough, Kent County and National Government. To address this the Mayor with a group of local people, has produced a set of guidelines for discussion with the Swale BC to inform the local planning process.

To build on the success of the arts, crafts and food markets, which have attracted new visitors, the Council is consulting and working closely with wider businesses to understand issues and apply lessons learnt from good practice in other towns, creating a climate for business success and attracting inward investment.

Views of neighbouring parishes gathered through the Faversham and District Engagement Forum, are informing the Council of rural issues, reinforcing the role of a market town supporting and acting as a service centre for surrounding villages.

These initiatives and others are part of an updated Action Plan 2017 - 2022 which shows

where the Town Council will work to meet the needs of the town. Success depends on understanding views from a wider range of local people. 'The Voice' is a channel through which you can express your opinion on specific issues. Add your voice and together we can to make Faversham an even more attractive place to live, do business and visit. Please register for 'the Voice' by emailing your details to louise.bareham@favershamtc.co.uk.

Cllr Geoff Wade
Chair Policy and Finance Committee

TOWN COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

Abbey Ward

Peter Flower: 01795 537030 / 07743 695946

Antony Hook: 07732 161865

Bryan Mulhern: 01795 538498 / 07850 247810

Anita Walker: 01795 531192

Priory Ward

Claire Belsom: 07775 560359

Ben Martin: 07734 559089

St Ann's Ward

Trevor Abram: 01795 530379 / 07712 594872

Mike Cosgrove: 01795591790

Nick Green: 01795 533121

Nigel Kay: 01795 531298 / 07710 487129

Watling Ward

Shiel Campbell: 01795 533297 / 07791 567145

David Simmons: 01795 532100 / 0850 872342

Geoff Wade: 01795 530646

Ted Wilcox: 01795 533004 / 07711 476769

Office

Town Clerk: 01795 503288

Louise.bareham@favershamtc.co.uk

www.favershamtowncouncil.gov.uk

WW1 1918-2018 Bunting Project

The Bunting Project was announced in the Autumn Newsletter and officially launched in the Market Place. The project has been well received, with many family members, groups and individuals agreeing to make a piece of bunting to commemorate one of the fallen men from Faversham.

Some names are still available and if you would like participate please contact the Deputy Town Clerk, Adrienne Begent, either in writing or by dropping into the Town Council office; emailing adrienne.begent@favershamtc.co.uk or telephoning 01795 503286.

We are pleased to announce that bunting workshops will be run at All Stitched Up in Court Street, starting in the New Year. These workshops are designed to help those less confident complete a piece of bunting and all materials will be provided. The workshops will take place between 10am and 1pm, you are not required to stay the full duration and can attend one or more workshops. To reserve your place please contact the shop directly allstitchedupcraftingltd@outlook.com

Workshop Dates:

Friday 12th January
Friday 2nd February
Friday 30th March
Friday 27th April
Friday 4th May

Tuesday 16th January
Tuesday 13th February
Tuesday 6th March
Tuesday 17th April
Tuesday 29th May

Saturday 27th January
Saturday 24th February
Saturday 17th March
Saturday 7th April
Saturday 19th May



L to R: Cllr Mike Cosgrove; Adrienne Begent (Deputy Clerk); Louise Bareham (Town Clerk); The Mayor of Faversham, Cllr Shiel Campbell; Cllr Claire Belsom; Mr Tom Gates (Chair of Faversham Royal British Legion)

The Memorial Garden Appeal

Thank you so very much to the many Faversham residents who have generously contributed to our appeal that is nearing its target. We have gathered much information from you about those servicemen who were killed in The First World War. Your contributions have also helped us to correct some mistakes in the names we published. For this year's Remembrance Day Service the Faversham Branch of The British Legion planted 400 crosses in the memorial garden to remember those men who marched away but did not return to their homes in Faversham.



On the following page we have printed the names of the 140 Faversham men killed in World War 2 who are not yet publically remembered. They fought on land, sea and in the air across continents for our very survival. If you are a relative of one of them

please tell us if this information is correct. If you would like to make a contribution to our fund, please donate to The Bensted's Charity War Memorial Fund, The Almshouses, 5 South Road, Faversham. Your help would be very welcome.

Last month we arranged a lecture in The Guildhall by Dr Peter Donaldson about war memorials and their meaning. This was very well attended. During the course of the next twelve months we will update you on progress. Across many organisations within the town there will be a number of events that will enable Faversham to commemorate the centenary of the 2018 Armistice, and those men who helped preserve our town through their sacrifice in both world wars. We also intend installing one of the new specially designed benches for the memorial garden. The project had its official launch in November which the Deputy Lord Lieutenant Paul Auston attended with both the Mayor of Swale and Mayor of Faversham.

Cllr Mike Cosgrove

If you would like to provide further information on your relatives, please contact the Town Clerk on 01795 503288 or email louise.bareham@favershamtc.co.uk

WORLD WAR TWO

S J AKHURST	A E ELEY	J JACKMAN	H J ROGERS
O C ASHLING	G F EMERY	R F JACOBS	J RONAYNE
E R AYLETT	J E ERIKSON	W G JAMES	P M RUDGARD
A J BALDOCK	P G EXTON	J JEMMETT	R SACKVILLE-GOLDEN
R G BALLARD	W FEVER	M P JONES	R SANTER
T BOSWELL	E FRANCIS	G KEELE	J A SELLEN
A BOTTLE	S F FOLEY	A E KING	H S SHARP
L BOWLES	G H GALLOP	C P W KING	F G SHEPHERD
T BROADBRIDGE	H H GAMBRILL	A W KITE	J F SMITH
D H BROUGHTON	R V GEORGE	G LAKER	W J SMITH
M G BROWN	C H GILES	G E LAWRENCE	A STREETER
C F BUFFEE	J W GILES	W J LAWRENCE	G E TAYLOR
S H BUNTING	N A GILLETT	R LLOYD	J W T TAYLOR
G BUSHEL	F GILLHAM	J H MACKENDER	R C TAYLOR
G BUTTON	P H GREENSLADE	M MADAMS	S J TAYLOR
D W CARE	F E GREENSTREET	W H MALLION	G A TERRY
C E CHAPMAN	A R GREGORY	G MARSHMAN	G H F THOMAS
F H CLAPP	S GREGORY	H W MARSH	D J THOMPSON
D J W CLARK	W J GULLIFORD	A MAY	E J TINDAL
W A COLLINS	D HADLOW	G MAY	R T TRICKER
J W COOK	G H HADLOW	D W MILES	H USHER
J J COOMBS	R HARRIS	J MILLICHAP	L WAKELY
T B COOMBS	S HARRISON	L D W MILLER	J M WATERS
D G CORNFOOT	H J HEAD	W H MITCHELL	E A WEAVER
H CORNFORD	A P HEBBES	A MOON	C E WELLARD
G A E COURT	B E HICKS	R E NEWMAN	R C WILES
R COURT	L L HILLS	W J PERCIVAL	G C WILKINSON
A W CROWHURST	A V HOGBEN	R PHILPOTT	H E WILLIAMS
C H CURLING	F V HOLDSTOCK	M F PINN	P F WILLIS
F DANE	A HOLMANS	C POWELL	H J WILLS
J L DIVERS	A R HOOKER	A A RAND	W J WILLS
P DIAMOND	G HOPPER	J READ	H M WIX
C DORMAN	P L HOWARD	H B REDWOOD	S WOODCOCK
F DOWNE	J HOWELL	L G REYNOLDS	F WOODWARD
	R A HULSE	T F REYNOLDS	F J W WRAIGHT