

Crewkerne Town Council

NEWSLETTER

June 2017 – Issue 52



Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LN
Tel: 01460 74001 Email: towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk Website: www.crewkerne-tc.gov.uk

BINCOMBE FAYRE

Saturday 10 June 11 am – 3 pm

Crewkerne has its very own nature reserve at Bincombe Beeches.
Please join us at the Bincombe Fayre to celebrate this beautiful area of nature.

What's on:

At the Nature Reserve

- Chris Sperring MBE - The Hawk and Owl Trust. Walk and talk.
- Paul Burkhardt – Bushwhacker Tours. Guided talk on foraging.
- Supervised Tree Climbing with Scott Johnson, Fern Tree Services.
- Rob Beckinsale - Chainsaw carving and sculpture artist.

At the Town Hall

- Demonstrations of spinning, weaving and wood turning
- Find out about our wildlife with Secret World Wildlife Rescue, The Somerset Otter Group, Somerset Beekeepers and more.
- We will have a jazz band and a variety of stalls including local food or why not take a picnic and enjoy the Nature Reserve in all its glory.

The Crewkerne Voluntary Transport team will be running a return bus service from the Town Hall to the Beechwood Drive entrance of Bincombe Beeches. Times to be confirmed.



Town Council Quality Award

Crewkerne Town Council has received a prestigious award as part of the Local Council Award Scheme and is the first council in Somerset to have achieved the new "Quality" Award level. This achievement recognises that the council achieves good practice in governance, community engagement and council improvement, as well as continuously seeking opportunities to improve and develop.

The Local Council Award Scheme has been designed to provide a benchmark for performance and to promote and recognise those councils that are striving to improve.

Crewkerne Town Council's Chairman, Cllr. Robin Pailthorpe stated: 'I am absolutely delighted to receive the award on behalf of the Town Council and would like to thank all members and staff for their continued hard work and dedication in achieving this accolade for the Town Council, especially as Crewkerne is the first Council in Somerset to achieve the new Quality Award Level.'

Tree donated by Crewkerne Lions Club

Crewkerne Lions and members of the Henhayes Playground Working Group gathered recently to plant a tree in the Henhayes playground. The tree, a Whitebeam, was donated by Crewkerne Lions to celebrate 100 years of the Lions Club International. The Town Council have also purchased a circular bench which is now installed around the new tree.



New Mayor Elected

At this year's Annual Town Council meeting, Cllr. Ben Hodgson was elected as the new Mayor. Cllr. Hodgson, a resident of Crewkerne for 30 years, said; "It is a privilege to be elected as Mayor to the Town Council. I will make every effort to carry out the Mayor's duties to the best of my ability". At the same meeting, Cllr. Mrs Kathy Head was elected as Deputy Mayor.



Somerset Day in Crewkerne



Somerset Day falls on 11 May each year and is an opportunity to celebrate all that is good about Somerset and be proud of the county that we live in.

On 11 May 878 Alfred the Great, King of Wessex, gathered 'all the people of Somerset' to march against and defeat the invading Danish army. By the time of his death he had become the dominant ruler in England and is the only English monarch to be accorded the title "the Great".

In Crewkerne many of the local shops flew the flag of Somerset to show their support of the day. The Town Council also held a craft market in the Victoria Hall, showcasing the skills and arts and crafts of Somerset folk.



The newly elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Cllrs. Ben Hodgson and Mrs Kathy Head.

Newly Elected Town Councillor

The Town Council welcomes Paul Bradly, who was elected to the Council at the 4th May bi-election. Paul was born in Hermitage Street and comes from an extensive Crewkerne family. He has had a long and varied career involving the Royal Air Force, Ministry of Defence and the aviation industry.



Outside of work, Paul has taken on many community responsibilities over the years, including local charity chairman and treasurer, a town councillor in Dorset and school governor chairman and head of finance. Paul said, "I hope to use my extensive skills and experience for the benefit of the residents of Crewkerne. I firmly believe that those in elected office have an absolute responsibility to care for the finances of their electors".

Honoured Citizen of Crewkerne Award 2017

At the Annual Town Meeting of Electors held on 20 March, the Mayor presented Honoured Citizenship Awards to Mr John Wyatt and Mr Colin Coggan



Pictured from left to right – Mr John Wyatt (Honoured Citizen), The Mayor of Crewkerne Cllr. Robin Pailthorpe, Mr Colin Coggan (Honoured Citizen) and The Town Crier

John Wyatt was born in Crewkerne. As a younger man he was a young farmer and is still involved with them, providing fields for their events and acting as a judge in their competitions. For more than 35 years he was a member of the Rotary Club, willing to assist in all rotary projects, working within the Community Service committee and gaining their “Paul Harris” fellowship.

For 30 years John served as a Parish Councillor for West Crewkerne and also served for 25 years on the Joint Burial Board. For more than 25 years John has been a trustee for the Matthew Chubb and Mary Davis Almshouses. John has also been an active member of the junior triathlon group since its inception and is always available to help along with his tractor, be it a fallen tree blocking a road or assisting with the town’s Christmas tree every year.

Colin Coggan has lived in Crewkerne for 15 years and in that time has always been a stalwart supporter of the town. He is a member of the civic society and is actively involved in many projects. He joined the Heritage Centre, working as a volunteer, running the maintenance team and served on the management team.

He is also a member of ABCD, where he has carried out many tasks, from manning a stall, to collecting information for the community plan. He also led one of the teams, liaised with highways, bus companies and the police regarding the use of parking in the town and the possible bus stop locations. Colin also assists with the junior triathlon every year, even turning up on crutches one year!

Mayor’s Commendation Award



Along with our honoured citizens this year, the Mayor, Cllr. Robin Pailthorpe, gave a special Mayor’s Commendation to Finlay Paul, Tom Clark and Joe Haskell.

Cllr. Pailthorpe said; “One of the highlights of serving as Mayor is recognising members of the community for their outstanding achievements. In the last few years our skate park deteriorated to such an extent that it had to be demolished and removed. A group of youngsters got

together and set about raising funds by having stalls at community events and anything they could to raise money but also awareness; keeping pressure on the powers that be to get their skate park back!

They were so successful that in a remarkably short time (by council standards) they had just that! The new park opened last September. Congratulations to all of you on this achievement, it shows what determination and dedication can do!”

Grounds Apprenticeship

Crewkerne Town Council has an apprenticeship vacancy for a hardworking and reliable young person who is interested in working outdoors and in horticulture. This apprenticeship will be run in partnership with Bridgwater and Taunton College and will combine on-the-job work experience with college work to achieve a Level 2 Diploma in Horticulture.

If you are interested, please contact the Town Council for further information.



Wood Available

Calling all local wood turners! There are some unwanted sections of tree trunk currently being stored at Crewkerne's Townsend Cemetery. If you could make use of some of this wood, please contact the Town Clerk.

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING

TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS

Bincombe Fayre

Saturday 10 June

Community Safety Event

Friday 8 September

Townsend Cemetery Open Day

Sunday 10 September

Lighting Up

Friday 24 November

Christmas Market

Saturday 9 December

SPEAK TO YOUR COUNCILLOR

Forthcoming Town Council Surgeries in the
Community Office at the Town Hall, Market
Square

Saturday 17 June

Saturday 15 July

10.30 a.m. to 12 noon

*Opportunity for informal conversations
with District and Town Councillors*

If you have any comments or concerns about issues
which affect Crewkerne, please contact:

Crewkerne Town Council
Town Hall, Market Square,
Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LN
Tel: 01460 74001
Email: towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk
Website: www.crewkerne-tc.gov.uk

OFFICE STAFF

Town Clerk: Peter Davidson

Deputy Town Clerk: Laura Gowers

Finance Officer: Paula Hewitt

Amenities Operations Manager: Mark Jay

Administration Officer: Julie Cowie

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