



## Bincombe Beeches Activity Day 2023



Thank you to everyone who turned out to support the Bincombe Beeches Activity Day. Despite the rain, we planted trees, watched the chainsaw sculptor make new sculptures for the nature trail, made charcoal, created magic willow wands and sat in the woodland story telling circle to hear Alice, our Mayor, tell stories with puppets about the creatures who live at beautiful Bincombe.

We were also joined by special guest Robert Drewett, High Sheriff of Somerset, pictured here in the story telling circle with Cllr. Alice Samuel, Mayor of Crewkerne, and Cllr. Mike Best, Chairman of Somerset Council. Cllr. Alice Samuel commented, "This event was a wonderful celebration of nature. We have raised £73.01 towards new trees to be planted at the reserve. The day was really well supported and we hope to do it again in the future". (Photos: J. Hutson)



## Ready to Play!



Severalls tennis courts are now ready for booking and playing - you can use the new Clubspark site to do this: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/SeverallsTennisCourts>.

You can either pay for an hourly slot or buy an annual household pass which will allow up to 8 members of the same household to play tennis all year round for £35. Once you have booked your slot, you will receive an access code via email, just turn up at the courts at your allotted time and enter the code into the access gate. If you have any problems booking, please contact the Town Council offices on 01460 74001 or [towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk).

If you are a community group we can arrange for some free sessions - again, please contact the office for details.

With thanks to the Lawn Tennis Association and Somerset Council for funding this project - all booking fees are held by the War Memorial Commemoration Trust for the future upkeep of the courts.

**Details of how to contact your councillors can be found on the  
back page of this newsletter**



## By-election results...



Following the by-election held on Thursday 12th October, Crewkerne Town Council has been joined by successful candidate Cllr. Simon Woodland.

Simon says: *"I moved to Crewkerne in 1976 aged 2. On leaving school I started work at Singletons Engineers attending Yeovil College for my engineering apprenticeship and from there I crossed the road and started work at the then Sterling Hydraulics now named Parker Hannifin.*

*In 2004 I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, resulting in my being medically retired in 2007.*

*Instead of feeling sorry for myself, I threw myself into volunteering, starting at Crewkerne Aqua Centre and fundraising at the Yeovil, Sherborne and District multiple sclerosis group.*

*Now I have moved on to be Group Coordinator for the MS group, Vice-chair and Treasurer for the Yeovil Town FC DSA (Disabled Supporters Association) and I am now thrilled and honoured to have been elected as a councillor for Crewkerne Town Council.*

*My interests include watching as much local sport as possible and campaigning so everyone disabled has the same chances as everyone else.*

*My mottos in life have become NEVER GIVE UP and ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE."*

Simon can be contacted via email on [simon.woodland@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk](mailto:simon.woodland@crewkerne-tc.gov.uk).

## Speak to your Councillor!

Councillor surgeries are back! Anyone is welcome to drop in. These are held on the third Saturday of each month to coincide with the Farmer's Market. Surgeries are 10.30 to

12 noon in the Town Hall:

**Saturday 18th November**

**Saturday 16th December**

**Saturday 20th January**

## Civic success for Severalls Gardening Group

Severalls Memorial Gardening Group were nominated for a Somerset Council Chairman's Award by Crewkerne Town Council for their efforts in maintaining a beautiful open space. In October they were pleased to attend the awards ceremony where their award was presented by the Chairman of Somerset Council, Cllr. Mike Best.

The citation for the Group reads:

"Severalls Memorial Gardening Group are worthy nominees as they work hard all year round to maintain the town's war memorial gardens. These gardens are a beautiful and peaceful place to sit and enjoy the surroundings. Their continued care and voluntary hard work of keeping the town's memorial grounds so beautifully should be recognised.

The sustainable plants used all around the gardens were either donated or fund raised. They have had two fete events on the green for the community to attend as a thank you for their donations and are hard at work planning their upcoming summer fete.

The group was also instrumental in the campaign to get the ownership of the gardens transferred back to Crewkerne Town Council, helping co-ordinate a petition which was presented to South Somerset District Council. No matter what the weather, they continue to maintain the gardens with love and care for the community."

Pictured below: Cllr. Alice Samuel, Mayor of Crewkerne, Geoff and Peggy Carr of the Severalls Gardening Group and Mike Best, Chairman of Somerset Council.



Crewkerne Town Council's community grants scheme runs every year and is designed to support our local community groups with their projects.

As part of this year's scheme, Councillors were pleased to be able to contribute to the purchase of a new line marking machine for Crewkerne Rugby Club.

The Rugby Club said, "The new marker is a massive improvement to what we had before. Crewkerne Rugby Club would like to again express our gratitude to all involved with the award of the grant to us. It was gratefully received."

Good luck for the rugby season!





# Lighting Up 2023!

Friday 24th November is our annual Lighting Up evening. From 5pm there will be children's fairground rides, donuts, candyfloss, snow machine, Christmas carols, charity stalls and a craft fair in Victoria Hall. Local groups and businesses will be offering festive foods and mulled wine and cider. Santa will begin his procession at 6.20pm and the lights will be turned on at 7pm. Santa will be in his grotto from 7.20pm ready to see the children.



Saturday 25th November is our Christmas Market. There will be stalls both inside and outside of Victoria Hall offering a wide selection of handcrafted items and homemade food and drink.

Please bring cash as not all stallholders will have the ability to accept card payments.

Come and start your Christmas with us and shop local! (Photos: J. Hutson).

## Community Fridge celebrates a year of cutting food waste

On November 30th it will be a year since Crewkerne Community Kitchen started running the Community Fridge at the George Reynolds Centre, , and we are celebrating with a party that day, starting at 9.45. Our Chop and Chat community cooking group will provide light refreshments prepared mostly with surplus food. The group started distributing food that supermarkets cannot sell from Bar5 in July 2020. Food that would otherwise get thrown away has instead been put to good use by people who want to eat it.

The group is run by volunteers, and three in particular have helped make the last year such a success: Kirsteen, Nigel and Vicky are familiar faces to regular visitors who play such a vital role in helping to reduce food waste. We'd all also like to thank Crewkerne Town Council for hosting us at the GRC.

There are three sessions a week - Mondays 11-1pm, Tuesdays 11.30-12.30pm and Thursdays 9.30-11am, and everyone is welcome to come and take some food. We also have a Chop and Chat community cooking group which meets at the Speedwell Hall in Abbey St on Friday mornings from 11. The group prepares a delicious healthy meal from scratch, often using leftover food from the food distribution, and again anyone is welcome to come along. You can catch up with what we are doing at [www.facebook.com/crewkernecommunitykitchen](https://www.facebook.com/crewkernecommunitykitchen)



**Nigel, Kirsteen and Vicky at work preparing for distribution**

## Historic pillar restoration under way

You may have noticed that restoration works have commenced to the pillars at Severalls. These works will stabilise and repoint the two pillars which were originally designed to form some sort of 'triumphal archway' to the estate. Severalls Park was constructed to commemorate the war dead of Crewkerne in the aftermath of the First World War.

At the time of writing the works have started, but are weather dependent so we are unsure of exact timescales.



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**Instagram: @crewkernetowncouncil**



GRC  
available  
for  
bookings

Monday evenings  
currently free for  
bookings - call asap!

Discounted rate  
available for block  
bookings

TO MAKE A BOOKING, OR FOR DETAILS AND AVAILABILITY  
PLEASE CONTACT CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL:  
01460 74001 OR [TOWNCOUNCIL@CREWKERNE-TC.GOV.UK](mailto:TOWNCOUNCIL@CREWKERNE-TC.GOV.UK)



- Meeting & function rooms
- Kitchen hire

Photo: J Hutson

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