

## HONITON GETS READY FOR JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

After much planning and the involvement of many organisations from across the community, Honiton is now putting the final touches to its plans to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June, with something going on every one of the four days of the bank holiday weekend and beyond.

Union flags are already flying throughout the town, thanks to the work of the Chamber of Commerce. These flags will stay up throughout the summer and bring the Jubilee celebrations into the heart of the High Street. Plans are also in place to bring a red, white and blue theme to flowerbeds and hanging baskets.

On Thursday 19 April at 4pm the town's Jubilee Oak was planted in the Millennium Green by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr David Foster. The tree is one donated by the Woodland Trust to Honiton Community College's Eco-Council and given to the Town Council by Transition Town Honiton. It will be marked by a plaque commemorating the Jubilee and available for everyone to visit in the beautiful Millennium Green.



**Cllr David Foster, Deputy Mayor of Honiton, plants Honiton's Jubilee Oak in the Millennium Green assisted by Jaya Foster of the Honiton Community College Eco-Council (photo courtesy of Terry Ife – Midweek Herald)**

On **Saturday 2 June** the street market will be taking on a Jubilee theme and also running a promotion to win a hamper of goods donated and sponsored by the traders.

In the afternoon there will be two events to suit all ages .

The Senior Citizens Centre will be open to all its members for a tea party which will include a slide show of 60 years in Honiton (courtesy of Allhallows Museum) and everyone will be able to follow the national celebrations on a wide screen television.

At the same time in the afternoon, at both St Pauls and the Baptist churches, there will be free of charge Family Tea Parties on the forecourts, including children's activities.

In the evening of the Saturday, Hospiscare will be holding a Supper Evening in the Mackarness Hall, including interlude music. Tickets will be available for £8.50.

Moving to **Sunday 3 June**, Allhallows Field will be the venue for Honiton's Big Lunch. This "bring your own" event is being co-ordinated by local residents and with the help of the Rugby Club, who are opening up their facilities for the afternoon. All are welcome to bring a picnic, listen to the music and join in the fun.

On the Sunday evening St Paul's church will be holding a Celebratory Evensong. All are welcome to join in this act of worship to give thanks for the Queen and all her work for the country over the past 60 years.

Turning to **Monday 4 June**, the focus turns again to Allhallows Field, where Honiton Running Club will be organising a sports event for children. All youth organisations, and individuals, are welcome to join in.

On **Tuesday 5 June** we return to the Millennium Green where the Trustees of the Green are organising an afternoon Band Concert and picnic.

On **Thursday 7 June** the Memory Cafe will be organising a tea party at the Methodist Church for its members.

**Saturday 9 June** is the Queen's official birthday and the Town Council is organising a concert of local talent. St Paul's church has kindly donated the venue and all the acts are giving their time for free to ensure that this concert can be made free of charge to those who wish to attend. Tickets will be available shortly.

At the end of the month – on **29 and 30 June** – Honiton will once again be holding its own Armed Forces Day and this year the event will have a Jubilee theme.

Posters will up around the town with full details of all the events – and in case you miss them, the Town Crier will be in town for three Saturdays to remind everyone of what's coming up.