

TALK OF THE TOWN

THE NEWSLETTER OF HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

AUGUST 2012

IT'S ALL BEEN HAPPENING IN HONITON - THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Despite the economic downturn, the town's marketing group of local partners including the Town Council, Chamber of Commerce and TIC is working hard to ensure that the town continues to thrive. In addition to launching a range of marketing and publicity initiatives, members of the group have done much to support shopkeepers and market traders and encourage new businesses to fill the few vacant shops.



Mayor on the run at Jubilee event

A wide range of activities has been developed and supported including Armed Forces Day, Jubilee celebrations, Charter Day, Hot Pennies, an Antiques Festival as well as specialist markets. These have all resulted in more people using the town centre – both residents and visitors.

The Town Council will be working with the Thelma Hulbert Gallery, the Tourist Information Centre, and the Chamber of Commerce to promote the

town at Honiton Show on 30th August. A range of information will be available at the town's stall within the Blackdown Hills marquee - do come and visit us if you are at the show.

For the second year, some of the profits from the street market have paid for various entertainers to be in town, outside St Paul's church, on Saturdays. This initiative has added to the atmosphere in the town centre and has been much appreciated. Entertainers taking part so far have included Classic Sounds, Sue King, Amy Crofters Folk Dance Band and George's Magic.



Big guy visited on Charter Day



Mr & Mrs Town Crier - Charter Day

Entertainers for the rest of the season will be:.

- 25th August - Honiton Town Band**
- 1st September - Salsa Cascara**
- 8th September - Alive & Kicking Appalachian Clog Dancers**



Hot Pennies

Beehive Build Start Date Set for Early 2013

Honiton's own community complex – The Beehive – is soon to become a reality. All the initial surveys and investigations have been carried out and, with the money for the build in hand, tender documentation is about to be issued – with particular concentration on construction contractors with a local connection. Contractors should be on site from January 2013.

In the meantime, fundraising continues to take place to ensure that any unexpected costs are covered and also that the building is fitted out with the essentials to allow it to meet the community's needs.

Meet Your Councillor – Cllr Harman (St Paul's Ward)



Marianne Harman joined the Town Council in June 2011. She is a member of the Policy Committee and the Finance Committee as well as the Street Market Management Group, the town's Marketing Group, the Local Plan Project Group and the Community Complex Project Group.

Marianne was behind the very successful launch of the Honiton Community Cinema, which is now attracting large audiences to its showings once a month. Now that she has passed this venture into the capable hands of a management committee, she has turned her attention to the Town Council's work with the young people of the town. She has recently visited both the Youth Centre and the Children's Centre to talk through a range of issues. In the new term she will be attending a meeting at Honiton Community College to discuss the way forward with the Town Council's Student Advisor scheme.

Second Antiques Festival

Following the huge success of Honiton's first ever Antiques Festival in 2011, plans are well underway for this year's event with many special fairs and exhibitions, competitions, auctions, valuations and more across the town throughout the week.

The Festival will be held from 12th to 17th November 2012

With free admission to the exhibitions and fairs, here are some of this year's events :

Find the Objects : a fun competition taking you around the antiques shops with a prize of £250 to spend on antiques of your choice in Honiton

Antiques Textiles Fair on Saturday 17th November in the Mackarness Hall

Auction of Antiques and Collectors Toys on Saturday 17th November at Chilcotts

Restoration and Conservation Fair on Saturday 17th November in the Baptist Church

Exhibition of gypsy books, prints and ephemera at Graham York Rare Books

Exhibition and demonstration of Honiton lace making at Bel-Ami Antiques & Interiors

Auction viewings and valuations at Chilcotts and Bearnas Hampton & Littlewood

Talk by noted archaeologist, John Allan, at Bearnas Hampton & Littlewood

Photographic display of Honiton's shops, past and present, at the Library

Exhibition and demonstrations of Honiton Lace making at Allhallows Museum

Working display of a vintage Hornby train at Antique & Chic.

Full details at www.honitonantiquesfestival.com

Mayor Bear Makes his Entrance



Honiton Town Council has been joined by a new VIP – in the form of the Mayor Bear. Introduced by the "real" Mayor, Cllr David Foster, the Mayor Bear has been a big hit with children in the town and is being used to introduce them to the work of the Town Council and wider issues of democracy.

Twinnars Visit from Gronau

A special group of visitors were in town for Charter Day – representatives from our Twin Town of Gronau in Germany arrived in Honiton for four days at the end of July. During their trip to East Devon, the *Twinnars* visited Exeter, Budleigh Salterton, Otterton Mill, and Pecorama in Beer. The visit celebrated 25 years of friendship between the towns of Gronau and Honiton and the Mayor led the civic ceremony on Sunday where a declaration re-affirming the link was signed on behalf of both towns.

Saturday was fully occupied with Charter Day and the picnic at the Millennium Green to listen to the concert by Honiton Town Band. During their visit to the town, a number of *Twinnars* took advantage of the opportunity to become a Town Crier – with the Gronau Deputy Mayor, Peter Klose, walking away with the prize for the best adult taking part in the competition.



Meet Your Councillor – Cllr Cornwell (St Michael's Ward)

Nick Cornwell joined the Town Council in September 2010. He is the Chair of the Policy Committee and is a member of the Finance Committee and the Standards Committee. He also sits on the Local Plan Project Group.

Nick has been closely involved in the development of the Beehive Community Complex and chairs the Steering Group and the Project Group that are working on this project as well as working closely with the Town Clerk on negotiations with a range of partners on all aspects of the Beehive.



Nick has been very active on the Local Plan Project Group, making significant contributions to the drafting of the Town Council's submission to East Devon District Council on the future of Honiton.

Nick represents the Town Council on the Thelma Hulbert Advisory Committee, ensuring an ongoing good working relationship between the gallery and the council.

Meet Your Councillor – Cllr Whitlock (St Michael's Ward)



Vernon Whitlock joined the Town Council in May 2003. He chairs the Finance Committee and is a member of the Policy Committee and the Standards Committee. He also chairs the town's Marketing Group and is a member of the Local Plan Project Group and the Community Complex Project Group and Steering Group.

Vernon has chaired the Council as Mayor on three occasions – in 2006, 2007 and 2011. He represents the Town Council on the Chamber of Commerce and on Devon Voice and is a member of the Honiton United Charities committee.

Vernon has been instrumental in driving forward plans for Honiton town centre's ongoing vitality and viability and leads on the very successful annual Charter Day celebrations.

Meet Your Councillor – Cllr Zarczynski (St Paul's Ward)



John Zarczynski joined the Town Council in June 2011. He is Deputy Chair of the Planning Committee, a member of the Policy Committee and the Finance Committee as well as the town's Marketing Group, the Environmental Issues Working Group, the Local Plan Project Group and

the Community Complex Project Group and Steering Group.

John represents the Town Council on the East Devon Safety Partnership Local Action Group, discussing with a range of partners issues that affect the safety of the town. He also sits on the committee for the Honiton United Charities. He has become very involved in the town's Charter Day organisation.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

ST. MICHAEL'S WARD

M.R. ALLEN	50 Marker Way, Honiton, EX14 2EN	46755
N. CORNWELL	15 Woodmans Crescent, EX14 2DY	47478
G. ELLIOT	Bon Heur, Sidmouth Road, EX14 1BE	42968
D FOSTER	17 Roundball Close EX14 2NU	45106
Mrs. S. GROVES	8 Gronau Close, EX14 2YT	47654
P. HALSE	Eddystone, Langford Road EX14 1QA	43854
Mrs. S. PAVEY	59 Hazelwood Close, EX14 2XA	07740 973990
J.B. TAYLOR	The Annexe, Beechwood, Feniton, EX14 3ED	07742 559244
V.C. WHITLOCK	30 Rosemount Lane, EX14 1RJ	43959

ST. PAUL'S WARD

Miss V. ASH	3 Hillside, Combe Raleigh, Honiton EX14 4TJ	42028
L.G. BAYLISS	69 Langford Avenue EX14 1QE	42450
R.E. COOMBS	9 Hill Crescent, EX14 2HY	47347
J.P. CORKE	19 The Orchard, Otter Valley Park EX14 4PT	47437
L.J. LUNT	15 Cotfield Close, Honiton EX14 1QX	41205
Miss M.V. HARMAN	12 Mount Close, Honiton EX14 1QZ	41585
Mrs V.A. HOWARD	Hale Farm Cottage, Axminster Road Honiton, EX14 9TQ	47127
Mrs E. TIRARD	7 Shute House, Shute, Axminster EX3 7NY	01297 631426
J.Z. ZARCZYNSKI	74 Streamers Meadow, EX14 2DL	234087

Hot Pennies & Charter Day a Great Success

Despite the often awful weather over the summer, the sun shone on both Hot Pennies and Charter Day in July.

Led by the Town Crier, Dave Retter, the traditional pole garlanded with flowers and topped off by the Glove, was taken to four locations around Honiton and the cry was called out to the waiting crowds :

*Oyez, oyez, oyez
The glove is up
The fair has begun
Let no man be arrested
Until the glove is taken down
God save the Queen*

Taking advantage of the ceremony being during the school holidays, an unusually large number of people were in the High Street to mark this historic tradition and to be showered with pennies thrown into the street by, among others, the Mayor – probably remembering his own time as a child scrabbling for his own “hot pennies”.

On the last Saturday of July, Charter Day again brought the town to life. A large crowd took advantage of the variety of activities on offer – the market stalls and traders dressed up for the occasion and offered a free prize hamper, the charity stalls along Northcote Lane, the Lions Club stalls on Allhallows Field, the vintage cars, the range of entertainers, the Society of King George III re-enactment, cream teas, a Town Crier competition and the first Honiton wine festival.



TOWN CLERK: Mrs. Lyn Hargood

DEPUTY CLERK: Mrs. Sarah Jenkins

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