

MAYORS COMMUNICATIONS December 2017

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of former Town Councillor Ivan Southworth, Ivan was a member of the Town Council for a number of years and served on several organisations in the town. Ivan will be sadly missed by all those who knew him and we send sincere condolences to Councillor Mrs Rose Southworth and her family.

Some previous events attended in the last month, have included:

Saturday 21st October - Maureen and I attended Trafalgar Night Dinner held at the Torpoint Athletic Football Club on behalf of the Torpoint and Rame Branch Royal Naval Association. We were treated to a stupendous dinner and listened in awe to the guest of honour, Commander Irvine Lindsay OBE MA Royal Navy, Officer Commanding Royal Naval Submarine School to his many exploits throughout his naval career.

Thursday 2nd November – Maureen and I attended the HMS RALEIGH Fireworks Display as VIP guests of Capt Ellie Ablett. What a fantastic event with over 2,000 in attendance and a display that exceeded over 15 minutes.

Friday 3rd November – Maureen and I attended the Charity Fashion Show in aid of Bone Cancer Research Trust held in the Council Chambers. Clothes and gifts were shown by Studio 2 and over £1,000 was raised on the night. Well done to Janet Jenness and her team, especially the models you did a sterling job parading along the catwalk full of poise and confidence. I am looking forward to the summer show, if that is at all possible.

Friday 10th November – I attended the Torpoint Nursery and Infants School Remembrance Day Service. Headteacher Mrs Elisabeth Carney-Haworth and the rest of her team must be proud of how well the pupils behaved and led the service from start to finish. The reading ability of the pupils was amazing.

Friday 10th November – The Mayor's Cadet Chris Hancock and I attended the Remembrance Festival at Plymouth Pavilions. It was a sombre occasion but filled with warmth and respect.

Saturday 11th November - I attended the Remembrance Service held at 11 o'clock in Sparrow Park. The children from our local schools and the many standards on parade made the whole service extra special.

Sunday 12th November - Maureen and I attended the Service for Remembrance held at St. James Church Torpoint. The windy weather did not stop over 50 poppy wreathes being laid, and the parade was one of the largest I have ever seen in Torpoint. Over 2,000 people attended the open air service held at Eliot Square.

Torpoint Town Council is continuing to look at ways of providing inspiration and meeting aspirations for services which fall under its jurisdiction within the town. One area which we are keen to have an impact upon are the parks in the town.

Currently the town council oversees the upkeep of the following parks: Rendel Park, Sparrow Park and Benodét Park. These small parks are maintained by the town council and issues within these parks can be reported in the first instance at admin@torpointtowncouncil.gov.uk or 01752 814885. The other parks and green spaces within the town are currently maintained by Cornwall Council, and issues within these parks can be reported on <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/report-it/>.

Dialogue between Cornwall Council and the town council is continuing about the devolution of assets and services from Cornwall Council. It is hoped that once these are under the town council control, improvement to facilities can be implemented to provide a safe environment especially for our young people. Broken play equipment will be replaced and improved, and it is hoped that even outdoor multi gyms will be installed in suitable locations. Budgets for these improvements have been included in next year's budget proposals and if required will be used accordingly.

New bus shelters are being installed and a replacement programme for those in need of refurbishment is being considered. With winter fast approaching I am sure these will be most welcomed by regular bus users.

Dog fouling is yet again a major problem throughout the town. Besides being unsightly it is a major health and safety issue particular where young children may walk or play. Please can I ask all dog owners to be responsible and clean up their dog fouling, thank you. The enforcement officer has the power to issue on the spot fines to owners caught not clearing up after their pet. Remember Bag It and Bin It.

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the following residents of the town:

Jasmine Vigus - Huggins crowned Little Miss Teen Great Britain 2017/18 at the finals held in Blackpool. Well done Jasmine for putting Torpoint on the map yet again and best wishes for your year ahead.

Tom McHale Truro City goalkeeper, you made the FA Cup 1st Round, but unfortunately were defeated by Charlton, after a fantastic effort. What a great experience Tom playing at the Valley, and best wishes for the rest of the season.

Councillor John Tivnan, Torpoint Town Council and his recent presentation of the British Empire Medal for services to Local Government and the community. Well done John and carry on the good work.

With Christmas fast approaching a reminder of the following diary dates:

Saturday 2nd December – Christmas Lights Switch On – 4pm stalls open

Thursday 7th December – Ferryboat Christmas Concert at Cornerstone Church at 7.30pm.

Friday 22nd December – Rame Peninsula Male Voice Choir and Torpoint Lady Singers Event.

Until next time....

