

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March Torpoint raised a flag at Sparrow Park to mark Commonwealth Day 2022. Councillors from Torpoint Town Council participated in this prestigious event accompanied by children from Carbeile Junior School and Torpoint Nursery and Infant School as well as students' from Torpoint Community College. Representatives from Antony Estate, the Royal British Legion Torpoint Branch, the Royal Navy Association for Torpoint and Rame Peninsula and the Torpoint Archives and Heritage Centre also attended.

Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth is an occasion to acknowledge publicly and collectively the continuing aspiration of the Commonwealth to build on common traditions and uphold our shared values of democracy, inclusive development and respect for diversity.

The theme for Commonwealth Day 2022 centres around the theme for the forthcoming Commonwealth Head of Government Meeting — 'Delivering a Common Future' which highlights how the 54 member countries in the Commonwealth family are 'innovating, connecting and transforming' to help achieve goals like fighting climate change, promoting good governance and boosting trade. Given that 2022 is Her Majesty's Jubilee Year, there is also a special focus this year on the role service plays in the lives of people and communities across the Commonwealth.

Reading the Affirmation, 'pledging ourselves afresh to uphold and serve the values and fellowship of the Commonwealth' the Town Mayor, Councillor Rachel Evans BEM raised the flag, with support from school children Thomas, Archie and Charlie and said "It was a privilege to be able to stand here today to promote the Commonwealth's shared values of peace, democracy equality and to celebrate the association's rich diversity.

The Commonwealth is a voice for small and vulnerable states, and a champion for young people. Home to 2.4 billion citizens across both developing and advanced economies, the Commonwealth is 54 countries working together for prosperity, democracy and peace. More information is available at <a href="https://thecommonwealth.org/commonwealth-day">https://thecommonwealth.org/commonwealth-day</a>.

