

TOWNCrier • magazine

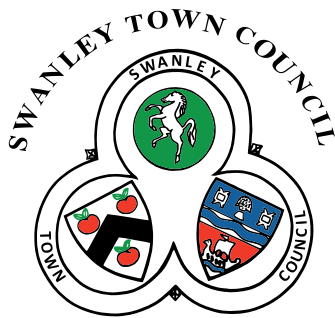
Christchurch • St Mary's • Swanley Village • White Oak Wards

South & South East in Bloom Awards 2019

p7



Mayor Councillor Lesley Dyball (Left)
Park Director Ryan Hayman (Right)



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Please note: All events and news carried in this edition of **The Town Crier** is current at the time of going to press but may be subject to change due to weather conditions.

TOWN Crier magazine

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Christchurch, St Mary's, Swanley Village, White Oak

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You can download and read the Town Crier magazine on the go via the QR Code below or by visiting www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk/town-crier



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Swanley Village



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A word from the Mayor Councillor Lesley Dyball

I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer, taking advantage of the warm summer days to spend time with friends and family.

As your Mayor, I have had a busy time since continuing for a second year in May.

It has been good to meet and chat with a number of residents; at Armed Forces Day on Swanley Rec, 1812 Night, Folkfest, the Family Fun Day in Swanley Park and many more of you at various clubs and groups which I have been invited to visit during the summer months.

We now know that the U+I redevelopment in the Town Centre will be going ahead, despite the best efforts of a number of residents and councillors at the Public Inquiry in June, although we have not yet heard when work is likely to commence.

A new operator has taken over the café in The Link.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Piccalilly's every success, and I hope that this new enterprise will be supported by local residents.

There are some exciting Town Council events coming up during the next few months.

Fireworks on the Recreation Ground 1st November, and Light Up the Town 7th December are free events. See the advertisements in this issue of Town Crier for details.

For those of you who support the Mayor's fundraising events, my Charity Ball is being held on Saturday 26th October and tickets at £36.00 each are available from Swanley Town Council.

Although Christmas is some way off I would like to take this opportunity to send Season's Greetings to you and your families and best wishes for a peaceful, healthy and happy New Year.



Lesley Dyball

Mayor of Swanley
Town Council

A word from the CEO

What a great year it has been so far for all of at the Town Council with more people attending our events and lots of improvements being made to our facilities.

The Olympic has been re-decorated and is just awaiting new carpets while the Alexandra Suite has had new carpets and is awaiting re-decoration (it's all about time available to get the work done).

While park activities are now winding down for the winter months there is still plenty going on to provide activities for residents and to prepare for next years visitors.

A new and larger Splash area will soon start taking shape alongside an expansion of the café facilities and a potential new kiosk next to the play area.

Planning permission is being sought to provide Swanley Rugby Club with a home off Leydenhatch Lane, which will allow them to become self-sustaining and encourage more players along.

This will include changing rooms and welfare facilities along with a kitchen/bar area so the supporters can enjoy a hot drink and a hot dog on those very cold days.

The Town Council has also won the Local Council Quality Award thanks to the work of its staff and councillors in attending relevant training and the way it runs your council.

This was along-side 4 awards for Swanley in Bloom and one Green Flag Award which also recognises the work carried out to enhance our open spaces and the flowers around the town.

There is always more to do and in 2020 we hope to win a second Green Flag for the town and to obtain the Local Council Gold Award for additional improvements.

We remain ready to engage with our residents and hope you will take advantage of our web site and social media pages to let us know your concerns.

Our next news letter will be in the New Year so until then I wish you all a Merry Christmas.



Steve Nash
CEO

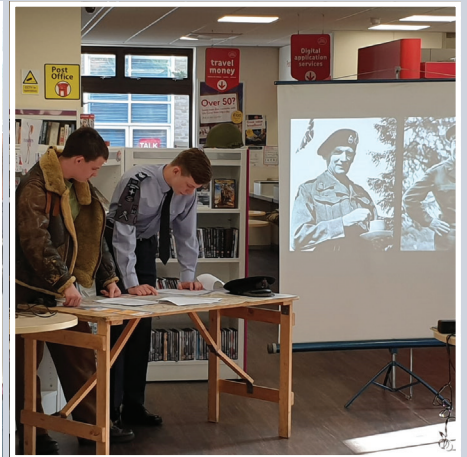
D-Day

Local historian and now Town Councillor Andrew Skipper came up with an idea earlier this year to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D - Day and being a member of 593 Swanley Sqn Air Training Corp involved the local cadets.

Between Cllr Skipper and two of the cadets they organised and planned the event with Cadet Warrant Officer During and Sgt Swany both doing an amazing job of recreating the planning of D-Day alongside some action performances.

This was followed by the Act of Remembrance and a talk by veteran Mr Ted Needham who also spoke about his experiences and has since been awarded Freeman of the Town by the Mayor Cllr Lesley Dyball.

The whole event took place at the Link which has become host to various events over the last 3 years and which continues to develop its services to local residents.



WELHAM JONES
FUNERALS & MEMORIALS

Help at an emotional time...

Swanley - 01322 619100

31 Station Road, BR8 8ES
swanley@welhamjones.co.uk



Other offices at: Borough Green - 01732 780600, Chelsfield - 01689 452525,
Chislehurst - 020 8467 2222, Sevenoaks - 01732 742400, Tonbridge - 01732 617171, Tunbridge Wells - 01892 300330

www.welhamjones.co.uk



Before



Splash Pool Development

Swanley Town Council have committed to a total replacement and extended Splash Pool and Water Feature area. Work is due to begin immediately on extending the surrounding area to make way for this exciting development.

The park has seen an increase of 200,000 visitors since 2017 with many of our visitors suggesting that a larger pool should be built.

Park Director Ryan Hayman (pictured) said 'This is a hugely positive commitment from the Town Council to ensure our Park is future proofed for generations to come.'



The Splash Area is our most popular activity, so I am delighted that we will continue to provide this attraction, whilst also catering for an ever increasing number of park users'.

The area will remain free of charge and will now incorporate a ramp to allow for disabled user access.

Work will be undertaken throughout winter and it is hoped that the Splash area will be open in time for the start of the 2020 season.

Additional park improvements are being considered, with more exciting changes due to be introduced for the start of next season.

After



Town Freeman



Before the War Ted Needham lived in Swanley.

He joined the Royal Navy on 6th April 1943 and went straight to HMS Collingwood Naval Base to do his Radar Operators course.

He was then posted to the Isle

of Man for another course, after which he went to Arromanche in Normandy.

He was posted on the HMS Grenville this led him to take part in the D-Day assault ending up in Le Havre.

After D-Day he went back to the Isle of Man for a further course finally leaving the Royal Navy in September 1946, when he settled around the Crockenhill area working as hairdresser until 1993 and has now moved back to Swanley.

Mr Needham has been involved with the Royal British Legion for many years doing a variety of tasks including Poppy Collections.

Mr Needham now lives back in Swanley living his retirement.

Swanley Active Retirement Association (SwanARA)

Your Local Retirement Club.

New Members welcome,
or come as a Guest (Small fee applies)

We meet the third Tuesday of each month at the Alexandra Suite, St. Mary's Road, Swanley at 2.00pm, when we have a guest speaker followed by tea or coffee and biscuits or sometimes cake.

Recent Outings:

- Himalayan Gardens
- Wingham Wildlife Park
- River Wye Horse Drawn Barge Ride
- Titsey Place
- Four day trip to Oxford, Warwick, Stratford on Avon and Leamington Spa



illustration purposes only

Coming Events:

- Afternoon Tea at the Bowls Club
- Christmas Lunch at Pedham Place Golf Club
- Sleeping Beauty and La Boheme at the Orchard
- Triplow Daffodil Festival

We offer at cost Theatre tickets, days out, and short holidays.

We also arrange London and Local walks, and offer a range of short holidays, with limited place available on next years

Wonderful Wales on the **17th April**,
The Isle of Man on the **14th August**,
and **Cornwall's Gardens** on the **2nd October**.

Other Outings and Holidays in the planning.

Membership details from
Linda on 01322 408 663, **Ray** on 01322 663 541
or **Ingrid** on 01322 664 053.

Swanley Town Remembrance Day Parade

Sunday 10th November
Parade leaves Town Centre at 2.30pm
Wreath laying at 2.45pm
at War Memorial
Church Service St. Mary's Church

OFFICE SPACE TO LET

Ground Floor, Short or Long term rent available.

Cost will include: Wi-Fi | on-site free Parking | Electricity

For further information or to book a viewing
please call: 01322 613 900



South & South East in Bloom Awards 2019

OPPOSITE
Mayor Councillor Lesley Dyball (Left)
with Park Director Ryan Hayman (Right)

BELOW
S&SEIB Representative
handing out the awards



Swanley enjoyed a multiple award winning event at this year's South & South East in Bloom award ceremony.

The award is part of Britain in Bloom and runs annual competitions to find the best Villages, Towns, Cities, Parks, Parishes, Town & City Centres, Urban Communities and Business Improvement Districts.

Swanley Town Council were entered into four categories, incredibly winning in all.

The Town Centre retained a silver award. Swanley Park Nature and Wildlife Reserve was entered for the first time and won silver gilt for the small conservation area of the year award.

Swanley Park was also entered for the first time and won the prodigious title of silver gilt for large park of the year.

Finally, Swanley Recreation Ground won a first honour, receiving the silver award for common of the year.

Park Director Ryan Hayman said 'It is an honour to collect these awards in front of industry experts and some of the best Parks in the country.

To go from winning one award to four is remarkable and credit must go to our staff for all their tireless efforts'.

The Town Council are always making improvements to the open spaces of Swanley. However, not all open spaces in Swanley are the responsibility of the Council.

It is hoped that going forward the Town Council would be able to assume responsibility for additional open spaces within Swanley, on the back of the continued success of our parks.



Soul Sisters Calendar 2020

Charity Calendar produced by local women and companies in and around Swanley, in aid of Breast Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Support.



Mandy Parker's Story

In 2017 I was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer.

After two lots of surgery, four normal rounds of chemotherapy, four accelerated chemotherapy and then fifteen radiotherapy and losing all of my hair, I felt completely drained and so emotional.

I wanted to give something back to other people like I received through all of my treatment. MacMillan and Breast Cancer Care were truly my lifeline.

I then joined the Feel Good Suite at Whiteoak Leisure Centre and met so many lovely people, I had already decided to make a "Calendar Girls" style calendar and it started from there.

Sylvia Searles joined forces with me, after having lost her husband to cancer, then one by one, other ladies joined us, whose lives had also been touched by this horrible disease.

We all had great fun producing the calendar and we have all become great friends, If it gives some people help, both emotionally, financially and mentally, it has been so well worth doing, I'm still having ongoing treatment, but it's so very important to stay positive and strong.

The Calendars are now on sale at the price of £8.00. The Link, Ruxley Manor Garden Centre, Feel Good Suite - Whiteoak Leisure Centre, Stanhill Farm and Namaste - Swanley

Many people have been touched by cancer sadly, so let us try and make even a little difference to some of those who are on their own journey.

Sleeping Beauty

The Alexandra Suite,
• St Mary's Road,
Swanley,
Kent BR8 7BU

Friday 20th
December 2:00pm

Sunday 22nd
December 8:00pm

Tickets £10.00 Adult
Tickets £8.00 Child

Call the Box Office on: 01322 613900

Alexandra Suite & The Olympic

The Alexandra Suite

Personalised Wedding Packages
Exclusive Venue Hire
Licensed for Ceremonies

01322 613 900

sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk | www.swanley.org.uk
St Mary's Road | Swanley | Kent | BR8 7BU

Scan the QR Code to find out more

The Olympic Monthly Events

FAMILY KARAOKE

**FIRST FRIDAY
OF THE MONTH**
From 7:30pm

**GREAT FAMILY
NIGHT OUT!**
RESERVE A TABLE
**IDEAL FOR CHILDREN'S
BIRTHDAYS**



DARTS COMPETITION

alongside our popular Karaoke Night
A GOOD FAMILY NIGHT OUT!

1st Friday of the month
£100 (Guaranteed Prize Pot)



Registration between
7.00pm and 7:30pm
Competition starts 7:45pm

Round Robin
Straight KO
(number dependent)

QUIZ Night

SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Entry £2.00 per person
Start 8.00pm
Maximum 6 people per team

The Olympic
Live music
Last Friday of the month
starting Friday 25th October
featuring: **Nick Griffiths**
8.00pm to late

Beechenlea Lane, Swanley, Kent BR8 8DR
01322 613900 | sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

2019 has seen an increase in our membership to over 260 and at our AGM in May some of our long serving committee members stood down and new ones took over.

We now have 33 different study/interest groups available to members and new groups this year include Chess and Walking Rugby. Most group meetings take place in members' homes (but not the Rugby!).

In April some of our members enjoyed a very enjoyable waking holiday in Betws y Coed and in May the coach trip visit to Oxford was very successful.

Members of our London History Group have enjoyed visiting different parts of London and our last visit to Deptford was very interesting.

Starting from the Cutty Sark it included the riverside of Deptford Strand, the site of Henry VIII's dockyard and the various building associated with them; many have been preserved along with new housing.

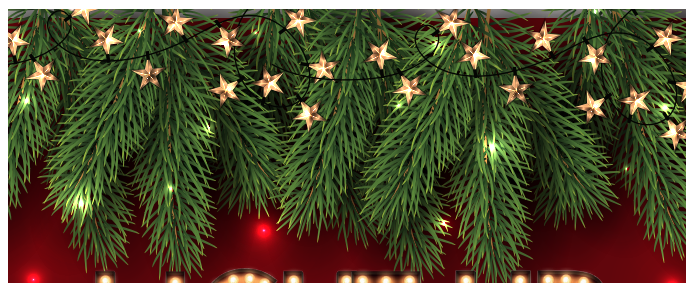
The walk then continued to Albury Street, home to many a Sea Captain in the 1700/1800's, then Deptford High Street which still has a traditional London Pie and Mash Shop "Manze's", finishing at the railway station, the oldest suburban station in the world, along with the brick viaduct that carries the railway from London Bridge to Deptford Creek.

Some members, having grown up in the Deptford area, shared their own personal experiences. Also the Photography Group have done a photo walk around Limehouse and the Limehouse Cut capturing the changing face of the area.

All events are advertised in our monthly newsletters that can be viewed on our website. There is also a full list of all our groups on the website.

If you are no longer in full time employment and want to join our friendly organisation where you can make new friends, learn new skills and engage in new activities then please get in touch with one of our committee members or come along to one of our meetings at the Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley; we meet there on the first Friday of each month.

Please visit our website to find out more about us, our activities and groups:
<https://u3asites.org.uk/swanley>
Join us at one of our monthly meetings



LIGHT UP THE TOWN LIGHT SWITCH ON

Saturday 7th December 2019

11:00am - 7:00pm

Children's Entertainment

Lantern Parade - 5:45pm

Food, Drink & Community Stalls

Live Music

Singers & Choirs

SWITCH ON 6PM

SANTAS GROTTO

Swanley Town Centre

Every child receives a gift!

Naughty Elves - with Sweets

Snow Machine



For more information

Contact Swanley Town Council

on 01322 665 855

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SPONSORSHIP

Swanley Town Council are looking for Local businesses to support this year's Christmas Lights

For further details please contact Toni Roast

Telephone: 01322 665855

BONFIRE NIGHT

FRIDAY 1st NOVEMBER

SWANLEY RECREATION GROUND

Children's activities from 5pm

Guy Fawkes Competition

Bonfire

Live Music

Stalls

Food & Drink

Fireworks 7:30pm

Please purchase your glow items from the Swanley Town Council stall on the recreation ground.

Outside vendors are not contributing anything to this free event.

For further information or stall holder enquires please contact us

01322 665 855

towncouncil@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

GUY FAWKES COMPETITION

School / Individual entry



Rules:

- Only 1 entry per person / group
- Guys must be made of natural materials / clothing / paper
- They **MUST NOT** contain plastic or any type of metal cylinder

The winning Guy will be selected by the Mayor of Swanley at Swanley Recreation Ground from 5:00pm on Friday 1st November

Fireworks at 7:30pm

All participants will receive a prize / cash prize for the winner

For further information please call: 01322 665 855

SWANLEY TWINNING

It has been called the best kept secret in Swanley. But that's not the way we want it! What is it? Swanley & District Twinning Association. Swanley is twinned with Verrieres-le-Buisson, a French town to the south of Paris.

The aim of twinning is to encourage friendship and understanding between towns in different countries. Swanley & District Twinning Association has been in existence for 44 years and over that time we have built a strong relationship and many friendships with the people of Verrieres.

What do we do?

The highlight of the year is the annual Exchange Visit, usually over the May bank holiday weekend.

This year our French friends came to Swanley.

We visited Knole House and Riverhill Gardens and spent free time with our guests at home and on trips to the seaside, London and elsewhere.

Here are we and our guests at Ebbsfleet just before they caught the Eurostar back to Paris at the end of a very full weekend.



Last year it was our turn to visit Verrieres and we went on a day trip to one of the most extraordinary castles in France, Chambord, near the River Loire. This photograph gives you some idea of how exciting it was....



The Exchange Visit is hugely important but we have also a full programme of other activities.

This year, our members have enjoyed a Burns Night Supper, a Curry Night, a Bastille Day Bash and a Summer Barbecue.

There are monthly rambles in the local area and much more. Please take a look on

<https://www.facebook.com/SwanleyTwinning/>

Who said we were the best kept secret in Swanley?

It was one of our newest members. If you are interested in joining us please contact me, Stephen Twaites, by email at stwaites@hotmail.com.

Swanley History Group

We have now enjoyed several successful meetings at our new venue, **The Alexandra Suite, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU**, where we are being looked after very well by venue manager Kerina Keir and her team.

Our programme so far this year has offered members and visitors a wide variety of topics including the former Darenth hospitals; the history and work of The London Port Authority, MGM Musicals from the 1940's to 1950's and two important colleges Madame Osterberg's Physical Education Training College and Swanley Horticultural College.



Our upcoming programme will be just as varied and entertaining:

05 November Trackway to Motorway
a brief history of roads and their uses

03 December Identifying objects from Dartford Museum

WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!

Following on from our well received book telling the story of the men commemorated on Swanley War Memorial who died in World War 1, we are now working on a tribute to the men named on Swanley War Memorial who died in World War 2.

We are also gathering information about civilians from the Swanley area who perished in World War 2.

Thank you to everyone who has already contacted us.

If you have not yet been in touch with information about a local casualty of WW2 please contact our committee member Ann Hollands, mobile 07952 050 898

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month - 7:15 pm for 7:30 pm start.

For further information visit our website
www.swanleyhistorygroup.weebly.com
Telephone Terry Morris - 07884 493 894 or
Email swanleyhistorygroup@hotmail.co.uk

Christina Tyler,
Programme Organiser



Christmas Basket Meal & Disco

The Alexandra Suite
Friday 6th December
7:30pm - Late

£21.00
Chicken | Scampi | Pizza

The Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU
01322 613900 | sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Frankie Valli

Tribute Act - Peter Sarsfield

Friday 13th December
7:00pm - Late

£41.00
includes 3 Course Dinner
Live Tribute & Disco

Winner of ITV's Stars in their Eyes 2015!

The Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU
01322 613900 | Sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

CASINO DINNER & DISCO

Saturday 14th December

7:00pm - Late

£41.00



The Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU
01322 613900 | sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Celebrate the New Year in style.

New Year's Eve Dinner
Alexandra Suite
6:30pm - 1:00am

5 Course Dinner and Disco
£56.00 per person



The Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU
01322 613900 | sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



80s PARTY NIGHT

Friday, 31st January 2020
8:00pm - Late | Tickets £10.00

The Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU
01322 613900 | sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

SOUL & MOTOWN

Friday 28th February 2020
8:00pm - Late
Tickets £10.00



The Alexandra Suite, St Mary's Road, Swanley BR8 7BU
01322 613900 | sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Swanley Town Council

TOWN Crier magazine

Winter 2019
The Swanley Silhouettes

Summer 2019
New Season Change

Autumn 2019
South & South East in Bloom Awards 2019

TOWN Crier

magazine

Do you have an event or business you would like to promote in the January edition of the Town Crier?

The Town Crier is distributed to 6,500 homes in Swanley and surrounding areas!

Please call Suzie Barnbrook on 01322 665 855 to find out more information including advertising rate's.