

The Great British Spring Clean which was postponed from March due to coronavirus was rescheduled for the 24th – 28th September.

This had to change from our original plans which had included large groups of school children helping.

Groups of no more than 6 volunteers in any one place in accordance with government guideline.

Our local MP Laura Trott together with The Mayor of Swanley, Cllr Lesley Dyball helped to litter pick in Swanley Park on a very blustery Friday and Swanley Village Residents Association once again removed vast amounts of rubbish from Swanley Village.

The Assistant Town Clerk, Toni Roast would like to thank all who took part in helping to keep Swanley looking good including staff from Exhibition and Traffic Management Services, St Paul's School, Christ Church, numerous residents and of course Swanley Town Council staff who were out collecting litter on all 4 days.





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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.

magazine

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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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A word from the Mayor Councillor Lesley Dyball

It really has been a summer unlike anything we have ever experienced before.

The Covid-19 pandemic caused almost every large sporting and outdoor event to be cancelled. No

Tokyo Olympics, no Wimbledon, no Glastonbury and closer to home no 1812 Night in Swanley Park!

Life certainly has been different for all of us this year.

> I mentioned in the Summer issue of the Town Crier the fantastic floral displays in and around the town, and I was absolutely thrilled to learn recently that we had won 5 awards this year in the South and South East In Bloom Competition.

> > Well done to all concerned and thank you for making

our town one to be proud of.

Due to the current restrictions I have not been undertaking any of the usual Mayoral visits this year, although I was a 'virtual' guest at the Lord Lieutenant's Awards Ceremony in September and have attended several AGMs via Zoom.

If your local group or organisation is holding a virtual event which you would like the Mayor to attend please email

csa@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

So as summer days are just about coming to an end, the nights are drawing in, and autumn is approaching I would like to take this opportunity to send you all my warmest regards.

Keep safe.

With every good wish

Lesley Dyball

Mayor of Swanley **Town Council**



WASH COVER MAKE





A word from Ryan Hayman, **Parks and Open Spaces Director**

This season at Swanley Park has been incredibly challenging and it is not quite the grand opening we had envisaged for the new pool.

> However, our staff have been working tirelessly to provide all the activities at the park and we appreciate all those who adhered to the rules and guidelines.

We achieved the Covid-19 'We're Good To Go' award which recognises the most secure venues and sites

against the virus.

To achieve this staff ensured that all necessary precautions went above

and beyond the general requirements.

This season we are keeping our boating lake and The Great Outdoors open throughout winter, if Covid restrictions allow.

We also plan on opening our new Soft Play Centre in the winter.

This activity is being built off the back of resident and visitor suggestions and I am confident it will be thoroughly enjoyed and used.

We hope that 2021 will see a return to normality and I wish you all the best of health.

Ryan M Hayman

Parks and Open Spaces Director



Swanley Bowls Club VS. Swanley Town Council

Graham Pitkin, Terry Palmer, Keith Mitchell, Mayor of Swanley, Lesley Dyball, Steve Innes, Ryan Hayman & Dan Perfect

On the 8th September, the inaugural match of what is to become a yearly fixture on Swanley Bowls Clubs fixtures calendar took place at The Olympic.

Steve Innes, Responsible Financial Officer of Swanley Town Council, had earlier in the year expressed an interest in playing bowls and after a few training and practice sessions got Dan and Ryan interested as well.

The three of them managed to get together and practice in the evenings and Steve approached Keith Mitchell, Captain of Swanley Bowls, with the view of having a match.

The match started at 3pm and it was a very warm humid day.

The Mayor of Swanley, Lesley Dyball, was invited along, and the event was published on various Facebook pages so there were quite a few spectators sitting on the decking at The Olympic enjoying the game along with a cool drink.

The game was very nip and tuck, but the Council won in the end with a score of 22 points and 18 points being scored by the Bowls Club.

Everyone enjoyed the game and Lesley said that she did not realise how enjoyable it was to watch and how much skill was needed in a game of bowls.

A trophy was presented to the winning team by The Mayor which is currently on display at The Olympic.

Next year it is hoped that there will be a best of three games. So if you are interested in playing, then don't hesitate to ask how at The Olympic or at the Bowls Club.

A warm welcome will await you.



Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic the Remembrance Day Parade and service due to take place on the 8th November 2020 has been cancelled.

Those wishing to lay wreaths should do so throughout the day using the governments guidelines on social distancing.

A message from your local Poppy Appeal Team: Whilst the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted how we can deliver the Poppy Appeal this year, our dedicated staff, volunteers, partners and suppliers have been working hard to ensure that the 2020 Poppy Appeal is going ahead and the nation can take part in Remembrance activity.

Each year 40,000 volunteers from all across the UK make the Poppy Appeal happen.

However, many of our volunteers, or someone they live with, now fall into vulnerable categories, so it is simply not safe for them to take part this year.

As a result, we will not be able to deliver boxes of poppies to every local business that has supported the Poppy Appeal in the past.

However, we have developed a range of new and exciting fundraising and donation tools that the public can access via our website to enable companies and communities to support the appeal.

These are available on the Legion website www.rbl.org.uk/poppyappeal Poppies will also be available from 7,500 Sainsburys, Aldi, Morrison's and Tesco stores, and volunteers will run collection stands in other supermarkets and sites where possible.

Many of our national and regional partners will also offer poppies via static boxes.

With this year's Poppy Appeal, we are presented with huge challenges due to the impact the Covid-19 has had across our society.

The pandemic has left some in the Armed Forces community, as in many others, in dire need of urgent help and support.

We are asking our partners, volunteers, fundraisers, members and staff to come together and get behind the Appeal in a way not asked of them before.

Swanley's FINE-Star Success







Swanley has been awarded an amazing five awards at this year's South & South East In Bloom (SSEIB) results day.

SSEIB is part of Britain in Bloom and runs annual competitions across the counties of Kent, Surrey, East & West Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, East & North Dorset and East Wiltshire.

The Town Council entered five categories and managed to either improve upon or match last year's results.

In addition, the first ever entry under Churchyards, achieved the silver award.

Once again an honour went to Swanley Recreation Ground, which received the silver award for open space or common of the year.

An improvement was achieved on behalf of Swanley Town Centre and the surrounding areas, which received a silver gilt award within the category for towns.

This built upon last year's silver award for the town.

In the small conservation area of the year category, Swanley Park's Wildlife and Nature Reserve Area once again won the silver gilt award.

This could not have been achieved without the help of volunteers and huge credit goes to the members of SWAN group who maintain this fantastic area.

The final and fifth award went to Swanley Park, which matched its 2019 results by achieving the much-acclaimed silver gilt for large park of the year.

Park & Open Spaces Director Ryan Hayman said 'After last year I was delighted with achieving the awards we received, this year I am ecstatic. To improve upon last year's honours, within the challenging climate we have operated within, truly goes to show what an amazing team we have.

We are also lucky to have dedicated volunteers such as Richard, Liz and Andy at the SWAN group, also Keith and Christ Church who willingly give their time to help keep the park clean.'

Assistant Town Clerk Toni Roast said 'It's wonderful to see the town go from strength to strength and entering more categories each year with positive results.'

Swanley Town Council's Mayor Cllr Lesley Dyball added 'Given the difficult circumstances that we have all been through this year, the town's flower displays have been an uplifting visual boost for everyone.

A huge well done and thank you to all involved.'



We appreciate that the time between losing a loved one and the funeral is a difficult one.

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Cocktail sandwiches with a variety of fillings
Crunchy coated chicken breast pieces
with barbeque sauce
Variety of fresh quiche
Seasoned potato wedges with tomato dip
Cocktail sausage rolls
Platter of vegetable crudités & assorted dips
Crisps & nibbles

Tea/Coffee on arrival & served with buffet Room Hire included £12.95 per person

Telephone: 01322 613 900





A new look for Swanley

We are pleased to announce today that £2.25m of funding has been secured for a major upgrade of Swanley station.

This will create a more welcoming environment for our passengers and anyone using the station.

The work will deliver a whole range of improvements, including a bigger booking hall with an attractive glass frontage, which will provide an impressive new gateway to the town.

New information screens will be installed, along with better lighting and more CCTV to make you feel safe and secure.

We will also be amending the approach to the station to ease congestion, and encourage cycling and walking, to improve the air quality.

Upgrade work is now commencing

If you are using the station at the moment you will see our project team is starting to set up on site now and the upgrade is scheduled to be completed in May 2021.

The station will remain open throughout the work but some hoardings will be put in place to create a safe walking route through the worksite.

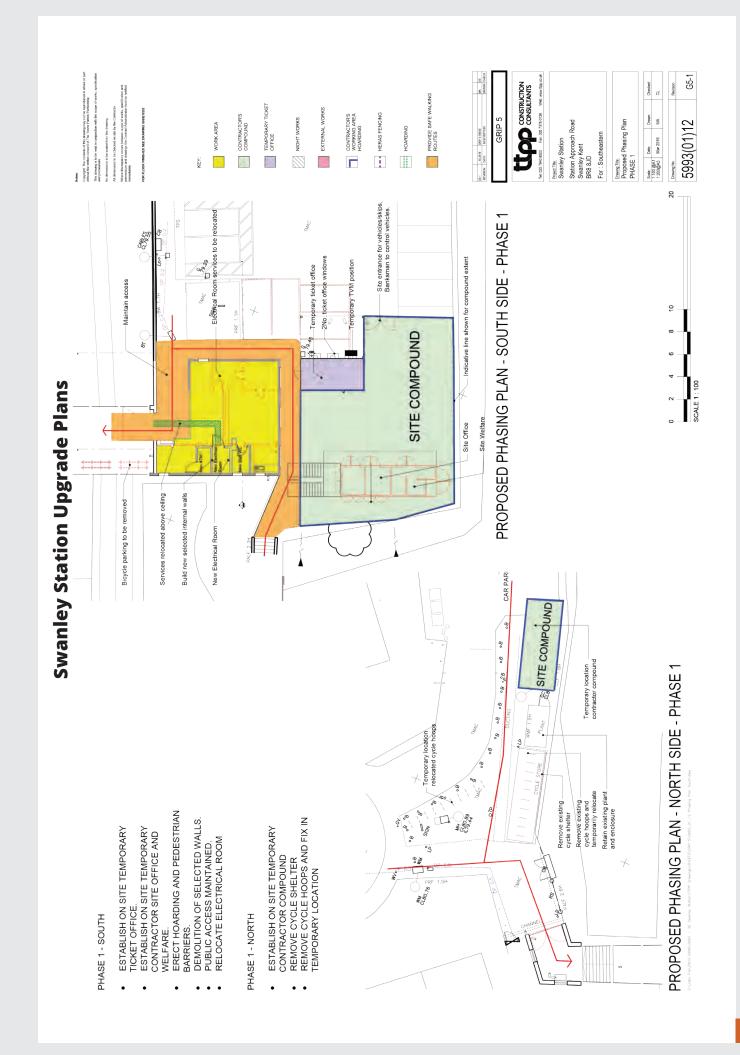
Improvement made possible by grants from local bodies

The £2.25m funding has come from two grants.

The first is £1.5m from the Kent County Council (KCC) Local Growth Fund, via the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP). And the second is £750k from Sevenoaks District Council's Community Infrastructure Levy.

The contract has been awarded to a local Kent based company, WPB, who will be working in partnership with Southeastern and Network Rail.

We will provide you with regular updates as the project progresses.





Are you looking for a job, or need a new challenge?

West Kent Works can help.

Are you unemployed and looking for a job? Are you stuck in a rut, and want a better paid job? Have you had a break from work and lost confidence?









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We can offer support with the following

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- Helping you to access training courses which will help you find employment
- Digital support
- Apprenticeships
- Redundancy

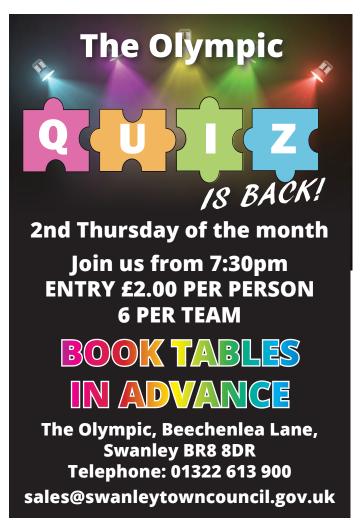
Contact Pauline on 07715 993293 or Dawn on 07850 506383 alternatively email us at westkentworks@wkha.org.uk

visit westkent.org



@westkenthousingassociation







Swanley Neighbourhood Planning Group Agrees to continue with the Neighbourhood Plan

Since our last update the Swanley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has been getting its head around the avalanche of changes to planning.

Some of these, like changes to use classes that you can get planning permission are for and permitted development - development that does not need planning permission are already operational. For details please look online at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/permitted-development-rights-and-changes-to-the-use-classes-order

Some more radical changes are being consulted upon by Central Government.

You can see the full proposals being consulted online https://assets.publishing.service.gov. uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907956/Planning_for_the_Future_web_accessible_version.pdf

The potential effects of this reform are serious on Neighbourhood Planning, but there is also not a lot of detail so the group will be submitting its comments by the deadline either as individuals or as a group.

Despite all this uncertainty, the Steering Group also decided that they will continue to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that development in Swanley is shaped by local people.

They are moving forward and await the results of the AECOM Design Code work for Swanley Village and their work on the location of a new health hub for Swanley.

This work is being done free of charge by AECOM via Central governments

https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/about/grant-funding/

Don't forget if you want to get involved in the Steering Group or share your views about planning, you can contact Lorraine Hart (our Neighbourhood planning consultant) or Toni Roast via the Neighbourhood planning e-mail at NP@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk or posting your views on our Facebook page.





Public Transport Go Coach Update

Public Transport - Go-Coach Update. Following the easing of lockdown, "go2" introduced service updates that came into effect from 17th August. Some limited scheduled routes were reestablished, but with a more limited timetable.

The main thing is that the On-demand bookable bus services will continue to run until at least December/January, but with some modifications:-

- They will cover a large part of the Sevenoaks area, but no longer go to Orpington or Tonbridge.
- Concessionary bus passes will be accepted after 9:30am, but only for journeys up to 8 miles. So, you could for example book from Edenbridge to Swanley but it would cost the full fare of £6.50.
- The service runs from Sevenoaks Mon Fri 6am until 7:30pm, Sat 7:00am – 7:00pm Edenbridge Mon - Fri 9:30am – 3:00pm and Hildenborough Mon -Fri 6:00am – 8:00pm, excluding Sundays and Bank Holidays.
- The hospital services will be discontinued.

In January 2021, it is expected that Route 8, The Sevenoaks Town circular, will be reintroduced for a 2 year period with funding from KCC and the Town Council.

The proposed taxi-style Transit vans which were due to be introduced in May are still on hold because of social distancing.

They are all dressed up and willing to go, once they get the all clear.

These luxury vehicles will also be used by Age UK and KCC for special school transport needs.

In about 3 weeks time there will be a meeting between bus operators and KCC to discuss the allocation of funds for supported bus services in Sevenoaks (circa £350,000 p.a.).

Patient Voice is the Patient Representative Group for the Oaks Surgery

We have continued to meet as a committee during the summer via a virtual platform.

The Patient Voice has printed a News Sheet, which will be available to pick up at the flu clinics and from the local pharmacies. The Oaks has continued to run routine services and clinics throughout lockdown although much of patient contact is now by telephone or video consultation.

The annual flu clinics are being held now so if you receive an invitation please book an appointment.

This year the Oaks Surgery is holding a Virtual Health Event.

This will be live on Thursday 12th November from 19:00 hours to 20:30 hours. We hope to record this event.

Dr. Lunt will act as host for the event and we will be working in conjunction with the Sevenoaks One You Health team for Sevenoaks District.

The topic will be "Wellbeing." This covers the importance of keeping well during this COVID-19 pandemic especially during the coming winter months.

The session will cover all aspects of a healthy lifestyle.

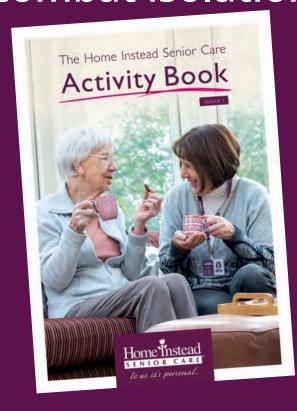
From 20:00-20:15 there will be CHIP (Complete Health Improvement Programme) presented by an exercise specialist.

Please see details on the Oaks website – http://www.oakssurgery-swanley.nhs.uk

We hope to see many of you there. Jackie Griffiths
Chair of Patient Voice



Home Instead's activity books combat isolation



Home care company Home Instead Senior Care Shoreham has been busy delivering an activity book to its clients and the wider community to keep seniors who may feel isolated entertained and mentally active during isolation.

The free activity book contains a variety of puzzles, including wordsearches, riddles, sudokus and a general knowledge quiz.

So far, the booklet has been gratefully received by local sheltered housing associations, church groups, elderly support volunteers, Home Instead clients, as well as pharmacies who have been delivering the booklet with arranged medication packs.

Jag Yogarajah, owner of Home Instead Shoreham, commented: "Although our CAREGivers have been there to provide companionship to our clients throughout lockdown, they noticed that many were missing their normal routines; attending clubs and seeing their family and friends.

The Olympic

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Many were becoming fed-up of the limited activities they could do within their own home.

"We printed 2,000 activity books with the hope of providing a bit of light-hearted entertainment to those who may feel isolated, as well as bringing a smile to their faces."

Home Instead provides high-quality home care services to elderly people throughout the North West Kent area, ranging from companionship and home help, to specialist post-operation and dementia care.

To request a copy of the activity book or find out more about Home Instead services, please call 01959 546 228 or email: marketing@shoreham. homeinstead.co.uk



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CAREGivers are required to protect

you and themselves and are highly

experienced and trained in using

a combination of social distancing

infection control procedures and

safe care

wearing PPE as

guided by

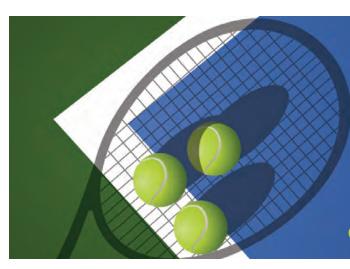
government

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The Olympic

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Swanley Rangers

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raising monies for

The Olympic to sponsor the under 7's



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to find out more.

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