

# TOWN Crier

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

## £150,000 additional investment in Swanley Park this year

This is in addition to more than £350,000 invested last year, creating a larger Splash Pool which was enjoyed by more than 8000 people during the summer whilst adhering to Government guidelines.

Swanley Town Council does not receive any funding from Government or Sevenoaks District Council towards the maintenance of Swanley Park and the income from park operations is crucial to sustain investment to make improvements in the park each year.

The Soft Play is known as 'The Barnyard' a farm themed facility set across three floors. 'The Barnyard', is available for daily

walk-in sessions as well as bookings for both individual sessions and parties.

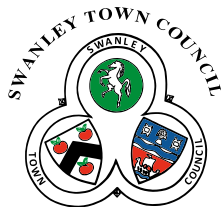
Other investments made in Swanley Park over the last 12 months by Swanley Town Council include:-

- Moving and increasing the size of the Hand Boat Pool
- Relocating the Waterslide to a designated water area
- Replacing the safety surface for the outside playground near the café
- Upgrading the toilet facilities
- Improvements to paths around the parks

Swanley Town Council takes pride in ensuring Swanley Park is a space for everyone to relax, play and exercise and staff work tirelessly to keep the park clean and tidy and to a high standard.

Swanley Town Council is hoping to attain the Green Flag Award for the fourth year in a row, and has also entered the South & South East In Bloom Award competition for the third year in a row having obtained a Silver Gilt award in 2020.





## Contents

- 03 A word from the Mayor:  
Councillor Paul Darrington
- 03 A word from the CEO
- 04 New Mayor for 2021 - 2022
- 04 Mayor's Charities 2021 - 2022
- 06 Patient Voice
- 07 WATCH OUT for Swanley Neighbourhood  
Plan week in October 2021!
- 08 Disability Confident Leader
- 10 Members wanted at your  
local Royal British Legion
- 10 Armed Forces Day
- 11 KALC Award
- 12 Swanley Wildlife and Nature Group  
20 years of creating wildlife habitats in  
Swanley
- 14 Litter Heroes
- 21 The Orchards All Change?



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

7,500 copies are delivered to the following wards:  
**Christchurch, St Mary's, Swanley Village, White Oak**

**Published by: Swanley Town Council.**  
The Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 7BU  
**Telephone:** 01322 665 855 **Fax:** 01322 613 000  
**Email:** townncouncil@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

### Opening Hours:

**Monday to Thursday:** 9:00am - 5:30pm  
**Friday:** 9:00am - 5:00pm **Saturday and Sunday:** Closed

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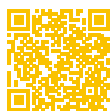
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### Designed and Printed by TLC Online

**Website:** www.tlc-online.co.uk  
**Email:** hello@tlcmedia.co.uk



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](http://www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk/town-crier)



## Councillors and Wards

### Christchurch Ward



#### Laurence Ball (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Mobile: 07515 770220  
Email: lball@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### John Barnes (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 665855  
Email: jbarnes@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Clare Barnes (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 665855  
Email: cbarnes@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### John Domigan (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 663501 Mobile: 07967 441621  
Email: jdomigan@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Melissa Foster (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Mobile: 07795 473 027  
Email: mfoster@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

### St Mary's Ward



#### Michael Horwood (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Mobile: 07815 483891  
Email: mhorwood@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Lesley Dyball (Conservative)

C/O Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 665855  
Email: ldyball@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Jackie Griffiths (Labour)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 662363 Mobile: 07720 327779  
Email: jgriffiths@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Connie Lee (Labour)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 665855  
Email: clee@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

### Swanley Village



#### Tony Searles (Independent)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 662637 Mobile: 07769 686100  
Email: tsearles@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

### White Oak Ward



#### Paul Darrington (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Mobile: 07788 197205  
Email: pdarrington@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Glynnis Darrington (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Mobile: 07555 472604  
Email: gdarrington@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Sarah Andrews (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Mobile: 07810 342 998  
Email: sandrews@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Val Letchford (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 663619 Mobile: 07570 347 690  
Email: vletchford@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Andrew Skipper (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 665855  
Email: askipper@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



#### Jen Tuckfield (Conservative)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU  
Telephone: 01322 668233 Mobile: 07702 542 087  
Email: jtuckfield@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk





# A word from the Mayor Councillor Paul Darrington

Firstly, as your new Mayor I should like to offer my sincere thanks to Cllr Lesley Dyball for her commitment to Swanley as Mayor over her past three years of office.

Unfortunately, since March 2020, some events we planned had to be cancelled and not all of our venues could be fully opened. We are now all looking forward to the time that all restrictions can be safely removed. I should like to offer my sincere appreciation to the many unsung heroes we have in Swanley. In particular, everyone involved in the vaccination programme

at the Alexandra Suite and those who volunteered to shop and deliver essential food to vulnerable residents.

Looking to the future, we are already planning for our popular annual 1812 event in Swanley Park in August and I hope that you and your families will be able to attend.

We have again teamed up with Coolings nurseries for the annual "Swanley in Bloom" competition with a wide range of categories for you to enter ranging from hanging baskets to allotments. This will appeal to our many

"green fingered" residents. Judging will be in the last two weeks of July.

On the 22nd May our new Soft play facility in the Park was officially opened to cater for our younger children and this is already proving to be extremely popular with a high number of bookings. This certainly compliments the growing range of attractions at this location. On the 4th July we officially opened our Tennis Academy at the Recreation Ground.

This will no doubt encourage people of all ages to develop talents that they did not know they had. With holidays abroad being extremely uncertain, UK holidays (Staycation) will be increasing in popularity and the many attractions we have in the Park and Recreation Ground this summer will keep children occupied. Hopefully!

Finally, the two charities I have selected to benefit from fundraising events this year are, The Cygnet Club a local charity catering for people with learning disabilities and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

I Hope to see you at some of our events and venues this year.

*Paul Darrington*  
Mayor of Swanley Town Council

## Our CEO

After a rather long and wet weather spell we are all finally able to enjoy summer, and our facilities are open proving as popular as ever.

We are committed to adding additional amenities to the town and the launch of The Barnyard, our new Soft Play Centre at Swanley Park, demonstrates this. We are now looking into a number of additional projects. One such plan is for a new Skate Park for which we have teamed up with TV's Apprentice star JD O'Brien to help push the fundraising efforts. The Town Council has already committed £30,000 towards a successful full redevelopment of the Skate Park.

Further to this, we are looking to invest in Swanley Park's paths, with the replacement of highly worn areas with a new more durable material. We are also looking to create additional sporting facilities across the town. It is hoped that through a partnership with AFC Green Court, we may be able to create a variety of football pitches at Swanley Park. We also have a long-term aim to move Swanley Rugby

Club to a new purpose built pitch and facility at the Olympic. This would create a thriving environment for the Olympic and would also allow for two football pitches once again at Swanley Recreation Ground.

The new floral displays have been installed across the town and despite the changeable elements they are holding up well. The town has once again been judged by 'In Bloom' as we aim for another year of awards.

The Alexandra Suite has continued as one of Kent's leading Vaccination Centres. The venue comfortably vaccinates over 4000 people across a weekend. 18's and above have been quick to take up the offer and this is helping improve our chances of removing restrictions. After the 19th July we will, (hopefully) be able to host functions once again.

Swanley Park is once again bustling with people and the ever increasing number of attractions are proving popular with visitors. Plans are afoot for the return of 1812 Night on 27th August and this year on the 28th August we will host our first Family FunFest. Two days of entertainment which we hope you enjoy.

*Ryan M Hayman*

CEO



## New Mayor for 2021 - 2022

Swanley Town Council held its Annual General and Mayor Making Meeting on the 4th May virtually this year, as government guidelines in place at the time still did not allow for members to meet in person.

Cllr Paul Darrington of Whiteoak Ward was elected to the position of Mayor for 2021 – 2022. Cllr Glynnis Darrington will serve as Consort.

Cllr Lesley Dyball has been elected to the position of Deputy Mayor, having served for the previous three years as the Mayor.

## The Mayor's Charities



### The Cygnet Club

The Cygnet Club is a social club for adults with learning disabilities for Dartford, Swanley and the surrounding area.

Cllr P Darrington said "Having visited the Cygnet Club and seen the excellent work they do to support people with learning disabilities in our community. I had no hesitation in selecting them as a chosen charity.

The social aspect of this club is very motivational and I was most impressed with the friendly atmosphere and support given to their members."

The club meets on a Thursday evening between 7.00pm and 10.00pm at the Leyton Cross Social Club, Wilmington, Kent, DA2 7AX.

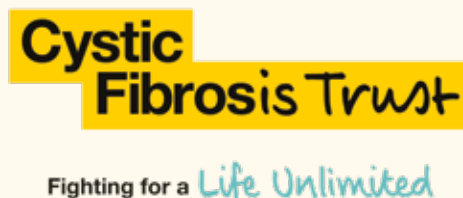
The club provides a range of activities for its members including organised trips (when Government guidelines allows).

The club benefits members and allows families and carers a few hours respite each week.

Membership is £4.00 per week to cover costs but your first week is free so it is well worth popping along to say hello! Please check first to make sure the club is open.

You can call Ruth Glenn on 01322 665196 or Tracey Boswell on 01322 667580 or email [cygnetclub1@gmail.com](mailto:cygnetclub1@gmail.com).

The website can be accessed at <https://cygnetclub.weebly.com>



### Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Cystic Fibrosis Trust, is a UK charity which provides research, information and care for people with cystic fibrosis. They work with communities throughout the UK to help and support all those affected by Cystic Fibrosis.

Cystic Fibrosis affects people with the condition in a huge range of ways throughout their lives. It's hard to paint a picture that illustrates the 10,000 different stories of the Cystic Fibrosis community.

The Cystic Fibrosis Trust, can provide you with information on the different aspects of life that can be affected by Cystic Fibrosis, from new diagnosis to planning for end of life.

For more information visit - <https://www.cysticfibrosis.org.uk>



**THE UK'S #1 OPEN AIR CINEMA  
AT SWANLEY PARK**

THE LUNA CINEMA RETURNS TO SWANLEY PARK WITH THREE NIGHTS OF CLASSIC OPEN AIR CINEMA. WITH OUR SCREEN POSITIONED ON THE BEAUTIFUL GREEN SPACE, AND WITH THESE THREE GREAT FILMS IT WILL MAKE FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT OF CINEMA UNDER THE STARS.

**SWANLEY PARK, NEW BARN ROAD, SWANLEY, KENT, BR8 7PW**

<b>FRI 06 AUG</b>	<b>ROCKETMAN</b> DOORS 7:15PM FILM 8:45PM 2019 - 25 - 2HRS 37MINS
<b>SAT 07 AUG</b>	<b>DIRTY DANCING</b> DOORS 7:15PM FILM 8:45PM 1987 - 22A - 2HRS 17MINS
<b>SUN 08 AUG</b>	<b>A STAR IS BORN</b> DOORS 7:15PM FILM 8:45PM 2019 - 25 - 2HRS 37MINS

**THELUNACINEMA.COM**

heart   

Swanley Park  
New Barn Road,  
Swanley | BR8 7PW

**Family  
FUNFEST**

*Saturday 28th August 2021*

A jam-packed day of family fun with kids entertainment, magic, balloon modelling, science experiments, dancing, singing and so much more!

11:00 - Dance School  
12:00 - Punch & Judy show  
13:30 - Childrens entertainers  
16:00 - Science fun  
17:30 - Thomas Ashby



 **Bike  
Around  
Brands  
2021**

**FRIDAY 13 AUGUST**

Swanley & North Downs Lions Club invite you to ride around the famous Brands Hatch Indy Circuit - and raise money for charity - at our annual 'Bike Around Brands' evening, Friday 13 August (6.00pm - 8.00pm).

Ride for training or for fun... as many circuits as you wish.

To take part get yourself sponsored or make a donation: £15 minimum (£5 for aged 14 & under).



All proceeds will be used to help people in need in the local community and the patients and families supported by the **ellenor** hospice team.



For details contact:  
Colin McRobert,  
Tel: 01732 823827  
or e-mail  
cjmcrobert@btinternet.com

 **1812  
NIGHT**

Friday 27th August 2021

18:30 - Ashton Harley  
19:15 - Rock Choir  
20:00 - Orchestra  
20:45 - Fireworks

Swanley Park, New Barn Road, BR8 7PW  
\*Free event & entry / parking charges apply\*  
Park Facilities open from 11am  
Supporting:  
The Cystic Fibrosis Trust | The Cygnet Club







## Swanley Twinning Association

Established 1985

### VIVE LE JUMELAGE!

#### DID YOU KNOW.....

that Swanley has a special relationship with a lovely "Twin Town" close to Paris in France?

#### DID YOU KNOW.....

that for many years now social, cultural, sporting and educational exchanges have taken place?

#### DID YOU KNOW.....

that here on the Kent side of this friendship we enjoy a regular and varied programme of activities throughout the year?

#### INTERESTED? WANT TO KNOW MORE?

We hold regular events in Swanley and even in France!

Contact: Chrissy Hudson for more information  
on 01322 662271

**We look forward to meeting you.**

## THE OLYMPIC

The Olympic, Beechenlea Lane, Swanley BR8 8DR

### Family Friendly Bar & Noypi Chef

Closed Mondays

Tuesday-Friday: 11am-Late | Saturday: 12pm-Late | Sunday: 12pm-6pm

(Food available 2-9pm Tues-Sat)

**Walk-ins welcome - inside & outside seating available!**



Book your table by calling us on

**01322 669201**



www.theolympic.co.uk



## Patient Voice

As you will be aware, this is still a challenging time for the NHS, and GP practices continue to balance the vaccination process, the threat of new variants and ongoing patient care.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, The Oaks Surgery has provided an accessible service for patients and currently offers face to face appointments for patients for blood tests, annual reviews, immunisation, cervical smears, NHS Health Checks, nursing appointments etc.

The current operating model for GP appointments consists of a telephone triage phone call first.

At this stage many patients can be diagnosed and treated either by telephone or video call; those patients requiring face to face appointments following a telephone or video consultation are offered a face-to-face appointment with a GP.

The Practice also uses eConsult for online advice, administrative assistance and requests for telephone appointments.

The Oaks has been actively involved in running many Saturday COVID-19 vaccination clinics alongside the roll out at the Alexandra Suite in Swanley - which continues with all adult patients over 18 now invited to attend.

The NHS App is extremely useful for patients to help with ordering repeat prescriptions, viewing COVID status, vaccination records and to access other NHS services.

The Patient Voice is currently producing another Newsletter to keep our patients up to date.

We are also in the process of planning another health event on Wellbeing in November.

We are hoping to be advertising this from mid September.

Please stay well as we come out of restrictions and go forward into the winter.

**Jackie Griffiths**  
Chair of Patient Voice



**Swanley Warriors**



**Swanley Town Council**  
can carry out additional works for local residents from minimum £10.00 per hour.

Our trained and experienced Grounds Team normally work Monday to Friday but are always looking to earn a little bit more.

**Cut Lawns | Strim Hedges  
Dig Gardens | Plant Flora and Fauna,  
Weed, Spray and Chip**

**Bookings are subject to availability  
contact Bradley 0758 4030 957**

Items for planting must be purchased by the hirer and staff cannot be used for removing items of furniture and similar rubbish.

**THE OLYMPIC**  
Beechenlea Lane, Swanley BR8 8DR

**QUIZ  
NIGHT**

**Third Thursday of the month**  
**Entry £2.00 per person**  
**Max 6 per team**

Book your table in advance  
01322 669201 or message us  
[sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.theolympic.co.uk](http://www.theolympic.co.uk)



# WATCH OUT for the Swanley Neighbourhood Plan week in October 2021!

The Swanley Neighbourhood Plan is getting very close to completion.

The Steering Group of residents who are volunteers preparing the Plan have worked hard to collect evidence – on parking, open spaces, future housing development, community facilities and so on.

They have also drafted planning policies that Sevenoaks will have to take into consideration when making decisions on planning applications for Swanley.

The group is making the case that Swanley is a distinctive place that is important to local residents and that its character should be enhanced and protected:

- We are proposing that Swanley is not a place for high buildings and we want to prevent more of them coming forward for approval
- We are not proposing any new development sites in the plan
- We have prepared detailed design guidelines for Swanley Village to protect its special character
- We propose to prevent loss of Swanley's Green Belt and its open spaces and parks and sports and community facilities.
- We propose to improve the quality of new housing that will be built both on sites that Sevenoaks have agreed for the Local Plan that they are preparing (we cannot do anything about that – Central Government demands new housing from all Districts) and others than come forward to apply for planning permission on existing sites such as Broom Hill and Swanley Lane
- We propose to make sure we have a new health facility that is in the centre of the town and includes all the facilities that our local surgeries want.

If you care about Swanley, watch out for events that will be taking place - tell everyone you know and make sure you bring your friends and family.

You will get a leaflet through your door and it will be on the Town Council Website.

Come and let us know what you think of what we have done so far.



# disability confident

## LEADER

Swanley Town Council is pleased to announce that on the 29th June 2021 we obtained "leader" status through the disability confident scheme.

There are only six other businesses in Kent which have received this accreditation, and Swanley Town Council is the first council in Kent to obtain this accolade which is valid until 26th June 2024.

We are now able to display the logo above on all of our

paperwork and social media posts.

Our journey towards this recognition began back in February 2021. Toni Roast, Assistant Town Clerk said "It is a fantastic achievement to obtain this highest level of recognition in such a short space of time.

When completing our level two paperwork, it was obvious that we already had in place most of what was needed to obtain the accreditation".

## Disability Confident Leader

Since being recognised as a Disability Committed Employer in February, Swanley Town Council staff have received training in working with people who are on the Autistic Spectrum and working with people who have selective mutism.

This has been extremely beneficial and has already produced great results throughout the team and further training courses are planned.



# DARENT VALLEY

COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP

## VOLUNTEER GROUPS NEEDED!

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to form groups to maintain and develop gardens along The Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership.

As well as engaging thousands of people in volunteering, Community Rail Partnerships bring people together creating a sense of pride by locals about their station and communities!

Sevenoaks | Bat & Ball | Otford |  
Shoreham | Eynsford | Swanley

For more information please contact  
[sarah.newman@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.newman@sevenoaks.gov.uk)

Volunteers are inducted by Southeastern staff safety training provided. We look forward to working with you to make our stations more welcoming and attractive!

**WestKent**

Places to live. Space to grow.

## Looking for work, or just need a change?

We can offer support with the following

- Creating a bespoke CV
- Internet job search and help with uploading documents
- Interview skills and techniques
- Supporting you with job applications
- Confidence building
- Careers advice
- Helping you to access training courses which will help you find employment
- Digital support
- Apprenticeships
- Redundancy

The Plaza Suite, The Stag Theatre, London Road,  
Sevenoaks, TN13 1ZZ

Every Tuesday from 1 June, 9.30am-12pm

By appointment only.

Contact Pauline on 07715 993293

or Dawn on 07850 506383

alternatively email us at [westkentworks@wkha.org.uk](mailto:westkentworks@wkha.org.uk)

visit [westkent.org](http://westkent.org)

visit [@west\\_kent](https://twitter.com/west_kent) [WestKentHA](https://www.facebook.com/WestKentHA)  
[@westkenthousingassociation](https://www.instagram.com/westkenthousingassociation)





## THE ALEXANDRA SUITE

PERSONALISED WEDDING PACKAGES  
EXCLUSIVE VENUE HIRE



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KENT, BR8 7BU

**01322 613900 | [www.swanley.org.uk](http://www.swanley.org.uk)**

## Are you experiencing domestic abuse?

If you are with your abuser and need help, dial 999 on your mobile phone and when prompted dial 55, this will get you through to the police who will be able to help.



## Swanley Park Summer Activities



**All activities: Open from 11am daily**  
**Swanley Park | New Barn Road | Swanley | Kent, BR8 7PW**



**DNG Funfair open from 19th August to 1st September**





## Members wanted at your local Royal British Legion

Your local Royal British Legion Branch was re-formed 1980 when the villages of Swanley, Crockenhill & Hextable came together to form one Branch.

At that time, membership flourished and many events were instigated by the Branch, including a Branch Parade in May and, of course, Remembrance Day Parades.

The Poppy Appeal over the last 40 years has gone from strength to strength and has managed to collect around £35,000 on several occasions in recent years.

However, we are now in the situation where our membership has declined significantly and those members we have are becoming less able to physically attend meetings with only a handful being able to use social media as a means of contact.

What we need now is some new blood. Anyone can join the Legion - you do not have had to have been in the services to be in the Legion.

We especially need younger people who can assist with the organisation and running of the Branch. (the majority of our members are in their 70s and 80s). We meet once a month and the meetings are very friendly.

We publish a Branch Newsletter every quarter, which is full of things we have done and are planning to do.

Occasionally, we have a guest speaker at our meetings and we are hoping to have more in the future.

It is now very easy to join. You can do it online through the Royal British Legion website ([www.british.legion.org.uk](http://www.british.legion.org.uk)), or by a phone call to the Legion on 0800 307 7773, or by contacting anyone in our Branch.

Geoff - 07766 111 607 or Chris - 07880 793 919. Current membership cost is £18.00 per year, plus £3.00 Branch subscription, and quote our Branch number BR2026.

**Geoff Lees**  
Branch Secretary  
and Standard Bearer



## Armed Forces Day

On the 26th June, Swanley Town Council celebrated Armed Forces Day by raising the flag in the Civic Centre.

This was an alternative to the normal event which was cancelled due to the pandemic.

This did not deter us from showing our respects to both veterans and current members of our Armed Forces.

A COVID-19 compliant ceremony took place prior to the flag being raised by Cllr Paul Darrington, Mayor of Swanley.

At the event we were honoured to be joined by WW2 D-Day veteran and resident Ted Needham.

Those also in attendance included Rosemary Dymond DL, Chairman of Sevenoaks District Council Cllr Diana Esler, Air Cadets from 593 Squadron, Swanley Town Council Councillors, The Royal British Legion and Kent County Councillor Perry Cole.

The event was organised by Assistant Town Clerk Toni Roast, who said; "I am grateful for the turnout and happy that we can still show our appreciation to the Armed Forces.

This past year they have been on the frontline aiding the response to COVID-19 alongside our key workers, which shows just how vital they are to the country and in our community where they helped the testing of residents among other duties."

We sincerely hope that the full event planned for this year's Armed Forces Day will be able to go ahead on the 25th June 2022.





## KALC Award

Mayor of Swanley Cllr Paul Darrington presented Sonyer Ellard with her KALC Award.

**On the 25th May 2021 the Mayor of Swanley Cllr Paul Darrington presented Sonyer Ellard with her KALC Award. Sonyer was put forward for the award for her outstanding work as a volunteer during the Coronavirus Pandemic.**

Assistant Town Clerk Toni Roast said "I had no hesitation in nominating Sonyer for this award for her outstanding work and commitment."

Sonyer was one of the first people to sign up as a volunteer to help those who were self-isolating.

Sonyer and her husband Drew often completed multiple shopping trips daily, in addition to delivering prescriptions and talking to residents who were lonely.

Sonyer works at "We Are Beams" in Hextable and was originally furloughed from her job, but

this only lasted for four weeks. Returning to work did not change Sonyer's volunteering commitment and Sonyer continues to shop for residents with whom she has built up a special rapport.

Sonyer said "As a parent of a disabled child/adult I don't see this as a big challenge, this is our normal, although life can be harder at times. It was lovely to have it recognised, as well as the other things I/we accomplished".

## THE OLYMPIC

Beechenlea Lane, Swanley BR8 8DR

### FAMILY KARAOKE NIGHT

**Our much loved monthly karaoke night is returning!**

Why not book your table in advance  
01322 669201 or message us  
[sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.theolympic.co.uk](http://www.theolympic.co.uk)





**Alexandra Suite,  
Swanley**

# FREE CLASS

**Enjoy your first trial  
class for FREE**

**4 to 8 years  
15:40 Ballet  
16:20 Cheerleading/Acro  
All ages  
17:00 Musical Theatre  
8+ years  
17:40 Streetdance**

**www.wrightdance.co.uk  
07909 573823**



## Swanley Wildlife and Nature Group - 20 years of creating wildlife habitats in Swanley

SWAN is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year and since lockdown restrictions have eased, members have been busy creating and maintaining wildlife habitats in Swanley Park.

If you would like to contribute to improving the biodiversity in the town and making Swanley Park an even more special place to visit, then why not come along to see what we have been up to?

The group usually meets at 10am on the last Saturday of every month at the wildlife area (Environment Area) top car park at Swanley Park.

The group is currently awaiting the results of conservation competitions, having been successful in previous years.

A program of projects has been drawn up for the year that includes maintaining wildlife meadows, installation of a pond, tree and hedge maintenance, and creating habitats for all types of plants and wildlife.

All under 18s must be accompanied at all times by their parents/guardian or responsible adult.

### Website

<https://swanleyenviorgroup.webs.com>

### Facebook

search Swanley Wildlife and Nature Group

### Email

[swanleywildlifeandnaturegroup@gmail.com](mailto:swanleywildlifeandnaturegroup@gmail.com)

# Jack and the Beanstalk

**Tuesday 21st  
December 2021**



**Adults £10.00 Child £8.00**

**Matinee: 2:00pm**

**Evening: 7:30pm**

**The Alexandra Suite  
St Mary's Road, Swanley**

**Call: 01322 613900**

**[sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)**



# WHAT'S ON

*in your local community...*

## Swanley Community Tennis Coaching Sessions

Junior and adult sessions available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday

Visit [www.clubspark.lta.org.uk](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk) or call the coaching team on 0734 184 1831



## Alzheimer's and Dementia Coffee Morning

Second Friday of the month from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at The Pavilion, The Alexandra Suite, BR8 7BU

Visit <https://www.alz-dem.org/social-groups-and-activities/memory-cafes/> or Contact: 01474 533 990



## Free Guitar Sessions for beginners 8+

You will need to be a West Kent tenant and have your own guitar (let them know if you don't have a guitar but would still like to join).

Visit [www.westkent.org](http://www.westkent.org) and search: youth services.

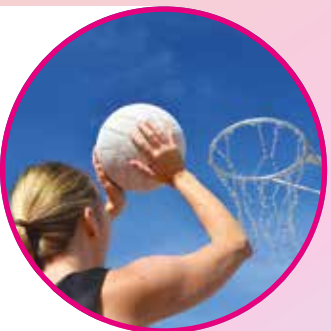


## Swanley Netball Club & Mencap 'Round the World Challenge'

Offering Netball sessions to females ages 16+ with learning disabilities

Monday evenings between May - October

Contact: [swanleync@gmail.com](mailto:swanleync@gmail.com)



## West Kent Job Hub

Offering free support with employment every Wednesday 9.30am - 12.00 midday

At the Pavilion, The Alexandra Suite BR8 7BU

Contact: [westkentworks@wkha.org.uk](mailto:westkentworks@wkha.org.uk)



**Full list of sports clubs available on our website [www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)**

# LITTER HEROES



**Graham**



**Jane**



**Jane**



**Janice**



**Peter**



**Sarah**



**Sue**



**Vanessa**

In 2017 Swanley Town Council signed up for the first time to be part of the "Great British Spring Clean" national campaign. Residents, Primary School staff and pupils, STC Staff and Councillors were quick to sign up and volunteer their services to help clean up Swanley.

Since then the clean-up events in Swanley have grown and grown, becoming both more frequent and taking place over more days.

Swanley Town Council now take part in both the "Great British Spring Clean" and the "Great British September Clean" national campaigns.

In addition to this we now have a large amount of volunteers who litter pick in and around Swanley on a regular basis helping to tackle the problem of littering.

Swanley Town Council would like to extend a huge thank you to all those who volunteer their services helping to keep our town looking great.

Photos of some of our "Litter Heroes" are featured on this page together with some photos of the rubbish which has been collected over the past few months.

Thank you Litter Heroes, keep up the good work!

Toni Roast  
Assistant Town Clerk





# The Great British Spring Clean



On the 29th May, Swanley Residents along with Swanley Town Councillors took part in the Great British Spring Clean (GBSC) event to help clean up Swanley.

The main areas of focus were Swanley Park, Laburnum Avenue, Farm Avenue, Lynden Way, Rowan Road and the top end of London Road.

The Town Council wish to extend a huge thank you to all those who joined the GBSC and to our regular community of litter heroes who carry out numerous litter picks each week.

Town Clerk & CEO Ryan Hayman said "Once again the community has come out in force for the Great British Spring Clean. With litter picking there are the obvious benefits for the environment, but it is also good for our mental and physical health".

Another stirring effort is that of four year old resident Grayson, who wanted to get involved and organised a litter pick, with the help of his Dad.

He was inspired to take action when he witnessed rubbish being left in the town's parks.

John (Grayson's father) said "We walked the local area and cleaned up, picking up a total of 25 bags of rubbish along with some other larger items!

I'm really proud of Grayson and I thought I would share the pictures, see below, which I hope will inspire other local litter heroes!



If you would like to get involved in future litter picks please email Lilly at [lhendrylewis@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lhendrylewis@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



## KEEP SWANLEY TIDY



# Your Local Sports Clubs

## Swanley Football Club

Swanley Recreation Ground,  
St Mary's Road,  
Swanley  
BR8 7BU

swanleyfc@gmail.com  
<http://www.fcswanley.co.uk/>



## Swanley Rangers Football Club

Swanley Recreation Ground,  
St Mary's Road,  
Swanley  
BR8 7BU

Telephone: 07553 518 236  
Email: clubsec.Swanleyrangers@gmail.com



## Swanley Bowls Club

The Olympic,  
Beechenlea Lane,  
Swanley  
BR8 8DR

Telephone: Keith 07877 060 840  
Email: info@Swanleybowlsclub.co.uk



## Swanley Netball Club

Recreation Ground (netball courts)  
Swanley Recreation Ground,  
St Mary's Road,  
Swanley  
BR8 7BU

Email: Swanleync@gmail.com



## AFC Green Court Football

Green Court Sports Club,  
47 Green Court Road  
BR8 8HF

Telephone: Geoff Searle 07818 020 540



## Swanley Rugby Club

Swanley Recreation Ground,  
St Mary's Road,  
Swanley  
BR8 7BU

Email: info@SwanleyRFC.co.uk



## Every Step Counts

Walking club for all ages  
Swanley Park,  
New Barn Road,  
BR8 7PW

Telephone: 07952 755 863  
Email: keith.wood73@outlook.com



## London Knightz

Inline hockey based in Swanley  
Hilda May Aveue,  
Swanley  
BR8 7BT

Telephone: 07973 763 561  
Email: info.londonknightz@gmail.com



## Swanley Boxing Club

The Olympic,  
Beechenlea Lane,  
Swanley  
BR8 8DR

Telephone: Eddie 07411 106 681  
Email: e.welsh73@ntlworld.com



## Sevenoaks Suns Basketball Club

Sevenoaks School,  
High Street,  
Sevenoaks  
TN13 1HU

Email: info@sevenoakssuns.com



## Swanley Athletics Club

Swanley Park,  
New Barn Road,  
BR8 7PW

Web: [www.swanleyanddistrictac.org](http://www.swanleyanddistrictac.org)





# Make Swanley A Better Place To Live!



The Town Council is committed to making Swanley a cleaner and tidier place to live.

We need your help as a community to do this.

Excess rubbish is a health hazard and not conducive to good mental health, thereby affecting the well being of all.

We have had some success with fly tipping much of which is coming from London areas.

Please be vigilant and report any fly tipping to us.

We are in touch with the Environmental Health Office at Sevenoaks District Council and the Officers there are determined to put a stop to unwanted dumping of rubbish and are prepared to use enforcement powers to stop it.

Many of our residents have shown true community spirit by organising litter picks *see pages 14 and 15*.

Many have been vigilant and conscientious in reporting excess rubbish.

Please continue to do so.



Let's go for this together.  
**Cllr Jackie Griffiths**  
Email: [jgriffiths@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:jgriffiths@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



If you would like to get involved in future litter picks contact Lilly by using her email details:  
[lhendrylewis@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lhendrylewis@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



Can you spare a couple of hours?

Make a difference by joining us  
and taking part in

**The Great British September Clean 2021**

We are looking for volunteers to help  
litter pick in Swanley!

**10th – 13th September 2021**

Contact Lilly please see details below  
[lhendrylewis@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lhendrylewis@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



**KEEP  
SWANLEY  
TIDY**



# Struggling with your energy bills?



## Call the Green Doctors

# 0800 233 5255

### Our Green Doctors can help you:

- Save money on your energy bills
- Switch energy providers
- Claim your Warm Home Discount
- Get prepayment meter support
- Tackle energy or water debt

The call is free

**THE SERVICE  
IS FREE**

Green Doctors are part of Groundwork South, a charity that helps people save money, stay warm, and use less energy.

Find out more at  
[south.greendocctors.org.uk](https://south.greendocctors.org.uk)







### **Soul & Motown Party Night**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September - The Alexandra Suite

### **Party Anthems**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - The Alexandra Suite

### **Michael Jackson Live Tribute**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November - The Alexandra Suite

### **80's Christmas Party Night**

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November - The Alexandra Suite

### **Christmas Basket Meal & Disco**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - The Alexandra Suite

### **Christmas Basket Meal & Disco**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December - The Alexandra Suite

### **Casino Dinner & Dance**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December - The Alexandra Suite

### **Rat Pack Solo Singer Tribute & Basket Meal**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December - The Olympic

### **Elvis Tribute & Basket Meal**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December - The Alexandra Suite

### **Soul & Motown Dinner & Dance**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December - The Alexandra Suite

### **Jack and The Beanstalk Pantomime**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December - 2 showings - 2pm & 7:30pm

### **New Year's Eve 5 Course Dinner & Dance**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December - The Alexandra Suite

### **Family New Year's Eve Party**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December - The Pavilion



**For more information including tickets**

**Call us 01322 613900**

# Conference Facilities

## Swanley Kent BR8

EXCELLENT TRANSPORT LINKS | FREE PARKING | FANTASTIC IN-HOUSE CATERING | TOUCH DISPLAY SCREENS



Whether you are organising a training day, intimate meeting or large scale conference/seminar;  
we can offer excellent facilities at fantastic rates

Please contact a member of our sales team

01322 613900 / 01322 669201

[sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)

**NEW EVENT**

**MICHAEL JACKSON**  
LIVE TRIBUTE & LATE DJ

**RORY JACKSON AS SEEN ON**  
**BRITAIN'S GOT TALENT**

Alexandra Suite  
Friday 26th November 2021  
7:30pm - Late  
£10 per person

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

**01322 613900**  
[sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



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We appreciate that the time between losing a loved one  
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Cocktail sandwiches with a variety of fillings  
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with barbeque sauce  
Variety of fresh quiche  
Seasoned potato wedges with tomato dip  
Cocktail sausage rolls  
Platter of vegetable crudités & assorted dips  
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Tea/Coffee on arrival  
& served with buffet  
Room Hire included  
**£12.95 per person**

**Telephone: 01322 613 900**



**The Alexandra Suite**  
**LIVE MEDIUM ON STAGE**



*Steve Hollbrook*

**Wednesday 6th October - 7.30pm**  
**Tickets £15.00**  
**Box Office: 01322 613 900**



# THE ORCHARDS ALL CHANGE? MEMORIES OF THE CLASSROOM



I began my senior education at Swanley School, as The Orchards was then known, in 1980. Back then, it was a school that catered for over 2000 students, organised into seven Houses, with a two-class intake per House.

We were exposed to a huge selection of subjects and gained experience that could feed into a number of careers.

Subjects such as pottery, woodwork, metal work, technical drawing, art, needlework, home economics (cooking to the plain speakers), music and a vast array of sports were all part of the standard curriculum.

Facilities at the school were amazing for those days. Lower School, which was later sold to make way for housing, had 4 rugby pitches, 6 netball courts, an athletics track, high jump, long jump pits and Upper School (the sole remaining part) had 3 netball courts, a full size hockey pitch, gymnasium and sports hall.

When I left Swanley School I felt that I had received a well-rounded education that had equipped me with the tools necessary to enable me to be successful in whatever I chose to pursue.

When I returned to The Orchards for the first time some four years ago, I nearly cried. Students now have vastly reduced facilities and are clearly suffering from a lack of investment.

Today, sporting facilities are much reduced to just a hockey pitch, gym and sports hall, and the school's very fabric is in need of some serious TLC.

Although the teaching staff remain enthusiastic, encouraging and completely dedicated, that is

clearly not matched by the fabric of the building.

Despite the poor building, Nick Gibb has written to Orchards Academy to commend the school's results and to comment on what an outstanding job staff do there; it is clearly a school worthy of investment.

The school now has a waiting list for places and has been asked in recent years to take students over their expected numbers, so it is clear that Orchards Academy is valued by the local community.

Around the time that I returned to The Orchards, I was coaching netball at various schools across SE London, witnessing first-hand the vast differences between the facilities at state versus public educational establishments.

The children who attend schools in the poorest areas and those who attend privately funded schools will all be competing for the same jobs and opportunities as they move through life.

I firmly believe that all children have the right to an excellent education, regardless of wealth or circumstance. Everyone should have the opportunity to reach their maximum potential if they are prepared to put in the effort, hard work and dedication.

The Orchards has suffered years of financial neglect, and as a consequence, student's access to a range of experiences has been shaved away.

Without the chance to access and learn different skills, as I did and other children still do, Orchard's pupils will have less exposure to new challenges and opportunities and the world of employment will be less open to them.

We are, however, able to make this better. I was voted to represent White Oak ward in the 2019 elections, securing a position on both the Town and District councils.

Having grown up in Swanley, worked here, commuted from and raised a family here, I am fully aware of the constraints that some may feel we have.

This is why I am delighted that our MP, Laura Trott, has taken up the baton and raised the issue of the lack of investment at the school at the very highest levels.

Her campaigning has led Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, to comment on the school during question time earlier in the year, when Laura raised the issue of additional funding for the school.

MP Laura Trott is also currently campaigning to have the whole school building rebuilt. Sevenoaks District Council and Kent County Council have also pledged to invest in The Orchards and, together with money awarded to the school from the Community Infrastructure Fund, will ensure the sports hall and changing rooms are given a much deserved and needed make-over very shortly.

In addition, TKAT, the schools governing body, have promised to resurface the 3G pitch, originally the hockey pitch, at the rear of the school, in phase two of this sporting refurbishment.

These much needed enhancements will improve the school experience for the children.

We need to ensure our children not only carry on receiving the

best tuition, but also that they benefit from state of the art facilities and the opportunities that a total rebuild, which Laura is now working for, will bring.

We need to inspire them at school so that they feel confident to strive for more in life.

This is only obtainable by making them aware of the huge array of opportunities that are available to them, and providing them with facilities equal to and beyond

the requirements needed in this diverse and changing world we live in.

Being just thirty minutes from London, and experiencing shortages of engineers, builders, carpenters, children in Swanley have the world at their feet and should feel that they have the education foundation to rise to meet those challenges they wish to undertake.

How else will they aspire to

maximise their inner potential and make a better life for themselves?

Laura's campaign is currently being reviewed by Government and we hope The Orchards secures central funding to develop and rebuild the school in its entirety.

We want to make it ready to welcome the next class of newbies as I, and I'm sure many of you too, once were.

Cllr Sarah Andrews  
sandrews@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Google images ©2021



# 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**







Did you know, as a Swanley Resident you are entitled to free parking at Swanley Park?

To register your vehicle for free parking please

Email: [csa@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:csa@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)

a copy of your V5 registration document and your NEW 2021/2022 Council Tax bill.




# SKATE BY THE LAKE

Ice Skating & Christmas themed attractions this December at Swanley Park?

We would love to know if you would attend?

Register your interest by liking our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/skatebythelake](https://www.facebook.com/skatebythelake)  
 and joining our email mailing list [www.skatebythelake.com](https://www.skatebythelake.com)



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- ON-SITE FREE PARKING
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO BOOK A VIEWING PLEASE CALL  
**01322 613 900**

# BONFIRE NIGHT

**FRIDAY 5TH NOVEMBER**  
**SWANLEY RECREATION GROUND**

**Children's activities from 5pm**  
**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](mailto:towncouncil@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk)



## Swanley in Bloom

Thank you to the following for kindly sponsoring Swanley In Bloom

Green Box Storage ★ Welham Jones  
Cooper Estates ★ Door and Window  
Sargeant Partnerships  
Swanley Village Residents Association  
Jones Homes ★ West Kent Housing  
Evolve ★ Homestead Instead Senior Care  
Swan Mill Group ★ B & M Supplies



### Swanley Town Remembrance Day Parade

**Sunday 14th November 2021**  
Parade leaves Town Centre at 2.30pm  
Wreath laying at 2.45pm  
at War Memorial  
Church Service St. Mary's Church



## TOWNCrier magazine

Do you have an event or business you would like to promote in the next 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 rates.



For further information on bookings and joining our events  
Please call our sales team on

**01322 613900**

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to find out more.