Swanley Town Council

WINTER 2020 / 2021 magazine

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

Swanley Celebrates Hat-Trick Win at The Annual Green Flag Awards



Parks and green spaces across the country are flying their Green Flag Awards with pride this year. In 2020 and now in 2021, millions of people have appreciated great quality green spaces on their doorstep.

Among them will be Swanley Park, which is raising a Green Flag Award for the third consecutive year. In addition, Swanley **Recreation Ground and Elephant** Park are both celebrating their first awards, in what is a record year for Swanley.

The award signifies an international quality mark for our open spaces. In total more than 2,000 sites across the world collected the award for 2020.

The Green Flag Award scheme, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local

Government, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for their management across the United Kingdom and around the world.

CEO and former Park and Open Spaces Director Ryan Hayman said "Green spaces have never been more important, and I am thankful that three of the best are in our community. Our park and grounds staff worked throughout lockdown as key workers, so this award is as much for them as it is for the whole town to enjoy."

Swanley Town Council's Mayor Cllr Lesley Dyball added 'This year I have been overwhelmed in seeing how our parks have improved the wellbeing of our community, despite the difficult challenges we have all faced.

I am delighted to see that for the first time we have won multiple Green Flag awards, our parks are now the envy of the international community and as a resident I could not be more proud.'

Commenting on Swanley's treble success, Keep Britain Tidy Chief **Executive Allison Ogden-Newton** OBE said: "This year, more than ever, our parks and green spaces have been a lifeline and we know that millions of people have used them to relax, meet friends, exercise or simply escape for a short time."

"It is testament to the incredible dedication and hard work of parks staff and volunteers that, despite the challenges Swanley has achieved the highest international standards at all its parks demanded by the Green Flag Award."





Contents

- A word from the Mayor Councillor Lesley Dyball
- A word from the CEO
- 04 Deborah Clarke Retires from the Swanley Therapy Centre
- 04 Barbara Playfoot Retires
- 06 Light Up The Town 2020
- 06 Delight Over Gift Giving Generosity
- 07 Residents Parking Permits Due to Expire March 2021
- 07 Archer Way Planting
- 09 Defibrillator Locations Around Swanlev
- 09 Swanley Town Council Events Calendar 2021
- 11 Tackling Abandoned Trolleys Update
- 11 Symptom-free Testing Sites Open Across Kent
- 13 Great British Spring Clean
- 15 Remembrance Day
- 15 11th November 2020



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

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: towncouncil@swanley.org.uk

Opening Hours:

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

©2021 Swanley Town Council
While endeavouring to make sure that all published information in the Town Crier is accurate at the time of going to press, we cannot be held responsible for mistakes or omissions. Reproduction in whole or part of any of the text, illustrations or photography without prior written permission from Swanley Town Council is strictly prohibited. The opinions expressed in the articles are strictly those of the authors. Terms and conditions apply.

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



Please recycle your magazine by passing it on to your friends and family.

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: cball@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@swanleytowwncouncil.gov.uk



Connie Lee (Labour)

c/o Swanley Town Council, Civic Centre, St. Mary's Road, Swanley, BR8 7BU Telephone: 01322 338821 Mobile: 07745217125

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 Mobile: TBA 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 Lesley Dyball



This has been a tough year for all of us, but a glimmer of light has appeared at the end of the long tunnel with the roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccination programme.

The disappointment of not being able to enjoy the usual Christmas festivities and large family get-togethers are thankfully behind us and hopefully we can start to look towards brighter days.

I hope that you were able to share some time with

your loved ones even if, like me, it was virtually using the wonders of technology. I would like to think that the community spirit, kindness and concern for others which has been so apparent in our town and has brought us through this difficult time, will continue.

It is appropriate as well, to acknowledge all of the volunteers who keep our local clubs, groups, sporting activities and voluntary services going.

I want to express my gratitude for your efforts, not just during the pandemic but year-round; they are nothing short of amazing. I wish I could thank you all in person but that just isn't possible.

Hopefully we'll all have a better 2021!

With every good wish.

Lesley Dyball

Mayor of Swanley Town Council

HM Governmen

STAY HOME

PROTECT THE NHS

SAVE LIVES

NHS

Our New CEO

I have now been in the CEO role at Swanley Town Council for three months.

It has certainly been a memorable period.

Obviously, we have had to tackle the challenges presented by Covid-19 and the varying levels of lockdown. This has had a direct impact on our venues and planned events for winter.

This year unfortunately both the Fireworks and Light up the Town events were cancelled.

We did however, turn on the Christmas lights earlier than planned to bring some

festive cheer to the town centre.

It would appear that we might be turning the corner, thanks to the continued rollout of a vaccine and a return to normality seems to be on the horizon.

These challenges have not halted our ambitions to continually improve the town.

We have pressed onwards with the planned

developments at Swanley Park with the Soft Play Centre soon to be completed.

The Male, Female and Family room toilets at the park are currently undergoing extensive renovations and will be completed in readiness for the Spring.

Elsewhere around the town, you will have noticed the fantastic winter bedding plants which have brightened our community during the long dark days.

Looking forward into 2021 we are hopefully planning for a return to our typical events calendar.

In addition, we anticipate that the venues and parks will be busy in the coming months as everyone once again begins to enjoy what Swanley has to offer.



We are all facing an unusual winter, particularly with the worry of providing care, meals or getting out and about with our loved ones. A short-stay or permanent move to an Avery care home is reassuring for both carer and cared for. The care home team make the moving and settling in process straightforward and a positive experience giving peace of mind during the dark winter nights.

- Covid-19 antibody tests for relatives to join your loved one on moving-in day
- Avery Assured safety cleaning protocols and systems
 Frequent testing procedures
- Hearty winter food menus
 Daily activities socially distanced and still having fun
 - A warm and friendly environment to make new friends
 - Visit loved ones in line with government guidelines

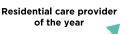
Call 01732 492287 or search 'Rivermere Care' online or on f











We follow Public Health England guidance at all times



Deborah Clarke Retires from the Swanley Therapy Centre

Deborah Clarke has retired from her role as Manager of the Swanley Therapy Centre after eleven years.

The Centre is one of only two such facilities in Kent catering for people with multiple sclerosis, neurological conditions, cancers or injuries, by breathing oxygen in a pressurised chamber.

The Swanley Therapy Centre is a Charity which raises funds through events and donations and hosts coffee mornings and exercise through sessions of Pilates.

Support has been global with London Marathon fundraisers coming from as far afield as Tasmania and Singapore.

Deborah explained, "With a strong team of volunteers alongside me, we've been able to keep the centre running in Swanley after it nearly closed. Even COVID-19 hasn't beaten us!

I'd like to think we've given support and care to those in the community who have needed it."

Many have been helped by receiving oxygen at the Swanley Therapy Centre including an injured Superbike Champion and a number of firemen affected by smoke inhalation when they tackled the Grenfell Tower fire.

The Mayor, Councillor Lesley Dyball, who has supported the Swanley Therapy Centre, said that, "Deborah has worked tirelessly in her role, going above and beyond to provide this incredibly valuable and much needed service.

On behalf of Swanley Town Council I would like to wish her a very happy retirement".

Deborah plans to carry on supporting this Charity, but with time on her hands, she would like to visit her favourite haunts in Italy and see more of her grandchildren.



We would like to wish Barbara Playfoot a long and happy retirement.

Barbara worked for Swanley Town Council as the Democratic Services Officer from 1st March 2017 until 31st October 2020.

This role has now been taken up by Suzie Barnbrook in addition to her role as Sales and Marketing Manager.



THE ALEXANDRA SUITE

PERSONALISED WEDDING PACKAGES
EXCLUSIVE VENUE HIRE



NEWLY REFURBISHED
SALES@SWANLEYTOWNCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

ST MARY'S ROAD, SWANLEY
KENT, BR8 7BU

01322 613900 | www.swanley.org.uk



Light Up The Town 2020

Despite Covid and the restrictions, we wanted to continue to bring festive cheer to Swanley by lighting up the Town earlier than usual. As we were unable to host our annual Light up the Town event.

The Mayor of Swanley, Cllr Lesley Dyball said "I am delighted that we were still able to provide a fabulous Christmas Tree along with the decorations on the lamp posts, icicle and mistletoe lights and a brilliant new decoration in the Town centre."

Special thanks to those who volunteered and arranged the Santa Sleigh around Swanley.







Delight Over Gift Giving Generosity

A care company is delighted with the success of the first of its annual gift giving scheme 'Be a Santa to a Senior'.

At-home care company Home Instead Senior Care collected gifts at their offices in Polhill.

The many presents donated were given to the Community Cupboard in West Kingsdown to be distributed to the people that need it most this Christmas.

Home Instead owner, Jag Yogarajah, said "The team would like to thank the public, local businesses and our CAREGivers for their generosity towards our 'Be a Santa to a Senior' gift-giving scheme.

It is heart warming that lonely older people are very much in the thoughts of many people in the community."

Photo opposite: Jag Yogarajah (Director) and Lauren Smith (Marketing Assistant) from Home Instead Senior Care donating gifts to The Community Cupboard.



Residents Parking Permits Due to Expire March 2021

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



Any applications received before the new council tax bill is issued will expire at the end of March 2021.





Live Well, Stay Safe

We offer more than just shopping!

- Undertaking domestic tasks including the cleaning & disinfecting of high touch surfaces
- Shopping for essentials and be able to pack everything away for you
- Picking up medication from local pharmacies and support prescription requirements
- Caring for you if you are feeling unwell and self-isolating
- Posting letters, so you can keep in touch with your loved ones
- \bullet Our local CAREGivers visit at the time to suit you
- Helping you use technology to "video chat" with family

Home care is safe care

Our professional and DBS checked 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 wearing PPE as guided by government.

Personal care

Home help

Companionshi

Dementia car

Call us: 01959 546 228 www.homeinstead.co.uk/shoreham



ach Home Instead Senior Carel® franchise office is independently owned and operated. Copyright © Home Instead 2020,



Following on from the successful planting of more than 600 whips at Swanley Park last year, Swanley Town Council and Swanley Wildlife and Nature Group reunited to plant over 300 trees at Archer Way.

It is hoped that over the next 15 years these will grow into a row of trees for us all to enjoy.

To further enhance the green space, Swanley Town Council have recently installed two benches and a bin at the site, so park users can now relax and enjoy the spectacular views on offer whilst disposing of their litter appropriately.

Swanley Wildlife and Nature Group's Richard Maile said "As a local resident, it was very rewarding to plant the trees to create a hedgerow.

It is important to protect and enhance green spaces in Swanley to help wildlife, the wider environment and provide places for people to enjoy."

The new CEO and former Park and Open Spaces Director Ryan Hayman said "I am thankful for all the hard work Richard and Cllrs Paul and Glynnis Darrington put into planting these whips.

Protecting our environment has never been more important and projects like these are of the upmost importance and we will continue to support schemes like this."

Before the end of November, Swanley Town Council will be planting over 100 whips at Swanley Park.

These will be visible from the lake and playground areas of the park. In total over 1000 whips will have been planted between recent projects.





Plan Now

with a pre-paid funeral plan



- Buying now will ensure you guarantee
 Funeral Director costs at todays' prices
- Gives you the opportunity to express your personal wishes

Take advantage of our offer of £300 off every funeral plan until **30 April**, now's the time to buy a plan for peace of mind for you and your family.

Ask us about Choice plans

Call or visit our branch at 35 Station Road, Swanley BR8 8ES, or purchase at **choiceplan.co.uk** and enter code **DV300**



Defibrillator Locations Around Swanley



The Oaks Surgery, Nightingale Way, Swanley

A defibrillator is kept within the building at The Oaks Surgery, Nightingale Way, Swanley Centre. It is available when staff are on the premises - generally not 24/7.

Kent Fire and Rescue ServicePlaced by Kent Placed by Kent Fire and Rescue Service a defibrillator is kept within the building or on a vehicle. Availability is not 24/7 when staff are not present or when the defibrillator is on a vehicle which is on call.

White Oak Leisure Centre, Hilda May Avenue, Swanley

Placed by Scencio, one or more defibrillators are kept in the building. Availability is limited to staff being on the premises - not therefore 24/7.

Orchard Academy, St Mary's Road, Swanley
Defibrillator placed within the school premises by
Orchard Academy. Availability limited to when
personnel are on the site and is not therefore
24/7.

Wyndcott Dental Surgery, Birchwood Park Avenue, Swanley

Defibrillator placed on the premises by the Practice. Availability limited to when personnel are on premises and is not therefore 24/7.

ASDA, Centre, London Road, SwanleyPublic Access Defibrillator (PAD) placed by ASDA inside superstore. Situated at western end entrance near the security desk.

Swanley Park, New Barn Road, SwanleyPublic Access Defibrillator at side of Café building

Swanley Station, Station Approach, Off Goldsel Road

Defibrillator placed inside platform 1 office.

If you know of any we have missed please call 01322 665855 so we can add to the list



Swanley Town Council EVENTS CALENDAR 2021

Great British Spring CleanFriday 26th and Saturday 27th March

Mayor's Charity Day Swanley Bowls Club Saturday 24th April

The Secret Garden Performance

Saturday 12th June https://www.newcreationscollective.com/the-secret-garden

Armed Forces Day Saturday 26th June

SNBR GALA 35 Year Anniversary Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th July

Luna CinemaFriday 6th to Sunday 8th August

1812 Night Friday 27th August

Music Family Festival Saturday 28th August

Great British September Clean Friday 10th to Monday 13th September

Fireworks Night
Friday 5th November

Remembrance Day & Parade Sunday 14th November

> **Light up The Town** Saturday 4th December

Civic Carol Service
Date to be confirmed

Jack and The Beanstalk
Pantomime

Tuesday 21st December

Patient Voice - Chair Jackie Griffiths

The Oaks Surgery held a Virtual Health Event via Zoom on 12th November. 28 participants attended the event. Dr Lunt chaired the event and the topic was 'Wellbeing' and delivered in conjunction with One You Health Team from Sevenoaks District Council.

The event was well received and there will be more virtual health events via Zoom in the New Year. The idea is to promote 'Wellbeing' among our residents and make this a community goal, working together for the health of the town in a post Covid world.





Make sure you support local shops even when the shops are closed.

Check if your favourite high street businesses are offering online, click & collect or takeaway services.



Be amazing. Shop local, safely.











Following the article in the Autumn 2020 edition of the Town Crier, I am pleased to advise that we have successfully engaged with both Aldi and ASDA regarding abandoned trolleys in Swanley.

Both companies have agreed to pay the charges for the collection, storage and return of the trolleys collected by Swanley Town Council staff.

This is a great step forward to helping to rid the town of unsightly abandoned trolleys and make businesses take responsibility of this problem.

We will continue to collect trolleys abandoned in Swanley and issue fines to the stores to which they belong.

The charges will be reinvested into Town Council events and facilities.

For more information on projects in Swanley please go to our website at https://www.swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Toni Roast, Assistant Town Clerk.







In partnership with
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY
COMMUNITY FUND

West Kent Works

Have you been made redundant? Wanting to retrain? Furlough coming to an end?

Redundancy

If you're worried about redundancy, or were made redundant last year, our team of specialist advisers can guide you to identify your next steps.

Training

If you're interested in retraining to help you find a new job or to progress in your current workplace, we have a variety of training opportunities available.

Contact us for more information

westkentworks@wkha.org.uk Pauline on 07715 993293 or Dawn on 07850 506383

visit westkent.org

@westkenthousingassociation



Great British Spring Clean

The Great British Spring clean was another event which had to be postponed from March until September due to Lock Down, however there were still plenty of volunteers who wanted to help.

This initiative has been renamed the Great
British September Clean and will take place
each September and we will be taking part on the
10th - 13th September 2021.

However I feel that it is important to push forward with the cleanup events and have therefore arranged an additional cleanup event for 26th and 27th March 2021.

If you are interested in helping please email me at troast@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk or telephone 01322 665855.

If you have been involved in the cleanup events previously I will be in contact with you to find out your availability.

Toni Roast Assistant Town Clerk.



HIRE OUR COURTS

St Mary's Road, Swanley

Tennis Courts

Adults - £7.00 per hour | Junior - £3.10 per hour

Netball Courts

Adults - £14.30 per hour | Junior - £10.20 per hour Floodlights - £7.20 per hour

Telephone: **03000 421 254**

Or email csa@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk





Battery Cars Soft Play Centre (The Barnyard) (Both Coming Soon)







All Activities Open 11am (weather permitting) 01322 688415 | www.swanleypark.co.uk New Barn Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 7PW







Remembrance Day



Remembrance Day on the 8th November 2020 was very different to that of previous years as the parade and service were not able to take place.

Swanley Town Council did however make sure that the soldier silhouettes all had new poppies.

We added to our poppies for Remembrance Day this year by painting poppies on some of the grass verges using an environmentally friendly paint.

The Mayor of Swanley Cllr Lesley Dyball, The Lord Sackville and Laura Trott MP together with Cllr Michael Horwood the leader of the Council were still able to pay their respects to those men and women who had fallen in war.

The Exhortation was read and 2 minutes silence was observed prior to wreaths being laid.

The Mayor of Swanley Cllr Lesley Dyball said "It was important that we paid our respects this year adhering to social distance guidelines in place to protect ourselves, others and the NHS."

Toni Roast, Assistant Town Clerk





11th November 2020

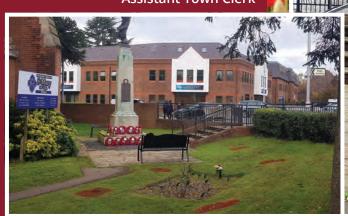
On the 11th November 2020 representatives from the Royal British Legion, with their Standard bearer, along with Toni Roast, Assistant Town Clerk and Suzie Barnbrook, The Sales,

Marketing and Democratic Manger paid their respects to those who had fallen in war.

The Exhortation was read by Jackie Best and the standard was lowered.

The first maroon sounded at 11.00am from Swanley Park to mark the beginning of the official two minutes silence when the second maroon sounded at 11.02am and the standard was raised again.

Toni Roast, Assistant Town Clerk



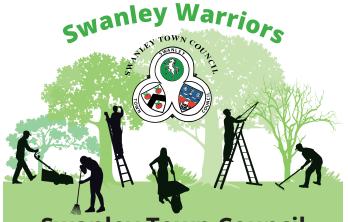




IMPORTANT INFORMATION

At the time of going to press, all the information regarding Events and Advertising details are correct, but are subject to change without prior notice due to the times we are currently living in.

Please take the time to get in contact with the venue / company, to make sure they are available, not to be disappointment later.



Swanley Town Council can carry out additional works for local

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.



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

01322 613900

sales@swanleytowncouncil.gov.uk to find out more.

TOWNCrier

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.

