



**Havant**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mayor's Parlour  
Public Service Plaza  
Civic Centre Road  
Havant  
Hampshire PO9 2AX

T 023 9247 4174  
F 023 9248 0263  
DX 50005 Havant  
[www.havant.gov.uk](http://www.havant.gov.uk)

## **Mayoral report for November 2021 – March 2022**

### **07/01/2022 - Hayling Island Amateur Dramatic Society Panto.**

By the time you read this, we will have been to see the Hansel and Gretel pantomime, “oh no you haven't, oh yes we have”.

With the Christmas celebrations out of the way and feeling a little more refreshed after a frantic run up to the festive season ,it was nice to go to Leighpark, sit and drink coffee and catch up with old friends and make some new ones. Tanya's café in Leigh Park has a Dementia group on a Monday, to try and encourage more residents out to be able to meet and mingle in a safe environment, both Jane Ward from Dementia friendly Hampshire, Tim Mason from Havant Rotary and Duncan Cameron from Right at home were there to give advice, it was nice for me too, being a Dementia Champion and losing my own father recently to Dementia, it is a cause that I am passionate about and wish to promote awareness within the local community.

### **THURSDAY 20/01/2022 Cheque Presentation Meridian Shopping Centre.**

I was met by Rob Fryer the Meridian Centre Manager, before being taken up to the top floor to meet the recipients. There were 3 cheques to be presented to 3 different charities. The first was, the Chestnut tree Charity, the second was, the Rowins and the third was, the Beacon Food bank.

After a few quick photos Rob and a colleague to us to the Beacon food bank warehouse which is situated on the top floor. I was really surprised at how big it was. It was a very humbling experience.

### **FRIDAY 21/01/2022. Honorary Alderman Ceremony at The Plaza.**

It was a great honour to be asked to present Cllr Terry Hart with the Alderman title. This was followed by a signing of the scroll and record book. The pinning on of the badge and a lot of speeches despite being very few attendees due to the Covid restrictions at that time. There was a small safely distanced gathering of family, colleagues and ex colleagues to who all want to wish Terry well after 40 years of loyal service.

### **SATURDAY 22/01/2022. Burns Night Winchester.**

This was a really enjoyable evening, we sat with Mark and Lin Hook Mayor and consort from Gosport and Adam and Jenni Carew, Chairman of East Hants.

A traditional fare of cock-a-leekie soup, Haggis, neeps and tatties followed by Cranachan. Followed by 2 toast's, the first to the 'Lads and the second to the 'Lasses.

There was a quiz and a raffle, I kept my prize for my next raffle in February. It was a good evening with good company.

#### **THURSDAY 27/01/2022. Holocaust Memorial service in Havant.**

It was an honour to be able to represent the Havant Borough Council and remember all those that went through this horrific time. An atrocity of monumental proportions and one of the most dreadful acts within mankind.

It was nice to see so many children there with their teachers and support staff.

Graham came with 10 children from the Hayling college in the school minibus, so he was able to attend also.

Leah Turner led the service, children read poems and gave readings, as I did too.

It was nice to see Pam and Louise, the Mayor from Fareham, Adam Carew Chairman from East Hants and Vivien and her husband, the Mayor of Winchester and colleagues and dignitaries from Havant.

Sadly, I had to dash off to another engagement at Thorney, but did manage to speak to everyone and thank them for coming before the service and explain to them why I was dashing off.

#### **THURSDAY 27/01/2022. Changing of Colours at Thorney Barracks.**

Sadly, we missed the main ceremony due to our previous commitment, but we were met by Major Richard (Dickie) Davies who took us to the carpark near the officer's mess. He explained what had just happened. There were 2 huge guns in the carpark next to where we were standing. I had taken my chaplain Sue Moss with me who is great company. We met Catherine who is the Army chaplain, so it was great for Sue to meet a "colleague, before we were taken into the lobby of the Officers mess for lunch. We both had a curry and found somewhere to sit and eat.

The afternoon concluded after lunch in the garden where 2 trees had been planted to create a Peace Garden for the troops and staff. Catherine said some prayers followed by another speaker from London. It was a lovely sunny day. A day to remember.

#### **SATURDAY 29/012022. Emsworth Play Park Opening.**

I had just come from Denvilles house in Havant, so it didn't take long to get there, again the sun was shiny as Graham and I walked through the park. It was nice to have Graham with me too.

We were met by "officials from HBC who were instrumental in overseeing the work revamp the play park following some fundraising by residents, to honour a local lady who had sadly passed away and left a young daughter Harriet. It was felt that the park would be a lasting legacy to her memory, created through "Verity's Wish. It was a real honour to meet Verity's husband too, a local chap known as "Topsy.

It was tough for him as he started his speech, but he did a great job, and his wife would have been proud of him. We also spoke to Verity's dad too. Both Graham and I thought it would be more fitting if Harriet cut the ribbon to declare the park open, which she seemed to enjoy. The sun continued to shine that day.

### **WEDNESDAY 02/02/2022. Horndean Technology College tree planting.**

This was part of the 70-year Platinum celebration for the Queens reign. It was also to celebrate the Jewish refugee charity. Adam Carew, chairman of East Hants was there too. Also, a couple whose grandparents had fled from Austria and settled in Hampshire as a Butler and housekeeper during the Holocaust. This was followed by a light buffet lunch, and I chatted to the couple whose Grandparents had fled Austria, it was interesting listening to what had happened to them and how they had survived.

### **FRIDAY 11/02/2022. Valentines Dinner Brookfield Hotel.**

This took some planning, but without the help of Anne Thurlow, the Mayors secretary, Neil Payne, facilities manager, and a few council colleagues it simply would not have been possible.

We had a Pink Prosecco reception, thanks to the generosity of Norse S E. The buffet food was superb as were the staff too.

I had got there early to help the staff set up and sort the tables out.

Graham came down with Sue, my Chaplain and we met in reception. It was nice to see so many happy faces.

It was a brilliant night; Amanda and her staff were excellent and seemed to be enjoying it as much as we did. The DJ seemed to be able to get everyone up on the dance floor which was good to see too. It was also nice to see Chain gang colleagues from other Boroughs there too. Both Graham and I stayed at the end to help get cleared up. We were both shattered but stayed the night and would have slept well if it hadn't been for the family above us!

### **SATURDAY 19/02/2022. Gosport Valentine's ball.**

We both sat at the top table with Mark and Lin Hook the Mayor of Gosport, together with Pam and Louise from Fareham, Adam and Jenni Carew from East Hants and Captain Voice and his wife from HMS Sultan.

There were some very entertaining speeches, followed by a raffle and dancing.

### **SUNDAY 19/02/2022. Golf club presentations.**

This was a quick event initially, presenting a cup and some wine to 3 members of the Golf club, followed by a very short speech and raffle. Both Graham and I stayed and chatted to a few people we knew, then thanked Colleen the deputy Ladies Captain and Sue, the Mayor's chaplain, Colleen is a friend of Sue's.

### **WEDNESDAY 23/02/2022. Cheque Presentation Hayling Island Lifeboat station.**

It was great to see Tammy again from a major building company who I met last May on one of my first Mayoral engagements. We all had a quick tour and cup of tea as I was mindful of the time and having to be in Havant for 4pm for a Full Council meeting at 5pm.

The company had raised £15:000 which is a substantial amount of money, after a few photos I bade farewell and dashed home to get the car and go straight to Havant.

### **WEDNESDAY 23/02/2022. Full Council Meeting.**

It was a good meeting and ran smoothly.

All the motions were carried, and I felt more confident and relaxed in my delivery. I thanked everyone for their help with the last Mayoral fundraiser especially Neil Payne and Anne Thurlow.

I also mentioned too, the date of the next Coffee morning for people to put in their diary. The meeting finished after an hour and 10 minutes, so that was good news.

### **THURSDAY 24/02/2022. Fareham Civic Day at Daedalus.**

I took Sue with me, the mayor's chaplain as Graham was working, we were dropped at the Mayors parlour in Fareham where we had coffee and savoury and sweet pastries before we all boarded the coach to go to Daedalus. We were dropped off at the cafe first and had a short talk about the Solent Airfield and their aspirations for the site, it had certainly changed since I was last there at least 35 years ago.

There was lots to see, it was a blustery and cold day, we met some amazing people during our time there and finished up watching flight crew in a simulator, although I did have to step outside after a few minutes as it made me feel a little unwell. The manager was also outside for the same reason, and we got talking and it turned out that he lived on Hayling too, so we had lots to talk about.

We ended the day in the conference room with coffee and lunch. It was also nice to catch up with Onalee and Hugo, the Mayor and consort for Basingstoke.

### **SATURDAY 26/02/2022. Hayling Lifeboat crew Awards.**

It was a really lovely sunny day at the Hayling Island Sailing club, although the wind was cold.

After we were all seated, Mark Downey, the Chair of the RNLI gave a welcome speech followed by an account of the rescue, that happened almost 2 years ago. It was humbling to listen to the bravery under exceptional conditions that 3 lives were saved from drowning, it was also lovely to see our daughter and her partner Tom, who had been given an award, a very proud moment for all of us.

It was a great honour to be invited and knowing at least half of the participants made it feel more special. I felt very proud to be able to play a small part in the prestigious ceremony.

### **THURSDAY 03/03/2022. World book day.**

I had been invited to Co-op funeral directors to judge some posters for Padnell infant school, world book day. It was so hard to choose from some amazingly creative art work.

The children had walked from the school and were so well behaved, it was great to see their faces light up as they came into the Co-op office and the staff were lovely too, when I saw them last year for a litter pick, it was pouring with rain, but this was a lovely sunny day.

After talking to the children and giving them their awards, we all had a chat and they asked lots of questions, hopefully some cute candidates for council when they get older.

### **SATURDAY 05/032022 Sparkles New shop opening in Havant.**

Both Graham and I were able to attend as it was the weekend and Graham wasn't at work. Again, it was a lovely sunny day. We both arrived in Havant and met the new owners standing by the front door. We introduced ourselves and went inside for a few minutes. A shop for all things sparkly and shiny. It was beautiful, but they had both been through a tough time before they moved to Havant. We took her a bunch of flowers and a box of sweets for the children, she was grateful, but for us it just showed an ounce of compassion.

We both went outside and cut the ribbon and I said a few words of encouragement and how beautiful the shop was. The 2 young lads sat on the bench outside looked amused and asked if he could buy the Mayoral chain for a "fiver. Both Graham and I spoke to them about school and football for a few minutes. We then went back into the shop and had a cake each, naughty, but nice.

By the time you read this, we will have been to the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth's dinner and the Installation of the Bishop of Portsmouth.

The next Mayors coffee morning is on Wednesday the 30th of March at the Plaza. It would be lovely to see you there.

Very many thanks to my husband Graham, Anne Thurlow, Neil Payne and the facilities team, colleagues and officers. Without you all I would not be able to continue in my role and I am truly grateful.